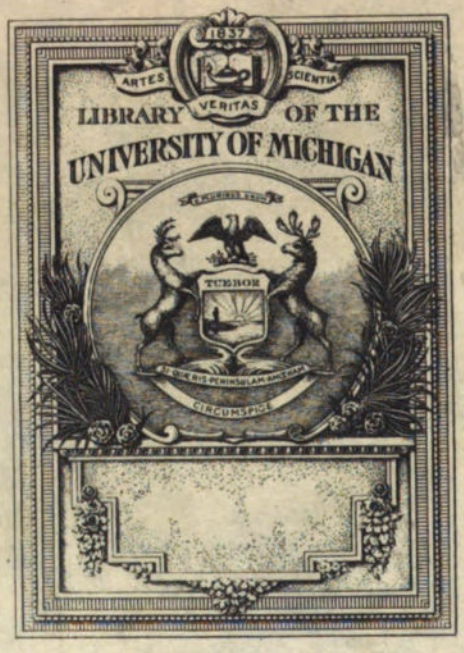
C 0 90 5 00351 558 5
University of Michigan – BUHR

Digitized by Google



Digitized by Google

SB
403
.G218

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

UNIV. OF MICH.

THE GARDEN

ORCHARD · GARDEN · WOODLAND

Vol. XC.—No. 2824 Saturday, January 2nd, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

Barr's Clearance Sale of Surplus Stock

HARDY PERENNIALS, ROCK PLANTS, Etc.

SPECIAL CLEARANCE COLLECTIONS.

100 Hardy Border Plants in 20 named varieties, **45/-**; **50, 22/6**
100 Rock Garden Plants in named varieties **45/-**; **50, 22/6**
100 Michaelmas Daisies in 10 named varieties .. **30/-**
12 " " **12** " " .. **5/-**
Michaelmas Daisies, Mixed (without names), 100 **21/-**; doz. **3/-**
Tall Flag Irises, in named varieties per 100 **45/-**; per doz. **6/-**
" " " **Mixed** (without names) per 100 **25/-**; per doz. **3/6**
Iris ochroleuca Snowflake, white with yellow blotch, handsome, 5ft .. .. .. per 100 **30/-**; per doz. **4/-**
Iris sibirica superba, violet-blue, handsome, 4ft. per 100 **30/-**; per doz. **4/-**
Lavender Munstead Early Dwarf, strong bushes per 100 **30/-**; per doz **4-**

Surplus List of Hardy Border Plants, Rock Plants, Climbers and Wall Shrubs post free

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

PLANTING SEASON

GEO. JACKMAN & SON

WOKING NURSERIES, SURREY.

Established over a century.

Invite inspection of their large and varied stock of ORNAMENTA TREES AND SHRUBS, ROSES, CLIMBERS, FRUIT AND FOREST TREES, HERBACEOUS AND ALPINE PLANTS.

200 Acres of Stock to select from. Catalogues free on application

ADVICE GIVEN ON ALL MATTERS APPERTAINING TO LANDSCAPE GARDENING & ESTATE IMPROVEMENTS

NO MORE BROKEN GLASS

IF YOU USE

WINDOLITE

which supersedes glass for all garden uses.

LIGHT. FLEXIBLE. UNBREAKABLE.

Easy to cut and fix.

Send **4/6** *for sample over 30ins. square, post free. Write for leaflets.*

WINDOLITE (DEPT. 12) 179/185, GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

FOR THE GARDEN! FOR BEDS! FOR EXHIBITION! FOR EVERYWHERE!

Also Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees.

BUY HOME GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries.

Catalogue Free on Application, and Addresses booked for Revised Catalogue in late Summer.

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.,
Garden Specialists - - SOUTHWELL, NOTTS

KING'S ACRE *Select and Reliable* GARDEN SEEDS

Unsurpassed for Quality and Germination. The finest and Best Stocks obtainable, and famous throughout the United Kingdom.

THE FINEST STRAINS EXTANT OF CRANSTON'S EXCELSIOR AND AILSA CRAIG ONIONS

New Seed Catalogue just issued and Free on request.

90 GOLD MEDALS AWARDED TO OUR HORTICULTURAI EXHIBITS.

King's Acre Nurseries, Ltd. *Seed Merchants* HEREFORD
ESTABLISHED 1785. LATE CRANSTONS.

Don't bring Mud Indoors

The best remedy by far is—

THE "SPADE" BOOT CLEANERS

which remove every particle of mud with the least possible trouble.

A CUSTOMER WRITES:
Dear Sirs,
The Spade Brush has arrived safely and is very satisfactory. Please send me another Brush and also a scraper for which I enclose cheque for 35/-
Yours faithfully.

Prices: Scraper, **10/3** carriage paid; Brush, **25 6**; or both for **35/-**

From your own Ironmonger or direct from—

"SPADE SCRAPERS" (Dept. G), Wappenham, Towcester, Northants.

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
New Alpines and Perennials
Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD
CHELSEA, S.W.
Bulb Catalogue Gladioli and Lilium List.

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
HULL
Weed Destroyers Fertilisers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

TUBS FOR SHRUBS. WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 100 prizes. R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. — Price List from A. PRADAL, 26, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

BROWN'S TESTED SEEDS. Illustrated Flower and Vegetable Seed Catalogue, giving full cultural directions, at competitive prices, post free if this paper is mentioned. D. T. BROWN & CO., *Seedsmen*. Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

NOW

Send for List of

Seed Potatoes

Selected Stocks, to

ISAAC POAD & SONS
GROWERS, YORK. LTD.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Downer's 'Usually Silent' Lupins
are making a great 'noise' in the World.
Rich Harmonious Colours. Mixed, 18/- doz. Clumps
Lupin List, Herbaceous and Alpine Catalogues, free.
DOWNER, 2, Drayton Manor Nurseries, Chichester.

BARGAIN CATALOGUE
Land Sold for Building
Real Cambridgeshire grown Fruit Trees, Fruit Bushes, Roses, Shrubs, Avenue Trees, Privet, Plants.
Exceptionally strong and healthy.
FRANK RICE (F.R.H.S.), Arbury Nurseries, Cambridge

GARDEN LOVERS
Write for Catalogues of
PROTHEROE & MORRIS'
· HORTICULTURAL SALES ·
MONDAY WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY
67, 68 Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2. Phone City 3856

THE LEADING GLASSHOUSE FUMIGANT.

CORRY & CO., SHAD THAMES, LONDON, S.E.1

Nicotine supren

Nicotine, scientifically, is still the supreme insecticide. And XL ALL Nicotine Liquid Insecticide still means to you the best results. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen, florists or chemists.

XL ALL NICOTINE LIQUID INSECTICIDE.

G. H. RICHARDS, LTD.
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
Rp. 82.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Fruit Trees Rose Tr

ALL ENGLISH GROWN.
Descriptive Catalogue post free on demand.
INSPECTION INVITED.

S. SPOONER & SO

Estd. 1820 **The Nurseries, Hounslow, MID**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

'My Garden Book, 192

Recognised by many as
BRITAIN'S BEST SEED CATALO

A descriptive and illustrated list of al the best Vegetable Seeds, Flower Seeds and Highland Grown Seed Potatoes

Post free on request.

SECURE YOUR COPY NOW.

ALEXANDER & BROWI
(Dept. T)
The Scottish Seed House, PE

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Michaelmas Daisi

For all the **latest** and **most** beautiful varieties, see the Raiser's List.
ERNEST BALLARD, Colwall, MALV

TWO NEW BOOKS in 'Gardening for Amateurs' S

ARE NOW READY

1. Ornamental Trees for Amate
By W. J. BEAN
(*Curator of the Royal Botanic Gardens,*

2. Herbaceous Borders for Ama
By R. V. GIFFARD WOOLLEY
N.D.H. F.L.S.

Each with 15 illustrations and c wrapper. 128 pages of text. 5

¶ This series now contains E. H. M. Cox's *Rhodo* W. J. Bean's *Shrubs*, and the Rev. Joseph Jacob *Bulbs*. It is eminently practical and eminently re designed for gardeners of not too much leisure bu discrimination.

An illustrated prospectus of the series will be sen application to the publishers, "Country Life," Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2

Digitized by Google

AN

ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY JOURNAL

OF

Horticulture in all its Branches.

Founded by W. Robinson in 1871

EDITED BY

E. H. M. COX AND G. C. TAYLOR.

VOLUME XC.—1926

LONDON.

Office: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," Ltd., 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C., and by GEORGE NEWNES, Ltd., 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand.

Digitized by Google

THIS (THE NINETIETH) VOLUME OF "THE GARDEN"

IS DEDICATED, BY PERMISSION, TO

MISS GERTRUDE JEKYLL, V.M.H.

MISS GERTRUDE JEKYLL is The Grand Old Lady of English Gardening. She is more than that, far more ; for her sympathetic understanding of plants, and of the men and women who cultivate them, gives her a unique position in horticulture to-day. She is the mother of the present day garden, and all gardeners are her children, who love her and pay her the homage that is her due.

On November 29th last Miss Jekyll was eighty-three. Throughout her long life she has been a keen gardener. As she herself says, she loves not only plants, but also their combination and selection in gardens, so that when planted they will make a place of peace and a garden of beauty. As a writer on gardens she wields an extraordinary influence, for she has raised the book on horticulture above a dry-as-dust tome, full of rules and lists of plants, to a volume that is so charming in its sympathy and deep understanding that it can be read with the greatest enjoyment by all who have the love of flowers at heart ; whether they are experts or beginners, specialists or amateurs.

It is owing to the enthusiasm of Miss Jekyll and Mr. William Robinson, another pioneer and the founder of this paper, that the evolution of the modern garden has taken shape. Previously gardening was done by rule of thumb and with a mathematical precision. They moved horticulture to a higher plane and, by using their imagination and with a sympathetic understanding of flowers, transformed stereotyped gardening into natural gardening.

Miss Jekyll's greatest work has probably been accomplished along the lines of the proper understanding and use of colour in the garden. Colour has always had a fascination for her, not the bizarre and magnificent use of broad splashes of crude tones that may be satisfactory in a sunnier climate than ours, but the careful blending and harmony of softer shades that make all the gardens in which she has wielded her influence a place of rest. As she herself has written : " Gardens may either be fashioned into a dream of beauty, a place of perfect rest and refreshment of mind and body—a series of soul-satisfying pictures—a treasure of well-set jewels ; or they may be so misused that everything is jarring and displeasing. To learn how to perceive the difference and how to do right is to apprehend gardening as a fine art."

We can only add our homage to that of all gardeners by dedicating to her this volume of THE GARDEN.

Digitized by Google

General Fapon

GERTRUDE JEKYLL, V.M.H.

From the portrait by William Nicholson.

Digitized by Google

INDEX TO ILLUSTRATIONS

Abelia Grædneriana, 219
Abies arizonica, 149; grandis, 406
"Abol" Challenge Cup, 305
Abutilon vitifolium, 155
Acacia verticillata, 240
Acantholimon, 207
Acer circinatum, 165; palmatum, 456; rubrum, 164
Achillea argentea, 741; Kellereri, 81; Perry's White, 461
Achimenes, dwarf pink, 475
Æthionema Warley hybrid, 316
Æsculus indica, 78; Pavia, 418
Agapanthus in tubs, 543
Ageratum Little Blue Cloud, 82
Allwoodii pinks as an edging, 459
Alpines, exhibit of, 317; propagating house for, at Bakers' nursery, 527
Alstrœmeria aurantiaca, 246, 650
Alyssum saxatile, 280; spinosum, 364
Amaryllis Belladonna, 639, 670
Amelanchier canadensis, 587
Anchusa italica Dropmore var., 550; myosotidiflora, 264
Androsace sarmentosa, 725
Anemone apennina, 485; blanda, 215; japonica, 651; nemorosa var. Robinsoniana, 63; Poppy, 296
Anemones, in woodland, 715; Japanese, 525
Anopterus glandulosus, 271
Antirrhinums, clump of, 23; in beds, 536; on a dry wall, 537; with artemisia, 345; with nepeta, 537
Anthurium Andreanum, 388; Pfitzeri, 462
Aponogeton distachyon, 189
Apple, a young tree, 624; Rev. W. Wilks, 670; young tree in fruit, 667
Apples, gathering and storing, 544; storing on straw, 621
Aquatics, exhibit of, 393
Aquilegia glandulosa, 201
Aquilegias, long-spurred, 33, 651; in woodland, 444
Arabis, double, in beds with tulips, 522
Aralia chinensis, 361
Araucaria, avenue of, 366
Arbor-vitæ, 249
Arbutus, home of, 70; Menziesii, 70
Arch, making an, 671
Arctostaphylos Manzanita, 236
Arenaria montana, 334
Armerias, 334
Artemisia, 345, 376 lactiflora, 650
Arums by a stream, 422
Asters, bedding, 82; dwarf annual, 23
Asters Perennial, 615; a border of, 655; acris, 541; alpinus, 742; Barr's Pink, 541; elegans, 686; Farreri, 67; King George, 540; Little Boy Blue, 541; Nancy Ballard, 541, 622; Perry's White, 541; Queen Mary, 687; Ruby Tips, 553; Ultramarine, 597
Aubrietia in a retaining wall, 97; on a wall, 279, 693
Auricula, show, 5
Azalea indica, 193; Japanese, 731; mollis, 294
Azara microphylla, 112

Babiana macrantha, 457; rubrocyanea, 457
Bank, rockery, 282
Basket plants on veranda, 573
Bean, germination of, 137
Bedding plants, propagating of, 453; spring, 522
Beech, fern-leaved, 450
Begonia Eunice, 513; Lady Ann, 512; optima, 35; Rex, 612
Begonias, potting tuberous, 123
Berberis amurensis, 263; aristata, 263; brevipaniculata, 51; chitria, 409; fruiting branch of seedling, 51; kansuensis, 272; Neubertii, 335; Regeliana, 264; subcaudilalata, 570; Thunbergii, 582; under trees, 111; verruc, 266
Border, an overgrown herbaceous, 561; blue, 38; early summer, 566; herbaceous, 32, 573, 603; plan of annual, 18; plan of herbaceous, 564, 676
Bougainvillea glabra, 678
Bracken, planting, 227
Brussels Sprout Fillbasket, 87
Bryanthus empetriformis, 248
Buddleia auriculata, 43; Colvilei, 471
Bulb planter, 490
Bulbs potting, 515, 534
Bush fruit, pruning, 588
Buttercup, fasciated, 122

Cabbage Carter's Herald, 87; white butterflies and grubs, 560
Carti, exhibit of, 379; in bloom, 5
Caltha palustris, 253; polypetala, 665
Campanula Allionii, 41; latifolia alba, 278, 603; persicifolia alba, 499; Portenschlagiana, 727; pyramidalis, 651; tall border varieties, 73, 727; Zoysii, 41
Carnations, Border, layering, 354; Viceroy, 170
Carnation, Perpetual, Dorcas, 323 Edward Allwood, 191; Eldora, 191; exhibit of, 302; Laddie, 330; Lady Northcliffe, 190; Red Laddie, 501; Wivelsfield White, 191
Carpenteria californica, 174
Carrots, storing of, 572
Cassiope selaginoides, 251
Cauliflowers, planting out, 588
Ceanothus Gloire de Versailles, 711; thyrsiflorus, 174; Veitchianus, 587
Cedar, the red, 524
Celmisia coriacea, 80; hieraciifolia, 322
Cerens grandiflorus, 378
Chelsea Show, exhibits at, 290, 317
Cheiranthus Allionii, 246
Cherry, flowering ornamental, 487 Royal Duke, 88
Choisya ternata, 586
Chionodoxa Luciliæ alba, 49
Christmas roses, 713
Chrysanthemum, Baby Jack, 634; Elspeth, 635; Harmony, 635; Marguerite Clarke, 634; maximum, 297; Miss Dorothy Wilson, 634; Mrs. W. E. Catlow, 635; September White, 712
Chrysanthemums, disbudding, 453; early-flowering in border, 314; final potting of, 308; propagation by cuttings, 703; vase of Japanese varieties, 702; vase of single, 702
Cistus ladaniferus immaculatus, 447; Loreti, 265, 586; recognitus, 447
Clarkia, a pot-grown, 557
Clematis, exhibit of, 302; Armandi, 365; montana, 697; montana rubens covering a tree stump, 646; Nellie Moser, 149; pruning and mulching, 381; rooted cuttings, 106
Cloches, 276
Colchicum byzanthinum, 524
Collinsia bicolor, 47
Convolvulus mauritanicus, 34
Coreopsis grandiflora, 84
Cornus, 361; capitata, 116
Correa speciosa, 251
Corylopsis spicata, 205
Cosmeas, 38
Cotoneaster horizontalis, 570; salicifolia var. floccosa, 103; on wall, 217
Cotyledon Gibbiflora metallica, 283
Crinodendron Hookeri, 127
Crocus Sieberi versicolor major, 151; speciosus, 463; versicolor, 215
Crocuses, in grass, 633
Cryptomeria japonica, 406
Currant, black, 666
Cyclamen, exhibit by Blackmore and Langdon, 91; exhibit of Caledonian strain, 180; in a greenhouse, 445
Cydonia japonica, 217
Cymbidiums, sprays of, 726
Cypripedium Calceolus, 332; cordigerum, 351; regine, 351; spectabile, 462; Sir Trevor, 90
Cytisus kewensis, 587; purgans, 677

Daffodil King Alfred, 430; two-flowered, 121
Daffodils at Barr's nursery, 500; by a pond, 481; growth of, in various years, 131; in woodland, 486
Dahlia, pompon, 262; single, 262; star, 262
Dahlias, exhibit at Holland Park, 555; in beds, 295; planting, 325
Daphne Genkwa, rooted cuttings of, 259
Darlingtonia californica, 179
Delphinium Millicent Blackmore, 512, 587; Norah Ferguson, 165; Rev. E. Lascelles, 165
Delphiniums, a tall clump of, 574; at Hewitts' Nursery, 672, 673; double white, 654; in beds with roses, 172; with roses, 602; Wrexham, 304, 638
Desfontainea spinosa, 126
Deutzia, 596
Dianthus by the pathside, 450; caesius, 62; hybrid as edging, 230; in a moraine, 617; neglectus, 407
Digging soil, 608
Division of perennials, 561
Dombeya Glanellie, 55
Draba aizoides, 95; pyrenaica, 9
Dryas octopetala, 429

Echinocactus minusculus, 404
Echinocereus polyacanthus, 375
Echinops Ritro, 484
Echium plantagineum, 83
Elm, the spiny, 377
Enkianthus campanulatus, 312
Epiphyllum truncatum, 6
Eremuri, exhibit of, 303
Erica australis, 221; gracilis alba, 749; Veitchii, 220
Erigeron mucronatus, 585; Quakeress, 237
Eriobotrya japonica, 522
Eryngium, 38
Erythronium, 525
Escallonia Donard Seedling, 127
Eschscholtzias, 46; by the pathside, 163
Euonymus europæus, 582; radicans, 600
Evening primroses, 511

Feijoa Sellowiana, 78
Fern, maidenhair, 584
Ferns, division of, 720; in a rock garden, 694; potting, 50
Fruit, pruning bush, 588
Flower pot stand, 426
Flowers, fasciated, 121; preserving cut, 44; supporting stems with wire, 122
Foliage plants, 361
Forsythia intermedia, 2; suspensa, 538
Foxgloves in woodland, 278
Frame, 477
Frames, portable, 223
Francoa ramosa, 423
Fremontia californica, 154
Fritillaria Elwesii, 433; Imperialis, 679; Meleagris, 679
Fruit, cordon trees, 666; collection of, 667; gridiron trained tree, 667; plan of, garden, 621
Fruit trees, clearing grass from around roots, 59; mulching, 636; planting of, 664; root pruning of, 636; scare for birds, 745
Fuschia procumbens, 48
Fuchsias, potting standard, 28
Funkia, 218

Galanthus, 49
Garden, blue, 39; frame, 477; ornaments, 357; plan of, 535, 569, 581, 599, 605, 622, 639, 661; rose, 506, 618; rock, 508, 724; roof, 718; a small, 605, 670, 718, 733, 744; small suburban, 591; sink, 64; town, 558, 629; New York Botanic, 178
Garrya elliptica, 3
Gentiana arethusæ, 435; asclepiadea, 714; cruciata, 435; Farreri, 435; lagodechiana, 435, 687; septemfida, 448, 687; sino-ornata, 449, 543; verna, 449, 542
Geranium armenium, 373; Endressi, 373; Farreri, 207; lancastriense, 265; sanguineum, 444; sanguineum lancastriense, 373
Gertrude Jekyll, *frontispiece*
Gladioli at Kelway's nursery, 576; exhibit of, at Holland Park, 555; scarlet, in beds, 231
Gladiolus, a gandavensis hybrid, 146; alatus, 161; Alice Tiplady, 140; blandus, 160; Daphne, 141; Eurydice, 141; grandis, 161; inflatus, 161; Lady Ada Fitzwilliam, 501; large-flowered, 147, 268; large-flowered, with crimped petals, 147; Orange Glory, 159; primulinus, 269; primulinus hybrid, 147; Purple Glory, 159; spathaceus, 161
Globularia incanescens, 728
Gloxinia, modern, 19, 735
Gloxinias, starting into growth, 18
Godetia, a pot-grown, 557
Godetias by the pathside, 17
Gooseberry, fruiting branch, 666
Grape vines, improving old, 716; planting young, 703
Greenhouse, heating of a, 620; plants, exhibit of, 320; a small, 477
Gypsophila Bristol Fairy, 511, 686; repens on a dry wall, 693

Haberlea rhodopensis, 69
Hamamelis mollis, 3, 94, 596
Heaths, hardy, in the wild garden, 224
Hedge clipper "Little Wonder," 276
Hedges, roses for, 498
Hedychium Gardnerianum, 669
Heleniums, 565
Helianthemum, 677
Helianthus, annual, 200; division of, 680
Helichrysums, 200
Helleborus niger, 713
Hemiptelea Davidii, 377
Herbaceous border, 573, 603; overgrown, 561; plan of, 564
Herbaceous flowers at Bakers' nursery, 527
Hesperis matronalis, 403, 708
Hibiscus syriacus as a wall shrub, 232
Holland Park Show, exhibits at, 555
Hollyhocks, 22; double, 460
House for garden plan, 536, 551, 599
Hover fly, 223
Hunnemannia fumariæfolia, 47
Hyacinths, Roman, 464
Hydrangea Mme. Mouillere, 731
Hydrangeas in cool greenhouse, 395; in tubs, 89
Hypericum calycinum under trees, 111

Iberis, edging of, 693; petræa, 21; sempervirens, 344
Ilex, 361; Aquifolium mediopicta aurea, 346
Iris Delfor, 405; Kæmpferi, 415; Korolkowi, 385; Lady Foster, 390; Lord of June in Wallace's nursery, 437; Osiris, 385; sindjarensis, 387; Souvenir de Mme. Gaudichau, 389; stylosa, 95; Susiana, 386; Tewat, 405; unguicularis, 432; Vartani, 387; Wathract, 323
Irises at Wallace's nursery, 437; by waterside, 391; exhibit of, at Chelsea, 391; in borders by pathside, 391; Regelio-cyclus, 385
Ixias, 380

Juniperus hibernica compressa, 235

Kalmia latifolia, 388, 746
Kniphofia caulescens, 332; corallina, 333; crecta, 533; Mount Etna, 553
Kniphofias, 32; by the pool, 333

Lacewing fly, 223
Lachenalia, an orange-yellow, 419; bulbs, 439; Nelsoni, 419 pendula, 27
Larkspur, annual, 38, 65
Lathyrus latifolius, 710
Laurels, treatment of old, 197
Lavatera, 297; arborea, 21; Olbia, 66; Olbia rosea, 616
Lawn cultivator, 287
Lawns, cutting flower-beds in, 712; weeding, 688
Leptosiphons, hybrid, 46
Leptospermum scoparium Chapmanii, 433
Libertia formosa, 365
Lilac Reaumur, 645
Lilacs in a front garden, 645
Lilies, Madonna 53; of the valley, 637
Lilium auratum platyphyllum, 58; candidum under pergola, 53; chalcedonicum, 473; Martagon album, 473; monadelphum szovitzianum, 472; philippinense, 53; Regale, 52, 438; szovitzianum, 392; testaceum, 53
Lily pool, 740
Lithospermum prostratum Heavenly Blue, 567
Lobelia Huntsman, 597
Loosestrife, 651
Lupin Downer's Delight, 598; polyphyllus hybrid, 382
Lupins in mixed border, 602
Lychnis viscaria splendens, 416
Lythrum roseum, 651

Magnolia macrophylla, 379; on wall, 217; stellata, 731
Maidenhair fern, 584
Marigold, fasciated stem of, 121
Marrows on hot-bed, 341
Marsh marigold, 253
Meconopsis aculeata, 250; Baileyi, 98, 436; hybrid, 474; integrifolia, 135; Prainiana, 115; pseudo-integrifolia, 96, 97; the ivory, 115; Wallichii, 474
Mesembryanthemum crassulinum, 461; tigrinum, 335
Mice, trapping, 720
Michaelmas daisies, 615; a border of, 655
Mimulus, 34, 743
Montbretias in a border, 143
Muscari under flowering cherry, 487
Mushrooms in frame on hot-bed, 225; on a hot-bed, 539

Narcissus angustifolius in Styria, 284; Cædmon, 483; Folly, 255; King Alfred, 430; Mrs. R. O. Backhouse, 349; Mulberry, 255; poeticus, 483; Quartz, 360; W. P. Milner, 496; White Sentinel, 255
Nasturtium, climbing, 353
Nepeta with antirrhinums, 345, 537
Nerines, hybrid, 11
New York Botanic Gardens, 178
Nigella, 22; Miss Jekyll, 568
Nymphæa stellata, 252
Nymphæas, flowering, 203; replanting in pond, 203, 204

Œnothera, 511; cæspitosa, 446; missouriensis, 417
Olearia semi-dentata, 127
Omphalodes linifolia, 265
Onion Ailsa Craig, 25
Onions, gathering and storing, 544
Onosma tauricum, 339
Orchis foliosa, 85
Oxalis adenophylla, 714; enneaphylla, 63

Pæonia officinalis lobata, 360
Pæonies at Kelway's nursery, 576
Palms, repotting, 243
Pampas grass, clump of, 685, 717
Paths, cinder, edged with santolina, 695; edged with mossy saxifrages, 175; grass and cement, 695; laying crazy paving, 29; woodland, 482
Pear Doyenné du Comice, 648; pyramid tree in flower, 660
Pears, cordon, 666
Peas, Sutton's Early Giant, 24
Pelargonium Mme. Crousse, 315; Paul Crampel, 231
Pelargoniums in baskets, 573
Pentstemons in a border, 494
Perennials, division of, 560
Pernettya ciliaris, 257; mucronata, 623

Digitized by Google

Pilot Border Gem, 553; herbaceous, 603; La Neige, 681; perennial, 237; subulata Nelsoni, 647
Phloxes, herbaceous in a town garden, 628
Phyllocactus blandum, 404
Physalis Franchetii, 628
Phytocma comosum, 497
Picea excelsa globosa nana, 234
Pink, Cheddar, 62
Pinks as an edging, 459; on a dry wall, 631
Pleiaanthus Lyallii, 78
Plan, annual border, 18; of fruit garden, 621; of garden, 535, 551, 569, 581, 599, 605, 622, 630, 661, 662; herbaceous border, 564, 676; of rose bed, 653
Plants repotting, 260
Platycerium alcicorne, 179
Polyanthus Greenway's Glory, 572; in woodland, 715
Polygonum affine, 669; campanulatum, 179; vaccinifolium, 696
Pond, water lilies flowering in, 253, 740
Poppies, annual, 22; Shirley, 17
Potato, clamp of, 606; Dargill Early, 57; freak, 701
Potentilla fruticosa, 467
Potting plants, 260
Primula chionantha, 135; conica, 133; denticulata, 20; fasciculata, 163; Florindæ, 313; Forrestii, 510; hirsuta, 347; involucrata, 145; malacoides Dwarf Eclipse, 209; marginata, 347; Mooreana, 133; obconica, 502; pubescens alba, 211; Reidii, 132; rosea, 709; Smithiana, 145; spectabilis, 104; stellata, 177; sulfureiscens, 132; Veitchii, 133; Winteri, 144
Primulas in the rock garden, 617
Propagation by cuttings, 453
Prunus laulia, 68; laurocerasus, 471; Pissardii, 623; rosea perodula, 294; serrulata, 730; triloba fl. pl., 267
Pterocarya rhoifolia, 431; stenoptera, 431
Pulmonaria azurea, 715
Pumpkin, 622
Pyracantha Gibbsii, 287
Pyrethrum Victoria, 367, 651
Pyrethrums at Kelway's nursery, 577; double, 22; single, 23
Pyrola rotundifolia, 239
Pyrus aria majestica, 554; Eleyi, 571; malus floribunda, 293; Vilmorini, 465

Ramondia, in a rock garden with ferns, 694; Nathaliæ, 69; pyrenaica, 372
Ranunculus, camellia - flowered, 83
Raspberries, pruning and planting, 640
Rev. Joseph Jacob, M.A., The late, 109
Rhododendron campylocarpum, 184; Duchess of Portland, 186; Edgeworthii, 184, 365; exhibition, 288; Forsterianum, 247; George Hardy, 698; ledifolium, 192; Loder's White, 699; moorland in China, 187; Nobleanum album Gills' var., 152; Pink Pearl, 699; præcox, 116; Wightii, 184, 185
Rhododendrons at Wallace's nursery, 437; bank of hybrid, 608, 747; exhibit of, 287; under trees, 110
Rhubarb, forcing in open, 684; planting, 59
Robber fly, 223
Rock bank, 282
Rock garden, design of, 508; exhibits of, at Chelsea, 299; on a bank, 520; path, 725; a town, 548
Rodgersia pinnata, 662
Root pruning, 601, 700; fruit trees, 636
Rosa bracteata, 421; Helenæ, 420; Hugonis, 421; Moyesii, blooms of, 549; Moyesii, fruit of, 549; setigera, 509
Rose garden, 506, 618; plan of, bed, 653; rambler, on arch, 632; rust, 504; weeping standard, 683
Rose, Varieties of: Albéric Barbier, 499; American Pillar, 749; Angele Pernet, 160; Austrian Copper, 421; Bedford Crimson, 624; Betty Uprichard, 337; Billy Boy, 384; Charles E. Shea, 619; Christine, 469; Coral Cluster, 613; Dame Edith Helen, 529; Everest, 397; Florence M. Izzard, 169; Independence Day, 619; La Tosca in beds, 533; Lady Helen Maglona, 397; Maréchal Niel, 336; Margaret Dickson Hamill, 469; Mme. Butterfly, 396; Mrs. Beatty, 614; Mrs. Henry Morse, 532; Orleans Rose, 613; Patience, 529; Sovereign, 168; Thelma, 274; William Allen Richardson, 337; Zéphirine Drouhin, 443
Roses, budding, 369; cuttings of, 410; exhibit of, 303; exhibit of at Holland Park, 555; green fly on, 309; hedge of, 498; in beds with delphiniums, 172, 602; on an apple tree, 682; on brick pillar, 683; on chains, 683; on pergolas, 507, 682; on pillars, 583; on wall, 402; ramblers covering a tree stump, 646
Rubbish destructor, 492
Rubus australis, 375; biflorus, 148; deliciosus, 85; quinqueflorus, 665

Salads, protecting early, 74
Salix magnifica, 79
Salvia dichroa, 67; nemorosa, 741; Sclarea, 84
Sanguinaria canadensis, 67
Santolina, edging a path, 695
Saxifraga Ada, 117; Boydii, 157; Burseriana, 6; bursiculata, 7; cochlearis, 568; Cotyledon, 158; decipiens grandiflora, 226; Faldonside, 157; Irvingii, 7; oppositifolia, 157; paradoxa, 285; Stracheyi, 21
Saxifrage, an encrusted, 7
Saxifrages, edging a path, 175
Scabiosa caucasica, 433
Schizanthus, 16; dark strain of, 499
Schizophragma hydrangeoides, 281
Scilla peruviana, 416
Seakale, forcing, 719
Sedum spathulifolium, 663; spectabile, 616
Seed saving, 466
Senecio laxifolius, 376
Show, Chelsea, exhibits at, 290, 317; Holland Park, exhibits at, 555
Shrubs, exhibit of, at Chelsea, 301; under trees, 111
Sidalcea Sussex Beauty, 687
Sink garden, 64
Smilax, training, 75
Snowdrops, 49
Soil, digging of, 608
Sorbaria arborea glabrata, 219
Spiræa Aruncus, 192; Henryi, 374; Lindleyana, 660; Veitchii, 103
Sprayer, Carter's Ideal, 394
Stachyurus præcox, 37
Stranvæsia salicifolia, 571
Strawberries, exhibit of, 321; exhibit of Laxton's, 625; planting of, 556
Streptocarpus Wendlandii, 117
Suckers, removing, 516
Sunflower, annual, 200
Sweet Pea Goldcrest, 26; Jean Ireland, 129; Royal Purple, 129
Sweet Peas, autumn sown, 575; exhibit of, 319; planting in trench, 107
Sweet Rocket, 403, 708
Sweet William Invincible, 83
Syncpsis sinensis, 37

Tamarix gallica, 350
Thalictrum dipterocarpum, 292
Thlaspi rotundifolium, 9
Thuya orientalis, 249
Thymus Serphyllum, 331
Town garden, 558, 629
Tomatoes, top-dressing, 355
Trellis, how to make, 655
Tricuspidaria lanceolata, 127
Trollius europæus, 279; Golden Queen, 651; Orange Globe, 644
Tropæolum speciosum, 206
Tulip, fasciated, 121; Golden Crown in border, 214; Kauffmanniana, 403; leaves attacked by scale, 413; Pride of Haarlem in beds, 214
Tulips, Darwin, in beds with forget-me-nots, 495, 649; diseased bulbs, 233, 234; exhibit of, 318; exhibited by Carters, 118; in beds, 486; in formal beds, 480; in a mixed border, 566; May-flowering in border, 481
Turnip, gall-weevil, 289
Turnips, storing of, 652

Venidium calendulaceum, 47
Verbascum phœnicum, 374
Verbena chamædrifolia, 417
Veronica Andersonii variegata, 580; spicata alba, 663
Viburnum dilatatum xanthocarpum, 8; macrocephalum, 79; 281; Opulus fructu - luteo, 570; rhytidophyllum, 521; Tinus, 3
Vinca difformis, 352
Virginian Stock, 407
Viola calcarata, 36; cenisia, 36; cornuta, 403; gracilis, 585; gracilis alba, 709; Mrs. Marrison, 171
Violas, cuttings of, 490; in beds with gladioli, 231; in border, 171

Wall, low retaining, 265; plants growing on, 113; pinks on a dry, 631; stone, Virginian stock growing in, 407
Wallflowers, 23
Water lily pool, 253, 740
Weevil, alpine plant, 283
Woodland path in spring, 482
Wulfenia carinthiaca, 285

Zenobia pulverulenta, 711
Zinnias, Sutton's exhibit of, 552

INDEX TO LETTERPRESS

Abelia Grebneriana, 219; Schumannii, 425
Abies grandis, 406
"Abol" Challenge Trophy, 250, 305
Acacia Riceana, 210; verticillata, 241
Acanthoimons, 207
Acers, 164; Japanese, 724; selection of, 436
Achillea tomentosa, 251
Achilleas, 461; for border and rockery, 741
Aethionema Dwarf Pink, 476
Aconitum variegatum, 680; Wilsoni, 21; Aotea rubra, 316
Adiantum emarginatum, 323
Æsculus Pavia, 418
Ailanthus, 316
Ampelopsis, 543; umbellatus, 266
Anthura coelestis, 9
Allium descendens, 451; Schubertii, 387
Aquilegia, from seed, 134; propagation by cuttings, 448
Arabis spinosum, 364
Amaryllis Belladonna, 604
Amateur Show, 379
Amazon Lily, 178
Anarrhinum bellidifolium, 503
Anchusa Rollea Dropmore var., 550, 712; Italica Opal, 712; myosotidiflora, 264, 305, 339; propagation of, 748
Anemone apennina, 485; Creagh Castle strain, 210; nemorosa Robinsoniana, 132; Seemannii, 266
Anemones, Japanese, 525; poppy, 296
Annuals, border of, 18; for cutting, 99; for hanging baskets, 34; for rock gardens, 114, 136; for the greenhouse, 508; hardy, 65; growing period of, 396; novelties in half-hardy, 81; preparing for, 728; transplanting half-hardy, 197; uncommon, 46; useful, 27
Anogramma glandulosum, 272, 409
Antheriums, 388; value as foliage plants, 452
Antirrhinums, autumn sowing of, 536; pricking out, 92; pricking out seedling, 212
Apple Rev. W. Wilks, 670
Apples, arsenic in, 219; dual-purpose, 632; picking and storing, 514; self-fertility and self-sterility of, 719; summer pruning of, 398; thinning, 341; unfruitful trees, 606; varieties of, 593; winter pruning of, 684
Aquatics, 252; for a small tank, 721
Arabis, 364; albida, 673; albida fl. pl., 633
Auraucaria imbricata, 366, 378
Arbor-vitæ, 249
Arbutus, 70
Arches, how to make, 671
Artemisia camphorata, 389
Arctostaphylos californica, 632; Manzanita, 238; Uva-ursi, 460
Arctotis breviscapa, 393
Arisarum proboscideum, 406
Artichokes, Chinese, 719; propagation of globe, 652
Arum lilies, 410; culture, 592; in the open, 335, 366, 422
Arum orientalis, 597
Asparagus, cleaning beds of, 572; how to make beds for, 556; sowing, 289
Aster Amellus Ultramarine, 597; elegans, 686; Farreri, 460, 639; grandiflorus, 728; King George, 644; Nancy Ballard, 622; Tradescantii, 628
Asters, collar rot in, 324
Auriculas, 4
Autumn colour in the garden, 582
Azalea indica, 193; indica Albert-Elizabeth, 181; Knaphill Pink, 323; Knaphill White, 322; rosæflora, 418; Valencia, 323
Azaleas, forcing of, 678; non-flowering a cause of, 193

Babianas at home, 457
Balsam, 316
Baneberries, 316
Banks, alpines for, 282; plants for dry, 381; shrubs for dry, 678; sunny, treatment of, 278
Basket plants in greenhouse, 205
Beans, 24; early crops, 745; late crop of dwarf, 398; runner, 566
Bearberry, 460
Bedding, propagation of plants for, 452; spring, 522, 633, 649; storing summer plants, 637; suggestions for spring, 566; suggestions for summer, 231; summer, 296
Beech, fern-leaved, 450
Beetroot, storing, 504
Begonia Ideala, 290; Rex, 612
Begonias, for baskets, 8; tuberous, starting, 60, 123; winter-flowering, 35, 735
Berberis brevipaniculata, 51; chitria, 409; flowering, 263; kansuensis, 272; Neubertii, 335; seedlings, 51; stenophyla autumnalis, 549; Vernæ C. Schneider, 206
Bignonia capreolata, 283
Birches, seedling, 89
Blackberries, cultivated, 116
Black currants, big-bud in, 685; reversion or nettle-head in, 328; varieties of, 665
Blue in the garden, 38
Bomarea acutifolia var. punctata, 323; Banksii, 272
Book Reviews—"Carnations for Every Garden and Greenhouse," 440; "Flower Scent," 36; Gladiolus Guide Book, 675; "Hand List of Conifers Grown in the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew," 76; "Herbaceous Borders for Amateurs;" "Herbaceous and Other Ornamental Trees for Amateurs," 60; "Ornamental Trees for Planting," 76; "The Families of Flowering Plants," 76; "The Pruning of Trees and Shrubs," 228
Borders, advantages of mixed, 604; annuals for, 18; dry, by a hedge, 538; edging for herbaceous, 230; feeding, 658; flowers for, 22; north, in summer, 418; stone and rock edging for, 205; herbaceous, arranging a, 564; herbaceous combinations in, 324; herbaceous in spring, 172; herbaceous, perennials for, 602; herbaceous, plan of, 676; herbaceous renovating, 561; herbaceous, spring treatment of, 29
Bougainvillea, pruning of, 228
Bouvardias, 308
Bowling greens, from seed, 211
Brachyscma latifolia, 272
Brassicas for spring sowing, 212
Broad beans, 638; early, 588
Broccoli, 307; sprouting, 356
Brompton stocks, 350, 476
Brussels sprouts, early, 244; planting, 341
Bryanthus erectus, 711
Bryophyllum calycinum, 746
Buddleia Colvilei, 471; Forrestii, 543 globosa, 471
Bulbinella Hookerii, 685
Bulbs, after flowering, 107, 743; Cape, in the open, 353; Cape, treatment of, 288; early, 464; for the cold greenhouse, 557; for the rock garden, 538; forced, treatment of, 60; growing in pots, 100, 716; growing in pots and boxes 649; in pots and bowls, 515; lifting and storing, 395; planting, 586; planting in grass, 490; plants to grow with, 495; potting, 534; potting early-flowering, 438; what to plant, 486

Cabbages, 589; club-root in, 13, 289 pests of, 162, 560
Cacti, for amateurs, 5; interesting, 375
Cactus, flowers of, 404
Calluinthas, 84
Calceolaria John Coutts, 367
Calceolarias, 515
Callicoma serratifolia, 323
Callistemon citrinus var. splendens, 210
Caltha polypetala, 665
Camellia Sasanqua, 131
Camellias, growing in the open, 192
Campanula crenulata, 322; Donald Thurston, 425; persicifolia, 419; pyramidalis, 607; pyramidalis alba, 259
Campanulas, border, 499; for the rock garden, 41, 727; the taller-growing, 26, 73, 727
Cannas, 197
Carbolineum washes, 357
Cardamine pratensis, 103
Cardoon, 108, 398
Carnations, Border, 170; layering, 354
Carnations, Malmaisons, 122
Carnations, Perpetual, Dorcas, 322; Earl Beatty, 424; Hebe, 322; Laddie, 330; Beatty, 424; Hebe, 322; Laddie, 330; of the florist's shop, 190; repotting and stopping, 290; Rouge, 181; winter treatment of, 678
Carrot fly, 307

Digitized by Google

Carrots, late crops of, 572; ridding them of fly, 574
Cassiope selaginoides, 251; tetragona, 498
Cauliflower, White Queen, 59
Cauliflowers, 24; autumn treatment, 544; early, 92; planting, 588; protecting late, 684; summer, 123
Ceanothus Gloire de Versailles, 711; Henri Defosse, 451
Cedar, forms of the red, 524
Celeriac, 74, 108, 398
Celery blanching, 439, 544; final earthing up, 588; pricking off, 289; self-blanching, 92; summer treatment of, 307; trenches, making, 227
Celmisia hieracifolia, 322
Ceratostigma plumbaginoides, 533
Cereus grandiflorus, 378
Cheiranthus Allionii, 369; alpinus, 350
Chelsea Show, 317; report of, 298; sundries at, 327
Cherries, culture of, 56, 71; Morello, 411, 636; The Duke, 88; varieties of, 664
Chicory, forcing, 426
Chionodoxa Luciliæ, 566
Chrysanthemum Horace Martin, 628; Phœnix, 612; Source d'Or, 10, 44, 58; Winton, 55
Chrysanthemums, border, 712; budding, 453; cuttings of, 615; damping in late, 748; early-flowering, 662; early-flowering border, 314; finishing and staging, 592; hirsute, 647; in Canada, 44; modern, 634; potting, final, 808; protecting late, 665; rust on, 244; securing "sports" of, 611
Cineraria Intermediate Pink, 272
Cinerarias, cultivation of, 353; final potting of, 503; growing large, 808; off-shoots *versus* seedlings, 394
Cistus ladaniferus, 265; Loreti, 265; white, 447; Wintonensis, 272;
Clematis Armandi, 365; Armandi var. Apple Blossom, 181; for the garden, 149; from cuttings, 196; montana grandiflora, 103; orientalis, 598; propagation by cuttings, 576; pruning of, 380
Clianthus puniceus, 283
Climbers for arches and pillars, 710; for old tree stumps, 646; on smooth surfaces, 646; planting hardy, 581; sweet-scented, 10
Climbing plants for the porch, 538
Club-root, 13; 684, 718
Cockroaches, how to catch, 736
Codonopsis nepalensis, 389
Colchicum autumnale, 446; byzantinum, 524; speciosum, 463
Cold greenhouse, early autumn in the, 557; hardy plants for, 584; sweet peas for, 590
Coleus, 464
Coleworts, 59
Colour and the garden, 150
Columbines, 227, 369
Composites, annual, 200
Conifers, dwarf, for the rock garden, 234; dwarf, nomenclature of, 324
Convolvulus mauritanicus, 73
Coreopsis, 84
Corn salad, for winter, 452
Cornus capitata, 116
Correa speciosa, 251
Corydalis, 104
Corylopsis spicata, 205
Corylus Avellana, 612
Cosmeas, 13
Cotoneaster humifusa, 644; salicifolia var. floccosa, 103
Cotyledon Gibbiflora metallica, 283
Crataegus, 350; Pyracantha, pruning of, 649
Crinum concinnum, 451
Crocus biflorus, 257; Sieberi versicolor major, 152; Tournefortii, 742
Crocuses in grass, 633
Cryptomeria japonica, 406
Cucumbers, early, 107; outdoor, 306
Cupressus macrocarpa lutea, 565; tamariscifolia Tilgate var., 476
Currants, cuttings of, 732; planting, 621; retarding, 425
Cyanide, fumigation with, 208
Cyclamen cilicium, 679; hardy, 734; greenhouse, 60, 123, 445; greenhouse, raising early, from seed, 13; greenhouse, seed-sowing, 380
Cydonia Maulei, 103
Cymbidiums, easily grown, 726
Cypellas, 148
Cypripediums, hardy, 350; in wild state, 462
Cyrtanthus lutescens, 119; O'Brienii, 152

Daffodil Show, 254
Daffodils, bedding and border suggestions, 490; for the woodland, 481; growth in various years, 131; in New York Botanic Gardens, 178; in New Zealand, 10; indoor culture, 496; notes on, 349, 363; varieties to plant, 431
Dahlia Dazzle, 628; the return of the, 269; Our Annie, 549
Dahlias for bedding, 681; garden value of 295; planting, 325; storing, 615
Damping-off, 228, 290
Damson, Merryweather, 628
Daphne Blagayana, 470, 728; Genkwa, 305; Genkwa, propagation, 259, 747; laureola, 194; Mezereum, 69, 681
Darlingtonia californica, 179
Day lilies, 407
Delphinium Lady Edith, 393; Violet Robinson, 367; species, 648
Delphiniums, 92, 165; cutting back, 340; Double White, 654; white, 746
Deutzia taiwanensis, 425
Deutzias, 163
Dianthus graniticus, 117; neglectus, 407; seedlings, treatment of, 107
Digging, 606
Digitalis ferruginea rosea, 367; Lutz hybrid, 367
Dombeya Cayeuxii, 150; Cianeiir, 55
Draba pyrenaica, 9
Drimys aromatica, 241

Earwigs, 546
Eccremocarpus scaber, 733
Echinacea The King, 549
Echinops Ritro, 484
Edging plants, 459
Edgings, perennial, 20
Editorials—Annuals, 15; Apples, British, 359; Araucaria imbricata, 329; Chelsea Show, buying at, 291; Coddling Plants, 229; Correspondence, the Value of 199; Dean Hole and His Roses, 371; District Flowers, 61; Dryas octopetala, 429; Efficiency in the Garden, 401; Garden Pests, 467; Garden Renovation, 563; Gardening Without a Garden, 443, 475; Gladioli, 139; Hints from our Readers, 493; Hybridising, 183; Imperial Fruit Show, 627; Iris Kæmpferi, 415; Ivy on Trees, 383; Labelling, 643; Meconopsis, 93; Notes from My Garden, 245, 505, 519; Novelties in the Garden, 77; Our Native Plants, 429; Planting in Spring, 1; Primulas, 261, 277; Pyrus Vilmorinii, 455; Rev. Joseph Jacob, 109; Shrub Pruning, 153; Spring, Peculiarities of, 199; Spring, the Effect of, 167; Sweet Pea Competition, 311; Sweet Pea Competition Result, 479; The Amateur Fruit Show, 547; The Old Order Changeth, 531; Trees and Shrubs in Scotland, 31, 45; Trees and Shrubs, Pruning of, 344; Vegetables, Variety in, 213; "What is in a Name," 126; Your Help, 579
Eelworm and hot-water treatment, 306
Endive, 306
Enkianthus campanulatus, 312
Eranthis hyemalis, 498
Erica St. Keverne as an edging, 638; vagans alba, 580
Erigeron aurantiacus, 20
Erigerons, 236
Eritrichium nanum, 44; 58
Erodium chrysanthum, 162
Erodiums, 407
Eryngium pianum, 648
Escallonia Iveyi, 451
Escallonias, 250
Eschscholtzias by the pathside, 163
Eucharis amazonica grandiflora, 178
Eucryphia Nymansay, 503
Euonymus europæus, 565; radicans Silver Queen, 612
Everlasting flower, 486
Evodia hupehensis, 460
Exhibitors, guidance for, 348

Fasciation freaks, 121
Feijoa Sellowiana, 378, 489; as a fruiting shrub, 339
Ferns, British, 628; division of, 729; Harcsfoot, 177; in pots, 50; in the rock garden, 693, 733
Fertilisers, 92; application of, 649
Fig, culture in the open, 137
Floraire, notes from, 162
Flower pots, a stand for, 426; repairing broken, 713; worms in, 720
Flowers, blooming in the open at Christmas, 43; blue, 567; cut, 44; district, 106; early hardy, 94; for Christmas, 601; how to cut, 351; night-scented, 511; preserving, 150; production of new, 465; retarding late, 748; rotation of, 713; scented, 708; seed order for, 16; supporting, 122; treatment of cut, 680
Foliage for cutting, 112; value of, 346, 361, 376, 521
Foliage plants for rock gardens, 568
Foxgloves, yellow, 375, 450
Fragrance in herbs, alpines and water plants, 189
Frames, garden, 223, 723; in summer, 309; matting for, 641; treatment in autumn, 539; winter vegetables for, 589
Francoa ramosa, 423
Freesias, 452; from seed, 136; sowing, 13; treatment of seed, 72
Fritillaria Elwesii, 433
Fritillarias, 679
Frost, beneficial effects to ground, 665; damage by in East Anglia, 102; in spring, 188; protecting plants from, 550
Fruit, arranging a small garden, 621; birds attacking buds, 745; birds attacking soft, 340, 745; bush, feeding of, 341; bush, for the small garden, 601; bush, thinning and pruning, 588; in the cold house, 355; gathering and storing, 544; pests, 491; picking, 465, 556; storing, 621
Fruit trees, autumn care of, 546; bird attacks on, 729; grass around base, 59; grease-banding, 546; labelling, 601; mulching, 636; old orchard, 732; planting, 664; preparing ground for, 516, 572; removing suckers of, 516; renovating, 653; root pruning, 636; scale of, 29; spraying, 105, 119; spraying in spring, 260; staking, 572; 615; types of 666; varieties of, for small garden, 606; wall, 572, 745
Fuchsias, bud-dropping of, 410; neglect of, 105; species and their varieties, 48; standard, 28
Fumigation with cyanide, 208
Fungicides for spring use, 224, 242; summer, 368
Funkias, 218

Galanthus lutescens, 50
Garden hose, 309
Gardening in sinks and pig troughs, 63; in Vancouver Island, 353; without a garden, 514; without soil, 526
Gardens, blue and pink, 38; construction of wild, 522; design of new, 535; grey and pink, 345, 489; making a new, 551, 569, 581, 599, 605, 622, 661, 744; making a front, 724; making a small rose, 618; new, 630; Notes from Yorkshire, 21; orange colour in, 246, 345; rose, 506; shady back, 4; small suburban, 573; small, cultivation of, 718; spring in an East Yorkshire, 215; suburban, 591; town, 558, 629; vegetables on roof, 718; winter, 256
Gentiana Pneumonanthe, 510; sino-ornata, 590, 597; verna, 351
Gentianas, 434, 448; in an amateur's garden, 542
Genistas, 179, 257
Geranium Farreri, 207, 257; lancastriense, 265; hardy, a plea for, 373; greenhouse, 28; wintering in safety, 550
Gesneras, 260
Geums, 266
Gladioli, culture of, 142; form in, 269; from Kenya, 305; from seed, 239; history of, 142; new, 140, 158, 194, 305; primulinus hybrids, 239; South African, 160; staking, 369; types of, 146
Gladiolus Kelway's Defiance, 476; Langprim, 605
Globularias, 723
Gloriosas, 250
Gloxinias, 18; drying off, 465; sowing of, 735
Glyptostrobus heterophyllus, 408
Gooseberries, cuttings of, 732; planting, 621
Gooseberry mildew, how to check, 674; pests, 307, 353, 422
Grape vines, feeding of, 243; from eyes, 211; pruning and renovation of, 716; renovation of borders, 749; ripening late, 423; treatment of ripe, 588
Grasses, ornamental, cultivation of, 108
Green fly, 258, 309
Greenhouse, autumn notes on the, 592; pillar plants for, 334; plants for the winter, 736; plants on shelves in winter, 515; plants, cleaning in winter, 716; plants, re-arrangement of, 308; plants, stopping and training of, 182
Greenhouses, 477; heating of, 620; roof plants for, 678; stoking for, 749; washing down, 748
Gypsophila acutifolia, 68; Bristol Fairy, 367, 511; propagation of double, 542

Haberleas, 69
Hammamelis, 94
Hawthorns, flowering, 350
Heath as an edging, 579
Heather, wild, 227
Heaths, dwarf, in pots, 748; hardy, 220
Hedges, 600; ivy for, 130, 194; trimming of, 356, 649
Hedychium Gardnerianum, 669
Heeria rosea elegans, 425
Helenium pumilum magnificum, 565
Helianthemum lunulatum, 525
Helianthus sparsifolius, 597
Helleborus, protecting, 713; orientalis Black Knight, 181
Hemerocallis, 407; Margaret Perry, 424; Sir Michael Foster, 597
Herb Garden, 227
Herbaceous borders, autumn reminders, 491; combinations for, 324; edgings for, 230; in spring, 172; staking plants in, 325
Herbs, gathering, 399
Hemiptelea Davidii, 377
Heuchera tiarelloides, 685
Heucheras, 631
Hippeastrum, Greenway's Glory, 272; Magic, 272; New Pink Pearl, 272
Hoeing, value of, 357
Holland Park Show, 552
Hollyhocks, 28, 197, 460; disease of, 639; rust of, 489
Holly, manuring of, 44
Hoilles, for the small garden, 741
Horseradish, 606
Hot-beds, in summer, 309; materials for, 746; vegetables to raise on, 108
Hyacinths, forcing, 488
Hydrangea, hortensis rosea, 90, 151; Mrs. H. J. Jones, 393
Hydrangeas, colour variation in, 11; greenhouse, 395
Hymenanthera crassifolia, 632
Hypericum oblongifolium, 580; polyphyllum, 681

Iberis Garrexiana, 8; sempervirens, 344
Imantophyllum Westonbirt Brilliant, 210
Index Expurgatorius, 468
Insecticides, 399, 413
Insects, beneficial, 223
Ionopsidium acaule, 90
Ipomœa rubro-cærulea, 258; Heavenly Blue, 178
Iris Dominion, 450; Frances Graceful, 367; hybrids, 405; unguicularis, 432; Watbract, 322
Irises, bearded, 389; bearded, culture of, 424; for the beginner, 386; Japanese, 148; regelio-cyclus, 385; Spanish, 463, 598
Ivy on trees, 422, 436, 450
Ixias, 380
Ixoras, 515

Jasminum nudiflorum, 742

Kaffir Lily, 485
Kalmia latifolia, 746
Kalmias, 388
Kerria japonica, 116; for walls, 550
Kew in early summer, 293
Kitchen garden, autumn work in, 675; crops for a small, 745; summer treatment of vacant ground, 425
Kniphofia erecta, 533
Kniphofias, 332

Labels, 746; zinc, 707
Lachenalia Monte Carlo, 181; Nelsoni, 36, 135
Lachenalias, 305, 419; at Christmas, 27; potting, 439
Lapagerias, 491
Laurels as windbreak, 21; treatment of old, 197
Laurus nobilis, 20
Lavatera arborea, 21; Olbia rosea, 616
Lavender, 439, 708; perfume, 545
Lawn, mowing machines for a, 256; sand, how to make, 639; tools for a, 287
Lawns, autumn-laid, 228; making flower beds on a new, 712; cutting flower beds in, 608; drainage of, 14; mowing in spring, 244; patching, 228, 538; removal of weeds, 688; sowing seed for, 381; trimming edges, 182; weeds on, 309
Leaf-soil, 601, 732
Leather jackets, 381, 546
Leeks, how to grow, 29
Leptospermum, 433
Lettuce, 621; winter, 440
Levelling ground, 723
Liatris, 193
Libertia formosa, 365
Lilacs, for the small garden, 645
Lilies for the garden, 52, 472, 513, 542; lime loving, 669; suckers of, 743
Lilium auratum platyphyllum, 58; Martagon Cattaness, 460; Martagon dalmaticum, 436; Martagon dalmaticum Cattaness, 406, 450; species, 134; Szovitzianum, 392; potting for forcing, 503; premature stem cutting, 461; top-dressing, 340
Lily of the valley, culture of, 711; forcing crowns, 463; retarding crowns, 637
Lily pond, 293
Lime, its use, 737
Linaria dalmatica, 644
Lindenbergia grandiflora, 119
Linnea borealis, 471
Linum alpinum, 662; perenne, 75
Lobelia Huntsman, 597; linnæoides, 266
Lobelias in pots, 123
Loganberries, grubs in, 738

Digitized by Google

Lælia fragrantissima, 58, 90
Lælias, hybrid, 418; improvement of, 382; planting of, 237; planting and division, 566; soil for, 290
Lætia pectinata, 525
Lithia Lagasca, 60

Magnolia conspicua E. Veitch's variety, 301
Maidenhair fern, 584
Manures, 666; liquid, 426
Manuring, autumn, 601
Maples, 184; Japanese, 724; selection of, 456
Marigold, corn, 297
Marrows, 341; prolonging the season, 452
Meconopsis, 96, 115, 135; aculeata, 250; Baileyi, 241, 436; hybrid, 474; simplicifolia, 150
Melaleuca laterita, 323
Melittis melissophyllum, 104
Melons, 182
Mesembryanthemum crassulinum, 461; floribundum, 335
Mice, 27; trapping, 720
Michaelmas daisies, 540; border of, 564; disbudding, 446; culture and staking, 615; red, 598
Miggonette, 463; bush of, 476
Mimulus for pot or basket decoration, 743
Mint, 290
Miranthus zebrina, 580
Mistletoe, 10, 729
Mitchella repens, 471
Mitrarda didyma coccinea, 8
Montbretia E. A. Bowles, 503; Lord Lambourne, 503
Montbretias, 107; value of, 143
Morello cherries, 411
Mowing machines, 256; motor, 270
Muehlenbeckias, 50
Muscari azureum, 432
Mushroom, culture, 225
Mushrooms, 92; beds for autumn crops, 396; in frames, 539
Mustard and cress, 504
Mutisia clematis, 119

Narcissi, miniature, 102; Poets, 483; polyanthus, 483
Narcissus fly, 546; Emperor, 205; Medusa, 181; Poetaz Cheerfulness, 183
Nemesia Sutton's hybrid Blue Gem, 256
Nepeta Mussini, hardiness of, 36
Nerine Bowdeni, 90; Bowdeni, origin of, 58; Mansellii, 432
Nerines, 11; potting, 465
Nomenclature, florists', 130; plant, 58, 257, 288, 305, 339, 353
Nurseries, Bakers', 526; Barr's, 500; Blackmore and Langdon's, 512; Hewitts', 672; Kelways', 576; Laxton's, 624; Wallace's, 437; Wells', 666
Nymphæa amabilis, 424; Attraction, 424; Marliacea carnea, 239

Œnothera crespitosa, 446; marginata, 68; missouriensis, 417; speciosa, 104
Oleanders, 364
Olearia Haastii, 68; stellulata, 366
Omphalodes linifolia, 265
Onions, 24; autumn sown, 426; fly, 228; for exhibition, 28; gathering and storing, 544; good keeping varieties, 28; lifting and storing, 452; preparation of beds for, 684
Ononis fruticosa, 393, 681
Onosma, 339
Orchids, notes on, for amateurs, 12, 726
Orchis foliosa, 85
Ostrowskia magnifica, 104
Othonna denticulata, 72
Oxalis adenophylla, 365

Paconia Mlokosiewitschi, 50; officinalis lobata, 360; Wittmanniana, 680
Palms, potting, 260; re-potting, 243
Pampas grass, 685
Pansies from cuttings, 490
Parnassia palustris, 573
Parsley, 12, 491, 621
Parsley, crazy, 29
Peaches, feeding, 243
Pears, ripening hard, 584; summer pruning of, 388; varieties for the amateur, 648
Peas, 25; early, 636, 652, 746; late crop of, 396; maincrop, 244; selection of, 181
Peat plants, uncommon, 248
Pelargonium Godfrey's Masterpiece, 323; Souvenir de Charles Turner, 612
Pelargoniums, 438; after flowering, 394; ivy-leaved, 315; zonal, winter-flowering, 243, 364
Pentstemon gentianoides, 558
Pentstemons, 8, 494
Peonies, popularity of, in America, 166
Perennials, easily-grown, hardy, 584; for the cold greenhouse, 584; from seed, 32, 66, 225; hardy, for cutting, 649; hardy, for the small garden, 650; propagation of, 340; tall, for autumn planting, 602
Pernettya ciliaris, 257
Pernettyas, fruiting of, 542
Pests, how to deal with them, 546, 560
Philadelphus, pruning, 288
Phlomis fruticosa, 631
Phlox Annie Laurie, 476; Border Gem, 580; Enchantment, 476; Hon. Mildred Gibbs, 476; Laphami, 644; Lord Lambourne, 503; Mauve Queen, 503; Mrs. Edwin Beckett, 476; Royal Purple, 451; Vicary's Victory, 476
Phloxes, division and replanting of, 550; dwarf, for the rock garden, 647; herbaceous, planting of, 237; varieties for small gardens, 681
Phygelius capensis var. coccineus, 451
Physalis Franchetti, 628
Phytcuma comosum, 367, 497
Pieris in Scotland, 72, 89, 120
Pink in the garden, 38
Pinks, 631
Plans, fruit garden, 621; garden, 535 551, 569, 581, 599, 605, 622, 630, 661; herbaceous border, 564, 676
Plant collecting in Austria, 284; grouping, 334; idiosyncrasies, 150
Planting, 44; delayed, 611
Plants, autumn, 628; capricious, 201; coddling, 324; collecting of, 558, 591; damping off, 735; fascination of, 470; for damp soils, 236, 669; for growing under trees, 714; for hot dry soils, 615; for indoor blooming, 585; for limy soil, 738; for shady corners, 525; hard-wooded, during summer, 423; hard-wooded, when to house, 491; hardy, for the small garden, 650; in foggy weather, 717; late summer, 533; lifting tender, 561; new, 598; old-fashioned, 403, 416, 444; ordering new, 713; names of, 194; native in gardens, 278, 331; notes on autumn order of, 647; packing, 408; packing collected, 653; protection of, 737; reviving frosted, 633; room, 595; soot water for pot, 735; staking of, 226, 274; successes of, in various districts, 150; the arrival of, 659; the hardiness of, 105; to avoid, 73, 106; washing roots of, 743
Platycerium alcicorne, 179
Plumbago, pruning of, 228
Plums, culture of, 56, 71; varieties of, 664
Polyanthus Greenway's Glory, 272; seed sowing of, 340; sowing, 227
Polygonum baldschuanicum, 711; campanulatum, 179, 257
Pontederia crassipes, 393
Poppies, blue, 96, 115, 135, 150
Portulaca grandiflora, 90
Pot-pourri, 338
Potato, blight, 392; Epicure, 411; leaf-roll and mosaic, 440; Norna, 13
Potatoes, culture of, 138; earthing up, 355; exhibiting, 198; lifting and storing, 465, 556, 606; new varieties, 732; planting, 74, 108; selection of, 181, 226; sprouting seed, 74, 123; varieties of, 57
Potentilla Gibson's Scarlet, 565
Potentillas for the rock garden, 51
Primroses in pots, 678
Primula Allionii alba, 152; Baileyana, 181; capitata, 150; Cawdoriana, 322; Cawdoriana K.W. 5741, 210; denticulata, 20, 67; fasciculata, 163; flexilipes, 322; Florindæ, 322; Forrestii, 510; Littoniana, 106; malacoides, 260; malacoides Dwarf Eclipse, 210; microdonta apicola, 368; rosea, 709; sinensis, 197; spectabilis, 104
Primulas, bog, in winter, 196; cultivation of, 462; for the garden, 132, 144; from the Western Alps, 347; perennial, habit of, 135; seedlings, treatment of, 356; sowing seed of, 622; successes and failures, 176, 211; Tibetan, 313; greenhouse, 177; final potting of, 503
Prunus Davidiana, 550; incisa, 68; Laurocerasus, 471; Pissardii, 339; salicina, 210
Pterocaryas, 431
Pulmonaria angustifolia azurea Munstead variety, 206
Pulmonarias, 36
Pyrethrum Victoria, 368
Pyrethrums, 616
Pyrola rotundifolia, 239
Pyrolas in the rock garden, 205

Rabbits, protection against, 589
Ramondia pyrenaica, 372
Ramondias, 69
Ranunculus acris plenus, 370; amplexicaulis, 251; bedding, 36
Raspberries, autumn-fruiting, 411; culture of, 640; thinning, 544, 556
Rhododendron adenopodum, 241; astrocalyx, 287; Augustinii, 241; bug, 187; calophytum, 179; campylocarpum × Dr. Stoker, 241; croceum, 287; Dame Nellie Melba, 272; diaprepes, 393; Edgeworthii as a pillar plant, 365; Fargesii, 181; Gladys, 287; Grievii, 9; hæmatodes, 287; His Majesty, 181; kamtschaticum, 352; lacteum, 210; ledifolium, 192; Lord Swaythling, 272; Mrs. A. M. Williams, 287; Nobleanum album, 211; Nobleanum album Gill's var., 152; Norman Shaw, 368; Pilgrim, 323; Pink Delight, 119; præcox, 116; rotundifolium, 282; show, 30; sino-grande, 181; Sir John Ramsden, 287; Society Show, 286
Rhododendrons, forcing of, 678; greenhouse, 247; hybrid, 185; in Sikkim, 184; in various areas, 238; in wind and drought, 186; success in various districts, 195, 273
Rhubarb, 652; early, 606; forcing, outdoors, 684; planting, 59
Rhus cotinoides, 10
Ribes speciosum, 36
Rock garden, annuals for, 90, 114, 136; bulbs for the, 538; design in, 506; foliage plants for, 568; free and formal, 520; long-flowering plants for, 585; making, 617; nature's, 156; notes from a New Zealand, 58; notes on, 49; paths in, 725; plants which should not be grown in, 468; small, 709, 725, 742; top-dressing, 668; town, 548; town and suburban, 548
Rock plants, spring-flowering, 166; fifty best, 62, 80
Rodgersia pinnata, 662
Root crops, preparing holes for, 289
Rosa lævigata, 494; Moyesii, 540; Wichuraiana, 524
Roscoea, 131; cautleoides var. Beesii, 322
Rose gardens, making a small, 618; notes from Northern Ireland, 468; rust, 604; Summer Show, 384
Rose Varieties—
Albéric Barbier, 489; American Pillar, 747; Bedford Crimson, 397; Billy Boy, 397; Cecil, 323; Charles P. Kilham, 530; Dame Edith Helen, 275, 530; Everest, 397; Frank Reader, 425; Golden Salmon, 323; Helen Maglona, 397; J. Ferris, 530; Jack Hobbs, 425; La Tosca, 533; Lady Margaret Stewart, 275; Mme. Alfred Carrière, 717; Maud E. Gladstone, 275; Mermald, 644, 686; Mrs. Beatty, 323; Patience, 530; Princess Elizabeth of Greece, 397; Thelma, 275, 530; William Allen Richardson, 138; Zéphirine Drouhin, 120, 150, 177
Rosemary, 135
Roses, a garden of fragrant, 506; as garden screens, 713; autumn treatment of ramblers, 632; budding, 369; climbing, for pergolas and pillars, 682; cuttings of, 410; dwarf polyantha, 613; feeding, 259; for fences and barriers, 583; greenhouse, 423; hedges of, 498; hybrid musk, 338; in bleak and poor situations, 654; in gravelly soils, 614; in South Derbyshire, 717; in greenhouses, 75, 120, 150, 210; in retrospect, 336; layering rambler, 589; moss, 380; mulching of, 613; of good constitution, 532; old varieties, 388; on walls, 107, 402; planting of, 613; pot-grown, 221; protecting, 662; pruning bedding, 162; selection of, 166; single, 659; soil preparation and planting for, 608; spraying, 325; stopping, 259; training and feeding, 369; twelve new varieties of, 614; varieties which keep their colour and are not scorched, 532; wild, in cultivation, 420
Rosmarinus prostrata, 68
Rotation of crops, 652
Royal Show at Reading, 414
Rubbish, 29; burning, 492; clearing autumn, 641; treatment of, with "Adco," 665
Rubi, Canadian, 85
Rubus australis, 375; biflorus, 148, 565

Sage, red, 120, 226
Salads, 25, 273; growing early, 74; summer, 411
Salvia Harbinger, 549; nemorosa 741
Salvias, 84
Sand, its use in the garden, 14
Sanguisorba canadensis, 417
Satyrium aureum, 476
Saxifraga Ada, 117; apiculata, 107; Arco Valley, 181; Elizabethæ, 854; peltata, 318; Primulaize Salmon, 368; Riversica, 152
Saxifrages, 157; in the alpine house, 6; the fifty best, 175, 226
Scabiosa anthemifolia roseo T. Hay's var., 451
Scabious, 433; perennial, 638
Scale on fruit trees, 29
Schizanthus, sowing of, 499
Schizopetalon Walkeri, 193
Schizostylis coccinea, 485
Scum on water, 743
Scutellarias, 524
Seakale, forcing and propagating, 606, 719
Sedums for the rock garden, 663; moisture-loving, 616
Seed, labelling beds of, 399; order for flowers, 16
Seedlings, boxing, 243
Seeds, home-gathered, 737; sowing of, 136, 177; sowing dust-like, 59
Senecio glastinifolius, 408
Shallots, 124
Shortia galacifolia, 264
Shows, amateur, 205, 379; amateur fruit, 547; autumn fruit, 609; autumn rose, 529; Burton-on-Trent, 492; Chelsea, 298, 317; chrysanthemum, 658; daffodil, 254; daffodil, in 1927, 707; dahlia, 530; Holland Park, 552; rhododendron, 30; Rhododendron Society, 286; Royal, at Reading, 414; season of, 434; Southport, 501, 517; spring rose, 274; summer rose, 384, 396; sweet pea, at Cheltenham, 400
Shrubbery, autumn colour in the, 509
Shrubs, autumn colour in, 570; Canadian bog-loving, 148; early-flowering, 2, 166; flowering for house decoration, 730; for dry banks, 677; for planting under trees, 110; for the cold greenhouse, 557; for small gardens, 586, 596, 623; for walls, 154, 173, 216, 232, 256, 280; hardiness of, 177, 194; in western Scotland, 126; overcrowding, 728; pruning of, 194, 257, 288; tender in frost, 27; trailing, 471; transplanting of, 10
Silver leaf disease, 439; in fruit trees, 480
Sinks and pig troughs, gardening in, 63
Sisyrinchiums, 417
Skimmia japonica, 670
Smilax, planting of, 75.
Snow, effect of, 707
Snowdrops, yellow, 50
Soils, autumn treatment of, 608, 668; draining, 666; enriching poor, 606, 713; pests of in winter, 732; trenching, 729
Solandra grandiflora, 181
Solanum capsicastrum, 423
Soldanella alpina, 163
Solomon's Seal, 44
Sphæralcea Fendleri Hascombe Orange, 476
Spinach, 356
Spinach beet, 616
Spiney Elm, 377
Spiræa Aitchisonii, 148; arborea glabrata, 219; Aruncus, 192, 663; bracteata, 485; filipendula, 335; japonica, 44
Spiræas, native, 510; shrubby, 374; 660
Spraying, 119; early spring, 105; machines, 394; summer, 356
Spring in an East Yorkshire garden, 215
Stachyrus præcox, 37
Stocks, Brompton, 380, 476; Virginian, 20
Stonecrops for the rock garden, 663; moisture loving, 616
Strawberries, diseased, 452; feeding, 307; planting late, 556; spring plantations of, 197
Strelitzia Kewensis, 91
Streptocarpus Wendlandii, 117
Summer bedding, suggestions for, 231
Sunflowers, division of, 680
Swainsonias, 290
Swamp cypress, 408
Sweet pea, competition, comments on, 488; Daffodil, 92; Show, 400;
Sweet Peas, 25; autumn sown, 575; blindness in, 378; early treatment of, 289; exhibition for amateurs, 27; for the cold greenhouse, 590; green fly on, 325; improved varieties, 166; notes on, 192; novelties in, 42, 86; old varieties, 128; pinching of, 75; planting, 107; prolonging flowering period, 409; streak disease in, 484
Sweet Williams, 631
Switzerland, notes from, 85
Sycopsis sinensis, 37, 181

Tamarisks, hardy, 350, 378
Tan, use of, 149
Tar, the use of, 665
Templetonia retusa, 241
Thalictrum dipterocarpum, 292, 339
Thalictrums, 103
Thlaspi rotundifolium, 9
Thuya orientalis, 249

Digitized by Google

Tiarella cordifolia, 566
Tomatoes, early, 243; late crops, 544; outdoor, 244; ripening, 572; top-dressing, 439; under glass, 355; yellow, 108, 136
Tools, 89, 106, 275
Trees and shrubs for seaside gardens, 660; planting in association, 72; propagation of, 40; pruning of, 238; transplanting, 601; worth growing, 78
Trees, destroying stumps of, 665; growing Christmas, 720; ivy on, 450; protection of young, 649; stopping decay in, 743; training yew, 562
Trachelium coeruleum, 470
Tradescantias, hardy, 364
Trellis, how to make, 655
Tricyrtis, 9
Trientalis, 559
Trillium grandiflorum, 50
Tritomas, 447
Tritonia Lyalina, 425; Prince of Orange, 364
Trollius Orange Globe, 644
Tropæolum speciosum, 206, 256, 643
Tulip Kaufmanniana, 493; mania, 458
Tulips, bulb rot in, 233; Darwin and May-flowering, 353, 550; for bedding, 681; for the garden, 480; growing in bowls without drainage, 490; in grass, 484; notes on, 214; propagation of by scale leaf, 413
Turnips, gall weevil in, 289; late supplies of, 411; storing, during winter, 652

Vallisneria spiralis, 207
Vallota purpurea, 350
Varieties, origin of, 218
Vegetables, for small garden, 20; packing for a journey, 432; planting out early, 244; preparing for forcing, 572; seed list of, 24; some new varieties, 87; sowing seed, 124
Verbascum phœnicum, 374, 408
Verbena chamædrifolia, 417
Verbenas, 395
Veronica, Andersonii variegata as an edging, 580; salicornioides, 628; saxatilis, 104; spicata alba, 663
Veronicas, shrubby, 202; shrubby in frost, 130, 177
Viburnum dilitatum xanthocarpum, 8; fragrans candidissima, 152; macrocephalum, 120; rhytidophyllum, 559
Vincas, selection of, 352
Viola calcarata, 36; cenisia, 36; gracilis, 709; gracilis major, 406; lutea, 644
Violas, bedding, 171; cultural notes, 340; from cuttings, 490; varieties of, 354
Violet Lloyd George, 628
Violet in frames, 637; mid-season duties, 453
Virginian stock, 20
Voles, 27

Wall gardening, 97, 113
Wallflowers, 515, 632; effective planting of, 632; in frosty weather, 75
Walls, crevices of, sown with Virginian stock, 407; treatment of tops, 399, 436
Wasps, 413
Water gardens, 252 miniature, 740
Water lilies, free-flowering, 239
Water pipes, protecting from frost, 743
Watercress, 572
Wattle, 474
Weeding, early, 579
Weeds, 356
White fly, 260
Wild flowers, protection of, 210, 324, 436, 474, 513, 590
Wild garden, construction of, 523
Window boxes, 128, 309
Window plants, 633
Wing nuts, 431
Winter aconites, 149, 498, 528, 573
Winter garden, 305
Winter greens, earthing up, 556
Winter moth, 491; control of, 290
Wireworms, 381
Wistarias, pruning and culture, 737
Witch hazels, 94
Woodlice, 399
Worms in pots, 720

Zauschneria californica, 178, 533
Zenobia pulverulenta, 711
Zinnias, exhibition, 244

Digitized by Google

WATERER'S GOLD MEDAL RHODODEN- ...ses, Azaleas, Shrubs, Conifers, Climbers Heaths, Hardy ...ial and Alpine Plants, Vegetable and Flower Seeds, Scotch ... Potatoes, Spring Bulbs, English-grown Fruit Trees and ... separate catalogue for each department post free.—JOHN WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LIMITED, Twyford, Berks.

WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE.—The original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See advt. on back cover.

WM. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., Lawrence Road, South Tottenham, N.15.—Conservatories, Winter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

BIRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUN-DIALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—MORTON, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

FENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Garden Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE SCOTTISH UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, Surrey.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Pot Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list, post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

ROCK PLANTS AND SHRUBS.—Over 300 varieties in stock. Descriptive catalogue free. Also Herbaceous Plants and Roses.—HODSONS, LTD., 58, Castlegate, Nottingham.

LOWE & GIBSON, Crawley Down, Sussex. The best border Carnation Service in the World. No carnation grower can afford to be without our new illustrated catalogue. Free for the asking.

A CATALOGUE of gardening books will be sent free on application to "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

MANURES.—The most complete little book on the subject is "The Manual of Manures," by H. VENDELMANS. 4/5; by post, 4/9. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

THE FAIRSEAT AUTUMN PLANT SALES present a wonderful opportunity to procure WELL GROWN PLANTS and BULBS for every purpose at bed-rock prices. Postal business a speciality. 16-page price-list post free on application to—THE SALES MANAGER, Fairseat Nurseries, Wrotham, Kent.

BUY MORE PLANTS (and fewer useless ...-knacks) to give as Presents. Ask for our list of attrac... collections of Alpines, etc., for presentation purposes.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LTD., Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

CHOICE HARDY PRIMULAS.—Fresh seed of the following varieties at 1/- per packet. Aniodora; ...ryana; Gerardiana; helodoxa japonica (dark form); ...ensiana (giant form); Moerheimi hybrids; Mooreana; ...ocalyx; nuttalliana; sphærocephala; sikkimensis.—DICKSON & HOGBEN, Moniaive, Dumfriesshire.

CANADIAN AND AMERICAN GLADIOLI.—The best of the standard varieties and novelties.—J. W. CROW, Simcoe, Ontario, Canada.

PLANT PESTS AND PARASITES.—A useful booklet on garden troubles by HORACE J. WRIGHT is to be obtained from the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, W.C.2: 11d. post free.

YORK STONE PAVINGS, crazy or rect-angular, rustic copings, steps, roughly squared or random shaped, flat bedded wallstones, garden edging, rockery, etc.—SAMUEL JOHNSON AND SON (MIRFIELD), LTD., Newgate Stone Works, Mirfield, Yorkshire.

BARR'S SURPLUS Spring-Flowering Bulbs, —Daffodils, Tulips, Hyacinths, Chionodoxas, Early Scillas, Bulbous Irises, Wood Hyacinths, etc. Bulbs in splendid condition at *greatly reduced prices*. List on application.

BARR'S SURPLUS HARDY PLANTS for Flower Border and Rock Garden, including Asters, Irises, Delphiniums, Hemerocallis, Lupins, Giant Popples, Hellanthemums, etc., etc. List on application.—BARR & SONS, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GAR-DENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 85. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
Editorial: Planting in Spring	1
Early-flowering Shrubs	2
The Shady Back Garden	4
Auriculas and Their Uses	4
Cacti-Growing for Amateurs	5
Saxifrages in the Alpine House	6
Notes of the Week	8–10
A New and Noteworthy Viburnum; Begonias for Baskets; Pentstemons and Alyssum; Monarda didyma coccinea; Iberis Garrexiana; Two Mountain Crucifers; A Marguerite Year; The Japanese Toad-flower; Rhododendron Grieveii; Sweet-scented Climbers; Chrysanthemum Source d'Or.	
Correspondence	10–11
Rhus cotinoides; Daffodils in New Zealand; A Mistletoe Hint; On Moving Shrubs; Nerines; Colour Variation in Hydrangeas.	
Orchid Notes for the Amateur	12
Garden Technique	12–14
Parsley; To Prevent "Clubbing" in Cabbage and Cauliflower; An Early Maincrop Potato; Sowing Freesias; Cosmeas; Early Cyclamen from Seed; Sand—Its Use and Abuse; The Drainage of Lawns.	

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL DELPHINIUMS. World famed. We are raisers as well as large growers.

HEWITT'S GARDEN ROSES.—Send a post-card for our Rose and Delphinium Catalogue.

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI, Chrysanthemums, Dahlias, and Border Carnations.—Our stock includes many new and meritorious varieties. List post free on application.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

ALPINE, ROCK, HERBACEOUS PLANTS, Rock Garden Shrubs and Conifers. Catalogue free.—SHEPPARD, Shawhurst Nursery, Hollywood, Birmingham.

FRUIT STORING STAND (PAT.)—Large storage, small space, easy inspection, sound construction. Price List of Stand, also Clothes, free. CHASE CONSTRUCTIONS (LOCKE), (7), Chertsey.

SUTTON'S GARDEN PEAS

Unsurpassed for cropping, quality, appearance.
Everyone's favourite—
SUTTON'S PIONEER PEA
dwarf, early, per pint, 2/6, quart, 4/6
SUTTON & SONS, THE KING'S SEEDSMEN, READING.

DOBBIE'S 1926 CATALOGUE AND GUIDE, 144 pages, 225 illustrations, free to all readers. Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.—DOBBIE AND CO., LTD., Edinburgh.

BATH'S CARNATIONS, ROSES AND PEONIES. New illustrated Catalogue containing full cultural notes of the best new and standard varieties is now ready, and will be sent post free on application.—(Dept. E), R. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Great for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free sample and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

FIDLER'S NEW ILLUSTRATED GARDEN SEED GUIDE AND CATALOGUE FOR 1926 IS NOW READY, and a copy will be sent post free to any address on receipt of a post card.—Write at once to FIDLER & SONS, Royal Berkshire Seed Stores, Reading.

HARDY PLANTS, ROSES AND FRUIT TREES. Revised catalogue now ready. Free on application to THOMPSON AND MORGAN, Ipswich.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS FOR GREENHOUSE AND GARDEN. Also Dahlias, Fuchsias, Show and Zona Pelargoniums and Coleus. Price List free on application.—J. W. COLE AND SON, Midland Road Nurseries, Peterborough.

ORCHIDS.—In addition to our own large stock, we have purchased a fine private Collection containing many useful Orchids suitable for Amateurs. Cool and Intermediate. Catalogue on application.—MANSELL AND HATCHER LTD., Rawdon, Yorkshire.

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES direct from the growers. Our New Descriptive List now ready, post free.—GUTHRIE BROS., Springfield, Fife, N.B.

AUSTIN'S CATALOGUE OF SEEDS is now ready, and copies may be had, post free, on request.—AUSTIN AND MCASLAN, The Premier Scottish Seedsmen since 1717, 89, Mitchell Street, Glasgow, C.1.

SHRUBS are becoming more and more the fashion in gardening. "Shrubs for Amateurs," Mr. W. J. Bean's new book, is the best on the subject at a reasonable price. 5/- net. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

IMPROVE YOUR GARDEN by the use of solid Oak Trellis Screens: they are ideal for growing creepers of all kinds and for securing privacy, at the same time adding an artistic feature that will last a lifetime (being pickled in preservative). No trouble to erect (being made in sections). Send for lists and get an estimate from W. T. REVITT, Railway Works, Ollney.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 3/- per 7-lb. kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, cases extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SON, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

SUTTON'S SEEDS

1926 PEDIGREE-QUALITY Sutton Sons Reading

SUTTON'S GARDEN SEED CATALOGUE for 1926

IS NOW READY

Post free on application.

Our Seeds have for the second year in succession gained a Record Number of Premier Awards.

During the past season, no fewer than **30 Gold Medals** were won at the leading Exhibitions in the kingdom.

SUTTON & SONS *THE KING'S SEEDSMEN* **READING**

Notes from Maidstone.

A NEW CHERRY.

AFTER having tested the new cherry, Triaux, for twelve years, we now introduce it with the certainty that it is a valuable addition to its class, as it ripens at the same time as the Flemish, but is very much larger and excellent for jam and bottling. Six feet Standards are 15/- each, and we also have two year Bushes at 10/6 each, and Maidens 7/6 each.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd.,
The Royal Nurseries,
Established 1796. Maidstone

This beautifully illustrated publication is NOW READY. All Garden Lovers should obtain a Copy—
FREE ON REQUEST.

The Finest VEGETABLE SEEDS, FLOWER SEEDS, LAWN GRASS SEEDS, POTATOES, BULBS, GARDEN MANURES, TURF PREPARATIONS, Etc.

HUNDREDS OF GOLD MEDALS AND SILVER CUPS
(including 20 in 1925) awarded to the produce of
WEBBS' GARDEN SEEDS AND SPECIAL MANURES

WEBBS' VEGETABLE SEEDS, from **4d.** per packet.
WEBBS' FLOWER SEEDS - from **3d.** per packet.

WEBB & SONS, LTD., STOURBRIDGE.

— The King's Seedsmen and Artificial Manure Manufacturers. —

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Toogood's Seeds

THAT GARDEN OF YOURS

can be made as lovely and as profitable as the one you have so often admired if you sow only plainly GUARANTEED GARDEN SEEDS. The same labour, the same tools, the same manures—with our GUARANTEED GARDEN SEEDS added—will yield for you an infinitely better Garden than ever before. Send a postcard to-day for our beautifully illustrated 160-page "FREE GUIDE TO GARDEN WISDOM AND GUARANTEED GARDEN SEEDS."

Every packet ordered thence must grow for you and please you or you will get it replaced freely.

TOOGOOD & SONS, LTD.
(Seedsmen to H.M. The King)
SOUTHAMPTON

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

VOL. XC.—No. 2824. JANUARY 2, 1926

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.; Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2. *Offices for Advertisements:* 6–11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

PLANTING IN SPRING

ALTHOUGH the seed list is the most important factor in horticulture during January and February, spring planting should not be forgotten. There seems to be a fetish among gardeners that all planting should be done in the autumn and that once Christmas is past planting is finished with for the season. This very prevalent idea is false, although it is difficult to find out how it has arisen, for most books on horticulture qualify such statements that planting is best done in the autumn by saying that it can also be carried out in the spring; and yet, however much may be said, many gardeners firmly believe that autumn is the only planting-time. It is only fair to state that there are certain plants, such as strawberries, irises, lilies and other bulbs, that should never be planted in spring, but their list is short. Some experienced gardeners, indeed, think it immaterial whether planting is done in autumn or spring.

The one argument for autumn planting is that there is usually so much work to be done in the garden during spring that many are thankful to find something to keep them employed during what would otherwise be a slack time of the year. This note is written owing to the fact that a number of letters have been received from readers to say that the hard weather has kept the ground too hard for planting and asking if the early spring is too late to refill a herbaceous border or plant shrubs. The answer is always No. Those who are lucky had time to dig up their borders before the ground became stone hard, and will reap the benefit, for frost is a great sweetener of old sour soil and this period of rest while lying fallow will do a great deal of good. Personally, I do all my shrub planting in the spring; if plants arrive during the winter months they are shoved into any odd corner of the garden to wait until I am ready for them, and I have never found that they come to any harm from their long wait, provided that they do not break into extravagantly early growth. The same thing applies to herbaceous plants.

Some people say that plants settle into their places during the winter and are ready to break into freer growth in the spring. There is not so much in that argument as many imagine. After all, the spring is considered the ideal time for furnishing a rock garden, and what does a rock garden contain but miniature replicas of what is found in other parts of the garden—shrubs, herbaceous plants, annuals, dwarf climbers and so on? If planting is well and thoroughly done, the actual time, whether autumn or spring, does not matter much. Much of the blame that is laid at the door of a wrong season, bad weather and so on is really due to hasty and careless planting; of this I am certain. In their haste to get the work done many people snatch on the first opportunity without looking at the weather forecast—whatever that may be worth—or considering whether the ground is too sodden or too cold, or if the plants came from a more congenial neighbourhood in Britain, or whether the ground has been properly prepared. Common sense has as much to do with planting as with anything else, and some people are afraid to let their common sense help their judgment and their judgment help their gardening technique.

Another point that influences spring planting is that many nurserymen grow at least a portion of their stock in pots and, of course, in this case planting should always be left to the spring, for it is distinctly dangerous to plant in autumn straight from a pot to the ground, particularly in such a climate as ours when we have little or no idea of how the winter is going to turn out.

This is a severe lecture with which to begin the New Year, but, as I say, it has come to our notice that some amateurs intended leaving their borders and shrub ground unfilled because the hard weather had made them miss what they considered was the only planting season. I hope that I have said enough to shatter this delusion. Most plants are much more elastic than one would imagine and, provided they are properly handled and treated, it matters little to them if they are planted in autumn or if they do not reach their final resting place until the New Year.

E. H. M. C.

THE NEXT ISSUE OF "THE GARDEN" IS OUR SPECIAL SEED NUMBER. AMONG OTHER ARTICLES WILL BE:

THE FLOWER SEED ORDER, by A. J. Macself.

THE VEGETABLE SEED LIST, by W. Auton.

SWEET PEA NOVELTIES FOR 1926, by C. H. A. S.

SUCCESS WITH GLOXINIAS, by W. Rowles.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO TELL OTHERS ABOUR YOUR PLANTS THROUGH THE COLUMNS OF "THE GARDEN."

Digitized by Google

EARLY-FLOWERING SHRUBS

YEAR BY YEAR THE VALUE OF SHRUBS THAT BLOOM DURING JANUARY AND FEBRUARY IS BECOMING MORE APPARENT, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE FRAGANT WINTER JASMINE THESE ARE ALL LARGELY NEW-COMERS TO OUR GARDENS.

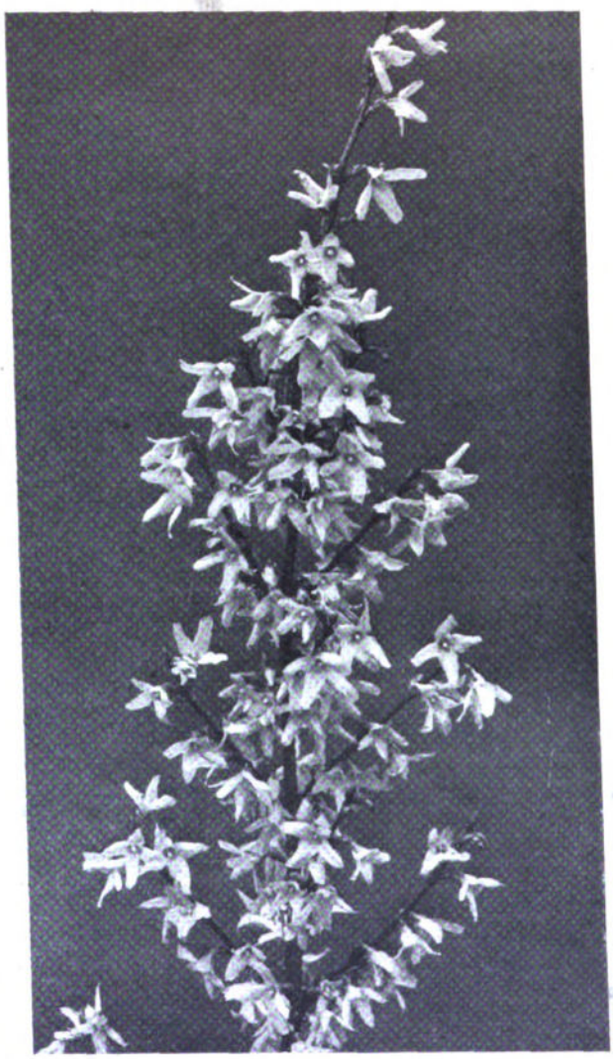
AT this time of year, when winter flowers are at a premium, the modern gardener looks more and more to winter-flowering shrubs, for in all normal seasons they add much needed splashes of colour. Although the numbers at the present moment are by no means large, they will doubtless increase as time goes on, for here is surely a good field for the hybridist. It is a curious fact how yellow is the commonest colour in the first flowers of the year, and blue the most predominant in late summer and autumn.

There are no rules about the grouping of winter-flowering shrubs, but there is one suggestion that can be made, namely, that they should not be scattered throughout the garden as single specimens. It is surely better to grow several plants together that flower at the same time, for, at any rate, a part of the garden is semi-clothed; whereas individual plants in full bloom are inclined to show up in high relief the nakedness of their surroundings.

Probably the two shrubs which are least bothered by frosty conditions are two viburnums—V. fragrans and V. Tinus, the common laurustinus. The former, although deciduous, makes a brave show from November to February and its flowers can stand twelve or so degrees of frost without having a pip frosted. Any deep loam suits it, provided that the soil never becomes too dry. V. Tinus is one of the most indispensable evergreens that we possess. Mr. Bean very wisely suggests that it might well replace many of the laurels, bays and privets that are so commonly used for screening and shelter hedges. It is certainly the brightest looking shrub during the winter months, with its close habit and shiny leaves. It is speckled with its white stars carried in loose cymes throughout the winter. The only warning that should be given is that in rich soil it will grow to a large bush and will crowd out its neighbours unless given plenty of room.

The old favourite, Daphne Mezereum, must not be forgotten for its branches laden with purple-red or creamy white sweetly scented flowers—there are two forms—are most attractive. For some reason or other, this daphne is more of a favourite in the cottage than in the large garden, perhaps because it is a slow grower and takes a long time to come to maturity; yet, withal, it is worthy of a wider distribution in larger gardens, if only for its fragrance.

The two witch hazels, Hamamelis mollis and H. japonica, are rapidly becoming favourites, and rightly, for they are eminently satisfactory shrubs. H. mollis, with rich yellow flowers, is the earlier to flower, and frequently opens about New Year's Day. H. japonica and its variety arborea are slightly later, but in February their curiously crumpled, sweet-scented petals set close on the wood are always an attractive feature. These two Asiatic species are really valuable in the garden, for their habit is good and their hazel-like leaves are neat and becoming when the flowering season is past.



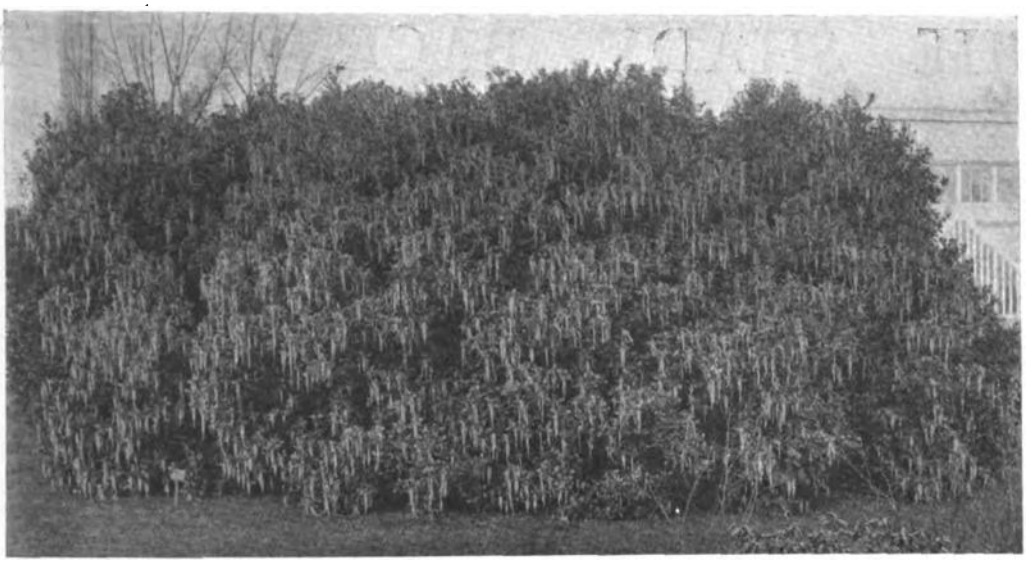
A BEAUTIFUL SPRAY OF FORSYTHIA INTERMEDIA.

For lime-free gardens there are two ericaceous genera that have some members which are among the earliest flowering of all shrubs, the rhododendron and the heath. One deciduous species, R. mucronulatum, with reddish purple platter-shaped flowers, is very useful, as the flowers will survive several degrees of frost. It is a graceful shrub of about six feet, and as it flowers in January or February, according to the season, its utility in the garden is obvious. Rhododendrons, however, depend more on the season, and many hybrids and species, such as RR. moupinense, Nobleanum, Christmas Cheer and so on, which will flower early in an open season, are liable to be badly cut by frost. They, therefore, hardly come into the category of hardy winter-flowering shrubs.

Scarcely shrubs in the ordinary sense of the term, yet properly known as shrubby subjects, come two representatives of the heath family, Erica carnea and E. darleyensis. They are the earliest to bloom of all our winter flowerers, and continue to throw up their rich, rosy crimson to scarlet bells from December, through January, even until February if the weather conditions prove at all suitable. Planted either in beds situated on a slope and under trees, or in association with taller-growing shrubby subjects they look exceedingly well. The former provides dense, neat and compact mats of rich colour, which are a never failing source of attraction during winter. E. darleyensis is of a taller-growing habit, reaching about 2–2½ft. in height and, in addition to its sparkling blossoms, it is well furnished with attractive foliage, which will in itself be found admirable in relieving many a bare corner in the garden. Unlike their near relatives, the early-flowering rhododendrons and other heaths, both species grow readily in limy soils. In fact, they wax and grow fat and are of vigorous constitution when growing in lime. They are both of easy culture and need little attention after planting.

The winter jasmine probably ranks as the most popular of our fragrant winter-flowering shrubs. It is to be found in all gardens from north to south. It will be found occupying many positions—on walls, out in the open, or in association with other subjects—and it appears to accommodate itself readily to its ever changing environment, even to soil. To see it at its best is to grow it against a wall or a trellis, where its large and graceful, bright yellow, fragrant flowers provide a rich mantle of colour which will be found to tone well with the background. A few weeks later come the forsythias, another bright yellow-flowered tribe. The two species which deserve every consideration from those who intend planting early-flowering subjects are F. intermedia spectabilis and F. suspensa. Both are excellent shrubs, the former especially carrying abundant yellow blossoms on the naked stems, spelling the arrival of the spring. Both are admirable for wall decoration, and F. suspensa is eminently suited for draping trellis-work.

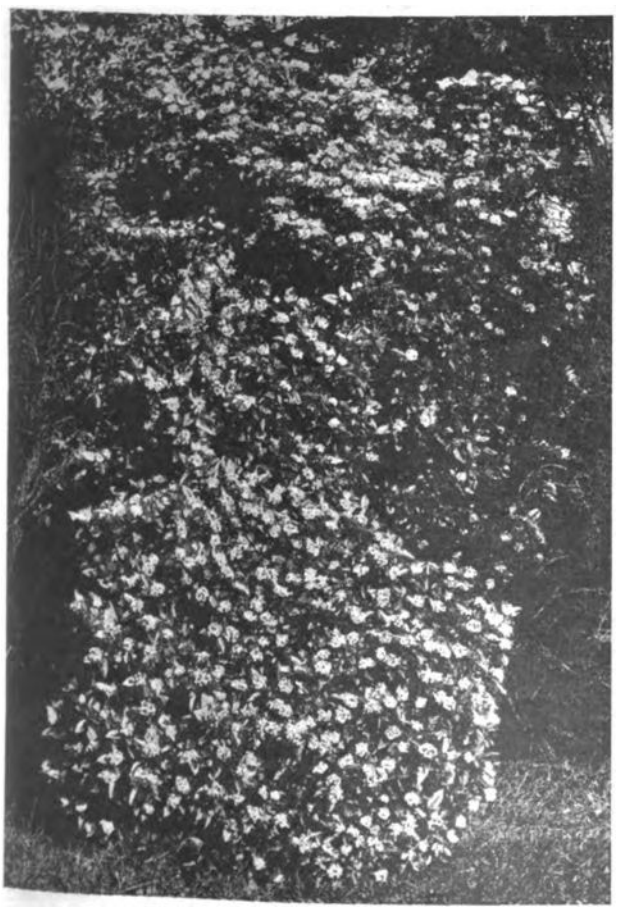
Digitized by Google



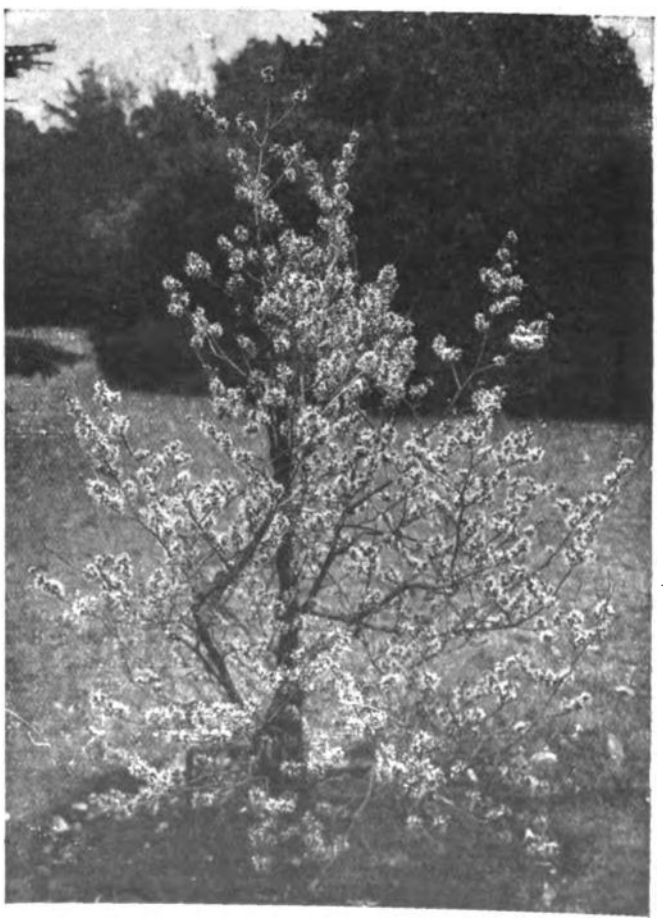
AN OLD SPECIMEN OF GARRYA ELLIPTICA IN THE CAMBRIDGE BOTANIC GARDENS. THE BEAUTY OF ITS GOLDEN PENDULOUS MALE CATKINS ARE REMARKABLE IN WINTER.

Speaking of shrubs for wall decoration recalls one which is all too rarely seen, namely, Garrya elliptica. One must be careful, however, in obtaining the male form, as then, in addition to the handsome foliage, one has the advantage of a fine show of the long dangling catkins of yellowish green flowers which clothe the bush from top to bottom. These appear in December generally and grace the shrubbery during the next few weeks. It is, perhaps, not so easy of cultivation as some of the others, and requires to have its little peculiarities attended to in the shape of a sheltered position and soil; but after that it grows happily from year to year.

Among our early shrubs is one—Magnolia stellata—which deserves all the good things said about it. Its pure white starry blossoms appear towards the end of March, and, although they show up in all their purity for two or three weeks if the weather is kind, they suffer readily from late frosts, which causes considerable disfigurement. A sheltered position is, therefore, called for, so that it may unfold its blossoms unharmed from the vagaries of our climate. It is, indeed, a handsome bush of neat habit and is full of charm when seen with its dark branches studded with the pure white stars.



THE WINTER-FLOWERING LAURUSTINUS. VIBURNUM TINUS.



HAMAMELIS MOLLIS IS ONE OF THE BEST OF THE WITCH HAZELS.

Digitized by Google

THE SHADY BACK GARDEN

NO type of town garden is more difficult to deal with than the long and narrow one to be found at the back of a many-storeyed house in a row which shuts out all, or nearly all, the sunshine. Such a garden is generally bounded by walls which, oddly enough, instead of affording shelter, in nine cases out of ten make the wretched little plot into a sort of tank round which all the winds of heaven swirl. It is quite possible—I know it from experience—to walk from the end of such a garden towards the house with a gentle zephyr breathing on the back of one's neck and to be met at the half-way point by an icy and vicious gale blowing in one's face. Between the draughts and the lack of sunshine it is no wonder that many plants droop and die, or that the disheartened owner should finally abandon the place to weeds and cats.

It is, however, possible with patience and perseverance—plenty of them are wanted—to make something of a shady back garden. To begin, the customary "lawn" should be eschewed, for no matter how carefully laid and tended, it will become, sooner or later, a moss-grown and grassless eyesore. Far wiser is it to be content with borders and beds divided by paved, bricked or gravelled walks, but it is not proposed to deal here with the planning of the garden but rather with what may be grown in it.

Ferns and nothing but ferns are what one usually finds in the shadiest part of the shady garden, which is invariably that next the house. These are all very well provided it is remembered that there are other hardy ferns besides Lastræa Filix-mas. The addition of even the lady fern and hart's-tongue in two or three of its varieties to the male fern will be a considerable improvement. Combined with the ferns may be Ruscus aculeatus (butcher's broom), Hypericum calycinum and the vincas, large and small, blue and white. There are a couple of spurges, too, which will do well in such a position. One is the native Euphorbia pilosa and the other is believed to be E. daphnoides. It has tassels of yellowish green bracts and increases rapidly.

At the back of the borders a few climbing roses may be tried, but they must be trained on poles tall enough to allow them to get well above the wall, when they will bloom tolerably well. It is useless to attempt to grow either bush or standard roses under such conditions. On the wall itself Cratægus Pyracantha will produce its scarlet berries abundantly, and there are three jasmines that tolerate shade, to wit, J. officinale, J. nudiflorum and J. revolutum, although the last named will not flower as freely as in a sunnier spot. Ivy is often seen covering the walls of shady gardens. It is not desirable, however, for not only does it lack cheerfulness, but it is a harbour for snails and other pests.

There are many good plants that will thrive in a sunless, or almost sunless, border, provided that the soil is thoroughly well dug and prepared and does not consist mainly of builders' rubbish after the manner of too many town gardens. Foxgloves, the taller variety of Solomon's seal, Thalictrum aquilegifolium and Senecio tanguticus will be suitable for the back row, where also the cimicifugas, C. racemosus and C. cordifolia, may find a place if the soil be not too dry for them. Then, for the main part of the border we can have Japanese anemones, pink and white; Spiræa palmata and S. filipendula; Trollius europæus and T. asiaticus; Symphytum caucasicum and the native S. officinale; Astrantia major; Tradescantia virginianum, purple, rose and white; Funkia Sieboldii (beloved of slugs, alas!); Epimedium pinnatum and Cardamine pratensis fl. pl., the double lady's smock. The two last-named, however, require a deep moist and rather heavy soil, such as is rarely found in a town garden. Most campanulas dislike shade, but C. alliariæfolia thrives in it and C. latifolia does not object to it, although it does to lime in the soil. For the edging of a shady border there is nothing better than the ever-useful London pride, which will stand anything except a prolonged drought; but Asperula odorata, the common woodruff, is also suitable for the purpose, and its little white flowers are very pretty in a mass.

A rockery—an objectionable word, but one for which there is no synonym—can be managed even in a shady garden. Lysimachia Nummularia—the gay little creeping jenny—and Corydalis lutea will be quite happy without sun, or with only an occasional gleam. Corydalis bulbosa will also live and flower, but is less easy to establish than C. lutea. The common "mossy saxifrages" will increase abundantly, but will flower sparsely if at all, and without sun they seem to be more subject to the fungoid disease which disfigures them with black patches. Arenaria balearica, on the other hand, is only thoroughly contented in shade, and it makes the best carpeting plant under such conditions. A hardy little plant for either the rockery or the front of the border is Chrysogonum virginianum, which will go on producing its bright golden starry flowers all through the summer if it is well watered in dry weather. Ramondia pyrenaica, of course, blooms its best in shade if it is placed according to its liking, in a cranny between stones. Tiarella cordifolia may be tried with some prospect of success; and the Welsh poppy, Meconopsis cambrica, will flourish anywhere, although it may not seed itself quite so lavishly in shade as in sun. The orange form of this pretty and good-tempered little poppy is the best.

In nooks and corners of the rockery may be planted clumps of cyclamen, especially C. neapolitanum, Anemone hepatica and A. sylvestris, Leucojum vernum and L. æstivum. Some of the little daffodils, N. triandrus and its hybrids and N. cyclamineus may also be tried here, although the success of the latter is doubtful.

A shady back garden needs constant attention. Without the healthy influence of the sun the soil is apt to get sour and stagnant and, if damp, to develop liverwort and other unpleasantnesses, hence the necessity for frequently stirring the surface with a fork. An occasional dressing of lime should not be omitted if the soil is at all lacking in it.

R. E. HEAD.

AURICULAS AND THEIR USES

CERTAIN varieties of Primula Auricula have been christened by popular fancy "Dusty Miller," as they are powdered all over with a white powder, or farina, resembling flour. At one time this plant was very much more in evidence than is the case to-day. Not all members of this family, however, are covered with the farina which is characteristic of many varieties. Even among those closely resembling one another it is in evidence on some and absent from others. Those covered with farina are known as show auriculas, and those destitute of it are called alpine auriculas.

Some varieties are native to this country, or rather, to certain localised parts of it; while other varieties must be searched for in the wild state on the mountain ranges of Austria, Switzerland and France as well as in the Caucasus.

Primula Auricula will thrive in the smoke of the town, and though it prefers country air, it need not be left out of any town or city garden.

Alpine varieties offer a splendid selection of colours. There are varieties with beautiful golden centres, those with centres of white, others of cream and some of pale yellow. Then there is another group the flowers of which are attractively shaded, while self-coloured flowers are also in evidence. There are double-flowered varieties and there are laced varieties, all of which possess some distinct charm.

Among the show auriculas there are green-edged, grey-edged and white-edged varieties all bearing the flour-like substance.

Primula Auricula likes a well drained friable garden soil, with some leaf-mould and some old manure added. The soil should be on the heavy side, as these plants scarcely ever do well on light soils.

Auriculas are excellent for the rock garden, cool greenhouse or for beds. Show auriculas are more suitable for growing inside as the farina is liable to be damaged by rain when they are in beds outside.

Digitized by Google

ONE OF THE FINEST SHOW VARIETIES OF PRIMULA AURICULA.

Auriculas do not like much heat, and those varieties that do best grown in a greenhouse will thrive with very little additional warmth. To give too much is worse than giving none, as the natural home of this plant is on the cold higher lands.

Both the florists' type and the alpine auricula may, if desired, be grown as garden plants, but the latter is far more suitable as well as far more beautiful used in this way. The alpine auricula is of a free habit of growth. The flowers are of two colours, and the variety which may be obtained greatly adds to the value of this plant in the garden.

When growing auriculas from seed, it should be remembered that plants obtained from seeds which germinate quickly are often weaklings.

The seed should be sown during March in pans in a light sandy compost. Press the seeds into the soil and then lightly cover with sand. The pans should be placed in gentle heat, and when about four leaves have formed the seedlings should be pricked off into boxes. By June place the boxes in a well ventilated frame and shade from strong sun. In September or the beginning of October those required for flowering in a cool greenhouse should be potted and the remainder planted outside. Choice auriculas are propagated by division and not by seed. The old plants should be lifted at the end of June and the offsets potted. These pots should remain outside in a sheltered position until there is a danger of frost, when they should be removed to a cool house.

The auricula is a plant which will not do as well in bright sunlight as it will in a part of the garden where it is partially shaded. When the plants are ready for the final planting out this should be remembered.

The soil in which the plants are to find a home should be prepared by the addition of both leaf-mould and cow-manure. Strong plants will look well and do well as an edging to borders. The usual distance apart for these plants is about 6ins., and they also do well in the rockery.

It is not necessary to lift auriculas every year. They may be left untouched for three years, at the end of which time they should be carefully lifted, divided and planted out again. This work should be done after they have flowered.

Early in March the first of the blooms will be seen outside, but April is the month during which the flowers are at their best and they will continue to bloom during the whole of May. Sometimes they will bloom again during the autumn, but they can scarcely be said to make a show at this period.

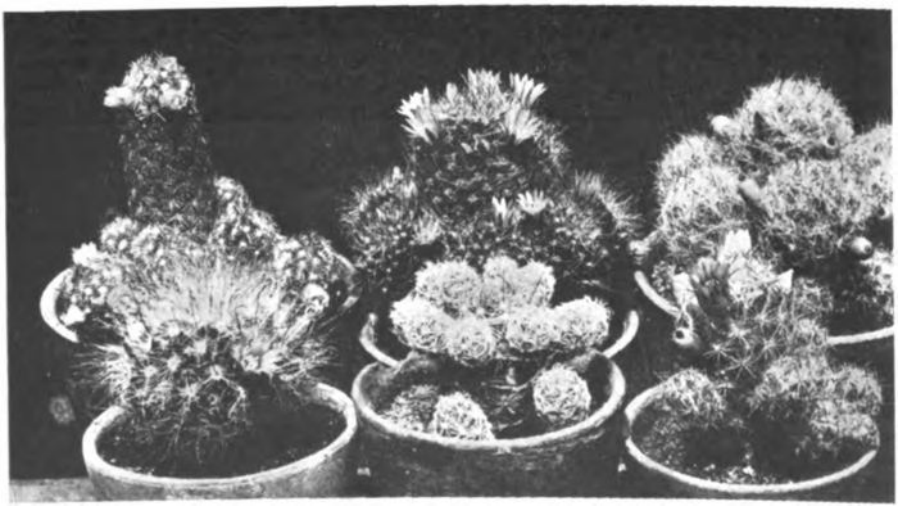
Although, as has been already stated, the alpine auriculas are generally accepted to be the best for garden purposes, other varieties may be so used if desired.

Among the white-edged varieties are Guy Cranfield and Acme, while the grey-edged include Richard Headley and Geo. Lightbody. Among the selfs may be mentioned Favourite, Harrison and Weir; while the green-edged include Prince Charming and William Smith.

There is a wide choice among the alpines, of which Firefly, Majestic, Phyllis Douglas, Prime Minister and St. Vincent are worthy of notice, as are also Silverwood, with its white-eyed flowers with their bright crimson edge; and Pilatus, with its yellow-eyed flowers. These two have a maroon body with a margin of purple, and are somewhat newer than hose mentioned earlier.

CACTI-GROWING FOR AMATEURS

CACTI-GROWING among amateur gardeners seems to be increasing in popularity, and these plants are certainly worth cultivating. The writer has successfully grown cacti for over ten years, and can assert that not only is the growing of these queer plants highly interesting, but also entertaining. There is always something fresh, something unexpected in growing cacti, and one has an almost limitless range of plants to choose from, some of which bear flowers that in beauty and magnificence are equal to any to be found in the whole realm of plants. Then, again, some of the most repugnant flowers, which smell horribly and have the appearance of putrid meat, are grown on cacti. Size is also in variety; for there are miniature cacti, no larger than a hazel nut, and the gigantic cacti as seen at Kew Gardens, 60ft. high. The writer has also seen on the south coast of Cornwall, in a garden, a gigantic specimen of an Agave cactus, growing out of doors, of course. It was about 20ft. in height with stems about 8ft. long and 2ft. in circumference. The plant was covered with gorgeous masses of small yellow blossoms, and the remarkable point about this kind of cactus is that after flowering the plant dies, yet these monsters do not flower until they are about 100 years old. So it can



THE BEAUTY OF TINY CACTI WHEN IN BLOOM.

Digitized by Google

be gathered this cactus was of a great age.

The cacti shown in the illustrations were grown by the writer in an ordinary English cool greenhouse.

The question of soil comes first. This should be made up of fibrous loam and coarse sand, and it is advised to mix the proportions exactly to ensure best results. Two parts of the loam to one of sand, and to this should be added a little leaf mould and crushed brick or lime rubbish. The idea, of course, is to copy the native soil of the cacti as nearly as possible, for by far the majority of cacti grow in the hot, arid and stony wastes of Mexico and central America.

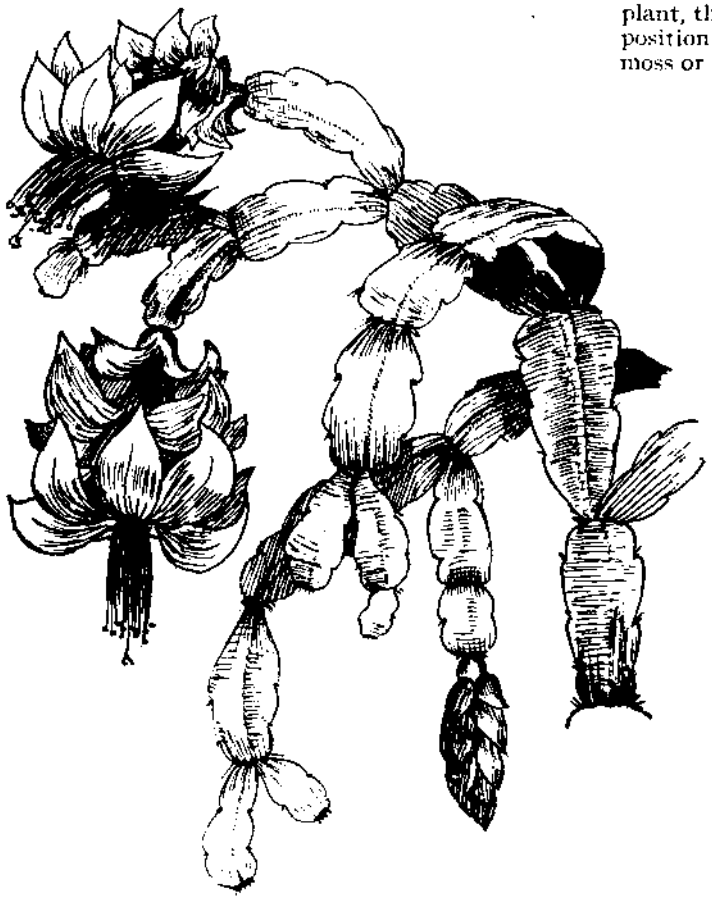
Having mixed your loam, make sure of ample drainage in your pots by first filling a third of the pot with broken up pot material and a few pieces of charcoal. This drainage is essential, as any stagnant moisture in a pot is most harmful, and no cactus will thrive under such conditions.

The various cuttings, seedlings or off-shoots can be purchased from any good horticulturist.

During winter most cactus plants require very little water, as this season is a period of rest and inactivity with the majority. But during the summer, plenty should be given. The best method being, either to shoot a syringeful over it so that the water falls like rain, or else to stand the pot in a pan of water, with the water below the top of the pot, and soak for several minutes, then remove.

Cacti, of course, require all the sunshine they can get, but at the same time, care should be taken in turning pots; this should be done gradually, or else a too sudden exposure of an "off" side may injure the soft tissue. In winter the plants will be safe in the unheated greenhouse provided actual frost is barred. Should the weather become very severe, paper placed loosely over the plants will protect them, and this should be done before retiring if there are prospects of a very cold night.

A point that might be mentioned is, never permit water to drip continually on your plants, especially the phyllocacti, as this will cause the stems to rot and patches here and there will turn brown in colour and become soft gradually withering away. Also this decomposition is liable to spread along the stem, and is difficult to check. One has to become a plant surgeon to stop the decay effectively, and with a sharp knife cut away all the brown on the plant, then replace on the shelf in a sunny position, and the cuts will heal. Should moss or green slime appear on the outside of the pot, this denotes defective drainage and should be seen to. The most effective cure, of course, is re-potting, using dry, fresh soil, and then place in a dry spot in the greenhouse.



THE GRACEFUL WINTER-FLOWERING EPIPHYLLUM TRUNCATUM.

The opuntias are the well-known pear-shaped cacti, and there are 150 species of this genus. Large areas of Texas are covered with these grotesque-looking plants.

One of the illustrations is of a group of mamillarias, and as can be seen, these are in flower.

I can also recommend the echinocereus cactus. Many of which bear large flowers of brilliant hues and many are also sweetly scented.

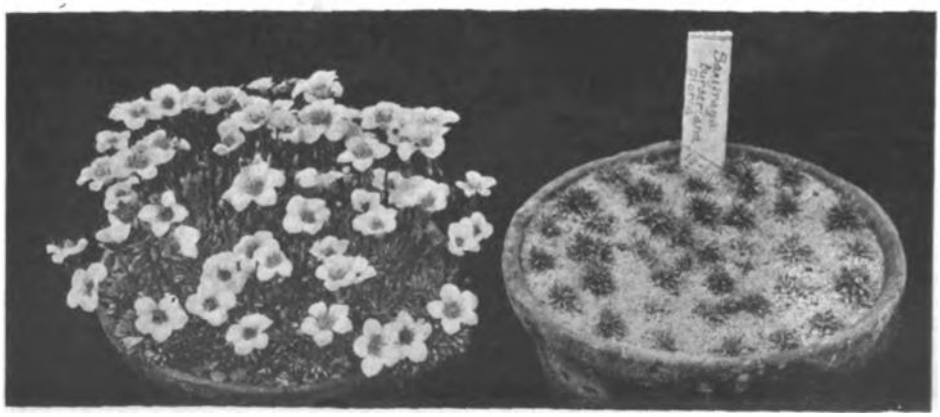
Phyllocactus are perhaps to be recommended more than any, as they are quite easy to cultivate and will grow in rooms (such as a dining-room) and will produce magnificent flowers regularly each year.

The epiphyllum is a beautiful and distinctive genus. As the plants are of a drooping nature, hanging baskets suit them best. Most of this genus flower in winter, and they require a moderate amount of moisture and a temperature of 50° to 55°.

The amateur will find his enthusiasm for cacti culture increase as the plants continue growing, and, as stated, there is practically an endless variety for him to choose from.

SAXIFRAGES IN THE ALPINE HOUSE

THE alpine house provides an unfailing source of interest during the early spring months. Many alpines succeed admirably under such conditions, and produce, from January onwards, countless flowers as spotless as they are beautiful. The main object of the alpine house is to provide protection against inclement weather conditions. Fog, snow, wind and rain damage considerably, and sometimes kill, certain of the alpines; but these, if grown under glass, for the greater part of the year give abundance of clean bloom. One of the cheapest and easiest of plant houses to run is the alpine house. It requires no heat, so that there is no stoking, and, as the pots can be plunged outside in ashes during the summer months, tomatoes or flowers can be grown in the houses during that period. The type of house which is most suitable is a low span-roofed house in an open position running north and south. Provision for ample ventilation is absolutely essential for successful culture of alpines inside, and a damp, stagnant atmosphere should be avoided at all times.



A CHOICE SUBJECT FOR THE ALPINE HOUSE, SAXAFRAGA BURSERIANA.

Digitized by Google

Saxifrages are particularly useful and amenable to alpine house treatment. Their diversity of form and colour make them particularly attractive.

The essential points in the culture of saxifrages under glass are airy conditions and a suitable compost. A damp, warm atmosphere is fatal to these plants. Most of the saxifrages succeed best in pans, either in seed pans of 6ins., 8ins. or 10ins. diameter, or in square propagating pans. A closed staging consisting of slate slabs is the best. This should be covered with a 2in. layer of fine coke breeze and the pots arranged in colonies thereon.

The compost should be gritty and well drained. Limestone should be supplied in the form of lime chips, old mortar rubble or broken oyster-shell. Firm potting is necessary. Watering needs special care, particularly during the winter months, when little will be required. From the end of May onwards saxifrages should be plunged up to the rims of their pots in an ash bed situated outside in a position exposed to full sun. Propagation is carried out by means of cuttings inserted in a very sandy compost in a frame. Saxifrages root most readily—in fact, small pieces pulled off the plants and put directly into the cutting frame root and grow rapidly. The accompanying illustration shows the size of a number of saxifrage cuttings at eight months old, and also the development of these into a well-flowered clump twenty months after propagation.

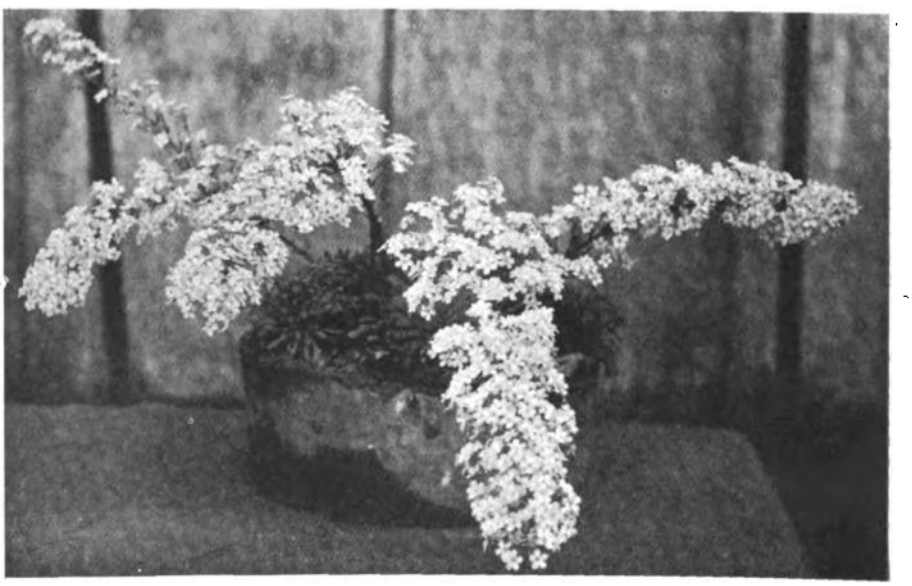
Although the autumn is the best time to begin a collection, there is no time, with the exception of the height of summer, when a start cannot be made.

Saxifraga Burseriana is one of the earliest and most beautiful of the kabschias. It forms mats of silvery leaves, and, on short stems of not more than an inch or so in height, countless large pure white flowers are formed. S. Grisebachii and S. Grisebachii Wisley var. are both excellent. These produce during February arched crimson flower spikes rising from small rosettes of silvery foliage. S. Myra is a beautiful hybrid of the kabschia habit, with short-stemmed cherry-coloured flowers. S. Boydii alba, S. bursiculata and S. Boryi are all handsome plants with white flowers. The round solid flowers of S. Faldonside are a most attractive clear yellow.

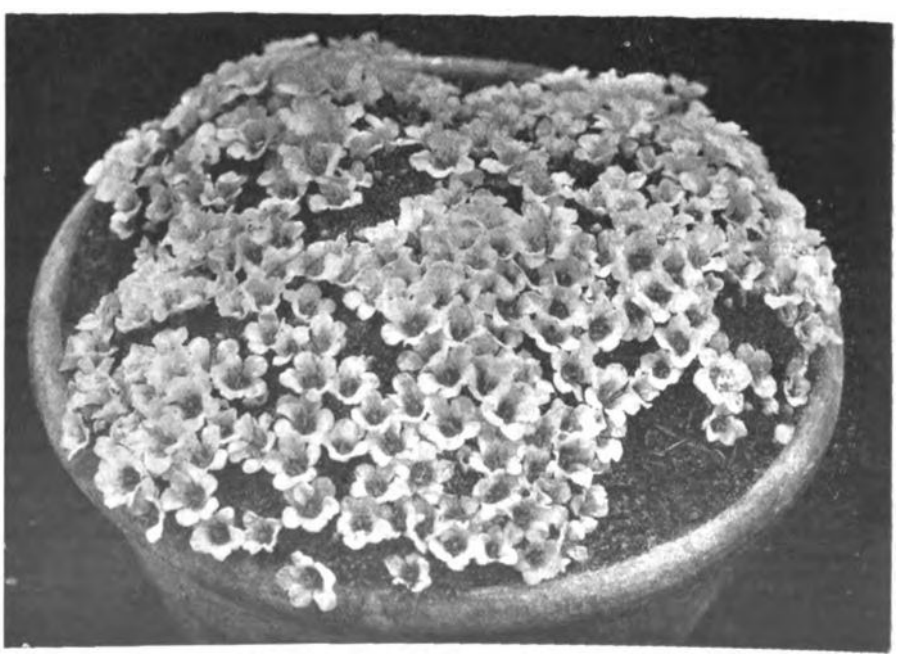
S. Irvingii is a delightful hybrid from S. Burseriana. It produces delicate pink flowers in great profusion during April. A most showy plant is S. apiculata with its primrose yellow flowers rising from green rosettes. S. lilacina is a Himalayan species, dwarf and compact in habit. The silvery grey mats of foliage are covered with clear lilac bloom.

The most outstanding of the encrusted section is S. longifolia, the queen of saxifrages, which, when in full flower, produces arching stems of 1½-2ft. long, covered with myriads of white blossom. S. Aizoon and its many forms are attractive and easy to manage. S. cochlearis minor produces hummocks of greyish rosettes and pure white flowers on reddish stems, and S. De Ramsey is a distinct and lovely hybrid with white flowers.

S. BURSICULATA, WITH HANDSOME WHITE BLOOMS.



GRACEFUL ARCHING FLOWER SPRAYS OF AN ENCRUSTED SAXIFRAGE.



THE DELICATE PINK FLOWERS OF S. IRVINGII.

Digitized by Google

NOTES OF THE WEEK

A NEW AND NOTEWORTHY VIBURNUM.

VIBURNUM DILITATUM XANTHOCARPUM is a yellow-fruited seedling sport which originated a few years ago in the nursery of J. H. Bowdistch at Pomfret, Connecticut. Like its parent it is a deciduous shrub of neat compact habit, growing from 3ft. to 5ft. high and more in diameter, with many thin but rigid ascending hairy stems and an abundance of dark green foliage. The leaves are obovate and abruptly pointed, about 3ins. long and 2½ins. broad, and in autumn are tinted vinous purple. The flowers are all perfect, creamy white, small and borne many together in flat 3in. to 4in. broad corymbs at the ends of the branches and branchlets. The fruits are lustrous, pale yellow, ovoid and very freely produced. As the leaves turn the fruits shine like old ivory beads. Less handsome in the autumn than its scarlet-fruited parent, this sport is a good garden plant, perfectly hardy and a useful addition to the limited list of yellow-fruited shrubs. It is a curious fact that outside the Opulus group this Asiatic V. dilitatum is the only species in which yellow fruits are known. —E. H. WILSON. *Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University.*

A NEW YELLOW-FRUITED VIBURNUM FROM AMERICA.

BEGONIAS FOR BASKETS.

BASKETS, filled with well grown and carefully selected flowers, are recognised by most gardeners as of great value for decorative purposes and extremely useful to lend increased charm to artistic design, but they are open to the criticism that they lack variety and have a sort of sameness which detracts from their beauty. I would, therefore, draw attention to the fact that there are special varieties of what I might call "pendulous begonias," which grow well in the ordinary basket, and flower profusely and are undoubtedly pretty. We have grown them for years, just a few, it must be admitted, and the old varieties are still favourites, improvement evidently being a slow process in these flowers.

Fleur de chrysantheme was one of the first we introduced, and it is still holding its place; the flowers are salmon pink and borne freely. Stella is another old kind, a delicate shade of scarlet, with long narrow petals of distinct form. Golden Shower, aptly described as similar in tint to the rose W. A. Richardson, is of great beauty. Alice Manning was the first yellow we had and it is still grown; Starfish and Gladys are equally old, but still good.

Of the newer sorts we fancy Cactus, a delicate pink; Corallina, a coral pink; and Lena, soft crimson. Rosina and Venus are, perhaps, not so satisfactory as we would like them to be; the former has ribbon-like petals of a new rosy shade and the latter is white, unfortunately with a greenish tinge.

The best way to grow these plants is to put three tubers in a medium-sized basket, and three of any one variety is probably enough. A rich, turfy loam is the base of the compost, and it must be made firm within the moss in the basket; the plants, too, must also be planted firmly, the tubers being just covered with soil.

Care in watering is very necessary, especially in the early part of the season, and the soil must never become sodden and sour. Syringing in moderation keeps the basket moist, and must not be omitted; this obviates watering in great measure, but loss is certain if the soil is allowed to become too dry.

Plants will be inclined to run to flower prematurely and, to prevent that, constant pinching should be resorted to. By doing this, growth is stimulated and the strong plants secured flower freely and well when allowed to do so.

Stems do not droop much until they become heavy with blossom. When the buds begin to show colour, feeding may be resorted to and undoubted benefits obtained; remove fading flowers.—CLYDESDALE.

PENTSTEMONS AND ALYSSUMS.

THE fashion, for quite a number of years, has been to plant largely one kind of plant in a bed or border, so that it occupies a considerable space of ground. The result is that we get very effective and impressive displays. Following on these lines, I would suggest, for an easily managed and comparatively inexpensive summer bed, to fill up the space with Pentstemon Newbury Gem in April, making a sowing of any dwarf-growing white alyssum at the same time for an edging.

Pentstemons are useful and easily managed plants, thriving in any fairly good soil with the minimum of attention. Their floriferousness, of course, is well known, and many are the varieties in cultivation, all more or less of great beauty. The usual mode of propagation is by cuttings, and these should be inserted in light sandy soil in a cold frame.—DAVID ARMSTRONG.

MONARDA DIDYMA COCCINEA (RED SAGE OR BERGAMOT).

BERGAMOT or red sage is a native of Pennsylvania. In olden days it was beloved by peasant women and ladies of high degree for its beauty, its healing properties and its power to keep away moths and other insects. Nowadays its virtues are so forgotten in England that it is difficult to solve its identity! *Sic transit gloria mundi!* Nevertheless, bergamot can still be found in some country gardens in Britain.

In France it is a common garden plant, and in Brittany (where it is found in almost every garden) it attains to the dimensions of a shrub. In that country its virtues are still widely known and appreciated.

Like most other garden shrubs, Monarda didyma coccinea has been improved upon, and two new varieties—Monarda Cambridge Scarlet and Monarda fistulosa (with rose, violet, purple or white blossoms)—have been produced.

The sprigs or leaves of the bergamot, and of all other aromatic members of the labiatæ order (such as the salvias, rosemary and lavender) are infused and made into poultices for the cure of all gouty and rheumatic diseases, and also to soothe and prevent coughing in cases of bronchitis, chronic coughs and whooping-cough. Sprigs of red sage or of any of the above-mentioned plants, if infused in hot water in the bath for a few minutes before the bulk of the water is turned on, will quickly relieve the bather who suffers from sciatica, lumbago, gout or rheumatism or is merely aching from over-tiredness.

If the leaves of bergamot are dried, rolled up in cigarette-paper and smoked, they will be found to give great relief to those who suffer from asthma.

It is the oil contained in the green parts of these labiates which endows them with their healing properties.

Mrs. Ewing (in "Daddy Darwin's Dovecot," I think) mentions that on Sundays the peasants wore sprigs of bergamot in their buttonholes. I have read elsewhere that in some English villages the men always wore bits of this plant at weddings which took place in the summer.

Red sage blooms from June to October, and, whether in its old form or in the new varieties, is a delightful addition to the herbaceous border. It is easily propagated by cuttings in the autumn or by division or from seeds in the spring. Bergamot has a habit of layering its lowest branches of its own accord as they grow just above the level of the soil.—VICTORIA SLADE.

IBERIS GARREXIANA.

THE "English Rock Garden" gives Iberis Garrexiana as a rare local form of Iberis sempervirens, blooming a little earlier and having a laxer habit. Distinctions so evanescent as these are not much wherewith to vouch for a separate species, knowing, as we all do,

Digitized by Google

how plants vary in different gardens and even in different sites in the same garden. A catalogue which I retain as a book of reference gives I. Garrexiana as forming a miniature evergreen bush—which is just what I. sempervirens does. Another work in six lusty volumes states that the variety Garrexiana is "preferred by many"—which seemed a reflection on my own acumen, as I could not discover how one species differed from the other. At last I fell in with Burnat, who had made a study of the matter, and who makes I. Garrexiana of Allioni equivalent in all respects to I. sempervirens of Linnæus. After examining specimens from the Pyrenees, the Maritime Alps, Italy and Greece, Burnat decided that he was unable to distinguish two varieties. That was in the 'nineties; and a decade later Halácsy simply gave I. Garrexiana of Allioni as a synonym of the better known name, without any argument about it. It must, therefore, nearly be time for the name Garrexiana to disappear from catalogues and gardens, even though the "many who prefer it" may be disappointed at ceasing to possess a rarity. Any visitor to the Riviera in April may collect the plant in the hills north and north-east of Bordighera. —E. E. T.

TWO MOUNTAIN CRUCIFERS.

CRUCIFERS are a prolific race and, with exceptions, rather dull. They give us cabbage and lettuce and a host of wandering weeds, but, somehow, one does not connect with them the idea of alpine treasures. It is true that among them we find beauty in the form of wallflowers, stocks and that stop-gap of the rock garden, aubrietia; but one does not expect to find such diminutive grace as Draba pyrenaica. He bears the stamp of mountain breeding, and a true mountaineer he is, for I have followed him to heights where all except Saxifraga oppositifolia, the androsace and Ranunculus glacialis have given up the struggle.

The plant forms a close mat of green rosettes about an inch high, which individually give one the idea of a tiny mossy saxifrage till it comes into flower, when it breaks out into a sheet of tender pale mauve. The picture here shows a mat I photographed at about 8,000ft., and the plant was 2ft. across, looking in the distance as if someone had dropped a mauve handkerchief on the ground. There was any quantity of it about, in patches large and small, and among them I found a rarity, a pure white form which seemed to be more compact in growth than its neighbours. In cultivation, draba is not a beginner's plant, as it is easily mishandled; but it is not in the category classed difficult. It wants sunshine and not too dry a position, light soil (preferably a semi-scree mixture) and good drainage: without this last, or in sticky soil, it will miff off. Given these requirements it will behave as a little gentleman should do and be a pleasure to those who behold it. Its demands, after all, are not very outrageous, and, given them, it will flower gaily every year, and each year will see its girth increase. There is one other command it gives us—that its roots shall not be disturbed during the growing season.

Another choice crucifer is Thlaspi rotundifolium — even Farrer, who would consign all crucifers to the rubbish heap, was warm in praise of this plant, and it certainly merits it. Out of flower one would pass it by as a dull weed, with, perhaps, a little surprise at the place it chooses to inhabit, for it lives in the high screes and seems to prefer the most arid, without a grain of soil between the stones—the sort of place Viola cenisia chooses: in fact, I have found them growing in quantity side by side. But when in flower it commands attention. Be one's goal never so far and the climb never so stiff, yet one must stop a while to look at Thlaspi rotundifolium. The flowers are lilac, neither mauve nor pink, but true lilac, and the scent is delicious. The prescription to keep it in health at home is a scree with drainage above suspicion, and never allow the plant to want moisture at the roots in summer.

The mention of the scent of Thlaspi rotundifolium brings me to a subject which should hardly come under the heading of this note—it is fragrance in the rock garden. I must admit that I often refer to scent in flowers, but I consider that for a rock garden plant to be usefully fragrant one should be aware of it in passing by, and not have to go on all fours and get one's nose down to it. Now, daphnes and some dianthus fulfil this requirement; in passing them one will turn round and wonder what is smelling so sweet—Trifolium alpinum, to take at random an otherwise valuable plant, does not do so, for in anything less than a 2yd. mat one would not be conscious of its fragrance. With border plants one demands a different standard, for one can get down to them without trouble. —A. GAVIN JONES.

THLASPI ROTUNDIFOLIUM IN SCREE AT 8,000 FEET.

DRABA PYRENAICA, ONE OF THE CHOICEST OF HIGH ALPINES.

A MARGUERITE YEAR.

THIS has been a glorious year for the plants known popularly as marguerites, and among them we include that one known as the Blue Marguerite, Agathæa cœlestis. As everyone knows, this plant is only half-hardy; indeed, many growers never try it in the open and are content with it in a cool greenhouse, where it flowers for a long time in glorious profusion.

To get plants for bedding next season, cuttings should now have been taken and rooted in pots of sandy compost. For a succession in the greenhouse, more may be taken in spring, or, indeed, as occasion calls; these, when rooted, are put into small pots and potted on until flowered in seven-inch size. The compost need only be a sandy loam and, when growing, the plants must have plenty of sun. Bushy sturdy specimens become an absolute delight when in flower.

When grown for open border work the blue marguerite may have treatment similar to that given the bedding geraniums. Not always are we quite satisfied with results in the north, but when we get a good year like this, there is no call for criticism.—H. H. A.

THE JAPANESE TOAD-FLOWER.

A PLANT seldom grown in the garden and one not likely to become a favourite, is the Japanese toad-flower, or Tricyrtis, yet it is one which flower lovers should know something about, if only for the sake of avoiding it. No doubt the toad-flowers would find a certain degree of favour if they flowered in good time, but unless given a warm place they will not flower before frost comes. They are curious looking plants withal: generally about a foot high, rather arching in habit, with pointed leaves and flowers from the axils of a curious form, rather after the fashion of the lilies, but infinitely less beautiful and of a curious livid hue, spotted all over—whence the name of toad-flower. There are several species, but the one said to be the finest is not in commerce. From one's experience of T. macropoda, T. hirta and T. pilosa, one has more than grave doubts as to the value of the unintroduced species. Those who may like to try the tricyrtis after this, may note that it likes a soil similar to that favoured by the trilliums, but that it must have a warm place, as previously suggested, although a woodland plant at home.—S. ARNOTT.

RHODODENDRON GRIEVEII.

ALTHOUGH the genus rhododendron has, during the last decade, given us many beautiful hybrids, few, especially of the dwarf kinds, are more lovely than the above-named hybrid, which was raised some years ago by the late James Grieve, a noted Scottish horticulturist. In stature it stands about midway between its parents, namely, R. ciliatum and R. glaucum, forming low, sprawly and somewhat twiggy bushes. The flowers, which are so freely produced in drooping clusters during late spring, are a little wavy and of a beautiful soft pink colour. A distinguishing feature of the whole plant, especially in winter when growth has matured, is the yellowish brown colour of its leaves; these are about 2ins. long and rather pointed, the undersides being but sparsely spotted with dull brown scales. Unfortunately, it is very scarce, being seldom seen, still less heard of, and very rarely if ever listed, neither do I remember having seen it in the Royal Botanic Gardens of Edinburgh, in spite of a close scrutiny of the many nooks and crannies of those wonderful northern gardens; but the overlooking of any particular

Digitized by Google

variety is even for an enthusiast quite a legitimate excuse when one remembers the vast hosts of rhododendrons that are to be seen there; nevertheless, its inclusion in any collection cannot be too highly commended.—J. T. HARRIS, *Wisley*.

SWEET-SCENTED CLIMBERS.

I AM now referring to hardy kinds, those so charming on our house and garden walls, pillars and pergolas. Roses are not included. How suitable for almost any position is Jasminum officinale, the tiny-flowered white variety, which is, practically, evergreen and may be planted in any exposed position, pruned and trained at will. It is most effective, in my opinion, when the shoots are allowed to hang gracefully from their supports and all attempts at formal training are abandoned. Clematis orientalis, also white flowered, makes very rapid growth and so covers much space in a short time. It is very suitable for a large wall or long pergola. Aristolochia Sipho is another rapid-growing climber bearing very strongly scented flowers. This plant, too, requires a lot of space in which to grow and show to the best advantage. Clematis Flammula, white, makes a fine covering for a large arch or a summer-house. Stauntonia latifolia is evergreen, bears fragrant greenish yellow flowers in spring; a distinct subject. Then there are the loniceras. Even the common one, Lonicera Periclymenum, is well worth growing in prominent positions. Lonicera belgica, early Dutch; L. serotina, late Dutch; Halleana (japonica) should be included. The honeysuckles are so valuable for rather shaded positions and where the soil is naturally dry. Usually, our climbers are planted in ordinary, poor soils. They will repay the trouble taken if they are afforded one bushel per plant of good fibrous loam.—HANTS.

CHRYSANTHEMUM SOURCE D'OR: AN OLD AND BEAUTIFUL SORT.

I HAVE very pleasant recollections of the introduction of this chrysanthemum, now many years ago. I first saw it at the Birmingham Society's Show in the Town Hall, and it appeared in the first prize pans along with Mme. Clemence Audiguier and other novelties of that—what seems to me—far-off time. Only Source d'Or has survived, and I notice in lists which reached me in November that it is included among "choice Japanese varieties for cut flowers and decoration." To what may we attribute the continued popularity of this worthy old sort, seeing that, so far as mere size of blooms is concerned, it has long since been superseded? To nothing less than its delightful colour, beautiful when it first opens in its orange-terra-cotta tints, and none the less attractive when it fades. I still grow it, and for general decorative purposes it is hard to beat. A good number of varieties, it is true, run it close as regards colour, but it stands alone. For home decoration it is worthy of note, as it carries its foliage well to the finish. If ever a variety earned a long service award, surely it is Source d'Or. It is still a profitable market sort by reason of its delightful colour. Some who grow it do so on the crown buds, but for home work—and this is its chief value to-day—it is more useful on terminals, and disbudded.—CLAREMONT.

CORRESPONDENCE

RHUS COTINOIDES.

SIR,—In THE GARDEN for November 14th, "E. C." states that Rhus cotinoides is not mentioned by Professor Sargent in the "Manual of Trees of North America," and if he will turn to page 657 of the Manual he will find it there described as a tree from 25ft. to 35ft. high and found very abundant as a small shrub spreading over many thousands of acres on the dry hillsides and mountain cañons near Spanish Pass in Kendall Co., Texas. Here, in the eastern states, it is extremely rare in cultivation.—WM. H. JUDD, *Arnold Arboretum*.

[This tree is given under the name of Cotinus americanus, which explains why I did not see it. Cotinus is a generic name that does not hold good in this country.—ED.]

DAFFODILS IN NEW ZEALAND.

SIR,—Our daffodil season has come and gone, and it has been the worst spring within the memory of the oldest inhabitant. Nevertheless, some very good flowers have been bloomed and shown, which is saying a great deal for the painstaking care of the growers.

Seedling raising in New Zealand has, with the exception of the late Mr. A. E. Lowe, not been gone into very fully by local growers until comparatively recently, and the fruits of the labours of those enthusiasts who took up the hobby some years ago are now becoming apparent. Last Saturday (October 3rd) I visited the gardens of a well known local amateur, Mr. C. Goodson of Hawera. In the last few years Mr. Goodson has raised some splendid varieties, *inter alia*, Wellington, a red-cupped incomparabilis, champion short-cupped daffodil, Wellington Show, 1924; and Goodson's Choice, a giant Leedsii, champion short-cupped daffodil at Wellington, 1925, beating well grown specimens of such well known varieties as Basilia, Silver Dawn and Tenedos. On this visit, however, I was astonished at the splendid even quality of his seedlings. He had dozens of varieties equalling, if not bettering, older standard varieties, and many of them fit to grace any show bench. However, on that day I saw what to me must be his masterpiece. It was a splendid Leedsii bloom. A fine upstanding plant about 24ins. high with a magnificent bloom; pure white, glistening perianth, flat and overlapping, with well shaped segments. Its cup was its main feature. It was well shaped and well frilled, and of a pure salmon pink right to the base. The whole flower measured some 5ins. across and the cup 1¼ins. in width and 2ins. in depth and, apart from its unique colour, it was of a shape and substance sufficient to satisfy the most particular. It appeared to me to be a complete break in colour, and after seeing it I could visualise all manner of beautiful coloured cups of which this may be the forerunner. The flower when seen by me had been out for nearly a fortnight, so its lasting quality is assured. As it was the first and only flower of this seedling tentatively named by the grower Queen Mary, its future will be watched, in this part at any rate, with keen interest.—ANDREW CHRYSTAL, *Eltham, N. Z.*

A MISTLETOE HINT.

SIR,—Many people when trying to establish mistletoe on an apple tree, put the berries in position round about Christmas-time. This plan nearly always results in failure, owing to the fact that the seeds are not ripe at this early period. As a matter of fact mistletoe berries do not reach ripeness until February. By far the best method is to select a well berried piece of the plant from the Christmas decorations and put this in a jar of water. Change the water every week and the mistletoe will keep fresh during the ripening of the berries. On a mild February day press a few of the berries on the underside of a healthy apple branch. One or two are almost sure to establish themselves and in due course the baby mistletoe plant will appear.—S. L. B. *Bournemouth*.

ON MOVING SHRUBS.

SIR,—The suggestion by a correspondent that something be written on this subject leads me to pen a few lines which I trust will be of some guidance to readers of what I consider the most up-to-date journal on horticulture, THE GARDEN.

My planting experience extends to well over thirty years and I can truly say I have had many ups and downs. This week I have been moving Laurus nobilis, 20ft. in height and weighing close on a ton each!

As the recent editorial on "The Disturbance of Plants" is mentioned, and more specifically a quotation, saying, ". . . to grow a rhododendron is to sow the seed in the exact place, etc.," I will commence with rhododendrons.

First, I do not think any large rhododendron grower would agree with Sir Isaac Bayley Balfour, one good reason being that such a practice is impossible. Further, such practice could only apply to species. All hybrids, of which we have so many, must be propagated either by cuttings, grafts or layers. Finally, I do not suppose Sir Isaac himself tried the experiment, as he mentions the word "theoretically."

Mr. Osgood McKenzie was, I consider, on the right track when he said, "Do not forget that rhododendrons like carriage exercise." As an illustration of this, I may mention many extra large bush and standard rhododendrons and azaleas which used (thirty years ago) to be replanted by the father of the present proprietor of the celebrated Knaphill Nursery. These plants were replanted each year in the springtime and those who remember their gorgeous display within three months of removal will understand that such transplantation did not harm them.

TRANSPLANTING.

Transplanting of trees and shrubs produces conditions of growth, fruitfulness, etc., which are favourable to the gardener.

Take a self-sown seedling of Rhododendron ponticum or Azalea japonica. If, during the first few years of their lives, they are not transplanted they will form but comparatively few feeding roots. They would grow tall and thin and the constant cutting to lick them into shape would only induce strong and sappy growths with little flower. On the other hand, if the seedlings are regularly shifted on, each time their roots are cut round a large number of *single* feeding roots are cut away, but within a very short space each cut root has sprouted and produced a *bunch* of new feeders. At the actual time of removal a great check is given to the supply of sap, for the moment its upward movement becomes stagnant and it ceases to function. But when the greatly increased number of feeding rootlets get into action, sap is again supplied in ever-increasing quantity, more than the present normal growth of the tree can deal with. Consequently, new buds are formed, long dormant buds are pushed into growth, often from near the base of bare and leggy plants, the whole plant benefits and becomes more bushy and free-flowering.

Digitized by Google

Most horticulturists will have noticed that Dame Nature always decrees that a plant has a means of reproducing itself. As an instance, this year I found a plant of charlock growing on a brick; it was less than an inch high, it had but two leaves, but it was flowering and probably set a seed or two. Its evident lack of root and nourishment had induced the plant to flower. This is the way with Nature, she will not be beaten. When a tree or plant is removed it is against Nature's law, she gets the wind up, she fears for her child. If the cruel gardener had not removed it, she would have had years in which to consider the reproduction of that particular tree. Now, alas! the gardener has cut its roots, it may die, she must hurry up, consequently she cannot pay so much attention to long, lanky growths, she (owing to the check of sap), produces short, fruit-bearing growths. This phase is often well illustrated by the well advised and timely removal or root-pruning of fruit trees.

Shortly, I am in favour of transplanting insomuch that if carefully carried out in all respects it does not harm the tree (excepting the violation of nature's law), but will actually add to its beauty, fruitfulness and, often subsequent growth.

Planting may be divided into two great classes. Class one, embracing evergreens: spring and autumn. Class two, embracing deciduous subjects, extending from autumn to spring.

To go into detail would occupy several numbers of THE GARDEN, but I will try to give a few ideas. Generally speaking, all evergreen subjects (and a good many deciduous ones) *must* carry a good and compact ball of soil on the roots. This, of course, includes all conifers.

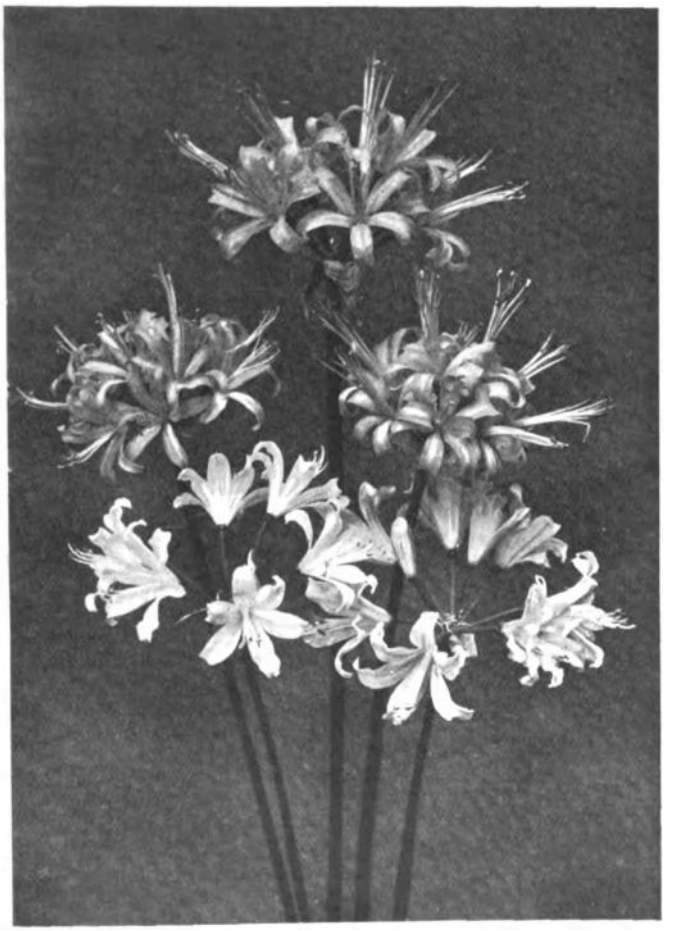
AUTUMN PLANTING.

Autumn planting may be commenced in late August, but at this time of year great care must be taken to get the soil nicely moist, as dry soil does not hold on in sufficiently large quantities to ensure a safe removal. Autumn planting (in cold districts) should be discontinued by the middle of October. In the very mild parts it can be carried out throughout the winter months. Spring planting may be commenced at quite the end of March and continued till the end of May, finishing up with the ilex.

Deciduous subjects may be planted with safety from the middle of October till the end of March, always provided that weather and ground conditions allow. The very important point raised, "good and bad moves," is a big one, almost too big to move with such a small tool as a pen. However, I will place rhododendrons and azaleas among the very easiest movers, followed by andromedas, ericas, cupressus, laurels, ilex, yew, box, aucubas, ligustrum and, in fact, all those subjects which form dense masses of root, as does the yew and box. Among less easily moved subjects are evergreen oaks, arbutus (if long standing in one position), pines, cedars, junipers, cytisus, gorse, ceanothus, senecios and olearias (if large trees), and many others. To overcome this, most nurserymen grow the more difficult subjects in pots. Nearly all deciduous subjects will transplant with safety, even up to a large size. By this I mean trees 30ft. to 40ft. in height and such as limes, chestnuts, ash, etc.

The more difficult deciduous trees, again, must carry a good ball of soil and such include magnolias, Japanese maples, oaks (some varieties), ilex (deciduous), Taxodium distichum, Ginkgo biloba, Citrus trifoliata, and a few others. I would point out that the difficulty with the foregoing is to plant them successfully *without* a good ball of soil; *with* a good ball they become as easy as the following, which may all be transplanted with little or no soil adhering to their roots. These include spiræas, deutzias, philadelphus, most viburnums, syringas, acers, alders, robinas, birch, ailanthus, paulownia, planes, rhus, prunus, cerasus, malus, cornus, perowskia, ribes, roses, tamarix, and very many others. Failures in planting may often be traced to such faults as, failure to water spring-planted trees, insufficient firming of soil about roots, allowing trees to rock in windy weather, planting too deeply, wrongly chosen sites, unsuitable soils, placing fresh manure on roots, careless lifting (by severing too many roots), failure to give shelter to tender subjects, planting in heavy soil without ensuring sufficient drainage, allowing grass and/or rank weeds to grow within the radius of the tree roots, mulching too heavily and/or at wrong time of the year, and planting when the ball of soil is very dry, planting out pot-bound subjects (these should be re-potted into pots some sizes larger several months before planting, so as to ensure a new root system). The foregoing are only a few of the many causes of failure—there are many others.

Finally, my advice to the inexperienced is, do not undertake the removal of very large trees or shrubs. Call in the nurseryman who understands such work. He will tell at a glance if the trees or shrubs can be moved with safety and will carry out the work far more cheaply, since he has all the required apparatus at hand.—JOHN HILL, *Paignton.*



THE FAIR BEAUTY OF HYBRID NERINES.

NERINES.

SIR,—With reference to the enquiry by "R. H." on page 707 of your issue for December 12th, 1925. In the great majority of cases nerines produce their flower-spike either slightly before or simultaneously with the foliage, the flower generally withering before the foliage has made any considerable growth. There are, however, certain late-flowering varieties which are exceptions to this rule. In particular, Nerine Manselli, a handsome tall and robust variety, bearing umbels of satiny rose cerise flowers, always produces its blooms at this time of the year, and will continue to do so in succession for several weeks yet, the foliage, in common with other varieties, being almost at its peak of growth. This peculiarity is shared by hybrids of this variety, and at the present moment several plants of Manselli, together with various hybrids of which it is a parent, are in flower, although the bulk of our collection has finished flowering for some considerable time. We also notice that certain hybrids of Nerine flexuosa seem to contain this late-flowering habit, and even flexuosa type frequently flowers after producing a certain amount of foliage.

We should say the recent flowering season for nerines has been quite satisfactory, in our experience better than 1924. We attribute this to the hot summer, which undoubtedly benefits these plants.—BARR AND SONS.

COLOUR VARIATION IN HYDRANGEAS.

SIR,—I was much interested in the letters on the above subject recently published in THE GARDEN. In a large garden near Southampton there were, some years ago, very large specimens of Hydrangea hortensis rosea, which bore huge heads of blue flowers, rivalling that of Gentiana acaulis, as referred to by Mr. Arthur J. Cobb in his letter. Some of the trusses of flowers were quite 18ins. across, yet, on the same plant a few heads of true rosea colour appeared every year. When these were cut out shoots from the same stems again produced the rose-coloured flowers. The plants grew in a shrubbery which was situated in a dry part of the garden. But on this estate, in almost boggy ground, some hydrangeas also bore blue and rose-coloured flowers. The water, running over pebbles or dripping on them from the garden taps—all the water in the garden was forced up from the ponds and springs—turned them almost red.

In a village near Bournemouth I have observed a row of Hydrangea hortensis, growing in front of a border well filled with the roots of large shrubs and trees, which always bears blue flowers and not a single rose-coloured bloom. The plants are never pruned back and so their branches and the flowers on them mostly hang down, some gracefully and others rest on the grass. There is iron in the soil and not any lime. The blue in this case, is always deep, like that of Gentiana acaulis. When trying to produce this colour in pot hydrangeas by using iron and alum, the colour has, generally, been of a very pale blue.—GEO. GARNER.

Digitized by Google

ORCHID NOTES FOR THE AMATEUR

ODONTIODAS.

WHEN the first odontioda was exhibited at the Temple Show of 1904 an immense amount of interest was created, for this little seedling plant indicated the extensive series that was soon to follow. At the above date the odontoglossums were at their highest point of popularity, and extraordinary prices were being paid for varieties having the segments marked with purple blotching. Consequently, the production of a flower with bright scarlet blotching was hailed with intense delight, for it opened up an entirely new scheme of coloration. This historic plant of 1904 was Odontioda Vuylstekeæ, the result of crossing Odontoglossum Pescatorei with Cochlioda Nœzliana, and one of the very few orchids to which the R.H.S. silver-gilt Lindley medal has been awarded.

Events have moved rapidly during the last twenty years, and more than 500 different odontiodas are now on record. This figure indicates the extensive additions which have been made in comparatively recent years to the cool-house section of orchids. For all practical purposes odontiodas may be treated similarly to the odontoglossums; in fact, these two genera have been so much intercrossed that it is frequently a matter of considerable difficulty to determine under which genus some of the seedlings should be recorded.

In no other section of the orchid family can so extensive a variation of colour be seen. From the bright scarlet of the Cochlioda Nœzliana parent to the deepest blood red, and from white and cream-coloured flowers to those of deep yellow, a long series of beautiful colour schemes can be obtained. The odontiodas add considerable beauty to that already existing in the cool house; they also greatly extend the season in which the flowers are at their best. Present-day amateurs can obtain a supply of odontoglossum and odiontioda flowers throughout every month of the year, whereas members of the past generation had them only in the springtime, and even with that short period they were fully satisfied.

The cultural details are similar to those previously described for odontoglossums. A moist atmosphere of between 50° and 60°, as cool as possible during the summertime, and not falling below 50° for any prolonged period in winter. These are conditions that exist in the majority of amateurs' greenhouses. One of the essential points in the cultivation of these plants is to prevent the foliage from being scorched by the sun, hence ample shading must be ready at an early period in the year. Blinds that can be removed daily are far preferable to any permanent shading, for the first and last few hours of sunlight are of great benefit towards creating a vigorous constitution.

CŒLOGYNE CRISTATA.

After Cypripedium insigne, no orchid is more easy to procure and cultivate than Cœlogyne cristata. Many an amateur who grows this plant will readily give away a few portions to anyone interested, and if this is done at the time of re-potting no apparent loss will result. Although discovered just over a century ago, there does not appear to be any record of this species having flowered in England until the spring of 1841. Its native home is in the lower Himalayan zone, at elevations ranging from 4,500ft. to 7,500ft., and even at higher and colder altitudes. In fact, Mr. Farrer and Mr. E. H. M. Cox found Cœlogyne cristata in Upper Burma smothering the branches of trees at an altitude of 10,800ft., where for four months of the year everything was covered with a mantle of snow. Yet, notwithstanding these severe conditions, the plants produced an abundance of snowy white flowers. What more suitable plant can be recommended for a greenhouse of comparatively low temperature?

If some orchids are uninteresting when not in flower, Cœlogyne cristata is always attractive, for its masses of bulbs piled up in pyramidal form, resemble a well filled dish of greengages. Generally speaking, this species does not flower well until the plant consists of numerous bulbs, oftentimes hundreds of them, so closely arranged that they rest one upon another. The plants will often continue for two or three years without requiring re-potting. But with all plants there comes a time sooner or later when re-potting is a necessity, and with this particular cœlogyne such operation affords a favourable opportunity for dividing the mass into smaller pieces and re-arranging them on a bed of newly prepared compost. Although small pieces of even three bulbs will grow and ultimately make moderate-sized plants, it is not advisable to split up an old specimen into quite such small pieces. Clumps consisting of a dozen or more bulbs are usually available, and if a few of these are arranged so that the new growths may have ample space to develop without reaching the margin of the pot, then healthy specimens will be produced. The usual clean fibre, into which a portion of sphagnum moss has been mixed, forms a suitable potting material. It is on record that a very small plant was grown on carefully year by year until it had a diameter at the base of over 6ft., and bore as many as 1,400 flowers, all open simultaneously. Such remarkable specimens are quite beyond the desire of the majority of amateurs, who could not afford sufficient room, but this example does show to what extent this plant can be cultivated, and its wonderful flowering capabilities.

The summer treatment of Cœlogyne cristata is of the easiest, a moist and shady position being its moderate requirements. It succeeds well in almost any temperature, and can be grown in vineries and along with many other greenhouse plants. At the conclusion of the growing season the water supply should be lessened, and only enough given to prevent the bulbs shrivelling. Care must also be taken that water does not lodge in the new growths, for damage may thereby be done. Although it has been mentioned that in its native locality this species is accustomed to comparatively low temperatures, it is not advisable to allow the thermometer to fall below 40° during the winter months. During the formation of the flower-spikes a higher temperature is necessary. It is also advisable to state that the flowers are very liable to become spotted through an excess of atmospheric moisture, especially during cold weather.

GURNEY WILSON.

GARDEN TECHNIQUE

Notes on the Technical Side of the Garden and the Cultivation of Plants.

VEGETABLES

PARSLEY.

THIS is a very useful vegetable and always in demand more or less throughout the whole year. Yet to be successful in the growing of parsley it is necessary to trench and manure the ground thoroughly two or three months in advance of planting time. Seed takes a long time to germinate; sometimes a month elapses, when sown out of doors, before the seedlings show through the ground. The plants, too, are somewhat slow growing. It is rather a good practice to sow the seed in a box of medium fine soil very early in January, and bring the seedlings on under glass. As soon as they have made sufficient headway, they should be hardened off, then about the middle of April they should be set out a few inches apart in the open ground. When properly established and grown the plants will supply fine foliage from late summer till near the end of the year. Successional sowings should then be made out of doors from March, as requirements demand. Plants raised from early out of door sowings should be transplanted carefully into cold frames in September or early October to supply leaves throughout the latter part of winter and in the spring.

Parsley is a biennial plant, but is not quite hardy; therefore, if a supply is required in winter, etc., plants should be set out in frames as I have indicated, or the old plants in the open can be protected by having frame lights placed above them, which will keep off the rain and snow, etc. Plants, if not too severely defoliated when in the frames, can be lifted and set out early in April, 6ins. or 8ins. apart, in good rich soil. When once established they make excellent specimens, which provide a regular supply of large leaves, until they are cut down by severe weather.

It may interest readers to know that if plants are left without protection in severe wintry weather, their leaf-stalks get bleached and eventually decay. I have noticed that it is the leaf stalks which suffer first, thus indicating that they are not quite as hardy as the leaves. Three good varieties to grow are Champion Moss Curled, Methven's Green Gem and Myatt's Garnishing.—DAVID ARMSTRONG.

Digitized by Google

TO PREVENT "CLUBBING" IN CABBAGE AND CAULIFLOWER.

I NAME these two only, but all plants of the brassica family are subject to "clubbing." At one time it scared me very much; it does not now, nor has it for more than twenty years. Before that period I had thousands of plants fail year after year. The particular ground had to be cropped with these and winter greens, and had been so cropped for more than fifty years. When July came all early crops turned blue, and, in strong sunshine, their lower leaves lay on the soil. The same thing happened with later crops in September. Then the following year, as the ground became vacant, I applied 3 pecks of lime per rod, digging it in; later, before new plants were planted, a peck of salt per rod was forked in. Result: a wonderful improvement in the general growth and appearance of the various crops. Of course, the usual manuring was done. It took three years to eradicate this pest. Where ground is vacant in the autumn or about Christmastime, the liming is more effective if it can be applied then, spread on the surface of the newly dug soil. I advise all inexperienced cultivators troubled with this fungus to begin now to treat their soils, even those in which the seedlings are raised. The old-fashioned way of dipping the roots in a puddle of soil, soot and lime is sometimes scoffed at, but there is much virtue in it, especially so if a small quantity of paraffin emulsion is mixed with the mess. A wineglassful will be enough for a bucketful of the mixture, making the roots and their surroundings distasteful to the maggots also.—HANTS.

AN EARLY MAINCROP POTATO.

THE potato Norna, unfortunately, is not known so well as it ought to be. It is an early maincrop potato raised and introduced by the late Mr. Archibald Findlay, Auchtermuchty, Fife. It is a variety which is well suited for garden purposes; in fact, it should be everyone's potato, because it is a good cropper, of excellent quality, and gives a good account of itself on the exhibition table.

Norna has been proved resistant to wart disease, and can be grown in all gardens and allotments in Scotland. The tuber is flat and oblong, with very shallow eyes, skin and flesh white, very dry and of excellent quality. The growth is tall and upright in the early stage, but spreads out later in the season. The leaves are dark green and very glossy, secondary leaflets are prominent. The colour of the flower has, so far, not been observed, the dark green buds dropping without opening. The haulm and shape of tuber somewhat resemble Royal Kidney, and might be mistaken for that variety except that Royal Kidney is not so glossy and the haulm is very much more branched. Norna is immune from wart disease and fairly resistant to blight, while Royal Kidney is susceptible to both diseases.—GEO. STUART, *Edinburgh*.

SEEDS

SOWING FREESIAS.

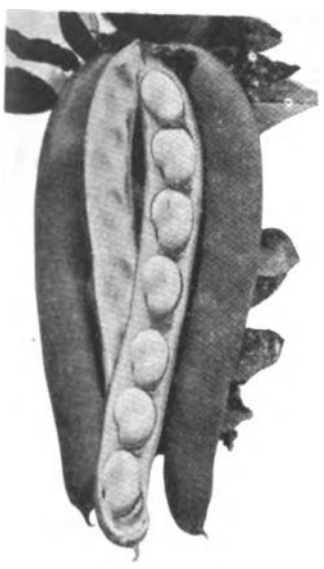
I HAVE an idea that some of our big firms will be offering freesia seed in their seed catalogues. May I suggest to purchasers the advisability of steeping the seeds in water for twenty-four hours before they are sown? It will promote quick germination. I tried it last summer with some seeds a year old, and there was a very marked difference between these and those in a control pot where the seeds had not been soaked. This is, very likely, one of the little tips we would not think of in regard to freesias, although we practice it with other seeds.—JOSEPH JACOB.

COSMEAS.

WE have always found it advisable to sow the cosmea early in the year and to grow the seedlings in a frame until the weather is propitious for planting out. If that is done they will flower as soon as they settle down in the border and, as everyone knows, they will become larger and more prolific as the season advances. The singles are delightfully light and graceful, but the newer doubles are so much out of the usual run of things that they are even more attractive. These doubles are not quite fixed and 25 per cent. of the plants are sure to come single.—CLYDESDALE.

EARLY CYCLAMENS FROM SEED.

YOUNG cyclamen plants flower more satisfactorily than old ones possessing large corms. Usually the September-raised seedlings are the most profitable for amateurs, as they are robust and strong by mid-winter and grow rapidly in spring after re-potting. Such seedlings should be kept on shelves in a temperature of 50°, rising to 70° or a little higher from sun heat. When they are potted singly in small pots use a mixture of loam two-thirds, leaf-soil one-third and coarse silver sand to ensure porosity. Keep the tiny corms just level with the soil in the pot and preserve every root at this stage, as even the healthiest seedlings possess but a few. Apply water from a tank in the same house, and be sure that afterwards water is not applied injudiciously. A second batch of seedlings should be raised from seeds sown about the middle of January. Although the plants flower within the year if properly treated, the seeds require a long time in



SEEDSMEN BY APPOINTMENT

SEASON 1926

VEGETABLES OF QUALITY

THE painstaking care in Selecting, Testing, and Raising only the best varieties of Vegetables is again confirmed in the record list of Gold Medals awarded during 1925 to Exhibits of Carters Vegetables.

It is well to remind our Customers that over 12,000 individual test rows were grown to full maturity in our grounds at Raynes Park during the past season, to compare and examine the merits of each variety at every stage of growth.

This process is carried out each year so that the highest standard of quality is maintained.

We respectfully invite you to inspect our processes by paying us a visit at Raynes Park.

CARTERS LEVIATHAN
THE FINEST
LONGPOD BROAD BEAN
IN CULTIVATION.

25 NOVELTIES IN VEGETABLES AND FLOWERS ARE LISTED IN THE NEW CATALOGUE — FOR 1926 —

THE NEW ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE NOW READY POST FREE

Carters TESTED SEEDS

SEEDSMEN TO H.M. THE KING.
RAYNES PARK, LONDON, S.W.20

Digitized by Google

which to garminate. and they germinate irregularly, so it is a wise course to retain the seed-pan intact for several weeks after the first seedling is well developed. A similar, kind of compost is suitable for the seedlings as for the potting of the young plants, only it should be finer. When the resultant seedlings possess two leaves they should, from a January sowing, be transplanted round the sides of large pots or pans prior to being potted singly. So treated the tiny plants will form roots more freely than if they were in soil in the centre of the pot.—CHRISTCHURCH.

MISCELLANEOUS

SAND: ITS USE AND ABUSE.

I DARESAY sand is as commonly used in the garden as any ingredient for the benefit of the roots of plants. It is often included in composts when the latter would be of more value without it. Sometimes sand is omitted when its presence in a compost would undoubtedly do a lot of good. A very small quantity can rarely do harm, but an undue proportion in a tiny pot will not benefit the plant proportionally. If a grain of sand is placed under a powerful glass it will be seen to resemble quite a big piece of rock—if wet, similar to a small boulder by the seaside. We often make use of the expression "as dry as sand." It is when sand, in undue proportion, is allowed to get practically dust-dry that the roots of plants in it may soon suffer. I have seen thousands of cuttings in such sand suddenly wilt and never again recover normal conditions. So we ought to consider the matter closely when we are about to use sand, and not to add too much of it to any compost. Its beneficial use is to keep a soil mixture open so that water and air can pass through it and also to conserve moisture for the benefit of the roots. For these reasons we use sand in a clean state for propagation purposes as well as in potting composts. But there are many kinds of plants which like lime, and in their case especially it is more beneficial to substitute old mortar rubble for sand. A few kinds are fuchsias, primulas, ferns and chrysanthemums.—HANTS.

THE DRAINAGE OF LAWNS.

PROBABLY there are many readers of THE GARDEN who have had trouble with their lawns or tennis courts during a rainy spell of weather just when they particularly wished to use them. The present is a suitable time to rectify matters of this kind. Other readers are, no doubt, intending to form new lawns either by turf-laying or seed sowing next March or April. If the ground is naturally wet in ordinary seasons, some drainage is absolutely necessary. If the work is done now, the disturbed soil has time to settle down firmly before the grass seeds are sown. To help matters in this direction, water the soil as it is being replaced in the drain trench. Begin the refilling at one end and fill the trench to the top as the work proceeds, then the soil will fall evenly on the pipes and both sides of them keeping them in position. By dropping a small quantity of soil on the pipes their whole length, some of them may be displaced. It is possible in some cases to make a wet lawn fairly dry by forming a drain at the lowest side or end, quite on its edge, as such drains will draw off a lot of water. Tennis courts may be dealt with in this way in some instances, then the actual playing ground is not disturbed. A good average depth for a drain is 30ins. in ordinary soils, 2ft. in very clayey ones.—GEORGE GARNER.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

Seed catalogues now continue to arrive almost daily and those which we have to record are Messrs. Suttons and Sons of Reading, Messrs. Webbs of Stourbridge and Messrs. Alex. Dickson and Sons, Limited, of Belfast. Messrs. Suttons have again excelled all their previous efforts in the production of the excellent manual which appears for 1926. It is comprehensive in its scope, dealing adequately with the flower garden and its inmates, as well as with the utility garden. The descriptive and well classified lists will prove of the greatest assistance to those who are pondering deeply over what to select. Turf and its upkeep comes in for its fair share of attention and many helpful hints are given in these pages. The catalogue is a worthy successor to its predecessors. It is well and clearly printed and profusely illustrated by means of numerous excellent half-tone reproductions. The illustrations in themselves are exceedingly helpful. It is a manual which all gardeners—amateur and professional—should obtain in order that they may become thoroughly acquainted with the latest things in the world of horticulture. Messrs. Webbs' catalogue, also holds much of interest, especially in the vegetable section. The subject matter is well illustrated and numerous cultural hints and notes are given throughout its pages. The descriptive lists of flower seeds extend over about forty pages, and the text, together with the many excellent half-tone reproductions, should prove of the greatest assistance and interest to all gardening enthusiasts. Messrs. Dicksons need no introduction to readers of THE GARDEN. Their "Hawlmark" seeds are known throughout the length and breadth of the land. This year they have published a very attractive catalogue in which the special feature is an article by Mr. E. T. Dickson on Sweet Pea Culture. This is an admirable guide to to all intending growers of sweet peas during the coming season and one which they will find of the greatest use. The numerous descriptive lists offer a wide selection both in flowers and vegetables.

Messrs. Richard Melhuish, Limited, Fetter Lane, Holborn, E.C.4. A most comprehensive catalogue of woodworkers' tools and machines. Although this brochure does not deal with ordinary gardening tools, still there are many articles in it of use to the gardener, such as special saws and axes. There are 1,100 illustrations in line, and the price of the catalogue is 2s. post free, returnable on the first order of 10s.

Mr. H. J. Jones, Ryecroft Nurseries, Lewisham, S.E.13. List of hardy plants, including a fine selection of chrysanthemums, Michaelmas daisies, phloxes and hydrangeas.

Messrs. Austin and McAslan, Glasgow.—Catalogue of trees and shrubs, including fruit trees and conifers. Also a list of alpine and herbaceous plants suitable for planting now.

Messrs. Harrison and Sons, Leicester. Novelties and specialities in the vegetable world for 1926.

Messrs. Barr and Sons, 11, King Street, Covent Garden, London.—A list of surplus stock of winter and spring flowering bulbs at greatly reduced prices. Also a special clearance offer of surplus perennials, alpines, ornamental shrubs and hardy climbers to be sold for cash.

FOREIGN.

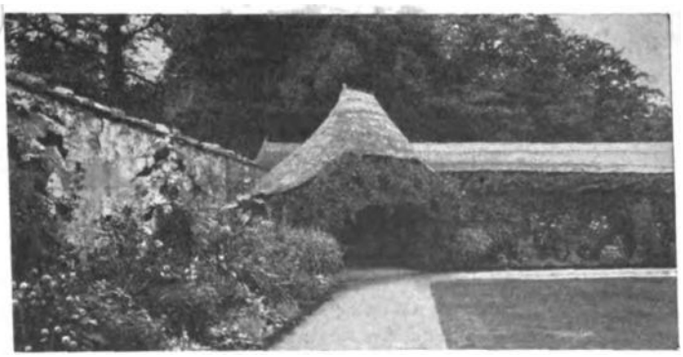
M. Herb, Via Trivio, 24–36, Naples, Italy. Wholesale catalogue of seeds.

Messrs. Sire-Pernet, Lyon-Monplaisir. List of roses for 1926.

From Paris we have received Messrs. Vilmorin-Andrieux et Cie's catalogue of seeds of trees and shrubs. There are many interesting items and all shrub lovers should obtain a copy for reference purposes.

YOU CAN GIVE NO BETTER GIFT

to your friend, either at home, in the Colonies, or abroad, than a weekly copy of



THE GARDEN

It means 52 remembrances of friendship in the year

If you will fill in the form below, we do the rest.

CUT HERE.

To Messrs.....
Newsagents,

or The Manager, "THE GARDEN,"
20, TAVISTOCK STREET, LONDON, W.C.2.

Please send by Post, "The Garden," for which I enclose Cheque or P.O.O. for ..... being Subscription for ..... months from date to

Name .....

Address .....

.....19.... .....

Inland, Foreign and Colonial Subscriptions, 17/4 per annum; 6 months, 8/8, including Postage.

Digitized by Google

BY APPOINTMENT.

PULHAM'S
FOR
ROCK
FORMAL
JAPANESE
GARDENS
71 NEWMAN ST LONDON W1

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! ! Ideal for garden, greenhouse, fencing, training fruit trees, peas, hops, espaliers, etc. Most durable, waterproof covered and cannot taint. Small lots quoted or mile drums (full 1,760 yards) carriage paid at makers' cost . . . only 19/6. Samples free with list of 350 new Government bargains. Post card to-day and save £1.—GREENS, 240, Albert Street, Lytham.

MANURES.

The most complete little book on the subject is "The Manual of Manures," by H. VENDELMANS, 4/5; by post, 4/9. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street Covent Garden, W.C.2.

Advertising

HALL-MARKS A PRODUCT

You buy and keep on buying an article because you have found it to be dependable. Think—and you'll find it is an **advertised** article. Most of the good things you buy, and "prefer," are advertised articles.

Advertising hall-marks a product

THE JACKPAN

"The tool that cuts your costs"

Abolishes trenching. THE deep cultivator. What your Editor and others think of it is told in our Illustrated Folder No. 5, sent on request.

Your retailer can supply, or we will send sample for 6/-

P.E.G.S. LTD., 3, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

LETHORION FUMIGATOR

IMPROVED NICOTINING CONE

Certain destruction to all pests in glass houses

Only a match required for starting it!

No. 1	For 1,000 cubic feet	..	10d.
,, 2	,, 1,500 ,, ,,	..	1/3
,, 3	,, 2,500 ,, ,,	..	1/9

Sold by all Nurserymen and Seedsmen.

COSBY & CO., Ltd., Stead Thames, London, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing*

ORCHIDS

The Largest Raisers, Growers and Exporters
Pioneers of the Scientific Methods
of Orchid Seedling Raising.

CHARLESWORTH & CO., LTD.
HAYWARDS HEATH, SUSSEX.

FOSTER & PEARSON LIMITED

Established 1841

Please write for Estimates for durable Greenhouses, Boilers, etc., to

BEESTON NOTTS

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

British Made ABOLENE Tar Oil Winter Wash

Clears Tree Trunks of Moss and Lichen and destroys Insects' Eggs and Fungus Spores

Abolene is thoroughly reliable and efficient. Easy and safe to use. Supplied in small sizes to suit owners of only two or three trees.

Quart	..	2/4
½ gallon	..	3/8
1 gallon	..	6/-

Write for Descriptive Folder

Abol Limited, 9 Beltring, Paddock Wood, Kent.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

DOBBIE'S SCOTCH-GROWN ROSES

These succeed where others fail; send at once for a Catalogue

Please name this Paper

DOBBIE & CO., LTD.
Nurserymen :: EDINBURGH

FOGWILLS WONDER LONG-POD BROAD BEANS

Ten Beans in a Pod.
WONDERFUL FREE GIFTS.

NOW IS THE TIME TO SOW FOGWILLS WONDER LONG POD. The LONGEST, most PROLIFIC and FINEST FLAVOURED BROAD BEAN in the World. Nothing like it. Nothing just as good—PERFECTION. **1/4 per pint, carriage paid.** Send now; every customer will receive three FREE GIFTS as follows—1/- packet (2,000 seeds) **FOGWILLS FAMOUS GIANT EXHIBITION BRUSSELS SPROUTS,** largest, most magnificent solid sprouts in cultivation, and FREE, a 6d. packet (1,000 seeds) **FOGWILLS PRIDE OF THE VALLEY PARSNIP** grown over 50 inches long, and FREE one packet (100 seeds) **FOGWILLS GIANT RAINBOW SWEET PEAS,** large waved flowers in over 25 shades. Send only 1/4 for this wonderful FREE OFFER and become one of our THOUSANDS of satisfied customers. Fogwills 'Best-Result' Seeds need only a trial.

Fogwills Beautiful Illustrated Catalogue of "Best-Result" Seeds and Guide to Garden Success for Season 1926. Now Ready. Post Free.

FOGWILLS, 130, FRIARY STREET GUILDFORD.
Established 70 years. Awarded Gold Medal.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

I KNOW of a pipe tobacco which has for fifty years gained steadily in favour.

Generations have passed their verdict on its incomparable purity and excellence.

The greatest care is taken to ensure perfect uniformity of quality.

—*R.F.E.*

They call it

PLAYER'S NAVY CUT

For Cigarette Smokers
PLAYER'S NAVY CUT CIGARETTES

P.1262

Reg. No. 154011.

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION 191?

WAKELEY'S Celebrated (PATENTED) HOP MANURE

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY
RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE, without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

A beautiful Free Booklet giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. GENUINE ONLY IN OUR MARKED BAGS, CONTAINING GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

Cash Prices, including bags: Small (about 1 bushel), 3/-; Large (about 4 bushels), 7/-; 5 Large, 33/9
10 Large, 65/-; 20 Large, 120/-

Carriage Paid to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company. 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by **"ALPHOL"**
Sample 14 lb., 3/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St., Liverpool

HILL & SMITH, Ltd.,

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS,
Makers of
IRON FENCING, HURDLES, GATES, WIRE NETTING AND GARDEN IRONWORK

Other Products—**Hay and Grain Sheds, Dutch Barns, Galvanized Corrugated Sheets and Structural Steelwork.**

Catalogues free on mentioning this paper.

London: 300, Abbey House, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

KINNELL'S COKE CRUSHER FROM STOCK

Reduces Fuel to the correct size for long burning

Carriage paid to Stations in England and Wales

Small Crusher for Wall	20/-
Ditto on Wrought Stand	40/-
Large Crusher for Wall	40/-
Ditto on Wrought Stand	60/-

Strong Coke Pan 10/- extra

Large Crusher breaks 1 cwt. & small one 42 lb. in 20 minutes

CHAS. P. KINNELL & Co LTD
65.65A Southwark St. London, S.E.1

Spray now

WHILE YOUR FRUIT TREES are dormant to destroy Moss and Lichen, and remove loose bark (the breeding places of insect pests.)

The finest fruit comes from the cleanest trees. Why not cleanse and re-invigorate your trees now, with

COOPER'S WINTER SPRAY FLUID

"Commended" by the Royal Horticultural Society

1 gallon makes 100 gallons mixture.

Pint 2/3 Quart 3/3 ½ gall. 5/9 1 gall. 9/6
2 galls. 18/- 5 galls. £1/18/6.

Of all agents. If any trouble to obtain, please write

WILLIAM COOPER & NEPHEWS, Ltd.,
BERKHAMSTED.

The WIZARD Plant LABEL

PATENT No 212974

Made in Red Pottery, 2½ x 1¼ ins., with rustless wires, 12 in., 2/- doz.; 7 in., 1/7 doz. 1½ x 1 in., with wires 6 in., 1/4 doz. For tying on, 1/6 and 1/3 doz. Waterproof Ink, 9d. and 7½d. bot. Crow Quills, 2d. Postage extra.

Highly commended by the R.H.S. at Wisley.

E. TORKINGTON . NEW HALL . MAIDENHEAD

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Make the Most of your Greenhouse
and instal a
SILVER MEDAL
HORSE SHOE BOILER—

which ensures a steady heat for a succession of thriving Plants and Flowers, with minimum trouble and little fuel.

Booklet E and reduced prices post free.

C. P. KINNELL & Co. Ltd., SOUTHWARK STREET, LONDON, S.E.1.

Used in the R.H.S. Gardens.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

By Appointment

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.,
Royal Potteries
BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

GENERAL LIBRARY
UNIV. OF MICH.
JUL 13 1926

SEED NUMBER

THE GARDEN

ORCHARD GARDEN WOODLAND

Vol. XC. No. 2825 Saturday, January 9th, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

FEW FLOWERS HAVE MADE SUCH STRIDES AS THE GLOXINIA. MANY GARDENERS WILL REMEMBER THE FIRST STRAINS THAT WERE PRODUCED AND WILL VIEW WITH FAVOUR THE EFFORTS OF THE HYBRIDISERS WHO HAVE BROUGHT OUT SO MANY VARIETIES WITH SUCH MARVELLOUS SOFT COLOURING WHICH ARE SEEN TO DAY.

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
New Alpines and Perennials
Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD
CHELSEA, S.W.
Seed Catalogue and Novelty List on Application.

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

BROWN'S TESTED SEEDS.
Illustrated Flower and Vegetable Seed Catalogue, giving full cultural directions, at competitive prices, post free if this paper is mentioned.
D. T. BROWN & CO., *Seedsmen,* **Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.**

DEBEN ROSES

ARE

Guaranteed British Grown.

12 RELIABLE GARDEN SORTS - In First Quality Plants only. - **12**

MRS. H. MORSE. MAD. A. CHATENAY.
DUCHESS OF WELLINGTON. LAMIA.
GORGEOUS. - LADY HILLINGDON.
W. F. DREER. - - - MRS. A. TATE.
LOS ANGELES. - - - RUTH.
BETTY UPRICHARD
AND THE
NEW VESUVIUS.

12/- Packing and Carriage Free for Cash with Order.

MORSE BROS., *Dept. G.,* Deben Nurseries,
MELTON — WOODBRIDGE — SUFFOLK.

NORTH COUNTRY GROWN SEEDS produce hardy plants.

A FEW GOOD THINGS.

Brydon's Darlington **Brussels Sprouts,** 6d. and 1/- pkt.
Leek, Brydon's Exhibition .. 6d. pkt.
Beet, Brydon's Crimson Globe .. 6d. oz.
Pea, Bucks' Royalty (2nd early).. 1/9 pkt.
Pea, Brydon's New King (main crop) 1/9 pkt.
Broccoli, June King .. .. 6d. pkt.
Cauliflower, Brydon's Alpha .. 1/- pkt.

SEED CATALOGUE—POST FREE.

KENT & BRYDON, LTD.,
The King's Seedsmen, DARLINGTON.

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
HULL
Weed Destroyers Fertilisers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

Downer's 'Usually Silent' Lupins

are making a great 'noise' in the World.
Rich Harmonious Colours. Mixed, 12/- doz. Clumps
Lupin List, Herbaceous and Alpine Catalogues, free.
DOWNER, 2, Drayton Manor Nurseries, Chichester.

This is the weather for

XL ALL Winter Wash

Registered Trade Mark. (IMPROVED CAUSTIC)

For DORMANT Fruit Trees and Bush Fruits
(NON-POISONOUS)

An improvement is claimed for **XL ALL** over any other existing Winter Wash.

It Pays to Wash Fruit Trees in Winter

PER **1/6** TIN

Also supplied in tins of
7 lbs. 7/3 14 lbs. 12/6 28 lbs. 24/- each

To be obtained from all Nurserymen, Seedsmen and Florists.

MANUFACTURERS:
G. H. RICHARDS Ltd.,
234, Borough High St., London, S.E.1.

Fruit Trees Rose Trees

ALL ENGLISH GROWN.
Descriptive Catalogue post free on demand.
INSPECTION INVITED.

S. SPOONER & SONS
Estd. 1820 **The Nurseries, Hounslow, MIDDLESEX**

TUBS FOR SHRUBS. WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 100 prizes. R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. — Price List from A. PRADAL, 28, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

NO MORE BROKEN GLASS

IF YOU USE

WINDOLITE

which supersedes glass for all garden uses.

LIGHT. FLEXIBLE. UNBREAKABLE.

Easy to cut and fix.

Send 4/6 for sample over 30ins. square, post free. Write for leaflets.

WINDOLITE (DEPT. 12) **179/185, GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1.**

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

WATERER'S GOLD MEDAL RHODODENDRONS, Azaleas, Shrubs, Conifers, Climbers Heaths, Hardy Perennial and Alpine Plants, Vegetable and Flower Seeds, Scotch Seed Potatoes, Spring Bulbs, English-grown Fruit Trees and Roses. Separate catalogue for each department post free.—JOHN WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LIMITED, Twyford, Berks.

WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE.—The original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See advt. on page vi.

WM. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., Lawrence Road, South Tottenham, N.15.—Conservatories, Winter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

BIRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUNDIALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—KNOWLTON, 80, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

FENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Garden Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE SYDNEY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, Surrey.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list, post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

ROCK PLANTS AND SHRUBS.—Over 300 varieties in stock. Descriptive catalogue free. Also Herbaceous Plants and Roses.—HODGSONS, LTD., 58, Castlegate, Nottingham.

A CATALOGUE of gardening books will be sent free on application to "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

MANURES.—The most complete little book on the subject is "The Manual of Manures," by H. VENDELMANS. 4/5; by post, 4/9. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

THE FAIRSEAT AUTUMN PLANT SALES present a wonderful opportunity to procure WELL GROWN PLANTS and BULBS for every purpose at bed-rock prices. Postal business a speciality. 16-page price-list post free on application to—THE SALES MANAGER, Fairseat Nurseries, Wrotham, Kent.

BUY MORE PLANTS (and fewer useless knick-knacks) to give as Presents. Ask for our list of attractive collections of Alpines, etc. for presentation purposes.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LTD., Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

CANADIAN AND AMERICAN GLADIOLI.—The best of the standard varieties and novelties.—J. W. CROW, Simcoe, Ontario, Canada.

YORK STONE PAVINGS, crazy or rectangular, rustic copings, steps, roughly squared or random shaped, flat bedded wallstones, garden edging, rockery, etc.—SAMUEL JOHNSON AND SON (MIRFIELD), LTD., Newgate Stone Works, Mirfield, Yorkshire.

BOOKS.—Mr. E. T. Ellis, Horticultural Writer and Editor, Westwood, Ecclesall, Sheffield, has for disposal a quantity of good GARDENING WORKS. Write to-day, mentioning THE GARDEN, for free list, and state wants.

ELLISON'S SPRING CATALOGUE READY, 64 pages. Pedigree Seeds, Bulbs, Scotch Seed Potatoes, Shallots, Gladioli, Lawn Seed, Spring planting roots, Roses, Fruit Trees, Gardening Books, Manures, Tools. Calendar Garden Guide, post free. Sweet Peas, 20 each 10 varieties, 1/9, carriage paid.—ELLISON'S, Seedsmen, West Bromwich. Established 1890.

IPSWICH RARE SEEDS.—New Catalogue — really an encyclopædia on gardening—describes 3,000 varieties of flower seeds, also all the best strains of vegetable seeds. Free on application to THOMPSON AND MORGAN, London Road, Ipswich.

BARR'S SEED GUIDE FOR 1926.—The best flower and vegetable seeds of finest selected strains and tested growth, including many fine novelties for the Flower Garden and Greenhouse; also a select list of Garden Requisites, Insecticides, Manures and Horticultural Books. Post free on application.—BARR AND SONS, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

BARR'S SURPLUS HARDY PLANTS for Flower Border and Rock Garden, including Asters, Irises, Delphiniums, Hemerocallis, Lupins, Giant Poppies, Helianthemums, etc., etc. List on application.—BARR & SONS, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are now famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx, and perpetual habit. Illustrated plant list now ready. New Seed, now ready, hand fertilised, 2/6 and 5/- packets.—J. DOUGLAS, Great Bookham, Surrey.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
Editorial: Remarks on Annuals	15
The Flower Seed Order	16
The Annual Border	18
Success With Gloxinias	18
Notes of the Week	20–21
Primula denticulata; Virginia Stock; Perennial Edgings; The Orange Fleabane; Sweet Bay as a Decorative Shrub; A Fine Monkshood; Notes from a North-east Yorkshire Garden in 1925; The Tree Mallow.	
Useful Flowers for Beds and Borders	22
The Vegetable Seed List	24
Sweet Peas	25
Correspondence	26–27
The Taller-Growing Campanulas; Voles and Field Mice; Lachenalias at Christmas; Annuals of Good Report; Tender Shrubs in the Frost.	
Garden Technique	27–29
Exhibition Sweet Peas for Amateurs; Hollyhocks; Greenhouse Geraniums; Growing Standard and Specimen Fuchsias; Growing Onions for Exhibition; Onions—Good Keeping Sorts; Vegetables for the Small Garden; Leeks; Crazy Paving; Rubbish Heaps; Scale on Plants and Fruit Trees; The Hardy Plant Border.	
Rhododendron Society Show	30
Book Review: "Flower Scent"	30

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL DELPHINIUMS. World famed. We are raisers as well as large growers.

HEWITT'S GARDEN ROSES.—Send a postcard for our Rose and Delphinium Catalogue.

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI, Chrysanthemums, Dahlias, and Border Carnations.—Our stock includes many new and meritorious varieties. List post free on application.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

SUTTON'S SEEDS.
A remarkable cropper.
SUTTON'S HUNDRED-FOLD PEA.
Dwarf early.
Award of Merit, R.H.S. Pint, 2/6.
SUTTON & SONS, THE KING'S SEEDSMEN, READING.

DOBBIE'S 1926 CATALOGUE AND GUIDE, 144 pages, 225 illustrations, free to all readers. Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.—DOBBIE AND CO., LTD., Edinburgh.

BATH'S SELECT SEEDS AND PLANTS.—New Illustrated Catalogue of choice Vegetable and Flower Seeds and Plants is now ready, and will be sent, post free, on application.—(Dept. E), R. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE!!!—Great for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free sample and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

FIDLER'S NEW ILLUSTRATED GARDEN SEED GUIDE AND CATALOGUE FOR 1926 IS NOW READY, and a copy will be sent post free to any address on receipt of a post card.—Write at once to FIDLER & SONS, Royal Berkshire Seed Stores, Reading.

HARDY PLANTS, ROSES AND FRUIT TREES. Revised catalogue now ready. Free on application to THOMPSON AND MORGAN, Ipswich.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS FOR GREENHOUSE AND GARDEN. Also Dahlias, Fuchsias, Show and Zonal Pelargoniums and Coleus. Price List free on application.—J. W. COLE AND SON, Westwood Nurseries, Peterborough.

ORCHIDS.—In addition to our own large stock, we have purchased a fine private Collection containing many useful Orchids suitable for Amateurs. Cool and Intermediate. Catalogue on application.—MANSELL AND HATCHER, LTD., Rawdon, Yorkshire.

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES direct from the growers. Our New Descriptive List now ready, post free.—GUTHRIE BROS., Springfield, Fife, N.B.

"THAT WILD GARDEN!" Stock it now with hardy natives—Primrose, Foxglove, Ferns, Iris, Orchis, etc.; 7/6 per 100 roots. List free.—NATIVE PLANT NURSERIES, Rockbeare, Exeter.

ALPINE, ROCK, HERBACEOUS PLANTS, Rock Garden Shrubs and Conifers Catalogue free.—SHEPPARD, Shawhurst Nursery, Hollywood, Birmingham.

SHRUBS are becoming more and more the fashion in gardening. "Shrubs for Amateurs," Mr. W. J. Bean's new book, is the best on the subject at a reasonable price. 5/- net. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING—"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 6/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SON, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING, SURREY
(late ANTHONY WATERER)

PROPRIETOR - **HOSEA WATERER**

has pleasure in offering

STANDARD TREES

in great variety, consisting of

LIMES, NORWAY MAPLES, ELMS, etc., etc.

EVERGREEN & DECIDUOUS SHRUBS, viz.:

Box—Green and Variegated, 3 to 8 ft.
Hollies—Common, 5 to 8 ft.; Variegated and Green varieties, 2 to 6 ft.
Thuiopsis borealis, 10 to 12 ft. Cupressus Lawsoniana, 12 to 14 ft. Cedrus atlantica glauca, very fine, 10 to 14 ft. Osmanthus, Phillyreas, Spiræas, Lilacs, Viburnums, etc.

GOLDEN YEWS
A Magnificent Stock in all shapes and sizes from 2 to 10 ft.

PRIVET, Common and Oval-leaved.
QUICK and **HORNBEAM** for Hedges.
AZALEAS, 2 to 5 ft.
RHODODENDRONS, without doubt the finest stock in the trade of named varieties, 2 to 6 and 8 ft.
HARDY HEATHS in great variety and a good general nursery stock.

Catalogues ready.

Enquiries and inspection invited.

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING STATION, SURREY

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE DOG: MAN'S FIRMEST FRIEND.—How to choose and care for him, by A. CROXTON SMITH. A copy of this helpful booklet on the housing, breeding, feeding and care of dogs will be sent post free on receipt of 11d., addressed to The Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by **"ALPHOL"**
Sample 14 lb., 5/6 carr. paid
Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to
Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St., Liverpool

TWO NEW BOOKS in the 'Gardening for Amateurs' Series

ARE NOW READY

1. Ornamental Trees for Amateurs
By W. J. BEAN
(*Curator of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew*)

2. Herbaceous Borders for Amateurs
By R. V. GIFFARD WOOLLEY, N.D.H. F.L.S.

Each with 15 illustrations and coloured wrapper. 128 pages of text. **5s.** net.

¶ This series now contains E. H. M. Cox's *Rhododendrons*, W. J. Bean's *Shrubs*, and the Rev. Joseph Jacob's *Hardy Bulbs*. It is eminently practical and eminently readable—designed for gardeners of not too much leisure but of keen discrimination.

An illustrated prospectus of the series will be sent free on application to the publishers, "Country Life," Ltd., 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

FOR THE GARDEN! FOR EXHIBITION!
FOR BEDS! FOR EVERYWHERE!

Also Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees.

BUY HOME GROWN TREES.
SUPPORT BRITISH INDUSTRIES.

Catalogue Free on Application, and Addresses booked for Revised Catalogue in late Summer.

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.
Garden Specialists, SOUTHWELL, NOTTS.

DON'T BRING MUD INDOORS

THE BEST REMEDY BY FAR IS—

THE "SPADE" BOOT CLEANERS

which remove every particle of mud with the least possible trouble.

A CUSTOMER WRITES:
Dear Sirs,
The Spade Brush has arrived safely and is very satisfactory. Please send me another Brush and also a scraper for which I enclose cheque for 35/-
Yours faithfully.

PRICES:
Scraper 10
(*carriage paid*).
Brush 25
Or both for .. 35

From your own Ironmonger or direct from—

"SPADE SCRAPERS" (Dept. G), **Wappenham, Towcester, Northants**

The Half-Crown Garden Books

A new series. Thoroughly practical, well printed and illustrated.
The first two are now ready.

VEGETABLE GROWING
By GEORGE GARNER

ROCK GARDENING
By WALTER IRVING

2s. 6d. net each.

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

BARR'S CHOICE FLOWER SEEDS

A FEW NOVELTIES AND SPECIALITIES FOR 1926.

	Per pkt. s. d.
ANCHUSA Italica Lissadell, a beautiful border plant producing large flowers of a clear Gentian blue, h.p., 5ft. 1s. &	1 6
ANEMONE ST. BRIGID, Barr's "Glory" Strain, a very lovely and refined strain, bred only from selected vermilions, scarlets, roses and pinks. In flower beds and borders this beautiful strain will be much appreciated and the flowers greatly prized for cutting, h.p., 1ft. 1s. 6d. &	2 6
ANTIRRHINUM, mixture of glowing orange-scarlet and scarlet shades, a blend of the finest varieties of these colours, giving a most glorious fiery effect in the garden, 1½ft. 6d. &	1 0
AQUILEGIA, Barr's New Rose and Scarlet Shades, extra selected strain, very beautiful large flowers, mostly with long spurs, colours rose-scarlet and rose to amaranth-pink with white or yellow corolla, h.p., 2ft. 1s. 6d. &	2 6
AQUILEGIA Rose Queen (new), a beautiful long-spurred large-flowered variety of a lovely rose shaded white, h.p., 2ft. 1s. 6d. &	2 6
AUBRIETIA, Newest Hybrids, Mixed, a wonderfully fine strain, producing a good range of colours, from deep purple, blue and lavender to blush, pink, rose, carmine and crimson, all large-flowered; lovely on rockwork, h.p., ¼ft. &	2 6
AUBRIETIA Whitewell Gem, flowers large, rich violet with white central halo, very effective, ¼ft. 1s. 6d. &	2 6
CAMPANULA Telham Beauty, a grand variety of C. PERSICIFOLIA, introduced by us, and given the R.H.S. AWARD OF MERIT. Produces on long stems immense bell-shaped open flowers, beautiful clear lavender-blue, h.p. 4ft. 2s. 6d. &	3 6
CENTAUREA Cyanus Double "Silver Queen," a very beautiful double white CORNFLOWER which will be highly appreciated for cutting; h.a., 2ft. For this variety we were given an AWARD OF MERIT, R.H.S., 1922 6d. &	1 0
CYNOGLOSSUM Blue Gem, an improved type of the Chinese C. AMABILE, producing large sprays of brilliant blue Forget-me-not-like flowers in early summer; a fine border plant, h.b., 1½ft.	1 6
DELPHINIUM Taplow Blue, producing long spikes of large open single flowers, Cambridge-blue shot rose-pink with conspicuous white centre, of graceful branching habit, h.p., 7ft.	2 6
DIGITALIS (Foxglove) "The Shirley," a magnificent new strain raised by the late Rev. W. Wilks; it produces plants 5ft. to 7ft. high, with spikes 4ft. long, carrying flowers of great size ranging from white to dark rose, handsomely blotched and spotted crimson, maroon and chocolate, h.p. 1s. &	2 6
GENTIANA Farreri, a very beautiful and rare species from China, of semi-prostrate growth, producing, in August, large sky-blue flowers with white throat, and veined black	3 6
LILIUM auratum platyphyllum, a grand border Lily producing immense flowers, with broad white petals, spotted crimson	2 6
LILIUM martagon album, a very beautiful Lily bearing pyramidal spikes of wax-like pure white flowers	1 0
LILIUM martagon dalmaticum, a stately Lily producing spikes of glossy dark rosy maroon flowers with reflexed petals	2 6
LILIUM Regale, a very beautiful Chinese Lily bearing large trumpet-shaped fragrant flowers, white flushed yellow, with ruby red on back of petals, hardy bulb, 3ft. to 5ft. Flowers in two years from seed	2 6
LUPINUS Cross Roads (syn. PEARL ROSE) **(new),** very beautiful bold spikes of large flowers of a beautiful soft flesh colour, lasting long in condition, of good habit, 3ft. 1s. 6d. &	2 6
LUPINUS Eastern Queen (syn. EVENING GLOW), producing from May to August long spikes of beautiful flowers, opening mauve and yellow and passing to rosy buff and fawn, 4ft.	1 6
LUPINUS Taplow Yellow (new), producing long sprays of clear yellow flowers, 4ft. **The finest yellow Lupin yet raised.**	1 0
MECONOPSIS integrifolia maxima, early-flowering form, a grand new form of the **Giant Yellow Poppy from Tibet,** forming a handsome rosette of foliage, from which rises a bold stem carrying up to thirty large and beautiful lemon-yellow flowers about three times the size of the typical M. INTEGRIFOLIA, April-flowering, h.b., 2½ft. to 3ft. 1s. 6d. &	2 6
MYOSOTIS, Barr's Alpine Blue, the richest blue of all FORGET-ME-NOTS, forming compact bushes literally covered with heads of lovely intense deep blue flowers, producing a striking effect in flower or rock garden, h.p., 9ins. 1s. &	1 6
PANSY, Choice Fancy Strain, a beautiful strain of fancy-coloured Pansies in the greatest variety of colour and markings, including reds, browns, bronzes, purples, etc., some beautifully margined, flowers large, ½ft.	1 6
PAPAVER Burseri, a rare alpine with large crystal-white flowers of sweet fragrance, hardy alpine biennial, ½ft.	2 6
PAPAVER nudicaule "Pearls of Dawn," a most lovely new strain of ICELAND POPPIES, satiny flowers of beautiful delicate shades, h.b., 1ft. 1s. &	1 6
POPPY, New Double Queen Poppies, a lovely new strain of the Shirley type, flowers double and semi-double, of delicate and brilliant colours, 2ft.; valuable for cutting, h.a.	1 0
PRIMROSE, Barr's Selected Blue, from the best lavender and blue shades	2 6
ROMNEYA trichocalyx, an improvement on R. COULTERI (the giant white bush Poppy of California), being a free bloomer and bearing very large snowy white flowers, with golden stamens, h.p., 4ft.	2 6
SCHIZANTHUS Wisetonensis, Barr's Giant Prize Strain, a grand strain having graceful Fern-like foliage and bearing a profusion of large flowers all with handsome markings mostly on light-coloured grounds, but a few on rich blue and purple grounds, h.h.a., 1½ft. 1s. &	1 6
STOCK Empress Elizabeth, a fine **Giant Brompton Stock,** forming handsome pyramidal heads of large and beautiful flowers of a brilliant bright rose: a grand pot plant, 15ins. About 75 per cent. of the seedlings generally come double 1s. &	2 6

BARR'S SEED GUIDE for the most Beautiful Flowers and Best Vegetables Free on Application.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

BARGAIN CATALOGUE

Land Sold for Building

Real Cambridgeshire grown Fruit Trees, Fruit Bushes, Roses, Shrubs, Avenue Trees, Privet, Plants.

Exceptionally strong and healthy.

FRANK RICE (F.R.H.S.), Arbury Nurseries, Cambridge

CUPRESSUS MACROCARPA

the ideal hedging plant, succeeds everywhere, forms a thick impenetrable hedge, always pleasing to the eye. We offer strong, bushy plants, from open ground.

24–30ins.,	16/- doz.	£5 15 per 100.
30–36ins.,	22/- ,,	£7 15 ,,
36–42ins.,	27/6 ,,	£9 15 ,,
42–48ins.,	32/6 ,,	£11 15 ,,

Not less than 6 at doz. rate, or 50 at 100 rate. Carriage and packing free on orders of £2 and over. C.W.O.

T. SMITH & SONS, Highcroft Nurseries, ARUNDEL

THE JACKPAN

"The tool that cuts your costs"

Abolishes trenching. THE deep cultivator. What your Editor and others think of it is told in our Illustrated Folder No. 5, sent on request.

Your retailer can supply, or we will send sample for 6/-

P.E.G.S. LTD., 3, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.1

UNWIN'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI

Unbeatable for Price and Quality

The best Novelties and Standard Varieties at "Payable" Prices

OUR 1925 AWARDS: 6 GOLD MEDALS, 1 SILVER CUP AT 6 SHOWS

1926 CATALOGUE NOW READY, POST FREE

Modern Gladioli are really wonderful, as exquisite as Orchids, yet as easily grown as Mustard and Cress. Make up your mind to grow some good ones in 1926, and write for our Catalogue now—before it slips your memory.

Our 1925 Awards

R.H.S.—Gold Medal
Southport—Large Gold Medal
Eastbourne—Gold Medal
Market Bosworth—Silver Cup
Oxford—Gold Medal
Leicester—Gold Medal
Cambridge—Gold Medal

Unwin's Sweet Peas are known and grown all over the World. Compare our prices and remember there are no Sweet Peas of better quality obtainable. You will eventually grow them, why not this season?

GROW GOOD GLADIOLI THIS YEAR

W. J. UNWIN, *Sweet Pea Specialist & Seedsman,* HISTON, CAMBS.

Digitized by Google

WAKELEY'S *Celebrated* Hop Manure

(PATENTED)

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

AS USED IN THE GARDENS OF GREAT BRITAIN

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL, ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION, 1912

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE, without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

Every ounce of Wakeley's Hop Manure is of value to the soil, supplying the necessary HUMUS in addition to the valuable plant food. Worthless rubbish is not added to make weight (as is the case of some artificial manures advertised).

Thousands do realise it, the proof of this is the constant flow of UNSOLICITED LETTERS received from time to time in praise of the wonderful results obtained at such a moderate cost (see Booklet for selection).

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.—Genuine Only in our Marked Bags containing Guaranteed Analysis.

A BEAUTIFUL FREE BOOKLET giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of post card.

CASH PRICES (including bags):

Small (about 1 bushel)	3/-
Large (about 4 bushels)	7/-
5 Large	33/9
10 Large	65/-
20 Large	120/-

Carriage paid by Pickford's or to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company; 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2.6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.

75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

WHY is "HOMES and GARDENS" such a Great Success?

BECAUSE it shows greater House Comfort & Convenience —with less Labour and Expense.

Send to-day for a Free Specimen Copy of this helpful and Beautifully Illustrated Magazine to 20, Tavistock St., Covent Garden, W.C.2

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES

CLASS 1.

Selected Stocks of the leading varieties.

Send for List.

Isaac Poad & Sons, Ltd.,

SEED POTATO GROWERS,

YORK.

GARDEN LOVERS

Write for Catalogues of

PROTHEROE & MORRIS'

· HORTICULTURAL SALES ·

MONDAY · WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY

67, 68 Cheapside, London E.C.2 Phone: City 3856

SENT FREE ON REQUEST

Hints on Fruit Tree Culture

For Amateur and Professional.

Interesting Notes on Soils, Situations and Fertilizers, Popular Fruits for all Purposes

and other useful information will be found in

OUR FRUIT TREE CATALOGUE

— which will be sent Post Free. —

Sit down now while the matter is fresh in your mind and write for your copy.

Established 1785. Awarded 90 Gold Medals.

KING'S ACRE NURSERIES, LIMITED, HEREFORD

Gold Medallists of all leading Horticultural Societies

WHEN you dig over your soil

always use "Ferry" Brand Garden Manure, which gives back to impoverished soil all that is needed to produce abundant crops.

"FERRY BRAND"

(*Regd. Trade Mark*)

GARDEN MANURE

is a well balanced, sweet and clean manure, and is economical in use. Recommended for all general digging operations. Guaranteed Analysis. 14lbs. 3/-; 28lbs. 5/9; 56lbs. 11/-; 1 cwt. 20/-. Send your order to-day.

Carr. pd. cash with order nearest station England or Wales. Write for free booklet giving advice.

THE BRITON FERRY CHEMICAL AND MANURE CO., LTD.,

Dept. E, Briton Ferry, South Wales.

(Estab. 1886)

"TRY 'FERRY' FIRST"

Digitized by Google

This is ***THE*** *SCIENTIFIC WORK ON GARDENING.*

THE GARDENER'S ASSISTANT

EDITED BY WM. WATSON, F.R.HORT.S.

The prejudice against so-called scientific works is their highly technical language. When reading or studying the "GARDENER'S ASSISTANT" it is not necessary to have a Dictionary or Encyclopædia at your elbow. THE BOOK IS WRITTEN IN PLAIN EVERYDAY LANGUAGE and the information is clear, concise, and on unimpeachable authority.

THE BOOK WITH A GREAT REPUTATION.

The Knowledge of the Great Botanic Gardens, KEW, EDINBURGH, CAMBRIDGE, is at your service.

THE GARDENER'S ENCYCLOPÆDIA.

THIS, the most important book on gardening ever published, has just been completed under the direction of WM. WATSON, F.R.Hort.S., Curator of Kew Gardens, assisted by 22 specialists—each an expert on the subject he writes upon. From its pages the expert and amateur alike

HOW to cope with and overcome the difficulties, small and great, which frequently trouble the small gardener. **WILL LEARN** **HOW** to get the best value from his investment of Money, Time, and Effort.

Each branch of horticulture and its allied subjects has a definite section of its own, and each section is correlated by cross-reference wherever needful. There are hundreds of text illustrations in addition to a magnificent series of full-page coloured plates.

Science is the keynote of successful horticulture, and science discloses most of her treasures to all who can use the key of specialised knowledge. The new edition of the "GARDENER'S ASSISTANT" is as great a boon to the present-day gardeners as the early editions of this historic work were to the generations who built the great tradition of British Gardening. It is a veritable UNIVERSITY OF HORTICULTURAL LORE, an ENCYCLOPÆDIA of every process, every problem, every plant to which gardeners, market gardeners, fruit growers, bulb growers, nurserymen, garden architects and landscape gardeners, seed growers and merchants, hybridists and specialists are called upon to apply their skill and knowledge.

The new "GARDENER'S ASSISTANT" thoroughly justifies its claim to be a work of deep interest and importance to everyone connected, professionally or as an amateur, with gardening.

READ WHAT YOUR PAPER SAYS:

"It appeals to all who garden, professional or amateur. The former will find it of the greatest possible use in supplying a ready and satisfactory answer to all those detailed questions which crop up with marked persistency in the carrying out of gardening duties.

"To the amateur, it comes, like the Waverley pen, as a boon and a blessing."

—THE GARDEN, *December 5th*, 1925.

Brief Synopsis of Contents.

The Fruit and Vegetable Garden.
Kitchen Garden Vegetables.
Collecting, Storing and Packing Vegetables.
Allotment Gardening.
Medicinal Plants.
Vegetables for Exhibition.
Orchards.
Spraying Fruit Trees.
The Apple. The Pear.
Plums and Damsons.
Peaches and Nectarines.
Apricots, Cherries, Currants.
Gooseberries, Raspberries.
Strawberries, etc.
Miscellaneous Hardy Fruits.
The Orchard House.
Grape Vines. Figs. Melons.
Pineapples, Bananas, Oranges and Lemons.
Storing Fruits.
Packing Fruits for Road and Rail.
Fruit Preserving.
Preserving Vegetables by Bottling.
Plant Diseases caused by Fungi.
Insect and other Plant Enemies.
Garden Friends.
Transplanting. Pruning.
Tools, Instruments, etc., used in Gardens.
Flower Gardens and Pleasure Grounds.
Hardy Ornamental Trees and Shrubs.
Hardy Herbaceous and Alpine Plants.
Hardy and Half Hardy Annuals.
Aquatic and Bog Plants.
Bedding.
The Sub-tropical Garden.
Popular Garden Plants.
Greenhouse and Conservatory.
The Stove or Tropical House.
Orchids, Ferns, Palms, Cycads.
Succulent Plants.
Forcing and Retarding.
Garden Structures.
Artificial Heating. Propagation.
Botany for Gardeners.
Meteorology.
Calendar of Operations in the Garden.
Index, etc., etc.

Some Recent Testimonials.

Redruth, 28/12/25.
One cannot fail to strongly recommend the books to any garden lover, professional or otherwise. I have seen nothing yet to approach them for definite instruction and description.
(Signed) H. E. T.

Lancaster, 14/10/25.
From a brief survey I have had of them, I find them to be all that you claim. They are a valuable asset to any gardener, and especially so to a young man serving his apprenticeship, or to anyone who, put into a position of responsibility, comes across something he has had little experience of. (Signed) T. G.

Crewe, 19/12/25.
I have examined the work and am very pleased with the information it contains—it is a work I have been wanting to get hold of for a long time. (Signed) A. H.

Eldon, Durham, 29/11/25.
I find them very useful books for all interested in any class of gardening. I have had a life's experience of general gardening, nursery and green-keeping, and yet the wide range of subjects dealt with in this work will be a great help to the most experienced, as well as amateurs.
(Signed) D. W.

THE WORK IS NOW READY—COMPLETE IN SIX HANDSOME VOLUMES.

PRESS OPINIONS.

The work is one that should find a place on every gardener's bookshelf, to be "read, marked, learned and inwardly digested."—GARDEN LIFE.

The "GARDENER'S ASSISTANT"—like Goldsmith's immortal schoolmaster—"allures to brighter worlds and leads the way."—GARDENERS' CHRONICLE.

It is unnecessary for us to recommend the work to garden-lovers, amateur or professional. They know it already.—GLASGOW HERALD.

If is the gardeners' whole library in six complete volumes, a work which no gardener, amateur or professional, can dispense with.—LIVERPOOL COURIER.

Send this Coupon To-Day for a Free Illustrated Booklet.

COUPON

To **THE GRESHAM PUBLISHING CO., LTD., 66, Chandos Street, Strand, London, W.C.2**

Please send me your Free Illustrated Booklet describing "THE GARDENER'S ASSISTANT" and full particulars of your Special Terms. This request does not commit me in any way to purchase.

Name .....

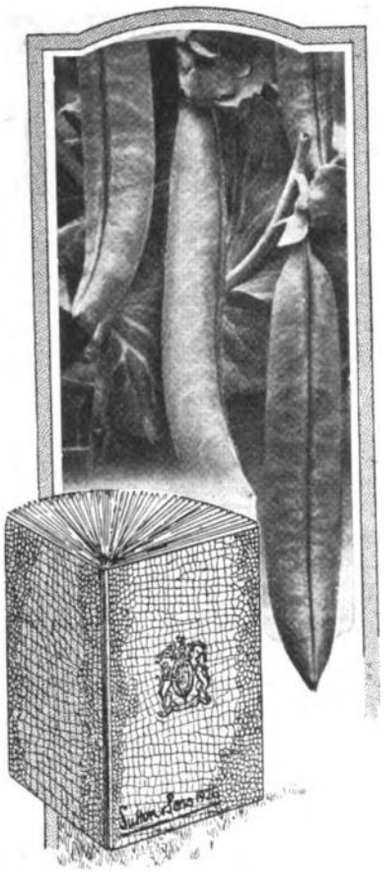
Address .....

.....

.....

The "G" 9/1/26.

Digitized by Google



SUTTON'S GARDEN PEAS

"Quality Tells"

There are no Peas to surpass our well known strains either for reliability, appearance, or for table quality, and Sutton's Garden Peas are far cheaper in the end than the "cheapest" seed you can buy.

To assist customers in obtaining a succession of *delicious Peas from May to November* we offer the following collection consisting of some of our best varieties specially selected for this purpose.

Sutton's Pioneer.
Sutton's Early Giant.
Sutton's Selected Duke of Albany.
Sutton's Prizewinner.
Sutton's Peerless.
Sutton's Eureka.
Sutton's Perfection.
Sutton's Late Queen
or other choice varieties.

1 Pint of each .. .. .. 16/-.
1 Quart of each .. .. .. 30/-.

Price lists of the best Garden Peas and other Vegetables, Flower Seeds and Seed Potatoes, etc., see Sutton's Garden Seed Catalogue for 1926. Post free, from—

Sutton & Sons

THE KING'S SEEDSMEN, READING.

Notes from Maidstone.

GRAPE VINES for HEATED or COLD HOUSES.

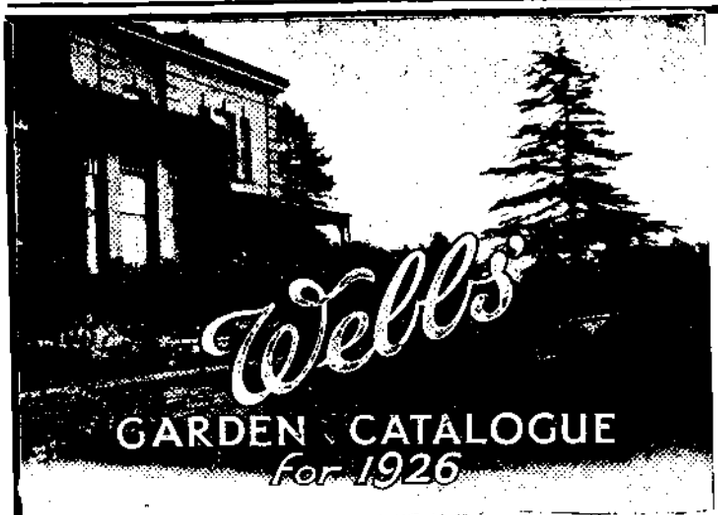
ALL the best varieties are fully described in our catalogue which is sent free on application. We will not, therefore, attempt a description here, but can recommend Muscat of Alexandria, Foster's Seedling, Black Hamburgh, Madresfield Court, Alicante, Prince of Wales.

Planting Canes—
12/6, 15/- and 21/- each

Fruiting Canes—
30/- and 35/- each.

Fruit Trees, Shrubs, etc., can be transplanted safely up to early March.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd., The Royal Nurseries, Established 1796. Maidstone.



This beautifully illustrated publication is Now Ready. All Garden Lovers should obtain a Copy—
FREE ON REQUEST.

The Finest VEGETABLE SEEDS, FLOWER SEEDS, LAWN GRASS SEEDS, POTATOES, BULBS, GARDEN MANURES, TURF PREPARATIONS, Etc.

VEGETABLE SEEDS from **4d.** pkt.
FLOWER SEEDS from **3d.** pkt.

A FEW OF WEBBS' SPECIALITIES.

20 GOLD MEDALS and SILVER CUPS awarded to WEBBS' FLOWERS, VEGETABLES, &c., in 1925, at
LONDON, SHREWSBURY, SOUTHPORT, HANLEY, WOLVERHAMPTON, BIRMINGHAM, etc., etc.

LITTLE MARVEL Pea (early) - 2/- per pint
MAMMOTH LONGPOD B. Bean - 1/9 ,, ,,
AILSA CRAIG (seld.) Onion - 6d. & 1/- per pkt.
COLONIST Potato (early) - - 5/- per peck
PERFECTION PINK Aster - 6d. & 1/- per pkt.
SUPREME ANTIRRHINUM - 6d. & 1/- ,, ,,
ADMIRATION Stock - - - 6d. & 1/- ,, ,,
GIANT LAVENDER Sweet Pea - 8d. ,, ,,

WEBBS' New "COMPLETE" Fertiliser For all Garden Crops.
Bag of 56lb. .. 8/6
Bag of 112lb. .. 16/-

WEBB & SONS, LTD., STOURBRIDGE.

— The King's Seedsmen and Artificial Manure Manufacturers. —

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Toogood's Seeds

THAT GARDEN OF YOURS

can be made as lovely and as profitable as the one you have so often admired if you sow only plainly GUARANTEED GARDEN SEEDS. The same labour, the same tools, the same manures—with our GUARANTEED GARDEN SEEDS added—will yield for you an infinitely better Garden than ever before. Send a postcard to-day for our beautifully illustrated 160-page "FREE GUIDE TO GARDEN WISDOM AND GUARANTEED GARDEN SEEDS."

Every packet ordered thence must grow for you and please you or you will get it replaced freely.

TOOGOOD & SONS, LTD.
(Seedsmen to H.M. The King)
SOUTHAMPTON

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

VOL. XC.—No. 2825. JANUARY 9, 1926

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.; Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2. *Offices for Advertisements:* 6–11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

REMARKS ON ANNUALS

MY editorial in the seed number is, I feel, rather an encumbrance and for several reasons. For one thing annuals are such an important item in our gardens and the catalogues produced nowadays are so imposing and such works of art, that I dare not pin myself down to a description of my likes or dislikes; besides I am not sure that I have any violent dislikes in annuals, whether flower or vegetable, except parsnips, which I cannot abide. The vegetables are so useful and the flowers lead such a short, happy life, that it seems a pity to show preference among living things that are here to-day and gone to-morrow, leaving behind them a trail of pleasant memories. This is, perhaps, a vague statement, but annuals are fleeting things and where unpleasant and clashing sights are seen, they are usually due to defective colour combinations. In the following pages will be found warnings against haphazard sowing and these warnings should be taken to heart.

A certain number of gardeners cannot be bothered with annuals, perhaps owing to their imagination or thoughts running back to the stilted days of formal bedding, but if the question was put to the vote, I should wager that most people would place annuals as the most useful group of flowers in the garden.

They can be put to such a diversity of uses. Borders made up solely of annuals, in the greenhouse, for beds, for filling up blanks in the herbaceous border or rock garden, for covering odd corners, that would otherwise lie bare, with a temporary riot of colour; they are the plants for the very young and the very old, although I find that, contrariwise, the older a garden enthusiast gets the more he likes trees and shrubs, the slower growing the better. Children, however, should always be taught to take an interest in annuals, for their patience has not time to run out before they see the result. Personally, I have promised myself a plethora of annuals if I live to sixty and am lucky enough still to possess a garden, although I expect that I will follow the general run and become passionately devoted to some tree like the oak. Elderly people have an admirably complacent and patient outlook on life that is as well shown in gardening as anywhere.

May I, in passing, compliment the seedsmen upon their excellent naming of varieties? Their names are usually to the point and have not the exasperating habit of arousing the curiosity of the purchaser. Am I extra inquisitive or is it normal to have an intense desire to know who and what were such ladies as Maggie Mott and Mrs. Bradshaw? The plants give no clue; but I should imagine many gardeners would be glad to know who gave their names to a viola and a geum that are such universal favourites that Maggie Mott and Mrs. Bradshaw will go down to posterity, unknown except for these two plants, unless I am doing them an injustice. I suggest that raisers should always say who the individuals are after whom they name their plants. Needless to say I do not refer to those which have the raiser's name attached, such as Barr's Pink Michaelmas Daisy or Sharpe's Express potato.

Seedsmen, on the other hand, often name their strains very happily, so that the names do give some idea of the plant. For instance, no one could find a better name for an aquilegia than "White Wings," a poetical fancy, but entirely descriptive at the same time. Cyclamen White Swan is another example, so is the Fawn, a terra-cotta and pale yellow antirrhinum. I could quote hundreds of examples of such pleasant and useful names, which, I contend, are infinitely preferable to the names of individuals, however worthy they may be.

E. H. M. C.

KEW GARDENS ADMISSION FEE.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries has decided to re-impose, as from January 1st, the admission fee of one penny—on other than Students' days—to the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, which was abolished in April, 1924, and which previously yielded a revenue of about £5,000 per annum. The present admission fee of 6d. on Students' days (Tuesdays and Fridays) will continue to be charged.

AMONG THE ARTICLES IN OUR NEXT ISSUE WILL BE:

PERENNIALS FROM SEED, by J. L. Gibson.

ANNUALS FOR HANGING BASKETS.

WINTER-FLOWERING BEGONIAS, by T. W. Briscoe.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO TELL OTHERS ABOUT YOUR PLANTS THROUGH THE COLUMNS OF "THE GARDEN."

Digitized by Google

THE FLOWER SEED ORDER

NOW IS THE TIME TO MAKE OUT YOUR SEED ORDER FOR 1926

WHAT shall be the method of procedure? Shall it be to start at A, and take the catalogue page by page in alphabetical order? There are objections to this, for it usually means a very close scrutiny of the first few pages, with a tendency to book a packet of every attractively described item, and by the time the letter "M" is reached a tiny doubt arises as to whether accommodation will be equal to the whole range of seeds on the list, which is assuming great length. Then begins an attempt at more rigid discrimination, and before the last few pages are reached it is decided that there simply cannot be room in the garden for any more seeds. That would be satisfactory if all the best of species and varieties of flowers were grouped in the earlier pages of the catalogue, but that, of course, is by no means the case.

The better plan is, first, to make a rough draft of "indispensables," which will be those seeds which are required for specific purposes, such as carrying out a bedding scheme, providing flowers for cutting, plants for the greenhouse, and the climbers for screens or trellis-work. Next, let us carefully peruse the catalogue in search of desirable additions to the herbaceous border or rockery, and for a few novelties or out-of-the-way plants that have not before been tried—for every season should witness some change, some addition and improvement, something experimental in the programme of the garden.

With the rough draft before one it is possible to gauge the relative quantities of seeds that will be required or that can be accommodated; and then will come the final selection of varieties and the copying of the list in its proper sequence, for which purpose the best catalogues provide a printed order sheet.

Selection of varieties is of equal importance to choice of subjects, and while there is a certain amount of prudence in remaining faithful to old favourites because they have always done very well, there is a lack of enterprise in making this a confirmed habit which will prevent a garden reaching the highest standard of excellence to which it might attain.

We need go no farther than annuals to point out that what was best a decade back, or even less, is very far from best to-day, and although seeds of the latest developments and purest stocks are naturally more expensive than the common herd, the difference in price of the best seed and the other is, after all, so small as to be beneath reckoning as compared with the difference in the joy they give.

For example, in viscarias, which erstwhile were dainty flowers of elegant grace, frequently spoilt by a sprinkling of flat, dull colours and a certain number of unruly straggling plants, we have now choice strains of wonderfully even growth and clear, distinctive and fixed colours. So great has been the improvement in the best strains that viscarias should, instead of remaining an oddment, occasionally seen in some large garden, become a prominent feature in all gardens of refinement.

Both nemesias and schizanthus were, until recent years, invariably grown in mixture, and, while the colour range in both subjects is admittedly extraordinarily fine, there are many people who dislike bizarre effects, and many situations and environments where distinctive, individual colours are unquestionably more appropriate. Schizanthus roseus compactus, for instance, is an exquisite flower, and the plant is so beautifully symmetrical and compact that it makes an ideal bedding plant. So thoroughly well selected for the purpose has it, in fact, been, that the best stocks, even when grown for seed, are more successful in the open than when grown in pots under glass. Nemesia Blue Gem is a marvellously refined stock, blue as a forget-me-not and as even in growth as a lobelia.

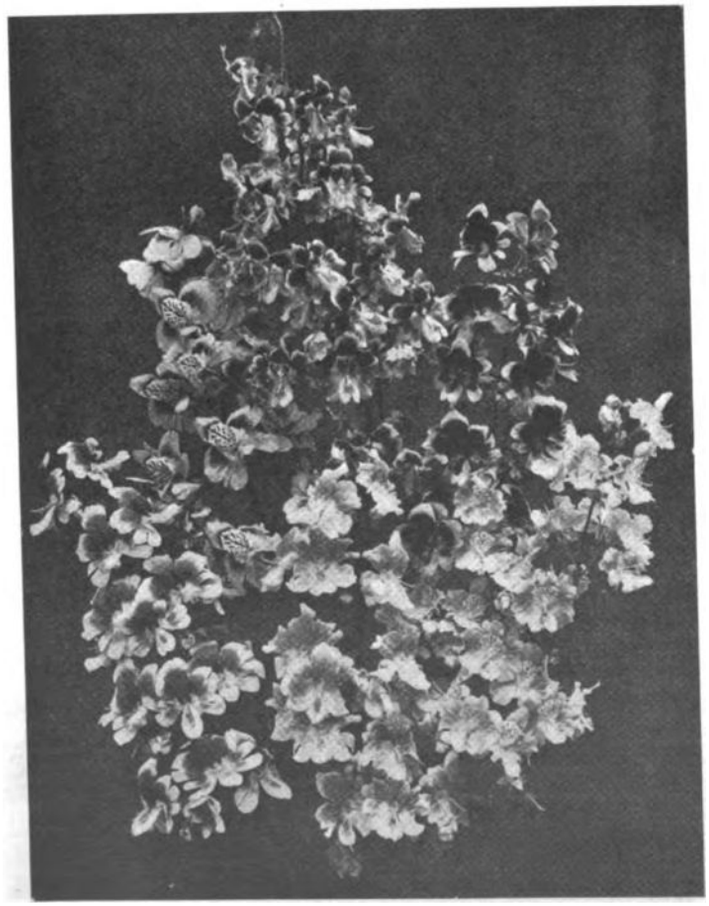
Wonderful improvements have been made in clarkias, and one may have a beautiful clear pink by ordering Dorothy, a deeper rose in Rosy Morn, an intense salmon shaded orange in Orange King, or a veritable blaze of fire with a bed of Brilliant. Godetia Crimson Glow is a bedder *par excellence*; its colour can never be adequately described in print, for the "glow" is something which suggests a silent communion between the flower and the sun which we mortals cannot understand, but can only look upon with wonder. The plant, too, is so beautifully compact, and blooms with a freedom which is marvellous.

Totally distinct in character, but certain to become widely popular, is the azalea-flowered godetia. Its blossoms are of immense size, with broad guard petals and centres with zones and blotches of contrasting colours which certainly convey an impression of mimicry of the glorious Indian azaleas.

Petunias are among the seeds which require an early start to ensure the finest results, and in few flowers has more striking progress been made than in the latest developments of this genus. The developments divide themselves in two or three different directions, but one of the most serviceable breeds is a group of smooth, circular trumpet-flowered bedders of wonderfully compact habit and freest flowering propensities. Rose of Heaven is a perfectly clear self rose-pink. Rosy Morn is of deeper carmine shade. Red Ray is fiery crimson with a large five-pointed star of pure white in the centre of each flower; and Red Violet is of a shining wine red, with a sheen of black and a perfectly white centre. There is also an absolutely pure white variety named Snow Queen. Of totally distinct character is the single "superbissima" strain which, although of very dwarf habit, produces truly enormous flowers which are heavily frilled—almost parsley curled, in fact—at the edges, and the throats of which are fantastically netted in a manner that reminds one of the beautiful pencilling of the salpiglossis and the netting of Iris Susiana.

These single giant-flowered petunias have their equals in circumference of flowers in the double "peony-flowered" petunias, which are alike suitable for outdoor bedding or for pot culture.

Mention of salpiglossis brings to mind the fact that there are some quite remarkable new selections and strains of salpiglossis, some being line-bred to an extent which ensures about 80 per cent. true to a uniform colouring, others of neat, dwarf



THE SCHIZANTHUS WITH ITS WIDE RANGE OF COLOUR IS A MOST EFFECTIVE SUBJECT FOR THE COOL HOUSE.

Digitized by Google

and very compact habit, others again which will grow 4ft. high and throw out great arms to make a spread equal to the height, with blooms of appropriately large size and of colour combinations found in no other flower within our ken. It is passing strange that a garden should be found which contains no salpiglossis. If their culture demanded great skill, and the nursing temperature of a tropical plant house, we should rave about their unique charms and millionaires would vie with each other to possess the finest collections.

For ages the Scottish florists grew calendulas (Scotch marigold) and found them so free, so accommodating and so effective that they became ubiquitous. Alas! familiarity breeds contempt, and because the labourer and artisan grew them marigolds became somewhat despised and neglected. It took an American commercial grower to show us our folly, by making money simultaneously with the task of opening our eyes. Ball's Calendula is grown in huge quantities to-day; but we also have produced some wonderful varieties, and Monarch, or a select strain of Orange King or Prince of Orange, will throw the glory of sunshine into the dullest garden.

Stocks are everybody's favourites, and when raising seedlings it is just as easy to raise a fine strain, such as The Dreadnought or Beauty strain, as to be content with nondescript inferiority.

In asters, too, the best of the Ostrich Plume and glorified Comets are no more trouble than the common run of penny packet lines: but what an enormous difference in the flowers produced! There is truly no sound reason for contentment with mediocrity.

Even so homely a flower as the nasturtium is to-day an educated aristocrat compared with the ruffian of yore, if only one will take care to order from a good firm improved stocks of Tom Thumb Scarlet, Crimson, Yellow or White, or such named varieties as Golden King, Shining Morn, Feltham Scarlet, etc.

The pages of THE GARDEN would need expansion to hold the briefest of notes of all the annuals of which I fain would write; but let me urge the reader who desires calliopsis to sow The Garnet and Flamingo; to secure, in readiness for outdoor sowing, eschscholtzias Winsome, Enchantress and the latest improvements upon Mikado; and let none overlook the exquisite double Shirley poppies, of which several fine strains are now available.

Lavatera Sunset is a gem, and, wherever a dwarf continuous plant of real pure blue is required, Cynoglossum amabile will amply fill the need.

The huge dahlia-flowered zinnias are worthy of a column article to themselves; and how much could be written upon annuals for the greenhouse: the celosias, Statice Suworowi, gorgeous mimulus, impatiens, balsams, and that marvellously graceful plant Humea elegans. Despairing, however, of cramming all into one short article, I turn from the greenhouse to make a brief but urgent appeal to all who want the most dazzling blaze of scarlet imaginable to sow early a batch of Salvia Harbinger, potting the seedlings on without a check, and in due time hardening off in readiness for planting out in May.

REMEMBER THE DECORATIVE VALUE OF SHIRLEY POPPIES.

CLUMPS OF GODETIAS BY THE PATHSIDE.

The modern spiral candytufts in white, and clear, distinct pink, red, maroon and purple varieties are of serviceable character, and the best strains of sweet scabious in selected shades of colour, provide elegant decorative material for vases, while the plants are equally adapted for filling gaps in the herbaceous border or for massing in beds by themselves.

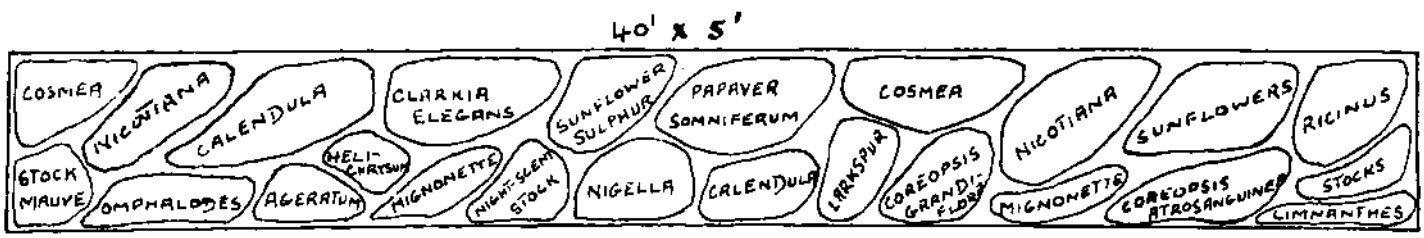
Gilia coronopifolia is an annual of quite distinctive charm, that should be sown early, under glass, potted and planted out when well hardened. Several strains of hybrids, embracing other colours than the typical scarlet are available. Verbenas, remarkable for intensity of colouring, should also be sown at once, potting the seedlings and pinching their points to induce early branching.

Remember the importance of the climbers. Cobæa scandens, Eccremocarpus scaber and Mina lobata should be among the earliest seeds sown; while that good old favourite Tropæolum canariensis may be held back another month. A. J. MACSELF.

Digitized by Google

THE ANNUAL BORDER

ANNUALS possess three outstanding characteristics. They are cheap they are easy to grow, and, if well chosen, they supply clear bright colour in the garden. This combination of good things should prove irresistible to garden lovers, yet a border set apart for annuals is rare. Spaces in herbaceous borders, odd corners and bare patches of seeds. Colour, height, manner of growth and flowering-time are all important points. Height is particularly important, sudden jumps from dwarf plants 4ins. high to plants of 2ft. or more being ugly and unnecessary. If a brief but glorious blaze of colour is wanted, annuals which flower simultaneously must be chosen, but it is more usual sympathetically, and do not water unless the season demands this with a loud voice, in which case water thoroughly with a very fine spray. The illustration shows a specimen plan for an annual border containing both hardy and half-hardy flowers. A list of the flowers suitable for this border is given below: Ageratum mexicanum, half-hardy; Calendula



officinalis (marigold), hardy; Coreopsis grandiflora, half-hardy; Coreopsis tinctoria, hardy; C. t. atrosanguinea, hardy; Cosmea bipinnatus, half-hardy; Delphinium Ajacis (larkspur), hardy; D. Consolida, hardy; Helichrysum bracteatum (everlasting flower), half-hardy; Limnanthes Douglasii, hardy; Nicotiana affinis (tobacco plant), hardy; Nigella Damascena (love-in-a-mist), hardy; Omphalodes linifolia (Venus' navelwort), hardy; Matthiola (stock ten-week), half-hardy; M. bicornis (night-flowering stock), hardy; Papaver Somniferum (opium poppy), hardy; reseda (mignonette), hardy; Ricinus communis (castor-oil plant), half-hardy; and sunflowers—small varieties—hardy.

A short list of other good annuals: Centaurea Cyanus (cornflower), hardy; C. moschata (sweet sultan), hardy; Clarkia elegans (Salmon Queen, double); Eschscholtzia californica, hardy; Lathyrus odoratus (sweet pea), hardy; Linum grandiflorum (flax), hardy; and tropæolum (nasturtium), hardy.

are all filled with annuals, but the full glory of an annual border is seldom seen. Given the desire to make much of annuals, certain requirements must be fulfilled. A sunny position should be chosen for the border, which must be neither too wide nor too long; excessive width leads to thin effects, while too much length may produce monotony. The soil should be light, rich and well prepared; a good manuring every other year gives the right degree of richness. The final requirement is a plan. Because the colours of annuals are bright and sometimes crude, arrangement is all-important. The grouping of each variety should be bold, and hard lines should be avoided. It is better to grow a limited number of different kinds of annuals in fairly large quantities than to fall a weak victim to attractive catalogues, and to buy innumerable single packets of all kinds of seeds. Sure and certain disappointment in the final result lies that way. Many considerations must govern the choice to plan for as long a flowering season as possible. In the nature of things, annuals are essentially summer flowers, and there can be but little colour in the annual border until the middle of June.

Annuals are divided for cultural reasons into two classes, namely, hardy and half-hardy. Hardy annuals are sown where they are to flower, either in the early autumn to flower the following summer, or in the early spring to flower the same year. The time of sowing depends, of course, both on the flower under consideration and the climate of any particular district. Half-hardy annuals are sown later in the open, or, better still, they are raised in cold frames or a cool house in the early spring, hardened off and transplanted into permanent places in May. This is a very sure method, although it involves extra labour and equipment.

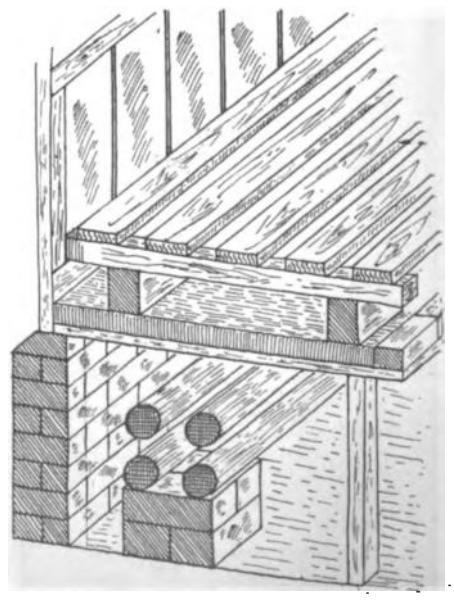
The culture of annuals is simple and straightforward. It may be summed up in a sentence by saying, sow thinly, thin drastically, hoe regularly, stake

SUCCESS WITH GLOXINIAS

IT is seasonable to talk of the gloxinia because now is the time to start the old corms into growth and also to sow seeds to produce flowering plants during the summer. Probably the gloxinia has to bear the opprobium of being an old-fashioned flower, but it is scarcely more old-fashioned than the rose. Whatever may be said about it, it has great intrinsic beauty and a refined appearance, and though many are not aware of it, it is very useful as a cut flower. I have kept it in a warm room for a fortnight without changing the water. Unfortunately, it is a flower which does not lend itself to being packed on account of the bell shape of the flower. Its freedom of flowering and the ease with which it can be propagated add to its value as a flower for the amateur. Although it is usually grown in considerable heat, it does in much milder heat if the flowers are not wanted so early. So much in praise of the gloxinia, now let us see how it is grown to produce success.

For an early supply of flowers the old corms should be started into growth late in December or early in January. If the corms were

STARTING THE CORMS INTO GROWTH.



A DOUBLE STAGING FOR GREENHOUSES.

Digitized by Google

properly dried off, they will still be quite plump, but if they are inclined to be flabby, it would be well after removing them from the pots to soak them in water for a few hours. A good way to start them instead of putting them at once into small pots is to place them closely together in a box of finely sifted moist leaf-soil in such a way that the tops are just visible. They may then be placed a few inches above the hot-water pipes or in a similar position until they produce leaves. A light syringing will hasten the development of top growth, at which time they should be placed in a position where they will get more light. Not until they have made several leaves and a fair amount of root should they be potted singly. When they are removed from the boxes for the purpose of potting it will be found that quite a lot of roots will have been produced in the loose leaf-soil. They are now ready for the first potting, which should be done with the smallest pots which will comfortably accommodate the plants. As the leaves begin to form on the plants, spraying should cease. A good soil for gloxinias may be made up of well matured loam, leaf-soil, peat sand, and a little wood-ashes or charcoal. The potting should not be too firm, especially as the plants have been in the loose leaf-soil, and the corms must not be covered or else there will be damping of the leaves and growths.

Although it is not advisable to spray gloxinias, they like a moist atmosphere. This may be arranged by forming a double staging. The ordinary staging of a solid character should be covered with ashes or shingle, and about 4ins. above this build up a trellis staging on which the plants will be staged. It is then quite easy to damp the lower staging with a water-pot or a syringe whenever necessary. This method may be employed right up to the flowering period.

Careful watering, the maintenance of a moist warm atmosphere and a light shading during bright sunshine are the most important cultural points. Some difficulty is experienced by amateurs in potting when the leaves become expansive, as they are easily broken or injured. This difficulty may be overcome in the following manner. The plant is carefully removed from the pot in which it is growing and is stood on the bench. The larger pot into which the potting is to take place is then crocked and partly filled with soil in the usual way. Instead of putting in the ball of soil containing the roots as is usual, the smaller pot is put in the larger one in such a way that the rim of the smaller pot is slightly above the rim of the larger pot. The soil is then put round this pot and is firmed in the usual manner of potting. When this is done, the smaller pot is twisted and withdrawn, and in the cavity thus formed the gloxinia plant is carefully dropped. A 6in. pot will accommodate most gloxinias, though I have grown good specimens in a 7in. pot with success.

Care should always be taken in watering the gloxinia to prevent the water getting into the base, where there is such an accumulation of leaf and flower stems. This point must also be remembered when potting, and care taken that the base is not unduly covered. All plants should be tested with the pot-rapper before they are watered. Liquid manure may be given when the flowering pots are filled with roots and before the flowering is far advanced.

In the final potting I always like to put some decayed cow manure, a little of Peruvian guano and a little charcoal. A light shading from bright sunshine is advisable throughout their career, and is especially necessary during the flowering period. At that time there is a great strain on the plants and they must be kept well supplied with water, and never allowed to flag. The flowers should be removed as they show a tendency to fade, and it may be necessary to stake some of them to prevent them from becoming overcrowded.

Gloxinias may also be grown from seeds sown early in the year. These require careful sowing on a fine surface of sandy soil in a pan, previously watered, and then lightly covered with very fine soil. When the seedlings have made two leaves, they should be pricked off into fine soil and carefully nursed through their infancy. Later they may be boxed up and eventually potted. They will produce flowers the first year, and a selection of the best forms should be made and these propagated by means of leaf cuttings.

To prolong the supply of flowers, and to keep the stock young and vigorous, I have adopted the following policy with regard to gloxinias. The best of the old corms are dried off with a view to starting them in December to provide an early supply. In February the young corms produced from leaf cuttings the previous summer are started, and during January seeds are sown with a view of getting some new forms or a more vigorous stock. It is mainly from these that the leaf cuttings are taken.

WILLIAM F. ROWLES.

THE HANDSOME BLOOMS OF A MODERN GLOXINIA.

[*The gloxinias from which our front cover illustration was taken, were kindly supplied by Messrs. Carter and Co.*—ED.]

SERVICE FOR READERS

Though so many subjects are dealt with in each issue of THE GARDEN, it must constantly happen that readers seek information which is not immediately available. In such circumstances they should make use of our Service Department. Through its medium each reader's own particular enquiry can be dealt with. No matter what the question is, whether advice is sought as to—

RESTOCKING A GARDEN, COLOUR SCHEMES FOR GARDENS, THE BEST PLANTS FOR CERTAIN SITUATIONS, WHERE TO OBTAIN NEW AND RARE PLANTS, INSECT PESTS, NAMING OF PLANTS, AND THE HUNDRED AND ONE OTHER DETAILS RELATING TO THE GARDEN—

there is always information available from a staff of expert contributors and consultants; *and there is no charge for this.* It is one of the additional means of Service which THE GARDEN is glad to render to its readers.

Also, there is the further convenience which the Service Department affords of supplying readers with data about anything that is advertised in the pages of the paper. Thus, on receipt of an enquiry, particulars will be sent of, say, half a dozen things about which the reader seeks information. The only stipulation is that a stamped addressed envelope shall be sent with the enquiry.

All communications should be addressed to the Service Department, THE GARDEN, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2

Digitized by Google

NOTES OF THE WEEK

PRIMULA DENTICULATA.

AMONG the capitate primulas there are some fine and valuable hardy species. From my travels in north-western Yunnan I especially remember two species—P. denticulata and P. Littoniana—which look very different. Unfortunately, the last one, the flowering spikes of which look more like those of an orchis than of a primula, seems as yet never to have been successfully established, at least, nowhere in central Europe. It grows in rather wet meadows on the mountains at an elevation of more than 10,500ft., and it ought to be quite hardy with us. But here it lacks, apparently, the wet misty summers and the long heavy cover of snow during all the winter. This is a great pity, because I can hardly imagine a more striking sight than a meadow covered with thousands of its dense spikes with the blue-violet open

THE PURPLISH FLOWER HEADS OF PRIMULA DENTICULATA.

flowers and the dark bright red buds of the upper half of the inflorescence.

P. denticulata, on the contrary, is a great old favourite of our gardens. It came first to us from the Himalayas, where it is as common as P. acaulis in Europe. In western China, too, it covers large tracts of mountain pastures soon after the snow is gone in March and April, with its dense, ball-like, many-flowered umbels of violet or purplish flowers, as shown in our picture. There are several garden forms, among them one called P. cashmiriana, which seems to be a natural hybrid between P. denticulata and P. capitata. The first has glabrous leaves without the farinose covering beneath, which is a good feature of P. capitata. The leaves of P. cashmiriana are somewhat mealy beneath, but, so far as I know, the plants more resemble P. denticulata. A good form with rich crimson-purple flowers is called Ruby, but I am not sure whether this form really belongs to denticulata or to the hybrid. P. capitata is represented in western China by a species called P. pseudo-capitata, and also by P. sphærocephala. According to Balfour, both can be easily distinguished from the true capitata by the much smaller corolla limb and the more globular head of flowers.

I collected seeds of another species in the Lichiang valley which has been described by Balfour as P. stolonifera. Unfortunately, the seeds got lost, but I suppose that Forrest sent good seeds home several times. He collected it twenty years ago in moist boggy situations by sides of streams south of the city of Lichiang-fu, where I found it too in 1914.—CAMILLO SCHNEIDER.

VIRGINIA STOCK—A BIT OF COLOUR.

AS a rule, owners of rock gardens do not take into account the worth of annuals sufficiently, contenting themselves by growing plants of a more permanent character. The failure of some of the latter in my garden in June, led me to sow patches of crimson Virginia stock and the result has been very pleasing. As is known, it is an annual which grows very rapidly, and, it was no sooner up than it commenced to bloom quickly, so much so that during August I have had masses of bright crimson patches among sombre looking stones. Several friends have remarked on the "bright bit of colour"—an unusual tint at that time of the year in a rock garden, and, doubtless, have taken a mental note as to the use of a very simple old annual, seed of which merely requires to be scattered thinly where flowers are wanted. Probably the fact that some of the seedlings which came up among the "pockets" felt the benefit of coolness there, as they bravely stood the drought in July, and by the end of August were a mass of colour.—W. F.

PERENNIAL EDGINGS.

FROM time to time evidence appears in these pages in the shape of photographs of old English gardens, in which it is plain how highly perennial flowering plants are appreciated, and not the least important to be noticed are the edgings to the borders.

There is much to be said in support of edgings of hardy flowering plants that, once established, do not require very much attention, beyond now and again curtailing their growth in order to keep them within bounds. I am aware of the objections raised by some as to perennials being a harbour of many enemies of the gardener, but even allowing for this, I venture to say that it is worth the risk. In one's own garden one remembers edgings of pinks, which in their flowering season fill the atmosphere with delightful perfume, and even during autumn and winter give a neat finish to a path. In the glory of the springtime we remember how resplendent are other paths with aubrietias, mossy saxifrages, purple thyme, thrifts in rosy pink and white; and how, as the summer approaches, the foliage of Cerastium tomentosum becomes silvery white, until, at length, even whiter blossoms follow with a rich prodigality. And who can do other than admire the beauty that comes where dwarf campanulas are planted, those clustered bellflowers that bloom in profusion in May and June, but give a smattering of colour right on into autumn if only they are relieved of their spent blossoms—sorts like C. carpatica, white and blue, and C. pusilla?—CLAREMONT.

THE ORANGE FLEABANE.

ERIGERON AURANTIACUS, the orange fleabane, is one of the race which ought to receive more favour than it has done. As a border plant it is only suitable for the front of the border or for edging beds of other flowers, but it forms a most attractive little subject for the rock garden or small rockery. It is dwarf in stature, being only about 6ins. high, and it bears in summer good-sized flowers of a true orange hue. It is understood to be one of the parents of that excellent "biscuit-coloured" hybrid E. Asa Gray. Probably it will have a still larger share yet in the production of other hybrid erigerons of orange and allied shades of yellow. But in itself E. aurantiacus is a capital little flower, of good, neat habit and eminently suited for the positions named above. It is quite hardy, and the only trouble the writer ever had with it was caused by the depredations of slugs, which in late autumn seem fond of cropping the plant down to the ground, and in spring these pests essayed to destroy the early growths. But this trouble is not one which afflicts E. aurantiacus alone. They also attack such plants as Aster alpinus. As has already been said, it is hardy, but should have a well drained loamy soil, lightened by leaf-mould or peat and, in addition, some sand if still stiff. It evidently likes a sunny place.—S. ARNOTT.

SWEET BAY AS A DECORATIVE SHRUB.

WHY is it that the sweet bay bush is so seldom found or planted in flower gardens or pleasure grounds? For such purpose it appears to be quite overlooked by gardeners and planters. Here we have it among shrubs near to the house, from which position passers-by can gather a leaf for the peculiar fragrance for which the bay tree is noted or stay and peruse the general effect of its habit and dark green foliage against other like subjects. While the common laurel, the green euonymus and box can be used with advantage in many places, I would aver they are often placed among good class shrubs which sites would be richer and more elegant were they planted with a specimen or trio of specimens of our subject, Laurus nobilis. Sweet bay plants ought not always to be dubbed down in the kitchen garden—the spot where they are found, if found at all—but should be given a chance among the better shrubs of the flower garden proper. Presumably the relegation of the bay to the culinary department is on account of

Digitized by Google

SAXIFRAGA STRACHEYI WITH FLESH-TINTED BLOOMS.

its being occasionally sought after for seasoning uses.

The hardiness of the Poet's Laurel is sometimes tested in severe winters where the soil is cold, but if not killed outright the root-stock shoots up again. To avoid such cutting back, let its planting be in such a position that some protection will be afforded by growing shrubs, and see that the soil is free working and drained. Or, in extreme cases, a sheltered corner or wall could be allowed for its development. Sweet bay is not difficult to propagate either from cuttings put in a cold frame, or from growths bent down and layered.—C. T., *Ampthill Park.*

A FINE MONKS'-HOOD.

ACONITUM WILSONI is undoubtedly one of the finest of monks'-hoods, and worthy of a place in every herbaceous border. It was introduced some years ago from Western China by Mr. E. H. Wilson when collecting for Messrs. J. Veitch and Sons, Chelsea. A species of great garden value, it attains a height of 5ft. to 7ft.; but under favourable circumstances it will grow even 8ft. or 10ft. high. The colour of the flowers is a deep violet blue, and these commence to open in September on the central spikes, the display being continued throughout October by the lateral spikes that appear on the stem.

Not only is it useful for the borders, but it is a splendid subject for large isolated beds near the lawns, and in such a position I saw it at Kew ten years or so ago. Strong clumps can be divided during the winter months, but an easy method of propagation is by seeds. A. Wilsoni produces these in quantity, and a few should be sown directly they are ripe, the remainder waiting till spring. They can be raised either in a cold frame or outside. When the seedlings are large enough, they are transferred to nursery beds, in lines 1ft. apart, and here they can remain until they reach flowering size.—T. W. B.

NOTES FROM A NORTH-EAST YORKSHIRE GARDEN IN 1925.

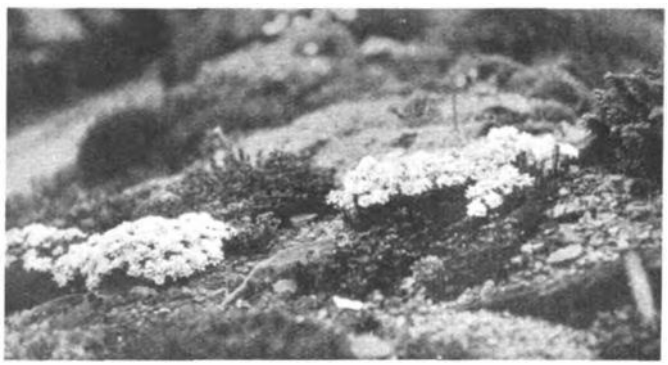
TOWARDS the end of April Primula denticulata alba was particularly beautiful in several parts of the garden. Some of the plants have been in their present positions for many years. They always flower well and it is much the most effective of the group in my experience. It has lighter green foliage than the types or P. cashmiriana form and does much better with me than the latter, which has a tendency to rot off in damp winters along with intermittent frosts.

At the same period Saxifraga (Megasea) Strachey. flowered exceedingly well with its uncommon flesh-tinted flower spikes, which open out before the leaves are developed, it is quite the prettiest of the megaseas that I have had experience of. The flowers are liable to be damaged if exposed to frost and early morning sun.

Sanguinaria canadensis, the Canadian Bloodroot (so called from its roots "bleeding" when damaged), flowered freely in a fairly dry position near Phygelius capensis, the foliage of which sheltered the position in the summertime. It has occupied this position for some years, the pretty frail paper-white blossoms being pushed out from the closely folded, undeveloped leaf, which seems to act as a protection at its inception. The bluish green lobed and scalloped leaves, when fully developed, are extremely decorative.

On my "island" moraine Petrocallis pyrenaica has grown into quite a good plant in the ten years it has occupied its present position. It was completely covered with its dainty pale pink petalled flowers squat on the green cushion at the end of April.

In May the Spanish thrift, Armeria cæspitosa, with Iberis petræa (saxatilis), provided a pleasing association, the contrast between the rosy pink flowers of the armeria and the snow white flowers of the iberis being particularly fine. Iberis petræa is quite the best of the family and a plant that Reginald Farrer thought highly of; the true plant is rarely seen in gardens visited. It is a very slow grower (possibly slower than usual in moraine), and the plant shown has taken ten years to attain its present size.



A WELL-FLOWERED CLUMP OF IBERIS PETRÆA.

Towards the end of June the finest and latest flowered of the encrusted saxifrages, S. cochlearis, produced its dainty spikes of white flowers freely in a vertical stone crevice fully exposed to the sun. The past summer has been rather a disastrous one for my saxifrages. The eight or ten weeks that we had in the north of England, from mid-May to July, with practically no rain (.08 in June) and considerable periods of hot sun, burnt off my saxifrages wholesale. Many of the plants had occupied these positions for ten and twelve years and grown into a considerable size, including a patch of S. oppositifolia about a yard across; large plants of some of the Aizoons and most of the Kabschias, such as S. Burseriana, S. apiculata, S. sancta, S. Haageii, S. Salomoni, S. Irvingii, in fact nearly all the smaller species, suffered mostly past recovery.—T. ASHTON LOFTHOUSE, *Linthorpe, Middlesbrough.*

THE LAUREL AS A WINDBREAK.

THERE are few plants which can be relied upon to produce in a comparatively short time so efficient a shelter or windbreak as the laurel. True, hedges formed of laurel are not so neat and trim in appearance as those composed of close-growing and shorter-branched subjects, but at the same time a very satisfactory evergreen hedge can be obtained by keeping it well cut back. Systematic pruning at the appropriate time is very necessary if it is desired to keep a laurel hedge within narrow limits.

In the case of laurels planted purely as screens or as windbreaks, however, and not as a formal hedge, there is, as a rule, no necessity to keep the plants cut back so drastically.

Rotundifolia is the best variety to plant. It is stronger growing than other varieties, hardier and flourishes in shady positions.

It is surprising how tall laurels will grow when in a congenial soil and situation. When in the neighbourhood of Southampton recently a very fine specimen was pointed out to me. It was a magnificent example rising up as flat as a wall some 25ft. It had been carefully tended and pruned, and the unbroken surface of its front conveyed an imposing impression.—HOWARD H. CRANE.

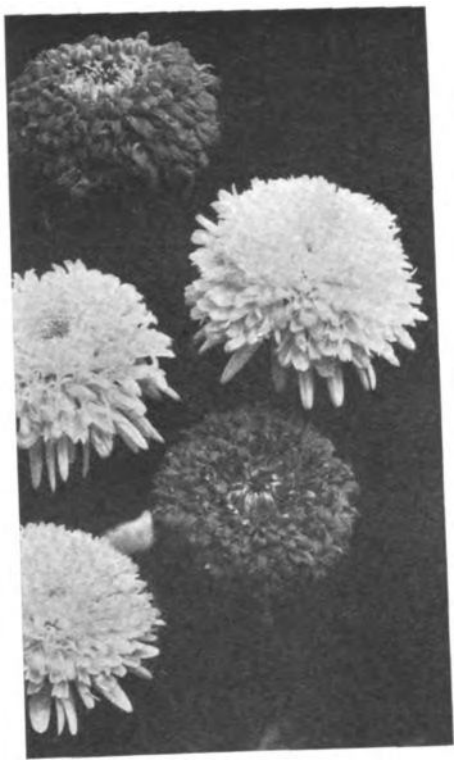
THE TREE MALLOW.

A VERY distinctive plant which is neglected by many gardeners is the tree mallow (Lavatera arborea). Many people, when on holiday, must have noticed the tree mallow growing quite close to the sea, where, in the winter, it must be deluged with salt spray. The common idea seems to be that the species will not grow in inland places, but this is incorrect. The tree mallow will flourish anywhere, save, perhaps, in the bleakest parts of the kingdom. The species has the appearance of a small tree and, in favourable circumstances, will grow to the height of 10ft. The woody stem branches into a broad, compact and very leafy head. The leaves are softly pubescent all over and forms with variegated foliage are common. The pale purple flowers are of good size, and at times are produced in great abundance; but, even if they were not, the tree mallow is always attractive. Best results are secured with this plant on rather dry sandy soils, although it has proved to be a success almost anywhere if the drainage of the land is in order. The tree mallow is a biennial, and it is necessary to raise seed annually. As a matter of fact, the tree mallow usually sows itself freely.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

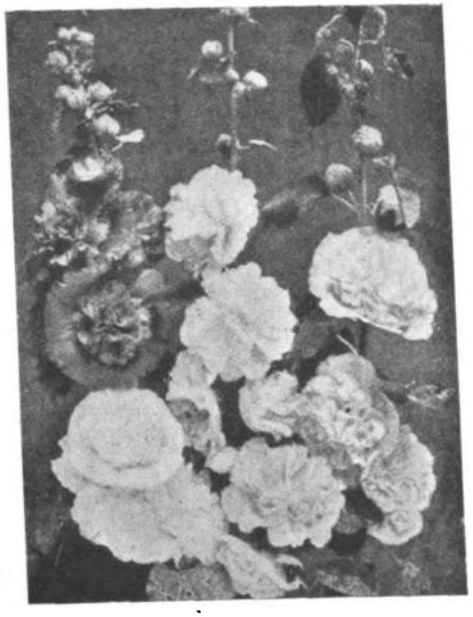
THE TREE MALLOW, A HARDY BIENNIAL.

Digitized by Google

USEFUL FLOWERS FOR



DOUBLE PYRETHRUMS.



IN these dead days when the gardener's imagination has to be quickened with the seed order in front of him, we give these two pages of flower pictures as a hint that old favourites of past years must not be forgotten. For colour and general utility and ease of growth they can hardly be surpassed; in fact they are a necessity when the aim of the gardener is the charm of the old fashioned garden.

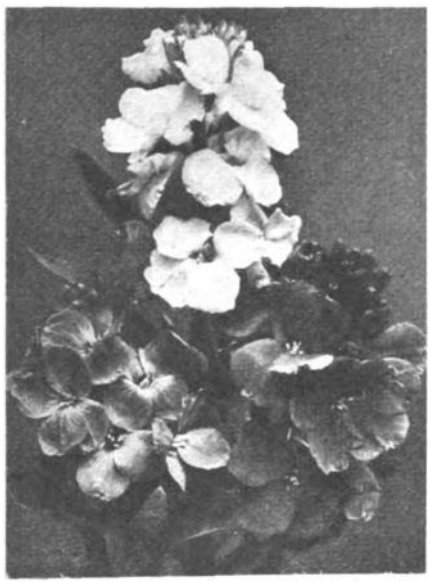
A FINE RACE OF ANNUAL POPPIES.

FEW PLANTS HAVE THE CHARM AND GRACE OF THE NIGELLA WITH ITS OLD-FASHIONED NAME OF LOVE-IN-THE-MIST. THEY ARE STILL CONSIDERED AS ONE OF THE BEST OF THE BLUE ANNUALS.

Digitized by Google

EDS AND BORDERS

NEW varieties may come and go, but the background for many of our most successful gardens is still made up of the hollyhock, the aster, the wallflower, the antirrhinum and many another old and tried friend. It is as well to remember that flowers such as these not only look well in beds and borders but act as fillers for gaps in the garden scheme that might otherwise remain unsightly.



THE DWARF ASTER IS ONE OF THE TRIUMPHS OF THE RAISERS OF NEW VARIETIES OF ANNUALS, FOR FEW FLOWERS GIVE SUCH A DISPLAY IN SUCH A SMALL SPACE.

A FINE CL

IN the
of th
and
garden to
and varie
generatio
quality is
the table
are incess
paration
what of
nightmar
dener in
becomes
that it r
or failures
There a
to realise
count and
attention

the first
fruit shou
It is cle
the growe
issued by
prices ask
and the a
be saved
instead o
method of
and throw
to econom
Obviously
of this d
for every
but it ma
to sugges
salads th
the avera
Where a
for forcin
every yea
For this
and Read

Digitized by Google

THE VEGETABLE SEED LIST

easeless activities and changes age, horticulture has its share, the products of the kitchen -day are much more plentiful than was the case in previous s. Varieties are more numerous, higher, and the demands of for both early and late supplies ant. Hence the annual pre- of the seed list becomes some- an art, an art which is a to the newly appointed gar- his first place, but one which joy to the old custodian, in minds him of past successes with this or that variety. re still many people who fail that flavour in vegetables does do not give this point special yet they would probably be

SUTTON'S EARLY GIANT PEA.

o proclaim that a variety of ld be judged on flavour. ar, then, that to ensure success should only consult the lists houses of reputation. The ed are in no case excessive, pparent extra cost can usually y sowing to meet requirements adopting the not unusual sowing for excessive thinning ing away. It is much safer ise in quantity than in quality. one cannot, in an article scription, choose the varieties grower and every purpose, y be helpful to many readers t varieties of vegetables and t are reliable and useful for ge kitchen garden.

sparagus is grown to lift crowns , it is usual to sow a few rows r and grow for three years. purpose, Connover's Colossal ing Giant are excellent.

Once globe artichokes of a good type are obtained, it is better to propagate by division, as seedlings vary in type. a packet of seed of a good selected strain will usually give some of sufficiently good type to propagate further.

BEANS.

The modern Green Windsor and Giant Longpod Broad Bean far surpass the old Windsor types and Johnson's Wonderful of fifty years ago; but it is interesting to note that Beck's Dwarf Green Gem, also included in lists of that period, is still a much grown early variety and is often considered a table delicacy owing to its small seed.

Among dwarf French beans, Superlative and Magpie are excellent for forcing and also for early work outside; while for main crop it is difficult to beat a good selected strain of Canadian Wonder. Best of All runner bean is a variety of outstanding merit, the flesh being of superb quality in spite of its large size; and the usefulness of Tender and True as a climbing French is indisputable.

Beetroots are in demand all the year round, and for early work a good globe variety is essential. For main crop a selected strain of Dell's Crimson is excellent, as is also Cheltenham Greentop, the flesh of which is of an intense red colour. Sea-kale Beet is useful for late summer and autumn supplies.

Brussels sprouts are among the most important of winter vegetables. The tendency of some modern varieties is to produce buttons of too large a size, and those who prefer small sprouts will find that Dwarf Gem is an excellent variety for early supplies, while Aigburth and Wroxton are still among the best as main-crops.

CAULIFLOWERS.

A supply of cauliflowers can be maintained during the whole year by a wise choice and good management of varieties of broccoli and cauliflower. For the winter season, supplies may be relied on in rotation from the following varieties: Michaelmas White, Autumn Protecting, Winter Mammoth, Christmas White, Snow White, Knight's Protecting, Leamington, Eastertide, Late Queen, and Whitsuntide. A packet of Purple Sprouting should be sown, as it is most useful in very severe winters. For summer supplies of cauliflowers I know no finer variety than Early Erfurt, and by successional sowings continuous supplies may be maintained throughout the summer. For late work Walcheren and Autumn Giant are excellent.

Spring cabbages do not always behave alike under cultivation, and the shrewd grower will not pin his faith to one variety, but grow two or three. For August sowing, Harbinger, Ellam's Early, Offenham and Flower of Spring are excellent varieties; for spring sowing, Wheeler's Imperial, Improved Winnigstadt and Enfield Market are good; while for winter supplies Christmas Drumhead and Rosette Colewort cannot be beaten.

For Savoy cabbage, to be cut from September to January, Dwarf Green Curled, Drumhead and New Year should be grown. Couve Tronchuda, or Portugal Cabbage, makes a delicious summer vegetable and is easily grown.

The demand for carrots is incessant, and young roots grown in frames or on early borders are always appreciated. For this purpose, Inimitable Forcing, Champion Scarlet Horn, and Early Gem are ideal varieties; while for the main crop Scarlet Intermediate cannot be beaten.

Celery provides a choice winter vegetable and salad, and, although the giant strains may have attractions from the exhibition point of view, I am quite content with good strains of Standard Bearer and Solid White.

Kales or borecoles are very useful where large supplies of greens are in demand in winter, and are a great standby in long periods of inclement weather. Curled Scotch, Hardy Sprouting and Thousand-headed are varieties well worth growing.

Leeks are in demand during the greater part of the year, and successional sowings should be made of Improved Musselburgh and The Lyon from January till April.

ONIONS.

Onions are in constant demand throughout the year, and present some difficulties to the grower on light soils. When spring sowings fail, autumn sowing should be resorted to, using the same varieties as one would in the spring, as well as those of the Rocca and Tripoli type. A selected strain of Ailsa Craig is impossible to beat and should always be grown. James Keeping, Bedfordshire Champion and Brown Spanish are also excellent varieties.

Digitized by Google

There has been less change in the variety of parsnips during the last fifty years than in any other vegetable, but probably the old types have been much improved by selection. It is interesting to note that The Student was evolved by continual selection from the wild type by Professor Buckman and still remains a standard variety of to-day.

PEAS.

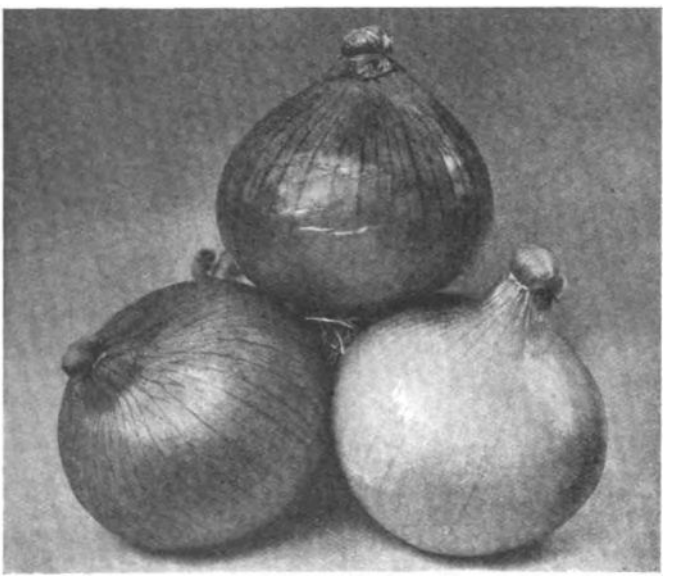
No vegetable ranks so high in importance during the summer months as peas, and modern varieties enable the grower to maintain supplies from May till October without the aid of glass. For autumn sowing, there is no variety to beat Pilot. For spring and summer sowing the following varieties may be sown in succession at intervals of ten or fourteen days throughout the season and in rotation as written: Eight-Weeks, Pioneer, Reading Gem, The Sherwood (a remarkably sweet pea), Early Giant, World's Record, Up-to-date, Selected Duke of Albany, Centenary, Peerless, Quite Content, Perpetual, Matchless, Autocrat and Selected Gladstone.

Scorzonera and salsafy are both useful root vegetables and should be grown to augment variety in the winter season.

Spinach is in great demand as a light dish during the hot summer months, and it is just at this time when it is most difficult to obtain. Previous good cultivation of the soil is an essential factor, and the variety Victoria is less prone to run to seed than some others. For late summer and early spring supplies Longstanding Prickly is preferable, as it is somewhat hardier. On very light soils, where summer production of succulent leaves becomes very difficult, New Zealand Spinach is a good substitute; while where winter supplies are needed Perpetual Spinach should be grown.

Succulent roots of turnips are always appreciated, but not always easy to produce in first-rate quality. Early Snowball and Early Milan are excellent varieties for early work, with Six-weeks for successional sowing.

Tomatoes should always be tried, for excellent crops can be obtained from outdoor plants if advantage is taken of positions of shelter which obtain in every garden. Open-air and Sunrise are good varieties.



THE FAMOUS AILSA CRAIG.

Marrows provide an excellent summer vegetable, but, except for special purposes, large fruits are not desirable. A good strain of Custard gives abundance of small fruits of delicious flavour. Tender and True, Pen-y-byd, and Moore's Cream are also excellent varieties.

SALADS.

Lettuce is the most important salad grown and can be produced from April to November, or December even, without the aid of glass. The cabbage varieties are quicker in maturing and, for spring and summer growing, Ideal, Heartwell and Satisfaction should be grown, with All the Year Round and Hammersmith Hardy Green to stand the winter. Of cos varieties, Superb White and Little Gem are good for summer use, with Hicks' Hardy White for autumn sowing.

For winter salads, Batavian Endive and Witloof Chicory are the finest grown and are of the easiest possible cultivation, though blanching is, of course, necessary. Corn salad may be grown outside for autumn and winter supplies, and is excellent for mixing with endive or chicory; while a few roots of dandelion may also be grown to add to the variety.

Where frames are available, French Breakfast Radish may be grown, but is not much in request until the spring; and with a heated house, regular supplies of mustard and cress throughout the winter are easy of attainment.

No vegetable list can be complete without a reference to herbs, and, besides the usual parsley, thyme and sage, a packet of balm, basil, borage, chervil, fennel, horehound, hyssop, marjoram, purslane, rampion, savory and sorrel should be included. W. AUTON.

SWEET PEAS

IMPRESSIONS OF THE 1925-26 NOVELTIES.

THE growing of novelties—whether they be flowers, fruits or vegetables—the first season of their introduction undoubtedly exercises a great fascination, not only among amateur, but also among professional gardeners. This is more particularly true of those horticultural enthusiasts who have a decided preference for one particular type of flower or vegetable. In the popular flowers—roses, carnations, sweet peas, gladioli, etc.—many new varieties are placed on the market each season, and unless one endeavours to keep in touch with the improvements, it is an easy matter to get quite out of date.

In sweet peas alone over a score and a half new varieties are being offered by the various raisers for the first time this season. Past experience warns us that probably not more than half a dozen of them will ever become really popular or displace the present-day favourites in their respective colour sections. On the other hand, we know from experience that very rarely can it be truthfully said of a sweet pea novelty that it was not worth its garden room, and if one is fairly familiar with the best of the varieties which have been introduced in previous years, there is very little risk of disappointment if a careful choice of the newcomers is made.

Very few will disagree with the statement that sweet pea novelties are inexpensive. When one realises the years of patient hybridisation and selection which have, in most instances, preceded the marketing of a new sweet pea and the comparative prices of new dahlias, roses, gladioli or carnations, we sweet pea growers should not complain if we are asked to pay one penny or, perhaps, three halfpence a seed. I firmly believe that the flower owes much of its present popularity to the fact that its novelties can be purchased so reasonably; the very best in existence are within easy reach of the modest purse.

In the following notes I will try to convey the main characteristics of most of the 1925-26 novelties, the majority of which I have either seen growing or exhibited. By the way, I do not allow first impressions formed at shows to carry me away, for the blooms exhibited—as a general rule—have been grown on the cordon or "single-stem" principle, perhaps shaded, and often come from under glass. Sometimes, points which when growing them naturally in one's own garden would be considered faults—such as lack of vigour, liability to fade in bright sunshine, etc.—are not in evidence among such blooms.

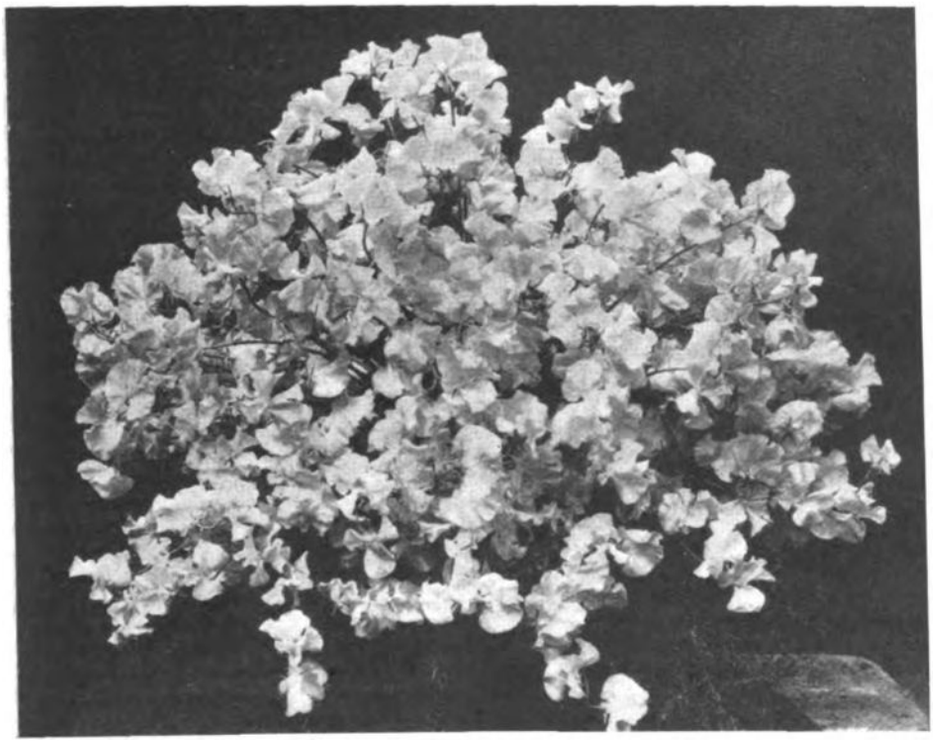
I think writers in describing varieties of sweet peas, generally speaking, attach too great an importance to their exhibitive value as distinct from their value to the ordinary grower who grows his or her sweet peas naturally and not

Digitized by Google

intensively. While I recognise the great influence exhibitors exert on the popularity of a pea, they are, after all, very much in the minority, and in my comments I intend to approach each one from the point of view of the average grower.

BLACK BESS (Bolton and Son).—Is a new shade in sweet peas difficult to describe, about midway between the colours of the deep blue Commander Godsal and the black-maroon The Sultan. It is really a bronzy dark blue with the metallic lustre which characterises many of Messrs. Boltons' past novelties in the dark blue or blue-mauve shades. Black Bess is perhaps more pleasing than its description conveys, and but this may not necessarily mean that it is not so vigorous as the latter, for some very vigorous growers are short jointed.

CORAL GLOW (F. C. Woodcock).—I saw this novelty growing both last year and this, and its glowing, deep coral shade pleased me. It is very bright, and equally effective both in daylight and in artificial light. For garden and home decoration it will be hard to beat. There is no trace of harshness in its tone. I advise exhibitors to confine it to one stem only and to give it liberal cultivation, for it has a tendency to produce too many "threes" if poorly treated.



GOLD CREST, A 1926 NOVELTY REMINISCENT OF PRESIDENT HARDING BUT OF A LIGHTER AND MORE GOLDEN SHADE.

I liked it both at the N.S.P.S. trials and as exhibited. It will appeal to all who admire the dark shades.

BRITANNIA (E. W. King and Co., Limited).—Imagine Advance on a cream ground and you have a fairly accurate mind-picture of the delicate and pretty colouring of this pea. It is a deep cream, softly flushed rose, which makes a very attractive bunch. I feel sure it will be generally admired. Another 1926 novelty, Queen of Roumania, is somewhat similar, but deeper toned.

CENTAUR (J. Stevenson).—There are four newcomers in the cerise colour section this year—Centaur, Coral Glow, Peggy and Ryburgh Cerise—but all four will most certainly have to be of unusual merit to displace the present deep cerise favourites Coralline and Charming, both raised by Mr. Stevenson. Centaur is claimed to be richer in colour than either Charming or Coralline, and this alone is sufficient to make one pause before passing it over. The catalogue description states that Centaur is not quite such a tall grower as Charming,

CRUSADER (Thomas Cullen and Sons).—My notes describe this novelty as a richer George Shawyer, and no further comment of mine is necessary other than I should not be surprised if Crusader superseded that popular older variety. Apparently it has no faults respecting size of bloom or vigour, but I cannot at present say whether it is more sunproof than others of its class. The raisers' description is "Standard rich orange-salmon, wings salmon with slight rose shading, almost a self coloured flower."

DAINTY MAID (Thomas Cullen and Sons).—This novelty has favourably impressed me. Its colour is a soft, but rich, blush pink on a white ground, and its raisers claim it to be the finest and largest blush pink in existence. I hope it may prove to be, for Valentine has had a long innings and we need a better blush. From what I have seen of Dainty Maid I should say its colouring is nearer to Felicity than to Valentine, being slightly deeper than the former. As growing at the N.S.P.S. trials its shade seemed to me to vary very slightly on individual plants, but I see the F.C. have marked it "True," and in any case it is not a serious fault, for some of the very best of recent pinks and cream-pinks have that tendency.

DELICE (A. Ireland and Hitchcock).—This is described as being an exhibitor's variety, giving very large flowers and plenty of stem without being inclined to coarseness in any way. It is pure pink.

GOLD CREST (R. Bolton and Son).—The colour of Gold Crest as exhibited was pleasing, rather reminiscent of The President Harding, but several shades lighter and having more of a golden hue. Evidently it needs some measure of protection from the sun to preserve its beauty, but we have the assurance of its raisers that "Gold Crest is as nearly sunproof as we have yet secured." As shown it did not appear to lack vigour or size, but I would strongly advise exhibitors to confine it to a single stem and to give it liberal culture to be on the safe side.

IVORY PICTURE (R. Bolton and Son).—With the exception of Madam Sarah Grand, a 1925 novelty, no ivory variety had been introduced for years. I have seen Ivory Picture growing and exhibited, and consider it a much better pea than Madam Sarah Grand. In size, shape and vigour it closely resembles Picture, and I feel confident it will give general satisfaction. Of course, it has not the depth of colour of the cream varieties, but is, nevertheless, delicate and pleasing. It is dark seeded. C. H. A. S.

(*To be continued.*)

CORRESPONDENCE

THE TALLER-GROWING CAMPANULAS.

SIR,—Referring to the note on campanulas in THE GARDEN, on page 716, December 19th 1925, which "T. W. B." has so admirably written, I would like to add my testimony to the extreme value of C. lactiflora in the back portion of the herbaceous border. I think the reason it is not more grown, is that, although its normal height is up to 5ft., it does not attain to this for several years, it does not like transplanting except as small plants, when the first year after planting it rarely attains more than 2ft. or so, so that if planted as the background it is liable to be smothered by strong-growing neighbours.

Given soil of sufficiently moist character and left undisturbed it is a noble plant, having widely branching heads in dense panicles, literally hundreds of flowers out at one time, and lasting for quite a long period. Flowering earlier than phloxes, etc., it fills an important position in the border scheme if left untransplanted for five or six years, and merely mulched with manure.

"T. W. B." rightly, in my opinion, classes the persicifolia section as being the most popular, of which Telham Beauty is one of the best. Probably, however, he is not yet acquainted with the varieties of the recently introduced section, the three following of which have also been honoured by the R.H.S. award of merit: Crescent, pure white; The King, deepest blue; Shirley, china blue. These are all of the coronata or cup and saucer types, of robust habit. Everest, soft blue; Snow Queen, pure

Digitized by Google

white; Queen of June, mauve blue. These attain to the height of 4ft. to 5ft., producing sturdy graceful spikes of single bells.

I think the French variety, Fleur de Neige, far superior to Moerheimi, the intense purity of its double white flowers quite eclipses the older form. Unlike C. lactiflora, the persicifolia types I find respond to annual division, and the spikes are always individually finer when so treated.—E. A. LADHAMS, *Southampton.*

VOLES AND FIELD MICE.

SIR,—Mr. A. T. Johnson should be able to get rid of the field mice and voles by constant use of Little Nipper mouse traps. The best baits for these are nuts, either brazil, Barcelona or what are commonly known as monkey nuts. The traps should be set in lengths of drain pipe, just large enough to allow the trap to spring, say 4ins. diameter. This makes the trapping quite independent of the weather and there is much less risk of small birds being caught. Cats and other animals will run away with a trap in which a mouse is caught; they cannot do this when the trap is set as advised above. If Mr. Johnson could sink a stone trough with smooth sides level with the ground and with a few inches of water in it, he should be able to catch the mice wholesale by smearing small lumps of lard on the sides of the trough, just so far down that the mice cannot reach them without overbalancing.—C. F. ORMEROD, *Stroud.*

SIR,—Every reader of THE GARDEN who loves a flower, plant or tree will sympathise fully with "A. T. J.," page 733, issue, December 26th, 1925. The destruction as described, must be more than upsetting to the mind of a serious cultivator. "A. T. J." does not say, in detail, how the jars were prepared, as referred to in the prominent daily paper. If such articles are sunk into the soil and merely filled, or partly filled, with clear water, voles are going to be wise and make off in another direction. But I can assure "A. T. J." that glass jars, with shoulder tops, three parts filled with water and buried level with the soil will be the means of trapping voles in large numbers if some mutton fat is smeared inside, just under the shoulder-like neck of the jar. Voles and also house mice love mutton fat and being unable to resist it, reach down, overbalance and fall into the water. The jars should be about 7ins. deep. As many as nine have been so caught in one jar. These traps are not difficult to place, they are harmless to all domestic animals and do not require attention very often except in the matter of taking out drowned voles; this, I hope, will be the case with "A. T. J." if he thinks fit to make an experiment in the way described.—G. GARNER, *Southampton.*

LACHENALIAS AT CHRISTMAS.

SIR,—In your description of Lachenalia Boundii (THE GARDEN, December 26th, 1925, page 733), it is said "it represents a new break in Lachenalias by flowering at Christmastime." May I say that when I had L. pendula in considerable quantity I could always count on it flowering at Christmas and have sent notes to various papers advocating its being grown for a bit of red at that season. L. rubida I only had for three or four years and then lost it. It think it used to flower in November, so there is nothing very wonderful in L. Boundii being in flower on December 15th.

L. PENDULA FLOWERING BEFORE CHRISTMAS.

I enclose a photograph of L. pendula taken in Guernsey on December 14th. It was raised by Mr. William Mauger from seed sown in June, 1922, and the bulbs were potted on July 18th. It is interesting to compare the two pictures. I send this note to say if Boundii is not yet in commerce, pendula is and with proper cultivation it can be had in full flower before Christmas. The photograph speaks for itself.—J. JACOB.

ANNUALS OF GOOD REPORT.

SIR,—Your correspondent, "W. F.," in the issue of THE GARDEN for December 26th, 1925, asks for opinions as to the twelve best annuals for all round usefulness. Here is the list of what I usually grow. I may add that they are wanted chiefly for cutting. Sweet peas (twelve varieties); Aster sinensis, mauve; Cosmos (mixed); Lavatera rosea and alba splendens; Sunflower Munstead Primrose; Sunflower Sutton's Red; Calendula officinalis, Sutton's Orange King; Nigella Miss Jekyll; coreopsis (mixed); eschscholtzia (mixed); Alyssum maritinum Little Dorrit (for edging); Ionopsidium acaule (for cracks in paved paths).—R. E. H., *Bath.*

TENDER SHRUBS IN THE FROST.

SIR,—It may be interesting to those who grow sub-tropical and other tender shrubs in favoured localities to know the effect of the first hard frost we have had in Jersey for eight years. On the night of December 1st the thermometer on the ground registered three degrees of frost, on the two succeeding nights four, and on Friday the 4th seven, after which, to the moment of writing, the frost passed away. Everything stood the cold well till the last, severe night, then the following wilted. Psoralea glandulosa, Tagetes lacera, Datura suaveolens, Myoporum crystallinum, Habrothamnus aurantiaca, Cestrum Parqui and Solanum aviculare (these were young plants and had been weakened by an attack of potato disease).

Added to these, was Fuchsia arborescens. This is a shrub well worth growing; I have never seen it elsewhere in England or the Channel Islands. Up to last Friday it was covered with its rosy-purple panicles, and, indeed, it has been in almost continual flower since July. Now flowers and leaves are a sorry sight, though it is not otherwise injured. Oranges and citrons are untouched; we grow all the citruses under the shelter of a wall. Guava cattleyana, also under a wall, only slightly frost bitten; olives, eucalyptus and oleanders unharmed. But a week or a fortnight of over seven degrees would be serious for the more tender things.

The following trees and shrubs are in flower. Acacias Whanii, uncinella, brachybotrya, Carteri, obliqua, retinoides, Sibertiana, and most of the other species in bud. Sollya heterophylla, Cytissus fragrans, Pieris japonica (just breaking), Solanum crispum and jasminoides, Cassia corymbosa, Desfontainea spinosa, Westringia rosmariniformis, Sempervirum arboreum, Colletia horrida, Berberis Bealii, Veronica macrocarpa, Manettia bicolor. All the hydrangeas, except paniculata and quercifolia are still in full bloom, and I brought large blue heads into the house from the garden the day after the frost.—ATHELSTAN RILEY, *Manoir de la Trinité, Jersey.*

GARDEN TECHNIQUE

Notes on the Technical Side of the Garden and the Cultivation of Plants.

FLOWERS

EXHIBITION SWEET PEAS FOR AMATEURS.

AMONG the readers of THE GARDEN, there are probably quite a few who are particularly inclined to the growing of exhibition sweet peas. If the following advice is carefully carried out, one should be able to produce flowers that would vie for first place with the best at local or county shows.

There is no necessity to grow more than forty plants, as these will yield sufficient for an ordinary private exhibit.

In the middle of January sow the seed, one in a "sixty" pot, and allow for about 15 per cent. non-germination. The seed pots should then be placed in a slightly heated greenhouse until germination takes place. When the plants are about ½in. high, transfer them to a cold frame. Lights should be placed on at night, if cold, for the first few weeks. Gradually harden the plants off, until by the beginning of April, splendid little plants of a very sturdy nature will have been obtained. They can then be planted out alternately in well prepared ground, preferably a trench.

If the weather is very hard, protect the young plants with sprays of gorse or fir. In a week or so, the stakes can be put up. Long, straight bean poles are the best. Allow one to each plant, and lash them together at the top. As the plants grow, tie each one to its stake. Pinch out all side shoots, and cut off *all* tendrils.

At the beginning of May mulch the plants with light pig or cow manure. This will be extremely beneficial should a hot summer be forthcoming. Very soon flower buds will appear, mainly twos and threes. Keep all these vigorously nipped out, until the fives, sixes and sevens appear. Then remember, the more the flowers are cut, the more flowers the plants will throw. If the flowers are wanted for a particular show, keep all the buds picked off until fifteen days before the show.

Should the season be hot and dry, water *thoroughly* a few times. To give a little every day is useless. The flowers are best picked overnight and stored in a cool, dark place, such as a cellar.

Digitized by Google

With regard to varieties, it is impossible to say which are the best, but the following are all first-class ones. Mascott's Scarlet (scarlet), Constance Hinton (white), Mrs. Tom Jones (blue), Warrior (maroon), and Picture (cream pink).

As to the arrangement of the exhibit, each one has his own particular taste. Asparagus foliage makes a delightful combination with sweet peas, but it is as well to find out beforehand whether or no foliage is allowed; for when at Wisley, I showed sweet peas with asparagus, at a local show, and got disqualified on account of it!—J. BIRKENTALL.

HOLLYHOCKS.

QUICK of growth, stately and beautiful when roped with blossoms, hollyhocks are among the most attractive plants one may have in a garden, given a suitable position. Unfortunately, it has to be said concerning them, that their culture is not always understood, and, not infrequently it happens that instead of carrying one or two stems bearing well developed flowers, one notices colonies of indifferent, weak and rust-ridden stems with blossoms not to be compared to plants upon which care and culture have been bestowed. Not only are these noble plants prone to throw up suckers, which, if left, smother each other, but what is equally bad, the soil becomes worn out, and so rust disease is encouraged. My experience prompts me to say that the best way to avoid the pest referred to is, either to propagate offshoots or to sow seed and treat as biennials. The term "gross feeder" is applied to certain plants that take nutriment out of the ground very quickly, and hollyhocks certainly come within this category. The soil therefore needs to be enriched periodically. Where rust disease has once asserted itself, the wisest course to pursue is to dig up and burn the plants, treating the soil with lime afterwards, and avoid planting hollyhocks there for a season or two. In the majority of instances of affected plants which have come under my notice, the source can be traced to colonisation over a number of years, and to the soil having become greatly impoverished in consequence. Hollyhocks are worth culture which entails trouble, and freedom from disease is only achieved when this is appreciated.—W. F.

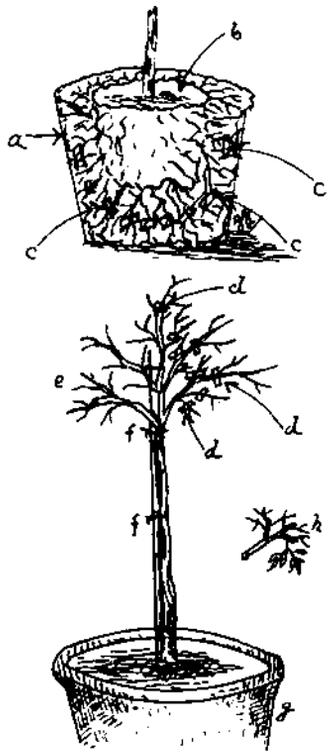
GREENHOUSE GERANIUMS.

MANY and varied are the plants now cultivated to furnish the greenhouse; but among all the grandeur of the new and varied forms of flowering plants, geraniums still hold a prominent place. They are general favourites with cottagers, amateurs and gardeners alike. Although in winter the plants are in a semi-resting state, they keep on flowering, and one is able to cut a bunch of prettily coloured blooms throughout the darkest days of December.

Not only do geraniums provide rich red and striking colours, but some of the varieties have flowers of soft and delicate shades which cannot fail to please. The ease with which the plants can be propagated and cultivated may also have added to their popularity. Yet there is much joy to be had in passing a well filled stage of semi-double-flowered plants, when all are in bloom. Geraniums are not only floriferous, but they are charmingly suited as dwelling-house plants and are excellent as cut flowers, having fine shaped heads borne on long clean straight stems. The plants are also well adapted for clothing high walls in the glasshouses, and when grown in such positions they flower profusely and so provide a plentiful supply for cutting. Greenhouse geraniums, unlike their near neighbours the Regal and scented-leaved pelargoniums, are seldom troubled by insect pests, and therefore they are plants to be valued and retained.—DAVID ARMSTRONG.

GROWING STANDARD AND SPECIMEN FUCHSIAS.

THE fuchsia is a most useful plant. It may be splendidly grown in a cold greenhouse or in the open border. In the winter-time the plants may be stored in a shed—even in a roomy potting-shed. But usually we find the majority stored in cool vineries and peach-houses. From the store place we should now take all plants, prick the surface of the dry, hard soil in the pots and remove all loosened soil; then place the plants in a warm greenhouse temperature, syringe the branches early every morning and, as soon as new shoots can be seen, prune back the old branches lightly or severely, as the case may be. At this stage, too, the old balls of soil should be reduced, so that it will be possible to re-pot them in pots of similar size, or even smaller. The method is shown in the accompanying sketches. The original size of the ball of soil when removed from the old pot is shown at *a*; it must be reduced to the size shown at *b*, and many large roots, *c*, *c*, *c*, cut off at the double cross



lines. The plant is now ready for re-potting as shown in the lower sketch. The pruning back may be done after the re-potting. The branches are cut back to the double cross lines shown at *d*, *d*, *d*; the other side, *e*, being similarly treated. All standards should be staked, made secure to new stakes at *f*, *f*. The reduction of the old ball of soil will allow the cultivator to re-pot from the pot *g* to a larger one in the early part of the summer. The result of the hard pruning is shown at *h*, many additional shoots growing. Fibrous loam one-third, leaf-soil one third, old mortar rubble and pounded bricks one-third, form a suitable compost. Feed when new roots are plentiful.—GEORGE GARNER.

VEGETABLES

GROWING ONIONS FOR EXHIBITION.

NOW is the time to sow the seed if one intends to try to grow fine bulbs similar to those often seen at exhibitions during the autumn months. There is no reason why an amateur who has a heated greenhouse and a cold frame at his disposal should not be successful. Two of the principal secrets of success are in the preparation of the ground in the autumn, where they are intended to be grown, and obtaining the very best strain of seed.

One of the best varieties to grow is Ailsa Craig, and if the seeds are sown now, strong plants should result when the time comes to plant them in the bed. Onions are very deep rooting, and the ground should be trenched 3ft. deep, burying any rubbish which has accumulated and good farmyard manure, in the bottom of the trench. After the trenching is finished, give the ground a dressing of lime, and leave for the rain to wash in. In February, if the weather is suitable, the ground should be forked over, and about a month before planting, give the ground a dressing of soot, and move the ground again.

In sowing the seed, get some boxes about 4ins. deep and place about an inch of well rotted manure in the bottom, filling with soil passed through a half-inch sieve. Old chrysanthemum soil is excellent; make it firm and sow the seeds singly about 2ins. apart each way, slightly covering with soil. Some growers prefer to sow in a pan, and prick the seedlings off in the boxes, but it means a check to the plants, whereas by sowing the seeds singly, no pricking off is necessary.

After sowing, water with luke-warm water and place in the greenhouse close up to the glass. See that the soil does not become dry. When the seeds have germinated the seedlings must have air on suitable days, otherwise they will become drawn, and a few weeks before planting the boxes should be removed to a cold frame, to harden off the plants. When planting, allow 18ins. between the plants each way, and see that the ground is firm.

From then onwards the culture depends chiefly on keeping the soil moved with the hoe, and once the plants have made a good start, a slight dressing of some approved fertiliser may be given about once a month, watering it in. This will keep the plants on the move. If it can be obtained, the drainings from a farmyard, diluted to the colour of brandy, is one of the finest foods possible.—ALFRED GURR, *Walmer, Kent.*

ONIONS—GOOD KEEPING SORTS.

ON lifting my onions this season, a friend examined some of the largest bulbs, and after pronouncing them fine, said "It is a pity large onions do not keep very well." As a grower of them for many years, I could not share his views, although prepared to admit that certain varieties kept better than others. My own experience with large onions is, that much depends on drying, handling and storing, as to success in keeping. It is unwise to leave them too long on the bed when weather conditions are not favourable, but arrangements should be made to dry them under cover. Bruising the bulbs, I am convinced, is the chief reason why onions—small as well as large—do not keep. They require handling very carefully, and are best stored, as one would choice apples, in single layers, and if possible, with space between each. I have stored weighty bulbs of Ailsa Craig and Premier in this fashion which have kept us supplied until well into spring. I acknowledge the excellent lasting power of that good old sort, James's Long Keeping, but I am satisfied that to say large bulbs do not keep very well is a mistake, and where failures occur, they may generally be traced to insufficient ripening or bad storing. When it is known that some of them lack firmness, such bulbs should be used first. In any case, examination ought to be made from time to time, and any bulbs showing signs of decay removed.—CLAREMONT.

Digitized by Google

VEGETABLES FOR THE SMALL GARDEN.

THE small garden that I am now referring to is the one usually found behind the dwelling house and flower garden in towns and their suburbs. Such gardens are being formed in great numbers every year and many owners or occupiers of them are inexperienced in the management, though they have to be responsible for the ordering of seeds and plants. This is not a light task to some persons, while it is a pleasure to others. If things go wrong the seedsman is often blamed while the fault lies in ordering unsuitable seeds to begin with. With the exception of a few rows of very early potatoes, I would not grow the latter in a small garden, but devote the space to other vegetables. Peas, Dwarf gem and Little Marvel, Laxtonian and Gradus will yield pecks of pods and the plants will not occupy much ground. Furthermore, the plants require the minimum of support, an important item in a town garden. A few seeds of Little Marvel may be sown about mid-February. Of broad beans, Beck's Little Gem may be sown in January, always, of course, if the soil is in fit condition. This is a small bean, but a big cropper; then sow Broad Windsor and follow with a row of Seville Giant Long Pod late in March. Hollow Crown parsnip, Rousham Park Hero onion, Little Gem carrot may be sown in February and March, and Intermediate carrot and Market Favourite beet in April; Canadian Wonder dwarf bean in May, also a row of Prizewinner or Scarlet Emperor runner beans. In boxes or pots in a frame sow a pinch each of celery Standard Bearer, cucumber Stockwood Ridge, vegetable marrow Long White. Sow cabbage and cos lettuces thinly outside, also a few turnips and radishes. Buy in May a few tomato plants and from these few kinds, grown in limited quantity, a really fine lot of produce will result.—CHRISTCHURCH.

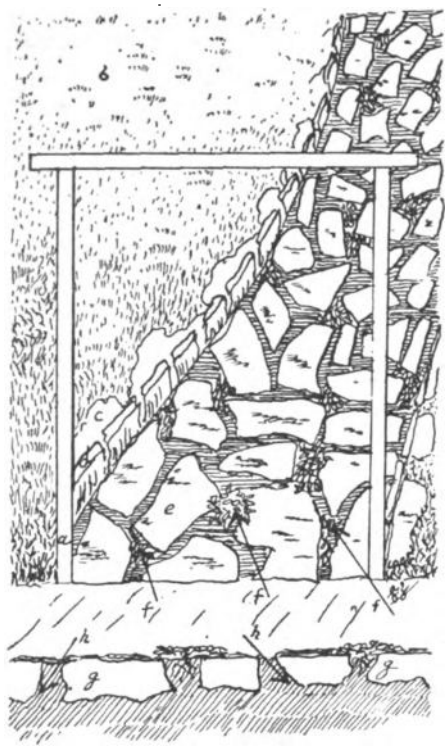
LEEKS: A VEGETABLE SOMETIMES INDIFFERENTLY GROWN.

CONSIDERING their value for the table, and comparatively easy culture, and their immunity from pests to which some other vegetables are subject, it is somewhat difficult to understand why so many who grow leeks are content to do so in a half-hearted manner. It is common knowledge that, among gardeners, one finds those who take a delight in specialising in certain vegetables and wax enthusiastic over them. One comes across this demonstrated in the exhibition arena; but leeks, to the average gardener, call for no special attention, and it is seldom that any extra effort is made to produce weighty specimens; indeed, I go further than this, and say that many sow seed too late, plant them in ill prepared ground, often relegating them to a position not deemed good enough for anything else. In a word, the treatment meted out to them is anything but generous, and, as a consequence of all this, only poor crops result. Having regard to the extreme hardiness of leeks—for frost seldom harms them—it is unfortunate that more who take up their culture do not give them first-class treatment, as scarcely any winter vegetable gives a better return for labour expended. Many start with seed sowing in March, or even April, and so from the first are handicapped, instead of beginning under glass weeks earlier. That great cultivator of vegetables—perhaps the greatest of our time—Mr. Edwin Beckett, has laid it down as an axiom that leeks require a long season of growth and a long period of blanching, and he has followed this up by producing and exhibiting at Shrewsbury, Southport and elsewhere, specimens the like of which has seldom, if ever, been equalled, much less excelled. It is just as profitable for the owner of a moderate-sized garden to do them well, instead of, as is frequently seen, planting them out in ill-prepared ground, with little subsequent attention in the way of feeding.—W. LINDERS LEA.

MISCELLANEOUS

CRAZY PAVING.

PATHS formed of flat stones irregular in size and shape and irregularly laid find much favour in many gardens in these days. Such paths are pleasant to walk upon and very interesting, too, if suitable plants are grown on them and at the sides. But the position should be suitable for paths of this kind; furthermore, the stones should be properly laid. Where the original soil is firm, little basal preparation is necessary for the stones, but where it is soft or liable to become so in showery weather a small quantity of concrete placed under each stone will keep the latter in position. Small



gravel, four parts; cement, one part, will combine to form the concrete. A spadeful neatly placed under each stone slab will help to keep the stones firmly in positions. The spaces between the stones may be arranged just the same as when concrete is not used, and the latter does not interfere with the growth of any tiny plants. The stones must be laid and levelled on the concrete while the latter is fresh. At *a* is shown how arches or pergolas may be built to span such paths. Grass or border is shown at *b*; if grass, small beds irregular in shape may be filled with suitable small plants at *c*, and edges of stones at *d* will be in keeping with the stone path, *e*. Tufts of plants—sweet thyme, etc.—are shown at *f*, *f*, *f*. The section of stones, soil and the roots of the plants are shown at *g*, *g*, and *h*, *h*, respectively.

RUBBISH HEAPS.

IT is not possible to avoid having a certain quantity of rubbish in a garden after a few crops have matured. During a journey of several miles through country, town and suburb, I have seen many rubbish heaps in gardens. Some of the heaps were visible from the public road—they ought not to be so placed—but the majority were in the farthest corners of the gardens. One head-gardener told me that he was dependent upon such heaps of refuse for organic matter for the benefit of his crops of vegetables, as farmyard manure was not available. He grew excellent crops of runner beans with the aid of decomposed weeds, crop refuse and tree leaves. Personally, I make a point of collecting such refuse and storing it in "dug-outs"—holes in a suitable corner, putting salt and lime on it and turning the heap from time to time. Every spring there is a nice quantity of rotted rubbish, mixed with ordinary garden soil, available for the various vegetable crops. If such heaps are kept lightly covered with earth, they are not unsightly; and if they are treated as here described, the contents is not offensive. All hard wood, twigs and stems of cabbages, cauliflowers and other kinds of greens are burned with ordinary garden soil and hedge trimmings. The treated refuse and the ashes and burned soil form a valuable manure, and nearly every gardener may command small or large quantities.—G. G.

SCALE ON PLANTS AND FRUIT TREES.

QUESTION.—Are the brown scales seen on peach and nectarine trees and many pot plants dead when found during the winter months?

Answer.—The brown scales are full of eggs or young scales, the latter can be seen with the naked eye quite plainly when the old scale is broken, and, under a powerful glass they look quite formidable. If left undisturbed many thousands of young scales will be found on the young branches in spring.

Question.—When and how should the scale be destroyed?

Answer.—If possible, they should be eradicated while the trees—in the case of fruit trees—are inactive. The wood is harder and insecticides may be safely used at their full strength. But it is always wise to keep all washes, applied by hand with sponge or brush, off the buds. Furthermore, while the trees are leafless, it is possible to see every bit of twig and bark. Whether it is a plant in a pot or a fruit tree, begin at the top and finish at the bottom. Do not use a knife, but a tiny piece of hard wood pointed, or a piece of sharpened bone. Use the point to eradicate the insects from the axils of buds and branch, or branches. Brush all scales found, loosening them on the bark. Sponge them off, using insecticides for the purpose as advertised in THE GARDEN. Before the washes dry, vigorously syringe the branches from two points and then remove any surface soil on which the pests may fall.—HANTS.

THE HARDY PLANT BORDER.

ALTHOUGH the plants generally are dormant during the mid-winter months, every root and cut-back stalk has an interest for the lover of these plants. One need not worry much about the plants themselves, however severe the weather may be, as such will cause the roots to take a thorough rest and, in due course, the fresh growth will be very robust. But, when we find the soil in a suitable condition to be dealt with without any adhering to boots and tools, we should loosen the ground between the clumps of plants as deeply as we can without disturbing any roots. Some rotted manure, wood ashes, leaf-soil and thoroughly decayed vegetable refuse may be incorporated in the soil at the same time. When we pause to think about the huge masses of stems, foliage and flowers in our herbaceous beds during the summer months—and we all have visions of them in dreary mid-winter—we should realise the fact that such growth cannot be maintained unless we feed the roots.

Digitized by Google

RHODODENDRON SHOW

WE have pleasure in publishing the Schedule of the Rhododendron Society's first show, to be held at the Royal Horticultural Hall, Vincent Square, London, S.W.1, on Tuesday, April 27th, 1926.

1 Best group of rhododendrons shown by a trade exhibitor. Challenge cup and silver gilt medal.
2 Best group of rhododendrons shown by an amateur. (Attention is called to the fact that rhododendrons may be shown either cut or on plants and either grown in the open or under glass.) Challenge cup and silver gilt medal.
3 Twelve species, distinct, single truss of each.
4 Twelve hybrids, single truss of each. (Not more than three and only distinct seedlings of the same cross may be shown.)
5 Three species, distinct, single truss of each.
6 Three hybrids, not of identical parentage, single truss of each.
7 Best species, one truss.
8 Best hybrid, one truss.
9 One truss of Falconeri.
10 One truss of Wightii.
11 One truss of argentum or grande.
12 One truss of calophytum.
13 One truss of lacteum.
14 One truss of fictolacteum.
15 One truss of Aucklandii or Griffithianum.
16 One truss of arboreum, blood red.
17 One truss of arboreum, any other colour.
18 One truss of niveum.
19 One truss of campanulatum.
20 One truss of Fortunei, Houlstonii or any form of decorum.
21 One truss of Davidii, Fargesii, haematocheilum, orbiculare or oreodoxa.
22 One truss of pachytrichum or strigillosum.
23 One truss of campylocarpum, croceum or Wardii.
24 One truss of Thomsonii.
25 One truss of haematodes or sperabile.
26 One truss of neriiflorum.
27 One spray, not exceeding 18ins. from the top of the vase, of rubiginosum.
28 One spray, not exceeding 18ins. from the top of the vase, of Augustinii.
29 One spray, not exceeding 18ins. from the top of the vase, of chartophyllum, Davidsonianum or yunnanense.
30 One spray of a Chinese or Himalayan alpine species, not exceeding 8ins. in diameter or 15ins. in height, of a mauve or purple colouring.
31 One spray of a Chinese or Himalayan alpine species, not exceeding 8ins. in diameter or 15ins. in height, of a yellow colouring.
32 One spray of a Chinese or Himalayan alpine species, not exceeding 8ins. in diameter or 15ins. in height, of pink or white colouring.
33 One truss of Dalhousiæ, Lindleyi or Nuttallii or their hybrids.
34 One spray, not exceeding 18ins. above the top of the vase, of any other sweet-scented species or hybrid.
35 One spray, not exceeding 18ins. in height above the top of the vase, of any deciduous rhododendron species (azalea included).
36 One spray, not exceeding 18ins. in height above the top of the vase, of any deciduous rhododendron hybrid (azalea included.)
37 One spray, not exceeding 18ins. in diameter or 15ins. in height of an evergreen azalea.
38 Single truss of any large-leaved hybrid (such as Elsae, etc.).
39 Single truss of any hybrid between Aucklandii and a species.
40 Single truss of any hybrid between Aucklandii and a hybrid.
41 Single truss of any Thomsonii hybrid.
42 Single truss of any campylocarpum hybrid.
43 A spray of any cinnabarium hybrid, not to exceed 18ins. above the top of the vase.
44 Six hybrid rhododendrons lifted from the ground or grown in pots, not to cover more than 60ft. super.
45 Three alpine rhododendrons lifted from the ground or grown in pots.
46 Six distinct trusses of "Hardy Hybrids" in commerce.
47 Six vases of evergreen shrubs or trees in flower suitable for growing with rhododendrons.
48 Six vases of deciduous shrubs or trees in flower, suitable for growing with rhododendrons.

A special prize is being presented by Mr. E. H. Wilding for the best plant of rhododendron exhibited.

Entry forms and full copies of schedules and regulations may be obtained from the Secretary, R.H.S.

We hope that all rhododendron enthusiasts, and they are many, will exhibit at the show.

BOOK REVIEW

STRANGELY enough, in the number of books devoted to various aspects of horticulture, there is none which deals solely with the scent of flowers, and the little publication which has come into our hands, "Flower Scent," by F. A. Hampton, M.A., M.B.Ch.B., published by Messrs. Dulau and Co., price 6s., is all the more interesting on that account. The author has attempted to gather together the threads of work by various authorities on the subject, and has successfully presented them in a simple and coherent whole, supplemented by personal experience and observation.

The subject is a wide and intricate one, being closely bound up in the sciences of chemistry and botany, and it is creditable that the author has reduced technicalities to as simple a form as possible while still retaining a proper proportion and balance. In such a form the subject is of general interest. On the one hand, the perfumer and chemist will find it of great service in their everyday duties; while on the other, it presents to the botanist and gardener many interesting facts on this fascinating floral character.

Although small in size, the book covers a wide field. The purely physiological introduction may not be considered necessary by some, but it undoubtedly leads to a better appreciation and understanding of the later chapters, more especially when the subject is new to the reader. In the subsequent chapters, the composition and development of scent, although highly technical, is successfully negotiated in simple and direct language and, indeed, is made to be positively interesting. The next four chapters are more or less of a botanical nature, treating of the distribution of essential oils in the plant, the function of scent, the correlation which exists between the insect and the flower world, and scent in relation to botanical character. Again, the author is to be congratulated on the way he presents his facts. More might have been said on the subject of insects in their relation to the scent of flowers, as undoubtedly that remains as one of the most interesting features of botanical physiology and morphology, but the reader who wishes to probe still further in the mystery will find the short bibliographies given at the close of each chapter of extreme service.

One of the chief points of interest in the book is the classification of flower scents, which the author puts forward based on one arranged in 1893 by an Austrian botanist. The scents are split up into various groups, such as the rose and violet groups, and a detailed examination is made of each. Although the author claims that it is only a tentative scheme, it should prove of extreme value and service to those who are keenly interested in the subject.

Of more general interest is the chapter on our appreciation of scent, where the author drifts into psychology. One or two conclusions which he reaches are indeed stimulating and may perhaps suggest to the reader a new line of thought. Unlike other writers on the subject, he concludes that "a sweet scent is one that can stir the instinct of courtship without evoking the idea of the natural end object of the instinct."

To the gardener much of interest and instruction will be found under the heading of "Scent in the Garden." The author is well qualified to speak on the subject, and the lists of scented plants which he has compiled will greatly assist those who wish for fragrance in the garden. Rose lovers will also find a useful classified list of fragrant roses which are in general cultivation, and they need have no hesitation in following the list faithfully, as it has been arranged by Mrs. H. R. Darlington. In the chapter on "Extraction of Scent" many hints are given to those who would prepare their own perfumes at home. The last chapter, on the "History of Scent," is both interesting and instructive, and the appendices already referred to are of the greatest value, representing much patient study and research on the part of the author.

The author shows a wide knowledge of his subject, as is exemplified by his treatment and presentation of the facts in the most simple and lucid of literary styles, which serves to sustain the interest of the reader from the first to the last page.

It is a little book which fills a niche in our horticultural and, indeed, in our general literature, and all gardeners, and more especially those interested in fragrance in the garden, would be well advised to read through its pages.

TRADE NOTE

All sweet pea enthusiasts will be interested to hear of the valuable work in connection with the improvement of this popular flower which is being carried on by the sweet pea specialists, Messrs. Carter and Co. of Raynes Park. For a number of years this firm has grown vast quantities of sweet peas annually, and each year they save seed from only such varieties as are good in colour and form, robust in constitution, and are not liable to be scorched badly by the sun or spoilt by rain. This season, for selection purposes, over six hundred rows of sweet peas were grown in their trial grounds at Raynes Park, and in their seed catalogue they list as many as two hundred named varieties, among which are thirteen novelties for 1926. These varieties include some of the best sweet peas of every shade which are suitable for either general decoration or for exhibition purposes.

CATALOGUE RECEIVED.

Mr. W. J. Unwin, Histon, Cambridge, the well known sweet pea raiser, sends us his catalogue of sweet peas, flower and vegetable seeds, gladioli, dahlias, roses, etc. Many fine sweet pea novelties and the best of the modern gladioli varieties are included.

Digitized by Google

BY APPOINTMENT.

SPECIMEN TRANSPLANTED
FRUIT TREES

Planters who want extra size fruiting trees (Espaliers, Cordons, Half Standards, Bush, etc.), would be well advised to send for particulars. They are bigger than those usually offered in nurseries.

Stuart Low & Co. Royal Nurseries, Bush Hill Park, ENFIELD, MIDDX.

DOBBIE'S
SCOTCH-GROWN ROSES

These succeed where others fail; send at once for a Catalogue

Please name this Paper

DOBBIE & CO., LTD.
Nurserymen :: EDINBURGH

FOGWILLS WONDER LONG-POD BROAD BEANS

Ten Beans in a Pod.

WONDERFUL FREE GIFTS.

NOW IS THE TIME TO SOW FOGWILLS WONDER LONG POD. The LONGEST, most PROLIFIC and FINEST FLAVOURED BROAD BEAN in the World. Nothing like it. Nothing just as good—PERFECTION. 1/4 per pint, carriage paid. Send now; every customer will receive three FREE GIFTS as follows—1/- packet (2,000 seeds) FOGWILLS FAMOUS GIANT EXHIBITION BRUSSELS SPROUTS, largest, most magnificent solid sprouts in cultivation, and FREE, a 6d. packet (1,000 seeds) FOGWILLS PRIDE OF THE VALLEY PARSNIP grown over 50 inches long, and FREE one packet (100 seeds) FOGWILLS GIANT RAINBOW SWEET PEAS, large waved flowers in over 25 shades. Send only 1/4 for this wonderful FREE OFFER and become one of our THOUSANDS of satisfied customers.

Fogwills 'Best-Result' Seeds need only a trial.

Fogwills Beautiful Illustrated Catalogue of "Best-Result" Seeds and Guide to Garden Success for Season 1926. Now Ready. Post Free.

FOGWILLS, Established 70 years. 130, FRIARY STREET GUILDFORD. Awarded Gold Medal.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Barr's Clearance Sale of Surplus Stock
HARDY PERENNIALS, ROCK PLANTS, Etc.
SPECIAL CLEARANCE COLLECTIONS.

100 Hardy Border Plants in 20 named varieties, 45/-; 50, 22/6
100 Rock Garden Plants in named varieties, 45/-; 50, 22/6
100 Michaelmas Daisies in 10 named varieties .. 30/-
12 ,, ,, **12** ,, ,, .. 5/-
Michaelmas Daisies, Mixed (without names), 100 21/-; doz. 3/-
Tall Flag Irises, in named varieties per 100 45/-; per doz. 6/-
,, ,, ,, **Mixed** (without names) per 100 25/-; per doz. 3/6
Iris ochroleuca Snowflake, white with yellow blotch, handsome, 5ft .. .. .. per 100 30/-; per doz. 4/-
Iris sibirica superba, violet-blue, handsome, 4ft. per 100 30/-; per doz. 4/-
Lavender Munstead Early Dwarf, strong bushes per 100 30/-; per doz. 4/-

Surplus List of Hardy Border Plants, Rock Plants, Climbers and Wall Shrubs post free

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2

For success in your Garden USE
THOMSON'S MANURES

On the market for over 50 years, they still hold first place for QUALITY and RESULTS. They are safe, sure and lasting. The direct result of many years' practical experience in gardening, they stand unrivalled at the present day for all Garden Crops.

Prices:—VINE, PLANT AND VEGETABLE MANURE—a Perfect Food—1 cwt., 30/-; 56 lb., 16/-; 28 lb. 9/-; 14 lb. 5/-; 7 lb., 3/-; tins, 1/3 and 9d. SPECIAL TOP DRESSING MANURE—an excellent stimulant—56 lb., 17/-; 28 lb., 9/6; 14 lb., 5/6; 7 lb. 3/-; tins, 1/3. Carriage paid on 28 lbs. and up.

WRITE FOR OUR BOOKLET—POST FREE ON REQUEST

SOLD BY NURSERYMEN AND SEEDSMEN EVERYWHERE.

Or from Sole Makers, WM. THOMSON & SONS, TWEED VINEYARDS, CLOVENFORDS, SCOTLAND

FOOD FOR YOUR GARDEN

The Glory of the Garden

will be yours in full measure this year if you feed your flowers, fruit, vegetables and turf on

NORCO
COMPLETE FERTILISERS

THE PERFECT GARDEN FOOD

Which supplies the essential constituents contained in stable manure, but in a far richer and more convenient form.

PRICES (Bags Free and Carriage Paid):—

	7 lbs.	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	112 lbs.
"NORCO" Complete Garden Fertiliser . .	2/6	4/3	7/3	12/6	23/-
"NORCO" Complete Lawn & Turf Fertiliser (For Flowers, Fruit and Vegetables)	2/4	4/-	6/9	11/9	22/-
"NORCO" Complete Potato Fertiliser . .	2/6	4/3	7/3	12/6	23/-

Send for free Booklet on the use of Lime, Stable Manure and Chemical Fertilisers.

"NORCO" (Regd.) is obtainable only direct from the Sole Manufacturers:—

CHARLES NORRINGTON & CO., LTD.
Cattedown, PLYMOUTH.

Makers of High Grade Fertilisers since 1846. No. 1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

SEEDS, AND WHERE THEY CAN BE OBTAINE

BUY YOUR SEEDS DIRECT FROM THE GROWERS.
PEDIGREE PROVED
SEEDS
OF VEGETABLES
AND FLOWERS
FOR WHICH WE HOLD NUMEROUS AWARDS
COLLECTIONS OF VEGETABLE SEEDS - - from 5/6 upwards
COLLECTIONS OF SWEET PEAS - - - from 1/6 upwards - - -
GARDEN SEED ANNUAL for 1926 now ready, post free on application.
John K. King & Sons, Ltd.
BY APPOINTMENT TO H.M. THE KING
COGGESHALL :: :: ESSEX
Seed Growers since 1793.

Some Choice New Seeds

Iris sibirica — New hybrids (including Perry's Blue, Nora Distin, Kingfisher Blue, &c.) 1/6 per packet.

Delphinium — Our well-known "British Birds" Series produces spikes of bloom as wonderful as the expensive named varieties.
From Light Shades only } 2/6
,, Dark ,, ,, } per
Mixed - - - } packet.

Gladiolus — Primulinus hybrids } 3/6
Large-flowered ,, } per
Both in mixture - } packet.

See our new seed leaflet for special offers, Nos. 4 to 8. Seed should be sown early in heat if flowers are expected this year.

Border Carnation — We have not many packets of this left as we had to meet a large Autumn demand, and much of it has again gone abroad.

DO NOT FAIL TO GET OUR NEW SEED LEAFLET GIVING CULTURAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR BOTH SEED AND SEEDLINGS.

LOWE & GIBSON Crawley Down SUSSEX

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing*

ANNUALS AS POT PLANTS

IN most establishments to-day the stove and warm greenhouse plants have disappeared, and their place is taken by others that are less costly to produce and require little fire heat. There are a large number of annuals suitable for our purpose.

Among the most prominent will be found the clarkias of the elegans class. One of the best is Scarlet Beauty, a really fine salmon-scarlet, the flowers being double and produced in long sprays. There are other forms of clarkia, such as Firefly and Salmon Queen, but the one quoted above is the best I have seen for pot work.

Flowering stocks are indispensable, particularly in winter and spring and if suitable varieties are chosen and the

plants never allowed to become starved in the young stage a fine display can be secured from specimens in 5in. pots. All the Year Round is a fine white-flowered stock with wallflower-leaved foliage. It is dwarf and very vigorous. Christmas Pink is also a noteworthy acquisition. The Beauty of Nice group can be strongly recommended. They have a fine branching habit and attain a height of 2ft. Old Rose is especially attractive as a pot plant, and other shades are to be obtained; such as white, mauve, crimson and pink.

For a really fine display of various coloured flowers the schizanthus are well to the fore, and the dwarf hybrids are well adapted for the small greenhouse. There are several noted strains in existence, especially of the hybrid and wisetonensis type, while the retusus forms

SOW NOW to Bloom in July and Aug
Blackmore & Langdon
World Renowned BEGONIA SEEDS (82 Gold Medals)
DOUBLE.
None can equal this for quality, size, and lovely form and colours of flowers. .. Per packet 2/6 & 5/-
FIMBRIATA PLENA.
Double frilled, very pretty .. .. 2/6 & 5/-
SINGLE.
Of wonderful size and form .. 1/-, 2/6 & 5/-
FRILLED SINGLE
A beautiful selection .. .. 1/-, 2/6 & 5/-
CRESTED SINGLE
Very fascinating .. .. .. 1/-, 2/6 & 5/-
CRISPA MARGINATA
Delightful novelty, frilled single picotee .. 2/6
HANGING BASKET
A grand novelty, very graceful 1/6, 2/6 & 5/-
GLOXINIA
Seed, mixed in most beautiful selection of colour .. .. 1/6, 2/6 & 5/-
For Prices of Tubers of above and other Specialities write for Free Catalogue and mention this Paper
BATH

DAWKINS'
SEED CATALOGUE
has now been posted; if not received a copy will be gladly sent on application.
ALL THE BEST NOVELTIES
full list for 1926, including Sweet Peas.
NOVELTIES OF 1925 THAT HAVE STOOD THE TEST
PETUNIA SILVER QUEEN
splendid for bedding, 1/- per pkt.
SALVIA HARBINGER
finest of all the Dwarf Scarlet Salvias, 1/- per pkt.
CHRYSANTHEMUM LEUCANTHEMUM
White Comet, 6d. per pkt.
ALFRED DAWKINS
17 years Manager Seed Dept., JAMES VEITCH & SONS,
408, King's Road, Chelsea, S.W.10.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

Austins
Scotch Seed Potatoes

All stocks are grown and selected specially for seed purposes, and under normal conditions of soil and situation essential to produce first-class crops. All are Class 1, Scotch.

	14lb.	28lb.	56lb.	112lb.
FIRST EARLY VARIETIES.				
Arran Rose	3/-	5/6	10/-	18/-
Primrose Ashleaf	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Duke of York	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Sharpe's Express	2/3	4/3	7/6	13/-
Witch Hill Early	3/-	5/6	10/-	18/-
SECOND EARLY VARIETIES.				
Ally	2/3	4/3	7/6	13/-
Arran Comrade	2/3	4/3	7/6	13/-
British Queen	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Great Scot	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Tarbona	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
MAIN CROP VARIETIES.				
Abundance	2/4	4/6	8/-	14/-
Arran Chief	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
King Edward	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Kerr's Pink	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Majestic	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Field Marshal	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-

We offer many other varieties, including Arran Consul, Ben Lomond, Golden Marvel, White Arran Victory, etc., full particulars of which are given in our Catalogue, which may be had post free on request.

Packing Free. Carriage forward by goods train. If to be sent by passenger train the additional cost would be : 14lb., 1/6; 28lb., 2/9; 56lb., 5/-; 112lb., 10/-.

AUSTIN'S GOLD MEDAL GARDEN SEEDS.
Descriptive Catalogue of all varieties of outstanding merit free on request. Write for copy.

Orders have prompt attention.

AUSTIN & McASLAN
The Premier Scottish Seedsmen since 1717,
Mitchell Street, GLASGOW.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Kentish Grown Sweet Peas

F. C. WOODCOCK'S SWEET PEAS have gained Fame in all parts of the World where they can be successfully grown.

My New Catalogue contains all the most reliable Novelties to grow for 1926, as well as the best varieties for Exhibition purposes. *May I send you a copy?*

1 Packet given free with all orders of 2/6 and over.

F. C. WOODCOCK,
Sweet Pea Specialist,
WALMER KENT.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

ECKFORD'S GIANT FRILLED SWEET PEAS
FOR 1926

GORGEOUS FLOWERS. MAGNIFICENT STEMS
For a wealth of cut flowers.
For garden decoration. For exhibition.

ECKFORD'S ARE THE WORLD'S BEST

Special Offer.—25 specially chosen 1/- packets of Eckford's Giant Frilled Sweet Peas for 1926, each separate and named, for - - - - - - - - **20/-**
The same 25, half-packets, each separate and named, for - - - - - - - - - - - - - - **10/-**
The above are a gorgeous range of colour
WRITE FOR CATALOGUE (FREE) of all the best Sweet Peas for 1926. Also pedigree vegetables and choicest flower seeds

HENRY ECKFORD, Headquarters for Sweet Peas, Dept. 6, **Wem, Shropshire**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

deserve to be more widely grown. The first sowing is made in January, but another sowing can take place in August for winter display.

Gilia coronopifolia, a half-hardy biennial must be included. It attains a height of 3ft. to 4ft., fine larkspur like foliage, and long spikes and branchlets of brilliant scarlet crimson flowers.

The salpiglossis are pretty ornamental annuals with large-veined, funnel-shaped flowers, the plants reaching a height of 2ft. to 3ft.,

The sweet scabious is offered in various colours and mixed, and they are most attractive for the greenhouse, and will no doubt in time be largely employed for this purpose when their value is more fully realised.

Mignonette is always a favourite, but for some reason the fine pots seen at Covent Garden Market are not met with in private gardens. The seed is sown in the pots in which the plants

will bloom, and three or four seedlings will be enough for a 5in. pot.

With the exception of mignonette the seedlings are potted off singly as soon as possible, and when established the schizanthus and clarkias must be pinched to encourage the formation of side growths. The next stage will be the final potting in pots 5ins. and 6ins. in diameter. The compost consists of good quality fibrous loam three parts and one part leaf-mould, and manure from an old mushroom-bed.

Other annuals will occur to the observant grower, but the culture is on similar lines. The keynote throughout their career is cool treatment, and one of the principal factors in their successful cultivation is judicious ventilation to prevent the damping off of the foliage. No amateur or beginner need fear growing the plants mentioned in these notes, and few greenhouse subjects give such a generous return for such a modest outlay.

T. W. BRISCOE.

UNWIN'S SWEET PEAS

Known and grown all over the World. There are no Sweet Peas of better quality obtainable. You will eventually grow them, why not *this* season?

UNWIN'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI

Our 1925 Awards at six of the leading Shows were: Six Gold Medals and One Silver Cup. We offer the very best and most distinct English, American and Dutch Novelties and standard varieties at "*buyable*" prices.

UNWIN'S GARDEN SEEDS, ETC.

Vegetable and Flower Seeds, Bulbs, Scotch Seed Potatoes, Dahlias, Roses, etc., of the Highest Quality at prices within reach of every pocket.

1926 CATALOGUE POST FREE

Write for a copy *now*, before it slips your memory, from

W. J. UNWIN, F.R.H.S., *Sweet Pea Specialist & Seedsman,* **HISTON, CAMBS.**

GLOXINIA SEED

Grand strains of this gorgeous flower may be obtained of us in crimson, white, rose shades, assorted colours, **2/6** & **5/-** per packet.

CYCLAMEN SEED

The gorgeous nearly scarlet Cherry Ripe, Salmon King, Pink Pearl, all raised by us, can be supplied in eight separate colours, or mixed, at **2/6** per packet. Also fine strains of Streptocarpus and Primulas, **2/6** per packet.

STUART LOW & CO., Bush Hill Park, ENFIELD

Forbes' East Lothian Stocks
The most reliable strain in existence. Sow at once for June to November flowering. Crimson, Purple, Rose, Scarlet, White, Lavender, Crimson and White Wallflower-leaved, each **1/-, 2/6** & **5/-** per pkt.

Forbes' Giant-Flowered Pentstemon
Choice mixed, saved from our unrivalled Gold Medal Collection, **1/-, 2/6** & **5/-** per pkt.

Forbes' Fancy Pansy
Choice mixed, in grand variety of colour, **1/-, 2/6** & **5/-** per pkt.

JOHN FORBES (HAWICK), Ltd.,
The King's Nurserymen, HAWICK, SCOTLAND.

Garden Seeds from Scotland

SEND FOR

'My Garden Book, 1926'

Recognised by many as

BRITAIN'S BEST SEED CATALOGUE

A descriptive and illustrated list of all the best Vegetable Seeds, Flower Seeds, and Highland Grown Seed Potatoes.

Post free on request.

SECURE YOUR COPY NOW.

ALEXANDER & BROWN
(Dept. T)
The Scottish Seed House, PERTH

Digitized by Google

WAKELEY'S GARDEN SEEDS

We beg to announce to our thousands of customers that - we are now offering -

GARDEN SEEDS

of the very

FINEST VARIETIES & STRAIN.

Send for our **SPRING CATALOGUE** which contains a choice selection of all seeds and other specialities - for the garden. -

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.,
75a, Bankside, S.E.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

PERRY'S SPECIAL OFFER of Japanese Lilies, Gladioli, Montbretias,

Etc., **AT EXCEPTIONALLY LOW PRICES,**

which will bear favourable comparison with any other reliable house in the Trade.

List free on demand.

PERRY'S HARDY PLANT FARMS,
ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

FRUIT TREES.

SPECIAL OFFER of the following in strong, well-grown Fruiting Bushes :—

12 Gooseberries Whinham's Industry.
12 Black Currants Seabrook's (Mite Resisting).
12 Red Currants Raby Castle.

for 20/- Carriage Paid for Cash with Order, or half the above numbers for 10/-.

CLIMBING ROSES.

A great opportunity to have your own selection from the following:

Albéric Barbier	Lady Gay
American Pillar	Lady Godiva
Aviateur Bleriot	Minehaha
Coronation	René André
Dorothy Perkins	White Dorothy
Excelsa	
Hiawatha	

Six extra strong, well-grown Trees selected from the above for 10/-, carriage paid to your nearest station, for cash with order.

Descriptive Catalogue of Fruit Trees, Roses, Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, etc.

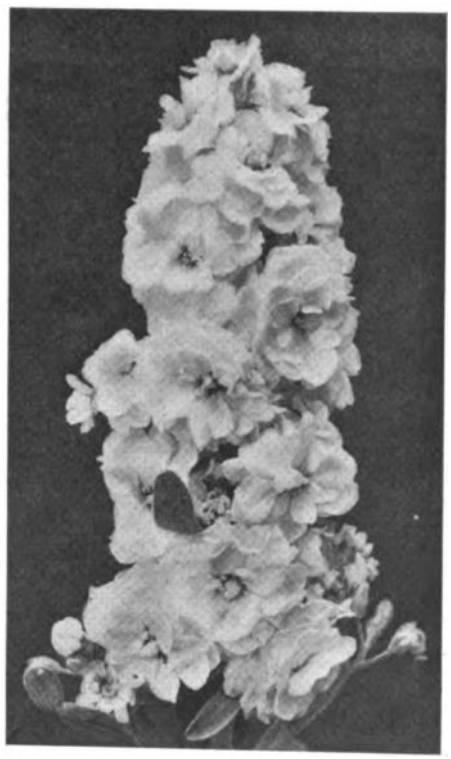
THE FOREST & ORCHARD NURSERIES, LTD.,
MILBURY HEATH, FALFIELD, GLOS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

STOCKS ALL THE YEAR

ALTHOUGH we think that the stocks are not so popular as they used to be, yet in many gardens they are always favourites on account of their delightful fragrance and the beauty of their flowers. There are many varieties now available in the three "divisions," into which this flower is placed, and those who love them can have their favourite blossom throughout the greater part of the year.

The summer-flowering or ten-week stocks are well known to all. Raised under cool conditions in spring and planted out in May, they are in flower by the end of June; in good soil, where they can be grown fast without a check, and always with the provision that a good strain of seed is obtained, they are a delight throughout the summer. Many fine varieties can be had, tall and dwarf; ordinary bedding sorts, in colours, are charming, but we might mention the dwarf, large-flowering strain in particular. For cutting Snowdon, Canary Yellow, Blood Red,



Vesuvius and other tall, unnamed colours are exceedingly fine.

The East Lothian or intermediate class is later in flowering, from sowings made as early as February, but they come into grace when the others are losing their freshness, and, being very hardy, continue to please for a long time. Covent Garden is an old favourite here, but there is a lack of named varieties and one has to be content with colours; the plants branch more than the former varieties and need more space when planted out.

The late autumn, winter and early spring being an "off" season, as far as outside bloom is concerned, it is necessary to grow stocks for flowering in pots in a cool or temperate house. The plants do not need much heat; the compost ought to be mainly a good turfy loam, and such feeding as is given ought to be delayed until the flowers are about to appear. When in the seedling stage care must be taken to see that they are not checked in any way, nor over watered, and as they flower they must have space to look their best. Opinions will differ, undoubtedly, as to the best kinds; I personally prefer the "Beauty" series, and generally grow a few of each of the six colours. The Emperor varieties—Crimson King, Elizabeth and White Lady—are also very fine.

A SEED LIST TO WATC

Write for a copy of
Clarence Elliott's 1926 l
of Alpine and Herbaceous Seeds, and the best Annuals for cutting, for colour and for fragrance

SEVERAL RARE SEEDS NEVER OFFERED BEFORE.

Collection of Seeds for Children's Gardens, with particulars of our Great

CHILDREN'S GARDEN COMPETITIC
WITH 15 PRIZES.

CLARENCE ELLIOTT LTD.,
Six Hills Nursery, STEVENAGE, HER

KING'S ACR

SELECT AND RELIABLE

GARDEN SEED

Unsurpassed for Quality and Germination. The finest and Best Stocks obtainable, and famous throughout the United Kingdom.

THE FINEST STRAINS EXTANT
CRANSTON'S EXCELSIOR AND AIL
CRAIG ONIONS.

New Seed Catalogue just issued and Free on req

90 GOLD MEDALS AWARDED TO OUR HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITS.

KING'S ACRE NURSERIE LTD
Seed Merchants,
HEREFORD. *Established* 1785. LATE CRANSTONS.

PLANTING SEASON

GEO. JACKMAN & SO

WOKING NURSERIES, SURREY

ESTABLISHED OVER A CENTURY

INVITE INSPECTION OF THEIR LARGE AND VARIED STOCK OF
ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBS, ROSES, CLIMBERS
FRUIT AND FOREST TREES
HERBACEOUS AND ALPINE
PLANTS

200 ACRES OF STOCK TO SELECT FROM. CATALOGUES FREE ON APPLICATION

Advice given on all matters appertaining Landscape Gardening and Estate Improveme

Digitized by Google

GLOXINIAS.

Our exquisite strain is distinguished by compact habit, great freedom of flowering and very varied colours, including all the best self colours and the finest edged, tipped, shaded, laced and spotted varieties.
Very fine Tubers, just starting .. **4/-** doz

BEGONIAS.

Superb Gold Medal Strain of both Singles and Doubles in 10 separate colours.
Giant Tubers, 2 to 2½ in. diameter.. **4/-** doz.
Large Tubers, 1½ to 2 in. ,, .. **3/-** doz.

CYCLAMEN.

A strain of exceptional merit. Giant White, Scarlet, Salmon, Crimson, Pink and Choice Mixed. Strong transplanted plants, ex boxes, **2/6** doz.

H. H. MAW & SON,
Friarwood Nurseries, PONTEFRACT

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

GLORIOUS GLADIOLI

No Garden is complete without these lovely flowers, and for house decoration they have few equals. Our Special List, in which we offer many new and choice varieties, is now ready, and will be sent free on request.

LONGSTAFF & SONS, Bulb Growers, Importers and Merchants,
Near CHELSFIELD STATION, KENT.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Scotch Seeds are Best.

Send for our Illustrated Catalogue of VEGETABLE & FLOWER SEEDS, SCOTCH SEED POTATOES, SUNDRIES—72 pp. and 16 pp. Illustrations—with prices and cultural directions. Post free on application to

LEARMONT, HUNTER & KING, Ltd.,
Seed Merchants, DUMFRIES.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

STORRIE & STORRIE

(Of TINY SEEDLINGS FAME)

Will be posting very shortly their 1926 Catalogue. This will contain one of the most comprehensive and up-to-date collections of Flower Seeds, catering alike for the SMALLEST AMATEUR or the LARGEST PROFESSIONAL GARDENER. To save time and attention in *Seed Rearing*, TINY SEEDLINGS ready for pricking out at correct dates, STRONG PLANTS a little later. Cyclamen begin the season, with most other popular subjects following—Herbaceous, Biennials and Perennials, Hardy and Half-Hardy Annuals, Sweet Peas, Bedding Plants, Choice Stove and Greenhouse Flowering and Foliage Plants—all included.

Quality Dominates Prices. Write for Catalogue.

STORRIE & STORRIE,
Flower Seed Specialists,
GLENCARSE, Perthshire.

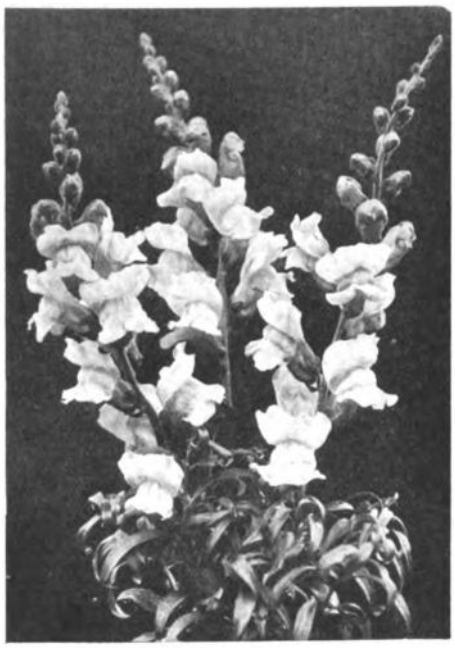
Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

ANTIRRHINUMS FOR GAIETY

OUR title, perhaps, in its brevity strikes the most forcible note, for none can deny that there is soundness in the judgment which selects antirrhinums for gaiety.

The colour chart that should embrace every brilliant hue and subtle tint to be found in a representative collection of antirrhinums would be no simple production, but concise and accurate description of many of the shades would be beyond the power of pen. Blue alone is lacking, but of all other colours there are graduated shades and delightful combinations.

There are varieties varying from delicate pink to deep velvety crimson. The apricot and lemon shades are also most attractive. For bedding, the glowing orange scarlets, such as Orange King and Fire King, and the bright pink Nelrose, produce a very striking effect. These intermediate varieties are more



suitable for massing than the tall strains of antirrhinums. Buff-pink, creamed tinged with pink, white with pink markings, chocolate maroon and such colour combination as crimson and gold, are a few of the delightful and uncommon shades which are to be found among the modern antirrhinums.

About three years ago a variety named Radiance made a well deserved name for itself, for it was a compelling flower of exceptional brilliance; but, alas! it cast itself upon the rock which has wrecked many a flower, for it proved unsteadfast and unfixed in colour. Many who followed the strong recommendation of enthusiasts found Radiance from seed a failure, but there is hope yet that a sound stock of this intensely brilliant flower will soon again be forthcoming. Meanwhile if any growers find indifferent stocks of so good an antirrhinum it is sheer folly to distribute them, for the injury is not confined to it alone, but adversely affects the advancement of the whole cult of the antirrhinum.

£300 in Awards for Raising "Hollyhock" Delphinium Seeds

WITH a view to securing the interest and co-operation of amateurs, BEES LTD. have reserved £300, to be given in awards to raisers of new, and improved, varieties of "Hollyhock" Delphiniums.

A free packet (3 seeds) saved from the better varieties of this magnificent strain, together with Bees' Seed Catalogue, will be sent to each person who remits 6d. for the following sample packets:—

Mixed Godetia - 1,000 seeds
Love-in-a-Mist - 200 ,,
Double Clarkia - 1,000 ,,

Larger packets of "Hollyhock" Delphinium Seeds may be obtained at 2/6 per packet; three times the quantity for 5/-

Remember! any one seed may win an award.

Detailed instructions upon raising, and full particulars of the scheme sent with the seeds.

Fill up coupon NOW, and enclose 6d. in stamps, or P.O.

Bees Ltd
1756, MILL ST., LIVERPOOL

COUPON

To BEES LTD., 1756, MILL ST., LIVERPOOL

I enclose 6d. Please send sample seeds: free packet Delphinium Seeds, and a copy of Seed Catalogue.

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

T.G. 9/1/26.

Digitized by Google

AFTER 23 YEARS——

AN ELOQUENT PROOF OF UNFAILING AND USEFUL SERVICE.

"A better Greenhouse Boiler could not be than the 'Horse Shoe.' I have had it in use for 23 years, and it has answered splendidly," writes Mr. F. G. L.....47, Mt. Carmel, Derby. 23/11/1925.

"HORSE SHOE" BOILERS

CAN BE SUPPLIED FROM IMMEDIATE STOCK.

Write for particulars now.

To CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD.,
Engineers, Southwark Street, S.E.1.

Please send me Booklet E "Making the Most of Your Greenhouse," and price of complete Outfit to suit *(span-roof)(lean-to) greenhouse.....long .....wide inside, sides of *(wood) (brick).....thick.

Name.....

Address.....

*Strike out particulars not needed. Cut out and send by ½d. post.

CHAS. P. KINNELL & Co., Ltd., 65, Southwark St., LONDON, S.E.1
Wire: "Kinnell-Boroh-London." Phone: Hop 362 (three lines.)

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

LETHORION IMPRO NICOTININ
FUMIGATOR
Certain destruction to all pests in glas
Only a match required for startin
No. 1 .. For 1,000 cubic feet ..
" 2 .. " 1,500 " " ..
" 3 .. " 2,500 " " ..
Sold by all Nurserymen and Seeds
CORRY & CO., Ltd., Shad Thames, Lond

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !
for garden, greenhouse, fencing, training fruit trees, pea cucumbers, etc. Most durable, waterproof covered and injure. Small lots quoted or mile drums (full 1,760 fraction of makers' cost . . . only 19/6. Samples fr list, 300 new Government bargains. Post card to-d save ! !—GREENS, 240, Albert Street, Lytham.

GARDEN DESIGN is best dealt with in "Planning and Planting of Little Gardens," by G. DILLISTONE, 6/–; by post, 6/6. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

Spray now

WHILE YOUR FRUIT TREES are dormant to destroy Moss and Lichen, and remove loose bark (the breeding places of insect pests.)

The finest fruit comes from the cleanest trees. Why not cleanse and re-invigorate your trees now, with

COOPER'S WINTER SPRAY FLUID

"Commended" by the Royal Horticultural Society

1 gallon makes 100 gallons mixture.

Pint 2/3 Quart 3/3 ½ gall. 5/9 1 gall. 9/6
2 galls. 18/- 5 galls. £1/18/6.

Of all agents. If any trouble to obtain, please write

WILLIAM COOPER & NEPHEWS, Ltd.,
BERKHAMSTED.

WEED DEATH

The new NON-POISONOUS Weed Killer (POWDER).
SUPERIOR TO DANGEROUS ARSENICAL COMPOUNDS
Safety first, non-caustic, no smell, kills the roots.
For 4 galls., 1/-; 12½, 2/-; 25, 3/6; 50, 6/6; 100, 12/- & Bulk
From your Nurseryman or Seedsman.
CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

Two popular gardening successes

RHODODENDRONS *for Amateurs*

By E. H. M. COX. Demy 8vo., with coloured wrapper and 15 illustrations. 128 pages. 5s.

"The book is one which can be recommended to all interested in Rhododendrons. It is free from technicalities and should prove of great service to amateurs."—GARDEN LIFE.

SHRUBS *for Amateurs*

By W. J. BEAN. Uniform with the above. 5s. (just published). The condensed wisdom of a great authority.

"The new work will prove a boon, for it is written in a refreshing style."
—GARDENERS' CHRONICLE.

"COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED

20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2

The Garden Doctor

By F. J. CHITTENDEN, V.M.H.

Plants in Health and Disease

5/- net; by post 5/6

This book—written by an acknowledged authority—gives a short and simple account of common troubles met with in gardens, and the most effective methods of dealing with them.

A prospectus of this volume will be sent post free on application to the Manager, "Country Life," 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

I COUNT that man fortunate who has done with experimenting and found a tobacco which consistently gives a full measure of enjoyment—*R.F.E*

There is one brand which to many a man is his best friend

They call it

PLAYER'S NAVY CUT

For Cigarette Smokers
PLAYER'S NAVY CUT CIGARETTES

Registered No. 134011.

P.1263.

Digitized by Google

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

By Appointment

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

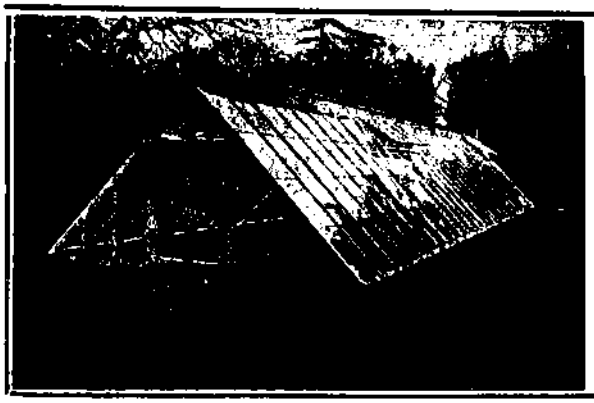
SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD., Royal Potteries. BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM



GREENHOUSES AND GARDEN FRAMES

I specialize in the Erection of High class Horticultural Buildings.

Garden Frames a speciality. Selected timber, well seasoned, only used.

Being a grower, I understand Glass-house requirements.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.

CATALOGUES WITH PLEASURE.

E. M. HEAP, Cottimore Nurseries, WALTON-ON-THAMES.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

All Boots* for heavy going across country in all weathers should have Uppers of "Beva" Waterproof Leather

* Look for the "Beva" on the Looping.

Make the Most of your Greenhouse and instal a SILVER MEDAL HORSE SHOE BOILER—

which ensures a steady heat for a succession of thriving Plants and Flowers, with minimum trouble and little fuel.

Booklet E and reduced prices post free.

C. P. KINNELL & Co., Ltd., SOUTHWARK STREET, LONDON, S.E.1.

Used in the R.H.S. Gardens.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

ADVERTISING Benefits the Public

THE primary instinct of the advertiser is to benefit himself. That is natural. To do that, he must benefit the public. That is praiseworthy. All these continuous and consistent advertisers that you can think of, are insuring themselves against failure by benefiting . . . YOU.

YOUR GARDEN NEEDS KILOGRUB

Its fumes are instantly fatal to all insect pests in the soil, but harmless to plants. Really effective because it works underground.

Tins: 9d., 1/6 and 2/6. Bags: ½ cwt. 6/6, 1 cwt. 9/6, 1 cwt. 15/-

From your seedsmen or from JOHN PEAK & CO., LTD. WIGAN, Lancs.

British Made ABOLENE Tar Oil Winter Wash

Clears Tree Trunks of Moss and Lichen and destroys Insects' Eggs and Fungus Spores

Abolene is thoroughly reliable and efficient. Easy and safe to use. Supplied in small sizes to suit owners of only two or three trees.

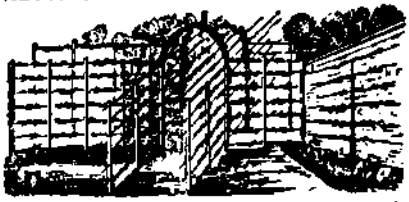
Quart ..	2/4
½ gallon ..	3/8
1 gallon ..	6/-

Write for Descriptive Folder

Abol Limited, 9 Beltring, Paddock Wood, Kent.

HILL & SMITH, Ltd., BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS,

Makers of IRON FENCING, HURDLES, GATES, WIRE NETTING AND GARDEN IRONWORK



Other Products—Hay and Grain Sheds, Dutch Barns, Galvanized Corrugated Sheets and Structural Steelwork.

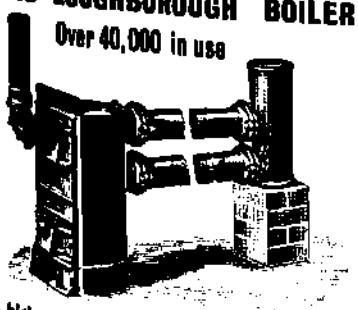
Catalogues free on mentioning this paper.

London: 308, Abbey House, VICTORIA ST., S.W.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE LOUGHBOROUGH BOILER

Over 40,000 in use



The high reputation of this Boiler for efficiency and economy is still unrivalled

Easy to fix, easy to manage, and most economical in fuel, it is the ideal Boiler for the Amateur's Greenhouse

Price Lists and Estimates for complete apparatus on application

MESSENGER & CO., LTD. LOUGHBOROUGH LEICESTERSHIRE

LONDON OFFICE: 122, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

ADCO turns GARDEN REFUSE into SYNTHETIC FARMYARD MANURE

1 cwt. of ADCO makes from two to three tons of manure according to the class of rubbish treated.

ADCO Accelerator .. 28 lb. 4/6. 56 lb. 8/-, 1 cwt. 15/-

Standard ADCO .. 28 lb. 6/- 56 lb. 11/6 1 cwt. 20/-

Carriage Paid to Nearest Goods Station. Cash with Order.

Obtainable from all leading Seedsmen. Write for full particulars.

ADCO Ltd., 40, HARPENDEN, HERTS

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

SEEDSMEN B
APPOINTMEN

CARTERS LARGE FLOWERED SWEET PEAS

VARIETIES ILLUSTRATED:

MATCHLESS
A very vigorous rich cream; waved; large and sweetly scented.
Per packet **1/-** *and* **1/6**

POWERSCOURT
A large pure lavender of good substance, giving well-placed fours.
Award of Merit, N.S.P.S.
Per packet **1/-** *and* **1/6**

GLORIOSA
Fiery orange scarl glowing sheen; ve vigorous; abundance fours on long stems.
Per packet **6d.** *and*

CARTERS IDEAL COLLECTION

12 Exhibition Varieties
Our Selection - **5/6**

6 Exhibition Varieties
Our Selection - **2/9**

CARTERS SPECIAL MIXTURE

A mixture of special merit, comprising all the finest beau fully waved Spencer forms. Should be sown when a f display of colour and blooms of good substance are requir
Per packet, **1/-** and **2/6**; ½ lb., **8/-**; 1 lb., 1

ALL THE BEST RAISERS' NOVELTIES AND THE PICK OF THE STANDARD VARIETIES.

SEE THE SPECIAL SWEET PEA LIST IN

CARTERS CATALOGUE for 1926

POST FREE ON APPLICATION.

Carters
TESTED SEEDS

Sweet Pea Specialists,
RAYNES PARK, LONDON, S.W.

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

GENERAL LIBRARY JUL

Vol. XC.—No. 2826 Saturday, January 16th, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

BARR'S VEGETABLE SEEDS

OF FINEST SELECTED STRAINS
:: AND TESTED GROWTH ::

Awarded by The Royal Horticultural Society, London :
SEVEN GOLD MEDALS, SEVEN SILVER-GILT MEDALS,
and many First Class Certificates, Awards of Merit, etc.
AND
THREE GOLD MEDALS NATIONAL VEGETABLE SOCIETY

Descriptive Catalogue of the Best Vegetables and most Beautiful Flowers, Best quality Garden Requisites, Tools, Manures, and List of useful Horticultural Books. Sent free on application.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

DEBEN ROSES

Are Guaranteed British Grown

12 RELIABLE GARDEN SORTS in First Quality Plants only 12

MRS. H. MORSE. MAD. A. CHATENAY. DUCHESS OF WELLINGTON. LAMIA. GORGEOUS. LADY HILLINGDON. W. F. DREER. MRS. A. TATE. LOS ANGELES. RUTH BETTY UPRICHARD AND THE NEW VESUVIUS.

12/- *Packing and Carriage Free for Cash with Order.*

MORSE BROTHERS DEPT. G DEBEN NURSERIES
MELTON, WOODBRIDGE, SUFFOLK

NO MORE BROKEN GLASS

IF YOU USE

WINDOLITE

which supersedes glass for all garden uses.

LIGHT. FLEXIBLE. UNBREAKABLE.

Easy to cut and fix.

Send 4/6 for sample over 30ins. square, post free. Write for leaflets.

WINDOLITE (DEPT. 12) 179/185, GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

FOR THE GARDEN! FOR EXHIBITION!
FOR BEDS! FOR EVERYWHERE!

Also Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees.

BUY HOME GROWN TREES.
Support British Industries.

Catalogue Free on Application, and Addresses booked for Revised Catalogue in late Summer.

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.,
Garden Specialists - - SOUTHWELL, NOTTS

KING'S ACRE *Select and Reliable* GARDEN SEEDS

Unsurpassed for Quality and Germination.
The finest and Best Stocks obtainable and famous throughout the United Kingdom.

THE FINEST STRAINS EXTANT OF CRANSTON'S EXCELSIOR AND AILSA CRAIG ONIONS

New Seed Catalogue just issued and Free on request.

90 GOLD MEDALS AWARDED TO OUR HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITS.

King's Acre Nurseries, Ltd. *Seed Merchants* HEREFORD
ESTABLISHED 1785. LATE CRANSTONS.

PLANTING SEASON

GEO. JACKMAN & SON

WOKING NURSERIES, SURREY.

Established over a century.

Invite inspection of their large and varied stock of ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBS, ROSES, CLIMBERS, FRUIT AND FOREST TREES, HERBACEOUS AND ALPINE PLANTS.

200 Acres of Stock to select from. Catalogues free on application.

ADVICE GIVEN ON ALL MATTERS APPERTAINING TO LANDSCAPE GARDENING & ESTATE IMPROVEMENTS

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S HARDY PLANT FARMS ENFIELD, MIDDX. — New Alpines and Perennials. Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS. NURSERIES BEDFORD — Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR. HARDY PLANT NURSERY MERSTHAM, SURREY — Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON TWERTON HILL NURSERY BATH — Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS 408, KING'S ROAD CHELSEA, S.W. — Seed Catalogue and Novelty List on Application.

R. H. BATH, LTD. THE FLORAL FARMS WISBECH — Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

BROWN'S TESTED SEEDS. Illustrated Flower and Vegetable Seed Catalogue, giving full cultural directions, at competitive prices, post free if this paper is mentioned. D. T. BROWN & CO., *Seedsmen* Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

Fruit Trees Rose Trees
ALL ENGLISH GROWN.
Descriptive Catalogue post free on demand.
INSPECTION INVITED.
S. SPOONER & SONS
Estd. 1820 The Nurseries, Hounslow, MIDDLESEX

TUBS FOR SHRUBS. WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 100 prizes. R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. — Price List from A. PRADAL 28, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

THE JACKPAN
"The tool that cuts your costs"
Abolishes trenching. THE deep cultivator. What your Editor and others think of it is told in our Illustrated Folder No. 5, sent on request.
Your retailer can supply, or we will send sample for 6/-
P.E.G.S. LTD., 3, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.1

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD. NURSERIES CRAWLEY — Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG THE NURSERIES CHISLEHURST, KENT — Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD. BARROW-ON-HUMBER HULL — Weed Destroyers Fertilisers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

Downer's 'Usually Silent' Lupins
are making a great 'noise' in the World
Rich Harmonious Colours. Mixed, 18/- doz. Clumps
Lupin List, Herbaceous and Alpine Catalogues, free.
DOWNER, 2, Drayton Manor Nurseries, Chichester.

Michaelmas Daisies
For all the latest and most beautiful varieties, see the Raiser's List.
ERNEST BALLARD, Colwall, MALVERN

FOSTER & PEARSON LIMITED
Established 1841
Please write for Estimates for durable Greenhouses, Boilers, etc., to
BEESTON NOTTS

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

An opportunity
Future pests can be destroyed now—by attacking the egg-deposits with XL ALL Winter Wash. Seize the opportunity and buy a small tin to-day from your nurseryman, seedsman or florist.
XL ALL WINTER WASH
(non-poisonous)
G. H. RICHARDS, LTD.
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
Rp. 70.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

For Sale, £5,000
CHAPPELL, BARRHEAD, RENFREWSHIRE
Good Family House 5 public, 6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms; overhauled five years ago. Electric light and power from Clyde Valley Co., central heating, with separate boiler for bath water. Small conservatory adjoining house. Two cottages (modern, electric lighted), two greenhouse, croquet green and hard tennis court, pleasantly situated. Good kitchen garden, herbaceous borders, rockeries, sweeps of wild grass well planted with daffodils, and bluebell carpeted wood.
The house stands high on southern slope to the Levern River. There are pleasant views from the windows. Policies about 10 acres. No ground burdens.
TELEPHONE: BARRHEAD 75.

THE LEADING GLASSHOUSE FUMIGANT.

CORRY & CO., SHAD THAMES, LONDON S.E.

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by "ALPHOL" Sample 14 lb., 5/6 carr. paid
Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to
Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St., Liverpool

YOUR GARDEN NEEDS **KILOGRUB** — Its fumes are instantly fatal to all insect pests in the soil, but harmless to plants. Really effective because it works underground.
Tins: 9d., 1/6 and 2/6
Bags: ¼ cwt. 5/6, ½ cwt. 9/6, 1 cwt. 15/-
From your seedsmen or from
JOHN PEAK & CO. LTD. WIGAN. Lancs.

GARDEN LOVERS
Write for Catalogues of
PROTHEROE & MORRIS'
HORTICULTURAL SALES
MONDAY WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY
67, 68 Chapside, London, E.C. Post City

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

WATERER'S GOLD MEDAL RHODODENDRONS. Azaleas, Shrubs, Conifers, Climbers Heaths, Hardy Perennials and Alpine Plants, Vegetable and Flower Seeds, Scotch Seed Potatoes, Spring Bulbs, English-grown Fruit Trees and Roses. Separate catalogue for each department post free.—JOHN WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LIMITED, Twyford, Berks.

WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE.—The original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See advt. on back page.

WM. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., Lawrence Road, South Tottenham, N.15.—Conservatories, Winter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

BIRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUNDIALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—Mosgrove, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

FENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Garden Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE STAINES UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, Surrey.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Pot Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list, post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

ROCK PLANTS AND SHRUBS.—Over 300 varieties in stock. Descriptive catalogue free. Also Herbaceous Plants and Roses.—HODSONS, LTD., 58, Castlegate, Nottingham.

A CATALOGUE of gardening books will be sent free on application to "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

MANURES.—The most complete little book on the subject is "The Manual of Manures," by H. VENDELMANS. 4/3; by post, 4/9. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

THE FAIRSEAT AUTUMN PLANT SALES present a wonderful opportunity to procure WELL GROWN PLANTS and BULBS for every purpose at bed-rock prices. Postal business a speciality. 18-page price-list post free on application to—THE SALES MANAGER, Fairseat Nurseries, Wrotham, Kent.

YORK STONE PAVINGS, crazy or rectangular, rustic copings, steps, roughly squared or random shaped, flat bedded wallstones, garden edging, rockery, etc.—SAMUEL JOHNSON AND SON (MIRFIELD), LTD., Newgate Stone Works, Mirfield, Yorkshire.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

MACROCARPAS FOR SALE.—One of the best Evergreen Hedge Plants, of rapid growth, hardy, and can be clipped to almost any dimensions. From open ground. Height, 6-9ft., £7 10s. per 100, or 21/- per doz.; 2½-3ft., 25 5s. per 100, or 18/- per doz. Also healthy stock of three year fruit trees, etc., at moderate prices. C.W.O., F.O.R., packing free.—H. STORRY, Becton Nursery, Milford Road, New Milton, Hants.

IPSWICH RARE SEEDS.—New Catalogue ready an encyclopædia on gardening—describes 3,000 varieties flower seeds, also all the best strains of vegetable seeds. Free on application to THOMPSON AND MORGAN, London Road, Ipswich.

IMPROVE YOUR GARDEN by the use of solid Oak Trellis Screens; they are ideal for growing creepers of all kinds and for securing privacy, at the same time adding an artistic feature that will last a lifetime (being pickled in preservative). No trouble to erect (being made in sections). Send for lists and get an estimate from W. T. REVITT, Railway Works, Olney.

BARR'S SEED GUIDE FOR 1926.—The best flower and vegetable seeds of finest selected strains and tested growth, including many fine novelties for the Flower Garden and Greenhouse; also a select list of Garden Requisites, Insecticides, Manures and Horticultural Books. Post free on application.—BARR AND SONS, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are now famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx, and perpetual habit. Illustrated plant list now ready. New Seed, now ready, hand fertilised, 2/6 and 5/- packets.—J. DOUGLAS, Great Bookham, Surrey.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial: Notes on Trees and Shrubs in Scotland	31
Perennials from Seed	32
Annuals for Hanging Baskets	34
Winter-flowering Begonias	35
Notes of the Week	36–37
Two Alpine Violas; Lachenalia Nelsoni; The Hardiness of Catmint; Bedding Ranunculus; The Californian Fuchsia; Pulmonarias; Two Interesting Early-flowering Shrubs.	
Blue and Pink in the Garden	38
The Propagation of Trees and Shrubs	40
Campanulas for the Rock Garden	41
Novelties in Sweet Peas	42
Correspondence	43–44
Flowers Blooming in the Open at Christmas; Holly and Manure; Planting; Eritrichium nanum; Chrysanthemums in Canada; Chrysanthemum Source d'Or.	
Garden Technique	44
Cut Flowers; Spiræa japonica and Solomon's Seal; Soil Mixtures for Alpines; Brussels Sprouts; Early Lettuces; Late Planting of Grape Vines; Propagation of Soft-Wooded Plants.	

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL DELPHINIUMS. World famed. We are raisers as well as large growers.

HEWITT'S GARDEN ROSES.—Send a post-card for our Rose and Delphinium Catalogue.

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI, Chrysanthemums, Dahlias, and Border Carnations.—Our stock includes many new and meritorious varieties. List post free on application.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

CLARENCE ELLIOTT'S SEED LIST is just out. Seeds of rare alpines, herbaceous plants and popular annual flowers. "A list worth watching."—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LTD., Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

SUTTON'S GARDEN PEAS

Unsurpassed for cropping, quality, appearance.
SUTTON'S SUPER PEA, THE V.C.
The largest podded Pea ever raised.
Invaluable for the table or for the exhibition stage.
Per packet, 2/6, 3/6 and 5/-.
Order early, stock limited.
SUTTON & SONS, THE KING'S SEEDSMEN, READING.

DOBBIE'S 1926 CATALOGUE AND GUIDE, 144 pages, 225 illustrations, free to all readers. Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.—DOBBIE AND CO., LTD., Edinburgh.

BATH'S SELECT SEEDS AND PLANTS.—New Illustrated Catalogue of choice Vegetable and Flower Seeds and Plants is now ready, and will be sent, post free, on application.—(Dept. E), R. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO READERS OF "THE GARDEN."—Owing to the great demand for FIDLER'S 1926 GARDEN GUIDE AND CATALOGUE, a limited number of copies have been provisionally reserved for readers of this paper. Please SEND IN YOUR APPLICATION AT ONCE and mark your envelope or postcard "GARDEN" in top left-hand corner.—FIDLER & SONS (established 1856), Reading.

HARDY PLANTS, ROSES AND FRUIT TREES. Revised catalogue now ready. Free on application to THOMPSON AND MORGAN, Ipswich.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS FOR GREENHOUSE AND GARDEN. Also Dahlias, Fuchsias, Show and Zonal Pelargoniums and Coleus. Price List free on application.—J. W. COLE AND SON, Westwood Nurseries, Peterborough.

ORCHIDS.—In addition to our own large stock, we have purchased a fine private Collection containing many useful Orchids suitable for Amateurs. Cool and Intermediate. Catalogue on application.—MANSELL AND HATCHER, LTD., Rawdon, Yorkshire.

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES direct from the growers. Our New Descriptive List now ready, post free.—GUTHRIE BROS., Springfield, Fife, N.B.

"THAT WILD GARDEN!" Stock it now with hardy natives—Primrose, Foxglove, Ferns, Iris, Orchis, etc.; 7/6 per 100 roots. List free.—NATIVE PLANT NURSERIES, Rockbeare, Exeter.

ALPINE, ROCK, HERBACEOUS PLANTS, Rock Garden Shrubs and Conifers Catalogue free.—SHEPPARD, Shawhurst Nursery, Hollywood, Birmingham.

SHRUBS are becoming more and more the fashion in gardening. "Shrubs for Amateurs," Mr. W. J Bean's new book, is the best on the subject at a reasonable price. 5/- net. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

GARDEN DESIGN is best dealt with in "Planning and Planting of Little Gardens," by G. DILLISTONE, 6/-; by post, 6/6. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING—"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

Warning

We have registered this "PEDIGREE-QUALITY SEAL" to warn purchasers, throughout the United Kingdom **against** buying Seeds described as "Suttons" **which have never been supplied by us from Reading**

In future every packet of "Sutton's Seeds" will bear this seal and **NONE IS GENUINE WITHOUT IT.**

G *Cut out this Coupon to send for Sutton's Garden Seed Catalogue*

Name.....

Address.....

.....

Sutton & Sons

The King's Seedsmen,
READING

Notes from Maidstone.

GRAPE VINES for HEATED or COLD HOUSES.

ALL the best varieties are fully described in our catalogue which is sent free on application. We will not, therefore, attempt a description here, but can recommend Muscat of Alexandria, Foster's Seedling, Black Hamburgh, Madresfield Court, Alicante, Prince of Wales.

Planting Canes— **12/6, 15/-** and **21/-** each

Fruiting Canes— **30/-** and **35/-** each

Fruit Trees, Shrubs, etc., can be transplanted safely up to early March.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd., The Royal Nurseries, Established 1796. Maidstone.

SCOTCH
SEED POTATOES
CLASS 1.

Selected Stocks of the leading varieties.
Send for List.

Isaac Poad & Sons, Ltd.,
SEED POTATO GROWERS,
YORK.

CUPRESSUS MACROCARPA

the ideal hedging plant, succeeds everywhere, forms a thick impenetrable hedge, always pleasing to the eye. We offer strong, bushy plants, from open ground.

24–30ins., 16/– doz. £5 15 per 100.
30–36ins., 22/– ,, £7 15 ,,
36–42ins., 27/6 ,, £9 15 ,,
42–48ins., 32/6 ,, £11 15 ,,

Not less than 6 at doz. rate, or 50 at 100 rate. Carriage and packing free on orders of £2 and over. C.W.O.

T. SMITH & SONS, Highcroft Nurseries, ARUNDEL

BARGAIN CATALOGUE

Land Sold for Building

Real Cambridgeshire grown Fruit Trees, Fruit Bushes, Roses, Shrubs, Avenue Trees, Privet, Plants.

Exceptionally strong and healthy.

FRANK RICE (F.R.H.S.), Arbury Nurseries, Cambridge

Toogood's Seeds

THAT GARDEN OF YOURS

can be made as lovely and as profitable as the one you have so often admired if you sow only plainly GUARANTEED GARDEN SEEDS. The same labour, the same tools, the same manures—with our GUARANTEED GARDEN SEEDS added—will yield for you an infinitely better Garden than ever before. Send a postcard to-day for our beautifully illustrated 160-page "FREE GUIDE TO GARDEN WISDOM AND GUARANTEED GARDEN SEEDS."

Every packet ordered thence must grow for you and please you or you will get it replaced freely.

TOOGOOD & SONS, LTD.
(Seedsmen to H.M. The King)
SOUTHAMPTON

SENT FREE ON REQUEST

Hints on Fruit Tree Culture

For Amateur and Professional.

Interesting Notes on Soils, Situations and Fertilizers, Popular Fruits for all Purposes

and other useful information will be found in

OUR FRUIT TREE CATALOGUE

— which will be sent Post Free. —

Sit down now while the matter is fresh in your mind and write for your copy.

Established 1785. **Awarded 90 Gold Medals.**

KING'S ACRE NURSERIES, LIMITED, HEREFORD

Gold Medallists of all leading Horticultural Societies

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

VOL. XC.—No. 2826. JANUARY 16, 1926

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.; Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2. *Offices for Advertisements:* 6–11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

NOTES ON TREES AND SHRUBS IN SCOTLAND

I JOURNEYED up to my home the other day to see what damage 9ins. of snow and 22 degrees of frost had done to the shrubs and young trees. I found them all unscathed with the exception of Panax arborea, of which both leaders had bent over under the weight of snow; but even this reputed half-hardy shrub seems otherwise to be unharmed. It may be imagination, but this long spell of cold weather, which has continued with hardly a break for over six weeks, seems to have done good already; it appears to have ripened the wood in a way that has been lacking in the two previous seasons, and the bark of many things is certainly harder and healthier than it was at this time last year. The frost has also shown up beauties that I had not seen before. Viburnum fragrans, although the flowers were browned by the severest frost, is scaling its bark in the same way as some of the birches, and is showing a vision of various tones of russet mahogany that it certainly never had with me before; while a form of Philadelphus coronarius that Farrer and I found in Burma is forming a distinct striation in its old wood that was certainly absent last year. Incidentally, this has appeared just in time, for, so far, it has run to wood and not to flower, and if it had not been for this improvement it would have been relegated to the dust-bin. Now it has been reprieved for a year, and I have cut it back vigorously in the hope of flower, for I remember it as a fine thing with pearl white flowers the size of half a crown. This weather has been ample test for Hamamelis mollis and H. japonica. I noticed early in November that they were crammed with flower buds. They are now slowly bursting, and 10 per cent. of the buds are showing butter yellow at their tips, while careful examination has not shown a single damaged bud. My plants are now 3ft. to 4ft. in height, and it is only this year that I have noticed their extremely shapely and distinctive growth that reminds one of Viburnum tomentosum Mariesii, only squatter and without the perpendicular central stem that is such a feature of the latter plant.

Another precocious plant that I am surprised is so successful is Spiræa sorbifolia, for this year it appears to be tired of the long spell of cold and is already sending out tiny tentative shoots of green that seem to relish the cold. Although it is over 6ft. high it has not condescended to flower with me yet, and I have had it for six years. It may be more vigorous than the common form, but by now it should have been showing signs; it also has been cut back severely in the hopes of making it flower, but it has not shown its habit of suckering that Mr. Bean writes about.

Two or three years ago I began to collect birches, and with some trepidation, for ours is not a birch country where they seed themselves freely. The result, however, has been well worth the attempt, for after the first year they have taken to this soil in a very kindly fashion, and I can bear out fully what Mr. Wilson has been saying lately in THE GARDEN about their beauty and interest. In my opinion, they are first and foremost of all trees for the garden that have no pre-eminent flowering qualities. The fastest grower and best here is a birch of Forrest's called Betula Delavayi var. Forrestii, which is commonly called the Tibetan red birch. Although only 6ft. high they are already showing the vivid old-red tinge of the bark. These in speed of growth are quickly followed by B. Ermanni with a creamy white bark and B. albo-sinensis, a great treasure and very rare with white bark; but after all I doubt if any of them can beat our own silver birch when well grown. Betula Schmidtii on the other hand, is very slow and, as Mr. Wilson points out, is often inclined to make a shrubby growth, although in its native home in Korea it is a tree of some 60ft. I have a number of seedlings coming on of B. nigra papyrifera and other American birches, but they are not large enough yet to tell how they will do in this East Coast climate.

Although ericaceous plants do well considering the dry, cold climate, those of the genus pieris do not take at all kindly to what I can give them. They should be as hardy as many other plants that I have, but I have failed with the usual P. floribunda and P. japonica, while even seedlings indoors of the rarer P. taiwanensis and P. formosa are miffy plants. I should be much obliged for information upon the needs of this genus, for they are among the most beautiful of all flowering shrubs with their racemes of white bells and elegant growth.

As a whole, this hard winter has been a blessing to most plants and, if only given reasonable spring weather, I look forward to a very fine flowering season ahead. E. H. M. C.

AMONG THE ARTICLES IN OUR NEXT ISSUE WILL BE:

SOME ANNUALS OF DISTINCTION, by A. T. Johnson.

PLUMS AND CHERRIES, by A. J. Cobb.

NOTES ON A ROCK GARDEN, by F. Dysart.

Digitized by Google

PERENNIALS FROM SEED

MANY OF THE FINEST PERENNIALS THAT ARE TO SEEN IN OUR GARDENS ARE THE PROGENY OF CHANCE SEEDLINGS. MR. GIBSON DESCRIBES A FEW KINDS THAT ARE WORTH GROWING FROM SEED.

THERE is but small inducement to the owner of the little garden whose area is measured in feet and inches to grow from seed the plants of perennial habit which appeal to him. Having room for only one, three or half a dozen plants of a kind, it behoves him to pay the price of more immediate results by purchase from a nursery. Yet, tiny indeed would the flower space be that could not afford the pleasure of raising say a few pansies, violas or polyanthuses from seed.

The idea of growing plants from seed in quantity where they are required or desirable has its origin in two divergent stimuli, one from a sense of economy and the other of peradventure. The former is sternly practical, though its objects may be purely ornamental, the latter enterprising, but fortuitous, though *its* aim may be utilitarian. The economical process usually deals with types that come true or nearly so from seed, otherwise the purpose would miscarry. Thus, to design into a large garden an extensive mass of blue in tall plants, one packet of anchusa or delphinium seed, costing perhaps a couple of shillings, will accomplish the same end as the investment of, may be, a hundred times that amount for as many plants of named varieties, with the additional gain of seedling vigour against some weakness or uncertainty among propagated plants. Where spaces are generous and much planting must be done to fill large beds or borders, many uses can be found for seedlings of perennials, such as replenishing ill-faring patches in borders, furnishing pockets of the rockery, supplying colour to the kitchen garden, naturalising by waterside, alpine meadow or woodland. In pursuing such ends, stimulus number two, that of enterprise and perchance, is often blended with the first. A whole packet of aubrietia seed may be sown to hit on the right shade of purple for a favourite spot on the rock garden, where perhaps only a dozen plants are required, or a lawn bed may be filled with seedling carnations or dahlias to serve a double purpose, first as a foil of high colour to the surrounding verdure, and secondly as a testing ground for novelties.

I call to mind two excellent examples of the different motives suggested in raising large numbers of plants from seed. For the last three years a lady in California has sent to us for such a large number of packets of delphinium seed that we could not but wonder what her garden was like or what the purpose. Last spring she sent us a photograph of her estate, evidently running into many acres, and explained that she had been planting a mountainside with the delphinium seedlings in wider area each year, and that they had naturalised so happily that this extraordinary sheet of blue was the mecca of flower lovers for miles around. That seems to me a very pretty conceit—think of four or five thousand delphinium plants raising their tall spires of azure against the sloping hillside in a lovely landscape of timbered valley and rocky hill crest! And such munificent lavishness in planting was conjured up at the cost of some ten or twelve dollars.

MANY FINE HYBRID TORCH LILIES HAVE BEEN RAISED BY AMATEURS.

The other example is that of Mr. G. D. Murray of Worcester Park, the renowned amateur carnation grower. He grows something like an average of 10,000 seedlings a year, makes his garden beautiful each summer and attracts hosts of visitors, but his real aim is a sedulous quest after something new or better than what has come before. And the people know his keen eye has sought out many a wonderful flower with which he has enriched the carnation world. This is a typical example of sowing and planting in the spirit of adventure, hazard and enterprise.

SEEDLING PERENNIALS ARE ALWAYS A SOURCE OF INTEREST TO THE KEEN GARDENER.

Digitized by Google

Here are a few perennial plants which offer some especial interest when grown from seed, with simple cultural hints.

AQUILEGIA.—Sow in latter part of March or in April in a frame or prepared bed in a partially shaded site, prick out when seedlings are large enough to handle, and transplant later to flowering quarters, where they will bloom in June and July of the following year. A good strain of seed will allow of a free selection of choice varieties which are increased by root division. Grow in semi shade.

ASTER (Michaelmas Daisy).—Seed may be sown any time in spring or early summer, the seedlings pricked out into a nursery bed for the summer and transplanted in autumn to their permanent stations. The cordifolius, ericoides and Novi Belgii give, perhaps, the most interesting results, the two former providing graceful bush plants with a myriad of small flowers, the last a wide range of colour in large blooms.

AUBRIETIA. — Sow in spring in pots or pans in cold house or in a frame. If sown thinly the seedlings may remain untransplanted until the first flowers show, which they will do on quite small plants, when a selection of the best colours may be made and the poor ones thrown away. Seedlings from any of the newer hybrids will give an extensive range of colours in lavender, purple, rose and violet. Sunny aspect.

CARNATION. — April is soon enough to sow, as the plants should not be too large when placed in their flowering quarters in June or July. As the seed is fairly large it may be sown widely, say an inch apart and 2ins. between the rows. This obviates pricking out. The seedlings should remain under glass, but with abundant ventilation till planted out, as this is a fairly effective means of thwarting the fly responsible for the carnation maggot. A good strain of seed will give many lovely flowers with a good chance of securing something novel and valuable. Firm planting, sunny position and a calcareous soil are the main elements of success.

DELPHINIUM. — Easily raised by sowing in boxes or a frame bed. Treat as for carnations if wanted to flower the following year, but good autumn spikes can be obtained by sowing in heat in February or March and planting out as soon as large enough. If best seed only is used it is almost sure to reward the grower with many plants of high excellence.

GLADIOLUS.—So long as it was believed that this plant required from three to five years to reach flowering size there was no demand for seed, naturally enough. Now that it has been amply demonstrated that some of the seedlings can be flowered within seven months from sowing, and that abundant bloom is quite natural in the second year, a great impetus has been given to the raising of seedlings and many new and extremely fine hybrids are being raised by amateurs. To me this is probably the most fascinating of all plants to grow from seed. Sow in deep boxes of rich soil with an inch of light sandy material at the top. If artificial heat is available a start can be made about the end of January. If cold frame only is available, about mid-April is a good time to sow, but in that case no flowers need be looked for the first season. Do not transplant or disturb the roots in any form during the first year's growth.

IRIS SIBIRICA.—This plant is easily raised from seed. Sow in the open in shallow drills in spring and transplant in October or November to flowering quarters. Very pretty flowers are obtained by sowing seed of the type, and the newer hybrids such as Snow Queen, Nora Distin, Perry's Blue, Kingfisher Blue and Emperor.

A GRACEFUL LONG-SPURRED AQUILEGIA.

KNIPHOFIA.—Some years ago I obtained some kniphofia seed from the annual distribution of the Wisley surplus and raised some beautiful red hot pokers therefrom. Having no time for such pleasantries now I can yet recommend them to others. Sow in pans or boxes in light, porous soil, during April and May. Growth at first is very slow, but when transplanted out of doors in fairly rich soil, rapid progress is made and the plants flower well the following year. Good drainage and a warm, sunny position should be chosen.

LILY.—Many of the lilies are quite easily grown from seed, but a few recommend themselves especially, not only because of easy culture, nor only on account of their extreme elegance and utility in the garden, but because, wedded to these virtues they have the additional one of speedy results. Lilium Regale, L. philippinense, L. formosanum, and L. Sulphur-gale are typical examples of these easy tempered liliaceæ.

Lily seeds are large enough to sow individually and they should be placed widely enough to obviate pricking out in the very early stages of growth. Boxes or pans are suitable for sowing in and the compost should be about equal parts of fine loam, leaf-mould and silver sand. It is worth while potting up the seedlings singly in small pots and later on transferring them to larger ones as required. This does away almost entirely with root disturbance, a performance of which the lily is rather impatient. Well grown seedlings will flower the second year. They succeed quite well in a full sun, provided abundance of moisture is available, but partial shade is preferable.

VIOLA.—Seed may be sown in February in slight heat for flowering the same year and in summer for the following spring. Transplant with as little disturbance to the roots as possible and plant in a position lightly shaded from hot sunshine. Either side of an espalier fence running north and south is an ideal position.

J. L. GIBSON.

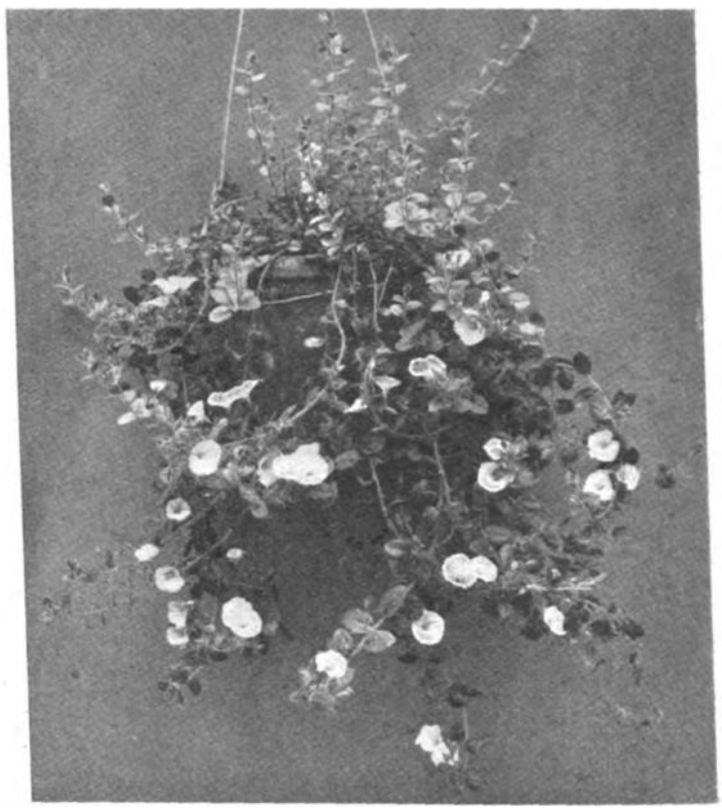
Digitized by Google

ANNUALS FOR HANGING BASKETS

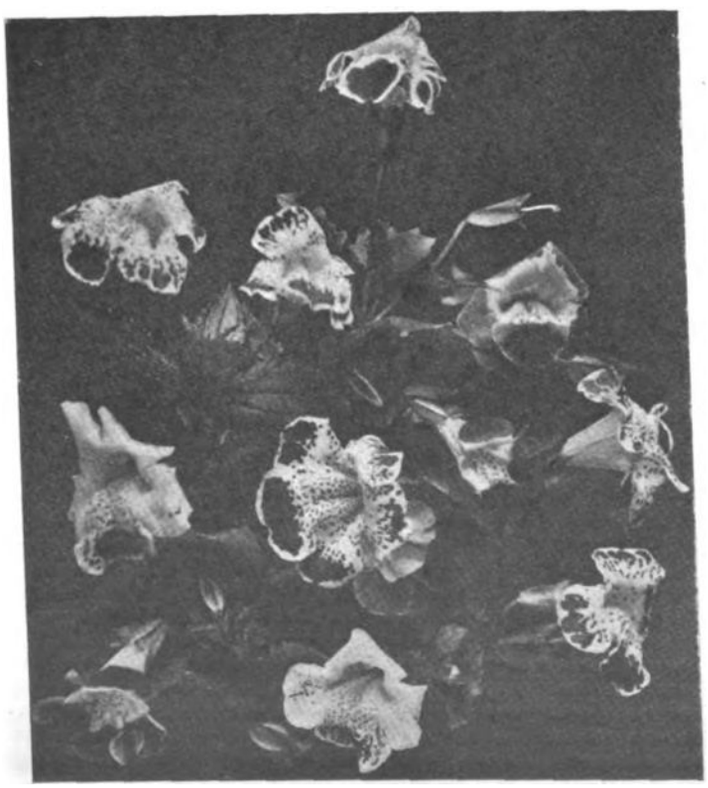
IT would be impossible to over-estimate the debt that we owe to the gardener who first conceived the idea of growing plants in baskets for suspension in either the greenhouse or the many positions where they are so admirably beautiful in the open air during summer and autumn. Picture the veranda, basketed or basketless: imagine the conservatory under similar conditions: and there can be no question as to which presents the more beautiful and charming appearance. There are, of course, certain perennial plants that are so valuable that we can only consider them indispensable—the ivy-leaf geranium, to wit—and these we must have, together with the petunia and other time-honoured favourites.

But this does not exhaust the possibilities, and especially is this true in the direction of annual flowers, for a wealth of really charming and unusual material awaits those who will make use of it and, by setting to work now, we may, this summer obtain some extremely striking results. Take Convolvulus mauritanicus, for example. Here we have a plant that is not difficult to raise from seed, which gives us charming trails of silvery foliage and large violet-blue flowers that are produced in a regular succession. This is most striking where only a cold greenhouse is available or for outdoors during summer and autumn. We have already made mention of the petunia, and, with its gorgeous colour effects, there are few better long-lasting plants that can be chosen for outdoor summer work, especially where the position in which the baskets are hung is a very sunny one.

Equally brilliant is Phlox Drummondii, and this makes wondrously flowerful baskets either when grown in mixture or separate colours. The natural trailing habit is displayed to its fullest advantage and the eye, so striking a feature of some varieties, also shows up well. It is only of recent years that the schizanthus has been used as a basket plant, and those who have not seen or tried it in this way would scarcely credit the extremely decorative baskets that can be obtained. Of course, the seedlings need a good deal of training and tying in order to obtain that perfect ball-like effect, but it is well repaid in the ultimate result and the maze of beautifully marked and coloured blooms. For a warm greenhouse, Torenia Fournieri makes a capital basket plant when planted rather thickly all over the surface (including the sides) and stopped several times before being allowed to flower. Culturally this loves a humid atmosphere, and care should be taken that the basket is suspended well away from any ventilation, etc.,



A WORTHY BASKET PLANT, CONVOLVULUS MAURITANICUS.



THE BRILLIANT MIMULUS MAKES A SPLENDID BASKET ANNUAL.

where it might be exposed to draught. Should a strong blue flower be desired it would be difficult to excel Lobelia Sapphire, a magnificent trailer with masses of clear sapphire flowers, rendered still more conspicuous by the vivid white eye. This is equally good outdoors or under glass, though care must be taken, when hung outdoors, that the soil is abundantly supplied with water.

For large baskets in the conservatory, Coleus Rehmannii provides both flowers and foliage combined in a particularly attractive manner. The growth is of trailing habit, with pretty reddish brown leaves and quantities of light blue flowers. If this is not enough, we may add a still further charm—fragrance of the flowers: while the plant once raised is readily propagated by means of cuttings, rooted in sandy soil. Not so long lived as some things, Venus' Looking Glass forms glorious cascades of widely expanded campanula-like flowers, reddish-violet in the type plant, although there are also lilac and white varieties that are equally desirable. This may either be sown in the soil in the basket, or in a seed-pan and then pricked off, but in the former case it is well to have a few extra seedlings on hand so that these may be inserted into the sides as well as the top. The shamrock pea—Parochetus communis—is rather a rare plant of hardy perennial character that readily flowers the first year if the seedlings are sown early in moderate heat. The habit is trailing and the stems bear clover-like leaves and pretty blue flowers.

The brilliant mimulus, although so dwarf, makes, when thickly planted, a splendid basket annual that succeeds in the most striking manner when hung in a shaded position where few other plants would flower satisfactorily. Care must be taken that these are always well supplied with water, for they are one of the thirstiest of plants. For dense masses of white, Alyssum maritimum is specially good, and Little Dorrit is one of the best. It should not be overlooked that this has now added colour to its other attractions, and Lilac Queen, in pale

Digitized by Google

lilac, is particularly pretty. Abronia umbellata makes lovely baskets of rosy purple flowers with a paler eye, that remain in flower for a very long time and give forth a pleasant fragrance resembling that of honey. Mesembryanthemum tricolor is invaluable for very sunny houses or warm positions outdoors. The sunnier the spot, the more freely and widely do the myriads of daisy-like flowers expand. These, at their best, are a revelation indeed—with vivid rose pink flowers, darker in the centre. Although these plants flourish amazingly in hot, dry situations, we must not forget that, where exposed to the air on all sides, considerable evaporation is taking place, and therefore they should not be permitted to become too dry.

In the general management of basket plants, it is very essential to line out the basket thoroughly with a thick layer of moss—so as to keep the soil from washing through. Next to this, use a fairly rich soil and, by all means, add a little peat to this, so as to asssist in retaining moisture. Get your planting done early, so as to allow the plants to become established before they are hung in the open air. During really hot weather, it is impossible to water by pouring on the surface, and the most satisfactory method is to have a large deep vessel into which the basket may be lowered and allowed to soak for half an hour. One other point to which attention must be paid is their safe suspension. H. W. C. W.

WINTER-FLOWERING BEGONIAS

THE genus begonia is both a large and varied one, and in the decoration of the greenhouse and flower garden they play an important part; moreover, the flowering period is spread over the greater part of the year. One group, however, is not so largely grown as its merits deserve, and this is generally known as the winter-flowering section, although some of the plants could be had in full flower in October if desired. I believe many consider them difficult to cultivate, but this is not really so if care is taken during the resting period and the growths are kept free from rust or mite.

It is interesting to note that one species, Begonia socotrana, is the principal parent of this group of begonias, and this important species was introduced by the late Professor Sir Isaac Bayley Balfour of Edinburgh fame, who sent plants to Kew in 1880. It was discovered in Socotra, a small island off the Arabian coast in the Indian Ocean. It is a dwarf plant with scaly rhizomes, and rose pink blooms nearly 2ins. across. Among the earlier hybrids will be found the graceful B. Gloire de Lorraine, whose parentage is said to be B. socotrana and B. Dregei, a small white-flowered species from South Africa. Few plants have had such a period of popularity, and numerous lectures, essays and articles were published some years ago concerning its culture. It is a pretty shade of pink, free-flowering, easily grown and, with due attention paid to staking and tying, some fine specimens can be secured. The plants are also useful for hanging baskets. Others belonging to this section are Mrs. Leopold de Rothschild, the white Turnford Hall, and Rochfordii.

The most noteworthy group, however, is that derived from the intercrossing of B. socotrana and the tuberous-rooted varieties; and two firms—Messrs. Clibrans of Altrincham, and the late J. Veitch and Sons of Chelsea—are famed for the production of these beautiful plants. The latter firm were the pioneers, and the first variety to be placed on the market, in 1883, was named John Heal. This is still to be found in collections; and others followed, such as Mrs. Heal, Ideala, Elatior, Winter Cheer and Ensign; but the plants I find succeed the best are Fascination (bright orange salmon), Exquisite (blush white), Emita (deep orange), Her Majesty (a charming salmon yellow) and Optima (warm salmon orange), a fine subject under artificial light.

THE ARISTOCRAT OF WINTER-FLOWERING BEGONIAS, B. OPTIMA.

Among winter-flowering begonias, B. Optima occupies a high position, and for free flowering qualities it has few equals. It was raised by Messrs. J. Veitch and Sons, Chelsea, and when first shown by them on November 5th, 1912, it received an award of merit from the Royal Horticultural Society. It is the result of intercrossing B. socotrana and a seedling from B. Pearcei.

The flowers are a good size—a warm salmon orange—and in general habit more free and graceful than many.

With the passing of the house of Veitch it is gratifying to know that Messrs. Clibrans and others stock a large number of these desirable plants, and among the hybrids that hail from Altrincham will be found some splendid double-flowered kinds, such as Scarlet Beauty, Sunrise (bright rosy red), Pink Beauty, and others of equal merit.

These delightful begonias produce a wealth of blooms from October till well into January, when the resting period begins, and continues till the end of March. A temperature of 50° to 55° Fahr. is high enough, and the atmosphere should be rather on the dry side; while careful watering is important.

It ought to be remembered that these plants are almost intermediate between the parents, the base being a compromise between fibrous roots and a tuber, but with some varieties the latter is more pronounced, and in such cases they often lose all the old growths and no harm accrues.

Others, however, must be afforded sufficient moisture to keep the stems, as far as possible, in a plump and rigid condition; if not, the root stock occasionally dies. In April, signs of new life will be apparent, and a little more water can be given. Numerous new shoots will appear at the base, and some of these can be utilised for propagating purposes.

Remove the growths with a heel, and insert them in sandy soil, placing several cuttings around the edge of a 3in. pot and rooting them in a close propagating frame. Pot on as the necessity arises, then they will make useful flowering plants next winter. Later struck cuttings are also valuable, as they will bloom freely in 3in. pots, and therefore are ideal for table decoration. The old plants should be re-potted before growth is far advanced, and the rooting medium consists of fibrous loam two-thirds, and one-third clean sweet leaf-mould, with a liberal sprinkling of sharp sand added. The pots should be well provided with drainage, and the plants carefully watered until the roots are established. At one time I favoured annual re-potting, but now some plants go two and three years without fresh soil, and during the growing period they are fed with soot water and weak liquid manure. The result is

Digitized by Google

satisfactory in every way. Except when at rest, these begonias should be grown in an average temperature of 60°, and, where possible, in a small house where the atmosphere could be kept slightly more moist than in the ordinary greenhouse, and the necessary shade given when the sun is bright.

Overhead spraying ought not to be practised to any great extent, and even then only when the weather is dry and hot.

The chief pests are thrips and rust which is caused by a mite, but these are easily destroyed and prevented by periodical fumigation with XL All.

The cultivation of the Lorraine begonias is well understood, but with these it is advisable to root the cuttings early in the year; while I know several growers who raise their new plants from well matured leaves. Anyone who can grow the Lorraine type fairly well need not fear taking up the other winter-flowering begonias, and, if only a small collection is brought together, the owner will possess a group of plants unequalled for brilliance and floriferousness at a time when flowers, except the chrysanthemum, are at a premium. T. W. BRISCOE.

NOTES OF THE WEEK

TWO ALPINE VIOLAS.

HOW our hybridisers have altered the violas! They have fattened their cheeks and plumped up their foliage till they are about as different from their forefathers as is the prize pig of the show ground from the fleet wild boar. Bedding violas are not to be despised in their proper place, but the rock garden should be reserved for species, particularly the mountain ones and their near relatives. Of alpine violas there are few that can rival V. cenisia. I was lucky enough to come across two of its stations in my wanderings last summer, one was the valley leading to Lac Clair from Mt. Cenis, and the other a valley in the heart of the Cottian Alps, far from the beaten track.

VIOLA CALCARATA, IN ONE OF ITS NATIVE HAUNTS.

A PEER AMONG ALPINES, VIOLA CENISIA.

In the valley of the Cottians where I found our viola for the second time, there were literally acres of it, countless thousands of plants—big ones and little ones, babies that were still cradled between two slices of shale and old straggling plants that had wandered a yard or more from their first home. I would defy the most patient of men to succeed in getting up one of these old stagers whole; they wander and dive and come up again and dive again with their vermicelli runners till one gives it up and puts the stones back and looks for something younger. V. cenisia is essentially a scree plant, always among loose stones with hardly a pinch of soil between them; more peculiar still, it seems not to like any other position, for it never ventures on terra firma, be it only a foot away on to the first tuft of grass and we find our viola change to V. calcarata. I do not say that V. calcarata will not grow in scree. It is characteristically a turf plant, but it takes happily to shale and the photograph here shows it growing in what we would call in nursery language "scree mixture." It looks as if it had acquired a fine tuft of housemaid's brush foliage, but this is only a tuft of grass which it has chosen for its companion.

V. cenisia is a peer, undisputed and unmistakable, while V. calcarata comes rather lower down in the scale. The picture of V. cenisia gives one an idea of the size of stones it grows among.—A. GAVIN JONES.

LACHENALIA NELSONI.

WE had a fine display of Lachenalia Nelsoni at the middle of January last year, and we hope to have the same this January. This handsome hybrid is well known among professional gardeners, but I rather think it is not so among amateurs. Yet it is a choice and charming bulbous plant, very well suited for small glasshouse cultivation and room decoration. It also flowers at a time when most plant lovers welcome anything neat and floriferous if grown in a moderate-sized pot. Its golden yellow flowers, too, are certainly shown off to much better advantage under artificial light. Some gardeners say that they do not get the best results from lachenalias unless the bulbs are potted round about the first of September; but we have grown beautiful and floriferous plants from bulbs potted after the middle of September.

Good bulbs are firm and plump and each about the size of a marble; six, seven or eight of these should be set in a 4in. pot among ordinary potting soil, the tops of the bulbs being kept level with the surface of the soil, and about 1in. of space left between the surface soil and rim of pot. After the pots are watered they should be set in a frame, only supplying them with water when the soil is likely to become dry. As soon as the growths have pushed through, the pots should be transferred to a genial growing atmosphere in one of the glasshouses, and more frequently attended to with the watering pan.

L. Nelsoni produces deep green foliage with faintly dark spots on the upper surfaces and near the basal portion of some of the leaves. When the pots are well furnished with leaves the plants may be intermixed with primulas or other low-growing plants along the front of the staging.—DAVID ARMSTRONG.

THE HARDINESS OF CATMINT.

NEPETA MUSSINI, (Catmint) which yields liberally of its misty blue spikes throughout the summer, is one of our hardiest plants, and, be the winter ever so severe, it generally goes through without loss, provided the old wood, which acts as a shelter to the roots, is left. Sometimes, in order to have the borders neat when trimming up in autumn, one notices that the brown and tangled shoots are cut away; the result of this is that many plants succumb. I have seen examples of this during the present winter. Neatness may be carried to excess, as, after all, the old shoots protect the roots, from which in the spring new growths appear. —W. LINDERS LEA.

BEDDING RANUNCULUS.

THE different types of bedding ranunculus are worthy of more favour than they seem to have, for most people admire their flowers and readily buy them when in season. Bulb catalogues invariably mention them, generally as an after thought, and in no great detail. They are not, however, planted along with the ordinary bulbs, but kept until the end of January or later.

The claw-like tubers often arrive in a dried and disappointing state; steeping overnight in tepid water revives them considerably and hastens initial growth. They are planted with the claws downwards, at a depth of 2ins., and they are certain to grow best in a porous, friable loam or raised bed.

One merit of these flowers is that they are "over" early in summer and the beds can then be utilised for late summer and autumn flowers. The Persian varieties are generally earliest, but the French are best for cutting; the Turban sorts are of an intermediate nature, and equally fine.—H. A.

THE CALIFORNIAN FUCHSIA.

THIS really good shrub should be noted by those wanting something uncommon and beautiful. It is quite hardy in warm gardens, but in others the protection of a wall must be allowed, and under this condition the plant grows splendidly to a height of 6ft. and more, with a dense bushy habit. The flowers, borne in clusters from the axils of the leaves, are deep red in colour with pronounced stamens showing, and open in May. The blossoms are not large, but most freely produced, and, as the above name implies, not unlike small fuchsias in appearance; while the leafage is gooseberry-like. A neat and ornamental shrub is an honest description of this subject, the proper name of which is Ribes speciosum —another synonym being Ribes fuchsioides. Incidentally, the best example of this plant it has been my lot to see is to be found at Albury Park, Guildford, a fine bush indeed, growing there as a wall shrub.—C. TURNER.

PULMONARIAS.

THE lungworts are a somewhat neglected race. The best kinds are seldom seen in the average garden and most people associate their name with those unfortunate,

Digitized by Google

spotted-leaved plants of feeble and indecisive colour. Even so, one generally finds a place in the wilder parts of the garden for these and the almost plain-leaved P. angustifolia (arvernensis or azurea), in blue or white, for they are among the earliest of spring flowers and only ask some shady, neglected corner and the most meagre fare. But there are others, as I have inferred, and among these is the Mawson's Blue of the nurseryman. Whether this is an improved form of angustifolia, or azurea, I do not know (the whole race appears to be in a hopeless state of confusion), but it is a plant well worth a front seat in the best of assemblages. But even this fine variety, or whatever it may be, is excelled by a plant that came here obscurely labelled, P.—Munstead Variety. This one has large, rather narrow unspotted leaves and flowers, about ½in. across, of a rich blue tending to violet.

The only red lungwort I have seen which is really distinct and good is P. rubra. This is not the pinky form often sent out under that name. It is apparently a species, a plant of vigorous growth with plain green leaves some 10ins. long and 4ins. across and bold flowers of a rather bricky red (without any of the offending puce), which colour is maintained from first to last. It is one of the earliest to bloom and often the last to cease.

All the pulmonarias positively delight in frequent transplantation. Every third year is not too often to dig up and divide the clumps and the best season to do this is in autumn or early spring. Nor is any time lost by this process, for no plants are quicker to establish themselves and they will generally show their heartiest appreciation for the attention the following season.—A. T. J.

TWO INTERESTING EARLY-FLOWERING SHRUBS.

SYCOPSIS SINENSIS.

IF this shrub flowered at the height or at the end of summer, it would be only of medium interest. Flowering as it does in early spring, during February or March, it is certainly worthy of notice. Apart from its early-flowering qualities, the plant possesses the great advantage of having fine, evergreen foliage.

Sycopsis sinensis is a member of the Hamamelidaceæ tribe, and can attain a height of 8ft. to 12ft. in our climate. It is a native of Hupeh in China, where Mr. Wilson collected it on several occasions during his explorations. In his book, "Trees and Shrubs Hardy in the British Isles," Mr. Bean is rather hard on it when he says that the flowers are "but of little beauty." These are, perhaps, not striking and a little inconspicuous at first, but as soon as a spell of mild weather sets in the beautiful contrast between the felted reddish brown scales that surround the clusters of flowers, the yellow staminal filaments, the red pollen vessels and the bright green foliage makes itself plainly shown. The period of flowering is a long one, so that, although much rests on the weather, a good display is sure to be obtained every year.

A FLOWERING TWIG OF SYCOPSIS SINENSIS.

Although the plant is often described as monœcious, the specimen that carries the twig here figured is perfectly hermaphroditic, flowers having two long divergent stigmas and eight stamens about half an inch long when fully developed. There is no corolla. The flowers are borne on short pedicelled clusters, seven or eight at a time, surrounded by densely felted bracts of brown colouring. Seeds are rarely, if ever, produced in our climate. The foliage is thick, almost coriaceous, ovate lanceolate, 2ins. or more long and about 1in. wide, dark shining green above, paler beneath, with microscopic adpressed hairs scattered in bundles. The young shoots are conspicuously scaly.

Sycopsis sinensis has proved, so far, quite hardy at the Verrières Arboretum at least, and can be grown successfully in any position out of doors, as long as it is somewhat sheltered from the strongest and coldest winds. As a wall plant it is also much to be recommended, looking cheery and bright throughout the year. Its cultivation is very easy; it will grow vigorously in any ordinary good soil and requires no special care.

STACHYURUS PRÆCOX DRAPED WITH ITS DROOPING CLUSTERS OF CREAMY WHITE FLOWERS IN FEBRUARY.

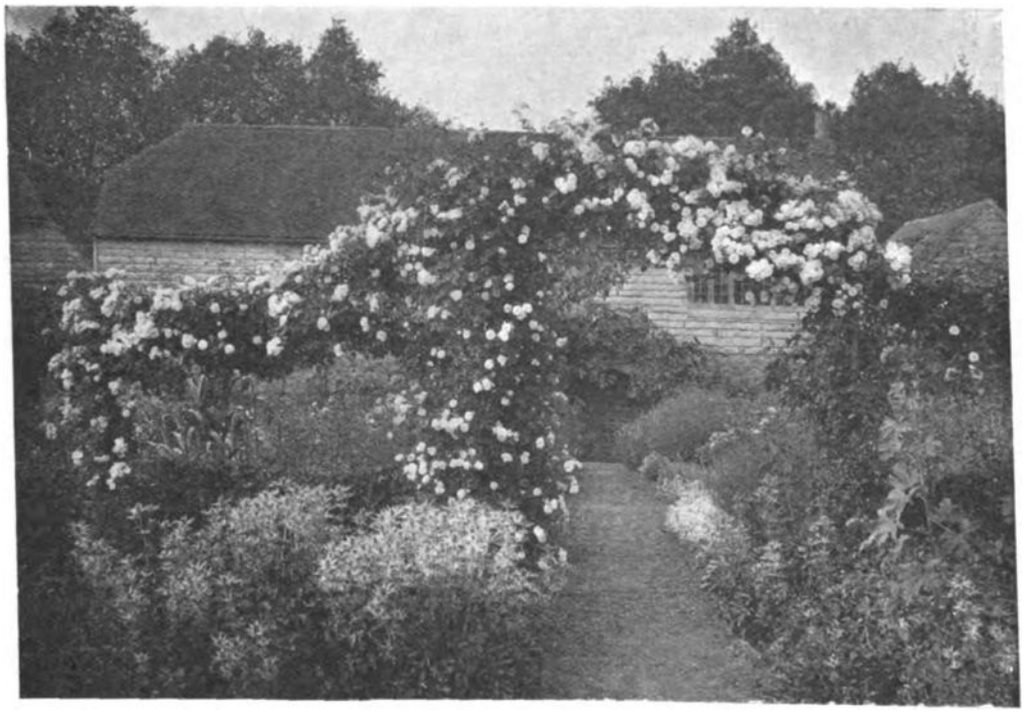
STACHYURUS PRÆCOX.

A native of Japan and introduced long ago, this pretty shrub will probably never become a common one in gardens, owing to the fact that it is of rather slow growth and difficult propagation; two things nurserymen do not particularly like. Yet it is one of the most fascinating shrubs in existence in early spring, expanding its blooms as soon as the sun begins to be felt in February and March. In the rock garden or choice shrubbery it is a picture in itself when given a favourable position in good soil. It grows at the utmost 4ft. to 5ft., but is usually about 3ft. in height. The position it seems to like best is a warm one with some shade. The flowers, are creamy white, borne twelve to twenty at a time on drooping spikes 3ins. to 4ins. long. These flowers last a long time on the plant and are only injured by the severest of frosts. The foliage appears only later in the season when flowering is over, and the leaves are comparatively large, more or less toothed and of a light green colour. Seeds are occasionally produced in mild seasons, but seedlings are of rather slow growth in their early stages.

Another stachyutus, S. chinensis, is occasionally grown in gardens, but shows little difference as regards decorative value from S. præcox.—C. L.

Digitized by Google

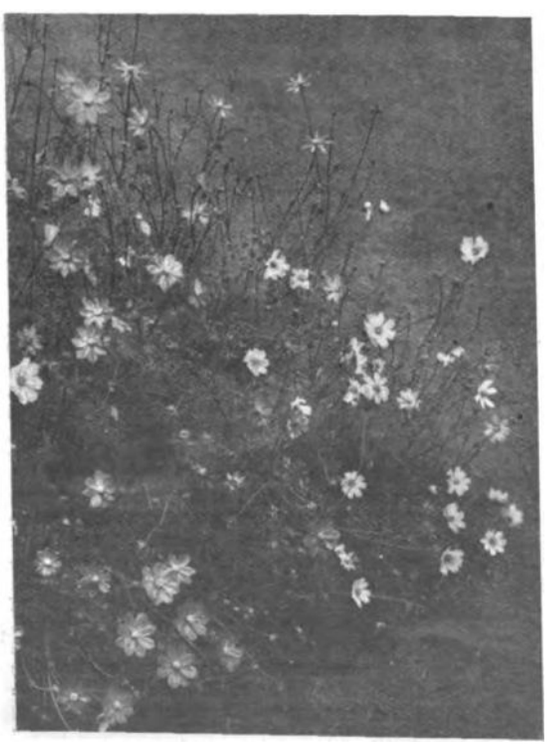
BLUE AND PINK IN THE GARDEN



THE BLUEST OF THE SEA HOLLIES IN COMPANY WITH CLIMBING ROSES.

THE delightful effect of pink May-flowering tulips, such as Clara Butt or Margaret, rising from a mist of blue myosotis is so familiar and so much appreciated that it is a little surprising that the same colour combination is not more often carried out with other plants and on a wider scale. It is one quite easy to manage if certain simple rules are obeyed. In the first place, the blues used, whether light or dark, must be *pure* and this eliminates many plants catalogued as being of that colour, for what may be called nurseryman's blue seems to include everything from slaty purple to skim milk colour. It must be remembered, too, that blue is not a "carrying" colour, that is to say, it is ineffective at even a comparatively short distance, hence it is essential to arrange the plants in larger masses than if they were, say, red or yellow. Yet another point to bear in mind is that, although salmon pink and pure pink are both admissible, they must be kept well apart, while magenta—often misnamed cerise—is absolutely barred.

Of tall blue flowers Anchusa italica Dropmore variety and delphiniums are undoubtedly the best, but the latter must have nothing of the purple, mauve or grey tones seen in many of the more recent introductions. A group of delphiniums of the Persimmon type would make an admirable centre for a large bed filled with the old pink China rose that will bloom untiringly all the summer, edged with the lovely blue Geranium grandiflorum, or for the roses and geranium may be substituted the annuals Lavatera rosea splendens—the improved L. trimestris — and nemophila. But if the garden is frequented by cats, the life of the nemophila will be a short one, as the pussies love to roll on it. Tall pink-flowered plants are not abundant. Pink hollyhocks placed behind and between anchusas and delphiniums would be an ideal arrangement for the back of a border, but they are not to be trusted to come true from seed, and plants raised from



ROSE-FLOWERED COSMEAS ARE MOST EFFECTIVE IN BOLD GROUPINGS.

A CHARMING ASSOCIATION OF BLUE AND PINK ANNUALS.

Digitized by Google

cuttings appear to be particularly subject to that horrible fungoid disease which is the curse of the modern hollyhock. Physostegia speciosa is a good back-row plant, although if the border is a dry one it will not reach its proper height of about 5ft. unless copiously watered in hot weather, and there is, perhaps, just a little too much lavender in the pink of its dainty flowers. Any gaps between the tall perennials may be filled effectively with clumps of sweet peas—Hawlmark Pink is one of the best—and Ipomœa purpurea, which produces as many pink flowers as blue ones, trained on bamboos laced together with string.

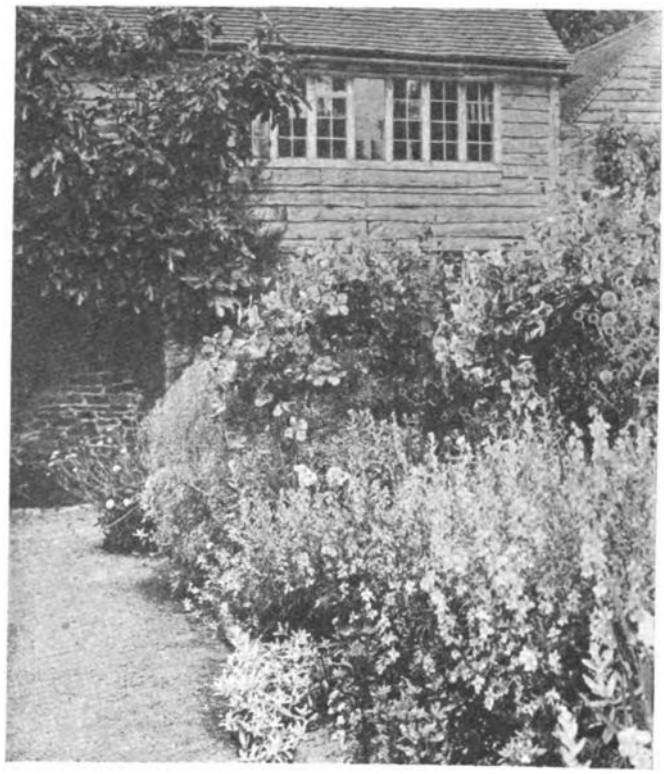
There are plenty of pink phloxes to choose from—Mrs. Milly van Hoboken and Josephine Gerbeaux are two suitable ones—and they may be happily combined with delphiniums of the shorter type and Lupinus polyphyllus. Our native chicory (Cichorium Intybus), which makes a bush about 3ft. high, is unsurpassed for colour, but the beautiful sky blue blossoms are very short-lived and its habit of growth is straggling. Another blue plant of rather untidy habit is Linum narbonense, but its flowers last longer than those of the chicory. L. perenne is a shade darker, but it is not so good as L. narbonense. Then there is the blue thistle, Echinops Ritro, with its glistening metallic blue bells, the ordinary form of which is about 3ft. to 4ft. high, but there is an improved variety which reaches 5ft. As rich in colour, better in shape and immune from the fly which is apt to disfigure the echinops are the eryngiums, of which E. Oliverianum is, perhaps, the bluest. With these sea hollies the tall spikes of the earlier-flowering pink gladioli or of Lilium Krameri—if the soil suits it—will accord delightfully. So will Sidalcea malvæflora rosea, of which there are several satisfactory varieties, although some are a little too near the forbidden magenta. Papaver orientale Mrs. Perry, the only poppy of the kind that has any true claim to be called pink, is distinctly salmon in shade, but it, too, goes well with eryngiums if none of the purer pinks is put near it. Chinese peonies must, of course, be included among the most desirable of pink plants, nor should Veronica spicata, blue and pink, be forgotten.

Two pretty plants for the front of the border are Anchusa myosotidiflora and Omphalodes cappadocica. Both are of a rather pale shade of blue, grow about 1ft. high, flower in late spring and early summer, and prefer slight shade to full sun. I may add that in my garden the anchusa suffers badly from the attacks of slugs, which leave the omphalodes almost untouched.

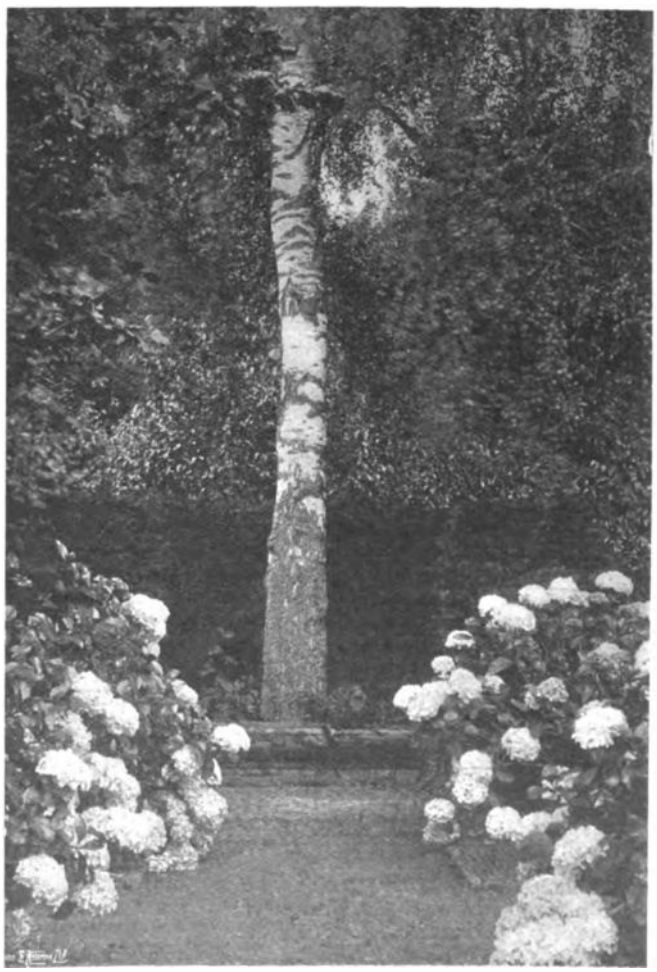
The flowers of Commelina cœlestis are of a very rich blue, but it is not hardy everywhere. For the sake of its fine colour, however, it is worth trying if the border is warm and sheltered. It should be planted in good-sized patches with carnations or Allwoodii pinks between. Mertensia pulmonarioides has equally rich-hued blossoms, but it requires a moist and preferably a peaty soil.

The majority of campanulas are too purple to harmonise well with pink, but C. rotundifolius major is an exception. This graceful plant looks particularly charming if combined with Potentilla Miss Willmott, so that the slender stems of the blue bellflower are surrounded by and rise through the graceful sprays of rose-pink flowers. Of quite low-growing blue plants the best are Lithospermum prostratum Heavenly Blue and that which we used to know as Plumbago Larpentæ, but is now, poor thing, burdened with the terrific name of Cerastostigma plumbaginoides. The colour of both these is desirable, and they may be successfully combined with pink helianthemum, Phlox subulata and some of the dianthus.

There are several annuals in addition to those already mentioned which may find a place in a blue and pink bed or border. Cosmos is a particularly valuable one. It is to be had in a good shade of pink and if planted out from pots in front of and close to delphiniums, it will come into bloom after the beauty of the latter is over, and its feathery foliage will hide the decrepit stems. Then silene is useful and pretty as an edging, and China asters can now be obtained of a pink that has no taint of magenta. The same may be said of antirrhinums (which in these days are usually grown as annuals, although nominally perennials) and of ten-week stocks. A pretty annual climber growing about 4ft. high is the chickling vetch (Lathyrus sativus). Its delicate little flowers are of the most perfect turquoise blue, but they have the drawback of "going off" a dingy grey. Phacelia campanularia is a pretty blue edging annual, but is not very long-lived.



A CORNER OF THE BLUE GARDEN.



THE BEAUTY OF HYDRANGEAS WHEN GROWN IN TUBS.

Digitized by Google

A broad turf path between blue and pink borders would make a pleasing approach to a little semi-circular rose garden, if possible slightly sunk and reached by shallow steps under a rose-covered arch. In the garden there should be roses of every shade between faint blush pink and deep crimson, but none that is white or yellow. These—standards, half-standards and bushes backed with climbers on poles or a treillage—should fill a wide border round the little garden, which may be turfed and have a weeping standard of such a rose as Lady Godiva or even the hackneyed but useful Dorothy Perkins in the middle, or, if water is available, there may be a pool or tank here edged with Iris Kæmpferi and Myosotis palustris in its improved and larger form. And, to be absolutely consistent in our colour scheme, we may grow a pink nymphæa in the pool itself! Under-planting the roses in the border is not necessary—it is questionable whether it is ever really desirable—but the latter may be edged with a wide band of a blue annual such as Phacelia campanularia or nemophila, or with a mixed selection of low-growing blue plants. There is, unfortunately, no pure blue viola—which would be ideal in such a position—the varieties so called having lavender flowers merely tinged with blue.

A pretty finishing touch to the little garden might be given by flanking the entrance arch with tubs of agapanthus or, as an alternative, of "well blued" hydrangeas.

R. E. HEAD.

THE PROPAGATION OF TREES AND SHRUBS

THE propagation of trees and shrubs is one branch of gardening which has been practised in comparatively few private gardens until within the last ten or fifteen years. The introduction of large numbers of new trees and shrubs from China and elsewhere during recent years—the great majority by means of seeds—has greatly increased the interest in this department of horticulture. The increase in the cost of everything in connection with greenhouse or indoor gardening has also induced some—one may even write many—owners of gardens to turn their attention to outdoor gardening, a less expensive department, both in the materials required and the amount of labour necessary for its adequate upkeep.

Among the half-dozen or more methods of multiplying stocks of trees and shrubs, seed, with a few exceptions, provide the easiest and simplest means of increase. The outstanding exception is that of hybrids and improved varieties, variations or sports which seldom reproduce true from seed, though as an offset against this we have the possible chance of a seedling from a hybrid being an improvement or fresh break on the seed-bearing parent.

One point in the raising of seedlings is that they are generally healthy and vigorous, with an abundance of roots, which is a great asset to begin with. Other than the collecting of seeds in one's own garden, and the exchange of seeds with friends, the question of how to procure seeds of trees and shrubs presents some difficulties. The number of kinds listed by a few British dealers does not extend much beyond the comparatively few deciduous forest trees and conifers sold in quantity mostly for forestry planting. Some of the lists of seeds compiled by botanic gardens for exchange contain a fair number of trees and shrubs; but they do not cate for an extensive retail distribution of seeds.

In addition, we are confronted with a large number of exotic trees and shrubs, the former in particular, which, owing to their age or because our climatic conditions are not favourable, do not ripen their seeds in our gardens. Enthusiasts cultivating trees and shrubs extensively, to make it worth while, find ways and means of obtaining seeds from the Continent and direct from dealers in their native countries—Japan, China, the United States, and other countries,

A cool greenhouse, pit or cold frame is desirable when raising small quantities of seeds. In fact, when large numbers of certain kinds are required it is often worth while preparing beds and sowing the seeds in cold frames, or sowing on a border outside and covering with movable frames. In addition to protection from birds and mice, the heat derived under the glass should hasten germination and increase early growth.

There are several important points to be considered when contemplating the sowing of tree and shrub seeds. The best time to sow—or, at least, the time when they may be sown—varies considerably with the different genera. For the larger number which germinate under ordinary conditions, the spiræas, hypericums, philadelphuses, buddleias, etc., a good time for sowing is during February, when the days begin to lengthen and the sun heat gradually increases. The soft fleshy or oily seeds, which include magnolia, quercus, æsculus, castanea, juglans, corylus and fagus, soon lose their vitality if stored under dry conditions. It is advisable to sow these as soon as ripe, or they must be stored in sand or fibre with sufficient dampness to prevent shrivelling. Another group of seeds with a hard or bony outer covering—the berberis, rosa, cotoneaster, prunus, pyrus and cratægus are examples—are very uncertain and irregular in germinating if stored for any considerable time to allow the bony exterior to become very hard. One or two years, occasionally more, may elapse from the time of sowing to germination. Experience suggests sowing such seeds in a slightly heated greenhouse when gathered, removing them from the fleshy fruits, which should be done about late autumn. One record will serve as an example. Seeds of a rose were taken from the fruit when gathered in October and sown within a week. In from a month to six weeks there was a small pot full of healthy seedlings. This, I am quite prepared to admit, was exceptional, but it serves to illustrate my point that such seeds should be sown at once rather than stored in packets under dry conditions until sown in spring. A practice in nurseries when dealing with large quantities of such fruits as holly and thorn is to mix them with sand, stirring over occasionally for six months, or even a year, until the fleshy portion has rotted, before sowing the seeds. A method we adopt with any of these hard, bony seeds which are sluggish in germination after a reasonable period in a heated greenhouse, is to plunge the pots to the rims outside in autumn where they are exposed to changes of temperature and moisture—frost, rain, snow and drying winds. There are usually a good many vacancies before spring where pots of seeds have germinated and been moved under glass.

In March or early April the laggards are returned to the heated greenhouse, where generally the sudden change from outdoor to warm indoor conditions induces still more to germinate.

In dealing with small, dust-like seeds—the rhododendrons and spiræas, for example—it is not desirable to sow these until early spring, as they invariably germinate in a short time. Young seedlings of this type are fragile, requiring favourable conditions, which are easier to supply at that season than during November and December. Roses, thorns, cratægus, etc., are more sturdy if sowing is carried out as soon as the seeds are ripe, and germination takes place by November.

The questions of clean pots, porous sandy soil and ample drainage are similar, whether greenhouse seeds or tree and shrubs seeds are sown. The depth to cover the seeds is important. A useful and safe rule to follow is to cover the seeds with about their own depth of fine sandy soil. This means that the finest seeds need scarcely any covering. Rhododendrons, for example, should have only a light dusting of fine silver sand, using, of course, a lime-free soil on which to sow the seeds.

Avoid sowing the seeds too thickly. It is a waste of seed and may result in drawn-up, weakly seedlings, or losses through close contact and damping-off.

Protect the rhododendron and other fine seeds with sheets of glass until germination begins, and cover all the seeds with sheets of paper to conserve the moisture in the soil and obviate frequent watering.

When germination begins and the papers are removed, pay special attention to atmospheric moisture and the condition of the compost. A dry soil and dry atmosphere may soon cause untold losses among seedlings, as also may the excessively moist condition of the compost. A. O.

Digitized by Google

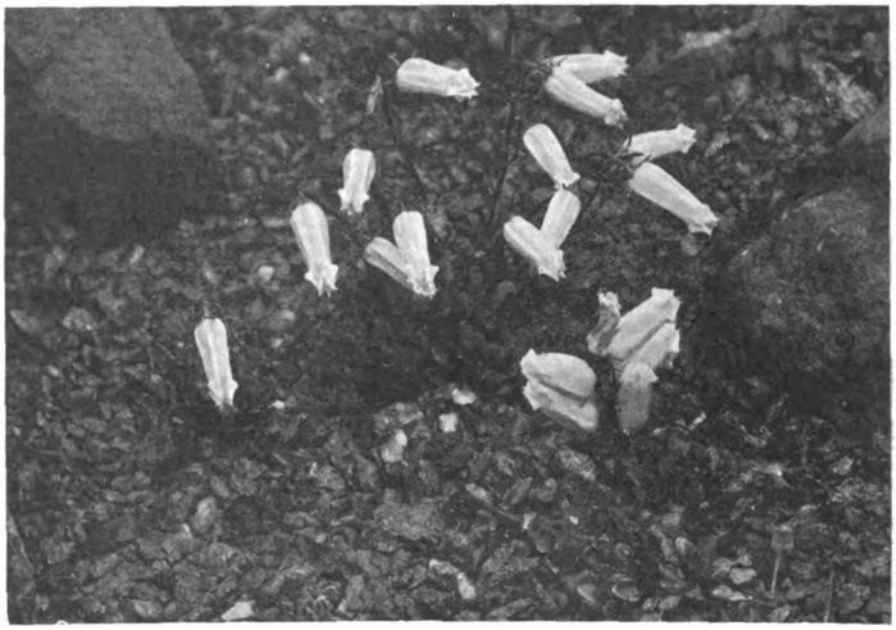
CAMPANULAS FOR THE ROCK GARDEN

CAMPANULAS, on the whole, are an extremely satisfactory and pleasing family, and are almost indispensable where rock gardening is a feature. They are usually easy to cultivate, but some odd species require a little more attention and patience to grow them well; but in certain instances some lovely individuals have unfairly been given a bad reputation. Take the charming C. Zoysii as an example: 90 per cent. of rock garden owners consider it is too difficult to grow. But for what reason? I, personally, do not agree with them, although I must admit that it is one of the favourite "dishes" of the slug, and, because it is devoured time after time by this pest, I imagine that it has thereby earned its unworthy reputation. If sufficient precaution be taken to guard against such pests, I have not the slightest doubt that C. Zoysii would thrive and become a perfect little treasure. From June to August the campanulas are in flower and some varieties continue still later, a feature which makes them particularly valuable, as by July the majority of rock garden plants are almost at the end of their season of beauty. The campanulas need an open sunny position, and a good addition of sharp sand and grit to the soil. Some of the species described below make choice items for pan culture in the alpine house or any airy, cold house; and in cases where they are particularly liable to attack by slugs, it is a simple matter to make their destruction impossible, by standing the specimen pan on an island in a saucer of strong salt water.

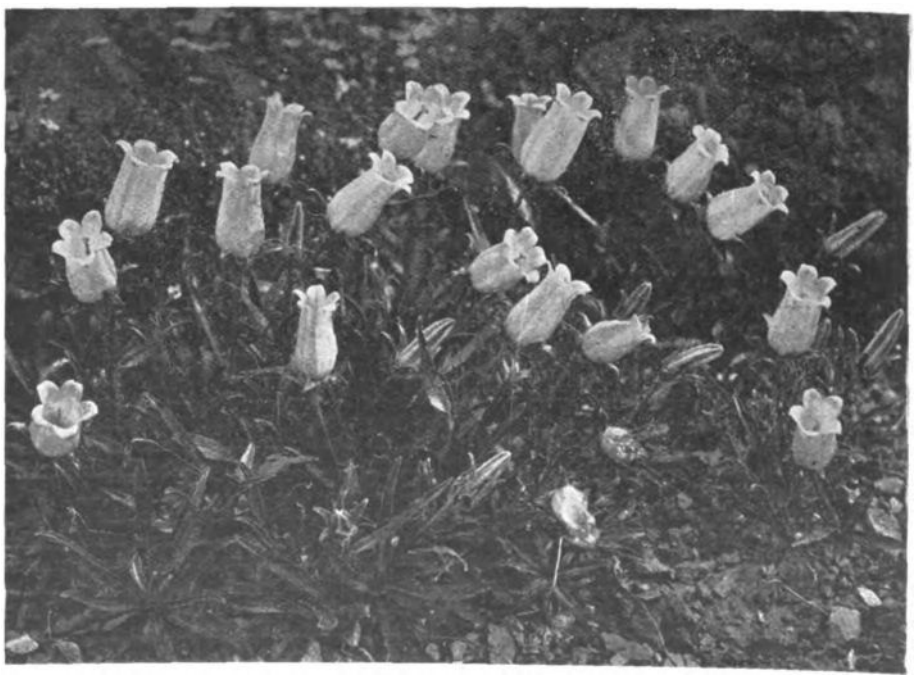
CAMPANULA ARVATICA (ACUTANGULA), is a delightful scree plant, where it will run about freely among the loose grit and stones and become a mass of splendour when its myriads of flowers appear on their tiny slender 2in. stems at midsummer. The tiny emerald green foliage hugs the surface of the soil, hardly rising half an inch high, and the rich violet flowers sit with their wide open stars erect and looking to the skies. It is a lime-loving species. In winter it remains dormant and unseen, save for its dead, ripened growth of the preceding season.

CAMPANULA EXCISA is a native of various European Alps, occurring, I believe, on granite or, at least, non-lime formations, but I do not think that a little lime will be too detrimental towards its culture, as, on one occasion, I imported a certain androsace which I grew in limestone chips, leaf-mould and sand. To my surprise, the following spring the specimen was densely surrounded by small, wiry growths of some campanula. From a point of view of curiosity, I allowed it to remain, to see what it really was, although it seemed as if it might strangle the androsace at any time. However, the intruder proved itself to be C. excisa, and it caused no little trouble before the last remains could be cleared away. This is my reason for believing that C. excisa is not a true lime-hater, but at the same time, as a most desirable compost, I would suggest a very sandy leaf-mould. It runs about and sends up fine wiry stems clothed with small lanceolate leaves, finely notched, topped by nodding deep blue bells, each being borne singly. They are long and tubular in shape, and deeply and curiously cut, making five distinct points. At the base of each lobe there appears to be a hole punched, but on close examination these are found to be an extraordinary division which forms in the lobes. This is a pleasant characteristic of the species, and one by which it may always be recognised.

CAMPANULA WALDSTEINIANA is a most distinct species for a well drained, gritty soil and a sunny aspect. Being fond of lime, abundant chippings of limestone should be included in the compost. Tufts of dark green growth are formed of small oval leaves and short sturdy stems, and in summer it is a perfect dense mass of flowers, starry cups open to the skies, of a violet hue, fading to a paler shade in the centre. Its height may be 3ins. to 6ins., for old and well established tufts increase in size year by year. No underground runners are sent out.



THE MINUTE C. ZOYSII, ONE OF THE MOST CHARMING OF THE FAMILY.



C. ALLIONII. WITH ITS CLOSE-GROWING ROSETTES OF LEAVES AND LARGE BELL FLOWERS.

Digitized by Google

CAMPANULA TOMMASINIANA is only occasionally met with in cultivation, although it is a most desirable species. This is due to the fact that its native habitats are few and local. It is of good habit, forming a neat tuft of fine, wiry growth in summer, with long elliptical leaves edged with fine teeth. Six inches is the average height of well established plants, and year by year the tuft increases in size. The slender stems carry pendent, dangling, tubular bells, extremely pretty and fairy-like, of a pale blue, distinctly flushed with a lilac shade. A choice sunny corner in the rock garden, in light, sandy, open soil, should be chosen for this campanula.

CAMPANULA ALLIONII comes from numerous European stations, where it is very plentiful on lime-free formations, which no doubt gives the reason, in theory, that it is a lime-hater but actually the plant will thrive and flourish in cultivation in limestone scree or moraine. Rosettes of long, strap-shaped leaves, covered with short sturdy hairs, sit perfectly flat on the soil's surface, and flower stems not more than 2ins. high ascend to carry the enormous blossoms, which resemble, in size and shape, the Canterbury bell. But in this case they are carried singly and at right angles to their stout stems. The flowers vary in colour from shades of blue to deep purple: as also does the foliage, from green to silver. A position near the ground where its roots will be cooler in summer is most suitable. A deep compost, of a very open, gritty character is necessary, so that the roots may run about freely underground and produce the numerous white shoots which eventually find their way to the surface and make new rosettes. The roots are not fine and threadlike, as they are in many other cases, but are stout and fleshy, with a limited number of small fibres.

CAMPANULA ZOYSII undoubtedly ranks among the choicest species, dainty and unique in appearance and, generally speaking, is an outstanding little treasure, of neat and compact habit. It forms short tufts of densely furnished stems, of bright glossy green leaves, which are small and oval, and it rarely, if ever, exceeds 3ins. in height. The flowers are most fascinating and attractive, and take a peculiar form in quite original style. They are tubular in shape and about half an inch in length with a wider base. Instead of an open bell, the mouth is contracted and closed, which gives a curious star-fish appearance from a direct front view. It loves a deep limestone crevice, or a position where it can be firmly wedged between rocks, but, as previously mentioned, it is not a difficult plant to grow and any good scree mixture will suit. An occasional dusting with Sanitas Powder, or if the plant is encircled with a barrier of powdered alum or a collar of zinc, safeguards it from its particular enemy, the slug. For the alpine house it is a very desirable subject on account of being more safely protected by standing the specimen pan on a raised island in a saucer of salt water. It flowers abundantly in July and August, and is found in rock crevices and lime formations in the eastern Alps.

CAMPANULA CENISIA.—From the lime-free screes and moraines of the high Alps, perhaps chiefly from the vicinity of Mont Cenis, from where it takes its name, this delightful subject comes to us. It is a subject suitable only for scree treatment in cultivation, and, even so, it is not an easy matter to overcome the difficulties it is likely to present. Where it is made happy, however, it will run freely among the stones and produce its delicate light green rosettes of small round leaves. Its Cambridge blue flowers form shallow bells with wide mouths, exquisite and dainty. A recommended mixture as a growing medium may be made up of three parts granite chippings and one part leaf-mould and sand.

CAMPANULA MORETTIANA is, again, another item for the enthusiast and specialist, as it is extremely beautiful and rare. It is to be found in the Dolomites haunting high limestone formations in more or less inaccessible positions. A tight, well drained, deep crevice with abundant lime should meet its requirements in cultivation, or limestone scree treatment may suffice. Its foliage is a dark grey-green colour, and its small divers-shaped leaves form a neat and compact tuft, from which its large violet bells ascend, borne singly on 2in. stems.

CAMPANULA RAINERI is one of the most charming and satisfactory subjects for the rock garden, where it will thrive in almost any sunny, well drained pocket or crevice, making compact clumps of dwarf greyish tufts, capable of a brilliant display of large open bells of a bright blue colour. It is particularly fond of limestone, and is partial to a deep crevice, though this is not essential. It is important to place it in a position where it is not likely to be troubled by slugs.

CAMPANULA SAXIFRAGA is a rare and beautiful species from the Caucasus, with handsome silvery grey rosettes of long narrow leaves, probably more pronounced at the base than the centre. The leaves appear shorter and broader in the centre. Numerous large dark blue bells of high quality are borne during the summer. It is an easy doer in gritty compost in a sunny position. Almost identical with this species is C. tridentata, requiring exactly the same treatment.

F. BARKER.

NOVELTIES IN SWEET PEAS

(*Continued from page 26.*)

DIANA (Ireland and Hitchcock).—I do not recollect having seen this pea, so the raisers' description must suffice. "A very unique variety. The whole flower is pink on a white ground, while every vein is a clear rose." Certainly uncommon.

HEAVENLY BLUE (Waller-Franklin Seed Company).—"Soft, pure delphinium blue with no trace of violet." Another American mid-blue to dispute pride of place with Mrs. Tom Jones, a true stock of which I still consider to be at least equal to any other mid-blue in existence, although I am fully aware there are many bad stocks of it in commerce. The raisers tell us Heavenly Blue is a "marked improvement," and while bearing in mind the different way in which some peas behave in California, I have no hesitation in commending this novelty as well worthy of a trial.

JOY (F. C. Woodcock).—The fact that Joy is a pale rose-pink form of Cecily, with all the good qualities of the latter, is no light recommendation. I should imagine it to be between the colours of Hebe and Valentine. Vigorous and long stemmed.

2LO (E. W. King and Co.).—2LO is a very decided advance in colour. Its raisers term it a scarlet, but dense shining orange-scarlet or deep brilliant scarlet-cerise will fit it equally well. It is shades deeper than Grenadier or Pimpernel, a solid, satisfying and glaring self tone that arrests the eye immediately. Camp Fire, a 1925 novelty, is its nearest rival as regards colour alone, but the older pea is not so deep or rich and its blooms are rather on the small side. As exhibited 2LO, seemed hardly as large flowered as Grenadier, but even if this is so it is undoubtedly a really good pea, and most certainly one of the best 1926 novelties, and all who grow sweet peas will not regret including it in their selections. I tender the same advice to exhibitors as in one or two other instances, namely, to give 2LO liberal treatment and to restrict it to one stem.

LESLIE RUNDLE (E. W. King and Co.).—A black-seeded cream with a tendency to give duplex standards. Its raisers tell us "its chief characteristic is the length of stem it maintains, both growing naturally and for exhibition, a claim which cannot be urged for any other cream." Certainly a strong point.

MAGNET (Thomas Cullen and Sons).—I should describe this as a cream ground Pink Perfection. The colouring is very rich, and at the Scottish National Sweet Pea Society's trials it was awarded the gold medal. Its raisers say "Magnet will, we predict, take premier place for form, size, richness of colour and refinement, the pink tone being brighter than in any other cream-pink." It has two exceptionally strong rivals already in commerce of somewhat similar shading, W. J. Unwin and Miss California, both superb peas. If Magnet can hold its own with them for size and shape of bloom, vigour and length of stem, it is well nigh impossible to predict which of the trio will eventually be generally considered the best.

MARY PICKFORD (C. C. Morse and Co.).—I entirely agree with its raisers'

Digitized by Google

statement "One of the best Spencer varieties yet introduced." Like the dainty lady after whom it is named, this novelty is very charming. One would not be far off the mark in describing Mary Pickford (the pea, I mean) as a light Miss California, yet this does not seem to convey quite enough to indicate its attractiveness. A beautiful light cream-pink with the faintest suffusion of salmon, it is not in the least insipid and will be found excellent for all decorative purposes. The growth is vigorous and it is large bloomed and long stemmed. Mary Pickford will surely maintain the reputation Messrs. Morse have won with their previous excellent introductions Youth and Miss California.

MAUVE PRINCE (A. Ireland and Hitchcock).—"The standard is a rosy-mauve and the wings pure mauve." The raisers also add "We have every confidence that it will become exceedingly popular."

MERMAID (Thomas Cullen and Sons).—It will be remembered that Messrs. Cullen were the raisers of Powerscourt, which can be accurately termed the most popular present-day lavender. Mermaid is a seedling from Powerscourt, and its raisers consider it superior to the latter. From what I have seen of Mermaid, its colour is something like Lord Lascelles or Cynthia, but its lavender tone is richer and the blooms have a decided blue sheen. Although I do not know for certain, I believe it was No. 56 at the N.S.P.S. 1925 trials; if so, I was very impressed with its beautiful colouring. Undoubtedly one of the best 1926 novelties and well worth a trial.

MISS PHILADELPHIA (W. Atlee Burpee and Co.).—Claimed to be an entirely new shade of pink, "a pleasing warm shade of rosolane pink, lightly suffused with pale amber and salmon." Almost a self colour. It is vigorous, large bloomed and long stemmed.

MRS. HORACE WRIGHT (W. J. Unwin).—I can fully endorse the raiser's description "It is as large flowered as W. J. Unwin, of perfect form and placement, with no faults as far as we are aware. The delightful colouring is a warm and rich shade of rosy-pink with just a suspicion of cerise, flushed on a pure white ground. Exceedingly vigorous and ideal for any purpose." I shall be surprised if this pea does not prove to be the best white ground flush.

ORION (A. Ireland and Hitchcock).—"A pale cream, pink suffused with salmon." The raisers give the following opinion: "Although we have many cream-pinks, we have not one that can compare with this variety for perfect flowers." As far as I am aware, I have not had the pleasure of seeing Orion, so cannot give my personal impressions.

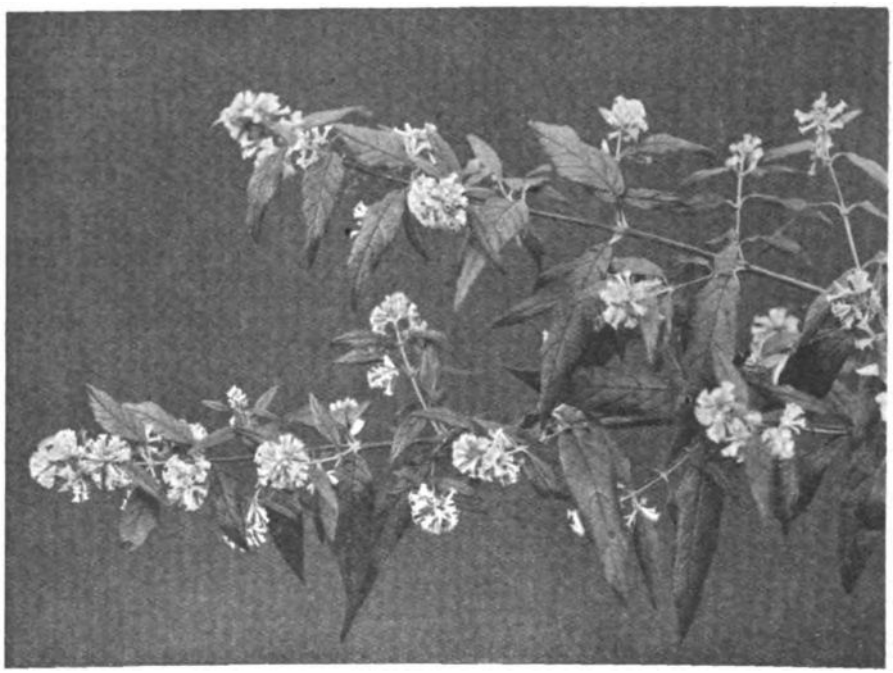
PEGGY (R. Bolton and Son).—I found, on comparing Charming, Coralline and Peggy, that the last named was the brightest of the three, but I have not yet had the opportunity of comparing it with the other three 1926 deep cerise novelties Centaur, Coral Glow and Ryburgh Cerise. Centaur and Coral Glow I also know to be deeper than the older pair, so the cerise colour class is likely to provide us with more than the usual interest next summer. Strangely enough, the deep cerise colour section in the past has had few representatives, now they are coming in with a rush. The blooms of Peggy as exhibited were faultless, and I think there is no question as regards its size. Should it prove to be as vigorous and long stemmed as Charming, I expect it to head its colour section. C. H. A. S.

(To be continued.)

CORRESPONDENCE

FLOWERS BLOOMING IN THE OPEN AT CHRISTMAS.

SIR,—I send you herewith a list of flowers in bloom to-day in Mr. G. W. W. Blathwayt's garden and in my own at West Porlock, Somerset. The previous Christmas we were able to record over 200 varieties, but, naturally, the recent severe frosts have considerably reduced the number at present, and have also affected their quality. A few plants have been given the shelter of a hurdle, but the majority are quite unprotected. The leptospermums have been in full flower since early in November and were untouched by 8 degrees of frost. Abelia floribunda; Abutilon megapotamicum; A. Canary Bird and red var.; Acacia falcata; A. longifolia; Arbutus Unedo; Araujia sericifera; Arabis albida; Aubrietia vars.; Achillea Lewisii; Antirrhinum majus; Agathæa cœlestis; Berberis japonica; B. verruculosa; Bomarea multiflora; Bowkeria Gerrardiana; Buddleia auriculata; Brachysema Drummondii; Calceolaria alba; C. integrifolia; Cassia corymbosa; Cassinia fulvida; Campanula persicifolia; C. Portenschlagiana; Callistemon speciosus; Clianthus puniceus albus; Clematis cirrhosa; citrus (citron); Coronilla glauca pygmæa; C. valentina; Crocus Imperati; Ceanothus azureus var.; C. Veitchianus; Chrysanthemum (many vars.); C. marginatum; C. maximum; C. frutescens; Cheiranthus Newark Park; C. Harpur Crewe; C. linifolius; Cobæa scandens; Cuphea ignea; Cyclamen Coum; Cytisus monspessulanus; C. racemosus; Chorizema cordatum; Correa Harrisii; C. pulchella; C. magnifica; Cydonia Maulei; Daphne Philippii; Dianthus caryophyllus vars.; D. plumarius vars.; Diosma ericoides; Diplacus glutinosus Erica codonodes; E. Veitchii; E. gracilis (pink and white); E. stricta; E. vagans; Epacris sp. (red); Erodium hymenoides; Erigeron mucronatus; Eupatorium Weinmannianum; Escallonia montevidiensis; E. langleyensis; Freesia refracta (seedlings); Fuchsia Cottinghamii; F. excorticata; F. reflexa; Galanthus cilicicus; Gazania hybrida; Gentiana acaulis; G. sino-ornata; Grevillea rosmarinifolia; Geum montanum; G. Lady Stratheden; Hamamelis mollis; Helianthemum var.; Helichrysum bellidioides; Helleborus corsicus; H. niger; Hydrangea hortensis vars.; Iberis sempervirens; Ionopsidium acaule; Iris unguicularis; I. u. cretensis; I. u. lazica; Jasminum nudiflorum; Kennedya Comptoniana; Leonitis Leonurus; Lavendula dentata; Leptospermum scoparium; L. s. Nichollsii; Linaria alpina; Lithospermum prostratum; L. rosmarinifolium; Lapageria rosea; Lonicera fragrantissima; L. Standishii; L. sempervirens; Matthiola (stock); Malvastrum phœniceum; Malva Olbia; Menziesia polifolia; Mesembryanthemum blandum; M. Ecklonis; M. atro-violaceum; M. compactum; Medicago arborea; Nicotiana affinis; Olearia ramulosa; Omphalodes cappadocica; Pentstemon (garden vars.); P. tubiflorus; Pelargonium Ivy-leaf; P. Zonal; Pittosporum Tobira; Primula cashmiriana; P. malacoides; P. obconica; P. veris vars.; P. vulgaris vars.; P. Juliæ hybrids; Polygala Dalmaisiana; Prostanthera rotundifolia; Pieris floribunda; Passiflora cœrulea; Phlox Arendsii; Rosmarinus officinalis; R. prostratus; Reseda odorata; roses (teas, h.t.'s, Wichuraianas); Rubus Bambusarum; Rehmannia angulata; Rhododendron lutescens;



THE GRACEFUL FLOWER CLUSTERS OF BUDDLEIA AURICULATA.

Digitized by Google

Salvia rutilans; S. fulgens; Schizostylis coccinea and var.; Sollya heterophylla; S. Drummondii; Solanum jasminoides; Spartium junceum; Senecio Grayii; S. lanatus; Spiræa prunifolia; S. Thunbergii; Tacsonia quitensis; Triteleia uniflora; Viburnum fragrans; V. Tinus; Veronica catarractæ; V. speciosa; V. hybrids (numerous); V. spicata; Vinca difformis; V. major; Viola odorata (single and double); V. gracilis Lady Crisp; V. tricolor..—N. G. HADDEN.

HOLLY AND MANURE.

SIR,—I have a Silver Queen Holly which has been for the best part of a century growing in full sun among other shrubs, but never making much growth, and also being a good deal nipped for Christmas decorations, and it has also been depleted by hostile hands, with the result that the dwarf plant never progressed. Some two years ago I had it heavily top-dressed with rich manure. The result is that a strong leading growth now about 10ft. high and as straight as a fishing-rod has appeared.—J. HILL POE, *Riverston, Nenagh.*

PLANTING.

SIR,—The Editorial comment in the first issue of THE GARDEN for 1926, on autumn *versus* spring planting, was sound commonsense, and it gives food for thought to all who have planting to do. In February, 1874, I began to read THE GARDEN, and have been a weekly reader ever since. During this long period of time I have had every kind of experience in the planting and transplanting of every conceivable phase of the work. Therefore I endorse plain speaking and calling a spade a spade. Nurserymen are often blamed for many trees and shrubs going wrong after planting; in some cases it may be so, but I venture to assert that more go wrong through the planter and the planting. So, whether it be autumn or spring, if there is indifference in any of the work to be done, indifferent results will follow. To all who value helpful hints I suggest the following as useful factors to practise. Let all preparatory work of digging or trenching the ground be of the best possible order, as it ensures a better rooting medium. In taking out holes for whatever kind of planting is being done, let the bottom be as wide as the top, so that the spread of the roots is not cramped but well set out on a flat bottom. This gives a firmer hold in the space allotted, and is a greater safeguard against the wind loosening them so soon after planting. On receiving all packages from a nursery, closely examine all roots, so that any that are damaged may be cut back with the sharpest of knives or shears—a clean angle cut just beyond the damage; when this is done the cut will callus round the edge and new fibrous roots will grow and be valuable support. Never plant anything with dry, parched roots; where this condition occurs, get a tub of water and soak all roots overnight until thoroughly saturated. Where there are balls of roots and earth bound together, it is most important to see that they are not planted dry, or disappointment is sure. Never begin to tramp the soil or earth on or about the roots until there is enough placed about and over them to prevent injury, and to make sure that the soil gets well among and round about the roots, move the plants to and fro while filling in, and in this way you make more sure there is no vacuum or empty space about the roots, because where this is so it is an evil of bad planting. The depth to plant must always be a matter for the planter to decide, according to the subject being planted; but, above all, see that everything is firmly finished by a reasonable tramping and all foot trampings forked out, so that everything is left decent and in order.

Staking is a matter to be decided upon at the discretion of the planter. Personally, I give my opinion that all planting done from now on to the end of March, under all conditions proper to the needs of the subjects to be planted, is the best possible time.—V. H. LUCAS, *Hurworth-on-Tees.*

ERITRICHIUM NANUM.

SIR,—I have been much interested in the correspondence in THE GARDEN about Eritrichium nanum, and would like to have the opportunity of saying how heartily I agree with Mr. Clarence Elliott's and Mr. F. Barker's letters and to show that one person, at any rate, appreciated the gem of the Alps entirely upon its own merits. The first time I was fortunate enough to find this lovely plant was one July day before the war, when I was coming over the Col d'Hérens from Arolla to Zermatt and stopped to rest upon the Stoekge at an altitude of over 9,500ft. Here I suddenly came upon several large patches with their wonderful pure azure blue flowers, the purest blue I had ever set eyes on, gleaming amid the glacier snows and leaving me absolutely speechless before the most perfect rock gem conceivable. Dare I admit, ardent lover of all flowers as I am, that at that time I had never even heard the magical name of Eritrichium nanum, and dare I further admit that, with infinite pains and trouble, I then and there proceeded to grub up a plant which, in my crass ignorance, I sent home to Scotland, had planted in the open and, to my infinite disappointment, naturally lost? Surely this is another testimony to the beauty of the flower entirely upon its own merits. Since then I have found it several times in the neighbourhood of Zermatt, and always with the same marvellous pure blue flowers without any of the traces of pink complained of by a previous correspondent.—ETHEL S. HOWARTH.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS IN CANADA.

SIR,—The illustration of chrysanthemums in THE GARDEN for December 26th, 1925, page 730, growing at the Experimental Farm, Ottawa, was very interesting to me, as it was my great privilege to see them there in September last.

Mr. McKee, the Dominion greenhouse specialist, who stands with the plants, informed me that chrysanthemums in Canada are grown entirely under glass because of the climatic conditions there.

He showed me hundreds of seedlings from which he was hoping even to improve on such excellent varieties as Lady Byng and J. R. Booth.

Chrysanthemums are more difficult to grow in Canada than in England, and the photograph reflects the greatest credit on Mr. McKee's skill as a cultivator of these plants.—THOMAS MOORE.

CHRYSANTHEMUM SOURCE D'OR.

SIR,—I was delighted with "Claremont's" reference to this really grand old decorative variety (page 10, issue January 2nd). I too, well remember its introduction and that of the tall-growing Mme. C. Audignier, which I used to grow 12ft. high along with another tall sort, Belle Paule, 13ft. to 15ft. I have stood on a high wall to attend to the tying and disbudding of the shoots. Truly, there were giants in those old days as regards height, but their flowers were refined. But to return to Source d'Or: I, too, grow it and its equally good yellow sport, Lizzie Adcock. If disbudded on their terminal shoots the buds develop into ideal blooms as regards size and deep colour. I regard the two as ideal late October and early November varieties in every way. Usually I plant out and lift about three hundred plants; the plants are good for this, and fill some cleared tomato borders under glass.—GEO. GARNER.

GARDEN TECHNIQUE

Notes on the Technical Side of the Garden and the Cultivation of Plants.

FLOWERS

CUT FLOWERS.

WHERE it is desired to keep cut flowers for a special occasion, a very good plan is that shown in the illustration. Here, on a flat surface, is spread a layer of damp sand about 2ins. deep. The stalks of the flowers are pushed into the sand and the whole is then covered with a glass shade. In the case of small flowers, empty jam-jars inverted over the blooms would do well. Keep the whole arrangement in rather a cool place, where there is no risk of frost. Examine now and then and moisten the sand if it becomes dry. Watch for signs of mould, and should these appear clear away at once. To prevent the development of mould it is a good plan to soak a piece of cotton-wool in a formalin solution and put this under the shade. Flowers treated in this manner will remain in good condition for several weeks, as the writer has proved on more than one occasion.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

HOW TO KEEP CUT FLOWERS.

SPIRÆA JAPONICA AND SOLOMON'S SEAL.

BOTH of these plants are easily forced into bloom many weeks in advance of those specimens left in the open borders. There are numerous greenhouses and conservatories in the country built in partial shade, some of which do not receive any sunshine from November to late spring, and the above-mentioned plants are very suitable for flowering in such structures. Clumps may be purchased from advertisers in this journal now, or, if available in the garden borders and are strong, they may be lifted forthwith and potted. The fact that the clumps have been exposed to the recent frosts will not matter, as frosts cause rest to the crown and root.

Digitized by Google

7 GOLD MEDALS AND 2 SILVER TROPHIES To Exhibits of Carters Vegetables during 1925.

SEEDSMEN BY APPOINTMENT

SEASON 1926

VEGETABLES OF QUALITY

THE painstaking care in Selecting, Testing, and Raising only the best varieties of Vegetables is again confirmed in the record list of Gold Medals awarded during 1925 to Exhibits of Carters Vegetables.

It is well to remind our Customers that over 12,000 individual test rows were grown to full maturity in our grounds at Raynes Park during the past season, to compare and examine the merits of each variety at every stage of growth.

This process is carried out each year so that the highest standard of quality is maintained.

We respectfully invite you to inspect our processes by paying us a visit at Raynes Park.

ILLUSTRATED **CATALOGUE** POST FREE

Carters TESTED SEEDS

SEEDSMEN TO H.M. THE KING.

RAYNES PARK, LONDON, S.W. 20

IT PROTECTS YOU AND HELPS YOU!

Advertising does far more than make a bald statement about the goods. At various times it illustrates them, tells you what you want to know about them, tells you where to buy them and how to use them. By illustrating them it protects you and shows you what to look for, by the rest it **helps** you and saves time.

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

By Appointment

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.,
Royal Potteries,
BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

FOOD FOR YOUR GARDEN

The Glory of the Garden

will be yours in full measure this year if you feed your flowers, fruit, vegetables and turf on

NORCO
COMPLETE FERTILISERS

THE PERFECT GARDEN FOOD

Which supplies the essential constituents contained in stable manure, but in a far richer and more convenient form.

PRICES (Bags Free and Carriage Paid):—

	7 lbs.	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	112 lbs.
"NORCO" Complete Garden Fertiliser (For Flowers, Fruit and Vegetables)	2/6	4/3	7/3	12/6	23/-
"NORCO" Complete Lawn & Turf Fertiliser	2/4	4/-	6/9	11/9	22/-
"NORCO" Complete Potato Fertiliser	2/6	4/3	7/3	12/6	23/-

Send for free Booklet on the use of Lime, Stable Manure and Chemical Fertilisers.

"NORCO" (Regd.) is obtainable only direct from the Sole Manufacturers:—

CHARLES NORRINGTON & CO., LTD.
Cattedown, PLYMOUTH.

Makers of High Grade Fertilisers since 1846. No. 1

Digitized by Google

Take a strong garden fork or a spade, remove any loose leaves, but not stems of late flowers or leaves that are firmly fixed to the crowns of the plants, then dig well under each clump and raise them bodily. Remove them to the potting-shed; select pots of various sizes so that the clumps may be potted whole, not divided. It is only necessary to place the clumps in the pots with a small quantity of finely sifted soil firmed around the roots. Apply water and place the pots in a cold frame, packing straw, leaves or soil around them to prevent breakage by frosts. Introduce a few pots to the heated structures each week, simply keeping the roots and soil moist and feed when the new growth is 6ins. high. These plants provide lovely flowers and foliage for greenhouse or dwelling-room.—G. G.

SOIL MIXTURES FOR ALPINES.

ONE of the first steps towards the solution of the problem of successfully establishing our little mountain friends in this often unsuitable climate is undoubtedly to obtain a soil mixture or compost which be favourable for vigorous growth. While I can hardly call this a science in itself, yet a good deal of practical knowledge is necessary before the happy task of "soil blending" can be successfully undertaken. I say "happy task" advisedly, for I have found that many of my happiest gardening moments were spent in composing either a "rich and fruity" or "poor and stony" compost, in which to plant some new treasure of the Alps.

Plants seem to have almost human likes and dislikes, and I believe there is much more individuality among them than is generally supposed, for while there are certain broad rules laid down as to "lime lovers" and "lime haters," etc., which must not be forgotten, yet I have often found that one may transgress upon these rules considerably, and often with notable success. In fact, I may add, that it is becoming a passion of mine, inasmuch as, if I am given a plant with a solemn warning as to its rabid hatred of lime, I immediately wish to try it in a lime mixture. Of course, I cannot claim success in every instance, for I am afraid that I have had many dismal failures, and have learnt *never* to experiment while only possessing one of a variety, or it will surely die, but when one has two or three it is very interesting to experiment (and, incidentally, I suppose, to prove other folks wrong).

I find that great success can be attained with a lot of the rarer androsaces and the lime-hating saxifrages (of which last there are very few) in a soil composed largely of broken-up roofing slates, but as I described this method fully in these pages some time ago I need not linger over it longer than to say that since my previous notes, I have amply proved the success of this method.

Another mixture which seems to be a very general favourite is one containing quantities of finely broken sandstone. It should be smashed into pieces about as large as peas, and all the sandy dust added as well. The plants seem to have a special affection for this, and one finds their roots twined lovingly round the little knobs of stone in a very short time, as if drawing hearty sustenance therefrom.

Most of the lime-lovers will do almost equally as well in a lime-free soil, but if a plant really is averse to lime, it is useless to place it where its roots can find it, as it will soon begin to look yellow and unhappy.

A very successful method of growing such members of the ornata group of gentians as G. sino-ornata, G. Farreri, etc., is in a compost made up of coconut fibre, silver sand and a little fibrous loam. In this they thrive steadily, without any of that "yellowing" so apparent when their roots are finding too much lime.

To return to the individuality of plants which I mentioned at the commencement of this article, strangely enough I have often discovered that individual plants of the same variety will give finer results under different treatment. I do not know why this should be so, or why, if one plant of Dianthus alpinus should be happy in a pan of limestone chips, his brother should not be equally so. The late Reginald Farrer was not far wrong when he said that no two plants out of the same seed-pod had exactly the same character or requirements.

I could go on for long about this interesting subject, but I have said sufficient to show that a lot of our little friends need a certain amount of pandering to their likes and dislikes.—W. INGWERSEN, JUN.

VEGETABLES

BRUSSELS SPROUTS: AN EARLY START FOR QUALITY.

IT is acknowledged that no vegetable pays better for a long season of growth than Brussels sprouts, and for a liberal amount of space for development. To this end it is advisable to sow a pinch of seed in the warmth of a greenhouse towards the end of January, pricking out the seedlings as soon as they have got well into their second leaf, and placing the boxes in a cooler structure until one may safely shift into cold frames. March and April sowings never "catch up" plants from the earliest batch, and the latter by October unmistakably show the advantage of a good start by the quality of the sprouts. At least a yard apart should be the minimum, and the ground ought to be in good heart by deep digging and incorporating with it leaves and vegetable refuse. I have had good results with this form of manuring alone, and am inclined to the belief that it often equals animal manure, which, in these days, is difficult to procure at anything like a reasonable cost. I am convinced of the great advantage there is in starting early in the year with Brussels sprouts.—CLAREMONT.

EARLY LETTUCES.

EARLY lettuces are always much appreciated, but it is sometimes difficult to grow specimens with fine hearts early in the year. The right varieties should be selected, those of the cabbage section and not those of the cos. It does not matter about size. Early growth of central leaves; this does matter. I daresay some readers have special favourites, but the following are almost certain to please: Tom Thumb, Early Paris Market, followed by All the Year Round. We begin by sowing a few seeds in a large box, long and wide, not more than 6ins. deep. The box should be filled with a rich compost, rotted manure and half-rotted leaves to form the bottom layer, then old chrysanthemum soil to fill up. If the latter is not available, use good loam and leaf soil in equal proportions, with a free addition of rotted manure — none is more suitable than old mushroom bed manure. The boxes being filled, and the soil in them levelled, water should be applied before sowing. Drop the seeds very thinly—about 1in. apart, if possible—cover with a very thin layer of dry soil. Do not water this. The seedlings will soon appear in a warmed frame or greenhouse. In the meantime, prepare a few more boxes in a similar way, but do not water the soil. Transplant the seedlings to these boxes carefully, leaving some in the seed boxes (distance apart, 2ins. to 3ins.) and fill up holes made with a little fine soil. The undisturbed seedlings will be the first to form hearts and the others will maintain a succession. Keep the boxes about 2ft. from the roof glass.—G. GARNER.

GREENHOUSE

LATE PLANTING OF GRAPE VINES.

GRAPE vines may be planted any time from November to May. In the autumn and in mid-winter the vines are planted in a dormant state. About May they are, of course, in a growing state and very much care is needed to prevent undue drooping of the young leaves. If, however, close attention is given to them, vines planted in May do not receive any check and make wonderfully good progress during the summer months. The border, in all cases, if convenient, should be prepared several months prior to the work of planting if this cannot be done, then the turf used should be quite three months old, that is, it should have been cut and heaped for a period of three months. I am now dealing, mainly, with the work connected with the planting of growing vines, as there are cases where this is absolutely necessary, or a wait of a year must ensue. All borders for early and late vines, respectively, should be inside; those for intermediate varieties may be partly inside and partly outside, the vines being planted inside. The depth of the border should be, approximately, 3ft., including 9ins. of drainage. Whole turves should be placed on the drainage, the remainder being chopped, but not too finely. Add old mortar rubble and finely-ground bones to the mixture; use the latter in a dry state and tread it firmly. The young growing vines must be carefully turned out of their pots, the main roots spread out and all buried 4ins. deep. Apply water to the roots, and shade to the foliage for two weeks. A daily syringing will help the vines, too.—HANTS.

MISCELLANEOUS

PROPAGATION OF SOFT-WOODED PLANTS.

QUESTION.—Will soft-wooded plants, rooted after Christmas, be suitable for bedding-out in the following summer?

Answer.—Yes, many thousands of plants are so raised every year from cuttings. It frequently happens that the autumn-struck stock is inadequate to meet the ordinary requirements of the flower gardener and so he must then depend upon plants raised from seeds sown in spring or cuttings propagated early in the New Year. Old specimens or autumn-struck plants are specially prepared for the supply of these spring cuttings. In the ordinary way the plants are retained in a very moderate heat so that they will be stocky in spring. But, for the supply of cuttings, they are subjected to a higher temperature—one approaching to summer heat—then young shoots grow quickly and these, when severed with a sharp knife, prepared and inserted in a light, sandy compost, soon form roots, especially if there is a little bottom heat available. The majority of such cuttings, those of heliotrope, lobelia, ageratum, iresines and coleus are inserted round the sides of large pots, but ivy-leaved and zonal pelargoniums are best inserted singly in small pots.

Question.—Why should this difference be made?

Answer.—Because the first-named, and others somewhat similar, form roots quickly and it is possible to re-pot or box the young rooted plants prior to their final planting out. The pelargoniums root more slowly so they should not be disturbed, but allowed to remain in the cutting pots till they are, with the others, gradually hardened in cold frames and planted out early in June.—CHRISTCHURCH.

Digitized by Google

SEEDS, AND WHERE THEY CAN BE OBTAINED

WAKELEY'S GARDEN SEEDS

We beg to announce to our thousands of customers that we are now offering

GARDEN SEEDS
OF THE VERY
FINEST VARIETIES AND STRAIN.

Send for our **SPRING CATALOGUE** which contains a choice selection of all seeds and other specialities for the garden.

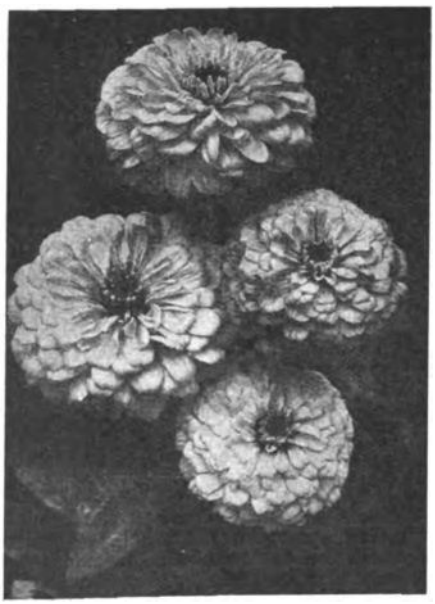
WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.,
75a, Bankside, S.E.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING, SURREY
(late ANTHONY WATERER)
PROPRIETOR - **HOSEA WATERER**
has pleasure in offering
STANDARD TREES
in great variety, consisting of
LIMES, NORWAY MAPLES, ELMS, etc., etc.
EVERGREEN & DECIDUOUS SHRUBS, viz. :
Box—Green and Variegated, 3 to 8 ft.
Hollies—Common, 5 to 8 ft.; Variegated and Green varieties, 2 to 6 ft.
Thuiopsis borealis, 10 to 12 ft. Cupressus Lawsoniana, 12 to 14 ft. Cedrus atlantica glauca, very fine, 10 to 14 ft. Osmanthus, Phillyreas, Spiræas, Lilacs, Viburnums, etc.
GOLDEN YEWS
A Magnificent Stock in all shapes and sizes from 2 to 10 ft.
PRIVET, Common and Oval-leaved.
QUICK and **HORNBEAM** for Hedges.
AZALEAS, 2 to 5 ft.
RHODODENDRONS, without doubt the finest stock in the trade of named varieties, 2 to 6 and 8 ft.
HARDY HEATHS in great variety and a good general nursery stock.
Catalogues ready.
Enquiries and Inspection Invited.
KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING STATION, SURREY
Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

DAHLIA FLOWERED ZINNIAS.

ZINNIAS have been greatly improved during the last seven years, but among all the new varieties the giant dahlia-flowered kinds are of outstanding merit. As the name implies, they are not unlike the decorative dahlias; in rich soil they will grow 3ft. in height and the flowers, averaging 4ins. in diameter, may at times reach 6ins. The colouring is gorgeous; reds and crimsons of various shades predominate, but there are yellow, orange, purple and white zinnias to be had. Indeed, we feel sure that when the newer sorts become better known, their popularity will increase. Seed must not be sown too early; the first week in March is an excellent time to sow. The ground must be deeply



dug and liberally manured in advance and the plants must not be put out until well on in May.—HUGH AITKEN.

PRIMULA SINENSIS.

NO lover of his greenhouse will ever be without primulas. Few plants can surpass them for winter decoration. Their cultivation is comparatively easy. The seed of the sinensis varieties should be sown in heat about the middle of February. As germination is rather slow, attention should be given to the pots or pans containing the seed, in order that they do not become dry. To prevent this a sheet of glass can be placed over them, at the same time shading with paper.

Some time in May the seedlings should be quite large enough to place in 2in. pots, any good potting compost being suitable. After they are potted place them in a frame—one

UNWIN'S SWEET PEAS

Known and grown all over the World. There are no Sweet Peas of better quality obtainable. You will eventually grow them, why not *this* season?

UNWIN'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI

Our 1925 Awards at six of the leading Shows were: Six Gold Medals and One Silver Cup. We offer the very best and most distinct English, American and Dutch Novelties and standard varieties at "*buyable*" prices.

UNWIN'S GARDEN SEEDS, ETC.

Vegetable and Flower Seeds, Bulbs, Scotch Seed Potatoes, Dahlias, Roses, etc., of the Highest Quality at prices within reach of every pocket.

1926 CATALOGUE POST FREE

Write for a copy *now*, before it slips your memory, from

W. J. UNWIN, F.R.H.S., *Sweet Pea Specialist & Seedsman,* **HISTON, CAMBS.**

Forbes' East Lothian Stocks
The most reliable strain in existence. Sow at once for June to November flowering. Crimson, Purple, Rose, Scarlet, White, Lavender. Crimson and White Wallflower-leaved, each 1/6, 2/6 & 5/- per pkt.
Forbes' Giant-Flowered Pentstemon
Choice mixed, saved from our unrivalled Gold Medal Collection, 1/-, 2/6 & 5/- per pkt.
Forbes' Fancy Pansy
Choice mixed, in grand variety of colour, 1/-, 2/6 & 5/- per pkt.
JOHN FORBES (HAWICK), Ltd.,
The King's Nurserymen, HAWICK, SCOTLAND.

Garden Seeds from Scotland
SEND FOR
'My Garden Book, 1926'
Recognised by many as
BRITAIN'S BEST SEED CATALOGUE
A descriptive and illustrated list of all the best Vegetable Seeds, Flower Seeds, and Highland Grown Seed Potatoes.
Post free on request.
SECURE YOUR COPY NOW.
ALEXANDER & BROWN
(Dept. T)
The Scottish Seed House, PERTH

Digitized by Google

Some Choice New Seeds

Iris sibirica New hybrids (including Perry's Blue, Nora Distin, Kingfisher Blue, &c.) 1/6 per packet.

Delphinium Our well-known "British Birds" Series produces spikes of bloom as wonderful as the expensive named varieties. From Light Shades only } 2/6 ,, Dark ,, ,, } per Mixed - - - } packet.

Gladiolus Primulinus hybrids } 3/6 Large-flowered ,, } per Both in mixture } packet.

See our new seed leaflet for special offers, Nos. 4 to 8. Seed should be sown early in heat if flowers are expected this year.

Border Carnation We have not many packets of this left as we had to meet a large Autumn demand, and much of it has again gone abroad.

DO NOT FAIL TO GET OUR NEW SEED LEAFLET GIVING CULTURAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR BOTH SEED AND SEEDLINGS.

LOWE & GIBSON Crawley Down SUSSEX

FOGWILLS WONDER LONG-POD BROAD BEANS

Ten Beans in a Pod.
WONDERFUL FREE GIFTS.

NOW IS THE TIME TO SOW FOGWILLS WONDER LONG POD. The LONGEST, most PROLIFIC and FINEST FLAVOURED BROAD BEAN in the World. Nothing like it. Nothing just as good—PERFECTION. 1/4 per pint, carriage paid. Send now; every customer will receive three FREE GIFTS as follows—1/- packet (2,000 seeds) FOGWILLS FAMOUS GIANT EXHIBITION BRUSSELS SPROUTS, largest, most magnificent solid sprouts in cultivation, and FREE, a 6d. packet (1,000 seeds) FOGWILLS PRIDE OF THE VALLEY PARSNIP grown over 50 inches long, and FREE one packet (100 seeds) FOGWILLS GIANT RAINBOW SWEET PEAS, large waved flowers in over 25 shades. Send only 1/4 for this wonderful FREE OFFER and become one of our THOUSANDS of satisfied customers. Fogwills 'Best-Result' Seeds need only a trial.

Fogwills Beautiful Illustrated Catalogue of "Best-Result" Seeds and Guide to Garden Success for Season 1926. Now Ready. Post Free.

FOGWILLS, 130, FRIARY STREET GUILDFORD. Established 70 years. Awarded Gold Medal.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Kentish Grown Sweet Peas

F. C. WOODCOCK'S SWEET PEAS have gained Fame in all parts of the World where they can be successfully grown.

My New Catalogue contains all the most reliable Novelties to grow for 1926, as well as the best varieties for Exhibition purposes. *May I send you a copy?*

1 Packet given free with all orders of 2/6 and over.

F. C. WOODCOCK,
Sweet Pea Specialist,
WALMER KENT.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

having a coal ash bottom is preferable—and then give a watering and shade from bright sunshine. As soon as the plants become established, give air on all favourable occasions. In two months time from date of potting the plants should be ready for another shift. This time 5in. pots will be required, being the most suitable size in which to flower the plants. After re-potting is over set the plants back into the frame, and give the same attention as before. Always keep the plants as near the light as possible, and give them plenty of room. When they are well established, dilute applications of liquid manure may be given two or three times a week. With this treatment good strong plants should be obtained. They will commence flowering in December, and from then on to the end of February should keep

the greenhouse bright. The two best varieties to grow are Sutton's Royal White and Crimson King.—DAVID ARMSTRONG.

TWO BLUE ANNUALS: PHACELIA CAMPANULARIA AND DIDISCUS CŒRULEUS.

LOVERS of blue flowers and those who like to grow unusual plants may perhaps be glad to be reminded of two of these before they send off their order for next year's seeds. Both are annuals and, unlike most annuals, both look quite at home in sunny dry pockets of the rock garden. P. campanularia is known to many garden enthusiasts, but it is still ignored by the vast crowd of garden owners, and cannot be obtained save direct from the seedsmen. Yet this little gem is unrivalled among annuals, both for its compact habit and for the deep blue of its gentian-like flowers and its attractive brown leaves. It begins to flower so soon as Gentiana acaulis finishes blooming, and, if planted as an edging, will replace that favourite during the summer months. The phacelia may be sown every ten days from April to September and in the last fortnight of the last-named month, to ensure its blossoming early in the following year.

This little annual does not like being transplanted.

The phacelia is a native of Carolina and belongs to the hydrophyllaceæ order.

Didiscus cœruleus, otherwise known as Trachymene cœrulea or Huegelia cœrulea,

Austins
Scotch Seed Potatoes.

Our stocks are grown and selected specially for seed purposes, and under normal conditions of soil and situation cannot fail to produce first-class crops. All are Class 1, Scotch.

	14lb.	28lb.	56lb.	112lb.
FIRST EARLY.				
Arran Rose	3/-	5/6	10/-	18/-
Immune Ashleaf ..	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Duke of York	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Sharpe's Express ..	2/3	4/3	7/6	13/-
Witch Hill Early ..	3/-	5/6	10/-	18/-
SECOND EARLY.				
Ally	2/3	4/3	7/6	13/-
Arran Comrade	2/3	4/3	7/6	13/-
British Queen	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Great Scot	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Catriona	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
MAIN CROP.				
Abundance	2/4	4/6	8/-	14/-
Arran Chief	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
King Edward	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Kerr's Pink	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Majestic	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Field Marshal	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-

We offer many other varieties, including Arran Consul, Ben Lomond, Golden Marvel, White Arran Victory, etc., full particulars of which are given in our Catalogue, which may be had post free on request.

Packing Free. Carriage forward by goods train. If to be sent by passenger train the additional cost would be: **14lb., 1/6; 28lb., 2/9; 56lb., 5/-; 112lb., 10/-.**

Our catalogue, giving full list of varieties, will be sent on application.

AUSTIN'S GOLD MEDAL GARDEN SEEDS. Descriptive Catalogue of all varieties of outstanding merit free on request. Write for copy.

Orders have prompt attention.

AUSTIN & McASLAN
The Premier Scottish Seedsmen since 1717,
Mitchell Street, GLASGOW.

SOW NOW to Bloom in July and August

Blackmore & Langdon's

World Renowned BEGONIA SEEDS (82 Gold Medals)

	Per packet.
DOUBLE.	
None can equal this for quality, size, and lovely form and colours of flowers, ..	2/6 & 5/-
FIMBRIATA PLENA.	
Double frilled, very pretty	2/6 & 5/-
SINGLE.	
Of wonderful size and form ..	1/-, 2/6 & 5/-
FRILLED SINGLE	
A beautiful selection	1/-, 2/6 & 5/-
CRESTED SINGLE	
Very fascinating	1/-, 2/6 & 5/-
CRISPA MARGINATA	
Delightful novelty, frilled single picotee ..	2/6
HANGING BASKET	
A grand novelty, very graceful	1/6, 2/6 & 5/-
GLOXINIA	
Seed, mixed in most beautiful selection of colour	1/6, 2/6 & 5/-

For Prices of Tubers of above and other Specialities, including Delphiniums, Polyanthus, Pansies, etc., write for Free Catalogue and mention this Paper.

BATH

ECKFORD'S GIANT FRILLED SWEET PEAS —FOR 1926—

GORGEOUS FLOWERS. MAGNIFICENT STEMS
For a wealth of cut flowers. For garden decoration. For exhibition.

ECKFORD'S ARE THE WORLD'S BEST

Special Offer.—25 specially chosen 1/- packets of Eckford's Giant Frilled Sweet Peas for 1926, each separate and named, for - - - - - - - **20/-**
The same 25, half-packets, each separate and named, for - - - - - - - - - - **10/-**

The above are a gorgeous range of colour

WRITE FOR CATALOGUE (FREE) of all the best Sweet Peas for 1926. Also pedigree vegetables and choicest flower seeds

HENRY ECKFORD, Headquarters for Sweet Peas, Dept. 61 **Wem, Shropshire**

Digitized by Google

BY APPOINTMENT.

PULHAM'S
FOR
ROCK,
FORMAL,
JAPANESE
GARDENS
71 NEWMAN ST LONDON W

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

ROBERT VEITCH & SON'S
Garden Seed Catalogue for 1926

Contains all the Best Vegetables, Choice Flower Seeds, Novelties, and Specialities, Sweet Peas, Lawn Seeds, Seed Potatoes (Scotch), Bulbs, for Spring Planting, Manures, etc., etc.

R. VEITCH & SON
are also Specialists in Hardy Trees and Shrubs, Choice and Rare Plants, Camellias, Fruit Trees, etc.

Catalogues Free on Application.

Royal Nurseries and Seed Warehouse, EXETER

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

FRUIT TREES.

SPECIAL OFFER of the following in strong, well-grown Fruiting Bushes :—
12 Gooseberries Whinham's Industry.
12 Black Currants Seabrook's (Mite Resisting).
12 Red Currants Raby Castle.
for 20/- Carriage Paid for Cash with Order, or half the above numbers for 10/-.

CLIMBING ROSES.

A great opportunity to have your own selection from the following:

Albéric Barbier	Lady Gay
American Pillar	Lady Godiva
Aviateur Bleriot	Minehaha
Coronation	René André
Dorothy Perkins	White Dorothy
Excelsa	
Hiawatha	

Six extra strong, well-grown Trees selected from the above for 10/-, carriage paid to your nearest station, for cash with order.

Descriptive Catalogue of Fruit Trees, Roses, Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, etc.

THE FOREST & ORCHARD NURSERIES, LTD.,
MILBURY HEATH, FALFIELD, GLOS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

is an annual which is practically unknown in Britain. Its seeds can be obtained from some French seedsmen, but, although it was introduced into France from Australia nearly a hundred years ago, it is very rarely met with in French gardens. This blue hugelia is an umbelliferæ, which adds to its rarity, blue being a most unusual colour in plants of that order. This plant has a branching habit and is about 1½ft. high, the flowers being pale blue and the leaves tripinnate with serrated lobes. It seeds freely, but as it is only half hardy, the seeds should be sown in a sheltered position in the open in May, and the seedlings transplanted as soon as they are sizeable.

The surest way of securing strong plants of Didiscus cœruleus in abundance is to sow the seeds in a cold frame or in boxes in the greenhouse in February and March, potting up the seedlings into sixties when they are a few inches high and putting them into their

DIDISCUS CŒRULEUS.

permanent quarters when all danger of frost is over. Seeds can also be sown in boxes of finely sifted soil and placed on a mild hot-bed.

Didiscus cœruleus requires rather careful culture. It prefers a light friable, well-drained loam. Damp heavy soil is unsuitable, and, particularly in its early stages of growth, this plant dislikes excessive moisture. D. cœruleus produces its attractive blue flowers in great abundance from August to October. It is a most useful and uncommon annual which is equally suitable for the annual border, for patches in mixed borders, or for bedding.

It would be interesting to try growing the blue hugelia as a greenhouse plant for the winter. It should succeed well if treated like balsams, clarkias and other annuals which are grown for winter decoration. This umbelliferæ requires a rich, light compost and needs very little watering.

Phacelia campanularia and Didiscus cœruleus would make a charming group if they were planted near to each other in the blue border, the phacelia growing in a wide stretch in front of the border, having behind it the feathery foliage of the huegelia, forming a delightful background for its deep blue bells.
—VICTORIA SLADE.

HILLIER'S
FRUITING TREES

Special Offer of Specimen Trees at Reduced Prices to clear ground.

STANDARD CHERRIES, 6ft. stems and extra large heads, with plenty of fine roots .. **10/6** each
Early Rivers, May Duke, Kentish Pie, etc.
EXTRA LARGE BUSH CHERRIES .. **10/6** each
May Duke, Morello, Kentish Pie.
STANDARD FAN-TRAINED PEARS in several varieties .. .. **42/-** each
ESPALIER PEARS on Pear stock, four and five tiers, perfect trees .. .. **10/6 and 12/6** each
Beurre Deil, Louis Bonne of Jersey, Pitmaston Duchess, Catillac.
EXTRA LARGE BUSH APPLES, on broad-leaf Paradise stocks.
Crimson Bramley, 5–5½ft. **8/6 and 10/6** each
Encore, 6-7ft. .. .. **10/6 and 12/6** each
Newton Wonder, 5–5½ft. .. **8/6 and 10/6** each
PYRAMID PEARS on Quince stock in variety .. .. .. **8/6 and 10/6** each
STANDARD AND HALF STANDARD MEDLARS, PEARS AND GOLDEN BULLACE .. .. **8/6 and 10/6** each
BUSH PLUMS. List of sorts on application .. .. **8/6 and 10/6** each

Full particulars of all the above on application.
Carriage paid on all fruit tree orders value £5 and over up to 100 miles. Packing at cost.

HILLIER & SONS West Hill Nurseries **Winchester**

NOW is the Time to Plant!
KELWAYS' SUPERB PÆONIES,
unrivalled for garden decoration.
Collection "C,"
including many exquisite varieties, is
Per 30/- dozen. **£5 5s.** for 50.
Carriage paid for cheque.
KELWAY & SON, Langport, SOMERSET

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Spray now

WHILE YOUR FRUIT TREES are dormant to destroy Moss and Lichen, and remove loose bark (the breeding places of insect pests.)

The finest fruit comes from the cleanest trees. Why not cleanse and re-invigorate your trees now, with

COOPER'S WINTER SPRAY FLUID

"Commended" by the Royal Horticultural Society

1 gallon makes 100 gallons mixture.

Pint 2/3 Quart 3/3 ½ gall. 5/9 1 gall. 9/6
2 galls. 18/- 5 galls. £1/18/6.

Of all agents. If any trouble to obtain, please write
WILLIAM COOPER & NEPHEWS, Ltd.,
BERKHAMSTED.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

KINNELL'S COKE CRUSHER

FROM STOCK

Carriage paid to Stations in England and Wales

Reduces Fuel to the correct size for long burning

Small Crusher for Wall - 20/-
Ditto on Wrought Stand - 40/-
Large Crusher for Wall - 40/-
Ditto on Wrought Stand - 60/-

Strong Coke Pan 10/- extra

Large Crusher breaks 1 cwt. & small one 42 lb. in 20 minutes

CHAS. P. KINNELL & Co LTD
65, 65A Southwark St. London, S.E.1

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL, ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION

WAKELEY'S Celebrated (PATENTED) HOP MANURE

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DO YOU REALISE IT ?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only **7/-** carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE, without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

A beautiful Free Booklet giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. GENUINE ONLY IN OUR MARKED BAGS, CONTAINING GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

Cash Prices, including bags: Small (about 1 bushel), **3/-**; Large (about 4 bushels), **7/-**; 5 Large, **33/9**
10 Large, **65/-**; 20 Large, **120/-**

Carriage Paid to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company. 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, **2/6** per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

I MAINTAIN that a certain fastidiousness in the choice of a pipe tobacco is not wasted if it leads eventually to the discovery of one's ideal brand

R.F.E.

One tobacco, by reason of its qualities, has claimed the allegiance of many smokers of the 'hard-to-please' variety—

They call it

PLAYER'S NAVY CUT

For Cigarette Smokers
PLAYER'S NAVY CUT CIGARETTES

P.1260.

Reg. No. 154011.

The WIZARD Plant LABEL

Made in Red Pottery, 2½ x 1¼ ins., with rustless wires, 12 in., 2/- doz.; 7 in., 1/7 doz. 1½ x 1 in., with wires 6 in., 1/4 doz. For tying on, 1/6 and 1/3 doz. Waterproof Ink, 9d. and 7½d. bot. Crow Quills, 2d. Postage extra.

Highly commended by the R.H.S. at Wisley.

E. TORKINGTON . NEW HALL . MAIDENHEAD

LETHORION IMPROVED NICOTINING CONE
FUMIGATOR

Certain destruction to all pests in glass houses

Only a match required for starting it!

No. 1	For 1,000 cubic feet	..	10d.
„ 2	„ 1,500 „ „	..	1/3
„ 3	„ 2,500 „ „	..	1/9

Sold by all Nurserymen and Seedsmen.

CORRY & CO., Ltd., Shad Thames, London S.E.1

HILL & SMITH, Ltd.,
BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS,

Makers of

IRON FENCING, HURDLES, GATES, WIRE NETTING AND GARDEN IRONWORK

Other Products—**Hay and Grain Sheds, Dutch Barns, Galvanized Corrugated Sheets and Structural Steelwork.**

Catalogues free on mentioning this paper.

London: 300, Abbey House, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

AFTER 23 YEARS——

AN ELOQUENT PROOF OF UNFAILING AND USEFUL SERVICE.

"A better Greenhouse Boiler could not be than the 'Horse Shoe.' I have had it in use for 23 years, and it has answered splendidly." writes Mr. F. G. L.....47, Mt. Carmel, Derby. 23/11/1925.

"HORSE SHOE" BOILERS

CAN BE SUPPLIED FROM IMMEDIATE STOCK.

Write for particulars now.

To CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD.,
Engineers, Southwark Street, S.E.1.

Please send me Booklet E "Making the Most of Your Greenhouse," and price of complete Outfit to suit *(span-roof) (lean-to) greenhouse.....long .....wide inside, sides of *(wood) (brick).....thick.

Name.....

Address.....

*Strike out particulars not needed. Cut out and send by ½d. post.

CHAS. P. KINNELL & Co., Ltd., 65, Southwark St., LONDON, S.E.1
Wire: "Kinnell-Boroh-London." Phone: Hop 362 (three lines.)

GREENHOUSES AND GARDEN FRAMES

I specialize in the Erection of High class Horticultural Buildings.

Garden Frames a speciality. Selected timber, well seasoned, only used.

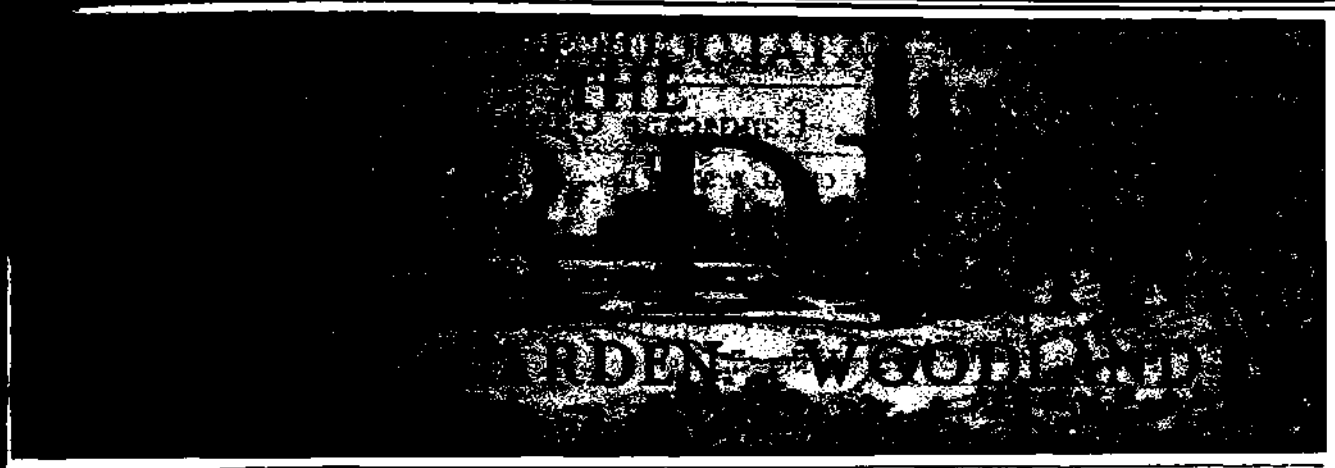
Being a grower, I understand Glass-house requirements.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.
CATALOGUES WITH PLEASURE.

E. M. HEAP, Cottimore Nurseries, WALTON-ON-THAMES.

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google



Vol. XC.—No. 2827 Saturday, January 23rd, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

BARR'S VEGETABLE SEEDS

OF FINEST SELECTED STRAINS
:: AND TESTED GROWTH ::

Awarded by The Royal Horticultural Society, London :

SEVEN GOLD MEDALS, SEVEN SILVER-GILT MEDALS, and many First Class Certificates, Awards of Merit, etc.

AND

THREE GOLD MEDALS NATIONAL VEGETABLE SOCIETY

Descriptive Catalogue of the Best Vegetables and most Beautiful Flowers, Best quality Garden Requisites, Tools, Manures, and List of useful Horticultural Books. Sent free on application.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

DEBEN ROSES

Are Guaranteed British Grown

12 RELIABLE GARDEN SORTS in First Quality Plants only 12

MRS. H. MORSE. MAD. A. CHATENAY. DUCHESS OF WELLINGTON. LAMIA. GORGEOUS. LADY BILLINGDON. W. F. DREER. MRS. A. TATE. LOS ANGELES. RUTH BETTY UPRICHARD AND THE NEW VESUVIUS

12/- *Packing and Carriage Free for Cash with Order.*

MORSE BROTHERS DEBEN DEPT. G NURSERIES
MELTON, WOODBRIDGE, SUFFOLK

NO MORE BROKEN GLASS

IF YOU USE

WINDOLITE

which supersedes glass for all garden uses.

LIGHT. FLEXIBLE. UNBREAKABLE.

Easy to cut and fix.

Send 4/6 for sample over 30ins. square, post free. Write for leaflets.

WINDOLITE (DEPT. 12) 179/185, GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

FOR THE GARDEN! FOR EXHIBITION!
FOR BEDS! FOR EVERYWHERE!

Also Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees.

BUY HOME GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries.

Catalogue Free on Application, and Addresses booked for Revised Catalogue in late Summer.

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.,
Garden Specialists - - SOUTHWELL, NOTTS

KING'S ACRE *Select and Reliable* GARDEN SEEDS

Unsurpassed for Quality and Germination.
The finest and Best Stocks obtainable, and famous throughout the United Kingdom.

THE FINEST STRAINS EXTANT OF CRANSTON'S EXCELSIOR AND AILSA CRAIG ONIONS

New Seed Catalogue just issued and Free on request.

90 GOLD MEDALS AWARDED TO OUR HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITS.

King's Acre Nurseries, Ltd. *Seed Merchants,* HEREFORD
ESTABLISHED 1785. LATE CRANSTONS.

PLANTING SEASON

GEO. JACKMAN & SON

WOKING NURSERIES, SURREY.

Established over a century.

Invite inspection of their large and varied stock of ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBS, ROSES, CLIMBERS, FRUIT AND FOREST TREES, HERBACEOUS AND ALPINE PLANTS.

200 Acres of Stock to select from. Catalogues free on application

ADVICE GIVEN ON ALL MATTERS APPERTAINING TO LANDSCAPE GARDENING & ESTATE IMPROVEMENTS

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
New Alpines and Perennials
Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD
CHELSEA, S.W.
Seed Catalogue and Novelty List on Application.

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

BROWN'S TESTED SEEDS.
Illustrated Flower and Vegetable Seed Catalogue, giving full cultural directions, at competitive prices, post free if this paper is mentioned.
D. T. BROWN & CO., *Seedsmen*, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

Fruit Trees Rose Trees
ALL ENGLISH GROWN.
Descriptive Catalogue post free on demand.
INSPECTION INVITED.
S. SPOONER & SONS
Estd. 1820 **The Nurseries, Hounslow, MIDDLESEX**

TUBS FOR SHRUBS.
WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 100 prizes. R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. — Price List from A. PRADAL, 26, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

THE JACKPAN
"The tool that cuts your costs"
Abolishes trenching. THE deep cultivator. What your Editor and others think of it is told in our Illustrated Folder No. 5, sent on request.
Your retailer can supply, or we will send sample for 6/-
P.E.G.S. LTD., 3, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.1

LETHORION FUMIGATOR IMPROVED NICOTINING CONE
Certain destruction to all pests in glass houses
Only a match required for starting it!
No. 1 .. For 1,000 cubic feet .. **10d.**
" 2 .. " 1,500 " " .. **1/3**
" 3 .. " 2,500 " " .. **1/9**
Sold by all Nurserymen and Seedsmen.
CORRY & CO., Ltd., Shad Thames, London S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
HULL
Weed Destroyers Fertilisers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

MANURES.

The most complete little book on the subject is "The Manual of Manures," by H. VENDELMANS, 4/5; by post, 4/9. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

ADCO
turns
GARDEN REFUSE
into SYNTHETIC
FARMYARD MANURE

1 cwt. of ADCO makes from two to three tons of manure according to the class of rubbish treated.
ADCO Accelerator .. 28 lb. **4/6**, 56 lb. **8/-**, 1 cwt. **15/-**
Standard ADCO .. 28 lb. **6/-** 56 lb. **11/6** 1 cwt. **20/-**
Carriage Paid to Nearest Goods Station. Cash with Order.
Obtainable from all leading Seedsmen. Write for full particulars.
ADCO Ltd., 40, HARPENDEN, HERTS

Was it the roots?
Remember that the roots may have been attacked, if the foliage was not. Be sure you cleanse the soil of woodlice, ants, grubs, etc., with XL ALL Grub-Killer. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen or florists.
XL ALL GRUB-KILLER
G. H. RICHARDS, LTD.
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
Rp. 81.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Kentish Grown Sweet Peas
F. C. WOODCOCK'S SWEET PEAS have gained Fame in all parts of the World where they can be successfully grown.
My New Catalogue contains all the most reliable Novelties to grow for 1926, as well as the best varieties for Exhibition purposes. *May I send you a copy?*
1 Packet given free with all orders of 2/6 and over.
F. C. WOODCOCK,
Sweet Pea Specialist,
WALMER——KENT.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

SITUATION VACANT.
WANTED.—Strong garden boy, age 15-18, Near Birmingham. Wages according to age and experience. Box 1, c/o, "The Garden," 8/11, Southampton Street, Strand, London, W.C.2

WEED DEATH
The new NON-POISONOUS Weed Killer (POWDER).
SUPERIOR TO DANGEROUS ARSENICAL COMPOUNDS
Safety first, non-caustic, no smell, kills the roots.
For 4 gals., 1/-; 12½, 2/-; 25, 3/6; 50, 6/6; 100, 12/- & Bulk
From your Nurseryman or Seedsman.
CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by **"ALPHOL"**
Sample 14 lb., 3/6 carr. paid
Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to
Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St., Liverpool

YOUR GARDEN NEEDS KILOGRUB
Its fumes are instantly fatal to all insect pests in the soil, but harmless to plants. Really effective because it works underground.
Tins: 9d., 1/6 and 2/6
Bags: ¼ cwt. 5/6, ½ cwt. 9/6, 1 cwt. 15/-
From your seedsmen or from
JOHN PEAK & CO. LTD. WIGAN. Lancs.

GARDEN LOVERS
Write for Catalogues of
PROTHEROE & MORRIS'
HORTICULTURAL SALES
MONDAY · WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY
67 & 68 Chancery Lane, London, E.C.2 Phone: City 3656

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

WATKINS'S GOLD MEDAL RHODODENDRONS, Azaleas, Shrubs, Conifers, Climbers Heaths, Hardy Perennial and Alpine Plants, Vegetable and Flower Seeds, Scotch and Potatoes, Spring Bulbs, English-grown Fruit Trees and Roses. Separate catalogue for each department post free.—JOHN WATKINS, SONS & CRISP, LIMITED, Twyford, Berks.

WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE.—The original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See advert. on back page.

WM. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., Lawrence Road, South Tottenham, N.15.—Conservatories, Vinery Gardens, Fineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

BIRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUNDIALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—Bourne, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

FENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Garden Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE MARLEY CHESTNUT CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, Surrey.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Pot Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list, post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

ROCK PLANTS AND SHRUBS.—Over 300 varieties in stock. Descriptive catalogue free. Also Herbaceous Plants and Roses.—BODGERS, LTD., 58, Castlegate, Nottingham.

FRUIT STORING STAND (PAT.)—Large number, small space, easy inspection, sound construction. Price List of Stand, also Cloches, free.—CHASE CONTINUOUS FRUIT STAND, Chertsey.

BOOKS.—Mr. E. T. Ellis, Horticultural Author and Editor, Westwood, Ecclesall, Sheffield, has for sale a quantity of good GARDENING WORKS. Write him mentioning THE GARDEN, for free list, and state wants.

THE FAIRSEAT AUTUMN PLANT SALES present a wonderful opportunity to procure WELL GROWN PLANTS and BULBS for every purpose at bed-rock prices. Fresh business a speciality. 16-page price-list post free on application to—THE SALES MANAGER, Fairseat Nurseries, Wrotham, Kent.

YORK STONE PAVINGS, crazy or rectangular, rustic copings, steps, roughly squared or random shaped, for bedded walkstones, garden edging, rockery, etc.—JOHN JACKSON AND SON (MIRFIELD), LTD., Newgate Stone Works, Mirfield, Yorkshire.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, vines, roses, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-galvanised and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 20 lbs. per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S TIMBER STORES, 66, Albert Street, Lytham.

IPSWICH RARE SEEDS.—New Catalogue (really an encyclopædia on gardening—describes 3,000 varieties of flower seeds, also all the best strains of vegetable seeds. Free on application to THOMPSON AND MORGAN, London Road, Ipswich.

NEW RASPBERRIES, PLANT NOW.—Lloyd George, Royal and Lloyd George, largest fruit, heaviest and most vigorous, true stocks, strong fruiting canes, 16/- per 25 same note; sample doz., 3/-. All carriage paid for cash. Other fruits cheap.—JAS. WALTERS, Grower, 25, Friars Street, Exeter.

ALL ABOUT PHOTOGRAPHY.—The big 1926 Photography for 1926 has just been published. It is the size of the Journal Photographic Almanach, 880 pages. All about the new amateur cine cameras. Wonderful gravure pictures from the Paris Salon. All the new goods. An encyclopædia of photographic facts for a shillings worth. From photographic dealers or post free from the publishers.

BARR'S SEED GUIDE FOR 1926.—The best flower and vegetable seeds of finest selected strains and tested growth, including many fine novelties for the Flower Garden and Greenhouse; also a select list of Garden Requisites, Insecticides, Manures and Horticultural Books. Post free on application.—BARR AND SONS, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are now famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx, and perpetual habit. Illustrated plant list now ready. New Seed, now ready, hand fertilised, 2/6 and 5/- packets.—J. DOUGLAS, Great Bookham, Surrey.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial: Further Notes	45
Some Annuals of Distinction	46
Fuchsia Species and Their Varieties	48
Notes on a Rock Garden	48
Notes of the Week	50–51
Unusual Form of Trillium grandiflorum; Muehlenbeckias; A Fernery in a Pot; Yellow Snowdrops; Pæonia Mlokosievitschi; Berberis brevipaniculata; Berberis seedlings; Potentillas for the Rock Garden.	
Lilies in the Garden	52
The First Show of the Year	54
Plums and Cherries	56
Twelve Good Potatoes	57
Correspondence	57–58
Primula denticulata; Lilium auratum platyphyllum; Lonicera fragrantissima; Flower Nomenclature; Eritrichium nanum; Chrysanthemum Source d'Or; Origin of Nerine Bowdeni; Notes from a Far-off Rock Garden.	
Garden Technique	59–60
Cauliflower White Queen; Planting Rhubarb; Coleworts: Have They Gone Out of Favour; Grass or Not Any Grass, Around Fruit Trees; Sowing Dust-like Seeds; Treatment of Forced Bulbs; Lychnis Lagascæ; Greenhouse Cyclamens; Starting Tuberous Begonias.	
Book Review	60

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL DELPHINIUMS and ROSES. Send a postcard for our catalogue.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI, Chrysanthemums, Dahlias, and Border Carnations.—Our stock includes many new and meritorious varieties. List post free on application.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 66. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

CLARENCE ELLIOTT'S SEED LIST is just out. Seeds of rare alpines, herbaceous plants and popular annual flowers. "A list worth watching."—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LTD., Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

SUTTON'S SEEDS.
One of the most popular Peas in the early section.
SUTTON'S EARLY GIANT PEA.
Pods large, and produced in great profusion. Height 3ft. to 4ft.
Per pint, 2/6; quart, 4/6.
SUTTON & SONS, THE KING'S SEEDSMEN, READING.

DOBBIE'S 1926 CATALOGUE AND GUIDE, 144 pages, 225 illustrations, free to all readers. Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.—DOBBIE AND CO., LTD., Edinburgh.

BATH'S SELECT SEEDS AND PLANTS.—New Illustrated Catalogue of choice Vegetable and Flower Seeds and Plants is now ready, and will be sent, post free, on application.—(Dept. E), R. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO READERS OF "THE GARDEN."—Owing to the great demand for FIDLER'S 1926 GARDEN GUIDE AND CATALOGUE, a limited number of copies have been provisionally reserved for readers of this paper. Please SEND IN YOUR APPLICATION AT ONCE and mark your envelope or postcard "GARDEN" in top left-hand corner.—FIDLER & SONS (established 1856), Reading.

HARDY PLANTS, ROSES AND FRUIT TREES. Revised catalogue now ready. Free on application to THOMPSON AND MORGAN, Ipswich.

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES.—Per stone: Duke of York, 2/3; Witchhill, 2/6; Express, 2/2; Epicure 1/10; Eclipse, 2/-; Abundance, 2/2; Great Scot, 2/3; Majestic, 2/4; King Edward, 1/10; Kerr's Pink, 1/10; Bishop, 2/3, etc. Shallots Red, 8d. lb. Amateur's Guide of Vegetable and Flower Seeds, free.—TILLIE WHYTE & CO., 12, Melbourne Place, Edinburgh.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS FOR GREENHOUSE AND GARDEN. Also Dahlias, Fuchsias, Show and Zonal Pelargoniums and Coleus. Price List free on application.—J. W. COLE AND SON, Westwood Nurseries, Peterborough.

FOR SALE.—To clear the ground, a large quantity of shrubs; Cedars, Hollies, Rhododendrons, large and small.—Apply Box 6, THE GARDEN, 8-13, Southampton Street, London, W.C.2.

ORCHIDS.—In addition to our own large stock, we have purchased a fine private Collection containing many useful Orchids suitable for Amateurs. Cool and Intermediate. Catalogue on application.—MANSELL AND HATCHER, LTD., Rawdon, Yorkshire.

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES direct from the growers. Our New Descriptive List now ready, post free.—GUTHRIE BROS., Springfield, Fife, N.B.

"THAT WILD GARDEN!" Stock it now with hardy natives—Primrose, Foxglove, Ferns, Iris, Orchis, etc.; 7/6 per 100 roots. List free.—NATIVE PLANT NURSERIES, Rockbeare, Exeter.

ALPINE, ROCK, HERBACEOUS PLANTS, Rock Garden Shrubs and Conifers. Catalogue free.—SHEPPARD, Shawhurst Nursery, Hollywood, Birmingham.

SHRUBS are becoming more and more the fashion in gardening. "Shrubs for Amateurs," Mr. W. J. Bean's new book, is the best on the subject at a reasonable price. 5/- net. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

SEED CATALOGUE NOW READY.—Send postcard for your copy.—JOHN WOODWARD CURTIS, Chatteris, Cambs.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING—"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, carr. extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 22/- per cwt., kegs extra: 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

BLOM for BULBS

Apply for new Spring Catalogue to—

Messrs. J. C. WHITNEY & Co.,
Eldon Street House, Eldon Street,
London, E.C. - - - *or to—*

WALTER BLOM & SON
(Late of Overveen),
Hillegom, Holland.

Austins
Scotch Seed Potatoes.

Our stocks are grown and selected specially for seed purposes, and under normal conditions of soil and situation cannot fail to produce first-class crops. All are Class 1, Scotch.

	14lb.	28lb.	56lb.	112lb.
FIRST EARLY.				
Arran Rose	3/-	5/6	10/-	18/-
Immune Ashleaf	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Duke of York	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Sharpe's Express	2/3	4/3	7/6	13/-
Witch Hill Early ..	3/-	5/6	10/-	18/-
SECOND EARLY.				
Ally	2/3	4/3	7/6	13/-
Arran Comrade	2/3	4/3	7/6	13/-
British Queen	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Great Scot	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Catriona	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
MAIN CROP.				
Abundance	2/4	4/6	8/-	14/-
Arran Chief	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
King Edward	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Kerr's Pink	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Majestic	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Field Marshal	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-

We offer many other varieties, including Arran Consul, Ben Lomond, Golden Marvel, White Arran Victory, etc., full particulars of which are given in our Catalogue, which may be had post free on request.

Packing Free. Carriage forward by goods train. If to be sent by passenger train the additional cost would be: **14lb., 1/6; 28lb., 2/9; 56lb., 5/-; 112lb., 10/-.**

Our catalogue, giving full list of varieties, will be sent on application.

AUSTIN'S GOLD MEDAL GARDEN SEEDS.
Descriptive Catalogue of all varieties of outstanding merit free on request. Write for copy.

Orders have prompt attention.

AUSTIN & McASLAN
The Premier Scottish Seedsmen since 1717,
Mitchell Street, GLASGOW.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING, SURREY
(late ANTHONY WATERER)
PROPRIETOR - **HOSEA WATERER**
has pleasure in offering

STANDARD TREES
in great variety, consisting of

LIMES, NORWAY MAPLES, ELMS, etc., etc.

EVERGREEN & DECIDUOUS SHRUBS, viz.:

Box—Green and Variegated, 3 to 8 ft.
Hollies—Common, 5 to 8 ft.; Variegated and Green varieties, 2 to 6 ft.
Thuiopsis borealis, 10 to 12 ft. Cupressus Lawsoniana, 12 to 14 ft. Cedrus atlantica glauca, very fine, 10 to 14 ft. Osmanthus, Phillyreas, Spiræas, Lilacs, Viburnums, etc.

GOLDEN YEWS
A Magnificent Stock in all shapes and sizes from 2 to 10 ft.

PRIVET, Common and Oval-leaved.
QUICK and **HORNBEAM** for Hedges.
AZALEAS, 2 to 5 ft.
RHODODENDRONS, without doubt the finest stock in the trade of named varieties, 2 to 6 and 8 ft.
HARDY HEATHS in great variety and a good general nursery stock.

Catalogues ready.

Enquiries and inspection invited.

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING STATION, SURREY

CHEALS' FRUIT TREES

HARDY, CLEAN, HEALTH
. STURDY GROWTH.
Transplant well and gr
. . anywhere. .

NEW DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE with valuable suggestions for preparing ground, planting, etc.

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD
The Nurseries, CRAWLE

CLAY'S LONDON FERTILIZER TRADE MARK

CLAY'S FERTILIZER
The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never ... of their best in poor ... Help both seed and soil ... **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and ... together with nature, your garden ... be a source of profit and enjoy... during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can ... purchased most anywhere ... following prices:—

Tins 1/6 and 1/6
and in Braided Sealed Bags:
7 lbs. - 3/6 14 lbs.
28 lbs. - 10/- 56 lbs.
112 lbs. - ../-

or if there should be any difficulty ... locally, we will send it direct ... works carriage paid in the ... for cash with order (...

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers and Horticultural Sundriesmen, **STRATFORD,** ...

Digitized by Google

FRUIT TREES.

SPECIAL OFFER of the following in strong, well-grown Fruiting Bushes :—

12 Gooseberries Whinham's Industry.
12 Black Currants Seabrook's (Mite Resisting).
12 Red Currants Raby Castle.

for 20/- Carriage Paid for Cash with Order, or half the above numbers for 10/-.

CLIMBING ROSES.

A great opportunity to have your own selection from the following:

Albéric Barbier	Lady Gay
American Pillar	Lady Godiva
Aviateur Bleriot	Minehaha
Coronation	René André
Dorothy Perkins	White Dorothy
Excelsa	
Hiawatha	

Six extra strong, well-grown Trees selected from the above for 10/-, carriage paid to your nearest station, for cash with order.

Descriptive Catalogue of Fruit Trees, Roses, Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, etc.

THE FOREST & ORCHARD NURSERIES, LTD.,
MILBURY HEATH, FALFIELD, GLOS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE DOG: MAN'S FIRMEST FRIEND.—How to choose and care for him, by A. CROXTON SMITH. A copy of this helpful booklet on the housing, breeding, feeding and care of dogs will be sent post free on receipt of 11d., addressed to The Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

Bentley's Specialities

Weed Destroyers
(Liquid 1 to 80; Powder 1 to 25.)

Daisy Killer
(Lawn Sand.)

Earthworm Destroyers
(Liquid and Powder.)

Fertilizers
For Lawns, Fruits, Flowers and Vegetables.

Insecticides
For all kinds of pests and filth.

Fungicides
For fungoid growths, indoors and outdoors.

Fumigants
For use under glass and in the soil.

GARDEN and SPORTS' NETS, BLINDS, SHADINGS, etc.

Complete illustrated catalogue — Free on application —

Manufacturers:—
JOSEPH BENTLEY, Limited
Chemical Works, Barrow-on-Humber, LINCS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Seedlings Thrive and Don't Die

off after being transplanted owing to root disturbance or breakage, if brought up in Patent

MILLIONS SOLD **T. P. SEED RAISERS** NO SLUGS

because no disturbance can take place.

FOR ANNUALS, as Godetias, Clarkias, Larkspur, etc., *USE* BABY T.P. SEED RAISERS (measuring 1¼in. across by 2in. deep). Sow 2 or 3 seeds per Raiser, pull out to strongest. It will develop strong root growth till planting-out time comes, when Raiser (by that time rotted) will peel off, allowing seedling to be put in soil without knowing it has been touched.

FOR SWEET PEAS *USE* T.P. PEA RAISERS (size 1¾in. across by 4¼in. deep). Sow 1 seed per Raiser. You will be delighted with good root action and quick development after planting out.

You get stronger plants, guaranteed to grow well with less labour.

T.P. Raisers take up much less room and retain moisture thus requiring less watering, are easy to handle in bulk and do not break, and ensure good plants, thus saving seed wastage.

PRICES in U.K., cash with order, carriage paid—

"Baby" T.P. Seed Raisers, one strong seedling tray with 54 "Baby" Raisers complete. 1 for 2/6; 2 for 4/9; 3 for 6/9; 6 for 13/-; 12 for 24/6. **Refills** ("Baby" size), 108 for 2/7; 216 for 4/10; 324 for 7/3; 540 for 11/3.

T.P. Pea Raisers, one wooden box having hinged side with 48 Raisers complete. 1 for 4/3; 2 for 8/-; 3 for 11/6; 6 for 22/6. **Refills.** Pea size, 100 for 3/-; 200 for 5/9; 300 for 8/3; 500 for 13/6

Order NOW from your Seedsman. If he does not stock, send direct to Sole Makers

T.P. SEED BOX Co., 209, Monument Road, BIRMINGHAM.

Side of Baby Raiser removed showing root action of Larkspur

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

PLUMS & CHERRIES

as well as APPLES and PEARS are beautiful in the Spring as flowering trees as well as profitable for their fruit. Everyone should grow MORELLO CHERRY either in Standard or Bush form, while it is also an excellent subject for a north wall.

WRITE FOR SPECIAL OFFER.

STUART LOW & CO., Bush Hill Park, ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

ROSE NITIDA

One of the most charming of dwarf Roses for the Rock Garden, or for edging of Rose and Shrub beds and borders.

Own root plants **10/6** dozen; **75/-** 100.

This, with other dwarf Roses and full collection of Rose Species will be found in List of Newry Roses free on application.

T. SMITH
Daisy Hill Nursery - NEWRY

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

JUST PUBLISHED.

THE FAMILIES OF FLOWERING PLANTS

I. DICOTYLEDONS. Arranged according to a new System based on their Probable Phylogeny. By J. HUTCHINSON, F.L.S., Assistant in the Herbarium, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. With illustrations by W. E. Trevithick and the Author. 8vo. 20s. net.

*** Designed mainly for the use of teachers and students, but a book which every thoughtful gardener and lover of plants should have before him. From it may be learned something about their structure, evolution, geographical distribution, and use to man.

*** Prospectus (8pp.) post free on application.

MACMILLAN AND CO., LTD., LONDON, W.C.2

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

Warning

We have registered this "PEDIGREE-QUALITY SEAL" to warn purchasers, throughout the United Kingdom against buying Seeds described as "Suttons" which have never been supplied by us from Reading

In future every packet of "Sutton's Seeds" will bear this seal and NONE IS GENUINE WITHOUT IT.

G *Cut out this Coupon to send for Sutton's Garden Seed Catalogue*

Name.....

Address.....

.....

Sutton & Sons

The King's Seedsmen,
READING

Notes from Maidstone.

GRAPE VINES for HEATED or COLD HOUSES.

ALL the best varieties are fully described in our catalogue which is sent free on application. We will not, therefore, attempt a description here, but can recommend Muscat of Alexandria, Foster's Seedling, Black Hamburgh, Madresfield Court, Alicante, Prince of Wales.

Planting Canes— 12/6, 15/- and 21/- each.

Fruiting Canes— 30/- and 35/- each

Fruit Trees, Shrubs, etc., can be transplanted safely up to early March.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd., The Royal Nurseries, Established 1796. Maidstone.

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES

CLASS 1.

Selected Stocks of the leading varieties.
Send for List.

Isaac Poad & Sons, Ltd.,
SEED POTATO GROWERS.
YORK.

CUPRESSUS MACROCARPA

the ideal hedging plant, succeeds everywhere, forms a thick impenetrable hedge, always pleasing to the eye. We offer strong, bushy plants, from open ground.

24–30ins.,	16/- doz.	£5 15 per 100.
30–36ins.,	22/- ,,	£7 15 ,,
36–42ins.,	27/6 ,,	£9 15 ,,
42–48ins.,	32/6 ,,	£11 15 ,,

Not less than 6 at doz. rate, or 50 at 100 rate. Carriage and packing free on orders of £2 and over. C.W.O.

T. SMITH & SONS, Highcroft Nurseries, ARUNDEL

BARGAIN CATALOGUE

Land Sold for Building

Real Cambridgeshire grown Fruit Trees, Fruit Bushes, Roses, Shrubs, Avenue Trees, Privet, Plants.

Exceptionally strong and healthy.

FRANK RICE (F.R.H.S.), Arbury Nurseries, Cambridge

Toogood's Seeds

Garden Wisdom Free!

In this beautifully illustrated catalogue no flower or vegetable grower can fail to find something interesting and profitable. Do not delay, write for your copy to-day.

TOOGOOD & SONS, Ltd.
The King's Seedsmen,
SOUTHAMPTON.

The Best that Grow

SENT FREE ON REQUEST

Hints on Fruit Tree Culture

For Amateur and Professional.

Interesting Notes on Soils, Situations and Fertilizers, Popular Fruits for all Purposes

and other useful information will be found in

OUR FRUIT TREE CATALOGUE

— which will be sent Post Free. —

Sit down now while the matter is fresh in your mind and write for your copy.

Established 1785. **Awarded 90 Gold Medals.**

KING'S ACRE NURSERIES, LIMITED, HEREFORD

Gold Medallists of all leading Horticultural Societies

Digitized by Google

VOL. XC.—No. 2827. JANUARY 23, 1926

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.; Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2. *Offices for Advertisements:* 6–11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

FURTHER NOTES

ONE fact that I did not draw attention to last week was the extraordinary way in which the late mingling of snow and frost has lifted plants, particularly seedlings of shallow-rooting genera like rhododendrons, and has thrown them out on the surface. I found a clump of R. moupinense carefully deposited on their side; not that this causes serious damage, provided that they are replanted at once. This lifting is often put down to bad planting, but that is not the case, for rhododendrons, particularly, should be planted so that the stem immediately above the first layer of fibrous roots should get light and air. It is only natural in the case of seedlings which are manufacturing their tangle of tiny roots as quickly as they can, that the slightest lifting of the soil will upset their balance and over they topple. The frost this year has exerted a remarkable action in Scotland, at any rate, and the earth skin that has broken away has been more solid than usual.

In all other respects the rhododendrons have suffered as little as other shrubs. A few twigs have certainly been broken, but I can find no frosted flower buds with the exception of those on R. decorum; but as this has happened during the past three years I cannot put it down to the present severe weather. The truth is that R. decorum is a widely spread plant in Upper Burma, Yunnan and Szechuan, with great variation in altitude and that some forms are hardier than others. I am sure that I am unlucky and that mine comes from a low altitude, for it is planted in an admirable position by the burnside where it is absolutely sheltered from wind. It is a pity, for R. decorum is a beautiful plant with its solid foliage, its free-flowering habit, and its pearl white flowers. I must again point out the advantage of R. ciliatum as a plant for the most exposed and windswept position in the rock garden. So far, most lovers of this Himalayan beauty have been frightened of it and have coddled it, perhaps because it belongs to a series that has given us R. ciliicalyx and other greenhouse rhododendrons. It was at the Edinburgh Botanic Garden that its absolute hardiness was first proved, and I can now qualify their experience by my own, for I have it planted in full sun in a dry position; the bushes are sturdy and squat and each is set with flower buds that are absolutely unharmed by eighteen degrees of frost. It is really an invaluable plant, both for its beauty and for hardiness.

A curious fact has come to our notice here regarding the long life of snowdrop bulbs. A few weeks ago we cleaned the ivy off a precipitous rocky bank; not a few straggling tendrils, but a solid mat of leaves, branches and roots a foot thick. This, to our knowledge, has certainly been of the same density for the past twenty-five years. Within a month of clearance snowdrops have come up in solid clumps in almost every pocket of earth and are already 3–4ins. high. This is not the case of the survival of an odd bulb or two, but of hundreds, that have certainly not shown a flower for twenty-five years. It would be interesting if any reader of THE GARDEN has had a similar experience, or if anyone can say how long a snowdrop bulb can remain in a cataleptic state.

In a wood that has been partially cleared to form a wild garden I have had a good experience of the weeds that spring up on ground that was heavily shaded. The first to appear was Epilobium angustifolium, the fine weed which, besides being highly ornamental, is comparatively harmless. The crop last year consisted of Ranunculus Ficaria, the lesser celandine, a crawling pestilential terror that chokes everything in its path, and Campanula latifolia, that, for all its beauty, is a bad plant in a wild garden, for its root stocks delve deep into every crack and cranny in the rock and are exceedingly difficult to remove. On the other hand, its height makes it easier to deal with than the ranunculus, for which I know no cure. In time, of course, shrubs will produce sufficient shade to keep it in check, but it means constant weeding around the plants. By the waterside, too, Chrysosplenium oppositifolium has gained a footing, but the green carpet of this saxifrigaceous weed is so pleasant and restful in colour that I have not the heart to tear it up. E. H. M. C.

AMONG THE ARTICLES IN OUR NEXT ISSUE WILL BE:

NOVELTIES IN HALF-HARDY ANNUALS, by A. J. Macself.

FIFTY BEST ROCK PLANTS, by Dr. R. Lloyd Praeger.

GARDENING IN SINKS, by Clarence Elliott.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO TELL OTHERS ABOUT YOUR PLANTS THROUGH THE COLUMNS OF "THE GARDEN."

Digitized by Google

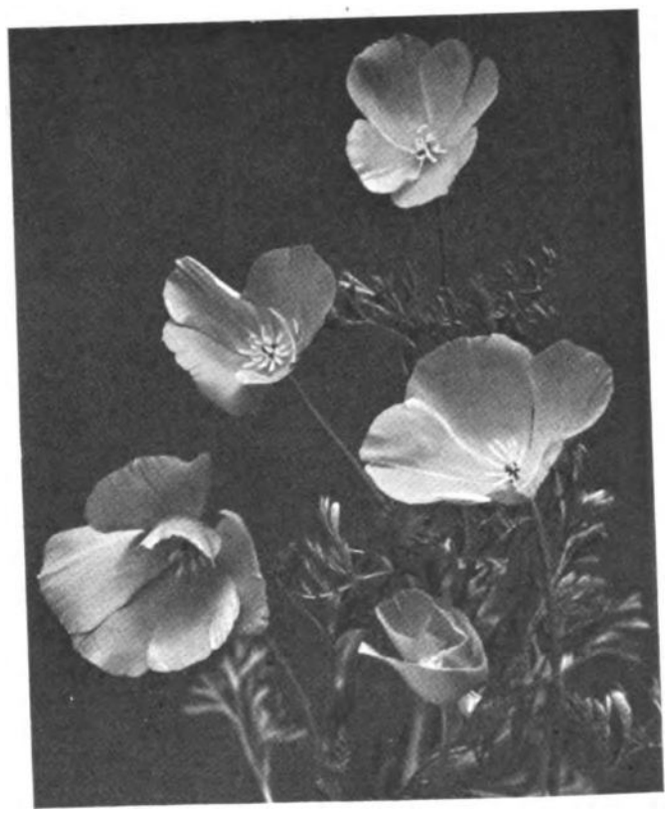
SOME ANNUALS OF DISTINCTION

IF I am one of those who possess a garden which does not lend itself to the growing of annuals on an extensive scale for colour effect, I am not one to turn up a contemptuous nose at a plant because it is an annual. On the contrary, it has become a habit these many years to indulge in a few packets of seed every season, including not only those plants which have proved their merit and won my affection, but others which I had not hitherto tried. The lists, like the world, are so "full of a number of things" that one cannot in a single season, or in a dozen seasons, become acquainted with them all, so I earmark a few each year, and thus, in the course of time, I get to know something of the multitude, and out of these select a few as special favourites for regular sowing.

In referring to some of these latter individually, one which always goes into any list is Omphalodes linifolia, a slender, glaucous-leaved plant of some 10ins., with large flowers of that curious icy whiteness which is often so telling. For a partly shaded situation a group of O. linifolia is always delightful, sown in spring where it is to come to maturity. It blooms all the summer and autumn, often sows itself in future years, and rarely does otherwise than well under any conditions.

The annual toadflaxes are of a somewhat similar style of growth to the above, making lovely waving masses of upright, elegant stems of about a foot which yield fine heads of flowers for many months. In species and varieties there is a wide choice, the colour ranging from pale rosy lavender to deep purple, from a lemon yellow to rich orange. Linaria maroccana will give blossoms varying from rose to violet; L. bipartita is the lucky-bag of the family, with an even greater assortment of pretty colours, including a white. Then there is L. multipunctata, perhaps the most charming, as it is the most dwarf, of all, its little snapdragons being a velvety black with their "noses" distinctly speckled with gold. Even those who brandish flaming swords when perennial linarias threaten to enter their gates can sow these pretty, well behaved, good-tempered annuals and sleep soundly in their beds. We simply scatter a little of the seed thinly in patches in any spare sunny place and cover with a little sand or fine ashes.

The purslanes, as a race, are rather apt to be garish in the matter of colour—that is, when they do it at all (mine are usually dead), but Calandrinia grandiflora is a superbly beautiful annual which no one can afford to omit. Rising from a bold rosette of fleshy, pinky-glaucous leaves, the 18in. flowering stems of the same hue branch freely and bear throughout the late summer a succession of rose pink blossoms, round as a florin, and centred with a cluster of golden anthers. These lovely blooms are a good, clear rose pink, and few things can be more attractive on a dry, sunny ledge or forefront of border than this stately plant.



DEEP ORANGE ESCHSCHOLTZIAS PRODUCE A BRILLIANT EFFECT FOR MANY WEEKS.

A CLUMP OF HYBRID LEPTOSIPHONS.

There are some excellent annuals among the pimpernels, and if Anagallis linifolia (grandiflora) often suffers from too much familiarity, it is, especially in the deep blue form, one of the best of subjects in this class of plant for edging, massing and like purposes. The lasthenias, daisy-flowered natives of California in distinctive shades of yellow and orange, are also first-rate in bold masses, and, like the foregoing, spring-sown plants will be very gay in the late summer when many flowers are going off. So much and more may be said of the bright little leptosiphons. Of these my own preference leans towards the dwarfer kinds, to LL. rosea, aureus and the hybrids offered in most good lists. In colour these afford cheerful shades of carmine and rose, orange and buff, and my plan with these is to get a few packets of seed and to scatter their contents in pinches in the chinks between the stones of rock garden, steps, paved walks and walls—always in full sun.

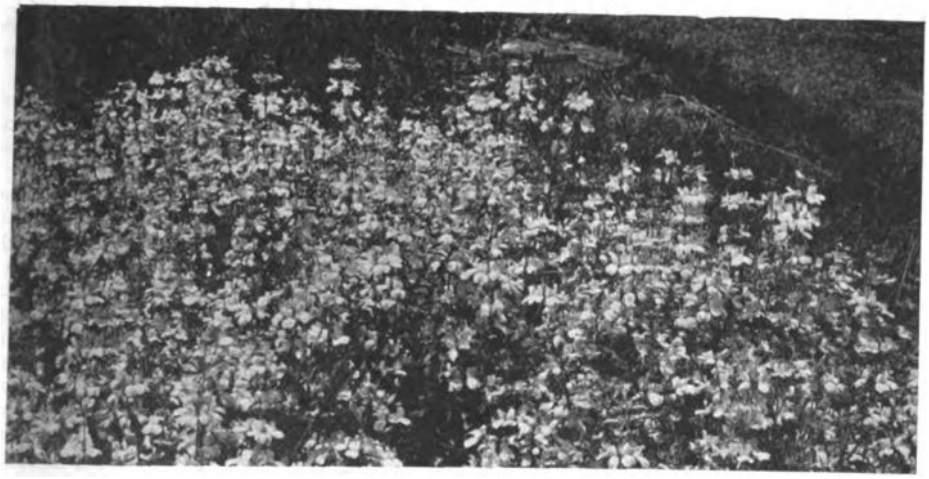
The nolanas, or Chilian bellflowers, give a good account of themselves as trailing annuals for the front of a sunny border or the rock garden, and these, again, may be sown where they are to remain. The best is, I think, N. atriplicifolia, which bears sumptuous white-throated, violet bugles, suggesting a small gloxinia and often rivalling the better-known phacelias in the richness of their velvety hues. The aforementioned lasthenias go well as a background to the prostrate nolanas and phacelias, or, in default of the former, one must go in for those exquisite little eschscholtzias, EE. cæspitosa and tenuifolium. These make neat upright tufts, 6ins. high, of finely cut glaucous leafage, and maintain an amazing succession of pretty saucer-shaped yellow flowers well into autumn Strictly

Digitized by Google

speaking, these are probably no more annuals than are their bigger relations, but, as with the latter, they may be treated as such.

I have a warm regard for the collinsias, because they are so easy and bright and willing to make themselves useful in a variety of ways, if not among the choicer annuals. For example, if we have made a new plantation of heaths or brooms, or if there is any other sunny plot that needs a covering crop which will be very gay as well as helpful in keeping down weeds and cooling the burning earth, the collinsias are just the thing to achieve that end. There are several kinds listed, such as C. bicolor, in purple and white; grandiflora, blue and white; and the blue insignis. These are rather under a foot in height, and the flowers are large and yielded in the greatest profusion. For such purposes as the above we sow broadcast in spring and merely rake in the seed, sometimes adding a few packets of Mentzelia (Bartonia) aurea, which is rather taller and whose fine blooms are a glistening treacle-gold.

A very beautiful and unusual crucifer for a warm, good soil is Schizopetalon Walkeri, which grows to about 1ft., adorning its fringy lacework with almond-scented squares of white which are uncommonly effective. As this transplants badly, it should be sown in early May where the plants are to bloom. For the edge of a dry border on any hot, sunny place the 6in. trailer, Venidium calendulaceum, with its large glowing orange marigolds, can be very satisfying. This, I find, is best raised in gentle heat, and the same, of course, applies to the dimorphothecas, which never fail to make many friends. D. pluvialis, which bears yellow-centred, white-rayed daisies backed by maroon, is, perhaps, the most attractive if not the best known.



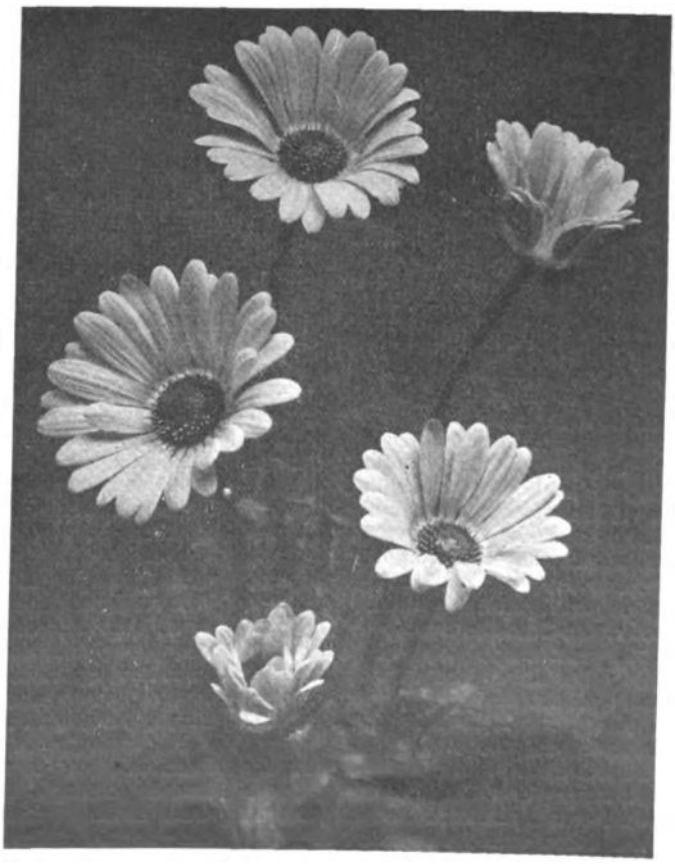
ONE OF THE BRIGHTEST AND MOST ATTRACTIVE OF ANNUALS, COLLINSIA BICOLOR.

The Mexican, Hunnemannia fumariæfolia, is a perennial but it makes such a good annual here in the west that I am induced to include it in this selection. It is related to eschscholtzia, but is taller and more upright; the foliage is extremely elegant and glaucous, and the very large orange-yellow flowers, so like those of Dendromecon rigidum, the tree poppy, are fragrant and last for several days. In a dry, warm border I raise this plant from open ground sowings made in May. The seedlings move badly. A colony grouped behind a pale blue form of nigella makes a very telling effect.

With a mention of nemophila my very incomplete list must end. Albeit, I am not so sure that these Californian bluebells are not the good wine of the feast, for, in spite of their commonness, they are singularly lovely and, what is more, as easily grown as groundsel. The N. insignis section is still, perhaps, the most admirable; but there are many other excellent species and varieties, not forgetting the remarkably beautiful N. atomaria atrocœrulea, which is as easy as any other and whose blue can rival that of the bluest of phacelias.

A. T. JOHNSON.

THE ORANGE-COLOURED HUNNEMANNIA FUMARIÆFOLIA.



THE GLOWING FLOWERS OF VENIDIUM CALENDULACEUM.

Digitized by Google

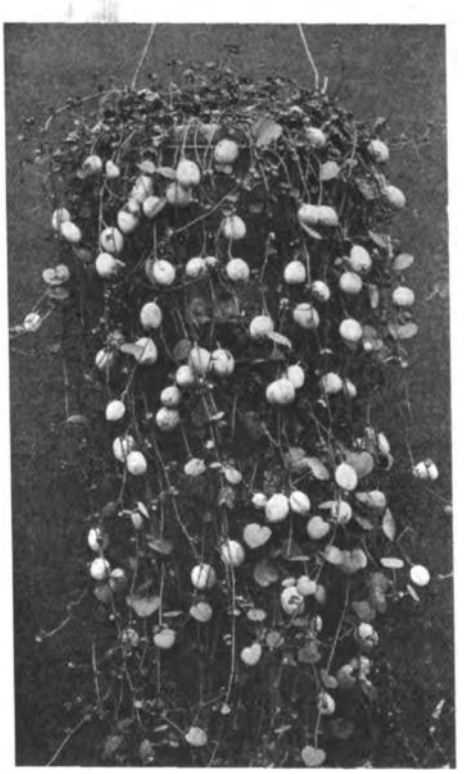
FUCHSIA SPECIES AND THEIR VARIETIES

IT is greatly to be hoped that the revival of interest in garden hybrid fuchsias will include the wild species and their numerous varieties, comparatively few of which are in cultivation to-day, and most of these are rarely seen outside botanic gardens. In the south-western districts, where severe frost is seldom experienced, fuchsias play a prominent part in the adornment of the garden throughout the summer; in colder districts most of them require the protection of a cool house—at any rate in winter. A collection of wild types of fuchsia would prove of considerable interest and would appeal to many plant lovers who cannot muster any enthusiasm for the large double greenhouse varieties, which have lost all the natural grace of the wild species.

By far the most generally grown fuchsias outdoors are the many forms of F. macrostemma, which is probably one of the parents of the invaluable F. Riccartoni, the hardiest of the genus and one of the best for hedges. In the plant which appears to be typical F. macrostemma the scarlet lobes of the calyx are larger than the purple petals, whereas in F. m. conica sepals and petals are of equal length. Both forms make rapid growth in rich soil, stiff, upright shoots 6ft. in height being sent up from the base. These two forms are slightly more frost-tender than F. F. m. gracilis, Riccartoni and globosa. F. m. gracilis is distinct in its elegant arching habit and long slender flowers of the typical fuchsia type; there are several varieties of it with more or less purple in the leaves, as well as a very attractive variegated form which is much slower in becoming a big bush. F. m. globosa is another fairly well known variety, characterised by its stiff habit and large, round flower-buds. F. m. pumila is a dwarf form of compact habit, excellent for planting on a rock garden or at the front of a shrubbery. F. corallina (or F. exoniensis) is apparently yet another variation of the macrostemma group. It is frequently seen in the West of England hanging over low walls, a position well suited to its semi-scandent strong-growing habit. There is a good deal of purple in the leaf and the flowers are 1½ins. long with prominent red stamens. A number of garden-raised varieties in shades of red and white, purple and pink and white, and red and purple, both single and double, may be seen in cottage gardens in many villages near the coast, but their names are generally long since forgotten. Several of these are mentioned in Mr. Cahen's article on fuchsias which appeared recently in THE GARDEN.

The remaining species of fuchsia are mostly less hardy but more interesting owing to the infinitely greater variety in their flowers than in those of the macrostemma group.

F. cordifolia grows into a shapely bush some 5ft. or 6ft. high and as much in diameter in sheltered Cornish gardens. When laden with its scarlet and green flowers in April and May it is a magnificent sight and a revelation to those who only know it as a pot plant. F. corymbiflora is another noble shrub, bearing bunches of long narrow-tubed scarlet blossoms at the tips of the long branches. It is a Peruvian species and is much better suited for a large greenhouse than for outdoor cultivation. F. Cottinghamii is abundantly distinct with its myriads of tiny scarlet flowers which are interspersed with round, glossy, black berries in autumn. It soon forms a slender bush 6ft. or 7ft. high in sheltered gardens, but is liable to be severely cut back by hard frosts. The somewhat similar F. reflexa is more



TINY FLOWERS AND LARGE MAGENTA BERRIES OF FUCHSIA PROCUMBENS.

hardy and equally charming with its tiny rose-crimson flowers and white stamens; it forms a dense, twiggy shrub about 5ft. high and is rarely damaged by frosts on the West Somerset coast; indeed, it is very seldom out of flower.

F. arborescens is a rose-coloured fuchsia attaining the dimensions of a small tree in Mexico. It might succeed in the open in very mild districts but I have never seen it. F. venusta is another very distinct and beautiful species bearing numerous red flowers with green sepals about 1½ins. long. It is tender and is often cut to the ground level, but it breaks again in spring and the young shoots flower in the autumn. If planted against a wall, preferably where it can grow through some protecting shrub, it will soon attain a height of 10ft.

F. triphylla is a handsome plant from Mexico, more familiar in greenhouses through its hybrid offspring than in the typical form, and the same may be said of the Mexican F. splendens.

The three New Zealand fuchsias cannot be called showy plants, but they are all of considerable interest. The largest is F. excorticata, generally hardy in the south, a strong-growing shrub with us, but a timber tree in its native land. It has curious small purplish flowers (often produced close to the main branches) in spring and sometimes again in autumn. There are three forms of flowers in this species, *viz.*, a long-styled female form, a mid-styled and a short-styled form, the two latter forms being hermaphrodite flowers. The pollen in all the New Zealand fuchsias is blue (instead of the usual yellow or white) and very viscid, an adaptation to aid pollination by insects, as the flowers are neither gaily coloured nor scented. F. Colensoi is a much smaller plant, only about a foot in height. The third species, F. procumbens, is a favourite pot plant in greenhouses and succeeds well outside in fairly sheltered and preferably shady situations. It appreciates peat and leaf-mould, and soon forms a pleasing carpet of wiry stems of green foliage sprinkled with curious little flowers and large magenta berries.

SOMERSET.

NOTES ON A ROCK GARDEN

ALL day long between the autumn showers I have donned my clogs and hastened to the garden. For years I avoided a rockery near this house. But the catalogues and memories of days gone by were too much. Some plants I very much wished to grow, and at our little place on the moors they would do right well, but we cannot live there all the year and people hunt round in our absence and help themselves.

Slowly and by all sorts of means I have collected some beautiful weathered freestone rocks from the high moors. At odd times I have brought back baskets of leaf-mould from the oak wood, and peat from where the sky meets the moor on Swainston Crag. By peat I do not mean the dark slabs of black peat, through which no air can pass and in which no worms can live, full of dangerous acids which grip plant life and convert it to "fat moor," but what are best described as "flaughts," which is nothing more than moorland sods full of humus and light soil together with layers of decaying bracken and small roots of ling.

I learned my lesson about peat some years ago. The "W.M." is very fond of carnations, so I set out to grow some, wireworm played havoc. I knew that garden pests could not grow in peat, so I dug some real black peat and mixed it with silver sand in a raised bed on the moors. I had to return here for a spell. Instead of flourishing carnations when I went back, I found dead plants in an unbreakable cake of peat. A potato field near our eyrie residence yields wonderful crops, because it was reclaimed from peat moor long years ago, but there is now no trace of the black sad stuff that keeps us warm in winter.

To go back to my rock garden. First I made a high mound of soil (where a

Digitized by Google

flat, clay, sad herbaceous border used to be) running up and down and in and out right round one side of the lawn. Then the rocks were thrown on, not so much for effect but to make nooks for each set of plants, each stone well buried in. In one cosy corner Grecian windflowers were planted next to groups of tender-hued daffodils. The definite yellows of these trumpeters flower in the shade of a beech hedge, which keeps its warm-looking leaves through the winter, till the young shoots push them off in spring. High up in a gritty mixture "Angel's Tears" have settled in. The "Glory of the Snow" is planted on a slope till it reaches down to a drift of polyanthus of lovely sunset shades snuggled in rich loam. A small boulder decides the next corner and supports a sandy slope, the abode of Anemone fulgens. Farther round and down to a richer corner is a group of dwarf rhododendrons. Then, best of all, round another rock is a healthy young plant of Gentiana sino-ornata. I hope it spreads and multiplies well; it is a lovely thing. Gentiana Farreri died. Above, on the slope, are drifts of crocuses—Tomasinianus, biflorus, Sieberi, Imperati and a group whose name I have forgotten; on into tufts of hepaticas, oh! that I had more of them. They are memory flowers. Daphne Blagayana has settled on my first attempt, and I am overjoyed, for I lost Cneorum straight away. I do wish nurserymen would send us poor amateurs pot-grown plants of these difficult-to-settle shrubby species. Cneorum looked doomed when I unpacked it, roots not kept damp, sprawly and dry, as if it had been pulled up out of the garden and forgotten on a potting bench. Snowdrops Elwesii complete this corner, companioned by a lovely thing that looks like an escaped water lily which throws off a delightful perfume in the evening like the evening primrose. Oh! and duck's-foot next to a plant that looks as if it is related

SNOWDROPS FOR THE SPRING.

to Solomon's seal with yellow flowers. Primulas hold first place in my affections, and they know it, judging by the hearty way they grow. So far, however, I only have the easy-growing sorts, the new garden will hold the rarer and more difficult beauties.

A small group of Primula Littoniana was a great delight this summer. Some years ago I saw it in the Royal Show at Darlington sitting at the water's edge of Messrs. Kent and Brydon's exhibit. I asked the man in charge how to grow it. He said, "Keep its feet wet in summer and dry in winter." When some plants of it came along I hunted for an old tin that would hold water. In it I put some freestone chunks and lumps of peat with river sand at the bottom and filled up with rain water. I planted the primulas in a rocky nook behind the sunk tin and laid a peat turf as a connecting link between the tin and the roots of the primulas. No sign of the tin was to be seen except that a few strands of sphagnum moss brightened up and showed that there was some hidden moisture about. The plants flowered well. When autumn came I removed the tin and threw gravel and chips into the hole. I am told they are biennials—more's the pity (not gravel and chips!)

I am consoled. Last year a tiny root of Gentiana sino-ornata was sent to me. It has increased and is now creeping up to the place where the tin was. No flowers appeared this year. I wonder if the diet is too rich. I have just trenched on three sides of it and thrown in mortar rubble among the peat, leaf-mould, loam and sand. I am beginning to think that the whole garden would be better if I treated it all alike in the matter of small stones. There are quarries on the moors where the *débris* is thrown out; rain washes it down, where it is left in silt heaps. I bring back baskets of this when possible.

The other primulas I have are denticulata (the white form, too), capitata, Mooreana, sikkimensis, helodoxa and one root of P. rosea. I have seen a brilliant form of this in a friend's garden. Some day I might be fortunate enough to raise a seedling of such a glorious shade. Ruby crimson Juliæ brightens up a shady corner, and Lilac Queen, another hybrid from Juliæ, is cool and beautiful. Dotted all about are restful oxlips with a perfect cowslip form of drooping flowers and slender leaves.

Some of the Primula japonica hybrids are lovely and easy to grow. I have colonies of them in different parts of the garden. Aileen Aroon is a joy near a splash of cool helodoxa. I have often wondered if some of the primula forms have influenced Chinese architecture and some of the head-dresses worn in that country. FLORA DYSART.

DRIFTS OF THE BEAUTIFUL GLORY OF THE SNOW, CHIONODOXA LUCILIÆ ALBA.

Digitized by Google

NOTES OF THE WEEK

UNUSUAL FORM OF TRILLIUM GRANDIFLORUM (THE NORTH AMERICAN WOOD LILY.)

IN the peninsula of Western Ontario there is a considerable area bordering on Lakes Erie, Ontario and Huron, in which this plant shows variations that are entirely outside the limits set by the authorities. In 1924 I visited a wood where the aberrant forms are numerous and brought home a number of them, which I planted without record, and was surprised to find that some of them were more nearly normal the following year. This incredible state of affairs led me to visit the same woods again on May 10th, 1925, and I am planting some of them in my garden, taking careful note this time of their individual characteristics.

Normally, this species has a six-angled ovary, but only one of all these plants conforms to that detail, nearly all the others having three-angled ovaries, although a few of them have none.

The normal leaf of this species is almost sessile, and there are only three of these that are quite so. Of the twenty other plants referred to here which should have sessile leaves, nine have petioles of ¼in. or less, while one has a petiole about 1in. long, and five vary from 2ins. to 4ins. Then there are three amazing plants that have no leaf at all—nothing but the sepals and petals all in a group. These variations come almost constantly on the plants which depart from the custom of having white flowers, there being only four plants in the whole series that have white petals, the rest having a varying proportion of green, sometimes only a thin light strip down the centre, others have the strip wider and wider until finally the green reaches the edge, and then the end of the petiole is the only part that shows white, and even this sometimes vanishes. It will be an interesting experiment to try to raise seed from some of these forms, but seed is not frequently met with. I have now in the garden one clump from last year's planting which grew all together in the woods as though the plants resulted from one pod of seed. This group not only shows both sessile and stalked leaves, but also pure white and green and white flowers. The shape of the leaves varies also; some of them are narrow and others nearly round with an acuminate tip.

If I am not inundated with requests for these plants I shall be glad to send a few of them to any of your readers who may be specially interested. This would be in the summer, as I have no stocks laid aside for this purpose, and I would go down to the wood, which is about thirty miles from here, next May, when the plants are in bloom, and select the particular aberrant forms that were desired by my correspondents. I would then bring these home, plant them in my garden and leave them there until about August 1st, when they will be ripe, and then mail them to England. I know a good many of your readers are much interested in exotic forms, and as this form is never catalogued, so far as I know, by any dealer, they are unprocurable except from private sources.—W. E. SAUNDERS, *London, Ontario, Canada.*

MUEHLENBECKIAS.

FEW evergreen trailers are more graceful than the muehlenbeckias, which are excellent for covering trellis-work, arches, or for growing as single specimens on old tree trunks. The three species most commonly in cultivation are all natives of New Zealand, and these are hardy, at any rate over large areas of England and even in some Scottish localities. Only in very severe weather is it needful to give a little protection about the lower part of the plant, and for this purpose some dried fern or straw is admirable. Generally speaking, however, the muehlenbeckias will go safely through any ordinary winters. The best known is M. complexa, which is a very rapid grower with long wiry branches and small oval leaves. The white flowers are somewhat inconspicuous, but the whole character of the plant is extremely graceful, and on this account it is at times called the maidenhair creeper. The two other species are M. adpressa and M. varia. The former has relatively large heart-shaped leaves and long racemes of whitish flowers: the latter is very distinctive with leaves shaped like fiddles, the plant as a whole being comparatively small. The muehlenbeckias are very accommodating in the matter of soil, but they grow most rapidly in rather sandy ground, providing this is not too poor. All should be given rather an open position where there is a chance of plenty of sunshine. Propagation is quite easily carried out by means of the thicker shoots that are generally sent up from the ground in the form of suckers. These root very freely in the late spring or early summer, and will be well established by the following winter. People often try to root the twiggy shoots of muehlenbeckia, with very poor results. Even if these grow at all, they take a long while to develop into serviceable plants.—L. B.

A NOVEL METHOD OF ESTABLISHING A FERNERY.

A FERNERY IN A POT.

A VERY interesting fernery can be established in a single pot. Get a pot of large size and round the sides of this bore out a number of holes. The openings should be an inch or more across and they should be separated from each other by about the same distance. The boring of the holes is not so difficult as might be imagined and can be carried out with a brace and an old bit. Actually the composition of the pot is much softer than one might think and it is not at all difficult to grind out the holes. If one does not care to do the job oneself, it is easy to get the work done at a small expense in a builder's yard. With the holes made in the pot one may start to plant out the garden. First of all put some pieces of broken pot in the bottom to act as drainage. Then fill in good soil up to the level of the first set of holes. In these holes insert small ferns and fill in more soil up to the next round of openings. So on in this way until the last set of holes is reached. Complete the planting of the pot by putting in one large fern at the top. All that is now needed is to keep the pot garden in a fairly light position and see that it is well supplied with water. The ferns will grow with great vigour and the whole pot will soon be a mass of beautiful greenery. The novel fernery will last for years and with very little attention will remain a most beautiful room ornament.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

THE YELLOW SNOWDROPS.

THERE are numerous varieties of galanthus, but among the most interesting are those known as the yellow snowdrops. Here the name is given, not because the petals of the flower are yellow, but on account of the yellow colouring of the ovary and similarly tinted markings on the inner petals. Even the stalks of the flowers are more yellow than green. The two varieties are known as G. lutescens and G. flavescens, and both were first discovered in old-fashioned gardens in Northumberland. The first named is of small size and of delicate constitution and is not so easy to grow as the latter. G. flavescens is an altogether more robust plant, in which the yellow tinting is extremely vivid. If this yellow snowdrop were better known it would be widely cultivated, as it grows and increases very freely. Like all the snowdrops, these varieties will grow in almost any soil, but if they are to increase properly, they need a deep, rich and well drained situation. The fact that the ground is rather heavily shaded during the summer seems to be an advantage.—BOURNEMOUTH.

PÆONIA MLOKOSIEVITSCHI.

IT may be rash to urge the abandonment of the original botanical name of a plant, but I am confident that he who would give us a better title for such a good peony as this, would deserve the thanks of generations of flower-lovers. No plant, however charming, can hope to become truly popular if cumbered with such an unpronounceable and almost unwriteable name as Mlokosievitschi. Even

Digitized by Google

the fact that it is the best of the true yellow-flowered Pæonias will hardly enable it to overcome the obstacle raised by its specific name. Cannot our Kew authorities step in and come to our rescue? For the plant itself is a handsome and a good one. P. lutea is a poor thing in many ways, although some of its hybrids from France are better, but not so good as this Caucasian beauty. P. Wittmanniana is exquisite, but paler, and has not the reputation of flowering well in many places. But this one is a truly charming border Pæonia, about 2ft. high, with good deep green leaves and remarkably beautiful flowers resembling somewhat those of a water lily and of a hue described by some as citron yellow, but without the tinge of green we usually associate with the expression. It is an excellent grower in an ordinary border and a great acquisition for those who can appreciate single pæonia species with good habit and lovely flowers. Sir Herbert Maxwell grows it well at Monreith.—S. A.

BERBERIS BREVIPANICULATA.

THE various forms of berberis constitute a group of charming shrubs, which ought to be represented in every garden, especially by the fine berry-bearing species, and B. Wilsonæ and the subject of this note may be cited as examples.

B. brevipaniculata is a native of western China, from whence it was introduced by Mr. E. H. Wilson in 1904. It makes a spreading bush of vigorous habit, and it produces a large number of thin shoots or branches, which are eventually clothed with terra-cotta egg-shaped fruits, which are at their best from September onwards. No doubt this barberry would thrive in varied positions, but here at Castleford it is planted so that its lower growths fall over a large rock, where it is very effective in the autumn, while the berries are most conspicuous, being brought more or less level with the eye.

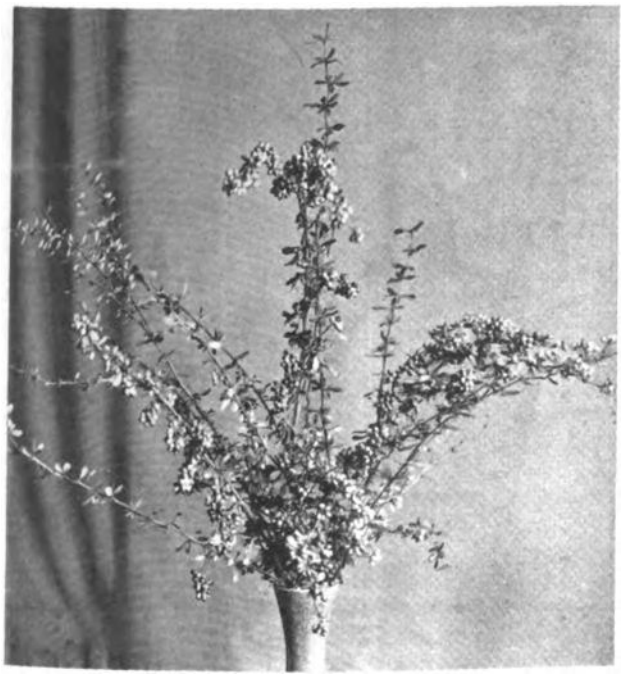
I have heard that some of the berberis do not fruit so freely in certain gardens as they ought to, but the cause, I think, will be found in the soil, which is often too rich. The finest fruiting specimens of B. Wilsonæ I have ever seen were in Mr. H. A. Tipping's garden at Mounton, Chepstow, where they were planted on a bank, and the rooting medium was anything but ideal for the majority of plants. The illustration gives the reader some idea of the fruiting qualities of this delightful barberry.—T. W. BRISCOE.

BERBERIS SEEDLINGS.

WHERE several species of the barberry family are grown in close proximity to each other, there is always the possibility of seedlings appearing which may prove to be hybrids worthy of perpetuating as ornaments of the garden. The great majority will be no advance on already existing species and hybrids, but they are useful for planting in the hedgerow near the garden. A few will appear which are acquisitions to the genus, and these must be propagated by means of cuttings, as they rarely come true from seeds. Having secured what the raiser thinks is a "good thing," I do not advocate giving it a name until it has been tested and compared with other named hybrids, because I think the genus as a whole has already been overdone in this direction.

Personally I am always on the look-out for stray seedlings, especially those that show the slightest departure from the plant which apparently bore the seed, and in the illustration is a barberry seedling with coral red fruits, which is well worth a place in any garden. It is evidently a hybrid from B. Wilsonæ.

The object of this note and photograph is to draw the attention of garden lovers to be always on the watch for self-sown seedlings. There must be many destroyed thoughtlessly, which may have proved a valuable hybrid, or an improvement on the parent. I believe the Apple Cox's Orange Pippin was a chance seedling, also the charming little alpine harebell, Campanula kewensis. No doubt readers could add numerous others.—T. W. B.



FRUITING SPRAYS OF BERBERIS BREVIPANICULATA.

A WELL-FRUITED BRANCH OF A SEEDLING BERBERIS.

POTENTILLAS FOR THE ROCK GARDEN.

ONE of the most useful genera that can be utilised for the rock garden is the potentilla. There are many species, but the ones I propose to deal with here are all easily obtainable from leading nurserymen, and so entrancing and varied that one would think they would be more universally grown.

They all revel in a warm sunny position; for preference, on a light-natured soil. By growing some half-dozen species one can have them in bloom from early May till late September. P. alba is the first to flower, throwing its pretty little white flowers early in May and June. At first sight it is not unlike a strawberry plant in appearance, but the leaves are very much smaller, and the whole is not more than 6ins. high. The next to flower that is worthy of note is P. ambigua. This species forms a dense green carpet, from which in June, spring myriads of large golden flowers.

Following this, we have one of the most beautiful of cinquefoils, namely, P. formosa. This charming plant has a particularly neat habit and is 18ins. high. From June till September it gives us a plentiful supply of blossoms of a bright cherry red colour.

P. Gibson's Scarlet and P. Miss Willmott are two very well known plants. They are both 18ins. high, and look very well when planted on the higher parts of the rockery. On no account plant them in close proximity, as, although very beautiful apart, the colours clash horribly together. The former is of a vivid scarlet colour, the latter a bright rosy carmine. They both flower throughout the summer, and one plant will bear literally hundreds of blossoms.

P. Hopwoodiana is one of the most distinct species. It flowers from June till late August, with blossoms of a beautiful salmon apricot colour having faint white markings. It grows to a height of 18ins., and, incidentally, has had a first-class certificate.

The last of the potentillas to flower is P. Tonguei. It is, in my opinion, the most beautiful of all. The flowers are of a delicious apricot orange, with a blotchy crimson eye. The plant creeps about, and will cover a large area in a season or so. This charming alpine cinquefoil is of hybrid origin and, unfortunately, is not so floriferous as the others; but nothing gives more delight than to see this plant growing on some dry bank or rock wall, exhibiting its flowers of such unusual colouring in September, when there is little else to be seen in the rock garden.—J. BIRKENTALL.

Digitized by Google

LILIES IN THE GARDEN

SO much interest is being taken in the cultivation of lilies by amateur gardeners, that an account of some of the successes and failures in my small collection may appeal to other lily growers. To begin with, let me explain that the soil here is a rich loam, without any lime in it, full of small stones and, consequently, well drained. The climate is mild with a fairly heavy annual rainfall; the garden is well sheltered from cold winds. Slugs are our worst enemies so far as lilies are concerned, in spite of constant war being waged against them. They gnaw through the lily stems when only a few inches above the ground and attack the bulbs of the smaller and more delicate species below ground. Field mice and voles are present, but the owls keep them well under control and I cannot say I have known them injure any lilies except one bulb of L. rubellum.

Prior to 1919 I had not attempted any lily other than the Madonna, the Martagon and the tiger, but fired by the descriptions of the choicer species in Mr. Grove's invaluable little book on lilies, I determined to see if I could not induce some of them to grow in my own garden. Naturally, L. auratum (The Queen of Lilies) was one of the first to be attempted, but as I had read so much about the difficulty of establishing the typical form, I bought only one bulb. Following Mr. Grove's advice this was planted deeply in a sheltered border between flowering shrubs with plenty of peat mixed with the loam. The result has been very encouraging, for that original bulb has now increased to a fair sized clump and sends up eight or ten stems 7ft. high, laden with dozens of deliciously scented flowers throughout August. L. auratum platyphyllum is usually considered superior to the type in every way and to be much more easily established. Although I have a few very fine plants of this variety (or is it really a distinct species?), I do not find that they increase, and are apt to die out after two or three seasons. The second season after planting is generally the best and a towering stem, 10ft. high, with between twenty and thirty great flowers is certainly a magnificent sight. At the same time it is a troublesome subject to stake, a necessary evil owing to the great weight of the head. Apparently no English nurseryman offers home-grown bulbs of any of the auratum lilies, consequently one has to rely on imported Japanese bulbs. This year two of my platyphyllums have ripened seeds from which I hope to raise young plants in due course. There is a superb crimson-banded form of auratum called rubro-vittatum, but it bears a bad reputation and is high priced.

L. Batemanniæ is generally recommended in catalogues as an easy and beautiful species, but in my experience it is anything but easy and my bulbs (both home-grown and imported from Japan), have so far always collapsed after making a weakly shoot about a foot high. I have tried planting them in leaf-mould and peat and sand and even set them upon inverted flower pots to assist drainage, but after one season's feeble effort they have been seen no more. Mr. Wilson considers this lily to be a form of L. davuricum venustum, not a species. Two hybrid lilies of American origin, L. Burbankii and L. Parda-boldtii, were planted in November, 1924, in a tub sunk in the ground and filled with peat, sand and loam, the surface carpeted with dwarf mimulus and parochetus; they both flowered satisfactorily in the past summer and gave promise of settling down and being permanent residents. L. chalcedonicum maculatum, planted four years ago, has flowered well each season, the sealing-wax red Turks' caps forming a striking bit of colour in front of a group of philadelphus hybrids. This lily has only occasionally seeded here, but it increases slowly at the root.

A GARDEN GROUP OF THE HANDSOME L. REGALE.

The familiar Madonna lily (L. candidum), does only moderately well in this garden, and all too frequently the ravages of Botrytis denude the stem of foliage. Although it is a marvellously tolerant plant, it certainly appreciates a rich soil in an open position, where hungry tree roots do not rob the bulbs of their share of the nourishment. I find it has little objection to being transplanted—at the proper season, of course — just after flowering, and certainly does not respond to the usually recommended policy of "let alone and let it go hungry." The popularity of this old-time favourite is being seriously challenged by the comparatively recent comer, L. regale, and in the not too distant future I think that the Oriental plant will be equally familiar in English gardens. Were I to be obliged to grow only one species of lily, that one would assuredly be L. regale. All flower lovers owe Mr. Wilson a deep debt of gratitude for this splendid introduction of his from western China, not only is it one of the most beautiful and easily grown of all lilies, but the ease with which it is raised from seed has opened the eyes of gardeners to the welcome fact that lilies in general may be grown from seed and that the operation is not surrounded by any mysterious rites, as was popularly supposed. L. regale appears to grow equally freely whether lime is present in or absent from the soil; recent writers are inclined to assert that it requires lime, but I am convinced that this is far from the case. My own home-raised seedlings, about fifty in number, were planted in beds between hydrangeas and azaleas, in which a quantity of peat had been incorporated and which receive an annual mulch of peat. The bulbs appear to appreciate this treatment thoroughly, and send up very vigorous stems with many blooms on each of them; they seed abundantly and some of their offspring now flourish in gardens in New Zealand, the United States and South Africa. L. candidum objects to being given a peaty home, at any rate in this garden. A few bulbs were planted among the regale seedlings, but they have never done

Digitized by Google

so well as those in an ordinary border. L. Henryi is an easy doer in most places and is making itself quite at home here among low-growing shrubs; the 7ft. stems with branching heads are at their best in August. This year a good quantity of seeds ripened on most of the plants of this splendid lily, which should certainly be grown in many more gardens than it is at present. L. speciosum in different varieties has been rather disappointing here so far. Many of the bulbs have failed to put in an appearance after the first season, but a few have become established and flower well each autumn. They are so beautiful and bloom so late in the year, that it is worth planting a few bulbs annually even if one cannot expect to establish it permanently. The two exquisite pink trumpet lilies (L. rubellum and L. japonicum (=Krameri) seem to be very difficult to keep going for more than a year or two in English gardens. We are advised to raise seedlings—luckily

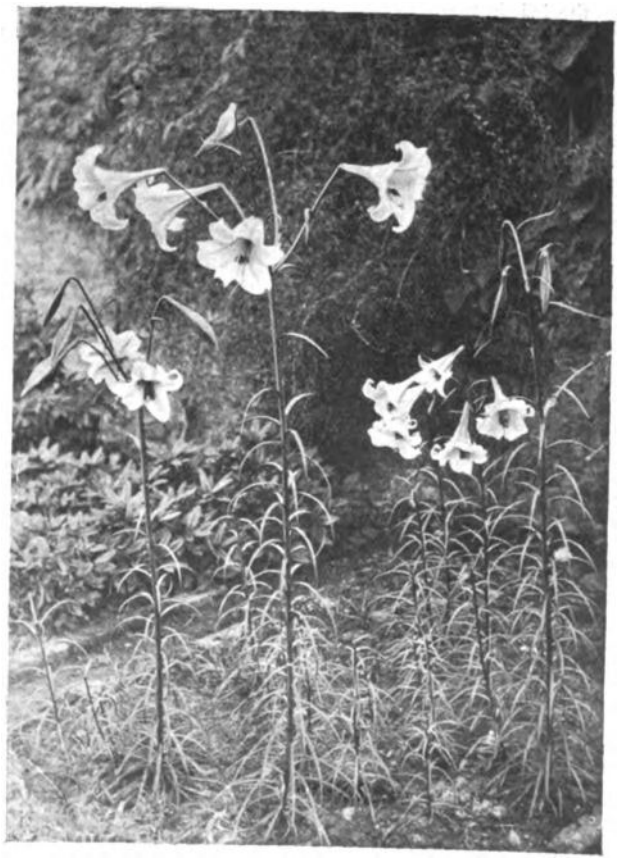
STATELY LILIES IN A PICTURESQUE OPEN SETTING UNDER ARCHES OF CLIMBING ROSES.

The pink and the white are extremely effective in such an arrangement.

both seed freely—but I cannot say my efforts in that direction have been encouraging so far. Slugs are terribly keen on raiding the seedlings and will scale perforated zinc barriers in their greed. Mice, too, are partial to the delicate bulbs, so the owner of a flourishing colony of either of these lilies may well be proud of his triumph. The patches of L. rubellum in the wood at Wisley are sufficient to whet the ardour of any gardener who aspires to grow something worth growing. L. philippinense formosanum (Price's variety), is a very welcome addition to those species which are easily raised from seed and flower in their second or third year. Although quite a dwarf lily in its native habitat, it will reach a height of 4ft. in a congenial position in a lowland garden. It evidently requires very good drainage—some of my bulbs rotted in the excessive wet of last winter—and a cool, peaty soil in half shade. Seed is freely produced, so we may hope to see this very

A CLUMP OF THE NANKEEN LILY (L. TESTACEUM)

desirable lily grown much more frequently. L. testaceum, the Nankeen lily, is an old favourite in many gardens, but nowadays it is a high-priced bulb and few gardeners can indulge in big groups of it. Fortunately it is one of the most easily grown lilies and when established sends up noble 7ft. stems which tower above the small shrubs and



THE TALL AND ELEGANT LILIUM PHILIPPINENSE

Digitized by Google

herbaceous plants in July. Although it is considered to be of hybrid origin, it possesses all the character of a true species.

The numerous garden-raised varieties of L. elegans (Thunbergianum) make a fine show of colour in ordinary soil in June, but none of them appeals to me so strongly as the European orange lily (L. croceum). It is not easy to obtain the true plant from nurserymen, so I was particularly pleased to find some small bulbs growing on an overhanging bank in the neighbourhood of the famous Boréon cascade in the Maritime Alps. They travelled home safely and last June flowered nobly, great chalices of a deep golden hue.

L. Hansoni is one of the élite of the Turks' cap group, a strong-growing, easily managed Japanese. I have never succeeded in getting it to set seed, either when selfed or crossed with others of the Martagon set. It has, of course, been largely used as a pollen parent with the Martagons in the evolution of some beautiful hybrid lilies. Typical L. Martagon is a good-natured plant, but worthy of a place in a choice border among low-growing plants, which will keep its roots cool. Its love of moisture was impressed on me when I found it growing in vast profusion in a wet copse with Herb Paris, Solomon's seal and Marsh marigolds in Dauphiny. A few bulbs were carefully lifted, their stems cut off (though just coming into bloom) and brought home; in spite of this drastic treatment they all survived and have flowered two years later. The white variety is a lovely plant and just as easy to satisfy in the garden. L. pyrenaicum is probably the least popular of the genus and until this past year I could not muster any admiration for the plant. However, an expedition to a locality in North Devon where the Pyrenean lily is completely naturalised in a hedgerow among foxgloves and campions, has converted me to the undoubted charm of the plant when grown in a natural manner. Nothing can be done to conceal the fact that it *is* an evil-smelling lily and it is better to admire it at a safe distance. Probably this is one reason why it is seldom picked and the flowers are thus permitted to ripen seed and spread over a wider area. An unpleasant smell also belongs to the brilliant orange scarlet L. pomponium, perhaps the most strikingly beautiful European lily. It has become rare in English gardens, but as it occurs in profusion in the Maritime Alps and is quite amenable to cultivation in well drained soil with lime in it, it should find a home in many gardens where it is still unknown. My small collected bulbs have settled down well and send up splendid flowering stems much taller than any I saw on the parched hillsides of its native haunts. It is a variable species, like most lilies, and some districts produce superior forms to others. Of several varieties of the tiger lily which I have tried, L. tigrinum Fortunei has proved quite the finest, but the bulbs do not seem to be long lived. The Californian L. pardalinum enjoys our humid atmosphere and has made a brave show ever since the bulbs were planted deep in rich peaty loam in a half-shady position, with Lady Alice Fitzwilliam rhododendrons veiling the lower third of their stems. They were originally planted in a herbaceous border in rather heavy loam and there they would certainly have perished had they not been rescued after a couple of seasons of weak growth. L. Szovitzianum has not been long planted, but judging by the vigorous growth and heads of three or four flowers this past season, it seems to be satisfied with its quarters in the rhododendron bed, in spite of the fact that it is said to be a lime-loving lily. Near by it some young bulbs of the elegant L. Willmottiæ have been planted, one of which has already flowered and shown what a desirable acquisition this fine species must be when really established; it is a much taller and more refined plant than L. Davidii—or L. pseudo-tigrinum, as it is usually named. This last lily has a good reputation as an easy doer, but I have not been very successful hitherto with it; possibly it requires more sun than my bulbs receive in the rhododendron bed.

N. G. HADDEN.

THE FIRST SHOW OF THE YEAR

JANUARY 12th last saw the opening show of the Royal Horticultural Society at the hall in Vincent Square, Westminster, and the bright and varied display staged certainly augurs well for the success and interest of these fortnightly exhibitions throughout the year. There was a certain life in the atmosphere which most of the exhibits themselves seemed to have caught, and in consequence they appeared bright and attractive. Again, the turn of the year induces the onlooker to regard things from a new angle. The Old Year has gone, and with it that feeling of *ennui*, and all one's ideas and hopes are centred on what the present year is likely to bring forth in the garden. The snowdrops and the early-flowering irises bring with them a fragrant whiff of spring; while the flowering twigs of the witch hazels, which have been wonderful this year from a floral point of view, seem to indicate that we may look forward to a very fine flowering season in the world of shrubs. The exhibits were of a miscellaneous nature. Floral groups were to be found mingled with fruit and vegetable exhibits; while those devoted to garden sundries were largely predominant. Undoubtedly each and all contributed to make the first show of the year one which should form a good starting-off point for those to follow. And it is to be hoped that the support which has been given in past years by the public will be maintained during this one.

The three leading carnation firms had their customary exhibits. Messrs. Stuart Low and Co. staged some fine blooms, together with a collection of orchids, a few cyclamen and other greenhouse plants. Some of their best carnations were Sir Philip Sassoon, one of the finest crimsons; Master Michael Stoop, a glowing cerise; Sheila Greer, orange flecked flame scarlet; and Lady Hindlip. The latter variety is an attractive, well shaped carnation of medium size; colour white pencilled heavily with red.

Mr. C. Engelmann also exhibited a collection of perpetual-flowering carnations, and among them Red Laddie was a flower of great substance; and Betty Lou, a pretty rose pink; Doris Cox, a new variety shown by this grower, is of a somewhat poor colour—it contains too much of the bluish tinge which spoils so many of the pinks and magentas.

The long period over which both the perpetual border carnation and the Allwoodii can be had in flower is proved time and again by Messrs. Allwood Brothers, for at nearly every show throughout the year they stage collections of these flowers. At this show they exhibited such Allwoodiis as Betty, Phœbe and Beatrice; the perpetual border carnations, Sussex Flake and Sussex Ray, together with Cameron, Beauty of Durham, Shot Silk, and Chintz, and many other good perpetuals.

A most imposing group of that fine Christmas-flowering greenhouse plant, Poinsettia pulcherrima, was arranged by the Hon. Vicary Gibbs. A few perfect and very fragrant roses were shown by Mr. C. Engelmann, and among them Columbia, Premier and Souvenir de Claudius Pernet were noticeable. Messrs. R. Gill and Son staged a group of Christmas roses and poppy anemones in all shades. Messrs. Bunyard exhibited a collection of apples in excellent condition. Such apples as Mére de Ménage, Coronation, Peasgood Nonsuch, Lord Hindlip, Wealthy and Tibbet's Pearmain were brilliantly coloured and of good size. A small group of chrysanthemums was arranged by Messrs. Cragg, Harrison and Cragg.

A really magnificent collection of vegetables was set up by Messrs. Sutton and Sons. Their skill not only as raisers and growers but as exhibitors as well was fully evidenced by this group. Vegetables of all kinds, both common and uncommon, were included. Chicory, dandelion, scorzonera, celeriac, endive, salad potato, mushrooms, as well as many varieties of carrots, parsnips, onions, beet, etc., were on show. Very large specimens of the onion Sutton's Selected Ailsa Craig and the leek Sutton's Royal Favourite were displayed.

The first spring flowers of the year were shown in informal rock gardens, in which they look remarkably well, for, although they are not especially adapted to live among rocks, many of our earliest hardy plants happen to have their home in stony places and with the turn of the year the garden is brightened with many bulbs which are accustomed to rush into flower before the fierce sun of early summer burns up the stony soil of the eastern Mediterranean and Asia Minor.

Messrs. Waterer showed Iris Sind-pers, which retains most of the strange colouring—sea green and pale blue—of its parent, I. persica and, although it is much less subtle and distinguished, is more vigorous and easier to grow. I reticulata and a good form of I. stylosa (which seems naturally reluctant to reassume its ugly, but proper name, unguicularis, which the learned have prescribed for it); that beautiful, but neglected sisyrinchium, S. grandiflora, with its ample, swinging bells of purple and a very happy association of dull, brownish pink heathers and pale blue muscari.

Mr. F. G. Wood showed Crocus Susianus, C. Sieberi and Primula Juliana, very bright and gay against some dwarf retinosporas, in their winter dress of purplish brown; double primroses and Christmas roses were grouped at the foot of a fine specimen of Viburnum fragrans, which was covered with its pearly pink flowers.

Messrs. Cutbush relied for colour chiefly on the waxy pink berries of some good forms of Pernettya mucronata and some varieties of Erica carnea against a background of dwarf conifers and a carpet of silver saxifrages.

The chief feature among the orchids was the wonderful group of Cypripedium hybrids

Digitized by Google

shown by Mr. G. F. Moore, V.M.H., Chardwar, Bourton-on-the-Water, Gloucestershire. Of the 200 plants staged, all but six were raised in this amateur's collection. This group was generally considered as the finest lot of cypripediums ever shown at a meeting of the Royal Horticultural Society. Colour and size were prominent, and all the plants were in vigorous condition. When it is stated that C. chrysostum measured 4½ins. across the dorsal sepal, some idea may be gained of the immense size of these grand hybrids.

Another fine group was that shown by Mr. Robert Paterson, Cathcart, Glasgow, and to which a gold medal was also given. It contained a representative selection of the popular genera, mostly hybrids and proved the great utility of orchids as winter-flowering plants. The fact that this group had been brought all the way from Glasgow added much to its merit and interest.

Mr. H. T. Pitt, Rosslyn, Stamford Hill, had a very interesting group of species and hybrids, among the former being Cattleya chocoensis alba and Odontoglossum Uro-Skinneri album, while the latter included Cypripedium Forest King and a cluster of the little Epidendrum Endresio-Wallisii.

Messrs. Sanders staged an attractive group in which the central plant was Cattleya Tityus, with a spike of three rose-coloured flowers. On each side were large plants of Cymbidium hybrids, various cypripediums and in front one noticed several rare species.

Messrs. Charlesworth and Co., Haywards Heath, put up a pleasing exhibit in which some new odontonias were in prominent places. Several odontiodas were noteworthy on account of their intense reddish colour.

Messrs. Stuart Low and Co., Jarvisbrook, Sussex, exhibited several meritorious plants in their group, the best being Cymbidium Atalanta, with a tall spike of many flowers and Sophro-Cattleya Doris, with flowers of reddish scarlet colour. Among the species were Epidendrum vitellinum, with neatly formed flowers of orange-red, and Masdevallia ignea, of fiery red colour.

Messrs. Cypher and Sons showed a number of choice cypripediums, the pretty Calanthe Harrisii, with white flowers, varieties of Lælia anceps, and well flowered plants of Masdevallia tovarensis, as well as odontoglossum hybrids and odontiodas.

Various cypripediums, of which Leeanum and Olympus may be given as the best, were staged by Messrs. J. and A. McBean. Also odontoglossum hybrids and a form of Cymbidium rosefieldense, with greenish flowers.

Messrs. Armstrong and Brown, Tunbridge Wells, arranged a pleasing exhibit of cypripedium hybrids and various odontoglossums. In the centre was Lælio-Cattleya Schrœderæ with a spike of six flowers, white, except for the purple lip, while at the back was Odontoglossum harvengtense.

Messrs. Cowan and Co., Southgate, had an interesting group of cypripediums and cymbidiums, the former including Vashti and Golden Wren, the latter Atlas and Goldflake. A very fine variety of Miltonia Bleuana was staged, also Odontoglossum Robin Hood, with flowers of claret-red.

Messrs. Black and Flory, Slough, staged several elegant cypripedium hybrids, of which Golden Wren deserves mention; also Cattleya Lysander, of pleasing coloration; Sophro-Lælio-Cattleya Vulcan, of rich purple; and Potinara Royal Purple, the latter combining the four genera-brassavola, lælia, cattleya, and sophronitis.

The largest and most comprehensive collection of garden tools and sundries was set up by Messrs. Wood and Sons. On their stand every kind of garden implement could be seen. Spraying machines, fertilisers, baskets, insecticides, mats, secateurs, twine, forks, spades and many very useful appliances were exhibited. Messrs. T. Gunn and Son also showed garden tools, lawn mowers and sundries of all kinds. Messrs. C. Pugh and Co. demonstrated the Atco motor mower. Messrs. Sander and Co. showed a number of bird baths, sundials and garden ornaments of good design to suit all types of gardens. Labels were exhibited by Messrs. J. Pinches and Messrs. Carter and Williams. The Chase Continuous Cloche Company showed alpine plant protectors; Mrs. A. Everitt, gardening gloves; The House and Garden Supply Company, plant supports and sundries; Mr. C. Jardine, secateurs and pruning knives; and Mr. Wood, Willmott plant supports.

AN ORNAMENTAL GREENHOUSE SUBJECT, DOMBEYA GLANELIÆ.

NEW AND RARE PLANTS.

AWARDS OF MERIT.

DOMBEYA GLANELIÆ.—This is a representative of a genus which is little known in this country, although why it is should be so is difficult of explanation. The majority of the species are ornamental subjects for the cool greenhouse and are very showy with their heads of rosy or white flowers, either loose or clustered, and their handsome cordate foliage. This species bears dense heads of rose pink flowers which hang down gracefully on a long stalk. Unfortunately, they are rather hidden by the large heart-shaped leaves, which are from 9ins. to 1ft. across. It would appear to be closely allied to D. Wallichii, and is an exceedingly showy subject when in bloom. It is unfortunate that the true specific name of this plant was not given, as the coining of new specific names makes confusion worse confounded. Shown by Lord Glanely (gardener, Mr. Bannerman), Chippenham, Wilts.

CHRYSANTHEMUM WINTON.—Fine upstanding medium sized blooms of a good yellow colour. The florets are firm and lend some character to the flower which is well carried on long stout stems and is shown off to advantage by the brightly polished, almost varnished-looking, foliage. Shown by Messrs. Tacon and Horwood, Cheshunt.

ORCHIDS.

FIRST-CLASS CERTIFICATES.

CYPRIPEDIUM MARMION, HOLFORD'S VAR. (Germaine Opoix × Jura).—This elegant hybrid bore a large flower having the dorsal sepal almost covered with crimson suffusion except the white apical border; the petals are broadly developed, yellowish, heavily stained with mahogany red; the labellum equally well developed and similarly coloured. Shown by Lieut.-Colonel Sir George Holford.

CYPRIPEDIUM CHRISTMAS CHEER.—Parentage unrecorded, but one of the most attractive of flowers, both as regards formation and colour. The dorsal sepal is mainly dark purple, the upper part being white. The petals are undulated on the margin, of mahogany red colour, with darker venation, and bordered with yellow. The labellum stands out prominently on account of its form and rich reddish crimson colour. Shown by Mr. Robert Paterson, Cathcart, Glasgow.

BRASSO-CATTLEYA MRS. ROBERT PATERSON (Cattleya Clotho × Brasso-Cattleya Cliftonii).—This pleasing flower has the segments of model formation, the petals of thick texture and almost meeting one another in front of the upper sepal. In colour it is bright mauve-pink, the front of the labellum crimson, with a narrow mauve border, slightly crisped, and the throat yellowish. Shown by Messrs. Black and Flory, Slough.

AWARDS OF MERIT.

CYPRIPEDIUM BALDUR, HOLFORD'S VAR (G. F. Moore × Niobe).—This hybrid muc. resembles the well known Niobe type. heh dorsal sepal is prettily stained and marked with rose-crimson, the petals and labellum reddish brown. Shown by Lieut.-Colonel Sir George Holford, K.C.V.O.

CYPRIPEDIUM SALADIN (Chapmanii × Olenus).—The chief attraction in the flower lies in the large and broad petals, which show the influence of Cypripedium bellatulum, contained in both parents; these petals are thickly covered with small spots of intense red colour. The dorsal sepal is comparatively insignificant.

CYPRIPEDIUM ST. KENTIGERN (Albert Fisher × Perseus).—Although somewhat poor in

Digitized by Google

formation, this hybrid is unusually well coloured. The dorsal sepal of intense crimson, bordered with white, the petals mahogany red, the labellum reddish with a yellowish margin.

MILTONIA PRINCESS MARY, VAR. ROSEUM (Hyeana × Bleuana).—This popular hybrid bore an arching spike of five flowers of bright rose colour evenly displayed throughout all the segments; the labellum bears a mask-like blotch of deeper colour at its base. The above three were shown by Mr. Robert Paterson, Cathcart, Glasgow.

CYMBIDIUM ERIN, GATTON PARK VAR. (grandiflorum × gattonense).—A beautiful hybrid which bore a spike of eight large flowers of clear green colour in the sepals and petals, the labellum yellowish with red spotting and a median line of similar colour. The flowers are strongly scented. Shown by Sir Jeremiah Colman, Bt., Gatton Park, Surrey.

PLUMS AND CHERRIES

SOIL.

PLUMS, with which are classed gages and damsons, will succeed in a variety of soils. The ideal would probably be a good deep loam which is neither too dry nor has a wet subsoil. Subsoils of gravel or chalk are secure against the latter condition. It is not, however, unusual to find excellent standard trees bearing heavy crops growing in soils where the subsoil is clay. The main point in such a case is, before planting, to ensure perfect drainage, especially if it is intended to grow dwarf or trained trees.

Plum trees are generally budded, or occasionally grafted, on to one of the various plum stocks. A few varieties are grown on their own roots, and are mostly popular in particular localities, such as the Pershore plum in Worcestershire. Whether budded on to one of the many common stocks or grown on its own roots, the root system is inclined to be strong. By several transplantings of the trees during the first five or six years, and by an equal number of shortenings back of strong roots, a fine fibrous root system is developed. As there is no very dwarfing stock for the plum or cherry in the same degree as is found for the apple and pear, by the Paradise and quince stock respectively, it is essential to encourage this fine fibrous root system, especially for bush or trained trees, before they can be brought into proper bearing.

Having obtained this desirable root system, it will readily be understood that extreme changes of moisture and dryness are prejudicial to their well-being. One of the best safeguards against this is to prepare the soil well by deep digging, and if necessary to provide drainage of some sort; broken bricks are excellent for the purpose. This applies generally to all stone fruit.

Unless the soil be very poor, no farmyard manure ought to be necessary at the time of planting. A rich soil would tend to excessive growth in the early stages, and while a sufficiency of healthy shoots is necessary to build up the tree to fruiting size and age quickly, the difficulty often is to control growth. A sprinkling of bone-meal and wood ashes at the time of planting is beneficial, and, above all, lime in some form is essential. Old lime rubble is excellent. Most soils contain a supply of lime in varying quantities, and it is well known that stone fruits do best in soils containing the latter in considerable quantity. This point should always be borne in mind and remembered, that stone fruits make a considerable demand upon the available lime in the soil. Heavy cropping combined with natural causes of exhaustion may reduce the available lime to a minimum. In such cases it must be replaced by a dressing in early spring.

SITUATION.

The plum tree is perfectly hardy, but as it blossoms early the flowers are always more or less at the mercy of spring frosts in addition to inclement climatic conditions generally. The sheltered garden has, therefore, an advantage over trees planted in exposed positions, and trained trees on walls have an additional advantage, inasmuch as the wall is often sufficient to safeguard the flowers against slight frost and the trees can, if necessary, be protected by means of fish netting or other slight coverings.

FORMS OF TREES.

Undoubtedly the easiest form of tree to manage is the standard, as, after it has once got into bearing, very little pruning is necessary, the balance of the tree being maintained by proper cultivation and manuring according to the annual crop of fruit obtained. This type of tree is not always a convenient one for private gardens, especially the smaller ones. However, the plum tree lends itself to training into various shapes, and of these the bush form is generally grown in the open where space is limited. Even this, if allowed to develop, will often make heads quite as large as the standard, owing, no doubt, to the same stock being used for the bush as for the standard. Of the many stocks used, perhaps the St. Julien would have a slight tendency to dwarfing the tree worked on it. This stock, in its natural state, is certainly a dwarfer growing tree than most of those which are used for stock purposes.

The fan-trained tree is suitable for walls or fences with any aspect except north, and even for this it is sometimes utilised. Only dessert varieties would, of course, be given the favourable position of a wall. When plums and cherries are grown, the latter should be given the east wall in preference to the west, owing to a likelihood of storms coming from the west, which, in some seasons and localities, tend to crack the ripening fruits.

PLANTING.

Trees which have received proper attention in the nursery should be chosen. By that is meant the initial training of the trees into whatever shape it is intended to make them, and annual transplanting and shortening of strong roots to develop the desired fibrous root system. Although autumn is acknowledged to be a good time for planting fruit trees, it can, however, be safely done at any time during winter or when the trees are dormant, providing the soil is in a suitable condition.

Care in planting is important. The roots should be examined, and any damaged ones shortened with a clean upward-slanting cut, afterwards spreading them all out in their horizontal positions. If dry at the time of planting, it will be distinctly advantageous to soak them in water before planting.

In the planting of all trees a little special attention is well repaid. A sprinkling of fine soil over and around the roots will, I am convinced, give them a start over those given less careful treatment. Firm planting is essential, but an inch or so of fine surface soil should be left around the tree when planting is completed. A mulch of long litter around the trees for the winter would be advisable.

TRAINING AND PRUNING.

The principal work before the trees reach bearing age will be to continue the training and do any necessary pruning. This, in the case of plums and cherries, will be much in the nature of summer pruning. The plum fruits on spurs or one or two year old wood. The bush form must be trained with sufficient leading shoots to form the framework of the tree, usually six to eight, and on these, spurs should be encouraged by the summer pinching of lateral growths. If this be done early it will help to this end. In the case of fruiting trees it will allow the sap to be drafted into the swelling and ripening fruits, thus increasing size, colour and flavour.

Summer pruning will also neutralise the danger of gumming, which is often brought about by strong winter pruning. The leading shoots will need a little shortening annually at winter pruning until the tree comes into bearing.

It is often difficult to maintain equality of strength in these young principal branches, and assistance must be given by means of depressing early the overvigorous shoot and elevating the weakest. It is sometimes advisable to check the strongest shoots when about a foot of growth has been made, by pinching out the leader instead of leaving this till winter pruning.

The laterals, which in summer were shortened to five or six leaves, will in winter be further cut back to about three eyes.

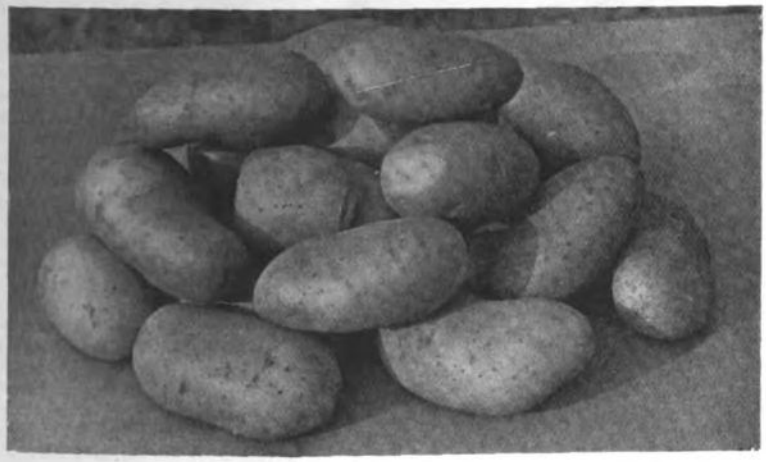
The standard may reach fruiting age without any further root disturbance, but the dwarf bush or other trained trees will, in all probability, require lifting and transplanting to throw them into bearing. When doing this any strong roots must be shortened back according to their length and vigour. This treatment is infinitely preferable to root pruning, as the term is generally understood. The work can be done easier and more satisfactorily by lifting than delving under the ball in search of offending tap roots, and if done carefully, the plum is one of the easiest trees to transplant. A. J. COBB.

(To be continued.)

Digitized by Google

TWELVE GOOD POTATOES

I WAS asked the other day which I considered the twelve best varieties of potato. Well, that is a very difficult question to answer, and from among the hundreds of varieties catalogued it is not a simple matter to choose twelve and say "These are the best." One man may consider my list poor because I have not chosen more exhibition varieties; another may comment on the fact that some are not suitable for his particular soil; while a third will say that I have ignored the newest varieties. However, I intend this list to be one of good varieties of general utility, and am relying mainly on well tried sorts. Of course certain soils produce far larger crops from certain varieties, and one must, to some extent, be guided by local conditions. For instance, Golden Wonder, a favourite main-crop potato in some districts and a really high-class tuber, is of little use except in a good, rich, well worked loam; while Sharpe's Express is far more prolific on a light soil than on a heavy one.



DARGILL EARLY, ONE OF THE BEST EARLY IMMUNE VARIETIES.

Among the early varieties there are several good croppers producing high class tubers, and from this class I choose the following:

MAY QUEEN is the earliest potato I have grown and is suitable for forcing in frames and for earliest use outdoors. The tuber is white and kidney-shaped, but this variety is not a heavy cropper.

MIDLOTHIAN EARLY (DUKE OF YORK) is a variety which may be classed with May Queen, or perhaps it would be more correct to say that it would follow that variety, for it is just a little later. Yellow and kidney-shaped, it is not a heavy cropper, and owes its value, like the preceding variety, to extreme earliness. I do not advocate the planting of large quantities of these two varieties, but a few rows will bring new potatoes to the table early when the price is high and new potatoes are indeed a luxury.

To follow these two varieties we look for a heavier cropping potato, which will mature a week or two later, and for this purpose we have:

EPICURE, a favourite market sort of good quality which is round and white. In spite of it being a quality potato, it is losing favour in gardens owing to its shape, which is often ugly.

SHARPE'S EXPRESS, one of the heaviest cropping early potatoes grown, is a variety which still holds its place, both in gardens and among market growers. It is a white kidney of fine quality, its chief fault being that it should not be lifted until nearly mature, otherwise many of the tubers will be too small to use.

One other early variety I must mention for this reason. All that I have alluded to so far are susceptible to that terrible potato scourge, wart disease, and people living in an area infected with this plague will not be able to plant them. Fortunately, we have some varieties which are immune from this disease, and can be safely planted, no matter how badly the soil is infected.

DARGILL EARLY is one of the best early immune varieties. It is a kidney-shaped potato, rather pale yellow in colour and of good quality.

The second early varieties include some of our heaviest croppers. These varieties are usually lifted just before maturity and are used to fill the gap between the light-cropping earlies and the heavy cropping main and late varieties.

BRITISH QUEEN, a heavy cropping white kidney, is an old favourite with most growers. It is, perhaps, more suitable for growing in the Midlands and the North, as it is so very susceptible to blight, and in the South where blight appears early, the crop often suffers.

GREAT SCOT is, to my mind, the very best second early. A huge cropper, producing good sized clean tubers which are white-fleshed and round in shape. It appears to do well on both heavy and light soils; in fact, during that very dry season three or four years ago, I lifted a larger crop from this variety on a sandy soil than from any of the main-crop varieties. Another point in the favour of Great Scot is the fact that it is immune from wart disease.

THE ALLY is not of such a high quality as Great Scot, but, owing to its capacity as a cropper and the fact that it is immune from wart disease, this kidney-shaped potato should be included.

KING EDWARD.—When dealing with main-crop potatoes I must speak of King Edward first. This potato does not need any describing. I think everyone knows it. Housewives, even in London, know King Edward and ask for it. I think it needs no recommendation. However, it is not the only potato in this class, neither is it the best cropper. It is not immune from wart disease; but K. OF K., which is described as the immune King Edward, is both immune and a good cropper.

KERR'S PINK has in many tests produced the heaviest yields. It is immune from wart disease and also resistant to blight. As its name implies, it has a pink skin and is round in shape, but inclined to be irregular.

MAJESTIC is rather a new variety of good quality and immune from wart disease. A heavy cropper of kidney shape, it is well worth growing.

ARRAN CHIEF, the last potato I am going to mention, is almost as well known now as King Edward. A roundish, rather badly shaped tuber, it is of really good quality and is a great cropper.

Before I close these notes I should like to stress two points. Whenever possible buy Scottish seed, for this undoubtedly gives the best crops; and always deal with a good firm—one with a name to support.

N. D. H.

CORRESPONDENCE

PRIMULA DENTICULATA.

SIR,—In your issue of January 9th, I notice a short article on Primulas which invites comment. Dr. Schneider regrets the absence of P. Littoniana from the gardens of central Europe. There is no reason why this very striking primula should be absent from Continental gardens, as many readers of your journal will agree. It is now by no means rare in English gardens. It is quite hardy and seeds freely. It is a plant of moist meadows and in cultivation must never be allowed to get dry at the root. A stock of young plants must be kept for a succession as it is biennial in our gardens. It is variable in colour and in length of spike, the largest spiked specimens usually being the poorest in colour.

I agree with Dr. Schneider's appreciation of P. denticulata and its forms as garden hybrids. The view that P. cashmiriana is a natural hybrid between P. denticulata and P. capitata is an old suggestion, but it is a very doubtful one. P. denticulata in the Himalaya is a very early primula, where P. capitata is one of the latest. So, too, the grower will find in his garden. Neither are they very closely allied. P. cashmiriana is clearly of near affinity to denticulata and without capitata influence. The grower will find it of advantage to keep the primulas referred to above in three groups—very easily recognised. The true capitata primulas have the flowers in a dense ball-like inflorescence with the flowers pointing mostly downwards and a few empty bracts on the crown. They are all *late* primulas. The denticulata section

Digitized by Google

has a similar inflorescence, but the flowers point upwards and do not droop. They are mostly early flowerers. The muscarioides section to which Littoniana belongs is readily recognised by the flowers being in a dense spike and not in a round head. Their period of flowering is generally between the other two sections.

P. stolonifera collected by both Forrest and Schneider in the Lichiang valley, belongs to the denticulata aggregate. Seeds, no doubt, were secured, but, as far as I know, no plants of it were raised. At any rate, no plant has appeared of this section with the characteristic robust naked stolons of stolonifera. From the garden point of view this may not be a matter of great regret, as the original specimens show a very inconspicuous head of flowers as compared with the forms of denticulata already in cultivation.—W. W. S.

LILIUM AURATUM PLATYPHYLLUM.

SIR,—I am sending you a photograph of a clump of Lilium auratum platyphyllum which was taken in my garden here last summer and which may be of interest to your readers. I obtained the bulbs from Messrs. Barr and Sons, in February, 1920, and I put a few in an azalea bed. They have increased every year and last year we had some splendid lilies. The one by which I am standing measured 7ft. 8ins. Its height will readily be seen by the unopened buds at the top. I prepared the beds for the lilies and planted them, and at the time made a note of the soil, etc., used as I had never grown any platyphyllums before. The natural soil, which is sandy loam over sandstone, was taken out for about 2ft., and old manure mixed with soil put at the bottom, then a layer of peat. The lilies were planted on this about 10ins. deep and surrounded with sand and dusted with sulphur. The hole was then filled in with the turf soil, leaf mould and some bits of charcoal. Every spring I dress the bed with old manure mixed with a little Vaporite, as we are rather plagued with slugs here, and I water them nearly every evening during the summer when the weather is dry and hot. The bulbs must have increased considerably as I only planted five in that clump to begin with. They really were a wonderful sight last summer.—(MRS.) R. BUTLER, *St. Leonards' Park, Horsham.*

THE QUEEN OF LILIES L. AURATUM PLATYPHYLLUM.

LONICERA FRAGRANTISSIMA.

SIR,—I was much interested in the note on Loniceras by Mr. Moore in a recent issue of THE GARDEN.

I should be obliged if he could tell me how to get L. fragrantissima to bloom. I have had a plant now for the past five years and have not seen a bloom, although the wood is well ripened: until last autumn I had it against a wall in a sheltered corner, but moved it then to a more open spot; and yet there is still no sign of flower. Perhaps he can tell me why.—F. W. HARRIS, *Lydney, Glos.*

FLOWER NOMENCLATURE.

SIR,—I am only a rudbeckia. Alas! I too, have a name that is not very English; but, as Horace said long ago, "Nunc est Lucarnendum," and surely, even if my name is Teutonic, it might at least be correctly spelt. One catalogue gives "Herbstone," another "Herbstonne," and there are others who give me all sorts of variations between and betwixt. The crowning insult is "Kerbstone."

Now, *Herbst* means autumn and *Sonne* is sun, and therefore, as I bloom and bloom and bloom all the autumn like the sun in splendour my name is, yours most horticulturally, RUDBECKIA HERBSTSONNE.

ERITRICHIUM NANUM.

SIR,—Your correspondent, Mr. F. Barker, in the issue of December 26th, 1925, asks if any other readers have found any variation in the colour of Eritrichium nanum. During the last four or five summers I have seen it in many places in the Alps, growing in most cases tightly wedged in a chink or crevice of hard, igneous rock and once, on the top of the Mulaz Pass (8,400ft.), in the Dolomites, on limestone rock. In other places in the Dolomites I found it in much greater profusion growing in rotten igneous rock and schist and here the tufts were often less compact and the flowers less dwarf, but in no case was there any variation in colour from the intense blue, which must be seen to be fully realised.—ROY PINSENT, *Birmingham.*

CHRYSANTHEMUM SOURCE D'OR.

SIR,—Early in January I paid a visit to a Scottish garden and while walking round my attention was drawn to the old variety, Source d'Or chrysanthemum then in fine flower, under glass. This variety was so ably described by "Claremont," in THE GARDEN of January 2nd, that to give it further praise would be out of place. This, however, will serve to show that in Scotland at least Source d'Or is still to the fore.

One other old variety which I am sure "Claremont" will know is Sœur Melaine; this pompon has pure white flowers, most useful for table decoration, and very effective when intermixed with sprays of Salvia splendens.

This variety has evidently been known for fifty years. I have grown Sœur Melaine for several years and its constitution in no way seems to deteriorate.—D. A., *Midlothian.*

ORIGIN OF NERINE BOWDENI.

SIR,—In reply to Sir Herbert Maxwell's enquiry (page 733, December 26th, 1925), I obtained the bulbs of Nerine Bowdeni from Mrs. Cornish-Bowden (member of a well known Devonshire family), who informed me that they were collected by her son, Captain Cornish-Bowden in the hills near Grahamstown, South Africa.

I exhibited the plant on October 18th, 1904 (obtaining an A.M. from the R.H.S.), under the name of N. excellens major tardiflora, but this name was changed in 1908 to "Bowdeni," after the collector.—PETER C. M. VEITCH.

NOTES FROM A FAR-OFF ROCK GARDEN.

SIR,—As you have invited notes on gardening matters, perhaps an account of a few of my treasures may prove interesting. Some time ago a correspondent asked if anyone grew Viola cenisia from seed. I grew four plants, three of which I put in the moraine. A slug devoured one, but the others are looking very happy. V. heterophylla, also from seed, is looking extremely cheerful in our moraine. Neither V. cenisia nor this have flowered yet, though I am full of hope. Silene acaulis has made patches of delicious moss-like foliage, and four out of five look like flowering, but after all the dismal things that are said of it, it will not do to be too optimistic. Dianthus glacialis flowered well and contrary to expectations D. sylvestris bloomed freely, and fully deserves all the fine things that are said of it. D. alpinus is also doing well, but I think it is better for more soil than the moraine gives. Various other dianthus have brought me nearer to a mental hospital than I hope to go ever again. I take the list of the seed I bought and try to check up the descriptions of what they ought to be, and what they are. I have the smallest possible dianthus on stems 4ins. high, with perfectly smooth, oval-topped pink petals. I imagine it to be sub-acaulis. Then I have a white one about the size of Silene alpestris. What on earth is this? Its foliage is not more than 1in. high, but its solitary flower stems are six. It is a pet, anyway. I have what I bought for D. gallicus, and I am sure it is D. graniticus, heaps of pink stars, slightly toothed and darker at the points, very floppy foliage 2ft. long, with bronzed stems and joints. I have looked at two plants with wild lace-like blooms and tried to make up my mind which is squarrosus and which superbus, till my head has whirled. One is enormous and heavily perfumed, the other is smaller with greener, finer grass. I have finally decided and am probably wrong, that this is superbus, though the name would fit the big chap better.

Sedum pilosum is a mass of pink flowers. Ranunculus insignis, from the shingle slides of Mt. Ruapehu, is flowering with huge varnished golden blooms as big as a small salt cellar. Only one group of plants refuses to flower with me—the encrusted saxifrages.

Digitized by Google

I have tried all kinds of soil and positions I can think of. The climate is beyond criticism, though, perhaps, wanting in extreme cold in winter. If anyone can make any suggestions I shall be eternally grateful. It seems to me that plants often behave very differently in New Zealand from what they do elsewhere. My best D. neglectus is growing chubbily and full of colour in a strong limey soil. Silene pusilla one sees little mention of in garden notes, yet the late Reginald Farrer said it was "a thing of unimaginable daintiness and charm for any dank corner." — E. O'CALLAGHAN, *Hawera, New Zealand.*

GARDEN TECHNIQUE

Notes on the Technical Side of the Garden and the Cultivation of Plants.

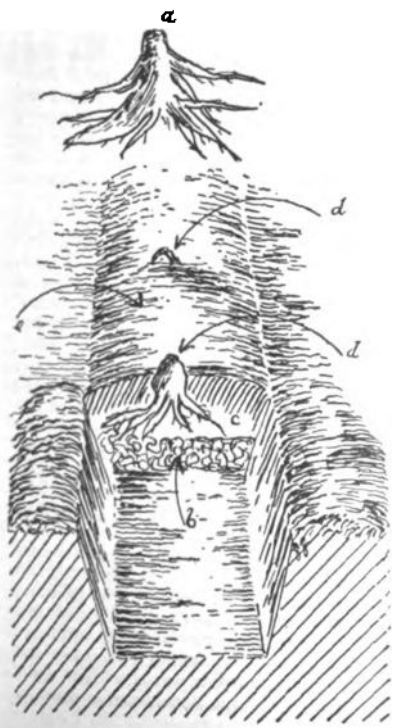
VEGETABLES

CAULIFLOWER WHITE QUEEN.

THOSE on the look out for a cauliflower to produce large, pure white and finely shaped heads, should grow Sutton's White Queen. Last year throughout the month of July we had a very fine crop of this variety. The seed was sown early in September and the seedlings when sufficiently grown were pricked out a few inches apart into cutting boxes filled with medium fine soil, and wintered in a cold frame. About the middle of March the plants—after it was ascertained that they were sufficiently moist at the roots—were carefully raised from the boxes, so that each plant had a good ball of soil adhering to its roots. Then they were set out with a trowel at 1ft. apart in single lines, in good, well tilled soil in a sheltered border, and between the earth ridges, which covered the early potato sets. Everything was done to give the plants as little check as possible in the move from the boxes to the open ground. In this position the plants grew splendidly and produced—in addition to fine white heads—large spreading foliage of a deep blue colour.—D. A.

PLANTING RHUBARB.

RHUBARB may be planted any time from November to March when the weather is open and the soil is in a fairly dry condition. When the cultivator decides to plant rhubarb, he should duly consider whether he wishes it to remain permanently in the position selected, or whether it will in due course be lifted and forced in a forcing pit or some kind of building. If it is to be a permanent crop the soil should be entirely freed of all deep-rooting weeds and this can be easily done when the soil is being trenched as it should be trenched at least 3ft. deep. If the roots are to be lifted the same care should be taken as regards the preparation of the soil, but the roots may be planted a little closer—about 6ins., to economise space. An open quarter, not overshadowed by trees or high buildings, is most beneficial as the crowns should be well matured every year. After planting new crowns, do not pull sticks from them the same year. The letter *a* in the accompanying sketch shows a single crown with thick, strong roots; this is the right kind to plant, whether it be bought or taken from divided clumps at home. Rotted leaves, manure and soil, all mixed, should be placed in the wide trench as shown at *b*, the root *c* being well embedded in good soil, dry and rather fine. The crowns *d*, *d*, are shown just clear of the soil *e*, which is higher than normal level at the time. This is done so that the soil and plants will not sink below normal level when they finally settle down. Three feet apart is a good average distance to plant.—G. GARNER.



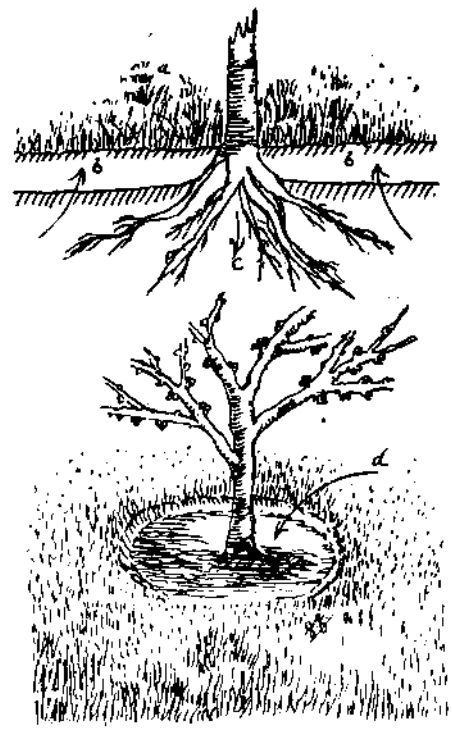
COLEWORTS: HAVE THEY GONE OUT OF FAVOUR?

IN every large establishment it used to be the practice when sowing, in spring, cabbage and other members of the brassica family, to include coleworts, so that, in early winter and, indeed, as an autumn crop, following beans and late peas, a breadth of this delicious vegetable was ensured. So far as my observation goes, and from enquiries made, this once-recognised rule is honoured now more in the breach than in the observance. In the gardens of amateurs it was never very popular, and one would not be wrong in saying that, like Portugal cabbage (Couve Tronchuda), coleworts are scarcely known. But they deserve a place in every garden where a vegetable of a very agreeable flavour is appreciated, as they come in as a change from the earliest of winter greens. For small gardens, too, where space is a consideration, coleworts are worth attention and it has always been to me a matter of surprise that they have been left in the lurch. It is somewhat curious, too, that in provincial markets one seldom meets with them offered for sale, and to ask for them generally elicits the well worn reply, "We have no call for them," the truth being that the ordinary householder has never had the opportunity of purchasing a supply.—CLAREMONT.

MISCELLANEOUS

GRASS, OR NOT ANY GRASS, AROUND FRUIT TREES.

DURING the past few years I have noticed several orchards in which grass has been allowed to grow close up to the stems of the trees. The result is, that already the annual growth of young shoots is perceptibly less and weaker, the fruits are, as regards numbers, about the same, but much smaller, there are more cracked ones, but



curiously enough the colour is richer. On closely examining the trees and their roots one finds them decaying near the surface, but making stronger growth in a downward direction. These conditions are more clearly defined in the sketch at *a*, *b*, *b* and *c*. The portion of soil shown at *b*, *b*, is the one that we always like to be well permeated with healthy, fibrous roots, so that we may have them under control, as it were, and at will, be able to feed them. Furthermore, where grass is allowed to grow close up to the stem of the tree, it acts as a splendid hiding place for all enemies of fruit trees—those, I mean, that every fruit grower wishes to exterminate. It is a very important matter, this clearing away of grass from fruit trees and I strongly urge it being done at once. If cultivators are not in a position to clear the whole of the ground occupied by their fruit trees, they should, at least, clear a space as shown at *d*. It is the next best thing. This cleared space should be quite 6ft. across, 9ft. in the case of large specimens in orchards. It will then be possible to water and feed freely, and to ascertain how the roots are faring.—G. G.

SOWING DUST-LIKE SEEDS.

IF we give due thought to the matter, it does seem wonderful that such magnificent plants as begonias, gloxinias, cinerarias and calceolarias result from the dust-like seeds that we sow. It often puzzles the mind of a beginner when engaged in sowing vegetable and flower seeds how deep he should cover each kind. Now, if lettuce, radish or pea seeds are sown deeper than is necessary, they will germinate and plants result. But if we bury these minute seeds too deeply, few indeed will germinate and penetrate the covering soil. Seeds of all the kinds named above—and of similar size—should be sown on the surface of prepared soil and not covered at all. Pans and flower-pots are better than boxes for these tiny seeds, because they keep the soil in a more consistent state of moisture. These receptacles and also the crocks should be washed and dried before use. On the latter place some half-rotted leaves or rough parts of fibrous turf, then fill up with a compost of loam, leaf-soil and sand, the two first named in equal proportions. Level the surface and firm the soil, then water

Digitized by Google

through a rosed watering-can. Allow the whole to settle for one hour, then sow the seeds on a sandy surface evenly and thinly. If a small quantity of sand is sprinkled on the surface, it shows up the little brown seeds more clearly. Do not apply water afterwards except by immersing the pot or pan, and till the seeds germinate keep glass and paper on the vessels. Until the tiny seedlings are well away in rough leaf very careful watering, ventilation and shading are essential.—HANTS.

THE TREATMENT OF FORCED BULBS.

QUESTION.—Are bulbs, such as those of tulips, hyacinths and narcissus, worth keeping after they have been forced?

Answer.—Yes, all of them except, it may be, the tulip bulbs that have been hard forced before Christmas. In their case I have found that, practically, the bulb is ruined and even if treated with the greatest care the results are not very satisfactory. So it is best entirely to discard such and devote time and space to bulbs of greater merit.

Question.—How should an inexperienced cultivator deal with forced bulbs to obtain the best results from them in after years?

Answer.—When the flowers are cut off, as much foliage as possible should be retained uncut. Of course, the growth has ceased for the present, so it would be unwise to apply water just the same as if active growth was going on. The forced bulbs have been growing and flowering in the greenhouse or conservatory and, at this stage, they should be taken to a cold frame, placed in it on a bed of ashes and left there unwatered till early March. Then place them outside, the pots on their sides, for two weeks or so. In the meantime prepare a border outside and plant the ripened bulbs in clumps or rows in it just the same as you would plant them in the autumn in the flower garden. Nothing further need be done besides keeping the soil clean. With the exception of the tulips, judging from my own experience, the bulbs will increase in strength for several years. I have had several square rods of ground literally covered with bulbs so treated and they have yielded great quantities of flowers for cutting. —G. G.

FLOWERS

LYCHNIS LAGASCÆ.

IN times past, when alpine plants were but few in gardens, Lychnis Lagascæ was much sought after and frequently attempted. I say "attempted" advisedly, for—one asserts it with confidence—the trials more frequently ended in failure than in success, and frequently a lament was heard from numerous would-be cultivators of this little Spanish plant. In too many cases a plant was secured in spring in a pot and planted in what seemed a good position. It flowered in due course, and the tyro deemed that he had established it. But when the next spring came he discovered that his lychnis no longer existed. To read the dictum of a well known expert, it should present no difficulty in a "rich *well drained* soil." But there have been many who have tried it under such conditions and have failed. Long experience has proved that L. Lagascæ requires the sunniest, driest chink in the rockwork, always provided that it receives water at the roots but is not soaked, and that the moisture can drain away almost as it reaches the roots of the plant. Some of the comparatively few places where I have seen it well established and flourishing have been in wall gardens with little soil behind and in full sun. It is not easy to become ecstatic over L. Lagascæ as it is usually seen. Although often described as "neat and compact," it is frequently rather spreading and loose-growing, with bluish green leaves and small but bright purple-rose-coloured flowers. There is a variety called L. L. rosea, which has paler flowers. The typical form can be raised from seeds or propagated by cuttings.—S. ARNOTT.

GREENHOUSE CYCLAMENS.

BOTH young and old cyclamen corms make new roots in spring and also while the plants are in bloom. Plants should be fed, therefore, when growth is active, then the foliage, flowers and corms will benefit. Cyclamens will only exist when potted in loam, but if set in leaf-mould and sand they make plenty of roots and good foliage. More satisfactory results can be obtained, however, when the corms are grown in a compost mixture of sand, loam, leaf-mould, charcoal and wood-ashes. After flowering, plants are subjected to various kinds of treatment according to the practice each cultivator may adopt. It may, therefore, interest readers to know that one plant which I kept isolated on a shelf for the purpose of seed bearing was never dried off, but was kept supplied with water. In the autumn I detached the seed vessels from the plant and sowed the seed in September of that year. From the seed I had a fine batch of healthy seedlings. The old plant was kept on the shelf and given water along with the other occupants of the house. In due course it produced fresh leaves and grew apace, till in the third week of January of the following year it had eighteen leaves and nineteen flower-buds, which were fairly well advanced at that time. The plant was in a 6in. pot and was not repotted in the autumn of the year in which it produced the seed, yet, strange to say, it was much better furnished with flower-buds and leaves than younger corms which were repotted in the autumn. The old plant was of a good habit and gave every indication of being of a floriferous nature, hence my object in procuring the seed from it. One of the seed vessels contained over forty seeds.—DAVID ARMSTRONG.

STARTING TUBEROUS BEGONIAS.

THESE are valuable subjects for furnishing the greenhouse—both the heated and the unheated structures—from April to November. For growing in the heated house the tubers may be started early in the New Year. For furnishing the cold house the tubers should be started about February 20th. For the benefit of the inexperienced I may say the right side of the tuber is the hollow or flat one, and this must be uppermost; the side to be partly buried in the compost is the rounded one. The new shoots—eventually stems—grow around the centre of the hollow; they at first are pale pink in colour, and care should be taken not to bruise or break them off. Very large old tubers may be cut into two, or more, parts, the cut portion being gently rubbed with charcoal dust. These cut parts should be embedded in a moist compost, but not watered before a few new roots are growing. The uncut tubers may be watered in at once, but all water should afterwards be withheld till the new roots grow, also the new shoots. I am now referring to the starting of the tubers in bulk in boxes; but where the amateur has plenty of small, empty pots I advise him to prepare them, fill with the compost, place a single tuber in each one, then keep the pots close together till new roots are filling those pots. The shift to larger pots can then be done without giving the least check to growth. Good fibrous loam, sand and leaf-soil in equal proportions make up a good compost for first use.—CHRISTCHURCH.

BOOK REVIEW

HERBACEOUS BORDERS FOR AMATEURS

SINCE the herbaceous border became an indispensable feature of every English garden, small or large, it has been dealt with at length by many authorities on flowering plants, but, unfortunately, much that has been written about it has been calculated to alarm and bewilder rather than encourage and assist the timid amateur. Mr. R. V. Giffard Woolley, however, in his recently published book, "Herbaceous Borders for Amateurs" (*Country Life*, Limited, price 5s. net), and a member of the new Gardening for Amateurs series of practical handbooks, shows a keen understanding of and sympathy with the difficulties—and the limitations—of the beginner. The scheme of this little volume is excellent in every way. In the introductory chapters Mr. Woolley treats of the proper preparation of the border in a very clear but simple manner, giving detailed but not over-elaborate instructions which can be easily followed by the most inexperienced amateur that ever struggled with a spade, while the advice given in a later chapter on the upkeep of the border is equally sound. In connection with this it may be noted that the author thinks a well prepared and planted border should not require re-making for at least five years, a far more reasonable term than the three which many gardeners regard as its limit of life.

The plate facing page 17 illustrates two pairs of well planned borders, either of which with the broad turf path dividing them would make an admirable 'lay-out," as effective as simple, for the long, narrow suburban garden to which it is so often attempted—quite unsuccessfully—to give an air of spaciousness by means of little curly-wurly paths, tiny patches of rockwork and minute shrubberies. It is indisputable that nothing makes a better setting for a herbaceous border, even if it be only one of the higgledy-piggledy kind which Mr. Woolley deprecates, than a turf path, and its obvious disadvantages may be minimised by a paved track down the centre or one on either side, as the author suggests. The last-named arrangement is the most practical, as it enables work to be carried out on the borders when the turf is too soft and wet to stand upon.

Of the trees and shrubs suggested as possible for background hedges some exception may be taken to the inclusion of hornbeam by reason of its retaining its dead and withered foliage throughout the winter, a habit which makes it useful as a shelter but an eyesore at the back of even a flowerless border, whereas an evergreen hedge is pleasing all the year round.

It is impossible to overpraise the tables of suitable border plants, which fill a considerable proportion of Mr. Woolley's book. Not only do they give full particulars of colour and height, but there are cultural notes which, although brief, are lucid and sufficient. The lists in question have, obviously been made out with great care, and are at once catholic and comprehensive; but there are a few omissions, of which the most important are the two fine potentillas Gibson's Scarlet and Miss Willmott (rosy pink), Lychnis Flos-cuculi fl.-pl. (rosy pink), Geranium grandiflorum (blue) and Trollius asiaticus (orange, and a better plant than T. europæus).

The suggestions for border colour schemes are very attractive as well as practical, and may be specially commended to the attention of the amateur. Indeed, if the latter will take this little volume as his guide and carefully follow out the instructions contained in it he cannot go wrong no matter how slight may be his previous acquaintance with its subject. R. E. H.

Digitized by Google

BY APPOINTMENT.

PULHAM'S
VASES
SUNDIALS
BIRD BATHS
FOUNTAINS ETC.
GARDEN ORNAMENTS
7 NEWMAN ST LONDON W.

FOGWILLS WONDER LONG-POD BROAD BEANS

Ten Beans in a Pod.
WONDERFUL FREE GIFTS.
NOW IS THE TIME TO SOW FOGWILLS WONDER LONG POD. The LONGEST, most PROLIFIC and FINEST FLAVOURED BROAD BEAN in the World. Nothing like it. Nothing just as good—PERFECTION. 1/4 per pint, carriage paid. Send now; every customer will receive three FREE GIFTS as follows—1/- packet (2,000 seeds) FOGWILLS FAMOUS GIANT EXHIBITION BRUSSELS SPROUTS, largest, most magnificent solid sprouts in cultivation, and FREE, a 6d. packet (1,000 seeds) FOGWILLS PRIDE OF THE VALLEY PARSNIP grown over 50 inches long, and FREE one packet (100 seeds) FOGWILLS GIANT RAINBOW SWEET PEAS, large waved flowers in over 25 shades. Send only 1/4 for this wonderful FREE OFFER and become one of our THOUSANDS of satisfied customers.
Fogwills 'Best-Result' Seeds need only a trial.
Fogwills Beautiful Illustrated Catalogue of "Best-Result" Seeds and Guide to Garden Success for Season 1926. Now Ready. Post Free.
FOGWILLS, Established 70 years. 130, FRIARY STREET GUILDFORD. Awarded Gold Medal.

HILLIER'S
FRUITING TREES
Special Offer of Specimen Trees at Reduced Prices to clear ground.
STANDARD CHERRIES, 6ft. stems and extra large heads, with plenty of fine roots .. 10/6 each
Early Rivers, May Duke, Kentish Pie, etc.
EXTRA LARGE BUSH CHERRIES .. 10/6 each
May Duke, Morello, Kentish Pie.
STANDARD FAN-TRAINED PEARS in several varieties .. .. 42/- each
ESPALIER PEARS on Pear stock, four and five tiers, perfect trees .. .. .. 10/6 and 12/6 each
Beurre Diel, Louis Bonne of Jersey, Pitmaston Duchess, Catillac.
EXTRA LARGE BUSH APPLES, on broad-leaf Paradise stocks.
Crimson Bramley, 5-5½ft. 8/6 and 10/6 each
Encore, 6-7ft. .. .. 10/6 and 12/6 each
Newton Wonder, 5-5½ft. .. 8/6 and 10/6 each
PYRAMID PEARS on Quince stock in variety .. .. .. 8/6 and 10/6 each
STANDARD AND HALF STANDARD MEDLARS, PEARS AND GOLDEN BULLACE .. .. 8/6 and 10/6 each
BUSH PLUMS. List of sorts on application .. .. 8/6 and 10/6 each
Full particulars of the above on application.
Carriage paid on all orders value £5 and over up to 100 packing at cost.
HILLIER & SONS West Hill Nurseries Winchester

Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.

AUTUMN and WINTER BEAUTY
In the Garden.

WHEN the first Autumn frost has killed the Summer flowers and the last rose is just existing, many people imagine that the garden must be a dull uninteresting place until Spring awakens the early Daffodils.
There are, however, many trees and shrubs which will provide beautiful pictures throughout Autumn and Winter when rightly placed.
What is more beautiful than the setting sun lighting up the berries of the Cotoneasters, Thorns, and other berried shrubs; or the crimson stems of the Scarlet Dogwood, yellow and crimson barked Willows.
We have prepared a short supplement to our general catalogue, giving a list of the best trees and shrubs for Winter beauty, with fuller descriptions and cultural notes. A copy on application. We devote the same care and thought to the cultivation of our immense stocks of FRUIT TREES, ROSES, ALPINES, HARDY PERENNIALS as we do to the SHRUBS.
THE BARNHAM NURSERIES, LTD., BARNHAM, SUSSEX.

For success in your Garden USE
THOMSON'S MANURES
On the market for over 50 years, they still hold first place for QUALITY and RESULTS. They are safe, sure and lasting. The direct result of many years' practical experience in gardening, they stand unrivalled at the present day for all Garden Crops.
Prices:—VINE, PLANT AND VEGETABLE MANURE—a Perfect Food—1 cwt., 30/-; 56 lb., 16/-; 28 lb. 9/-; 14 lb. 5/-; 7 lb., 3/-; tins, 1/3 and 9d. SPECIAL TOP DRESSING MANURE—an excellent stimulant—56 lb., 17/-; 28 lb., 9/6; 14 lb., 5/6; 7 lb. 3/-; tins, 1/3. Carriage paid on 28 lbs. and up.
WRITE FOR OUR BOOKLET—POST FREE ON REQUEST
SOLD BY NURSERYMEN AND SEEDSMEN EVERYWHERE.
—Or from Sole Makers, WM. THOMSON & SONS, TWEED VINEYARDS, CLOVENFORDS, SCOTLAND

FOOD FOR YOUR GARDEN
The Glory of the Garden
will be yours in full measure this year if you feed your flowers, fruit, vegetables and turf on
NORCO COMPLETE FERTILISERS
THE PERFECT GARDEN FOOD
Which supplies the essential constituents contained in stable manure, but in a far richer and more convenient form.

PRICES (Bags Free and Carriage Paid):—

	7 lbs.	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	112 lbs.
"NORCO" Complete Garden Fertiliser (For Flowers, Fruit and Vegetables)	2/6	4 3	7 3	12 6	23/-
"NORCO" Complete Lawn & Turf Fertiliser	2 4	4/-	6 9	11 9	22/-
"NORCO" Complete Potato Fertiliser	2 6	4 3	7 3	12 6	23/-

Send for free Booklet on the use of Lime, Stable Manure and Chemical Fertilisers.
"NORCO" (Regd.) is obtainable only direct from the Sole Manufacturers:—
CHARLES NORRINGTON & CO., LTD.
Cattedown, PLYMOUTH.
Makers of High Grade Fertilisers since 1846. No. 2

Digitized by Google

MUSHROOMS IN NATURE.

THE popular interest in mushrooms and toadstools seems to be increasing on the Continent. Before the war, only in France did a non-botanical public give much consideration to them, though in most countries a considerable number of species have long been sold in the markets. Scarcity of food during the war, particularly in central Europe, was apparently the reason for greater attention being paid to edible fungi. However this may be, there has been considerable increase in popular writings on the subject and two or three "semi-popular" periodicals are now published. Switzerland shares in this increase in amateur interest—as distinguished from the purely scientific—and the appearance of this very attractive book, "Les Champignons Dans la Nature," by J. Jacottet. (Delacroix and Niestlé, S.A., Neuchatel. Seventy-six coloured plates, forty-seven text figures, 243 pages, price 30 francs), will doubtless encourage many to mycology, which, apart from purely gastronomic aspects, presents problems as enticing as those of any group of alpine plants. In a work of this kind attention is naturally first drawn to the illustrations. It is difficult for beginners to grasp the essentials of specific descriptions from verbal descriptions of agarics; and illustrations are sometimes more misleading than helpful. The seventy-six plates in the book under review, depicting 115 species, are among the best existing. They are by Paul Robert, Fils, and show the fungi in their natural habitats, but so arranged that the characters of the species are clearly seen. In addition to the plates, there are forty-seven attractive line drawings (by Dr. E. Jacottet) in the text.

After a preface by the well known Swiss mycologist, Dr. C. E. Martin, the author has an introduction in which he comments on many interesting facts about fungi. In it he considers some of the traditional methods of distinguishing between edible and poisonous species—and all mycologists will agree with his conclusion that there is no other way of telling whether a species is edible or poisonous than that of precise determination according to their botanical characters. Here is also given a summary of classification. The main portion of the work deals with the larger fungi only. The method adopted to give a somewhat detailed description of the more interesting species—these being usually the subjects of the coloured plates—and other species are grouped round these. Full details of the discomforts following the eating of the poisonous species are recorded and the best recipes for cooking are given in the case of edible species. Although the gastronomic side bulks largely, there is a considerable amount of useful information as to the habitats and seasons, which shows the author to be an experienced field mycologist.

In addition, there are frequent references to facts which are not always dry as dust: *e.g.*, it is stated that the Chanterelle used to be sold by weight at Geneva, but that as the market people soaked the fungi in water—which leads to fermentation—it was decided that they should be sold by measure. The printing and paper are excellent, the binding is rather of the Christmas gift variety, and the guard paper is decorated with Sepultaria Sumneri, a discomycetous fungus, which appears exclusively under cedars. One gains the impression that author, artist and publisher have thoroughly enjoyed themselves in the production of the book.—J. R.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

The spring catalogue of Messrs. Dobbie and Co., Limited, is both interesting and useful. This firm, whose reputation in connection with sweet pea growing and potato raising is world-famed, includes countless varieties of both these in its catalogue. The vegetable garden, as well as the flower garden, is well catered for, and those who are seeking guidance in selecting the best varieties to grow will find much helpful information. Numerous excellent half-tone illustrations and useful cultural details are given.

Mr. Alfred Dawkins, 408, King's Road, Chelsea, London. A catalogue of flower and vegetable seeds, lawn seed, fertilisers, tools, secateurs and other horticultural sundries. An interesting list of floral and vegetable novelties for 1926 is also included.

Messrs. John E. Knight and Son of Wolverhampton send us a catalogue of flower and vegetable seeds. It is illustrated by many half-tones and reproductions in colour. The lists are well classified and the hints on cooking vegetables, as well as growing them, should be found very helpful.

Mr. W. E. Th. Ingwersen, The Birch, Sharpthorne, Sussex, sends a most interesting seed list. Seeds of alpines, hardy plants and certain trees and shrubs are offered, and all the seeds are guaranteed to be new and harvested this year. Many of those included are not listed in the catalogues of the general seedsmen.

Messrs. T. R. Pearson and Sons, Limited, The Nurseries, Lowdham, Notts. A well printed and well illustrated catalogue dealing chiefly with flower and vegetable seeds. Careful descriptive and cultural details are given, also clear, practical directions for the growing of mushrooms. This catalogue will prove of great interest to the amateur gardener.

Messrs. Dickson, Brown and Tait of Manchester have sent us their catalogue of garden seeds and it is evident that they are maintaining their high reputation as first-class seedsmen. There is a wide choice both in vegetable and flower seeds. Innumerable varieties of each kind are listed and many half-tone illustrations are given.

The well known Scottish firm of Messrs. Austin and McAslan of 89, Mitchell Street Glasgow, have published a useful and well arranged catalogue of garden seeds, bulbous plants and sundries. A fine selection of sweet peas and begonias of all types is given. The colour descriptions of the various varieties are good and most helpful. Such a long established and noted firm as this one can be well recommended.

A manual of garden seeds issued by Messrs. Fisher, Sons and Sibray of Handsworth, Sheffield, has just come to hand. Annuals for beds and borders are stocked in plenty, and all the popular flower seeds are sold by weight. One section of the catalogue deals with gardeners' and foresters' tools and implements, and in it are listed a number of handy and useful tools at most reasonable prices.

Stewart's "Stronghold" Seeds are known to many gardeners and their high quality fully realised. In the catalogue of this firm are to be found lists of annuals and perennials of all kinds to be raised from seed, bulbs and roots for spring planting, a selection of Scotch seed potatoes, lawn seed, sundries, etc. The information therein should prove of great service to the amateur. Their address is Messrs. Stewart, 13, South St. Andrew Street, Edinburgh.

Messrs. Little and Ballantyne, the Carlisle seedsmen, send us their catalogue of garden seeds of guaranteed purity and germination. Comprehensive lists are given and many novelties are included. The amateur will find the brief cultural details very useful. The reliability and fine quality of the trees and shrubs sent out by this firm have gained for them a high reputation, and we can assure our readers that the seeds supplied by them are of the same standard.

We have much pleasure in bringing to the notice of our readers the seed catalogue of Messrs. W. H. Simpson and Sons, the firm of antirrhinum fame.* Anyone who has seen the antirrhinum exhibits set up by Messrs. Simpson can appreciate the excellent strain of these invaluable plants which they have obtained after many years of selection. Their address is Chad Valley, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

The Dallin seedsmen and nurserymen, Messrs. W. Drummer and Sons, have published a 1926 catalogue of garden seeds. It is a comprehensive and interesting one. The careful cultural hints will be found most helpful.

Messrs. Robert Veitch and Son of 54, High Street, Exeter, send us a catalogue of garden seeds. Vegetable and flower seeds are given and also an interesting list of a number of recent floral introductions. All keen gardeners should write for this catalogue.

Messrs. Barr's seed guide for 1926 should make a wide appeal. The specialist as well as the amateur is well catered for. Many fine perennials, and nearly two hundred specialities for the year are included. Among them will be found rare alpines, hardy perennials, annuals and greenhouse plants.

A selected list of trees and shrubs, which are at their full beauty during the autumn and winter, are offered by the Barnham Nurseries, Limited, of Barnham, Sussex. Deciduous shrubs with coloured foliage and stems, berried shrubs, winter-flowering shrubs and a few evergreens are listed. The prices quoted are most reasonable.

Messrs. Cooper, Taber and Co., 90, Southwark Street, London, S.E.1. A comprehensive wholesale seed catalogue.

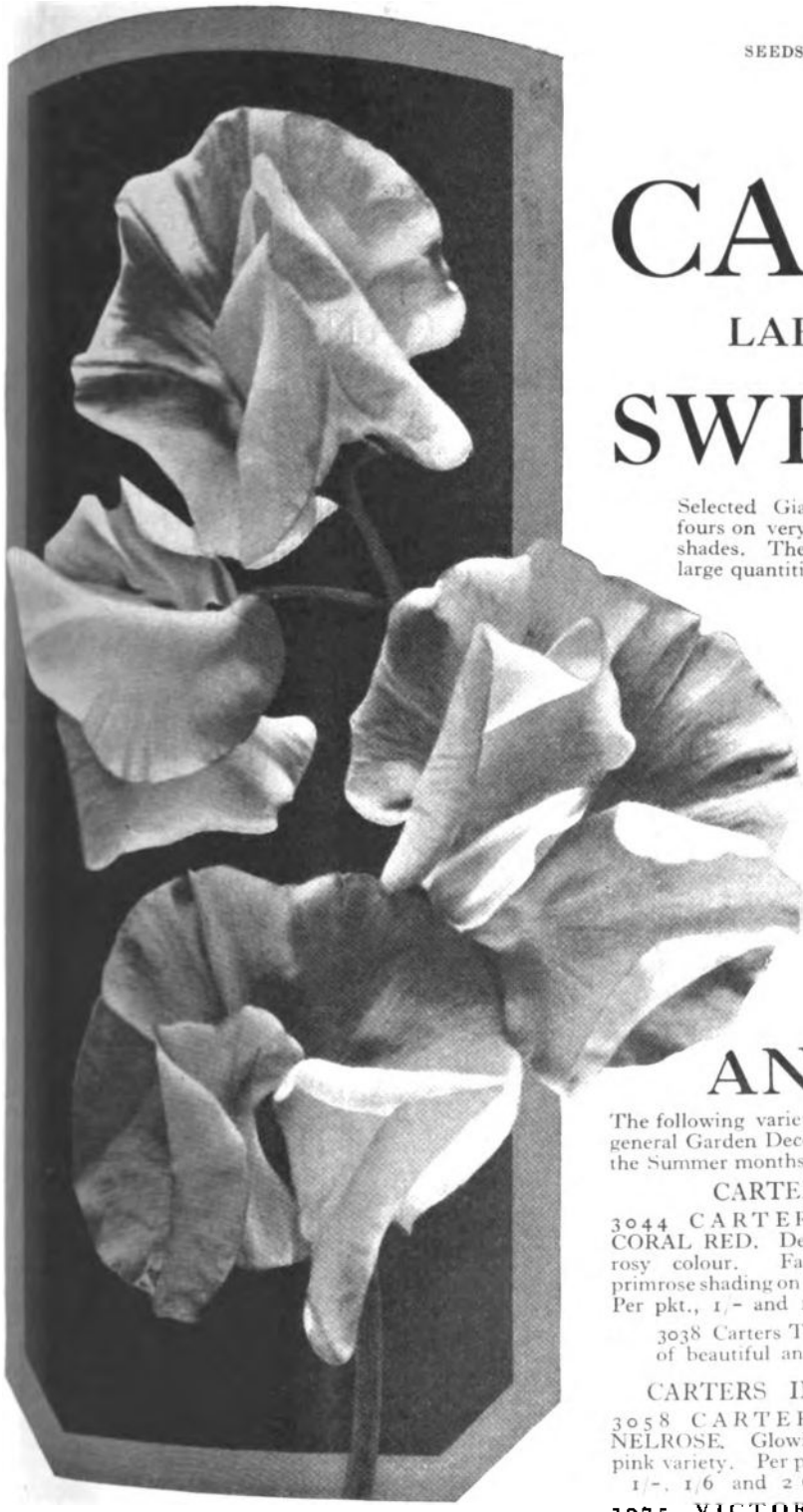
FOREIGN.

Messrs. Carl Beck and Co., Quedlinburg, Germany. A catalogue of vegetable and flower seeds.

The Royal Horticultural Society invites entries for the following trials to be carried out the coming season in the experimental gardens at Wisley, *viz.*, Culinary peas (midseason varieties only), kohl rabi, cabbages for spring sowing, savoys, celeriac, maincrop potatoes, aubrietias and the following annuals: calandrinia, cosmea, everlasting flowers, linum, nemesia, lavatera, nigella, nemophila, portulaca, sweet sultan, viscaria. Seeds, tubers and plants for these trials should be sent so as to reach Wisley by January 31st, 1926. They should be addressed to The Director, R.H.S. Gardens, Wisley, Ripley, Surrey. (Goods *via* Horsley Station, Southern Railway.) Each article entered must be accompanied by an entry form duly filled up. Copies of the entry forms can be obtained from the Director.

New Carnations Registered with the British Carnation Society.—"Kathleen Simpson": Mr. A. J. Pointing, Appleton Nursery, Bulpham, via Romford. Parentage, seedling. Enchantress x Wand. Rich cream shading of apricot. Size 3ins. Fragrance very slight. Habit and stem good; calyx good. "Winnie Pointing": Mr. A. J. Pointing, Appleton Nursery. Parentage, seedling. Wand x Triumph. Deep cerise, 2½ins., mild fragrance. Habit very free and stem good; calyx very good and seldom splits; also very easy to grow, and the cuttings strike freely. "Joan Henderson": Lady Brodie Henderson, Epping House, Hertford. Parentage, seedling. Large, good fragrance. Habit and stem good and strong. The growth is good, and it seems to us that it should be a good doer.

Digitized by Google



SEEDSMEN BY APPOINTMENT

CARTERS

LARGE-FLOWERED

SWEET PEAS

Selected Giant Flowered Types, borne in threes and fours on very long stems. Bright colours and pleasing shades. The plants are of robust habit, and will produce large quantities of beautiful flowers through the summer.

No.		
5741	CARTERS	BLUE
5729	CARTERS	BRONZE
5716	CARTERS	CERISE
5719	CARTERS	CREAM PICOTEE
5739	CARTERS	CRIMSON
5725	CARTERS	DARK BLUE
5738	CARTERS	DEEP CREAM-PINK
5727	CARTERS	LAVENDER
5734	CARTERS	ORANGE-SCARLET
5740	CARTERS	PALE BLUE
5716	CARTERS	PALE CREAM-PINK
5737	CARTERS	PALE PINK
5725	CARTERS	PINK
5722	CARTERS	PRIMROSE
5723	CARTERS	ROSE PINK
5732	CARTERS	ROYAL PURPLE
5714	CARTERS	SALMON-PINK
5726	CARTERS	SCARLET
5721	CARTERS	WHITE
5717	CARTERS	WHITE PICOTEE

The above, per packet, 6d. and 1/- ; per ounce, 4/-

6734 CARTERS SUPERB LARGE-FLOWERED MIXTURE OF ALL ABOVE COLOURS.—Splendid for forming hedges.
Per packet, 1/- and 2/6; ¼ lb., 8/-; 1 lb., 16/-

ANTIRRHINUMS

The following varieties are eminently suitable for Beds, Borders, and general Garden Decoration. Will make a brilliant display throughout the Summer months :—

CARTERS TALL LARGE-FLOWERED

3044 CARTERS CORAL RED. Deep rosy colour. Faint primrose shading on lip. Per pkt., 1/- and 1/6

3042 VENUS. Delicate rose colour on white ground. Per pkt., 1/- and 1/6

3045 CARTERS WHITE. Pure white. Long spikes. Per pkt., 1/- and 1/6

3038 Carters Tall Mammoth-Flowered Mixed. A wide range of beautiful and unusual shades. Per packet, 1/- and 1/6

CARTERS INTERMEDIATE LARGE-FLOWERED.

3058 CARTERS NELROSE. Glowing pink variety. Per pkt. 1/-, 1/6 and 2/6

3061 CARTERS SCARLET FLAME. Brilliant fiery scarlet. Per pkt. 1/- and 1/6

3073 CARTERS CRIMSON GLOW. Real glowing crimson. Per pkt., 1/- and 1/6

3075 VICTORY (NEW). Rich terra-cotta on buff ground. Per pkt. 1/- and 1/6

3070 CARTERS YELLOW. Pure golden. Per pkt., 1/- and 1/6

3063 CARTERS FIERY BELT. Fiery orange scarlet, white throat. Per pkt., 1/- and 1/6

CARTERS LARGE-FLOWERED SWEET PEAS.

QUALITY VEGETABLES & FLOWERS
Write for
CARTERS ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE
POST FREE.

Carters TESTED SEEDS

SEEDSMEN TO H.M. THE KING

RAYNES PARK, LONDON S.W.20

Digitized by Google

SEEDS, AND WHERE THEY CAN BE OBTAINED

WAKELEY'S GARDEN SEEDS

We beg to announce to our thousands of customers that we are now offering

GARDEN SEEDS
OF THE VERY
FINEST VARIETIES AND STRAIN.

Send for our **SPRING CATALOGUE** which contains a choice selection of all seeds and other specialities for the garden.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.,
75a, Bankside, S.E.

Sow Now ! !

Hewitt's Garden Seeds
SOLIHULL AND BIRMINGHAM

Delphinium Seed

SAVED FROM OUR WORLD-FAMED GOLD MEDAL STRAIN

including the celebrated Wrexham Varieties unobtainable elsewhere. Packets, 1/-, 2/6, 5/-, 10/- according to varieties.

Antirrhinum Seed

Newest and best varieties.
Packets - 3d., 6d., 1/-
Collection - 2/6, 5/-
Plants to name and ready in the Spring. . . .

Sweet Pea Seed

Newest and best varieties.
Packets - 3d., 6d., 1/-
Collections, 12 sorts, 2/-

SEND FOR
SEED AND PLANT LISTS
free on application to
Hewitt & Co., Ltd.,
SOLIHULL, WARWICKSHIRE.

GREENHOUSE ANNUALS

WHERE annuals for the greenhouse were not sown during September, a start should be made this month. Seed in most cases is best sown in a house with a temperature of 50° to 55°, using shallow seed boxes, pans or pots. It is very essential that thin sowing be practised, or damping off is almost sure to prove troublesome. They should be pricked off as soon as they are fit to handle. In some cases plants may be put singly into small pots, while others may be put into boxes some 2ins. apart until they are arge enough to pot off singly. Statice Suworowii, acrocliniums, rhodanthes and mignonette are a few examples of plants that are best transferred in a small state

directly into small pots, as at any time they are impatient of root disturbance. The acrocliniums and rhodanthes should be put directly into their flowering pots, putting ten to twelve plants in a 48-sized pot. Any of the popular annuals may be sown from now onwards, remembering always that they must be grown perfectly cool, any attempt at coddling them resulting in weak growth.

Some of the most popular and useful annuals for cool house work include Browallia viscosa, clarkias and godetias, also Collinsia bicolor, Linaria aparinoides, L. maroccana and L. reticulata aureo-purpurea, Nemesia strumosa in many fine varieties, Nicotiana Sanderæ and schizanthus. There are, of course, many more beautiful and interesting annuals that can be used for this purpose.

STREPTOCARPUSES AND GLOXINIAS

IF seed is sown during January, the resulting plants will prove very useful for the greenhouse during late summer and early autumn. When sowing seed the method

UNWIN'S SWEET PEAS

Known and grown all over the World. There are no Sweet Peas of better quality obtainable. You will eventually grow them, why not *this* season?

UNWIN'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI

Our 1925 Awards at six of the leading Shows were: Six Gold Medals and One Silver Cup. We offer the very best and most distinct English, American and Dutch Novelties and standard varieties at "*buyable*" prices.

UNWIN'S GARDEN SEEDS, ETC.

Vegetable and Flower Seeds, Bulbs, Scotch Seed Potatoes, Dahlias, Roses, etc., of the Highest Quality at prices within reach of every pocket.

1926 CATALOGUE POST FREE

Write for a copy *now*, before it slips your memory, from

W. J. UNWIN, F.R.H.S., *Sweet Pea Specialist & Seedsman,* **HISTON, CAMBS.**

Forbes' East Lothian Stocks
The most reliable strain in existence. Sow at once for June to November flowering. Crimson, Purple, Rose, Scarlet, White, Lavender. Crimson and White Wallflower-leaved, each 1/-, 2/6 & 5/- per pkt

Forbes' Giant-Flowered Pentstemon
Choice mixed, saved from our unrivalled Gold Medal Collection, 1/6, 2/6 & 5/- per pkt.

Forbes' Fancy Pansy
Choice mixed, in grand variety of colour, 1/-, 2/6 & 5/- per pkt.

JOHN FORBES (HAWICK), Ltd.,
The King's Nurserymen, HAWICK, SCOTLAND.

Garden Seeds from Scotland

SEND FOR

'My Garden Book, 1926'

Recognised by many as
BRITAIN'S BEST SEED CATALOGUE

A descriptive and illustrated list of all the best Vegetable Seeds, Flower Seeds, and Highland Grown Seed Potatoes.

Post free on request.

SECURE YOUR COPY NOW.

ALEXANDER & BROWN
(Dept. T)
The Scottish Seed House, PERTH

Digitized by Google

WEBBS'

Colour Plate Collection OF SWEET PEAS

Finest named varieties, 8/6 post free.

See Colour Photographs in Webbs' 1926 Catalogue—Free.

Other Collections of 12 named vars., 3/- & 6/-

Thousands of Sweet Pea Growers use WEBBS' SWEET PEA MANURE
Bag of 14-lbs. 4/6; 28-lbs. 8/-; 56-lbs. 15/-

WEBB & SONS, LTD., The King's Seedsmen, STOURBRIDGE.

Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.

ROBERT VEITCH & SON'S Garden Seed Catalogue for 1926

Contains all the Best Vegetables, Choice Flower Seeds, Novelties, and Specialities, Sweet Peas, Lawn Seeds, Seed Potatoes (Scotch), Bulbs, for Spring Planting, Manures, etc., etc.

R. VEITCH & SON are also Specialists in Hardy Trees and Shrubs, Choice and Rare Plants, Camellias, Fruit Trees, etc.

Catalogues Free on Application.

Royal Nurseries and Seed Warehouse, EXETER

Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.

SEEDS

IF YOU WANT Really Good Seeds AT MODERATE PRICES SEND TO

Robert Sydenham Limited
99, Tenby Street, BIRMINGHAM
WE CAN SERVE YOU BETTER

SWEET PEAS A SPECIALITY

THEIR UNIQUE LISTS contain only the Best VEGETABLES, FLOWERS AND BULBS WORTH GROWING

Post free on application

Robert Sydenham Limited

Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.

usually practised for begonias, should be followed, although their ultimate cultivation is somewhat different. The young plants should be grown steadily on in a temperature of about 60° in their younger stages. As they increase in size and the season advances they should gradually be accustomed to cooler and more airy conditions, shutting them up early in the afternoon with plenty of sun heat.

Streptocarpuses raised in this way last year, and kept fairly dry and warm during the winter, should now be shaken out and re-potted in a light, rich compost, watering them carefully until they have made a quantity of fresh roots. Such plants should make fine large specimens for summer flowering. A batch of dry tubers of gloxinias may be

started in a warm house towards the end of the month. They should also prove useful for summer flowering.

EARLY TOMATOES.

JUDGING from experience, cultivators of tomatoes mostly make a resolution to grow the plants and so have ripe fruits earlier each year. Sometimes it is possible to do this and, as early fruits are so highly appreciated, it is well worth while sowing a few seeds early. But this should be done only where there is sufficient heat available from pipes. If it is not possible to keep out frost without "driving" the little heating apparatus, then refrain from an attempt to grow very early tomatoes. The seeds for the latter should be sown early in January; where moderate heat only can be commanded, sow the seeds at the end of February—about the middle of that month if the glass structure is situated in a very warm position. Sow each seed singly, either in tiny holes made with a pointed stick, or about 1in. apart on the surface of the soil and then cover them about a quarter of an inch deep with soil, not sifted too finely. I dare say some readers have had experience of seedlings damping off wholesale in a fine soil. There would be less loss from this cause if the compost was of a more lumpy character, with bits of old mortar rubble mixed in. If small pots are available, I advise the sowing of two seeds in the centre of each one; then the removal of the weakest, if both germinate, and a re-potting in due course without disturbing the roots. The small pots are placed close together. It is important that good old fibrous loam be used and not any from boxes as there is a danger of fungus spreading. The plants should be fruited in 9in. pots, the soil in them being added to from time to time.—G. G.

A FASCINATING HOBBY

You can raise hundreds of GLORIOUS DELPHINIUMS 2/6 and 5/- per packet from THE ACTUAL GROWER who offers seed picked from the CHOICEST VARIETIES.

WM. SYDENHAM
The Gayborder Nurseries
MELBOURNE :: DERBYSHIRE

Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.

SHOW & REGAL PELARGONIUMS
for a brilliant show in April and May.
Strong plants ready now, from 3-inch pots, ready for potting into 5-inch pots. Best results obtained from plants now.
12 varieties 9/-, or newer sorts, 12/-, 15/- and 17/6 post free for cash.
2/6 per doz. extra if required in Leather-board pots. Carriage paid.

DAHLIAS
(pot roots) of CACTUS, DECORATIVE, POMPON, COLLARETTE, STAR, ETC., 6/- per doz. post free. All separate varieties. A mixed dozen same price.
Orders over 5/- post free C. W. O.
Catalogue free on application.

J. W. COLE & SON, Westwood Nurseries, Peterborough

Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.

SOW NOW to Bloom in July and August

Blackmore & Langdon's

World Renowned BEGONIA SEEDS (32 Gold Medals)

DOUBLE.
None can equal this for quality, size, and lovely form and colours of flowers, .. Per packet. 2/6 & 5/-

FIMBRIATA PLENA.
Double frilled, very pretty .. .. 2/6 & 5/-

SINGLE.
Of wonderful size and form .. 1/-, 2/6 & 5/-

FRILLED SINGLE
A beautiful selection .. .. 1/-, 2/6 & 5/-

CRESTED SINGLE
Very fascinating .. .. .. 1/-, 2/6 & 5/-

CRISPA MARGINATA
Delightful novelty, frilled single picotee .. 2/6

HANGING BASKET
A grand novelty, very graceful 1/6, 2/6 & 5/-

GLOXINIA
Seed, mixed in most beautiful selection of colour .. .. 1/6, 2/6 & 5/-

For Prices of Tubers of above and other Specialities, including Delphiniums, Polyanthus, Pansies, etc., write for Free Catalogue and mention this Paper.

BATH

Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.

ECKFORD'S GIANT FRILLED SWEET PEAS FOR 1926

GORGEOUS FLOWERS. MAGNIFICENT STEMS
For a wealth of cut flowers.
For garden decoration. For exhibition.

ECKFORD'S ARE THE WORLD'S BEST

Special Offer.—25 specially chosen 1/- packets of Eckford's Giant Frilled Sweet Peas for 1926, each separate and named, for 20/-
The same 25 half-packets, each separate and named, for 10/-

The above are a gorgeous range of colour
WRITE FOR CATALOGUE (FREE) of all the best Sweet Peas for 1926. Also pedigree vegetables and choicest flower seeds

HENRY ECKFORD, Headquarters for Sweet Peas, Dept. 61 Wem, Shropshire

Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.

Digitized by Google

I BELIEVE that the man who smokes a pipe filled with a good tobacco gains a more tolerant, a calmer and happier outlook on life
—*R.F.E.*

There is one tobacco which has given unfailing satisfaction. It is still the same to day—

They call it

PLAYER'S

NAVY CUT

For Cigarette Smokers
PLAYER'S NAVY CUT CIGARETTES

P.1261. Registered No. 154011.

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION 1912

WAKELEY'S *Celebrated* (PATENTED) **HOP MANURE**

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DO YOU REALISE IT?
A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE, without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.
A beautiful Free Booklet giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. GENUINE ONLY IN OUR MARKED BAGS, CONTAINING GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.
Cash Prices, including bags: Small (about 1 bushel), 3/-; Large (about 4 bushels), 7/-; 5 Large, 33/9
10 Large, 65/-; 20 Large, 120/-
Carriage Paid to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company, 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.
WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

AFTER 23 YEARS

AN ELOQUENT PROOF OF UNFAILING AND USEFUL SERVICE.

"A better Greenhouse Boiler could not be than the 'Horse Shoe.' I have had it in use for 23 years, and it has answered splendidly," writes Mr. F. G. L.....47, Mt. Carmel, Derby. 23/11/1925.

"HORSE SHOE" BOILERS

CAN BE SUPPLIED FROM IMMEDIATE STOCK.

Write for particulars now.

To CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD.,
Engineers, Southwark Street, S.E.1.
Please send me Booklet E "Making the Most of Your Greenhouse," and price of complete Outfit to suit *(span-roof) (lean-to) greenhouse.....long .....wide inside, sides of *(wood) (brick).....thick.

Name.....

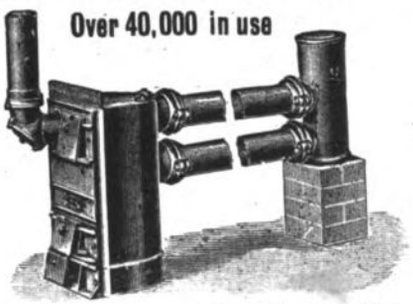
Address.....

*Strike out particulars not needed. Cut out and send by id. post.

CHAS. P. KINNELL & Co., Ltd., 65, Southwark St., LONDON, S.E.1
Wire: "Kinnell-Boroh-London." Phone: Hop 362 (three lines.)

THE LOUGHBOROUGH BOILER

Over 40,000 in use



The high reputation of this Boiler for efficiency and economy is still unrivalled

Easy to fix, easy to manage, and most economical in fuel, it is the ideal Boiler for the Amateur's Greenhouse

Price Lists and Estimates for complete apparatus on application

MESSENGER & CO., LTD. LOUGHBOROUGH LEICESTERSHIRE
LONDON OFFICE: 122, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

By Appointment

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.
RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.,
Royal Potteries.
BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

A Rigorous Task-Master

A REGULAR advertiser is an asset to the public, for constant advertising is a rigorous task-master. It insists on honesty, fair dealing, super-quality, minimum selling charges compatible with fair selling profit, and . . . Truth. For these reasons you may know the regular advertiser to be a good advertiser, and

one worthy of your custom.

GREENHOUSES AND GARDEN FRAMES

I specialize in the Erection of High class Horticultural Buildings.

Garden Frames a speciality. Selected timber, well seasoned, only used.

Being a grower, I understand Glasshouse requirements.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.
CATALOGUES WITH PLEASURE

E. M. HEAP, Cottimore Nurseries, WALTON-ON-THAMES.

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

FEB 15 1926 LIBRARY

Vol. XC.—No. 2828 Saturday, January 30th, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

BARR'S VEGETABLE SEEDS

OF FINEST SELECTED STRAINS
:: AND TESTED GROWTH ::

Awarded by The Royal Horticultural Society, London:
SEVEN GOLD MEDALS, SEVEN SILVER-GILT MEDALS,
and many First Class Certificates, Awards of Merit, etc.
AND
THREE GOLD MEDALS NATIONAL VEGETABLE SOCIETY

Descriptive Catalogue of the Best Vegetables and most Beautiful Flowers, Best quality Garden Requisites, Tools, Manures, and List of useful Horticultural Books. Sent free on application.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES

CLASS 1.

Selected Stocks of the Leading Varieties.
Send for List.

ISAAC POAD & SONS, Ltd.,
Seed Potato Growers - - - YORK.

NO MORE BROKEN GLASS

IF YOU USE

WINDOLITE

which supersedes glass for all garden uses.

LIGHT. FLEXIBLE. UNBREAKABLE.

Easy to cut and fix.

Send 4/6 for sample over 30ins. square, post free. Write for leaflets.

WINDOLITE (DEPT. C) 179/185, GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1

. . THE . .

"SOUTHWELL" COLLECTION

BUSH ROSE TREES. ALL BRITISH GROWN.
FIRST CLASS VARIETIES FOR GARDEN EFFECT.

Avoca, crimson scarlet
Caroline Testout, satiny rose
Conrad F. Meyer, silvery rose
Dorothy Page Roberts, salmon pink
Francis Gaunt, fawny yellow
Frau Karl Druschki, white
General McArthur, velvety carmine
Gorgeous, deep orange yellow
Hadley, deep velvety crimson
Henrietta, coral salmon
La Tosca, blush pink
Lieut. Chaure, velvety crimson
Lyon, salmon pink
Mrs. H. R. Darlington, creamy yellow
Mrs. John Laing, clear pink
Red Letter Day, scarlet crimson
Richmond, red scarlet
W. E. Wallace, deep golden yellow

This collection of 18 varieties for **18/9**, or 12 selected from the above for **12/6**
Acme Labels (if required) .. .. **2/6** per dozen.
Carriage and packing free for Cash with Order.

BUY HOME GROWN TREES.

Catalogue of Rose Trees, Fruit Trees, Shrubs, etc., free on application to—

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, Ltd., THE NURSERIES, SOUTHWELL, NOTTS.

KING'S ACRE *Select and Reliable* GARDEN SEEDS

Unsurpassed for Quality and Germination.
The finest and Best Stocks obtainable, and famous throughout the United Kingdom.

THE FINEST STRAINS EXTANT OF CRANSTON'S EXCELSIOR AND AILSA CRAIG ONIONS

New Seed Catalogue just issued and Free on request.

90 GOLD MEDALS AWARDED TO OUR HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITS.

King's Acre Nurseries, Ltd. *Seed Merchants* HEREFORD
ESTABLISHED 1785. LATE CRANSTONS.

PLANTING SEASON

GEO. JACKMAN & SON

WOKING NURSERIES, SURREY.

Established over a century.

Invite inspection of their large and varied stock of ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBS, ROSES, CLIMBERS, FRUIT AND FOREST TREES, HERBACEOUS AND ALPINE PLANTS.

200 Acres of Stock to select from. Catalogues free on application

ADVICE GIVEN ON ALL MATTERS APPERTAINING TO LANDSCAPE GARDENING & ESTATE IMPROVEMENTS

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S HARDY PLANT FARMS ENFIELD, MIDDX. — New Alpines and Perennials. Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS. NURSERIES BEDFORD — Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR. HARDY PLANT NURSERY MERSTHAM, SURREY — Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON TWERTON HILL NURSERY BATH — Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS 408, KING'S ROAD CHELSEA, S.W. — Special Novelty List on Application.

R. H. BATH, LTD. THE FLORAL FARMS WISBECH — Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

BROWN'S TESTED SEEDS. Illustrated Flower and Vegetable Seed Catalogue, giving full cultural directions, at competitive prices, post free if this paper is mentioned. D. T. BROWN & CO., *Seedsmen*, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

Fruit Trees Rose Trees

ALL ENGLISH GROWN.

Descriptive Catalogue post free on demand.

INSPECTION INVITED.

S. SPOONER & SONS

Estd. 1829 The Nurseries, Hounslow, MIDDLESEX

TUBS FOR SHRUBS. WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 100 prizes. R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. — Price List from A. PRADAL, 28, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

By Order of the Great Western Railway Company.

EVESHAM, WORCESTERSHIRE

Important Clearance Sale of 80,000 **HERBACEOUS PLANTS** at **MR. H. B. POLLARD'S NURSERY, WORCESTER ROAD, EVESHAM**, the Company having acquired the land for enlarging the Goods Station, including Delphiniums, Pæonies, Pyrethrums, named Iris, Lupins, Phlox, etc., Carnations, Michaelmas Daisies, Black Currant Bushes, Apples and Plums, Pampas Grass and other Stock.

MESSRS. PROTHEROE & MORRIS

(in conjunction with Messrs. Tyler & Co.) are instructed to sell by auction, on the premises as above, on WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3rd and 4th, at 12 o'clock each day. Mr. H. B. Pollard will transfer his business to new premises in the course of a few months.

ON VIEW. Catalogues on the premises; The Estate Department of the G. W. Rly., 164, Westbourne Terrace, Paddington; Messrs. Tyler & Co., Auctioneers, 45, Holborn Viaduct, E.C.1.; and of PROTHEROE & MORRIS, 67 & 68, CHEAPSIDE, London, E.C.2.

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD. NURSERIES CRAWLEY — Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG THE NURSERIES CHISLEHURST, KENT — Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD. BARROW-ON-HUMBER HULL — Weed Destroyers Fertilisers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

FRUIT TREES.

SPECIAL OFFER of the following in strong, well-grown Fruiting Bushes:—

12 Gooseberries Whinham's Industry.
12 Black Currants Seabrook's (Mite Resisting).
12 Red Currants Raby Castle.

for 20/- Carriage Paid for Cash with Order, or half the above numbers for 10/-.

CLIMBING ROSES.

A great opportunity to have your own selection from the following:

Albéric Barbier	Lady Gay
American Pillar	Lady Godiva
Aviateur Bleriot	Minehaha
Coronation	René André
Dorothy Perkins	White Dorothy
Excelsa	
Hiawatha	

Six extra strong, well-grown Trees selected from the above for 10/-, carriage paid to your nearest station, for cash with order.

Descriptive Catalogue of Fruit Trees, Roses, Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, etc.

THE FOREST & ORCHARD NURSERIES, LTD.,
MILBURY HEATH, FALFIELD, GLOS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

For better lawns!

XL ALL Lawn Sand not only eradicates the weeds from your lawn, but enriches the grass as well. Try it this year. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen and florists.

XL ALL LAWN SAND

G. H. RICHARDS, LTD.

234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1

Rp. 88.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

CUPRESSUS MACROCARPA

the ideal hedging plant, succeeds everywhere, forms a thick impenetrable hedge, always pleasing to the eye. We offer strong, bushy plants, from open ground.

24–30ins.,	16/- doz.	£5 15 per 100.
30–36ins.,	22/- ,,	£7 15 ,,
36–42ins.,	27/6 ,,	£9 15 ,,
42–48ins.,	32/6 ,,	£11 15 ,,

Not less than 6 at doz. rate, or 50 at 100 rate. Carriage and packing free on orders of £2 and over. C.W.O.

T. SMITH & SONS, Highcroft Nurseries, ARUNDEL

BARGAIN CATALOGUE

Land Sold for Building

Real Cambridgeshire grown Fruit Trees, Fruit Bushes, Roses, Shrubs, Avenue Trees, Privet, Plants.

Exceptionally strong and healthy.

FRANK RICE (F.R.H.S.), Arbury Nurseries, Cambridge

Michaelmas Daisies

For all the **latest** and **most** beautiful varieties, see the Raiser's List.

ERNEST BALLARD, Colwall, MALVERN

SHOW & REGAL PELARGONIUMS

for a brilliant show in April and May.

Strong plants ready now, from 3-inch pots, ready for potting into 5-inch pots. Best results obtained from plants now.

12 varieties 9/-, or newer sorts, **12/-**, **15/-** and **17/6** post free for cash.

2/6 per doz. extra if required in Leather-board pots. Carriage paid.

DAHLIAS

(pot roots) of CACTUS, DECORATIVE, POMPON, COLLARETTE, STAR, ETC., **6/-** per doz. post free. All separate varieties. A mixed dozen same price.

Orders over 5/- post free C. W. O.

Catalogue free on application.

J. W. COLE & SON, Westwood Nurseries, Peterborough

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

GARDEN MANURES

(Thousands of Tons Sold Annually)

OF EVERY POSSIBLE KIND AT

LEAST COST CARRIAGE PAID

INSTRUCTIVE CATALOGUE FREE

JAMES & GEO. H. MATTHEWS

Harold Wood, ESSEX. *Phone: Romford 284*

Downer's Usually Silent Lupins

are making a great *noise* in the world. Rich, harmonious colours, mixed, 12/- doz. clumps. Lupin List, Herbaceous and Alpine Catalogue free. A necessary warning.—Some firms are selling Lupin Downer's Delight grown from seed. The same remark applies to Lupin Downer's Pink Pearls. It is needless to say these plants are not true.

DOWNER, 2, Drayton Manor Nurseries, Chichester.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

WATERER'S GOLD MEDAL RHODODENDRONS, Azaleas, Shrubs, Conifers, Climbers Heaths, Hardy Perennial and Alpine Plants, Vegetable and Flower Seeds, Scotch Seed Potatoes, Spring Bulbs, English-grown Fruit Trees and Roses. Separate catalogue for each department post free.—JOHN WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LIMITED, Twyford, Berks.

WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE.—The original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See advt. on back page.

WM. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., Lawrence Road, South Tottenham, N.15.—Conservatories, Winter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

BIRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUNDIALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—HOOPER, 80, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

FENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Garden Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE STURRY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, Surrey.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Pot Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list, post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

ROCK PLANTS AND SHRUBS.—Over 300 varieties in stock. Descriptive catalogue free. Also Herbaceous Plants and Roses.—HODSONS, LTD., 58, Castlegate, Nottingham.

YORK STONE PAVINGS, crazy or rectangular, rustic copings, steps, roughly squared or random shaped, flat bedded wallstones, garden edging, rockery, etc.—SAMUEL JOHNSON AND SON (MIRFIELD), LTD., Newgate Stone Works, Mirfield, Yorkshire.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 2/6 per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card today for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

IPSWICH RARE SEEDS.—New Catalogue—really an encyclopædia on gardening—describes 3,000 varieties of flower seeds, also all the best strains of vegetable seeds. Free on application to THOMPSON AND MORGAN, London Road, Ipswich.

Price 2/6 each, by L. E. FOX.

ADAM'S GARDEN : Cultivation of Vegetables and Small Fruit, with Preface by E. J. CHITTENDEN, F.L.S., V.M.H.

EVE'S GARDEN : Cultivation of Flowers, with Preface by JOHN FRASER, F.L.S., V.M.H. *The Gardeners' Chronicle* says of *Adam's Garden* : "Most valuable information is given in a condensed form."—LONGMANS, GREEN AND CO., LTD., 39, Paternoster Row, London, E.C.4

RHODODENDRONS.—For sale, Ponticums, 1ft. 25/- per 100; 1½ft., 30/- per 100; 2½ft., 40/- per 100. Good bushy plants. Carriage paid on orders of £2 10s. or over. Special quotation for larger quantities.—THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT, Rufford Pulmonary Hospital, Rufford, near Ormskirk, Lancashire.

GARDEN NETS. — Protect your Seeds and Buds from frost and birds. Netting, strong, small mesh, specially prepared, will not rot, as supplied by us to the Royal Gardens, 25 sq. yds. for 2/6. Any length or width supplied, price in proportion. Carr. paid. Cheaper kinds kept. List and samples free.—GARSON & SONS, Net Works, Rye. Est. 127 years.

IMPROVE YOUR GARDEN by the use of solid Oak Trellis Screens; they are ideal for growing creepers of all kinds and for securing privacy, at the same time adding an artistic feature that will last a lifetime (being pickled in preservative). No trouble to erect (being made in sections). Send for lists and get an estimate from W. T. REVITT, Railway Works, Olney.

BARR'S SEED GUIDE FOR 1926.—The best flower and vegetable seeds of finest selected strains and tested growth, including many fine novelties for the Flower Garden and Greenhouse; also a select list of Garden Requisites, Insecticides, Manures and Horticultural Books. Post free.

BARR'S BEAUTIFUL LILIES, GLADIOLI, CANNAS, DAHLIAS, MONTBRETIAS, TIGRIDIAS, TUBEROSES, etc., for February to April planting. Catalogue free.—BARR & SONS, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are now famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx, and perpetual habit. Illustrated plant list now ready. New Seed, now ready, hand fertilised, 2/6 and 5/- packets.—J. DOUGLAS, Great Bookham, Surrey.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial: District Flowers	61
The Fifty Best Rock Plants	62
Gardening in Sinks and Pig Troughs	63
Hardy Annuals	65
Plants to Raise from Seed	66
Notes of the Week	68–69
The Daisy Bush as a Tub Plant; The Pigmy Cherry; Gypsophila acutifolia; The Prostrate Rosemary; Œnothera marginata; Ramondias and Haberleas; Daphne Mezereum	
On the Arbutus—with Some Digressions	70
Plums and Cherries	71
Correspondence	72–73
Pieris in Scotland; Freesias; A Good Evergreen Shrub; Tree and Shrub Planting and its Associations; The Taller Campanulas; Convolvulus mauritanicus; An Appeal.	
Plants to Avoid	73
Garden Technique	74–75
The Sprouting of Seed Potatoes; A Trench Garden; Celeriac; Potato Tubers: Their Early Planting; The Blue Perennial Flax; Wallflowers and Hard Weather; Smilax; Pinching Sweet Peas; The Rose House.	
Book Review: Ornamental Trees for Amateurs	76

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL DELPHINIUMS and ROSES. Send a postcard for our catalogue.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI, Chrysanthemums, Dahlias, and Border Carnations.—Our stock includes many new and meritorious varieties. List post free on application.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

CLARENCE ELLIOTT'S SEED LIST is just out. Seeds of rare alpines, herbaceous plants and popular annual flowers. "A list worth watching."—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LTD., Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

SUTTON'S SEEDS.

Sow now in frames.

CARROT SUTTON'S CHAMPION SCARLET HORN. A remarkably fine variety. Flesh deep red, and delicate in flavour.

Per packet, 1/-: ounce, 1/6.

SUTTON & SONS, THE KING'S SEEDSMEN, READING.

DOBBIE'S 1926 CATALOGUE AND GUIDE, 144 pages, 225 illustrations, free to all readers. Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.—DOBBIE AND CO., LTD., Edinburgh.

BATH'S SELECT SEEDS AND PLANTS.—New Illustrated Catalogue of choice Vegetable and Flower Seeds and Plants is now ready, and will be sent, post free, on application.—(Dept. E), R. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO READERS OF "THE GARDEN."—Owing to the great demand for FIDLER'S 1926 GARDEN GUIDE AND CATALOGUE, a limited number of copies have been provisionally reserved for readers of this paper. Please SEND IN YOUR APPLICATION AT ONCE and mark your envelope or postcard "GARDEN" in top left-hand corner.—FIDLER & SONS (established 1856), Reading.

HARDY PLANTS, ROSES AND FRUIT TREES. Revised catalogue now ready. Free on application to THOMPSON AND MORGAN, Ipswich.

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES.—Per stone: Duke of York, 2/3; Witchhill, 2/6; Express, 2/2; Epicure 1/10; Eclipse, 2/-; Abundance, 2/2; Great Scot, 2/3; Majestic, 2/4; King Edward, 1/10; Kerr's Pink, 1/10; Bishop, 2/3, etc. Shallots Red, 8d. lb. Amateur's Guide of Vegetable and Flower Seeds, free.—TILLIE WHYTE & CO., 12, Melbourne Place, Edinburgh.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS FOR GREENHOUSE AND GARDEN. Also Dahlias, Fuchsias, Show and Zonal Pelargoniums and Coleus. Price List free on application.—J. W. COLE AND SON, Westwood Nurseries, Peterborough.

FOR SALE.—To clear the ground, a large quantity of shrubs: Cedars, Hollies, Rhododendrons, large and small.—Apply Box 6, THE GARDEN, 8-11, Southampton Street, London, W.C.2.

ORCHIDS.—In addition to our own large stock, we have purchased a fine private Collection containing many useful Orchids suitable for Amateurs. Cool and Intermediate. Catalogue on application.—MANSELL AND HATCHER, LTD., Rawdon, Yorkshire.

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES direct from the growers. Our New Descriptive List now ready, post free.—GUTHRIE BROS., Springfield, Fife, N.B.

"THAT WILD GARDEN!" Stock it now with hardy natives—Primrose, Foxglove, Ferns, Iris, Orchis, etc. 7/6 per 100 roots. List free.—NATIVE PLANT NURSERIES, Rockbeare, Exeter.

ALPINE, ROCK, HERBACEOUS PLANTS, Rock Garden Shrubs and Conifers. Catalogue free.—SHEPPARD, Shawhurst Nursery, Hollywood, Birmingham.

SHRUBS are becoming more and more the fashion in gardening. "Shrubs for Amateurs," Mr. W. J. Bean's new book, is the best on the subject at a reasonable price. 5/- net. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 6/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND S Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

BLOM for BULBS

Apply for new Spring Catalogue to—

Messrs. J. C. WHITNEY & Co.,
Eldon Street House, Eldon Street,
London, E.C. - - - or to—

WALTER BLOM & SON
(Late of Overveen),
Hillegom, Holland.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

CLAY'S LONDON FERTILIZER TRADE MARK

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardener's best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then, together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices :—

Tins 10d. and 1/6

and in **Branded and Sealed Bags :**

7 lbs.	3/6	14 lbs.	6/-
28 lbs.	10/-	56 lbs.	18/-
112 lbs.	32/-		

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark.

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers, etc. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**

Bentley's Specialities

Weed Destroyers
(Liquid 1 to 80; Powder 1 to 25.)

Daisy Killer
(Lawn Sand.)

Earthworm Destroyers
(Liquid and Powder.)

Fertilizers
For Lawns, Fruits, Flowers and Vegetables.

Insecticides
For all kinds of pests and filth.

Fungicides
For fungoid growths, indoors and outdoors.

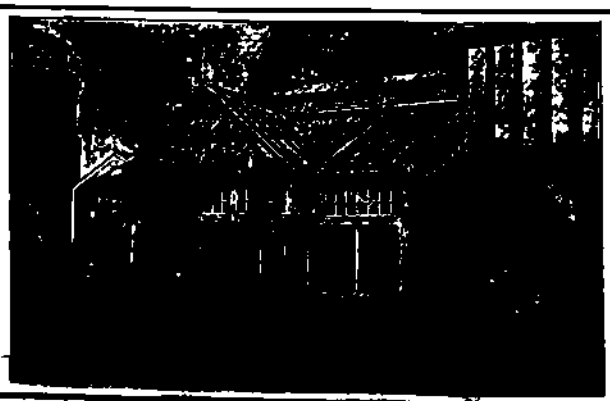
Fumigants
For use under glass and in the soil.

GARDEN and SPORTS' NETS, BLINDS, SHADINGS, etc.

Complete illustrated catalogue — Free on application —

Manufacturers :—
JOSEPH BENTLEY, Limited
Chemical Works, Barrow-on-Humber, LINCS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*



FOSTER & PEARSON LIMITED
Established 1841

Please write for Estimates for durable Greenhouses, Boilers, etc., to

BEESTON NOTTS

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

Austins

Scotch Seed Potatoes.

Our stocks are grown and selected specially for seed purposes, and under normal conditions of soil and situation cannot fail to produce first-class crops. All are Class 1, Scotch.

	14lb.	28lb.	56lb.	112lb.
FIRST EARLY.				
Arran Rose	3/-	5/6	10/-	18/-
Immune Ashleaf	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Duke of York	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Sharpe's Express	2/3	4/3	7/6	13/-
Witch Hill Early ..	3/-	5/6	10/-	18/-
SECOND EARLY.				
Ally	2/3	4/3	7/6	13/-
Arran Comrade	2/3	4/3	7/6	13/-
British Queen	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Great Scot	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Carlova	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
MAIN CROP.				
Abundance	2/4	4/6	8/-	14/-
Arran Chief	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
King Edward	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Kerr's Pink	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Majestic	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Field Marshal	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-

We offer many other varieties, including Arran Consul, Ben Lomond, Golden Marvel, White Arran Victory, etc., full particulars of which are given in our Catalogue, which may be had post free on request.

Packing Free. Carriage forward by goods train. If to be sent by passenger train the additional cost would be: 14lb., 1/6; 28lb., 2/9; 56lb., 5/-; 112lb., 10/-.

Our catalogue, giving full list of varieties, will be sent on application.

AUSTIN'S GOLD MEDAL GARDEN SEEDS. Descriptive Catalogue of all varieties of outstanding merit free on request. Write for copy.

Orders have prompt attention.

AUSTIN & McASLAN

The Premier Scottish Seedsmen since 1717,

Mitchell Street, GLASGOW.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE LEADING GLASSHOUSE FUMIGANT.

CORRY & CO., SHAD THAMES, LONDON, S.E.1

HILLIER'S
FRUITING TREES

Special Offer of Specimen Trees at Reduced Prices to clear ground.

STANDARD CHERRIES, 6ft. stems and extra large heads, with plenty of fine roots .. **10/6** each
Early Rivers, May Duke, Kentish Pie, etc.

EXTRA LARGE BUSH CHERRIES .. **10/6** each
May Duke, Morello, Kentish Pie.

STANDARD FAN-TRAINED PEARS in several varieties .. .. **42/-** each

ESPALIER PEARS on Pear stock, four and five tiers, perfect trees .. .. **10/6** and **12/6** each
Beurre Diel, Louis Bonne of Jersey, Pitmaston Duchess, Catillac.

EXTRA LARGE BUSH APPLES, on broad-leaf Paradise stocks.
Crimson Bramley, 5-5½ft. **3/6** and **10/6** each
Encore, 6-7ft. .. .. **10/6** and **12/6** each
Newton Wonder, 5-5½ft. .. **3/6** and **10/6** each

PYRAMID PEARS on Quince stock in variety .. .. .. **3/6** and **10/6** each

STANDARD AND HALF STANDARD MEDLARS, PEARS AND GOLDEN BULLACE .. .. **3/6** and **10/6** each

BUSH PLUMS. List of sorts on application .. .. **3/6** and **10/6** each

Full particulars of all the above on application.

Carriage paid on all fruit tree orders value £5 and over up to 100 miles. Packing at cost.

HILLIER & SONS West Hill Nurseries Winchester

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Seedlings Thrive and Don't Die

off after being transplanted owing to root disturbance or breakage, if brought up in Patent

MILLIONS SOLD **T. P. SEED RAISERS** NO SLUGS

because no disturbance can take place.

FOR ANNUALS, as Godetias, Clarkias, Larkspur, etc., *USE* **BABY T.P. SEED RAISERS** (measuring 1¼in. across by 2in. deep). Sow 2 or 3 seeds per Raiser, pull out to strongest. It will develop strong root growth till planting-out time comes, when Raiser (by that time rotted) will peel off, allowing seedling to be put in soil without knowing it has been touched.

FOR SWEET PEAS *USE* **T.P. PEA RAISERS** (size 1¾in. across by 4½in. deep). Sow 1 seed per Raiser. You will be delighted with good root action and quick development after planting out.

You get stronger plants, guaranteed to grow well with less labour.

T.P. Raisers take up much less room and retain moisture thus requiring less watering, are easy to handle in bulk and do not break, and ensure good plants, thus saving seed wastage.

PRICES in U.K., cash with order, carriage paid—

Baby "T.P. Seed Raisers, one strong seedling tray with 54 "**Baby**" Raisers complete. 1 for 2/6; 2 for 4/9; 3 for 6/9; 6 for 13/-; 12 for 24/6. **Refills** ("**Baby**" size), 108 for 2/7; 216 for 4/10; 324 for 7/3; 540 for 11/3.

T.P. Pea Raisers, one wooden box having hinged side with 48 Raisers complete. 1 for 4/3; 2 for 8/-; 3 for 11/6; 6 for 22/6. **Refills,** Pea size, 100 for 3/-; 200 for 5/9; 300 for 8/3; 500 for 13/6

Order NOW from your Seedsman. If he does not stock, send direct to Sole Makers

T.P. SEED BOX Co., 209, Monument Road, BIRMINGHAM.

Side of Baby Raiser removed showing root action of Larkspur

SENT FREE ON REQUEST

Hints on Fruit Tree Culture

For Amateur and Professional.

Interesting Notes on Soils, Situations and Fertilizers, Popular Fruits for all Purposes

and other useful information will be found in

OUR FRUIT TREE CATALOGUE

— which will be sent Post Free. —

Sit down now while the matter is fresh in your mind and write for your copy.

Established 1765. **Awarded 90 Gold Medals.**

KING'S ACRE NURSERIES, LIMITED, HEREFORD

Gold Medallists of all leading Horticultural Societies

AUTUMN and WINTER BEAUTY

In the Garden.

WHEN the first Autumn frost has killed the Summer flowers and the last rose is just existing, many people imagine that the garden must be a dull uninteresting place until Spring awakens the early Daffodils.

There are, however, many trees and shrubs which will provide beautiful pictures throughout Autumn and Winter when rightly placed.

What is more beautiful than the setting sun lighting up the berries of the Cotoneasters, Thorns, and other berried shrubs; or the crimson stems of the Scarlet Dogwood, yellow and crimson barked Willows.

We have prepared a short supplement to our general catalogue, giving a list of the best trees and shrubs for Winter beauty, with fuller descriptions and cultural notes. A copy on application. We devote the same care and thought to the cultivation of our immense stocks of FRUIT TREES, ROSES, ALPINES, HARDY PERENNIALS as we do to the SHRUBS.

THE BARNHAM NURSERIES, LTD., BARNHAM, SUSSEX.

Digitized by Google

BY APPOINTMENT.

FERTILIZERS FOR THE GARDEN

A SMALL OUTLAY ON CHEMICAL FERTILIZERS WILL ENABLE YOU TO INCREASE YOUR PRODUCTION OF

VEGETABLES FRUIT AND FLOWERS

Illustrated Catalogue containing Particulars of Fertilizers for all Garden Crops with full instructions for use from

Joseph Fison & Co., Ltd. Ipswich.

KNAP HILL NURSERY

WOKING, SURREY

(late ANTHONY WATERER)

PROPRIETOR - **HOSEA WATERER**

has pleasure in offering

STANDARD TREES

in great variety, consisting of

LIMES, NORWAY MAPLES, ELMS, etc., etc.

EVERGREEN & DECIDUOUS SHRUBS, viz.:

Box—Green and Variegated, 3 to 8 ft.
Hollies—Common, 5 to 8 ft.; Variegated and Green varieties, 2 to 6 ft.
Thuiopsis borealis, 10 to 12 ft. Cupressus Lawsoniana, 12 to 14 ft. Cedrus atlantica glauca, very fine, 10 to 14 ft. Osmanthus, Phillyroeas, Spiræas, Lilacs, Viburnums, etc.

GOLDEN YEWS

A Magnificent Stock in all shapes and sizes from 2 to 10 ft.

PRIVET, Common and Oval-leaved.

QUICK and **HORNBEAM** for Hedges.

AZALEAS, 2 to 5 ft.

RHODODENDRONS, without doubt the finest stock in the trade of named varieties, 2 to 6 and 8 ft.

HARDY HEATHS in great variety and a good general nursery stock.

Catalogues ready.

Enquiries and inspection invited.

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING STATION, SURREY

GUIDE to the Choice of MANURES

POST FREE.

Practical experience (and Scientific experiment) have clearly shown that one Manure gives better results than another on a particular soil.

SOILS and CROPS vary, and Manures must be chosen to suit these conditions.

OUR GUIDE will help you to decide which is the best Manure for your soil and crop, quantities to use, times to apply, etc., etc.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd., The Royal Nurseries, Established 1796. Maidstone.

GRAPE VINES and FIGS

ALSO

SPECIMEN FRUIT TREES

WRITE FOR OFFERS.

STUART LOW & CO., Bush Hill Park ENFIELD

ROSE NITIDA

One of the most charming of dwarf Roses for the Rock Garden, or for edging of Rose and Shrub beds and borders.

Own root plants **10/6** dozen; **75/-** 100.

This, with other dwarf Roses and full collection of Rose Species will be found in List of Newry Roses free on application.

T. SMITH
Daisy Hill Nursery - NEWRY

Royal Gardeners' Orphan Fund

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the subscribers to this Fund will be held at "Simpson's," 100, Strand, London, W.C., on Wednesday, February 10th, 1926, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Committee and Statement of Accounts for the past year: to elect Officers for the ensuing year; to elect children to the benefits of the Fund; and to transact such other business as may arise. The chair will be taken at 3 p.m. By order, A. C. BARTLETT, Secretary.

SNAPDRAGONS—*for gorgeous massing*

SIMPSON'S SUPER-SEED

13 *Awards of Merit* and 10 *Highly Commended*, 1920
5 *Awards of Merit*, 1922, *in pots at R.H.S. Wisley Trials*

Send for free illustrated Seed List G, offering seeds of 42 varieties of Snapdragons at 6d. 1/- and 2/6 per packet, with full range of Vegetable and Flower seeds of established merit.

TALL.—Esme, light pink; **Monarch** crimson; **Rose King,** deep rose; **The King,** orange scarlet, white tube; **Yellow King,** yellow.

MEDIUM.—Aftergiow, orange scarlet; **Appleby Matthews,** orange terra-cotta, white tube; **Aurora,** fiery terra-cotta; **Charm,** rose pink; **Empress,** crimson; **Estelle,** apricot salmon, suffused pink; **Fascination,** light pink; **Golden Gem,** yellow; **Lady Roberts,** primrose; **Mrs. R. F. Felton,** bright orange-scarlet; **Roseum Superbum,** soft rose pink; **Sybil Eckford,** apricot pink and cream, white tube; **The Fawn,** peach pink, white tube; **Victory,** salmon terra-cotta; **White Queen,** white. A further three varieties can be supplied in Spring-sown Plants.

AUTUMN SOWN. **STRONG PLANTS FROM BOXES.** Delivery about Mid-April from cold frames. **2/3** per doz. (if less than 12 of one variety at **3/-** per doz., not less than 6 of any one variety named), 25 or more of any one variety at **15/-** per 100. Carriage extra, see below.

SPRING SOWN. **STRONG PLANTS FROM BOXES.** Delivery early in May hardened off. **1/6** per doz. (if less than 12 of one variety at **2/-** per doz., not less than 6 of any one variety named), 25 or more of one variety at **10/6** per 100.

Special rates for cash with order (which must be added). **Carriage, box and packing, 24 plants 1/-,** more than 24, **1/6.** When cash does not accompany order, box, packing and rail charges are charged at cost.

W. H. SIMPSON & SONS, *Super-Seed Specialists,* BIRMINGHAM

Wise gardeners order NOW because stocks are not unlimited.

Toogood's Seeds

Garden Wisdom Free!

In this beautifully illustrated catalogue no flower or vegetable grower can fail to find something interesting and profitable. Do not delay, write for your copy to-day.

TOOGOOD & SONS, Ltd.
The King's Seedsmen,
SOUTHAMPTON.

The Best that Grow

Digitized by Google

VOL. XC.—No. 2828. JANUARY 30, 1926

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.; Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2. *Offices for Advertisements:* 6-11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

DISTRICT FLOWERS

WE are inclined to grumble at the climate of these islands, but the more I see of them the more certain I am that no country in the world can produce conditions so admirably suited for gardening. And such variation, too. There are gardens where the winds blow and the cold is arctic; there are gardens where sub-tropical vegetation rampages as it does on the Mediterranean. I visited last autumn a garden where not only do olives grow out of doors, but flower and fruit, and where the lady of the house makes marmalade from her own oranges ripened outside in her own garden. In this garden gums and acacias grow better than on the Mediterranean. In the middle of November, when I saw them, a few acacias were bursting into blossom and every bush and tree of many varieties was covered with buds.

I had always heard of Porloch as a tropical oasis planted in our isle, but I had taken everything I had heard with a grain of salt. Now that I have seen it I know that what I had heard was only part of the truth. Passiflorus, Lonicera Hildebrandtii, Buddleia Madagascarensis, the tree tomato and dozens of other sub-tropical plants flourish magnificently out of doors.

But I must not rhapsodise too much on the conditions at Porloch.

What gardeners, perhaps, do not sufficiently realise about the British Isles is the variation of climate and temperature in various neighbourhoods. A degree or two may make or mar the perfection, not only of one, but of dozens of plants. Every neighbourhood, whatever its climate may be, will be pre-eminently suited for the cultivation of certain plants, and yet one does not often see an intelligent appreciation of this fact. It is far from my intention to belittle the standard flowers that have made our gardens famous throughout the world, the roses, irises, sweet peas, stocks, hollyhocks, and all the hundred and one gems that make the backbone of our horticulture. There is, however, in every neighbourhood, some genus which is suited, above all others, to the particular climatic conditions prevalent there, something that should be most extensively planted and would set the seal on that part of the country. In a few cases this has already been done. Take Cornwall as an example. What is at once thought of when Cornish gardens are mentioned? Rhododendrons—and then more rhododendrons. There is no county in the British Isles, and probably no country in the world, whose climate suits them so thoroughly.

Last autumn I made a short tour through Devon and Somerset, that area where the landscape is cut with deep sheltered wooded coombes, where the sea air tempers the cold, and where the valleys are frequently sheltered from the fiercest gales. I am more than envious of a climate that allows the successful cultivation of such an amazing range of plants. I am also struck by the fact that many people do not make use of the climate that lies at their door. Perhaps they do not realise the potentialities of gardening under such conditions. When hundreds and thousands of gardeners envy one one's climate, it is unfair not to make use of it. I do not mean that every new sub-tropical plant should be tested, for that is running to the other extreme, but there are a number of plants, both new and old, that are eminently suited to the normal Devonshire conditions which might be more grown.

Two of these are already much in evidence in cottage gardens—and there is no surer sign of the value of a plant than its existence in gardens where every foot of space is valuable. One is the creeper Solanum jasminoides, which I noticed flowing in cataracts of blossom down many a cottage wall. The other is the fuchsia. If any plant should be called Devonshire's pride it is that. Here is no Will-o'-the-Wisp that has suddenly appeared and in our first enthusiasm has taken a place in our affections which it does not deserve. Rather it is an old favourite that has fallen into an undeserved decline. There has been a certain amount of correspondence lately in THE GARDEN on the fuchsia and I can fully bear out the praises of its admirers. For colour and liveliness, there are few shrubs to touch it, whether you choose tall-growing species, brilliant large-flowered hybrids or the tiniest, like F. procumbens. I prophesy a great rebirth for this genus's popularity. It is not a difficult prophecy, for I am betting on a certainty.

Although it is especially suited to Devonshire and its surroundings, yet a number of them are hardy enough to prove a joy elsewhere. The trouble is that most of them have disappeared from trade, although I would guess that every variety that was ever known was to be found in some little garden or other in Devonshire. Luckily I found a fuchsia enthusiast and am going to try a number of them in Scotland from cuttings. If they do not thrive outside, they are an ornament to any cool greenhouse. In one cottage garden I saw three bushes of fuchsia, each laden with pendent blossoms. Each was of a different variety and each possessed a subtle, elusive quality of its own. Two I did not recognise, but the third was undoubtedly that fine old favourite, Venus Victrix.

Whatever the kind, the fuchsia is undoubtedly the plant for Devonshire. It can be grown in hedges, in clumps or as specimen plants. Why is it not more grown? It should be seen in masses in every garden, large or small. It is so obviously Devonshire's flower.

Two other shrubs I noticed that are worthy of extensive planting in those parts, the manuka or leptospermum and

Digitized by Google

various myrtles. There are few berried shrubs to beat Myrtus Ugni when it is laden with its deep crimson berries, that taste like a strawberry and make, so I am told, excellent jelly. This last I only saw in one of the most sheltered of gardens and, as I have had no experience of it, I cannot vouch for its hardiness, but those who know Dartmouth College, may remember the four fine myrtles in front and a more windswept spot it is hard to imagine.

I have taken Devonshire as an example, but in every neighbourhood local gardeners who have experience of local conditions, *must* know of a plant or plants that are superlatively successful in their neighbourhood. People are often too much inclined to follow the general fashion, whether the fashion suits them or not, and ignore the particular successes of their district if these do not happen to be in the public eye at the moment. E. H. M. C.

THE FIFTY BEST ROCK PLANTS

BY DR. R. LLOYD PRAEGER.

THIS Fifty Best So-and-so stunt is tolerable chiefly on account of the controversies which it inevitably provokes; these controversies drag out a number of individual opinions and thus discount the dogmatic limitation which the title suggests. But a discussion as to the fifty best of any class of plants is to a large extent futile; there are a dozen or more "fifty bests," according to the different climates, soils and so on which are to be found within even such a small area as the British Isles—not to mention the very important factor of individual preference. This last factor can be, and often is, eliminated by taking a plebiscite; but the obstacles of climate and soil persist. And even in so limited a subject as rock plants, the choice still remains indefinite, for the aims and ideals of different rock gardeners vary much: one man, A, aiming at square-yard patches of glowing colour, while another, B, finds his heaven among small, difficult primulas and androsaces. While A dazzles you with a rampant waterfall of "Dr. Mules" or Guildford Seedling, B reverently uncovers to your gaze a scrap of Eritrichium nanum that is not yet quite dead. No list of fifty best plants would ever satisfy both A and B; and, even though most rock gardeners are of an intermediate cast of mind, the choice remains difficult, since the factors of freedom of growth, beauty (which includes several qualities, from showiness to daintiness), interest and rarity have different relative values to different minds. It will be better, perhaps, to consider separately the aspirations of A and of B.

Take the case of A first. Owing to natural inclination, or to want of time, or to a soil or aspect unsuitable for difficult things, or to a superfluity of cats, or to a situation demanding a bold display, his needs are plants of free growth—good showy things that will give little trouble and plenty of bloom—the kind of rock garden, in fact, that is founded on the Three A's (in capital letters)—alyssum, arabis and aubrietia. Without going to the length of explicitly specifying fifty plants, it is easy to indicate the sources from which his "fifty best" should be derived. But in making (or in criticising) this and the following lists it is necessary to clear our minds of gardening cant, and especially not to think less of a plant because it is common, or more because it is rare or difficult: its intrinsic merit as a decorative plant is all that concerns us:

Arabis albida and var. flore pleno.
Alyssum saxatile and var. citrinum.
Aubrietia according to choice.
Armeria—preferably plantaginea and maritima Laucheana.
Achillea, such as moschata and umbellata.
Arenaria montana and balearica.
Androsace lanuginosa and sarmentosa.
Acæna, dwarf ones, especially Novæ-Zealandiæ.
Anemone nemorosa var. Robinsoniana.
Campanula, such as garganica, garganica hirsuta, Portenschlagiana, pusilla, rotundifolia vars.
Coronilla cappadocica.
Dianthus, such as cæsius, petræus, plumarius, suavis and varieties.
Dryas octopetala.
Erodium Manescavii, trichomanæfolium macradenum, etc.
Geum montanum.
Globularia cordifolia.
Horminum pyrenaicum.
Hypericum reptans, olympicum, etc.

THE CHEDDAR PINK, A NATIVE, AND ONE OF THE BEST OF ALL ROCK PLANTS.

Digitized by Google

OXALIS ENNEAPHYLLA ROSEA MUST BE INCLUDED.

ANEMONE NEMOROSA VAR. ROBINSONIANA.

Oxalis rosea.
Phlox subulata in variety.
Saxifraga—red, pink and white mossies; silvers like Cotyledon and Aizoon; the most vigorous kabschias, namely, apiculata, apiculata alba, sancta; umbrosa var. primuloides, Andrewsii and a megasea or two.
Sedums—a selection, such as Ewersii, populifolium, sexangulare, purpureum, spurium splendens, roseum, Ellacombianum, kamtschaticum, stoloniferum.
Sempervivum in variety (*e.g.*, arachnoideum, hirtum, ciliosum, calcareum).
Thymus Serpyllum vars. coccineum and album.
Veronica prostrata, filiformis, and a few of the dwarfer New Zealand shrubby species.

Of course, anyone can pick holes in this list, but it will serve as a basis, all the same, and the rock gardener who wants a free-and-easy collection which will give little trouble and will make a good show will not go far wrong in following it—using his own judgment, of course, in view of his particular requirements and limitations. It will provide him with a fair variety as regards colour, form and size, and of sun and shade loving plants, which have no special requirements as to soil.

(*To be continued.*)

GARDENING IN SINKS AND PIG TROUGHS

BY CLARENCE ELLIOTT.

IT might be imagined if one had not tried it, that growing alpine plants in pig troughs was an incongruity almost as hideous as the casting of pearls before swine, and that no worse place could be chosen for the making of a rock garden than a scullery sink. Not so.

I have been gardening in stone troughs—pig, sink and otherwise—for many years, ten or twelve at least, and the more I do it the more possibilities do I see for fresh and enchanting developments. True, I have only tried rock gardening in my sinks, but it occurs to me that one might have great fun experimenting with other classes of plants. For instance, you might have a bulb garden, a massed medley of scillas, crocus species, miniature narcissi (triandrus, cyclamineus, minimus and the rest), muscaris, chionodoxas, fritillarias, etc.—a whole meadow of spring blossom. But what of the summer? you ask. For summer show you could grow any one or any dozen of a wide range of annuals. You could grow portulacas to perfection or those marvellous jewel flowers the leptosiphons. Or, most interesting experiment of all, you might sow a carefully chosen mixture of dwarfish annuals, and, by sowing thickly and thinning out to exactly the right degree, not removing a plant too many, you could induce them so to crowd and dwarf one another that they would produce the effect, in miniature, of a flowery meadow of brilliant colour such as one imagines growing wild in California. In this way one might try the annual linums, papavers, leptosiphons, nigellas, gilias, Virginia stocks, China asters and so on. With a few packets of annual seeds and just the right degree of crowding, you could contrive wonderful effects.

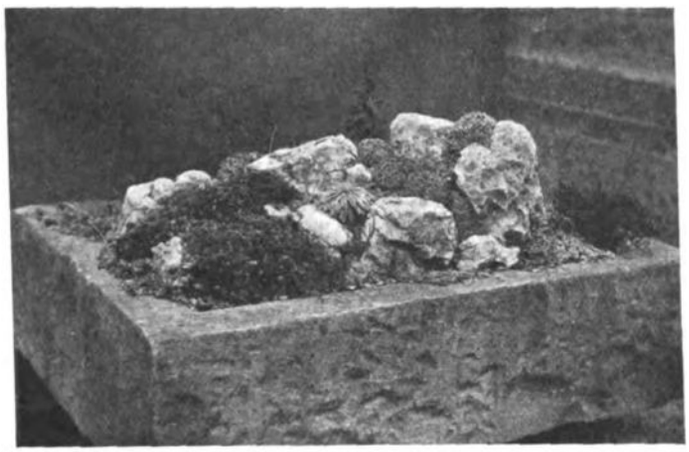
Another idea! A new and delightful way of growing succulent plants. With a few rough rocks, simply arranged, what a fine picture you might make with a collection of eight or nine different kinds of echeverias and cotyledons. The great drawback to the cultivation of these plants hitherto has been that they have seldom, if ever, been allowed to assume a natural permanent air of their own. But your sink succulent garden will be a permanent affair, for, being portable, you can stand it out in the open air from May till October, and then, when frosts threaten, you can have it carried bodily into winter shelter—a cold greenhouse or a cold frame. Some of the dwarfer forms will hug close to the rocks and spread down over the edge of the sink. The old Echeveria secunda will be splendid for this purpose, and how much happier it will look, than it has ever been allowed to look in the past, drilled and dragooned into carpet bedding by a bygone race of gardeners, who seemed to have missed their vocation and ought to have been sergeant-majors.

The sink rock garden of alpine plants does not entail any periodical shifting. Once you have chosen the right place for it, there it may remain, winter and summer, for your alpine plants need no protection of any kind.

And now, having written round and about these new developments of sink gardening, I had better go right back, and starting, so to speak, at the "first catch your hare" part

Digitized by Google

of the subject, tell how to set about the business of rock gardening in stone troughs. First, then, you must find your sink, pig trough or what not, and here the one important thing is that it must be of stone. The shape does not so much matter, nor its size. Once you start, you will soon find yourself collecting troughs of every size and shape, and all are delightful. The best place to hunt for stone sinks is in builders' yards. Old stone pig troughs may often be picked up around farms and cottages. Stone pig troughs are of all shapes, sizes and weights, and the best of them are delightfully rugged. Glazed earthenware sinks are not good. They are ugly, and they lack the porosity which makes stone so congenial to the roots



A WELL ESTABLISHED SINK GARDEN.

of the plants. Concrete troughs should be avoided like the plague. They are an expensive and ugly substitute for stone, and the more you attempt to make concrete look like stone the uglier and more insincere the fake becomes.

In almost every case you will find the need of having your sink raised off the ground. Sometimes a good resting-place is to be found on the coping of a low terrace wall. But failing any such ready-made position, the simplest thing is to make for each sink a couple of rough stout piers of stone or old bricks about 9ins. to 12ins. square and 18ins. to 2ft. high, and stand it on these.

Needless to say, an outlet hole must be provided in the bottom of each trough for drainage. Pig troughs do not, naturally, possess them. Sinks, on the other hand, have their own outlet holes through which they were wont to evacuate slops in the days before they were promoted to the garden. One important matter, though, I must mention in connection with drainage. Having placed your sink in position, make sure that it is at such a tilt that it will completely empty itself of water. Pour water in while it is empty, and if all is not as it should be, it is easy to pack up the low end to exactly the right level.

Apart from this, drainage is a simple matter. A big crock or two arranged over the outlet hole and an inch or so of smaller crocks spread over the bottom of the sink and over these again a layer of rough turf fibre. It only remains now to put in your soil. Arrange your rocks and choose and place your plants. For soil make a gritty, fibrous mixture. Good live loam, silver sand, leaf-mould, a suspicion of peat and plenty of broken stone chips or smashed-up flower-pots. These last are excellent. They are so sharp and porous. Use them from the size of split peas down to such dust as occurs in breaking. Broken charcoal is another luxury you may add—not essential, but good. It keeps the mixture open and sweet. Now for the rocks. And here I really am up against a difficulty in trying to tell you how to build your rock garden. It is as difficult as telling how to paint a picture. The stones must not look as though they had just seen a ghost. They should sit down in the soil like a contented cat. Aim at a little rocky outcrop, higher at one end than the other and more precipitous at the high end than the other. Build your rocks together, aiming to make them look like *one rock* which has been split into seven or eight pieces by a series of irregular cracks. This rock outcrop will now be sitting on a floor of soil, its base an inch or two below the edges of the sink. Now fill up the sink to the brim with soil, and pour and pack soil into the cracks between the rocks. This filling up of cracks and hiding of the bases of the rocks pulls the whole composition together and does more than anything else to make the arrangement appear one coherent whole. And now you are ready for planting. Almost certainly you will want a tree or two, but they must be chosen with care and placed with tact. The best tree of all is undoubtedly the tiny Juniperus hibernica compressa, dainty, compact, bolt upright, blue green, full of character. The first unthinking temptation is to plant this juniper on the summit of the hill. But that is not the best place. Find, rather, a comfortable spot for it somewhere about two-thirds down the slope of your hill. Another splendid tree is that dwarf variety of the Scots pine called Pinus sylvestris beuvronensis. It is rare and a little difficult to come by, but a small specimen should be secured if possible and planted so as to lean out sideways from some cliff on your outcrop. It is difficult to place it thus without making it look stiff, but a season's growth will correct this, and soon the leaves and branches will grow to their position and look natural.

Other good conifers are some of the dwarf retinosporas, especially RR. obtosa nana and pygmæa, also R. pisifera nana. Another to try is that rare and romantic tree which Farrer sent home from his last expedition, the coffin juniper. This in nature is a gigantic forest tree, but it is a slow grower and of graceful weeping habit, and small specimens might safely be used. Then there is that quaint dwarf form of ivy, Hedera conglomerata prostrata. It grows in an odd huddled way and is good for a carefully chosen corner at the foot of a rock.

FLOWERS IN THE SINK GARDEN.

I will name some of those which I have found best, and tell of their wants and the positions which suit them best. Let us consider first the level ground between the base of the rock and the edge of the sink, and I will assume that in some places the rocks come to within an inch or even less of the sink side, while elsewhere you have left irregular spaces anything from 6ins. to 18ins. across. Your best plan will be to plant the opener, level spaces with carpeting, mat-forming plants, to make a sort of grassless alpine flower lawn, and in the narrower crevices between rock and sink some close growers, with here and there a trailer to hang and partially clothe the sink side.

For lawn effect I recommend Gentiana verna, Thymus Serpyllum minus, a minute creeping thyme; Claytonia australasica, with a turf of fresh green leaves like grass a quarter of an inch high and almost stemless white flowers. Erigeron leiomerus gives the effect of a lilac daisy an inch or so high; Bellium minutum (Little Mary), which is a white daisy less than an inch high; Primula minima, a fine turf-maker, with big, rosy flowers, erect and almost stemless; P. farinosa, rather taller, with heads of lilac-pink flowers; and P. scotica, a dwarfer edition of it and darker in colour; Androsace carnea, pink; Viola Bertoloni, lavender blue; and Polygala calcarea, mat-forming and brilliant blue; also Anemone vernalis. Among these turf plants you may put some of the smallest of the bulbs—crocus species, such as C. Sieberi, C. reticulatus, etc.; Iris Histrio, I. histrioides and I. Danfordiæ, very early and brilliant yellow; Narcissus Bulbocodium, N. cyclamineus, N. minimus and N. triandrus. Also the lovely Oriental alliums, A. cyaneum, A. Farreri and A. Purdomi, which carry their heads of lavender-blue flowers like fairy agapanthus on 4in. to 6in. stems. All these and many others—to taste—to form a flowered lawn on the lowest levels. As plants to trail down the sides of the sink, I suggest the following: Saxifraga apiculata, S. a. alba, primrose yellow and pure white respectively; and S. Haagii, golden yellow, and all flowering in earliest spring; Dryas octopetala, with its lovely flowers like white anemones; Androsace lanuginosa, silky leaved, trailing and with heads of lilac flowers in late summer; Polygonum vaccinifolium, again for late summer and autumn, with slender rosy flower-spikes and crimson autumn leaves. Achillea Lewisii will make a mat to bulge out over the sink side, and this good plant will go on producing its pretty sulphur-yellow flowers from early till late summer, and often after that. Arenaria purpurascens will trail forward if pushed from behind by a rock, and it covers its mossy cushion with charming lilac star flowers. If you want a mat of violet, try Calamintha alpina. The old Cheddar pink, Dianthus cæsius, will give you a mat of blue-grey with rose pink fragrant blossoms. Hypericum reptans is first-rate, spilling from the

Digitized by Google

sink in a thin stream of fresh green, with big stemless flowers nearly an inch across, citron yellow and stained behind with a reddish flush. An extremely choice and lovely plant and, alas! expensive, is Linum salsaloides prostratum. It forms a dense low mat of heath-like foliage, and then, in summer, entirely hides this with a smother of big flax flowers of white satin delicately veined with palest watery lilac.

On the north side of your mountain, in the cool, you may have a primula or two, especially P. pubescens Mrs. Wilson, a small neat auricula, very free flowering and cool strong lilac in colour; also P. Ruby, with intense ruby red flowers, and the old nivalis of gardens with snow white flower-heads and cowslip scented.

That must do for my list of plants for the ground floor. Now for a few to grow on the mountainsides, wedged in narrow crevices. Here we want small, compact-growing species to form tufts among the cliffs. A family that first comes to mind is saxifraga, and of these the kabschia section is especially good. S. Burseriana with its white flowers, huge and pure, on smooth red stems in earliest spring is lovely. Of all the yellow kabschias, S. Faldonside is still the best with its citron yellow blossoms, perfectly rounded; S. Irvingii, tiny, neat, thrifty, with hard cushions of close blue-grey foliage and countless little shell pink flowers; and S. Myra, larger flowered, but compact and dwarf, and rich cherry red. One more I must have, S. tombeanensis, later than the others and pure dead white in flower. These are the cream of a whole crowd of lovely species. Saxifraga oppositifolia you must have, with its shilling-big heather-purple flowers, stemless and brilliant in March. There are several varieties, and splendens is the best of them. Then S. Aizoon baldensis, the smallest of all the Aizoons, which Farrer and I discovered on the ridge of Monte Baldo. This is appropriate to the smallness of the sink garden, with its minute rosettes of encrusted silver and its white flowers on stems a couple of inches high. Last of the saxifrages, S. cochlearis minor, richly silvered in leaf, but with purest white flowers in sprays on red stems.

Here on the rocks are perfect homes for some of the androsaces, the grey felt pincushions of A. helvetica or the silky tufts of A. arachnoidea. Of campanulas I would choose C. Zoysii, for here it may hope to elude the wily slug, which thinks nothing of a four-mile tramp to enjoy a good tuck in at it. C. Zoysii flowers late in summer with pale lavender bells, all puckered together at the mouth like the smocking of a kalmia blossom.

Of pinks you have a choice of two or three, Dianthus neglectus, 3ins. high, with rose-pink flowers, buff yellow at the backs of the petals; or the minute D. musale, rare and dainty. Myosotis rupicola is a doll's house forget-me-not of dazzling azure an inch high. Wahlenbergia serpyllifolia is like a mat-forming campanula, which in May produces a crowd of big upturned bells of Tyrian purple. This has done uncommonly well in my sinks, and so, too, has its sister, W. pumilio, with starry flowers of lilac. I have named but a few of the plants one may grow in sink rock gardens, but, apart from telling of these favourites, I hope I have succeeded in suggesting the types of plants which are best and the best way of placing them.

HARDY ANNUALS

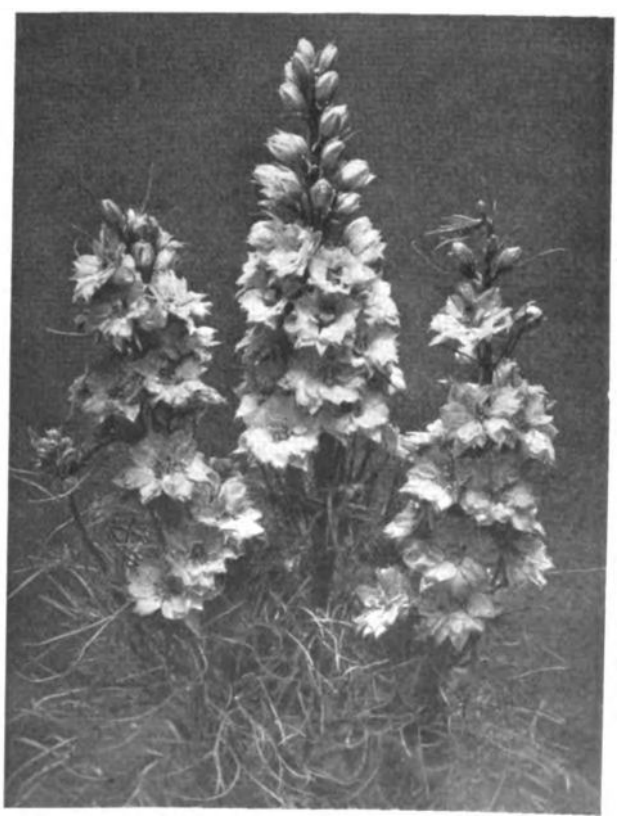
SOME NOVELTIES AND SPECIALITIES OF PARTICULAR MERIT.

THANKS to the arrival of seed catalogues, enthusiastic horticulturists have much to keep their minds busy even though the soil may for a brief period be quite unworkable, and as usual the novelty pages of the principal catalogues are brimful of good things, some of which, at any rate, should enter to considerable extent into our garden schemes for 1926.

There is reason to believe that the old-fashioned Scotch marigold (Calendula officinalis) in its up-to-date forms and varieties will figure very prominently in the coming season's floral pageant. We may thank an American horticulturist for concentrating attention upon the decorative capabilities of this flower, for it is largely due to the lead he gave us and to the introduction of the American variety, "Ball's" calendula, to florists' shops that we were led to realise the true value of the intense tangerine orange and beautifully regular double-flowered marigold we had so long neglected. An improved re-selection of Orange King and another fine novelty named Monarch, both of British production, are being distributed through the seed merchants by two of the leading seed growers, and both varieties are flowers of the richest colour imaginable, while their form is real perfection. One good point about calendulas is that they will grow in harsh soil, and even on sun-baked banks and terrace beds.

In candytufts the latest selections of both white spiral and white hyacinth flowered rank among the very best of white-flowered bedding plants. Many coloured candytufts are in cultivation, but few, if indeed any, can surpass the latest developments of Rose Cardinal, a variety of particularly bright colour which several firms have carefully re-selected until their stocks are remarkable for uniformity and brilliance.

Eschscholtzias are plants of the widest possible utility; their hardiness is something more than capability of germination in the open ground, for they will rough it in newly made gardens, in poor, stony soil, dry banks and open, windswept gardens. Several really distinct novelties in eschscholtzias are entitled to a cordial welcome, their habit being neater and more compact than that of older types, while they provide us with many new breaks in colour, some intensely brilliant, some soft and daintily bewitching, but all glittering with the sheen which is a distinctive characteristic of the genus. Robert Gardiner is the name of one newcomer which produces fine double flowers with fluted petals, the colour being a lovely, bright orange. Enchantress is another double, the outside



A MODERN STRAIN OF ANNUAL LARKSPUR.

of the petals being of a soft and pleasing rosy carmine, the inner part of the flower being of a paler, more delicate tone. A re-selected stock of erecta compacta Mikado which is being distributed among the trade this year is a decided advance upon the ordinary strains of Mikado to which we have been accustomed, and it may be remarked that in very many of

Digitized by Google

our most popular annuals the work of re-selection and refinement of standard varieties really gives us advantages equal to new varieties without the undesirable multiplication of names.

The new giant-flowered frilled dianthus which received the R.H.S. award of merit last year is a remarkably fine strain, producing broad, prettily crimped and fringed blossoms in bright rich colours and on long, stiff, wiry stems which facilitate artistic decoration in the house while holding the blossoms well above the soil and foliage to produce a fine effect in the garden.

Larkspurs are improving at a speed almost parallel to that of their cousins, the perennial delphiniums, and it is certainly to the credit of the annuals that the lovely pink of Exquisite and the still brighter shade of Rosy Scarlet give us clear, decisive colours which are yet a long way off in the perennial tribe. Violet Queen is a novelty of real interest, for it fixes a shade of soft restful colour which has hitherto been elusive in the extreme. It is the easiest thing possible to get variations in purples and the varied degrees of mauve, but few things are more difficult than fixing a particular shade, so prone are the colours to recede into dull plum or flat magenta purples. Larkspur Violet Queen will have a host of admirers. The new race of azalea-flowered godetias were quite recently eulogised in these columns, and it should be the endeavour of all who delight in gay, striking colour mixtures to secure seed and sow a pinch under cover as early as possible; while for a sheet of solid rich-toned crimson, Gloriosa, which received the R.H.S. award of merit, is the very thing. The plant grows compact and bushy to a height not exceeding a foot, and for many weeks in summer foliage is obliterated from view.

In clarkias, poppies, cornflowers and scabious there seems to be a general opinion among the producers that re-selection and refining the stocks of the best of recent years is of greater importance than setting up new names, and in that the trade will receive the general approval of the buyers.

In poppyland the Ryburgh double Shirleys and the re-selections of them by a number of good firms add glory and enchantment to the garden, and it is interesting to note that great progress is being made in fixing certain individual colours even in so fickle a flower as the Shirley poppy so that seeds can be offered with satisfactory prospect of securing quite a good proportion of seedlings true to a particular colour.

More of outstanding merit awaits attention in novelties among half-hardy annuals, but they must form the subject of a further article. A. J. MACSELF.

PLANTS TO RAISE FROM SEED

IN THIS ARTICLE IS GIVEN A LIST OF A FEW NOTABLE PERENNIALS WHICH SHOULD BE SOWN DURING THE NEXT FEW WEEKS TO ENSURE A FINE DISPLAY THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER MONTHS.

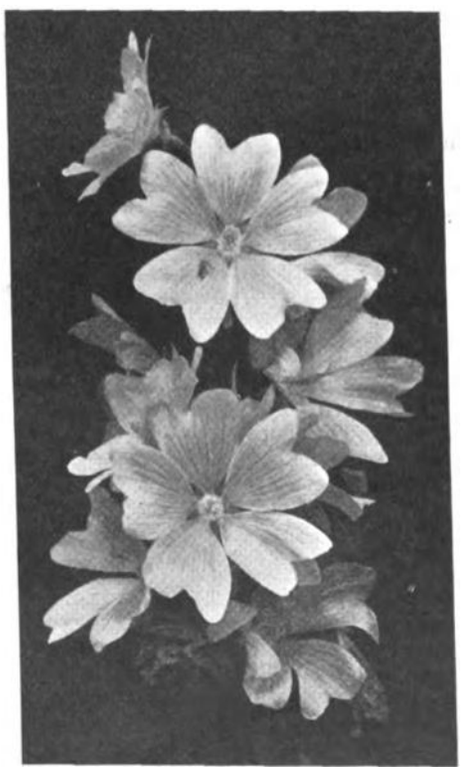
IT is the present-day gardener's good fortune to be able to secure through the trade lists seeds of many fine perennial plants which were at one time difficult to acquire through any but a private source. This, perhaps, applies to perennials even more than it does to annuals, and in alluding here to the former I could hardly do better than take at random from seed lists before me a few names by way of indicating the wide variety of these subjects, other than alpines, which are now procurable from the trade catalogues in the form of seed.

How often, I wonder, has seed ever been offered of that beautiful Madeiran geranium, G. anemonæfolium? Yet here it is at sixpence per packet, thus placing within reach of everyone a superb species which is easily raised by outdoor sowing, quite hardy enough for most places and which, throughout the summer, will produce masses of large, clear pink, ruby-eyed flowers above the great, hemlock-like foliage.

Then there are the aquilegias, which include not only the better known kinds of the border but such choice species as AA. alpina, Reuteri, canadensis, glandulosa, flabellata and the lovely cœrulea. There is no difficulty whatsoever with any of these, and whether one is stocking a rock garden or has wide woodland spaces to fill, a batch of sturdy seedlings is a very gratifying possession.

Ranunculus graminifolius catches my eye, and I can visualise a goodly patch of this elegant species near the water, its silvery, grassy leaves making a most attractive setting for the big, glistening golden flowers. There is seed of others also offered in quite cheap packets: the noble R. creticus, for example, and R. amplexicaulis, so pale and cool in blue-green and white.

Few things are more easily produced from seed than the beautiful Sparaxis pulcherrima, and there is nothing which responds more heartily to this treatment. Put out in their permanent positions while quite young, seedlings of this eminently graceful plant always seem



THE HANDSOME LAVATERA OLBIA.

to be more successful than older specimens, and the seed of most of the choice varieties can be relied upon to come fairly true. The shaggy-headed Aster Farreri, until recently a novelty, is now procurable in a seed packet, as are such other species as sub-cœruleus, diplostephioides and yunnanensis. Where once you could rarely secure seed of any of the more uncommon flaxes, such excellent species as Linum monogynum, L. alpina and the yellow-flowered kinds are now listed. L. monogynum is a robust perennial which should always be raised from seed sown where the plants are to grow. In waving masses its elegant, emerald green, leafy stems, crowned all summer with large milk white blooms, can be most delightful.

Papaver pilosum is a perennial which deserves to enjoy a much wider popularity, with its branching stems and showers of splendid flowers of a fulvous orange, and rising to a height of 2ft. This is just the thing for massing on dry slopes or in open woodland, and a nimble ninepence invested in seed will yield any number of plants. Then, there is that irresistible dainty, P. alpina, and lovely nudicaule, whose names I may risk mentioning without being drawn into the thronging world of alpines. The perennial poppyworts also claim notice, and among the best which come readily from seed with me are Chelidonium (Dichranostigma) Franchetianum, glaucous of leaf and very charming in its prettily crimped big yellow blossoms; Stylophorum diphyllum, a 2ft. woodlander of even greater distinction; the milk white Sanguinaria canadensis, and the best perennial meconopsis. Regarding these latter, I must add that we are now able to get seed not only of such beautiful species as MM. latifolia and simplicifolia, but the rare, costly and exquisite M. quintuplinervia is already available in seed packets.

Lavatera Olbia, a few years ago not easy to get true even as a plant, can to-day be obtained per the seed packet, and a nobler subject of its character never graced our borders and woodlands. In pentstemon species (including Chelone) seed is procurable of a dozen distinct and handsome kinds, and few plants can be more readily raised by such means. No less can be said of the alliums, of which we are now able to acquire, *via* the

Digitized by Google

SANGUINARIA CANADENSIS.

seedsman, such notable kinds as the towering A. Rosenbachianum in rosy lilac, the glorious A. narcissiflorum and

THE SHAGGY-HEADED ASTER FARRERI.

little A. cyaneum, so chaste and demure with its nodding heads of blue. But this allusion to the onion race reminds me that I am steering perilously near the shoals of innumerable bulbous things. So to the safer country of the campanulas, of which will be found in any good seed list a range of well tried favourites and novelties not a few, from the 3in. C. Bellardi Miranda to the latest thing in C. macrantha standing at 5ft.

Digitalis ambigua is a very delightful woodland perennial which comes true from seed, and an informal group of this, with Borago laxifolia trailing about with its delicate azure bells, together make a most telling yet refined combination. Gaura Lindheimeri, a tall and graceful relation of the evening primroses, is offered in the seed catalogues and might be more often seen, and the same remark applies to the old acanthus-like Morina longifolia, and to Francoa ramosa, which latter I have found hardy enough to laugh at twenty degrees of frost. The thalictrums, from the rare yellow and lilac T. Chelidonii of 6ins. to T. dipterocarpum of as many feet, can also be included in one's seed order. With the lupin-like Thermopsis montana and others brought up from seed I have had pleasant associations, nor can one omit to mention the Caucasian scabious (always best when introduced from the packet), of which there are now so many lovely forms in infinite shades of deepest blue, approaching violet, to the most delicate lavender and white.

Then, by way of pointing out the extent of one's choice in seeds, even if it is not in common parlance a "perennial," there is that exasperating enchanter, Tropæolum speciosum. And I have not much doubt that, if those who have had difficulty in establishing the flame flower were to try it from seed, they would quickly realise their ambitions. A notable newcomer which the up-to-date seedsman puts within reach of everyone is Lupinus

THE TALL BLUE AND WHITE SPIKES OF SALVIA DICHROA.

Paynei, a tree lupin of 6ft. and most graceful proportions, which is wreathed in rosy lilac to rose pink blossoms the season through. I have found this Mexican quite hardy, and it will often flower in its first year from seed. Salvia dichroa, with its great mullein-like leaves and tall spires of blue and white, is another uncommon and splendid perennial whose seed will germinate freely, grow away with the heartiest vigour and live for ever.

A. T. JOHNSON.

SERVICE FOR READERS

Though so many subjects are dealt with in each issue of THE GARDEN, it must constantly happen that readers seek information which is not immediately available. In such circumstances they should make use of our Service Department. Through its medium each reader's own particular enquiry can be dealt with. No matter what the question is, whether advice is sought as to—

RESTOCKING A GARDEN, COLOUR SCHEMES FOR GARDENS, THE BEST PLANTS FOR CERTAIN SITUATIONS, WHERE TO OBTAIN NEW AND RARE PLANTS, INSECT PESTS, NAMING OF PLANTS, AND THE HUNDRED AND ONE OTHER DETAILS RELATING TO THE GARDEN—

there is always information available from a staff of expert contributors and consultants; *and there is no charge for this.* It is one of the additional means of Service which THE GARDEN is glad to render to its readers.

Also, there is the further convenience which the Service Department affords of supplying readers with data about anything that is advertised in the pages of the paper. Thus, on receipt of an enquiry, particulars will be sent of, say, half a dozen things about which the reader seeks information. The only stipulation is that a stamped addressed envelope shall be sent with the enquiry.

All communications should be addressed to the Service Department, THE GARDEN, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE DAISY BUSH AS A TUB PLANT.

A VERY effective plant for ornamental tubs is to be found in the daisy bush (Olearia Haastii). This New Zealand shrub forms a dense and extremely neat bush from 2ft. to 4ft. high. The small, round leaves are thick and very much resemble the foliage of box, apart from the fact that they are larger and of a brighter green. White daisy-like flowers are produced in great abundance and are borne in such broad clusters that the whole plant appears to be covered with bloom. The daisy bush starts flowering early in August and presents a fine spectacle for quite a month. The soil in which the olearia is planted should be on the light side and perfect drainage is essential. Given such conditions a small specimen will rapidly grow to a good size. The daisy bush is easily increased by means of cuttings of half-ripened shoots struck under a bell-glass in a little heat. Another method of increase is to be found in making layers of the plant in the autumn. Specimens of the daisy bush in tubs usually keep a good shape, but, when any trimming is required, this should be carried out in the autumn.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

A DWARF CHERRY (PRUNUS INCISA).

FIVE years ago I searched in vain for this cherry—none of the Japanese, Continental or English nurserymen seemed to stock it, and it was only by the merest of chances that I finally discovered it growing, of all places, in a remote corner of Ireland. It happened in this wise: One of the specimens in the Kew collection had on its label the legend "Somebody's Seedling." It was not, of course, difficult to find where the said "Somebody" lived, and I soon enlightened him upon the identity of his "seedling" and ultimately acquired several fair-sized plants from him. Lately Prunus incisa has crept into several catalogues, and when the merits of this sturdy little cherry are better known it is safe to prophesy that every self-respecting nurseryman will be offering it for sale, for this is a valuable plant, particularly when lack of space prevents larger-growing flowering cherries from being used. With me it thrives in shade or sunshine, and in the early spring is so extraordinarily liberal with its white flowers that it holds a very high place in my affections. As all my plants appear to have been raised from seed the quality of the blossom varies somewhat, and in this respect one specimen is vastly superior to its fellows. It grows wild on the slopes of Fujiyama, and, being a mountaineer, it possesses a very hardy and tough constitution, which is also greatly in its favour. The Japanese call it Mame-Zakura—meaning pigmy or dwarf cherry—but whether they so name it because of its diminutive stature—for at best it is only a small tree—or because it is the species they most frequently use for dwarfing purposes, I am unable to say. Its deeply cut, birch-like leaves and neat habit make it an attractive plant, whether in flower or foliage.—COLLINGWOOD INGRAM.

THE PIGMY CHERRY, PRUNUS INCISA.

GYPSOPHILA ACUTIFOLIA.

NONE of the gypsophilas, or chalk plants, can hope to vie in popularity with that general favourite, G. paniculata, and its double variety. They are excellent both in the garden and for cutting purposes. Even admitting this, however, there is surely room in the garden for another tall species, and notice may be directed to G. acutifolia, one very little cultivated, but procurable in plants or seeds. It is taller than G. paniculata, being 3ft.—and more at times—in height. It has glaucous, sharp-pointed leaves and panicles of small pink flowers. These are larger than those of G. paniculata, but much more sparsely borne, and therein lies the secret of why G. acutifolia compares unfavourably with its ally. I have grown G. acutifolia in a dry border and have found it quite hardy and calling for no special treatment. It requires staking, however. Seeds are obtainable from a few firms specialising in hardy flowers, and may be sown under glass in spring. A sunny position in light, well drained soil is the best for G. acutifolia.—S. A.

THE PROSTRATE ROSEMARY.

FEW who are putting in rock garden shrubs can afford to overlook the merits of the dwarf and prostrate form of the common rosemary known as Rosmarinus prostrata. Coming as it does from the cliffs of the Isle of Capri, this delightful shrub is not quite hardy everywhere. It is, in fact, more tender than the type. Even so, it is a subject of such singular charm, so manifestly a rock shrub by nature and in habit, that it is well worth while anyone's risking a plant or two, especially as it is not expensive. Moreover, R. prostrata, as it rambles about, hugs the ground or rock face so closely that it can be protected simply by laying a few evergreen branches over it during frosty weather.

R. prostrata is a pleasing feature in the rock garden even in winter, for whenever conditions allow it to remain uncovered (it withstands 10-12 degrees of frost with me), its lively green and elegant manner of growth are extremely attractive. Quite early in spring its pale blue flowers appear. These are produced in the utmost profusion and, as often as not, there is a second crop in autumn. We find this little shrub does admirably in the poorest of very dull and stony soil, and in such a medium the chances of its getting safely through the winter are much in its favour.—N. WALES.

ŒNOTHERA MARGINATA.

THIS beautiful species is not often seen in gardens, even where it would undoubtedly do well. It is certainly not as reliable as some of the large-flowered, dwarfer evening primrose, having a way of disappearing after a season or two, unless the soil and situation are exactly to its liking. Albeit, Œ. marginata is such a lovely thing, quite the finest, I think, of its class, that it is well worth a trial wherever conditions seem congenial. Those conditions are not exacting, for a loose, sandy or stony, warm soil with, say, a westerly aspect, seems to suit it admirably.

Œ. marginata has an entirely different habit from that of missouriensis, taraxacifolia and others of the big-flowered set, for, instead of making annual trailing stems, it runs underground, putting-up at intervals a bold rosette of long, narrow leaves of a silvery pale green, slightly toothed towards the base and often having the mid-rib tinged with red. The blossoms, borne on comparatively short stalks, are larger than those of any other œnothera known to me. That is, they are often fully 6ins. across, of a most immaculate, glistening whiteness and the perfume is delicious and suggestive of that of a magnolia. As the blooms die off they turn a soft carnation pink.

Since this charming species does not resent moving, rooted tufts may be lifted in autumn, potted-up and kept in a cold frame where there is any risk of winter loss. Put out in spring such plants will soon increase and blossom the following autumn, if not earlier.—A. T. J.

Digitized by Google

RAMONDIAS AND HABERLEAS.

ON several trips in the Balkans I have paid special attention to the two fine and rather rare members of the gesneraceæ whose home is in that corner of Europe—ramondia and haberlea. I went to Nish in Serbia late in the spring, and started as soon as possible for the Suha Planina, a fine mountain a few hours to the east of the town. Almost at its foot Ramondia Nathaliæ is to be found. Here it grows on shady moist rocks, covering the stones with the tufts of broad ovate leaves, which are clearly shown in the illustration. The plants were not yet in bloom at this time of the year, and I was sorry to miss the beauty of the deep violet flowers. The colour of the flowers is not yellow as is sometimes stated; there is only a golden eye in the centre.

Ramondia Nathaliæ is often described as a mere variety of R. serbica, another species met with in south-eastern Serbia. As a whole, the latter is a less ornamental species with narrower, almost spathulate leaves, and more campanulate flowers, which are usually five-lobed, while those of R. Nathaliæ have normally four. The oldest and best known species of the genus is R. pyrenaica from the Pyrenees, with a rotate five-parted corolla of a purple-violet colour. There is a good white variety, var. alba, and a less conspicuous var. rosea.

The second genus I met with on the Balkan Mountains known as Stara Planina was haberlea. I also found it near the little village of Kalofer not far from Kasanlik, the well known locality where the rose-oil comes from. On the southern slopes of the Midzur, haberlea can be found in the same situations as ramondia in Serbia. Besides Haberlea rhodopensis, only one other species of this genus is so far known, H. Ferdinandi-Coburgi. Both are rather alike, and differ a good deal from the allied genus ramondia. The differences between leaves and flowers are well marked in the illustration. The flowers of haberlea are distinctly tubular, somewhat reminiscent of little gloxinias. The colour is a pale bluish violet, deeper in the tube.

These are, indeed, precious plants for shady and moist parts of the rock garden. Their cultivation is by no means difficult, although it is no easy task to establish good plants. They can be raised from seed without any difficulty. It is best to sow the seeds shortly after they have fully ripened, but they usually do not germinate before spring. The seeds are very small, and ought to be treated like those of Primula rosea or P. auricula. The young plants are grown in pots and kept in cold frames until the second spring. Then they can be planted in the rock garden between or on almost vertically placed stones near some running water. Count Herbert Schaffgotsch, who has established fine colonies of those plants in his rockery at Purgstall, Lower Austria, advises people to put the plants against a flat stone covered with a layer (half an inch) of peat and a little loam, to spread the roots flat on this soil, and to cover them again with another layer of the same material. Then flat stones should be placed round the plants to keep them in their position. Well-established plants flower very freely, usually at the end of May or beginning of June.—CAMILLO SCHNEIDER.

THE DAINTY ALMOST GLOXINIA LIKE FLOWERS OF HABERLEA RHODOPENSIS.

RAMONDIA NATHALIÆ. A RARE GEM FOR THE ROCK GARDEN

DAPHNE MEZEREUM.

THIS doubtful native of our country is a great favourite with all; but, with few exceptions, it is the cottager who grows it most successfully. In February or March it may often be seen in small gardens standing up among the dwarf spring flowers like a miniature tree, the sparse branches literally smothered with the purple or lilac blossoms. The cottager's plants are always seedlings, and it is not until later that they assume the bush-like habit. Large plants are not common anywhere. Often this is due to disturbance of the roots, change of ownership, and sometimes to a distressing habit, from which even seedlings are not quite exempt, of dying when they have attained any size. A good bush may have as many as seventy to a hundred branchlets.

Why is this daphne so scarce in our larger gardens? Is it because *grafted* plants are usually purchased and planted? Twenty years ago I purchased and planted many such plants, only to see them die in a few years. Anxious to repair the losses sustained, I obtained as many berries as possible, sowing them in large pots, with ample drainage, as soon as ripe. A few germinated the next spring, and many more from the same pots in the following spring. Unfortunately, they are rather slow in growth at first, and it was quite four years before they were large enough to plant out; but they make up for it afterwards. Just when the grafted plant begins to wane, the seedlings wax vigorous. The colours of the seedlings vary slightly from pale to reddish purple, but this is an advantage, providing variety if the plants are used singly and a charming harmony of colour when they are massed. A colony of the seedlings raised as described has been very beautiful here for the past fifteen years. Unfortunately, they were planted too thickly, and the more central plants are beginning to show signs of distress. Here I would plead for sufficient space for each plant to develop. Five feet apart is a very bare allowance, and should be given them when first planted, as when established they resent disturbance. The bare earth can be easily covered with some spring flowering plant, such as aubrietia, arabis, or the paler shades of Munstead polyanthus. It is possible to raise the white-flowered Mezereon true from seed, but the colour bears no comparison to the purity of that known as Paul's White; but the plants, being necessarily grafted, are very short-lived with us.—J. COMBER, *Nymans Gardens*.

Digitized by Google

ON THE ARBUTUS—WITH SOME DIGRESSIONS

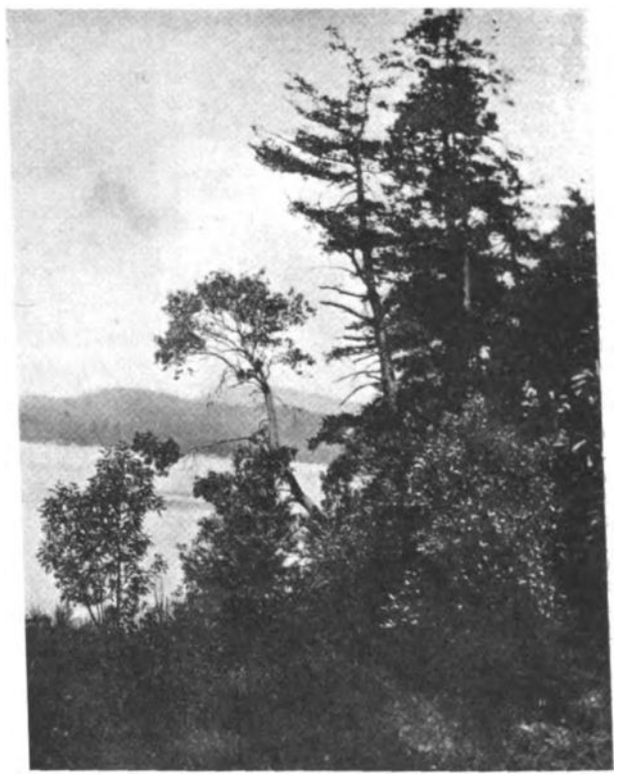
BY THE LADY BYNG OF VIMY.

MR. BEAN'S interesting appeal for the arbutus family in THE GARDEN of October 31st, 1925, comes at a moment when my mind, happening to be rather full of these particular plants, makes me feel I must rush into print on this subject.

Arbutus Menziesii is not only Californian, but grows profusely on Vancouver Island, B.C. All along the coast, beside the lakes, and always facing the full sun as though it had a feminine vanity in knowing its beauty was enhanced by careful choice of a setting. There are few things more wonderful than A. Menziesii, clinging to the steep slopes of Malahat Pass, high above the deep gorges filled by tidal waters, with a cloudless sky overhead and in the distance Mount Baker, snow-capped and serene, silhouetted against the crystal-clear atmosphere that is one of Canada's most salient features. Away up the Island, nearly as far as Campbell River, the arbutus thrives. But I have specially in mind a small peninsula, near Saanich, on which the Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia is building himself a summer cottage of fragrant cedar wood, with massive stone chimneys, and wooden "shingles" stained to recall weather-worn thatch. But it is the arbutus that are the outstanding feature of that peninsula, which is thrust out into the Pacific Ocean, and where on the one side the water is ice-cold, on the other warm and serene, as little waves come lip-lapping against its sandy beach, fringed with those quaintly twisted, terra-cotta stemmed arbutus trees, overhanging, in all manner of strange angles, the aqua-marine water and outlined against a cerulean sky. They make of the spot something between the fairyland of one's dreams and the dainty reality of a Rackham drawing, that lives in my memory and calls up a scent of hot pine needles and sea, two of Nature's best perfumes. In England we shall, I fear, never grow Arbutus Menziesii like this; still, it is worth trying, as I tried this summer when, with infinite care, my gardener and I lifted small plants. They are confessedly difficult to shift, but we took very small trees, gave them all possible care, both in lifting and packing for Thorpe—but every single one "went West." It was later on, during a train trip in the Island, that I heard of a trick for transplanting these treasures. The superintendent of the little line told me that a friend of his, who had always previously failed in lifting the plants, adopted the following method: The tree was lifted carefully, planted in a box or the open ground, and bent over till it lay along the soil into which the tips were plunged, and from the plunged end came roots and a small tree formed. He never lost a single one since adopting this method! Certainly it would not have crossed my mind to try such an experiment, and I wonder if any of your readers have done so.

In the same article on the arbutus, Mr. Bean refers to the Unedo or strawberry tree, and here I can give an instance of its amazing vitality that may be thought apocryphal, but which, nevertheless, is true, and, were I not more than three thousand miles away I could send you a photograph to verify the following story.

In 1914, when we first went to Thorpe-le-Soken, I found several bushes of Unedo about the place, and a very large one



ARBUTUS MENZIESII GROWING WILD.

hemmed in among masses of laurel and kindred rubbish, dear to the mid-Victorian gardener's heart. The poor thing was lop-sided, misshapen and, unfortunately, placed on the top of a bank where necessity forced me to scrap it. Down it came, ruthlessly chopped and hacked, a ruin of such dimensions that to remove it would have entailed a great deal more time and labour than I could afford, so I rolled it down the bank on the top of which it had been growing, meaning eventually to plant an Albéric Barbier rose over it as a shroud. Then came the war, and there was no rose planting—potatoes and vegetables of all kinds filling the gardening calendar. But so unsightly was the Unedo stump that I flung a handful of nasturtium seeds round it, and during the summer of 1915 it was gay with gold and crimson flowers. That autumn, as I poked round the bank, I found some small, healthy-looking shoots coming up from the base of the sawn-off limbs, but thought them a last flicker of sap remaining in the moribund stump and left them alone. Next year more shoots appeared, and so it continued, all these shoots thriving, till now, nearly eleven years after the execution, I have a splendid bush of Unedo on the bank! What evidently happened was, that on rolling the stump down it fell on its base, and the bank, being gravelly and gritty, set up root action, and so the arbutus has survived, having evidently a very different temperament and constitution from its cousin of the Pacific Coast.

But the words Pacific Coast take me back again where I started—to Canada and its flowers and to that peninsula which I saw on a grillingly hot August day, when the grass was scorched a crackly buff-brown, its surface as slippery as ice. The peninsula was a steep hillock, thickly wooded with cedars, hemlock, spruce and madrones, while through the burnt-up grass stood dodecatheon stems with their golden brown seed-pods, tall seed heads of pink and white erythroniums, fritillaries and Lilium Columbianum. Thickets of "fairy roses" with their tiny leaves and equally tiny hips

WILD FLOWER LAND IN THE ROCKIES.

Digitized by Google

covered spaces where the sun penetrated, while blue-mauve brodiæas, minor and grandiflora, spread themselves in big patches, and the heavy heads of pink and white alliums nodded in the breeze. And all this was native; there was no cultivation, nothing but Canada's wildings in their natural state. Could any gardener wish to improve on such a succession of bloom? Could any man have chosen a more entrancing spot for a summer retreat?

But it is not only in such corners as this that Canada shows her floral wares. There are endless places that come to my mind as I write. Jasper Park, for instance, that 4,400 square miles of forest reserve, where porcupines, bears—grizzly, cinnamon and black—deer, mountain sheep and goats, and all the other wild beasts wander free and tame because no man's hand may be lifted against them and where flowers abound in undreamt of masses; the railway banks dyed orange-scarlet with Lilium philadelphicum, while Cypripediums montanum, parviflorum and candidum nestle in damp, mossy corners, the purple and white showy orchis carpets in spring—certain favoured dells that I will not betray lest tourists rifle them—and the woods in early autumn are gay with the scarlet berries of the twisted-stalk (Streptopus roseus), false spikenard (Smilacina racemosa), fairy bells (Diosporum trachycarpum), red baneberry (Actæa rubra), while the quaint white doll's eyes (Actæa alba) and the rich blue of the Clintonia borealis form a wonderful contrast to the crimsons above them. In open spaces during late summer the pallid beauty of Zygadenus elegans lifts up its creamy bloom heads and spear-like foliage, and the silver-grey rosettes of the oxytropes form an admirable setting for the vivid purple flower-spikes. In spring the damp "flats" along the Athabasca River are starred with dodecatheons, violets and countless other treasures that it has not been my good fortune to see. Not only in Jasper do flowers abound, but also back again to Vancouver Island, round lakes like Cowichan, with its inrushing rivers, its wooded mountains and rocks, where I scraped and dug, ruining pick and spade, in the search for liliums and erythroniums, saxifrages, sedums, dodecatheons, and in the woods Calypso borealis, as well as tiny ferns wedged tightly between the rocks. In the water I found a yellow water lily, shaded externally with flame and orange, that I have never seen elsewhere, and have sent to Essex in the hope that it will thrive. I know of stony, summer-dried river beds there where alpines get washed down by the spring freshets, tiny plants marooned among the stones or on the banks, and which the collector can gather without the effort of clambering to snow line, though he will ruin his boots against the river-bed stones, break his finger-nails and his temper too in digging. There are stretches on the prairies carpeted with the Anemone occidentalis, orange-red creeping mallows, and the dainty plumes of Geum trifolium, while the silver-green eleagnus bushes break the level of the "bald-headed prairie" with its all-prevailing tufts of sage brush and "sloughs" of startlingly blue water, alive with wild duck. Erodiums there are in quantities, of a richer tint than we get at home. Camassias thrive in the west and all kinds of rubus spread themselves both east and west, as do the Linnæa borealis, the pyrolas and other woodland treasures, while throughout British Columbia the Fatsia horrida in the dense woodlands uplifts huge heads of flaming scarlet berries that glow like the torches of some mediæval procession.

PLUMS AND CHERRIES

(*Continued from page 56.*)

PESTS.

PESTS, especially aphides, have been known to check the trees severely by damaging the foliage, and thus preventing the proper functions of bud development. It is not an uncommon sight to see the leaves of plum and cherry trees badly curled and distorted through aphis attack. Control measures against this pest and others should be commenced during winter.

On standard trees grease bands should be applied for trapping the females of winter moths. In addition, these trees and others ought to be sprayed during the most dormant period, December to February, with one of the excellent tar-distillate washes for the purpose of destroying the eggs of various insects. The value of these washes to the fruit grower cannot be over-estimated. They are of comparatively recent introduction and provide a distinct advance on anything I know for the cleansing of fruit trees of pests in winter. It is not claimed that this winter washing will ensure the freedom of the trees from pests during the following summer, but it will go a long way towards it.

A watch should be kept for the leaf-curling aphis and, should any appear, measures must be taken to combat it at once. If left these pests increase at an alarming rate and the leaves rapidly curl up. A nicotine and soft soap spray is the most effective remedy.

The plum is liable to be attacked by several diseases, notably the baffling silver leaf disease, which has caused the death of thousands of trees. There is no known reliable cure for this disease, and it is best to remove any branch after fruiting which shows signs of the silvering. The cut surface should be immediately covered over with Stockholm tar and the branch burnt.

The disease known as black rot which attacks apples, may also affect the plum, also the related diseases known as wither tip and blossom wilt. Some varieties are apparently more subject to attack than others. We have observed this with the variety, Grand Duke, more than any other. Affected trees are recognised by the withered tips of twigs which remain on trees throughout the winter. These diseases are difficult to control by spraying, but all affected shoots should be removed, also any fruits showing signs of brown rot.

In early spring, just before buds burst, it is advisable to spray with strong lime-sulphur.

MANURING.

Manuring is generally only necessary when trees are carrying, or have carried, heavy crops of fruit. A top-dressing of farmyard manure, with the addition of artificial fertilisers, is best.

Basic slag and kainit can be applied in autumn, at the rate of 3 oz. or 4 oz. of each to the square yard, or superphosphate and sulphate of potash in spring, giving about 3 oz. of the former to 2 oz. of the latter per square yard.

A nitrogenous manure may be necessary, unless this is supplied in sufficient quantity in the animal manure. If an artificial is applied this can be given after the fruit has set. For heavy soils nitrate of lime is useful, though nitrate of soda or sulphate of ammonia will meet the case, either must be given in moderation, 1 oz. to the square yard being sufficient. The object of the nitrogen is to maintain healthy foliage, and should the latter have a pale or sickly appearance, a small dressing will often work wonders, unless, of course, the unhealthy appearance is caused by such as bad drainage.

VARIETIES.

There are so many varieties of plums and gages that it is difficult to select half a dozen without feeling that others almost, if not quite as good, have been left out.

Rivers' Early Prolific, though classed as a culinary, is well worth including, owing to its earliness and all-round qualities. It flowers early and is only partly self-fertile, so must have the association of other varieties to assist in pollination.

The Czar is a reliable companion, and one of the best croppers, though not a dessert variety.

As a dessert gage few can surpass, if equal, Denniston's Superb, which has the advantage of being self-fertile. The several transparent gages are all good, as are Jefferson's and Allgrove's Superb. Victoria is always popular and the same applies to the old greengage. As a late variety Coe's Golden Drop is a favourite.

CHERRIES.

Cherries are exceedingly popular, but in many ways present more difficulty in culture than other fruits. They seem particularly fastidious as to soil and even when a mixture which they are supposed to enjoy has been added to the natural soil of the garden, they do not always succeed. The ripe fruits are more tempting to birds than probably any

Digitized by Google

other, and unless protected from them they often take a heavy toll. Again, rain during the ripening process frequently causes the fruits to split.

The general management of the sweet cherry does not differ in many respects from that of the plum. It is most successfully grown in chalky districts, such as is found in some parts of Oxon and Bucks. Stiff soil should be avoided. It enjoys sandy loam over chalk. A good depth of soil is necessary, as the trees require a lot of moisture. The method of planting is the same as for the plum, and a similar mixture, with the addition of chalk, is to be recommended.

The trees should not be pruned the first year after planting, owing to the danger of gumming, and as a matter of fact the cherry requires very little pruning at any time. What pruning is done should mainly take the form of summer pinching back of young shoots. In the case of bearing trees, this is best done as fruit is colouring. The cherry tree, like the plum, is easily managed as a standard, and after the six main branches are formed it is seldom necessary or advisable to prune the leaders.

This to a very great extent is applicable to the trained trees on walls or fences, and the bush tree grown in the open. For low fences or walls up to 6ft. the espalier-trained tree is best, while the fan-shape is to be recommended where height allows for development; at least 15ft., and preferably 20ft. in width, should be allowed whichever shape is chosen.

The Morello cherry is treated quite differently, as regards training and pruning, from the sweet varieties. The latter fruits on spurs which are formed along the branches. The Morello fruits on wood of the previous summer's growth in the same way as the peach. It is almost invariably trained as a fan and planted against a north wall, where it is known to succeed admirably. Essential cultural points are the laying in of a good foundation of main branches, from which are produced the fruiting shoots for the following year. After the crop has been gathered these shoots are cut out, and young growths made during the season tied in to take their places. Overcrowding must be avoided; this can be done by training the somewhat slender shoots about 3ins. or 4ins. apart.

A point of importance in the culture of plums and cherries is to avoid forking deeply around the trees. Such a practice would do infinite harm to the fine fibrous roots which are generally to be found near the surface.

A few good varieties of sweet cherries, suitable for gardens, are: Waterloo, Noir de Guben, Governor Wood, Frogmore Bigarreau, Noble, Early Rivers, and Elton. ARTHUR J. COBB.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO TELL OTHERS ABOUT YOUR PLANTS THROUGH THE COLUMNS OF "THE GARDEN."

CORRESPONDENCE

PIERIS IN SCOTLAND.

SIR,—In the issue of THE GARDEN of January 16th "E. H. M. C." asks for some information regarding the cultural requirements of Pieris floribunda. From what he says it appears that he has been rather unsuccessful with them. He seems to be in doubt, however, whether it has been unsuitable conditions, soil, etc., or severe frosts that have crippled his plants. We have a very considerable collection of rare shrubs here, Pieris floribunda and P. variegata being among them (and which are all under my charge). With the pieris family we have found no difficulty at all in their cultivation, not even requiring protection from frost. In this part of Scotland we experience very severe winter weather and, worst of all, very early autumn frosts and late spring frosts, which are most detrimental to young growths of flowering shrubs.

The method we have followed here when planting pieris has been to take out holes two or three times the size of the plant roots. We have a compost made up of about equal parts of half-rotted leaves, fibrous peat and rough sharp sand. Beneath the plants and all round them this compost is firmly packed, with some of the natural soil mixed with it, and we find this mixture suits the plants well. They are vigorous and healthy, and flower most abundantly. The plants have a south-west aspect and are situated not far from a wall. They are well protected from east winds and partly so from north winds. This winter these plants have been exposed to 26 degrees of frost on December 24th without any protection (and 30 degrees on grass). For weeks the thermometer never fell below 10 degrees, oscillating from that to 18 degrees every other day. Our plants have come through this very severe trial with no protection whatever, and they show not the slightest ill effect. Seedling pieris appear to do badly also with "E. H. M. C." I increase the stock from cuttings of partly ripened wood.—WM. GRANT, *The Gardens, Crathes Castle, Kincardineshire.*

FREESIAS.

SIR,—I noticed the Rev. J. Jacob suggests soaking freesia seeds. I have not found this necessary, a packet of seed giving me six pots of seven seeds each. These were sown in September, 1924, placed on a shelf of a cool house, and removed to another house during the first week of January with a small heating apparatus giving a temperature of about 45 degrees.

The first blooms were obtained during the second week of February, while the last bloom, of a lovely violet colour with a rich yellow blotch in throat, was cut April 23rd, 1925. As each pot finished blooming it was taken back into the cold house again and given no water. Seeing it was so easy to raise from seed and much more interesting, I decided to throw the corms away, which I did during May, among some rank-growing grass where nothing else will grow; no sun ever shines there. During August I saw two corms lying on the ground. Examining them I saw they had started to sprout. I searched among the grass for more bulbs and found enough to fill two pots with seven bulbs each. These I placed under a greenhouse shelf, and were treated the same as seeds, with this exception, that they were removed to a warmer house at the end of November, in the hopes of flowers for Christmas. I missed this by a few days.

Unfortunately, during the last two Decembers I have been laid up, and the freesias, through an oversight, had no water for nearly the whole of that time. If they had I feel sure I should have succeeded with seedlings within six months and the bulbs for Christmas.

My seedlings for this year, I am afraid, are a failure through lack of water and attention. When I saw them on January 4th, 1926, the first time since the end of November, the grass was over the pots and not a good colour.—T.

A GOOD EVERGREEN SHRUB.

SIR,—Many shrubs for winter foliage or bloom have been mentioned in your columns during the past few months, but one which embodies both of the foregoing requisites seems to have been overlooked.

The shrub I have in mind, although I am not certain this name is correct, is Othonna denticulata. It is well furnished, evergreen, with heath-like foliage of a light green colour. The yellow blooms are individually insignificant, but are borne in large numbers, the combined effect of bloom and foliage being delightful.

It has a very neat habit and is easily struck from cuttings taken in the early autumn; several in my garden, struck in the autumn of 1923, are now splendid rounded bushes 3ft. high, carrying masses of bloom from November to March; while some bloom may be seen on them during any month of the year. For foliage alone this shrub is well worthy of a place in the choice shrubbery.—P. E. E. C., *Cornwall.*

TREE AND SHRUB PLANTING AND ITS ASSOCIATIONS.

SIR,—In your editorial remarks in the number of January 9th you express some surprise that the older garden enthusiasts come to prefer trees and shrubs and such like comparatively slow-growing subjects.

As one of the older race, may I be allowed to give a reason for this development of taste. I can imagine a garden lover arriving at this ideal from varying standpoints, but all arrive in the end at somewhat the same development.

Take the case of the man who builds a house and plants the garden for himself. If there are no trees or shrubs on the ground, he wishes to plant some to clothe his dwelling in time to shelter it from the wind and, possibly, from the prying eyes of others; and, having made his garden and observed defects even with the best thought out scheme, he wishes to improve it and to leave some record of his having been there. What finer record can he leave than well planted surroundings? Nothing except trees will give this. He knows he will soon be forgotten, but hopes that his name may be associated with some exceptional tree. You have mentioned the oak: how many names of men are remembered by some oak tree that still bears their name?

An alternative case is that of the man who acquires or inherits a house with grounds wisely planted; he is grateful to those who preceded him, for their good deeds as gardeners or foresters have given him much enjoyment. The trees may be mature, and the winds will take their toll of them; but he can show his gratitude by handing on the grounds to his successor at least as well planted, if possible increased in interest by adding a well considered selection of the more modern introductions. Few of us can hope to see a tree we plant ourselves reach maturity; but, having benefited by the planting of past generations, we can get satisfaction by knowing others will obtain pleasure from what we hand on to those who follow. As a man grows older he realises that he cannot get quick results and leave his mark behind him; and with advancing years time hurries past so quickly that the

Digitized by Google

slow growth is not irksome. Rather one wonders at the progress made in a few short years.

We in Scotland still read the Waverley Novels at times, and most gardeners remember the advice given to the Laird of Dumbiedykes: "Aye be pittin' in a tree, Dumbie; it will be growin' when ye are sleepin'."—WILLIAM LOW. *Balmaketwan, Marykirk.*

THE TALLER CAMPANULAS.

SIR,—In connection with the recent notes in the pages of THE GARDEN under the above heading, I would like to add my appreciation of the bellflowers to that of your contributors "T. W. B." and E. A. Ladhams as subjects eminently suited for border planting. I enclose a photograph of one of the taller species planted out in the border, and your readers will readily realise their value where

EFFECTIVE BORDER PLANTING WITH THE TALL CAMPANULAS

it is desired to furnish a bright display of one particular plant. They accommodate themselves readily to many positions in the garden, but, in my opinion, they are rarely seen to better advantage than when planted in the mass and in such a position as is shown, more especially when backed by a shrubby background.—H. C.

CONVOLVULUS MAURITANICUS.

SIR,—I fully agree with the writer of the article on "Annuals for Hanging Baskets" (THE GARDEN, January 16th) as to the charms of Convolvulus mauritanicus, but he is mistaken in thinking it an annual. It is a perennial and, although easily raised from seed, I have not found it a quicker grower, but, on the contrary, rather slow in reaching the flowering stage. It is not very hardy in my garden, and of the many plants I have raised from seed only one remains, and this, I fear, is not likely to survive the present severe winter, although on a well drained rockery and protected by glass. However, as the plant is at least six or seven years old I must not complain.—R. E. H., *North Somerset.*

AN APPEAL.

We have received the following from the Countess of Carnarvon:

SIR,—Last year a box of vegetable seeds was, by the kindness of a friend, distributed among the destitute refugees in Albania. This year a little waste plot of land was cropped with excellent English vegetables.

There are many other refugees in Albania, whose sole food is such maize as they can get. May I appeal to all those who have gardens to send packets of seeds, small or large, to the Hon. Secretary of the Albanian Fund, 28, Bruton Street, London, W.1, for transmission to Mrs. Pennington, the lady who is in charge of the refugee work in Albania. I can assure them that the seeds will be most thankfully received, and the produce will be of the greatest use to the little children. —E. CARNARVON.

PLANTS TO AVOID

AMONG the many mistakes which the novice in gardening is apt to make, that of introducing plants which prove cuckoos in the nest is one of the most annoying, if not the most serious. He—the tyro—is fascinated by a specific description in a catalogue, or something growing prettily and innocently in a friend's garden attracts his eye and he promptly buys or begs a root—the friend is usually kind enough to spare him quite a big piece—plants it in a carefully chosen spot and forgets it for some months. When at last he remembers to look for it he finds it healthy and flourishing; but its less vigorous neighbours, where are they? Simply squeezed out of existence. Tussilago (Petasites) fragrans is one of the worst of these piratical plants, but, fortunately, its evil habits are fairly well known, and it has no beauty to be a temptation. Campanula glomerata, on the other hand, which is nearly as much of a cuckoo, is rather a handsome thing, and its rich deep purple flowers are good for cutting, but in a light soil its rapacity is unbounded. In my garden a year ago it was chopped back to a piece a few inches across; now its pale green leaves cover many feet of the border; it has thrust its way into a clump of Iris sibirica; choked Sedum spectabile to death; its shoots have come up all over a patch of long-spurred aquilegias, and it is getting well into the edging of pinks. Senecio tanguticus is another piratical plant. Its tall golden spikes are very striking, whether grown in the wild garden—the safest place for it—the border, or arranged in big jars for house decoration; but its stoloniferous roots run for an immense distance, and if any tiny scraps are left in the ground when its curtailment is attempted each will grow rapidly into a lusty plant. Only a severe and prolonged frost will check its activities.

Thermopsis montana is one of those tiresome plants that will not "stay put." It is not particularly rampant in growth, but in my garden it has completely disappeared from its original place and has worked its way across the border, tried conclusions with Erigeron speciosus and some delphiniums and, passing on through them, this last summer its pretty yellow lupin-like flowers appeared among the kale in the vegetable plot in the rear. Polygonum cuspidatum, known to some people as "false bamboo," is emphatically a plant to be avoided. Its curving sprays with their feathery white flowers are undoubtedly very graceful, but it increases with incredible speed and is nearly as difficult to eradicate as the large white convolvulus (Calystegia sylvatica), which some years back was advertised in some newspapers as a nameless but wonderful "climbing plant that would grow 15 or 20 feet in a season and improve every year." This was a perfectly true description, but . . . I wonder how many of those who were tempted and fell are still trying to get it out of their gardens? This convolvulus is particularly dangerous if it gets a strangle-hold on a shrubbery.

The hawkweeds must be placed on the index, especially the common Hieracium aurantiacum, whose name in the vernacular is the extraordinary one of Grim-the-Collier, a plant, which, indeed, has nothing to recommend it save the glowing orange-red of its rather trivial flowers. Centaurea montana, although its bad habits are scarcely marked enough to call for its entire exclusion from the garden, is an irrepressible sort of plant which needs close watching, and its roots are not only rambling, but go very deep, and so are hard to extirpate.

Unfortunately, there are more than a few cuckoo plants that are particularly happy (and destructive) in the rock garden. The common Saxifraga muscoides—Dovedale moss, Eve's cushion—is useful in its proper place, but it should never be allowed to approach choice alpines, as little by little it will work its way into them and, unless it is drastically dealt with by means of a kitchen fork and patience, they will soon disappear under the moss' fat green cushions. The acænas, A. inermis and A. microphylla, can be nearly as overwhelming as the saxifrage, their dense carpets of bronze-green leaves spreading with great rapidity, A. inermis being the worse culprit of the

Digitized by Google

two. But infinitely more undesirable is Helxine Solierolii. In a garden that I know this villainous plant, originally placed behind the stone edging of a border, has crossed a paved path by working through the joins in the flags and annexed a large piece of an adjoining grass-plot, whence it cannot be removed by any means short of stripping the turf off. And as it turns black with the first sharp frost—this, alas! has no effect on the roots—it is a hideous eyesore during the greater part of the winter. When it has not got into grass and there are no valuable plants close by, helxine can be fairly effectively dealt with by means of the kitchen-fork and a kettle of boiling water; but these heroic measures are not always possible. There are, of course, many other plants of the cuckoo type; in these notes I have only dealt with those I have found most troublesome in my light and shallow soil which is very full of lime. No doubt the experiences of those whose soil is on the heavy side would differ materially from mine. R. E. HEAD.

GARDEN TECHNIQUE

Notes on the Technical Side of the Garden and the Cultivation of Plants.

VEGETABLES

THE SPROUTING OF SEED POTATOES.

I AM frequently asked, as a horticultural teacher, to state whether the sprouting of seed potatoes has any value. Invariably my reply is in the affirmative, because I have sprouted my stock for many years. An earlier crop is one of the gains I perceive as a result of that process. A sprouted crop is ready for lifting fully a fortnight earlier than an unsprouted crop growing under precisely the same conditions. Tubers affected by sprain are isolated by sprouting. This mysterious disorder paralyses the functions of growth. The grower may be certain that tubers which develop very weak sprouts or refuse to sprout at all are affected by sprain. He may be equally certain that it would be a mistake to plant them. The sprouting of seed potatoes also helps to identify rogues in the stock. It is rare for two varieties to bear sprouts which have a like appearance in every respect. A key to sprout identification is given by the Scottish Board of Agriculture in a little book which they issue at the nominal price of sixpence. The isolation of rogues may not be very material if both varieties are good croppers and immune from wart disease; but it is a matter of great moment if a susceptible rogue is inserted in infected soil. The sprouting of the stock, by stimulating an even growth, results in a heavier yield. Some experiments which I conducted two years ago gave a yield of one ton per acre more in favour of sprouted as against unsprouted seed. The most satisfactory sprouts are formed when the tubers are set in shallow boxes with the rose end upwards, in a light situation and in a temperature which does not descend below 35° and does not ascend above 45° on the Fahrenheit scale.—GEO. H. COPLEY.

A TRENCH GARDEN.

FOR growing early crops of lettuces and other salad plants there are few devices to equal the trench garden. This is formed by digging a trench in the ground which may be of almost any length. The trench should be about 18ins. in depth and 2ft. wide, and it is better to have it running north and south. The soil at the bottom should be well dug and, if necessary, enriched.

Protection for the trench garden is secured in this way. Over the top are rested laths of wood, and on to these pieces of glass are placed. Any odd bits of glass will serve, and if these are uneven in size and shape it does not matter at all. The writer used a number of cleared-off photograph negatives for this purpose with good results.

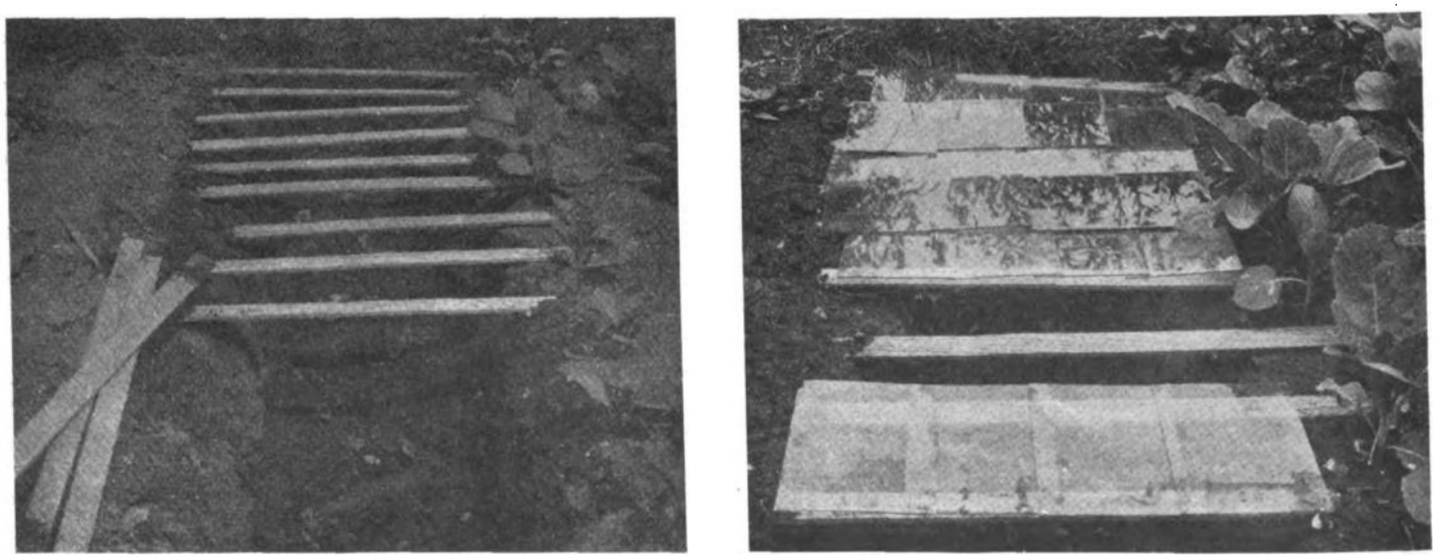
Naturally, if wished, it is easy to turn the trench garden into a hot-bed by packing suitable material into the bottom. Here the trench should be opened up to a somewhat greater depth. Being sunk in the ground the trench garden retains its heat to a remarkable degree.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

CELERIAC.

LAST year our crop of this vegetable was the best we have ever had. Previous to last spring, we had always sown it in gentle heat and pricked it off outside after hardening. Last year, for a change, we pricked it off into large boxes under glass, getting thus a stronger plant to put out, and the result has justified the method. There are a number of ways of cooking and serving this agreeable vegetable, and the reason it is not far more grown is hard to seek. I wonder if any of your more botanically inclined readers can throw any light on its origin. I do not think it possible that the stock can have been derived from a plant of pure celery that merely sported into a form with an enlarged root, because there is a very pronounced flavour of parsnip to be discerned. In conversation with one of our leading vegetable growers and exhibitors recently, I found he leaned to the opinion that celeriac was a hybrid between celery and parsnip. I wonder if these two subjects are sufficiently nearly allied to have made this theory possible?—EAST SUSSEX.

POTATO TUBERS: THEIR EARLY PLANTING.

THE time of potato planting has come once more; first in pots, boxes and frames, then in warm outside borders, followed by the main planting in the open quarters. But the wise cultivator will not delay examination of the tubers. The latter should have their full strength preserved, and to this end the cultivator should see that every tuber is exposed to as much light as possible, also cool air, provided there is not any frost. Full ventilation of the seed tuber stores and the maximum amount of light during fine weather should be the rule. But these conditions would not avail much unless the tubers were fully exposed in thin layers, not in thick ones or under straw coverings. An ideal condition would be one in which the tubers of the early kidney sorts were placed in single layers in shallow boxes, eyes upwards; and the later varieties in double layers on floors or shelves in cool, light sheds. Thus treated, every tuber would retain its full strength, as only surplus sprouts would require to be rubbed off at an early stage. Those retained would be short and sturdy and not easily broken off by the



A TRENCH GARDEN FOR EARLY SALADS.
Laths of wood placed across the trench. With sheets of glass in position.

Digitized by Google

covering soil. Ideal potato soil is a light one, moderately rich. In pots, boxes and frames, such composts may be procured on a small scale very easily. In the large open quarters the thorough breaking up of the soil while in a suitable condition will help very much. Clean leaf-soil and old, well crumbled manure will prove very beneficial to the early crops especially.—GEO. GARNER.

FLOWERS

THE BLUE PERENNIAL FLAX.

NO one will regret finding a place in the garden for the blue perennial flax (Linum perenne). This plant increases very rapidly in size from the seedling stage and soon the grower has big clumps which are covered with large sky blue flowers round about midsummer. The seed of L. perenne should be sown in a nursery bed in the open in March. Only just cover the seeds with soil and as soon as the little plants come up, leave them where they are until large enough to remove to the permanent quarters. Of course, if the seedlings are jostling one another, thinning out is advisable. The blue perennial flax grows to the height of about a foot or 14ins. and it seems to do well in almost any aspect, save perhaps one facing due north. Of course, the plant is really a lover of sunshine and it is always at its best when on a south border. Fine displays of blossom are, however, secured in other positions and these will be somewhat later, so that a succession of bloom is secured. This linum is not particular about soil providing the drainage is good; in fact, it is often extremely floriferous in places where the ground is dry and of poor quality. There is a white variety, L. perenne album, but most people will prefer the lovely blue flowers of the type. The stems of this plant are very slender and should be given some support as rain or wind will otherwise do a lot of damage. A good plan is to support fine mesh wire netting over the clumps as the individual staking of so many stems is a tedious business. The blue perennial flax makes a fine edging for a wide border and it may also be effectively used in the rock garden.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

WALLFLOWERS AND HARD WEATHER.

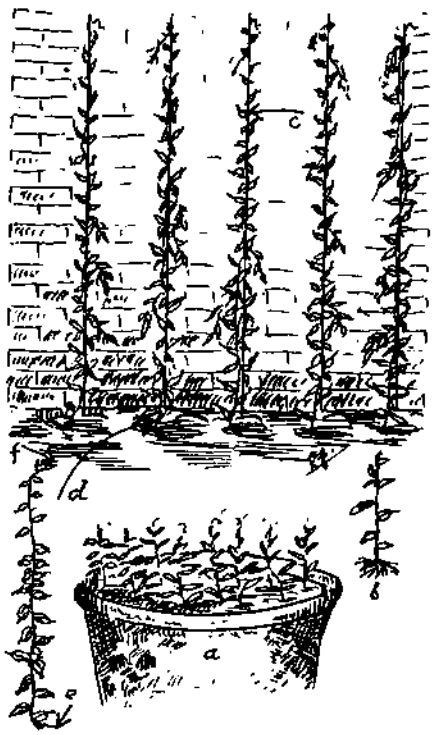
THE very severe weather experienced this winter has taken its toll, in many places, of wallflowers that were got into their permanent quarters in October, and, in some instances, later. From between four and five hundred plants shifted in October, I do not appear to have more than a dozen losses, and these were among the largest plants. I attribute my having had so few failures to three things, *viz.*, sowing seed at the end of May, pricking seedlings out early in comparatively poor ground, and in lifting each plant with a ball of soil so as to disturb the roots as little as possible. It was a laborious task at the time, but the trouble has been justified, and has proved conclusively that soil entirely free from manure—poor, in fact—meets the needs of wallflowers and produces those stiff, bushy little specimens that in time of frost and snow quickly recover as soon as weather conditions improve with a minimum of losses.

When one sees plants got out of nursery beds late in November with little or no soil and most of the roots exposed, one is not surprised to learn that such plants, not having time to become established, are the first to go under in the first snap of frost. It would be surprising were it otherwise, as, after all, there is such a thing as a limit to endurance of plants subjected to treatment as that described on the threshold of winter.—W. F.

GREENHOUSE

SMILAX.

I AM sure many readers of THE GARDEN have noticed the kind of foliage that surrounds flowers while the latter are growing, and the suitability of such foliage. It is not always possible to use the foliage with the flowers in a cut state, so we are obliged to substitute some other kind. Fern fronds are mostly employed, but are not always obtainable, nor is it desirable to cut them too



severely, especially in cases where the plants are appreciated for their individual beauty. So more cultivators should try to grow asparagus ferns and smilax—known also as Medeola asparagoides. There is the original variety and the improved sorts, the latter being considered improved owing to the smaller leaves and more delicate stems. The original variety is stronger growing and fills more space in a short time; the plants are charming, trained to wires, for furnishing the back walls of greenhouses and conservatories, and to strings if required for cutting purposes. The small-leaved varieties should be treated in a similar way where lower walls are concerned. When the string is cut at both ends the smilax trail can be readily withdrawn. Use as a compost throughout sandy loam, a small quantity of peat or leaf-soil. Sow the seeds in pots or pans in February in a warm greenhouse. At *a*, the young plants are shown ready for transplanting to their permanent positions; *b*, a plant as lifted from the seed pot; *c*, the plants clinging to strings; *d*, smilax planted out, but they may be grown in large pots. At *e* and *f*, a plant is shown cut and freed from the string. Occasionally, old plants will flower freely, and they are sweetly scented.—G. G.

PINCHING SWEET PEAS.

SWEET PEA WARRIOR.

NOW that the sowing season for sweet peas is with us, it might be interesting to throw a sidelight on pinching. A plant—variety Warrior—was overlooked at the date (December 15th, 1924) when the other plants in the same large pot were pinched. In January, however, the plant was taken out of the big pot and pinched. It was then 7½ins. high and had twelve fully expanded leaflets. In removing the plant from the soil the main tap root was severed, but several side roots and rootlets were left. The plant was set in a mixture of sand and loam in a 3in. pot. After being potted up the plant was kept in the early vinery for about a fortnight, and so placed that sunshine would not reach it for that period, as we wanted the plant to grow well, hence the care to get it re-established after the somewhat drastic treatment in extracting it from the large pot. A month later the plant showed an additional young growth of 3ins. and twelve or more fresh roots, measuring from 1½ins. to 2ins. long. This young shoot had arisen from quite near the base of the first stem at a quarter of an inch above the soil level. This young strong stem was pinched and the plant transferred to a 5in. pot. To the soil mixture was added some old lime and firm potting was avoided. The plant was then returned to the late vinery, and here, except for watering, it was left alone for another month.

The progress, when examination was made in March last, was interesting and worth recording. There were plenty of fine white, healthy roots which had ramified through the soil at the inside basal end of the pot. The shoot which was 3ins. high and pinched a month ago had now four side growths, and, strange to say, the lowest growth was largest, being 1½ins., the next growth was about 1in., while the two top growths measured each less than 1in. In March the plant was accommodated in an 8in. pot, and to indicate what a great stride had been made one strong stem had made a growth of between 11ins. and 12ins. for one month between March 18th and April 18th. The tall shoot showed green flower-buds on April 22nd and the first flower showed colour on May 8th.

This, of course, is an example of pinching, and in a sense one might say it had been overdone, yet it did not deter the plant from producing flowers as early as those plants which had never been pinched.—DAVID ARMSTRONG.

THE ROSE HOUSE.

AT the present time the plants present a somewhat ragged appearance in many houses where they are grown under glass. But the rose enthusiast knows at once when he examines his favourites whether they are in a promising condition or not. In imagination he sees the lovely blossoms borne on the strong stems. To procure these strong stems he must hard prune some varieties and severely thin out the branches of others. It is quite time now to do the work of pruning. Where the plants are grown in open borders under glass, or in large pots there, a fine succession of blooms may be obtained by judicious pruning. The shoot bearing the flower is cut off rather low down, but two or three buds are left. Almost immediately these buds begin to grow, and in five or six weeks time flowers on them are available for cutting, and so we go on. But all this means working the plants at very high pressure, as it were, and we should feed them liberally each time new shoots are growing. To delay outside-grown plants the young shoots are stopped when they are about 4ins. long, then a harvest of blossom is available a month or so later than is usual from the spring pruning. Inside plants are too precious to be treated in this way. If young roses are to be planted inside now, the structure should be kept well ventilated. When the established plants have been pruned, cleaned and in some cases tied up, the surface soil should be carefully removed and replaced with fresh fibrous loam and bonemeal or other approved stimulant; also thoroughly water the soil.—HANTS.

Digitized by Google

BOOK REVIEW

ORNAMENTAL TREES FOR AMATEURS.

MR. BEAN is to be congratulated in the production of this little book, "Ornamental Trees for Amateurs" (*Country Life*, price 5s.), which is intended as a companion to his "Shrubs for Amateurs," published in 1924. It is one of the series issuing from the offices of *Country Life* on special gardening subjects, and to the many who are now interested in growing ornamental trees, this book will be found of especial value. The book is written in the usual concise and readily understandable language of the author and is the concentrated essence of a life of practical experience among trees. The information is given in a form that may be readily utilised by those for whom it is specially intended. At the present time, when so many smaller gardens are in the making, it will prove a boon to the planter, both in its cultural details as well as in the assistance he will desire in making a good selection for the particular site which he intends to plant and prevent him falling into errors that can only be rectified at a later date, with considerable trouble and expense. The chapter on cultivation gives a clear idea of the best methods to adopt in preparing the ground for the reception of trees, so as to secure the best results, whether the trees are destined for borders, or specimens on the open lawns. A chapter on propagation comprehensively describes the raising of young plants from seed, cuttings, grafts and layers, and a careful study of the methods recommended will enable the amateur to attain successful results by following the instructions given. Transplanting and pruning are also dealt with fully both for deciduous and evergreen plants and the dangers of carrying out the operations at the wrong period of the year are pointed out. In pruning, general rules are laid down, details of which branches should be removed and those to be left are described in order to attain the best results in the ultimate tree.

To the "Care of Old Trees," several pages are devoted and the advice given will be appreciated by those having such examples under their charge and whose duty it may be to take the best steps for their preservation.

Lists of trees suitable for large and small gardens have been chosen from both evergreen and deciduous genera. There are also good selections of trees which are attractive either for their flowering, fruiting, coloured foliage or for their pendulous habit.

By turning to the descriptions of genera and species which occupy about eighty pages, a good idea will be gained as to the likelihood of any plants mentioned in any of these lists being suitable for the purpose of the intending planter. The genera are arranged in alphabetical order with a good index, and the common names given where possible, a distinct advantage to those unacquainted with the botanical one. Fifteen full-page illustrations are interspersed through the book, showing excellent examples of some of the trees described.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

"The Families of Flowering Plants.—1. The Dicotyledons," by J. Hutchison, F.L.S., published by Messrs. MacMillan and Co., Limited, St. Martin's Street, London, price 20s. net.

Hand List of Conifers Grown in the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Third edition, price 1s. 6d. net, obtainable from the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.—This little handbook enumerates 288 species and 398 varieties of coniferous plants and in addition sets forth a list of cycads in cultivation at Kew. Space is also devoted to the economic properties of the gymnosperms. The lists, in the first section, are arranged alphabetically in the families and not botanically as was the case in former editions, while in the second section, the botanical arrangement has been retained. The establishment of a national arboretum at Bidgebury, where the cultivation of all conifers will be undertaken in future, is also referred to. It is a little handbook which certainly all professional gardeners and not a few amateurs should possess.

The British Journal Photographic Almanac, 1926 edition, 880 pages. Henry Greenwood and Co. Limited, Wellington Street, W.C.2, price 2s. net. All photographers will welcome the publication of the sixty-first annual issue of this almanac, the encyclopædia of photographic information. All that an amateur and professional worker could wish for is given in its pages, set forth clearly and concisely. Instructions are to be found in every phase of photography, while much useful information is given in all the new and latest appliances which have made their appearance since the last issue. A mine of information to photographers.

"Soils and Fertilisers," by A. J. Macself. Messrs. Thornton Butterworth, Bedford Street, Strand, price 6s. net. Another member of the "Home Garden Books."

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

Messrs. Wm. Jones and Co., Waterford.—List of Seeds for 1926.

Messrs. Isaac Poad and Sons, Limited, Seed Potato Grower, York. A useful list of seed potatoes for 1926 which should be in the hands of all gardeners.

Messrs. Fidler and Sons, Royal Seed Stores, Reading.—A catalogue of vegetable and flower seeds, Scotch potatoes, etc.

Messrs. Ransomes, Sims and Jefferies, Ipswich.—An illustrated list of their famous lawn mowers and rollers. Motor mowers as well as hand mowers of all types and sizes are included.

Messrs. Carter Page, 52, London Wall, E.C.2.—A catalogue of vegetable and flower seeds, perennials and biennials for spring planting, and a good selection of violas. A useful table, giving directions for vegetable culture, is included.

Messrs. E. P. Dixon and Sons, Paragon Square, Hull.—A well printed catalogue of flower and vegetable seeds, ornamental grasses, bulbs for spring planting, and various garden requisites. Many helpful hints are given.

Mr. A. G. Vinten, Oldland Nursery, Balcombe, Sussex.—A catalogue of choice chrysanthemums. Some of the finest early-flowering single varieties are listed.

Messrs. Robert Sydenham, Limited, Tenby Street, Birmingham.—A concise list of vegetable and flower seeds. Many sweet pea novelties and herbaceous perennials which can be raised from seed are included.

Messrs. John Waterer, Sons and Crisp, Twyford, Berks.—Seeds for the vegetable and flower garden. Also bulbs and roots, such as tuberous-rooted begonias, spiræas and ranunculus, are listed.

Messrs. Harrison and Sons, St. James' Street, Leicester.—A good seed list of standard varieties of flowers and vegetables.

Messrs. R. H. Bath, Limited, Wisbech.—A select list of garden seeds and plants. Some interesting flower and vegetable novelties for 1926 are included.

Mr. H. Eckford, Wem, Shropshire.—A catalogue of sweet pea varieties both new and old has been sent in by this well known sweet pea specialist. Flower and vegetable seeds of all kinds are also listed.

Messrs. Dobbie and Co., Edinburgh.—Plants for spring planting—an interesting catalogue. It contains many fine varieties of asters, dahlias, chrysanthemums, delphiniums, and a most useful list of bedding plants.

Messrs. W. Cutbush and Son, Barnet, Herts.—A catalogue of garden seeds, gladioli, horticultural sundries, etc.

Messrs. Joseph Fison and Co., Ipswich.—An interesting booklet on fertilisers for the garden and greenhouse comes from this long-established firm of fertiliser manufacturers. Notes on the value and uses of various chemical fertilisers, and the rate at which they should be applied, are given. A very useful table, giving directions for sowing vegetable seed and the rotation of crops, is included. All gardeners should make a point of applying for this publication.

Messrs. E. Webb and Sons, Limited, Wordsley, Stourbridge, Worcs.—Vegetable and flower seeds, lawn grass seed, potatoes, bulbs, garden fertilisers, turf preparations, etc. Illustrations of many of the fine strains of flowers and vegetables stocked by this firm are included. There are careful detailed descriptions of each variety.

Messrs. Toogood and Sons, Limited, Southampton.—A flower and vegetable seed catalogue for 1926. A useful and concise order form is supplied, and the many illustrations give some idea of the excellent strains which have been obtained by rigorous selection. All seeds sent out by these seed merchants are guaranteed.

Messrs. Thompson and Morgan, Ipswich.—A well compiled descriptive list of choice flower and vegetable seeds, perennials, biennials and annuals, is given. This catalogue will interest the alpine enthusiast particularly. Many of the finest primulas, saxifrages, androsaces, campanulas, etc., in cultivation are included.

Messrs. Alexander and Brown, Perth.—This firm is to be congratulated on their excellent publication, "My Garden Book." Throughout the 100 pages of this book are numerous half-tone illustrations and colour plates. The cultural details and notes on garden pests should be of great service to the amateur, who would be well advised to study this publication before making out his seed lists.

FOREIGN.

Messrs. Ant. Roozen and Son, Overveen, near Haarlem, Holland.—Bulbs, herbaceous plants, roses, etc., for spring planting.

Messrs. Vilmorin-Andrieux, 4, Quai de Mégisserie, Paris.—A catalogue of flower and vegetable seeds. Many uncommon vegetables and herbs are stocked by this firm, and a number of recent introductions which they are offering for the first time are described.

Messrs. Henry A. Dreer, 1306, Spring Garden Street, Philadelphia, Pa.—Comprehensive Garden Handbook for 1926, containing vegetable and flower seeds. This catalogue is profusely illustrated by means of numerous half-tones and one or two coloured reproductions.

DIDISCUS CŒRULEUS.

It has been brought to our notice that seeds of Didiscus cæruleus, which was mentioned by Miss Victoria Slade in a note on "Two Blue Annuals," are listed by several well known seed firms both in Scotland and England. Our contributor's statement that the annual was practically unknown in Britain is, therefore, misleading.

GOLD MEDAL OFFERED FOR ALPINES.

THE Council of the Royal Horticultural Society has decided to offer a gold Veitch Memorial medal for the best exhibit of alpines in pots and pans staged by an amateur at the Society's fortnightly show on March 23rd, 1926.

Digitized by Google

SEEDSMEN BY APPOINTMENT

CARTERS NEW TOMATO "EPICURE"

AND 24 OTHER NOVELTIES ARE LISTED IN OUR CATALOGUE FOR — — 1926 — —

CARTERS NEW TOMATO

CARTERS EPICURE TOMATO.—A seedling from *Sunrise*, crossed with a selection from *Duke of York*, the fruit is intermediate in type between these two varieties, being larger and a little less spherical than *Sunrise* but not possessing the flatness of *Duke of York*.

Both in our indoor and outdoor trials, this new tomato has proved itself of exceptional merit, being particularly thick fleshed, and containing very few seeds.

The trusses average 8-10 fruit of very even size. We know of no variety which produces such a high percentage of even-sized fruits, it being quite exceptional to find any either larger or smaller than the normal type. Per pkt., 2/6 and 3/6

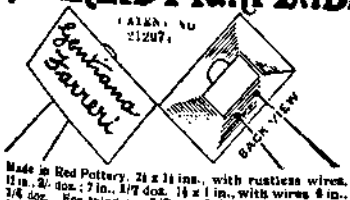
ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE POST FREE.

Carters TESTED SEEDS

SEEDSMEN TO H.M. THE KING.

RAYNES PARK, LONDON, S.W. 20

The WIZARD Plant LABEL



Made in Red Pottery, 2½ x 1½ ins., with rustless wires. 12 in., 2/- doz.; 7 in., 1/7 doz. 1½ x 1 in., with wires 6 in., 2/6 doz. For tying on, 2/6 and 1/3 doz. Waterproof Ink, 9d. and 7½d. bot. Crow Quills, 3d. Postage extra.

Highly commended by the R.H.S. at Wisley.

E. TORKINGTON . NEW HALL . MAIDENHEAD

BY APPOINTMENT

A Horticultural Sum!

Deep Digging
Good Seed
Fair Luck
"NORCO"
TOTAL . SUCCESS

You can make reasonably sure of this total in 1926 if you don't forget to include in your sum

NORCO COMPLETE FERTILISERS

THE PERFECT GARDEN FOOD

PRICES (Bags Free and Carriage Paid):—

	7 lbs.	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	112 lbs.
"NORCO" Complete Garden Fertiliser (For Flowers, Fruit and Vegetables) . .	2/6	4 3	7 3	12 6	23/-

Send for free Booklet on the use of Lime, Stable Manure and Chemical Fertilisers.

"NORCO" (Regd.) is obtainable only direct from the Sole Manufacturers:—

CHARLES NORRINGTON & CO., LTD.
Cattedown, PLYMOUTH.

Makers of High Grade Fertilisers since 1846. No. 11

Digitized by Google

SEEDS, AND WHERE THEY CAN BE OBTAINED

UNWIN'S SWEET PEAS

You will eventually grow them.
Why not **this** season?

OUR "EXHIBITION" COLLECTION

The finest value ever offered in Sweet Peas

W. J. Unwin ..	Salmon cream-pink.
Charming	Cerise.
Matchless	Cream.
Hebe	Rose-pink.
Warrior	Maroon.
Unwin's Crimson ..	Crimson.
George Shawyer ..	Orange-sulmon.
Powerscourt ..	Lavender-blue.
Picture	Deep cream-pink.
Royal Scot	Brilliant scarlet-cerise.
Constance Hinton	White.
Mrs. Tom Jones ..	Blue.
Youth	Picotee.
Royal Purple ..	Purple.

25 seeds each of above 14 for **3/9** (350 seeds)
12 „ „ „ „ **2/-** (168 „)
Postage 1½d. extra.

For Highest quality Sweet Peas, Gladioli, Garden Seeds, etc., etc., at "buyable" prices, send for our

FULL 1926 CATALOGUE POST FREE

W. J. UNWIN, F.R.H.S., *Sweet Pea Specialist & Seedsman,* **HISTON, CAMBS.**

SEEDS

IF YOU WANT

REALLY GOOD SEEDS

AT MODERATE PRICES

SEND TO

ROBERT SYDENHAM LIMITED

99, TENBY STREET, BIRMINGHAM

No one will serve you better.

SWEET PEAS A SPECIALITY

THEIR UNIQUE LISTS

contain only the Best
VEGETABLES, FLOWERS AND
BULBS WORTH GROWING
Post free on application.

ROBERT SYDENHAM LIMITED

BEGONIAS

BEGONIAS, tuberous-rooted varieties, both single and double, are easily raised from seed, which may be sown at any time during January or February. If well grown a large proportion of the plants will prove useful for the greenhouse during late summer and autumn, thus forming a good succession to the earlier-flowering batches grown from dry tubers.

The seed pans should be well drained and filled with a light, sandy compost, which should be watered from a fine-rosed can some hours before the seed is sown. The fine, dust-like seed should be distributed evenly over the surface, and should not be covered. Place a piece of glass over the seed pan and keep shaded until germination takes place, standing the seed pan in a house with a temperature of 60°; if a little bottom

heat can be given, germination will be hastened.

When germination takes place, the seed pan should be placed up near the light, keeping the covering glass on for a few days, but admitting a little air and keeping it shaded during bright sunshine. The young seedlings should be pricked off into pans of light, rich soil; it is not necessary at this stage to prick them off singly, as they may be transferred in small tufts to the fresh soil; the next time they are moved it will be much easier to separate them out singly.

Success depends very largely on their being grown quickly without any check, thus frequent shifts are necessary into shallow boxes of light, rich compost. If well grown they should, from the beginning to the middle of May, be ready to plant out in beds of rich soil in cold frames. When they have attained some size, a few of the strongest plants may

UNWIN'S SWEET PEAS

Known and grown all over the World.
There are no Sweet Peas of better quality obtainable.

OUR NOVELTIES 1925-6

Queen of Roumania. Cream, flushed soft light salmon-cerise. 12 seeds, **1/-**
Wistaria. Grand blue-lavender. 12 seeds, **1/-**
Sybil Henshaw. Giant deep crimson. 12 seeds, **1/-**
Twinkles. Scarlet striped on cream. 12 seeds, **1/-**
Mauve Beauty. Pure, deep mauve. 12 seeds, **1/-**
Blue Butterfly. Pale lavender-blue. 12 seeds, **4d.**
Lady Gay. White, striped bright rose. 12 seeds, **4d.**

Collection of 12 seeds of each of the above, excluding 'Twinkles, for **3/-**

FULL 1926 CATALOGUE POST FREE

of Sweet Peas, Gladioli, Garden Seeds, Dahlias, Roses, etc.

W. J. UNWIN, F.R.H.S., *Sweet Pea Specialist & Seedsman,* **HISTON, CAMBS.**

Forbes' East Lothian Stocks
The most reliable strain in existence. Sow at once for June to November flowering. Crimson, Purple, Rose, Scarlet, White, Lavender. Crimson and White Wallflower-leaved, each 1/-, 2/6 & 5/- per pkt

Forbes' Giant-Flowered Pentstemon
Choice mixed, saved from our unrivalled Gold Medal Collection, 1/6, 2/6 & 5/- per pkt.

Forbes' Fancy Pansy
Choice mixed, in grand variety of colour, 1/-, 2/6 & 5/- per pkt.

JOHN FORBES (HAWICK), Ltd.,
The King's Nurserymen, HAWICK, SCOTLAND.

Garden Seeds from Scotland

SEND FOR

'My Garden Book, 1926'

Recognised by many as

BRITAIN'S BEST SEED CATALOGUE

A descriptive and illustrated list of all the best Vegetable Seeds, Flower Seeds, and Highland Grown Seed Potatoes.

Post free on request.

SECURE YOUR COPY NOW.

ALEXANDER & BROWN
(Dept. T)
The Scottish Seed House, PERTH

Digitized by Google

WEBBS'

'Colour Plate' Collection OF SWEET PEAS

12 finest named varieties, 8/6 post free.

See Colour Photographs in

Webbs' 1926 Catalogue--Free.

Other Collections of 12 named vars., 3/- & 6/-

Thousands of Sweet Pea Growers use WEBBS' SWEET PEA MANURE

Bag of 14-lbs. 4/6; 28-lbs. 8/-; 56-lbs. 15/-

WEBB & SONS, LTD., The King's Seedsmen, STOURBRIDGE.

ROBERT VEITCH & SON'S

Garden Seed Catalogue for 1926

Contains all the Best Vegetables, Choice Flower Seeds, Novelties, and Specialities, Sweet Peas, Lawn Seeds, Seed Potatoes (Scotch), Bulbs, for Spring Planting, Manures, etc., etc.

R. VEITCH & SON

are also Specialists in Hardy Trees and Shrubs, Choice and Rare Plants, Camellias, Fruit Trees, etc.

Catalogues Free on Application.

Royal Nurseries and Seed Warehouse, EXETER

WAKELEY'S GARDEN SEEDS

We beg to announce to our thousands of customers that we are now offering

GARDEN SEEDS OF THE VERY FINEST VARIETIES AND STRAIN.

Send for our SPRING CATALOGUE which contains a choice selection of all seeds and other specialities for the garden.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, Bankside, S.E.

ECKFORD'S GIANT FRILLED SWEET PEAS —FOR 1926—

GORGEOUS FLOWERS. MAGNIFICENT STEMS

For a wealth of cut flowers. For garden decoration. For exhibition.

ECKFORD'S ARE THE WORLD'S BEST

Special Offer.—25 specially chosen 1/- packets of Eckford's Giant Frilled Sweet Peas for 1926, each separate and named, for 20/-

The same 25, half-packets, each separate and named, for 10/-

The above are a gorgeous range of colour best Sweet Peas for 1926. Also pedigree vegetables and choicest flower seeds

WRITE FOR CATALOGUE (FREE) of all the

HENRY ECKFORD, Headquarters for Sweet Peas, Dept. 61 Wem, Shropshire

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

be lifted and potted up for use in the greenhouse, while the bulk of them should be planted in the reserve garden, where they will make good tubers for next year.

Begonia sempervirens, of which there are many fine varieties, may be sown from now onwards until March; they are largely used for summer bedding, but in the colder parts of the country they are equally useful for conservatory and greenhouse decoration. They succeed under the treatment indicated for the tuberous-rooted varieties.

EVERLASTING FLOWERS WORTH GROWING.

IT has to be said concerning flowers most of which can be grown out of doors and have a value for the home because of their lasting properties, that the average gardener takes but a negative interest in them, if, indeed, he is not almost indifferent to their beauty and use in the home. Most of us, if we have not despatched our seed orders, are, at any rate, pondering on our selections, and I would urge upon those who have never seriously taken "everlasting" flowers into consideration to do so in the coming season, and give them a place in the garden. Annuals, biennials and hardy perennials all furnish something that in their time of blooming may be cut and preserved for use when the garden is bereft of flowers. In annuals alone we have some that are exceptionally attractive, like rhodanthes, acrocliniums and helichrysums. The first named is a favourite with many for pot culture, the rosy pink and silvery, dainty blossoms being most acceptable for table and window adornment, but rhodanthes, along with the other two mentioned, can be successfully dealt with if seed is sown out of doors on a warm border in May. The glistening silvery pods of that old-time biennial lunaria, known by its familiar name as Honesty, should not be left out of count. It should be noted, too, that the annual forms of statice if sown and reared under glass until it is time to plant them out in May will provide a wealth of colour. Clumps of perennial statice, like latifolia with panicles, of bluish purple blossoms, together with eryngiums (sea hollies) and echinops (globe thistles), if planted in good time in March, will provide flowers the first season, and gypsophila will do so the second season after planting. Physalises are resplendent in the rich colouring of their pods, and are very popular. If planted at the same time as the other perennials, they seldom disappoint. —W. F.

CELERY WITHOUT TRENCHES.

NOT being quite satisfied with my celery plants on many former occasions, I decided one year to grow the plants on the surface of the soil instead of in trenches, and my method was as follows: Early in June lines were marked off for the plants, then grooves were made only a few inches deep and 1ft. wide. Next, the soil in these grooves was turned over and leaf-mould incorporated as the digging proceeded, and on this prepared ground the plants were set out in single lines. The plants soon grew apace, and to assist them further we dug shallow trenches the width of the spade and the whole length of each line—on one side only—a few inches away from the plants. Into these trenches we placed a good mulch of farmyard manure, and over this the soil which we took out. The time of applying this mulch (June 25th), was a fortnight after the plants were first set out. Sandringham White was the name of the variety which received this treatment. When the stems were sufficiently grown the soil was banked up on either side of each row, so that each plant was surrounded with soil for blanching purposes. I recommend this method to all who have to grow celery on heavy soils.—D. A.

Launching an offer of Seeds for trial.

Free and Post Free.

We launch this offer with much the same feeling in which we should approach thin ice—gingerly—because the offer might be thought to somewhere hide the cloven hoof.

But as we are neither asking for money nor making any conditions whatever in offering to send seeds free to anyone who cares to ask for them, it is difficult to see where the hoof could be hidden.

In the hope of getting into touch with a larger number of gardeners than we now have the pleasure of serving, we are sending to all applicants, free and post free, one packet each of three remarkably good vegetable seeds:

BEETROOT—BAKERS' SELECTED GLOBE. A beautifully formed round beet with a conspicuously thin tap root. . . . .

PARSNIP—GOLIATH. The biggest and best Parsnip that has ever come our way. . .

ONION—MONARCH. The largest growing, best flavoured Onion among those that really keep.

All we ask is that only responsible people will send for the seeds and that they will do their best with them when they get them, because it is only on results that we can hope for the distribution to benefit us.

Where results are good we hope that the grower will be encouraged to learn for himself what Bakers' other seeds are like and so bring grist to our mill.

For our part we can assure all such ladies and gentlemen in advance that the behaviour of the three varieties of seeds we are sending may be taken as a trustworthy guide to the growth and production of all the seed we sell.

Bakers

SEED & FLOWER FARM, CODSALL. *Nr. Wolverhampton.*

To anyone who is diffident about sending for the free seeds we shall be glad to send a copy of our complete Seed Catalogue. In many ways it is an unusual list—more informative than most—certainly more comprehensive and with something about it that might be called the "human touch," as distinct from the cut and dried, soulless sort of production most of us are used to.

A FASCINATING HOBBY

You can raise hundreds of

GLORIOUS DELPHINIUMS

2/6 and 5/- per packet from

THE ACTUAL GROWER

who offers seed picked from the

CHOICEST VARIETIES

WM. SYDENHAM The Gayborder Nurseries MELBOURNE :: DERBYSHIRE

SOW NOW to Bloom in July and August

Blackmore & Langdon's

World Renowned BEGONIA SEEDS (82 Gold Medals)

	Per packet.
DOUBLE.	
None can equal this for quality, size, and lovely form and colours of flowers, ..	2/6 & 5/-
FIMBRIATA PLENA.	
Double frilled, very pretty	2/6 & 5/-
SINGLE.	
Of wonderful size and form ..	1/-, 2/6 & 5/-
FRILLED SINGLE	
A beautiful selection	1/-, 2/6 & 5/-
CRESTED SINGLE	
Very fascinating	1/-, 2/6 & 5/-
CRISPA MARGINATA	
Delightful novelty, frilled single picotee ..	2/6
HANGING BASKET	
A grand novelty, very graceful	1/6, 2/6 & 5/-
GLOXINIA	
Seed, mixed in most beautiful selection of colour	1/6, 2/6 & 5/-

For Prices of Tubers of above and other Specialities, including Delphiniums, Polyanthus, Pansies, etc., write for Free Catalogue and mention this Paper.

BATH

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

A SHRUB GARDEN IN CORNWALL

THERE are many amateur gardeners who have commenced raising a collection of flowering shrubs, but who, through lack of success, are inclined to throw up this most fascinating hobby for something easier and with quicker results. For the benefit of these, and as a stimulus to continue their efforts, I would like to introduce them to a "one man" collection of shrubs and briefly describe some of its contents.

Mr. Percy Waterer was once well known in sweet pea, chrysanthemum and rose circles, and largely exhibited in all three subjects. Seventeen years ago he retired from the City and, settling in Cornwall, took up the hobby of raising hardy flowering shrubs. At that time his knowledge of such shrubs was practically nil.

Situated about two miles inland on the south coast and near Penzance, his garden, which totals about 2 acres, is lying on a steeply sloping hill facing north-north-west; on his arrival there it was croft land covered with gorse and heather, yet single-handed he has transformed it into a perfect Elysium for shrub lovers. Never have other hands taken part in the transformation—not even for the heaviest digging or excavation, and the garden is now a worthy monument to continued hard work, patience and perseverance. A brief description of the place will show what can be done single-handed.

Entering by the west gate, we find a broad avenue with the main garden running steeply up the slope on the left, on the right being a small shrubbery containing his first efforts at shrub raising.

In each of two corners of the latter is a huge Royal fern raised from seed, and near by is a well grown Eucryphia cordifolia carrying a fair amount of bloom. Strolling along the avenue, we pass E. pinnatifolia, Desfontainea spinosa, Leptospermum Nicholsii, L. Chapmanii, L. Boscaweni and L. lævigatum, the glorious Embothrium coccineum in close company with a fine Tricuspidaria lanceolata. On the eastern side one is immediately struck with a very fine specimen of Olearia Solandri, its new growths glowing like gold in the sun; and from here may be seen O. semidentata, Clianthus puniceus (grown as a bush), Magnolia stellata, a 24ft. Drimys Winteri, Myrtus bullata and others too numerous to mention. Passing a small rose garden, we proceed towards the house, noticing on our left a large clump of Olearia insignis, a massive Acacia dealbata, in the shade of which is a 10ft. Plagianthus Lyallii, Pittosporum Ralphii, Leucopogon Richii and L. fasiculata. On the right are Acacia Baileyana, Diosma gracilis, Rubus australis, Olearia virgata, Bauera rubiæfolia, Corokia buddleioides and others, backed by various buddleias, veronicas, fuchsias, Eupatorium Weinmannianum and Polygala Dalmaisyana.

Turning sharp to the left, we observe a bank of Mitraria coccinea, the coral red blooms showing up well against the dark green background; while opposite is a well furnished Leptospermum flavescens. Another turn brings us face to face with a large bank of heaths, composed principally of Erica arborea, E. codonodes and the true E. australis. Looking right, we get a glimpse of the house with Prostanthera rotundifolia, Erica melanthera and Passiflora cœrulea climbing its walls; while the border leading thereto contains Clethra arborea, Myrtus communis, Rhododendron Pink Pearl, Euphorbia mellifera and the daintiest of dainty shrubs, Diosma uniflora and Pentapterygium rugosum (How I envy these!)

Mounting still higher, we pass a profusion of berberis of many varieties, the exquisite colourings of their berries brightening the dull days; Cytisus præcox, Escallonia Mayii, Dianella intermedia (its berries now a glorious blue), and at the very top of the hill we espy wonderful trees of Acacia juniperinus and retinoides. From this vantage point we see numbers of Cordyline australis, C. Banksii, C. indivisa and eucalyptus rearing their heads above the trees and shrubs, and can just see Clematis Jackmannii intermingled with Solanum jasminoides clothing one side of the house with bloom.

The first feeling experienced after visiting this place and viewing the enormous labour involved in its creation from practically virgin croft, is one of amazement that one man could perform the task unaided; and the second feeling, the great patience and perseverance required to carry it through. There are many finer gardens, many finer and rarer collections of shrubs, but never have I seen a garden where one man has produced finer results. Do not think that even in this delectable spot no difficulties are to be overcome. Hurricanes from the Channel, a constantly damp atmosphere, sudden and severe frosts in early spring (twenty degrees of frost have been registered here), are but a few of the trials; and, as a tonic to those shrub enthusiasts who have suffered disappointments and are despairing of success, I would recommend either a visit to this garden or the adoption of the owner's two mottoes: "Patience, perseverence and hard work," and "Love your plants, watch your plants. They will tell you what they want when they want it." Further, to remember that practically everything contained in the garden described has been raised from either seed or cuttings.—P. E. CHAPPELL, *Cornwall.*

A GROWING HABIT

and a very sensible one is to give your friend, especially a friend overseas, a year's subscription to one of the best weekly periodicals.

It means fifty-two kind remembrances of you, and fifty-two remembrances of England.

There is no paper so representative of England and none so welcome abroad as

COUNTRY LIFE

80/- *a year abroad.* 60/- *to Canada*

20, TAVISTOCK ST., COVENT GARDEN, LONDON W.C.2

YOUR GARDEN NEEDS KILOGRUB

Its fumes are instantly fatal to all insect pests in the soil, but harmless to plants. Really effective because it works underground.

Tins: 9d., 1/6 and 2/6
Bags: ¼ cwt. 6/6, ½ cwt. 9/6, 1 cwt. 15/-

From your seedsmen or from
JOHN PEAK & CO. LTD. WIGAN. Lancs.

LETHORION IMPROVED NICOTINING FUMIGATOR

Certain destruction to all pests in glass ho
Only a match required for starting i
No. 1 .. For 1,000 cubic feet ..
" 2 .. " 1,500 " " ..
" 3 .. " 2,500 " " ..
Sold by all Nurserymen and Seedsmen
CORRY & CO., Ltd., Shad Thames, London

GARDEN LOVERS

Write for Catalogues of
PROTHEROE & MORRIS'
HORTICULTURAL SALES
MONDAY · WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY
67, 68 Cheapside, London E.C.2. Phone: City 3856

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by "ALPHOL"

Sample 14 lb., 3/6 carr. pa

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garde Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc.,

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St., Liverpo

APPLES.

Special Offer of Strong Lancashire-grown Trees.

CHARLES ROSS, Dessert
COX'S ORANGE PIPPIN, Dessert
GOLDEN SPIRE, Dessert and Cooking
HILL'S SEEDLING, Dessert and Cooking
LORD DERBY, Cooking
RIVAL, Dessert

6 for 20/- Carriage Paid.

Black Currants—Seabrooks—The Best, 6/6 per doz. carr. paid.
Your money refunded if not pleased.

THERKILDSEN, F.R.H.S., Kew Gardens, SOUTHPORT.

THE DOG: MAN'S FIRMEST FRIEND

How to choose and care for him, by A. CROXTON SMITH copy of this helpful booklet on the housing, breeding, fe and care of dogs will be sent post free on receipt of addressed to The Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

BLINDED for YOU

The War-blinded Men of St. Dunstan's (many of whom have lost a limb as well as sight) have been trained to produce the most perfect and hard-wearing

NETS AND NETTING

for Garden, Farm and Sports use. Show these gallant craftsmen that you value the work of their hands.

Moderate prices. List or special quotations on application to—

NETTING DEPT. (A) St. Dunstan's Headquarters, Inner Circle, Regent's Pk., LONDON, N.W.1

Digitized by Google

ANTHONY C. VAN DER SCHOOT, LTD.,

Hillegom, Holland. ESTABLISHED 1830.

BULBS FOR SPRING PLANTING, PERENNIAL PLANTS, ROSES

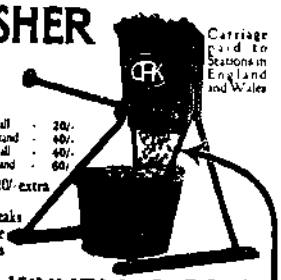
Fine coloured and richly illustrated Catalogue free on application.

Registered Trade Mark

CARRIAGE PAID. ***NO CHARGE FOR PACKING.***

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

KINNELL'S COKE CRUSHER FROM STOCK



Carriage paid to Stations in England and Wales

Reduces Fuel to correct size for long burning

Small Crusher for Wall - 20/-
Ditto on Wrought Stand - 40/-
Large Crusher for Wall - 40/-
Ditto on Wrought Stand - 60/-
Strong Coke Pan 10/- extra

Large Crusher breaks 1 cwt. of small one (2 lb. in 20 minutes

CHAS. P. KINNELL & Co LTD
65.65A Southwark St. London. S.E.1

The FIFTY BEST ROCK PLANTS

(See article in this issue.)

We will forward 50 all different (named), as selected in the article, for 25/6, packed and carriage free to any address in United Kingdom, for cash with order.

The 100 BEST ALPINES

Ask for our leaflet giving our idea of the 100 best, together with height, colour, flowering period, aspect and soil. Interesting and invaluable to all keen on Rock plants.

THIS YEAR'S NOVELTY

Hypericum fragile citrinum.—A lemon yellow variety of this well known and popular rock plant, 2/6 each, 3 for 6/-, post, 9d.

NEW CATALOGUE.—We will send our full descriptive Catalogue of Alpines and Miniature Shrubs, etc. (48 pages), post free on mentioning THE GARDEN.

BOWELL & SKARRATT
Hardy Plant Specialists, CHELTENHAM

THE JACKPAN

"The tool that cuts your costs"

Abolishes trenching. THE deep cultivator. What your Editor and others think of it is told in our Illustrated Folder No. 5, sent on request.

Your retailer can supply, or we will send sample for 6/-

P.E.O.S. LTD., 3, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.1

HILL & SMITH, Ltd.,

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS,

Makers of

IRON FENCING, HURDLES, GATES, WIRE NETTING AND GARDEN IRONWORK

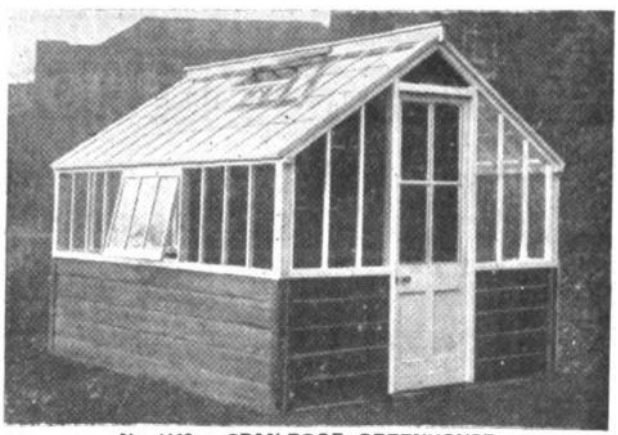
Other Products—Hay and Grain Sheds, Dutch Barns, Galvanized Corrugated Sheets and Structural Steelwork.

Catalogues free on mentioning this paper.

London: 205, Abbey House, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

A B. & P. GREENHOUSE IS A GOOD INVESTMENT



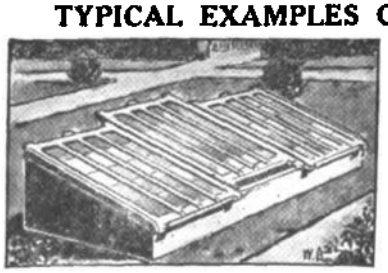
No. H49a. SPAN-ROOF GREENHOUSE

WITH this compact, inexpensive Greenhouse you can grow rare flowers that cannot be reared out-of-doors. It will double the interest and pleasure of gardening. Easily erected in 90 minutes. Size 10 ft. by 8 ft. In six sections, with bolts for easy erection. Painted one coat. Glass cut to size and packed in boxes. **£18 : 10 : 0**

If glazed at works and painted two coats, packed in close cases to prevent damage - - - - - - - - - - - - **£22 : 7 : 0**

Carriage paid to most stations in England and Wales. Prices for heating and stages sent on application. Prices given for additional lengths. Write for free booklet which tells you all about this Greenhouse. Mention G. 169.

TYPICAL EXAMPLES OF B. & P. GARDEN FRAMES



No. H 75—MELON AND CUCUMBER FRAME

The fronts are 11ins. high, back 22ins. high. The frame is 1¼ins. thick, and the lights 2ins. Glazed with 21oz. English glass and painted two coats.

One-Light Frame, 4ft. x 6ft. **£3 : 12 : 0**

No. H 77—VIOLET or BORDER FRAME

4ft. wide, painted two coats and glazed with 21oz. English glass. Height in front 8ins., and at back 16ins. Supplied either with sliding lights or hinged lights and setopes.

Two-Light Frame, 6ft. x 4ft., Sliding Lights **£2 : 19 : 0**

Carriage paid to most stations in England and Wales, packing extra, but allowed for if returned. Garden Frame Catalogue G.116 sent free on request.

TRAYS *for storing Fruit or Potatoes a speciality. Supplied either in stacks or cabinet form. Write for Leaflet G. 169*

Boulton & Paul Ltd

Telegrams BOULTON NORWICH **NORWICH** Telephone NORWICH 851 (5 lines)

LONDON OFFICE 135-137 QUEEN VICTORIA ST. E.C

Telegrams Boutique Cent London Telephone 4642 Cent

ENQUIRIES *invited for Conservatories and Ranges of Glasshouses. Heating Apparatus and all Accessories. Designs and Schemes prepared.*

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

WAKELEY'S *Celebrated* Hop Manure

(PATENTED)

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

AS USED IN THE GARDENS OF GREAT BRITAIN

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL, ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION, 1912

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE, without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

Every ounce of Wakeley's Hop Manure is of value to the soil, supplying the necessary HUMUS in addition to the valuable plant food. Worthless rubbish is not added to make weight (as is the case of some artificial manures advertised).

Thousands do realise it, the proof of this is the constant flow of UNSOLICITED LETTERS received from time to time in praise of the wonderful results obtained at such a moderate cost (see Booklet for selection).

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.—Genuine Only in our Marked Bags containing Guaranteed Analysis.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of post card.

CASH PRICES (including bags):	
Small (about 1 bushel)	3/-
Large (about 4 bushels)	7/-
5 Large	33/9
10 Large	65/-
20 Large	120-

Carriage paid by Pickford's or to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company; 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.

75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

YOU ARE ABUNDANTLY SAFE

THE Bank of England—a national institution. The Colosseum at Rome—solid as a rock. Of equal standing in their own line, are advertisers in this Journal. They are known for the way in which they meet public needs and for the Service they are always ready to extend to the reader.

YOU ARE ABUNDANTLY SAFE IN DEALING WITH THEM.

GREENHOUSES AND GARDEN FRAMES

I specialize in the Erection of High class Horticultural Buildings.

Garden Frames a speciality. Selected timber, well seasoned, only used.

Being a grower, I understand Glasshouse requirements.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.

CATALOGUES WITH PLEASURE

E. M. HEAP, Cottimore Nurseries, WALTON-ON-THAMES.

By Appointment

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.,

Royal Potteries.

BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

AFTER 23 YEARS——

AN ELOQUENT PROOF OF UNFAILING AND USEFUL SERVICE

"A better Greenhouse Boiler could not be than the 'Horse Shoe.' I have had it in use for 23 years, and it has answered splendidly." writes Mr. F. G. L.....47, Mt. Carmel, Derby. 23/11/1925.

"HORSE SHOE" BOILERS

CAN BE SUPPLIED FROM IMMEDIATE STOCK.

Write for particulars now.

To CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD.,
Engineers, Southwark Street, S.E.1.

Please send me Booklet E "Making the Most of Your Greenhouse," and price of complete Outfit to suit *(span-roof) (lean-to) greenhouse.....long .....wide inside, sides of *(wood) (brick).....thick

Name.....

Address.....

*Strike out particulars not needed. Cut out and send by 1d. post.

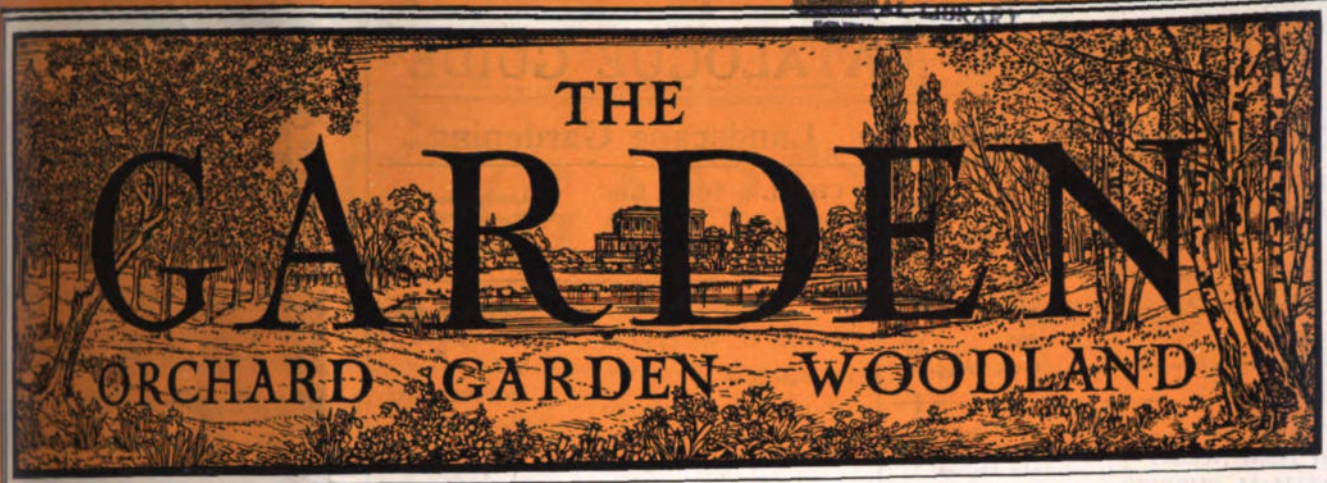
CHAS. P. KINNELL & Co., Ltd., 65, Southwark St., LONDON, S.E.1

Wire: "Kinnell-Boroh-London." Phone: Hop 362 (three lines.)

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2

Digitized by Google

PERIODICAL ROOM
GENERAL LIBRARY



THE GARDEN

ORCHARD GARDEN WOODLAND

Vol. XC.—No. 2829 Saturday, February 6th, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

Flower Seed Specialities, 1926

	s.	d.
ANCHUSA italica Lissadell, a beautiful border plant producing large flowers of a clear Gentian blue, h.p., 5ft. .. per pkt., **1s.** &	1	6
ANTIRRHINUM, mixture of glowing orange-scarlet and scarlet shades, a blend of the finest varieties of these colours, 1½ft. per pkt., **6d.** &	1	0
CYNOGLOSSUM Blue Gem, producing large sprays of brilliant blue Forget-me-not-like flowers in early summer; a fine border plant, h.b., 1½ft. .. .. per pkt.	1	6
GENTIANA Farreri, beautiful and rare species from China, of semi-prostrate growth, producing, in August, large sky-blue flowers with white throat, and veined black .. .. per pkt.	3	6
LILIUM Martagon album, a very beautiful Lily bearing pyramidal spikes of wax-like pure white flowers	1	0
ROMNEYA trichocalyx, an improvement on R. COULTERI, free bloomer and bearing very large snowy white flowers, with golden stamens, h.p., 4ft.	2	6
SCHIZANTHUS Wisetonensis, Barr's Giant Prize Strain, graceful Fern-like foliage and profusion of large flowers all with handsome markings, 1½ft. .. .. **1s.** &	1	6
STOCK Empress Elizabeth, a fine **Giant Brompton Stock**, forming handsome pyramidal heads of large and beautiful flowers of a brilliant bright rose; a grand pot plant, 15ins. .. .. **1s.** &	2	6

For other Flower Seed Specialities, see Barr's Seed Guide free on application.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES

CLASS 1.

Selected Stocks of the Leading Varieties.

Send for List.

ISAAC POAD & SONS, Ltd.,
Seed Potato Growers - - - YORK.

Glass breaks!

WHY USE IT?

'WINDOLITE'

The practical Glass Substitute for all GARDEN USES.

Light. Flexible. Unbreakable.

Easy to cut and fix. It keeps out cold and wet, but lets in all the light—even the Ultra Violet Rays which are stopped by glass.

Send 4/6 for post free sample, 3 ft. by 2 ft.

WINDOLITE (DEPT. C) 179/185, GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1

. . THE . .

"SOUTHWELL" COLLECTION

BUSH ROSE TREES. ALL BRITISH GROWN.

FIRST CLASS VARIETIES FOR GARDEN EFFECT.

Avoca, crimson scarlet
Caroline Testout, satiny rose
Conrad F. Meyer, silvery rose
Dorothy Page Roberts, salmon pink
Francis Gaunt, fawny yellow
Frau Karl Druschki, white
General McArthur, velvety carmine
Gorgeous, deep orange yellow
Hadley, deep velvety crimson
Henrietta, coral salmon
La Tosca, blush pink
Lieut. Chaure, velvety crimson
Lyon, salmon pink
Mrs. H. R. Darlington, creamy yellow
Mrs. John Laing, clear pink
Red Letter Day, scarlet crimson
Richmond, red scarlet
W. E. Wallace, deep golden yellow

This collection of 18 varieties for **18/9**, or 12 selected from the above for **12/6**
Acme Labels (if required) .. .. **2/6** per dozen.

Carriage and packing free for Cash with Order.

BUY HOME GROWN TREES.

Catalogue of Rose Trees, Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Hardy Plants, etc., free on application to—

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, Ltd., THE NURSERIES, SOUTHWELL, NOTTS.

KING'S ACRE *Select and Reliable* GARDEN SEEDS

Unsurpassed for Quality and Germination. The finest and Best Stocks obtainable, and famous throughout the United Kingdom.

THE FINEST STRAINS EXTANT OF CRANSTON'S EXCELSIOR AND AILSA CRAIG ONIONS

New Seed Catalogue just issued and Free on request.

90 GOLD MEDALS AWARDED TO OUR HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITS.

King's Acre Nurseries, Ltd. *Seed Merchants* HEREFORD
ESTABLISHED 1785. LATE CRANSTONS.

PLANTING SEASON

GEO. JACKMAN & SON

WOKING NURSERIES, SURREY.

Established over a century.

Invite inspection of their large and varied stock of ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBS, ROSES, CLIMBERS, FRUIT AND FOREST TREES, HERBACEOUS AND ALPINE PLANTS.

200 Acres of Stock to select from. Catalogues free on application.

ADVICE GIVEN ON ALL MATTERS APPERTAINING TO LANDSCAPE GARDENING & ESTATE IMPROVEMENTS

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
New Alpines and Perennials
Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD
CHELSEA, S.W.
Special Novelty List on Application.

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

BROWN'S TESTED SEEDS.
Illustrated Flower and Vegetable Seed Catalogue, giving full cultural directions, at competitive prices, post free if this paper is mentioned.
D. T. BROWN & CO., *Seedsmen*, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

Fruit Trees Rose Trees
ALL ENGLISH GROWN.
Descriptive Catalogue post free on demand.
INSPECTION INVITED.
S. SPOONER & SONS
Estd. 1820 **The Nurseries, Hounslow, MIDDLESEX**

TUBS FOR SHRUBS.
WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 100 prizes. R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. — Price List from A. PRADAL, 28, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

SEED POTATOES
BUY LINCOLNSHIRE SEED THIS SEASON
THEY ARE BEST.
Grown on Finest Silt Soil in the Marshes
"THE LINCOLN" PEA
The favourite now with all Allotment and Garden growers.
1/3 pint, post paid.
9/6 peck, carr. paid.
T. H. LINCOLN & Co.
Seed Growers, BOSTON, Lincs.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
HULL
Weed Destroyers Fertilisers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

FRUIT TREES.
SPECIAL OFFER of the following in strong, well-grown Fruiting Bushes :—
12 Gooseberries Whinham's Industry.
12 Black Currants Seabrook's (Mite Resisting).
12 Red Currants Raby Castle.
for 20/- Carriage Paid for Cash with Order, or half the above numbers for 10/-.

CLIMBING ROSES.
A great opportunity to have your own selection from the following:

Albéric Barbier	Lady Gay
American Pillar	Lady Godiva
Aviateur Bleriot	Minehaha
Coronation	René André
Dorothy Perkins	White Dorothy
Excelsa	
Hiawatha	

Six extra strong, well-grown Trees selected from the above for 10/-, carriage paid to your nearest station, for cash with order.
Descriptive Catalogue of Fruit Trees, Roses, Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, etc.
THE FOREST & ORCHARD NURSERIES, LTD.,
MILBURY HEATH, FALFIELD, GLOS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Reduced Prices!
The prices of XL ALL Weed Destroyer have been reduced. This preparation is still, of course, the finest on the market. Once a year is usually as much as it need be used. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen and florists.
XL ALL WEED DESTROYER
G. H. RICHARDS, LTD.
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
Rt. 8

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

BARGAIN CATALOGUE
Land Sold for Building
Real Cambridgeshire grown Fruit Trees, Fruit Bushes, Roses, Shrubs, Avenue Trees, Privet, Plants.
Exceptionally strong and healthy.
FRANK RICE (F.R.H.S.), Arbury Nurseries, Cambridge

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

GRAPE VINES and FIGS
ALSO
SPECIMEN FRUIT TREES
WRITE FOR OFFERS.
STUART LOW & CO., Bush Hill Park ENFIELD

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

SHOW & REGAL PELARGONIUMS
for a brilliant show in April and May.
Strong plants ready now, from 3-inch pots, ready for potting into 5-inch pots. Best results obtained from plants now.
12 varieties 9/-, or newer sorts, **12/-, 15/-** and **17/6** post free for cash.
2/6 per doz. extra if required in Leather-board pots. Carriage paid.
DAHLIAS
(pot roots) of CACTUS, DECORATIVE, POMPON, COLLARETTE, STAR, ETC., **8/-** per doz. post free. All separate varieties. A mixed dozen same price.
Orders over 5/- post free C. W. O.
Catalogue free on application.
J. W. COLE & SON, Westwood Nurseries, Peterborough

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

GARDEN MANURES
(Thousands of Tons Sold Annually)
OF EVERY POSSIBLE KIND AT
LEAST COST CARRIAGE PAID
INSTRUCTIVE CATALOGUE FREE
JAMES & GEO. H. MATTHEWS
Harold Wood, ESSEX. *Phone : Romford 284*

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Downer's Usually Silent Lupins
are making a great *noise* in the world. Rich, harmonious colours, mixed, 12/- doz. clumps. Lupin List, Herbaceous and Alpine Catalogue free. A necessary warning.—Some firms are selling Lupin Downer's Delight grown from seed. The same remark applies to Lupin Downer's Pink Pearls. It is needless to say these plants are not true.
DOWNER, 2, Drayton Manor Nurseries, Chichester.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

WATERER'S GOLD MEDAL RHODODENDRONS, Azaleas, Shrubs, Conifers, Climbers Heaths, Hardy Perennials and Alpine Plants, Vegetable and Flower Seeds, Scotch Seed Potatoes, Spring Bulbs, English-grown Fruit Trees and Roses. Separate catalogue for each department post free.—JOHN WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LIMITED, Twyford, Berks.

WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE.—The original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See advert. on back page.

WM. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., Lawrence Road, South Tottenham, N.15.—Conservatories, Winter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

BIRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUNDIALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—MARCUS, 80, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

FENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Garden Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE STANLEY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, Surrey.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Pot Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list, post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

ROCK PLANTS AND SHRUBS.—Over 300 varieties in stock. Descriptive catalogue free. Also Herbaceous Plants and Roses.—HODGSON, LTD., 58, Castlegate, Nottingham.

YORK STONE PAVINGS, crazy or rectangular, rustic copings, steps, roughly squared or random shaped, flat bedded wallstones, garden edging, rockery, etc.—CHARLES JOHNSON AND SON (MIRFIELD), LTD., Newgate Stone Works, Mirfield, Yorkshire.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, espaliers, loggias, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-galvanised and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 4/- per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

IPSWICH RARE SEEDS.—New Catalogue practically an encyclopedia on gardening—describes 3,000 varieties of flower seeds, also all the best strains of vegetable seeds. Post free on application to THOMPSON AND MORGAN, London Road, Ipswich.

Price 2/6 each, by L. E. FOX.

ADAM'S GARDEN : Cultivation of Vegetable and Small Fruit, with Preface by E. J. CHITTENDEN, F.L.S., V.M.H.

EVE'S GARDEN : Cultivation of Flowers, with Preface by JOHN FRASER, F.L.S., V.M.H. *The Gardeners' Chronicle* says of *Adam's Garden*, "Most valuable information is given in a condensed form."—LONGMANS, GREEN AND CO., LTD., 39, Paternoster Row, London, E.C.4

RHODODENDRONS.—For sale, Ponticums, 18/- per 100; 1½ft., 30/- per 100; 2½ft., 40/- per 100. Good bushy plants. Carriage paid on orders of £2 10s. or over. Special quotation for larger quantities.—THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT, Rufford Pulmonary Hospital, Rufford, near Ormskirk, Lancashire.

GARDEN NETS. — Protect your Seeds and Buds from frost and birds. Netting, strong, small mesh, specially prepared, will not rot, as supplied by us to the Royal Gardens, 25 sq. yds. for 2/6. Any length or width supplied, pro rata in proportion. Carr. paid. Cheaper kinds kept. List and samples free.—GASSON & SONS, Net Works, Rye. Est. 120 years.

PRIOR'S COLCHESTER ROSES, Fruit Trees, Dahlias, Carnations, Herbaceous. Catalogue containing cheap collections free.—D. PRIOR & SON, LTD., Colchester.

NEW RASPBERRIES.—Plant now. Pyne's Royal Lloyd George, Red Cross. Largest fruit; heaviest and best cropper; richest flavour; very hardy; true stocks. Fruiting canes, 2½ft. to 4½ft., 10/- per 100; 60 same rate; 12 for 2/-. Sample dozen, 3/-. All carriage paid for cash. Other fruits cheap.—JAS. WALTERS, Grower, 25, Friars Walk, Lewes.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING, small mesh, 50 yds. by 1 yd., 2/-; 25 yds. by 2 yds., 4/-; 40 yds. by 1 yd., 40 yds. by 2 yds., 6/6; 40 yds. by 3 yds., 9/9. Measured and hemmed. Special Pea Netting supplied. Tennis Nets from stock. Carriage paid. Compare our netting with others. Sports Nets and samples free.—GALLOP, Net Manufacturer, Hastings.

BARR'S SEED GUIDE FOR 1926.—The best flower and vegetable seeds of finest selected strains and tested growth, including many fine novelties for the Flower Garden and Greenhouse; also a select list of Garden Requisites, Insecticides, Manures and Horticultural Books. Post free.

BARR'S BEAUTIFUL LILIES, GLADIOLI, CANNAS, DAHLIAS, MONTBRETIAS, TIGRIDIAS, TUBEROSES, etc., for February to April planting. Catalogue free.—BARR & SONS, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are now famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx, and perpetual habit. Illustrated plant list now ready. New Seed, now ready, hand fertilised, 2/6 and 5/- packets.—J. DOUGLAS, Great Bookham, Surrey.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial : Novelties in the Garden ..	77
Trees and Shrubs Worth Growing ..	78
The Fifty Best Rock Plants	80
Novelties in Half-hardy Annuals ..	81
Three of This Year's Novelties	83
Notes of the Week	84–85
Coreopsis ; On Salvias ; Calaminthas ; Some Interesting Rubi ; The Madeira Orchid ; Notes from Switzerland.	
Novelties in Sweet Peas	86
Some New Varieties of Vegetables ..	87
The Duke Cherries	88
Tools and their Selection	89
Correspondence	89–90
Pieris in Scotland ; Seedling Birches ; Hydrangea hortensis rosea ; Nerine Bowdeni ; Two Rock Garden Annuals ; Lonicera fragrantissima.	
The R.H.S. Fortnightly Show	90
Garden Technique	92
Delphiniums ; The Daffodil Sweet Pea ; Pricking-out Antirrhinums ; Mushrooms ; Early Cauliflowers; Self-blanching Celery; The Use of Stimulants.	

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL DELPHINIUMS and ROSES. Send a postcard for our catalogue.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI. Chrysanthemums, Dahlias, and Border Carnations.—Our stock includes many new and meritorious varieties. List post free on application.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

CLARENCE ELLIOTT'S SEED LIST is just out. Seeds of rare alpines, herbaceous plants and popular annual flowers. "A list worth watching."—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LTD., Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

WELLS' CATALOGUE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS will be sent post free on application.—W. WELLS AND CO., Merstham, Surrey.

ROCK AND ALPINE PLANTS.—Large and varied collection. All pot grown. Packed and carriage paid. Catalogue free.—M. J. PRIDGOTT, Duffield, Nr. Derby.

SPENCE'S SCOTCH SEED POTATOES.—Write for Descriptive Catalogue and Growing Guide (on Potatoes only).—CHAS. T. SPENCE, Seed Potato Specialist, Dunbar Scotland.

SUTTON'S SEEDS.

Sow now under glass.

CELERY SUTTON'S SOLID WHITE.
Very sweet, large and solid. One of the best White Celery for the main crop.
Per packet, 1/6.

SUTTON & SONS, THE KING'S SEEDSMEN, READING.

DOBBIE'S 1926 CATALOGUE AND GUIDE, 144 pages, 225 illustrations, free to all readers. Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.—DOBBIE AND CO., LTD., Edinburgh.

BATH'S SELECT SEEDS AND PLANTS.—New Illustrated Catalogue of choice Vegetable and Flower Seeds and Plants is now ready, and will be sent, post free, on application.—(Dept. E), R. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO READERS OF "THE GARDEN."—Owing to the great demand for FIDLER'S 1926 GARDEN GUIDE AND CATALOGUE, a limited number of copies have been provisionally reserved for readers of this paper. Please SEND IN YOUR APPLICATION AT ONCE and mark your envelope or postcard "GARDEN" in top left-hand corner.—FIDLER & SONS (established 1856), Reading.

HARDY PLANTS, ROSES AND FRUIT TREES. Revised catalogue now ready. Free on application to THOMPSON AND MORGAN, Ipswich.

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES.—Per stone: Duke of York, 2/3; Witchhill, 2/6; Express, 2/2; Epicure 1/10; Eclipse, 2/-; Abundance, 2/2; Great Scot, 2/3; Majestic, 2/4; King Edward, 1/10; Kerr's Pink, 1/10; Bishop, 2/3, etc. Shallots Red, 8d. lb. Amateur's Guide of Vegetable and Flower Seeds, free.—TILLIE WHYTE & CO., 12, Melbourne Place, Edinburgh.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS FOR GREENHOUSE AND GARDEN. Also Dahlias, Fuchsias, Show and Zonal Pelargoniums and Coleus. Price List free on application.—J. W. COLE AND SON, Westwood Nurseries, Peterborough.

BOOKS.—Mr. E. T. Ellis, Horticultural Writer and Editor, Westwood, Ecclesall, Sheffield, has for disposal a quantity of good GARDENING WORKS. Write to-day, mentioning THE GARDEN, for free list, and state wants.

ORCHIDS.—In addition to our own large stock, we have purchased a fine private Collection containing many useful Orchids suitable for Amateurs. Cool and Intermediate. Catalogue on application.—MANSELL AND HATCHER, LTD., Rawdon, Yorkshire.

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES direct from the growers. Our New Descriptive List now ready, post free.—GUTHRIE BROS., Springfield, Fife, N.B.

ALPINE, ROCK, HERBACEOUS PLANTS, Rock Garden Shrubs and Conifers Catalogue free.—SHEPPARD, Shawhurst Nursery, Hollywood, Birmingham.

INDIAN ORCHIDS.—6 Vandas cœrulea, 30/-; 6 V. Amesiana, 26/-; 6 V. Kimballiana, 26/-; 12 different grand-flowering sorts, 25/-. 6 Dendrobium brymerianum, 26/- Cash. All paid in U.K. Catalogue free.—THE CHANDRA NURSERY, P.O. Rhenock, Sikkim (Bengal), India.

ELLISON'S SPECIAL COLLECTIONS.—Gladioli, 5 each, 10 varieties, 5/- carriage paid. Sweet Peas, 10 each, 20 varieties, 2/- carriage paid. Gloxinias, Begonias, Cannas, Lilliums, Lilium chalcedonicum scarlet, Turk's Cap, 2/6 each, 27/6 dozen.—ELLISONS, Seedsmen, 95, West Bromwich. Catalogue free.

MRS. SINKINS PINKS.—Good roots, 2/6 dozen. Post 6d. KINGCUPS.—A blaze of gold in your bog garden, streamside, or in tubs. Plant now. 4/6 doz., post 6d. Wild plant list free.—NATIVE PLANT NURSERIES Rockbeare, Exeter.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

BLOM for BULBS

Apply for new Spring Catalogue to—

Messrs. J. C. WHITNEY & Co.,
Eldon Street House, Eldon Street,
London, E.C. - - - *or to—*

WALTER BLOM & SON
(Late of Overveen),
Hillegom, Holland.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then, together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices :—

Tins 10d. and 1/6

and in **Branded and Sealed Bags :**

7 lbs. -	3/6	14 lbs. -	6/-
28 lbs. -	10/-	56 lbs. -	18/-
112 lbs. -	32/-		

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark.

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers, etc. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**

Bentley's Specialities

Weed Destroyers
(Liquid 1 to 80; Powder 1 to 25.)

Daisy Killer
(Lawn Sand.)

Earthworm Destroyers
(Liquid and Powder.)

Fertilizers
For Lawns, Fruits, Flowers and Vegetables.

Insecticides
For all kinds of pests and filth.

Fungicides
For fungoid growths, indoors and outdoors.

Fumigants
For use under glass and in the soil.

GARDEN and SPORTS' NETS, BLINDS, SHADINGS, etc.

Complete illustrated catalogue — Free on application —

Manufacturers :—
JOSEPH BENTLEY, Limited
Chemical Works, Barrow-on-Humber, LINCS.

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING, SURREY
(late ANTHONY WATERER)

PROPRIETOR - **HOSEA WATERER**
has pleasure in offering

STANDARD TREES
in great variety, consisting of

LIMES, NORWAY MAPLES, ELMS, etc., etc.

EVERGREEN & DECIDUOUS SHRUBS, viz. :

Box—Green and Variegated, 3 to 8 ft.
Hollies—Common, 5 to 8 ft.; Variegated and Green varieties, 2 to 6 ft.
Thuiopsis borealis, 10 to 12 ft. Cupressus Lawsoniana, 12 to 14 ft. Cedrus atlantica glauca, very fine, 10 to 14 ft. Osmanthus, Phillyreas, Spiræas, Lilacs, Viburnums, etc.

GOLDEN YEWS
A Magnificent Stock in all shapes and sizes from 2 to 10 ft.

PRIVET, Common and Oval-leaved.
QUICK and **HORNBEAM** for Hedges.
AZALEAS, 2 to 5 ft.
RHODODENDRONS, without doubt the finest stock in the trade of named varieties, 2 to 6 and 8 ft.
HARDY HEATHS in great variety and a good general nursery stock.

Catalogues ready.

Enquiries and inspection invited.

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING STATION, SURREY

THE GARDEN DOCTOR : Plants in Health and Disease, by F. J. CHITTENDEN, V.M.H., freely illustrated 7/6 net, by post 8/-. A prospectus of this practical book will be sent post free on application to The Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

Austins
Scotch Seed Potatoes.

Our stocks are grown and selected specially for seed purposes, and under normal conditions of soil and situation cannot fail to produce first-class crops. All are Class 1, Scotch.

	14lb.	28lb.	56lb.	112lb.
FIRST EARLY.				
Arran Rose	3/-	5/6	10/-	18/-
Immune Ashleaf	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Duke of York ..	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Sharpe's Express	2/3	4/3	7/6	13/-
Witch Hill Early ..	3/-	5/6	10/-	18/-
SECOND EARLY.				
Ally	2/3	4/3	7/6	13/-
Arran Comrade	2/3	4/3	7/6	13/-
British Queen	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Great Scot	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Catriona	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
MAIN CROP.				
Abundance	2/4	4/6	8/-	14/-
Arran Chief	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
King Edward	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Kerr's Pink	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Majestic	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Field Marshal	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-

We offer many other varieties, including Arran Consul, Ben Lomond, Golden Marvel, White Arran Victory, etc., full particulars of which are given in our Catalogue, which may be had post free on request.

Packing Free. Carriage forward by goods train. If to be sent by passenger train the additional cost would be: **14lb., 1/6; 28lb., 2/9; 56lb., 5/-; 112lb., 10/-.**

Our catalogue, giving full list of varieties, will be sent on application.

AUSTIN'S GOLD MEDAL GARDEN SEEDS.
Descriptive Catalogue of all varieties of outstanding merit free on request. Write for copy.

Orders have prompt attention.

AUSTIN & McASLAN
The Premier Scottish Seedsmen since 1717,
Mitchell Street, GLASGOW.

Digitized by Google

GLORIOUS GLADIOLI

No Garden is complete without these Lovely Flowers, and for house decoration they have few equals.

Get our Special List in which we offer 90 varieties, and see what our Customers say of them.

Special Collections

LARGE-FLOWERED OR PRIMULINUS

100 splendid Corms in 10 Choice Varieties at **5/-**, **7/6** and **10/-** per 100.

Choice Liliums

FINEST QUALITY BULBS.

AURATUM.—The Golden Rayed Lily of Japan, **7½d.**, **8d.**, **1/-**, **1/6** and **2/-** each; doz., **6/6**, **7/6**, **10/6**, **15/-** and **21/-**

AURATUM PLATYPHYLLUM.—The finest Auratum, **1/3**, **1/6**, **2/-** and **2/6** each; doz., **13/6**, **15/-**, **21/-** and **27/6**

BATEMANI.—Apricot Lily, each **1/-**; doz., **10/6**

CROCEUM.—Orange Spotted Black, each **9d.** and **10½d.**; doz., **7/6** and **9/-**

HANSONI.—Golden Yellow, very scarce, each **1/6** and **2/-**; doz., **15/-** and **21/-**

HENRYI.—Orange Yellow, each **1/-**; doz., **10/6**

KRAETZERI.—Pure White, each **1/-**; doz., **10/6**

KRAMERI.—Pink Trumpet Lily, ea. **1/6**; doz. **15/-**

MAGNIFICUM.—White, Crimson Spotted, each **9d.** and **1/-**; doz. **7/6** and **10/6**

MELPOMENE.—White, Red Spots, each **9d.** and **1/-**; doz. **7/6** and **10/6**

RUBRUM.—White, Rose Spotted, each **9d.** and **1/-**; doz. **7/6** and **10/6**

RUBELLUM.—Lovely Pink Lily, ea. **1/6**; doz. **15/-**

TIGRINUM FORTUNEI GIGANTEUM.—Orange, Black Spots, each **9d.** and **10½d.**; doz. **7/6** and **9/-**.

TIGRINUM SPLENDENS.—Salmon, beautifully Spotted, each **9d.** and **10½d.**; doz. **7/6** and **9/-**

Assorted dozens can be sent at the dozen rate.

Beautiful Begonias

Make a wonderful show in Garden or Conservatory.

SCARLET, ORANGE, SALMON, WHITE, YELLOW, ROSE OR MIXED

Single ..	**1/-** and **1/6** doz.	**7/6** and **10/-**	100.
Double ..	**1/6** and **2/-** ,,	**10/-** and **15/-**	,,
Frilled ..	**1/6** and **2/-** ,,	**10/-** and **15/-**	,,
Crested ..	**1/9** and **2/6** ,,	**12/6** and **17/6**	,,

Extra Fine Tubers.

Lovely Montbretias

Mixed Varieties .. .. **6d.** doz. **3/6** 100.
,, extra choice .. **1/-** ,, **7/6** ,,

DAINTY FLOWERS FOR CUTTING.
(Very lasting in water.)

Anemones

These produce an abundance of most brilliant flowers in a great variety of colours and last a long time in water.

	doz.	100.
Appenina, dwarf blue flowers, fine for rock garden or border	**1/-**	**6/6**
Fulgens, dazzling scarlet, single or double	**1/-**	**7/6**
Giant French, glorious mixed colours	**1/-**	**6/-**
His Excellency, beautiful deep scarlet	**1/6**	**10/-**
St. Bavo, exquisite shades of pink, salmon, rose, scarlet, etc. ..	**1/-**	**6/-**
St. Brigid, finest Irish strain, mixed colours	**1/3**	**8/6**

Ranunculus

These will show a mass of bloom at a time when flowers are scarce, and are very popular on account of their beauty of form.

French, mixed, all colours	**2/6**	100.
Persian ,, ,, ...	**3/-**	,,
Turban ,, ,, ...	**3/6**	,,

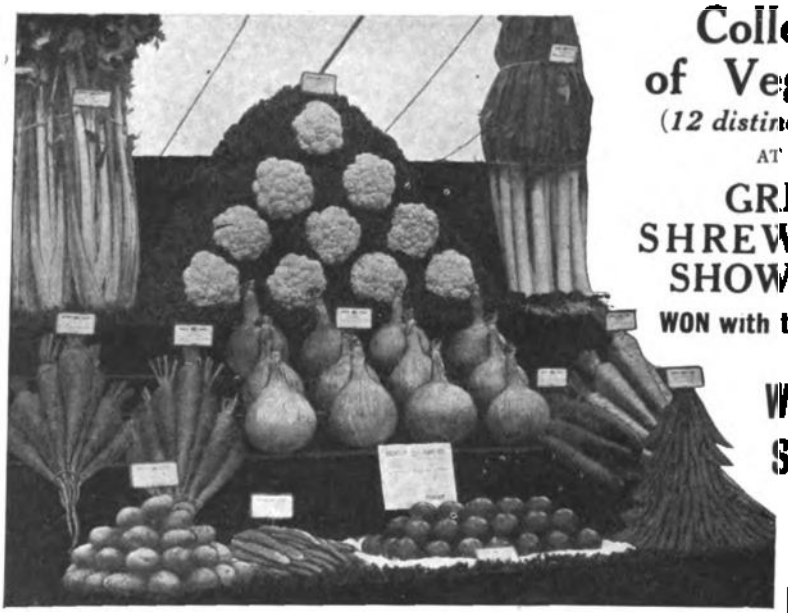
Orders value 5/- carriage paid. Immediate despatch.

LONGSTAFF & SONS

Bulb Growers, Importers and Merchants,

Near Chelsfield Station, Kent.

The CHAMPION PRIZE (OPEN TO GT. BRITAIN)



Collection of Vegetables

(12 distinct varieties)

AT THE

GREAT SHREWSBURY SHOW, 1925

WON with the produce OF

WEBBS' SEEDS

AND

WEBBS' MANURES

VEGETABLE SEEDS From 4d. pkt.

FLOWER SEEDS From 3d. pkt.

See CATALOGUE.

The 'CHAMPION' Collection consisted of the following:—

Ailsa Craig Onion ..	1/- pkt.	Marrowfat Parsnip ..	10d. oz.
Perfection Pink Celery ..	1/- ,,	Volunteer Beet	1/- pkt.
Champion Prize Leek ..	1/- ,,	Early Mammoth Cauliflower ..	1/- ,,
Conqueror Tomato ..	1/- ,,	King George Pea	2/6 ,,
Prizewinner Carrot ..	1/3 oz.	Goldfinder Potato	4/- peck
Royal Favour Cucumber ..	1/6 pkt	Exhibition Runner Bean ..	2/6 pkt.

WEBB & SONS, LTD. (The KING'S SEEDSMEN) **STOURBRIDGE**

2 LO SWEET PEA

THE NOVELTY OF THE YEAR

SILVER MEDAL SCOTTISH SWEET PEA TRIALS, 1925. 1st Prize Seedling Class, N.S.P. Show, 1925.

To be had from all up-to-date Seedsmen or write direct, illustrated list post free.

12 SEEDS 1/6

E. W. KING & CO., LTD., COGGESHALL.

GREAT BRITAIN'S LARGEST SWEET PEA GROWERS.

THE FLOWER OF THE SEASON

BALL'S CALENDULA

Brilliant Orange Double Flowers

THE FINEST PLANT FOR CUT FLOWER OR THE BORDER

OUR exhibit at CHELSEA SHOW made us many customers, and we have had numerous testimonials from all parts of the country

SEED — **1/-**, **2/6**, **5/-** packet
PLANTS, **1/6** doz.; **10/-** 100

WM. ARTINDALE & SON
NETHER GREEN NURSERY :: SHEFFIELD

The Pink Garden Beautiful

FOR SPRING, SUMMER AND AUTUMN EFFECTS.

FOREGROUND.

Japanese Spring Cherry (Prunus subhirtella ascendens), downy twigs wreathed in early Spring with myriads of small deep pink flowers opening from coral buds. Strong pyramids, about 4ft., **7/6** each, **87/-** dozen. Hilliers of Winchester offer this RARE JAPANESE CHERRY in quantity for the first time. It is a real garden gem.

BACKGROUND. *(6 to 10ft. high.)*

Escallonia Ingrami rosea, a diffuse elegant grower, flowering over a long period, producing a profusion of charming pink flowers—quite a new shade. Strong plants about 2ft. **2/6** each, **27/-** doz.

STANDARDS *for height effect.*

Japanese Cherry Sekiyama (also called Kanzan, Horingii and Ohnanden), lovely large deep semi-double rose flowers. 6-7ft. **8/6** and **10/6** each.

GROUNDWORK.

Erica carnea and Darleyensis, rich rosy-pink and deep lilac-pink flowers. Plant 1½ft. apart. Strong clumps, **6/6** and **8/6** dozen; **50/-** and **60/-** 100.

Berberis Wilsonæ. This charming Berberis will provide autumn tinted foliage as well as lovely panicles of coral fruit. 1-1½ft. **21/-** doz.; **150/-** 100. Plant 4ft. apart.

The taller Cherries named above will also help with their autumnal effects when mature.

WRITE FOR CATALOGUES— Carriage and Packing at cost.

HILLIER & SONS, Tree Specialists, WINCHESTER

Digitized by Google

SENT FREE ON REQUEST

Hints on Fruit Tree Culture

For Amateur and Professional.

Interesting Notes on Soils, Situations and Fertilizers, Popular Fruits for all Purposes

and other useful information will be found in

OUR FRUIT TREE CATALOGUE

— which will be sent Post Free. —

Sit down now while the matter is fresh in your mind and write for your copy.

Established 1785. Awarded 90 Gold Medals.

KING'S ACRE NURSERIES, LIMITED, HEREFORD

Gold Medallists of all leading Horticultural Societies

The ORIGINAL Firm of

CANTS

SPECIAL SPRING OFFER

ROSES

C.W.O. **12/6** CARRIAGE PAID

FIRST CLASS PLANTS

SPRING COLLECTION

Daily Mail	Los Angeles
Emma Wright	Lady Inchiquin
Gen. McArthur	Mrs. Henry Morse
Henrietta	Padre
Lady Pirrie	Snow Queen
Lady Roundway	Sovereign

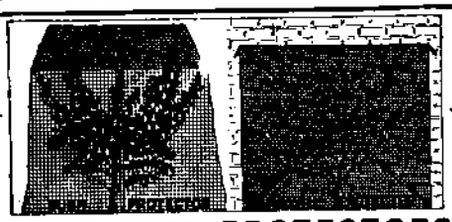
This Spring is exceptionally fitted for Planting, as owing to the hard winter Roses have been retarded.

PLANT FIRMLY—PRUNE HARD and Success is assured.

Benjamin R. Cant & Sons LTD.

Old Rose Gardens :: COLCHESTER

Send for full Illustrated Catalogue.



FRUIT TREE PROTECTORS

Against BIRDS, FROST, COLD WINDS, WASPS.

TRANSFERABLE FRUIT CAGES, &c.

The cheapest and most perfect.

Apply for the new Illustrated Booklet giving his

SYSTEM OF FRUIT CULTURE

Major G. Walker, Dept. G., Brecon, S. Wales

Forbes' Catalogue

Carnations, Pelargoniums, Pentstemons, Phloxes, Pyrethrums, Violas, Hardy Border and Rock Plants, Seeds, etc.

FREE ON APPLICATION

JOHN FORBES (Hawick), LTD., Dept. 2, The King's Nurserymen, Hawick, Scotland

APPLES. *Special Offer of Strong Lancashire-grown Trees.*

CHARLES ROSS, Dessert	6 for **20/-** Carriage Paid.
COX'S ORANGE PIPPIN, Dessert	
GOLDEN SPIRE, Dessert and Cooking	
HILL'S SEEDLING, Dessert and Cooking	
LORD DERBY, Cooking	
RIVAL, Dessert	

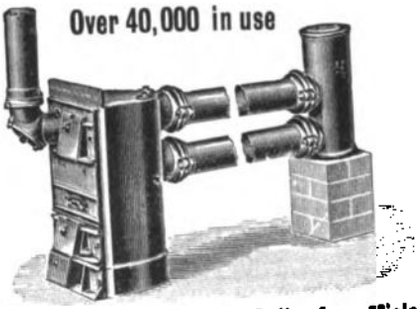
Black Currants—Seabrooks—The Best, 6/6 per doz. carr. paid.

Your money refunded if not pleased.

THERKILDSEN, F.R.H.S., Kew Gardens, SOUTHPORT.

THE LOUGHBOROUGH BOILER

Over 40,000 in use



The high reputation of this Boiler for efficiency and economy is still unrivalled

Easy to fix, easy to manage, and most economical in fuel, it is the ideal Boiler for the Amateur's Greenhouse

Price Lists and Estimates for complete apparatus on application

MESSENGER & CO., LTD. LOUGHBOROUGH LEICESTERSHIRE

LONDON OFFICE: 122, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

A GROWING HABIT

and a very sensible one is to give your friend, especially a friend overseas, a year's subscription to one of the best weekly periodicals.

It means fifty-two kind remembrances of you, and fifty-two remembrances of England.

There is no paper so representative of England and none so welcome abroad as

COUNTRY LIFE

80/- *a year abroad.* 60/- *to Canada*

20, TAVISTOCK ST., COVENT GARDEN, LONDON W.C.2

THE NEW COMPLETE LIST *of*

GARDEN BOOKS

published by "Country Life" *is*

NOW READY

FREE ON APPLICATION TO THE PUBLISHERS 20, TAVISTOCK ST., COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2

WHY is "HOMES and GARDENS" such a Great Success?

BECAUSE it shows greater House Comfort & Convenience —with less Labour and Expense.

Send to-day for a Free Specimen Copy of this helpful and Beautifully Illustrated Magazine to 20, Tavistock St., Covent Garden, W.C.2

Digitized by Google

To Amateur Gardeners.

Years ago I put to myself the question, "Can I do anything to enable the man with a small garden to grow quality seeds and so obtain the best possible results from his labour?"

It was this desire which originated my now well known policy of supplying quality seeds in popular quantities, and it is this desire alone which remains to-day uppermost in my mind.

Samuel Ryder

Plan Your Garden

ALMOST within the next week or two, you will be out again in the garden, and, no matter how "tidy" you may have left it in the late autumn, there will still be more than enough to occupy every minute you can spare in preparation for your Spring sowing.

NOW

It may seem ridiculous to suggest that your first gardening "job" for 1926 should be done now, in your armchair, before the evenings are even light enough for you to see your own tool shed door.

And yet every practical gardener knows that the suggestion is a sound one. Plan your garden NOW. Make up your mind what you are going to grow and where you are going to grow it. Flowers here and vegetables there, and so on. It will save a lot of trouble and thought later on.

To help you, the new (1926) Ryder Catalogue-Guide is ready for immediate distribution. Just sit down and fill in the coupon below to-day, not to-morrow, and a copy will be sent you by return of post.

Quality Seeds in 2d. Packets

(FLOWER AND VEGETABLE)

The great advantage in buying Ryders Flower and Vegetable Seeds in 2d. Packets is that you obtain seeds from quality strains in any quantity you require, from twopennyworth upwards, according to the capacity of your garden.

£1000 COMPETITION.

This Competition is open to anyone who purchases goods to the value of 2s. 6d. or over. A very fine collection of flower seeds, valued at 3s. is sold for 2s. 6d., and it contains the eighteen varieties from which you are asked to choose the twelve most popular. We feel sure that if you grow these beautiful annuals you will have no difficulty in voting for their order of merit.

1926 GARDEN CATALOGUE FREE.

The "Academy Picture" Edition of the 1926 RYDER Book, containing a special reproduction in colours of Miss Winifred Walker's much discussed triumph at the 1925 Royal Academy Exhibition, full particulars of the £1,000 Competition and 104 pages of general catalogue information and gardening notes, will be sent free on receipt of the coupon below.

Ryders St. Albans

RYDER & SON (1920) LTD. St. Albans

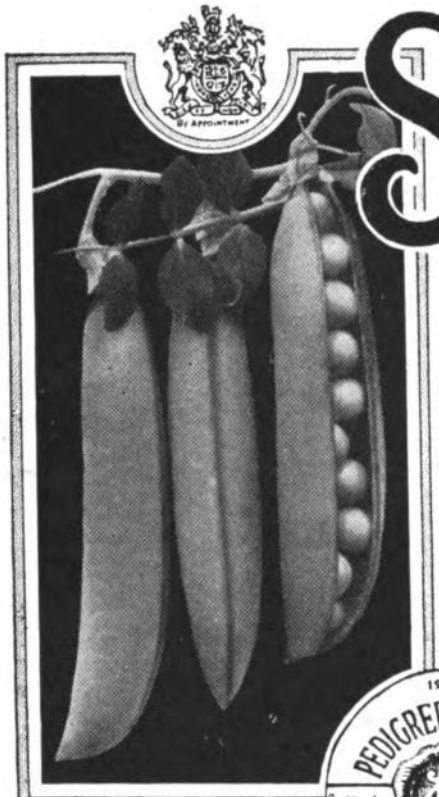
SEND THIS COUPON TO-DAY.

Fill in coupon with name and address, place in ½d. stamped envelope, tuck in flap (do not fasten down). Address the envelope to Ryder & Son (1920), Ltd., St. Albans.

PLEASE SEND 1926 GARDEN CATALOGUE POST FREE TO

The Garden.

Digitized by Google



SUTTON'S SEEDS

PEDIGREE STRAINS OF VEGETABLES

For reliability in cropping, excellent appearance, and superior table quality, it is acknowledged that our pedigree strains of Vegetables are unsurpassed.

SUTTON'S COLLECTIONS OF VEGETABLE SEEDS

for Gardens of all sizes

19 varieties . .	5/9
30 varieties . .	8/3
36 varieties . .	11/3
38 varieties . .	13/6

Post free

Full particulars by return of post

SUTTON & SONS
The King's Seedsmen
—READING—

1926 PEDIGREE-QUALITY Sutton & Sons Reading

Warning.—In future every packet of "Sutton's Seeds" will bear this seal, and none is genuine without it.

GUIDE to the Choice of MANURES

POST FREE.

Practical experience (and Scientific experiment) have clearly shown that one Manure gives better results than another on a particular soil.

SOILS and CROPS vary, and Manures must be chosen to suit these conditions.

OUR GUIDE will help you to decide which is the best Manure for your soil and crop, quantities to use, times to apply, etc., etc.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd., The Royal Nurseries, Established 1796. Maidstone.

CHEALS' FRUIT TREES

HARDY, CLEAN, HEALTHY, STURDY GROWTH. Transplant well and grow anywhere.

NEW DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE with valuable suggestions for preparing ground, planting, etc.

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
The Nurseries, CRAWLEY

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

BY APPOINTMENT.

FERTILIZERS FOR THE GARDEN

A SMALL OUTLAY ON CHEMICAL FERTILIZERS WILL ENABLE YOU TO INCREASE YOUR PRODUCTION OF

VEGETABLES FRUIT AND FLOWERS

Illustrated Catalogue containing Particulars of Fertilizers for all Garden Crops with full instructions for use from

Joseph Fison & Co., Ltd. Ipswich.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Toogood's Seeds

The Best that Grow

By sowing Guaranteed Garden Seeds you will be able to rest assured that they will produce the best flowers and vegetables of their kind.

For a carefully arranged and beautifully illustrated guide to "Guaranteed Garden Seeds" for 1926 write at once.

TOOGOOD & SONS, Ltd.
The King's Seedsmen,
SOUTHAMPTON.

Digitized by Google

VOL. XC.—No. 2829. FEBRUARY 6, 1926

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.; Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2. *Offices for Advertisements:* 6-11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

NOVELTIES IN THE GARDEN

THIS issue of THE GARDEN is mostly devoted to novelties. Although many gardeners prefer to grow plants of which they know the worth and of which they have had long experience, yet I think that everyone has sufficient curiosity to be willing to try out a novelty, whether it be an annual or a shrub or a vegetable. Apart from the fact that many novelties become famous plants in after years, it is necessary, as I pointed out in an article last year, in the case of annuals and vegetables, for raisers to bring out novelties from time to time, in order to keep up the general standard that is becoming higher every year. Sometimes a novelty is still-born owing to weak constitution, similarity to some other plant already in existence, or because the raiser has been over-optimistic about its excellence; but on the whole the raisers set themselves a very high standard, and buyers of a novelty may rest assured that the plant or seed has been thoroughly tested and compared with existing varieties.

It is true that many a famous garden relies for its effect on plants that have been known and valued for many years; still, there is a great satisfaction in knowing that you have something which your neighbour admires and envies and that, on the name being asked, you can say with a touch of pride that it is So-and-so which was only introduced on the market a month or two back.

Even with the general search for something better that is constantly in evidence, it is amazing how many plants, some of them known for long years in cultivation, have missed their turn of popularity. Often this is inexplicable, for their proud owners have sung their praises for long years. For some reason or other, worthy plants fall flat, perhaps because they have not received sufficient publicity. Plants that were popular a generation ago fall into disuse and even disappear from cultivation, only to be feverishly sought for if they suddenly appear in the limelight again. There are many instances of this; some of the old-fashioned auriculas, Cunningham's Sulphur rhododendron, old varieties of fuchsias, the old York and Lancaster rose, and so on. Sometimes it is due to deterioration of the stock, but it is due more often to change of fashion. This change of fashion is sometimes inexplicable, for a change in environment or method occasionally carries plants with it (*i.e.*, many of the old-fashioned bedding plants that are now used elsewhere), but sometimes the plants are left behind, which is often the flower-lovers' loss. Over and over again in turning over old gardening books, one's attention is drawn to some obviously fine plant that has now disappeared. A good example is the Cape heath, that used to be cultivated extensively at the beginning of the last century. It is rumoured that we have lost the knack of their cultivation, but I cannot believe that with all our modern methods and newly found knowledge, we are unable to grow them successfully. I hope some day to see them re-introduced as novelties and that on this occasion they may keep their popularity.

I certainly believe that gardeners of all classes and conditions are keenly interested in obtaining what is best in the plant world for their gardens, and so THE GARDEN proposes each week to publish a note and an illustration of a plant that should be seen in every garden, whether it is new, and so has suffered from lack of publicity, or old and fallen into a premature oblivion. There will be only two provisos, one that the plant must be worthy of everybody's attention, and secondly, that stocks of it are obtainable, or, alternatively, that it can be quickly raised and brought into general cultivation. We should welcome suggestions or examples from readers, but notes must be accompanied by a good photograph and should not be more than five hundred words in length.

I am sure that this will become a popular feature, for plant publicity, that was practically non-existent before the middle of the last century, has made great strides since that time. Gardeners, whether amateur or professional, are, I hope, becoming more and more inclined to trust in the judgment of others. Some are lucky and see sufficient gardens, other than their own, to be able to pick up for themselves information about plants new and old; but many who can only garden in their spare time have sufficient to do in keeping their own gardens in condition and so have to rely on second-hand information. It is with these that "Plants that should be more grown" should be especially popular. E. H. M. C.

AMONG THE ARTICLES IN OUR NEXT ISSUE WILL BE:

THE BLUE POPPIES, by F. Kingdon Ward.
THE WITCH HAZELS.
SOME EARLY SPRING FLOWERS.
ANNUALS FOR CUTTING.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO TELL OTHERS ABOUT YOUR PLANTS THROUGH THE COLUMNS OF "THE GARDEN."

Digitized by Google

TREES AND SHRUBS WORTH GROWING

ÆSCULUS INDICA.

ALTHOUGH this is a novelty number, it is impossible to advise people on what to plant in the way of woody novelties, for two very good reasons: that real novelties have not been sufficiently tested to have proved their worth for general planting, and that they are usually not procurable in quantity. The latter reason is obvious, but the first may, perhaps, require some qualifying, for the reputation of some plants precedes their introduction to cultivation in an extraordinary fashion. I shall give one instance, that of Osmanthus Forrestii. For some reason or another this has taken the fancy of all who have heard of it. So far it is in the seedling stage in this country and the seedlings are undoubtedly growing well, but its reputation rests on Forrest's description of it in its native home and on the dried specimens which certainly show it to be a fine plant, with foliage somewhat similar to Osmanthus aquifolium. On the other hand it may not come up to our expectations as a garden plant.

There are many trees and shrubs, some of them introduced years ago, that may be called novelties as far as their general use is concerned and it is with a selection of them that I propose to deal. All the plants mentioned are in commerce.

Acer nikoense is a Japanese maple that, considering its early introduction, should be far better known, for it is one of the very best of all autumn coloured shrubs—or rather small trees. The leaves are typical and are composed of three leaflets on a short, hairy stalk. Perhaps one of the reasons for its lack of popularity is its slowness of growth, but this makes it valuable for small gardens. It certainly does not develop fast, for I have found that it rarely grows more than 3ins. a year. On the other hand, it shows signs of making a shapely pyramid and I am cultivating it in the hopes that I may see it, in time, as a neat little tree. Its foliage certainly turns a most brilliant and fiery red.

For those who are admirers of the horse chestnut—and who is not?—there are two Oriental species that are well worth growing, Æsculus indica and Æ. turbinata. The former is similar to our common horse chestnut, but, in the young stage, at least, is more graceful, while the petals are more reflexed and the panicle has not such a stiff appearance. A. turbinata is noted for the size of its leaves, which are often 16ins. long. I agree with Mr. Bean about the sturdy appearance of the young tree, but I do not agree about its inferiority, apart from size of leaf, nor do I find it slow growing.

There is one buddleia that is far too little grown, and that is B. Fallowiana, and the reason for its lack of popularity is hard to trace, for I find it a most excellent plant in every way. It is usually catalogued as the best white-flowered buddleia, but the flowers, lovely as they are, are to my mind of minor charm compared to its wonderful silvery grey foliage, which in the young stage is almost pure white. It is a graceful plant and not a coarse grower, and I find it absolutely hardy. I have never seen a large plant or even a description of one, but I can imagine it certainly equalling B. alternifolia for grace and charm. It also has the advantage of flowering in a young state.

FEIJOA SELLOWIANA.

Clethra Delavayi is the next on my list and provided that your soil is lime-free, this is a magnificent addition to our flowering shrubs. After the soft C. arborea, the lily of the valley tree, C. Delavayi has the finest racemes of white bells, but unlike C. arborea, it is absolutely hardy and thrives in any good loam; indeed, so hardy is it, that I do not even find it necessary to grow it in a shady position. It makes rather a stiff growth and I do not find it a particularly rapid grower.

Dipelta floribunda has been figured and mentioned in THE GARDEN several times, but it still is not sufficiently seen, for, when in May and June, it is laden with its fragrant pale-pink funnel-shaped flowers, so like a weigela in shape and form, it is one of the most lovely of all shrubs, for not only is it floriferous but has a graceful arching shape.

Exochordas Giraldii, grandiflora, Wilsoni, are probably all forms of the same species and it is difficult to tell t'other from which; not that that matters, for these quick-growing shrubs are all excellent and are certainly among the best white-flowered shrubs that we possess. The flowers are flattish and are carried on short racemes. They like sun and a good depth of soil and I find that they do not take kindly to transplanting. They are probably best grown in

PLAGIANTHUS LYALLII, ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL OF ALL SUMMER-FLOWERING SHRUBS.

Digitized by Google

a group of four or five, with a dark background to show off their multitude of white flowers.

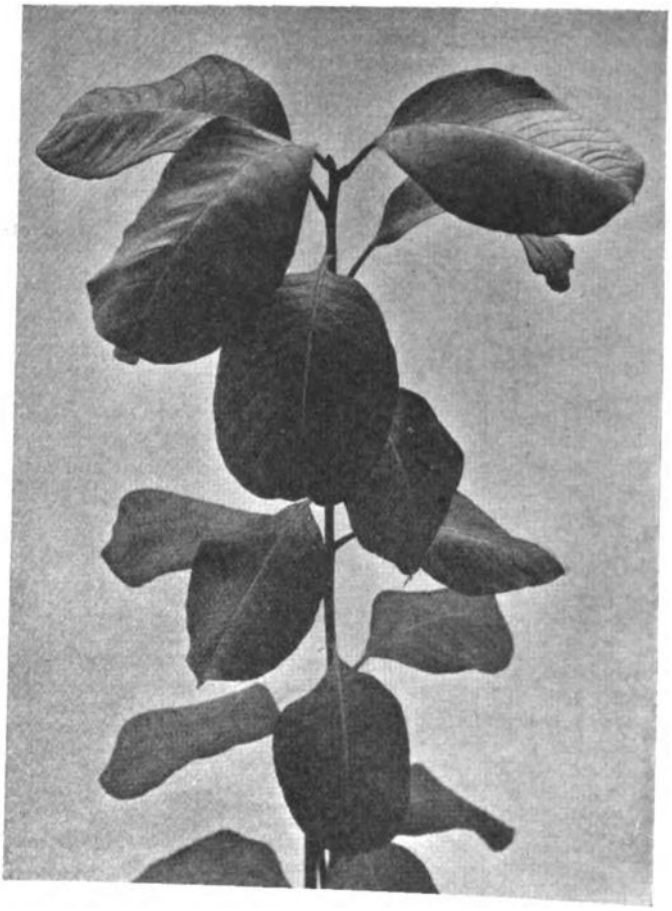
I include Feijoa Sellowiana with considerable hesitation, for it is only hardy in sheltered districts, but it is so attractive that, in the west at any rate, it should be more often seen. In shape the flower is something like a fuchsia, with a blob of blood-red stamens and heavily reflexed petals, white inside and purplish-crimson outside, while the leaves are leathery and evergreen. It can either be grown as a bushy shrub or can be pruned to form a small tree.

There is a Chinese shrub with flowers like an abelia, called Kolkwitzia amabilis that should have more attention paid to it, for it is rare to find such a twiggy and slender looking morsel with so many and such beautiful flowers. It never grows more than 5ft., but the twigs arch and droop and branch to such an extent that it will cover a considerable amount of space. The flowers are pink and are borne in pairs during May and June. I find it absolutely hardy, but it has a dislike of drought and should be planted in deep, moist loam.

Salix magnifica is, undoubtedly, the most remarkable of all willows—so much so, that I have planted it in a shrub border where space is valuable; but here is a willow with leaves anything up to 10ins. long—although mine, so far, have just touched 8ins.—oval in shape and with a delicious blue tinge about them, a striking contrast to the mahogany stem. It does not appear to grow very large, and even in the wild state has not been found over 20ft. in height. I have not seen the catkins, but the male are described as 4ins. to 7ins. long, and the female up to 11ins. It is perfectly hardy.

I must add yet another white-flowered shrub, Styrax Wilsoni. This grows to a height of 6ft., is twiggy and graceful in growth and has an abundance of nodding, pure white blossoms.

There is a guelder rose called Viburnum macrocephalum, which I personally consider the best of all sterile viburnums. This is owing to the lovely shade of green apparent when the flowers first open, turning after a day or so to the snowiest of white. Unfortunately it is not so hardy as it might be, but as a cool house wall shrub it cannot be bettered.



THE HANDSOME FOLIAGE OF SALIX MAGNIFICA.

VIBURNUM MACROCEPHALUM AT THE EDINBURGH BOTANIC GARDEN.

There is a certain number of shrubs and small trees that colour well in the autumn that are increasing in popularity, but not sufficiently fast for the worth of the plants. Among them are Euonymus alatus, that never grows out of hand and turns the most blazing scarlet-crimson in autumn and Rhus Cotinus, particularly the purple form, atropurpurea, that keeps its dark purplish foliage throughout the season. Another valuable autumn colourer that is not sufficiently often seen is Cercidyphyllum japonicum, which grows to a large shrub or a small tree, according to pruning. Its foliage dies off various shades of yellow or orange. As it is a graceful grower, it looks particularly well close to water. None of these presents any difficulty in cultivation, but the rhus should be planted in soil on the dry side.

Many forms of the mountain ash, Pyrus Aucuparia, are especially valuable for berrying. A new variety called munda sub-arachnoides is one of the best, with brilliant crimson berries; while of older varieties I should choose asplenifolia, fructo-luteo, with yellow fruits, and rubro-sanguineum, with deep coloured berries. These are all invaluable both in the shrub and in the wild garden and may be planted either in groups or as specimens.

Decaisnea Fargesii is another Asiatic introduction, but in this case it is striking for its blue contorted fruits. The leaves are pinnate and from 2ft. to 3ft. long, which makes it a handsome foliaged shrub. It grows to about 7ft., but although hardy, it should be sheltered from winds.

I must not leave Malus Sargenti out of this list, for here we have all the beauty of the crab, its mass of flowers and fruit, condensed into a bush that never exceeds 6ft. and of a bushy habit, with branches that sweep the ground. Here is an invaluable subject where space is a consideration. Others which are larger growers of the Malus section are Pyrus Eleyi, one of the darkest in flower, fruit and foliage; Scheidekeri, like a magnified floribunda and marvellously profuse in large blossoms.

Digitized by Google

There is a holly that has escaped the notice of most gardeners and that is Ilex corallina. It was sent to me as Desfontainea spinosa, but I have been the gainer for the error. The leaves are very like those of desfontainea, but in I. corallina they are alternate, while in the former they are opposite. So far I have not seen either the flower or the fruit, but it has one great advantage in that it is one of the quickest growing evergreens I have seen. I have planted it by a south wall, as it is supposed to be tenderish—a statement which I do not believe—and it has grown 3ft. or more in a year. The foliage is extremely handsome and if the fruit is as good I should place it as the most handsome of all hollies.

There are two forms of Plagianthus Lyallii, one more downy than the other and called glabrata. For beauty they are the same and with thin, paper-like white flowers. I should place them among the dozen best shrubs. They have stood 22° in my garden and suffered no damage, although it is said that they are liable to damage by severe frost. No garden should be without this shrub.

With the exception of Feijoa all the shrubs mentioned are suitable for a garden with an ordinary exposure. Gardeners differ about their choice of autumn or spring planting of shrubs and trees. Personally, I prefer the spring, provided that it is not left too late, principally for the reason that in the past season or two the ground has been difficult to work in the autumn. The longer I garden the more certain I am that many casualties in newly planted trees and shrubs are caused by too deep planting.

E. H. M. Cox.

THE FIFTY BEST ROCK PLANTS

BY DR. R. LLOYD PRAEGER.

(*Continued from page* 53).

LET us now take the opposite case—that of the rock gardener who likes the best, is willing to give time and and take trouble with difficult things, has enterprise and an eye for daintiness as well as showiness, and is not disheartened by occasional funerals. It is necessary to point out that in this case also a plant's value is not to be judged by its being rare or difficult: common or the reverse, its intrinsic beauty and interest are what matters:

Allium azureum
Acæna Novæ-Zealandiæ
Androsace helvetica, glacialis
Æthionema spp.
Astrantia minor
Aquilegia alpina
Anemone sulphurea
Armeria cæspitosa
Artemisia glacialis
Asperula suberosa

CELMISIA CORIACEA, ONE OF THE BEST OF THE NEW ZEALAND DAISIES.

Campanula excisa
  Raineri
  Zoysii
Calceolaria polyrrhiza
Celmisia spp.
Cassiope fastigiata, selaginoides
Conandron ramondioides
Corydalis cheilanthifolia
Cyananthus lobatus
Cypripedium spectabile
Daphne petræa
Diapensia lapponica
Dianthus neglectus
  Freynii
Epigæa repens
Eritrichium nanum
Gentiana bavarica
  Farreri
  verna
Gaultheria trichophylla
Geranium argenteum
Haberlea rhodopensis
Hypericum cuneatum
Iris cristata
  gracilipes
Lewisia Howellii
Linum alpinum
Lithospermum rosmarinifolium
Loiseleuria procumbens
Mertensia echioides, etc.
Meconopsis spp.
Mimulus primuloides, etc.
Moneses uniflora
Myosotidium nobile
Omphalodes Luciliæ
Onosma Bourgæi
  cassium
Ourisia coccinea
Oxalis adenophylla
  magellanica
Pentstemon rupicolus
  heterophyllus
Phyteuma comosum
Potentilla nitida
Primula Littoniana
  Winteri
Ramondia spp.
Raoulia australis
Saxifraga Boydii
  Burseriana major
  diapensioides
  Irvingii
  lilacina
  longifolia
  Cotyledon vars.
  Fortunei
Sedum trifidum
  primuloides
  spathulifolium purpureum
Sempervivum arachnoideum
  hirtum
Schizocodon soldanelloides
Shortia uniflora
Silene Hookeri
Soldanella spp.
Sisyrinchium grandiflorum
Tanakæa radicans
Townsendia Willcoxiana
Viola cenisia
Wahlenbergia spp.

The above list will probably strike the reader as even more unsatisfactory than the previous one, because the choice is more difficult, and because in this case individual preference makes itself more strongly felt. But I have endeavoured to meet criticism by leaving the choice open in some genera where there are several "best" species, by choosing widely—from crevice plants to bog plants, and very easy to very difficult—and by increasing the prescribed fifty to over seventy. Nevertheless, I do not hope to satisfy anybody, and can hear a chorus of objections—acænas and sempervivums are too common to be included in the "best" list; conandron and lithospermum rosmarinifolium are too tender; myosotidium and Cypripedium spectabile are too large; the cassiopes, androsaces and daphne named, and also eritrichium, diapensia, moneses, schizocodon, townsendia, are too difficult. Well, if this list does not please you, go and make your own! There is plenty of choice, and yours will be quite as good as mine.

But THE GARDEN is always particularly considerate towards the beginner and the amateur, and if I left the matter there the Editor might come down on me, so a further effort is necessary. After all, what most rock gardeners will consider the best plants will be those which combine as far as possible the good qualities of both lists—beauty, elegance and brightness (if

Digitized by Google

that be the reverse of dulness), variety of flowering time, a good constitution, and ease of propagation. We cannot hope to get all these qualities in all the plants—some are naturally more showy or more easy than others—but the following list (the last with which I shall trouble the reader) is an attempt to arrive at a good working selection, taking all things into consideration; and it may be looked on as one of several lists that might be compiled of the "Fifty Best Rock Plants":

Acæna Novæ Zealandiæ
Achillea Kellereri
Acantholimon venustum
Æthionema pulchellum
Anemone blanda scythinica
Androsace carnea
Arenaria montana
Astrantia minor
Asperula suberosa
Aubrietia Dr. Mules
Campanula pulloides
Raineri
garganica
Celmisia coriacea
Coronilla cappadocica
Corydalis cheilanthifolia
Cyananthus lobatus
Cypripedium spectabile
Daphne Cneorum
Dianthus neglectus
arvernensis
Dryas octopetala
Erodium supracanum
Gentiana "acaulis"
verna
Geranium argenteum
Haberlea rhodopensis
Hypericum cuneatum
reptans
Linaria alpina
Lithospermum prostratum
Mertensia echioides
Onosma echioides
Oxalis enneaphylla
Omphalodes Luciliæ
Papaver alpinum
Pentstemon rupicolus
Potentilla nitida
Primula Juliæ
Winteri
Phyteuma Scheuchzeri
Ramondia pyrenaica
Saxifraga Burseriana major
Boydii
Fortunei
Grisebachii
Irvingi
Saxifraga lingulata lantoscana
longifolia
umbrosa primuloides
Sedum Sieboldii
Kirilowii rubrum
spathulifolium purpureum
Sempervivum arachnoideum
Senecio abrotanifolius
Tiarella cordifolia
Trollius pumilus
Wahlenbergia serpyllifolia
Viola bosniaca

A FINE ACHILLEA HYBRID, A. KELLERERI.

The list runs to nearly sixty species instead of fifty, but I really cannot see my way to reducing it any further; it would be a great deal easier and more satisfactory to extend it.

Only one further word is required. I take it that any "Fifty Best" list, to give satisfaction, must display variety as well as quality. Therefore a large number of genera have been included; and though there may be a dozen kabschia or silver saxifrages which may rank among the best of rock plants, only a few are named, in order to allow of the inclusion of other plants whose charm is of a different order.

NOVELTIES IN HALF-HARDY ANNUALS

MANY of the most popular of bedding plants belong to the half-hardy section of annuals, and it is among these that plant breeders are always busily engaged fixing new breaks, selecting and re-selecting specially fine and distinct varieties, and evolving or developing new strains.

The popularity of ten-week stocks and China asters entitles them to foremost consideration, and, excellent as these have been for very many years, the latest novelties and developments are, in a special sense, achievements of which the raisers may be justly proud, and the whole gardening public may welcome them with gratitude.

A race called "Super Dreadnought" stock is particularly good, its tall growth, usually averaging and sometimes exceeding 2½ft., with many fine spreading branches covered with large, well doubled flowers. Varieties of this new ten-week stock which will give every satisfaction are: Neptune, a rich dark blue; Picture, cream flushed with pink, after the manner of the cream pink sweet peas; and numerous others of lavender, scarlet, crimson and yellow shades.

Another good strain of large-flowering, tall-growing stocks is the Monarch, which also embraces all the best shades of colour to be found in the tribe.

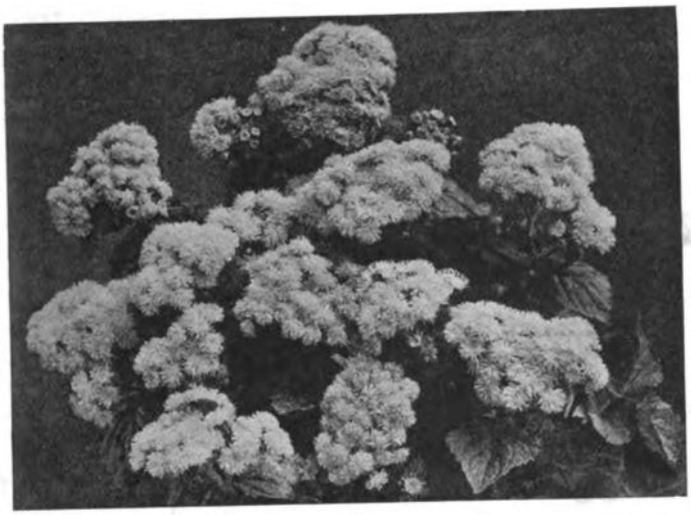
John Bright is not actually a new stock, for it has been known and grown by the keen amateur florists to be found among Lancashire cotton weavers for well over a century; but it has at last been placed in commerce by a Manchester seed firm, and, having rigorously re-selected its very best form, it has been shown with distinction at Southport Show, and also gained an R.H.S. award in London. Spikes exhibited carried well over 12ins. of expanded bloom, its colour being a brilliant crimson.

Of asters—which, by the way, very few people recognise by the more accurate name of callistephus—the most noteworthy development is the Sunshine aster, for this gives us a flower of distinctly new and highly decorative character. The blossom has a cushion-like centre of closely packed quilled florets surrounded by a collar of slightly larger florets which fade away to white at the edges. Around this is the ring of petals which are slender, long and curling, giving the flower a shaggy but very elegant appearance. The plant branches freely, throwing its flowers well out on long, wiry stalks. The colours (in mixture) embrace many delightful shades, such as porcelain pink, silvery lavender, delicate mauve, as well as brighter pinks, rich reds, purples and pure white. Aster Sunshine is a gem among flowers for cutting.

For a double aster of fine large size and lasting qualities, useful alike for vases in the home and for the exhibition stage, the new Californian Giant is unsurpassed; it is really a very remarkable advancement on our best races, such as the Comet and Ostrich Plume. It is available in two distinct shades of pink, a light blue and a rich full purple. Aster growers, whatever their particular purpose may be, will find the Californian Giant of very great service.

The giant dahlia-flowered zinnias made a favourable impression when first they were staged in this country, although the flower is one which will never appeal strongly to everyone. Some consider the hard outline and severe formality of zinnias unnatural and displeasing, but there are those—and they are many—who dote on the perfect regularity with which the

Digitized by Google



AGERATUM LITTLE BLUE CLOUD ATTRACTIVE WITH ITS DIMINUTIVE COMPACT HABIT.

flower is built and to whom the unusually vivid, solid and decisive colourings are sheer delight. These latter will find in the dahlia-flowered type an unstinted feast of enjoyment, and for most purposes the best plan is to sow the best mixture of seeds, because, although named varieties are offered to colour, it is at present considerably uncertain how many variations from the particular colour desired may be discovered when the plants bloom. In this respect each successive season will doubtless witness considerable improvement, for both in seed farms and in amateurs' gardens the rich orange variety called Golden State, the glowing Crimson Monarch and the white Polar Bear were seen by the writer during 1925 in a great deal purer state than they were from the previous year's seed.

We have another new development in giant-flowered zinnias which is labelled "Achievement"—this, however, being the sixth word in an irritatingly clumsy appellation. It is enough to make any ordinary mortal decide to grow something else when told that, in order to make sure of getting the right thing, he must ask his seedsman for Zinnia elegans double robusta grandiflora Achievement; and it is a mistake to shackle a good thing with such an encumbrance of idle words.

The individual feature of Achievement is that, while the flowers are of large size they are relieved of heaviness by the elegant rolling of the petals into tubes giving the blooms a cactus-like appearance. The mixed colours embrace coppery orange, lilac, salmon, rose and other rich shades.

It is highly gratifying to note real progress in the improvement of cosmos, a flower of real elegance but hitherto marred by rather serious faults. In the first place, it has been the customary habit of the plants to grow into big spreading bushes bearing but few flowers until the end of summer, and then throwing up a quantity of buds to get killed by frosts before they can open; and another fault has been that the prevailing shade of colour is mauve, more or less leaning toward a flat-toned puce or magenta. Advice has been freely given that seeds should be sown in autumn to ensure early flowering: sound enough advice for those only who have ample glass accommodation. The Fairy Queen strain and others of similar character, usually catalogued as early-flowering cosmeas, have overcome these objections. The plants are comparatively dwarf, sturdy and compact, and they begin to bloom much earlier than the old types; while one may secure a real rich crimson in Crimson King, a lively rose pink in Rose Queen, and a clean pure white in White Queen. The same colours are available in so-called double forms, but at present the degree of doubling varies to some extent. The one cultural tip that may well be given in regard to cosmos is to withhold rich manure, restrict root-run, and tread the soil very firmly. It is a plant which grows extremely well in harsh stony or chalky soil, and I have seen it doing quite well in richer soil when young plants in pots have been merely plunged in the soil, allowing only a few roots to find their way through the drainage holes or over the edges of the pots.

Several catalogues this season make a feature of Didiscus cœruleus, and, although this is not really a new plant, but more correctly a resurrection, it deserves notice because it is certainly not well known, or it would undoubtedly be very extensively grown. Even the trade seems a little uncertain concerning its realities, for, while some correctly class it with half-hardy annuals, others describe it as a grand new hardy annual. The plant enjoys the common name of the lace-flower, probably on account of its extreme elegance and the beauty of its pattern or disposition of its blossoms at the head of a slender but strong stalk. The individual pips are narrow tubes of varying length flattening into a five-lobed corolla, from the centre of which pin-head stamens protrude. The foliage, too, is elegantly cut and subdivided—perhaps another reason for its common name. The colour of the flowers is a delicate, sweetly pretty shade of pale blue, softer than plumbago blue. It likes warmth, a dry position, and is otherwise of perfectly easy culture. Its height varies from a foot to 18ins., and, in addition to being a grand bedding subject, it makes a capital, decorative pot plant.

Ageratum Little Blue Cloud annexed the affections of many who saw it when it received its award of merit last year. If only it will retain uniformity of its diminutive, compact habit from seed, it will be a treasure; but there is an "if" about this. The prudent will rogue it very carefully, select the very best, cut the plants over early and propagate from cuttings as is customary with edging lobelias. It is a plant which one feels justified in anticipating will in reasonable time become sufficiently well fixed to come practically true from seed.

Mention of lobelias reminds me that a particularly well fixed strain of the popular variety Mrs. Clibran is now being distributed, and it is so conspicuously an improvement upon the ordinary stocks that, with seed of this "improved" Mrs. Clibran there is really no practical necessity to propagate it from cuttings.

New and improved bedding petunias are quite numerous, and whether one requires a perfectly uniform bed in some pure, rich, solid colour or prefers the riotous colours of some huge trumpet-flowered strain with margins frilled and lacerated almost in imitation of endive leaves, his wants may be readily supplied. It would be invidious to single out any particular strains or varieties for special mention, because others as good would be omitted, and the reader has only to consult a good catalogue to find the different types and colours clearly described.

In nicotianas (tobacco plants) Crimson King gives us the really bright flower, free from dull plum or purplish tint, we have long desired; and another treasure is available in the newest hybrid strains of gilia, which maintain the charming elegance in foliage and flower of Gilia coronopifolia and extend the colour range to embrace palest of pinks, creams and sulphur yellows, and fuller, richer shades of apricot, terra cotta and rose pink.

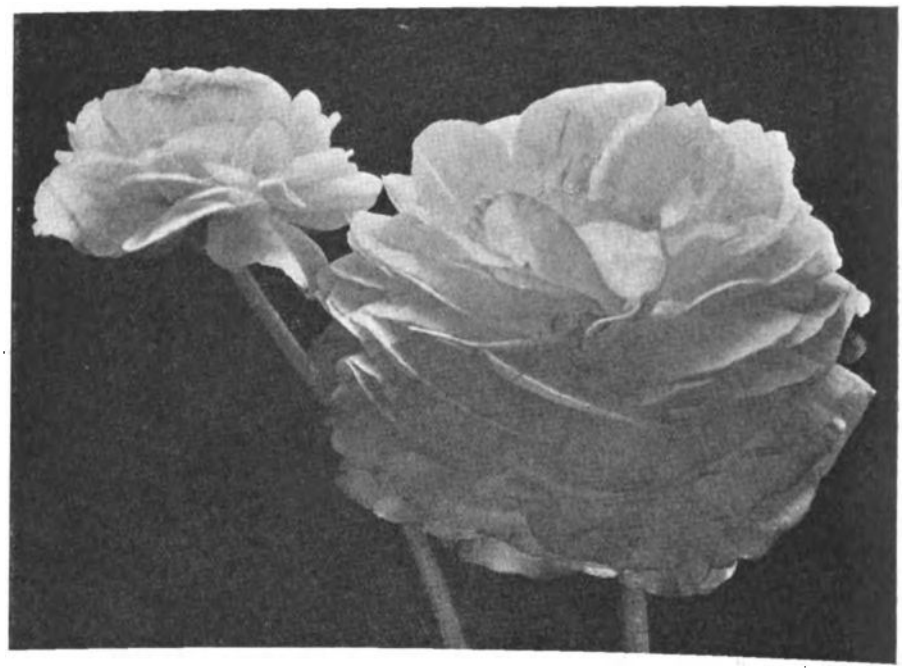
This article would assume unreasonable length before it could barely mention the new breaks and decided improvement in salpiglossis, verbenas, the tagetes family and a whole host of other pretty and useful annuals; but those mentioned will provide ample choice for many gardens. A. J. MACSELF.

MODERN TYPES OF BEDDING ASTERS.

Digitized by Google

THREE OF THIS YEAR'S NOVELTIES

A giant camellia-flowered ranunculus raised by Carter's. For brilliant colouring and exotic appearance this ranunculus can hardly be bettered.



Echium plantagineum, a valuable hardy annual sent out by Sutton's.

Webb's fine strain of Sweet William Invincible, remarkable for the size of its blooms and diversity of colour. This old-fashioned plant has made great strides during recent years, and is worthy of a place in all gardens.

Digitized by Google

NOTES OF THE WEEK

COREOPSIS.

THIS is a genus of showy annuals and perennials which are extremely valuable as border plants, while they are in great demand as cut flowers. The annuals are sometimes quoted under the name of calliopsis and the perennials as coreopsis, of which C. grandiflora is a noteworthy example. This is a beautiful decorative subject for the herbaceous border, its large, rich, deep golden yellow flowers being produced in quantity during the summer and autumn months. The plant attains a height of about 3ft. and no doubt the best results are obtained by raising a batch annually from seeds. C. grandiflora is such a glorious border plant that it pays to grow it well and, moreover, it is a decided acquisition to a dozen vases of perennials at the local show, in addition to the quantity of flowers that may be cut for house decoration. Most attractive is a bed of this plant and all it requires is a deep root run and a liberal dressing of partly decayed manure. Perry's variety of C. grandiflora is semi-double, rich golden yellow and free flowering.

Another pretty perennial is C. lanceolata, which grows about 2ft. high and produces bright yellow flowers 2ins. to 3ins. across. It is one of the best perennials. A useful plant is C. verticillata of perennial habit, 1ft. or 2ft. in height. The bright yellow flowers are smaller than those of C. grandiflora and are produced on more slender stems. C. verticillata can be increased by division in spring or autumn and also by seeds sown in June or July. A dwarf-growing species known as C. rosea has small, rosy-white flowers, but this plant is rarely met with.

They are of easy culture and will thrive in almost any situation, consequently they are often seen in town gardens, where many subjects would dwindle and die. I have used C. Drummondii and others for bedding and they have proved most valuable, the flowering period extending over many weeks. C. Drummondii has large golden yellow flowers with chestnut-brown centres and it should be sown where it is intended to bloom.

CC. atrosanguinea, tinctoria and Golden Crown are all good annuals, but there are others and several seed catalogues quote a wonderful selection. For a small garden the special mixtures are advised and they can be utilised for beds or bold patches in the border. The seeds should be sown in March or April and severe thinning is necessary to get the best results. Many annuals never attain their full stature and beauty, because they are not allowed enough space to develop to their fullest extent.—T. W. B.

COREOPSIS GRANDIFLORA.

ON SALVIAS.

SURELY there never was a genus of plants with so many relatives as the salvia. Wherever you turn, whether it be the herb garden, the parterre, the mixed border or the greenhouse, there is pretty certain to be found a salvia. They are grown for all sorts of reasons. For seasoning meat, for the brilliant colours of their flowers, for the beautiful coloured bracts adorning the tips of their stems, for the form or scent of their leaves.

For the most part they are very easy to grow—raised either from seed or cuttings. Some of them are not hardy enough to withstand the rigours of our winters out of doors, but they require but little shelter and warmth to keep them alive till more genial days come round again.

Such varieties as Salvia patens, with its marvellous deep blue flowers of velvety texture; and S. splendens, with its gaudy scarlet coat, are almost too well known to call for comment. Robinson considers the former "without question one of the best plants in cultivation." The other, originating from Brazil in tropical South America, requires some protection during winter. There are many admirable varieties of this plant. The hybridists, especially those of France and Germany, have done much to improve the strain.

Apart from these two aristocrats of the sage family there are a great number of poorer relatives, each of which has something to recommend it to the lover of flowers.

What is this plant on the staging of the greenhouse, with soft rich green leaves which, when touched, give off a perfume of pineapple? A salvia (S. rutilans). The dark crimson-scarlet flowers produced in late autumn add a further charm to this interesting plant. If allowed to grow unchecked in the bed of a greenhouse, these plants will attain quite luxuriant proportions, but they will not flower nearly so well as when they are cramped in a small pot.

THE OLD-FASHIONED SALVIA SCLAREA.

What is that patch of purple over there in the mixed border? A salvia (S. horminum). This commonly goes by the name of "Bluebeard," on account of the purplish blue bracts which freely crown each stem. A hardy annual, it usually sows itself freely, preferring a poor dry soil. At times the bracts are pinkish and in this case the inconspicuous flowers are pink to match, instead of blue.

What are these large flat tufts of silvery white leaves which clothe the ground so nicely? A salvia (S. argentea). It comes to us from southern Europe and finds a welcome in our gardens as a carpet plant, for the sake of its decorative leaves. It is often referred to as "Silvery Clary."

The old-fashioned Clary (S. Sclarea) has long been in cultivation in our cottage gardens by reason of the herb wine brewed from it. Culpepper tells how "this is also in some counties known as Clear-eye, the seed put into the eyes clears them from motes and such like things gotten within the lids to offend them, also clears them from white and red spots." The wild clary was even more esteemed than the cultivated variety. This, according to the same authority, was "most blasphemously called Christ's Eye" (Oculus Christi).

While on the subject of herbs we must just see what there is to be said about our common sage (S. officinalis). A large bush of this, when in full flower, is surely beautiful enough, with its lavender-coloured flowers and grey leaves to take its place in the mixed border. It is said to follow the fortunes of the house, to wither when Fortune turns her face away and to revive when better days return. All the herbalists seem to be in agreement that sage "maketh the hayre black." The Arabians of old set such store by sage that they summed up its merits in the saying, "How can a man die who grows sage in his garden?" This, as Lady Rosalind Northcote ("The Book of Herbs") suggests, may be the origin of the English saying,

"He that would live for aye
Must eat Sage in May."

It appears that toads have a great liking for sage, and Turner in his herbal gives directions for planting rue together with the sage "to prevent the poison which may be in it by toads frequenting amongst it, but Rue being amongst it they will not come near it."

Though but a very few of the salvias have been mentioned in this short note, enough has been said to give an idea of the variety there is to be found in this large family. Robinson, indeed, gives more than forty different salvias in "The English Flower Garden," and it is pretty safe to say that his list will be by no means complete. The collector's zeal would surely be sorely taxed in an attempt to make a collection of all of them.—EDWARD CAHEN.

CALAMINTHAS.

OPINIONS regarding the relative value and beauty of plants vary greatly; but the writer was greatly surprised the other day, just after seeing one of the calaminthas in quite a beautiful plant, that a most excellent work devoted to hardy flowers tells us that the "only species worth growing among the Calaminthas is C. glabella." I think a good many readers will disagree with this dictum if they are at all acquainted with either Calamintha alpina or C. grandiflora. In any case, I do not think that C. glabella is in commerce, and there is no reference to it in one of our newest and most exhaustive works on alpine flowers, while both of the others are in the hands of the trade and are

Digitized by Google

good enough for inclusion in almost any border or good rock garden. There is not a very great difference between the two in general habit. Both are rather decumbent but C. grandiflora is the larger in growth, while it has also finer and better coloured flowers than C. alpina. These calaminthas belong to the natural order of Labiatæ, and from their branching, decumbent or prostrate stems bear a great number of flowers. In the case of C. alpina these are of a pleasing violet with a white lip; while C. grandiflora has them altogether of a brighter tone of violet, more nearly approaching pink, and has more aromatic foliage than the other.

One great advantage possessed by these calaminthas is that they flower for a very long time in summer, and another is that they are of easy culture under ordinary border or rock garden conditions if planted in a sunny place. Propagation is by division, cuttings or seeds, and planting is best done in autumn or spring.—S. ARNOTT.

SOME INTERESTING RUBI FROM CANADA.

IT has been my privilege to collect and grow some of the uncommon but, nevertheless, equally attractive rubi from Canada. We find here that plants raised from seed grow far better than collected plants, and most varieties seem all the better for hard pruning in the dormant season. Rubus parviflorus, commonly called in Canada the capberry, is similar to Rubus odoratus in habit, but differs in the colour of the flower, being snow white with crinkled petals. It is most attractive when planted in association with R. odoratus.

R. spectabilis (the salmon berry) is a tall grower with yellowish bark. It has large pink flowers, followed by most attractive yellow and red fruits. The latter are used by the Canadians for making jam.

R. triflorus is a dwarf variety, never higher than 18ins., with small white flowers and dull red berries.

R. pedatus is a dainty little trailing raspberry suitable for rockeries, where it can show off its light green leaves with small starry flowers to great advantage. Its great attraction lies in the fact that it fruits and flowers at the same time.

R. deliciosus, a spineless variety forming a very large bush, is very charming when planted in an isolated position.

R. arcticus, another dwarf variety, growing at high altitudes, is not very attractive.

A FINE COLONY OF THE MADEIRA ORCHID AT KEW.

R. leucodermis, the whitewash bramble, has white flowers followed by dull black fruits. It should be planted with a background of evergreen shrubs, as then in winter its white, leafless stems are shown off to advantage.—R. MOORE, *Thorpe Hall Gardens.*

THE MADEIRA ORCHID.

WITH a few exceptions, hardy orchids cannot be termed a success in gardens generally; but the one quoted above is often seen in a flourishing condition, especially in some parts of Scotland. It is known as Orchis foliosa and is a native of Madeira, from whence it was introduced many years ago. This fine plant attains a height from 18ins. to 3ft., and the spikes appear in May, while the flowers are usually at their best in June and July, according to the season. The unspotted leaves are long and broad and the flowers a rich purplish red, are densely set on a stout spike which does not require a stake.

It has proved hardy in Great Britain, and one is rather surprised that such a fine subject is not more often met with, particularly in gardens where plants of merit are a special feature. It will pay for generous treatment, enjoying a rich rooting medium; but perhaps the most important factor is that the site must be more or less moist at all seasons. In spite of this, however, good drainage is essential, and a stagnant position must be avoided. I have seen fine clumps growing in bogs, also in other parts of the garden; but where the roots could be afforded plenty of water during the summer months. A spot shaded from the midday sun is advised, and the soil should consist of peat or sweet leaf-mould, to which is added a little loam and a fair sprinkling of sharp sand.

Frequent disturbance is not desirable, but where clumps have become unduly crowded division can be resorted to in the spring, and this is also a suitable time to plant this delightful orchis. When planting or making a new colony, it always pays to secure strong roots; the cost is slightly more than ordinary alpines, but it is well worth the outlay.—T. W. B.

THE SPINELESS CANADIAN BLACKBERRY, RUBUS DELICIOSUS.

NOTES FROM SWITZERLAND.

IN a Christmas letter from my friend George Flemwell, who for some years has made Lugano his headquarters, there are, among other references to plants seen during his wanderings from April to September, several which he thinks may interest certain readers of THE GARDEN.

Throughout the whole of the itinerary made by Mr. and Mrs. Flemwell, he seems to have "worked very hard among the flowers and insects"—most of this work I take to mean painting. "The Via Mala is evidently the home *par excellence* of white Gentiana asclepiadea—there was more white than blue, and very fine it was. In the Via Mala, too, and on one rock, was a potentilla which I cannot place with certainty. I enclose dried samples of it." This is P. caulescens, *L.* At first I did not recognise it, but was helped by finding specimens in my herbarium which I had gathered also in the Via Mala in 1900.

From two places in the Engandine, whose names are better not disclosed, he came across "a small colony of hybrid Gentiana lutea purpurea, probably the G. Charpentieri of such local botanists as Caviezel, but where I saw it growing it was in a gradation of forms, lutea being the dominant parent as regards colour. There were no brown forms, and the only traces of purpurea in the flowers were a slightly warmer yellow colouring (nearing to apricot), a few spots in several of the hybrids, and the more cup-like shape of the flowers. G. lutea (type) was there, but dwarfer than one finds it in Vaud;

Digitized by Google

G. purpurea was a short way off. The more distinctive of the hybrids are most attractive and the milky, illusive shade of warmish yellow is very fascinating. The plant is sturdy, erect and finely foliaged. It would prove a real acquisition to any rock garden. . . . Nature here has shown the way to hardening hybridists, and profitable experiments with purpurea and lutea might well be carried out. This hybrid is quite distinct from the flavida variety of purpurea."

During the Conference at Locarno Mr. and Mrs. Flemwell " were in the thick of it at the Palace Hotel. On Mrs. Chamberlain's birthday, the day of the famous excursion on the 'Orange Blossom,' when virtually the Pact was agreed upon, the Management of the Palace presented her with a fine bunch of alpine rhododendron (ferrugineum), gathered expressly by peasants in the Maggia Valley. Mark you; October 9th!"

This rhododendron is not often found in blossom after the end of April, even at its highest stations of 8,500ft. to 8,800ft. in the Valais. In Tessin it descends into the plain by Lago Maggiore, as, *e.g.*, in Val Maggia, which is twenty-five miles long and noted for its rich vegetation, rocky scenery and pretty villages. The village of Cevio, which is fifteen miles up the valley, is only 1,370ft. above sea level, the lake itself being 636ft., or little more than half the altitude of the Lake of Geneva. It is quite possible that late autumn flowering of the " Rose des Alpes " is more frequent in such low altitudes and in turbaries in woods of the central Swiss plateau, where it is a glacier relic, than in the higher mountains, where the summer season is so short.—H. S. THOMPSON.

NOVELTIES IN SWEET PEAS

(*Continued from page* 43.)

QUEEN OF ROUMANIA (W. J. Unwin). — Although a soft and dainty shade, this novelty is exquisitely rich. The catalogued description reads " At first glance, it appears to be a very warm and rich cream-pink, but closer examination reveals it as a very soft, light salmon-cerise, suffused and flushed on a deep cream ground. The colouring intensifies towards the centres of standard and wings." Like another of Mr. Unwin's 1926 novelties, it is a seedling from a W. J. Unwin cross, having the same size, perfect shape and robust habit as its parent. It is one of the prettiest peas I have seen, and I think its popularity is assured.

ROYAL PINK (R. Bolton and Son).—As exhibited I should judge this pea to be nearer an orange-salmon than a pink, and I see by my notes that I have described it as a much lighter George Shawyer, but I have not seen it growing. The raiser's colour description reads " Pure pink ground, illumined with rich shrimp and further enriched with a veining of deep rose. A perfect model of the twentieth century sweet pea."

RYBURGH CRIMSON (G. Stark and Son).—A large crimson, with a distinct trace of orange, giving a brilliant effect to the flower. The raiser tells us it is " a fine pea for exhibition."

RYBURGH CERISE (G. Stark and Son).—I have already mentioned this pea in my remarks on one or two other novelties. A large, rosy cerise with a standard of brighter hue. It is " a strong grower, and splendid for artificial light," to quote its official description.

SKY (W. Atlee Burpee and Co.).—The colour of this novelty falls somewhere between that of Wembley and Mrs. Tom Jones, and is described as a light but clear and bright silvery lavender-blue, practically a self, although there is a tendency for the wings to become slightly deeper than the standard.

SYBIL HENSHAW (W. J. Unwin).—From what I have seen of this pea I fully expect it to become one of the most popular crimsons, especially with exhibitors. The colour is near that of Crimson King, if anything slightly deeper and with a metallic sheen overlaying the standard. It is more vigorous and stronger in the stem than Crimson King, with bold, massive-looking flowers. It is what the exhibitor terms a " weighty " pea. Undoubtedly the largest and most vigorous sunproof crimson self to date.

THE FAVOURITE (F. C. Woodcock).—A very large flowered, dark-seeded white, much after the style of Constance Hinton and Giant White. I do not know enough about it to pass any opinion on its merit as compared with the first named. Several whites have been introduced and " boomed " since Dr. Hinton gave us Constance Hinton, but it still retains its position in public esteem as the best and most satisfactory pea for general purposes. Mr. Woodcock's own opinion of this novelty is reflected in the name he has chosen, and I have sufficient confidence in his judgment to add that it is certainly well worthy of a trial.

TWINKLES (W. J. Unwin).—Many of my readers will have tried Lady Gay, which Mr. Unwin placed on the market last season. Twinkles is marked in the same curious manner, and is the first seedling introduced which crosses with Lady Gay have produced. The ground colour is a rich cream, and the flushings, veinings and picotee edge of bright scarlet. The reverse of the standards is very heavily marked with scarlet, giving an arresting and attractive appearance to the bunch. I, personally, much prefer it to its parent, Lady Gay, and the name Twinkles is well chosen. All who admire something really uncommon and distinct in sweet peas should try it. Exhibitors should give it good culture and confine the growth to one " leader " per plant.

VENUS (J. Stevenson).—I believe Venus will prove to be the best of the Cecily, Fair Lady, Mrs. Arnold Hitchcock group. Its colouring is very pleasing, cream-pink suffused salmon. As yet I cannot endorse its raiser's opinion that " it will displace all other cream-pink varieties." This is rather a " tall order," for it has such peas as Mary Pickford, W. J. Unwin, Miss California and Magnet to contend with among cream-pinks. Without a doubt Venus is a very good pea, and should be grown by all admirers of the older peas Cecily, Mrs. A. Hitchcock, etc.

WHITE LADY (J. Stevenson).—Another white which Mr. Stevenson says " After repeated trials can, with confidence, be recommended as the best fixed white in cultivation." A better white-seeded pea than Edna May Improved, Florence Wright Improved or King White is really needed, and I hope White Lady will prove superior to them. The whites lag behind many of the other colour classes in real improvements, the white-seeded varieties seeming to deteriorate all too rapidly.

WISTARIA (W. J. Unwin).—Last on my list, but by no means least. This is one of the most delightful peas I have seen. Unfortunately, I have never had the chance to compare them side by side, but I believe Wistaria is somewhat after the colour of that other 1926 novelty Mermaid, but I judge the former to be slightly deeper and having the blue tone more pronounced. Its raiser rightly says " A really distinct and valuable novelty in the lavender class is somewhat of an achievement " and I think those whose taste condemns Wembley as too insipid and Austin Frederick Improved or R. F. Felton as too rosy, will probably find Wistaria near their ideal. " It is a bright blue-lavender, delightfully cool and clean, with no trace of harshness. The bright medium blue in its composition imparts a fresh, clean appearance, even to the old blooms." Add to these attributes great vigour, length of stem, lovely placement and a particularly sweet perfume, and you have a good idea of its sterling qualities.

Although I feel sure no startling advances will be registered by any 1925–26 sweet pea novelty, several appear to be real improvements, and if this proves nothing else, it indicates quite plainly that the sweet pea is far from being " played out " as regards potential improvements. Glancing over the list again, we cannot fail to notice the wide range of distinct colour over which they are spread, to say nothing of distinct shades. We find six cream-pinks or creamy-pink flushes, four deep cerises, three pinks, three in various shades of orange-salmon, two blues, two whites, two fancies, two blue-lavenders, two crimsons, one white ground flush, one mauve, one cream, one scarlet, one ivory, one blush-pink and one bronzy deep blue.

As I have already stated, I have not had the pleasure of closely examining all the above novelties, but I have seen nearly all. These would be my own choice if my collection of 1925–26 novelties were restricted to a dozen kinds: Black Bess, Ivory Picture, 2LO, Magnet, Mary Pickford, Mermaid, Mrs. Horace Wright, Peggy, Queen of Roumania, Sybil Henshaw, Venus and Wistaria, for they have particularly impressed me. C. H. A. S.

Digitized by Google

SOME NEW VARIETIES OF VEGETABLES

BY EDWIN BECKETT.

THE Editor has suggested that notes on some of the newer varieties of vegetables that have come into commerce during the past year or two may be of some assistance to growers who may not yet have come into touch with them, but before proceeding with them there is a word or two of explanation necessary. The variety that may be quite new to the owner of a small garden or allotment may only be comparatively so to the cultivator of a larger area, and to the big grower, especially the one keenly interested in exhibition work, may even be termed old, so that, when considering the varieties that will be set before you, it must be understood that you must judge them from your own particular viewpoint. These notes also, I may add, are the outcome of a general survey of some of the items that have stood out markedly in our culture at Aldenham. Lastly, it is necessary once again to reiterate the old statement that a variety that does well in one particular neighbourhood may not prove such a success in another, so that it will be well for those who would try any of these successes to have a trial season first in order to note their results on his particular soil.

The first item that I have noted down is a variety of cabbage for spring sowing named Velocity. Not only has this proved a very fine variety with us, but I have heard excellent reports from various quarters. It is a quick-maturing sort; in fact, if left standing where sown and thinning adopted to allow it room for growth, it can be cut about twelve weeks after sowing, and thus will prove valuable for substituting the autumn-sown varieties should they, as they sometimes do, fail badly. The quality of this new introduction is also excellent, it is one that everybody should try. Another brassica novelty which has many good points is the cabbage, Carter's Herald.

Next I want to refer to three beans, two French and one broad variety. French bean Magpie is a very fine introduction originally brought from France and cultivated here to adapt it to our climatic and other conditions; it is a really first-class item. Long and large in pod, the flavour and quality is very fine, but over and above these factors are its additional adjuncts of heavy cropping and its adaptability to forcing. It never seems to fail to crop, even when other varieties disappoint, and it continues to produce for a longer period than most others.

Nain Parisien, a variety we obtained from France, is another fine thing, with large pods, of early habit and excellent flavour, very suitable for forcing and highly productive.

The broad bean is The Sutton, a remarkable new introduction in the year 1922. Dwarf in habit, only running about a foot in height it requires no staking, but, being of branching habit, it carries a large crop of pods, each containing about four or five white seeds, which, when cooked and served well, prove of delicious flavour. Such a prolific variety, that gives so little trouble, deserves to be tried by every grower, and especially the one with but little space at his command.

Beetroots always look more or less alike, but a very distinct appearance was borne by beet New Intermediate, which is an oval-shaped root, midway between a long and a globe form. It is of excellent texture and flavour, and from its shape a very desirable one from the cook's point of view, while the gardener likes it because it is a variety that matures early.

Broccoli varieties, of one form or another, are an enormous group, form seeming to cross with form most readily, but for a really distinct variety I would select Nine Star broccoli. The origin of this is somewhat wrapped in mystery, but it was a surprise when it was sent to me for trial, and I readily recommend this broccoli to all growers. It carries heads like a small cauliflower, as many as nine the first season, and appears to be quite a perennial form, standing well, though necessarily it will have a limited existence from a production point of view, and the greater number of years it grows on and throws sprouts after the previous season's cuttings, the smaller must be expected the sprouts, but it will certainly be an effective yielder for three or four years.

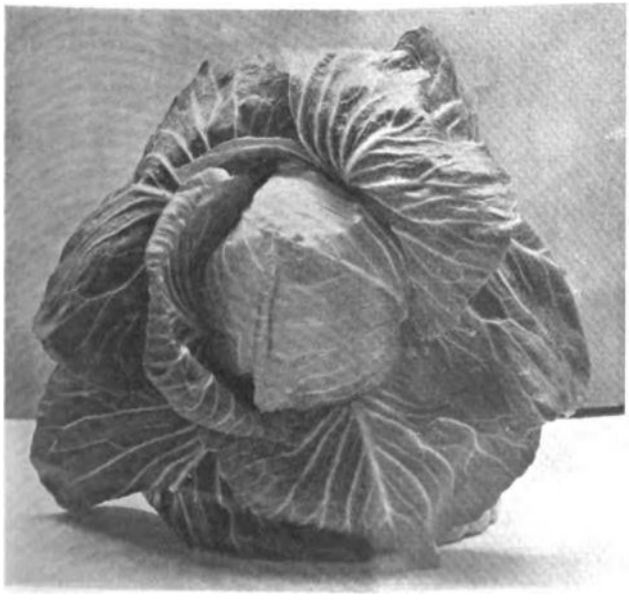
SUTTON'S SPROUT FILLBASKET.

Another brassica that has taken my fancy is the new Brussel Sprout Fillbasket, a variety of tall-growing character, well protected at the top, and carrying a large crop of large-sized sprouts, fine in quality and of very close, firm texture, avoiding the opening habit that many varieties fail with.

Two fine capsicums that were sent to me for growing last year, and of which I believe much will be heard in the future, are Ruby King and Golden King. For the exhibition table they will, in my opinion, prove almost ideal.

Maize, again, is rather out of the ordinary run, but I must not pass over the claims of an excellent variety of the sweet or Indian corn. This vegetable is a very important one with the connoisseurs of the United States, and will, I believe, come into big demand as a vegetable on this side in time. For those who want to grow the best my advice is to get, if possible, Maize Early Malcolm, as it is of first-class quality.

An onion that is not frequently met with and deserves reintroduction almost as a novelty is Premier, which so consistently produces fine large, heavy, solid bulbs of excellent shape and texture, and proves such a really good keeping maincrop variety, while as an



CABBAGE CARTER'S HERALD.

Digitized by Google

exhibition onion it is second to none. We now come to another vegetable that too many small growers leave alone as being unprofitable and as requiring good staking, the vegetable pea, and to those who argue thus I would say try Giant Stride. This only grows 2ft. tall, and as these small plants carry, under proper cultivation, as many as thirty pods at a time, this alone speaks volumes for their yield; and another extraordinary thing is that these pods are nearly as large as those of Quite Content, and hold from eight to ten good-sized seeds within each pod, and these of excellent quality when cooked, so that quality and quantity, combined with dwarf stature and quick-maturing capabilities, makes this a more than useful new introduction for everybody. Another excellent pea, this time a maincrop variety, is Chancelot, which only reaches about 3ft., but is a first quality pea, of excellent yield and good healthy constitution, and one that has greatly impressed me with its general utility claims.

An unknown, or comparatively unknown, tuberous vegetable must not be overlooked, and that is Oxalis tuberosa. Those who have seen any of the exhibits I have staged of recent times may recall a very attractive-looking rose red tuber, something like a very large red Chinese artichoke. As a cooked vegetable and properly prepared for table, this demands attention. A native of South America, it seems quite happy in our climate; in fact, it only appears to form its tubers properly after the tops have been cut by frost, and although a tropical denizen, yet does not appear to appreciate forcing under glass. As an exhibition vegetable for big mixed collections it certainly ought to rank as a prime favourite.

Potato introductions are many, year by year, but there are four that stand out prominently in my favour for their general utility and quality. Arran Victory, a round variety, with purple skin and fine white flesh, immune from wart disease, is not only a pretty show potato, but is also excellent for cooking purposes and a good cropper. Arran Comrade, immune, round shaped, white, second early, is a very heavy cropper, of high table quality, and the large number of even-sized, shapely tubers produced per root makes this stand out very distinctly among its fellows, and renders it a fine exhibition variety. The Bishop, a pretty variety when flowering with its attractive rose-pink flowers, is certainly one of the very best, if not indeed the best, white kidney-shaped maincrop potatoes of the day. Most consistent in its excellent cropping, with fine, even, shapely tubers which make it a very good exhibition variety, its cooking qualities are all that can be desired by the most critical. This also is an immune variety. The last to note here is that pretty variety Di-Vernon, a heavy cropping first-early variety, immune from wart disease. It is a fine, shapely kidney, the eyes of which are beautifully marked with purple stains, and on the show table looks remarkably effective. But its appearance is not all its merit, for as a "cooker" it is first class.

A radish that calls for mention is Rosy Gem, one of the quickest I know in growth, and of excellent texture and flavour. It is a pretty root, oval in shape and delicately tinged rosy pink, and for forcing, general work, table and show stand, will take a lot of beating.

An outstanding tomato of heavy-cropping capabilities is Everyday, and for all purposes this should rapidly become a great favourite. It is a fine rich red in colour, of medium size, of splendid flavour, and has a fine, thin skin.

Turnip Elstree Early is another root product with which, as its name denotes, I am intimately connected, and it will suffice to say that those who try this, especially for early forcing work, will not, in my opinion, be disappointed.

The last item that calls for attention is the garden swede, a vegetable that is rapidly coming to the fore, owing to the big improvement in the modern strain. This item stands the ravages of severe weather far better than the turnip, and thus is decidedly useful for maintaining the supplies of this form of vegetable food.

There have been, of course, many other worthy new introductions during the past year or two that could well be mentioned did space permit, but I think that in the foregoing I have dealt with those of premier importance.

THE DUKE CHERRIES

BY E. A. BUNYARD.

THE group of cherries known as Royales in France and as Dukes in this country form a very distinct class. They are most probably hybrids between the wild gean or mazzard, Prunus Avium, and the sour cherry, P. Cerasus, or perhaps in some cases the prototype of the Morello, called by some P. amarasca, has played a part.

There are many evidences of hybrid origin in this family, defective pollen, an intermediate habit of growth, the bitterness of the Morello or sour cherry being tempered by the other parent to an attractive astringency. Furthermore, they all show the compact upright growth which makes them so desirable for garden culture, as they form naturally vase-shaped trees which require but little pruning.

It is difficult to understand why these cherries are not more commonly grown, for, to the fastidious palate, they stand alone in softness of flesh and for their attractive blend of sweet and sour, plus that slight astringency which can only be compared to that of an old claret.

There are no cherries so digestible or so clean on the palate as these, and M. Paderewski, as eminent an epicure as an artist, places them, as I do myself, first of all cherries.

A selection which would cover a period from June to end of August and, with the help of a north wall, even later, should include May Duke, Archduke, Royal Duke, Ronald's Late Duke and Late Duke.

THE ROYAL DUKE CHERRY.

May Duke is the best known of the family, and on a warm wall can be ripened in most years by mid-June; it is also much used for forcing. The flavour is excellent *when fully ripe*, a point which needs emphasis in a fruit like the cherry, which colours before it is full-grown.

Archduke follows in mid-July from the open ground; the red flesh is jelly-like and of a remarkably fine flavour. This is a very old variety which has long history, and may even have existed in Pliny's time, a point of interest to those who like a little literary-historical flavour mingled with their gardening.

Royal Duke, coming in mid- to end-July, is, in my estimation, the most delicious of all cherries, either raw or cooked. The flesh is rather more yellow than red, transparent, and extremely well balanced in flavour. Were it a wine one would read in the merchant's catalogue," round, full and velvety."

For bottling, if any can be spared, it is to the cherries as the Carlsbad plum to the French prune. Candour, however, compels the admission that it is not a prolific bearer, but, like many of the best things, requires some degree of patient expectancy.

Digitized by Google

Ronald's Late Duke follows, and worthily maintains the ducal tradition. The large size and dark shining crimson colour make it as attractive without as it is within.

Late Duke comes into August to finish the season, and is distinct in its more heart-shaped form and pale yellow flesh, the latter coming as a surprise beneath the dark red skin.

The flavour is very rich and good, in fact almost equal to Royal Duke.

All these varieties do well as fans on walls, and are naturally suitable for vase-shaped dwarf trees and much more successful, by reason of their short pointed growth, for cordons than most cherries. Like all stone fruit, they require lime, and when established will appreciate rich manure.

It will be found that a small sprinkling of nitrate of soda just before blossoming time will markedly aid in setting fruit.

TOOLS AND THEIR SELECTION

IT is a surprising fact that, while one is constantly reading of the great value of thorough methods of cultivation as an aid to success, very little space is ever devoted to the selection of suitable implements for accomplishing this purpose. Many an amateur—to whom the tilling of a garden or allotment is just an interesting hobby for spare time and not undertaken for pecuniary gain—has had foisted upon him at some time or other an entirely unserviceable and badly finished article usually with the excuse that it is a particularly cheap line. "Cheap" tools are often expensive in the long run and should be avoided, for constant replacements have to be made. It has been said that it is a poor workman who blames his tools, but it must be remembered that there are good and bad tools, and often the quality of the implements will play a large part in the successful completion of any task.

I suppose one of the first, and certainly one of the most important, tools to be used in the making and upkeep of the average garden is the spade, and it is a matter of surprise to notice the hundreds of cheap lines of the "tin-can" order that are displayed, and evidently sold, by many local ironmongers. The badly fitted stocks, roughly burred rivets and sharp-edged straps usually found on these bargains are calculated to tear and blister the toughest skin, while the blade is often so soft and pliable that, in all but the lightest of soils, it is worse than useless. During the war some of the keenest brains in the country were employed in experimental work producing special steels for special purposes and, as we all know, many of the wartime products depended entirely upon a minimum of weight and bulk combined with a maximum of hardness and strength. It is pleasant to record that, with the cessation of hostilities, some of the firms engaged in this work immediately set out to apply the valuable knowledge and experience thus gained to the production of high-grade articles for use in peaceful occupations. As a result of this the manufacture of tools, and particularly of horticultural tools, has been very materially improved, and it is now easy to become the possessor of a really well balanced, well finished and efficient spade or fork. In making the selection do not make the mistake of thinking that the bigger the tool the quicker the ground can be covered. Often it is the reverse, for it must be remembered that these huge tools are proportionately heavier and usually tend to make a long spell of digging a very wearisome affair. For general use a No. 1 size is, perhaps, the most convenient, the blade usually being about 7ins. by 11½ins. When making the purchase carefully examine the whole tool for possible flaws and make sure that the handle is snugly and firmly fitted to the socket straps. Pay special attention to the blade, both back and front. This should be perfectly smooth or a rusty tool will very quickly follow. Select the lightest possible specimen which is consistent with strength and utility, for it will be found that the difference of a half-pound in the weight of the tool will mean practically a ton less lifted in the course of an average day's digging. In the writer's opinion it is far better to pay a few shillings more and get a branded article made by a firm who specialise in the manufacture of horticultural implements. The "Neverbend" spades and forks made by Messrs. Spear and Jackson, the "Brades" tools made by Messrs. William Hunt and Sons or the "Rustless Steel" spade made by the Hardy Patent Pick Company are all excellent brands which can be relied upon to give good service and which can be easily obtained from most good-class stores. In buying a digging fork the same care and attention should be given to the points enumerated above, and a little thought should be given as to the nature of the soil in which it is to be used. A four-pronged fork will generally be found more serviceable for use in very heavy soils, while the larger forks with fine prongs can be more safely relied upon for use in light soils.

The hoe is, perhaps, the next tool in importance, and here again we meet with many specimens offered for sale which are comparatively worthless. Broadly speaking, hoes may be divided into two types: the Dutch hoe, which is worked on the push principle, in front of and away from the worker; and the draw hoe, which, as its name implies, is worked towards the operator. The former is of no great service in any but the lightest and not too stony soils, while the latter can be used on either light or heavy soils, and is also particularly valuable for earthing up rows of peas, potatoes, etc. They can be obtained in various sizes and patterns, but for general use either a 5in. or 6in. blade will be found most convenient. Choose a type with a good forged steel blade fixed to the socket by means of a solid bar bent in the shape of a swan's neck. This allows of the blade being worked at that angle which will give the user most power over the tool. It should be firmly mounted on a stout ash handle in such a manner that no play is left between the sides of the socket and the wood.

J. C.

(To be continued.)

CORRESPONDENCE

PIERIS IN SCOTLAND.

SIR,—I was interested in your notes in the issue of January 16th last on Trees and Shrubs in Scotland. You specially mention those interesting and delightful ericaceous plants the pieris or andromedas, as they are perhaps best known. Our experience with several varieties mentioned has been quite happy, as the better known P. floribunda grows exceedingly well here and rarely fails to flower profusely. P. japonica also does well, but the variety that grows most vigorously is formosa. This sort has probably the largest flowers and foliage of the group, the young growths in early summer being also very attractive. P. formosa is not generally recommended for cold districts, but I sometimes say that if plants of somewhat doubtful hardiness succeed with us they will do in most places in Scotland—for, although Coodham is only five miles from the Ayrshire coast, we sit fairly high, while our subsoil is a cold blue clay. Naturally, when planting any choice subjects we have got to give them some kindly mixture to start them; but, with the exception of guarding the plants from cutting winds in their younger stages, that is about all the coddling allowed. To the pieris we generally give a good percentage of peat, sand and leaf-mould, incorporating it with the natural soil, and have found the plants to respond quickly. I have rarely found the frost hurt them much, although this winter we had 26 degrees several mornings in succession. I quite agree that the pieris are among the most beautiful of our flowering shrubs and regret that they are not more generally planted.

We had a very fine effect with P. floribunda and Rhododendron præcox, both flowering simultaneously.—JAMES MCGRAN, *Coodham, Kilmarnock.*

SEEDLING BIRCHES.

SIR,—This garden has been showing us the ease with which birch trees may be grown from seed. Less than four years ago we added to the garden by taking in half an acre of croft and turning it into flower beds and borders. The borders are stone edged and the paths gravel and ever since they have been made we are constantly finding self-sown birch seedlings between the stones edging the paths and in the rock garden. They are carefully taken up and planted in the new fence which runs the whole length of the garden and which seemed to swallow unlimited numbers of plants and yet never be filled.

However, by this time the oldest plants are 5ft. and 6ft. high and crying out to be thinned drastically. This garden is very open and windswept and I longed for something to grow and form a hedge quickly. Now I look

Digitized by Google

like having one of birches, though they tail down from 6ft. at one end to 1ft. where the youngest seedlings are.

The parent birches are at the entrance to the garden, quite a distance from the stone-edged borders and there are no others within a mile. The soil here is rather heavy loam on clay, so I suppose the seeds find it more homelike among the stones and gravel, for scarcely ever does one come up in the open border. I am hoping the young trees will be quite a feature before long, although they are in one straight row, if only the cattle in the neighbouring field will refrain from making a meal of the leading shoots.—E. BUXTON, *Burton-on-Trent*.

HYDRANGEA HORTENSIS ROSEA.

SIR,—In your Correspondence columns of December 19th, 1925, I note an article regarding "Colour Variation in Hydrangeas," in which Mr. Arthur J. Cobb, Reading, would like to know where plants of H. hortensis rosea can be procured.

I know of only one nursery in this country where I think this plant may be obtained. J. B. Pilkington, nurseryman, Portland, Oregon, lists in his catalogue three varieties of H. hortensis, which he designates as pink, blue and white. Whether one of these is rosea or not I cannot say. He would be glad to answer any enquiries regarding this and I hope Mr. Cobb may be able to find just what he is looking for.—M. IVAN DUNLOP, *Los Angeles, California*.

NERINE BOWDENI.

SIR,—As no one else has answered Sir Herbert Maxwell's query in THE GARDEN of December 26th, 1925, *re* Nerine Bowdeni, my cousinly pride makes me reply that the Mr. Bowden, who brought the N. Bowdeni to England, is Athelstan Hall Cornish-Bowden, now Surveyor-General of Cape Colony; it must have been about twenty years ago he made an expedition with natives and dug up a lot of these bulbs and had them sent home to his mother in Newton Abbot and she sent them to a nurseryman who then placed them on the market.—ELIZABETH F. CORNISH-BOWDEN, *Devon*.

TWO ROCK GARDEN ANNUALS.

SIR,—In THE GARDEN of January 2nd, one writer mentions Ionopsidium acaule. I am sure that this minute and pretty annual is not known at all well or we should see it far more often than is at present the case. A native of Portugal and rarely growing above 2ins. high, it is very useful for planting, or rather, sowing in crevices of crazy paving, as mentioned in the article above referred to and for odd corners in the rock garden.

May I be allowed to plead the case of yet another little known annual, Portulaca grandiflora. This, although catalogued as half-hardy, is quite hardy in the south. I have seen it growing in profusion on a sandy border. The colours of the flowers consist mainly of shades of purple and red and although vivid, these striking colours never clash. A patch of this plant seen in full sun is really dazzling and anyone possessing a warm corner where a plant 6ins. to 8ins. is wanted, would be well advised to try this annual.—N. D. H.

LONICERA FRAGRANTISSIMA.

SIR,—In your Correspondence columns in THE GARDEN for January 23rd, I see Mr. Harris has failed in blooming the above honeysuckle.

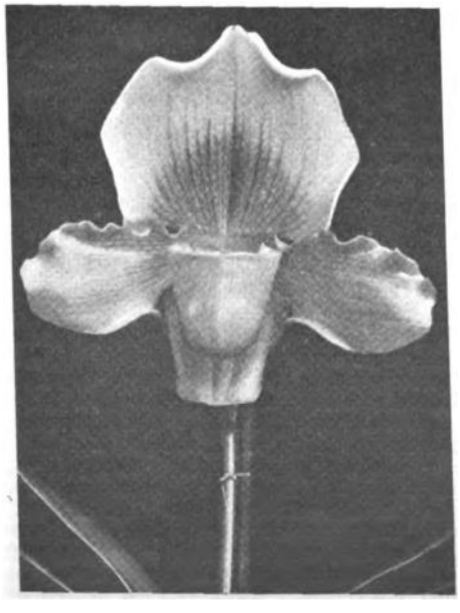
We find it quite easy here; it is planted on a sheltered south wall. This seems most essential to protect it against the winds and frosts. In March we prune it very hard and at the same time mulch it with old farmyard manure. It blooms on its new wood, after the manner of L. Standishii and its flowering season is very long, commencing in November and continuing until the end of February. I think the hard pruning is very necessary.—R. MOORE, *Thorpe Hall*.

SIR,—I am rather surprised that the plant referred to by Mr. Harris, Lydney, Glos., fails to bloom, because here at Castleford, Chepstow, this fragrant lonicera flowers annually, some years better than others. Castleford is also in the county of Glos., and some eight miles from Lydney.

It would be interesting to know how the plant is pruned, because we leave our specimen alone, except for an occasional thinning out of old wood. It is growing at the base of a wall facing south-west and is more or less shaded by large elm trees.—T. W. BRISCOE.

THE TURN OF THE YEAR

THE atmosphere of spring could almost be sensed in the R.H.S. Hall on January 26th last, on the occasion of the ordinary fortnightly meeting of the Royal Horticultural Society. Already colour is appearing in the garden week by week, whites, yellows and blues predominating, and the exhibits in turn take on a more lively aspect. Bright patches of colour scattered here and there throughout the Hall were much admired, both for their intrinsic beauty and from the fact that they serve to remind us that the turn of the year has really and truly come. Greenhouse flowers were, naturally, plentiful and of a miscellaneous nature, and comprised a fine exhibit of forced bulbous flowers by Messrs. Sutton and Sons, an extensive and magnificent display of cyclamen by Messrs. Blackmore and Langdon; while irises and primulas came from Raynes Park, and a small but praiseworthy collection of roses from Mr. Elisha Hicks. Carnations were again in evidence, and their gay colours added not a little to the brightness of the Hall. The alpine flowers are now beginning to waken from their winter's sleep and push up their noses in response to milder weather conditions, and many of the rock exhibits held much of interest to all alpine enthusiasts. All alpines would seem to weave a strange fascination round one at this time. They are the very essence of the season with their miniature and compact cloaks of fresh green topped by their blossoms, which appear too delicate to stand the rigours and vagaries of an English spring. Nevertheless, they are here, and from now onwards until April and May they will be present as one of the integral parts of these shows in ever increasing numbers. The other exhibits were of a miscellaneous nature. Sundries again were prominent, and among them was an exhibit, arranged by Messrs. Malby and Co., the horticultural photographers, which calls for special mention. Of recent years garden photography has undergone almost revolutionary changes. We have arrived at a new era, the day of the camera. All will agree that a pictorial representation of some subject is worth as much, if not more, than pages of verbal description, especially when the illustration is almost true to life. That we have reached such perfection in floral photography there is no doubt. Messrs. Malby's colour reproductions almost seem to live on the photographic plate. The colours are there and, what is still more important, the subjects are portrayed in a natural style. There is nothing stiff, formal or unreal in the reproduction. The coloured plates of general garden scenes were as excellent as those of individual subjects and showed great skill in execution, with a faithfulness to detail combined with a true colour record for which the artist justly deserves a word of praise. The black and white reproductions showed equal care and skill in their execution, and served to testify as to the educational value of all photographic work. Messrs. Malby have already established their name in the horticultural world, and their exhibit of work will doubtless enhance their reputation as one of the leading horticultural photographers in this country.



ONE OF THE MOST DISTINCT OF ALL CYPRIPEDIUMS, C. SIR TREVOR.

The most effective and striking of the floral groups was set up by Messrs. Sutton and Sons. It was composed of a splendid collection of well grown forced bulbs in bowls. Hyacinths, tulips and a few irises, lilies of the valley and narcissi were shown. The hyacinths were particularly fine and very fragrant, the best varieties being Prepared White, Christmas Pink, Pink Plume and Prepared Cynthella Yellow. Good bowls of the tulips Duc van Thol, Mon. Tresor, and the attractive deep purple Iris reticulata were much admired.

A large and imposing group of cyclamen was exhibited by Messrs. Blackmore and Langdon. The plants were very robust, and each carried a number of well shaped blooms. The arrangement of the stand was most effective. The varieties Scarlet King, a glowing crimson scarlet; Brilliant, a rich carmine; and Salmon King, with its silvered foliage, formed vivid patches of colour. Bath Beauty was a good new cyclamen with enormous flowers of salmon pink; and Mrs. Buckston, a soft rosy pink, was the only frilled variety exhibited. A few cyclamen were also shown among a collection of carnations and various greenhouse plants by Messrs. Stuart Low and Co. An interesting crested cyclamen was noted on this stand. Cherry Ripe and Pink Pearl were their two finest varieties, the former being one of the brightest of any of salmon red cyclamen.

Mr. Elisha Hicks had a small but attractive group of forced roses. The colour of a few of the varieties was pale, owing to the forcing,

Digitized by Google

but the texture was perfect. Mrs. Herbert Stevens, Lady Hillingdon, Mme. E. Herriot and Padre were in good form. Messrs. L. R. Russell exhibited some good greenhouse plants and shrubs, including azaleas, camellias and Pycnostachys Dawei, that striking perennial herb with intense blue flower spikes which received an award of merit a year ago. Anemones and rhododendrons came from Mr. R. Gill. Mr. C. Engelmann had some fine specimens of Rouge, Nero, Rosalia—some of his newest carnations. Late-keeping apple varieties were exhibited by Messrs. Bunyard and Messrs. J. Cheal. Garden sundries and tools were shown by a number of firms, and many artists exhibited floral paintings.

Among the alpines, Messrs. Tucker's exhibit was remarkable for its form and Messrs. Waterer's for content. Messrs. Tucker made a rock garden of two grey mounds planted with Burseriana saxifrages enclosing a hollow set with cyclamen, Primula Juliæ and P. Winteri. The Burseriana on one hillock was the natural form "Tridentina," on the other, for comparison, the firm's own hybrid Brookside, which, unlike most hybrid saxifrages, has certain advantages over the type, for the petals are well overlapped and, however widely open, never show the daylight between them, and they have inherited some of the solidity of the parent S. Paulinæ. Messrs. Waterer showed a collection of bulbous irises, I. reticulata, Histrio and histrioides with their splashed and painted signal patch, and the rare Heldreichii, scented like Cyclamen europæum and remarkable for the velvety quality of its pale violet, darkening to a deep patch on the falls. The ghostly white Narcissus monophyllum and those two exquisite and unexpected freaks of nature, N. minimus and N. cyclamineus, with the beautiful but neglected crocuses, CC. Sieberi, Tomasinianus and Cloth of Gold.

Messrs. Cutbush grouped their spring bulbs very naturally and pleasantly among early-flowering shrubs—Andromeda polifolia, Cydonia Maulei, C. Simonsi and Erica carnea. They showed the fine large-flowered form of hepatica, Galanthus Elwesii and the rare Iris Tauri.

Messrs. F. G. Wood showed the old, but still appreciated, double primroses, Narcissus minor and nanus, and several crocus species.

Among the numerous exhibits of orchids, Messrs. Charlesworth and Co. had a very attractive group, mostly composed of hybrids which had been raised to provide many-flowered spikes during the winter months, the best example being Odontoglossum Dora with a branched spike of eighty-nine flowers. O. Wilckeanum bore a spike of thirty-four large flowers, and there were several promising odontonias in which the influence of Miltonia vexillaria is visible in the increased size of the labellum. Silver-gilt Banksian medal.

Silver Banksian medals were awarded to Messrs. Stuart Low and Co., whose group was mainly composed of species, including such interesting plants as Cypripedium Chamberlainianum, Chysis aurea, Brassovola glauca and Dendrochilum Cobbianum with several pendulous racemes.

A similar award was given to Messrs. J. and A. McBean, Cooksbridge, Sussex, for an exhibit of cymbidium and odontoglossum hybrids, the former including C. rosefieldiense with large flowers of emerald green colour, and the latter a heavily blotched variety of O. majesticum.

Messrs. Sanders, St. Albans, were equally rewarded for their group of rare species and popular hybrids, the last mentioned including well grown plants of Cypripedium Maudiæ, various cymbidiums of the insigne section, and a large-flowering variety of Brasso-Cattleya fulgens.

Messrs. Cowan and Co., Southgate, also received a silver Banksian medal for their group of elegant cypripediums, which embraced the first-class certificate variety of C. Perseus and C. Vashtii. The centre was filled with the bright yellow Oncidium splendidum, while in front was the rare Odontoglossum Duvivierianum and O. harvengtense, both natural hybrids.

Messrs. Armstrong and Brown, Tunbridge Wells, had a small but, nevertheless, select exhibit of cypripediums, novelties being seen in C. Gladys, with a purple flushed dorsal sepal, and in C. Pothan, with roundly formed segments. A feature was Lælio-Cattleya Schroederæ with a seven-flowered spike. Bronze Banksian medal.

Other exhibitors included Messrs. A. J. Keeling and Sons, Bradford, who staged several attractive cypripediums; Mr. H. Dixon, Wandsworth Common, who showed various species and hybrids, including a vigorous plant of Cypripedium Rossettii; and Messrs. Black and Flory, Slough, whose exhibit contained the new Cypripedium Sir J. M. Barrie, as well as the Langley variety of Cypripedium Golden Wren.

THE FINE EXHIBIT OF CYCLAMEN STAGED BY MESSRS. BLACKMORE AND LANGDON

Among the amateurs' exhibits, mention may be made of Cattleya Harrisoniana, staged by Mr. S. J. Hawes, Eltham Road, Lee; Cypripedium Memoria H. J. Elwes, with unusually heavy spotting, staged by Mr. G. F. Moore, Bourton-on-the-Water; and Cypripedium Cappa Magna, a richly coloured flower, shown by Mr. J. J. Joicey, Witley, Surrey.

NEW AND RARE PLANTS.

AWARD OF MERIT.

STRELITZIA KEWENSIS.—This is a hybrid between S. Reginæ or S. angusta and shows characteristics intermediate between the parents. The flowers are borne vertically from the horizontal spathe and are of a pale almost watery yellow somewhat resembling those of S. Reginæ, but the small hooded petal resembles the other parent. The flowers are decidedly inferior in attraction to those of either parent. Shown by the Director, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

ORCHIDS.

CYPRIPEDIUM SIR TREVOR (Casella × Christopher).—One of the most distinct and charming of all the cypripediums. The large flower is of model formation, the dorsal sepal porcelain white on the upper two-thirds of its area, the base being light greenish yellow, a colour also seen on the broadly developed petals, which are undulated on the upper margin; the labellum is yellowish. A special feature is the entire absence of spotting in any of the segments. Silver Lindley medal and first-class certificate. Shown by Mr. G. F. Moore, V.M.H, Chardwar, Bourton-on-the-Water (gardener, Mr. Page).

ODONTIODA COLINGE VAR. ROSEMARY (Odontoglossum crispum × Odontioda Coronation).—This elegant hybrid bore an erect spike of fourteen large flowers of crimson red colour, the sepals and petals having a narrow rose-tinted margin, the labellum white, with a red blotch near the yellow crest. Shown by Mr. J. J. Bolton, Claygate, Surrey (gardener Mr. S. Lyne). First-class certificate.

MILTONIA LYCÆNA.—The large flowers of this garden-raised hybrid have the petals flushed with crimson on their basal half, while the labellum is stained with a lighter tint of the same colour. Staged by Messrs. Charlesworth and Co. First-class certificate.

ODONTIODA GWENDOLINE, STAMPERLAND VAR. (Odontoglossum eximium × Odontioda Madeline).—This richly coloured hybrid carried a long spike of fourteen flowers of blood red colour in the sepals and petals the labellum being whitish, except for some red blotching on the central area. Shown by Mr. Robert Paterson, Cathcart, Glasgow. First-class certificate.

CYPRIPEDIUM PEERLESS (Curtisii Sanderæ × Holdenii).—A valuable addition to the "albino" section. The flower has the formation of the Curtisii parent to a large extent, the colour being light greenish with emerald green venation. Shown by Messrs. Armstrong and Brown, Tunbridge Wells. Award of merit.

SOPHRO-LÆLIO-CATTLEYA VULCAN VAR. PICOTEE (Lælio-Cattleya Dominiana × Sophro-Lælio-Cattleya Anzac).—An attractive hybrid which bore a spike of three flowers of a rich and bright purple, the labellum much more intensely coloured. Shown by Messrs. Black and Flory, Slough. Award of merit.

LÆLIO-CATTLEYA PIONEER (L.-C. Schulzeana × C. Trianæ).—A well cultivated plant, distinguished as the Manor House variety. The two spikes each bore five flowers of bright purplish colour. Shown by Mr. G. W. Bird, West Wickham, Kent. Cultural commendation.

ODONTOGLOSSUM DORA.—This attractive hybrid proves the value of odontoglossums for producing flowers during the dull winter months. The present example bore a branched spike of eighty-nine fully opened flowers. Shown by Messrs. Charlesworth and Co., Haywards Heath. Cultural commendation.

Digitized by Google

GARDEN TECHNIQUE

Notes on the Technical Side of the Garden and the Cultivation of Plants.

FLOWERS

DELPHINIUMS.

THE second or third week in February, weather permitting, is a splendid period of the year to lift and replant delphiniums. Large plants which have been for some considerable time grown on the same border need occasionally to be supplied with feeding material to keep them in a vigorous and floriferous state as delphiniums enjoy and respond to generous treatment.

A few years ago we found it necessary to lift a number of fair-sized roots and trench the ground. The earth was dark in colour, and of a fine friable nature—to a certain depth—but somewhat exhausted. With this knowledge, and that of the plants having to be returned to the same border, we incorporated with the soil fairly large quantities of stable manure as the trenching proceeded, so that sufficient feeding would be available for the plants for some time to come.

As a rule, established delphinium plants lift with good balls—that is, their root system is fairly close and compact, and so a good quantity of soil clings to the roots. Therefore, with plants of this description no one need fear to lift and transplant, provided a reasonable amount of care is exercised in doing the work.

As soon as the ground was thoroughly trenched and manured the plants were set out, and, it is hardly necessary to add that they grew splendidly and altogether were much improved.—MIDLOTHIAN.

THE DAFFODIL SWEET PEA.

SEEDS of this variety were sown in a 4in. pot on February 9th last year. The plants were left to grow without pinching, yet fine young growths came away from near the base of each plant. The young growths appeared some time before the plants were placed in an 8in. pot. On May 2nd four of the plants had produced one vigorous (young) growth each, the other two plants had each two growths and the stems were 15ins. high. The old original unpinched stems were thin and poor looking compared with the others, while three of the old or original growths were blind. I therefore advocate the pinching of sweet pea plants, as the old growths or original stems, if left, eventually come to nothing. Two flowers were pulled from Daffodil on June 2nd. Four months generally elapses from seed sowing till flowering-time.—D. A.

PRICKING OUT ANTIRRHINUMS.

FOR pricking out seedlings from autumn-sown seed—a task for the early days of February—there is nothing to equal a frame-bed on a very mild hotbed. This secures just the soil warmth necessary to promote root activity and avoids a heated atmosphere. The notion that by bringing up plants from a cold frame into artificial heat they will be urged into good growth is imagination, unsupported by practical experience. The tendency of these days to ignore the utility of the hotbed is one rather deplorable instance of error of judgment on the part of modern horticulturists.

Where hotbeds are impossible the best plan will be to fill some boxes with gritty compost, prick out the seedlings from the frame and, having just warmed the soil in the boxes, place them on shelves in a cool, airy greenhouse kept at a steady temperature just above freezing at night. The open-ground seedlings will be best left until they show signs of making new growth in early spring, when they may be pricked out in a sheltered border, from whence they may be lifted and transplanted with a trowel into flowering quarters. Should the open-ground seedlings at any time during winter appear to be distressed, it is well to mulch the whole bed with sharp dry sand, allowing it almost to half bury the seedlings.

Of varieties we have a grand selection, and while some old favourites cannot be dispensed with, there are novelties of surpassing excellence which deserve to figure prominently in our bedding schemes.—M.

VEGETABLES

MUSHROOMS: A CHANCE CROP.

ONE meets with those who have attempted the culture of mushrooms under cover, whose common experience has been failure and whose success, when it did follow, was in the nature of a surprise. The growing of this welcome dish with quite a number of people is more in the nature of a lottery, and at the best is a chance crop. Even with this admission, the attempt is worth it, as, should entire failure be the result, the net loss is only that of the spawn, inasmuch as the manure can be brought into use for mixing with potting soil for certain plants or in the garden. It is not so easy, during the winter months, to generate and maintain the heat of a bed, under a shed, so necessary to the spread of the mycelium and growth of mushrooms, as it is from May onwards; and those who may have failed with a winter crop should now begin to put down beds for spawning. Undoubtedly, manure from corn-fed horses is the best, and this should be turned over from time to time to permit of rankness getting away, until the heat subsides to about 80° Fahr. after the bed has been prepared and well beaten down. Then spawn can be inserted and a coating of loam spread over the bed and made firm. The gardener who is inexperienced in the culture of mushrooms is generally imbued with the idea that artificial heat is the main factor in their production, and if he is not possessed of a house equipped with hot-water apparatus, he thinks it is of no use trying. This is altogether erroneous. Some years ago Mr. Edwin Beckett related an interview he once had with a most successful Scotch grower of mushrooms, who advised him in constructing a mushroom house to "thatch the house inside and endeavour at all times to maintain an atmosphere and temperature similar to that of a September night, when mushrooms grow so well in fields." It is the nearest approach to this warm, humid condition of the atmosphere that the grower should strive for, and in keeping up an even temperature. So many fail to appreciate the fact that great fluctuations of heat prevent the growth of the mycelium.—W. LINDERS LEA.

EARLY CAULIFLOWERS.

QUESTION.—Is it advisable to sow cauliflower seeds in heat early in the year?

Answer.—Yes, if very early produce is required.

Question.—How should seeds be sown and the resulting seedlings treated while under glass?

Answer.—The box in which the seeds are to be sown should be, approximately, 16ins. long, 12ins. wide and 4ins. deep. The soil most suitable is that which has been cut from an old pasture and heaped about six months. This is much better than old potting soils frequently used and the soil taken from the kitchen garden: both are bad—the former often teems with fungi spores and the latter is too sour and entirely lacking in fibre. To the good loam add some old mortar rubble and a small quantity of sweet leaf-soil quite free from bits of sticks. The box should be thoroughly drained and three-parts filled with the compost. Apply water, sow the seeds thinly and cover lightly with dry soil. Do not place squares of glass on the box, as this course often results in premature damping of the tender stems of the seedlings. Keep the box close to the roof-glass—approximately 18ins. from it—and transplant the seedlings in boxes 6ins. deep when the first rough leaf grows. Make holes in the soil 3ins. apart and drop the seedlings in almost up to their leaves. Very gently press a little soil into the holes and be careful as regards watering. Retain the plants in a cold frame for one month prior to planting out.

Question.—When is it quite safe to plant out?

Answer.—Mid-April in the south; the last week in that month in the north, if the plants are duly hardened.—GEO. GARNER.

SELF-BLANCHING CELERY.

SELF-BLANCHING celery is sown at the same time and treated in the same way at first as ordinary celery. The plants are put out in the garden on flat ground and left to grow there at will; rich, liberally manured land is required, and we find the best plants are obtained by burying manure in trenches and planting on top of this.

During the season no particular attention is required. In September it is better to cut off any offsets, broken leaves and the like, and then to tie the plants up loosely with raffia; this last is not a necessity. Plants which have to stay out all winter are, with us, hoed up, not for blanching, but against strong weather. The plants are robust, fleshy, well flavoured and quite good in all respects.—LANARKSHIRE.

MISCELLANEOUS

THE USE OF STIMULANTS.

QUESTION.—How soon in the New Year should stimulants be applied to plants in pots?

Answer.—If plants are growing in a stove temperature and the pots are well filled with roots, they may be fed almost all the year round; it is quite safe and beneficial to feed in February. If the plants are growing in a cooler temperature, and even if they have filled the pots with roots, it is wiser to wait until late in February before beginning to feed them than to begin a month earlier. As the sun gains power so do roots become stronger and more active.

Question.—Should newly potted plants be fed soon after that operation has taken place?

Answer.—No, a plant may possess many roots and be transferred to a larger pot, but in this condition it would be harmful to apply manure water or any kind of stimulant, because, first, the plant has just received some food in the form of new compost and does not require more for a time; and second, because such stimulants would be more than wasted—they would tend to sour the new soil. When the roots have permeated the new compost, apply extra food.

Question.—Is one strong dose of liquid manure better than two weak ones?

Answer.—No; two weak ones are best, and applied in two weeks instead of one single week. Liquid from organic manures should be the colour of brandy; soot water, clear; and proprietary manures according to the directions given with them.

Question.—When should stimulants be applied to outdoor crops?

Answer.—The best stage is that when the plants are beginning to make leaves and roots freely, and onwards.—HANTS.

Digitized by Google

(NOVELTY) PETUNIA
CARTERS Giant Flowered Dwarf

NOVELTIES OF THE YEAR TO SOW NOW.

BY APPOINTMENT

(VEGETABLE SECTION)

CABBAGE—CARTERS "HERALD."—Earliest variety for spring sowing. Per pkt., 1/6

CARROT — CARTERS "AUTUMN KING" STUMP - ROOTED.—Long, cylindrical, heavy stump-rooted carrot of large size. Per pkt., 1/6

PARSNIP—CARTERS NEW INTERMEDIATE. — Of Intermediate length without the slim long root. Per pkt., 1/-

PEA—CARTERS "MELTING MARROW."—A New Edible Podded Sugar Pea. Height 5ft. Pods of enormous length. Per pint, 2/6; per quart, 4/6

TOMATO—CARTERS "EPICURE."—Trusses average 8–10 fruits of very even size. Per pkt., 2/6 and 3/6

(FLOWER SECTION)

ANTIRRHINUM INTERMEDIATE "QUEEN MARY."—Medium - pink Intermediate. Per pkt., 1/- and 1/6

LUPINUS ARBOREUS—CARTERS "MAUVE QUEEN."—Clear mauve flowers, freely borne in well balanced spikes. Per pkt., 1/6

PRIMULA MALACOIDES — CARTERS "GOLDEN EYE."—A.M., R.H.S., 1925. Flowers pure white, circular in shape, centre marked by a zone of golden yellow. Per pkt., 2/6, 3/6 and 5/-

PENTSTEMON — CARTERS LARGE-FLOWERED "CARMINE QUEEN."—Flowers profusely first year from seed sown in February. 2½ft. Per pkt., 1/6

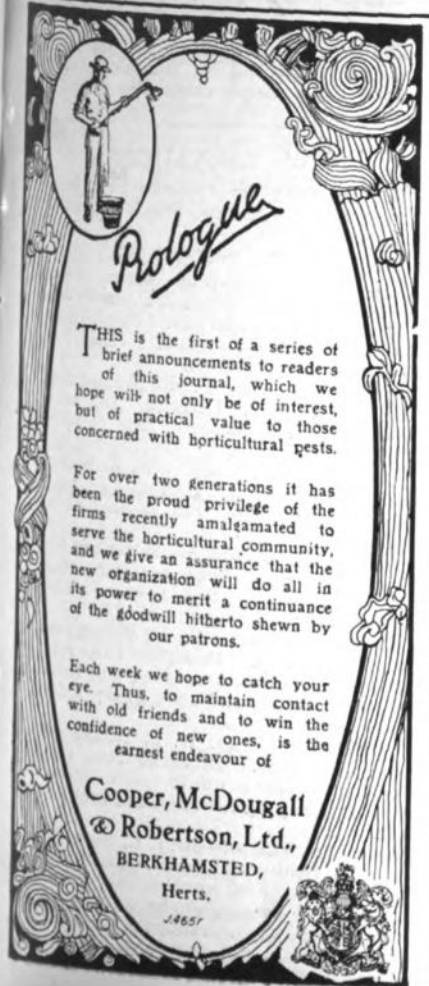
PETUNIA—CARTERS GIANT FLOWERED DWARF.—Large blooms; delicately weaved throats and undulating petals. Per pkt., 2/6 and 3/6

RANUNCULUS—CARTERS GIANT CAMELLIA FLOWERED—Flowers of perfect form, twice as large as previously known types. 18in. Per pkt., 1/6

13 SWEET PEA NOVELTIES
Together with over 200 other varieties are Listed in
"GARDEN AND LAWN, 1926"
Post Free on application.

Carters
TESTED SEEDS

SEEDSMEN TO H.M. THE KING.
RAYNES PARK, LONDON, S.W. 20



Prologue

THIS is the first of a series of brief announcements to readers of this journal, which we hope will not only be of interest, but of practical value to those concerned with horticultural pests.

For over two generations it has been the proud privilege of the firms recently amalgamated to serve the horticultural community, and we give an assurance that the new organization will do all in its power to merit a continuance of the goodwill hitherto shewn by our patrons.

Each week we hope to catch your eye. Thus, to maintain contact with old friends and to win the confidence of new ones, is the earnest endeavour of

Cooper, McDougall & Robertson, Ltd.,
BERKHAMSTED,
Herts.

J4651

Have you a Garden?

If so you need food for your plants and turf.
You cannot do better than feed them on

NORCO
COMPLETE FERTILISERS

THE PERFECT GARDEN FOOD

Which supplies the essential constituents contained in stable manure, but in a far richer and more convenient form.

PRICES (Bags Free and Carriage Paid):—

	7 lbs.	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	112 lbs.
"NORCO" Complete Garden Fertiliser (For Flowers, Fruit and Vegetables)	2/6	4 3	7 3	12 6	23 -
"NORCO" Complete Lawn & Turf Fertiliser	2 4	4 -	6 9	11 9	22 -
"NORCO" Complete Potato Fertiliser	2 6	4 3	7 3	12 6	23 -

Send for free Booklet on the use of Lime, Stable Manure and Chemical Fertilisers.

"NORCO" (Regd.) is obtainable only direct from the Sole Manufacturers:—

CHARLES NORRINGTON & CO., LTD.
Cattedown, PLYMOUTH.

Makers of High Grade Fertilisers since 1846. No. 6

Digitized by Google

THE FRAGRANT ROSEMARY

WHAT a very neglected shrub is rosemary, when one stops to consider how beautiful a thing it is, and the many excellent ways in which it may be used in the garden. And yet I suppose rosemary has been in English gardens about as long as any plant that is not actually a native. I have just turned to Nicholson to find when it was introduced, and he also says nothing on that point, as he does of most plants—country of origin and date of introduction. He says, however, that there are three varieties of rosemary. The common green, the silver tipped and the gold tipped. But I can add three other sorts to Nicholson's three, *viz.*, the prostrate, the white flowered and Miss Jessop's Upright. Some years ago I saw Miss Jessop's Upright rosemary offered in the Daisy Hill catalogue and fell to the fascination of the name. There came a huge bush, some 4ft. high, which I planted against the south wall of my house and tried to believe was more upright than the rosemarys I had hitherto known. Rosemary Jessop is now well over 6ft. high, and maintains her uprightness of character. But she keeps me wondering, for upright, too, are most of the rosemarys that I see about, and those that I had grown before she came to me. Is there a *less* upright sort. I am never quite certain. I use much rosemary in garden operations at one time and another and often I have to buy the plant in, and then sometimes I get plants of a laxer, more wayward habit, and I am never quite sure whether this is inherent or due to environment.

The prostrate rosemary is a most distinct plant, but, unfortunately, it is by no means as hardy as the common type. I have tried it here several times, thirty miles north of London, and have lost it every time, though I believe that anywhere south of London it is fairly safe, and anywhere definitely south, perfectly safe. When it can be grown it is a delightful plant. The white-flowered rosemary I acquired last year, and so far it has not flowered here. I cannot think that it is as beautiful as the normal lavender-coloured type, but no doubt it will bring interest and the charm of novelty to the garden, just as the white lavender does, and this is a quality to welcome, yet to avoid overdoing. The same applies I think to the gold striped rosemary. This form I saw offered in Mr. Stormonth's fascinating catalogue and promptly bought. It arrived last summer, a perfectly normal little bush of grey green rosemary, but with infinite faith I planted it out, and with infinite faith waited and lo, this autumn it has spangled itself all over with buttercup gold, in irregular stripings along the leaf edges. The plant looks very gay and original, if a little fantastic, but I like it, and shall keep it. Now I want the silver-tipped rosemary that Nicholson mentions. Can anyone tell me where to get it.

Rosemary is a delightful shrub to train up a warm wall, and grown thus it will reach a height of 10ft. or 15ft. And it may also be planted as an isolated specimen in the mixed flower border, or grouped in big forests on warm banks and such like places. It makes a charming small informal hedge. Recently I saw it used with splendid effect in a Hampshire garden, massed in rectangular beds, about 6ft. by 12ft., flanking a long garden path of rather formal character. Lastly, rosemary is a delicious shrub to gather for the house; good, generous branches of it for simple arrangement by themselves, especially in winter.

The conventional soil to recommend for rosemary is a light, warm loam, and such soil, no doubt, it enjoys most, being a native of southern Europe. Yet here it has grown and flourished, a fine forest of it, for the last four or five years, on a bank of stiff, heavy clayey soil, facing east and most inhospitable in the matter of draughts and cutting winds. It has even come unscathed through the recent severe winter weather.

The easiest way to propagate rosemary is by cuttings. Branchlets pulled off with a heel, 9ins. to 12ins. long, stripped of leaves for half their length, and dibbled into soil, in a shady place in summer. The greatest joy of all the joys of rosemary I leave to the last—its smell, its delicious aromatic fragrance when crushed in the hand. And yet when one considers all its virtues, besides those which I have set forth, the plant is reputed to cure headaches and baldness—how seldom one meets the plant in real life. You will find great bushes of it occasionally in cottage gardens, and a planting here and there in gardens of greater pretention, but oh how rarely, compared with the bean and kidney shaped beds say of golden privet, that are so depressingly popular.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, *Stevenage*.

THE FLAME NASTURTIUM

THERE are probably few of the older plants which have been the cause of so much despair among gardening enthusiasts as Tropæolum speciosum. At first treated as a greenhouse subject, it being considered too tender for outdoor culture, the flame nasturtium itself disposed of that idea by showing a decided partiality for life in the North, even in remote parts of Scotland, where it is now practically naturalised, to the sunnier South. But even with the fuller recognition of the fact that, although a Chilean species, this climber demands cool treatment, it still often displays much of that stubborn disinclination to prosper even in apparently ideal situations. Albeit, the flame nasturtium is a plant of such singular beauty that few keen gardeners ever abandon the hope of satisfying it, and, moreover, its very uncertainty is in itself a factor which stimulates the ambitious to succeed.

While it must be admitted that T. speciosum enjoys a cool vegetable soil, it is by nature a sun-lover, delighting to festoon with its ropes of crimson-scarlet flowers the outer and topmost branches of hollies, rhododendrons or other shrubs. At the same time, it likes its lower parts to be screened from the hottest sun, and there is little doubt but that failure to protect the young and tender shoots by some suitable shade has been the direct cause of much disappointment. It must often have been observed that once a plant has been sufficiently established to seed, a colony will soon be formed, but in almost every case it will be noticed that the successful seedlings are those which appear where they are almost hidden in their earlier stages by other plants. Here, for example, we have a group of Azalea Anthony Koster, whose branches, throughout the later summer, are thronged by the brilliant garlands of the flame nasturtium; but, while seedlings from these seldom appear in the open parts of the border close at hand, they come up in quantity among adjacent masses of Daphne Cneorum, Mitraria coccinea, and even under the heavy shade of a large bush of Pieris formosa.

Any attempt to establish T. speciosum should be undertaken in the late spring, after growth has commenced, and it is safer to put the plants out from pots without root disturbance. Any good, deep, well drained loam which will suit rhododendrons and azaleas will do, but it may be enriched with some old hot-bed material or decayed vegetable refuse. The plants should be placed 8ins. deep, and if there have been difficulties in previous efforts it is a good plan to set the plants at the bottom of a wide hole or trench, about a foot deep (the subsoil being properly prepared), which is filled up gradually as growth proceeds. A. T. J.

ROYAL CALEDONIAN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

MR. ROBERT FIFE presided over the annual general meeting of this Society held in Edinburgh last month. The report of the Council stated that the monthly meetings continue to be well attended. The spring show, which was held in April last, was not the success the Council had hoped for, and it had been decided to discontinue that show in the meantime. As regards the International Show, it was reported that it was most satisfactory from the point of view of the exhibits received. It was found impossible to accommodate all the trade exhibits offered, and quite a number had to be refused, while the space asked for by others had to be much curtailed. Even thus it was, unfortunately, found to be impossible to accommodate all the competitive exhibits inside the hall, and the vegetable classes had to be placed in a marquee outside. Notwithstanding the unfavourable weather, the attendance of the public was satisfactory. It was stated that it is proposed to hold an autumn show in the Waverley Market on September 8th and 9th, 1926.

The following office bearers and councillors were elected, namely: As honorary president, the Right Honourable Lord Elphinstone; as president, in place of Mr. Robert Fife, who retires, Mr. W. J. Thomson (Messrs. William Thomson and Co.); as vice-president, Mr. J. H. Alexander (Messrs. Dicksons and Co.); for the vacancies on the council, Mr. R. L. Scarlett, C.D.A., Mr. William Fife, Mr. R. L. Harrow and Mr. E. P. Laird.

The syllabus of lectures, etc., for 1926 has been issued and the schedule for the show in September is now in the printers' hands.

NEW CARNATIONS

THE following new varieties have been registered with the British Carnation Society:

RAISERS' DESCRIPTIONS.

SYBIL.—Registered by Messrs. Stuart Low and Co., Bush Hill Park, December 8th, 1925. Seedling. Pedigree. Purple-violet. Size 3ins. Spicy fragrance. Habit free blooming. Stem medium.

SUNRISE.—Messrs. W. E. Wallace and Son, Eaton Bray. December 16, 1925. Seedling. Deep salmon. Size 3–3½ins. Good fragrance.

THE FAVOURITE.—Messrs. W. E. Wallace and Son, Eaton Bray. December 16, 1925. Seedling. Flesh pink. Size 3½–4ins. Habit and stem good.

MOONBEAM.—Messrs. W. E. Wallace and Son, Eaton Bray. December 16th, 1925. Seedling. White. Size 3½–4ins. Good fragrance. Very good stem—stiff.

ROYALTY.—Messrs. W. E. Wallace and Son, Eaton Bray. December 16th, 1925. Seedling. Deep mauve marked with cerise. Size 3ins. Habit and stem good; a free grower.

STEPHANIE.—Messrs. W. E. Wallace and Son, Eaton Bray. December 16th, 1925. Seedling. Delicate mauve (peach blossom colour). Size 3–3½ins. Habit and stem very good.

MRS. A. A. VLASTO.—Mr. J. C. Beck, The Nurseries, Henley-on-Thames. January 14th, 1926. Seedling. Rosy purple on white ground. Size 3ins. Fragrance similar to old clove. Habit and stem almost as strong as malmaison. Stems 24–30ins., self-supporting. In habit and constitution unique.

Digitized by Google

Three Sterling Novelties for 1926

Give them a trial and you will be more than satisfied.

NEW TEN WEEK STOCKS
Edwards' "Super Dreadnought"

This new strain of "Super Dreadnought" Stock grows from 25ins. to 35ins. in height, the giant double spikes measuring up to 18ins. It is branching in habit and early flowering, coming in flower in ten or twelve weeks. I have great pleasure in introducing these "Dreadnought" Stocks to my customers. These will be grown all over Great Britain this season. And I should like you as keen gardeners to try a collection, they are bound to win prizes.

APPLE BLOSSOM.—A lovely shade of blush pink, very fine.
DORIS.—A very lovely ivory white, shaded old rose good habit.
DOROTHY.—A giant lavender, a splendid shade for florists' work.
GOLIATH.—A very fine mauve, extra fine flowers
INDOMITABLE.—Magnificent fiery scarlet, certainly splendid.
LEVIATHAN.—Lilac, massive spikes.
MARS.—Deep crimson, very good.
NEPTUNE.—The darkest Blue Stock, splendid shade.
PICTURE.—A magnificent cream pink that everyone will want.
SNOWDRIFT.—This variety is a champion, being pure white.
SUNLIGHT.—A lovely shade of yellow, very good.
TOPSY.—A most lovely shade of rose pink.
MIXED.—Special hand mixed, being made up of equal proportions of the above-named varieties.

All above, **6d.** per packet.

NEW SECOND EARLY PEA
Edwards' "Fifty-Five"

To all my customers I would recommend a trial of this New Second Early Pea "Fifty-five." It is rather an early second, coming along almost immediately after Sherwood, and as a succession to my Twelve Inch, is very good. "Fifty-five" is only 18ins. in height, and is one of the heaviest cropping Peas I have ever seen, its dark green pods are closely packed with peas of a fine dark green, full Marrowfat flavour, and usually about seven to nine peas in a pod; the pod itself is slightly curved, and it is not exhibition size, but as a *wishy* pea I believe it has a splendid future, the haulm being literally covered with pods. I am sure that a trial will convince all that "Fifty-five" is the heaviest cropping Dwarf Second Early Marrowfat Pea.

Per pint **2/-**

NEW ONION
"Ipswich Champion"

This New Onion is the heaviest type of Exhibition Onion there is on the market, raised by an exhibitor and shown at the largest shows in Great Britain, where it has always taken prizes. The stock of seed is rather limited for this year, and I cannot offer by the ounce. This Onion will grow to 3½lbs. in weight, and all onion exhibitors must give it a trial. Per packet **1/-** and **2/-**

Send for Complete Seed Catalogue, post free.

ALFRED EDWARDS, F.R.H.S.
Seed Merchant, **FORDHAM, CAMBS.**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

FOR NEW AND RARE
ALPINE AND HERBACEOUS —PLANTS—

Grown under hardy Scotch conditions. Send for our new catalogue just published also Seed List of choice Primulas, etc.

OLIVER & HUNTER
MONIAIVE——————DUMFRIESSHIRE

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

BUY THE WORLD'S BEST
GLADIOLI
FROM KELWAY'S of LANGPORT
The Premier Raisers and Growers.

THE modern Gladiolus is now regarded as indispensable in the garden, and with good reason, for the flowers are of unsurpassed beauty, and are obtainable in many brilliant shades. They are pre-eminent both for garden beautification and decorative work of all kinds.

Kelway's—the world's most famous growers—supply strong bulbs only of the most beautiful varieties in commerce. Our Collection 3, which includes some charming varieties, is 6s. doz., 40s. 100. Prepaid orders over 15s. post free. For full particulars obtain our new Gladiolus list post free on application to:—

"Manual of Horticulture," 1926 (first of the new series) is now ready. 1/6 post free, returnable to customers.

KELWAY & SON
LANGPORT

For success in your Garden USE
THOMSON'S MANURES

On the market for over 50 years, they still hold first place for QUALITY and RESULTS. They are safe, sure and lasting. The direct result of many years' practical experience in gardening, they stand unrivalled at the present day for all Garden Crops.

Prices:—**VINE, PLANT AND VEGETABLE MANURE**—a Perfect Food—1 cwt., **30/-**; 56 lb., **16/-**; 28 lb. **9/-**; 14 lb. **5/-**; 7 lb., **3/-**; tins, **1/3** and **9d.** **SPECIAL TOP DRESSING MANURE**—an excellent stimulant—56 lb., **17/-**; 28 lb., **9/6**; 14 lb., **5/6**; 7 lb. **3/-**; tins, **1/3.** **Carriage paid on 28 lbs.** and up.

☛ WRITE FOR OUR BOOKLET—POST FREE ON REQUEST

SOLD BY NURSERYMEN AND SEEDSMEN EVERYWHERE.

Or from Sole Makers, WM. THOMSON & SONS, TWEED VINEYARDS, CLOVENFORDS, SCOTLAND

ROSE NITIDA

One of the most charming of dwarf Roses for the Rock Garden, or for edging of Rose and Shrub beds and borders.

Own root plants **10/6** dozen; **75/-** 100.

This, with other dwarf Roses and full collection of Rose Species will be found in List of Newry Roses free on application.

T. SMITH
Daisy Hill Nursery - NEWRY

ROBERT VEITCH & SON'S
Garden Seed Catalogue for 1926

Contains all the Best Vegetables, Choice Flower Seeds, Novelties, and Specialities, Sweet Peas, Lawn Seeds, Seed Potatoes (Scotch) Bulbs for Spring Planting, Manures, etc., etc.

R. VEITCH & SON are also Specialists in Hardy Trees and Shrubs, Choice and Rare Plants, Camellias, Fruit Trees, etc.

Catalogues Free on Application.

Royal Nurseries and Seed Warehouse, EXETER

AUTUMN and WINTER BEAUTY
In the Garden.

WHEN the first Autumn frost has killed the Summer flowers and the last rose is just existing, many people imagine that the garden must be a dull uninteresting place until Spring awakens the early Daffodils.

There are, however, many trees and shrubs which will provide beautiful pictures throughout Autumn and Winter when rightly placed.

What is more beautiful than the setting sun lighting up the berries of the Cotoneasters, Thorns, and other berried shrubs; or the crimson stems of the Scarlet Dogwood, yellow and crimson barked Willows.

We have prepared a short supplement to our general catalogue, giving a list of the best trees and shrubs for Winter beauty, with fuller descriptions and cultural notes. A copy on application. We devote the same care and thought to the cultivation of our immense stocks of FRUIT TREES, ROSES, ALPINES, HARDY PERENNIALS as we do to the SHRUBS.

THE BARNHAM NURSERIES, LTD., BARNHAM, SUSSEX.

Digitized by Google

SEEDS, AND WHERE THEY CAN BE OBTAINE

UNWIN'S SWEET PEAS

You will eventually grow them.
Why not **this** season?

OUR "EXHIBITION" COLLECTION

The finest value ever offered in Sweet Peas

W. J. Unwin ..	Salmon cream-pink.
Charming	Cerise.
Matchless	Cream.
Hebe	Rose-pink.
Warrior	Maroon.
Unwin's Crimson ..	Crimson.
George Shawyer ..	Orange-salmon.
Powerscourt ..	Lavender-blue.
Picture	Deep cream-pink.
Royal Scot	Brilliant scarlet-cerise.
Constance Hinton	White.
Mrs. Tom Jones ..	Blue.
Youth	Picotee.
Royal Purple ..	Purple.

25 seeds each of above 14 for **3/9** (350 seeds)
12 " " " " **2/-** (168 ")
Postage 1½d. extra.

For Highest quality Sweet Peas, Gladioli, Garden Seeds, etc., etc., at "buyable" prices, send for our

FULL 1926 CATALOGUE POST FREE

W. J. UNWIN, F.R.H.S., *Sweet Pea Specialist & Seedsman,* **HISTON, CAMBS.**

SEEDS

IF YOU WANT

REALLY GOOD SEEDS

AT MODERATE PRICES

SEND TO

ROBERT SYDENHAM LIMITED

99, TENBY STREET, BIRMINGHAM

No one will serve you better.

SWEET PEAS A SPECIALITY

THEIR UNIQUE LISTS

contain only the Best
VEGETABLES, FLOWERS AND
BULBS WORTH GROWING
Post free on application.

ROBERT SYDENHAM LIMITED

BALSAMS FOR PRESENT SOWING

BALSAMS are not as popular as they used to be, yet they are exceedingly pretty things for greenhouse decoration, easily grown and quick to come into flower. A succession of bloom may be kept up by sowing seed from the present time until May and we would urge beginners to give the plants a trial.

Balsams are of little use for supplying cut flowers, and yet the flowers themselves are of a delightful waxy nature, with great purity and freshness of colour. Though nearly always grown in the greenhouse, they can be used for bedding purposes and from July to September they will give a very pretty show.

Seed is sown thinly and just covered with fine sifted soil; kept in a moist atmosphere round about 55 to 60 degrees, the young seedlings will soon be ready for transplanting and this may be done into boxes or small pots. If pots are used, plunge them in fibre or leaf-mould as this keeps the soil moist and obviates too frequent waterings.

When potted on again after this, add to the compost a dash of cow manure; the plants will develop rapidly in this, especially if the air of the house is moist, for two requirements of the balsam are a humid atmosphere and a porous, well drained compost.

The young plants, like all other seedlings, keep sturdy and strong when near the glass and they should be kept on a shelf, if possible, until placed in their flowering pots. Six-inch pots serve for ordinary specimens, but strong plants may do with pots a size or two larger. Water with care, but yet do not let the soil become too dry; over dryness will surely bring an attack of aphides. Near flowering time apply liquid fertiliser at occasional times, but do not force by placing the plants in too high a temperature.

Seed is listed at ordinary prices, usually to colour—pink, rose, violet, scarlet and white—but the beginner will be safer using mixed seed, for the first time, at least. A dwarf class is also listed; the flowers of such plants are exceptionally large, but they never exceed 9ins. in height, a point which makes them most useful as bedding plants. Let it be noted that plants must not be bedded out before the beginning of June.

As a last point, we again urge strongly the growth of such plants, because they are so seldom seen nowadays as to be uncommon; most readers welcome a change in garden and greenhouse designs, and no better plant for this will be found in a catalogue of half-hardy annuals.—CLYDESDALE.

ALPINES FROM SEED

THE severe frosts which prevailed throughout the greater part of November and December prevented, to a large extent, the work of dividing up rock plants, for undoubtedly the former of these two months is usually a time of great activity in the rock garden.

Having lost the autumn season and being nowise sure of good weather for dividing plant

UNWIN'S SWEET PEA

Known and grown all over the World.
There are no Sweet Peas of better
. . quality obtainable. .

OUR NOVELTIES 1925

Queen of Roumania. Cream, flushed light salmon-cerise. 12 seeds, **1/-**
Wistaria. Grand blue-lavender. 12 seeds.
Sybil Henshaw. Giant deep crimson. seeds, **1/-**
Twinkles. Scarlet striped on cream. seeds, **1/-**
Mauve Beauty. Pure, deep mauve. seeds, **1/-**
Blue Butterfly. Pale lavender-blue. seeds, **4d.**
Lady Gay. White, striped bright r. 12 seeds, **4d.**
Collection of 12 seeds of each of the abo excluding Twinkles, for **3/-**

FULL 1926 CATALOGUE POST FR

of Sweet Peas, Gladioli, Garden Seeds, Dahlias, . . Roses, etc. . .

W. J. UNWIN, F.R.H.S., *Sweet P Specialist & Seedsman,* **HISTON, CAMB**

POTATO CATRIONA

Among the many well known varie including Majestic and Up-to-Date, ra by the late Mr. Archibald Findlay of Aucht muchty, is one which is well worth a tr This is Catriona, an immune variety with distinctive purple patch at the rose end of tubers round the eyes. In season it is abo the same time as Eclipse, and has the same ha of continuing growth should it not be neec as soon as it is first ready for lifting. If w sprouted it will come in nearly as early as Sharp Express, and the quality, especially when lift as soon as ready, is of the finest. It is also excellent cropper, and one of the finest variet for exhibition.

At the same time as he raised this, Mr. Find raised a number of other purple-eyed varieti and, unfortunately, after his death there w some confusion as to exactly which was t true Catriona. Our stocks won most of t leading prizes at the National Potato Sho in 1924, and first prize at York Potato Sho in 1925, among numerous others. We ha supplied this stock to many merchants up a down the country, and those wishing to obta the stock should make enquiries from th local seedsman, and failing being able to obta it from him, we shall be pleased to supply dire

KENT & BRYDON
LIMITED — DARLINGTON

Digitized by Google

WEBBS'

'Colour Plate' Collection OF SWEET PEAS

12 finest named varieties, 8/6 post free.

See Colour Photographs in

Webbs' 1926 Catalogue--Free.

Other Collections of 12 named vars., 3/- & 6/-

Thousands of Sweet Pea Growers use WEBBS' SWEET PEA MANURE Bag of 14-lbs. 4/6; 28-lbs. 8/-; 56-lbs. 15/-

WEBB & SONS, LTD., The King's Seedsmen, STOURBRIDGE.

Garden Seeds from Scotland

SEND FOR

'My Garden Book, 1926'

Recognised by many as

BRITAIN'S BEST SEED CATALOGUE

A descriptive and illustrated list of all the best Vegetable Seeds, Flower Seeds, and Highland Grown Seed Potatoes.

Post free on request.

SECURE YOUR COPY NOW.

ALEXANDER & BROWN (Dept. T)

The Scottish Seed House, PERTH

WAKELEY'S GARDEN SEEDS

We beg to announce to our thousands of customers that we are now offering

GARDEN SEEDS OF THE VERY FINEST VARIETIES AND STRAIN.

Send for our SPRING CATALOGUE which contains a choice selection of all seeds and other specialities for the garden.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, Bankside, S.E.

ECKFORD'S GIANT FRILLED SWEET PEAS FOR 1926

GORGEOUS FLOWERS. MAGNIFICENT STEMS

For a wealth of cut flowers, For garden decoration. For exhibition.

ECKFORD'S ARE THE WORLD'S BEST

Special Offer.—25 specially chosen 1/- packets of Eckford's Giant Frilled Sweet Peas for 1926, each separate and named, for 20/-

The same 25, half-packets, each separate and named, for 10/-

The above are a gorgeous range of colour

WRITE FOR CATALOGUE (FREE) of all the best Sweet Peas for 1926. Also pedigree vegetables and choicest flower seeds

HENRY ECKFORD, Headquarters for Sweet Peas, Dept. 6, Wem, Shropshire

crowns in the spring, it is obvious that the alternative course, increase by seed, is worthy of immediate consideration. Seed harvested last season, providing that it was allowed to ripen and dry off properly, will, if sown now under proper conditions, germinate readily, and, while certain of the seeds—*viz.*, gentians and primulas—were better sown soon after being collected, the majority of the rock plant seeds are best sown now. It is essential that the soil be in a very fine condition. A medium of good loam and leaf soil, kept open and porous by the inter-mixing of sand, will prove the most suitable. If it is intended to sow the seeds in pots, it is important that the pots be thoroughly clean, which remark also applies to the crocks with which each pot should be nearly half filled. Between the crocks and the soil should be a thin layer of leaves or moss, and the soil made fairly firm. The seed should be scattered sparsely and, after being covered with a thin sifting of soil, should be evenly but very gently pressed down with a flat circular piece of wood suited to the size of the pot.

It naturally follows that a fine-rosed can must be used for watering-in and also for subsequent watering.

The seed house will require very little heating, for, since hardy plants are being dealt with, coddling is to be avoided; however, there ought to be some artificial heat to prevent the temperature from falling to anywhere near freezing point. The seed pots should be stood on cinders and covered over with paper until the seedlings are visible. At all times water with great care, and after the third or fourth day make a daily practice of taking off the papers to see if any seedlings are showing. Pots containing the visible seedlings should be taken from beneath the covering of paper and stood on a stage in the same house until such time as the seedlings can be conveniently handled for pricking off. It is advisable to take an occasional look at the hole in the bottom of the pots, for it is there that slugs are to be found. Thin slices of potato laid about here and there may be of some service in attracting the slugs, when they can be readily destroyed. The main factor in raising all seeds, and in particular alpines, is patience, for there are some which are slow in germinating, and, alas! there are sure to be some disappointments.—W. H.

POTTING & BOXING SUMMER BEDDING-OUT PLANTS

EVERY year we see more plants raised from seeds for filling the flower beds during the summer. The majority of these seedlings are raised from seeds sown during January, February and March, and they are available for planting out from May 20th to June 15th approximately. It is very essential to success that all the young plants, and also those raised from cuttings, are very carefully potted and, perhaps, re-potted during the spring months. The aim of the flower gardener should be to possess such specimens that, when the time comes to plant them in the beds, they will be sturdy and soon fill up all vacant spaces between them. One frequently sees plants that do not fill up the beds adequately till early autumn when the time has come for taking cuttings, and then there are few suitable ones, their removal spoiling the general appearance of the beds. Zonal pelargoniums should be potted singly first; then marguerites, followed by heliotrope, the smaller-growing subjects being potted after these are dealt with. The compost, generally, should be a light, gritty one—less so for the pelargoniums than for the other kinds, and lightest for the boxed seedlings. All composts should be in a medium state of moisture when used, and very careful watering will be necessary after the potting has been done.—CHRISTCHURCH.

Launching an offer of Seeds for trial.

Free and Post Free.

We launch this offer with much the same feeling in which we should approach thin ice—gingerly—because the offer might be thought to somewhere hide the cloven hoof.

But as we are neither asking for money nor making any conditions whatever in offering to send seeds free to anyone who cares to ask for them, it is difficult to see where the hoof could be hidden.

In the hope of getting into touch with a larger number of gardeners than we now have the pleasure of serving, we are sending to all applicants, free and post free, one packet each of three remarkably good vegetable seeds:

BEETROOT—BAKERS' SELECTED GLOBE. A beautifully formed round beet with a conspicuously thin tap root. . . . . .

PARSNIP—GOLIATH. The biggest and best Parsnip that has ever come our way. . .

ONION—MONARCH. The largest growing, best flavoured Onion among those that really keep.

All we ask is that only responsible people will send for the seeds and that they will do their best with them when they get them, because it is only on results that we can hope for the distribution to benefit us.

Where results are good we hope that the grower will be encouraged to learn for himself what Bakers' other seeds are like and so bring grist to our mill.

For our part we can assure all such ladies and gentlemen in advance that the behaviour of the three varieties of seeds we are sending may be taken as a trustworthy guide to the growth and production of all the seed we sell.

Bakers

SEED & FLOWER FARM, CODSALL. *Nr. Wolverhampton.*

To anyone who is diffident about sending for the free seeds we shall be glad to send a copy of our complete Seed Catalogue. In many ways it is an unusual list—more informative than most—certainly more comprehensive and with something about it that might be called the "human touch," as distinct from the cut and dried, soulless sort of production most of us are used to.

A FASCINATING HOBBY

You can raise hundreds of

GLORIOUS DELPHINIUMS

2/6 and **5/-** per packet from

THE ACTUAL GROWER

who offers seed picked from the

CHOICEST VARIETIES

WM. SYDENHAM

The Gayborder Nurseries

MELBOURNE :: DERBYSHIRE

SOW NOW to Bloom in July and August

Blackmore & Langdon's

World Renowned BEGONIA SEEDS (32 Gold Medals)

	Per packet.
DOUBLE.	
None can equal this for quality, size, and lovely form and colours of flowers, ..	2/6 & 5/-
FIMBRIATA PLENA.	
Double frilled, very pretty	2/6 & 5/-
SINGLE.	
Of wonderful size and form ..	1/-, 2/6 & 5/-
FRILLED SINGLE	
A beautiful selection	1/-, 2/6 & 5/-
CRESTED SINGLE	
Very fascinating	1/-, 2/6 & 5/-
CRISPA MARGINATA	
Delightful novelty, frilled single picotee ..	2/6
HANGING BASKET	
A grand novelty, very graceful	1/6, 2/6 & 5/-
GLOXINIA	
Seed, mixed in most beautiful selection of colour	1/6, 2/6 & 5/-

For Prices of Tubers of above and other Specialities, including Delphiniums, Polyanthus, Pansies, etc., write for Free Catalogue and mention this Paper.

BATH

Digitized by Google

THE GARDENER'S BOOKSHELF

A New Book Every Sweet Pea Grower Should Read:

"SWEET PEAS: THEIR HISTORY, DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURE."

Price 5/- net. *(Postage 5d.)*

By CHAS. W. J. UNWIN.

THIS new book will be enjoyed by all who love or grow Sweet Peas, indeed by all flower lovers. Every phase of up-to-date culture for all purposes or objects is treated in detail. It is brimful of interest and practical assistance from cover to cover, and admirably illustrated with photographs, a coloured plate and sketches, while its scope embraces all aspects in detail which are likely to help any and every amateur grower and exhibitor.

Published by

W. HEFFER & SONS, LTD., CAMBRIDGE.

Obtainable from all Booksellers.

ORDER COPIES NOW FROM YOUR BOOKSELLER.

JUST PUBLISHED.

The Scent of Flowers and Leaves

Its purpose and relation to man.

By F. A. HAMPTON.

Cr. 8vo. 6/- net.

"The author is to be congratulated on the way he presents his facts."—*The Garden.*

"Should find a place and welcome in many bookshelves."—*Evening Standard.*

"A precise and interesting presentation of the principal facts and theories relating to the scent of flowers."—*Scotsman.*

"One of the most interesting chapters is that in which directions are given to gardeners for the laying out and stocking of perfume gardens, by which scented flowers or plants may be grown throughout the year."—*Sunday Times.*

To be Published in February.

The Pruning of Trees and Shrubs

Being a description of the methods practised in the Royal Botanic Gardens.

By W. DALLIMORE,

Assistant, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

Cr. 8vo. Illustrated. 6/- net.

A most important book both for the professional and for the amateur who has the well being of his trees and shrubs at heart.

DULAU & COMPANY

LIMITED

34, 35, 36, MARGARET STREET

LONDON, W.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE START OF A HORTICULTURAL LIBRARY.

IT is often difficult to know where to start collecting books on horticulture, for their number to-day is legion and is likely to increase as more information is collected and new genera become popular. Still, a gardening library is not only a source of information in the way of reference, but is also a continual pleasure when one has advanced sufficiently to appreciate the literature, technical and otherwise, written around a definite branch of horticulture. A few pounds a year spent on the gardener's bookshelf will never be regretted, provided that the books are chosen carefully, for the worth of the information given as much as the appearance of the book and excellence of the plates.

Up to a year or two ago "Nicholson's Illustrated Garden Dictionary" was the only comprehensive work available to the ordinary gardener, and good though it certainly is, it is now out of date. For those who wish such a book in modern form and in alphabetical order there is Bailey's "Standard Cyclopedia of Horticulture." Up to this year this book has been published at a price perhaps beyond the pockets of many garden enthusiasts, but now Messrs. Macmillan are to be congratulated on issuing it in a three-volume edition at the much reduced price of £4 4s. Although an American publication, it is of great use to the British gardener and will long remain a standard work. The other standard book of general reference is the new edition, published last year, of "The Gardener's Assistant," which specialises in giving detailed cultural information about every branch of garden work, besides lists of suitable garden plants and so on. This is issued by the Gresham Publishing Company at £3 15s. for six handy-sized volumes. Both of these sets are well worth the outlay.

For the more general gardener and those amateurs among whom gardening is now so widespread, a more handy book of reference will be found of greater service, in which they can find a ready answer to all the hundred and one questions which crop up with surprising regularity in connection with one's gardening duties. In his difficulty he will find two volumes of the greatest assistance. The first is "Gardening for Beginners," published by *Country Life*, which will prove of great help to those who are, as yet, just feeling their way. To those with more experience, "My Garden Book," by John Weathers and published by Longmans Green, fills the niche. It has been written for the daily use of all gardeners and is a very useful book.

There are not a few other volumes which can be conveniently classed as works of reference, yet they make their appeal to the specialist rather than to the general gardener. Almost everyone who has a garden grows a few shrubs in it and these are well catered for in our horticultural literature. Undoubtedly the best book of reference on trees and shrubs is that known as "Trees and Shrubs Hardy in the British Isles," by W. J. Bean and published by John Murray. It is a volume which all shrub lovers should possess. For those who only wish to whet their appetite, the recently published little books on shrubs and ornamental trees by the same author, from *Country Life* offices, will give every satisfaction. They both contain much useful information in small bulk.

THE FAMILIES OF FLOWERING PLANTS

I. DICOTYLEDONS. Arranged according to a new System based on their Probable Phylogeny. By J. HUTCHINSON, F.L.S., Assistant in the Herbarium, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. With illustrations by W. E. Trevithick and the Author. 8vo. 20s. net.

The Times Educational Supplement:—"The book deserves the study and the close but friendly criticism of all skilled botanists."

Prospectus (8pp.) post free on application.

THE STANDARD CYCLOPEDIA OF HORTICULTURE

By L. H. BAILEY. Illustrated with Coloured Plates, Four Thousand Engravings in Text and Ninety-six Full-page Cuts. In 3 Volumes. New Edition. £4 4s. net.

MACMILLAN AND CO., LTD., LONDON, W.C.2

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

WALL AND WATER GARDENS. With chapters on rock gardens, heath gardens, and paved water gardens. By GERTRUDE JEKYLL. 7th edition, revised. 17/6 net; by post, 18/4.—Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2

Beautiful Garden Books

SECRETS OF MANY GARDENS

By Mrs. PHILIP MARTINEAU

17 full page illustrations. 12s. 6d. *net*

THE HERBACEOUS GARDEN

By Mrs. PHILIP MARTINEAU

Fourth Enlarged Edition. 32 plates. 12s. 6d. *net*

ROCK GARDENS

By LEWIS MEREDITH

Third Edition. Many illustrations. 10s. 6d. *net*

The MAKING OF A GARDEN

By D. H. MOUTRAY READ

Profusely illustrated. Cheap new edition. 7s. 6d. *net*

TREE WOUNDS AND DISEASES: THEIR PREVENTION AND TREATMENT

By A. D. WEBSTER

Profusely illustrated. 7s. 6d. *net*

EVOLUTION of PLANTS

By Dr. D. H. SCOTT

Fully illustrated. 2s. 6d. *net*

FOR FULL GARDEN CATALOGUE WRITE TO:

WILLIAMS & NORGATE, LTD.

14, HENRIETTA STREET, LONDON, W.C.2

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

I KNOW of a pipe tobacco which has for fifty years gained steadily in favour.

Generations have passed their verdict on its incomparable purity and excellence.

The greatest care is taken to ensure perfect uniformity of quality.

—*R.F.E.*

They call it

PLAYER'S NAVY CUT

For Cigarette Smokers
PLAYER'S NAVY CUT CIGARETTES

F.1262

Reg. No. 154011.

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by **"ALPHOL"**
Sample 14 lb., 3/6 carr. paid
Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to
Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St., Liverpool

LETHORION FUMIGATOR IMPROVED NICOTINING CONE
Certain destruction to all pests in glass houses
Only a match required for starting it!
No. 1 .. For 1,000 cubic feet .. 10d.
" 2 .. " 1,500 " " .. 1/3
" 3 .. " 2,500 " " .. 1/9
Sold by all Nurserymen and Seedsmen.
CORRY & CO., Ltd., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

BLINDED for YOU

The War-blinded Men of St. Dunstan's (many of whom have lost a limb as well as sight) have been trained to produce the most perfect and hard-wearing

NETS AND NETTING

for Garden, Farm and Sports use. Show these gallant craftsmen that you value the work of their hands.

Moderate prices. List or special quotations on application to—

NETTING DEPT. (A) St. Dunstan's Headquarters, Inner Circle, Regent's Pk., LONDON, N.W.1

ADCO
turns
GARDEN REFUSE
into SYNTHETIC
FARMYARD MANURE

1 cwt. of ADCO makes from two to three tons of manure according to the class of rubbish treated.
ADCO Accelerator .. 28 lb. 4/6, 56 lb. 8/-, 1 cwt. 15/-
Standard ADCO .. 28 lb. 6/- 56 lb. 11/6 1 cwt. 20/-
Carriage Paid to Nearest Goods Station. Cash with Order.
Obtainable from all leading Seedsmen. Write for full particulars.
ADCO Ltd., 40, HARPENDEN, HERTS

THE JACKPAN
"The tool that cuts your costs"
Abolishes trenching. THE deep cultivator. What your Editor and others think of it is told in our Illustrated Folder No. 5, sent on request.
Your retailer can supply, or we will send sample for 6/-
P.E.Q.S. LTD., 3, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.1

YOUR GARDEN NEEDS KILOGRUB
Its fumes are instantly fatal to all insect pests in the soil, but harmless to plants. Really effective because it works underground.
Tins: 9d., 1/6 and 2/6
Bags: ¼ cwt. 6/6, ½ cwt. 9/6, 1 cwt. 15/-
From your seedsman or from
JOHN PEAK & CO. LTD. WIGAN. Lancs.

GARDEN LOVERS
Write for Catalogues of
PROTHEROE & MORRIS'
HORTICULTURAL SALES
MONDAY · WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY
67, 68 Cheapside, London E.C.2. Phone: City 3856

WEED DEATH
The new NON-POISONOUS Weed Killer (POWDER).
SUPERIOR TO DANGEROUS ARSENICAL COMPOUNDS
Safety first, non-caustic, no smell, kills the roots.
For 4 galls., 1/-; 12½, 2/-; 25, 3/6; 50, 6/6; 100, 12/- & Bulk
From your Nurseryman or Seedsman.
CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

WILLMOTT
Rival Plant Stake
(Patented No. 183779).
As used in Royal Botanic Gardens London and Cambridge.
For all plants. WILL NOT ROT, WEAR OUT OR BREAK.
Sample of eight sizes,
2/- car. pd. United Kingdom.
4/- Overseas.
Closed Open
H. J. GREENWOOD, F.R.H.S., Proprietor, **BRACKNELL, Berks.**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

The Seaside Planting of Trees and Shrubs
By Alfred Gaut, F.R.H.S. 28 Illustrations. 5/- net. By post, 5/6.
"Country Life" Library, 20, Tavistock Street Covent Garden London, W.C.2.

YOUR LAWN!
TRUE PLAY *IN MANY LAWN GAMES IS IMPOSSIBLE UNLESS THE SURFACE IS CLEAR OF DAISIES AND OTHER WEEDS — THE BEST METHOD OF ERADICATION IS ~*
LAWN SAND
Velvas
applied 5 oz. per Square Yard.
MAKES VELVETY LAWNS

CARRIAGE PAID PRICES:

112 lb. Keg,	29 6	112 lb. Bag,	26 6	14 lb. Tin,	6 -
56 lb. "	16 -	56 lb. "	14 3	7 lb. "	4 -
28 lb. "	10 6	28 lb. "	9 3	3 lb. "	2 6

Sole Manufacturers
ROBINSON BROTHERS LTD, WEST BROMWICH

Digitized by Google

WAKELEY'S *Celebrated* Hop Manure

(PATENTED)

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL, ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION, 1912

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE, without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

Every ounce of Wakeley's Hop Manure is of value to the soil, supplying the necessary HUMUS in addition to the valuable plant food. Worthless rubbish is not added to make weight (as is the case of some artificial manures advertised).

Thousands do realise it, the proof of this is the constant flow of UNSOLICITED LETTERS received from time to time in praise of the wonderful results obtained at such a moderate cost (see Booklet for selection).

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.—Genuine Only in our Marked Bags containing Guaranteed Analysis.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of post card.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.

75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

CASH PRICES (including bags):

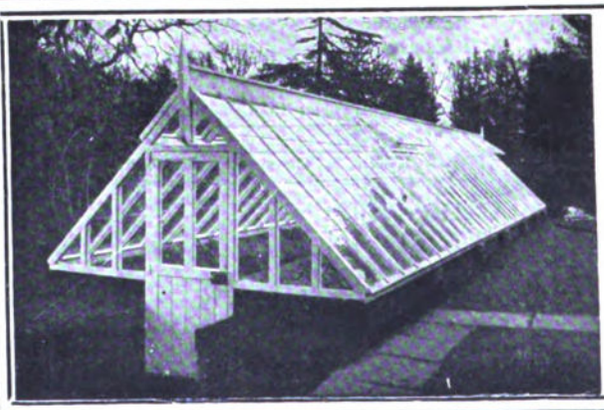
Small (about 1 bushel)	3/-
Large (about 4 bushels)	7/-
5 Large	33/9
10 Large	65/-
20 Large	120-

Carriage paid by Pickford's or to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company; 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

CONFIDENCE
and Advertised Goods

If you were to list all the hundred-and-one things you have ever bought, and the things you buy regularly — foods, hats, clothing, furnishings, smokes, sweets, and so on—you would find that ninety-and-nine were **advertised** "things." If you can place your confidence in what you have bought, are satisfied with its performance, you can place implicit confidence in

ADVERTISING



GREENHOUSES AND GARDEN FRAMES

I specialize in the Erection of High class Horticultural Buildings.

Garden Frames a speciality. Selected timber, well seasoned, only used.

Being a grower, I understand Glass-house requirements.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.

CATALOGUES WITH PLEASURE

E. M. HEAP, Cottimore Nurseries, **WALTON-ON-THAMES.**

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

By Appointment

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.,

Royal Potteries.

BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

AFTER 23 YEARS—

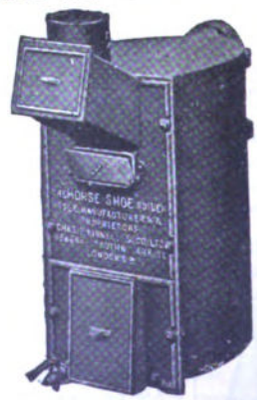
AN ELOQUENT PROOF OF UNFAILING AND USEFUL SERVICE

"A better Greenhouse Boiler could not be than the 'Horse Shoe.' I have had it in use for 23 years and it has answered splendidly," writes Mr. F. G. L.....47, Mt. Carmel, Derby. 23/11/1925.

"HORSE SHOE" BOILERS

CAN BE SUPPLIED FROM IMMEDIATE STOCK.

Write for particulars now.



To CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD.,
Engineers, Southwark Street, S.E.1.

Please send me Booklet E "Making the Most of Your Greenhouse," and price of complete Outfit to suit *(span-roof) (lean-to) greenhouse.....long .....wide inside, sides of *(wood) (brick).....thick.

Name.....

Address.....

*Strike out particulars not needed. Cut out and send by ½d. post.

CHAS. P. KINNELL & Co., Ltd., 65, Southwark St., LONDON, S.E.1

Wire: "Kinnell-Boroh-London." Phone: Hop 362 (three lines.)

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

ORCHARD GARDEN WOODLAND

Vol. XC.—No. 2830 Saturday, February 13th, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

Flower Seed Specialities, 1926

	s.	d.
ANCHUSA italica Lissadell, a beautiful border plant producing large flowers of a clear Gentian blue, h.p., 5ft. .. per pkt.,	1	6
ANTIRRHINUM, mixture of glowing orange-scarlet and scarlet shades, a blend of the finest varieties of these colours, 1½ft. per pkt., **6d.** &	1	0
CYNOGLOSSUM Blue Gem, producing large sprays of brilliant blue Forget-me-not-like flowers in early summer; a fine border plant, h.b., 1½ft. .. .. per pkt.	1	6
GENTIANA Farreri, beautiful and rare species from China, of semi-prostrate growth, producing, in August, large sky-blue flowers with white throat, and veined black .. .. per pkt.	3	6
LILIUM Martagon album, a very beautiful Lily bearing pyramidal spikes of wax-like pure white flowers	1	0
ROMNEYA trichocalyx, an improvement on R. COULTERI, free bloomer and bearing very large snowy white flowers, with golden stamens, h.p., 4ft.	2	6
SCHIZANTHUS Wisetonensis, Barr's Giant Prize Strain, graceful Fern-like foliage and profusion of large flowers all with handsome markings, 1½ft. .. .. **1s.** &	1	6
STOCK Empress Elizabeth, a fine **Giant Brompton Stock**, forming handsome pyramidal heads of large and beautiful flowers of a brilliant bright rose: a grand pot plant, 15ins. .. .. **1s.** &	2	6

For other Flower Seed Specialities, see Barr's Seed Guide free on application.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

DON'T BE TOO LATE.

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES

Selected Stocks. Send for Spring List.

ISAAC POAD & SONS, Ltd.,
Seed Potato Growers - - - YORK.

Glass breaks! WHY USE IT?

'WINDOLITE'

The practical Glass Substitute for all GARDEN USES.

Light. Flexible. Unbreakable.

Easy to cut and fix. It keeps out cold and wet, but lets in all the light—even the Ultra Violet Rays which are stopped by glass.

Send 4/6 for post free sample, 3 ft. by 2 ft.

WINDOLITE (DEPT. C) 179/185, GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1

. . THE . .

"SOUTHWELL" COLLECTION

BUSH ROSE TREES. FIRST CLASS VARIETIES
ALL BRITISH GROWN. FOR GARDEN EFFECT.

Avoca, crimson scarlet
Caroline Testout, satiny rose
Conrad F. Meyer, silvery rose
Dorothy Page Roberts, salmon pink
Francis Gaunt, fawny yellow
Frau Karl Druschki, white
General McArthur, velvety carmine
Gorgeous, deep orange yellow
Hadley, deep velvety crimson
Henrietta, coral salmon
La Tosca, blush pink
Lieut. Chaure, velvety crimson
Lyon, salmon pink
Mrs. H. R. Darlington, creamy yellow
Mrs. John Laing, clear pink
Red Letter Day, scarlet crimson
Richmond, red scarlet
W. E. Wallace, deep golden yellow

This collection of 18 varieties for **18/9**, or 12 selected from the above for **12/6**
Acme Labels (if required) .. .. **2/6** per dozen.

Carriage and packing free for Cash with Order.

BUY HOME GROWN TREES.

Catalogue of Rose Trees, Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Hardy Plants, etc., free on application to—

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, Ltd., THE NURSERIES, SOUTHWELL, NOTTS.

KING'S ACRE *Select and Reliable* GARDEN SEEDS

Unsurpassed for Quality and Germination.
The finest and Best Stocks obtainable, and famous throughout the United Kingdom.

THE FINEST STRAINS EXTANT OF CRANSTON'S EXCELSIOR AND AILSA CRAIG ONIONS

New Seed Catalogue just issued and Free on request.

90 GOLD MEDALS AWARDED TO OUR HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITS.

King's Acre Nurseries, Ltd. *Seed Merchants* HEREFORD
ESTABLISHED 1785. LATE CRANSTONS.

PLANTING SEASON

GEO. JACKMAN & SON

WOKING NURSERIES, SURREY.

Established over a century.

Invite inspection of their large and varied stock of ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBS, ROSES, CLIMBERS, FRUIT AND FOREST TREES, HERBACEOUS AND ALPINE PLANTS

200 Acres of Stock to select from. Catalogues free on application.

ADVICE GIVEN ON ALL MATTERS APPERTAINING TO LANDSCAPE GARDENING & ESTATE IMPROVEMENTS

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S HARDY PLANT FARMS ENFIELD, MIDDX.	New Alpines and Perennials Complete Collection
LAXTON BROS. NURSERIES BEDFORD	Strawberries and Fruit Trees
W. WELLS, JUNR. HARDY PLANT NURSERY MERSTHAM, SURREY	Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON TWERTON HILL NURSERY BATH	Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.
DAWKINS 408, KING'S ROAD CHELSEA, S.W.	Seeds Gladioli Spiræas List on Application
R. H. BATH, LTD. THE FLORAL FARMS WISBECH	Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

BROWN'S TESTED SEEDS. Illustrated Flower and Vegetable Seed Catalogue, giving full cultural directions, at competitive prices, post free if this paper is mentioned. D. T. BROWN & CO., *Seedsmen*, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD. NURSERIES CRAWLEY	Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.
GEORGE G. WHITELEGG THE NURSERIES CHISLEHURST, KENT	Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD. BARROW-ON-HUMBER HULL	Weed Destroyers Fertilisers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

LAXTONS', BEDFORD

New BLACK CURRANT

"MITE FREE."

This variety resists mite, and can be grown with safety where mite is prevalent.

Three-year-old Bushes - 42/- per doz.

LAXTON BROTHERS, Nurseries, BEDFORD

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

The ORIGINAL Firm of

CANTS

SPECIAL SPRING OFFER

ROSES

C.W.O. **12/6** CARRIAGE PAID

FIRST CLASS PLANTS

(BRITISH GROWN)

SPRING COLLECTION

Daily Mail	Los Angeles
Emma Wright	Lady Inchiquin
Gen. McArthur	Mrs. Henry Morse
Henrietta	Padre
Lady Pirrie	Snow Queen
Lady Roundway	Sovereign

This Spring is exceptionally fitted for Planting, as owing to the hard winter Roses have been retarded.

PLANT FIRMLY—PRUNE HARD
:: *and Success is assured.* ::

Benjamin R. Cant & Sons LTD.

Old Rose Gardens, COLCHESTER

Send for full Illustrated Catalogue.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

FRUIT TREES.

SPECIAL OFFER of the following in strong, well-grown Fruiting Bushes :—

12 Gooseberries Whinham's Industry.
12 Black Currants Seabrook's (Mite Resisting).
12 Red Currants Raby Castle.

for 20/- Carriage Paid for Cash with Order, or half the above numbers for 10/-.

CLIMBING ROSES.

A great opportunity to have your own selection from the following:

Albéric Barbier	Lady Gay
American Pillar	Lady Godiva
Aviateur Bleriot	Minehaha
Coronation	René André
Dorothy Perkins	White Dorothy
Excelsa	
Hiawatha	

Six extra strong, well-grown Trees selected from the above for 10/-, carriage paid to your nearest station, for cash with order.

Descriptive Catalogue of Fruit Trees, Roses, Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, etc.

THE FOREST & ORCHARD NURSERIES, LTD.,

MILBURY HEATH, FALFIELD, GLOS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Grub-free Soil!

Don't let the fact be overlooked that grub-free soil is itself all-important in growing. You can reap sterling results from the use of XL ALL GRUB KILLER. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen and florists.

XL ALL GRUB KILLER.

G. H. RICHARDS, LTD.
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1

R 98.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

1926

PERPETUAL FLOWERING CARNATIONS

Our Illustrated Catalogue will be sent free on request

C. ENGELMANN LTD.
Saffron Walden, Essex.

SHOW & REGAL PELARGONIUMS

for a brilliant show in April and May.

Strong plants ready now, from 3-inch pots, ready for potting into 5-inch pots. Best results obtained from plants now.

12 varieties 9/-, or newer sorts, **12/-, 15/-** and **17/6** post free for cash.

2/6 per doz. extra if required in Leather-board pots. Carriage paid.

DAHLIAS

(pot roots) of CACTUS, DECORATIVE, POMPON, COLLARETTE, STAR, ETC., **6/-** per doz. post free. All separate varieties. A mixed dozen same price.

Orders over 5/- post free C. W. O.
Catalogue free on application.

J. W. COLE & SON, Westwood Nurseries, Peterborough

Downer's Usually Silent Lupins

are making a great *noise* in the world. Rich, harmonious colours, mixed, 12/- doz. clumps. Lupin List, Herbaceous and Alpine Catalogue free. A necessary warning.—Some firms are selling Lupin Downer's Delight grown from seed. The same remark applies to Lupin Downer's Pink Pearls. It is needless to say these plants are not true.

DOWNER, 2, Drayton Manor Nurseries, Chichester.

GLORIOUS GLADIOLI

No Garden is complete without these lovely flowers and for house decoration they have few equals

Send for our Special List, in which we offer 90 varieties, and see what our ——— customers say of them ———

WE ALSO OFFER CHOICE LILIUMS, BEGONIAS, MONTBRETIAS, RANUNCULUS, ETC., ETC.

Orders value 5/-, carriage paid. Immediate despatch

LONGSTAFF & SONS

BULB GROWERS, IMPORTERS AND MERCHANTS

NEAR CHELSFIELD STATION, KENT

Michaelmas Daisies

For all the **latest** and **most** beautiful varieties, see the Raiser's List.

ERNEST BALLARD, Colwall, MALVERN

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

WATERER'S GOLD MEDAL RHODODENDRONS, Azaleas, Shrubs, Conifers, Climbers Heaths, Hardy Ornamental and Alpine Plants, Vegetable and Flower Seeds, Scotch Grown Seed Potatoes, Spring Bulbs, English-grown Fruit Trees and Roses. Separate catalogue for each department post free.—JOHN WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LIMITED, Twyford, Berks.

WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE.—The original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See advert. on back page.

WM. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., Lawrence Road, South Tottenham, N.15.—Conservatories, Winter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

BIRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUNDIALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—JAMES GIBBONS, 40, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

FENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Hurdles Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE PRIORY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, Surrey.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Pot Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list, post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

ROCK PLANTS AND SHRUBS.—Over 300 varieties in stock. Descriptive catalogue free. Also Herbaceous Plants and Roses.—HODGSONS, LTD., 58, Castlegate, Nottingham.

YORK STONE PAVINGS, crazy or rectangular, rustic copings, steps, roughly squared or random stepped, flat bedded wallstones, garden edging, rockery, etc.—SAMUEL JOHNSON AND SON (MIRFIELD), LTD., Newgate Stone Works, Mirfield, Yorkshire.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, tobacco, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-galvanised and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 17/6 per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card will do for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

IPSWICH RARE SEEDS.—New Catalogue of flower seeds, also all the best strains of vegetable seeds. Free on application to THOMPSON AND MORGAN, London Road, Ipswich.

Price 2/6 each, by L. E. FOX.

ADAM'S GARDEN : Cultivation of Vegetable and Small Fruit, with Preface by E. J. CHITTENDEN, F.L.S., V.M.H.

EVE'S GARDEN : Cultivation of Flowers, with Preface by JOHN FRASER, F.L.S., V.M.H. *The Gardeners' Chronicle* says of *Adam's Garden*: "Most valuable information is given in a condensed form."—LONGMANS, GREEN AND CO., LTD., 39, Paternoster Row, London, E.C.4

GARDEN NETS. — Protect your Seeds and Buds from frost and birds. Netting, strong, small mesh, specially prepared, will not rot, as supplied by us to the Royal Gardens, 25 sq. yds. for 2/6. Any length or width supplied, pro rata in proportion. Carr. paid. Cheaper kinds kept. List and samples free.—GASSON & SONS, Net Works, Rye. Est. 127 years.

PRIOR'S COLCHESTER ROSES, Fruit Trees, Gladioli, Dahlias, Carnations, Herbaceous. Catalogue containing cheap collections free.—D. PRIOR & SON, LTD., Colchester.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING, small mesh, 50 yds. by 1 yd., 2/-; 25 yds. by 2 yds., 4/-; 40 yds. by 1 yd., 3/-; 40 yds. by 2 yds., 6/6; 40 yds. by 3 yds., 9/9. Measured and closed. Special Pea Netting supplied. Tennis Nets from 10/6. Carriage paid. Compare our netting with others. Sports lists and samples free.—GALLOP, Net Manufacturer, Hastings.

IMPROVE YOUR GARDEN by the use of Rustic Oak Trellis Screens; they are ideal for growing creepers of all kinds and for securing privacy, at the same time adding an artistic feature that will last a lifetime (being pickled in preservative). No trouble to erect (being made in sections). Send for lists and get an estimate from W. T. REVITT, Railway Works, Otney.

FRUIT STORING STAND (PAT.)—Large storage, small space, easy inspection, sound construction Price List of Stand, also Cloches, free.—CHASE CONTINUOUS GLASS (7), Chertsey.

ROCK AND ALPINE PLANTS.—Large and varied collection. All pot grown. Packed and carriage paid. Catalogue free.—M. J. PIGGOTT, Duffield, Nr. Derby.

BARR'S SEED GUIDE FOR 1926.—The best flower and vegetable seeds of finest selected strains and tested growth, including many fine novelties for the Flower Garden and Greenhouse; also a select list of Garden Requisites, Insecticides, Manures and Horticultural Books. Post free.

BARR'S BEAUTIFUL LILIES, GLADIOLI, CANNAS, DAHLIAS, MONTBRETIAS, TIGRIDIAS, TUBEROSES, etc., for February to April planting. Catalogue free.—BARR & SONS, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are now famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx, and perpetual habit. Illustrated plant list now ready. New Seed, now ready, hand fertilised, 2/6 and 5/- packets.—J. DOUGLAS, Great Bookham, Surrey.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial : The Beauty of Meconopsis ..	93
The Popular Witch Hazels	94
Some Early Hardy Flowers	94
The Blue Poppies.—I	96
Wall Gardening	97
Annuals for Cutting	99
Frost Damage in East Anglia	102
Notes of the Week	102–104
Some Minor Narcissi ; An Attractive Cydonia ; Flowering Shrubs in Perthshire ; Thalictrums ; The Double Ladysmock ; Primula spectabilis ; Melittis melissophyllum ; Some Fumitories ; Veronica saxatilis ; The Giant Bellflower ; A Beautiful Evening Primrose.	
Early Spring Spraying	105
Correspondence	105–106
Hardiness of Plants ; Neglect of the Fuchsia ; District Flowers. ; Plants to Avoid ; Primula Littoniana	
Tools and Their Selection	106
Garden Technique	107–108
Bulbs After Flowering ; Saxifraga apiculata ; Montbretias ; Sweet Peas Indoors and in the Open Air ; Roses Nailed to Walls ; The Dianthus ; Early Cucumbers ; An Uncommon Salad ; Planting Potatoes ; Tomatoes—Why Not Yellow Also ? ; Celeriac ; The Cultivation of Ornamental Grasses ; Plants to Raise on Hot-beds Now.	
A Novel Method in Bowling Green Construction	x.

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL DELPHINIUMS and ROSES. Send a postcard for our catalogue.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI, Chrysanthemums, Dahlias, and Border Carnations.—Our stock includes many new and meritorious varieties. List post free on application.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

CLARENCE ELLIOTT'S SEED LIST is just out. Seeds of rare alpines, herbaceous plants and popular annual flowers. "A list worth watching."—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LTD., Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

WELLS' CATALOGUE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS will be sent post free on application.—W. WELLS AND CO., Merstham, Surrey.

SUTTON'S SEEDS.

ONION, Sutton's Selected Ailsa Craig.
Unrivalled for perfection of form, combined with size and weight.
Per packet, 2/6 and 3/6; ounce, 4/6.
SUTTON & SONS, THE KING'S SEEDSMEN, READING

DOBBIE'S 1926 CATALOGUE AND GUIDE, 144 pages, 225 illustrations, free to all readers. Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.—DOBBIE AND CO., LTD., Edinburgh.

BATH'S SELECT SEEDS AND PLANTS.—New Illustrated Catalogue of choice Vegetable and Flower Seeds and Plants is now ready, and will be sent, post free, on application.—(Dept. E), R. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of ceaspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BRATTER, 6, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO READERS OF "THE GARDEN."—Owing to the great demand for FIDLER'S 1926 GARDEN GUIDE AND CATALOGUE, a limited number of copies have been provisionally reserved for readers of this paper. Please SEND IN YOUR APPLICATION AT ONCE and mark your envelope or postcard "GARDEN" in top left-hand corner.—FIDLER & SONS (established 1856), Reading.

HARDY PLANTS, ROSES AND FRUIT TREES. Revised catalogue now ready. Free on application to THOMPSON AND MORGAN, Ipswich.

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES.—Per stone: Duke of York, 2/3; Witchhill, 2/6; Express, 2/2; Epicure 1/10; Eclipse, 2/-; Abundance, 2/2; Great Scot, 2/3; Majestic, 2/4; King Edward, 1/10; Kerr's Pink, 1/10; Bishop, 2/3, etc. Shallots Red, 8d. lb. Amateur's Guide of Vegetable and Flower Seeds, free.—TILLIE WHYTE & CO., 12, Melbourne Place, Edinburgh.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS FOR GREENHOUSE AND GARDEN. Also Dahlias, Fuchsias, Show and Zonal Pelargoniums and Coleus. Price List free on application.—J. W. COLE AND SON, Westwood Nurseries, Peterborough.

ORCHIDS.—In addition to our own large stock, we have purchased a fine private Collection containing many useful Orchids suitable for Amateurs. Cool and Intermediate. Catalogue on application.—MANSELL AND HATCHER, LTD., Rawdon, Yorkshire.

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES direct from the growers. Our New Descriptive List now ready, post free.—GUTHRIE BROS., Springfield, Fife, N.B.

ALPINE, ROCK, HERBACEOUS PLANTS, Rock Garden Shrubs and Conifers Catalogue free.—SUNEFFARD, Shawhurst Nursery, Hollywood, Birmingham.

INDIAN ORCHIDS.—6 Vandas cœrulea, 30/-; 6 V. Amesiana, 26/-; 6 V. Kimballiana, 26/-. 12 different grand-flowering sorts, 25/-. 6 Dendrobium brymerianum, 26/- Cash. All paid in U.K. Catalogue free.—THE CHANDRA NURSERY, P.O. Rhenock, Sikkim (Bengal), India.

GARDEN NETS,—Best tanned, small mesh, 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 25yds. by 3yds., 6/-; 25yds. by 4yds., 8/-. Carr. paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Tennis nets from 10s. Special nets for tennis boundary. Pea training nets. Lists and samples free.—G. JARRETT, Netmaker, Rye.

RARE PRIMULA AND ALPINE SEEDS from large (1,500) collection, sold cheap. List free.—REV. J. F. ANDERSON, Glen Hall, Leicester.

FOR NEW AND RARE ALPINE AND HERBACEOUS PLANTS, grown under hardy Scotch conditions, send for our new catalogue just published, also Seed List of choice Primulas, etc.—OLIVER AND HUNTER, Moniaive, Dumfriesshire.

SPENCE'S SCOTCH SEED POTATOES.—Write for Descriptive Catalogue and Growing Guide (on Potatoes only).—CHAS. T. SPENCE, Seed Potato Specialist, Dunbar Scotland.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

BLOM for BULBS

Apply for new Spring Catalogue to—

Messrs. J. C. WHITNEY & Co.,
Eldon Street House, Eldon Street,
London, E.C. - - - *or to—*

WALTER BLOM & SON
(Late of Overveen),
Hillegom, Holland.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

CLAY'S LONDON FERTILIZER TRADE MARK

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then, together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices :—

Tins 10d. and 1/6

and in **Branded and Sealed Bags :**

7 lbs.	3/6	14 lbs.	6/-
28 lbs.	10/-	56 lbs.	18/-
112 lbs.	32/-		

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers, etc. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING, SURREY
(late ANTHONY WATERER)

PROPRIETOR - **HOSEA WATERER**

has pleasure in offering

STANDARD TREES

in great variety, consisting of

LIMES, NORWAY MAPLES, ELMS, etc., etc.

EVERGREEN & DECIDUOUS SHRUBS, viz. :

Box—Green and Variegated, 3 to 8 ft.
Hollies—Common, 5 to 8 ft.; Variegated and Green varieties, 2 to 6 ft.
Thuiopsis borealis, 10 to 12 ft. Cupressus Lawsoniana, 12 to 14 ft. Cedrus atlantica glauca, very fine, 10 to 14 ft. Osmanthus, Phillyreas, Spiræas, Lilacs, Viburnums, etc.

GOLDEN YEWS

A Magnificent Stock in all shapes and sizes from 2 to 10 ft.

PRIVET, Common and Oval-leaved.
QUICK and **HORNBEAM** for Hedges.
AZALEAS, 2 to 5 ft.
RHODODENDRONS, without doubt the finest stock in the trade of named varieties, 2 to 6 and 8 ft.
HARDY HEATHS in great variety and a good general nursery stock.

Catalogues ready.

Enquiries and inspection invited.

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING STATION, SURREY

AUTUMN and WINTER BEAUTY
In the Garden.

WHEN the first Autumn frost has killed the Summer flowers and the last rose is just existing, many people imagine that the garden must be a dull uninteresting place until Spring awakens the early Daffodils.

There are, however, many trees and shrubs which will provide beautiful pictures throughout Autumn and Winter when rightly placed.

What is more beautiful than the setting sun lighting up the berries of the Cotoneasters, Thorns, and other berried shrubs; or the crimson stems of the Scarlet Dogwood, yellow and crimson barked Willows.

We have prepared a short supplement to our general catalogue, giving a list of the best trees and shrubs for Winter beauty, with fuller descriptions and cultural notes. A copy on application. We devote the same care and thought to the cultivation of our immense stocks of FRUIT TREES, ROSES, ALPINES, HARDY PERENNIALS as we do to the SHRUBS.

THE BARNHAM NURSERIES, LTD., BARNHAM, SUSSEX.

FOSTER & PEARSON LIMITED

Established 1841

Please write for Estimates for durable Greenhouses, Boilers, etc., to

BEESTON NOTTS

Digitized by Google

STUPENDOUS SUCCESS

OF OUR

FREE GIFT SCHEME

- continued a further Limited Period -

CHOICE OF 7 FREE GIFTS

On every order value 20/- and over, for Goods ordered from this page or our Rose and Plant Catalogue, choice of the following Free Gifts:

6 RAMBLER ROSES, FRUITING BUSH APPLE, PEAR OR PLUM, 6 POLYANTHA ROSES, YELLOW CHINESE CLEMATIS,

or 50 GIANT SPIKED GLADIOLI

Over 12/6 - - - THREE RAMBLER ROSES

CATALOGUE.

OF PEDIGREE SEEDS.
80 Pages. 144 Illustrations.
FREE FOR THE ASKING.

ROSES. Guaranteed British Grown and the hardiest in England.
First size. 1/- Each. 10/- Dozen. 75/- 100

Pinks.
Admiration
America
Annie Laurie
Caroline Testout
Ethel Somerset
Lady Ashtown
Lady Pirrie
Madam A. Chatenay
Madam Butterfly
Madam M. Soupert
Mrs. H. Morse
Mrs. G. Shawyer
Ophelia
Pharisaer

Copper.
Daily Mail
Gorgeous
Independence Day
Lamia
Lyon
Padre
Sunstar

White.
F. K. Druschki

Red.
Alf. Columb
Avoca
Capt. Hayward
Gen. Jacqueminot
Fisher Holmes
General McArthur
G. C. Waud
Geo. Dickson
Hugh Dickson
Hadley
Hoosier Beauty
K. of K.
Lieut. Chaure
Laurent Carle
Premier
Red Letter Day
Richmond
The Queen Alexandra
Ulrich Brunner

Yellow.
Golden Emblem
Lady Hillingdon
M. D. Hamill
Mrs. Wemyss Quinn
Mrs. G. Lamplough
Rayon d'Or
Souv. de C. Pernet

OLD-FASHIONED MOSS ROSES, beautifully scented. White, Red and Pink. 1/6 each. 17/- per doz.

CLIMBING ROSES for ARCHES, 1/- each. 10/- doz.

Aglaia
Alberic Barbier
American Pillar
Blush Rambler
Crimson Rambler
Dorothy Perkins
Excelsa
Goldfinch
Hiawatha
Lady Gay
Minnehaha
Shower of Gold
Sodenia
Tausendschon
Wedding Bells
White Dorothy
Veilchenblau

OLD-FASHIONED SWEET BRIARS, 1/6 each. 15/- doz.

Write for 52 page Rose and Plant Catalogue. It's Free.

LARGE-FLOWERED CLIMBING ROSES
1/6 each.
15/- dozen.

Clearance Offer
12 Guaranteed
ENGLISH-GROWN
ROSE BUSHES
Best sorts, our selection, 8/-

Clearance Offer
RAMBLER ROSES
A few hundreds of BEST Named Sorts. Have lost their labels. To clear, 4/9 doz.

SPECIAL FRUIT OFFER
1 Bush Pear, 1 Bush Apple, 1 Bush Plum, 3 Black Currants, 3 Gooseberries,
9 Fruiting Trees for 10/6

FRUIT TREES for Orchards, etc. 4 to 5 year old Fruiting Trees.

STANDARDS, 5/- ea.; 58/- doz. **SHORT STANDARDS**, 3/6 ea.; 38/- doz. **BUSH**, 3/- & 4/- ea.; 34/- & 44/- doz. **CORDON APPLES**, 2/6 ea.; 28/- doz.

APPLES.

Allington Pippin
Blenheim Orange
Beauty of Bath
Bramley's Seedling
Cox's Orange Pippin
Grenadier
Newton Wonder
King of Pippins
Keswick Codlin
Lord Suffield
Lane's Prince Albert
Lord Derby
Worcester Pearmain

PEARS.

Louise Bonne
Clapp's Favourite
Catillac
Pitmaston Duchess
Williams' Bon Chretien
Beurre d'Amanlis
Durondeau
Beurre Hardy
Herzogin Elsa

PLUMS.

Victoria
Pond's Seedling
Monarch
Belle de Louvain
Kirkes
Egg Plum
Czar
Transparent Gage
Green Gage

TRAINED APPLES, PEARS AND PLUMS, extra strong, 5/- and 7/6 each. **DAMSONS**, true Staffordshire and Shropshire variety. Bush, 5/- each; Standards, 7/6. **CHERRIES** eating, 4 to 5 years, very strong Bush, 5/-; Standard, 6/6 White and Black Heart. **MORELLO CHERRIES**, trained for walls, 7/6 each. **BLACK AND RED CURRANTS**, 10d. each, 8/- dozen. **RASPBERRIES**, 2/- dozen, 10/- 100. **LOGANBERRIES**, 1/6 each, 15/- dozen. **STRAWBERRIES**, Sovereign, Paxton, Mme. Kooi, 1/6 dozen, 10/- 100.

HARDY PLANTS FOR EVERYBODY. Most suitable for cutting or Herbaceous Borders.

Anchusa Italica, lovely gentian-blue, 9d. ea.; 3, 1/10.
Aquilegias, long-spurred, 6d. ea.; 5/6 doz.
Canterbury Bells, 4/6 doz.
Cheiranthus Allionii, 1/- doz. 10/- 100.
Eulalia Japonica, fine foliage plant, 9d. each; 7/6 doz.
Gaillardia grandiflora, 6d. each; 5/- doz.
Geums, Lady Stratheden, 9d. each; 7/6 doz.
— Mrs. Bradshaw, 8d. each; 6/6 doz.
Hollyhocks, single, 6d. each; 5/- doz. Double, 9d. each; 7/6 doz.
Lupins, Polyphyllus, giant strain, 9d. each; 7/6 doz.
Poppies, Giant Iceland, 8d. each; 7/- doz. Seedlings, 2/6 doz.
Napeta Mussini, 6d. each; 5/- doz.
Coreopsis grandiflora, 6d. each; 5/- doz.
Sweet Williams, 4d. each; 3/6 doz.
Tritoma (Red-hot Pokers), 9d. each; 7/6 doz.
Wallflowers, 8d. doz.; 4/6 100.
Forget-me-nots, 1/9 doz.; 10/- 100.
Delphiniums, 1/- each; 10/6 doz.
Phlox, 8d. each; 7/- doz.
Pyrethrums, single or double, 6d. each; 5/- doz.
Paonies, 9d. each; 8/- doz.

PRIVET.
12in. to 18in. .. .. .. 2/6 dozen; 18/6 100
24in. to 30in. .. .. .. 5/- dozen; 35/- 100
36in. to 48 in. .. .. .. 7/- dozen; 50/- 100

Oval Leaf Evergreen.
5/- dozen; 35/- 100
7/- dozen; 50/- 100

Best Hedging Plant.
18in. to 24in. .. .. .. 4/- dozen; 28/- 100
30in. to 36in. .. .. .. 6/- dozen; 45/- 100

Bushy Plants 5ft. high, 1/- each, 10/- dozen.

MYROBELLA, fast growing hedging, 1½ft. to 2ft., 4/- dozen, 28/- 100; 2ft. to 3ft., 5/6 dozen, 40/- 100; 3ft. to 4ft., 7/- dozen, 50/- 100.

QUICK, 1½ft. to 2ft., 12/- 100, 85/- 1,000. **QUICK**, 2ft. to 3ft., 16/- 100, £7 15s. 1,000.

ALNUS GLUTINOSA, 2ft. to 3ft., very fast growing, 3/6 doz., 25/- 100.

Bankers—National Provincial.

Orders of 20/- and over, carr. paid. Under 20/-, 1/- extra.

TETTENHALL ROSERY - WOLVERHAMPTON

Digitized by Google

Bentley's Specialities

Weed Destroyers
(Liquid 1 to 80; Powder 1 to 25.)

Daisy Killer
(Lawn Sand.)

Earthworm Destroyers
(Liquid and Powder.)

Fertilizers
For Lawns, Fruits, Flowers and Vegetables.

Insecticides
For all kinds of pests and filth.

Fungicides
For fungoid growths, indoors and outdoors.

Fumigants
For use under glass and in the soil.

GARDEN and SPORTS' NETS, BLINDS, SHADINGS, etc.

Complete illustrated catalogue — Free on application —

Manufacturers:—
JOSEPH BENTLEY, Limited
Chemical Works, Barrow-on-Humber, LINCS.

KINNELL'S COKE CRUSHER
FROM STOCK

Reduces Fuel to the correct size for long burning

Carriage paid to Stations in England and Wales

Small Crusher for Wall - 20/-
Ditto on Wrought Stand - 40/-
Large Crusher for Wall - 40/-
Ditto on Wrought Stand - 60/-
Strong Coke Pan 10/- extra

Large Crusher breaks 1 cwt. & small one 42 lb. in 20 minutes

CHAS. P. KINNELL & Co LTD
65, 65A Southwark St. London, S.E.1

YOUR LAWN!

IS IT TO YOUR LIKING AS REGARDS COLOUR AND GENERAL CONDITION, BECAUSE IF ILL-NOURISHED YOU SHOULD DRESS AT ONCE WITH

Carmona
LAWN *Fertilizer*

in the proportion of 4 ozs. per Sq. Yard

CARMONA FEEDS GRASS BUT NOT CLOVER

CARRIAGE PAID PRICES:

112 lb. Keg,	29/6	112 lb. Bag,	26/6	14 lb. Tin,	6/-
56 lb. ,,	16/-	56 lb. ,,	14/3	7 lb. ,,	4/-
28 lb. ,,	10/6	28 lb. ,,	9/3	3 lb. ,,	2/6

Sole Manufacturers:—
ROBINSON BROTHERS, LTD., WEST BROMWICH

BLINDED for YOU

The War-blinded Men of St. Dunstan's (many of whom have lost a limb as well as sight) have been trained to produce the most perfect and hard-wearing

NETS AND NETTING

for Garden, Farm and Sports use. Show these gallant craftsmen that you value the work of their hands.

Moderate prices. List or special quotations on application to—

NETTING DEPT. (A) St. Dunstan's Headquarters, Inner Circle, Regent's Pk., LONDON, N.W.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

WORTH WRITING FOR
276 PAGE
GARDEN TOOL CATALOGUE
Containing practical articles often required
POST FREE | Thomas Gunn Ltd. | MINTON DEPT.

GUNN'S, 30, FORE ST., LONDON, E.C.2.

TO FRENCH GARDENERS and OTHER
FOR SALE.

2,460 Best French Cloches.
342 Repaired Cloches.
788ft. of 16-inch gauge Light Railway.
2 Rail Trucks.
2 Turntables.
1,391ft. of 2-inch Water Pipe.
36 Standards.
36 Solid Brass Taps.
155 Three-light Frames.
82 Two-light Frames.
632 One-light Frames.
And a quantity of other Gardening Tools.
Apply Secretary, 4, Maida Vale, W.

BY APPOINTMENT

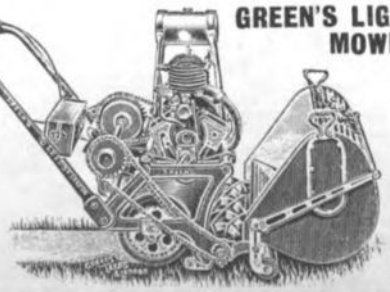
MOTOR MOWERS a Speciality
In all Sizes.

GREEN'S
WORLD FAMOUS LAWN MOWERS

HAND and HORSE MOWERS

GARDEN ROLLERS & TENNIS MARKERS

GREEN'S LIGHT MOTOR MOWERS
16, 20, 24, and 30 in.
(fitted with kick Starter)
Supreme in Construction
Perfect in Operation
16in. to 42in.
Reliable.
Efficient.
Economical.



GREEN'S NEW "CENTURY" LAWN MOWER.
The Ideal Light Mower.
Over a Million Sold.

GEEEN'S "SILENS MESSOR" LAWN MOWER
The Universal Favourite.

GREEN'S Lawn Mowers
Obtainable from all Ironmongers

NEW SEASON'S PRICE LIST No. 8 FREE ON REQUEST.

THOMAS GREEN & SON, Ltd., Smithfield Ironworks, Leeds, and New Surrey Works, Southwark Street, London, S.E.1. (Est. 1835)

Digitized by Google

Three Sterling Novelties for 1926

Give them a trial and you will be more than satisfied.

NEW TEN WEEK STOCKS

Edwards' "Super Dreadnought"

This new strain of "Super Dreadnought" Stock grows from 25ins. to 35ins. in height, the giant double spikes measuring up to 16ins. It is branching in habit and early flowering, coming in flower in ten or twelve weeks. I have great pleasure in introducing these "Dreadnought" Stocks to my customers. These will be grown all over Great Britain this season. And I should like you as keen gardeners to try a collection, they are bound to win prizes.

APPLE BLOSSOM.—A lovely shade of blush pink, very fine.

CORIS.—A very lovely ivory white, shaded old rose good habit.

DOROTHY.—A giant lavender, a splendid shade for florists' work.

GOLIATH.—A very fine mauve, extra fine flowers

INDOMITABLE.—Magnificent fiery scarlet, certainly splendid.

LEVIATHAN.—Lilac, massive spikes.

MARS.—Deep crimson, very good.

NEPTUNE.—The darkest Blue Stock, splendid shade.

PICTURE.—A magnificent cream pink that everyone will want.

SNOWDRIFT.—This variety is a champion, being pure white.

SUNLIGHT.—A lovely shade of yellow, very good.

TOPSY.—A most lovely shade of rose pink.

MIXED.—Special hand mixed, being made up of equal proportions of the above-named varieties.

All above, 6d. per packet.

NEW SECOND EARLY PEA

Edwards' "Fifty-Five"

To all my customers I would recommend a trial of this New Second Early Pea "Fifty-five." It is rather an early second, coming along almost immediately after Sherwood, and as a succession to my Twelve Inch, is very good. "Fifty-five" is only 18ins. in height, and is one of the heaviest cropping Peas I have ever seen, its dark green pods are closely packed with peas of a fine dark green, full Marrowfat flavour, and usually about seven to nine peas in a pod; the pod itself is slightly curved, and it is not exhibition size, but as a *utility* pea I believe it has a splendid future, the haulm being literally covered with pods. I am sure that a trial will convince all that "Fifty-five" is the heaviest cropping Dwarf Second Early Marrowfat Pea.

Per pint 2/-

NEW ONION

"Ipswich Champion"

This New Onion is the heaviest type of Exhibition Onion there is on the market, raised by an exhibitor and shown at the largest shows in Great Britain, where it has always taken prizes. The stock of seed is rather limited for this year, and I cannot offer by the ounce.

This Onion will grow to 3½lbs. in weight, and all onion exhibitors must give it a trial. Per packet 1/- and 2/-.

Send for Complete Seed Catalogue, post free.

ALFRED EDWARDS, F.R.H.S.
Seed Merchant, **FORDHAM, CAMBS.**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE FLOWER OF THE SEASON

BALL'S CALENDULA

Brilliant Orange Double Flowers

THE FINEST PLANT FOR CUT FLOWER OR THE BORDER

OUR exhibit at CHELSEA SHOW made us many customers, and we have had numerous testimonials from all parts of the country

SEED — 1/-, 2/6, 5/- packet
PLANTS, 1/6 doz.; 10/- 100

WM. ARTINDALE & SON
NETHER GREEN NURSERY :: SHEFFIELD

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

The Pink Garden Beautiful

FOR SPRING, SUMMER AND AUTUMN EFFECTS.

FOREGROUND.

Japanese Spring Cherry (Prunus subhirtella ascendens), downy twigs wreathed in early Spring with myriads of small deep pink flowers opening from coral buds. Strong pyramids, about 4ft., **7/6** each, **87/-** dozen. Hilliers of Winchester offer this RARE JAPANESE CHERRY in quantity for the first time. It is a real garden gem.

BACKGROUND. (*6 to 10ft. high.*)

Escallonia Ingrami rosea, a diffuse elegant grower, flowering over a long period, producing a profusion of charming pink flowers—quite a new shade. Strong plants about 2ft. **2/6** each, **27/-** doz.

STANDARDS *for height effect.*

Japanese Cherry Sekiyama (also called Kanzan, Horingii and Ohnanden), lovely large deep semi-double rose flowers. 6-7ft. **8/6** and **10/6** each.

GROUNDWORK.

Erica carnea and Darleyensis, rich rosy-pink and deep lilac-pink flowers. Plant 1½ft. apart. Strong clumps, **6/6** and **8/6** dozen; **50/-** and **60/-** 100.

Berberis Wilsonæ. This charming Berberis will provide autumn tinted foliage as well as lovely panicles of coral fruit. 1-1½ft. **21/-** doz.; **150/-** 100. Plant 4ft. apart.

The taller Cherries named above will also help with their autumnal effects when mature.

WRITE FOR CATALOGUES— Carriage and Packing at cost.

HILLIER & SONS, Tree Specialists, WINCHESTER

SNAPDRAGONS—*for gorgeous massing*

SIMPSON'S SUPER-SEED

13 *Awards of Merit and* 10 *Highly Commended,* 1920
6 *Awards of Merit,* 1922, *in pots at R.H.S. Wisley Trials*

Send for free illustrated Seed List G, offering seeds of 42 varieties of Snapdragons at 6d. 1/- and 2/6 per packet, with full range of Vegetable and Flower seeds of established merit.

TALL.—**Esme,** light pink; **Monarch** crimson; **Rose King,** deep rose; **The King,** orange scarlet, white tube; **Yellow King,** yellow.

MEDIUM.—**Afterglow,** orange scarlet; **Appleby Matthews,** orange terra-cotta, white tube; **Aurore,** fiery terra-cotta; **Charm,** rose pink; **Empress,** crimson; **Estelle,** apricot salmon, suffused pink; **Fascination,** light pink; **Golden Gem,** yellow; **Lady Roberts,** primrose; **Mrs. R. F. Felton,** bright orange-scarlet; **Roseum Superbum,** soft rose pink; **Sybil Eckford,** apricot pink and cream, white tube; **The Fawn,** peach pink, white tube; **Victory,** salmon terra-cotta; **White Queen,** white. A further three varieties can be supplied in Spring-sown Plants.

AUTUMN SOWN. **STRONG PLANTS FROM BOXES.** Delivery about Mid-April from cold frames. **2/3** per doz. (if less than 12 of one variety at 3/- per doz., not less than 6 of any one variety named), 25 or more of any one variety at **15/-** per 100. Carriage extra, see below.

SPRING SOWN. **STRONG PLANTS FROM BOXES.** Delivery early in May hardened off. **1/6** per doz. (if less than 12 of one variety at 2/- per doz., not less than 6 of any one variety named), 25 or more of any one variety at **10/6** per 100.

Special rates for cash with order (which must be added). Carriage, box and packing, 24 plants 1/-, more than 24, 1/6. When cash does not accompany order, box, packing and rail charges are charged at cost.

W. H. SIMPSON & SONS, *Super-Seed Specialists,* **BIRMINGHAM**

Wise gardeners order NOW because stocks are not unlimited.

APPLES.

Special Offer of Strong Lancashire-grown Trees.

CHARLES ROSS, Dessert
OOX'S ORANGE PIPPIN, Dessert
GOLDEN SPIRE, Dessert and Cooking
HILL'S SEEDLING, Dessert and Cooking
LORD DERBY, Cooking
RIVAL, Dessert

6 for 20/- Carriage Paid.

Black Currants—Seabrooks—The Best. 6/6 per doz. carr. paid.
Your money refunded if not pleased.

THERKILDSEN, F.R.H.S., Kew Gardens, SOUTHPORT.

Forbes' Catalogue

Carnations, Pelargoniums, Pentstemons, Phloxes, Pyrethrums, Violas, Hardy Border and Rock Plants, Seeds, etc.

FREE ON APPLICATION

JOHN FORBES (Hawick), LTD., Dept. 2, The King's Nurserymen, Hawick, Scotland

SENT FREE ON REQUEST

Hints on Fruit Tree Culture

For Amateur and Professional.

Interesting Notes on Soils, Situations and Fertilizers, Popular Fruits for all Purposes

and other useful information will be found in

OUR FRUIT TREE CATALOGUE

— which will be sent Post Free. —

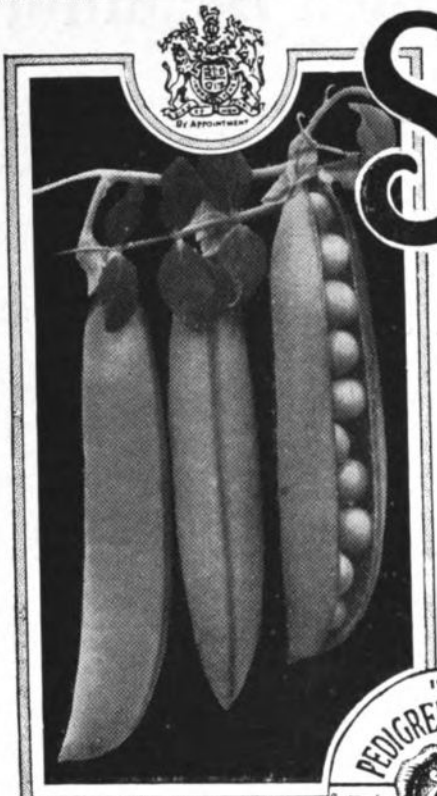
Sit down now while the matter is fresh in your mind and write for your copy.

Established 1785. **Awarded 90 Gold Medals.**

KING'S ACRE NURSERIES, LIMITED, HEREFORD

Gold Medallists of all leading Horticultural Societies

Digitized by Google



SUTTON'S SEEDS

PEDIGREE STRAINS OF VEGETABLES

For reliability in cropping, excellent appearance, and superior table quality, it is acknowledged that our pedigree strains of Vegetables are unsurpassed.

SUTTON'S COLLECTIONS OF VEGETABLE SEEDS
for Gardens of all sizes

19 varieties	. .	5/9
30 varieties	. .	8/3
36 varieties	. .	11/3
38 varieties	. .	13/6

Post free

Full particulars by return of post

SUTTON & SONS
The King's Seedsmen
—READING—

1926 PEDIGREE-QUALITY Sutton & Sons Reading

Warning.—In future every packet of "Sutton's Seeds" will bear this seal, and none is genuine without it

GUIDE
to the Choice of
MANURES

POST FREE.

Practical experience (and Scientific experiment) have clearly shown that one Manure gives better results than another on a particular soil.

SOILS and CROPS vary, and Manures must be chosen to suit these conditions.

OUR GUIDE will help you to decide which is the best Manure for your soil and crop, quantities to use, times to apply, etc., etc.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd.,
The Royal Nurseries,
Established 1796. Maidstone.

NEW HARDY CRIMSON BROOM

AT Chelsea Show (1925) the King said, "That red Broom is certainly very striking." This was the new crimson Broom "Dorothy Walpole," which received the unanimous Award of Merit from the R.H.S. as well as other distinctions in London and on the Continent.

In the *Field*, a well known ex-Curator of Kew Gardens wrote: "The richest coloured Broom known is one named 'Dorothy Walpole.' It is as hardy as the common Broom . . . and is very free-flowering . . . the colour is rich velvety crimson . . . more attractive than any of the coloured Brooms yet seen." The colour far surpasses Cytisus Dallimorei, and the growth is as vigorous as C. Andreanus; it requires no special treatment nor any kind of protection whatever—just a hardy shrub for ordinary garden soil in any part of the British Isles, however far north.

A Vice-Chairman, Floral Committee, R.H.S., wrote: "Everyone who has seen my plant has been astonished at its warm glowing red," and from a lady in Devon: "I am so delighted with the Broom 'Dorothy Walpole.' It has done splendidly and is like a sparkling gem in the garden—one mass of flower."

Strong pot-grown plants now ready for planting out, to flower in May, 12/6 each. Carriage paid rates to any station in Great Britain or Ireland: One plant, carriage paid, 15/-; two plants, carriage paid, 28/6; three plants, carriage paid, 41/-; six plants, carriage paid, 79/6.

Coloured illustration sent on application if THE GARDEN is mentioned.

Wm. Watson & Sons, Ltd., Nurseries, Killiney, Co. Dublin.

BY APPOINTMENT.

FERTILIZERS FOR THE GARDEN

Increase your yield of Vegetables by a small . . outlay on . .

FISONS'
CHAMPION
FERTILIZER
for the Kitchen Garden.

Price per cwt. **26/-** Carr. paid.

7-lbs. **3/-**; 14-lbs. **5/-**; 28-lbs. **8/6**; 56-lbs. **15/-**

USE 7 LBS. TO THE ROD.

Illustrated Catalogue of Fertilizers for all Garden Crops post free from

Joseph Fison & Co., Ltd.
Ipswich.

Toogood's Seeds

THE BEST THAT GROW

The Garden looks to You

to provide it with the best seeds. No one can testify to a seed without knowing its origin and the care bestowed in its sorting and storage. To obtain the best for your garden buy Toogood's *Guaranteed* Seeds

You ought to have our free illustrated Guide to "Guaranteed Garden Seeds"—write at once to:—

TOOGOOD & SONS, Ltd.
The King's Seedsmen, **SOUTHAMPTON.**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

VOL. XC.—No. 2830. FEBRUARY 13, 1926.
Five Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.; Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2. Offices for Advertisements: 6–11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

THE BEAUTY OF MECONOPSIS

SUCH a confirmed believer am I in the importance of the meconopsis in our gardens that I take every opportunity of drawing attention to the fact that it is a lovely flower and that it is not the garden will-o'-the-wisp that many people imagine. In this issue will be found the first of two articles by Mr. Kingdon Ward telling of his latest finds in Tibet, the home of the genus. In these articles will be found not only notes of new species—which, after all, are only of interest to a few at the present moment—but also much interesting information about the conditions under which they grow in their native haunts.

Thanks to the enthusiasm of Professor W. W. Smith and a few Scottish enthusiasts, the meconopsis is slowly increasing in popularity; but if the present rate of increased enthusiasm may be likened to the speed of Stephenson's first train, in a year or two I hope to see it increased to the speed of the Riviera express. I have a feeling, however, that much of the diffidence of gardeners in growing meconopsis is owing to the fact that they look exotic and difficult, and so are a nuisance to grow. I wish I could bludgeon into the heads of all gardeners that, with an exception or two, all meconopsis in cultivation present no difficulties, provided that the would-be grower understands what the plant likes and what it dislikes. Here is a list of a few of their foibles:

M. LATIFOLIA.—Biennial; not wet ground; dry bank or corner of rock garden. Seeds itself.

M. PRAITII and M. RUDIS.—Biennials; fairly moist conditions, but good drainage; border under shrubs excellent. Seed themselves.

M. WALLICHII.—Biennial; ordinary border conditions, but not in full sun; good wild garden semi-woodland plant. Seeds itself.

M. INTEGRIFOLIA and M. SIMPLICIFOLIA.—Perennials; shrub border and fairly moist conditions.

Of course, a number of them are biennial—or at least monocarpic—and many gardeners fight shy of growing biennials owing to the bother of resowing, but I am quite certain that once anyone has grown them they will not give them up in a hurry. The seeds also are easily collected and germinate freely, possibly even better outside than in. There is another thing in their favour: provided the ground round them is not choked with other vegetation, they will seed themselves freely and so save the gardener trouble. Surely no plant could be more accommodating.

So much for information. For those who have not seen them in their glory the best advice I can give is to make a pilgrimage to the rock garden at the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, during meconopsis time. There colonies, drifts and cohorts of them may be seen, each spangled with their saucer-shaped blooms that stare at one with a most inquisitive persistence. The gem of the collection is undoubtedly Meconopsis grandis, with 5in. saucers, violet or slatey blue with streaks of blue and crimson running through the petals. Like many gems, it has a disadvantage. It is a terribly shy seeder, but it is a perennial. Round the corner you will see a clump of the straw-yellow integrifolia with every blossom nodding in the breeze or, perhaps, the electric blue of Bailey's form of simplicifolia. They have been well named the blue poppy, for large blue flowers of this type other than meconopsis do not exist. Blue is their real colour, and such a blue. With the exception of Wallichii the blues are of the purest—azures and cobalts and electric; while grandis is indescribable, with the shot effects of a butterfly's wing.

Another oddity about meconopsis is that they last well as cut flowers in water; and this is certainly strange, for more fragile and delicate-looking morsels could not be imagined. I saw at Edinburgh a flower of M. grandis of which the stem had been damaged; it had been three weeks already in water when I saw it, and it might have been picked the day before. This is an advantage of which few people will avail themselves, for a meconopsis growing is infinitely better than a meconopsis cut. Still, in years to come when there may be a plethora of the plant—if that is possible—this information may be worth remembering.

Have I said enough to persuade even a few more people to try this incomparable flower? I hope so, for every recruit soon turns into an ardent enthusiast and helps others to learn about the beauties of the blue poppy. E. H. M. C.

AMONG THE ARTICLES IN OUR NEXT ISSUE WILL BE:

ANNUALS FOR THE ROCK GARDEN, by W. Irvine.
SHRUBS FOR PLANTING BENEATH TREES, by A. Osborn.
THE BLUE POPPIES.—II, by F. Kingdon Ward.
FOLIAGE FOR CUTTING, by R. E. Head.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO TELL OTHERS ABOUT YOUR PLANTS THROUGH THE COLUMNS OF "THE GARDEN."

Digitized by Google

THE POPULAR WITCH HAZELS

DURING the first week in January the brightest outdoor effect at Kew was produced by the Chinese witch hazel, Hamamelis mollis. The majority of the bushes are part of a batch of plants propagated by grafting on H. virginiana a dozen years ago. The best specimens, growing in the box (buxus) collection near the Holly Walk, are 8ft. to 9ft. in height and as much, or more, in diameter.

H. mollis is quite the best of all the witch hazels. It is the earliest to flower has the, largest strap-petalled blossoms, and large, attractive hairy leaves. Massed as at Kew, the delicious primrose fragrance is very pronounced and distinctly pleasant in the wind many yards away from the bushes. When mature, specimens are said to attain upwards of 30ft. in height, but small plants, the first or second year after grafting, or layering, will produce numerous blossoms.

It was first introduced about 1879 by Maries, when collecting in China on behalf of Messrs. James Veitch, but was grown for some twenty years in their Coombe Wood Nursery as a good form of H. japonica. A bush attracted the attention of the late Mr. George Nicholson when visiting the nursery, and its identity was soon established. One very noticeable distinction is that the petals of the blossoms are not wavy or twisted as in H. japonica and H. arborea.

H. japonica, the Japanese witch hazel, is the most commonly cultivated species. It is said to have been first introduced to British gardens about 1862. The typical plant is distinguished by a spreading habit, yellow petals and greenish calyx. As a garden shrub, the tree witch hazel, H. arborea, is readily recognised by its robust, more upright habit, deep yellow petals and reddish brown calyx. Between these two extreme types, however, are many intermediate forms obtained by raising seedlings. The variety Zuccariniana is another distinct plant, tree-like in habit, with pale lemon yellow petals and reddish brown calyx. Dutch nurserymen are sending over as Zuccariniana a form with the typical pale lemon yellow petals but with a greenish calyx, thus having more affinity with the type H. japonica. Our old specimens of H. Zuccariniana with reddish brown calyx resemble in this respect H. arborea.

The variety rubra has the petals more or less stained with claret or reddish brown. A good form is distinct and pleasing, but some of the plants I have seen are evidently seedlings which would be best described as a good yellow-flowered shrub spoilt. It is very evident that all are forms of the one species, H. japonica.

H. virginiana is a native of eastern North America and was first introduced in 1736. It is more interesting than strikingly attractive, opening its yellow blossoms in September before the leaves fall. Old bushes are sometimes seen in shrubbery borders and on old garden walls. The leaves turn a rich yellow in October before they fall, when leaves and flowers give the bushes a distinctive beauty. As a garden shrub it is inferior to the Asiatic species.

HAMAMELIS MOLLIS, BEST OF ALL WITCH HAZELS.

CULTIVATION.

Layering is the most satisfactory method of propagation. Seeds, when available may be sown, but germination is slow and uncertain. Flowering early in the year, pollination is frequently interfered with, though the weather has little effect on the beauty of the petals. Despite the recent frosts, snow and cold biting winds, the flowers quickly recovered from any slight disfigurement and looked as bright as ever. One important point in favour of the hamamelis is that frosts must be very severe to impair their beauty. H. virginiana, flowering in autumn, usually ripens seeds, the seedlings providing good stocks for grafting the Asiatic species, failing any other means of propagation.

The witch hazels are not difficult shrubs to cultivate. They thrive best in a light well drained loamy soil with leaf-mould and peat, if available, added to give the young plants a good start. They do not transplant readily except when young, and hence it is desirable to place the plants in their permanent positions when quite small. The situation should be a sunny one. A. O.

SOME EARLY HARDY FLOWERS

UNFORTUNATELY our climate does not lend itself to show off the beauty of early spring plants, many being deprived of their beauty long before their time by the fluctuations of temperature. How welcome is a clump of the Christmas rose, Helleborus niger, seen in full flower when favoured by a mild winter. By taking the trouble to place handlights over them, flowers may be had of an intense whiteness.

Soldanella alpina is a lovely little gem, with its dark green, rounded leaves, flowers deep purple, bell-shaped and beautifully fringed, borne in threes and fours on stalks a few inches long. In its mountain home it pushes up its heads through the snow, not waiting until the latter is completely melted. This alpine succeeds best when planted in a semi-shady damp position in peaty soil, but also flourishes in well drained borders. For pot culture the plants should be potted in well drained, peaty soil and then plunged on the north side of a hedge, where they never get the full sun. Other species worth growing are S. montana, S. Ganderi, a dainty white hybrid; S. Clusii, a very rare variety of alpina and freer flowering. These all succeed under the same treatment. The snowdrops are such well known favourites that they call for no comment. When planted in broad masses they produce a beautiful effect.

Planted in sheltered nooks at the base of a rockery, Cyclamen Coum and its variety, ibericum, prove quite hardy. The deep red flowers of C. Coum form a

Digitized by Google

welcome addition to the spring display. C. C. ibericum, which is classed as a species in some works, but which is really a geographical form of C. Coum, has larger flowers than the type and a distinct white zone on the leaves; it is the most valuable for decorative purposes. Then the anemones furnish us with some delightful subjects. A. Hepatica and its varieties, with red, white, blue and double forms, should be found in every garden. They do well in almost any position, but are rather partial to lime rubbish, which should be added in moderate quantity. A. angulosa is a finer plant altogether, the flowers being much larger and very freely produced. This plant also retains its foliage through the winter and thus the flowers have a background to set them off. Other well known favourites belonging to this genus are A. apennina, A. a. var. blanda and A. Robinsoniana.

By planting bulbs of the vernal snowflake, Leucojum vernum, and Scilla bifolia together, a very pretty effect is obtained. Both being in flower at the same time they show each other off to advantage. Aubrietias should be used in quantity for early flowers, as they will give good results in almost any position, but they prefer a sunny aspect. They are excellent rock plants and should be lifted in spring after flowering, divided and planted on a shady border. By autumn they will have made good plants and should then be transplanted to their flowering quarters. A. deltoidea has purple flowers and is a very free bloomer. There are several varieties of this species, ranging in colour from purple to rose, the best being A. d. Leichtlini, a comparatively recent introduction, with deep, rosy flowers. It is a distinct break from the ordinary run of purple and violet-purple seen in the older varieties.

Among the early-flowering saxifrages one of the best is S. Burseriana. Given a sheltered position with a southern aspect and exposed to the full sun, its tuft of glaucous foliage will be covered with a mass of large white flowers, which are borne singly on stalks varying from 1in. to 4ins. high. Bits of sandstone should be placed round the plant to keep the roots cool in summer and to permit of good drainage in winter. S. sancta forms a beautiful dark green carpet and when covered with its short, dense spikes of yellow flowers is a picture not soon forgotten. S. oppositifolia and its numerous varieties, ranging from white to ruby-red, are very free rock trailers and are not particular as to the soil, although a half-shaded position in peaty soil suits them best. Most of the saxifrages give their best results under pot culture, with the protection of a cold frame; the flowers produced are then of a better colour and substance than those grown outside. Of course, I am only speaking of the early-flowering saxifrages, which well repay this treatment. S. luteo-purpurea makes a lovely plant when treated in this way with its light yellow foliage. Saxifrages like the latter succeed best when left undisturbed in pots for two or three years, but care should be taken to provide them with good drainage and porous soil. Do not over-water in winter.

THE EARLY-FLOWERING YELLOW DRABA AIZOIDES.

Hyacinthus azureus is an early-flowering hardy plant, well worth a place in any garden, however small. Its pale blue flowers are borne in densely packed racemes about 6ins. high. Other well known favourites of this species are H. amethystinus, perfectly hardy and of the loveliest blue imaginable. H. albus, a pure white form of amethystinus, is also a most delightful variety.

The genus draba is another interesting family and contains several noteworthy species, both on account of their tufted habit and earliness of flowering. Among the earliest and best may be mentioned D. Aizoon, D. bruniæfolia and D. aizoides. These are all yellow flowered species and make neat little pot plants for the alpine house. D. Gigas is a white-flowered species, strong growing, about 6ins. high.

One of the best plants to grow at the foot of a warm wall facing south is Iris stylosa, also called I. unguicularis, a native of Algeria, but long ago established as a garden favourite in this country, where in a sunny, warm, fairly dry position it grows like a weed and flowers in winter and spring with extraordinary freedom. It forms tufts of long, narrow leaves among which the flowers may be found nestling in winter, even in frosty weather. They are as charming in form and colour, a soft purplish blue, as they are deliciously fragrant and a bunch of them in a vase in a room is an object of delight. There is a white variety which has less charm and a broad petalled variety, speciosa, which has more. When growing in early summer the plants enjoy plenty of moisture at the root, but at other times drought has no perils for them, indeed, they are all the better for it. The best time to transplant is April or early September.

The Glory of the Snow, Chionodoxa Luciliæ, should not be forgotten, but ought to be found in greater quantity in gardens than it usually is. Its racemes of blue flowers, with their white centres, make their way early through the ground and I have seen them in full bloom at the end of January. C. gigantea and C. Allenii are larger forms of C. Luciliæ.

Another useful plant for the spring border is the arabis. There are several species worth cultivating, the best known being A. albida fl. pl. The flowers remind one of a double stock and are useful for cutting. Another species worth growing is Lucida variegata, single white flowers and pretty, variegated foliage. These, with Alyssum saxatile, are very good rock trailers, and when hanging over a crevice between the stones are seen at their best.

J. A. PAICE.

IRIS STYLOSA FLOURISHING AT THE FOOT OF A WARM WALL.

Digitized by Google

THE BLUE POPPIES—I

BY F. KINGDON WARD.

EVERYONE knows that the home of the genus meconopsis is in the Himalayan and Sino-Himalayan mountains. Those popular favourites, M. latifolia, M. Prattii, M. Wallichii, M. integrifolia and others all come from that region, as, in fact, do all known species, save two.

In the course of our journey in Tibet in 1924, we collected eleven or twelve species. Of these, three are definitely new; two more may be. Another three, though they present certain distinctive features, I hesitate to raise to the rank of species, and am content, for the present, at least, to call them well marked varieties.

But I am here less concerned with the botanically new than with the garden new, and easily the finest species of which we collected seed was known botanically from an incomplete specimen collected by Major Bailey as far back as 1913. There is an element of romance about this plant, now happily in our midst, for its mangled, or rather fragmentary corpse has lain in the plant mortuary for twelve years, while none outside a few specialists had ever even heard of it, let alone realised what an angel unawares rested there awaiting resurrection. As a matter of fact, the only really familiar species of which we gathered seed were M. horridula and M. simplicifolia var. Baileyi—a plant which must not be confused with M. Baileyi; even M. impedita var. Morsheadii is new to cultivation.

Now to take the plants in order of probable garden merit. M. Baileyi (K. W. 5784).—A tall perennial, the rootstock sending up from a clump of large petiolate leaves, several leafy stems 3ft. high. The flowers are borne on long, simple axillary pedicels, each stem carrying from four to six. They are sky blue, with bright golden stamens, and are slightly nodding, of fair size and scentless. The sea-green of the leaves is a feature. Its closest allies are the little known M. betonicifolia from Yunnan—one of Delavay's plants, and the equally little known white-flowered M. superba from Bhutan. M. Baileyi and M. betonicifolia come very near to one another, in flower and foliage, but the long style of the latter is sufficient to distinguish it. M. Baileyi is, I think, one of the most enchanting blue poppies I have ever seen. It has not the rather perky stiffness common to the prickly blue poppies, such as

THE YELLOW MECONOPSIS PSEUDO-INTEGRIFOLIA.

M. latifolia, beautiful as that is; neither, to be fair, has it the overwhelming mass of flowers seen in M. robusta or M. Wallichii. But it has an air of grace which the former lacks, and it never takes on the ultimate untidy appearance of the latter, when the flowers begin to come undone. There is something wonderfully attractive about M. Baileyi, with its flowers fluttering shyly out from among the sea-green leaves like a troop of blue butterflies.

It is a woodland plant and must be grown in real shade, under trees. All it asks are shade and ample moisture, though it cannot abide bog. Loam is its fancy, loam, deep and cool, without lime; a light soil with a good admixture of sand to secure easy drainage. It flowers in the middle of June.

Seed of M. Baileyi has germinated remarkably well, and the young plants, which might flower in 1926, look robust and healthy. There are hundreds of seedling plants in this country, and their prospects are bright. Coming from the shelter of woods, the conditions under which it will have to live among us will be far more uniform than in the case of a rock plant for example; coming from a moderate elevation, 11,000ft. to 12,000ft., it will not feel the change much, and being perennial it can be relied on to look after itself.

Secondly, M. Florindæ (K. W. 6038).—This is a very different plant, though it has one thing in common with M. Baileyi; it comes from the forest.

M. Florindæ is a dwarf yellow-flowered poppywort, biennial, with a small radish of a root and a slender stem, not above a foot high, bearing a few linear leaves and two or three nodding flowers. It belongs to the series cumminsia, but as none of the species of that series is in cultivation, this will not convey much to the horticulturist, however expert. The fact is, the

THE SHADE-LOVING MECONOPSIS BAILEYI

Digitized by Google

other species are high alpines, from shockingly wet regions, which will not do with us. Seed of one or two species has been sent to England, but we have heard nothing more of it, so conclude that, if it ever germinated, the young plants soon went to their long rest.

But M. Florindæ promises to be an exception. It comes from a moderate elevation, about 12,000ft. or rather less, and it grows in the forest, heavily shaded, on loamy banks, in a soil composed largely of leaf-mould. We should have no difficulty in providing it with everything it requires.

M. Florindæ is a new species, and the only dwarf, yellow-flowered species known. Nor does it appear to be common in Tibet, for we found it in one restricted locality only, though abundant there among the rank undergrowth beneath the trees. It flowers in July-August. These two I believe to be valuable additions to the hardy flower garden. M. Baileyi for the wood, M. Florindæ for shady nooks in the rock garden. Both would be better for massing.

I pass on to two species which are a little more doubtful than the above, being alpines, though not high altitude plants as alpines go in this region.

M. pseudo-integrifolia variety (K. W. 5749) is a plant of the rhododendron moorland, with big yellow moons of flowers. It grows 2ft. to 3ft. high and differs from the type chiefly in technical details, such as the proportionately longer style, the larger number of flower scapes, more pronounced hairiness and so on. It is, perhaps, a finer plant than M. pseudo-integrifolia, and is at first sight so distinct as to deserve a name all to itself; but as it has the characteristic habit of the type, though in an exaggerated form, I have not thought it worth while to make a new species of it. It is biennial and it flowers in June and July; should it prove quite hardy, as is likely, it will be a valuable plant.

SHOWING HOW M. PSEUDO-INTEGRIFOLIA IS A PLANT OF THE RHODODENDRON MOORLAND.

K. W. 6245 is a mysterious plant, not seen in flower, of which we collected fruit and seed. There is the cut of M. simplicifolia about its jib, but it has a longer style, and twice as many flower scapes as true M. simplicifolia.

It was not till late October that we came across this plant in the alpine region; it then drew 2ft. of snow. However, it kept afloat bravely, ripening its seed under very adverse conditions, and we collected it as a matter of principle.

Generally speaking, it is the plants from the bare, hungry screes, such as M. brevistyla and M. speciosa, which will not survive our conditions. We cannot even remotely reproduce the conditions to which they are accustomed. Their roots descend 3ft. into what looks like pure gravel, without a shred of humus in it; but it is perpetually moist beneath, nevertheless. The glare is intense, even on a dull day; rain falls more or less without cessation for three or four months, and then comes drought, a cold, bitter drought, which lasts till snow comes to relieve the intense radiation on the scree. In spring the snow melts, and there is ample water for the young plants, which lasts them through the heat of early summer till the rains break again.

WALL GARDENING

IF, by good luck, your garden rises boldly and you wish to terrace it with tiers of flat herbaceous borders, you can revel in a type of rock gardening that has its own peculiar lure. The choice of scheme is difficult, simply because so many press their claims, but the method, of course, is to choose one scheme and stick to it, allowing free variations within its limits.

Suppose you elect to work with boulders. You have built your firm broad road at the foot of the slope—winding or straight, as you please—after throwing up the soil for the first terrace. You begin now to build the terrace's retaining wall; and to the end of my days I trust the boyish zest in this part of the adventure will never leave me. It is dry-walling, of the sort known to builders of our limestone fences that rove endlessly across the pastures. The old rule of "two on one and one on two" holds good. That is to say, your wall must mount so that each gap of the lower line of stones is bridged by a rock of the line above. In this way you avoid the perpendicular cracks which are lines of weakness, and prophetic of an early fall.

CASCADES OF AUBRIETIA ON A RETAINING WALL.

So much goes to the joy of building. The trim look of the shallow trench made ready for the lowest row of stones—the mingled odours of clean, sharp gravel and the damp garden mould you rake constantly to the level of the wall as it mounts up—the nicety of judgment asked in the choice of each boulder before you set the plump fellow in his place—all are part of the delight. Then, too, one's mind reverts instinctively to dry-wallers one has known—craftsmen who have always been specially dear to me. One remembers this and that chat with them as they worked up-fell, or one overtook them on the

Digitized by Google

road and you both dropped into the pastime of noting the wayside walls as you passed, to see whether they were well wrought or slovenly. The quiet, sagacious voices of these men return, and many a pleasant and racy anecdote that has nothing at all to do with dry walling.

Such memories do not hinder the present work. They help it. As a dance is aided by sprightly music, the rearing of your boulder-wall goes forward to the quiet chant of "two on one and one on two," till it is finished.

Your first thought when you step back to view your handiwork, is the pity of spoiling its half-rough, half orderly line by planting it. That mood yields, however, and as the days go on you grow enthralled with the affair of "tailoring" the wall. The word was used by a whimsical northern gardener, who explained it by saying that a wall of this kind needed right-fitting clothes, just as a well-set-up man did.

The whole secret of design in planting this type of wall, I suggest, is to have the thought of cascades in mind. Your boulder-community must be chosen from such plants as ripple downward with spontaneous grace and freedom, and the choice is wide. Who can overpraise the company of aubrietias? Glancing down the wall's length, one marks a pocket here and a gap there, and fancy sees already the soft descending showers of bloom. A flower somehow that at close quarters suggests maiden shyness and fresh, youthful charm—but in the mass how vital and aglow it is. From tenderest mauve the colours range to deep-hearted blue and glowing purple. We have made a good beginning with our wall.

Double arabis comes next, with its loose-branching carelessness, and neighbour to it we'll have yellow alyssum, that flowers itself almost to death in a haze of gold-dust glory. Then little rills everywhere of the red-pink nettle, if you can trust yourself to keep its lusty growth in hand—and creeping jenny, to carry on the golden hues when the alyssum has done with flowering.

The single arabis must not be forgotten. Given hard enough root quarters between the rocks it loves, its foliage alone is a joy, and few can resist the white, fresh laundered beauty of its flowers, that dread no winds of earliest spring and tempt the first bees to one's garden. One gets into the habit of pinching a leaf between finger and thumb in passing—as with lad's love—for joy of its keen aromatic scent. And it rambles so becomingly, sure of its nurturing rock.

It has a first cousin, the veined arabis, that ought to be tucked into casual pockets. This seems to be little known nowadays, and more's the pity. Its leaves, green and ivory, pranked with gold, are a sheer delight, giving what no other plant can to the wall-garden's rich mosaic. Perhaps its vogue has gone, because if left untended it returns to its cousin's simple green. The only way to keep its mottled, wax-like charm is to take the plants from their crannies, snip off rooted bits that still keep their motley, and replant them, true and hard, so that they grip their foothold beyond chance of losing it. The trouble is small for a joy that lasts the twelvemonth through.

You have such a broad pattern in being by this time that you can afford to let further planting of the wall wait for odd hours of leisure. It is astonishing how the wall itself, from now onward, will whisper its own suggestions for the future. The best time for receptivity of this kind, I have found, is after a day of rough shooting or some kindred sport that puts a man to rights with himself. You are adequately fed and tired, your pipe burns cool and satisfying. To-morrow you will have a quiet morning with the rock gaps still unfilled. When the morrow comes, you find yourself doing just the things suggested to you overnight by a wall that has its own ideas of dress. It was as well, after all, that you left off where you did. You were in danger of concentrating altogether on rippling streams of foliage and bloom—whereas, by their nature, cascades are isolated from each other. So between the aubrietias and the rest you plant stout clumps of bugle-flower, with its deep satisfying blue—primroses of many colours—crimson thrift and many other heartsome things suggested to you by the boulder wall.

When that is done, take a sort of busman's holiday and prepare the wide, flat bed destined for herbaceous plants. Then return to what is of prime importance in wall gardening—namely, how you order the topmost tier of rock. Choose the plumpest boulders at command, and set them in ordered disarrangement from end to end of your stout wall—sentinels pledged to keep the herbaceous folk from straying into the rock country.

There are twenty ways of planting these topmost boulder-crannies. Once, by grace of luck or suggestion again of the wall itself—a human, living thing by now—I happened on a gracious scheme. The proof of all such plans comes with the flowering months, of course. Imagination may have planted, but you must wait in patience to learn whether the result is merely a pretty conceit or true garden pageantry.

That special wall-top astonished me when "it was in its pomp"—a phrase that has peeped out in earlier articles, and will again, no doubt, because there is no other like it. In the front boulder-crannies, as the months passed, snowdrops and winter aconite came together, bright and new-washed from some far-off paths of heaven. The Cashmere primrose, with its proud heads of mauve, followed in close pursuit. All these flowers that bloom almost in the teeth of winter have the same fresh, well groomed air, as of mettled courage that has fought the vanguards of the storm and won through.

Then came the Lent lilies—fairy children blowing golden trumpets to uncertain weather. And by and by, in the rock clefts behind, the sea-pink bloomed freely, as if the sound of distant surf were in its ears. Land-pinks, of the old-fashioned sorts, glowed with colour and clove perfume. Among them, down the far-flung line of the rock wall, bloomed companies of alpine wallflowers, primrose yellow or orange rich as marigolds. And always threading their pride of bloom, the cool, grey limestone, father to them all, kept his great store of water ready for them through the hardest drought.

They say that the rock gardening lure grows into a obsession. I grant it. But there are fine obsessions, healthy to the core. Battle with upland weather, when you go to the high fells with a farmer obsessed by the need to rescue sheep floundered in the drifts—joy when spring strides out to summer and brings the buttercups aglow in golden-sheeted meadows—they are righteous obsessions, whose litany of praise grows clearer with the passing years.

And the days of roaming the high fells, in mixed weather, in search of such game as may happen to your gun? These, shared by a few comrades and a dog or two, are also a thrifty obsession, and from them you return to the lowland garden, and build into it the heartsome plants that have learned the way of wind and weather.

HALLIWELL SUTCLIFFE.

(To be continued.)

SERVICE FOR READERS

Though so many subjects are dealt with in each issue of THE GARDEN, it must constantly happen that readers seek information which is not immediately available. In such circumstances they should make use of our Service Department. Through its medium each reader's own particular enquiry can be dealt with. No matter what the question is, whether advice is sought as to—

RESTOCKING A GARDEN, COLOUR SCHEMES FOR GARDENS, THE BEST PLANTS FOR CERTAIN SITUATIONS, WHERE TO OBTAIN NEW AND RARE PLANTS, INSECT PESTS, NAMING OF PLANTS, AND THE HUNDRED AND ONE OTHER DETAILS RELATING TO THE GARDEN—

there is always information avialable from a staff of expert contributors and consultants; *and there is no charge for this.* It is one of the additional means of Service which THE GARDEN is glad to render to its readers.

Also, there is the further convenience which the Service Department affords of supplying readers with data about anything that is advertised in the pages of the paper. Thus, on receipt of an enquiry, particulars will be sent of, say, half a dozen things about which the reader seeks information. The only stipulation is that a stamped addressed envelope shall be sent with the enquiry.

All communications should be addressed to the Service Department, THE GARDEN, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C. 2

Digitized by Google

ANNUALS FOR CUTTING

OF the vast array of annuals whose charms are set forth at length in the seedsmen's catalogues only a comparatively small proportion are suitable for cutting, hence, if they are wanted for this particular purpose, careful selection is called for, especially if garden space is limited.

One of the best hardy annuals for cutting—of course, sweet peas head the list, but it is unnecessary to say anything more about them here—is Lavatera trimestris in its improved forms. L. rosea splendens, L. alba splendens, and the newly introduced Loveliness, which is deeper in colour than rosea. Clarkia elegans in its double variety—the original single type seems to have practically disappeared—is as pretty in the house as in the border; it is to be had in several colours, but the pink shades are preferable to the ruby-purple and crimson, therefore it is best to eschew mixed seed packets. This, however, does not apply to mixed godetia seed, as the whole range of colour in which this dainty flower is to be had is without reproach, although the best varieties of all, perhaps, are Double Rose, Apple-blossom, Lavender Gem and the old favourite, Lady Albemarle. There is also a pretty and uncommon variety with crimson spots on a white ground, Sutton's Ladybird, and the azalea-flowered type, recently introduced, promises well, although only to be had in rose-carmine and crimson at present. Jacobea (Senecio elegans) is free-flowering and excellent for cutting but, it is better in rose and white than in its purple form. Most of the jacobeas grown are double, but Sutton's Bright Rose is single, taller than the type and more branching in habit. Another useful cutting plant, to be had in pink and white, is the giant balsam (Impatiens Roylei), often seen in cottage gardens, but rarely elsewhere; it is, however, rather too coarse in growth for a small garden.

No flower has been more improved during the last few years than the annual larkspur, which is now to be obtained in tall and dwarf varieties and in several colours, of which the blues are preferable to the so-called rosy-scarlets and mauves. The tall larkspurs, which branch freely, are better for cutting than the short, stock-flowered ones that are so admirable for bedding. Centaurea Cyanus, the annual cornflower, is another plant which is more pleasing and effective in its original rich blue, than in the mixed colours in which it is now to be had. It may be noted here that cornflowers do best if sown in the autumn in the open ground and that they object to transplanting. Lupinus Hartwegii is desirable in blue and blue and white and there is also a yellow annual form, L. Menziesii, which is not as well known as it deserves. To the list of blue hardy annuals may be added Nigella Miss Jekyll. Salvia Bluebeard, the rich hued bracts of which are most effective for blending with other flowers, and the delicate little blue woodruff, Asperula azurea, also admirable in combination with deeper lined blossoms of sturdier growth.

There are plenty of yellow annuals to choose from. Coreopsis Drummondii is one of the most striking and C. tinctoria, brown and yellow, is also good, as are the hybrids in yellow and red shades. Then there are the popular annual chrysanthemums, the most useful being C. Morning Star, pale yellow; C. Evening Star, deep yellow; and C. segetum grandiflorum, an improved Corn Marigold with starry golden flowers and pale glaucous green leaves. C. carinatum atrococcineum and C. c. Burridgeanum, are both showy. A combination of all these varieties in a vase or bowl is exceedingly effective.

Calendula officinalis, the old pot-marigold, the petals of which were formerly used for flavouring broth, has a tiresome trick of half-closing when put in water, but this sin may be overlooked in the case of the fine double Orange King for the sake of its glorious colour. Lemon Queen is similar, but paler yellow as its name implies. The small varieties of annual sunflowers are excellent for cutting and some of the medium-sized kinds, such as Munstead Primrose and Barr's intermedius Crimson King, are useful for filling large jars.

THE VIVID ORANGE BLOOMS OF A MODERN CALENDULA. ADMIRABLE FOR INDOOR DECORATION.

The annual scabious or pincushion flower is now grown in colours ranging from white to deep crimson. Both double and single varieties are good. Sweet Sultan is liked by some people mainly because of its scent, which, however, seems oppressive and sickly to others, but it is long-lived in water, and the improved, larger-flowered sort is handsome. The behaviour of poppies of all kinds is annoyingly uncertain in the cut state. They must be always picked before more than a streak of colour is showing in the calyx and put in plenty of water in a cool, shady room until they open. Some people recommend taking a jug of boiling water to the poppy bed and dipping the end of each stalk in it as cut, while others advocate sealing the ends with a match, but both plans entail too much trouble to be generally adopted. There are many beautiful varieties of annual poppies; the fringed ones are very showy, but the well known Shirleys are the prettiest for vases.

All the annuals hitherto mentioned are quite hardy and may be sown in the open, but where there is sufficient greenhouse or cold frame accommodation available it is best, except in the case of the very few, that dislike transplanting, to sow in pans or boxes, prick out when the second pair of leaves has appeared and move to their permanent quarters in April or early in May, as well grown little plants. This method minimises the trouble of thinning and watering and to a certain extent circumvents the wily slug.

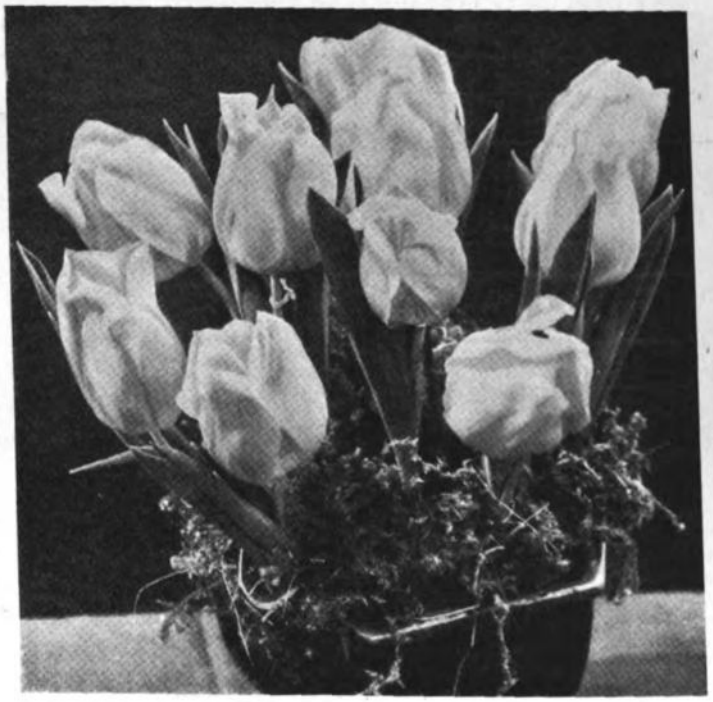
Of half-hardy annuals, cosmos and China asters are among the most suitable for cutting and both can be raised in a cold frame. The former, indeed, is very nearly hardy, as self-sown seedlings survived last winter in the writer's exposed garden and bloomed well. The white, pink and rose varieties of cosmos are equally pretty. There is an enormous selection of asters from which to choose, but for cutting there is really nothing to beat the old Aster sinensis, with its large single flowers on long stems, although the thread-petalled singles, such as Southcote Beauty, are newer. There is a recently introduced crimson variety of A. sinensis named Maréchal Joffre, which has little or none of the ugly magenta tinge that disfigures most of the so-called "red" asters, but it is scarcely as attractive as the clear colours of the original type. R. E. HEAD.

Digitized by Google

ARE YOUR BULBS GOOD

The successful growing of bulbs o... on a good bulb, a good growing ... and, last but by no means least, ...

st that touch of nake-up, are the or cultivation in They present no the veriest tyro, courage the use house.



A well grown bowl of tulips with flowers on short stems. Some varieties are inclined to be leggy.

Crocus versicolor, an old species.

These illustrations may serve to show all readers what may be accomplished in the more modern trend of growing bulbs for indoor decoration. They may also help to whet the appetites of those who, up to the present, have been doubtful of success and have held their hand from this, the one branch of horticulture which makes the same appeal to the townsman and the dweller in the country.

Digitized by Google

AS GOOD AS THESE?

all kinds in pots or bowls depends
medium, a suitable bowl or pot,
some common sense and patience.

It is only in recent years that the value of the crocus as a pot plant has been recognised.

From time immemorial daffodils have been used in the decoration of the house. With the introduction of such fine varieties as the one illustrated, there is no excuse for the lack of growing a number of bulbs of this favourite flower.

The great advantage which bulbs in pots and bowls have over those that are grown just to be cut is the greatly prolonged life of the flower. In this way they are a distinct economy, apart from the amusement that can always be derived from watching their daily progress during the winter months. After a season in the house they will readily take their place in the confines of the garden.

A fine clump of the winter-flowering Iris tingitana.

Digitized by Google

FROST DAMAGE in EAST ANGLIA

ANY frost severe enough to damage the common laurel, leaves behind it effects which, however unpleasant they may be, are full of interest. Such a frost visited this east Norfolk garden at the end of November last, continuing with greater or less intensity for three weeks or so. The lowest temperature reached is not actually known; but 24° and 25° of frost were registered in two places on the high ground not far away; and although these readings by amateurs of ordinary garden thermometers cannot be regarded as scientifically accurate, they are probably not far out. It is certain, at any rate, that at the bottom of the valley we have had well over 20° of frost, and I think on one night the temperature must have fallen nearly to zero.

The garden itself, about fifteen miles inland, is situated on a slight southerly slope at the bottom of the river valley. It is cold, damp, and at present wind-swept and unsheltered—disadvantages which are alleviated to some extent by its warm sandy soil. It is newly planted, and the shrubs mentioned below are young, all having been planted within the last four or five years and none having had less than a year in which to establish itself except where stated.

Some of the escapes, no less than the victims, are unexpected. The most surprising, perhaps, is the escape without a trace of damage of such things as Stranvæsia glaucescens and Raphiolepis japonica, which are generally thought to be a little tender; while certain rhododendrons and berberis, believed by us to be hardy, have been badly hit; and even the common laurel has been damaged.

Berberis Hookeri latifolia (Knightii) has been killed almost to the ground. B. Hookeri, under the name Wallichiana, has had many leaves and small shoots killed. The same species from a different source, under the name Jamesonii, is entirely undamaged. This latter specimen differs slightly in appearance from the one that is damaged. It is more compact and bushy, and has slightly smaller leaves. The damaged plant, however, is growing at the lowest part of the garden, slightly shaded, too, by some rather sparse silver poplars; while the other is 50yds. or so farther up the slope, at 4ft. or 5ft. greater elevation, in drier soil and fully exposed. Whether this latter plant owes its escape to its position, or whether it is actually an individual of greater hardiness, does not appear certain. B. sanguinea and a species received under the name of levis, but which appears to be Soulieana, have many leaves killed, but are not otherwise damaged. B. Sargentiana has a leaf here and there slightly scorched, but is practically untouched; while small plants of BB. Julianæ and Bergmanniæ, put in this autumn, have every leaf somewhat disfigured, but none wholly killed. B. Veitchii (bought as acuminata) has a leaf or two browned; but its very near relative, B. Gagnepainii, is absolutely untouched. B. pruinosa is very disfigured, every leaf showing a wide edging of brown dead tissue. This latter condition is found in B. ilicifolia also.

The only member of the Aquifolium group damaged is rotundifolia, which has the edges of a few leaves scorched, while B. japonica, received under the name B. Bealei (hyemalis), has a few leaves killed.

I do not know whether B. Regeliana is evergreen or deciduous, though a plant of it put in this last autumn had the appearance of an evergreen. This little bush when the frost struck it was a most lovely sight. It was thickly clothed in innumerable narrow leaves of a misty purplish green thickly overlaid with a soft dove grey bloom, amid which gleamed here and there flushings of vivid crimson and rosy pink. Long before the thaw came all this loveliness was reduced to ashes, every leaf being killed. The plant, however, is not otherwise harmed.

Young bushes of Rhododendron sperabile and R. æmulorum, about a foot high, and well wooded plants, have had every leaf entirely or nearly entirely killed. R. fulvum, on the other hand, is quite undamaged. This latter species behaved during the frost exactly as it does in drought. It hung its leaves straight down, and rolled them up tightly like lead pencils. A seedling plant in its second year, grown under the number K.W. 4509 and believed to be R. fictolacteum, has its leaves blackened and killed. Farrer's 876 is in almost the same state. Farrer's 878 (plebeium), Kingdon Ward's 4177 and the following of Forrest's: 26, 28, 35, 37, F 14021, F 16291, F 16531, F 16584 and F 20430—some of them very tiny plants—are quite unhurt. Two year old seedlings of RR. ambiguum, arboreum, argenteum, Aucklandii, Augustinii, californicum, catawbiense, ciliatum, ferrugineum, maximum, oleifolium, oreotrephes, polylepis, ponticum, racemosum and yunnanense, partly but not entirely covered by snow, are unhurt; and two year old seedlings of Arctostaphylos pungens have no more than the edges of a few of their terminal leaves scorched.

Lithospermum rosmarinifolium at the foot of a south wall, has had all its green parts killed right back to the hard wood. Convolvulus Cneorum, alongside it, except that the unopened blossom buds and the ends of a few soft shoots are killed, is unharmed. Salvia Greyii, on the same wall, has had its leaves and the softer shoots which are away from the wall killed, but is not really hurt. S. Grahamii is more tender, and I have not yet succeeded in establishing it. Fabiana imbricata is none the worse; but Romneya ciliocalyx at the foot of a south-west wall is cut to the ground.

While, as already stated, Stranvæsia glaucescens and Raphiolepis japonica have suffered no damage whatever, Pyracantha Rogersiana has its leaves badly scorched. Escallonia Donard Seedling, which in the winter of 1923–24 lost all its leaves, is this winter untouched. Clerodendron Fargesii, which in previous winters has had the ends of its soft shoots frosted, is unhurt, and seems now to have acclimatised itself. Ceratostigma Wilmottiæ and C. Griffithii are cut to the ground. Spartium junceum has lost 6ins. or so at the end of every shoot; while a plant sent to me as Notospartium Carmichaeliæ, but which appears to be in fact Carmichaelia australis, has merely its tiny leaves killed, and just a few of the ends of its flattened shoots. It is planted in the south-west angle of a wall and a reed fence.

Of the rock roses, Cistus salviæfolius in the open has had most of its leaves and soft shoots killed. C. florentinus at the foot of a south wall has a few leaves killed.

Of the tree heaths, Erica lusitanica and EE. australis, Veitchiana and arborea alpina are unhurt except that the ends of a few of the softer shoots have their leaves browned. Erica arborea itself was literally shattered to within a few inches of the ground in the 1923–24 winter. The frost seemed not to have hurt either the leaves or the current year's shoots; but all the hard woody branches were burst and splintered as though they had been laid on an anvil and beaten with a hammer. Its remains, which have made little progress since, were protected by snow during this last frost, and so escaped. E. arborea alpina is definitely hardier than the type, as it passed through the 1923-24 winter unscathed.

H. A. GREATOREX.

NOTES OF THE WEEK

SOME MINOR NARCISSI.

SOME of the most charming of miniature bulbs, the tiny narcissi, are but infrequently met with; once seen, their charms compel attention and I would recommend all lovers of interesting and bulbous plants to become acquainted, during the approaching flowering season, with these Lilliputian daffodils.

The golden flowers of N. cyclamineus, with the perianths curiously turned back, not unlike the ears of an angry mule, appear early and are possessed of astonishing lasting qualities; but a few inches high, this little bulb loves moisture, as do the various forms of N. bulbocodium, the hoop-petticoat daffodil. The type, in bright yellow, has given to us some lovely forms, such as the sulphur N. b. citrinus and the more vigorous N. b. conspicuus; there is an exquisite white form from Algeria, N. b. monophylla, but it is a capricious beauty and displays its charms all too grudgingly. All have the queer terete onion-like leaves and distinctive corona.

The small angel's tears, N. triandrus albus, with its drooping, ivory-white flowers, behaves exceedingly well in the rock garden, and like most small daffodils will furnish an interesting and charming pan for the alpine house.

N. minor and N. minimus, forms probably of N. pseudo-narcissus, are dwarf trumpet varieties; "hearty doers," they colonise happily in the rock garden and, in common with their congeners, display their attractions very prettily when "springing" from a dwarf herbage such as many lovely alpines will provide.

Digitized by Google

The richly coloured N. juncifolius, not like a buttercup, must certainly be grown, as must the rather larger, but exquisitely graceful, N. Johnstoni Queen of Spain, also a very durable bulb by the way.

W. P. Milner is a small garden variety which is eminently suited for the rock garden, a fitting companion to Johnstonii.

There are many other forms, such as the interesting N. canaliculatus, but the aforementioned species will suffice to brighten the rock garden and alpine house with the snowalled grace of the "lent lily" during the early months of the year.—RALPH E. ARNOLD.

AN ATTRACTIVE CYDONIA.

WITHOUT a doubt one of the best of the cydonias is C. Maulei, a species which was introduced at a later date than the old Japanese quince. This plant is less vigorous than C. japonica, with more slender branches and somewhat smaller leaves and flowers. The flowers, of a vivid red-orange colour, are very different from those of any other quince. These are produced in great abundance, every young shoot of the plant being crowded with bloom. Even after the spring the attractions of this cydonia are not at an end. Fruits set freely, and these are about the size of small apples and of a golden yellow colour. In the late summer and on to the end of the autumn this quince is almost as pretty as it was when in bloom. As the fruits ripen they develop a spicy fragrance which is very pleasing. C. Maulei is perfectly hardy, and it is a most useful subject for a hedge on account of its spiny character.—S. L. B.

FLOWERING SHRUBS IN PERTHSHIRE.

COTONEASTER SALICIFOLIA VAR. FLOCCOSA.

THIS is an evergreen shrub, about 8ft. high with me. Leaves leathery, wedge-shaped at the base, ½in. to 2½ins. long, tapering to a sharp point; the upper surface is glossy green, the lower one covered with silky white floss, some of which falls away, showing a grey-white surface beneath. Corymbs about 1 in. wide with nine to fifteen flowers. The fruit is round, ¼in. diameter, bright red, usually containing three stones. This species flowers in August with me, and is very free-flowering, and I consider it one of the most showy cotoneasters I have.

SPIRÆA VEITCHII.

A strong-growing shrub 8ft. to 10ft. high, with gracefully arching shoots. Leaves ¾in. to 2ins. long, ½in. to ¾in. wide, oblong, not toothed, smooth on both surfaces, or very slightly downy beneath. Flowers white, small, and crowded in dense corymbs 2ins. to 2½ins. across; calyx and flower stalks covered with fine down. This fine species was discovered by Wilson in 1900 and is a native of central China, and he considers it the best of Chinese spiræas. This species is very free-flowering, producing its flowers on short leafy twigs from the growth of the previous summer, and is quite hardy. Flowers in June, the shoots wreathed from end to end with clusters of white blossoms.—ANDREW HARLEY, *Perthshire*

THE FREE-FLOWERING SPIRÆA VEITCHII.

THALICTRUMS.

A FEW of the meadow rues are well known, especially T. adiantifolium, which produces masses of maidenhair fern-like foliage, that is largely used for cutting purposes. T. aquilegifolium, as its specific name implies has leaves similar to the columbine, and will thrive both in the border and bog garden. A pretty plant is T. tuberosum, with its fern-like foliage and cream-coloured flowers, that appear in June. It delights in a deep, peaty soil and is suitable for the rock garden. Both T. minus and T. alpinum may be planted in similar positions.

The plant I am anxious to see in a flourishing condition is T. Delavayi, a lovely species with pale purple flowers and attaining a height of about 2ft. It blooms in July and August, when it provides excellent furnishing for the rock garden. I have tried it in several positions, such as on a well drained ledge, where the root run was fairly deep, on the level and in a bog, where it was not excessively wet. The compost, too, has been varied and the diet it appeared to enjoy most was a gravelly loam, where the moisture drained away freely, but it was not a real success. After producing spikes 18ins. high the plants dwindled and eventually disappeared. The poet Gray says in his famous "Elegy": "Full many a flower is born to blush unseen, and waste its sweetness on the desert air," and I feel sure in some garden or gardens, T. Delavayi thrives. If so, take the Editor's advice, write to THE GARDEN about it, and thus help others to grow this beautiful plant.

A different tale can be told about T. dipterocarpum and it is one of the most graceful and attractive plants introduced from China by Messrs. Veitch of Chelsea. As a rule it grows from 4ft. to 5ft. high, but in Mr. Allgrove's nursery at Langley it is very robust and the plants exceed the figures mentioned. In fact, I have never seen a better batch although some excellent examples have been noted in Monmouthshire and South Wales. The inflorescence is most attractive and the individual flowers are rose-purple with numerous citron yellow anthers. It is a decided acquisition in the herbaceous borders, extremely useful for cutting and for flower shows during August and September. This plant will thrive in ordinary garden soil, except where it is of a heavy nature and badly drained.

Fertile seeds can be collected in quantity, and this is the best way to increase the stock. Sow the seeds early in the spring in pans of light soil and they will germinate in a cold frame. When large enough, prick off in a border, or pot them singly in receptacles 3ins. in diameter. Two or three dozen plants will not be too many of this delightful meadow rue.—T. W. B.

ONE OF THE MOST SHOWY OF THE COTONEASTERS. C. SALICIFOLIA VAR. FLOCCOSA.

THE DOUBLE LADY SMOCK.

THE double form of the lady's smock or cuckoo pint (Cardamine pratensis) has been a long time in cultivation and has so many good points that one would expect to find it in every garden; yet it is not seen very often.

It forms clumps of dark green leaves, like a neat, finely divided watercress, from which, in spring, it throws up spires of soft lilac flowers that give the effect of a miniature double stock.

The flowers of the wild type soon fade to white, as the Shropshire Lad noticed; but the colour of the double form is deeper and less fugitive, varying no more than to give a pleasant gradation of tone to a patch of plants in full flower.

Its quiet colour is not a common one among spring flowers, and, although it would probably

Digitized by Google

associate well with the palest daffodils or the dead white of the double meadow saxifrage (S. granulata), it makes a complete picture with its own dark green leaves.

It does not seem to set any seed, but, in compensation, it reproduces itself with almost feverish activity by dropping small plantlets from the axils of the leaves on the flowering stem and by sending out roots from the midribs of the basal leaves in autumn; so that no plant can be easier to propagate.

It will grow in any soil, but seems to prefer a damp and rather heavy one; as a last virtue, it does not object to shade.—F. A. H.

PRIMULA SPECTABILIS.

MANY primulas are grown in rock gardens, but few can equal in beauty this charming easily grown primrose.

Primula spectabilis is often planted in a shady place, but it is when fully exposed to the sun, in an open position, that it appears to be most at home and gives more freely of its beautiful rosy blooms.

The clump shown in the illustration has never flowered so lavishly as last spring (1925); apparently the unusually wet weather suited it. This plant is growing in a good rich loam with a very small mixture of peat, but its needs are simple, almost any compost seems to suit it.—J. S. T.

A WELL-FLOWERED CLUMP OF PRIMULA SPECTABILIS IN A SHADY POSITION IN THE ROCK GARDEN.

MELITTIS MELISSOPHYLLUM.

ALTHOUGH a native plant, the bastard balm is not at all common, either in a wild state or in gardens, and there are many inferior subjects cultivated, while its distinctness makes it generally noticeable wherever it is grown. There are two forms in commerce, but in nature the plant varies a good deal, some plants having flowers of inferior colouring. The best in commerce is M. M. grandiflorum. The bastard balm grows a foot or more in height and in summer gives numerous flowers of white with a pink or purple lip. Their hooded form and the contrast, yet harmony, in colour give this plant a distinct feature of beauty. It looks well in the border when in good soil and in a cool position, but it is even better adapted for a cool, partly shaded place near the shrubbery or rock garden. It is a plant though without showiness which has earned the high praise of many competent and highly critical floral writers, and its ease of culture and beauty should commend it to many who do not at present know it. It is increased by division, or, in the case of the ordinary form, also by seeds.—S. ARNOTT.

SOME FUMITORIES.

THOUGH it is not often seen in gardens, Corydalis ophiocarpa is an easy plant with us and a good many self-sown seedlings have appeared, often most unexpectedly, being a long distance from the parent plant. The pale yellow flowers which terminate the tall, slender stems, are not exciting, but the plant fully makes amends for the poverty of these by possessing singularly beautiful foliage. This is what is usually described as fern-like, the large and elegant leaves being very finely cut and, instead of being green or glaucous, as are those of so many fumitories, they are a peculiarly delicate shade of bronzy-blue.

C. cava (bulbosa) alba, which dwells in a shady corner of the woodland, is always a delight, for its glistening pure white flowers in a bold spike appear in February, to be followed by a pretty foliage in a distinct silvery green. The blooms of this plant, moreover, are deliciously fragrant—an uncommon attribute in this genus.

C. capnoides is also an early bloomer with flowers in the predominating yellow of the race, but the very pale blossoms escape mediocrity by having a vivid green spot on the "helmet" of each. C. Wilsonii, a comparatively new species from China, proved very sulky at first, but here, at any rate, it is evidently one of those leisurely plants which, like a season or two in which to settle down. It is now promising a fair show of its extremely delicately-cut green leaves preparatory to putting forth its rich yellow flowers, which also flaunt the bright green spot. But before these have appeared we shall have little C. Alleni, one of the very earliest and prettiest, not often exceeding 3ins. with its perky sprays of pink and creamy-white blossoms.

After all, there is much to be said for that familiar weed, C. lutea, which is naturalised in many parts of the country. For the woodland or wild garden, old walls, neglected corners, the descent to the greenhouse stokehole and such places, there is a plant of the most willing description, of much grace and charm of foliage and one that will take care of itself and flower throughout the season, asking neither admiration nor reward.—N. WALES.

VERONICA SAXATILIS.

ONE may search many, many rock gardens with considerable pretensions to importance without once coming across one of our most delightful rock plants in the person of Veronica saxatilis. If you ask some who know the plant why they do not grow it, some of them will tell you, with a shrug of deprecation, that this rock speedwell "is only a native plant, hence it is not admitted to their gardens!" Yet the excuse is a poor one indeed, and has led to the exclusion of what a trusted critic has told us is the "loveliest of all the alpine veronicas in existence": and can praise reach a greater height than this? Why so charming a little plant should be excluded and scores of poorer exotics cultivated it passes the wit of man to know. And so I desire to utter a plea for V. saxatilis. It is a low, trailing plant with slender, loose branches some 4ins. or 5ins. long only, so that it does not cover a large space. It has glossy, polished-looking, small, deep green leaves and exquisite little flowers of a fine azure blue, with their beauty heightened by their golden anthers and a white eye. It is not difficult to grow in the rock garden in free open soil. In a dry soil I have found it advisable to give frequent waterings with clear water in summer. The rock speedwell may be increased by cutting or seeds—DUMFRIESSHIRE

THE GIANT BELLFLOWER.

AMONG the bellflowers is classed the handsome hardy perennial Ostrowskia magnifica. This uncommon plant can be grown under the same treatment as most of the border bellflowers, except that it must invariably be protected in some way from strong winds and at no time be denied the sun. It revels in a porous medium loam and, feeding grossly, must have a fair share of manure. It reaches to a height of about 5ft., forming a fine spreading bush. The flowers are of the familiar "bell" shape and of great size, some 5ins. to 6ins. across. They are somewhat fugitive, but a good plant produces them in surprising profusion and quick succession, which atones for any failing in that respect. It does well also in a cold greenhouse. Roots may be obtained for planting now or seeds may be sown. A seedling plant flowers the third season.—LANARKSHIRE.

A BEAUTIFUL EVENING PRIMROSE.

A VERY attractive evening primrose, which should be more widely grown, is Œnothera speciosa. This plant, which is a native of north America, produces an abundance of large flowers, which are at first white, but later change to a delicate rose. Unlike the Chilian evening primrose (C. taraxacifolia), which has a low trailing habit, C. speciosa is erect in its growth, with stems that are almost shrubby. The plant forms neat tufts which are usually from 14ins. to 18ins. high and is a true perennial, most useful for borders and the lower and rougher parts of the rock garden. This evening primrose should have a soil that is warm and light, as in heavy cold ground it may suffer serious check during a severe winter. On the whole a thoroughly well drained border of rich loam proves the best and, when the plant is left undisturbed for some time, it forms a tuft of considerable size. This species is readily increased by divisions, cuttings or seed, although for some reason that is not very clear, it does not set seed very freely in this country. A variety of the type, known as C. speciosa rosea, has flowers which are definitely pink from the opening.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

Digitized by Google

EARLY SPRING SPRAYING

UNTIL comparatively recent date we were accustomed to speak and write of winter spraying and summer spraying; and, because a considerable proportion of the work that was placed under the former heading belonged to the months of February and March, the impression gained ground that November, December and January were really unimportant months in the spraying calendar. That if our view stands for aught, is an unfortunate misconception, and it is highly desirable that when the object of spraying is to cleanse trees of lichen, algæ or slime and, incidentally, to remove harbourage under which eggs and pupæ of insect enemies may hibernate, such work should be carried out at the beginning rather than the end of winter. It is very essential, even though we may have cleansed fruit trees and ornamental trees and shrubs of mossy growths and slime, to apply sprays which will destroy at birth or awakening a wide range of pests, and the spraying which must be done between the present time and the opening of fruit blossom is of vital importance. In order to differentiate between this and December spraying we adopt the convenient, even if not precisely accurate, term "early spring spraying," there being also for future consideration the late spring programme—covering the period between dropping of blossom and the full development of summer foliage.

February spraying is of great importance, and even the shrubbery and arboretum should be the scene of industrious effort to combat all foes.

Caustic washes may still be used where there is good reason to consider them necessary.

Run no risks with uncertain mixtures. It is not worth while, for when taking the trouble one may as well ensure the maximum advantage, and that is possible when the best brands of caustic washes prepared by firms of high repute are used. There is nothing to fear when an operator knows what he is handling and exercises proper care, the danger lies in carelessness due to ignorance. Do not imagine that even a caustic winter wash is a remedy for all the ills of fruit trees. The soda is specially useful as a bark cleanser, and does a considerable amount of good work when trees are infested with scale and with American blight. Caustic soda, however, is not to be considered as a fungicide, or at any rate should not be expected to displace copper sulphate for the purpose of curing scab, brown rot, canker and other troubles of fungous character. Some sprays are made which contain a certain proportion of copper sulphate as well as caustic soda, and where one has disease in fruit trees and cannot definitely identify its character one of these combined sprays may with prudence be used. The more efficient method, however, is first to cleanse the trees with caustic soda and a few weeks later attack the fungoid diseases with a copper sulphate wash.

One may mix copper sulphate at varying strengths according to the task in hand. For young trees slightly inffected with brown rot or scab about 5lb. of copper sulphate will make a hundred gallons of wash, or a pound to twenty gallons; but in cases where canker is beginning to make wounds and warts on the bark, a spray may be made at double that strength, using 4 oz. of copper sulphate for a 2½ gallon knapsack sprayer. The use of copper sulphate alone must be confined to the dormant period of the trees, later on the only safe method of using copper being to mix it with lime, forming what is known as Bordeaux mixture, a favourite spray for potatoes during active growth. The lime reduces the power of the copper, rendering it safe to use on soft foliage, but while hardwooded trees are dormant there is no advantage in weakening the copper sulphate.

Nobody, I suppose, is really fond of spraying, especially in cold weather, but since we know no more effective or pleasanter means of eradicating the foes of the garden and orchard it is the most sensible plan to make a great effort to accomplish the work thoroughly by systematic procedure — first with caustic wash and then with copper sulphate. For, whereas the half-cleansed tree is not cleansed at all, the thoroughly cleansed tree will in all probability be safe from serious harm for a few years.

A much milder, but extremely useful spray comes into use about this time, or at least prior to the end of February, that is lime-sulphur. True, it is an evil-smelling and rather messy spray, but it has the advantage of being non-poisonous and harmless to the flesh.

Lime-sulphur is so frequently recommended as a fungicide that one is tempted to declare its greater purpose is insufficiently realised by those who presume to teach. Few things destroy aphides as they hatch out from the eggs that have lain snugly in the joints and niches of the small wood as does a good coating of lime-sulphur spray, and it is for this particular purpose it should be used at this season. Later on it may be used as a mild fungicide, but while copper may safely be used on leafless trees, lime-sulphur is of small account apart from its power to slaughter aphides. One moment though, it would be a serious omission to make no reference to the fact that trees covered with lime-sulphur are generally left severely alone by birds, and as the time draws near when finches and sparrows are wont to amuse themselves picking out the buds of fruit trees, gooseberry bushes, etc., it is well to take full advantage of a simple means of checking their onslaughts by spraying with lime-sulphur at the earliest opportunity.

As in other spheres, advances are constantly being made in the production of new and efficient washes, and it will come as good news that a winter wash of non-caustic character has been put to very thorough practical test and has proved to be efficient in the highest degree, while safe and comparatively pleasant to use. This is a tar-oil product of British manufacture, and bears the name of "Mortegg." Another equally efficacious tar-oil winter wash is "Abolene," made by Messrs. Abol, Limited. This is thoroughly reliable for cleaning tree trunks and removing mossy growths and lichens as well as destroying insects' eggs. In addition, it is easy and safe to use. Once these sprays get into more general use, their value and efficiency as winter washes will readily become recognised.

A. J. MACSELF.

CORRESPONDENCE

HARDINESS OF PLANTS

SIR,—I have been much interested in your Correspondence page lately, especially in those letters dealing with the hardiness of plants and our Canadian wild flowers. For instance, Incarvillea Delavayi is said to be hardy in Britain and I. Olgæ tender; now it is quite the opposite here, I. Olgæ having lived in my garden without protection for the past seven or eight years, while I. Delavayi has not yet survived a winter in the garden. The northern form of Ixiolirion montanum is also quite hardy here; while I notice some of your correspondents state that it should be protected.

In my opinion soil and soil moisture have a very great influence on the hardiness of plants. Take, for instance, such western Canadian plants as Anemone patens, Mammillaria vivipara and Opuntia polyacantha. In the wild state these grow on dry clay banks and on rolling prairies in a well drained sandy loam. When planted in good rich garden soil they promptly winter-kill, and can only be cultivated in prepared soil in good drainage. The beautiful Viola pedatifida, which is found in company with Anemone patens, though it does not winter-kill in rich soil goes "blind" in such situations.

Among our native woodland plants few are more showy in their season than Cornus canadensis. In a thin aspen wood a carpet of the white bracts of this cornus makes a brave show, and its bright red berries in autumn render it attractive again at that season.

Linnæa borealis, though not so showy as the cornus, deserves the closer attention of those who care for neat and dainty flowers.

In Lilium philadelphicum we have a very showy flower which seems as much at home in the edge of the woodland as on dry gravelly prairie terraces. It is not at all fastidious as to soil or location, provided lime is present and there is no stagnant moisture near the roots.

One of the most beautiful of our early spring flowers in western Canada is Fritillaria pudica. In Canada east of the Rockies this fritillaria has only been reported from one district in south-west Alberta, where it is known to the school children as yellow bells. With me this fritillaria has taken very kindly to cultivation. The colour is bright clear yellow and, though it flowers very early (from two to three weeks after the snow has gone), still, frost does not injure the beauty of the flower. It is not at all fastidious as to soil, and by the judicious use of heavy and light soils and sunny and shady situations, the flowering season can be prolonged at least two weeks.—F. L. SKINNER, *Manitoba, Canada.*

NEGLECT OF THE FUCHSIA.

SIR,—As a Devon man I must plead guilty to neglecting the fuchsia as a garden plant; but in a county where you can motor through roads lined with wild raspberries, where

Digitized by Google

veronica spreads right down to the sea, and where you can walk down lanes where fuchsias grow wild in the hedges, it is difficult to grow enthusiastic about them as garden plants.

Rather would I say to Devon gardeners: Grow rhododendrons—they flourish amazingly under proper culture, and you can have a blaze of flowers from Christmas Day onward.

As I write, on a January day, Rhododendron Nobleanum is a magnificent sight, R. Christmas Cheer is just bursting its buds, R. præcox and R. Early Gem are unfolding their mauve flowers, while the pure white Chinese almond blossoms show up the crimson and rose colours of the rhododendrons. Camellias also should be grown in the open in Devon.

The reason why we neglect the opportunities of our climate is that all our best gardeners are Scottish and, naturally, grow things they are accustomed to in Scotland.

We are learning, however, and my own garden contains, among others: Carpentaria californica, Eucryphia pinnatifolia Coronilla glauca, Paulownia imperialis, liriodendrons, Cordyline australis, Tricuspidaria lanceolata (the coral pendants of which I admire more than I do fuchsias), Genista fragrans, Punica granitum, Desfontainea spinosa, Clianthus puniceus, Acacia Baileyana, Magnolia grandiflora, M. Soulangeana, M. stellata, Drimys Winteri, Metrosideros robusta, arbutus, Viburnum Carlesii, V. fragrans, Andromeda floribunda, Daphne Cneorum, D. Fioniana, Pittosporum niger, Hamamelis mollis, besides hydrangeas, double-flowering peach, almonds, rhododendrons, camellias, Osmanthus Delavayi, tree peony, Iris stylosa, etc.

There is no credit in growing these things in Devon, and my brother, who lives in London, says we do not know what gardening is. "If you push a stick in the ground in Devon," he says, "it will grow."—S. I. K. *Barnstaple.*

DISTRICT FLOWERS.

SIR,—The Editorial comment on the above in your issue for January 30th strongly appeals to me as a Devonian and I am of your opinion: that every county should be able to claim a few flowering shrubs or trees that can withstand our somewhat variable climate and give a good account of themselves although classed as half-hardy subjects—notably the fuchsia in Devonshire and the many species that thrive in the adjoining county, Cornwall. Some may say that the climatic conditions of these two counties are unique for the well doing of such plants, bearing no relation to that of most other counties, but they have only to refer to the last page of the issue under notice and read of the great variety of such plants that flourish down in Cornwall under twenty degrees of frost some winters. Therein is a long range of suitable subjects to choose from, many of which doubtless would acclimatise themselves after a season or two, providing sheltered nooks and the right kind of soil were given. It is folly to put your trust in the native soil as you find it. To be successful the requirements of the plant must be catered for, whether it is peat, fibrous loam, leaf-soil, sand or lime, each one of which is absolutely necessary, individually, for certain plants. Drainage, too, is important where a clayey soil has to be dealt with: no class of plant such as we are discussing (and few others) can be expected to thrive and give satisfaction in a waterlogged soil, while some may require a slight protection during very severe weather—the cold, cutting winds of early and late spring, some seasons, frequently accounts for the non-success of many a plant, but this ought not to deter a planter from giving a few of the many a trial and chronicling the result.—J. MAYNE.

PLANTS TO AVOID.

SIR,—In connection with the notes under this heading in THE GARDEN for January 30th, I would like to add the name of another plant which has proved a veritable "cuckoo in the nest" in the light soil of our rock garden: this is Arenaria montana. I grew a few plants from seed about three years ago, and the plants have attained such dimensions (in spite of drastic checking each year) that I have had to uproot nearly all. The long roots strike down behind the rocks and creep through the fissures into all sorts of unexpected places, and everything growing near it gets smothered with one summer's growth.

There is no lime in this soil, which is a mixture of leaf-mould and sand, and this may account for it; but I do think it is a plant that, if planted at all, should be grown in a corner by itself where it can hurt nothing else.—K. M., *Rothley.*

PRIMULA LITTONIANA.

SIR,—A lady correspondent gives her experience with Primula Littoniana in THE GARDEN of January 23rd. She was told to keep its feet wet in summer and dry in winter. It flowered well under the wet treatment, but died under the dry. She was then told they were biennials. I first got seed of P. Littoniana, from Glasnevin, in 1918, probably 1917 seed. I sowed it, keeping it very moist, and planted the seedlings on the edge of a small stream of lime-free water. This district is lime-free. They all did well, and I have raised a good many seedlings from them, and two of the original plants were alive and flowered in 1925. Experience has shown me that P. Littoniana likes its feet in the water both summer and winter, although it dies down in the winter. I sow seed in a box or a pot in the autumn or winter, and put the box in a shallow little stream and keep it there until I plant it out. This I do about the second year. I have never had any difficulty with seedlings until this winter, when they were twice lifted out of the earth by frost and were lying on their sides with their roots exposed. I can only say they are still alive.—O'MAHONY, *County Wicklow.*

TOOLS AND THEIR SELECTION

(*Continued from page* 89).

THE same care should be shown in buying the small hand tools which are frequently required for bedding and rockery work, etc. They should be made of good solid steel, which will not bend and crumple up under the slightest pressure.

For those who have to cultivate fair-sized gardens, one of the most useful and labour-saving of all implements is that known as "The Planet Jr." Cultivator. This is an innovation which hails from America, but which is now firmly established on the British market. It is made in many sizes and types, but the smaller hand machines will be of most service to the average gardener. By means of detachable tools and fittings the apparatus can be used in turn for ploughing, seeding, hoeing, earthing up, etc., and where time-saving is an essential its use can be thoroughly recommended.

Quite apart from the tools used mainly for working the soil we have also to consider those which, for want of a better term, we will describe as "keen-edged" tools. These can be divided into two classes, those whose use is confined to lawns, edgings, paths, etc., and those used for the pruning, grafting, trimming, etc., of all garden trees and shrubs. It would not be possible to deal with the former in such an article as this, while the latter class embraces so many separate units that only the briefest glossary can be given. Here, again, it will be found that price is usually the factor which will govern the quality of the purchase, and the importance of quality in fine-edged steel tools will immediately commend itself to all intelligent people. There has of recent years been a great influx into this country of garden knives, secateurs, shears and axes of very doubtful foreign manufacture. Many of them look very fine under the glare of electric light, but very few will bear examination in broad daylight, and it is to be feared that still fewer would stand the test of hard work. To use a budding or pruning knife which is weak in either blade or handle is not only likely to break and spoil a perfectly good tree, but is also distinctly dangerous to the user. Examine carefully the rivet which forms the axle on which the blade opens and see that it is strong and firm, avoiding all specimens which have the slightest sign of "rickets." The question of secateurs has in the past been the subject of much discussion, with the result that there are now many and various types to be obtained, each of which claims to have some improvement over all others. The particular choice of pattern is perhaps best governed by individual opinion; but, personally, I dislike those complicated specimens which seem to consist mainly of patent springs and contrivances, most of which usually form a trap for the fingers of the unwary. Without attempting to launch into scientific detail as to the best shape, cutting angles, etc., of the blades, I would say that the most important point in selection is to make sure that the joint upon which the blades operate is perfectly true and smooth in working, while the blades themselves should be very finely set and work in perfect alignment with one another. The latter point is particularly important if clean and fine cuts are required. In a lesser sense, perhaps, the same remarks will apply to the selection of suitable shears for clipping and trimming hedgerows and bushes. There are, of course, many other tools in general use which cannot be dealt with individually in this article, but the broad principles of careful examination and the avoidance of the "penny wise and pound foolish" practice will be found to cover the satisfactory purchase of them all. Having procured really good tools, the main thing in their after use is to keep them both clean and sharp if the best and longest service is required of them. Wipe any metal tool over with a greasy rag before putting it away and the trouble caused by rust will be practically eliminated.

J. C.

Digitized by Google

GARDEN TECHNIQUE

Notes on the Technical Side of the Garden and the Cultivation of Plants.

FLOWERS

BULBS AFTER FLOWERING.

IT is a great mistake to throw away bulbs which have been used for early flowering. The common idea that these are worthless is quite wrong, providing they are properly treated. Of course, the blossoms in the following season will, in most cases, be inferior, and such bulbs cannot be recommended for pot culture again. In an odd corner of the garden they may be used to form a bed from which a useful supply of cut flowers can be secured at the usual time. As soon as the bulbs are no longer of any use for decoration, cut away the flower stalks, taking care not to damage the leaves. Then lift them out of the soil or fibre, avoiding root injury as much as possible, and plant them *at once* in a bed where they can be left without any further disturbance. Later on the planting of small growing annuals in the same bed does not seem to hurt the bulbs. The writer has found that hyacinths yield especially good results when treated in this way. The flower spikes in the following spring were small, but extremely graceful, and these proved most useful as cut blooms.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

SAXIFRAGA APICULATA.

THIS is a characteristic member of the kabschia section with its stiff, dull green foliage and numerous 3in. spikes of primrose yellow flowers. It seems to enjoy most a sunny position in pockets which have been well drained and made up with a good compost containing plenty of coarse grit. As it flowers early it is not always a good seed-setter, and as raising from seed may prove a wearisome task, I would advocate that in the first place plants be obtained from a nurseryman.

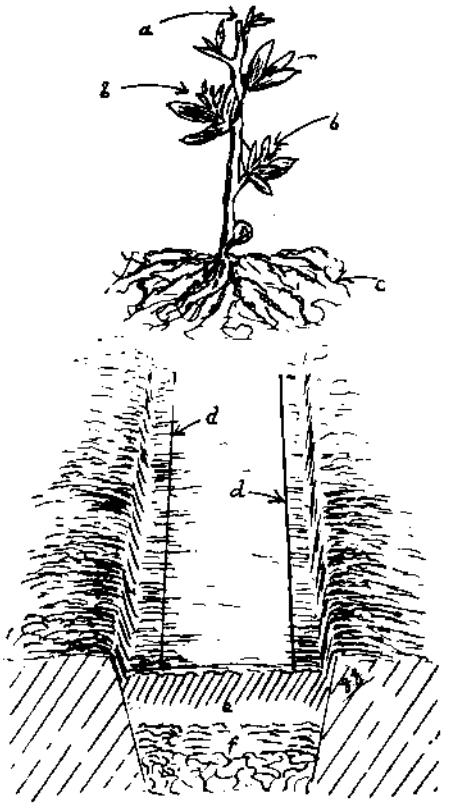
Once established, these plants will form a dense evergreen carpet. Should brown patches arise in the mat, it is advisable to clear out the whole of the affected part and at the same time endeavour to find out the cause of the die-back. Usually it may be attributed to one of two causes, namely, that it has suffered from drought or that there is sour soil in the pocket. In my experience I have more often found the former the cause of the trouble. Having removed the dead portion, take out the soil from the cleared space and work in new soil. Then put in a new plant or, if there is not one at hand, carefully lift a piece from the outside of the mat to fill up the gap. Deep, firm planting in the first instance ensures the best results.—W. HOWELL.

MONTBRETIAS.

THESE charming flowers should be seen in every garden; they are not difficult to grow. I have seen them in dry borders, in poor soil, almost buried under rank grasses, and in borders swamped with water. But in each case the plants existed and bore a few flowers. It is quite a different matter applying real cultivation to them, as the plants respond well to it. The best time for lifting and replanting is after the leaves have matured; these should never be forcibly removed from the bulbs. The latter may be planted any time from their ripening to the month of March. It is not wise to lift and plant growing bulbs. Although they will live and flower in due course, a very serious check is given to the progress of the growth. These plants look very charming in clumps in herbaceous borders, also in clumps near the front of newly planted shrubbery beds. But for yielding cut flowers they should be grown in rows in a specially prepared plot of ground. Few bulbs produce more roots while in growth than those of the montbretia, so it is essential to success that all the bulbs be graded and planted accordingly, the largest 4ins. to 6ins. apart and the smaller ones 3ins. Some well rotted manure should be mixed with the soil just below the point where the bulbs will be placed. Unless the soil is very clayey, it is not necessary to place sand under and on the bulbs. The varied colours are charming.—G. G.

SWEET PEAS INDOORS AND IN THE OPEN AIR.

SWEET PEAS are welcomed and highly appreciated wherever they are grown. Many cultivators sow seeds in October—even late in September—and keep the plants



just safe from frost throughout the winter to supply early blooms both under glass and in the open air. Last year but one, which was rainy and dull, my sweet peas finished flowering outside in October. As the plants were raised from seeds sown in the previous October the plants were growing a whole year. I began cutting blooms, from plants retained under glass, at the end of April, and was able to continue gathering, as stated above, till October—a long season. Well, amateur cultivators may do so, too, if they possess a greenhouse. The plants may be flowered in large pots or in borders. Mine are grown in both. At the present time the young plants look healthy, sturdy and very green. Those that are to be planted out in glasshouses should be so dealt with at once, as the roots will soon become entangled together. If big pots are used, place the richest compost in the bottom; and if borders, bury the manure, thoroughly mixing it with the soil, several inches below the roots of the plants. Plants intended for outside borders should be potted separately forthwith or it will be almost impossible to disentangle the roots later on. If plants are to be stopped, pinch off the point as shown at *a*; strong basal shoots will then grow at *b*, *b*. Roots denuded of soil, *c*; lines in trench shown at *d*, *d*, for the plants to be arranged so, alternately, to form a double row. At *e*, the prepared soil is shown; at *f*, the heavily manured portion with the immediate portion of soil below well forked up but left there. Seeds should also be sown now. —HANTS.

ROSES NAILED TO WALLS.

I SEE so many roses nailed to walls, looking anything but happy, that I have no hesitation in saying that better results are achieved when they are tied to a trellis away from such structures. Certainly, in the summer, when some walls reflect the heat to such an extent as to scorch the leaves and force into bloom immature buds, they do not tend to the well-being of the trees. My own experience prompts me to say that air space between the wall is most beneficial. There are many creepers which take kindly to a wall, but in the case of roses, I venture to say that a trellis, if only a few inches away from the wall, is the best. Especially is this so in southern aspects, where so much planting is done.—W. LINDERS LEA.

GREENHOUSE

THE DIANTHUS (CHINESE PINK).

SEEDLINGS raised in a greenhouse or heated pit about the third week in February will begin to bear flowers soon after midsummer and continue to do so till November. I have grown many batches of plants from seeds so raised for the sole purpose of producing flowers for cutting. The best strains yield 95 per cent. of plants and about 80 per cent. of double flowers. Mix together good mellow loam and well rotted leaf-soil in equal proportions and a free sprinkling of old mortar rubble. Place the compost in clean pans or boxes, thoroughly drained, make the surface level, apply water. Several hours afterwards drop the seeds thinly, about 1in. apart, and evenly on the surface, cover with fine soil a little deeper than one-eighth of an inch, but do not water. Place a sheet of glass on the pan and some paper. If water is needed again before the seedlings appear, immerse the pan gently to its rim in water for a few seconds; the water will soon moisten the whole. Transplant the seedlings in boxes or in a prepared bed in a cold frame when the second rough leaf appears. Almost any border in the garden, if it is not too much shaded, will answer the requirements of the plants. Dig the soil deeply and mix with it leaf-soil and rotted manure. Spread a thin layer of old mortar rubble on the surface to be worked in when the plants are put out 1ft. apart at the end of May.—CHRISTCHURCH.

EARLY CUCUMBERS.

MANY owners of greenhouses and heated pits like to have cucumbers as early as possible in the year. The early cucumbers are highly appreciated, but it is very unwise to make an attempt to grow them unless there is plenty of artificial heat available;

Digitized by Google

then several crops may be obtained from the same structure in one year.

Question.—When should the seeds be sown for the first crop and what amount of heat is necessary?

Answer.—The first week in February is a suitable time for seed sowing; if express cultivation is to be followed, a month earlier would do, but for ordinary culture very early in February, because it should not be difficult to maintain the necessary heat day and night. The day temperature should be approximately 70° and the night one 57°. These are minimum temperatures. If the heat rises a little, good, not harm, will result; if it drops much lower, the growth will be arrested and the leaves will turn yellow.

Question.—Which compost is best for the seedlings and for the plants while they are fruiting?

Answer.—The same kind of compost will be suitable, only that for the young plants should be a little lighter. Good fibrous loam two-thirds, half-rotted leaf-soil one-third. When the plants are ready for planting out, add 1 bushel of rotted manure to 4 bushels of the compost.

Question.—Do cucumbers like plenty of water?

Answer.—Yes, while the plants are growing and bearing fruits, also liquid manure.

VEGETABLES

AN UNCOMMON SALAD.

THERE are many salads that are not generally grown in this country, but which are well worth cultivating if only a small portion of the kitchen garden be allotted to their culture. Cardoon (Cynara cardunculus) is perhaps one of the best salads under this class when well grown, and makes a fine dish when properly cooked. Although it can be grown by sowing seed in the open in April, it is by far the better plan to start germination by sowing the seed under glass as the seeds come up quicker. It will grow in almost any rich garden soil. The seed should be sown thinly on the surface and lightly covered with soil. Over the pots or seed pans sheets of glass should be placed; these must be turned every morning. When the seedlings are well above the surface, remove the glasses. As soon as the seedlings are large enough to handle, pot them up into 3in. pots in a compost of good maiden loam and a little sand. In the early part of June remove the plants into a trench previously prepared. The trench should be about 1ft. deep and the plants should be spaced about 4ft. apart from plant to plant. Early carrots, lettuce or radish will grow well between the plants. Cardoons require to be blanched as soon as they are fully grown, which is as a rule early in the autumn. Blanching should be done carefully, as the stalks, being somewhat brittle, are easily injured. First gather the stems together and tie with some soft string, then place straw bands round to a thickness of 2ins. or 3ins. so that all light is excluded. The band should be left on for three or four weeks. The plants should be cut just below the surface of the soil, the withered leaves removed and the roots trimmed.—GEO. BARTON.

PLANTING POTATOES.

WITHIN the next week or two the planting of first early potatoes should be pushed forward whenever the ground is in a good workable condition. A sheltered south border is the one best suited to grow first early varieties of potatoes. The work of preparing the soil will take less time where the ground has been thoroughly trenched and manured some weeks in advance of the planting period. However, where the soil has not been turned over, it is sometimes advisable to arrange the work so that the ground or section thereof is dug and planted in the one day.

On the border, drills—running north and south—should be taken out with the spade at 24ins. apart and 6ins. deep; into these drills place the sets 9ins. distant from each other; then replace the soil. Along the top of each filled-in drill a low ridge should be formed by drawing the soil up on either side. This ridge will indicate where each line of tubers has been set, but, what is more important, it adds extra protective material to the already partly developed haulms, which, as every cultivator knows, are so easily damaged by frost.

Epicure is the variety from which we usually obtain our first supply of young potatoes. It is certainly not classed among the immune kinds, yet it has been many years in cultivation and, so far, I have never seen or even heard of this variety being affected by the dreaded wart disease. But anyone wishing to plant this variety in "infested areas" should first make application to the Board of Agriculture for a permit.—D. A.

TOMATOES: WHY NOT YELLOW ALSO?

PRESENTLY growers of tomatoes for private consumption will be turning their attention to sowing the first seeds in the greenhouse, and if one could take a census of the operation, it would be found, with very few exceptions, that only red varieties would be selected. Can anyone say why this should be, and why there appears to be a dislike to grow the yellows, which, after all, are very nice, particularly in the salad bowl? It is seldom that one sees them in the markets now, and the usual reply given to an enquiry is, "There is no call for them." The list of varieties of yellows is small compared with red. Is not the cause of their non-popularity due in a large measure to prejudice?—W. F.

CELERIAC.

YEAR after year passes without the English gardener realising that in leaving celeriac out of his seed list he is banishing one of the most useful and delicious vegetables from the household menu. This vegetable can be eaten raw or as a *hors d'œuvre* as in restaurants and in France, boiled whole, sliced in a salad like beetroot, served braised or boiled as celery or seakale, and for soups and stews it is invaluable. Having grown this root myself I am speaking from experience in growing and cooking it. Celeriac is a variety of the ordinary celery and differs only in having a swollen bulb at the base of the leaves. To grow fine plants a long season is required, therefore the seeds should be sown in heat (about 65 degrees) early in March and as soon as the seedlings are fit to handle, they should be pricked out into shallow boxes of good, light soil, 2ins. apart and kept in heat until well established. They should then be moved to a cold frame and hardened off, and early in May planted out in a snug border of rich soil and kept well watered. In June plant them out finally on a level piece of light, rich sandy soil, 18ins. apart each way, taking care to remove laterals that may divide the stem and being careful not to bury the young knob of the plant below the surface. During the following weeks hoe and water well and remove all suckers that appear from time to time at the sides of the plants; gradually remove soil from the sides of the knob, as the more they stand out of the ground the better; but they must never be allowed to cease growing from lack of water or they will not develop well. By the end of September they should have attained a good size. They will be ready to lift about the second or third week in October or if the season is mild they may be allowed to grow on until the first frosts appear, when they should be lifted and stored in sand. First cut all the leaves, except the centre ones. If these are removed the plant will waste its energy in replacing them. If some of the crop is left in the ground, it must be earthed over to protect from frost. I might add that many of my roots were left in the ground and not earthed up this winter and though there has been 14 degrees of frost, they are still flourishing and quite sound.—EVELYN VENNING.

MISCELLANEOUS

THE CULTIVATION OF ORNAMENTAL GRASSES.

THESE are most useful in a cut state during the winter-time, but they are really ornamental, too, while growing in the borders during the summer months if the positions are well selected and the plants are grown in clumps. Good positions are those near the front of herbaceous borders and in like positions in shrubberies, especially in newly planted shrubberies. Where the soil is of a light character seeds may be sown in the open borders about the middle of May, but where heavy, retentive soils obtain, it is much better to raise the young plants under glass—in a frame or greenhouse—and transplant the resultant seedlings in the open border at the end of May. A good general compost is made of old loam, sifted, two parts; leaf-soil, one part; sand, wood-ashes and old mortar rubble, one part. I fill a number of 3in. pots with the mixture, crocks are not required, and place them in a shaded part of a greenhouse; the soil is watered, the seeds sown thinly and very lightly covered with fine soil. If the pots are shaded from sunshine the young grasses soon appear. Then they are gradually exposed to full light and air, grown on slowly and sturdily so that each grass maintains an erect position. In the meantime the ground is manured a little, levelled and prepared for the young plants. It is quite easy to turn out the ball of soil and divide the young plants and their roots for replanting in the border as desired. The seeds may be sown in boxes, but I prefer small pots.

PLANTS TO RAISE ON HOT-BEDS NOW.

THE early hot-bed can be used throughout the summer months after it has done duty in the spring. It is a most useful asset in any garden where plants are required for the flower garden, the greenhouse, porch, dwelling-room window, and vegetable plot. The hot-bed takes the place of hot-water pipes, and the frame on it replaces the box generally used to raise seedlings in the greenhouse. Tree leaves, gathered up last autumn, should be mixed with strawy litter. The heat resulting will be more lasting than that from litter and horse manure alone; it will be steadier and milder. Those persons who prefer to use such beds for vegetables and salads may plant a few early potatoes in a layer of soil 1ft. deep. On the surface sow, thinly, early French breakfast radishes, lettuce (cos and cabbage), and lightly cover them. The radishes will be available for use first, the potatoes last. In June plant cucumbers or marrows. The lover of greenhouse plants will be able to raise young specimens from cuttings of various kinds, to start tubers and to sow seeds of coleus, petunias, cyclamen and primulas. In the bed, old plants, cut back, will quickly begin new growth if the pots are plunged. For the flower garden hosts of seedlings may be quickly raised and then gradually hardened in a cold frame.—GEO. GARNER.

Digitized by Google

SEEDSMEN BY APPOINTMENT

ANTIRRHINUM. CARTERS NELROSE, RE-SELECTED.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE POST FREE

CARTERS for ANTIRRHINUMS

Carters strains of these popular and brilliant flowers are unsurpassed for continuous summer display in beds and borders.

CARTERS TALL LARGE-FLOWERED

No. 3044. CARTERS CORAL RED. Deep rosy colour with faint pale primrose shading on lip. Per packet 1/- and 1/6

No. 3042. VENUS. Noble flower of a delicate rose colour on white ground. Per packet 1/- and 1/6

No. 3038. CARTERS TALL MAMMOTH - FLOWERED MIXED. The mixture contains a wide range of beautiful and unusual shades. Pkt. 1/- & 1/6

CARTERS INTERMEDIATE LARGE-FLOWERED

3058. NELROSE, CARTERS RE-SELECTED. The wonderful glowing pink variety. (See Illustration) Per packet 1/- and 1/6

No. 3060. CARTERS GOLD CREST. Soft rose-pink, tinged salmon, with golden orange lip. Per packet 1/- and 1/6

3061. CARTERS SCARLET FLAME. A self brilliant fiery scarlet. In the sunshine the spikes look flame-like. Per packet 1/- and 1/6

No. 3063. CARTERS FIERY BELT. A most striking colour, fiery brilliant orange-scarlet, with white throat. Per pkt. 1/- & 1/6

3070. CARTERS YELLOW. Clear pure golden blooms. Even habit. Per packet 1/- and 1/6

No. 3075. VICTORY. Rich terra-cotta on buff ground. Per packet 1/- and 1/6

A complete list of Antirrhinums together with full descriptions will be found in "Garden and Lawn" post free.

Carters TESTED SEEDS

SEEDSMEN TO H.M. THE KING.

RAYNES PARK, LONDON, S.W. 20

Puzzled

HOW often does it happen that you—who have dealt unaided for years with the hundred and one problems which arise in the garden, are suddenly confronted with some point on which you would like expert opinion?

When such an occasion arises, write to us.

Anyone who needs information on matters relating to Horticultural Pests—and will put his question by letter, will receive from the Director of our Technical Bureau the best information available on the subject quite free of charge.

Keep this offer in mind—don't hesitate to take advantage of it; the knowledge and experience in such matters, accumulated over two generations is gladly at your disposal.

When in doubt—write:—

Cooper, McDougall & Robertson, Ltd.,
BERKHAMSTED,
Herts.

J.4651

FOOD FOR YOUR GARDEN

It doesn't pay

to starve your flowers, fruit, vegetables and turf, when for a moderate sum you can get

THE PERFECT GARDEN FOOD

Which supplies the essential constituents contained in stable manure, but in a far richer and more convenient form.

PRICES (Bags Free and Carriage Paid):—

	7 lbs.	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	112 lbs.
"NORCO" Complete Garden Fertiliser (For Flowers, Fruit and Vegetables)	2/6	4/3	7/3	12/6	23/-
"NORCO" Complete Lawn & Turf Fertiliser	2/4	4/-	6/9	11/9	22/-
"NORCO" Complete Potato Fertiliser	2/6	4/3	7/3	12/6	23/-

Send for free Booklet on the use of Lime, Stable Manure and Chemical Fertilisers.

"NORCO" (Regd.) is obtainable only direct from the Sole Manufacturers:—

CHARLES NORRINGTON & CO., LTD.
Cattedown, PLYMOUTH.

Makers of High Grade Fertilisers since 1846. No. 5

Digitized by Google

A NOVEL METHOD IN BOWLING GREEN CONSTRUCTION

IN 1924 a most interesting and novel experiment in bowling green construction was carried out at the sports ground of Messrs. Sutton and Sons, Reading, which should gladden the hearts of all devotees to the ancient and honourable game of bowls. One knows that, next to the game itself, the green takes pride of place, and the keen player is generally extremely proud of the green whereon he throws the "woods."

At the same time, the high cost of production of a bowling green generally acts as a deterrent to local authorities and municipalities who are these days launching out into big schemes in providing parks, tennis courts and bowling greens for the ratepayers and it is chiefly of these that I ask close attention. For ordinary bowling green construction the turf must be of the best quality procurable, and that is Cumberland turf. It is most expensive and the transport charges also add considerably to its cost. Then, again, much time, labour and expense are involved in the laying of the turf and altogether it is a costly business.

The following method of construction, which I am about to describe, gives adequate proof that such expense as the procuring and transporting of Cumberland turf is quite unnecessary and, moreover, that a bowling green can be made in a short time without a turf being laid, strange though it may seem. The accompanying photographs will probably convey to the reader a better impression of the experiment than I can hope to give in words.

On January 11th, 1924, the site of the proposed green was selected, but nothing was done till June 24th, when the work of cleaning off a mass of weeds and tangled growth was tackled. By July 1st the weeds, along with the surface layer of soil, had been carried off and the site had now been roughly levelled. It may be added here that the constructional work in connection with the scheme was carried out by Mr. Maxwell Hart of Glasgow. Drains were then laid and the bed given the necessary coat of creosote to ensure against worm attack. A 6in. layer of breeze was then put on on July 21st. The surface soil, which had been previously taken off, was sifted and sterilised by means of a sterilising plant, which was placed towards one side of the future green. Herein lies one secret of the success which has attended the experiment. I might just call attention here to one important point which should be borne in mind by those who contemplate seeding bowling greens, and that is that if it is necessary to sift the soil to remove stones, etc., this can only be successfully accomplished during dry weather. Therefore, this portion of the work can only be carried out during summer, for the soil is rarely sufficiently dry at other seasons, unless it is possible to store it under cover. By means of this process of steaming, all weeds, weed seeds and soil pests were killed, *i.e.*, the soil was rendered absolutely pure. In order to let the reader really understand the great value of sterilisation, one of the photographs shows a large heap of the top soil used, showing the immense number of strong and healthy germinating weed seeds which it contained before undergoing the process. The soil, when sterilised, was then applied on August 1st, on top of the breeze. On September 1st, a few days prior to the sowing of grass seed, a light dressing of complete grass fertiliser was given to ensure vigorous and uniform growth. Then, on September 4th, 2 cwt. of a special mixture of seed, composed exclusively of the fine-growing varieties found in Cumberland turf, was sown, and the result was clearly apparent on October 2nd, when a fine, thick, weedless turf clothed the site less than a month from the date of sowing. Growth was so rapid that the first cutting with the scythe took place a fortnight later and in another three days the mower was used for the first time, the knives being set high.

Now that the details of construction have been noticed, it might be interesting to compare the cost of this method with that of turfing. The cost of making a proper foundation is the same in both cases and therefore can be eliminated. It is estimated that the cost of obtaining Cumberland turf, including transport charges and those of laying, would have run to a few hundred pounds, while the expenditure involved by Messrs. Sutton was roughly, for soil sterilisation, £100, plus about £25 on grass seed. The method is thus far and away a cheaper one and at the same time has given as good results. This was proved by the fact

BEFORE AND AFTER.

A tangled mass of weeds. *The bowling green a month after seed sowing.*

A HEAP OF SOIL BEFORE STERILISATION.
Note the mass of weeds.

Digitized by Google

that in August last an English Bowling Association team attended for the formal opening, and the members were surprised and delighted with the playing qualities of the turf. After the conclusion of the game Mr. E. E. Moore, vice-president, stated that his association had opened many new Cumberland turf greens during the year, and the playing of these had been much rougher and heavier than the green they had just played on.

When it is recalled that the whole operation was carried through in a period of some fifteen weeks, it will be recognised that this system has much to recommend it and holds out great possibilities for the future, more especially since the demands of bowlers are becoming more exacting every season. G. C. T.

BOOK REVIEW.

AMONG the many flowers which have captivated the hearts of all who garden in these islands there stands one whose rise to the forefront of the horticultural world has been almost phenomenal. It has been called the Queen of Annuals—which it is—but it is probably better known by its own name of the sweet pea. I was reminded of its beauties the other day on reading through a small book, "Sweet Peas, Their History, Development and Culture," by C. W. J. Unwin (Heffer and Sons, Cambridge, 5s. net), which came into the office. As books go nowadays it is not large: rather is it of that convenient size which can be slipped into one's pocket. It is a very readable book, wherein hard and bare facts are treated in a simple and lucid style which will be readily followed by all. Such details in culture as the sowing of seed, transplanting, training, and the other hundred and one little items, do not lend themselves to what might be called picturesque writing; but Mr. Unwin combines interest with his instruction and so whets one's appetite for the next chapter.

As its title implies, the book covers a wide field, and everything which the enthusiastic grower of sweet peas requires will be found within its pages. An exceedingly interesting account of the history and the origin of our present-day sweet peas is given in the first chapter, in which the names of many pioneers in the horticultural world are passed over in review. Its development has been rapid in this country and, of recent years, in America and Canada, and the author predicts a still wider field embracing our other colonies and other parts of Europe. Several of the facts and figures which the author quotes give one furiously to think of the importance of this flower in horticulture.

The subject of the raising of new varieties always forms an engrossing study even to the uninitiated, and the reader will find many of his unspoken questions answered by the author in Chapter II, where this subject is dealt with at some length.

It is rather interesting to find in this little book a short review of Mendelism. Such undoubtedly leads to a better understanding and appreciation of all that crossing involves, and gives us some indication as to where continued hybridisation is likely to lead us. From there the author treats of the three distinct classes of sweet peas now met with—the late-flowering type, the Cupid type and the early or winter-flowering kinds. Then comes the practical part of the book, that devoted to culture, which will be found a perfect mine of information. Every operation in connection with the growing of sweet peas is clearly and simply explained. Some forty pages are devoted to "growing for exhibition," embracing all those points which make for success. Useful hints are given on how to exhibit, while a list of modern exhibition varieties completes the chapter. Many may not agree with the list which Mr. Unwin puts forward, but any selection must be considered arbitrary, and the inexperienced grower who takes up exhibition work will not go far wrong if he selects the varieties given. To allay the fears of those who may be under the impression that the growing of sweet peas may be beyond their powers after they have digested the chapter on the exhibition system, the author gives a few hints on their more general culture and also on greenhouse culture. Much helpful information is to be gained from reading the few pages on diseases; while the same is also true of the two following chapters on Sweet Peas for Indoor Decoration, and Seed Saving. Lists of suitable varieties are given in the closing pages, with advice on their selection, which all amateurs will find of the greatest assistance. In the last chapter the author attempts to peer into the future, and comes away hopeful that the ideal sweet pea has still to appear.

Many half-tone illustrations appear throughout the book and add considerably to the value of the text; while the frontispiece is a good colour reproduction of three 1925 novelties from a painting by Miss West.

It is certainly a useful little handbook, which all gardeners will find of the greatest service, and it is well worthy of a place in one's horticultural library, as it will probably remain for some time the most up-to-date book on the culture of the sweet pea.

Obituary.—As we are going to press, we much regret to learn of the death of the Rev. Joseph Jacob, who died on Friday at the age of 67. He was a horticulturist of world-wide repute, and there was scarcely a flower in which he did not interest himself, and by his patient research and study improve greatly. An account of his life and work in horticulture will be given in the columns of our next issue.

We also learn with sorrow of the sudden death of Professor William Bateson, M.A., F.R.S., the director of the John Innes Horticultural Institution, Merton Park, Surrey. Dr. Bateson was educated at Rugby and St. John's College, Cambridge, where he had a distinguished career. For some time he was Professor of Biology at Cambridge, and was appointed to the directorship of the John Innes Institute in 1910, which post he held until his death. Scientific literature has been enriched to the extent of several valuable contributions on Evolution and Heredity, and his untimely death ranks as a severe loss to the botanical as well as to the horticultural world, for which he laboured patiently for so long.

Ryders
1926
CATALOGUE
The Herald of Spring

Like a breath of Spring comes the 1926 Ryder Catalogue helping you to make a suitable choice of seeds and so plan your garden now, in preparation for the sowing days ahead.

In 104 pages (excluding cover) this book contains a classified list of practically every known flower and vegetable seed, gardening hints, and many coloured and black and white photographs.

Send postcard for your FREE copy to-day.

Ryders
(RYDER & SON (1920) LTD.)
St. Albans

DOBBIE'S
SCOTCH-GROWN
PLANTS
FULL DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE
84 pages of Indoor and Hardy Plants
SENT ON APPLICATION
DOBBIE & CO., LTD.
Nurserymen :: EDINBURGH

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE NEW COMPLETE LIST
of
GARDEN BOOKS
published by "Country Life"
is
NOW READY
FREE ON APPLICATION TO THE PUBLISHERS
20, TAVISTOCK ST., COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2

THOSE ODD JOBS
Learn how to do them Yourself . .
THE HOUSE DOCTOR
By R. Randal Phillips
2/6 net.
"COUNTRY LIFE" LIBRARY,
20, *Tavistock St., Covent Garden, W.C.2.*

Digitized by Google

SEEDS, AND WHERE THEY CAN BE OBTAINEI

UNWIN'S SWEET PEAS

You will eventually grow them.
Why not **this** season?

OUR "EXHIBITION" COLLECTION

The finest value ever offered in Sweet Peas

W. J. Unwin ..	Salmon cream-pink.
Charming	Cerise.
Matchless	Cream.
Hebe	Rose-pink.
Warrior	Maroon.
Unwin's Crimson ..	Crimson.
George Shawyer ..	Orange-salmon.
Powerscourt ..	Lavender-blue.
Picture	Deep cream-pink.
Royal Scot	Brilliant scarlet-cerise.
Constance Hinton	White.
Mrs. Tom Jones ..	Blue.
Youth	Picotee.
Royal Purple ..	Purple.

25 seeds each of above 14 for **3/9** (350 seeds)
12 " " " " **2/-** (168 ")
Postage 1½d. extra.

For Highest quality Sweet Peas, Gladioli, Garden Seeds, etc., etc., at "buyable" prices, send for our

FULL 1926 CATALOGUE POST FREE

W. J. UNWIN, F.R.H.S., *Sweet Pea Specialist & Seedsman,* **HISTON, CAMBS.**

SEEDS

IF YOU WANT

REALLY GOOD SEEDS

AT MODERATE PRICES

SEND TO

ROBERT SYDENHAM LIMITED

99, TENBY STREET, BIRMINGHAM

No one will serve you better.

SWEET PEAS A SPECIALITY

THEIR UNIQUE LISTS

contain only the Best
VEGETABLES, FLOWERS AND
BULBS WORTH GROWING
Post free on application.

ROBERT SYDENHAM LIMITED

TWO PLANTS WORTH RAISING FROM SEED

ROMNEYA

AMONG the aristocrats of the garden is Romneya Coulteri, the tree poppy, a handsome perennial with magnificent silky white petals somewhat like the poppy. This plant is difficult to transplant, and it is always obtained from the nursery in pots, but intending growers need not overlook the fact that it can be raised from seed.

Contrary to the general opinion, it is not very difficult to raise plants by sowing seed in a cool greenhouse. The seed is almost invariably slow to germinate, but it will come up pretty freely in time, and the seedlings need nothing particular in the way of extra care. Some of the plants, indeed, may flower the first season. It should be noted, too, that they can be grown on in pots in the greenhouse provided that there is space enough for them to develop.—HUGH AITKEN.

GERANIUMS.

A few seedsmen offer geranium seed, and those who are fond of a little experimental work, and have time to fulfil their inclination, may try raising these plants from seed. Occasionally it is possible to have blossom within the year, but unless a warm greenhouse is available they have to be kept over until the second season.

Seed may be sown at any time in spring or summer, beginning in February. The ordinary plan is followed out, the seed-pan being placed in a warm corner of the greenhouse until the seedlings appear. These may be transplanted into a box when sizable.

When the seedlings are sufficiently large they should be transferred to 5in. or 6in. pots, a compost consisting mainly of fibrous loam being used. They are planted firmly in this and, when growth has begun, pinched back to promote bushiness. From a sowing made at once plants will be ready for the open border by summer. They are unlikely to flower, however, until late in the season. If flowers are desired, they may be grown on in pots in a sunny frame. Border plants may be lifted carefully and flowered in the greenhouse during winter.

As a fair percentage of the seedlings will come true, only the best seed should be sown. It is rather interesting to raise a batch of plants, and as a packet of seed is not very expensive, gardeners can in this way quickly work up a good stock of plants.—CLYDESDALE.

FLOWER GRASS

THE idea of growing small, brightly coloured annuals amid lawn grass is really Japanese, and in this way a very charming effect is produced. A special bed in an open situation is set aside for the flower grass, and the soil should be well prepared. The flower grass mixture is prepared for sowing in this way. To each ounce of lawn grass seed is added a pinch of a number of annuals. Care is needed to select those plants which

UNWIN'S SWEET PEAS

Known and grown all over the World.
There are no Sweet Peas of better quality obtainable.

OUR NOVELTIES 1925-6

Queen of Roumania. Cream, flushed soft light salmon-cerise. 12 seeds, **1/-**
Wistaria. Grand blue-lavender. 12 seeds, **1/-**
Sybil Henshaw. Giant deep crimson. 12 seeds, **1/-**
Twinkles. Scarlet striped on cream. 12 seeds, **1/-**
Mauve Beauty. Pure, deep mauve. 12 seeds, **1/-**
Blue Butterfly. Pale lavender-blue. 12 seeds, **4d.**
Lady Gay. White, striped bright rose. 12 seeds, **4d.**
Collection of 12 seeds of each of the above, excluding Twinkles, for **3/-**

FULL 1926 CATALOGUE POST FREE

of Sweet Peas, Gladioli, Garden Seeds, Dahlias, Roses, etc.

W. J. UNWIN, F.R.H.S., *Sweet Pea Specialist & Seedsman,* **HISTON, CAMBS.**

BORDER CARNATIONS & ALLWOODII

Plant EARLY for best results.

Border Carnations.

Our stocks of the best hardy Garden varieties are superb. Vigorous sturdy stock from 3½in. pots, which cannot fail to give the best results, the undermentioned collections represent the best value obtainable.

CARRIAGE PAID for cash.

6 distinct varieties	8/6
12 " "	16/-
25 Plants in good variety ..	30/-

ALLWOODII.

The ever popular hardy plant, suitable for every garden purpose. Will beautify the border, the lawn vase or window box; is perfectly hardy and the easiest plant to cultivate. New and improved varieties have been introduced, of which the undermentioned CARRIAGE PAID COLLECTIONS ARE MAINLY COMPOSED.

6 distinct varieties	5/6
12 " "	10/6
25 Plants in good variety ..	21/-

CATALOGUE OF ALL CARNATIONS FOR GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE sent post free on request to—

Allwood Bros The leading Carnation Raisers and Specialists in the World.

Dept. 4, Haywards Heath, Sussex

Digitized by Google

Austins

Scotch Seed Potatoes.

Our stocks are grown and selected specially for seed purposes, and under normal conditions of soil and situation cannot fail to produce first-class crops. All are Class 1, Scotch.

	14lb.	28lb.	56lb.	112lb.
FIRST EARLY.				
Arran Rose	3/-	5/6	10/-	18/-
Immune Ashleaf	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Duke of York	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Sharpe's Express	2/3	4/3	7/6	13/-
Witch Hill Early ..	3/-	5/6	10/-	18/-
SECOND EARLY.				
Ally	2/3	4/3	7/6	13/-
Arran Comrade	2/3	4/3	7/6	13/-
British Queen	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Ghost Scot	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Carisma	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
MAIN CROP.				
Abundance	2/4	4/6	8/-	14/-
Arran Chief	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
King Edward	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Kerr's Pink	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Majestic	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Field Marshal	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-

We offer many other varieties, including Arran Consul, Ben Lomond, Golden Marvel, White Arran Victory, etc., full particulars of which are given in our Catalogue, which may be had post free on request.

Packing Free. Carriage forward by goods train. If to be sent by passenger train the additional cost would be: 14lb., 1/6; 28lb., 2/9; 56lb., 5/-; 112lb., 10/-.

Our catalogue, giving full list of varieties, will be sent on application.

AUSTIN'S GOLD MEDAL GARDEN SEEDS.
Descriptive Catalogue of all varieties of outstanding merit free on request. Write for copy.

Orders have prompt attention.

AUSTIN & McASLAN
The Premier Scottish Seedsmen since 1717,
Mitchell Street, GLASGOW.

GRAPE VINES and FIGS
ALSO
SPECIMEN FRUIT TREES
WRITE FOR OFFERS.
STUART LOW & CO., Bush Hill Park ENFIELD

WAKELEY'S GARDEN SEEDS

We beg to announce to our thousands of customers that we are now offering

GARDEN SEEDS
OF THE VERY
FINEST VARIETIES AND STRAIN.

Send for our **SPRING CATALOGUE** which contains a choice selection of all seeds and other specialities for the garden.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.,
75a, Bankside, S.E.

ECKFORD'S GIANT FRILLED SWEET PEAS
—FOR 1926—

GORGEOUS FLOWERS. MAGNIFICENT STEMS
For a wealth of cut flowers. For garden decoration. For exhibition.

ECKFORD'S ARE THE WORLD'S BEST

Special Offer.—25 specially chosen 1/- packets of Eckford's Giant Frilled Sweet Peas for 1926, each separate and named, for 20/-
The same 25, half-packets, each separate and named, for 10/-
The above are a gorgeous range of colour
WRITE FOR CATALOGUE (FREE) of all the best Sweet Peas for 1926. Also pedigree vegetables and choicest flower seeds
HENRY ECKFORD, Headquarters for Sweet Peas, Dept. 81 Wem, Shropshire

are fairly small and of a delicate habit, and yet will produce an abundance of showy flowers. Good subjects are found in several kinds of flax (linum), Virginia stocks, nemesias, brachycome, etc. A thorough mixing of the grass and flower seeds is essential, and the sowing should be carried out rather lavishly. The idea is to get the entire bed covered with a mass of grass interspersed with the flowering plants. Any of the flowering subjects that grow too strongly might be pinched back or, in exceptional cases, removed altogether. One thing to be borne in mind is that a good amount of moisture is needed to make a flower grass bed a success. In dry weather water freely, and then the bed will remain a thing of great beauty for a very long time.—S. L. BASTIN.

THE HARDY PLUMBAGO

A VERY valuable plant for placing above the upper edges of rocks or slopes in the rock garden is the hardy plumbago (P. Larpentæ). This dwarf herbaceous species is perfectly hardy and, as a native of northern China, can withstand a great deal of cold. The plant sends up wiry stems which form neat tufts from 6ins. to 10ins. high. In early September the upper part of the plant becomes nearly covered with bright blue flowers which, as they go off, turn to a pretty violet tint. The hardy plumbago will continue flowering until a late date and, in sheltered positions, it will often keep up a display of bloom until November. The species should be given a little consideration in the matter of soil and position. A warm sandy loam is the best, and to secure a really fine display of bloom a sunny situation must be selected. Any considerable amount of shade will very much affect the free-flowering that makes this plumbago so desirable. The species is easily propagated by divisions of the roots during winter or early spring.

Launching an offer of Seeds for trial.

Free and Post Free.

We launch this offer with much the same feeling in which we should approach thin ice—gingerly—because the offer might be thought to somewhere hide the cloven hoof.

But as we are neither asking for money nor making any conditions whatever in offering to send seeds free to anyone who cares to ask for them, it is difficult to see where the hoof could be hidden.

In the hope of getting into touch with a larger number of gardeners than we now have the pleasure of serving, we are sending to all applicants, free and post free, one packet each of three remarkably good vegetable seeds:

BEETROOT—BAKERS' SELECTED GLOBE. A beautifully formed round beet with a conspicuously thin tap root. . . . .

PARSNIP—GOLIATH. The biggest and best Parsnip that has ever come our way. . .

ONION—MONARCH. The largest growing, best flavoured Onion among those that really keep.

All we ask is that only responsible people will send for the seeds and that they will do their best with them when they get them, because it is only on results that we can hope for the distribution to benefit us.

Where results are good we hope that the grower will be encouraged to learn for himself what Bakers' other seeds are like and so bring grist to our mill.

For our part we can assure all such ladies and gentlemen in advance that the behaviour of the three varieties of seeds we are sending may be taken as a trustworthy guide to the growth and production of all the seed we sell.

Bakers
SEED & FLOWER FARM,
CODSALL.
Nr. Wolverhampton.

To anyone who is diffident about sending for the free seeds we shall be glad to send a copy of our complete Seed Catalogue. In many ways it is an unusual list—more informative than most—certainly more comprehensive and with something about it that might be called the "human touch," as distinct from the cut and dried, soulless sort of production most of us are used to.

Fruit Trees Rose Trees

ALL ENGLISH GROWN.
Descriptive Catalogue post free on demand.
INSPECTION INVITED.

S. SPOONER & SONS
Estd. 1820 **The Nurseries, Hounslow, MIDDLESEX**

BARGAIN CATALOGUE

Land Sold for Building

Real Cambridgeshire grown Fruit Trees, Fruit Bushes, Roses, Shrubs, Avenue Trees, Privet, Plants.

Exceptionally strong and healthy.

FRANK RICE (F.R.H.S.), Arbury Nurseries, Cambridge

Seedlings Thrive and Don't Die

off after being transplanted owing to root disturbance or breakage, if brought up in Patent

MILLIONS SOLD **T. P. SEED RAISERS** NO SLUGS

because no disturbance can take place.

FOR ANNUALS, as Godetias, Clarkias, Larkspur, etc., *USE* BABY T.P. SEED RAISERS (measuring 1¼in. across by 2in. deep). Sow 2 or 3 seeds per Raiser, pull out to strongest. It will develop strong root growth till planting-out time comes, when Raiser (by that time rotted) will peel off, allowing seedling to be put in soil without knowing it has been touched.

FOR SWEET PEAS *USE* T.P. PEA RAISERS (size 1¼in. across by 4½in. deep). Sow 1 seed per Raiser. You will be delighted with good root action and quick development after planting out.

You get stronger plants, guaranteed to grow well with less labour.

T.P. Raisers take up much less room and retain moisture thus requiring less watering, are easy to handle in bulk and do not break, and ensure good plants, thus saving seed wastage.

PRICES in U.K., cash with order, carriage paid—

Baby "T.P. Seed Raisers, one strong seedling tray with 54 "**Baby**" Raisers complete. 1 for 2/6; 2 for 4/9; 3 for 6/9; 6 for 13/-; 12 for 24/6. **Refills** ("**Baby**" size), 108 for 2/7; 216 for 4/10; 324 for 7/3; 540 for 11/3.

T.P. Pea Raisers, one wooden box having hinged side with 48 Raisers complete. 1 for 4/3; 2 for 8/-; 3 for 11/6; 6 for 22/6. **Refills.** Pea size, 100 for 3/-; 200 for 5/9; 300 for 8/3; 500 for 13/6

Order NOW from your Seedsman. If he does not stock, send direct to Sole Makers

T.P. SEED BOX Co., 209, Monument Road, BIRMINGHAM.

Side of Baby Raiser removed showing root action of Larkspur

Digitized by Google

THE GARDENER'S BOOKSHELF

By E. BOURCART D.Sc.
Second Revised and Enlarged Edition.

Translated from the French and adapted to British standards and practice.

A practical manual on the diseases of plants and their remedies.

Insecticides Fungicides and Weed Killers

"This book of 431 pages contains a vast amount of information in a concentrated form for the use of manufacturing chemists, agriculturists, arboriculturists and horticulturists." — *Vide* "The Gardeners' Chronicle."

DEMY 8VO (8¼ x 5¼) xii + 432 PAGES
WITH 84 TABLES AND 13 ILLUSTRATIONS

PRICE 15/- NET
(Post free 15/9 home and abroad)
Cash with Order

Through all Booksellers or from the Publishers :—
SCOTT, GREENWOOD & SON
8, BROADWAY, LUDGATE HILL, LONDON, E.C.4

ORDER COPIES NOW FROM YOUR BOOKSELLER.

JUST PUBLISHED.

The Scent of Flowers and Leaves

Its purpose and relation to man.
By F. A. HAMPTON.
Cr. 8vo. 6/- net.

"The author is to be congratulated on the way he presents his facts."—*The Garden.*
"Should find a place and welcome in many bookshelves."—*Evening Standard.*
"A precise and interesting presentation of the principal facts and theories relating to the scent of flowers."—*Scotsman.*
"One of the most interesting chapters is that in which directions are given to gardeners for the laying out and stocking of perfume gardens, by which scented flowers or plants may be grown throughout the year."—*Sunday Times.*

To be Published in February.

The Pruning of Trees and Shrubs

Being a description of the methods practised in the Royal Botanic Gardens.
By W. DALLIMORE.
Assistant, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.
Cr. 8vo. Illustrated. 6/- net.
A most important book both for the professional and for the amateur who has the well being of his trees and shrubs at heart.

DULAU & COMPANY
LIMITED
34, 35, 36, MARGARET STREET
LONDON, W.1

SOME RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

WITH the great increase which has taken place in all phases of gardening during recent years, there has come, hand in hand, a corresponding increase in the output of all manner of horticultural books. One or two of these make their appeal to the botanist more than to the gardener, but the keen horticulturist will find in them much to interest and instruct him and perhaps even to criticise, if he be of that turn of mind.

Among the many recent publications it may be of some assistance to those who are on the look-out for new works, to sift out a few which can, with profit, be added to the library. Not a little care is required in the selection of books which will instruct and yet at the same time provide recreation and enjoyment.

Messrs. Thornton Butterworth have published two or three additional volumes in their Home Garden Book Series and these deserve the attention of every amateur. They are written by one who has a wide, practical knowledge and experience of horticulture in this country and the information given in their pages can be relied on. The one devoted to the culture of Gladioli is especially good and those who are going in for the culture of this excellent flower will find the book of great assistance. Others from Mr. Macself's pen, which will make their appeal both to the general gardener and to the specialist, include "Bulb Gardening," a treatise on the growing of all classes of bulbs, and "Soils and Fertilisers," which contains many hints on how to get the best out of the soil and the treatment of pests which frequent the garden.

To all who garden, either in a large or small way, the choosing of plants to fill the hardy flower border is probably one of the most pleasant and engrossing of all gardening duties. The selection of suitable inmates for and the planting designing and stocking of the herbaceous garden are questions fraught with many difficulties and to these the amateur grower of herbaceous flowers will find a ready and satisfactory answer in two volumes. One is the new and enlarged edition of "The Herbaceous Garden," by Mrs. Philip Martineau, published by Messrs. Williams and Norgate, price 12s. 6d., while the other is a small volume, but no less serviceable, "Herbaceous Borders for Amateurs," by R. V. G. Woolley, published recently by *Country Life* at 5s. Both will be found to supply all the knowledge that is necessary in connection with the planning and planting of this part of the garden.

The fruit grower will also find two recent books to interest him. The Lorette system of pruning has been set forth for the benefit of all British growers in a recent translation by the late W. R. Dykes, of Louis Lorette's work, published by Messrs. Martin Hopkinson and Co., at 7s. 6d. This work ran through four editions in French and it is almost certain that it will be equally popular in this English edition. The other is the second volume of Mr. E. A. Bunyard's work known as "A Handbook of Hardy Fruits." This, the second and last volume, contains the descriptions of all stone and bush fruits to be found in cultivation throughout the country.

(To be continued).

A New Book Every Sweet Pea Grower Should Read:

"SWEET PEAS: THEIR HISTORY, DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURE."

Price 5/- net. *(Postage 5d.)*

By CHAS. W. J. UNWIN.

THIS new book will be enjoyed by all who love or grow Sweet Peas, indeed by all flower lovers. Every phase of up-to-date culture for all purposes or objects is treated in detail. It is brimful of interest and practical assistance from cover to cover, and admirably illustrated with photographs, a coloured plate and sketches, while its scope embraces all aspects in detail which are likely to help any and every amateur grower and exhibitor.

Published by
W. HEFFER & SONS, LTD., CAMBRIDGE.
Obtainable from all Booksellers.

Beautiful Garden Books

SECRETS OF MANY GARDENS
By Mrs. PHILIP MARTINEAU
17 full page illustrations. 12s. 6d. *net*

THE HERBACEOUS GARDEN
By Mrs. PHILIP MARTINEAU
Fourth Enlarged Edition. 32 plates. 12s. 6d. *net*

ROCK GARDENS
By LEWIS MEREDITH
Third Edition. Many illustrations. 10s. 6d. *net*

The MAKING OF A GARDEN
By D. H. MOUTRAY READ
Profusely illustrated.
Cheap new edition. 7s. 6d. *net*

TREE WOUNDS AND DISEASES: *THEIR PREVENTION AND TREATMENT*
By A. D. WEBSTER
Profusely illustrated. 7s. 6d. *net*

EVOLUTION of PLANTS
By Dr. D. H. SCOTT
Fully illustrated. 21s. 6d. *net*

FOR FULL GARDEN CATALOGUE WRITE TO:
WILLIAMS & NORGATE, LTD.
14, HENRIETTA STREET, LONDON, W.C 2

Digitized by Google

I COUNT that man fortunate who has done with experimenting and found a tobacco which consistently gives a full measure of enjoyment—*R.F.E*

There is one brand which to many a man is his best friend

They call it

PLAYER'S NAVY CUT

For Cigarette Smokers
PLAYER'S NAVY CUT CIGARETTES

Registered No. 134011.

P.1263.

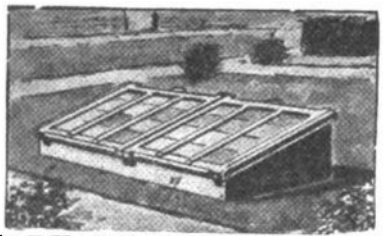
A B. & P. GREENHOUSE
—TENANT'S FIXTURE

No. H 49a. SPAN-ROOF GREENHOUSE

With this compact, inexpensive Greenhouse you can grow rare flowers that cannot be reared out-of-doors. It will double the interest and pleasure of gardening. Easily erected in 90 minutes. Size 10ft. x 8ft. In six sections, with bolts for easy erection. Painted one coat. Glass cut to size and packed in boxes. **£18 10 0**

If glazed at works and painted two coats, packed in close cases to prevent damage **£22 7 0**

Carriage paid to most stations in England and Wales. Prices for heating and stages sent on application. Prices given for additional lengths. Write for free booklet which tells you all about this Greenhouse. Mention G.169.



No. H 77—VIOLET or BORDER FRAME

TYPICAL EXAMPLE OF B. & P. GARDEN FRAME

4ft. wide, painted two coats and glazed with 21oz. English glass. Height in front, 8ins., and at back, 16ins. Supplied either with sliding lights or hinged lights and setopes. Two-Light Frame, 6ft. x 4ft., Sliding Lights **£2 19 0**

Carriage paid to most stations in England and Wales, packing extra, but allowed for if returned. Garden Frame Catalogue G116 sent free on request

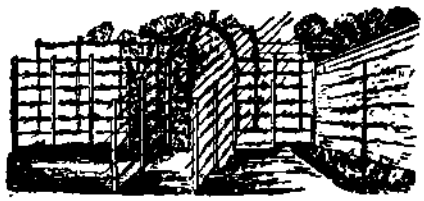
Boulton & Paul Ltd

Telegrams BOULTON NORWICH **NORWICH** Telephone NORWICH 851 (5lines)

LONDON OFFICE 135-137 QUEEN VICTORIA ST. E.C.
Telegrams Boutique Cent London Telephone 4642 Cent

ENQUIRIES invited for Conservatories and Ranges of Glasshouses, Heating Apparatus and all Accessories
Designs and schemes prepared

HILL & SMITH, Ltd.,
BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS,
Makers of
IRON FENCING, HURDLES, GATES, WIRE NETTING AND GARDEN IRONWORK

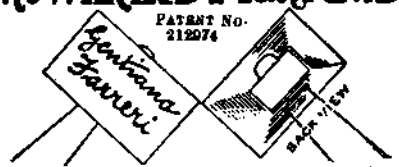


Other Products—Hay and Grain Sheds, Dutch Barns, Galvanized Corrugated Sheets and Structural Steelwork.

Catalogues free on mentioning this paper.
London: 300, Abbey House, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

The WIZARD Plant LABEL

PATENT No. 212074



Made in Red Pottery, 2½ x 1¼ ins., with rustless wires, 12 in., 2/- doz.; 7 in., 1/7 doz. 1½ x 1 in., with wires 6 in., 1/6 doz. For tying on, 1/6 and 1/3 doz. Waterproof Ink, 6d. and 7½d. bot. Crow Quills, 2d. Postage extra.

Highly commended by the R.H.S. at Wisley.

E. TORKINGTON . NEW HALL . MAIDENHEAD

THE LEADING GLASSHOUSE FUMIGANT.

CORRY & CO., SHAD THAMES, LONDON S.E.1

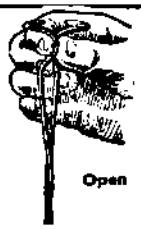
SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by **"ALPHOL"**
Sample 14 lb., 5/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Aids. Lawn Improvers, "Verilest" Seeds, etc., to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Granmer St., Liverpool

WILLMOTT
Rival Plant Stake
(Patented No. 183779).
As used in Royal Botanic Gardens London and Cambridge.
For all plants. WILL NOT ROT, WEAR OUT OR BREAK.
Sample of eight sizes,
2/- car. pd. United Kingdom.
4/- Overseas.

Closed



Open

H. J. GREENWOOD, F.R.H.S., Proprietor, BRACKNELL, Berks.

THE JACKPAN
"The tool that cuts your costs"
Abolishes trenching. THE deep cultivator. What your Editor and others think of it is told in our Illustrated Folder No. 5, sent on request.

Your retailer can supply, or we will send sample for 6/-
P.E.G.S. LTD., 3, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.1

LETHORION FUMIGATOR
IMPROVED NICOTINE GONE
Certain destruction to all pests in glass houses
Only a match required for starting it!
No. 1 -- For 1,000 cubic feet -- 10d.
" 2 -- " 1,500 " " -- 1/3
" 3 -- " 2,500 " " -- 1/9
Sold by all Nurserymen and Seedsmen.
CORRY & CO., Ltd. Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

YOUR GARDEN NEEDS
KILOGRUB
Its fumes are instantly fatal to all insect pests in the soil, but harmless to plants. Really effective because it works underground.
Tins: 8d., 1/6 and 2/6
Bags: ¼ cwt. 6/6, ½ cwt. 9/6, 1 cwt. 18/-
From your seedsman or from
JOHN PEAK & CO. LTD. WIGAN, Lancs.

GARDEN LOVERS
Write For Catalogues of
PROTHEROE & MORRIS'
· HORTICULTURAL SALES ·
MONDAY · WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY
67 & 68 Cheapside, London E.C.2. Phone: City 3856

Digitized by Google

WAKELEY'S Celebrated Hop Manure

(PATENTED)

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

AS USED IN THE GARDENS OF GREAT BRITAIN

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL, ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION, 1912

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE, without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

Every ounce of Wakeley's Hop Manure is of value to the soil, supplying the necessary HUMUS in addition to the valuable plant food. Worthless rubbish is not added to make weight (as is the case of some artificial manures advertised).

Thousands do realise it, the proof of this is the constant flow of UNSOLICITED LETTERS received from time to time in praise of the wonderful results obtained at such a moderate cost (see Booklet for selection).

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.—Genuine Only in our Marked Bags containing Guaranteed Analysis.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of post card.

CASH PRICES (including bags):

Small (about 1 bushel)	3/-
Large (about 4 bushels)	7/-
5 Large	33/9
10 Large	65/-
20 Large	120/-

Carriage paid by Pickford's or to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company; 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

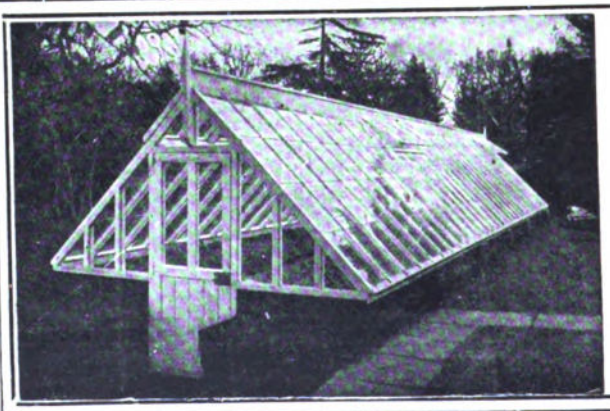
WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.

75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

YES

It will pay you

Not a few of our advertisers are proud of the trading reputation they have created. There is no magic secret behind this reputation. They have consistently given the public **what** it wanted, **how** it wanted it, and at the price it could afford to pay. It will pay you to deal with them.



GREENHOUSES AND GARDEN FRAMES

I specialize in the Erection of High class Horticultural Buildings.

Garden Frames a speciality. Selected timber, well seasoned, only used.

Being a grower, I understand Glass-house requirements.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.
CATALOGUES WITH PLEASURE.

E. M. HEAP, Cottimore Nurseries, WALTON-ON-THAMES.

By Appointment

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.,
Royal Potteries.
BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

AFTER 23 YEARS

AN ELOQUENT PROOF OF UNFAILING AND USEFUL SERVICE.

"A better Greenhouse Boiler could not be than the 'Horse Shoe.' I have had it in use for 23 years, and it has answered splendidly," writes Mr. F. G. L.....47, Mt. Carmel, Derby. 23/11/1925.

"HORSE SHOE" BOILERS

CAN BE SUPPLIED FROM IMMEDIATE STOCK.

Write for particulars now.

To CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD.,
Engineers, Southwark Street, S.E.1.

Please send me Booklet E "Making the Most of Your Greenhouse," and price of complete Outfit to suit *(span-roof) (lean-to) greenhouse.....long .....wide inside, sides of *(wood) brick).....thick

Name.....

Address.....

*Strike out particulars not needed. Cut out and send by 1d. post.

CHAS. P. KINNELL & Co., Ltd., 65, Southwark St., LONDON, S.E.1

Wire: "Kinnell-Boroh-London." Phone: Hop 362 (three lines.)

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

Mar 10 1926

THE GARDEN

ORCHARD GARDEN WOODLAND

Vol. XC.—No. 2831 Saturday, February 20th, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

Flower Seed Specialities, 1926

	s.	d.
ANTIRRHINUM, mixture of glowing orange-scarlet and scarlet shades, a blend of the finest varieties of these colours, 1½ft. per pkt., **6d.** &	1	0
AQUILEGIA Rose Queen (New), a beautiful long-spurred, large-flowered variety, lovely rose shaded white,, 2ft. per pkt. **1s. 6d.** &	2	6
AUBRIETIA, Newest Hybrids Mixed, a wonderfully fine strain, colours ranging from deep purple, blue and lavender to blush, pink, rose, carmine and crimson; lovely on rockwork. ½ft. .. per pkt.	2	6
GENTIANA Farreri, beautiful and rare species from China, of semi-prostrate growth, producing in August large sky blue flowers with white throat, and veined black .. .. per pkt.	3	6
LILIUM Martagon album, a very beautiful Lily bearing pyramidal spikes of wax-like pure white flowers .. .. per pkt.	1	0
POPPY, New Double Queen Poppies, a lovely new strain of the Shirley type, flowers double and semi-double, of delicate and brilliant colours, h.a. 2ft. .. .. per pkt.	1	0
SCHIZANTHUS Wisetonensis, Barr's Giant Prize Strain, graceful Fern-like foliage and profusion of large flowers all with handsome markings, 1½ft. .. .. per pkt. **1s.** &	1	6
STOCK Empress Elizabeth, a fine **Giant Brompton Stock,** forming handsome pyramidal heads of large and beautiful flowers of a brilliant bright rose: a grand pot plant, 15ins. .. .. per pkt. **1s.** &	2	6

For other Flower Seed Specialities, see Barr's Seed Guide free on application.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

DON'T BE TOO LATE.

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES

Selected Stocks. Send for Spring List.

ISAAC POAD & SONS, Ltd.,
Seed Potato Growers - - - YORK.

Glass breaks!

WHY USE IT?

'WINDOLITE'

The practical Glass Substitute for all GARDEN USES.

Light. Flexible. Unbreakable.

Easy to cut and fix. It keeps out cold and wet, but lets in all the light—even the Ultra Violet Rays which are stopped by glass.

Send 4/6 for post free sample, 3 ft. by 2 ft.

WINDOLITE (DEPT. C) 179/185, GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1

. . THE . .

"SOUTHWELL" COLLECTION

BUSH ROSE TREES. ALL BRITISH GROWN.

FIRST CLASS VARIETIES FOR GARDEN EFFECT.

Avoca, crimson scarlet
Caroline Testout, satiny rose
Conrad F. Meyer, silvery rose
Dorothy Page Roberts, salmon pink
Francis Gaunt, fawny yellow
Frau Karl Druschki, white
General McArthur, velvety carmine
Gorgeous, deep orange yellow
Hadley, deep velvety crimson
Henrietta, coral salmon
La Tosca, blush pink
Lieut. Chaure, velvety crimson
Lyon, salmon pink
Mrs. H. R. Darlington, creamy yellow
Mrs. John Laing, clear pink
Red Letter Day, scarlet crimson
Richmond, red scarlet
W. E. Wallace, deep golden yellow

This collection of 18 varieties for **18/9**, or 12 selected from the above for **12/6**
Acme Labels (if required) .. .. **2/6** per dozen.

Carriage and packing free for Cash with Order.

BUY HOME GROWN TREES.

Catalogue of Rose Trees, Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Hardy Plants, etc., free on application to—

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, Ltd., THE NURSERIES, SOUTHWELL, NOTTS.

PLANTING SEASON

GEO. JACKMAN & SON

WOKING NURSERIES, SURREY.

Established over a century.

Invite inspection of their large and varied stock of ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBS, ROSES, CLIMBERS, FRUIT AND FOREST TREES, HERBACEOUS AND ALPINE PLANTS.

200 Acres of Stock to select from. Catalogues free on application.

ADVICE GIVEN ON ALL MATTERS APPERTAINING TO LANDSCAPE GARDENING & ESTATE IMPROVEMENTS

GLORIOUS GLADIOLI

No Garden is complete without these lovely flowers and for house decoration they have few equals.

Send for our Special List, in which we offer 90 varieties, and see what our customers say of them.

WE ALSO OFFER CHOICE LILIUMS, BEGONIAS, MONTBRETIAS, ANEMONES, — RANUNCULUS, Etc., Etc. —

See our large advertisement in February 6th issue of "The Garden," for particulars of many bargains.

Orders value 5/-, carriage paid. Immediate despatch.

LONGSTAFF & SONS

Bulb Growers, Importers and Merchants

NEAR CHELSFIELD STATION ∴ KENT

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
New Alpines and Perennials
Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
Begonias
Delphiniums
Gloxinias
Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD
CHELSEA, S.W.
Seeds
Gladioli
Spiraea
List on Application

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

BROWN'S TESTED SEEDS.
Illustrated Flower and Vegetable Seed Catalogue, giving full cultural directions, at competitive prices, post free if this paper is mentioned.
T. BROWN & CO., *Seedsmen*, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

YOUR GARDEN NEEDS
KILOGRUB
Its fumes are instantly fatal to all insect pests in the soil, but harmless to plants. Really effective because it works underground.
Tins: 8d., 1/6 and 2/-
Cans: ½ cwt. 6/6, 1 cwt. 9/6, 1 cwt. 15/-
From your seedsman or from
JOHN PEAK & CO., LTD. WIGAN, Lancs

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
HULL
Weed Destroyers
Fertilisers
Insecticides
Nets and Sundries

LAXTONS', BEDFORD

New BLACK CURRANT
"MITE FREE."
This variety resists mite, and can be grown with safety where mite is prevalent.

Three-year-old Bushes - 42/- per doz.

LAXTON BROTHERS, Nurseries, BEDFORD

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Downer's Usually Silent Lupins
are making a great *noise* in the world. Rich, harmonious colours, mixed, 12/- doz. clumps. Lupin List, Herbaceous and Alpine Catalogue free. A necessary warning.—Some firms are selling Lupin Downer's Delight grown from seed. The same remark applies to Lupin Downer's Pink Pearls. It is needless to say these plants are not true.
DOWNER, 2, Drayton Manor Nurseries, Chichester.

SENT FREE ON REQUEST

Hints on Fruit Tree Culture

For Amateur and Professional.

Interesting Notes on Soils, Situations and Fertilizers, Popular Fruits for all Purposes
and other useful information will be found in
OUR FRUIT TREE CATALOGUE
— which will be sent Post Free. —

Sit down now while the matter is fresh in your mind and write for your copy.

Established 1785. **Awarded 90 Gold Medals.**
KING'S ACRE NURSERIES, LIMITED, HEREFORD
Gold Medallists of all leading Horticultural Societies.

Do Insects Die?

The question is not unnatural when a hundred different "washes" have failed to kill them. Use XL ALL Liquid Nicotine Insecticide—they will die fast enough then. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen and florists.

XL ALL LIQUID NICOTINE INSECTICIDE.

G. H. RICHARDS, LTD.
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.
BCM/XLALL.
R 93.

SITUATION VACANT.

WANTED—A single-handed GARDENER must be good all-round man: some glass; oil engine. Good personal references essential: no copies considered.—FISH, Helidon, Daventry.

SHOW & REGAL PELARGONIUMS
for a brilliant show in April and May.
Strong plants ready now, from 3-inch pots, ready for potting into 5-inch pots. Best results obtained from plants now.
12 varieties 9/-, or newer sorts, 12/-, 15/- and 17/6 post free for cash.
2/6 per doz. extra if required in Leather-board pots. Carriage paid.

DAHLIAS
(pot roots) of CACTUS, DECORATIVE, POMPON, COLLARETTE, STAR, ETC., 6/- per doz. post free. All separate varieties. A mixed dozen same price.
Orders over 5/- post free C. W. O.
Catalogue free on application.
J. W. COLE & SON, Westwood Nurseries, Peterborough

The **"Caledonian" Prize Strain**

CYCLAMEN. Awarded GOLD Medal
Early Flowering Chrysanthemums A Speciality
Novelties, 1926 For GARDEN and GREENHOUSE
NOW READY OUR NEW CATALOGUE containing many thrills for the Garden enthusiast, together with useful cultural hints.
A POST CARD will bring you this handsome illustrated Edition.
WRITE NOW—
J. W. FORSYTH
Cyclamen Grower and Floriculturist
Putteridge, Luton, Beds.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

WATERER'S GOLD MEDAL RHODODENDRONS, Azaleas, Shrubs, Conifers, Climbers Heaths, Hardy Perennial and Alpine Plants, Vegetable and Flower Seeds, Scotch Seed Potatoes, Spring Bulbs, English-grown Fruit Trees and Roses. Separate catalogue for each department post free.—JOHN WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LIMITED, Twyford, Berks.

WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE.—The original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See advert. on back page.

WM. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., Lawrence Road, South Tottenham, N.15.—Conservatories, Winter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

BIRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUNDIALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—MORTON, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

FENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Garden Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE STRAINIT UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, Surrey.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list, post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

ROCK PLANTS AND SHRUBS.—Over 300 varieties in stock. Descriptive catalogue free. Also Herbaceous Plants and Roses.—HOPKINSONS, LTD., 58, Castlegate, Nottingham.

YORK STONE PAVINGS, crazy or rectangular, rustic copings, steps, roughly squared or random shaped, flat bedded walletones, garden edging, rockery, etc.—SAMUEL JOHNSON AND SON (MIRFIELD), LTD., Newgate Stone Works, Mirfield, Yorkshire.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-galvanised and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 3/6 per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

Price 2/6 each, by L. E. FOX.

ADAM'S GARDEN: Cultivation of Vegetables and Small Fruit, with Preface by E. J. CHITTENDEN, F.L.S., V.M.H.

EVE'S GARDEN: Cultivation of Flowers, with Preface by JOHN FRASER, F.L.S., V.M.H. *The Gardeners' Chronicle* says of *Adam's Garden*: "Most valuable information is given in a condensed form."—LONGMANS, GREEN AND CO., LTD., 39, Paternoster Row, London, E.C.4

GARDEN NETS. — Protect your Seeds and Buds from frost and birds. Netting, strong, small mesh, specially prepared, will not rot, as supplied by us to the Royal Gardens, 25 sq. yds. for 2/6. Any length or width supplied, price in proportion. Carr. paid. Cheaper kinds kept. List and samples free.—GASSON & SONS, Net Works, Rye. Est. 127 years.

PRIOR'S COLCHESTER ROSES, Fruit Trees, Gladioli, Dahlias, Carnations, Herbaceous. Catalogue containing cheap collections free.—D. PRIOR & SON, LTD., Colchester.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING, small mesh, 25 yds. by 1 yd., 2/-; 25 yds. by 2 yds., 4/-; 40 yds. by 1 yd., 3/-; 40 yds. by 2 yds., 6/6; 40 yds. by 3 yds., 9/9. Measured mesh closed. Special Pea Netting supplied. Tennis Nets from 10/-. Carriage paid. Compare our netting with others. Sports lists and samples free.—GALLOP, Net Manufacturer, Hastings.

ROCK AND ALPINE PLANTS.—Large and varied collection. All pot grown. Packed and carriage paid. Catalogue free.—M. J. PIGGOTT, Duffield, Nr. Derby.

ROCK PLANTS, best varieties, inexpensive, list free.—MARION GLENDINNEN, Fardross, Northern Ireland.

WELLS' CATALOGUE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS will be sent post free on application.—W. WELLS AND CO., Merstham, Surrey.

NETS for Gardens and Tennis Courts.—Before ordering elsewhere, send for our free lists and samples. It will pay you.—GASSON & SONS, Net Works, Rye. Est. 127 years.

BARR'S SEED GUIDE FOR 1926.—The best flower and vegetable seeds of finest selected strains and tested growth, including many fine novelties for the Flower Garden and Greenhouse; also a select list of Garden Requisites, Insecticides, Manures and Horticultural Books. Post free.

BARR'S BEAUTIFUL LILIES, GLADIOLI, CANNAS, DAHLIAS, MONTBRETIAS, TIGRIDIAS, TUBEROSES, etc., for February to April planting. Catalogue free.—BARR & SONS, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are now famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx, and perpetual habit. Illustrated plant list now ready. New Seed, now ready, hand fertilised, 2/6 and 5/- packets.—J. DOUGLAS, Great Bookham, Surrey.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial: The Late Rev. Joseph Jacob, M.A.	109
Shrubs for Under-Planting	110
Foliage for Cutting	112
Wall Gardening—II	113
Annuals for the Rock Garden	114
The Blue Poppies—II	115
Notes of the Week	116–117
Kerria japonica; The Early-flowering Rhododendron præcox; Cornus capitata; Cultivated Blackberries; Dianthus graniticus; A Remarkable Streptocarpus; Saxifraga Ada.	
A Sign of Spring	118
How to Spray	119
Correspondence	120
Viburnum macrocephalum; Rose Zéphirine Drouhin; Pieris in Scotland; Flowers in a Canadian Garden; Red Sage; Roses Under Glass.	
Fasciation Freaks	121
Garden Technique	122–124
Malmaison Carnations; Wiring Flowers; Massage for Tulips; Lobelias in Pots; Zinnias for Pots and Borders; Greenhouse Cyclamen; Tuberous Begonias: Starting Tubers in Pots; Sprouting Seed Potatoes; The Raising of Summer Cauliflowers; Shallots; Sowing Vegetable Seeds.	

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL DELPHINIUMS and ROSES. Send a postcard for our catalogue.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI, Chrysanthemums, Dahlias, and Border Carnations.—Our stock includes many new and meritorious varieties. List post free on application.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

CLARENCE ELLIOTT'S SEED LIST is just out. Seeds of rare alpines, herbaceous plants and popular annual flowers. "A list worth watching."—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LTD., Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

SEED POTATOES AND SEED CATALOGUE now ready. Send p.c. for your copy.—JOHN WOODWARD CURTIS, Chatteris, Cambs.

SUTTON'S POTATOES.

Finest Scotch Grown Seed.

SUTTON'S BEN CRUACHAN.

One of our latest introductions, is rapidly attaining a great reputation.

Per 14lbs., 7/6: 28lbs., 14/-.

SUTTON & SONS, THE KING'S SEEDSMEN, READING

DOBBIE'S 1926 CATALOGUE AND GUIDE, 144 pages, 225 illustrations, free to all readers. Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.—DOBBIE AND CO., LTD., Edinburgh.

BATH'S SELECT SEEDS AND PLANTS.—New Illustrated Catalogue of choice Vegetable and Flower Seeds and Plants is now ready, and will be sent, post free, on application.—(Dept. E), R. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO READERS OF "THE GARDEN."—Owing to the great demand for FIDLER'S 1926 GARDEN GUIDE AND CATALOGUE, a limited number of copies have been provisionally reserved for readers of this paper. Please SEND IN YOUR APPLICATION AT ONCE and mark your envelope or postcard "GARDEN" in top left-hand corner.—FIDLER & SONS (established 1856), Reading.

HARDY PLANTS, ROSES AND FRUIT TREES. Revised catalogue now ready. Free on application to THOMPSON AND MORGAN, Ipswich.

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES.—Per stone: Duke of York, 2/8; Witchhill, 2/6; Express, 2/2; Epicure 1/10; Eclipse, 2/-; Abundance, 2/2; Great Scot, 2/3; Majestic, 2/4; King Edward, 1/10; Kerr's Pink, 1/10; Bishop, 2/3, etc. Shallots Red, 8d. lb. Amateur's Guide of Vegetable and Flower Seeds, free.—TILLIE WHYTE & CO., 12, Melbourne Place, Edinburgh.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS FOR GREENHOUSE AND GARDEN. Also Dahlias, Fuchsias, Show and Zonal Pelargoniums and Coleus. Price List free on application.—J. W. COLE AND SON, Westwood Nurseries, Peterborough.

ORCHIDS.—In addition to our own large stock, we have purchased a fine private Collection containing many useful Orchids suitable for Amateurs. Cool and Intermediate. Catalogue on application.—MANSELL AND HATCHER, LTD., Rawdon, Yorkshire.

ALPINE, ROCK, HERBACEOUS PLANTS, Rock Garden Shrubs and Conifers Catalogue free.—SHEPPARD, Shawhurst Nursery, Hollywood, Birmingham.

INDIAN ORCHIDS.—6 Vandas cœrulea, 30/-; 6 V. Amesiana, 26/-; 6 V. Kimballiana, 20/-. 12 different grand-flowering sorts, 25/-. 6 Dendrobium brymerianum, 26/- Cash. All paid in U.K. Catalogue free.—THE CHANDRA NURSERY, P.O. Rhenock, Sikkim (Bengal), India.

GARDEN NETS.—Best tanned, small mesh, 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 25yds. by 3yds., 6/-; 25yds. by 4yds., 8/-. Carr. paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Tennis nets from 10s. Special nets for tennis boundary. Pea training nets. Lists and samples free.—G. JARRETT, Netmaker, Rye.

RARE PRIMULA AND ALPINE SEEDS from large (1,500) collection, sold cheap. List free.—REV. J. F. ANDERSON, Glen Hall, Leicester.

FOR NEW AND RARE ALPINE AND HERBACEOUS PLANTS, grown under hardy Scotch conditions, send for our new catalogue just published, also Seed List of choice Primulas, etc.—OLIVER AND HUNTER, Moniaive, Dumfriesshire.

SPENCE'S SCOTCH SEED POTATOES.—Write for Descriptive Catalogue and Growing Guide (on Potatoes only).—CHAS. T. SPENCE, Seed Potato Specialist, Dunbar Scotland.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SON, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then, together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices :—

Tins 10d. and 1/6

and in **Branded and Sealed Bags :**

7 lbs. - **3/6**	14 lbs. - **6/-**
28 lbs. - **10/-**	56 lbs. **18/-**
112 lbs. - **32/-**	

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark.

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers, etc. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**

Three Sterling Novelties for 1926

Give them a trial and you will be more than satisfied.

NEW TEN WEEK STOCKS

Edwards' "Super Dreadnought"

This new strain of "Super Dreadnought" Stock grows from 25ins. to 35ins. in height, the giant double spikes measuring up to 18ins. It is branching in habit and early flowering, coming in flower in ten or twelve weeks.

I have great pleasure in introducing these "Dreadnought" Stocks to my customers. These will be grown all over Great Britain this season. And I should like you as keen gardeners to try a collection, they are bound to win prizes.

APPLE BLOSSOM.—A lovely shade of blush pink, very fine.
DORIS.—A very lovely ivory white, shaded old rose good habit.
DOROTHY.—A giant lavender, a splendid shade for florists' work.
GOLIATH.—A very fine mauve, extra fine flowers
INDOMITABLE.—Magnificent fiery scarlet, certainly splendid.
LEVIATHAN.—Lilac, massive spikes.
MARS.—Deep crimson, very good.
NEPTUNE.—The darkest Blue Stock, splendid shade.
PICTURE.—A magnificent cream pink that everyone will want.
SNOWDRIFT.—This variety is a champion, being pure white.
SUNLIGHT.—A lovely shade of yellow, very good.
TOPSY.—A most lovely shade of rose pink.
MIXED.—Special hand mixed, being made up of equal proportions of the above-named varieties.

All above, **6d.** per packet.

NEW SECOND EARLY PEA

Edwards' "Fifty-Five"

To all my customers I would recommend a trial of this New Second Early Pea "Fifty-five." It is rather an early second, coming along almost immediately after Sherwood, and as a succession to my Twelve Inch, is very good. "Fifty-five" is only 18ins. in height, and is one of the heaviest cropping Peas I have ever seen, its dark green pods are closely packed with peas of a fine dark green, full Marrowfat flavour, and usually about seven to nine peas in a pod; the pod itself is slightly curved, and it is not exhibition size, but as a *utility* pea I believe it has a splendid future, the haulm being literally covered with pods. I am sure that a trial will convince all that "Fifty-five" is the heaviest cropping Dwarf Second Early Marrowfat Pea.

Per pint **2/-**

NEW ONION

"Ipswich Champion"

This New Onion is the heaviest type of Exhibition Onion there is on the market, raised by an exhibitor and shown at the largest shows in Great Britain, where it has always taken prizes. The stock of seed is rather limited for this year, and I cannot offer by the ounce.

This Onion will grow to 3½lbs. in weight, and all onion exhibitors must give it a trial. Per packet **1/-** and **2/-**.

Send for Complete Seed Catalogue, post free.

ALFRED EDWARDS, F.R.H.S
Seed Merchant, **FORDHAM, CAMBS.**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

AUTUMN and WINTER BEAUTY

In the Garden.

WHEN the first Autumn frost has killed the Summer flowers and the last rose is just existing, many people imagine that the garden must be a dull uninteresting place until Spring awakens the early Daffodils.

There are, however, many trees and shrubs which will provide beautiful pictures throughout Autumn and Winter when rightly placed.

What is more beautiful than the setting sun lighting up the berries of the Cotoneasters, Thorns, and other berried shrubs; or the crimson stems of the Scarlet Dogwood, yellow and crimson barked Willows.

We have prepared a short supplement to our general catalogue, giving a list of the best trees and shrubs for Winter beauty, with fuller descriptions and cultural notes. A copy on application. We devote the same care and thought to the cultivation of our immense stocks of FRUIT TREES, ROSES, ALPINES, HARDY PERENNIALS as we do to the SHRUBS.

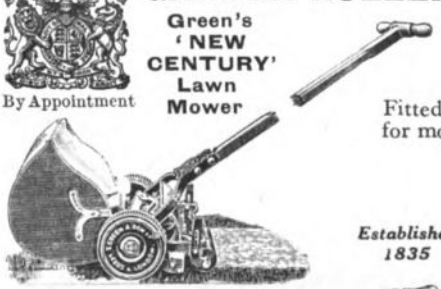
THE BARNHAM NURSERIES, LTD., BARNHAM, SUSSEX.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

GREEN'S WORLD FAMOUS LAWN MOWERS

GARDEN ROLLERS & TENNIS MARKERS

By Appointment



Established 1835

Green's 'NEW CENTURY'

Fitted with adjustable bearings, is an ideal light machine for mowing small lawns, tennis courts, slopes and banks.

Green's 'SILENS MESSOR'

Is a very light running machine, practically noiseless, and gives a fine even surface. Reversible cylinder has eight cutters adjustable to any cut.

May be obtained from any Ironmonger or Seedsman in the United Kingdom.

OVER A MILLION SOLD.

See List for Horse Mowers and Motor Mowers.

NEW PRICE LIST No. **8** ON REQUEST.

THOMAS GREEN & SON, LTD.
Smithfield Ironworks, Leeds, and New Surrey Works, Southwark Street, London, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

I MAINTAIN that a certain fastidiousness in the choice of a pipe tobacco is not wasted if it leads eventually to the discovery of one's ideal brand

R.F.E.

One tobacco, by reason of its qualities, has claimed the allegiance of many smokers of the 'hard-to-please' variety—

They call it

PLAYER'S NAVY CUT

For Cigarette Smokers

PLAYER'S NAVY CUT CIGARETTES

P.1260.

Reg. No. 154011.

DOBBIE'S—

SCOTCH-GROWN

PLANTS

FULL DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE

84 pages of Indoor and Hardy Plants

SENT ON APPLICATION

DOBBIE & CO., LTD.

Nurserymen :: EDINBURGH

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

39th YEAR

Mrs. PYM'S FAMOUS PLANTS

Send for New Catalogue.

Magnificent Hardy Perennials, Rockery Plants, Spring Bedding Plants, Greenhouse Plants, Herb Plants, Hardy Climbers, Choice Flowering Shrubs. 4d. extra for orders under 3/-. 4/- worth gratis plants with every 20/- order. Small orders are sent post free, parcel post; large orders carriage paid, passenger train. Named, carefully packed, and guaranteed to arrive in excellent condition. Cash with order. Stock your gardens with really excellent plants.

Strong, choice, hardy, transplanted perennials for flowering this year, for borders, beds, rockery, etc. Price per dozen; half and quarter dozen same rate.

Achillea, double white, 4/-; Perry's new double white, 6/-. **Aconitum** (Monkshood), large, rich blue, 6/-. **Adonis vernalis,** dwarf yellow, 6/-. **African Flame Flower,** 6/-. **African Blue Lily,** 6/-. **Agrostemma,** brilliant crimson, 3/-. **Ajuga,** bronze foliage, blue flowers, creeping, 6/-. **Alyssum montana,** large heads, scented yellow flowers all summer, 6/-; **A. saxatile** (Gold Dust), 4/-. **Alpine Lychnis,** crimson, 3/-. **Alpine Pinks** (Musks), brilliant pink flowers, creeping, 4/-. **Alpine Pinks,** bright colours, mixed, 2/-. **Alpine Phlox,** charming rock plants, 6/-. **Alpine Wallflowers,** golden yellow, orange, mauve, 1/-. **Alstrœmeria** (Peruvian Lily), orange red, 6/-. **Anchusa,** Dropmore, large blue, 5/6. **Anemone japonica,** white or pink, 6/-. **A. Hepatica,** blue, 6/-. **A. Pulsatilla,** (Pasque Flower) violet and gold, 7/-. **Anthemis Kelwayi,** golden yellow, 3/6. **A. montana,** white, 3/6. **Aquilegia,** new, long-spurred, 3/-; double and single 2/6. **Californian Columbine,** all colours, 3/-. **Arenaria,** moss-like cushions white flowers, 6/-. **Arabis,** double white, 3/-. **A. aurea,** golden variegated, 5/-. **Armeria alpina,** compact for rockery or edging, evergreen, pink flowers, 2/6. **A. rosea,** bright pink, 4/-. **Aster alpina,** dwarf, for rockery, blue, mauve, purple, 6/-. **Goliath,** lilac, golden centre, 5/-. **Aster** (Michaelmas Daisy), best named, all colours, and Perry's White, 6/-; good mixed varieties, 4/-. **Aubrietia purpurea,** purple, 2/6; Hendersoni, rich purple, 3/6; new large-flowering hybrids, 3/4. **Auricula alpinus,** lovely varieties, 4/-. **Balm,** fragrant, 4/- **Caltha,** fine double yellow-flowering rockery plant for spring, 6/-. **Campanula persiciolia** or **grandis,** tall blue, or white, 5/-. **C. carpatica,** blue or white, dwarf for rockeries, etc., 6/-. **C. glomerata,** rich violet blue, 6/-. **C. macrantha,** large mauve, 5/-. **C. pyramidalis,** (Chimney Bellflower), blue or white, 6/-. **Canterbury Bells**—single, white, pink, mauve, blue, 1/9; double, pink, white, blue, 2/6; Cup and Saucer—all colours, mixed, 2/6; Dean's lovely double and single hybrids, 1/9. **Candytuft,** perennial, 4/-. **Carnations,** good mixed border, 4/-. **Catmint** (Nepeta Mussini), 4/-. **Centaurea montana** (Perennial Cornflower) large, blue, mauve, white, 3/-. **Cerastium** (Snow-in-Summer), 3/-. **Chelone barbata** (Lobster Flower), coral red, 4/-. **Cheiranthus** Allioni, orange; alpinus, yellow; linifolia, mauve, grand for rockeries, etc., masses of bloom spring and summer, 1/-. **Chrysanthemums,** strong-rooted cuttings, best early, mid, late, mixed, 3/-; new single hybrids, splendid range of colour, 3/-. **Maximum** (Giant Marguerite Daisy), Mayfield Giant, 3/6; Market Favourite, Mrs. L. Bell, 2/6. **Chinese Pinks,** all colours, 2/-. **Cistus Rock** (Rock Rose), trails of brightly coloured flowers for rockery, etc., 2/6. **Cowslips,** new red hybrids, rare, 4/-. **Crucianella,** dense heads bright pink flowers, trailing, 5/-. **Cyclamen,** hardy varieties for shady rockeries, etc., 6/-. **Daisies,** new bedding, enormous blooms, intensely double, pink, white, crimson, 1/4; mixed, 1/- **Delphiniums,** best named varieties, two years old 12/-; hybrids from best named varieties, one year, 8/-. **Dianthus,** new very dwarf perennial varieties for rockeries or border, lovely colours, 4/6. **Dianthus,** Rock Alpine, bright crimson, 4/-. **Deltoides** (Maiden's Pink), bright pink, creeping, 4/-. **Dielytra** (Bleeding Heart), large, 12/. **Dicentra** (Lyre Flower), pretty foliage, bright red flowers, 6/-. **Doronicum,** dwarf, bright yellow, . **Echinops Ritro,** (Blue Globe Thistle), 6/-. **Eryngium alpinum,** beautiful rockery Sea Holly, 7/-. **Erica** (Alpine Heath), evergreen, red flowers, 6/-. **Erigeron,** mauve Marguerite, 5/-. **Eryngium** (Sea Holly), giganteum and planum, 6/-. **Erysimum** (Golden Gem), for rockery, old walls, etc., 1/-. **Eupatorium,** white, for cutting, 4/-. **Forget-me-nots** (Alpestris Victoria), best dwarf blue and Sutton's Royal Blue, 1/4. **Foxgloves,** purpurea and Iverys Spotted, 2/4; white, 2/6; grandiflora, rare, yellow, 4/-. **French Honeysuckle,** red, 4/-. **Fuchsia,** hardy crimson bush, 4/6. **Galega,** blue or white, 3/-. **Gypsophila paniculata** (Gauze Flower), 5/-; repens rosea, creeping, for rockeries, etc., 6/-. **Funkia** (Corfu Lily), pure white, scented, 5/-. **Gentiana acaulis,** beautiful rich blue, 8/-. **Geum,** fine double scarlet, 4/-; semi-double, 3/-. **Gaillardia grandiflora,** grand new large-flowering hybrids, 3/6. **Helenium magnificum,** large golden yellow, 5/-; Riverton Gem, crimson and gold, 7/-; rubrum (Wallflower), red, 7/-. **Helianthus** (Perennial Sunflower), Soleil d'Or, double, and Miss Mellish, single, 5/-. **Hemerocallis,** large hardy lily, yellow, orange, scarlet and tawny, scented, 6/-. **Heuchera,** rich crimson scarlet flowers, 6/-. **Hollyhocks,** double, 5/-; single and semi-double, 4/-. **Honesty,** 1/9. **Hypericum** (St. John's Wort), large yellow flowers, evergreen, 3/6. **Iceland Poppies,** Excelsior strain, 3/6. **Indian Pinks,** 2/-. **Inula ensifolia,** dwarf, compact, free-flowering, yellow, charming for rockeries, 6/-. **Inula glandulosa,** large, golden yellow, 6/-. **Iris,** large flag, white, mauve, yellow, blue, purple, 6/-; mixed, 5/-. **Iris pumila,** dwarf, for rockeries, etc., blue and yellow, 5/-.

CHOICE HARDY FLOWERING SHRUBS, price each.—**Berberis,** Darwini, Wilsonæ and japonica, 1/6. **Caryopteris** (Blue Spiræa Shrub), 1/6. **Ceanothus,** bright blue, 1/9. **Deutzia,** Lemoine's and gracilis, 1/6. **Forsythia,** bush variety, mass of golden bells, 1/6. **Lilac,** white or coloured, 1/6. **Olearia** (New Zealand Daisy Bush), 2/-. **Ribes,** red flowering Currant shrub, 1/6; **Mock Orange,** fragrant, 1/6. **Spiræa,** shrub, dwarf, bright crimson or tall pink or crimson, 1/6. **Guelder Rose** (Snowball Tree), 1/6. **Weigela,** large flowering pink, crimson and white, 1/6. **Hydrangea** paniculata, enormous sprays, white, 1/6. Many more. Send for Catalogue.

Mrs. PYM (F.R.H.S.) & CO.

10, Vine House, Woodston, Peterboro'

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

HARDY HERBACEOUS and ALPINE PLANTS

A large, healthy stock in great variety.

NOW

is the time to

PLANT.

SEND for CATALOGUE to

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.

The Nurseries, CRAWLEY

Forbes' Catalogue

Carnations, Pelargoniums, Pentstemons, Phloxes, Pyrethrums, Violas, Hardy Border and Rock Plants, Seeds, etc.

FREE ON APPLICATION

JOHN FORBES (Hawick), LTD., Dept. 2, The King's Nurserymen, Hawick, Scotland

APPLES. *Special Offer of Strong Lancashire-grown Trees.*

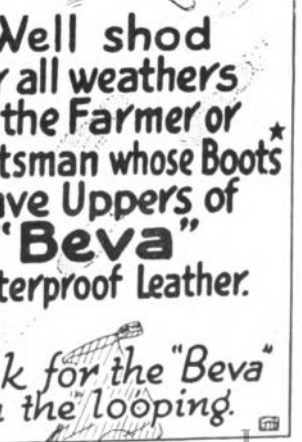
CHARLES ROSS, Dessert
COX'S ORANGE PIPPIN, Dessert
GOLDEN SPIRE, Dessert and Cooking
HILL'S SEEDLING, Dessert and Cooking
LORD DERBY, Cooking
RIVAL, Dessert

6 for 20/- Carriage Paid.

Black Currants—Seabrooks—The Best, 6/6 per doz. carr. paid.

Your money refunded if not pleased.

THERKILDSEN, F.R.H.S., Kew Gardens, SOUTHPORT.



Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

SEEDSMEN BY APPOINTMENT

GOLD MEDAL TO CARTERS SCOTCH SEED POTATOES, NOVEMBER, 1925.

CARTERS HAND-PICKED SCOTCH SEED POTATOES

All the most reliable varieties from stocks specially selected and grown in the best Seed Potato districts of Scotland.
The undermentioned varieties are recommended as being most suitable for successive crops:—

	14lbs.	28lbs.	56lbs.	1 cwt.
DUKE OF YORK (First Early) ..	4/6	8/6	15/-	26/-
EXPRESS (First Early)	4/-	7/6	13/-	22/-
GREAT SCOT (Second Early) ..	4/-	7/6	13/-	22/-
CARTERS ROYALTY (Second Early)	4/3	8/-	14/-	24/-
KING EDWARD VII. (Maincrop)	4/-	7/6	13/-	22/-
CARTERS LONGKEEPER (Maincrop)	4/3	8/-	14/-	24/-

A complete list of all the best varieties in "GARDEN AND LAWN, 1926," Post Free.

Carters TESTED SEEDS

SEED POTATO SPECIALISTS,
RAYNES PARK, LONDON, S.W.20

ROSES

STANDARDS.

In this form we have still a few interesting varieties such as Persian Yellow, Copper Austrian, and the old Moss, Blanche Moreau. In dwarf form we can still offer the charming old "Painter's" Rose and the species Moyesii and Webbiana. In Penzance Briars we have Anne of Geierstein, Amy Robsart, Lord and Lady Penzance, &c. Our general stock is still good.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd., The Royal Nurseries, Established 1796. Maidstone.

NEW HARDY CRIMSON BROOM

AT Chelsea Show (1925) the King said, "That red Broom is certainly very striking." This was the new crimson Broom "Dorothy Walpole," which received the unanimous Award of Merit from the R.H.S. as well as other distinctions in London and on the Continent.

In the *Field*, a well known ex-Curator of Kew Gardens wrote: "The richest coloured Broom known is one named 'Dorothy Walpole.' It is as hardy as the common Broom . . . and is very free-flowering . . . the colour is rich velvety crimson . . . more attractive than any of the coloured Brooms yet seen." The colour far surpasses Cytisus Dallimorei, and the growth is as vigorous as C. Andreanus; it requires no special treatment nor any kind of protection whatever—just a hardy shrub for ordinary garden soil in any part of the British Isles, however far north.

A Vice-Chairman, Floral Committee, R.H.S., wrote: "Everyone who has seen my plant has been astonished at its warm glowing red," and from a lady in Devon: "I am so delighted with the Broom 'Dorothy Walpole.' It has done splendidly and is like a sparkling gem in the garden—one mass of flower."

Strong pot-grown plants now ready for planting out, to flower in May, 12/6 each. Carriage paid rates to any station in Great Britain or Ireland: One plant, carriage paid, 15/-; two plants, carriage paid, 28/6; three plants, carriage paid, 41/-; six plants, carriage paid, 79/6.

Coloured illustration sent on application if THE GARDEN is mentioned.

Wm. Watson & Sons, Ltd., Nurseries, Killiney, Co. Dublin.

BY APPOINTMENT

FERTILIZERS FOR THE GARDEN

Increase your yield of Vegetables by a small . . outlay on . .

FISONS' CHAMPION FERTILIZER

for the Kitchen Garden.

Price per cwt. **26/-** Carr. paid.

7-lbs. **3/-**; 14-lbs. **5/-**; 28-lbs. **8/6**; 56-lbs. **15/-**

USE 7 LBS. TO THE ROD.

Illustrated Catalogue of Fertilizers for all Garden Crops post free from

Joseph Fison & Co., Ltd. Ipswich.

Toogood's Seeds

THE BEST THAT GROW

You ought to have our free illustrated Guide to "Guaranteed Garden Seeds"—write at once to:—

TOOGOOD & SONS, Ltd.
The King's Seedsmen, SOUTHAMPTON.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

VOL. XC.—No. 2831. FEBRUARY 20, 1926.

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.; Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2. *Offices for Advertisements:* 6-11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

THE LATE REV. JOSEPH JACOB, M.A.: AN APPRECIATION

A GREAT gardener has passed away in the person of the Rev. Joseph Jacob. He was for forty-two years the Rector of Whitewell, a small parish in the diocese of Chester, but actually situated in Wales, a portion of Flint separated from the rest of the county by an intervening stretch of Denbigh. At the time of the Dissolution of the Church in Wales, a special clause was inserted in the Act to except Whitewell from its operation. In this peaceful country parish, with so few inhabitants, the bachelor Rector devoted his spare time to horticulture.

The Rectory garden was developed on the lines of a Dutch nursery garden, and the good soil and skilful cultivation it received produced fine quality in the many bulbous plants grown there. Daffodils and tulips were the chief subjects, grown in thousands in the large areas enclosed by high hedges of conifers and privet. After the eelworms threatened the vigour of his daffodils he arranged for them to be grown on other land, and gave more space to tulips. He was always ready to try the merits of new varieties, both for outdoor work and also under glass, and few men had such a wide knowledge of the garden value of so many varieties of these two genera.

During the last ten years he had been remarkably successful in raising seedling lachenalias and freesias, many of which received awards at the Royal Horticultural Society's shows.

He was a frequent visitor to the Dutch bulb fields, and his judgment and advice were much valued by his many horticultural friends in Holland. Delphiniums and asters were among the plants he had lately chosen to collect and compare, but most plants of value for garden ornament and cutting received a share of his attention. He made a point of trying a certain number of annuals that were but catalogue names to him each year, in order to learn their possibilities, and very few came under his care without his discovering some variation and line of improvement in the strain. By these practical methods he obtained a first-hand knowledge of ornamental plants which his facile pen poured out in a constant stream for the guidance of others. He wrote in an easy conversational style, enriched by a wealth of quaint or humorous quotations gathered from the most varied sources.

No one equalled him in this power of describing the qualities of flowers in amusing and vivid similes and anecdotes. Besides writing regularly for several horticultural journals, he wrote the gardening articles in the *Queen* for many years.

THE LATE REV. JOSEPH JACOB, M.A

He was the author of the two books in the "Present Day Garden" series, entitled "Tulips" and "Daffodils." As lately as 1924 he launched a useful book of simple information for the unskilled gardener, called "Hardy Bulbs for Amateurs."

His greatness as a gardener arose from his first-hand knowledge of the subjects he dealt with and his power of expressing it in everyday language. These two qualities made his name familiar to amateur gardeners throughout the world.

He was a member of the Narcissus and Tulip Committees and also of the Library Committee of the R.H.S. His own library contained fine copies of many beautiful and rare gardening books. His cheery manner and kindness of heart endeared him to all who knew him, and he will be greatly missed by a large circle of friends.

AUGUSTUS BOWLES.

AMONG THE ARTICLES IN OUR NEXT ISSUE WILL BE:

PRIMULAS FOR GARDENS, by John McWatt.

SWEET PEAS OF YESTERDAY.

TREES AND SHRUBS IN WESTERN SCOTLAND.

Digitized by Google

SHRUBS FOR UNDERPLANTING

THE FURNISHING OF THE GROUND BENEATH TREES AND IN OTHER UNFAVOURABLE POSITIONS WHERE OFTEN IT IS TOO DARK OR OTHERWISE UNSUITABLE FOR EVEN GRASS TO FLOURISH, WILL BE A SUBJECT OF INTEREST AND CONCERN TO MANY READERS.

IN most gardens there are positions unfavourable for the culture of shrubs in general, but which, with a little care and experiment in the choice of material, may be made interesting and ornamental. The planting of the ground beneath trees and the furnishing of dark corners, banks and slopes means very much in the general appearance and attractiveness of the garden, pleasure grounds and ornamental woodland. For the least favourable positions it cannot be said that the number of suitable shrubs is very extensive. On the other hand, it is a subject worthy of experiment in the planting of probable or possible subjects.

Common ivy is the subject most extensively grown beneath both evergreen and deciduous trees, also to furnish slopes and dark corners. Variety should be added by planting a number of the most distinct green-leaved varieties, and the flat character relieved by the introduction of some of the tree forms. Six of the most distinct and useful are Hedera canariensis (syns. H. algeriensis and H. maderensis), H. colchica (syns. H. Roegneriana and H. amurensis) and var. dentata, Emerald Green, H. Helix var. arborescens and H. colchica var. arborescens. Ivy should only be planted under common trees, as the roots are gross feeders and impoverish the ground, so that it is a fight for food and moisture between the roots of the two.

Among the taller evergreens the aucuba is the great stand-by for the darkest and least favourable positions. It is very surprising at times to observe the growth of these hardy fleshy-rooted shrubs in dark positions and in dry or root-infested ground. The spotted-leaved varieties are the most commonly cultivated, but, in particular under trees, the rich green-leaved sorts are the most pleasant and effective. Some of the best green-leaved forms, all varieties of Aucuba japonica, are, *Male*: viridis, grandis and crassifolia; *Female*: viridis Hillieri, longifolia, salicifolia, and the two dwarf varieties nana rotundifolia and vera.

The aucubas are so freely and readily propagated in quantity by cuttings in a close frame with gentle bottom heat that it is scarcely worth bothering about named varieties, but just to put in batches of cuttings taken from the best green-leaved forms at any season of the year when space is available in the propagating frames. Cuttings also root readily on a border outside, but the rate of progress is very much slower. Quite large shoots with several growths can be inserted in a propagating frame with bottom heat.

Prunus Laurocerasus is often seen planted extensively on sloping banks and under deciduous trees with clear trunks some distance up. Annual pruning is necessary to keep the plants within bounds and attractive. For prominent positions there are more interesting and ornamental shrubs to plant in preference to the common cherry laurel. Two dwarf varieties are, however, worthy of development for such purposes, their habit of growth and rich green leaves being just suited for dull and by no means inviting positions. The variety zabeliana is of somewhat spreading habit with leaves much smaller than the type, forming a freely branched shrub of attractive appearance. Stiffer in habit and notable for its hardiness, the variety schipkænsis is distinct and useful to plant in positions unfavourable to the majority of shrubs.

The mahonia or Oregon grape, Mahonia Aquifolium, is so well known that little need be written in its praise. For planting beneath tall deciduous trees it is second to none as an attractive undergrowth. To maintain a pleasant and neat appearance the plants should be

RHODODENDRONS CAN BE USED WITH FINE EFFECT UNDER THE SHADE OF TREES.

Digitized by Google

cut over each year in spring after flowering. Kept at a height of from 1½ft. to 3ft., according to the position, it provides a most beautiful and effective ground covering. The pinnate leaves on different plants and at various seasons provide many hues of dark metallic green; in poor soils copper and reddish hues are not uncommon. Nurserymen grow mahonias in thousands and ten thousands for covert planting. Division in spring and seeds provide easy methods of propagation.

As a dwarf flowering shrub to cultivate beneath deciduous shrubs and trees, the rose of Sharon, Hypericum calycinum, is an easy first in value. Rapidly increased by division, the plants thrive in nearly all soils and produce their rich yellow blossoms freely from June to September. Growing from 1ft. to 18ins. high, it is worth while cutting the whole growths back to within 4ins. to 6ins. of the ground each year in spring when new growths are about to push up. This gives a neat and tidy appearance, as the old growths harbour many old leaves during the winter.

Two species of ruscus are among the most valuable of all dwarf evergreen shrubs to plant beneath deciduous and evergreen trees. Our native butcher's broom, Ruscus aculeatus, is an erect shrub of stiff habit from 2ft. to 3ft. in height. The plants are unisexual, but my conclusion is that either the plants are not all unisexual or both sexes need not be present to ensure the production of the attractive red berries, ½in. in diameter, on the female. The free-fruiting forms are worth selecting and propagating by division.

Even more attractive as a carpet is Ruscus Hypoglossum, a dwarf shrub of spreading tufted habit, about 1ft. high, fresh shining green in colour. The furnishing effect is produced by the flattened branches or cladodes, which are leaf-like in appearance. The plants increase rapidly in size, and can be freely and rapidly propagated by division of the clumps.

MANY OF THE DWARF GROWING BERBERIS SPECIES FORM EXCELLENT CARPETS OF FOLIAGE UNDER TREES.

The shrub best known in our gardens is the shallon or salal, Gaultheria Shallon, a native of western North America. It forms dense thickets of growth varying from about 3ft. to 6ft. in height, spreading rapidly by means of underground stems or runners. The plants thrive best in moist lime-free soils. In moderate shade the plants produce globular pinkish white flowers during May and June, followed by juicy dark purple berries. Seeds provide a ready means of increase. Though the plants spread freely in the surrounding ground, increase by offsets or division is not so easy as one might expect. May is the best time for replanting, keeping the plants freely sprayed, and shaded with evergreen branches for a few weeks after planting.

The creeping wintergreen of eastern North America, Gaultheria procumbens, is a dainty dwarf evergreen 3ins. to 4ins., sometimes a little more in height. With its neat growth and glossy dark green leaves it forms an attractive carpet or undergrowth for deciduous shrubs and smaller trees, as, unlike most of the subjects named, it is not a gross feeder, neither is it equal to battling for food and moisture with the roots of elm or chestnut trees. Increase by division and by seeds contained within small red fruits nestling among the leaves in autumn.

For moist ground the Chinese Gaultheria Veitchiana is deserving of attention, in happy surroundings spreading by means of underground stems and forming a neat and distinct carpet. Its culture in dry positions should not be attempted, but it is noticeable that when planted in full sun the growths trail away in the directon of any shade and moisture if near at hand.

Among the newer Chinese shrubs the sarcococcas are particularly valuable additions, in view of their suitability to plant in shaded and partially shaded positions.

The one I like best is S. ruscifolia, quite a good name as descriptive of the rich dark green leaves. It should not be planted close, as then the distinctive bushy character can be seen, at least 4ft. through and 3ft. in height. S. humilis is of dwarf, tufted habit, 1ft. to 1½ft. high, giving a neat and pleasing appearance, planted as a carpet in shaded and sunless positions. S. saligna is an upright growing shrub with many slender stems, clothed with narrow, glossy, dark green leaves from about 2ft. to 2½ft. in height. All three species have small, white blossoms which commence to open sometimes before the close of the old year.

The Alleghany spurge, Pachysandra procumbens, forms neat tufts of growths

A GROUNDWORK OF HYPERICUM CALYCINUM USED WHERE GRASS WILL NOT THRIVE.

Digitized by Google

growing generally less than 1ft. high, making quite a useful and cheerful carpet for small areas. It is a native of the south-eastern United States. The other species, P. terminalis, is from Japan, with smaller leaves and some 4ins. to 6ins. high. The pachysandras are readily increased by division and like most of the shade-loving plants, thrive best in moderately moist soils.

We see frequent examples of the way the British brambles thrive in the woodland thickets and coppice. In fairly favourable positions the two double-flowered brambles, Rubus thyrsoideus var. flore pleno, white, and R. ulmifolius var. flore pleno (syn. bellidiflorus), pink, are worthy of attention. Under tall, deciduous trees with no low branches and soil not too dry, both plants give quite a good display of flower each year.

The privets, Ligustrum ovalifolium and L. vulgare, thrive in positions discussed in these notes, but one sees so much privet everywhere that one hesitates to suggest planting more, when there are other things equally suitable for the positions.

Rhododendrons ponticum and Cunningham's White, grow well under deciduous trees, but only flower when there is sufficient light to ripen the growths. Annual or biennial pruning is necessary to maintain a furnished and desirable effect.

CULTIVATION.

In view of the by no means favourable conditions for plant growth when the ground is already threaded with tree roots, a certain amount of preparation of the soil before planting is desirable to give the subjects selected a start in their fight for nourishment.

For the more shallow-rooted subjects, the ivy, hypericum, vinca and ruscus, a good dressing of rich soil should be forked in over the surface. A fork is suggested in order not to damage the existing roots too much if the trees are of value, but a spade can be used with advantage when the trees are large elm, horse chestnuts or limes as they will not suffer material damage. Assuming that the position will permit of the addition of 5ins. or 6ins. of fresh soil, such a top-dressing should give the undergrowth planted a good start.

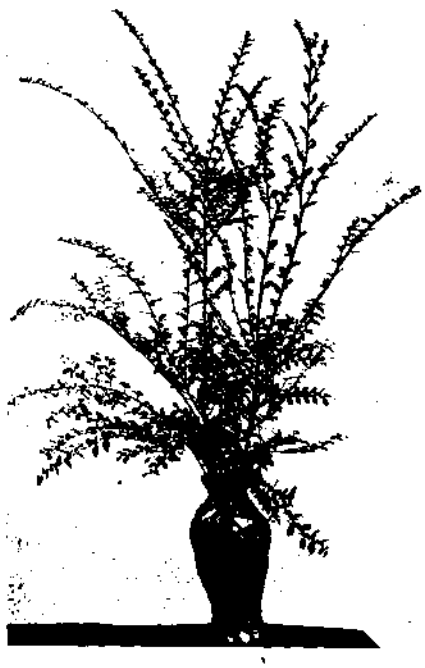
When fair-sized bushes of aucuba, holly or laurustinus are planted, it will be desirable to take out good holes for planting. This may mean the cutting of a few roots and may appear drastic, but it is necessary to give the new occupants an opportunity to gain a good root-hold or they will probably never become established and useful ornamental subjects.

Liberal supplies of water are most important, particularly during the first year or two after planting. With regard to mulching, discretion must be used as in some cases it may attract the roots of gross-feeding trees, which would do more harm than good to the subjects planted as undergrowth. A. O.

FOLIAGE FOR CUTTING

IT is during the winter months when the garden is barren, or almost barren, of flowers that one comes to realise how much can be done in the way of indoor decoration with foliage alone, always provided that a sufficient diversity in shade of colour and habit of growth is available. For instance, how admirably the grey-green—it is almost grey-blue—of Cistus ladaniferus contrasts with the deep green of Ceanothus Veitchianus, the pale, yellowy tipped sprays of Abelia uniflora and the shining leaves of Berberis buxifolia. And if to these are added some trails of Vinca major and of small-leaved ivy and the whole arranged lightly in a tall blue Chinese jar, the effect will be delightful. Here is another recipe. Take a few small branches of Veronica angustifolia, of Olearia Haastii and of Ribes speciosus (otherwise R. fuchsioides), mix with them some tall spikes of rosemary, half a dozen of the curving dark-leaved sprays of Berberis stenophylla and some trails of Hypericum calycinum, on which the pointed red-brown seed pods remain, place them in a big, two-handled cider mug of brown earthenware—and enjoy the result!

The tiny sweet scented blossoms of Azara microphylla are not only inconspicuous in themselves, but are so hidden away at the back of the branches that its value as a flowering shrub is negligible, but its flat fan-shaped sprays of shining leaves are ideal for mingling with other cut evergreens. Another useful shrub not very generally grown is Berberidopsis corallina, but unluckily it is not quite hardy save in the south of England. Choisya ternata, the flowers and foliage of which are equally beautiful, needs a very sheltered place and a little root protection in winter in a cold district, but it is worth while to give it this amount of attention. The value of Garrya elliptica for winter cutting is well known, but in my north Somerset garden, which is open to the east, it is completely ruined by early frosts nine winters out of ten and this winter is certainly not the lucky tenth! Daphne pontica is chiefly esteemed for its flowers, the scent of which is strong and sweet, if rather sickly, but its pale green foliage on bright brown stems is very handsome.



THE FEATHERY FOLIAGE OF AZARA MICROPHYLLA.

Most of the shrubby veronicas supply good material for winter cutting; perhaps the best for the purpose, besides V. angustifolia, already mentioned, are V. Traversii and V. salicifolia. The slender, graceful branches of the latter are not only pretty in themselves, but in a winter of ordinary mildness they are rarely without a few of their delicate little flower spikes. The majority of evergreen berberises are desirable for our purpose, but I confess to disliking cordially B. Aquifolium (Mahonia), which is so often seen in florists' shops dyed a horrible magenta crimson. It is ugly enough in its natural condition, but when artificially coloured it is repulsive. Skimmia japonica owes its popularity chiefly to its brilliant red berries, but even without these (and as this shrub is dioecious, it often happens that where only one specimen is grown it bears no fruit), its neat tufts of light green leaves are sufficiently attractive. The escallonias are of doubtful hardiness, except in warm districts or near the sea, but where they thrive their foliage is excellent arranged in "bean-pots," especially that of E. floribunda, E. exoniensis and E. langleyensis.

A quaint little heath-like shrub, of which both leaves and stems are golden-yellow, is Cassinia fulvida, otherwise known by the terrific name of Diplopappus chrysophyllus. Its bright and unusual colouring makes a pleasant relief to the more sombre greens and it may be also used successfully in combination with those winter-flowering shrubs whose blossoms appear before the leaves, such as Lonicera Standishii, Chimonanthus fragrans and the witch-hazels, although I am inclined to think that these really look their best alone.

I do not entirely share Mr. E. A. Bowles' liking for variegated foliage—*vide* "My Garden in Spring"—but it has its uses. Trails of Japanese honeysuckle (var. aurea reticulata) will relieve an over-dark mass of green agreeably, while in the case of large groups the so-called white-washed bramble (Rubus biflorus) may be introduced with a like result. Euonymus japonicus vars. aureus and albo-marginatus, and the similar varieties of Osmanthus ilicifolia, are all more or less desirable, but there is one variegated shrub which should be severely avoided and that is the coarse and common Aucuba japonica. R. E. HEAD.

Digitized by Google

WALL GARDENING—II

IT seemed easy to cover this special phase of rockwork in one article, but really it was a forlorn hope to attempt. I succeeded only in building a single wall and the herbaceous bed on top. The garden I have in mind slopes steeply and is big. So we get to the intriguing game again.

At the far side of the herbaceous bed you make another path—wider by half than the first—and beyond that rear a second wall of boulders heftier still to carry up the true perspective. And this time I am thinking of what is to be planted on the brink of the stout wall.

You shall have marigolds, set in great clumps between alternate companies of lads' love and lasses' love. And what is lasses' love? you ask. It is lads' love's mate—a winsome thing of grey, crinkled fragrance that sends up golden flowers in late summer. Elsewhere they name her French lavender, but here on the moorlands they give her a title of beguiling poetry. Lads' love and lasses' love—and marigolds roaming in and out, like pages at their bridal—what more could man ask of any wall-top, except we have, too, English lavender ranked close behind them in massed clumps? Lads' love and lavender—lavender and lasses' love—if you fancy they can only lilt so pleasantly together in mere words, plant them along that bold rock-top, and wait for summer, and see the rhythm and the poetry come to eager life, palpable and real.

Behind the lads' love and lavender, if you are wise, you will plant mallows, white-flowered and pink in alternate clumps. And behind them again, every happy blue that the delphiniums have captured. And, in among them all, the old English golden rod will be ablaze in autumn, side by side with the white daisy, tall, wide-eyed, a St. Michael of flower-land who holds autumn's banner up to the advancing hordes of winter.

These delights suggest, somehow, that you begin to strew the rock face itself with garden thyme in great profusion. It is a gallant-hearted herb, friendly with rocks, and at time of bloom one thinks of heather in its pride, up yonder where the high moors look down on our lowland garden efforts. And among the thyme be spendthrift once more with double arabis and London pride and golden alyssum.

It is hard to describe in little space the months that go to the building of such a garden, reared in friendly combat with northern weather—hard to tell the spadework joy of good, teeming earth that knows the business you are engaged on. The wrestle with boulders, too—you and a henchman, brothers at the lifting—is a diverting pastime. These big rocks are such passive resisters and seem so brainless till you get them into place and bring the bride-flowers among them to teach their gaunt uncouthness how to blossom forth.

There is a third terrace yet to be built. Again you widen the next path—it is a broad roadway now—and rear a clumpier boulder wall. You need two men to help you by this time, and the three of you get so into tune with the adventure that meals and most things else are forgotten. But old folk-tales of the moors and glens are remembered as you work. You learn more of your dale in a week of this sort than a year of other kinds of intimacy could teach.

We talk to rocks as to giants defying us or to children—this when we have got them nicely poised on edge—needing indulgent guidance. And the rocks say nothing audible in return; but we know that they understand it all. So far, indeed, does this intimacy go that sometimes, when we have placed a boulder to our liking and stand back to admire him, we fancy that his ancient face breaks into a wrinkled smile, as if his vanity were tickled.

When you have reached the summit of this steep-climbing garden, where the meadow beyond roves out to the fells and the moor, you choose your last line of boulders with extreme care and diligence. Every man of them you have marked, one time or another, up the pastures, and hoped to have him for your own one day. And now you hear the wagoners come down the hill-track, their wains creaking on the brakes. They are bringing you, from far-strewn fields of rock, your chosen monarchs to the ground prepared for royalty.

A battle-field sort of time ensues. The boulders to be reared in place vary in weight from four hundredweight to a ton. The Greeks of old in their crisp, romantic way would have named the biggest "no small part of a mountain."

They seem no small part now, as we all get mixed up together—gardeners and carters, pulley-blocks and rocks that shiver on their chains, stray wagoners' dogs that talk noisily about an affair they do not understand. It is a marvel that nobody is hurt; but there's order under all the confusion, and the wagoners are skilled with pulley-blocks.

Until now you have worked steadily from the stream at the garden foot, making your way up the steep rise yard by hard-won yard. Your plan is altered. Instead of working from the last-made path, you go to the garden top, where the dry-built wall that divided it from the meadow has been taken down. Along the shallow trench, prepared already along the line of the old wall foundation, your biggest rocks are lowered into place, shoulder to shoulder, till they fence the garden on its windiest side far more effectually than the dismantled wall could do—defend it not only from gales and roving sleet showers, but from field seeds incontinently blown into your ordered plan of what should grow, and what should not, in the garden they assault.

The joy of seeing that outer rampart in settled order is not to be described in words. You have worked with such consuming zeal at the garden itself. What use would there be in that if you had left it to the mercies of a northern winter, shrilling from the hill-top? As well build a house, plant it with wife and weans, and fail to bar the doors o' nights.

A WALL GARDEN WITH NATURE'S CLOTHING.

At this stage of the adventure you are vastly practical. The stones of the discarded limestone wall have been wheeled into heaps this side the boulder rampart and broken into chips. Soil and leaf-mould have been barrowed into their separate piles. It is simplicity itself, with the men and tackle at command, to get the smaller boulders into place and fill their crannies with soil mixtures to your liking.

When all is finished, your terraces tier on tier are walled at the summit by a broad boulder garden which, viewed from the garden foot, is singular in its bold completeness. Seen close at hand it is a realm of its own, a fairyland of blossom and many-coloured leafage.

Before planting the top of this stout rampart you have studied old castle walls and learned what flowers will brave naked weather, provided you give

Digitized by Google

them the like foothold among the crannies —powdered rubble, a minimum of thin soil, nothing leaf-mouldy or rich. The plants that sentry castle walls, true to their military tradition, ask for no soft living.

This highest clump of boulders, which walls the garden, descends in rough ledges to the level of the path below. Once the exposed summit is planted with the hardiest subjects, one has a freer range of choice for the lower, sheltered ledges, and individual fancy may design at leisure. One boulder, however, makes its own suggestion. It has come from its pasture home ready planted, and a most alluring clump of ground ivy clambers about its face. Cotoneaster, too, thrives in the deeper clefts, and is a year-long joy. Flower and leaf and shining fruit are all delectable.

These for suggestions, too. When you reach the smaller boulders that step down to the path, build them a little wide apart and fill the pockets with good loamy soil, pebble drained under a liberal depth. Along the lowest tier plant every hue of violas known to the garden world—not anyhow, but each colour in its group. Violas anywhere are a physic for sore hearts. It is a revelation to see their maiden shyness, their velvet charm, against a background of hoar, grey rock.

So with the dianthus clan. On the ledge above the violas plant dwarf pinks in roving clumps. They are not shy at all, but eager lassies that welcome sun and shower. Violas in rain shed meditative tears, half sad; but the pinks shed tears of merry laughter. The two are good companions for each other.

And when your garden is complete, and summer blows, you may wander where you like in it, tasting its sweets. But always, I think, especially near gloaming, you will tarry longest on the highest path, and drink in the mingled odours of pinks and dewy violas. There is no fragrance so appealing, so swift to draw sad-happy memories and keep them near. HALLIWELL SUTCLIFFE.

ANNUALS IN THE ROCK GARDEN

THE use of annuals in the rock garden may not commend itself to every gardener, but it cannot be denied that the use of appropriate kinds for filling up or furnishing bare spaces is of great value for providing a display of colour during the summer and autumn months, after the great majority of alpine plants have flowered. Only the dwarfer-growing kinds should be used, so that they are in keeping with the other inhabitants of the rock garden. Many early-flowering plants used in the rock garden mature early and lose their foliage, as also do the bulbous subjects, leaving bare and unsightly spaces during the later months of the year. By the judicious use of annuals sown at the proper time this condition of things may be avoided.

Hardy annuals may be sown at any time from March to May for summer and autumn flowering. As it is not possible to dig between the permanent plants or bulbs, the soil may be prepared by loosening it with a hand fork, afterwards making it level and raking it finely. If the weather is dry, a good watering may be necessary some time before sowing. Sow the seeds thinly, and cover lightly with some finely sifted soil. Very fine seeds need hardly any covering at all, but the soil must be kept moist and, if possible, shaded with branches of evergreens till the seedlings are up. When the seedlings are large enough to handle, thin them out freely, leaving ample space for each plant to develop to its full size. When the thinning is well carried out, dwarf and bushy plants are the result.

Half-hardy annuals must be left for outside sowing until the beginning of May, and a warm sunny place should be selected for them. Among these are many plants with beautiful flowers of rich colouring, a representative one being Portulaca grandiflora, commonly called the sun plant. In the following selection of suitable annuals the majority are of dwarf habit, scarcely exceeding 3ins. or 4ins. high, or at most 6ins.

In the genus alyssum we have one valuable and charming little annual in A. maritimum. It is commonly called sweet alyssum and grows into a neat bush some 4ins. high, covered with fragrant white flowers. A form of this, called the rock alyssum, forms a carpet-like mass close to the ground, producing sheets of snowy white blooms. The seeds of this plant germinate in about ten days and come into flower in about six weeks. They should be thinned to at least 3ins. apart. With flowers of brilliant colouring is Anagallis linifolia, var. cœrulea having intense rich gentian-blue flowers, while var. Breweri has large brilliant scarlet ones. Campanula drabæfolia (C. attica) is a neat little plant with flowers about ½in. in diameter, those of the type being rich bluish purple with white centres, the other form having white flowers.

Somewhat taller is Cheiranthus Allionii, with its rich orange-coloured flowers produced in succession for a long period. A member of the lobelia family is Downingia elegans, also known as Clintonia pulchella. It is a native of California, and grows about 5ins. high, with blue and white lobelia-like flowers. The Namaqualand daisy (Dimorphotheca aurantiaca) is a beautiful annual from South Africa, with large daisy-like flowers of a glossy salmon-orange shade having a dark central ring in the typical plant. There are now many varieties of various shades of colour from blush white to yellow. Gilias are charming little plants of easy cultivation. They form dense tufts surmounted by numerous brilliantly coloured flowers. G. androsacea is one of the dwarfest, with rose-coloured blooms; while var. aureus has rich yellow ones. G. tricolor has lavender flowers shading to white, with a central violet ring. Various members of this genus are also known as leptosiphons.

A charming little Portuguese annual is Ionopsidium acaule, growing only 2ins. high. On the rock garden it may be associated with even the choicest plants, never overrunning its neighbours, while it is also valuable for sowing in the crevices of paved walks or rugged steps. It flowers very quickly from seed and often produces a second crop of its pale violet flowers in the autumn. Serving a double purpose as a decorative plant and a good bee flower, the Californian Limnanthes Douglasii is a free-growing annual, with beautiful yellow flowers, the petals of which shade off to white margins. It is of bushy habit, only a few inches high, and flowers for a long period. The linaria family contains many pretty annuals, some of the best being L. saxatilis with yellow flowers; L. maroccana, varying from dark violet to light blue, crimson and yellow; and L. reticulata with maroon-scarlet flowers having a golden blotch. One of the most brilliantly coloured annuals is Linum grandiflorum, with its large crimson flowers.

The Californian genus nemophila contains three or four very attractive annuals, the well known N. insignis being the brightest and best. Its flowers are bright sky blue with a white centre, and it is an inch in diameter. There is also a white variety worth growing, N. atomaria with white flowers, the petals of which are covered with minute spots; while in N. discoidalis the flowers have a deep maroon centre but are edged with white. Omphalodes linifolia is a very refined south European annual, producing throughout the summer months an abundance of forget-me-not-like flowers of a very pale blue or white. More suitable for the moraine is the alpine poppy (P. alpinum), a miniature plant with white, rose, yellow and orange-red flowers on slender stalks.

One of the very best blue-flowered annuals is Phacelia campanularia, which grows to the height of just over 6ins. The numerous flowers are bell-shaped and of the most brilliant ultramarine blue colour. They are produced over a long period. Belonging to the same genus, P. viscida, also known as Eutoca viscida, also has intense blue flowers.

Given a warm place in light sandy soil, the portulacas surpass all other outdoor annuals for brilliancy and beauty of colour. They are admirable for carpeting the ground in sunny situations, while the colour of the flowers varies from crimson and yellow through every shade to pure white. The individual flowers are large, and there are both single and double forms. Seeds are best sown in late April, and they quickly form large spreading tufts. Sphenogyne speciosa (also known as ursinia) is of dwarf spreading habit, with showy marguerite-like flowers on low-growing, spreading plants. The flowers vary from buff yellow to lemon colour, and are of good size.

Most certainly a few out of the foregoing list should find a place in the rock garden this year. W. I.

Digitized by Google

THE BLUE POPPIES—II

BY F. KINGDON WARD.

MECONOPSIS SIMPLICIFOLIA var. Baileyi is a fairly well known plant, but is not very happy with us. It mopes along, however. I have never quite understood why this sky blue flowered plant from the eastern Himalaya is considered to be distinct; Sir David Prain said that it was identical with the species known from Nepal and Sikkim, but growers decided that M. simplicifolia was a perennial with dark blue or purple flowers, and hailed the sky blue biennial with joy. It is only necessary to add that M. simplicifolia, as figured in the *Botanical Magazine* many years ago (Tab. 8364), has sky blue flowers and exactly resembles Sir Herbert Maxwell's excellent painting of M. simplicifolia var. Baileyi, reproduced in his latest book.

Nothing is said about scent in any of these plants. Our M. simplicifolia (K.W. 5737), collected in the drier country north of the Tsangpo, is delightfully fragrant; it may, or may not, prove easier of cultivation than previous gatherings. It wants half shade and a well drained soil, growing on banks under bushes for preference. A fairly rich mixture of half loam and half grit would suit it. We made two other gatherings of plants purporting to be the same thing, more or less, from south of the Tsangpo. K.W. 5855 looks very like M. simplicifolia, but it has wine purple flowers without scent, and a longer style; it comes from a lower altitude but a wetter region.

The third gathering, from the other side of the same range, K.W. 6245, we did not see in flower, as its haunts were under deep snow when we first visited them. It may well be a distinct species, though it is of the simplicifolia type and is also an alpine; but it produces twice as many scapes as our M. simplicifolia, six to eight as against three to four, and grows in the open on rubble chutes.

The only other species of this alliance it is necessary to mention is the ivory poppy, K.W. 5766, a very rare plant, seeing that we found only seven specimens of it. Moreover, it set practically no seed, so that it remains doubtful whether we introduced it or not. If it is an albino form of M. simplicifolia—which it closely resembles, even to the fragrance—it may come up with that plant; but if it is a distinct species—as some plants with pallid yellow, rather than white, flowers suggest—it is unlikely to.

The aculeatæ or prickly poppy group furnished two fine new species, M. Prainiana and M. Cawdoriana. The former, from rather lofty altitudes, grows 4oins. high and carries a fine raceme of pale blue nodding flowers with golden stamens. It is not scented. The flowers are rather more firmly put together than those of most aculeatæ, and do not so readily come unstuck in wind and rain; the result is that you get a number of flowers blooming at the same time, which is unusual with M. Prattii for instance, which soon begins to look draggled in bad weather.

MECONOPSIS PRAINIANA, ONE OF THE PRICKLY GROUP.

If M. Prainiana (K.W. 5909), which has come from seed moderately well, proves hardy, it will be a distinct acquisition; but its habitat—boulder screes at 15,000ft., — is suspicious.

M. Cawdoriana is a lovely thing with sweetly scented sky blue flowers and golden stamens. In habit it resembles the ordinary form of M. horridula—that is to say, there is usually no central stem, but a false stem, composed of fused solitary scapes, each of which bears a single nodding flower; most of the inflorescence is composed of these single-flowered separate scapes.

M. Cawdoriana does not range quite as high as M. Prainiana, occurring between 14,000ft. and 15,000ft. on turf or earth slopes, and flowering before the end of June, nearly a month earlier than M. Prainiana. Seed of it, K.W. 5751, has germinated, but not freely. Neither species is very common, though both are fairly widely spread. On one occasion I saw a remarkable sight, namely, five species of meconopsis in view at once, and there must have been several dozen plants there. The species were M. pseudo-integrifolia, var. M. simplicifolia, M. Cawdoriana, M. impedita var. Morsheadii, and the ivory poppy. As a rule—certainly in China—these plants keep to their own beat, and I have never before seen such profusion.

THE IVORY POPPY.

M. impedita var. Morsheadii, which differs from the type only in technical details, is the commonest alpine species in eastern Tibet. It occurs in thousands on the steep gravelly turf slopes, throwing up its little fountains of dark blue golden-eyed flowers, which open after the middle of June. It is a graceful little plant, but, since M. impedita has not proved very successful in cultivation, this variety may not fare any better.

It cannot be too strongly insisted that what all these plants chiefly need is a good run for their long tap roots. They ought to have at least 3ft. of loose soil, and no water standing at the bottom. It is all very fine growing them in the rock garden—they are, of course, rock plants; but we grow so many things there that in the dense rich soil used to feed them all, their roots cannot go down, and they are starved and stunted in consequence. The soil must be coarse, with a free admixture of sand or chips, and the plants must not be crowded up with a lot of other stuff. They should be scattered, preferably on a steep slope to ensure good drainage, and sheltered from direct sunlight. Some species, but not all, like lime, or are, at least, indifferent to it; but none of the species collected in Tibet requires lime.

Just as there are two things these plants demand—namely a sufficient depth of light soil and abundant water—so there are two things they will not put up with, summer drought and impure air. Both are fatal. All the species are gluttons for water, and almost live on it; never mind how poor the soil is so long as there is plenty of it, and plenty of water underneath it. As for impure air, the meconopsis are not town plants, and abhor smoke.

So far, success has chiefly attended the cultivation of the most strapping species, belonging to the group robustæ: M. Wallichii, M. paniculata and M. robusta. Of the prickly blue

Digitized by Google

poppies, M. Prattii and M. latifolia do well; and both M. integrifolia and M. pseudo-integrifolia offer no insuperable obstacle. But these are all biennial, and, though several of them come from self-sown seed, that is not so satisfactory. What we want is a good perennial, and M. Baileyi appears likely to fill the gap. As for the dwarf species—MM. bella, concinna, lancifolia and others—to most of us they are but names. Possibly the dwarf yellow-flowered M. Florindæ will satisfy our wants there too.

NOTES OF THE WEEK

KERRIA JAPONICA.

KERRIA JAPONICA is a favourite with quite a number of country folk and, not infrequently, is found growing in bush form near cottage doors, its orange-yellow blossoms being a feature of the garden in May and June. It is a shrub found in many parts of England, and seems somewhat indifferent as to soil, doing best, however, when planted in sandy loam. Unfortunately, too often it is permitted to grow as it pleases, no pruning being attempted, consequently one notices bushes full of weakly shoots. Best results are always obtained when some of the old wood is cut away after the blooming period.

We are apt to think of this old worthy of our gardens in the terms of bushes and overlook the fact that it is quite amenable to training over walls and around door frames. On a south wall, where the blossoms often open in May in an early spring, it makes a fine display. Kerrias will lift quite late in the planting season, and February and March is as suitable a time as any. To deal with it as a climber, a plant should be procured having two or three shoots.—W. F.

THE EARLY-FLOWERING RHODODENDRON PRÆCOX.

MANY people maintain that these early flowering rhododendrons are not worth growing in the open unless in very favoured districts, as they are liable to be spoiled by frosts at their flowering period during our erratic springs.

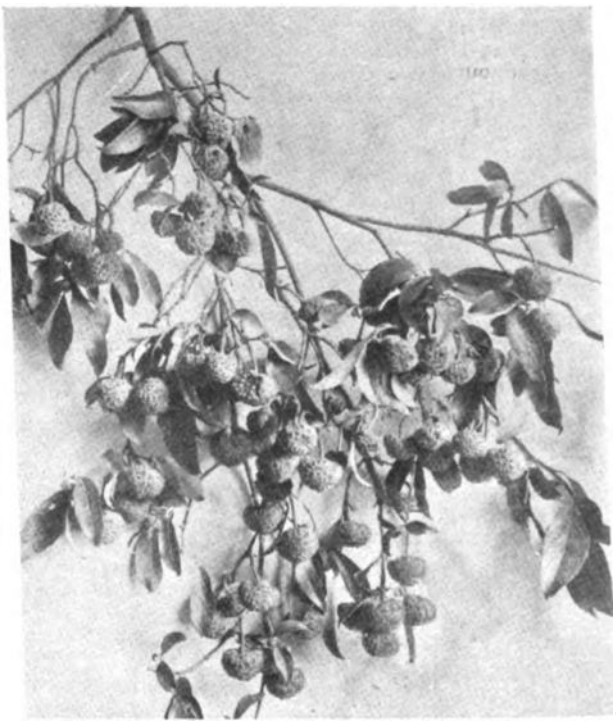
If a position sheltered from the east is chosen, where the early morning sun cannot reach them, they are subjects that may be enjoyed during most seasons, for at least a few days and very often for their full period of flowering. R. præcox, the subject of this note, is a hybrid raised from crossing the beautiful R. ciliatum with R. dauricum. In the north I have seen dauricum flowering freely during December and January, followed by præcox, moupinense and ciliatum.

R. præcox forms an ideal bush and no flowering shrub is more beautiful in early spring than this when covered with its rosy-purple flowers. It is quite hardy and is easily struck from cuttings of half-ripened wood inserted under bell-glasses in sandy peat, in a little bottom heat.

Greater use could be made of these small-flowered forms of this noble family in forming dividing hedges in districts where rhododendrons flourish. Such varieties as præcox, ciliatum, yunnanense, lutescens and ambiguum, might be much more used for this purpose and would form more interesting hedges with less trouble and expense in upkeep than some of the subjects we see used for this at the present time.

The illustration is of a plant of R. præcox which has been growing for a number of years in Greenwich Park, by no means an ideal home for rhododendrons.

Incidentally, it may be mentioned that many of the older residents of Greenwich and Blackheath pay frequent visits during early spring to this fine old park to note when the first flowers of "their" rhododendrons open and many have kept records of the period of flowering for a number of years.—R. FINDLAY, *Wisley*.

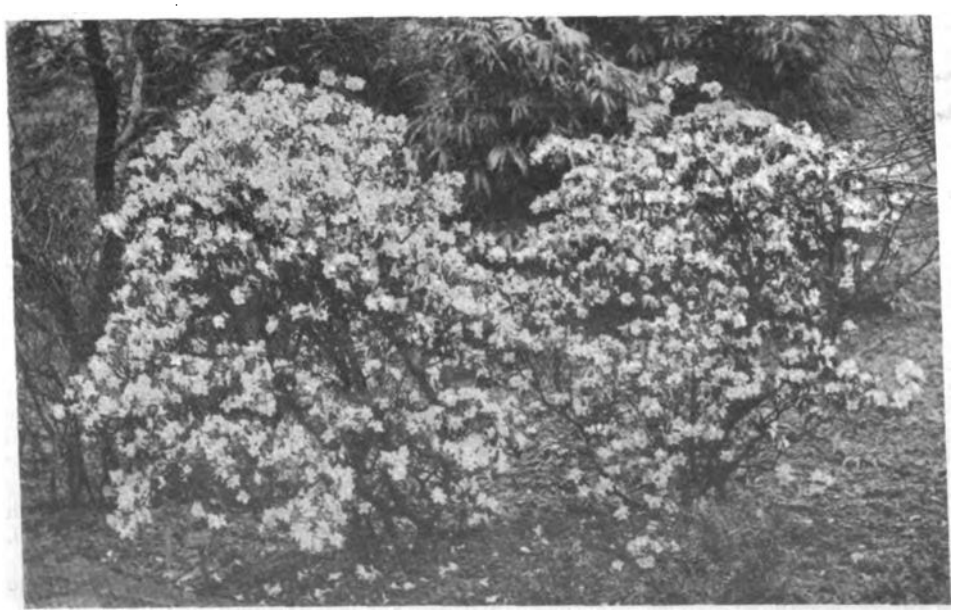


A FRUITING SPRAY OF CORNUS CAPITATA.

CORNUS CAPITATA.

IN many gardens this tree is known under the name of Benthamia fragifera, but the above is the correct nomenclature according to many authorities. Where it thrives C. capitata makes a handsome shrub and Cornwall is a favoured spot for this delightful plant. That, however, is not the only county where this plant will give tolerably good results, here, in Monmouthshire will be found several examples, 18ft. to 20ft. high and even more in diameter. The beautiful garden of Itton Court, Chepstow, can boast of a good plant, while at St. Pierre, Chepstow, the residence of Mr. D. C. Lysaght, there are two specimens, one of which is nearly 30ft. high and 20ft. across. This plant occasionally bears fruit freely and it was this source that supplied the material for the illustration. The strawberry shaped fruits are reddish-yellow and are readily seen in the picture, and although the shrub is attractive when laden with its fruits, it is even more so when in bloom. The actual flower is minute and inconspicuous, the beauty being in the four or six sulphur-yellow bracts. The plant is partially evergreen, the flowers appear in June and July, while the photograph was taken at the end of November by Mr. M. Moulton. It was introduced from the Himalayas a century ago, and it also hails from China.

This cornel cannot be recommended for every garden, but there are many in which it would thrive, flower and bear fruit. It will never succeed in a cold, wet soil, so a well drained position should be chosen.—T. W. BRISCOE.



RHODODENDRON PRÆCOX WREATHED IN BLOSSOM IN EARLY FEBRUARY.

CULTIVATED BLACKBERRIES.

IT may seem strange to some readers that I should recommend the above-named hardy fruits as desirable occupants of any garden, and it would appear quite unnecessary in districts where these berries grow wild on commons and in the hedgerows. I do advise their cultivation where space is available, as it is in hundreds of gardens. Odd corners and positions where practically no other profitable crop can be grown are suitable sites. It is done in my own district where there are acres of blackberries growing wild, and our own British blackberry is given the preference. When the plants are well grown and properly trained, fed at the

Digitized by Google

roots while the fruits are swelling and allowed to mature thoroughly, they are almost as large again as the wild ones, the aroma from the growing berries and while they are being gathered is delicious, and less sugar is required when jam is made. The fruits are borne on wood grown during the previous year, except in the case of the Himalaya Berry, a new blackberry which bears on old wood for several years. The Wilson, Jun. and the variety Lauciniatus, commonly called parsley-leaved, are the two sorts in addition to our native berry that deserve cultivation, but I think the flavour of the last named is the better. In every case the plants should be quite 6ft. apart. I do not favour trellis-grown plants, as it is so difficult to disentangle the shoots. Train to upright stakes about 7ft. high. When the fruit has been gathered unfasten the branches, let them fall to the ground, cut out the fruit-bearing ones, and retrain three or five to the stake again and the work is done. The plants never get out of hand. Cultivation: good, firm soil and feeding as stated above.—GEO. GARNER.

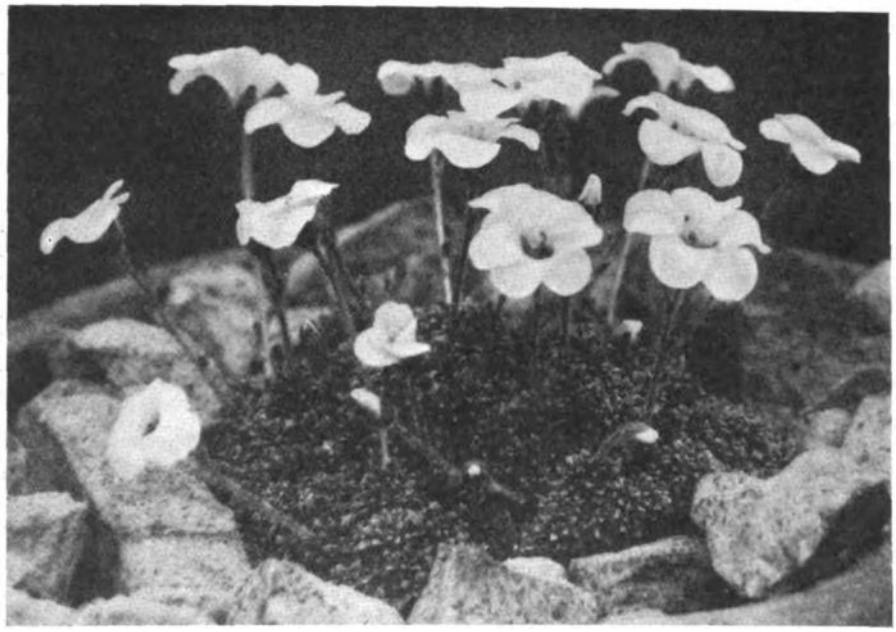
DIANTHUS GRANITICUS.

MANY admirers of the dianthus care little for the small-flowered species, such as D. deltoides, the "Maiden Pink, of odour faint," but a considerable number of these create quite a good effect when massed together, and when so grouped are by no means to be despised. Our own maiden pink has great beauty: but its ally, Dianthus graniticus, from the granite districts of the Pyrenees and southern France, is of even more value for massing in the rock garden or on the moraine. It may, with some truth, be called "a glorified maiden pink," from the taller growth and the superior size of its flowers. It has been said by a good and well informed critic that it is the best of the pinks allied to D. hirtus, and it is no mean tribute to its beauty to say this.

It is sometimes about a foot high, but is generally less, and with me has usually ranged from 9ins. downward to about 6ins. It has a slender, wiry habit of growth and the plant itself is quite pleasing. Above the tufts of leaves there appear, all the summer through, pretty, bright, notched, starry pink flowers, with the "freckling" observed on D. deltoides, which is almost zone-like in its way, and which is more evident on the white forms of D. deltoides than on the pink. While the general colour of D. graniticus is bright pink, seedlings vary considerably, and deeper coloured and also white varieties are produced. An excellent way is to sow a packet of seeds, which are offered by such firms as Messrs. Thompson and Morgan and to select the best seedlings for propagation by cuttings. A sunny place in a non-calcareous soil is the best for D. graniticus, but it does not resent lime to the extent of refusing to grow and flower, though it is not so fine when this ingredient is present in the compost.—S. ARNOTT.

A REMARKABLE STREPTOCARPUS.

ONE of the most remarkable of the genus streptocarpus is S. Wendlandii. This species, which was introduced from Natal in 1890, is an extremely handsome plant, with flowers of a bright and very clear blue colour. Probably the most arresting thing about the plant is its foliage, which usually consists of a single leaf of a very large size when compared with the plant as a whole. The leaf has given rise to the name of "Elephant's Ear," by which S. Wendlandii is commonly known in Natal. This streptocarpus is of simple greenhouse culture. Raised from seed sown in gentle warmth in the spring, the little plants are subsequently pricked off and potted as necessary.



A BEAUTIFUL NEW HYBRID SAXIFRAGE, S. ADA.

Every attempt should be made to produce sturdy specimens. It is important that, in the young state, the plants should never be allowed to become dry or be exposed to cold draughts. Either of these conditions are very likely to lead to failure.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

SAXIFRAGA ADA.

THIS beautiful and very charming new hybrid—the result of a cross made between the neat-habited S. tombeanensis and the well known and delightful S. Burseriana crenata, by Mr. R. V. Prichard, who was, until recently, a member of the well known firm of Maurice Prichard and Sons, Christchurch, Hants—is a welcome and praiseworthy addition to this large and popular race of rock plants.

A distinguishing feature about this new hybrid is its early-flowering quality, for its many white buds, which are a trifle tinted with lilac, sit very tightly and complaisantly above their grey-green mounds throughout December's dark days as though to await the coming of another year before unfolding to the full the delicacy of their studded blossoms.

Better than words of mine could express, the accompanying illustration of a plant barely 3ins. across depicts its neat and compact habit, and the superb substance of its well formed, rounded and slightly recurved flowers, which are carried on slender, 2in. high stems. Its floriferousness and the length of time the flowers last leave little to be desired. Out of doors a piece of glass is very necessary in order to protect its early blooms from unkindly elements.—J. T. H.

AN INTERESTING AND WELL-FLOWERED STREPTOCARPUS.

Digitized by Google

THE FIRST SIGN OF SPRING

SIGNS were not wanting at the Royal Horticultural Society's Show at Vincent Square Hall on the 9th inst. that we are approaching the fringe of spring, despite the dull weather conditions then prevailing. A representative collection of exhibits was staged, embracing all the precincts of the garden. Alpines were a feature, while greenhouse flowers contributed in no small measure to the delightful colour effects. Many exhibits of fruit were to be seen, while there were also several collections of artists' pictures on view.

Messrs. Sutton and Sons of Reading staged a very fine collection of greenhouse primulas. The exhibit included numerous varieties of P. sinensis and its form (if it may be called a form) P. stellata. The plants appeared robust and of vigorous constitution, and the wide range and gradation in colour were most marked. The collection served to illustrate to those unaware of what is going on in the horticultural world in the way of hybridising the rapid advance which has been made with this particular flower in recent years. The plants were shown to advantage in a carpet of moss where the flowers and foliage could be appreciated to their full extent. The giant-flowered types always attract attention, and one in the collection of outstanding merit was Giant Intensity, of good colour and habit. The eyeless type, of which there is nothing else like it, is especially dainty, and is reminiscent when in the mass of gently falling snow. Brighter tones were provided by the warmer coloured Etna, with its dark foliage; Vesuvius and Ruby Star; while blues were to be found in Reading Blue and The Czar. There is no need for the greenhouse to be dull and without bloom when so many varieties of winter-flowering primulas are at hand to occupy it in association with cyclamen, one of the most admirable winter-flowering subjects for the greenhouse.

The most interesting and unique of all the exhibits was a fine collection of citrus fruits and ornamental gourds, shown by Mr. Cecil Hanbury. All these had been grown at La Mortola, Ventimiglia, Italy. Oranges, lemons, citrons and tangerines in many varieties, some with thin smooth skins, others with thick dimpled rind, were exhibited. The curious shapes and forms of the ornamental gourds were commented on by many a spectator. Messrs. T. Rivers and Son also showed an attractive group of oranges, but in this case pot-grown trees were bearing the fruit. Each tree carried a number of exceptionally large and well ripened fruits. Two large collections of apples, including many varieties, were exhibited by Messrs. Bunyard and Messrs. J. C. Allgrove. On both stands the fruits were still in excellent condition.

Messrs. Carter and Co. arranged an imposing exhibit of single early-flowering tulips grown in pots and bowls. The tulips were not only well grown, but tastefully and effectively set up in separate groups of blending colours. Included in the collection were General de Wet, a delightful shade of soft orange; Sir Thomas Lipton, a showy brilliant scarlet; Montresor, a well shaped clear yellow tulip; Queen Flora; Ibis; and Prince of Austria.

Some beautiful pot specimens of camellias wreathed in blossom of white and varying shades of pink and red, were exhibited by Messrs. Chaplin Brothers. The Swan was a most attractive single white; Corallina, a deep red; Lady McKinnon, a red and white variety; and Eugenie Messine, a charming soft pink. Fine specimens of the climbing rose Lady Hillingdon came from Mr. Elisha Hicks' Nursery. Mr. George Prince also showed roses. Rhododendrons and poppy anemones gathered from the open border were exhibited by Mr. R. Gill. Fragrant violets were displayed by Miss E. Heathcote and Mr. J. J. Kettle. Bright patches of colour were formed by the fine carnation exhibits of Messrs. Stuart Low, Mr. C. Engelmann and Messrs. Allwood Brothers. Greenhouse shrubs and flowering plants were exhibited by Messrs. L. R. Russell and Messrs. Stuart Low, the latter firm staging some fine hippeastrums. The topiary trees of Mr. John Klinkert formed a sombre group. Miss Frances L. B. Bunyard and Miss C. G. Trower both exhibited excellent drawings.

The alpines were shown in greater numbers, but in much the same variety, as at the last show. Messrs. Cutbush made a gay and fantastic garden round a standard wistaria, a pink azalea and Andromeda japonica, with groups of Iris reticulata, Cylcamen ibericum and Bulbocodium vernum.

F. G. Wood of Ashtead made a minute paved garden round a rose bed of Rosa Rouletti, backed with double primroses which included the rare A. Dunollin and the very beautiful but difficult Mme. Pompadour.

Clarence Elliott showed a mass of Saxifragas oppositifolia alba, Faldonside and Irvingii; a large, vigorous plant of Saxifraga diapensioides; Primula Winteri; and the true Bellis sylvestris, a tall crimson daisy, against a background of dwarf conifers.

Messrs. Barr showed a variety of dwarf irises of the pumila section, a striking cherry crimson form of Tulipa pulchellus, and some good named forms of Helleborus orientalis and its hybrids.

Messrs. Prichard showed Primula Winteri, which is becoming more and more popular now that its special requirements are known, and the very large-flowered form of Saxifraga oppositifolia.

Messrs. Reuthe showed the pale blue form, Cantab, of Iris reticulata, large masses of Cyclamen Coum, Polygala rhodoptera, a very compact, thick-leaved rock shrub from the Balkans, and the most beautiful of all hybrid crocuses, C. Celeste (C. ærius × C. biflorus).

Orchids are usually staged in abundance on the day of the Annual Meeting, and the show on this occasion was well up to the average. Messrs. Charlesworth and Co., Haywards Heath; and Messrs. J. and A. McBean, Cooksbridge, Sussex, were both awarded silver-gilt Banksian medals for extensive groups. The former firm showed several of their new odontonias, conspicuous on account of the broadly developed labellum; also Brasso-Cattleya British Queen, with three immense flowers; the handsome Dendrobium Gatton Monarch; and a wide selection of odontoglossums and lælio-cattleyas. The latter firm staged several excellent cattleyas, including a pure white hybrid named Brenda, and a fine specimen of C. chocœnsis alba, with six flowers. A showy plant was seen in Cymbidium Alexanderi, carrying forty-eight flowers, and some richly coloured hybrids in Lælio-Cattleya Smilax, of cinnabar red.

Messrs. Cowan and Co., Southgate, had many select cattleya hybrids in their group, prominent examples being Clotho, Enid and Tityus; while cypripediums and a many-flowered spike of Oncidium Cavendishianum gained for them a silver Banksian medal. A similar award went to Messrs. Sanders, St. Albans, who staged the handsome Angræcum sesquipedale, with its Comet-like flowers, various cypripediums, some pleasing cymbidiums, and a fine example of Cattleya Enid white, with a purple coloured lip.

Mr. H. T. Pitt, Stamford Hill, who always has one of the interesting exhibits of rare species, on this occasion staged the pretty Eulophia virens, with erect spikes of small greenish flowers; the scarce Maxillaria luteo-alba, Masdevallia triangularis, and the rare Xylobium leontoglossum. The centre of this group was filled with twenty-six examples of the charming little Epidendrum Endresio-Wallisii. A silver Banksian medal was awarded.

Other groups to which similar awards were given included that of Messrs. Stuart Low and Co., in which the central plant was Cattleya Percivaliana var. Little Gem, with five pretty flowers; while on each side cypripediums and dendrobiums were effectively staged; Messrs. Cypher and Sons, Cheltenham, whose varied collection of the leading cypripediums was interspersed with attractive cymbidiums and calanthes; Messrs. Sutton Brothers, Hassocks, Sussex, a new firm, who had a varied exhibit of the popular hybrids, including several plants of Odontoglossum triumphosum, with graceful flowers

A FINE GROUP OF SINGLE EARLY-FLOWERING TULIPS STAGED BY MESSRS. CARTERS.

Digitized by Google

of yellow and brown; Cattleya Clotho, the richly coloured Odontocidium Edwardatum, and well flowered examples of Cypripedium Maudiæ.

Other exhibitors included Messrs. A. J. Keeling and Sons, Bradford, who staged several elegant cypripediums, and Odontoglossum citrinum, with light yellow spotting; Messrs. Black and Flory, Slough, who showed a superb example of Cattleya Mrs. Robert Paterson, as well as several distinct cypripediums; Mr. Harry Dixon, Wandsworth Common, who exhibited several pretty odontiodas and Cymbidium Cravenianum, the latter with spikes of a peculiar bronze-rose colour; Mr. J. J. Bolton, Claygate, Surrey, whose Odontoglossum Exworth with a spike of thirteen flowers of chocolate red colour, and Odontoglossum Garnet, with eleven flowers of red-brown, both received appreciation.

Mention may also be made of several beautiful cymbidium hybrids shown by Sir George Holford, representing the latest advances made in the various sections of this popular genus; and of the elegant Brasso-Cattleya Gatton Lily, from the garden of Sir Jeremiah Colman, Bt.

NEW AND RARE PLANTS.

AWARDS OF MERIT.

MUTISIA CLEMATIS.—This is one of the most ornamental of our greenhouse climbers. The foliage is of a pleasant light green with a woolly grey covering which renders it very attractive. The long pendulous flower heads are highly decorative, with from nine to ten delicate pinky red rays which are slightly recurved, showing the staminal flowers closely set in the centre. This is a vigorous grower and readily adapted to greenhouse culture. Shown by Lieutenant-Colonel Messel (gardener, J. Comber), Handcross.

LINDENBERGIA GRANDIFLORA.—Another decorative greenhouse subject, with dainty yellow flowers borne in a long loose terminal leafy spike. The foliage is of a light-toned green, soft and hairy, characteristic of the scrophulariaceæ, of which this is a member. It makes quite a valuable winter-blooming plant. Shown by the Director, Cambridge Botanic Garden.

CYRTANTHUS LUTESCENS.—This species is a representative of a little-known family of tender bulbs from South Africa. Some require greenhouse culture in this country, while others, again, may be planted out in summer. All are characterised by long pendulous or semi-erect flowers borne in an umbel. In this particular species the flowers are of a bright yellow with a strong honey scent. Very decorative when in a pot. Foliage strap-shaped. Shown by Mrs. Frank Platt-Barlow, Hans Place, S.W.

RHODODENDRON PINK DELIGHT.—A fine arboreum hybrid raised by Messrs. Gill of Falmouth. The wide-open white flowers tinged with a delicate pink round the margin of the petals, which are pleasantly crinkled and frilled, are borne in well formed and closely set trusses which sit tight on the foliage. The leaves are dark green in colour and set off the truss to advantage. It has every appearance of becoming a popular hybrid. Shown by Messrs. Gill and Sons, Falmouth.

ORCHIDS.

CATTLEYA MINNEHAHA (C. Trianæ × C. Lady Rowena).—Six plants of this beautiful hybrid were exhibited by Baron Bruno Schröder, Englefield Green, Surrey, all of which bore large flowers of fine formation, pure white, except for some lemon yellow colour in the throat of the labellum. An award of merit was given to the finest example.

CYMBIDIUM FLAMINGO VAR. WHITE WINGS (Alexanderi × Merlin).—A very beautiful hybrid with an erect spike of six large flowers, white, with a median line and some markings of light crimson colour on the labellum. Shown by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir George Holford, Westonbirt, Tetbury, Glos. Award of merit.

CYMBIDIUM MIRANDA VAR. LEMON QUEEN (Lowio-grandiflorum × Alexanderi).—A delicately coloured variety with an arching spike of fourteen large flowers of clear lemon yellow in the sepals and petals, the labellum white, spotted with red. Shown by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir George Holford. Award of merit.

BRASSO-CATTLEYA WARNHAM BEAUTY (B.-C. Digbyano-Mossiæ × C. Tityus).—This showy hybrid bore a couple of large flowers of a uniform rosy mauve colour, the broadly developed labellum having a rich purple front lobe, crisped at the margin, and with yellow in the throat. Shown by Mr. C. J. Lucas, Warnham Court, Horsham. Award of merit.

ODONTOGLOSSUM GATTON PRINCE.—A fine result in the production of rich coloration. The spike bore three flowers, in which the roundly formed segments of crimson-red have a white marginal zone. Shown by Sir Jeremiah Colman, Bt., Gatton Park, Surrey. Award of merit.

ODONTOGLOSSUM ALVARA (Ithone × Clovis).—One of the best of recent results, and one which promises to be even finer when the plant reaches maturity. The seedling bore a spike of four unusually large flowers of deep crimson colour, having a pretty sheen, the segments margined with white, finely toothed, and the labellum bearing a prominent spiny crest of yellow colour. Shown by Messrs. Charlesworth and Co., Haywards Heath. Award of merit.

ODONTONIA NESTA (Odontonia Gladys × Odontoglossum St. George).—A promising seedling, not fully developed, but with a couple of large flowers displaying much of the Miltonia vexillaria formation; the segments blotched with crimson on a rose ground, the expansive labellum marked with similar colour, and with a yellow crest at the base. Shown by Messrs. Charlesworth and Co., Haywards Heath. Award of merit.

HOW TO SPRAY

SIMPLE though the task may be to those who have had years of experience, there is much need for the exercise of care both in the preparation and application of spray fluids. Observation shows that even though proprietary brands of chemical mixtures only require dilution with water, the efficiency of many excellent sprays is frequently reduced through lack of understanding.

There may be justification in the case of extensive fruit farms or potato plantations of many acres for adopting the rule that chemicals shall be blended on the premises, but in private gardens there can be no question that the safest and most economical course is to use a well known firm's spray fluids or pastes, and to follow the manufacturer's directions with care. Many substances of which the most serviceable sprays are composed are only partially soluble, and a very important point is that the insoluble particles shall be kept in suspension. The practice of filling the container of a spraying machine with water and then tipping in the requisite quantity of chemical mixture is by no means the best method of securing proper suspension of insoluble particles throughout the whole volume of water. The correct method is to mix the spray in an open-topped vessel, stirring vigorously while the chemicals are slowly added. Wooden tubs or wooden pails are better than metal vessels; they are, indeed, essential in the case of caustic soda washes, copper solutions and a few others, unless the alternative earthenware can be used, and since it is necessary in some cases to avoid metal, it is well to use wooden tubs for all. Hot water is better than cold, but perhaps even more important is the character of the water. Rain-water is unquestionably the best, as in the case of ordinary water the metallic ingredients may have a certain influence upon the character of the spray.

Whatever may be the nature of the spray or the subject to be sprayed, windy weather must be avoided for the operation. In the case of poisonous and caustic sprays this is of serious importance by reason of the risk attached to surrounding crops and to the operator. Even a light breeze is sufficient to divert the course of a fine vapour-like spray, and it is advisable to keep to the windward when there is any movement in the air.

When using caustic soda the operator should wear thick leather or rubber gloves, and old clothing or an overall. In such cases also it is advisable to cover the face and neck with a coating of vaseline.

Whenever the selection of a spraying machine is brought under consideration the need for a powerful pump is very properly urged. Ordinary intelligence will surely make clear the fact that to hold the jet close up to branches or trunks of trees while fluid is forced out at high pressure simply means that the spray will beat against the tree and rebound, probably coming to rest on the soil several feet distant; that is usually a sheer waste of chemicals. The real object of spraying is to coat every part of the surface of the trunk, branches and twigs with the thinnest possible film of the fluid. A powerful pump is necessary to drive the fluid with sufficient force through a very fine nozzle in order to break up the spray into a fine mist. The adhesion of the spray fluid is facilitated by the mixing of a certain amount of glutinous matter with the essential chemicals. This is an important point upon which all the best manufacturers of spray fluids focus adequate attention. When an operator realises the importance of these few points he will find it quite a simple matter to hold his lance at a distance and an angle that ensures the spray coming to rest just where he wants it; furthermore, it will become apparent that the best work can only be accomplished when the lance is kept

Digitized by Google

slowly moving, never still, because if too much spray falls on one place it will begin to run to the lowest point. One may demonstrate this in the following manner: Dissolve some ordinary whiting and with a fine nozzle on a spraying machine spray the glass of a greenhouse roof or a tilted garden frame. One fleeting movement of the lance with pump in action will deposit a good coating of whitewash over the glass; but stand still and spray for half a minute on the same panes of glass and the liquid will start to run, and will continue to run to the eaves until, except for a few streaks of white, the glass is left almost clear, and the bulk of the whiting will have dripped off the eaves of the roof or the bottom edge of the light. One may see the effect still more plainly by driving a whitened spray on to a sheet of rough brown paper hung vertically. If one gets at the right distance and adopts the right movement of both lance and pump, the paper may be completely and evenly whitened without appreciably discolouring grass over which the paper hangs, but if the nozzle is held too close or too still the paper will be only streaked and mottled with white, while the lawn beneath is thickly smothered with whitewash.

So far as application is concerned, the greatest lesson is learned when the folly is realised of "putting plenty on" with the idea that thus assurance is made doubly sure.

In warning the operator against allowing forcible contact of the spray against the tree, the remark was made that this is "usually" a sheer waste of chemicals; the possibility of exception is thereby implied, and such exception arises when the particular object of spraying is dislodgment of woolly aphis, or American blight as it is sometimes called. The aphides barricade themselves behind their ramparts of white woolly substance, and when using petroleum emulsion or other contact sprays it is well to use the needle jet instead of the diffusing nozzle. Drive the single jet into all the cracks and crevices in the bark with all the force possible, for thus the woolly coating may be dislodged and the spray be brought into contact with the aphides.

In regard to spraying machines, it may be truthfully said that, like motors and gramophones, any machine to-day which bears a well known name is a good machine—it must be to hold its own on the market. Each of the high-class makes possesses some characteristic which secures the special favour of some users. It is a moot point whether one make is superior to all in any vital point. Machines that are got up for cheapness are not cheap, but to be efficient a machine should be made of metal suitable for containing all the chemical mixtures used for spraying. It should, if of larger than knapsack size, contain some sort of agitator to keep the ingredients of the spray in suspension, and should be fitted with an adjustable lance which can be made sufficiently long to reach the top of a reasonably tall pyramid tree or through from one side of a tree to another.

Interchangeable nozzles, sound washers and a powerful pump are the primary essentials of a good machine, and the final imperative need is that the sprayer should invariably be thoroughly cleaned immediately after use and before sediments can dry or corrosion commence.

A. J. MACSELF.

CORRESPONDENCE

VIBURNUM MACROCEPHALUM.

SIR,—I am delighted to see, in THE GARDEN of February 6th, Mr. Cox's praise of my favourite Viburnum macrocephalum, which always seems to me to be so seldom noticed. I am only surprised that he does not consider it hardy. I admired it at a Temple Show in 1902, and purchased two plants from Messrs. Russell. I planted them among shrubs in rather a low part of the garden; they grew, but did not attempt to flower. I moved them to a more sunny spot, but had no result. Then I saw a remark in a horticultural paper (I believe THE GARDEN) that V. macrocephalum did best on a wall. I moved one plant to a low wall facing south-west: the effect was magical—it was soon covered with flowers, principally in June, but often giving a second crop later in the summer. My second plant was moved to a higher wall with the same aspect below a terrace, and it flowers equally well, and, so far, they have not suffered from any winter we have had. Here in north Nottinghamshire we often have low temperatures, and do not consider that tender shrubs stand very well with us. No olearias except Haastii will grow with us, and that only on the terrace; shrubby veronicas, except Traversii, will not stand the winter. On the other hand, Ceanothus Gloire de Versailles does very well as a bush, without a wall. Viburnum fragrans grows and flowers in November and December. I wish it would wait till February as it is supposed to do—one can hardly enjoy its flowers in December. V. Carlesii does pretty well. Of course, I do not know where Mr. Cox lives, but as he considers V. macrocephalum, which does well here, tender, I am tempted to try some of the newer shrubs which he recommends, especially Ptagianthus Lyallii, which he places among the dozen best shrubs.—A. MELLISH, *North Notts.*

ROSE ZEPHIRINE DROUHIN.

SIR,—I was much interested in your article in THE GARDEN for February 6th on plants which have fallen out of popularity. May I draw your attention to the old pillar rose, Zéphirine Drouhin, which is seldom mentioned and less often grown. I have several good plants on arches, and a long fence entirely given up to it. In my opinion none of the new climbers can touch it, for it seems to have every virtue. In fact, a friend on seeing it and hearing its merits, expressed surprise that any other rose was ever grown! It is the first to flower and the last. I have picked beautiful blooms in December. Its constitution is very robust, and it can be increased freely from cuttings. Its chief virtue, however, is its wonderful colouring—a clear rose pink which never alters, either in bud, full blown, or however late in the season.

For about seven months in the year it flowers unceasingly, and throws up great bunches of buds which require drastic thinning to ensure the best results. The only treatment it requires is to cut out the old wood in the autumn and tie down the enormous shoots it has thrown up during the summer.

Zéphirine Drouhin is heavily scented and, I may mention, is thornless.

Everyone who sees this rose in flower expresses the greatest admiration, but never seems to have heard its name before.—(Mrs.) E. H. PALMER, *Naburn Hall, York.*

PIERIS IN SCOTLAND.

SIR,—I have read the interesting correspondence under the above heading and do not remember having seen any reference to what we here consider the most important question *re* the hardiness of these shrubs. I refer to the loss of the bloom buds by frost. We find P. japonica and P. formosa absolutely hardy, but their prospects of flowering always depend on the severity of the winter, since the buds, formed in autumn, are apt to be destroyed. These buds will stand a good deal, but 22° of frost on several consecutive nights last December cleared every bud off a fine big bush of P. formosa and practically all those of P. japonica save those, curiously enough, on the side facing due north. The foliage in both cases was quite unharmed.—A. T JOHNSON, *North Wales.*

FLOWERS IN A CANADIAN GARDEN.

SIR,—I thought your readers might be interested to know that in this far distant part of Canada, I found the following plants flowering pretty well in my garden on December 27th last year: Helleborus, salvias, polyanthus, alonsoa, Ceanothus Gloire de Versailles, gladioli, Shasta daisies, violets, antirrhinums, primulas, calceolaria, Romneya Coulteri, mesembryanthemums, carnations, dianthus, heaths, hypericums, fuchsias, auriculas, geraniums, roses, verbenas, cerastium, wallflowers, penistemons and chrysanthemums.

It has been an exceptionally fine autumn and winter with us, and two weeks ago I picked a basket of ripe raspberries. Also yesterday I was talking to a gardening friend, and he said he had twenty species of rock plants in flower.—F. B. PEMBERTON, *Victoria, British Columbia.*

RED SAGE.

SIR,—In reference to an article in THE GARDEN of January 2nd on the question of red sage, I consider it very misleading for Victoria Slade to quote bergamot, monarda and red sage to be one and the same thing. The Bergamot orange or Mellarosa is a pear-shaped fruit of a smooth pale golden colour from which an essence is distilled and known as bergamot scent, while Monarda Fistulosa, being of a different family altogether, is only associated by its perfume, being similar to that of bergamot, red sage or Salvia officinalis, belong to a family entirely different from that of bergamot or monarda.—A. D. THOMAS, *Herts.*

ROSES UNDER GLASS.

SIR,—In THE GARDEN for January 29th, I was much interested in "Hants" advice and hints in relation to the preparation of the "Rose House," and the pruning, etc., of its occupants for what might be an early crop of blooms. The growing of roses under glass occupied me at one time and my experience may be of interest. When the roses were growing the morning temperatures in the summer varied from 70 degrees to 80 degrees, while the mercury had a most disagreeable and insistent habit of crawling very often up to 120 degrees and 125 degrees by 2 p.m. I had no special love for the later part of it myself, but it was not so with the Queen of Flowers. She appeared to revel in

Digitized by Google

this high temperature and brilliant sunshine and we grew successive crops of bloom for eight or nine months of the year from the same plants. A short rest was then given them, after which they were pruned, the beds given a thorough overhaul, top-dressed with sound fibrous turf, bone meal, blood manure, given a thorough drenching of water, houses closed down and started again. Roses will stand this heavy cropping if well supplied with rich food as buds begin to form and adequate artificial temperatures be maintained, not under 58 degrees at night. In bright sunny weather plants should be sprayed daily in the early part of the day to keep the foliage healthy and prevent red spider. Mildew must be guarded against, draughts being one of the chief causes of its appearance; it is a deadly enemy to the rose under glass, even more so than outside.

Great care should be exercised therefore when ventilating. A double-span house is doubtless the best, with ventilators on both sides, so that in the case of cold or high winds, air may be admitted from the lee side of the house. To those who have the luxury of a rose house, artificially heated, roses out of season are no doubt what would be desired, and, if full advantage is taken, such a house will afford them.

A judicious selection of roses for this class of work is a very important item. It would be interesting to many readers, I am sure, if "Hants" would kindly submit a list of what he considers suitable for the purpose. —WM. GRANT, *Kincardineshire*.

FASCIATION FREAKS

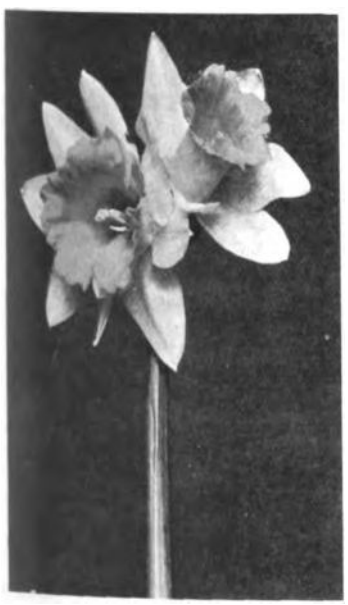
I WOULD ask the reader to visualise some well known members of the cactus family, such as opuntia, phyllocactus or epiphyllum. The external form of these plants strikes the observant eye as something strangely different from that which characterises flowering plants in general. In place of the more or less cylindrical stem which is natural for most plants, the stem in the genera I have mentioned develops as a flattened, jointed, band-like structure, assuming in some cases almost a leaf-like form. In doing so, these plants behave in a way which is perfectly normal to themselves. The flatness is in the constitution of such plants; for them it is the natural state.

And so we grow accustomed to this peculiarity of stem structure in those cases where it occurs regularly as the normal condition. The strangeness of first acquaintance decreases as familiarity with the real nature of the plant increases, and we might be pardoned if we expressed surprise on seeing an opuntia with a cylindrical stem. But should a plant, whose stem is normally cylindrical, like a garden stock, produce a stem or branch flattened into a ribbon-like expansion, we are prone to regard the structure as an unnecessary deviation from the normal, and we may even speak of it in some unfriendly way, using such names as monstrosity, abnormality or malformation to express our feelings in the matter. Technically, this malformation is called "fasciation." The stem or branch affected may be quite round at the base, but becomes more and more flattened upwards, until a band-shaped structure is assumed, due to the great increase in diameter of the axis in one plane. If the rate of growth be equal on both sides, the stem retains a straight direction, but not infrequently the growth on one side is more rapid than on the other, so that a curvature of the fasciated stem results, as is sometimes seen in the ash, producing a structure which has been likened to a shepherd's crook.

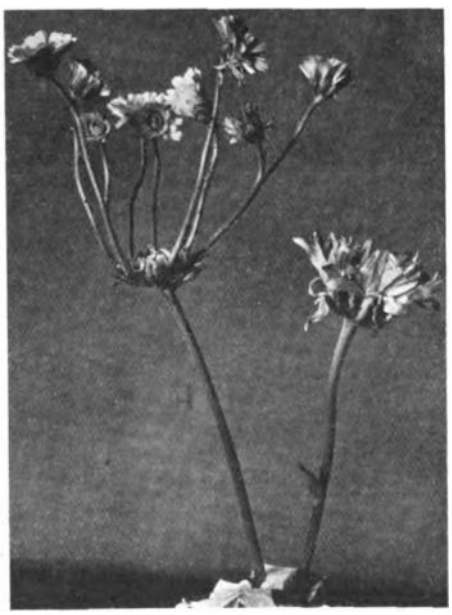
Fasciation is by no means a rare phenomenon. It must be familiar to many readers as occurring in both herbaceous and woody plants. In the former, the abnormality affects, almost invariably, the main stem. A fine example is shown in one of the accompanying illustrations, a remarkable instance of fasciation in the celery-leaved buttercup (Ranunculus sceleratus), a herbaceous type. Here the stem is 10ins. wide, and bears numerous characteristic leaves and hundreds of flowers. The peculiar ridge along the top of the stem is formed of the united centres of about one hundred flowers.

In the case of trees and shrubs, on the other hand, it is much more common to find that the deformity affects only a few of the branches, while the other branches and likewise the main stem, remain quite normal. This condition is not infrequent in the ash and in some conifers, and it has been observed also in barberry, sycamore, elder, prunus, ribes and numerous other woody plants.

As regards the causes of fasciation, we know extremely little; but theories are always interesting, and it may be mentioned that two main views have been advanced. The fusion theory seeks to explain the malformation as the result of union between two or more branches. The fasciation is likely to be all the more pronounced if a large number of buds are formed in close proximity, so that they are liable to become fused together during their growth, owing to the mechanical pressure they will exert upon each other. An alternative view is expressed in the expansion theory, which explains the flattening of the stem or branch as being due to the expansion from the first of a *single* shoot in one plane throughout its period of growth. This theory involves the conception of a number of growth centres at the apex of the shoot, instead of one apical growing region constructed symmetrically as is usual for the normal stem. It is an attractive theory, and it would appear to explain many of the



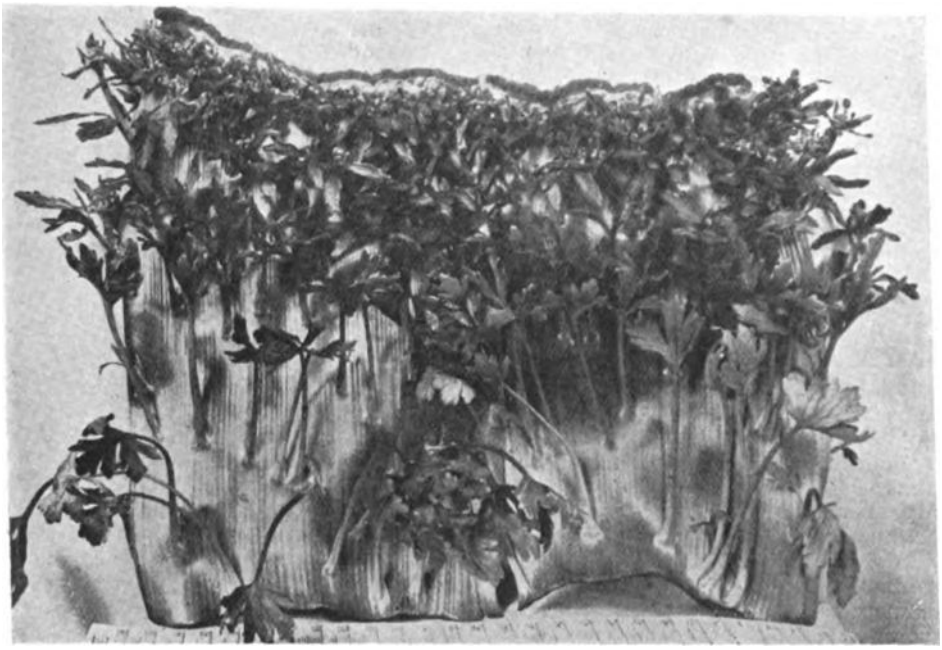
A TWO-FLOWERED DAFFODIL



THE FASCIATED STEM OF A MARIGOLD.

FIVE FLOWERS ON THE ONE STALK.

Digitized by Google



A REMARKABLE BUTTERCUP.

observed facts. For example, along the top of the buttercup stem, there have been many growing points giving rise to flowers, but they have not developed with complete independence, with the result that the flowers remain united laterally in a long row. But, whatever the mechanics of fasciation, we may be certain that some internal factor or factors are involved, and perhaps an unusually plentiful supply of nutriment to the organ affected is the underlying physiological cause. Should the main stem of a young seedling become damaged, it sometimes happens that the lateral shoots, which are developed subsequently, exhibit a fasciated structure. Such behaviour is known in the pea and bean family and is related to the abundant supply of food material in the seed leaves, all of which becomes available for the lateral buds when the terminal shoot is removed. But we cannot say how far this plausible physiological explanation can be applied to those isolated fasciated branches seen in certain trees and shrubs. And again, as every gardener knows, the fasciated condition is the natural inherent state of some common plants in cultivation, such as the old favourite, the cockscomb.

Mention of this plant leads me, in a concluding word or two, to recall the fact that these malformations are found in the flowering region of a plant, as well as in the stem. A case in point is the buttercup shown in the illustration. Another example, which must be a familiar object to many, is the "double-headed" or twin daisy. Those who grow large numbers of tulips may have seen occasional examples of such forking in this plant also. A good specimen is shown on the previous page, where the fasciated flower stem has forked more than once, resulting in the production of several flowers. Twin flowers are not so common in the daffodil, and for this reason the illustration given may be of some interest. J. R. MATTHEWS.

GARDEN TECHNIQUE

Notes on the Technical Side of the Garden and the Cultivation of Plants.

FLOWERS.

MALMAISON CARNATIONS.

THESE plants, although they received much care and attention in the past, are seldom grown nowadays. Yet when well grown they are plants of beauty, both in flower and foliage. Those who still grow malmaisons should now have the young plants—which have been wintered in 4in. pots—transferred into 6in. pots. A good potting compost can be made up of 1 part fibrous loam, ½ part old lime rubble, ½ part clean sea sand, ½ part wood ashes, with charcoal intermixed; and a little ichthemic guano and soot added. The pots should be clean and carefully crocked, then a few beech leaves placed over the crocks to keep the soil from getting down among them. This will ensure perfect drainage, which is very essential in carnation growing. It will depend now on the ball of earth surrounding each plant as to the amount of fresh soil to place in the bottom of the pots, but on no account sink or cover over the surface of the old "ball"; rather aim at leaving it level with the fresh soil, or slightly showing above it after potting is completed. The fresh soil put in the bottom of each pot and around the old "ball" should be firmly packed with the potting stick, then each plant supported with a stake.

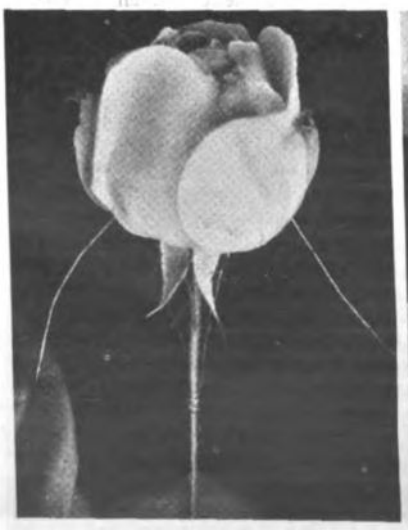
No water should be given to the plants for at least a week or two, according to weather conditions. Malmaison carnations should never be subjected to high artificial temperatures. They do splendidly in an airy, light structure, where only sufficient artificial heat is maintained to expel damp and frost throughout the winter months. Later on in the year, when the sun becomes very powerful, the plants should be slightly shaded, at any rate throughout that part of each day when the sun is shining directly on the glasshouse in which they are growing. At other times, however, they should be allowed all available light. Blinds of some kind, therefore, should be employed, as they can be let down or kept rolled up, according to the intensity of the light.—DAVID ARMSTRONG.

WIRING FLOWERS.

FLOWERS, such as tulips, roses, etc., usually open widely when in a warm room, and then they do not last long. If they are carefully wired, much better results are secured, and this can be done in such a way that it is hardly noticeable. Cut two pieces of florists' wire, each about 6ins. long. Then push these at right angles to one another through the base of the bud, as shown in the illustration. Bend the wires down and twist round the stalk. In this way the petals are held in position and the flower cannot expand and fall to pieces.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

MASSAGE FOR TULIPS.

WHEN arranging cut tulips it is often found that the stalks of some of the flowers are not inclined just as one would wish. It is quite easy to alter the direction of growth by means of massage. Take the stalk between



HOW TO WIRE A FLOWER.

MASSAGE FOR TULIPS.

Digitized by Google

the thumb and finger and then start rubbing the stalk in the desired direction. Always rub the same way, up towards the flower, and use only gentle pressure. In quite a short while the bearing of the stalk can be moulded in almost any manner that is wished. —S. LEONARD BASTIN.

LOBELIAS IN POTS.

QUITE accidentally the following method of using lobelias to decorate an unheated glasshouse presented itself. The seed was sown in autumn, the intention being to plant out in the border in spring. Pressure of other affairs prevented this, and the plants, quickly growing too tall in the warmth of the glasshouse, began to trail over the sides of the pots. Now the plants are in full bloom, trailing over the sides of the pots and hiding not only the pot they grow in, but also the staging and a good deal of the pots on either side. The effect is very pretty and extremely easy to accomplish—any size pots from 3in. to 6in. seem to do equally well—good soil and *plenty* of water in warm weather. The variety I use is Crystal Palace compacta.—AUSTRAL.

ZINNIAS FOR POTS AND BORDERS.

THE old type of zinnia was much admired by lovers of these flowers, and, indeed, were beautiful when well grown. But the newer types and strains of high merit are much more so. Some amateur cultivators grow the plants and flowers to perfection; others fail entirely. The reason for the failures can, generally, be traced to lack of attention to cultural details while the plants are young. Seeds should be sown in February if the resultant plants are to be flowered in pots, and about mid-March if the plants are to be flowered in the open border. A compost of loam and leaf-soil in equal proportions with a good sprinkling of coarse sand or old lime rubble. Three-parts fill some pots, pans or a box with the compost, firm it moderately, water, allow the soil to dry on the surface a little; sow the seeds thinly, as the seedlings possess big leaves, and cover them ¼in. deep with the same kind of compost. In a greenhouse or a warm frame the seedlings quickly appear, but they should not be disturbed before the two first rough leaves are formed. If they are transplanted too early and before a few fibrous roots are formed, the young plants are seriously checked. Those intended for pot culture should be potted singly in small pots; and those for the outside borders at 4ins. apart in boxes 5ins. deep. Woodlice and slugs will soon spoil good plants if the latter are not protected. I like to keep them on a stage or on raised boards in a frame while they are young. Harden and plant out the first week in June in well manured ground. Heavy soils, enriched with rotted manure and leaf-soil will produce extra fine blooms if slugs are guarded against.—G. G.

GREENHOUSE CYCLAMEN.

MY cyclamen plants flower very satisfactorily with the following treatment: When the plants have finished flowering they are put on a shelf near the glass in the peach house. I give them very little water, but they are never dried off, so to speak.

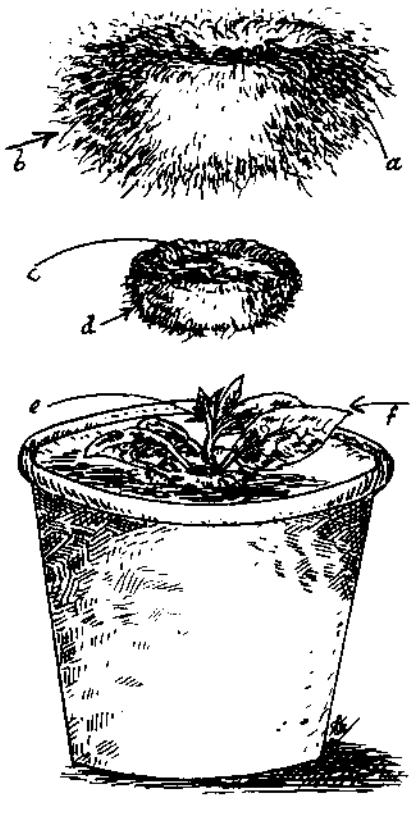
About the first week of June I put them into a cold frame, and they are kept shaded from strong sun. The sash is tilted up so as to admit all the air possible.

The plants are all repotted about the first week of August and are put back into the frame again till about the end of September. I give them a fortnight in the peach house before I take them to the greenhouse, there they go on flowering till the end of April.

They are grown in a compost of 2 parts good loam, 1 part leaf-soil, 1 part decayed moss litter, a sprinkling of sand and a handful or two of crushed bones. Pots are well drained and the plants not too firmly set in the pots.—A. M., *Pitlochry*.

TUBEROUS BEGONIAS: STARTING TUBERS IN POTS.

THESE begonias are invaluable for furnishing the greenhouse and filling the beds in the flower garden. Unlike many kinds of bedding-out plants, a dull rainy summer does not adversely affect the plants and flowers; nor yet a dry season, if the plants are well mulched. The success of the plants depends very much upon the way that the tubers are treated in their early stages of growth. I have seen hundreds of plants, in the boxes in which they were started, 2ft. high in April, the plants being in partial shade in greenhouses. Of course, such specimens rarely prove satisfactory afterwards, either as pot plants or in flower beds. The present is a good time to start rested tubers.



They are in a rough condition, with many dead fibrous roots and old compost adhering to them, as shown in the top sketch. A normal tuber is rounded at the base and hollow at the top. The young growth buds—as I may term them—are near the centre of the cup shown at *a*; these should be carefully preserved undamaged. The rough, loose portion, *b*, should be rubbed off. The cleaned tuber with its crown, *c*, intact, and base and sides, *d*, freed from roots and soil, is now ready for potting or starting in a light compost in a box. The central stem is shown at *e* and the first large leaves at *f* respectively. The pots should be well drained and, till the soil is well permeated with roots, extra care should be taken in applying water. A warm greenhouse is an ideal structure for the plants, and a little shade in very bright weather is beneficial—G. G.

VEGETABLES

SPROUTING SEED POTATOES.

IT is always a very interesting feature of one's reading to note the varied ideas of different writers on the one subject. The suggested idea of so many about the setting up of the seed tubers in boxes will always hold good, but for my own work in trying to get the earliest possible results I can recommend the following system as one which helps very considerably the production of earlier crops. In the growing of first and second earlies, earliness of results is the special feature aimed at, and having for some years been responsible for supplying new vegetables at the earliest time possible in a large public institution, I never knew this plan fail to help in giving the very best results. Provision of boxes suitable for the purpose, according to the quantity of tubers to be planted, is the first necessity. The next provision is an important one, and will be found of the greatest value by all who will take the trouble to adopt it: Place a layer of rotted leaf-mould of a rough sort about an inch thick to cover the box bottom, then as you set up each row of sets fill in between with leaf-mould of a finer degree after passing through a ½in. sieve, pressing it fairly firm up to the level of the eyes. Giving a little extra space between each set is an advantage, and the provision of an extra box or two is a profitable factor when the planting time comes, as it will be found that each set of shoots have formed beautiful rootage into the leaf-mould, which by a little extra care and patience can, with the hand or a small hand-fork, be transferred from the box right into the place of the growing quarters, as each box may be carried as needed to its place of use. If the work of planting is done as it ought to be, a careful look-out kept for likely nights of frost when growth is through the ground, and a little earth drawn up or a little litter or bracken placed over, this system will be found of so much extra value in earlier results, that once tried it will always be practised.—V. H. LUCAS.

THE RAISING OF SUMMER CAULIFLOWERS.

I AM arranging a variety trial of summer cauliflowers during the present season, and I hope to proceed along the same lines, which have always given satisfactory returns in the past. The seed will be sown about the middle of February in clean, well drained boxes, in a mixture of 3 parts loam, 1 part leaf-mould, with sufficient sand added to give porosity. Germination will take place in a temperature of 60 to 65 degrees Fahr. When the seedlings are large enough to handle they will be transferred to boxes of good soil, allowing each plant an all-round distance of 3ins. The plants quickly establish themselves in a medium such as this.

Violent changes of temperature must be avoided or the cauliflowers will suffer a severe check and turn blue in colour. The process can and should be so arranged that the plants will bear setting out in the open garden by the middle of April without feeling the change. Proper development is assured by placing them in rows 2ft. apart, with 1ft. 6ins. between the specimens.

From previous experience I have prepared the ground thoroughly. It has been dug to a depth of 12in. and dressed with farmyard manure at the rate of 1¼ tons to 200 sq. yds. I shall not resort to feeding during the season of growth; it is quite unnecessary after such an application of farmyard manure.

Snowball Erfurt and Early London are three excellent varieties. Of late years, at any rate, the crop has been rather badly attacked in this area by the larvæ of the cabbage root fly, and we have found the corrosive sublimate, or mercuric-chloride, treatment an effective line of attack against the pest. A solution is made by dissolving 1 oz. of the substance in 10 gallons of water. In order to get a solution the corrosive sublimate must first of all be dissolved in

Digitized by Google

1 quart of boiling water and sufficient cold water added to make 10 gallons. Each affected plant should then be watered with a pint of the solution. Commercial corrosive sublimate should always be purchased, because it is obtainable at about 5s. 6d. per pound, which is half the cost of the pure form, and it is equally effective.—GEO. H. COPLEY.

SHALLOTS.

THESE bulbs are valuable for filling up a gap at a time when onions are scarce—when the matured bulbs have been used up and the young ones are only beginning to form. They are valuable because the crop can be cleared off the ground in July, and so free it for other kinds, such as turnips, lettuce, endive, radishes and so on. Some cultivators make a point of planting shallots on certain dates; no real harm will accrue if the soil is in a suitable condition and the weather open. But if these conditions do not obtain early in January it is much wiser to wait until the end of the month before planting. Although shallots will grow in any ordinary soil, they do extremely well in a rich deeply dug loam made firm when in a medium state as regards moisture.

I like to grade the bulbs, selecting the central one or the roundest of each cluster. Having prepared the ground so far as digging and manuring matters are concerned, wait until a fine sunny morning comes, then, quite early, rake the surface over, draw up tiny ridges 1ft. apart and 2ins. high. Leave them so for a few hours, then, when the soil is drier, press in the shallots in the centre of each ridge about 9ins. apart; do not cover with soil. It is a mistake to plant the bulbs too closely as there is not any room for the due spreading out of the leaves and maturing of the bulbs in due course. Allow ample room, and the bulbs will be larger and the crop heavier.—HANTS.

SOWING VEGETABLE SEEDS.

I AM quite sure that hundreds of readers of THE GARDEN find a lot of pleasure in sowing seeds of vegetables, even in cases where they do not feel at all sure that they are doing just the right thing in the right way. There are so many conditions to consider.

Question.—Should seeds be sown in wet soils?

Answer.—No, unless it is unavoidable. If the time of year is passing when seeds should be sown and the ground is rather wet, the best plan is lightly to fork up the surface one day; on the following, early in the morning, rake the surface, then leave the soil so, undisturbed for several hours. If seeds are to be sown in shallow drills, form the latter, scatter some quite dry soil in them, sow the seeds, again scatter dry soil on them and carefully finish the work of covering by drawing on the ordinary soil with the rake. Take care not to tread unduly on the ground, and do not firm it in the ordinary way.

Question.—Should seeds or plants be sown or planted in trenches in naturally wet soils? Peas, runner beans, celery, leeks, these principally.

Answer.—It would be unwise to form trenches other than very shallow ones; the soil would be cold and root action, early in the season, retarded. Only shallow trenches should be made for peas and runner beans in medium light soils; in heavy sow almost on the level. For celery and leeks a shallow trench is superior to a deep one.

Question.—Should the manure be well buried or kept near the seeds or roots of plants?

Answer.—Buried several inches below, so that the roots will penetrate to it.—GEO. GARNER.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

Messrs. H. H. Maw and Son, Friarwood Nurseries, Pontefract. List of greenhouse, hardy and bedding plants.

Messrs. Barr and Sons. Bulbs and tubers for winter and spring planting.

Messrs. R. W. Wallace and Co., Limited, Tunbridge Wells. List of bulbs and plants for spring planting, in which is offered a fine collection of lilies.

Messrs. Clarence Elliott, Stevenage. List of seeds of choice alpines and herbaceous plants, in which is outlined the particulars of a children's garden competition.

Messrs. Longstaff and Sons, Chelsfield, Kent. List of gladioli which all growers should procure.

Messrs. Sutton and Sons, Reading. Farmers' Year Book and Graziers' Manual for 1926. Well illustrated.

Messrs. Oliver and Hunter, Moniaive, Dumfriesshire.—List of hardy plants, in which is offered a fine selection of primulas.

Mr. Terry Lee, Stechford, Birmingham.—A list of alpines.

FOREIGN.

Messrs. Johannes Rafer and Son, Copenhagen, Denmark. List of tree seeds, including conifers and flowering shrubs.

Messrs. W. Atlee Burpee Co., Seed Growers, Philadelphia. Seed Annual for 1926. A comprehensive handbook, brimful of information with numerous illustrations. It is a catalogue which all our American readers should have by them.

Messrs. Peter Henderson and Co., New York. A well published handbook entitled "Everything for the Garden in 1926." It runs to 204 pages, and has many coloured and half-tone illustrations. American gardeners will find it useful as a reference book as well as a seed catalogue.

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING, SURREY
(late ANTHONY WATERER)

PROPRIETOR - **HOSEA WATERER**

has pleasure in offering

STANDARD TREES

in great variety, consisting of

LIMES, NORWAY MAPLES, ELMS, etc., etc.

EVERGREEN & DECIDUOUS SHRUBS, viz.:

Box—Green and Variegated, 3 to 8 ft.
Hollies—Common, 5 to 8 ft.; Variegated and Green varieties, 2 to 6 ft.
Thuiopsis borealis, 10 to 12 ft. Cupressus Lawsoniana, 12 to 14 ft. Cedrus atlantica glauca, very fine, 10 to 14 ft. Osmanthus, Phillyroeas, Spiræas, Lilacs, Viburnums, etc.

GOLDEN YEWS

A Magnificent Stock in all shapes and sizes from 2 to 10 ft.

PRIVET, Common and Oval-leaved.
QUICK and **HORNBEAM** for Hedges.
AZALEAS, 2 to 5 ft.
RHODODENDRONS, without doubt the finest stock in the trade of named varieties, 2 to 6 and 8 ft.
HARDY HEATHS in great variety and a good general nursery stock.

Catalogues ready.

Enquiries and inspection invited.

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING STATION, SURREY

Fruit Trees Rose Trees
ALL ENGLISH GROWN.
Descriptive Catalogue post free on demand.
INSPECTION INVITED.
S. SPOONER & SONS
Estd. 1820 **The Nurseries, Hounslow, MIDDLESEX**

1926
PERPETUAL FLOWERING
CARNATIONS
Our Illustrated Catalogue will be sent free on request
C. ENGELMANN LTD.
Saffron Walden, Essex.

THE LEADING GLASSHOUSE FUMIGANT.

WEED DEATH
The new NON-POISONOUS Weed Killer (POWDER).
SUPERIOR TO DANGEROUS ARSENICAL COMPOUNDS
Safety first, non-caustic, no smell, kills the roots.
For 4 galls., 1/-; 12½, 2/-; 25, 3/6; 50, 6/6; 100, 12/- & Bulk
From your Nurseryman or Seedsman.
CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

Please send for New List of
SEEDS of HARDY PLANTS
INCLUDING
BROOMS and TREES and SHRUBS.
T. SMITH, Daisy Hill Nursery, NEWRY
N. IRELAND.

BLINDED for YOU

The War-blinded Men of St. Dunstan's (many of whom have lost a limb as well as sight) have been trained to produce the most perfect and hard-wearing

NETS AND NETTING

for Garden, Farm and Sports use. Show these gallant craftsmen that you value the work of their hands.

Moderate prices. List or special quotations on application to—

NETTING DEPT. (A) St. Dunstan's Headquarters, Inner Circle, Regent's Pk., LONDON, N.W.1

Digitized by Google

Ryders

ADVICE TO GARDENERS

"IF I were asked what I considered the most important thing I could say to a customer, it would be—**Send your order early.**"

Samuel Ryder

Now is the time to Plan your Garden. Post off without delay for your copy of the famous Ryder Catalogue Guide. This Garden Book de Luxe contains [illegible] of interest to every gardener; full list of all [illegible] and Vegetable Seeds; profusely illustrated in [illegible] and black and white photographic reproductions; [illegible] for all crops; Potting composts; Gardening [illegible], details of £1,000 Competition, etc., etc.

Ryders

RYDER & SON (1920b, LTD.)

St. Albans

The Pink Garden Beautiful

FOR SPRING, SUMMER AND AUTUMN EFFECTS.

FOREGROUND.

Japanese Spring Cherry (Prunus subhirtella ascendens), downy twigs wreathed in early Spring with myriads of small deep pink flowers opening from coral buds. Strong pyramids, about 4ft., **7/6** each, **87/-** dozen. Hilliers of Winchester offer this RARE JAPANESE CHERRY in quantity for the first time. It is a real garden gem.

BACKGROUND. (*6 to 10ft. high.*)

Escallonia Ingrami rosea, a diffuse elegant grower, flowering over a long period, producing a profusion of charming pink flowers—quite a new shade. Strong plants about 2ft. **2/6** each, **27/-** doz.

STANDARDS *for height effect.*

Japanese Cherry Sekiyama (also called Kanzan, Horingii and Ohnanden), lovely large deep semi-double rose flowers. 6-7ft. **8/6** and **10/6** each.

GROUNDWORK.

Erica carnea and Darleyensis, rich rosy-pink and deep lilac-pink flowers. Plant 1½ft. apart. Strong clumps, **6/6** and **8/6** dozen; **50/-** and **60/-** 100.

Berberis Wilsonæ. This charming Berberis will provide autumn tinted foliage as well as lovely panicles of coral fruit. 1-1½ft. **21/-** doz.; **150/-** 100. Plant 4ft. apart.

The taller Cherries named above will also help with their autumnal effects when mature.

WRITE FOR CATALOGUES— *Carriage and Packing at cost.*

HILLIER & SONS, Tree Specialists, WINCHESTER

For success in your Garden USE

THOMSON'S MANURES

On the market for over 50 years, they still hold first place for QUALITY and RESULTS. They are safe, sure and lasting. The direct result of many years' practical experience in gardening, they stand unrivalled at the present day for all Garden Crops.

Prices:—**VINE, PLANT AND VEGETABLE MANURE**—a Perfect Food—1 cwt., **30/-**; 56 lb., **16/-**; 28 lb. **9/-**; 14 lb. **5/-**; 7 lb., **3/-**; tins, **1/3** and **9d.** **SPECIAL TOP DRESSING MANURE**—an excellent stimulant—56 lb., **17/-**; 28 lb., **9/6**; 14 lb., **5/6**; 7 lb. **3/-**; tins, **1/3.** **Carriage paid on 28 lbs.** and up.

WRITE FOR OUR BOOKLET—POST FREE ON REQUEST

SOLD BY NURSERYMEN AND SEEDSMEN EVERYWHERE.

—Or from Sole Makers, WM. THOMSON & SONS, TWEED VINEYARDS, CLOVENFORDS, SCOTLAND

Years of Experience

HAVE MADE COOPER'S WINTER SPRAY FLUID THE BEST OF ITS KIND. HIGH CONCENTRATION AND ALL-ROUND EFFICIENCY MAKES IT THE LOWEST IN ULTIMATE COST

EXETER.

"We are so sure that Winter Spray Fluid is the thing for Winter spraying, that we use it ourselves. . . . and urge its use . . . You can refer here any enquirer for proof of its value.

LORAM Bros.

COOPER'S

WINTER SPRAY FLUID

(Dilution 1-100)

Removes loose rough bark. Cleans and re-invigorates the trees.

(Commended by the R.H.S. of Gt. Britain).

1 pint tin	1/6	1 gall tin	9/6
1 " "	2/3	2 " "	18/-
Quart "	3/3	5 " "	38/6

COOPER, McDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, Ltd.
Reveen Lane, BERKHAMSTED, Herts.

A Starved Child

WILL NOT GROW UP STRONG AND HEALTHY.

If you starve your garden it cannot yield you the abundance and beauty of which it is capable.

There is no better nourishment for your flowers, fruit, vegetables and turf than

NORCO

COMPLETE FERTILISERS

THE PERFECT GARDEN FOOD

Which supplies the essential constituents contained in stable manure, but in a far richer and more convenient form.

PRICES (Bags Free and Carriage Paid):—

	7 lbs.	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	112 lbs.
"NORCO" Complete Garden Fertiliser (For Flowers, Fruit and Vegetables)	2/6	4/3	7/3	12/6	23/-
"NORCO" Complete Lawn & Turf Fertiliser	2/4	4/-	6/9	11/9	22/-
"NORCO" Complete Potato Fertiliser	2/6	4/3	7/3	12/6	23/-

Send for free Booklet on the use of Lime, Stable Manure and Chemical Fertilisers.

"NORCO" (Regd.) is obtainable only direct from the Sole Manufacturers:—

CHARLES NORRINGTON & CO., LTD.

Cattedown, PLYMOUTH.

Makers of High Grade Fertilisers since 1846. No. 8

Digitized by Google

SEEDS, AND WHERE THEY CAN BE OBTAINED

UNWIN'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI

Our 1925 Awards at six of the leading Shows were: Six Gold Medals and One Silver Cup. We offer the very best and most distinct English, American and Dutch Novelties and standard varieties at "*buyable*" prices.

PRIMULINUS HYBRIDS.

These charming small-flowered Gladioli embrace the most wonderful art shades imaginable. Light and graceful, they rival Sweet Peas in daintiness, and are excellent for all decorative purposes. If you have never seen them you have a treat in store.

UNWIN'S GOLD MEDAL COLLECTION OF PRIMULINUS HYBRIDS.	Per doz.
Atalanta, salmon, shaded orange	1/6
Hermione, orange salmon	1/6
Maiden's Blush, lovely pink	1/6
Niobe, orange self	1/9
Salmonea, salmon, flushed orange	2/-
Souvenir, rich yellow	1/9
Daphne, dazzling vermilion	2/3
Rosandra, cerise pink	2/3
Orange Brilliant, orange and yellow	2/-
Xanthia, pure golden orange	3/6
3 each of above 10 vars., named	5/-
6 each of above 10 vars., named	9/6
12 each of above 10 vars., named	18/-

Full Catalogue of Gladioli post free on application.

Carriage Terms.—Orders of **7/6** or over, carriage free; under 7/6, **6d.** extra must be enclosed to partly defray cost of carriage. **Send for a copy of our New Spring Catalogue. Post free.** The Highest Quality Sweet Pea Seeds and Plants, Flower and Vegetable Seeds, Seed Potatoes, Gladioli, Charm Dahlias, Roses, etc. All at "buyable" prices.

W. J. UNWIN, F.R.H.S.,
***Seedsman* - Histon, Cambs.**

SEEDS

IF YOU WANT

REALLY GOOD SEEDS

AT MODERATE PRICES

SEND TO

ROBERT SYDENHAM LIMITED

99, TENBY STREET, BIRMINGHAM

No one will serve you better.

SWEET PEAS A SPECIALITY

THEIR UNIQUE LISTS

contain only the Best

VEGETABLES, FLOWERS AND BULBS WORTH GROWING

Post free on application.

'BERT SYDENHAM LIMITED

RAISING ASPARAGUS FROM SEED

As seeds are sown in the bed of soil in which the resultant plants are to grow and mature for a number of years, it is essential to success that the beds of soil should be well prepared. In days gone by some cultivators went to extremes in this respect, taking out soil many feet deep and putting in all kinds of material as drainage, even faggots of wood, which, in due course, became a mass of fungus. The plants are more surface than deep rooting, and deep trenching is beneficial; but the best soil should be contained in the top 18ins. or so. Below this depth bury some fresher manure and a small quantity of lime—about 2lb. per square yard. When the plants are older, their roots—some of them—will penetrate to this lower portion of the bed; but for the benefit of the young plants the top soil should be enriched with manure in a more rotted state. Of course, asparagus plants may be raised in a nursery bed, and from it transplanted to their permanent quarters. In such cases the permanent beds should not be prepared till just before they are required. In the southern counties the seeds may be sown late in March; in the northern counties a fortnight or three weeks later. The drills should be 2ins. to 3ins. deep and 15ins. apart. Drop the seeds 3ins. apart, so that the resultant seedlings may be thinned to the required distance apart. Where very clayey soils obtain, it is wise to raise the beds a few inches; but if the soil is naturally light, or the ground on a gentle incline, have the beds level without deep alleys.—CHRISTCHURCH.

DAHLIAS FROM SEEDS AND CUTTINGS

SEEDLING dahlias, well managed, grow very strongly and bear their flowers on strong, upright stems. Where there is unlimited artificial heat, seeds may be sown early in January; but February-raised plants are the strongest, as the seedlings grow without a check where there is a warm greenhouse available. Seeds of all sections may be sown. I strongly recommend those of the single, pompon, cactus and Coltness hybrids. Plants of the latter begin to flower soon after mid-July. The Tom Thumb singles are very dwarf and splendid for bedding-out purposes, or for massing near the front of wide borders of mixed flowers. Loam and leaf-soil in equal quantities with sufficient sand to ensure porosity will form a suitable compost. The pans or boxes should be at least 5ins. deep. Place a thin layer of rotted manure and leaf-soil, mixed, in the bottom, then the compost; level the latter, water, and one hour after sow the seeds about 1in. apart; cover them ¼in. deep. The after-treatment consists of shifting on the resultant seedlings so that there will not be any check to growth and duly hardening in a frame ready for planting out early in June. Old tubers do well started in a mixture of leaf-soil and sand with pure sand round the crowns.

UNWIN'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI

Our 1925 Awards at six of the leading Shows were: Six Gold Medals and One Silver Cup. We offer the very best and most distinct English, American and Dutch Novelties and standard varieties at "*buyable*" prices.

LARGE FLOWERING VARIETIES.

Splendid, stately and majestic flowers in a wonderful range of colours and colour blendings. One of the most noble and striking of all garden subjects. Adaptable, easy to grow and inexpensive. Don't be without them this season.

UNWIN'S POPULAR COLLECTION OF LARGE FLOWERING VARIETIES.	Per doz.
America, rose pink	1/9
Baron Hulot, blue	2/3
Empress of India, maroon	2/-
Golden West, orange red	2/3
Odin, fine salmon	2/3
Panama, deep pink	2/3
Pink Perfection, soft pink	2/3
Prince of Wales, salmon pink	1/9
Red Emperor, blood red	2/9
White Giant, grand white	2/-
Willie Wigman, rose and cream	1/9
Yellow Hammer, yellow self	2/-
3 each of above 12 vars., named	5/9
6 each of above 12 vars., named	11/-
12 each of above 12 vars., named	21/-

Full Catalogues of Gladioli post free on application.

Carriage Terms.—Orders of **7/6** or over, carriage free; under 7/6, **6d.** extra must be enclosed to partly defray cost of carriage. **Send for a copy of our New Spring Catalogue. Post free.** The Highest Quality Sweet Pea Seeds and Plants, Flower and Vegetable Seeds, Seed Potatoes, Gladioli, Charm Dahlias, Roses, etc. All at "buyable" prices.

W. J. UNWIN, F.R.H.S.,
***Seedsman* - Histon, Cambs.**

BORDER CARNATIONS & ALLWOODII

Plant EARLY for best results.

Border Carnations.

Our stocks of the best hardy Garden varieties are superb. Vigorous sturdy stock from 3½in. pots, which cannot fail to give the best results, the undermentioned collections represent the best value obtainable.

CARRIAGE PAID for cash.

6 distinct varieties	8/6
12 " "	16/-
25 Plants in good variety	30/-

ALLWOODII.

The ever popular hardy plant, suitable for every garden purpose. Will beautify the border, the lawn vase or window box; is perfectly hardy and the easiest plant to cultivate. New and improved varieties have been introduced, of which the undermentioned CARRIAGE PAID COLLECTIONS ARE MAINLY COMPOSED.

6 distinct varieties	5/6
12 " "	10/6
25 Plants in good variety	21/-

CATALOGUE OF ALL CARNATIONS FOR GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE sent post free on request to—

Allwood Bros The leading Carnation Raisers and Specialists in the World.

Dept. 4, Haywards Heath, Sussex

Digitized by Google

Austins

Scotch Seed Potatoes.

Our stocks are grown and selected specially for seed purposes, and under normal conditions of soil and situation cannot fail to produce first-class crops. All are Class 1, Scotch.

	14lb.	28lb.	56lb.	112lb.
FIRST EARLY.				
Arran Rose..	3/-	5/6	10/-	18/-
Immune Ashleaf	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Duke of York	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Sharpe's Express	2/3	4/3	7/6	13/-
Witch Hill Early ..	3/-	5/6	10/-	18/-
SECOND EARLY.				
Ally	2/3	4/3	7/6	13/-
Arran Comrade	2/3	4/3	7/6	13/-
British Queen	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Great Scot	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Catrina	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
MAIN CROP.				
Abundance	2/4	4/6	8/-	14/-
Arran Chief	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
King Edward	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Kerr's Pink	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Majestic	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Field Marshal	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-

We offer many other varieties, including Arran Consul, Ben Lomond, Golden Marvel, White Arran Victory, etc., full particulars of which are given in our Catalogue, which may be had post free on request.

Packing Free. Carriage forward by goods train. If to be sent by passenger train the additional cost would be: 14lb., 1/6; 28lb., 2/9; 56lb., 5/-; 112lb., 10/-.

Our catalogue, giving full list of varieties, will be sent on application.

AUSTIN'S GOLD MEDAL GARDEN SEEDS. Descriptive Catalogue of all varieties of outstanding merit free on request. Write for copy.

Orders have prompt attention.

AUSTIN & McASLAN

The Premier Scottish Seedsmen since 1717,

Mitchell Street, GLASGOW.

BARGAIN CATALOGUE

Land Sold for Building

Real Cambridgeshire grown Fruit Trees, Fruit Bushes, Roses, Shrubs, Avenue Trees, Privet, Plants.

Exceptionally strong and healthy.

FRANK RICE (F.R.H.S.), Arbury Nurseries, Cambridge

WAKELEY'S GARDEN SEEDS

We beg to announce to our thousands of customers that we are now offering

GARDEN SEEDS

OF THE VERY

FINEST VARIETIES AND STRAIN.

Send for our **SPRING CATALOGUE** which contains a choice selection of all seeds and other specialities for the garden.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.,

75a, Bankside, S.E.

ECKFORD'S GIANT FRILLED SWEET PEAS

—FOR 1926—

GORGEOUS FLOWERS. MAGNIFICENT STEMS

For a wealth of cut flowers. For garden decoration. For exhibition.

ECKFORD'S ARE THE WORLD'S BEST

Special Offer.—25 specially chosen 1/- packets of Eckford's Giant Frilled Sweet Peas for 1926, each separate and named, for 20/-

The same 25, half-packets, each separate and named, for 10/-

The above are a gorgeous range of colour

WRITE FOR CATALOGUE (FREE) of all the best Sweet Peas for 1926. Also pedigree vegetables and choicest flower seeds

HENRY ECKFORD, Headquarters for Sweet Peas, Dept. 61 **Wem, Shropshire**

The young shoots should be inserted as cuttings when they possess two joints, being severed with a small heel attached; or, when they have three joints, being severed just below the bottom joint.—G. G.

THE BROAD-LEAVED SEA LAVENDER

COMPARATIVELY few of our good border plants have such a long record of usefulness as the broad-leaved sea lavender, Statice latifolia, which is recorded as having been in cultivation in 1791, and which is still one of the best border flowers, and may be called, without stretching language too far, an indispensable subject for a representative collection of the finest plants of hardy character. A high authority has well said, in speaking of the genus, that "S. latifolia is the best of all," although some of the annual species have perhaps more imposing spikes of inflorescence. Still, they are but annuals, and share the disadvantages for many purposes of their class. Others, again, are only half-hardy; but the hardiness of S. latifolia appears incontestable. While a sandy soil is usually most acceptable to plants of the genus statice, S. latifolia will flourish in ordinary garden loam as well so, that no special preparation of the ground is required beyond having it properly cultivated.

The "book height" of S. latifolia is ordinarily put down at 1ft., but it will frequently exceed this, and will have a really fine appearance when a plant has become established and bears several of its wide-spreading spikes of the small lavender-blue flowers, which, combined with the broad, handsome foliage, will add greatly to the attractions of any border. The leaves, which are of a fine shade of green, are large and broad, and constitute a feature of much beauty.—S. ARNOTT.

Launching an offer of Seeds for trial.

Free and Post Free.

We launch this offer with much the same feeling in which we should approach thin ice—gingerly—because the offer might be thought to somewhere hide the cloven hoof.

But as we are neither asking for money nor making any conditions whatever in offering to send seeds free to anyone who cares to ask for them, it is difficult to see where the hoof could be hidden.

In the hope of getting into touch with a larger number of gardeners than we now have the pleasure of serving, we are sending to all applicants, free and post free, one packet each of three remarkably good vegetable seeds:

BEETROOT—BAKERS' SELECTED GLOBE. A beautifully formed round beet with a conspicuously thin tap root. . . . . .

PARSNIP—GOLIATH. The biggest and best Parsnip that has ever come our way. . .

ONION—MONARCH. The largest growing, best flavoured Onion among those that really keep.

All we ask is that only responsible people will send for the seeds and that they will do their best with them when they get them, because it is only on results that we can hope for the distribution to benefit us.

Where results are good we hope that the grower will be encouraged to learn for himself what Bakers' other seeds are like and so bring grist to our mill.

For our part we can assure all such ladies and gentlemen in advance that the behaviour of the three varieties of seeds we are sending may be taken as a trustworthy guide to the growth and production of all the seed we sell.

Bakers

SEED & FLOWER FARM,

CODSALL.

Nr. Wolverhampton.

To anyone who is diffident about sending for the free seeds we shall be glad to send a copy of our complete Seed Catalogue. In many ways it is an unusual list—more informative than most—certainly more comprehensive and with something about it that might be called the "human touch," as distinct from the cut and dried, soulless sort of production most of us are used to.

2 LO SWEET PEA

THE NOVELTY OF THE YEAR

SILVER MEDAL SCOTTISH SWEET PEA TRIALS, 1925. 1st Prize Seedling Class, N.S.P. Show, 1925.

To be had from all up-to-date Seedsmen or write direct, illustrated list post free.

12 SEEDS 1/6

E. W. KING & CO., LTD., COGGESHALL.

GREAT BRITAIN'S LARGEST SWEET PEA GROWERS.

THE FLOWER OF THE SEASON

BALL'S CALENDULA

Brilliant Orange Double Flowers

THE FINEST PLANT FOR CUT FLOWER OR THE BORDER

OUR exhibit at CHELSEA SHOW made us many customers, and we have had numerous testimonials from all parts of the country

SEED — 1/-, 2/6, 5/- packet

PLANTS, 1/6 doz.; 10/- 100

WM. ARTINDALE & SON

NETHER GREEN NURSERY :: SHEFFIELD

BEGONIAS

AWARDED 85 GOLD MEDALS.

In superb quality and extra large tubers for Greenhouse or Bedding.

Doubles, in 8 colours, flowers like large Roses and Camellias	6/-	per doz.	42/-	per 100
Doubles, in mixed colours	5/-	" "	35/-	" "
Singles, in 6 colours, very large fine shaped flowers	4·6	" "	30/-	" "
Singles, in mixed colours	3.6	" "	24/-	" "
" Frilled or Crested, in 6 colours	5/-	" "	35/-	" "
" " in mixed colours	4/-	" "	28/-	" "

Collection of 36 large tubers—12 Doubles, 12 Singles, 12 Frilled Singles—14/-.

Collection of 12 named hanging basket Begonias, 3 each 4 sorts, 35/-. Excellent value.

Post free on orders of 10/- and over.

Send for FREE Catalogue of Named Double Begonias for Exhibition, Basket varieties, Cyclamen, Gloxinias, Polyanthus, Phlox, Herbaceous Plants, etc.

DELPHINIUMS

Gained 17 Awards of Merit at R.H.S. Delphinium Trials at Wisley in 1925.

The ONLY selection to receive in 1924 and 1925 the R.H.S. Gold Medal, the highest award obtainable.

Plant NOW. We have pleasure in offering the following Collections which are specially good value, in strong ground roots, which will make a fine show of bloom this year.

COLLECTION A, 12 extra good sorts 85/-

" **B,** 12 very choice sorts 42/-

" **C,** 12 fine sorts 30/-

COLLECTION D, 12 good sorts 22/-

" **E,** 12 average sorts 15/-

CATALOGUE FREE, apply

BLACKMORE & LANGDON - - - BATH

Digitized by Google

THE GARDENER'S BOOKSHELF

TWO NEW BOOKS in the 'Gardening for Amateurs' Series

ARE NOW READY

1. Ornamental Trees for Amateurs

By W. J. BEAN

(*Curator of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew*)

2. Herbaceous Borders for Amateurs

By R. V. GIFFARD WOOLLEY, N.D.H. F.L.S.

Each with 15 illustrations and coloured wrapper. 128 pages of text. **5s.** net.

¶ This series now contains E. H. M. Cox's *Rhododendrons* W. J. Bean's *Shrubs*, and the Rev. Joseph Jacob's *Hardy Bulbs*. It is eminently practical and eminently readable—designed for gardeners of not too much leisure but of keen discrimination.

An illustrated prospectus of the series will be sent free on application to the publishers, "Country Life," Ltd., 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2

ORDER COPIES NOW FROM YOUR BOOKSELLER.

JUST PUBLISHED.

The Scent of Flowers and Leaves

Its purpose and relation to man.

By F. A. HAMPTON.

Cr. 8vo. **6/-** net.

"The author is to be congratulated on the way he presents his facts."—*The Garden.*

"Should find a place and welcome in many bookshelves."—*Evening Standard.*

"A precise and interesting presentation of the principal facts and theories relating to the scent of flowers."—*Scotsman.*

"One of the most interesting chapters is that in which directions are given to gardeners for the laying out and stocking of perfume gardens, by which scented flowers or plants may be grown throughout the year."—*Sunday Times.*

To be Published in February.

The Pruning of Trees and Shrubs

Being a description of the methods practised in the Royal Botanic Gardens.

By W. DALLIMORE.

Assistant, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

Cr. 8vo. Illustrated. **6/-** net.

A most important book both for the professional and for the amateur who has the well being of his trees and shrubs at heart.

DULAU & COMPANY

LIMITED

34, 35, 36, MARGARET STREET

LONDON, W.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

SOME RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

THE success of one or two works lately published by Messrs. Dulau and Co., is already assured. "The Lilies of Eastern Asia," by E. H. Wilson, although only recently published, is already recognised as the standard work on the genus. Apart from its value as a scientific monograph, many gardeners will find the descriptions of these Eastern representatives of lilium and the cultural notes of great help. Their other publication, reviewed three or four weeks ago in these columns, strikes a new vein, dealing as it does with the "Scent of Flowers." It is not a large book nor will it create a big gap in one's pocket, while it will be found most readable and full of interesting facts, gathered together by an author who is well qualified to write on the subject.

It was remarked in this column last week that one or two reecntly published works are likely to interest those more botanically inclined. Botany and horticulture are closely allied and, indeed, are at times inseparable, so it is advisable to have at least a smattering of botanical knowledge. The amateur is often frightened by the formidable scientific tomes, gets cold feet and decides that such are beyond his powers of understanding. For these, an excellent book can be prescribed and that is "Plants and Man," by Professor F. O. Bower, published by Messrs. Macmillan, price 14s. It is an excellent survey of plants in their relation to man and written in the most captivating of literary styles.

For those who are interested in the systematic classification of our flowering plants, I would suggest that they purchase a new work called "The Families of Flowering Plants," Vol. I, Dicotyledons, by J. Hutchinson, published by Messrs. Macmillan at 21s. This work presents no mere arbitrary taxonomic system, but is an attempt to classify our flowering plants on a system based on their probable phylogeny. Many of the modern ideas are embraced which open up a wide field for discussion, and it is a book which merits the close study and attention of all keen botanists and horticulturists.

There is no lack of publications in other branches. Only last week a new book on Sweet Peas, by Mr. C. W. J. Unwin, was reviewed in these columns. Little more need be said concerning it save that it deserves the attention of all lovers of the Queen of Annuals.

There is one book which should most certainly find a place on the shelves of all horticultural libraries, and that is one devoted to the care and maintenance side of the garden. It is an old volume, but a new and enlarged edition has just been published by Messrs. Scott, Greenwood and Son at 15s. net. It is called "Insecticides, Fungicides and Weedkillers." As a thoroughly practical and up-to-date manual on the diseases of plants and their remedies, it calls for close study. It will be found a valuable book to which to refer when difficulties in the way of application of remedies to combat disease crop up. A vast amount of information is contained in its pages, and practically every point relative to the control of disease in garden plants and crops is covered. Besides horticulturists, manufacturing chemists and all those engaged in the growing of crops of all kinds will find it of the utmost service.

A New Book Every Sweet Pea Grower Should Read:

"SWEET PEAS: THEIR HISTORY, DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURE."

Price 5/- net. *(Postage 5d.)*

By CHAS. W. J. UNWIN.

THIS new book will be enjoyed by all who love or grow Sweet Peas, indeed by all flower lovers. Every phase of up-to-date culture for all purposes or objects is treated in detail. It is brimful of interest and practical assistance from cover to cover, and admirably illustrated with photographs, a coloured plate and sketches, while its scope embraces all aspects in detail which are likely to help any and every amateur grower and exhibitor.

Published by

W. HEFFER & SONS, LTD., CAMBRIDGE.

Obtainable from all Booksellers.

Beautiful Garden Books

SECRETS OF MANY GARDENS

By Mrs. PHILIP MARTINEAU

17 full page illustrations. 12s. 6d. *net*

THE HERBACEOUS GARDEN

By Mrs. PHILIP MARTINEAU

Fourth Enlarged Edition. 32 plates. 12s. 6d. *net*

ROCK GARDENS

By LEWIS MEREDITH

Third Edition. Many illustrations. 10s. 6d. *net*

The MAKING OF A GARDEN

By D. H. MOUTRAY READ

Profusely illustrated.

Cheap new edition. 7s. 6d. *net*

TREE WOUNDS AND DISEASES: THEIR PREVENTION AND TREATMENT

By A. D. WEBSTER

Profusely illustrated. 7s. 6d. *net*

EVOLUTION of PLANTS

By Dr. D. H. SCOTT

Fully illustrated. 2s. 6d. *net*

FOR FULL GARDEN CATALOGUE WRITE TO:

WILLIAMS & NORGATE, LTD.

14, HENRIETTA STREET, LONDON, W.C.2

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

MATTHEWS' HIGH GRADE HORTICULTURAL FERTILISER — COMPARE ANALYSIS

MATTHEWS' BIG PRODUCTION FERTILISERS

MATTHEWS' HIGH GRADE TOMATO FERTILISER — COMPARE ANALYSIS

PROFITABLE GROWING IN 1926

EXHIBITION & PROFIT

MATTHEWS' "Maximum Crop" GARDEN SEEDS

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES

Choice Flower Seeds
Finest Spring Bulbs

Write for Catalogue

IT WILL PAY YOU

THOUSANDS OF TONS SOLD ANNUALLY

		Amm.	Phos.	Potash	lbs. 14	28	56	1 cwt.	2 cwts.
MATTHEWS' HORTICULTURAL	For POTATOES & GENERAL GARDEN use.	7%	21%	4% (Pure)	3/3	5/9	10/9	20/-	37/6
MATTHEWS' TOMATO	All are "MAXIMUM CROP" COMPLETE MANURES essential	9%	21%	6%	3/6	6/6	12/-	22/6	42/-
MATTHEWS' LAWN	FOR ECOMOMICAL SUCCESS.	4%	25%	2%	3/-	5/6	10/-	18/6	34/-
Bone Charcoal ...		1·5%	67%	—	2/9	5/-	9/-	16/6	30/-
Bone Meal, English, Best		4.5%	45%	—	2/9	5/-	9/-	16/6	30/-
Basic Slag		—	30%	—	1/7	2/11	5/-	8/-	14 6
Bone Flour, Steamed		1%	60%	—	2/5	4/3	7/6	13/6	25/6
Fish Manure		10%	14%	—	3/5	6/4	11/9	21/6	40/6
Garden Salt		—	—	—	1/6	2/7	4/3	7/6	14/-
Hoof and Horn		16%			3/6	6/6	12/-	22/6	42/-
Kainit		—	—	14%	1/7	2/10	5/-	8/6	14/6
Lime, Ground Carbonate, Superfine		—	—	—	1/6	2/6	4/-	6/6	12/-
Meat and Bone Meal		8.5%	18%	—	3/-	5/6	10/-	18/6	34/-
Meat Meal		8%	30%	—	3/5	6/4	11/9	21/6	40 6
Nitrate of Soda		18%	—	—	3/5	6/4	11/9	21/6	40 6
Peruvian Guano		14½%	22%	2½%	4/-	7/7	14,3	27/-	51/-
Sulphate of Ammonia. 21% Nitrogen		25.75%	—	—	3/3	5/9	10/9	20/-	37/6
Sulphate of Potash		—	—	50%	3/3	5/9	10/9	20/-	37/6
Superphosphate		—	35%	—	1/8	3/1	5/3	9/6	18/-

IT PAYS TO USE MATTHEWS' HORTICULTURAL FERTILISER

WHEN ORDERING mention this JOURNAL PLEASE

CARRIAGE PAID on orders to the value of 5/- upwards to the nearest station in the United Kingdom
ESSEX RESIDENTS 1/6 per cwt. less. Packing and Bags Free; not returnable.

JAMES & GEO. H. MATTHEWS, Head Offices: HAROLD WOOD, ESSEX
Phone: ROMFORD 284
And at COLCHESTER, ONGAR, BRENTWOOD, CHADWELL HEATH, WICKHAM BISHOPS

MORE PROFIT THROUGH EXTRA YIELD AND *IMPROVED QUALITY.*

MATTHEWS' LAWN SAND

Effectively kills all the common weeds in lawns, and at the same time acts as an excellent Fertiliser. Sprinkle evenly over the weedy patches, at the rate of 3-ozs. per square yard, in dry weather Repeat at intervals of a few weeks, till the weeds are killed. The grass will become brown and appear to be burnt, but it will recover, and the useful grasses will grow more vigorously.

4/- 14lbs. 6/6 28 lbs.
10/9 56 lbs.
20/- cwt.

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by "ALPHOL"
Sample 14 lb., 3/6 carr. paid
Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to
Garden Supplies, Ltd., Granmer St., Liverpool

GARDEN LOVERS
Write For Catalogues of
PROTHEROE & MORRIS'
HORTICULTURAL SALES
MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY
67, 68 Cheapside, London E.C.2 Phone: City 3851

THE JACKPAN
"The tool that cuts your costs"
Abolishes trenching. THE deep cultivator. What your Editor and others think of it is told in our Illustrated Folder No. 5, sent on request.
Your retailer can supply, or we will send sample for 6/-
P.E.G.S. LTD., 3, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.1

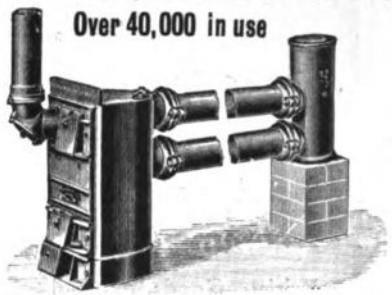
WATER for GARDENS
If you obtain your water from a well, make yourself acquainted with an easy way of raising it efficiently. The "Boulton" Water Elevator is a proved labour saver, and has nothing to get out of order. Read all about it in Booklet No. 746.
BOULTON & PAUL, LTD., NORWICH.

WILLMOTT
Rival Plant Stake
(Patented No. 183779).
As used in Royal Botanic Gardens London and Cambridge.
For all plants. WILL NOT ROT, WEAR OUT OR BREAK.
Sample of eight sizes, 2/- car. pd. United Kingdom. 4/- Overseas.
Closed — Open
R. J. GREENWOOD, F.R.H.S., Proprietor
BRACKNELL, Berks

ADCO turns GARDEN REFUSE into SYNTHETIC FARMYARD MANURE

1 cwt. of ADCO makes from two to three tons of manure according to the class of rubbish treated.
ADCO Accelerator .. 28 lb. 4/6, 56 lb. 8/-, 1 cwt. 15/-
Standard ADCO .. 28 lb. 6/- 56 lb. 11/6 1 cwt. 20/-
Carriage Paid to Nearest Goods Station. Cash with Order.
Obtainable from all leading Seedsmen. Write for full particulars.
ADCO Ltd., 40, HARPENDEN, HERTS

THE LOUGHBOROUGH BOILER
Over 40,000 in use



The high reputation of this Boiler for efficiency and economy is still unrivalled
Easy to fix, easy to manage, and most economical in fuel, it is the ideal Boiler for the Amateur's Greenhouse
Price Lists and Estimates for complete apparatus on application
MESSENGER & CO., LTD. LOUGHBOROUGH LEICESTERSHIRE
LONDON OFFICE: 122, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

YOUR LAWN!
TRUE PLAY *IN MANY LAWN GAMES IS IMPOSSIBLE UNLESS THE SURFACE IS CLEAR OF DAISIES AND OTHER WEEDS — THE BEST METHOD OF ERADICATION IS ~*
LAWN SAND
Velvas
applied 5 oz. per Square Yard.
MAKES VELVETY LAWNS

CARRIAGE PAID PRICES:

112 lb. Keg,	29 6	112 lb. Bag,	26 6	14 lb. Tin,	6/-
56 lb. ,,	16 -	56 lb. ,,	14 3	7 lb. ,,	4/-
28 lb. ,,	10 6	28 lb. ,,	9 3	3 lb. ,,	2 6

Sole Manufacturers
ROBINSON BROTHERS LTD, WEST BROMWICH

Digitized by Google

WAKELEY'S Celebrated Hop Manure

(PATENTED)

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

AS USED IN THE GARDENS OF GREAT BRITAIN

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL, ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION, 1912

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE, without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

Every ounce of Wakeley's Hop Manure is of value to the soil, supplying the necessary HUMUS in addition to the valuable plant food. Worthless rubbish is not added to make weight (as is the case of some artificial manures advertised).

Thousands do realise it, the proof of this is the constant flow of UNSOLICITED LETTERS received from time to time in praise of the wonderful results obtained at such a moderate cost (see Booklet for selection).

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.—Genuine Only in our Marked Bags containing Guaranteed Analysis.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of post card.

CASH PRICES (including bags):

Small (about 1 bushel)	3/-
Large (about 4 bushels)	7/-
5 Large	33/9
10 Large	65/-
20 Large	120/-

Carriage paid by Pickford's or to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company; 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

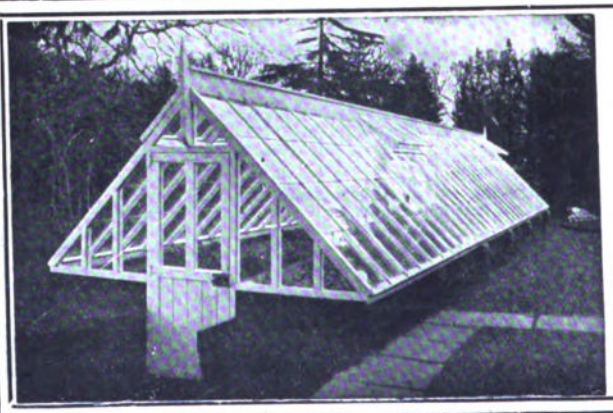
WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.

75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

Advertising's Finest . Recommendation .

"Buy British Goods." Yes! And buy Advertised Goods too. Terms here that are both synonymous with sterling merit and value. You can place the same utter dependence on the second as you can o the first.

THAT IS ADVERTISING'S FINEST RECOMMENDATION.



GREENHOUSES AND GARDEN FRAMES

I specialize in the Erection of High class Horticultural Buildings.

Garden Frames a speciality. Selected timber, well seasoned, only used.

Being a grower, I understand Glass-house requirements.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.
CATALOGUES WITH PLEASURE

E. M. HEAP, Cottimore Nurseries, WALTON-ON-THAMES.

By Appointment

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.,
Royal Potteries.
BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

AFTER 23 YEARS—

AN ELOQUENT PROOF OF UNFAILING AND USEFUL SERVICE.

"A better Greenhouse Boiler could not be than the 'Horse Shoe.' I have had it in use for 23 years and it has answered splendidly." writes Mr. F. G. L.....47, Mt. Carmel, Derby. 23/11/1925.

"HORSE SHOE" BOILERS

CAN BE SUPPLIED FROM IMMEDIATE STOCK.

Write for particulars now.

To CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD.,
Engineers, Southwark Street, S.E.1.

Please send me Booklet E "Making the Most of Your Greenhouse," and price of complete Outfit to suit *(span-roof) (lean-to) greenhouse.....long .....wide inside, sides of *(wood) (brick).....thick.

Name.....

Address.....

*Strike out particulars not needed. Cut out and send by 1d. post.

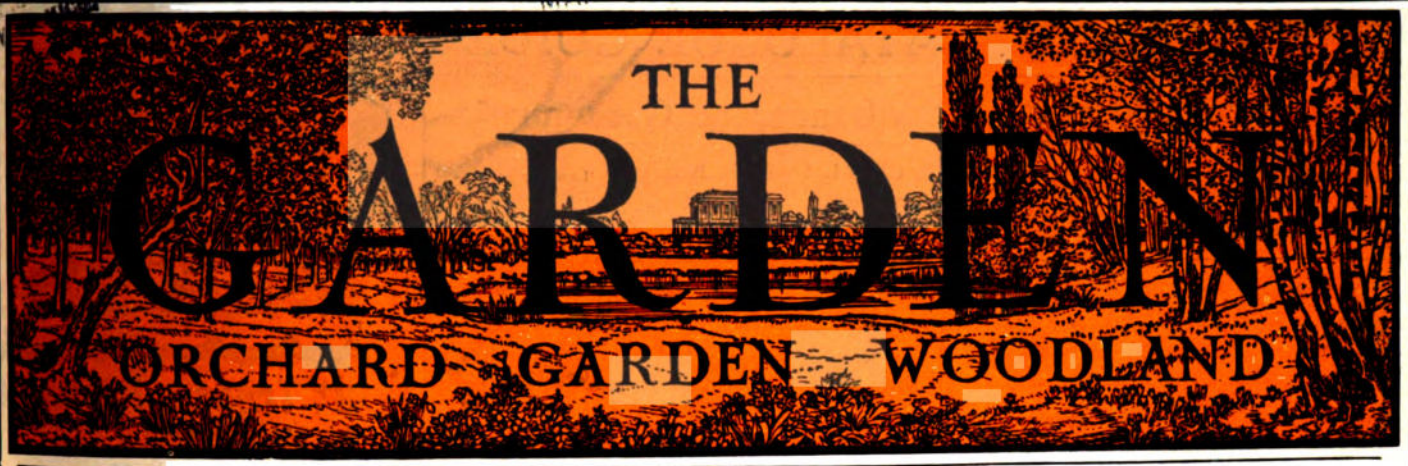
CHAS. P. KINNELL & Co., Ltd., 65, Southwark St., LONDON, S.E.1

Wire: "Kinnell-Boroh-London." Phone: Hop 362 (three lines.)

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

MAR 2 1926



Vol. XC.—No. 2832 Saturday, February 27th, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

Barrs' Flower Seed Specialities.

	Pkt. s. d.
ANEMONE ST. BRIGID, Barr's "Glory" Strain, a very lovely strain, bred only from selected vermilions, scarlets, roses and pinks **1s. 6d.** &	2 6
AUBRIETIA, Newest Hybrids, Mixed, deep purple, blue and lavender to blush, pink, rose, carmine and crimson, all large-flowered	2 6
CAMPANULA, Telham Beauty, a grand variety producing on long stems immense bell-shaped open flowers, beautiful clear lavender-blue, h.p. **2s. 6d.** &	3 6
DIGITALIS (Foxglove) "The Shirley," a magnificent new strain raised by the late Rev. W. Wilks: flowers of great size, white to dark rose, handsomely blotched crimson, maroon, etc. .. .. .. **1s.** &	2 6
LILIUM auratum platyphyllum, a grand border Lily producing immense flowers, with broad white petals, spotted crimson..	2 6
LILIUM Regale, large trumpet-shaped fragrant flowers, white flushed yellow, with ruby red on back of petals. Flowers in two years from seed. Quite hardy	2 6
PRIMROSE, Barr's Selected Blue, from the best lavender and blue shades	2 6
VERBENA, Barr's New Giant flowered Mixed, surpassing all other Verbenas in size of bloom and variety of colours. All the flowers have a brilliant white eye, which enhances their beauty, h.h.p., 1ft. **1s.** &	2 6

For other Flower Seed Specialities, see Barr's Seed Guide free on application.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

WORTH GROWING

SEED POTATOES

SCOTCH & ENGLISH — CLASS I

Selected Stocks

WRITE FOR LIST

ISAAC POAD & SONS, Ltd.,
Seed Potato Growers - - - YORK

Glass breaks!

WHY USE IT?

'WINDOLITE'

The practical Glass Substitute for all GARDEN USES.

Light. Flexible. Unbreakable

Easy to cut and fix. It keeps out cold and wet, but lets in all the light—even the Ultra Violet Rays which are stopped by glass.

Send **4/6** *for post free sample, 3 ft. by 2 ft.*

WINDOLITE (DEPT. C) 179/185, GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1

. . THE . .

"SOUTHWELL" COLLECTION

BUSH ROSE TREES. ALL BRITISH GROWN.

FIRST CLASS VARIETIES FOR GARDEN EFFECT.

Avoca, crimson scarlet
Caroline Testout, satiny rose
Conrad F. Meyer, silvery rose
Dorothy Page Roberts, salmon pink
Francis Gaunt, fawny yellow
Frau Karl Druschki, white
General McArthur, velvety carmine
Gorgeous, deep orange yellow
Hadley, deep velvety crimson
Henrietta, coral salmon
La Tosca, blush pink
Lieut. Chaure, velvety crimson
Lyon, salmon pink
Mrs. H. R. Darlington, creamy yellow
Mrs. John Laing, clear pink
Red Letter Day, scarlet crimson
Richmond, red scarlet
W. E. Wallace, deep golden yellow

This collection of 18 varieties for **18/9**, or 12 selected from the above for **12/6**
Acme Labels (if required) .. .. **2/6** per dozen.

Carriage and packing free for Cash with Order.

BUY HOME GROWN TREES.

Catalogue of Rose Trees, Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Hardy Plants, etc., free on application to—

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, Ltd., THE NURSERIES, SOUTHWELL, NOTTS.

PLANTING SEASON

GEO. JACKMAN & SON

WOKING NURSERIES, SURREY.

Established over a century.

Invite inspection of their large and varied stock of ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBS, ROSES, CLIMBERS, FRUIT AND FOREST TREES, HERBACEOUS AND ALPINE PLANTS

200 Acres of Stock to select from. Catalogues free on application.

ADVICE GIVEN ON ALL MATTERS APPERTAINING TO LANDSCAPE GARDENING & ESTATE IMPROVEMENTS

GLORIOUS GLADIOLI

No Garden is complete without these lovely flowers and for house decoration they have few equals.

Send for our Special List, in which we offer 90 varieties, and see what our customers say of them.

WE ALSO OFFER CHOICE LILIUMS, BEGONIAS, MONTBRETIAS, ANEMONES, RANUNCULUS, ETC., ETC.

See our large advertisement in February 6th issue of "THE GARDEN," for particulars of many bargains.

Orders value 5/-, carriage paid. Immediate despatch.

LONGSTAFF & SONS

Bulb Growers, Importers and Merchants

NEAR CHELSFIELD STATION ∴ KENT

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S HARDY PLANT FARMS ENFIELD, MIDDX. — New Alpines and Perennials — Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS. NURSERIES BEDFORD — Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR. HARDY PLANT NURSERY MERSTHAM, SURREY — Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON TWERTON HILL NURSERY BATH — Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS 408, KING'S ROAD CHELSEA, S.W. — Seeds Gladioli Spiræas List on Application

R. H. BATH, LTD. THE FLORAL FARMS WISBECH — Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

BROWN'S TESTED SEEDS. Illustrated Flower and Vegetable Seed Catalogue, giving full cultural directions, at competitive prices, post free if this paper is mentioned. D. T. BROWN & CO., *Seedsmen*, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD. NURSERIES CRAWLEY — Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG THE NURSERIES CHISLEHURST, KENT — Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD BARROW-ON-HUMBER HULL — Weed Destroyers Fertilisers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

LAXTONS', BEDFORD

New BLACK CURRANT

"MITE FREE."

This variety resists mite, and can be grown with safety where mite is prevalent.

Three-year-old Bushes - 42/- per doz.

LAXTON BROTHERS, Nurseries, BEDFORD

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Michaelmas Daisies

For all the **latest** and **most** beautiful varieties, see the Raiser's List.

ERNEST BALLARD, Colwall, MALVERN

Downer's Usually Silent Lupins

are making a great *noise* in the world. Rich, harmonious colours, mixed, 12/- doz. clumps. Lupin List, Herbaceous and Alpine Catalogue free. A necessary warning.—Some firms are selling Lupin Downer's Delight grown from seed. The same remark applies to Lupin Downer's Pink Pearls. It is needless to say these plants are not true.

DOWNER, 2, Drayton Manor Nurseries, Chichester.

SENT FREE ON REQUEST

Hints on Fruit Tree Culture

For Amateur and Professional.

Interesting Notes on Soils, Situations and Fertilizers, Popular Fruits for all Purposes

and other useful information will be found in

OUR FRUIT TREE CATALOGUE

which will be sent Post Free.

Sit down now while the matter is fresh in your mind and write for your copy.

Established 1785. **Awarded 90 Gold Medals.**

KING'S ACRE NURSERIES, LIMITED, HEREFORD

Gold Medallists of all leading Horticultural Societies

Scientific food

In common with all life, plants repay for good, scientific feeding. Use this lasting manure for fruit trees, vines, etc. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen and florists.

XL ALL GRADUATING MANURE

G. H. RICHARDS, LTD.

234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1

R. 91.

Fruit Trees Rose Tree

ALL ENGLISH GROWN.

Descriptive Catalogue post free on demand.

INSPECTION INVITED.

S. SPOONER & SON

Estd. 1820 The Nurseries, Hounslow, MIDDLES

Please send for New List of

SEEDS of HARDY PLANTS

INCLUDING

BROOMS and TREES and SHRUBS.

T. SMITH, Daisy Hill Nursery, NEWRY

N. IRELAND.

1926

PERPETUAL FLOWERING **CARNATIONS**

Our Illustrated Catalogue will be sent free on request

C. ENGELMANN LTD.

Saffron Walden, Essex.

SHOW & REGAL PELARGONIUMS

for a brilliant show in April and May.

Strong plants ready now, from 3-inch pots, ready for potting into 5-inch pots. Best results obtained from plants now.

12 varieties 9/-, or newer sorts, 12/-, 15/- and 17/6 post free for cash.

2/6 per doz. extra if required in Leather-board pots. Carriage paid.

DAHLIAS

(pot roots) of CACTUS, DECORATIVE, POMPON, COLLARETTE, STAR, ETC., 6/- per doz. post free. All separate varieties. A mixed dozen same price.

Orders over 5/- post free C. W. O.

Catalogue free on application.

J. W. COLE & SON, Westwood Nurseries, Peterborough

The "Caledonian Prize Strain"

CYCLAMEN Awarded GOLD Medal

Early Flowering Chrysanthemums A Speciality

Novelties, 1926 For GARDEN and GREENHOUSE

NOW READY OUR NEW CATALOGUE containing many thrills for the Garden enthusiast, together with useful cultural hints.

A POST CARD will bring you this handsome illustrated Edition.

WRITE NOW—

J. W. FORSYTH

Cyclamen Grower and Floriculturist

Putteridge, Luton, Beds.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

WATERER'S GOLD MEDAL RHODODENDRONS, Azaleas, Shrubs, Conifers, Climbers Heaths, Hardy Perennial and Alpine Plants, Vegetable and Flower Seeds, Scotch Seed Potatoes, Spring Bulbs, English-grown Fruit Trees and Roses. Separate catalogue for each department post free.—JOHN WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LIMITED, Twyford, Berks.

WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE.—The original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See advert. on back page.

WM. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., Lawrence Road, South Tottenham, N.15.—Conservatories, Winter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

BIRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUNDIALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—MOORTON, 80, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

FENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Garden Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE BRADLEY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, Surrey.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list, post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

ROCK PLANTS AND SHRUBS.—Over 300 varieties in stock. Descriptive catalogue free. Also Herbaceous Plants and Roses.—HODSONS, LTD., 58, Castlegate, Nottingham.

YORK STONE PAVINGS, crazy or rectangular, rustic copings, steps, roughly squared or random shaped, flat bedded wallstones, garden edging, rockery, etc.—SAMUEL JOHNSON AND SON (MIRFIELD), LTD., Newgate Stone Works, Mirfield, Yorkshire.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 16/6 per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

Price 2/6 each, by L. E. FOX.

ADAM'S GARDEN : Cultivation of Vegetables and Small Fruit, with Preface by E. J. CHITTENDEN, F.L.S., V.M.H.

EVE'S GARDEN : Cultivation of Flowers, with Preface by JOHN FRASER, F.L.S., V.M.H. *The Gardeners' Chronicle* says of *Adam's Garden* : "Most valuable information is given in a condensed form."—LONGMANS, GREEN AND CO., LTD., 39, Paternoster Row, London, E.C.4

GARDEN NETS. — Protect your Seeds and Buds from frost and birds. Netting, strong, small mesh, specially prepared, will not rot, as supplied by us to the Royal Gardens, 25 sq. yds. for 2/6. Any length or width supplied, price in proportion. Carr. paid. Cheaper kinds kept. List and samples free.—GASSON & SONS, Net Works, Rye. Est. 127 years.

PRIOR'S COLCHESTER ROSES, Fruit Trees, Gladioli, Dahlias, Carnations, Herbaceous. Catalogue containing cheap collections free.—D. PRIOR & SON, LTD., Colchester.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING, small mesh, 25 yds. by 1 yd., 2/-; 25 yds. by 2 yds., 4/-; 40 yds. by 1 yd., 4/3; 40 yds. by 2 yds., 6/6; 40 yds. by 3 yds., 9/9. Measured mesh closed. Special Pea Netting supplied. Tennis Nets from 8/-. Carriage paid. Compare our netting with others. Sports lists and samples free.—GALLOP, Net Manufacturer, Hastings.

ROCK AND ALPINE PLANTS.—Large and varied collection. All pot grown. Packed and carriage paid. Catalogue free.—M. J. PIGGOTT, Duffield, Nr. Derby.

ROCK PLANTS, best varieties, inexpensive, list free.—MARION GLEDSTANES, Fardross, Northern Ireland.

NETS for Gardens and Tennis Courts.—Before ordering elsewhere, send for our free lists and samples. It will pay you.—GASSON & SONS, Net Works, Rye. Est. 127 years.

BARR'S FLOWER & VEGETABLE SEEDS of finest selected strains and tested growth, also the best Scotch and Irish grown, hand-picked Seed Potatoes.

BARR'S HARDY PERENNIALS, ALPINES, ROCK PLANTS, AQUATICS, CLIMBERS, TALL and DWARF FLAG IRISES, etc., for Spring planting.

BARR'S LILIES, GLADIOLI, DAHLIAS, CANNAS, MONTBRETIAS, ANEMONES, BEGONIAS, TUBEROSES, TIGRIDIAS, &c., for Spring planting. Catalogues free.—BARR & SONS, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are now famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx, and perpetual habit. Illustrated plant list now ready. New Seed, now ready, hand fertilised, 2/6 and 5/- packets.—J. DOUGLAS, Great Bookham, Surrey.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial : What is in a Name ?	125
Shrubs in Western Scotland	126
About Window Boxes	128
Sweet Peas of Yesterday	128
Notes of the Week	130–131
Florists' Nomenclature ; Shrubby Veronicas and Frost ; The Hadley Fedge ; Weather Observations from a Daffodil Clump ; Camellia sasanqua ; The Roscœas.	
Primulas for the Garden	132
Correspondence	134–136
Lilium Species Farrer No. 1122 ; Alpines from Seed ; Lachenalia Nelsoni ; The Blue Poppies ; Perennial Primulas ; Rosemary ; Larks and Green Crops ; Rev. F. Jacob : An Appreciation ; Yellow Tomatoes ; Anemone nemorosa Robinsoniana ; Rock Garden Annuals ; The Scot in Devon ; Freesias from Seed.	
"Planting" Seeds—Which Way Up ?	136
Fig Culture in the Open	137
Potato Culture	138
Rose William Allen Richardson	138

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL DELPHINIUMS and ROSES. Send a postcard for our catalogue.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI, Chrysanthemums, Dahlias, and Border Carnations.—Our stock includes many new and meritorious varieties. List post free on application.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

MECONOPSIS SEEDS, five species offered in Clarence Elliott's list.—SIX HILLS NURSERY, Stevenage, Herts

WELLS' CATALOGUE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS will be sent post free on application.—W. WELLS AND CO., Merstham, Surrey.

SUTTON'S

COLLECTIONS OF VEGETABLE SEEDS.

19 varieties	5/9	30 varieties	8/3
36 "	11/3	38 "	13/6

POST FREE.

Full particulars on application.

SUTTON & SONS, THE KING'S SEEDSMEN, READING.

DOBBIE'S 1926 CATALOGUE AND GUIDE, 144 pages, 225 illustrations, free to all readers. Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.—DOBBIE AND CO., LTD., Edinburgh.

BATH'S SELECT SEEDS AND PLANTS.—New Illustrated Catalogue of choice Vegetable and Flower Seeds and Plants is now ready, and will be sent, post free, on application.—(Dept. E), R. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools ; a perfect fertiliser, no solids ; no open filters ; perfectly automatic ; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 6, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO READERS OF "THE GARDEN."—Owing to the great demand for FIDLER'S 1926 GARDEN GUIDE AND CATALOGUE, a limited number of copies have been provisionally reserved for readers of this paper. Please SEND IN YOUR APPLICATION AT ONCE and mark your envelope or postcard "GARDEN" in top left-hand corner.—FIDLER & SONS (established 1856), Reading.

HARDY PLANTS, ROSES AND FRUIT TREES. Revised catalogue now ready. Free on application to THOMPSON AND MORGAN, Ipswich.

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES.—Per stone : Duke of York, 2/3 ; Witchhill, 2/6 ; Express, 2/2 ; Epicure 1/10 ; Eclipse, 2/- ; Abundance, 2/2 ; Great Scot 2/3 ; Majestic, 2/4 ; King Edward, 1/10 ; Kerr's Pink, 1/10 ; Bishop, 2/3, etc. Shallots Red, 8d. lb. Amateur's Guide of Vegetable and Flower Seeds free.—TILLIE WHYTE & Co., 12, Melbourne Place, Edinburgh.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS FOR GREENHOUSE AND GARDEN. Also Dahlias, Fuchsias, Show and Zonal Pelargoniums and Coleus. Price List free on application.—J. W. COLE AND SON, Westwood Nurseries, Peterborough.

INDIAN ORCHIDS.—6 Vandas cœrulea, 30/- ; 6 V. Amesiana, 26/- ; 6 V. Kimballiana, 26/-. 12 different grand-flowering sorts, 25/-. 6 Dendrobium brymerianum, 36/- Cash. All paid in U.K. Catalogue free.—THE CHANDRA NURSERY, P.O. Rhenock, Sikkim (Bengal), India.

GARDEN NETS.—Best tanned, small mesh 25yds. by 1yd., 2/- ; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/- ; 25yds. by 3yds., 6/- ; 25yds. by 4yds., 8/-. Carr. paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Tennis nets from 10s. Special nets for tennis boundary. Pea training nets. Lists and samples free.—G. JARRETT, Netmaker, Rye.

RARE PRIMULA AND ALPINE SEEDS from large (1,500) collection, sold cheap. List free.—REV. J. F. ANDERSON, Glen Hall, Leicester.

FOR NEW AND RARE ALPINE AND HERBACEOUS PLANTS, grown under hardy Scotch conditions, send for our new catalogue just published, also Seed List of choice Primulas, etc.—OLIVER AND HUNTER, Moniaive, Dumfriesshire.

SPENCE'S SCOTCH SEED POTATOES.—Write for Descriptive Catalogue and Growing Guide (on Potatoes only).—CHAS. T. SPENCE, Seed Potato Specialist, Dunbar Scotland.

A NAIL WRITES WEBSTER'S METAL LABELS. They can't fade. List 20 sizes.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

ALPINE, ROCK AND CRAZY PAVING PLANTS, all of good varieties : 6 each, 4/6 doz., 25, 8/6 ; 50, 16/- ; 100, 30/-, in 6, 12, 25 varieties respectively. J. H. PAGE Gardenia, Adelaide Road, Surbiton, Surrey.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra : 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free ; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

CLAY'S LONDON FERTILIZER TRADE MARK

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then, together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices :—

Tins 10d. and 1/6

and in **Branded and Sealed Bags :**

7 lbs. - **3/6** 14 lbs. - **6/-**
28 lbs. - **10/-** 56 lbs. **18/-**
112 lbs. - **32/-**

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark.

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers, etc. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**

DOBBIE'S——

SCOTCH-GROWN

PLANTS

FULL DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE
84 pages of Indoor and Hardy Plants
SENT ON APPLICATION

DOBBIE & CO., LTD.
Nurserymen :: EDINBURGH

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING, SURREY
(late ANTHONY WATERER)

PROPRIETOR - **HOSEA WATERER**

has pleasure in offering

STANDARD TREES

in great variety, consisting of

LIMES, NORWAY MAPLES, ELMS, etc., etc.

EVERGREEN & DECIDUOUS SHRUBS, viz. :

Box—Green and Variegated, 3 to 8 ft.
Hollies—Common, 5 to 8 ft.; Variegated and Green varieties, 2 to 6 ft.
Thuiopsis borealis, 10 to 12 ft. Cupressus Lawsoniana, 12 to 14 ft. Cedrus atlantica glauca, very fine, 10 to 14 ft. Osmanthus, Phillyroeas, Spiræas, Lilacs, Viburnums, etc.

GOLDEN YEWS

A Magnificent Stock in all shapes and sizes from 2 to 10 ft.

PRIVET, Common and Oval-leaved.
QUICK and **HORNBEAM** for Hedges.
AZALEAS, 2 to 5 ft.
RHODODENDRONS, without doubt the finest stock in the trade of named varieties, 2 to 6 and 8 ft.
HARDY HEATHS in great variety and a good general nursery stock.

Catalogues ready.

Enquiries and Inspection Invited.

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING STATION, SURREY

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

39th SEASON.

Mrs. PYM'S FAMOUS PLANTS

GOOD AND CHEAP

Send for New Spring Catalogue

—— NOW READY ——

Plant NOW for Success.

Magnificent Choice Hardy Perennials, Rockery Plants, Spring Flowering Plants, Hardy Climbers, Choice Hardy Flowering Shrubs, Splendid Plants for Cool Greenhouse, &c.

ALL STRONG HEALTHY PLANTS THE BEST I HAVE EVER HAD TO OFFER. EVERY PLANT A BARGAIN.

Named, carefully packed and guaranteed to arrive in excellent condition. Stock your gardens with really excellent plants.

Mrs. PYM (F.R.H.S.) & CO.
10, Vine House, Woodston, Peterboro'

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE FLOWER OF THE SEASON

BALL'S CALENDULA

Brilliant Orange Double Flowers

THE FINEST PLANT FOR CUT FLOWER OR THE BORDER

OUR exhibit at CHELSEA SHOW made us many customers and we have had numerous testimonials from all parts of the country

SEED — 1/-, 2/6, 5/- packet
PLANTS, 1/6 doz.; 10/- 100

WM. ARTINDALE & SON
NETHER GREEN NURSERY :: SHEFFIELD

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

WATERER'S

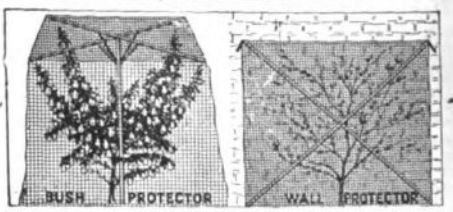
GREAT ANNUAL SALE

of

1. ALPINE & HERBACEOUS PLANTS
2. FRUIT TREES & ROSES
3. GLADIOLI & LILIUMS
4. SHRUBS FOR THE ROCK GARDEN

SPECIAL SALE CATALOGUE Post Free.

JOHN WATERER SONS & CRISP, Ltd.,
Dept. G,
TWYFORD, BERKS.



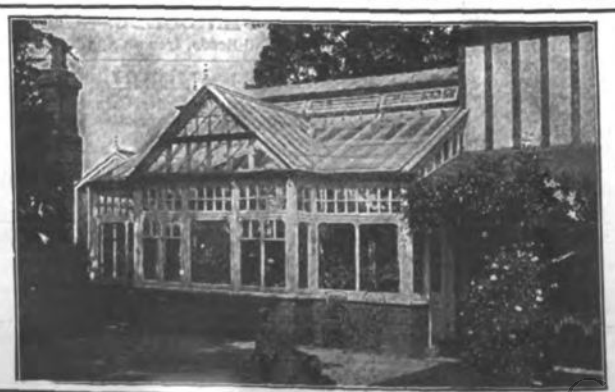
FRUIT TREE PROTECTORS
Against BIRDS, FROST, COLD WINDS, WASPS.
TRANSFERABLE FRUIT CAGES, &c.
SPECIAL NETTINGS & TENNIS SURROUND.
Apply for the new Illustrated Booklet giving his
SYSTEM OF FRUIT CULTURE
Major C. Walker, Dept. G., Brecon, S. Wales

BARGAIN CATALOGUE

Land Sold for Building

Real Cambridgeshire grown Fruit Trees, Fruit Bushes, Roses, Shrubs, Avenue Trees, Privet, Plants.
Exceptionally strong and healthy.

FRANK RICE (F.R.H.S.), Arbury Nurseries, Cambridge

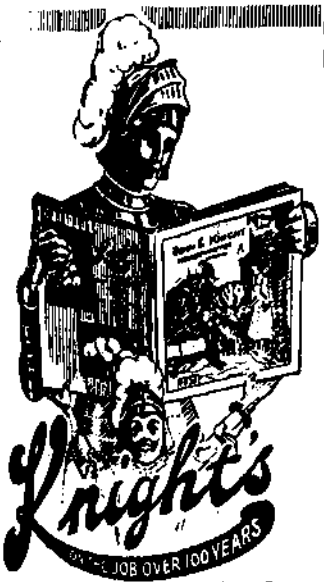


FOSTER & PEARSON
LIMITED
Established 1841

Please write for Estimates for durable Greenhouses, Boilers, etc., to

BEESTON NOTTS

Digitized by Google



STUPENDOUS SUCCESS

OF OUR

FREE GIFT SCHEME

- continued a farther Limited Period -

CHOICE OF 7 FREE GIFTS

On every order value 20/- and over, for Goods ordered from this page or our Rose and Plant Catalogue, choice of the following Free Gifts:

6 RAMBLER ROSES, FRUITING BUSH APPLE, PEAR OR PLUM, 6 POLYANTHA ROSES, YELLOW CHINESE CLEMATIS,

or 50 GIANT SPIKED GLADIOLI

Over 12/6 - - - THREE RAMBLER ROSES

CATALOGUE.

OF PEDIGREE SEEDS.
80 Pages. 144 Illustrations.
FREE FOR THE ASKING.

ROSES. Guaranteed British Grown and the hardiest in England.

First size. 1/- Each. 10/- Dozen. 75/- 100

Pinks.
Admiration
America
Annie Laurie
Caroline Testout
Ethel Somerset
Lady Ashtown
Lady Pirrie
Madam A. Chatenay
Madam Butterfly
Madam M. Soupert
Mrs. H. Morse
Mrs. G. Shawyer
Ophelia
Pharisaer
Copper.
Daily Mail
Gorgeous
Independence Day
Lamia
Lyon
Padre
Sunstar
White.
F. K. Druschki
Red.
Alf. Columb
Avoca
Capt. Hayward
Gen. Jacqueminot
Fisher Holmes
General McArthur
G. C. Waud
Geo. Dickson
Hugh Dickson
Hadley
Hoosier Beauty
K. of K.
Lieut. Chaure
Laurent Carle
Premier
Red Letter Day
Richmond
The Queen Alexandra
Ulrich Brunner
Yellow.
Golden Emblem
Lady Hillingdon
M. D. Hamill
Mrs. Wemyss Quinn
Mrs. G. Lamplough
Rayon d'Or
Souv. de C. Pernet

OLD-FASHIONED MOSS ROSES, beautifully scented. White, Red and Pink. 1/6 each. 17/- per doz.

CLIMBING ROSES for ARCHES, 1/- each. 10/- doz.

Aglaia
Alberic Barbier
American Pillar
Blush Rambler
Crimson Rambler
Dorothy Perkins
Excelsa
Goldfinch
Hiawatha
Lady Gay
Minnehaha
Shower of Gold
Sodenia
Tausendschon
Wedding Bells
White Dorothy
Veilchenblau

OLD-FASHIONED SWEET BRIARS, 1/6 each. 15/- doz.

Write for 52 page Rose and Plant Catalogue. It's Free.

LARGE-FLOWERED CLIMBING ROSES
1/6 each.
15/- dozen.

Clearance Offer
12 Guaranteed
ENGLISH-GROWN
ROSE BUSHES
Best sorts, our selection, 8/-

Clearance Offer
RAMBLER ROSES
A few hundreds of BEST Named Sorts. Have lost their labels. To clear, 4/6 doz.

SPECIAL FRUIT OFFER
1 Bush Pear, 1 Bush Apple, 1 Bush Plum, 3 Black Currants, 3 Gooseberries, 9 Fruiting Trees for 10/6

FRUIT TREES for Orchards, etc. 4 to 5 year old Fruiting Trees.

STANDARDS, 5/- ea.; 58/- doz. **SHORT STANDARDS,** 3/6 ea.; 38/- doz. **BUSH,** 3/- & 4/- ea.; 34/- & 44/- doz. **CORDON APPLES,** 2/6 ea.; 28/- doz.

APPLES.

Allington Pippin
Blenheim Orange
Beauty of Bath
Bramley's Seedling
Cox's Orange Pippin
Grenadier
Newton Wonder
King of Pippins
Keswick Codlin
Lord Suffield
Lane's Prince Albert
Lord Derby
Worcester Pearmain

PEARS.

Louise Bonne
Clapp's Favourite
Catillac
Pitmaston Duchess
Williams' Bon Chretien
Beurre d'Amanlis
Durondeau
Beurre Hardy
Herzogin Elsa

PLUMS.

Victoria
Pond's Seedling
Monarch
Belle de Louvain
Kirkes
Egg Plum
Czar
Transparent Gage
Green Gage

TRAINED APPLES, PEARS AND PLUMS, extra strong, 5/- and 7/6 each. **DAMSONS,** true Staffordshire and Shropshire variety, Bush, 5/- each; Standards, 7/6. **CHERRIES,** eating, 4 to 5 years, very strong Bush, 5/-; Standard, 5/6 White and Black Heart. **MORELLO CHERRIES,** trained for walls, 7/6 each. **BLACK AND RED CURRANTS,** 10d. each, 8/- dozen. **RASPBERRIES,** 2/- dozen, 10/- 100. **LOGANBERRIES,** 1/6 each, 15/- dozen. **STRAWBERRIES,** Sovereign, Paxton, Mme. Kool, 1/6 dozen, 10/- 100.

HARDY PLANTS FOR EVERYBODY.

Most suitable for cutting or Herbaceous Borders.

Anchusa italica, lovely gentian blue, 9d. ea.; 3, 1/10.
Aquilegias, long-spurred, 6d. ea.; 5/6 doz.
Canterbury Bells, 4/6 doz.
Chelranthus Allionii, 1/- doz. 10/- 100.
Eulalia Japonica, fine foliage plant, 9d. each; 7/6 doz.
Gaillardia grandiflora, 6d. each; 5/- doz.
Geums, Lady Stratheden, 9d. each; 7/6 doz.
— Mrs. Bradshaw, 8d. each; 6/6 doz.
Hollyhocks, single, 6d. each; 5/- doz. Double, 9d. each; 7/6 doz.
Lupins, Polyphyllus, giant strain, 9d. each; 7/6 doz.
Poppies, Giant Iceland, 8d. each; 7/- doz. Seedlings, 2/6 doz.
Nepeta Mussini, 6d. each; 5/- doz.
Coreopsis grandiflora, 6d. each; 5/- doz.
Sweet Williams, 4d. each; 3/6 doz.
Tritoma (Red-hot Pokers), 9d. each; 7/6 doz.
Wallflowers, 8d. doz.; 4/6 100.
Forget-me-nots, 1/9 doz.; 10/- 100.
Delphiniums, 1/- each; 10/6 doz.
Phlox, 8d. each; 7/- doz.
Pyrethrums, single or double, 6d. each; 5/- doz.
Paeonies, 9d. each; 8/- doz.

PRIVET.
12in. to 18in. .. .. .. 2/6 dozen; 18/6 100
24in. to 30in. .. .. .. 5/- dozen; 35/- 100
36in. to 48 in. .. .. .. 7/- dozen; 50/- 100

Oval Leaf Evergreen.
18in. to 24in. .. .. .. 4/- dozen; 28/- 100
30in. to 36in. .. .. .. 6/- dozen; 45/- 100

Best Hedging Plant.
Bushy Plants 3ft. high, 1/- each, 10/- dozen.

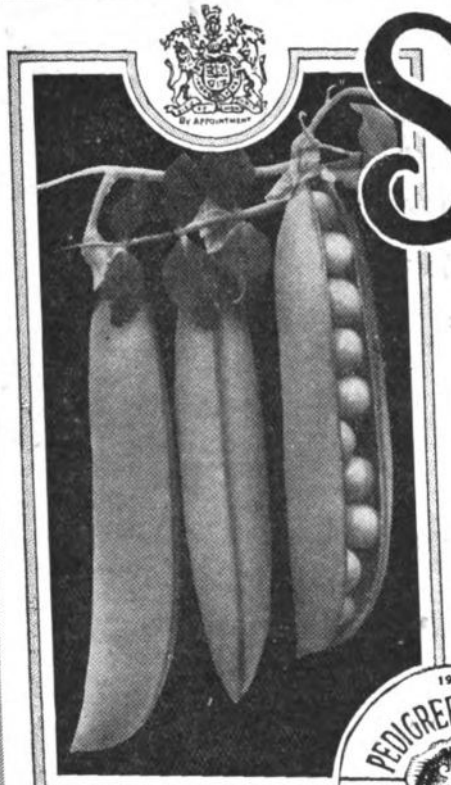
MYROBELLA, fast growing hedging, 1½ft. to 2ft., 4/- dozen, 28/- 100; 2ft. to 3ft., 5/6 dozen, 40/- 100; 3ft. to 4ft., 7/- dozen, 50/- 100.
QUICK, 2ft. to 3ft., 16/- 100, £7 15s. 1,000.
QUICK, 1½ft. to 2ft., 12/- 100, £5 15 0 1,000.
ALNUS GLUTINOSA, 2ft. to 3ft., very fast growing, 3/6 doz., 25/- 100.

Bankers—National Provincial.

Orders of 20/- and over, carr. paid. Under 20/-, 1/- extra.

TETTENHALL ROSERY - WOLVERHAMPTON

Digitized by Google



SUTTON'S SEEDS

PEDIGREE STRAINS OF VEGETABLES

For reliability in cropping, excellent appearance, and superior table quality, it is acknowledged that our pedigree strains of Vegetables are unsurpassed.

SUTTON'S COLLECTIONS OF VEGETABLE SEEDS

for Gardens of all sizes

19 varieties . .	5/9
30 varieties . .	8/3
36 varieties . .	11/3
38 varieties . .	13/6

Post free

Full particulars by return of post

SUTTON & SONS
The King's Seedsmen
—READING—

1926 PEDIGREE-QUALITY Sutton & Sons Reading

Warning.—In future every packet of "Sutton's Seeds" will bear this seal, and none is genuine without it

ROSES

STANDARDS.

In this form we have still a few interesting varieties such as Persian Yellow, Copper Austrian, and the old Moss, Blanche Moreau. In dwarf form we can still offer the charming old "Painter's" Rose and the species Moyesii and Webbiana. In Penzance Briars we have Anne of Geierstein, Amy Robsart, Lord and Lady Penzance, &c. Our general stock is still good.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd., The Royal Nurseries, Established 1796. Maidstone.

NEW HARDY CRIMSON BROOM

AT Chelsea Show (1925) the King said, "That red Broom is certainly very striking." This was the new crimson Broom "Dorothy Walpole," which received the unanimous Award of Merit from the R.H.S. as well as other distinctions in London and on the Continent.

In the *Field*, a well known ex-Curator of Kew Gardens wrote: "The richest coloured Broom known is one named 'Dorothy Walpole.' It is as hardy as the common Broom . . . and is very free-flowering . . . the colour is rich velvety crimson . . . more attractive than any of the coloured Brooms yet seen." The colour far surpasses Cytisus Dallimorei, and the growth is as vigorous as C. Andreanus; it requires no special treatment nor any kind of protection whatever—just a hardy shrub for ordinary garden soil in any part of the British Isles, however far north.

A Vice-Chairman, Floral Committee, R.H.S., wrote: "Everyone who has seen my plant has been astonished at its warm glowing red," and from a lady in Devon: "I am so delighted with the Broom 'Dorothy Walpole.' It has done splendidly and is like a sparkling gem in the garden—one mass of flower."

Strong pot-grown plants now ready for planting out, to flower in May, 12/6 each. Carriage paid rates to any station in Great Britain or Ireland: One plant, carriage paid, 15/-; two plants, carriage paid, 28/6; three plants, carriage paid, 41/-; six plants, carriage paid, 79/6.

Coloured illustration sent on application if THE GARDEN is mentioned.

Wm. Watson & Sons, Ltd., Nurseries, Killiney, Co. Dublin.

BY APPOINTMENT.

LAWN SAND

To destroy Clover and Weeds in Lawns apply Lawn Sand. Use at the rate of 4 ozs. to the square yard. 1 cwt. is sufficient for a Tennis Lawn.

Price per cwt. **35/-** in kegs carr. paid.

LAWN GUANO

Turf that has to stand hard wear requires a carefully balanced fertilizer. Fisons' Lawn Guano is used by many of the leading Tennis Clubs.

Price per cwt. **33/-** nett. Carr. paid.

Illustrated Catalogue of Fertilizers for all crops, post free, from

Joseph Fison & Co., Ltd. Ipswich.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Toogood's Seeds

THE BEST THAT GROW

Fine seeds make fine flowers!

There is nothing one is called upon to buy more 'in the dark' than seeds. Therefore, buy and sow only Guaranteed Garden Seeds.

FREE ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE of "Guaranteed Garden Seeds"—comprising both flower and vegetable seeds—sent free on application.

TOOGOOD & SONS, Ltd.
The King's Seedsmen,
SOUTHAMPTON.

Digitized by Google

VOL. XC.—No. 2832. FEBRUARY 27, 1926.

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.; Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2. *Offices for Advertisements:* 6-11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

WHAT IS IN A NAME?

A FEW pages farther on in this issue of THE GARDEN will be found a note from a reader who complains about the names of most of the modern florist flowers. He says that they lack originality and that they do not help the gardener to distinguish one variety from another. I am entirely in agreement with all that this contributor has to say, so much so that I wish to emphasise one or two of the points he makes, even if I am accused of stealing a little of his thunder.

Presumably all who love a particular plant or plants above their relatives grant that their preference has something that carries it on a higher plane. If the gardener is especially imaginative, he may see in this plant a personality; it may carry itself with a superior grace, it may suit a particular colour sense, or it may be of a shape that fits in with his individual conception of what constitutes the perfect form. At any rate, the gardener considers it to be the first and foremost of its clan; whether he is alone in this predilection, or whether this superiority is universally recognised, does not matter. Now I, and I think most gardeners are like me, at once ask the name of a beautiful plant that I do not recognise. My feelings are worked up, and I am ready and willing to be enthusiastic; consequently, I am all the more disappointed when I am told that it is Somebody's Perfection or the Something Giant. I consider that these names are unworthy and stereotyped, and this feeling is intensified in the case of plants named after individuals, for, as the personality of the person after whom a plant is named is unknown to me, it conveys absolutely nothing. There is a very lovely primula called Mrs. Berkeley that is most inaptly named, for it leaves nothing to the imagination. There are two other primula hybrids, Red Hugh and Aileen Aroon, that, perhaps inexplicably, I consider have been adequately christened, the former because it recalls a definite colour, the latter because it is imaginative and my fancy is given full play.

Our contributor is quite correct when he states that a name has a distinct influence on our first like or dislike for a plant and that it should have either a direct bearing on the plant's appearance, or be sufficiently attractive to be worthy of the plant.

Various raisers have different ideas on the subject. The use of Christian names in a race of dianthus is mentioned in the note; other raisers search blindly and sometimes strike a happy name; at other times they are high-sounding and mean nothing. All these may have their faults, but none is so cold-blooded about the charms of the combination of name and plant as a raiser of hybrid rhododendrons in Cornwall, who chops a chunk off the name of both the plant's parents and joins these chunks together. Apart from the doubtful merit that the expert rhododendron enthusiast may guess the parentage, this system has nothing in its favour. To the ordinary gardener it means an ill-sounding assortment of various letters of the alphabet, and even to the expert it is not of much use, for rhododendron hybrids show enormous variation and two seedlings sent out under the same name may be as different as chalk from cheese.

There is no use glossing over the fact that naming new plants is a most difficult task and that I, for one, would boggle at it; but I do think that more care might be taken to make a name either more distinctive or one which calls attention to a certain specific beauty in a plant.

In order to forestall possible criticism, I might point out that the question of botanical names is entirely different from that of the nomenclature of the florist flower. It is true that many gardeners, from Mr. Robinson downwards, carp at names in "them furrin tongues"; but it must be remembered that botanists are at least consistent in their use of a formula that began many centuries ago, while the colloquial or English name has fallen from the apposite and picturesque usage of the Elizabethan flower lover to the very mundane and poor affair of the present day.

In addition it must be remembered that botanists are an international body with roots in every civilised country and, owing to the constant interchange of ideas and information, a common tongue is not only advisable but a necessity. The horticultural use of species has certainly made it unfortunate that such horrible names as Pentapterygium serpens and Rhododendron porphyroblastum have to be used by the laity in the absence of something more euphonious. At least they mean something to the specialist, who knows that the former comes from *pente* (five) *pterygion* (a small wing) *serpens* (creeping), and that *porphyroblastum* means "with purple buds." On the other hand, Mrs. Somebody and Souvenir de Somebody Else mean nothing; while dozens of Giants and Perfections help neither the expert nor the amateur.

E. H. M. C.

AMONG THE ARTICLES IN OUR NEXT ISSUE WILL BE:

MONTBRETIAS, by J. Coutts.

SOME FINE VARIETIES IN PRIMULINUS GLADIOLI.

PRIMULAS FOR THE GARDEN—II., by John Macwatt.

Digitized by Google

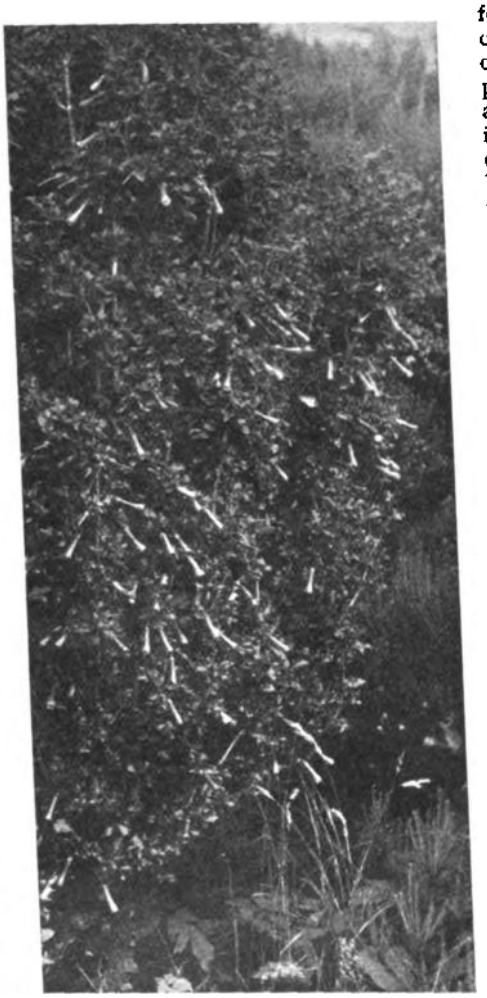
SHRUBS IN WESTERN SCOTLAND

THIS ARTICLE DESCRIBES TREES AND SHRUBS WHICH FLOURISH AT CULZEAN CASTLE. THE WRITER GIVES VALUABLE ADVICE TO ALL WHO GARDEN IN FAVOURED DISTRICTS AND WHO AIM AT A COLLECTION OF DECORATIVE SHRUBS.

IN writing of trees and shrubs in winter one is very much inclined to ignore the deciduous section, because they are not so prominent as the evergreens at this season, and, if the following notes are devoted to the latter, it is because these show up their full beauty and great variety during the dull short days of winter, while the former are uninteresting and leafless. Another point which also requires explanation to the readers who reside south of the Tweed is the fact that the climate of the British Isles is not so much a matter of north and south as is generally supposed, but is in reality a matter of east and west, and that plants from Australia, New Zealand, South America and elsewhere have found congenial quarters, not only in Cornwall and Devon, but so far north as Ross-shire, and in our western districts there is unlimited scope for the planting and successful cultivation of many fine trees and shrubs which as yet have only been attempted in a few isolated places.

The soil along our western seaboard also differs from that of inland districts, clay being rarely met with, and the open friable nature makes it an easy matter to work it to a fair depth and add such helpful ingredients as leaf-mould, peat, sand or manure as may be necessary to encourage a vigorous root action; while the abundant rainfall ensures that the plants never suffer from lack of moisture. Under these favourable conditions, then, it is no wonder to find that delightfully graceful evergreen Azara microphylla reaching a height of 20ft., its neat shining foliage and sweetly scented flowers early in February holding a charm that is not easily expressed. It is not a difficult plant to grow, and, although sometimes recommended for covering a north wall, it makes a splendid specimen when planted in the open and given room to develop naturally, or planted in groups it makes a most effective picture if underplanted with the "Mexican orange," Choisya ternata. This native of Mexico is another favourite evergreen, its tripartite scented foliage making an effective foil to its snow-white trusses of flowers freely produced during April and May, and it may be grown either in sun or shade, although, naturally, it flowers more profusely in an open situation. Choisya ternata shares with the rhododendron family a somewhat rare immunity from attacks by rabbits: perhaps its pungent odour is accountable for this. Both the plants mentioned are easily accommodated with regard to soil; an open loam, to which leaf-mould may be added, suits them admirably.

Another very effective combination of evergreens is made by planting Griselinia littoralis, a native of New Zealand, interplanting with the newer Lonicera nitida, the comparatively large ovate leaves of the former contrasting and enhancing the small foliage and graceful growths of the latter. G. littoralis revels in the sea breezes, and may also be used to form wind breaks and hedges to protect some of the less robust plants. L. nitida is of fairly recent introduction, coming from China, and introduced by Wilson in 1908, but it has proved a splendid acquisition, and will be grown very extensively when better known; it is



DESFONTAINEA SPINOSA WITH LONG CRIMSON AND YELLOW TRUMPETS.

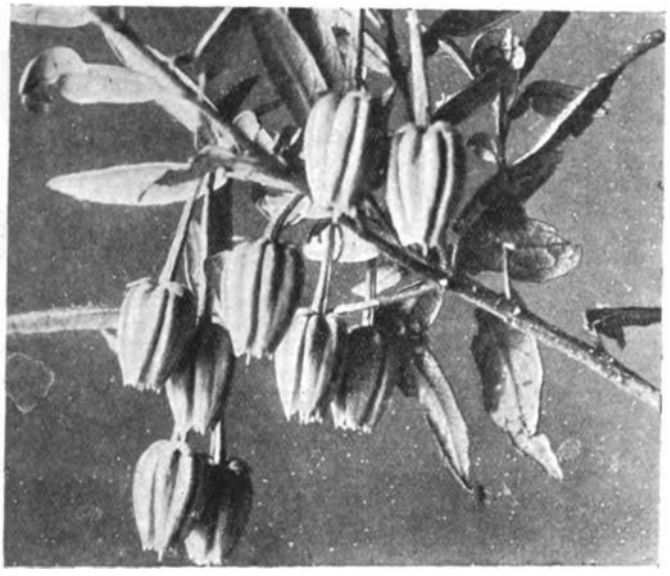
also useful where a neat low hedge is desirable, giving the effect of a dainty small-leaved privet. Quite distinct from the foregoing is Tricuspidaria lanceolata, long known as Crinodendron Hookerianum, its sombre dark green lance-shaped leaves standing out among the paler greens and its erect habit enabling it to show off its drooping blood-red flowers, which are freely opened during June. A partially shaded site is recommended for this gem, but in the west we find that it grows luxuriantly and flowers freely if given an open situation, and in such a position ripe seeds have been produced, which, when sown, came up quickly and made in the course of a few years fine bushy plants; it is also easily increased from cuttings inserted in a cold frame in autumn.

In Desfontainea spinosa we have another native of Chili which has found conditions here to suit its needs. It might easily be passed by the unobservant when not in flower, as a minute-leaved form of green holly, prickles and all; but when its long, tubular, crimson and yellow trumpets are out, few indeed would then pass without closer examination. It grows to a height of 10ft. or more, and its flowers are produced over a long period occasionally so late as November, but its best time is during August and September. The ordinary loam already mentioned suits both these last-mentioned plants admirably, while the addition of leaf-mould is a help with newly planted specimens, but is used sparingly with established plants, as the idea should be to produce short, well ripened shoots in preference to long, soft growths.

Among the olearias there is a number of elegant evergreens of varying shades, all well adapted for garden or pleasure-ground decoration. O. Forsteri makes a handsome specimen nearly 20ft. high, clothed to the ground with its undulated pale green foliage. It is a very late flowering variety, and the flowers, which appear towards the end of October and November, are really of little merit, but as a distinct evergreen it is worthy of a place. The under sides of the leaves are covered with a greyish felt-like substance. O. macrodonta is another handsome member of this family from New Zealand with glaucous green leaves, also felted beneath, and margins dentate or furnished with teeth somewhat resembling a very prickly holly, but soft to the touch. It flowers in June, and its clusters of daisy-like flowers are so freely produced as almost to hide its foliage from view. O. nitida has larger leaves, ovate, and shining green. It forms a large spreading bush 10ft. high and as much as 20ft. in diameter. Its long pendulous flower trusses are freely produced in May and June and are sometimes 12ins. long, composed of numerous greyish white daisies; but the gem of this family is without doubt the beautiful O. semi-dentata, with narrow silvery grey foliage and flowers of a mauve shade, almost as large as the well known Aster Climax, but borne singly on 6in. drooping footstalks. All the olearias are easily grown in our ordinary soil, and need no special admixture to do them well. The family of escallonias are also well represented in the west, and few plants are better adapted to withstand the salt-laden breezes and revel in them than E. macrantha, E. Ingrami and E. exoniensis. The two first mentioned are too well known to need any comment, but where a hedge or wind screen is required, although fully exposed to the sea, E. macrantha is a most indispensable plant to grow. E. exoniensis is probably he

Digitized by Google

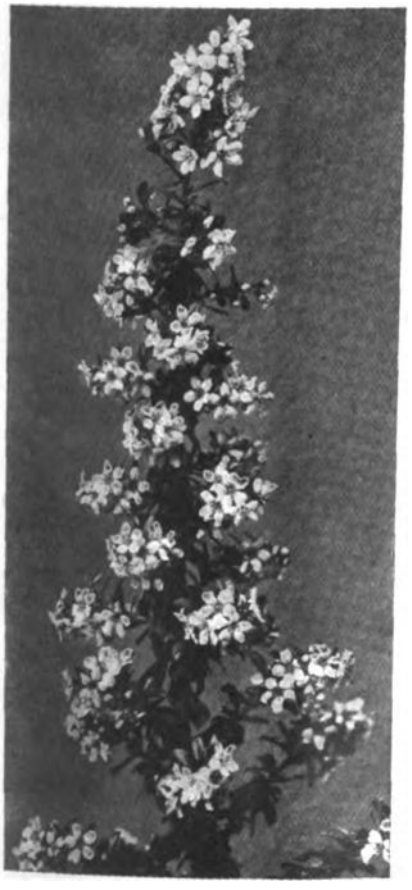
tallest growing member of this family, and grows over 20ft. high; it is also noteworthy because it bears innumerable panicles of white flowers during June and July; but in this family the palm must again be given to E. langleyensis and its hybrid varieties, E. edinensis and E. Donard Seedling. These three have a most graceful form of growth, and the arching growths are clad during June with their different shades of colour, from the deep crimson of E. langleyensis to the rose pink of E. edinensis and the pale blush of E. Donard Seedling, forming a trio that are worthy of a place in every garden.



CRINODENDRON HOOKERI *alias* TRICUSPIDARIA LANCEOLATA.

In Lomatia ferruginea, another native of South America, we have a most distinct evergreen with fern-like foliage which would be worth growing for that feature alone; but when to that is added the clusters of short-stemmed crimson and yellow flowers, it forms a feature, when growing well in July, that is not readily forgotten. This is a very shallow-rooting plant, and its thong-like roots travel just under the surface to a considerable distance from the stem. Some specimens recently noted were over 20ft. high and about 12ft. through, and to see these graceful plants waving in the breeze, showing the dark brown or rust-coloured tomentum on the under sides of the leaves alternately with the dark green upper surface, was a really wonderful experience, and ample reward for the journey. Lomatia ferruginea should always be given a well drained site, so that no superfluous moisture will ever remain around its base, and the top of a natural slope meets this requirement admirably, while the ordinary loamy soil is adequate for its sustenance. Before closing these notes there is one more genus I would recommend where it has not yet been tried, and that is the pittosporums. This family of beautiful evergreens also comes from New Zealand, and in P. tenuifolium (syn. P. Mayi) we have one of the most charming and useful of foliage plants, its neat leaves and twiggy habit make it a most useful adjunct to the decorator's art, and it may be used with good effect along with cut flowers of various kinds. It forms erect, almost columnar, bushes over 20ft. high, and the chocolate-coloured flowers, which are freely produced in April, have a delightful fragrance, especially if visited in the evenings. Seeds are freely produced most seasons, and form a ready means of increasing the stock. They are enclosed in a brown outer covering, which splits open to reveal the black, sticky seeds from which the name of this genus is derived, but they are readily separated for sowing by mixing them with dry sand.

Limited space alone prevents me from describing many more interesting and beautiful plants which are growing in our western districts, and which, I feel sure, only require to be more widely known to be more widely grown. A. T. H.



DONARD SEEDLING, ONE OF THE BEST OF ALL ESCALLONIAS.

OLEARIA SEMI-DENTATA WITH SILVERY-GREY FOLIAGE AND FLOWERS REMINISCENT OF ASTER CLIMAX.

Digitized by Google

ABOUT WINDOW BOXES

WHETHER the window-box is merely a contrivance of boards, roughly nailed together and given a coat of paint, or is made decorative with more or less expensive tiles (the horrible "virgin-cork" facing of yester-year has vanished), or is not a box at all, but a trough of ornamental terra-cotta, the fact remains that its cubic capacity must be as great as possible. This is especially necessary if the exposure is a very sunny one, for the soil in a shallow box will get bone dry in a very short time unless incessantly watered. Moreover, the box must not sit down flat on the sill, but should have battens fixed underneath to permit free drainage and ventilation. As to the soil itself, it should consist of good fibrous loam with the addition of a little old, dry manure and a dash of sharp sand.

Originality is rarely displayed in the planting of window-boxes; to paraphrase the poet, it is too often "geraniums, geraniums, all the way." Although, most happily, the excruciating mixture of pink Mme. Crousse and scarlet Paul Crampel, once so amazingly popular, is now seldom met with. The value of annuals as window-box plants is not, I think, sufficiently realised; they are not only inexpensive and, in the majority of cases, easy to grow, but they lend themselves to many effective colour-schemes. They are accused, with some truth, no doubt, of being short-lived, but if they are not allowed to ripen seed, they will generally flower until they can be succeeded by dwarf chrysanthemums, grown in a relief box. Careful and regular watering is essential and after a very hot day the plants should be gently sprayed with tepid *soft* water. It is not advisable to sow annuals *in situ* with the exception, perhaps, of large-seeded things, such as nasturtiums); it is far better to raise them in boxes or pots and transfer to their permanent positions when they reach a fair size.

If a very gay window-box is wanted, it may be filled with mixed double French marigolds, orange and yellow, striped and spotted, with dwarf Nasturtium Ladybird, which has scarlet blotches on a yellow ground, as an edging and canary creeper as a "draping" plant in front if one is liked, although I am inclined to think trailers are best eschewed unless the box is a very roomy one on a balcony. A combination of flame-coloured intermediate antirrhinums, such as Fireflame or Orange King, and Nasturtium The Pearl, which shades from cream to yellow, is equally effective, while a pretty red and white scheme can be carried out with the deep scarlet N. King of Tom Thumbs, backed by either white ten-week stock or the giant spiral candytuft which grows to 15ins. high. A similar colour scheme has a scarlet antirrhinum as the principal item with a carpeting of Alyssum maritimum Little Dorrit and Snow Queen. (The ordinary type of this alyssum is apt to be straggling; only a good variety should be used.)

The little annual pink, Dianthus Heddwegii, is a charming window-box plant whether used in separate colours or mixed. D. Salmon Queen, which is single and about 1ft. in height, will go well with Gypsophila elegans and one of the paler blue lobelias and D. H. Vesuvius or Scarlet Queen, tall white China asters and the dark foliaged Nasturtium Empress of India will combine very happily.

Another desirable annual is Phlox Drummondii in all its many delightful colours. A box filled entirely with polychrome phloxes, both the tall (12in.) and the dwarf (6in.) varieties, will look well, but if the colours are limited to deep crimson and pale pink or carmine and white the effect will be daintier. The many different kinds of China asters are all suitable for our special purpose, but none is better than the single aster sinensis, especially in mauve, pink and white; the purples are rather crude and the so-called "scarlets" are perilously near magenta. The three pale colours will harmonise well with each other and with mauve violas as an edging. Zinnias, especially the double ones, make a very gorgeous display. If an edging plant is used with them it should be quiet in tone—creamy white violas, for instance, are suitable.

Of the perennials appropriate for window boxes, nothing need be said concerning the too familiar geraniums, marguerites and calceolarias. Dwarf fuchsias are less hackneyed and have the additional merit of not objecting to a slight amount of shade, although for a really sunless window-box I am afraid one must fall back on ferns and creeping jenny—Lysimachia Nummularia. Pink and white fuchsias, heliotrope of the dark-toned variety and a good pale lavender viola make a pretty combination, as do crimson-purple fuchsias and purple and white double petunias.

Campanula isophylla is a charming plant for the front of a window and the white variety contrasts happily with the vivid scarlet of Salvia Glory of Zurich and as both are sun-worshippers, the same conditions suit them. With the blue Salvia patens either Pyrethrum aurea—Golden Feather—or a deep yellow viola, may be used as a front row plant.

Oxalis floribunda will fill a window-box with its clouds of rosy-pink flowers throughout the whole summer if it has a liberal allowance of sunshine and water. Agathæa cœlestis, the blue daisy, a little half-hardy shrub seldom seen in boxes, but quite suitable for them, will also continue in bloom for many weeks in similar circumstances. Agathæa may have as companion Potentilla Miss Willmott, but is quite effective in a quiet way alone.

R. E. HEAD.

SWEET PEAS OF YESTERDAY

WHEN making my selection of sweet peas for 1926 recently I happened to look back over my notes on varieties, and it occurred to me that a brief article on a few old favourites might be of interest to some of the many readers of THE GARDEN.

The notes referred to were started for the season 1909 and, with the exception of the year 1923, which was a failure, have been continued to date. They comprise a list of the varieties grown each season, the colour of each, from whom they were purchased, and brief notes as to the success with which they were grown.

In the following I will mention some of those which were of outstanding merit but which, for one reason or another, were gradually discarded—though not, I fear, always wisely. Starting with 1909 three sweet peas were especially fine, namely, Evelyn Hemus, Paradise Ivory (Miss Hemus) and Dorothy Eckford. Taking these in order, Evelyn Hemus was grown up to and including the season 1915, and was a beautiful cream-edged pink, very refined and very free flowering. It was displaced by Jean Ireland (Dobbie) in 1916. Paradise Ivory—the name is descriptive of the colour and I have never since seen a sweet pea of this section to equal it, though there are now, of course, many much larger—was grown up to the season 1915, when for some reason or other it germinated badly and, consequently, was omitted. Dorothy Eckford, the old grandiflora white, was disappointing in 1910, and was replaced in 1911 by Althorp White, which, though good, gave very short stems. Apple Bloom Spencer was one of the outstanding sorts in 1910, and, as the name implies, was a very beautiful pale pink, but was superseded in 1911 by an even more beautiful sweet pea, Paradise Apple Blossom. King Edward Spencer (Unwin's stock) was another splendid variety in 1910, and this glorious crimson was grown up to and including the summer of 1916, in which year it was not nearly so good and was badly mixed. Constance Oliver, a glorious deep cream pink, was the only other I need mention in 1910.

Coming to 1911, only two sweet peas not previously mentioned need be noted. The first of these was Mrs. Wilcox, a very large free-flowering white, striped deep red. This was a remarkably showy sweet pea, but was not quite true. The other referred to was Anglian Blue (E. W. King and Co.), a strong-growing and attractive light blue.

Amethyst and Moneymaker were the two noteworthy additions for 1912. The former was a very beautiful and refined deep mauve, the latter a vigorous large-flowered white that was grown until the season of 1915. King Manuel (Stark) should also be included under 1912, a glorious deep maroon which was grown for nine seasons, when it failed and was replaced in 1921 by Warrior, which is included in my selection for 1926.

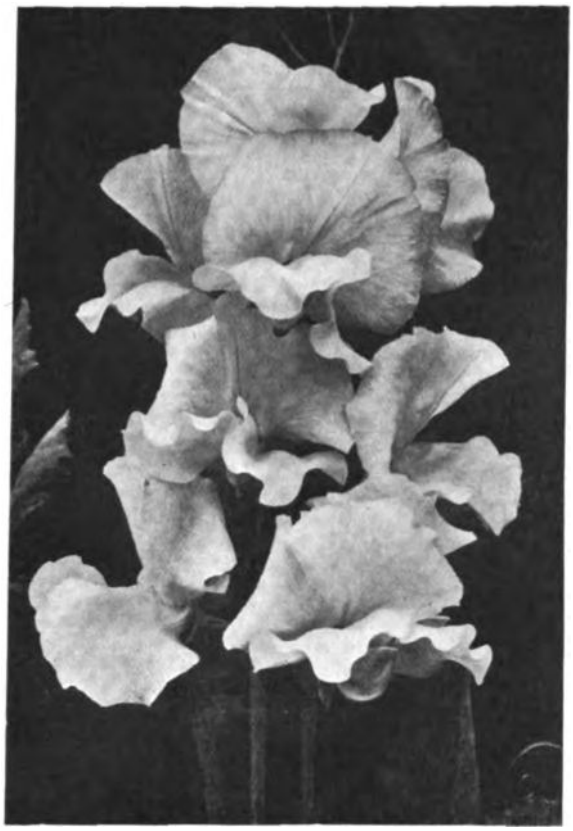
Digitized by Google

Paradise Carmine was probably the most noteworthy of the varieties tried for the first time in 1913, and was a really magnificent sweet pea. The colour was very bright and the flowers were large, but not in any way coarse. Other good sorts grown this year were Prince George (Bolton), rose shaded lilac, a very uncommon and attractive sweet pea; Gladys Burt, a beautiful salmon pink on primrose ground; Senator Spencer, a striking and uncommon variety of grey or pale heliotrope ground colour, striped claret; and, lastly, Veronique, a pretty mauve-coloured form of the old mottled sort Helen Pierce.

Kralissa (Aldersey) was about the best of the 1914 lot, and was a fine bright pink deepening in colour towards the edge, while Dragonfly (Aldersey) was the most uncommon—lavender veined on a cream ground, very refined and beautiful, but, unfortunately, far from true. Hilda (Woodcock), a good orange salmon, also proved a success, as did Dorothy (Bolton), a pale lilac, the principal failing of the last named being shortness of stem. Royal Purple (Dobbie) appeared for the first time in 1915, and is still grown, which speaks well for its merits. It is certainly one of the most distinct and satisfactory garden varieties even now. Wenvoe Castle (Bolton) was very fine at this season, and was a beautiful rosy mauve shaded blue. It was very free flowering, but with us gave no "fours." Austin Frederick (Woodcock), a lovely long-stemmed pale lavender, was the only other one I need mention for this year.

Jean Ireland, which replaced Evelyn Hemus, and Climax (Woodcock), a very strong-growing bright carmine, were both very fine during the summer of 1916, while other good sorts were Edward Cowdy (Unwin), bright flame colour; Elsie Herbert (Bolton), the popular white-edged rose; Margaret Atlee, a strong-growing cream pink; Progress, a fine deep pink on white ground; and Sincerity, a very beautiful (though with us small flowered) cerise.

With this season we are now approaching the advent of modern varieties, or at least of those that have been so recently discarded as not to need mention, and so I will bring this brief list of old-fashioned sweet peas to a close. Many of those mentioned are, I think, now unobtainable, though Messrs. Ryder and Sons, St. Albans, and Messrs. Sutton and Sons still offer a number, including Paradise Ivory, Evelyn Hemus, King Manuel, Apple Blossom Spencer and Sincerity, and for next season I have obtained a packet of Paradise Ivory for the sake of old times, and hope it will do well. Of course, it must be remembered that, as in other plants, varieties deteriorate after a while, but if good stocks were obtainable I think that many of the old varieties would be worth growing for cutting and garden decoration to-day.



JEAN IRELAND. AN ADVANCE ON OLDER PICOTEE EDGED VARIETIES.

ROYAL PURPLE. OFFERED IN 1915, IS STILL A FAVOURITE.

For freedom of flower and scent many sweet peas relegated to the background nowadays would put some of the modern introductions to shame, not that I would try to decry the merits of beautiful sorts, such as Cecily (my favourite at the present time), Mrs. C. W. J. Unwin, W. J. Unwin, Faerie Queen Improved, Warrior, Mrs. Tom Jones, and the new and very pretty "fancy" Lady Gay introduced last year by Mr. Unwin. I cannot help thinking, and I often hear the same opinion expressed, that the modern exhibition peas with huge frilled flowers and stems like miniature walking-sticks have lost much of the beauty and refinement of some of the old grandiflora and Spencer varieties.

Surely, as in the case of such flowers as the rose and chrysanthemum, it would be worth while for raisers to develop a race of free-flowering, sweetly scented and moderately waved sweet peas which, while not up to exhibition size, would prove invaluable for garden and home decoration. Mr. Unwin, I am glad to say, seems to be working on these lines with the above-mentioned Lady Gay, Faerie Queen Improved and this year's novelty, Twinkles, and Messrs. Dobbie and Co., Limited, Edinburgh, recently introduced a new mauve grandiflora named Dulce. This variety is very pretty and is sweetly scented.

The striped, flaked and flushed section seems to have fallen into disfavour at the moment, and to my mind it is a pity, for many of them were very pretty and uncommon; however, I hope with the advent of Lady Gay and Twinkles interest may be aroused once more in this very decorative class.

The bicolors are another colour section in which little advance has been made, and surely this is a hopeful field

Digitized by Google

for the raiser, with the possibility of colour combinations other than pink and white or cream.

In conclusion, there are a few other old grandiflora sweet peas not mentioned in the foregoing but of which I have affectionate memories, namely, Sybil Eckford, apricot pink; Hon. Mrs. E. Kenyon, buff primrose; Lady Grisel Hamilton, lavender; and Black Knight, maroon. Many, and in all probability the majority, of those who read this article will, I expect, disagree with my criticism of the modern sweet pea, but I hope the notes may give pleasure to some who like to recall to memory some of the favourites of yesterday.

CECIL M. BAILEY.

NOTES OF THE WEEK

FLORISTS' NOMENCLATURE.

ONE may well wonder how any person can ever remember the names allotted to the multifarious varieties of roses, chrysanthemums, pansies, dahlias or, indeed, any florists' flowers. Probably nobody does. The names make up such a monotonous list. The whole purpose of naming is not merely to distinguish, or any name, as equally any number, would serve the object in view. What is wanted is that we should be able to distinguish readily and immediately by virtue of a name, between separate sorts. When varieties of a flower exist in scores, or even hundreds, confusion cannot be avoided unless the individual names are thoroughly dissimilar in character. It is only an extraordinary memory that can recollect which name denotes a certain variety if all varieties carry personal names. Most of us will require to have recourse to a notebook. This use of the personal name is particularly awkward if different subjects are named by merely ringing the changes on the one surname.

It is not the personal name, as such, that is objected to, but the excessive use of it. We have the same ineffectiveness, whatever the names are, if they are all members of a series. Allwoodiis, for example, are inadequately named. It may be good to call one variety Rufus, but when others are called after all the Christian names in the calendar—Mary, Betty, Harold, Dorothy and so on—the varieties may be named, but they are not sufficiently marked off from each other. One forgets if it is Betty that is white or if it is Harold. How different if the white were, say, Paleface, and a deep pink were designated Rosy Dawn. We may get originality with Moseley Perfection, but there can be no merit in the subsequent creation of Porlock Perfection or Paisley Perfection. White Lady is useful, but if White Countess, White Queen, White Slave, White Nun are sure to follow, then the first name loses value. There are too many Gems, Ideals, Stars, Brides, Emblems, Kings and Queens in the nomenclature of the florist. Why go on always insisting on the same trite metaphors? We can have other names for white flowers than those that insist on their resemblance to snow—Snow Queen, Snowdrift, Snowflake, Snowball and Boule de Neige. The same applies to yellows. We have too many references to gold, the sun or the canary bird.

What then, one asks, is a good and sufficient name for any new variety of a flower where the varieties are apt to be numerous? First of all, there must be originality. The name should be by itself, not one of a series. This is a *sine qua non*.

Apart from that, there is, perhaps, only one other essential, whatever else is desirable, and that is that the name should be easy to remember. Out of a catalogue of roses, old and new, one might list names like the following as being memorable, besides being distinctive: Hebe's Lip, The Garland, Rambling Rector, Modesty, Noblesse, Austrian Copper, Village Maid, Colleen, La Tosca, Autumn Tints, Bardou Job, Lady Gay, Janet's Pride, My Sweetheart, Maiden's Blush, York and Lancaster, Independence Day, Crusader, Swiss Boy, Rosa Mundi, Glowworm, Apothecary's Rose, Nova Zembla and Magna Carta. Who that has once heard of the rose Spineless Virgin could hope to forget that name? It is a great excellence in a name if it comes readily to mind. That is what is meant by "memorable quality."

But what is in a name that makes it easy to remember? Here we intrude on very difficult ground, and can give no final answer. Of course, the name which is unique tends to be memorable, like 2LO, Brightest and Best, and Cottager's Scarlet. But that is not always the case. However, there are, apart from this aspect of the question, two types of names that are in the category of being easily memorable. First of all comes the descriptive name. This, at its best, seems to have permanence, and, once learned, cannot be forgotten. The sight of the flower at once recalls the name, the only possible name as it seems. Exemplary in this connection are names such as Cloudy Blue and Flame of Fire. The other type is the bizarre, and, it may be, far-fetched. The very oddness of the name "fixes" it, as in the case of Spineless Virgin. One has no quarrel with such a type of name, so long as it is not hopelessly grotesque; but as the gardening fraternity includes all sorts of people, a name obviously should not be too difficult. A simple designation is less apt than the far-fetched or the recondite to go forth into the way of folk adaptation, and, if we take some manner of simplicity as recommendable, we shall avoid the possibility of mutilations like "Glory to John" (Gloire de Dijon) or "Thursday Morning" (Desdemona).

A name may at times have another merit, not merely essential and utilitarian, but only desirable. It is the merit of being a nice name, having something pretty about it in sound or symbolism. Our ancestors achieved poetry in the names they gave to their garden flowers and the flowers of the field. They have handed down to us such haunting names as Sweet William, love-in-a-mist, Star of Bethlehem, snow-in-summer, monk's hood, ragged robin, love-lies-bleeding, traveller's joy, lady's smock, London pride, sea holly, forget-me-not, lily of the valley and Solomon's seal. But the imagination that inspired names like these is almost non-existent to-day. One may find it to some extent among the daffodil raisers, who do, more than others, seem to make an attempt at times to fit a beautiful flower with a beautiful name.

The flower by any other name may smell as sweet and look as fair, says the poet; but he is wrong. The very name, to any impressionable person, is too much part of the flower to be completely negligible. Pass round your carnation beds and there will be no irritation as you linger over the charms of Sweet Anne Page. Had the same variety been labelled Mrs. Patrick Murphy, it is possible you might have had less satisfaction in lingering. "Souvenir de R. B. Ferguson is a great rose which the raiser did not popularise at christening. The Land of Cakes was surely capable of a sweeter sounding name than this curious mixture of Scotch and French." This passage is quoted from the catalogue of a firm of rose growers. As a class, florists hardly seem to understand the importance of good nomenclature. They cannot convince themselves that an evil name, completely lacking in originality, discounts sales. It is freely admitted that a good name will not sell an indifferent flower, nor will an evil name damn everlastingly a flower of quality. None the less, it is certain that the name does have some effect, one way or the other.—J. MACGREGOR, *Cumbernauld*.

SHRUBBY VERONICAS AND FROST.

THE recent sharp spell has decided the hardiness or otherwise of many plants. Shrubby veronicas are favourite plants with me, and I am sorry to find so many of my collection have proved unsuitable. The hardiest of all are Traversii and canterburyensis. These are the only two absolutely unscathed. Salicifolia is injured, but will lose little wood. The same may be said of Hulkeana. A dark blue hybrid has come through fairly well, as also has Dieffenbachii. Total casualties are Lewisii, chathamica, Barkeri, parviflora and several unnamed species used commonly as hedge plants in the west of England.

This is a rather discouraging account, as my soil is light in nature, and the plants were, in many cases, in somewhat sheltered positions. I acknowledge that in most cases the plants were small, but veronicas generally withstood sharp winters better in my Surrey garden, which was stiff clay.—E. BROWN, *Sittingbourne, Kent*.

THE HADLEY FEDGE.

FOR several years I have been watching with tremendous interest the growth of what I think a most excellent and original fence or hedge. Strictly speaking it is neither quite fence nor entirely hedge, but a sort of bigeneric hybrid between the two. Hence the hybrid name—"Fedge."

I have never seen a fedge anywhere else, nor heard of one and as it combines the virtues of both its parents and escapes most of their faults, it would seem to be an invention worth putting on record.

The faults of pure bred hedges and fences are pretty obvious. The wooden fence as a boundary, especially between garden and public road, asks to be climbed. It is so firm and solid that it might have been built for no other purpose than to be climbed. No boy, moreover, can pass it without rattling a stick along its ribs. Spiked iron, corrugated iron and barbed wire fences should, of course, be destroyed at sight. Split chestnut fences are good up to a point, being durable and comparatively inexpensive. But they are too draughty and transparent to make a desirable rampart between garden and road. A hedge may be opaque and snug, if you keep it constantly and efficiently shingled, but all hedges tend to go into holes at the bottom and no hedge is entirely dog-proof.

The fedge takes a couple or three years to come to perfection and then it is well-nigh perfect. It is durable—lasting many years—it is practically unclimbable, it makes a perfect evergreen blind and it needs far less coiffing than any hedge I know. Just

Digitized by Google

a trim over now and again. Moreover, it flourishes equally well in the open and under the shade of trees. Of how many hedges can you say that? Dogs cannot come through it, nor Peeping Toms see through it, and it is reasonably cheap.

You want to know what a fedge is and how to make it? I will tell you, though when you know, it is too utterly silly and simple. Anyone could have thought of it, though apparently nobody did, or if they did the idea has never been made known.

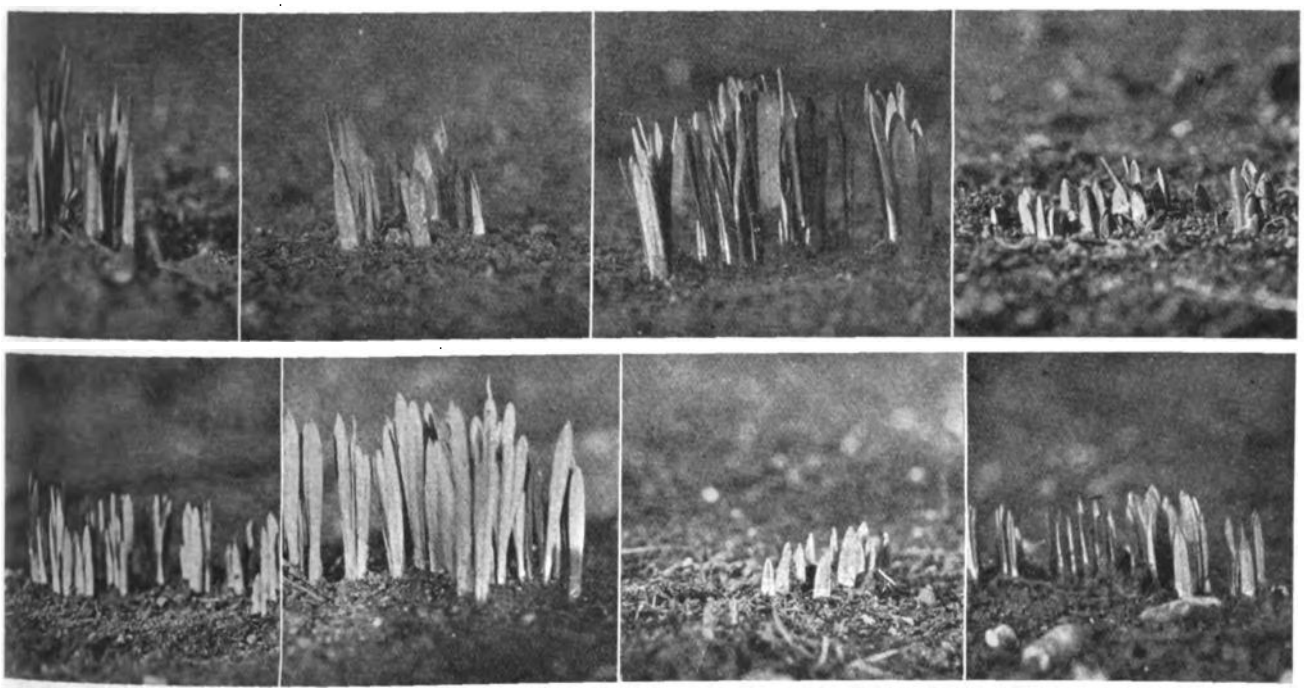
A fedge is nothing but a split chestnut fence planted with ivy. You erect your split chestnut fence and if you do not like the pointed tops, you can saw them off. You buy the fencing ready made and can get it whatever height you like. In erecting it, do not strain the wires too tightly. If you leave it slightly saggy and loose it will be all the more difficult to climb. A split chestnut fence is about the most lasting form of fence known and no dog can go through it. Having erected it, you plant along its base, in a prepared trench of decent soil, and about 9ins. to 12ins. apart, young plants of ivy—large-leaved variety for choice. After that all you need do is to give the ivy a leg-up with a tie here and there, as it grows, and ivy grows most encouragingly fast. After the first few months the ivy will begin to cling to the fence with its own toes and will look after itself.

Within a couple of years, with good culture and any luck at all, you should have a fully fledged fedge. I do not claim that the idea of the fedge is an entirely new one, but certainly it is not known as it should be. I have seen countless miles of privet, laurel, barbed wire and what-not up and down the country, but the Hadley Fedge is the one and only fedge I have ever come across. And now I have given away the locality where the fedge is to be seen. Well, I comfort myself with the thought that the crowds of GARDEN readers who make pilgrimage next week to gaze upon the Hadley Fedge will be perfectly orderly crowds and that even were they not, the owner, secure behind the splendid rampart of his fedge, would be quite unaware of their presence!—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, *Stevenage.*

WEATHER OBSERVATIONS FROM A DAFFODIL CLUMP.

THE enclosed photographs may be of interest to many of your readers as throwing light on the extent to which spring is retarded by such severe weather as we have had this winter? The illustrations are of the same daffodil clump, taken on February 1st for twelve years past; and they show—as do others of the photographic records of vegetation taken in connection with my meteorological station—that despite the severity of the cold, there have been various later springs recently. The reason, as shown by various records, appears to be that vegetation's advance does not so much depend on mean temperature as the excess of temperature above a given level. Were the temperature, for example, to remain for a week at 40 degrees, no growth might be made. But were it to dip to 35 degrees by night and rise to 45 degrees by day, although the mean temperature would be similar, plant growth would be appreciable. For the growth achieved by a plant in the warmer hours is, of course, only arrested, and not nullified when cold arrives. —JOHN H. WILLIS.

[We have not published all the photographs sent in by our correspondent, as in the case of the years 1921, 1923 and 1925 the growth was practically the same and one illustration suffices, while in 1917, there was no growth, the ground being snow covered. Again, in 1918 and 1919, the growth was almost equal, and the one photograph indicates the height reached in both years.—ED.]



Top: 1914 1916 1918, 1919 1920
Bottom: 1922 1924 1921, 1923, 1925 1926

CAMELLIA SASANQUA.

FOR many years we grew large bushes of this shrub in a cool house, from which frost was barely excluded. Planted out in a border of rather light loam, occasionally top-dressed with horse droppings, they grew vigorously enough and attained a height of 7ft. to 8ft. The branches are always slender, often drooping and the leaves smaller than those of Camellia japonica. Continually breaking out into new growth, the plant is never at rest, yet under glass it flowers very freely. The comparatively small flowers 1in. to 2ins. in diameter, single and semi-double, vary in different varieties from white to rose pink. Under cool house treatment they are produced over a rather long period, from November to the end of January. During the war the houses were required for other purposes, and it was decided to plant some, at least, outside. Placed in a sheltered and somewhat shady corner, they proved a disappointment, making very late growth and refusing to flower. Eventually they were crippled by the severe frost in the winter of 1916-17. Since then we have placed another large specimen in a more open position, not far from an east wall and as by last autumn it had become well established, we hoped for success. In November we were tantalised by a moderate, very moderate, display of pink blossoms and since then frost has again injured the young growth and blackened a portion of the older leaves. Yet Mr. Bean in "Trees and Shrubs Hardy in the British Isles," speaks of it as "quite as hardy as Camellia japonica." Possibly we were unlucky enough to purchase a tender form of it, from a lower or more southern locality. A plant, even though true to name, may vary in its forms or varieties from tender to hardy. It may not be common knowledge, outside the botanic gardens, that the tea plant (C. Thea) varies enormously in hardiness. We tested many plants in the open, only to lose them in severe weather. At last we happened on a dwarfish variety, with small leaves, which always appears green and shining—almost smiling—after the severest frosts.—J. COMBER, *Nymans Gardens.*

THE ROSCŒAS.

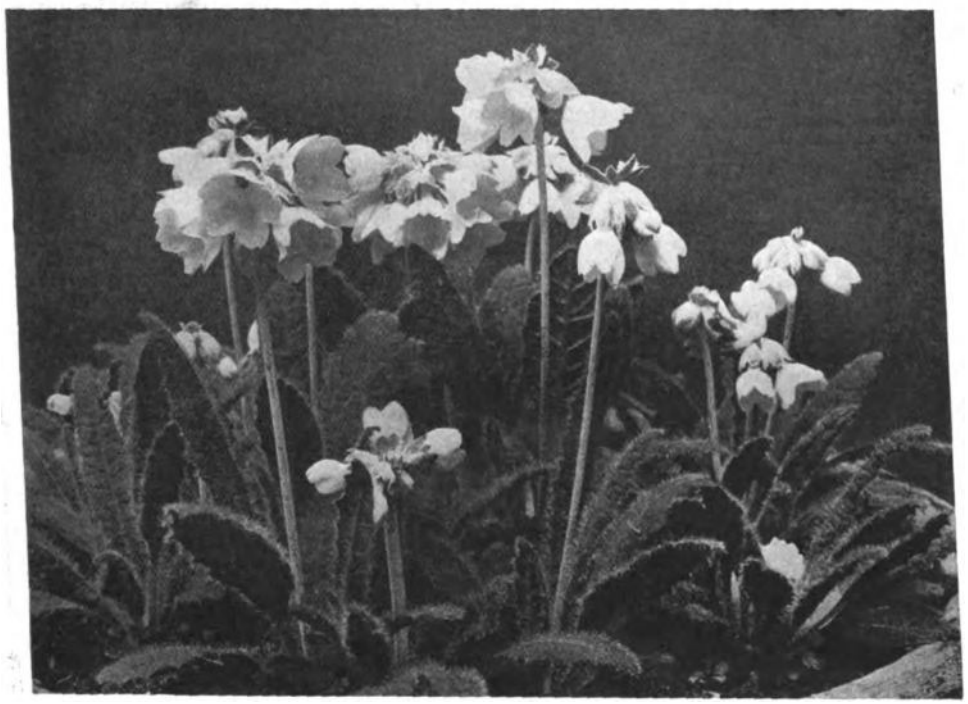
THESE plants, which THE GARDEN has several times commended in the recent past, deserve to be much more widely grown. They grow with great vigour planted in 6in. pots and placed in a cold greenhouse without any particular attention. The flowers are beautiful and novel in form and the foliage after the flowers are past is a glossy bright green and very handsome—R. humeana in particular. I think the roscœas would be hardy out of doors in this climate, but having at present only a few plants, I have not yet ventured the experiment.—AUSTRAL, *Geelong, Australia.*

Digitized by Google

PRIMULAS FOR THE GARDEN

BY JOHN MACWATT.

THESE plants win more admiration every year, so I hope the following notes may prove of interest and use to those who, like myself, have been led to devote special attention to the cultivation of members of the genus primula. Few families of flowering plants display a wider range of habit. Take, for example, P. Littoniana, like a red hot poker; P. suffrutescens, like a miniature shrub; P. septemloba like a cortusa; and P. capitata, with its rounded heads of purple-blue flowers. The necessities of their culture are varied. While some kinds are among the most easily grown of plants, others—and among them many of those with which I shall deal now and subsequently—demand great skill and resource. They are, perhaps, plants for the enthusiast, and he who undertakes their culture must be prepared for not infrequent disappointments and failures before he attains to that intimate knowledge of their requirements which is absolutely necessary to success. But he will be abundantly rewarded for all his care by the unique beauty of the flowers he has reared, and their beauty will be enhanced by the knowledge that it comes to him as a reward.



PRIMULA REIDII, ONE OF THE MOST GRACEFUL OF ALL PRIMROSES.

P. SUFFRUTESCENS, A SUB-SHRUBBY SPECIES THAT SHOULD BE MORE OFTEN GROWN.

SECTION SPHÆROCEPHALA.

(With rounded heads.)

P. CAPITATA.—Much confusion exists in gardens regarding the true capitata, several other plants being cultivated under its name. Of those I have grown, four (P. capitata, P. crispata, P. Mooreana and P. lacteo capitata) are Himalayan, and two (P. pseudo-capitata and P. sphærocephala) are Chinese. The two last, although easily recognised as nearly allied to the Himalayan forms, can be readily distinguished by the much smaller corolla limb and the more globular head of flowers. P. capitata is the high alpine form and is all mealy. I have seen a double form of P. capitata.

P. MOOREANA is a large-leaved, large-flowered plant which flowers in late autumn. From true P. capitata and all others cultivated under its name, it may be distinguished by its large leaves, with coarsely reticulate, almost honey-combed snow-white under surface and the bright green upper surface.

All seem to be geographical forms of the same species. They like a well drained cool and moist position, but are best when grown under glass.

SECTION MUSCAROIDES.

P. PINNATIFIDA was collected by Forrest in Yunnan and introduced by Bees, Limited, in 1908. Although it comes from stony, peaty pastures, near the limits of perpetual snow, it is only half hardy. It produces 6in. spikes, bearing pendent fragrant flowers of a bright lavender above soft hairy oval leaves. This is a very peculiar member of the section, due to its possessing very cut foliage, sometimes so much so that it renders the plant almost unrecognisable. It is remarkable that this only occurs when the plant is growing wild and does not happen in cultivation.

P. DEFLEXA.—This is another very beautiful muscaroid primula with fragrant flowers of an almost periwinkle blue on neat stems.

P. CONICA.—This species greatly resembles P. Giraldiana, but has hairy scapes, a feature absent in the latter. I have grown large numbers of this species and although the majority of the flowers were lilac, a considerable number were white. The plant is destitute of meal.

P. GIRALDIANA.—Seeds of this plant were sent home from Yunnan by Forrest and plants were distributed under the name of P. muscaroides. It is quite a good species, with purple flowers in drooping heads on stems 8ins. to 12ins. high, rising above the oval, hairy, nearly erect leaves.

Digitized by Google

P. LITTONIANA is undoubtedly one of the most striking and beautiful of this section and one which is rendered highly attractive by reason of the scarlet bracts and lavender-lilac flowers, carried at the end of a spike varying in length from 6ins. to 24ins. The leaves are erect, oval in shape, being clothed with downy hairs and the stem mealy. There are two forms, the var. robusta, which is larger in all its parts, but with the flowers of an inferior colour to those of the more dwarf variety. P. Littoniana thrives in a light, rich soil, but like others of the section, is difficult to keep in winter on account of wet.

SECTION SOLDANELLOIDES.

P. SUTANS, from Yunnan, has large drooping fragrant lavender blue flowers in dense heads on white mealy stems 6ins. to 9ins. high. The flowers are also covered with white

P. VEITCHII IS ONE OF THE HARDIEST OF ALL PRIMULA SPECIES.

meal, so that it is better to grow it under glass. If exposed to rain the meal gets washed off the flowers, giving them a very blotchy appearance. Out of some hundred and fifty plants wintered in a cold house, a few were planted in the open and exposed to the weather. Those kept under glass and protected from rain had the corollas densely covered with white meal, but those in the open appeared darker and showed white markings. Taking one of the corollas that had not been exposed and putting it under a tap, I got the same blotching as shown by those in the open. I have seen this plant growing and flowering well in a rose border in partial shade.

P. REIDII is the only west Himalayan species known of this section and is one of the most delightful of all primroses, with its fragrant creamy white flowers carried 2ins. or 3ins. high on mealy stems, well above the densely hairy leaves. It is a perennial, but with me it always damps off after flowering. As it seeds freely it is best to grow it as a biennial.

Both plants described under this section have large, convolutely-shaped corollas and for their size the flowers are exceptionally large.

THE AUTUMN-FLOWERING P. MOOREANA.

SECTION OBCONICA-LISTERI.

P. OBCONICA is too well known to require any description.

P. SINO-LISTERI was collected by Forrest on dry, rocky pasture land on the western slopes of the Tali range. It is a most interesting species, not only from a botanical but also from a horticultural point of view. The woody rhizome is well developed. It is devoid of the irritant hairs met with in P. obconica. It is almost hardy and only requires to be placed in a house from which frost is excluded. It forms dense tufts of green, rounded, orbicular leaves and scapes generally carrying two tiers of white, pink or lilac tinted flowers. With me it is a very shy seeder.

MORE DELICATE THAN P. LITTONIANA IS P. CONICA.

Digitized by Google

P. WERRINGTONENSIS is a western woodland form of P. obconica. The flowers are rose coloured with a greenish yellow eye. It is quite a good plant if grown in the shade, but if cultivated in the sun the flowers are washy and bad in colour.

SECTION CORTUSOIDES.

P. VEITCHII is a very hardy and good garden plant. It is robust in growth and sends up a spike bearing whorls of flowers in tiers of a magenta colour, decorated with a golden eye and yellow anthers. The leaves are large with hairs of a reddish tint on the under side.

P. KEWENSIS, so well known to all gardeners, is supposed to have originated as a sport from P. Veitchii.

P. LICHIANGENSIS closely resembles P. Veitchii, from which it differs by the leaves on the under side not having coloured hairs. The flowers are larger and more drooping than those of P. Veitchii and the anthers are purple.

SECTION GERANIOIDES.

Fairly close relatives of the last comes the section geranioides, which includes :

P. HEUCHERIFOLIA, greatly resembling a cortusa and being a very fine hardy garden plant. It has soft, crinkled leaves and, on graceful stems about 6ins. high, bears pendent, bell-shaped flowers of rich purple. The foliage is deeply lobed, and

P. SEPTEMLOBA, a Chinese species, like P. heucherifolia, resembles Cortusa Matthioli, but with me is not hardy in the open.

SECTION CUNEIFOLIA.

P. SUFFRUTESCENS was introduced in 1884. This subshrubby species is rarely ever seen, although it is fairly hardy and not difficult to grow in light, strong, well drained soil. It has dark foliage and pink flowers in abundant trusses. In severe weather the branches are apt to die off at the tip, but in spring new shoots soon replace them.

P. RUSBYI, Greene, from the Rocky Mountains of Arizona and New Mexico, is a plant which has given a good deal of trouble to cultivators since its introduction in 1885. Its habitat is in a rich, moist soil at a comparatively low altitude. It is long in starting into growth, so one should be careful not to begin watering early. It has leaves about 4ins. long and about 2ins. broad, and produces a scape rising a little above the leaves, with an umbel of from two to ten flowers nodding to one side. The flowers, which have a peculiar odour, are of a crimson purple colour with an irregular line round the yellow throat of the corolla.

SECTION SIKKIMENSIS.

(A valuable garden section.)

P. SIKKIMENSIS is a well known plant with its long serrated leaves and stems sometimes as much as 2ft. high, bearing clusters of delightfully scented soft yellow flowers, coated with white meal.

P. PSEUDO-SIKKIMENSIS is a Chinese dwarf limestone form of P. sikkimensis.

P. FLEXILIPES.—The name of this plant is taken from the slender flexuous nature of its inflorescence. It may be of special value to those who prefer a smaller plant than P. sikkimensis, of which it may be said to be a miniature replica. The leaves are short, almost rounded and the drooping yellow flowers are sweetly scented.

P. SECUNDIFLORA was collected by Forrest on the Lichiang range in north-west Yunnan. In a shady border it does well and is exceedingly handsome when in bloom. It varies in height, in its native habitat being from 7ins. to 14ins. in height. The stem carries at its summit an umbel of drooping flowers of a deep crimson colour, the outside a little paler and the calyx of a ruddy purple, banded with white meal. It should be hardy as it is found at an altitude up to 15,000ft. I find it easy to grow and flower, but impossible to keep as the plants always rot at the neck after flowering. It seeds very freely.

(To be continued.)

CORRESPONDENCE

LILIUM SPECIES FARRER No. 1122.

SIR,—In THE GARDEN for November 7th, 1925, page 629, appears a note on "Three Interesting Lilies" from my esteemed friend, K. McDouall, accompanied by three illustrations. Two are correctly named, the third he gives as lilium species (Farrer No. 1122), and the Editor supplies the appellation L. nepalense after discussing the differences of opinion held regarding this lily's proper name.

For a quarter of a century now I have wrestled with the nomenclature of the lilies of Eastern Asia, and the species under discussion has given much trouble. After exhausting all the evidence I became convinced that the lily of Upper Burma and western China and that of Nepal, with which it has been confounded, are not only distinct species but belong to different sections of the genus, that the L. nepalense *D. Don* has a genuine funnel-form flower and is unknown east of Nepal, and that the lily of Upper Burma and western China, though often slow to assume its true shape, has reflexed segments, belongs to the Martagon group and is properly entitled to the name L. ochraceum bestowed upon it by the French botanist, Franchet.

The note in THE GARDEN goaded me to delve once more into this matter. It so happened that in the same number appeared an advertisement of Indian lilies by the Chandra Nursery Company of Sikkim in which L. nepalense was listed. I wrote to this firm offering to buy bulbs if a guarantee were given that they came from Nepal and not from Upper Burma. Also I wrote to the Forest Botanist at Dehra Dun, the only white man now living that I know of who has seen the Nepal lily growing wild on the Indian Himalayas, asking if he would state the shape of the corolla of L. nepalense. The courteous replies of both the nursery firm and the botanist have been received and are as follows :

Rhenock, Sikkim (Bengal)
Br. India,
22nd December, 1925.

DEAR SIR,—We thank you very much for your esteemed enquiry of the 21st November last, and in reply we beg to inform you that our Lilium nepalense is not collected in Nepal, but it is of Burmese origin.

Yours obediently,
(Signed) R. B. & D. S. PRADHANS,
Proprietors.

Dehra Dun,
22nd December, 1925.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to your letter dated 21st November, 1925, regarding nepalense, *D. Don*, I write to say that the flowers are funnel-shaped. I have a note on the sheet of my No. 2108A in this herbarium made soon after my return from the tour on which I collected the plant to the effect that the flowers in colour are as shown in Wall. Pl. As. Rar. III t. 291, and not as in *Bot. Mag.*, t. 7043. Wallich's figure is a good representation of the plant.

L. nepalense *D. Don* seems to be scarce in British territory, as the only other specimen (excluding a number which in my opinion are not Wallich's plant) in this herbarium is Duthie No. 6037 from "Rocks in the Kali Valley," collected 17-7-1886. Duthie got his plant in the gorge of the Kali river one march below Budhi, Byans. I found it also on steep rock ground.

Yours truly,
(Signed) R. N. PARKER.
Forest Botanist.

The lily sold by Messrs. Pradhans is not L. nepalense *D. Don*, but is the Martagon lily that masquerades in gardens under that name. It is the pseudo L. nepalense figured in the *Bot. Mag.*, t. 7043, it is the lilium species Farrer No. 1122 and its proper name is *Lilium ochraceum* Franchet.

Mr. Parker's information should settle the vexed question of the shape of the flower of L. nepalense *D. Don* and set at rest the whole question of the distinction between this lily, which is a true leucolirion, and that native of Burma and western China to which Don's name has been erroneously applied. The true *L. nepalense* is not in cultivation, neither has it been for some seventy-five years.—E. H. WILSON, *Arnold Arboretum*.

ALPINES FROM SEED.

SIR,—With reference to the notes in THE GARDEN on February 6th on "Alpines from Seed," there are one or two things that many people will not agree with. W. H. advocates the watering in of seeds after sowing. This will often prove disastrous. The best way is to dip the pots. That is, to submerge them to the rim and then take them out just as the surface begins to dampen. Seed pots should *never* be watered overhead, as this practice tends to "cake" the surface, and when the seedlings are up (*if* they arrive!), will probably aid damping off. If the plants to be raised are hardy, it would also be better to place the pots in a cold frame with lights on. Alpine seeds are often aided in their germination by a good freezing! To the compost, which must necessarily vary with the plant, there is one thing that should always be added—namely, *crock dust*. It should, in fact, always be visible in the mixture and an addition of crushed mortar rubble will often prove advantageous.—J. BIRKENTALL.

Digitized by Google

LACHENALIA NELSONI.

SIR,—In THE GARDEN of January 16th there was a note on Lachenalia Nelsoni, in which I was much interested, as I had bought a few bulbs (half a dozen) just to see what the flowers were like. I had read about them, but had never seen them. I was charmed with the flowers, also the leaves and stalks. The dark markings on them are both uncommon and pretty. The pots are most welcome in the house, as the flowers last a long time. One point I have never seen mentioned is that they are lovely as cut flowers and last a remarkably long time in water, and everyone who sees them asks the name. They are hardly known at all to the average person, and even some gardeners have never seen them. The bulbs increase very rapidly. I have now four pots—just coming into flower—and two boxes of the smaller bulbs which will be used as cut flowers, all this in about six years from about half a dozen bulbs.

Though only an amateur, I am greatly interested in the work. For some time I have been wanting to try winter-flowering begonias, but have not been able to get them. In the same GARDEN there is an excellent article on these begonias, so I now hope to try them. I have written about them to the name given in the article.

My reason for writing is that you ask readers to let you hear of their experiences, and the *increase* in bulbs may induce others to grow them, as one need only buy a very few to start with. Again, they are most valuable as cut flowers.

May I add that I get much useful information out of your paper each week, and when I have finished with it I pass it on to a hospital for sick soldiers, where some of the men work in the garden.—E. M. GREGG, *County Down*.

THE BLUE POPPIES.

SIR,—I was very much interested in your Editorial remarks on the beauty of meconopsis in the issue of THE GARDEN for February 13th, also in the two articles by Mr. Kingdon Ward on his latest finds in Tibet of new species of meconopsis. I think it is a pity that many gardeners fight shy of growing these meconopsis since most of them are biennials; but they are as easily grown from seed as most other biennials. The accompanying illustration shows a group of M. integrifolia which flowered in my garden in Perthshire last summer. These plants were raised from seed the previous year, planted out about the end of May and flowered the following season commencing in early May and flowering for six to seven weeks, after which they set a large quantity of seed. I find the best time to sow seed is in February. If sown in heat they germinate quickly. When the seedlings are large enough to handle they are pricked out into boxes about 2ins. apart, grown on in heat for four to five weeks, then placed in cold frames to harden off. One of the most important things in the cultivation of meconopsis is to get them planted out as soon as possible, for if they are kept too long in boxes and the growth checked in any way, they never make satisfactory plants.—A. HARLEY.

PERENNIAL PRIMULAS?

SIR,—I was much interested in your correspondent's letter in THE GARDEN of February 13th on Primula Littoniana, which with some gardeners is more or less a biennial. This primula has flowered with me during the last three years and I expect it will do so again this summer. The accompanying illustration of P. chionantha may be of interest to your readers. With some growers it flowers well the first year after raising from seed; but dies out soon afterwards. The photograph shows a plant of P. chionantha which was given to me six years ago and was taken last May when it was in flower for the sixth year. I find this species seeds freely and I do not trouble now to sow seed under glass, but every spring I throw the seed under some rhododendron bushes and by the autumn I have large numbers of healthy plants which are always in demand by my friends. This primula does not require such a damp situation as P. Littoniana, but does well in soil that suits P. Bulleyana and other like species. I grow one or two beds of this species and during the winter they are given a mulch of leaf-mould and manure, which they seem to appreciate.—A. H.

ROSEMARY.

SIR,—The note on rosemary by Mr. Clarence Elliott interested me greatly. I have been collecting varieties for some time, and I have six distinct ones. One bought as "gold," but very slightly yellower than the green; one the ordinary kind; one like the ordinary, but much fuller; one very strong and upright, with very white back to leaf; one very fine in leaf, not more than half as wide as usual; and also prostrata. I have also a variety which I got in an old Oxfordshire garden which then was much splashed with gold variegation, but my young plants have not yet developed this. I badly want the green and white variegated form, which I am told exists. I have also some very fine seedling lavenders, and have, by selection, got some of a good pinkish mauve and one with variegated leaves. I had one very interesting form from a wonderful garden above Locarno, which formed a sharply branched bush, the flower-stems also branching, but it did not survive the cold.—A. C. C., *Kent*.

THE DAINTY PRIMULA CHIONANTHA.

SIR,—Respecting the introduction of rosemary which Mr. Clarence Elliott mentioned in his interesting article in your issue of the 6th inst., Paxton's Botanical Dictionary gives 1548, the same being given in Loudon's Encyclopædia of Plants, the latter saying "Its introduction is beyond record, and was probably by the monks in the dark ages." For some years past I have admired a fine specimen of the prostrate form hanging down from a lofty bit of rockwork in the fine gardens of the late Lady Ardilaun, St. Anne's, Clontarf, on the northern shores of "Sweet Dublin Bay."—K., *Dublin*.

LARKS AND GREEN CROPS.

SIR,—A curious result of the recent fall of 4½ins. of snow here was that we had to net the green crops in the kitchen garden, particularly the broccoli, against a large flock of larks, which were stripping the leaves to skeletons. I have never heard of larks doing such damage. Driving them off was useless, as they returned at once. Our garden adjoins a large arable field, which, of course, was snow covered.—F. S. SAUNDERS, *Barcombe Mills, near Lewes*.

REV. J. JACOB—AN APPRECIATION.

SIR,—To our great regret we are informed of the decease of the Rev. J. Jacob, a gentleman whose memory will always remain green with us.

For many years he was a regular visitor and guest at our nurseries when our fields were in bloom, and his keen observation and advice about the value of so many varieties of tulips and narcissi were always greatly appreciated.

But we feel sure that all interested, amateurs and professional people alike, have greatly profited by the entertaining and interesting letters he wrote in your paper about the growing and forcing of the finer varieties of tulips and narcissi, flowers which he loved with all his heart, not to speak of the many valuable acquisitions of which he was the raiser.

If the love for these bulbous plants has increased generally during recent years, it is no doubt due in some small measure to the

A FINE CLUMP OF MECONOPSIS INTEGRIFOLIA.

Digitized by Google

efforts of Rev. Jacob, and not only the trade but the world at large has gained by it. We feel sure we speak in the name of the Dutch bulb trade when we express here our gratitude to him.—M. VAN WAVEREN AND SONS, LIMITED, *Hillegom, Holland.*

YELLOW TOMATOES.

SIR,—I was much interested in reading the note on yellow tomatoes by "W. F.," issue February 13th, page 108. Personally, I think it must be due to prejudice, mainly, that yellow-fleshed tomatoes are not more extensively grown—prejudice against the few old yellow sorts which did not possess much flavour; not so much against the ones now in the market, for the fruits are well flavoured, of beautiful shape and freely borne on the plants. I find that the yellow fruits remain fresh and sound of flesh longer than the red fruits. Furthermore, the yellow varieties are particularly good for late fruiting. For several years I have been a grower of yellow tomatoes and hope to grow more plants this year than in the past.—G. G.

ANEMONE NEMOROSA ROBINSONIANA.

SIR,—I notice Dr. Lloyd Praeger selected the above as apparently the best variety of the blue forms of our common wood anemone. While not despising the variety, I am rather in agreement with what Mr. E. A. Bowles says about it in his book, "My Garden in Spring," and think the variety Alleni is far and away better than Robinsoniana and, in fact, is the best of all the blue forms. Royal Blue is the richest colour, but is small. Blue Bonnett is very late, too pale in colour and, I find, not so large as Alleni. What I should like to see is a Royal Blue Alleni. Has anyone done any hybridising of these blue forms? If so, perhaps they will tell us something of the results.—H.

ROCK GARDEN ANNUALS.

SIR,—May I add a third to those mentioned by your correspondent "N. D. H." (THE GARDEN, February 6th)? This is Sedum cœruleum, a tiny little plant with starry blue flowers. It is not showy, some might call it insignificant, but it is very pretty in its modest way. It is, I think, the only annual sedum, and some seedsmen catalogue it as half-hardy, but it is quite hardy with me, although I have not found it ripen seed.—R. E. H., *North Somerset.*

THE SCOT IN DEVON.

SIR,—I read with interest "S. I. K.'s" note in your issue of February 13th, on the neglect of the fuchsia in the gardens of Devon. As a rhododendron enthusiast I am quite in agreement with him when he advocates planting rhododendrons, as it is admitted that by judicious selection of varieties in a mild climate such as Devon, Cornwall, some parts of Emerald Isle and many corners farther north, unheard of by some people, the rhododendron will give a continual display from early December until midsummer. None the less there is room in many gardens for the development of the fuchsia, both the species and hybrids and I hope to see it occupy a more prominent position in the near future, in gardens adapted to its simple requirements, than it does at the present time. As for camellias, "S. I. K." must know that these are fairly hardy plants and it is quite unnecessary to live in a favoured climate to grow them in the open. Fine plants of many varieties which flower freely every year, can be seen in the London parks, likewise at Wisley, which is by no means a favoured spot for attempting the growth of tender plants in the open. As a native of that land north of the Tweed. I note with amusement that my countrymen are being blamed for the neglect of the possibilities the climate of Devon presents to the enthusiastic gardener, in that they only grow the things they were accustomed to in Scotland. Many stories are told of the Scot, but he is seldom accused of the lack of foresight in embracing such opportunities as present themselves for gardening under such genial conditions as the climate of Devon affords. I can assure "S. I. K." that he can see all the plants he mentions in his own garden growing out in the open in some parts of Scotland, as freely as in Devon and Cornwall, in company with many more even less hardy. As I have within the last few days been asked to find another Scot for a head-gardener's place in Devon, I hope he will grasp the opportunities that "S. I. K." seems to think others have neglected.—R. FINDLAY, *Wisley.*

FREESIAS FROM SEED.

SIR,—I am surprised that your correspondent "T.," on page 72, threw away all his seedling freesias after their first flowering. As a freesia raiser I find it is impossible to judge the flowers in their first season, and I am sure "T." would have done better to have saved the corms and grown them on to their second flowering. Without referring to the previous correspondence on the subject of freesia seed, I gather that soaking the seed was recommended when sowing was delayed until the spring. I have only once tried spring sowing, and then had no difficulty in germination, but with August sowing I never find soaking likely to be necessary, but possibly by the spring seed may become hard.—F.

"PLANTING" SEEDS—WHICH WAY UP?

THE reader may be a little amused over the title of this article, since the gardener seldom "plants" his seeds in the generally accepted sense of that term; nor does he bother about a "right way" or a "wrong way" up position. Life is too short, and in practice the ordinary method of "sowing" must needs be followed. Yet the question has been raised as to whether a better and quicker germination, with improved subsequent growth of the seedlings, may not be obtained when seeds are sown "right way up"—if, indeed, there be a right and a wrong position. It is not altogether irrelevant to mention the case of the potato. Some attempt is generally made to place the sets or "seeds" with their eyes directed upwards, and the reason for this is well enough known. Is it not possible, then, in the case of the larger seeds, that it would be advantageous to place them in the soil in such a position that the young stem of the seedling would have no more to do than grow straight up and the young root straight down, without having to perform preliminary awkward curvatures, like so many gymnastic exercises? In pricking off, who has not rejected many a seedling because of undesirable twists in its slender stem?

To test the question, it is necessary to handle the seeds individually, to plant them, in fact, one by one. Obviously, only the larger seeds are suitable for such experimental work. Several tests have been carried out, with varying results. In general, there is a certain delay in germination when seeds are placed upside down, as has been proved conclusively for cotton and barley; but this delay has no noticeable effect in after growth and yield.

There must be some readers of THE GARDEN who have pondered over their seed-sowing, especially when dealing with a handful of large seeds, wondering whether they should be put into the soil this way or that. With the seed-sowing season again at hand, there comes the opportunity for those with an experimental turn of mind to test the matter for themselves. Observations which are made might then find their way into the pages of THE GARDEN, where I do not remember having seen the matter referred to.

By way of introduction, it may be helpful to suggest that the problem of the "right way up" position can only be appreciated by reaching an understanding of what lies within any particular seed. For this purpose the seed may be soaked in water and dissected, or it may be allowed to germinate to see what happens. A few examples may best illustrate the point. Let us look at the broad bean. Externally, there is a narrow black scar at the broad end of the seed, marking the point of attachment to the pod (Figs. 1 and 2). On germination the young root emerges close to this scar, since, within the seed, it occupies a lateral position and points towards one end of the scar. In Fig. 3 the seed coat and one seed-leaf have been removed to show the position of the root and the young curved shoot, which lies protected between the two seed-leaves. Germination is shown in Fig. 4, where it will be seen that the root has emerged close to one end of the scar, while the upward, arching shoot has also been withdrawn. In relation to germination, the interesting structural feature is not so much the scar itself as a small hole through the seed-coat which allows of the ready entrance of water, a supply of which is essential for germination. The position of this minute pore is easily ascertained if the seed be soaked in water and subsequently subjected to slight pressure between finger and thumb, when a drop of the absorbed water will ooze out through the pore. Now, the young root in the bean, and in a very large number of seeds, points towards this small aperture in the seed-coat, and since it lies close to the scar, the scar itself is the most easily visible means of knowing where the rootlet will emerge. And so the scar at the broad end of the bean seed is an indication that the "broad end down" position will be favourable to the immediate downward growth of the root without any preliminary curvature. Whether this position is distinctly more favourable than one where the seed lies on its side, which would seem to be the natural attitude, cannot be determined without making carefully conducted experiments. One may safely say, however, that there is a decided disadvantage in planting the seed "broad end up," and it is not

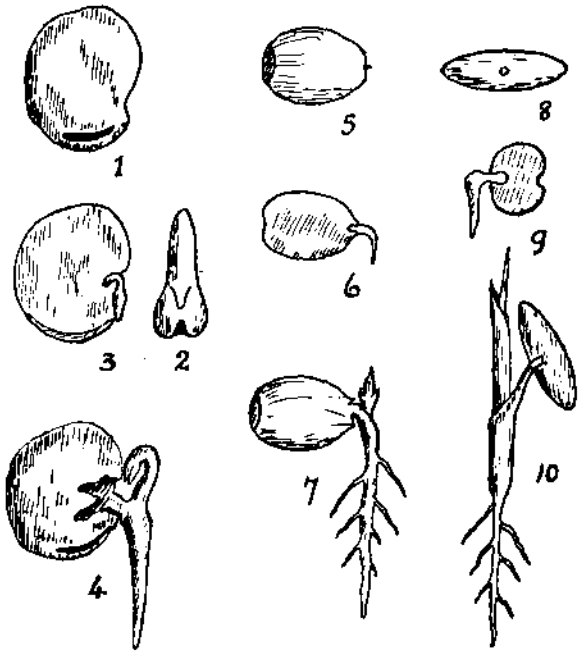
Digitized by Google

impossible that the frequent irregularity in germination of beans may be partly explained by some of the seeds getting into such a position.

The construction of the bean, thus briefly described, is illustrative of a great many seeds, where the scar on the seed-coat and the pore, towards which the young root points, lie close together. But sometimes the scar and pore are completely or partially hidden by a warty outgrowth of the seed-coat, as in the castor oil. The outgrowth seems to act at germination as a kind of sponge absorbing water from the soil, so again this end of the seed will be better placed down than up. Sometimes the outgrowth takes the form of a hairy tuft which also may act as a water absorber.

It is necessary to insist, however, that all large seeds should be examined on their own merits. For example, the scar on the acorn at its broad end is a mark on the outer shell which contains the single seed, and the actual seed-coat scar is at the opposite, narrow end. It is here that the rootlet emerges, and Figs. 5, 6 and 7 have been drawn intentionally to show what happens when an acorn germinates lying on its side, the natural position in which it would fall. The young root appears at the pointed end and has to turn through 90 degrees to grow downwards. As the shoot is withdrawn it also has to turn through 90 degrees to become vertical. Of the many causes of failure of the natural regeneration of our oak woods, there is definite experimental evidence which indicates a poor germination of acorns if they are placed with the sharp end pointing vertically upwards. Those who plant acorns in glasses sold for the purpose invariably make the mistake of placing the acorns upside down. The pointed end should dip into the water. It will be easily realised from the drawings that in a vertical position with the pointed end down the root has simply to grow straight down and the shoot straight up, appearing between the seed-leaves in a straight line with the root.

According to an old proverb, "Nature passes nurture," and one wonders, after all, if nature has not generally solved its own problem with regard to the position which seeds should occupy in the soil. Seedlings from very small seeds seem to right themselves as they germinate, and the chief precaution is to sow thinly. Among larger seeds, so many are flattened or winged or oval in shape that they must inevitably tend to fall on their side. Since this is the natural position, it would be rash to say that it is one which is unfavourable for quick germination and further growth. It is very important to remember that there is always some part of a seedling which is concerned in bringing the stem into its right position, so that root and shoot come into one line. This is well seen in the date, iris, lily and many others of their class. In Fig. 8 a date seed is shown lying on its side, exhibiting that tiny depression through which the rootlet appears when germination occurs. The section drawn as Fig. 9, on a larger scale, shows the young root turning downwards. But here, as in many other cases, the continued growth of that cord-like body which raises the seed above ground, really places the young shoot in a favourable position for further development, so that root and shoot are actually brought into one line, as shown in Fig. 10.



Each kind of seed, therefore, must be tested individually, and only the larger ones are at all suitable. For the coconut the question seems to have been settled by an experiment carried out in the West Indies. In March, 1913, fifty nuts were planted standing up and fifty on their sides. On October 24th, 1913, it was reported that of the fifty on their sides forty-six had germinated, and of those standing up only thirty had germinated.

The purpose of this article will have been served if it draws attention to an interesting point requiring further experiment, and it is hoped readers of THE GARDEN will relate their experiences.

J. R. MATTHEWS.

FIG CULTURE IN THE OPEN

THERE must be in many gardens suitable places where figs will thrive, especially if a little protection be afforded during a spell of severe weather. In the neighbourhood of Worthing in Sussex figs are cultivated on a fairly large scale, and here it will succeed as a standard, but farther inland it should be planted at the base of a wall with a south or south-west aspect, unless an open, warm position can be chosen.

Most failures can be attributed to a rich rooting medium, this causing a lot of gross wood to develop and very little fruit. The planting of fig trees is best carried out in the spring, standards and espaliers being selected for the more open situations and fan-shaped for walls. Ordinary garden soil is quite good enough for figs, but it ought to be trenched 3ft. deep and a good layer of drainage placed in the bottom, chalk being a suitable material for this purpose. As the operation proceeds, a liberal sprinkling of old mortar rubble and pieces of brick can be incorporated, as good drainage is essential.

A restricted root-run is advisable, and for a start a border 3ft. wide will be ample, and unless the border is near a hard gravel path, a few pieces of corrugated iron let down in the soil will help to curtail the wandering roots, and thereby induce fruitfulness in the early stages of the tree's development. Later on, when the fruit is swelling, a weekly application of liquid manure will be beneficial. Only one crop of fruits can be expected from the open ground, and any fruits that appear in the autumn with no prospects of ever ripening are best removed. It should be borne in mind that fruit is produced along the growing branch, and this, of course, has some bearing upon the method of pruning. Severe pruning is often a mistake, and the usual method is to cut out old growths, to prevent overcrowding, and replacing them where necessary with new wood. This can be done about October, or when the fruit is gathered. Towards the end of March a further overhauling may take place, when the growths are carefully regulated and made secure. It will no doubt be advisable to remove a few more shoots, so that there will be space for the development of fresh growth.

One often meets specimens that have exceeded their allotted space, with plenty of healthy growth on the top and nothing but bare stems in the centre. This can and should be remedied by encouraging new growths from near the base of the main branches, Such shoots eventually make better wood than suckers, which are occasionally freely produced from the base of old trees. It is best to remove these in the early stages. The object of pruning is to keep the growths from being overcrowded and, like peach trees, much can be done by judicious disbudding during the growing period. Any shoots for which there is no room can be removed before they have made much headway, and other vigorous growths should have their centres pinched out when they are 18ins. or so in length.

It often happens that fig trees, and especially young ones, become extremely vigorous and fail to bear any fruit. When such is the case root pruning must be resorted to, and in some instances the tree can be lifted and replanted immediately. All the thick roots are severed, particularly those going down in the soil, while others near the surface and of a fibrous nature are encouraged and kept fairly near the top.

During a spell of severe weather it will be advisable to protect the trees if growing in less favoured districts. This is done by covering the root-run with straw, or fern bracken, and employing thatched or straw hurdles for the branches. No protection is needed unless the weather is very cold, and then the material should be removed directly it becomes mild. The two best varieties for outside are Brown Turkey and Brunswick.—T. W. B.

Digitized by Google

POTATO CULTURE

AS with every other crop, the first consideration in the cultivation of the potato is the treatment of the soil. Undoubtedly the best potatoes are grown on rich light loams, but very few gardens are found in which potatoes are not grown to a greater or lesser extent. Except almost pure sands and the heaviest of clays, potatoes will grow in any soil, providing it is treated properly.

Where possible, the soil should be trenched or double dug—a long, hard job, but a job to "clear the cobwebs from one's mind" and "ease the muscles."

It is better, whenever possible, to dig deeply or trench in autumn, leaving the soil rough and lumpy for the frosts to break down. Another advantage of leaving rough for the winter is that the birds will scratch in the rough soil and consume any grubs, eggs and pupæ which are near the surface. If any decayed vegetable matter can be incorporated when the soil is turned over, so much the better, and any new manure, especially on heavy soil, is best put in during autumn and winter.

In early spring the soil should be forked over and rotten manure incorporated if none was worked in earlier. The best returns from potatoes have been obtained by using decayed manure with the addition of artificial fertilisers.

We have obtained good results by adding manure at the rate of 12–15 tons per acre, supplemented by the following mixture, hoed into the soil before planting:

3lb. superphosphate of lime
¾lb. sulphate of ammonia
¾lb. sulphate of potash

per rod.

Presuming the land has been well prepared for the crop, we must turn attention to the "seed."

Five or six weeks before planting time the tubers should be boxed up, placing them one layer deep in shallow boxes with the rose end—that is, the bigger end, containing the most eyes—uppermost. These boxes should now be placed in a cool, light place for the potatoes to sprout. If kept too warm the shoots will grow too quickly, while if kept in the dark, long, weak, straggly shoots will be produced.

This simple treatment is important. In the first place, increases in crop to the extent of 2 tons per acre have been produced by sprouting the tubers. Secondly, only those tubers which have sprouted are planted, and thus we discard tubers which may be infected with disease. Finally, the plants have started growth, and get away quicker when they are planted out.

There is often a great deal of controversy regarding the value of cutting the sets. With seed sized-tubers it is far better to leave them alone; but with large sets one often has to cut the tubers to obtain sufficient to plant the plot. Where it is necessary to do this, always cover the cut surface with plaster or lime and, if possible, plant immediately after cutting.

The time to plant is a matter for individual decision. The season for planting extends, as a rule, from February until May. Main-crop potatoes are usually planted in late March in the very south, and later the farther north we go. The point to bear in mind is that we do not want the plants above-ground until danger of sharp frosts is past. With early potatoes the case is different. Many gardeners who possess a warm, sheltered border commence planting at the beginning of March. Such early planting necessitates covering the ground with litter or bags on cold nights, but often it is considered worth the trouble on account of the earliness of the crop.

Easter week-end is, in the Midlands and South, considered by allotment-holders to be *the* time for planting potatoes and, the weather being suitable, this time is not at all out of season, although, of course, the date varies.

The distance allowed between sets and rows also varies with the class of potatoes being grown. For instance, first earlies may be planted as close as 9ins. between the sets and 18–20ins. between the rows, whereas strong-growing main-crop potatoes need 12–15ins. between the sets and 2ft. to 3ft. between the rows. Again, the purpose for which the potatoes are grown will to some extent control the distance allowed. To illustrate what I mean, it has been found that to obtain the greatest crop for a *given area*, main-crop potatoes should be planted 12ins. by 24ins., whereas to obtain the largest yield *per plant* the distance should be increased to 15–18ins. by 36ins.

Well, I have spent a considerable time dealing with preliminaries, so now I will presume that the ground is prepared and we are about to plant our sprouted tubers. There are many ways of planting, but I will only deal with two or three of the commonest.

'Dibbling in" a very common practice, is one to be deplored, especially on heavy soil. The potatoes are placed in holes, the sides and bottom of which are hard and difficult for roots to penetrate. I think most people will agree that the best results can scarcely be expected from plants dibbled in. On free-working soils drills may be drawn with the hoe, and this is one of the best methods which can be adopted. On heavier soils a spade may have to be used, but use a "stock hoe" in preference to the spade. Another excellent method where the soil has been previously well dug is to fork over the ground, putting the tubers in as the work proceeds. By following this method the tubers are placed in loose soil, into which they throw out roots very readily. Lastly, a method which should never be adopted except in exceptional circumstances, such as where the water level is very dangerously near the surface soil, is that called, I believe, the "lazy bed system," which consists of placing the potatoes on the surface and covering them by earthing up.

After planting, hoeing should be attended to, keeping the soil clear of weeds and drawing a little soil up to the young plants. The next operation calling for attention is earthing up, which is usually performed when the plants are 6ins. or so high. There are several advantages of earthing up, the principal one being that loose soil is placed round the plant, into which the young underground stems, which produce the tubers, can run; and that the tubers are protected from the light, which would discolour them. Another point is that the layer of soil checks the spores of blight and to some extent prevents them reaching the tubers when they fall from the leaves.

Before earthing up, fork between the rows and break up the soil. Just a detail, but one which makes all the difference between earthing up with a moderate amount of labour and real hard work. Use the hoe for earthing, and make a broad-topped ridge, so that some of the rain may soak through the ridge and not all run off into the gullies.

After earthing, hoeing, of course, cannot be managed; neither, as a rule, is it necessary, for the potato tops will smother all but the strongest weeds, which must be hand pulled.

The last item connected with potato growing that I wish to mention is spraying. I fancy I can hear murmurs of disapproval from many people as I write this, but my answer is, the commercial growers—or, at least, many of them—believe in spraying, and is it likely that such growers would spend money on this operation if it were not necessary?

I know that many crops are raised every year without this attention, but, especially in a wet season when the potato blight is rampant, it is a safeguard. Of course, spraying with Bordeaux or Burgundy mixture will not *cure* "blight," but it will go a long way towards preventing its spread.

N. D. H.

ROSE WILLIAM ALLEN RICHARDSON.

IT is nearly forty-eight years since Ducher sent out William Allen Richardson, a noisette rose bearing very deep orange-yellow blooms of moderate size, borne in great freedom. Its introduction caused somewhat of a stir in the ranks of rosarians, and, though only a youth at the time, I well remember seeing the wonderful coloured flowers on a cottage wall. I think its chief fault is that the blooms lose the deep tint when exposed to the sun, and are paler; indeed, almost white at the edges after a few hours in glaring light. Notwithstanding this, and the immense number of sorts that have appeared since 1878, William Allen Richardson, grown either as a climber or standard, is very charming, and something to be proud of. It is one of the earliest to open in June, and one of the last to leave us in the late autumn. One may often cut exquisite, deeply tinted sprays of blooms and semi-opened buds, late in October in mild seasons, of which cold nights have intensified their beauty. In summers when we have had more than our usual quantity of rain and dull weather, this rose shows what it is capable of—no bleached blooms, but a rich blending of orange and yellow and buff, and with it all, a delightful fragrance and beautiful foliage. I occasionally meet with people who "run after" novelties, but cannot find in their heart to dispense with W.A.R., when new arrivals are discussed. W. LINDERS LEA

Digitized by Google

Carters Testing Grounds and Laboratory at Raynes Park.

SEEDSMEN BY APPOINTMENT

ECONOMY *of* GOOD SEEDS

FOR over fifty years Messrs. James Carter & Co. have carried out thoroughly, in every branch, the Analysis and Testing of Seeds, hence the well-known trade-mark, "Carters Tested Seeds."

Many years before the war Carters Seed Testing Laboratory was recognised as the best equipped in the country, we believe it still holds that unique position to-day.

The remarkable successes achieved by Carters Tested Seeds on the Exhibition tables throughout the country, prove that to obtain Vegetables and Flowers of the highest quality, it is essential to purchase seeds that have gone through the searching tests of experts in the Laboratories and Testing Grounds,

Vegetables and Flowers grown from Carters Tested Seeds cost no more for cultivation than ordinary strains, and the results prove of considerable advantage to Horticulturists.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE POST FREE

Carters TESTED SEEDS

SEEDSMEN TO H.M. THE KING,

RAYNES PARK, LONDON, S.W. 20

PLEASED

Rochester.

"I used Cooper's Winter Spray Fluid on an orchard that . . had never produced any apples of a marketable value. This year these trees had a most excellent crop of clean perfect fruit, which I attribute solely to the use of your Fluid."

H. J. INGLETON.

Give your trees the opportunity they deserve.

Spray them before the buds burst with

COOPER'S WINTER SPRAY FLUID

(Dilution 1—100)

½ pint tin	1/6	1 gall. tin	9/6
1 " "	2/3	2 " "	18/-
Quart "	3/3	5 " "	38/6

Cooper, McDougall & Robertson, Ltd.,
BERKHAMSTED,
Herts.

Don't Sow your Seed

till you are sure that the soil is fit to receive it. Your seed will not stand a fair chance in starved soil.

Feed your garden well and it will repay you handsomely. There is no better nourishment for the soil than

NORCO
COMPLETE FERTILISERS

THE PERFECT GARDEN FOOD

Which supplies the essential constituents contained in stable manure, but in a far richer and more convenient form.

PRICES (Bags Free and Carriage Paid):—

	7 lbs.	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	112 lbs.
"NORCO" Complete Garden Fertiliser (For Flowers, Fruit and Vegetables)	2/6	4.3	7.3	12 6	23/-
"NORCO" Complete Lawn & Turf Fertiliser	2 4	4/-	6.9	11.9	22/-
"NORCO" Complete Potato Fertiliser	2.6	4.3	7.3	12.6	23/-

Send for free Booklet on the use of Lime, Stable Manure and Chemical Fertilisers

"NORCO" (Regd.) is obtainable only direct from the Sole Manufacturers:—

CHARLES NORRINGTON & CO., LTD.
Cattedown, PLYMOUTH.

Makers of High Grade Fertilisers since 1846. No. 7

Digitized by Google

GARDEN TECHNIQUE

UNWIN'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI

Our 1925 Awards at six of the leading Shows were : Six Gold Medals and One Silver Cup. We offer the very best and most distinct English, American and Dutch Novelties and standard varieties at "*buyable*" prices.

PRIMULINUS HYBRIDS.

These charming small-flowered Gladioli embrace the most wonderful art shades imaginable. Light and graceful, they rival Sweet Peas in daintiness, and are excellent for all decorative purposes. If you have never seen them you have a treat in store.

UNWIN'S GOLD MEDAL COLLECTION OF PRIMULINUS HYBRIDS.	Per doz.
Atalanta, salmon, shaded orange	1/6
Hermione, orange salmon	1/6
Maiden's Blush, lovely pink	1/6
Niobe, orange self	1/9
Salmonea, salmon, flushed orange	2/-
Souvenir, rich yellow	1/9
Daphne, dazzling vermilion	2/3
Rosandra, cerise pink	2/3
Orange Brilliant, orange and yellow	2/-
Xanthia, pure golden orange	3/6
3 each of above 10 vars., named	5/-
6 each of above 10 vars., named	9/6
12 each of above 10 vars., named	18/-

Full Catalogue of Gladioli post free on application.

Carriage Terms.—Orders of **7/6** or over, carriage free; under 7/6, **6d.** extra must be enclosed to partly defray cost of carriage. **Send for a copy of our New Spring Catalogue. Post free.** The Highest Quality Sweet Pea Seeds and Plants, Flower and Vegetable Seeds, Seed Potatoes, Gladioli, Charm Dahlias, Roses, etc. All at "buyable" prices.

W. J. UNWIN, F.R.H.S.,
***Seedsman* - Histon, Cambs.**

SEEDS

IF YOU WANT

REALLY GOOD SEEDS

AT MODERATE PRICES

SEND TO

ROBERT SYDENHAM LIMITED

99, TENBY STREET, BIRMINGHAM

No one will serve you better.

SWEET PEAS A SPECIALITY

THEIR UNIQUE LISTS

contain only the Best
VEGETABLES, FLOWERS AND
BULBS WORTH GROWING
Post free on application.

ROBERT SYDENHAM LIMITED

FLOWERS.

PERENNIAL ASTERS AND MOON DAISIES.

EVERYBODY can grow the former and the majority of garden lovers can succeed with the moon daisies, several varieties of which are so beautiful. Perhaps it is because the first named are so easily grown that so many plants are badly cultivated. If one meets with one well grown collection, against this, one sees half a dozen badly grown—outside our nursery gardens. I have recently dug a small herbaceous border in which some clumps of Michaelmas daisies are growing. Although planted there one year ago, sucker shoots are permeating the soil quite 1ft. on all sides. These are to be sacrificed in part, only a few being retained. Inexperienced cultivators may have to deal with similar plants. If left undisturbed for another year such clumps would become overcrowded. If dealt with as suggested, next year's display will be a grand one, and the third year lifting, division and replanting will be more of a pleasure than a task. If single-stemmed plants are preferred, extra care is necessary in regard to soil suckers. With regard to the moon daisies (Chrysanthemum maximum), a richer rooting medium is an advantage, and old roots should not be allowed to encumber the soil. Such plants bear puny flowers, not to be compared to those big, pure white, broad-petalled beauties borne on plants young and growing in a good soil. When dividing up old roots all the inner portion should be discarded and the outside parts retained. For the benefit of the inexperienced I may say that three splendid varieties are Mrs. C. Lowthian Bell, M. Prichard and King Edward VII.—HANTS.

ANNUAL ASTERS.

NEARLY everybody who has a garden or a plain plot of ground grows asters. Perhaps I ought to say, makes attempts to grow them, as all do not succeed in growing the plants to perfection. It is astonishing the great quantity of flowers some beds of plants will bear, and when the plants are really well grown from the seedlings to the flowering stage the quality of the blooms is very high. There are three important items connected with the cultivation, namely, raising the seedlings, the border soil, and the planting with after-treatment. It is absolutely necessary that the soil in which asters are grown is sweet and free from fungus. The tiny seedlings thrive in a sweet leaf-soil mixture, but one in which there is any rotting sticks should not be employed. Use new boxes or, for preference, pots or pans for the first crops. The seeds should be sown thinly and lightly covered with rather drier soil. When the seedlings possess two rough leaves, transplant them and use, if possible, some old mortar rubble. A high shelf in a greenhouse, or a frame which can be protected from late frosts, will be suitable at this stage. A cold frame should be used

UNWIN'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOL

Our 1925 Awards at six of the leading Shows were Six Gold Medals and One Silver Cup. We offe the very best and most distinct English, America and Dutch Novelties and standard varieties "*buyable*" prices.

LARGE FLOWERING VARIETIES.

Splendid, stately and majestic flowers in a wonderful ran of colours and colour blendings. One of the most noble an striking of all garden subjects. Adaptable, easy to gro and inexpensive. Don't be without them this season.

UNWIN'S POPULAR COLLECTION OF LARGE FLOWERING VARIETIES.	Per do
America, rose pink	1/
Baron Huiot, blue	2/
Empress of India, maroon	2/
Golden West, orange red	2/
Odin, fine salmon	2/
Panama, deep pink	2/
Pink Perfection, soft pink	2/
Prince of Wales, salmon pink	1/
Red Emperor, blood red	2/
White Giant, grand white	2/
Willie Wigman, rose and cream	1/
Yellow Hammer, yellow self	2/
3 each of above 12 vars., named	5/
6 each of above 12 vars., named	11/
12 each of above 12 vars., named	21/

Full Catalogue of Gladioli post free on application.

Carriage Terms.—Orders of **7/6** or over, carriage free under 7/6, **6d.** extra must be enclosed to partly defray cost of carriage. **Send for a copy of our New Spring Catalogue. Post free.** The Highest Quality Sweet Pea Seeds and Plants, Flower and Vegetable Seeds, Seed Potatoes, Gladioli, Charm Dahlias, Roses, etc. All at "buyable" prices.

W. J. UNWIN, F.R.H.S.,
***Seedsman* - Histon, Cambs.**

BORDER CARNATIONS & ALLWOODII

Plant EARLY for best results.

Border Carnations.

Our stocks of the best hardy Garden varieties are superb. Vigorous sturdy stock from 3½in. pots, which cannot fail to give the best results, the undermentioned collections represent the best value obtainable.

CARRIAGE PAID for cash.

6 distinct varieties	8/6
12 " "	16/-
25 Plants in good variety	30/-

ALLWOODII.

The ever popular hardy plant, suitable for every garden purpose. Will beautify the border, the lawn vase or window box; is perfectly hardy and the easiest plant to cultivate. New and improved varieties have been introduced, of which the undermentioned CARRIAGE PAID COLLECTIONS ARE MAINLY COMPOSED.

6 distinct varieties	5/6
12 " "	10/6
25 Plants in good variety	21/-

CATALOGUE OF ALL CARNATIONS FOR GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE sent post free on request to—

Allwood Bros The leading Carnation Raisers and Specialists in the World.

Dept. 4, Haywards Heath, Sussex

Digitized by Google

Austins

Scotch Seed Potatoes.

Our stocks are grown and selected specially for seed purposes, and under normal conditions of soil and situation cannot fail to produce first-class crops. All are Class 1, Scotch.

	14lb.	28lb.	56lb.	112lb.
FIRST EARLY.				
Arran Rose	3/-	5/6	10/-	18/-
Immune Ashleaf	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Duke of York	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Sharpe's Express	2/3	4/3	7/6	13/-
Witch Hill Early	3/-	5/6	10/-	18/-
SECOND EARLY.				
Ally	2/3	4/3	7/6	13/-
Arran Comrade	2/3	4/3	7/6	13/-
British Queen	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Great Scot	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Catriona	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
MAIN CROP.				
Abundance	2/4	4/6	8/-	14/-
Arran Chief	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
King Edward	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Kerr's Pink	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Majestic	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Field Marshal	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-

We offer many other varieties, including Arran Consul, Ben Lomond, Golden Marvel, White Arran Victory, etc., full particulars of which are given in our Catalogue, which may be had post free on request.

Packing Free. Carriage forward by goods train. If to be sent by passenger train the additional cost would be: 14lb., 1/6; 28lb., 2/9; 56lb., 5/-; 112lb., 10/-.

Our catalogue, giving full list of varieties, will be sent on application.

AUSTIN'S GOLD MEDAL GARDEN SEEDS.
Descriptive Catalogue of all varieties of outstanding merit free on request. Write for copy.

Orders have prompt attention.

AUSTIN & McASLAN
The Premier Scottish Seedsmen since 1717,
Mitchell Street, GLASGOW.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing*

RYDERS SEEDS
in 2d Packets

WHEN, many years ago I decided to sell my Quality Seeds in Small Quantities, one chief reason was the intense delight it would bring to thousands of gardeners who desired a variety of bloom, a mass of colour, and that pot-pourri of fragrance we associate with an old-world garden. Ryders 2d. Packets enable you, whatever the size of your garden, to plant it with the seeds of *every* flower you love.

Samuel Ryder

WONDERFUL 1926 GARDEN CATALOGUE FREE
SEND FOR FREE COPY TO-DAY.

Ryders
RYDER & SON (1920), LTD.
St. Albans

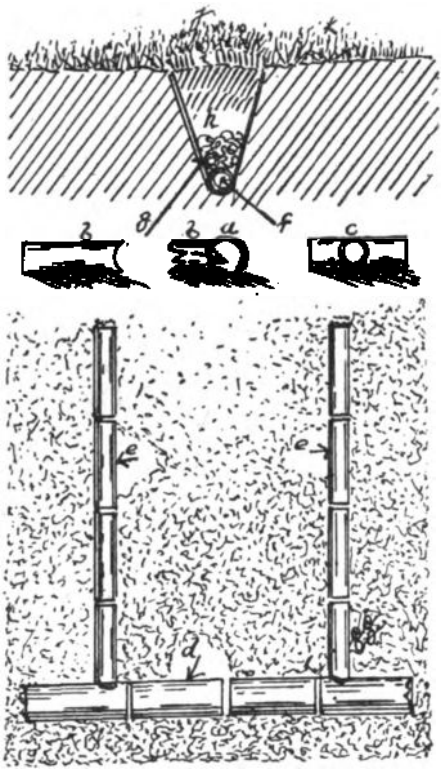
Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

for the hardening of the young plants. In the meantime the border soil should be manured, left lumpy on the surface, the latter being just hidden by a dressing of lime. Fork in the lime late in April and plan the asters during the second and third week in May. Successional batches of plants should be raised in cold frames and the last one in open ground.—CHRISTCHURCH.

MISCELLANEOUS

LATE DRAINING WORK IN GARDENS.

THE recent heavy rains prompt me to write a few notes on the subject of draining in gardens. We all know that if soil remains long in a water-logged condition, or even soddened, early crops are difficult to obtain. Frequently, one puts off doing certain work until it is almost too late to



accomplish it to the best advantage. Every owner of a garden has been able, lately, to note the soil conditions and where it seems to be the best policy to put in drain pipes the following hints will prove useful to the inexperienced. It is never wise to lay drains carelessly; they are buried deeply, as a rule and once laid they should not require much attention afterwards. In broken ground the difficulty of attending to faulty drains is not great; in the case of lawns it is. New lawns will be formed, mainly from grass seeds, a few weeks hence; if there has been hesitation as to drainage matters hitherto, there should not be any now where naturally wet soils obtain. Drains should not be laid on a too sharp incline; a medium one is best. In the sketches, *a* shows the end of a main drain; *b*, *b*, and *c*, the way to connect side drains so that the water flows into the main. The plan of laying the main drain, *d*, and the side drains, *e*, *e*, connecting with it, is shown below. The section of opened drain and pipe, *f*, with rough material, *g*, and the finer soil, *h*, are shown above. The soil must be higher, also the turved, *i* and *j*, than the normal level, *k*, when open drains

Launching an offer of Seeds for trial.

Free and Post Free.

We launch this offer with much the same feeling in which we should approach thin ice—gingerly—because the offer might be thought to somewhere hide the cloven hoof.

But as we are neither asking for money nor making any conditions whatever in offering to send seeds free to anyone who cares to ask for them, it is difficult to see where the hoof could be hidden.

In the hope of getting into touch with a larger number of gardeners than we now have the pleasure of serving, we are sending to all applicants, free and post free, one packet each of three remarkably good vegetable seeds:

BEETROOT—BAKERS' SELECTED GLOBE. A beautifully formed round beet with a conspicuously thin tap root. . . . .

PARSNIP—GOLIATH. The biggest and best Parsnip that has ever come our way. . .

ONION—MONARCH. The largest growing, best flavoured Onion among those that really keep.

All we ask is that only responsible people will send for the seeds and that they will do their best with them when they get them, because it is only on results that we can hope for the distribution to benefit us.

Where results are good we hope that the grower will be encouraged to learn for himself what Bakers' other seeds are like and so bring grist to our mill.

For our part we can assure all such ladies and gentlemen in advance that the behaviour of the three varieties of seeds we are sending may be taken as a trustworthy guide to the growth and production of all the seed we sell.

Bakers

SEED & FLOWER FARM,
CODSALL.
Nr. Wolverhampton.

To anyone who is diffident about sending for the free seeds we shall be glad to send a copy of our complete Seed Catalogue. In many ways it is an unusual list—more informative than most—certainly more comprehensive and with something about it that might be called the "human touch," as distinct from the cut and dried, soulless sort of production most of us are used to.

BEGONIAS

Giant Flowering. For Pots or Beds.

DOUBLES

In splendid mixture, per 100 **24/-**; per dozen **3/6** Distinct colours: crimson, scarlet, orange-scarlet, salmon, pink, white and yellow, per dozen **6/-**

SINGLES

In splendid mixture, per 100 **17/6**; per dozen **2/6**

GLADIOLI

First-size Bulbs in Finest Varieties

Collection **100** bulbs in **10** varieties– **13/6**
" **120** " **12** " – **16/6**
" **240** " **12** " – **30/–**

	Per doz.	Per 100.
America, lilac rose	1/6	10/6
Baron Hulot, indigo blue	1/9	12/6
Brenchleyensis, vermilion-scarlet	2/–	14/–
Glory of Holland, pure white	1/9	12/6
Golden West, orange-scarlet	2/–	14/–
Halley, delicate salmon-pink	1/6	10/6
King of the Reds, coral-scarlet	2/9	18/6
Loveliness, creamy-white	2/3	15/–
Niagara, nankeen-yellow	2/–	14/–
Panama, deep pink	1/9	12/6
Schwaben, soft yellow	1/9	12/6
War, deep blood-red	1/9	12/6
White Giant, extra large pure white	1/9	12/6
Hybrids, Childsii	1/6	10/6
" Primulinus	1/6	10/6

ALL BULBS CARRIAGE PAID. CATALOGUE FREE

WM. POWER & CO., WATERFORD
Nurserymen and Seedmerchants.

Digitized by Google

AUTUMN and WINTER BEAUTY

In the Garden.

WHEN the first Autumn frost has killed the Summer flowers and the last rose is just existing, many people imagine that the garden must be a dull uninteresting place until Spring awakens the early Daffodils.

There are, however, many trees and shrubs which will provide beautiful pictures throughout Autumn and Winter when rightly placed.

What is more beautiful than the setting sun lighting up the berries of the Cotoneasters, Thorns, and other berried shrubs; or the crimson stems of the Scarlet Dogwood, yellow and crimson barked Willows.

We have prepared a short supplement to our general catalogue, giving a list of the best trees and shrubs for Winter beauty, with fuller descriptions and cultural notes. A copy on application. We devote the same care and thought to the cultivation of our immense stocks of FRUIT TREES, ROSES, ALPINES, HARDY PERENNIALS as we do to the SHRUBS.

THE BARNHAM NURSERIES, LTD., BARNHAM, SUSSEX.

ECKFORD'S GIANT FRILLED
SWEET PEAS
—FOR 1926—

GORGEOUS FLOWERS. MAGNIFICENT STEMS

For a wealth of cut flowers, For garden decoration. For exhibition.

ECKFORD'S ARE THE WORLD'S BEST

Special Offer.—25 specially chosen 1/- packets of Eckford's Giant Frilled Sweet Peas for 1926, each separate and named, for - - - - - 20/-
The same 25, half-packets, each separate and named, for - - - - - - - - - - - 10/-
The above are a gorgeous range of colour
WRITE FOR CATALOGUE (FREE) of all the best Sweet Peas for 1926. Also pedigree vegetables and choicest flower seeds

HENRY ECKFORD, Headquarters for Sweet Peas, Dept. 61 **Wem, Shropshire**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

WAKELEY'S GARDEN SEEDS

We beg to announce to our thousands of customers that we are now offering

GARDEN SEEDS
OF THE VERY
FINEST VARIETIES AND STRAIN.

Send for our **SPRING CATALOGUE** which contains a choice selection of all seeds and other specialities for the garden.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.,
75a, Bankside, S.E.

Forbes' Catalogue

Carnations, Pelargoniums, Pentstemons, Phloxes, Pyrethrums, Violas, Hardy Border and Rock Plants, Seeds, etc.

FREE ON APPLICATION

JOHN FORBES (Hawick), LTD., Dept. 2, The King's Nurserymen, Hawick, Scotland

Seedlings Thrive and Don't Die

off after being transplanted owing to root disturbance or breakage, if brought up in Patent

MILLIONS SOLD **T. P. SEED RAISERS** NO SLUGS

because no disturbance can take place.

FOR ANNUALS, as Godetias, Clarkias, Larkspur, etc., *USE* BABY T.P. SEED RAISERS (measuring 1¼in. across by 2in. deep). Sow 2 or 3 seeds per Raiser, pull out to strongest. It will develop strong root growth till planting-out time comes, when Raiser (by that time rotted) will peel off, allowing seedling to be put in soil without knowing it has been touched.

FOR SWEET PEAS *USE* T.P. PEA RAISERS (size 1¼in. across by 4½in. deep). Sow 1 seed per Raiser. You will be delighted with good root action and quick development after planting out.

You get stronger plants, guaranteed to grow well with less labour.

T.P. Raisers take up much less room and retain moisture thus requiring less watering, are easy to handle in bulk and do not break, and ensure good plants, thus saving seed wastage.

PRICES in U.K., cash with order, carriage paid—

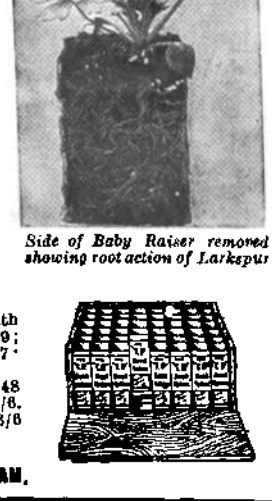
Baby" T.P. Seed Raisers, one strong seedling tray with 54 **"Baby"** Raisers complete. 1 for 2/6; 2 for 4/9; 3 for 6/9; 6 for 13/-; 12 for 24/6. **Refills ("Baby" size),** 108 for 2/7; 216 for 4/10; 324 for 7/3; 540 for 11/3.

T.P. Pea Raisers, one wooden box having hinged side with 48 Raisers complete. 1 for 4/3; 2 for 8/-; 3 for 11/6; 6 for 22/6.

Refills. Pea size, 100 for 3/-; 200 for 5/9; 300 for 8/3; 500 for 13/6

Order NOW from your Seedsman. If he does not stock, send direct to Sole Makers

T.P. SEED BOX Co., 209, Monument Road, BIRMINGHAM.



Side of Baby Raiser removed showing root action of Larkspur

are filled; then, as the soil settles down, the turf over them will be level too.—GEO. GARNER.

TRANSPLANTING WITHOUT ROOT DISTURBANCE.

DISAPPOINTMENT is sometimes experienced by gardeners in the raising of annuals, for on planting out a healthy batch of seedlings from the seed boxes into their permanent quarters the young roots are broken off, and if the weather is at all warm and dry the plants flag badly and take some days before they recover from the check. It is almost impossible to remove young plants from an ordinary seed-box without disturbing the ball of soil, but this difficulty can be overcome completely by the use of one of the special seed raisers which are now on the market. Two excellent seed-raising contrivances which have proved highly satisfactory are the baby "T. P." Seed Raiser and Fibrex Pots. The former is a small edition of the well known "T. P." sweet pea seed raiser. It consists of small square cardboard boxes, fifty-four of which fit exactly in a special seed tray. The boxes are filled with soil and a few seeds sown in each. After germination the seedlings are reduced to one in each box, and, as the seed raisers are retentative of moisture, the soil keeps moist and the seedlings grow apace. By the time the sturdy young plants are ready to plant out the cardboard will have rotted and can be pulled away without disturbing the ball of soil, and the seedling can be planted out without receiving any check. Fibrex seed raisers differ in that the small square pots are made of a fertile medium which, when dry, is hard and unbreakable, but when moist becomes soft and tenacious so that the roots actually become embedded in the pot The plant feeds on the pot, and when the seedlings are ready to plant out a hole is made and the entire pot is dropped in without any disturbance to the root action. Both these seed raisers save time and loss of seedlings.

SPADES AND SPADE WORK.

WHAT an old favourite pipe is to a smoker, so is an old spade to a gardener: he feels lost without it. There is a great difference of opinion among gardeners on the subject of selecting s spade. Some consider those with a wide blade to be more satisfactory for digging and trenching, while some prefer those with a small blade, claiming that more work can be accomplished with this type. The chief thing to observe, however, is not so much the size of the blade, but, rather, the weight of the spade. Amateurs in particular frequently select one that is really too heavy to be useful. A good deal of muscular work could be avoided if the implement used was not so overweighted.

Another point to notice when selecting a new spade is, that those with a D riveted handle will last much longer than those without, also the "tread" should be a fairly wide one, as this gives greater scope and power in the using of the foot. Deep cultivation is the result of good spadework, and this always improves the soil, giving greater fertility.

Bastard trenching is one of the best methods of turning over new ground, and is the easiest to perform. Mark off a plot about a yard wide and a foot deep halfway across a 1one end. The soil taken out is left at the same end to fill in at the finish. Dig up the bottom, at the same time work in any manure or refuse available. Now turn up the next yard of top soil on the top of it and shovel out the bottom of the trench. Continue on in this manner until the whole plot is finished.

Allotment and kitchen gardens should be trenched in this manner every two years at least to get it into "good heart." Once the

Digitized by Google

soil is got into this state of cultivation, it is capable of producing both larger and better crops.—G. BARTON.

BORDERS NEAR DWELLING-HOUSE WALLS.

IN small gardens where there is not much room for growing plants and flowers, the owners are often tempted to have flower borders against the dwelling house. This is not always advisable, because the necessary watering may keep the soil in a too moist condition for the well-being of the foundations. Damp courses will prevent any moisture rising in the wall, but the mischief occurs below that point and then there is a constant dampness under the floor boards, notwithstanding ventilating bricks. But there are many kinds of plants—some of which are named below—that are suitable, and from the growth of which no harm to structures can arise. Ivy, even when clipped and kept at a height of about 2ft. above the soil, will prove beneficial in the case of naturally damp quarters. I have known ivy keep a wall dust dry after planting, which was, previously, always moist. The ivy never required any water and, even after heavy rains, the soil and wall outside were found dry. Azalea Hinodigeri, a hardy Japanese species, carmine flowers; Cornus canadensis grows 8ins. high; Daphne Blagayana; D. Cneorum major, grows 14ins. high; Erica carnea; Hypericum calycinum, 6ins. high; Veronica cupressoides, 1ft. high; Veronica Hectori, 18ins. high, are a few suitable low-growing shrubs that do not require much water. A bare border in summer may be occupied by petunias, saxifrages, or mesembryanthemums; these, too, do not need much moisture at their roots. It is a question of position, taste and due preparation of suitable plants.—CHRISTCHURCH.

NATIONAL CARNATION SOCIETY.

WE have been asked to announce that in connection with the above Society a gift scheme has been set on foot. It is proposed that all subscribers of 5s. will receive six carnation layers, while those subscribing 10s. and over will be presented with twelve. These layers are being supplied by the leading carnation growers throughout the country.

This offer is designed to stimulate interest in the work of the Society and also to encourage the more widespread culture of border carnations. It is to be hoped that the offer will be fully appreciated and taken advantage of, and that the Society will benefit by a large increase in membership.

CATALOGUE RECEIVED.

Messrs. Carter and Co., Raynes Park, S.W.20.—Farmers' Guide Book for 1926. Well illustrated, with numerous descriptive notes which should prove helpful to all engaged in farming pursuits.

Messrs. Andrew Ireland and Hitchcock, Marks Tey, Essex.—A Catalogue of vegetable and flower seeds. A long list of sweet pea varieties, including a number of recent novelties, is included.

Messrs. Godfrey and Son, Exmouth, Devon. —A short and concise list of some of the best varieties of chrysanthemums for all purposes.

FOREIGN.

Messrs. Anthony C. van der Schoot, Hillegom, Holland.—A catalogue of gladioli, hardy perennials and roses.

M. H. Correvon, Floraire, Chêne-Bourg, Switzerland.—A List of Seeds of Choice Alpines, the majority of which have been collected in the Alps.

Wilhelm Pfitzer, Stuttgart.—General Seed List, including all hardy plants, and roses. Numerous illustrations appear throughout the text.

M. R. Ferard, 20-22, Rue de la Pepinière, Paris.—List of Seeds for 1926 sowing.

The Pink Garden Beautiful

FOR SPRING, SUMMER AND AUTUMN EFFECTS.

FOREGROUND.

Japanese Spring Cherry (Prunus subhirtella ascendens), downy twigs wreathed in early Spring with myriads of small deep pink flowers opening from coral buds. Strong pyramids, about 4ft., **7/6** each, **67/-** dozen. Hilliers of Winchester offer this RARE JAPANESE CHERRY in quantity for the first time. It is a real garden gem.

BACKGROUND. (*6 to 10ft. high.*)

Escallonia Ingrami rosea, a diffuse elegant grower, flowering over a long period, producing a profusion of charming pink flowers—quite a new shade. Strong plants about 2ft. **2/6** each, **27/-** doz.

STANDARDS *for height effect.*

Japanese Cherry Sekiyama (also called Kanzan, Horingii and Ohnanden), lovely large deep semi-double rose flowers. 6-7ft. **8/6** and **10/6** each.

GROUNDWORK.

Erica carnea and Darleyensis, rich rosy-pink and deep lilac-pink flowers. Plant 1½ft. apart. Strong clumps, **6/6** and **8/6** dozen; **50/-** and **60/-** 100.

Berberis Wilsonæ. This charming Berberis will provide autumn tinted foliage as well as lovely panicles of coral fruit. 1-1½ft. **21/-** doz.; **150/-** 100. Plant 4ft. apart.

The taller Cherries named above will also help with their autumnal effects when mature.

WRITE FOR CATALOGUES— Carriage and Packing at cost.

HILLIER & SONS, Tree Specialists, WINCHESTER

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

BEGONIAS

AWARDED 85 GOLD MEDALS.

In superb quality and extra large tubers for Greenhouse or Bedding.

Doubles, in 8 colours, flowers like large Roses and Camellias	6/- per doz.	42/- per 100
Doubles, in mixed colours	5/- " "	35/- " "
Singles, in 6 colours, very large fine shaped flowers	4/6 " "	30/- " "
Singles, in mixed colours	3/6 " "	24/- " "
" Frilled or Created, in 6 colours	5/- " "	35/- " "
" " in mixed colours	4/- " "	28/- " "

Collection of 36 large tubers—12 Doubles, 12 Singles, 12 Frilled Singles—**14/-.**

Collection of 12 named hanging basket Begonias, 3 each 4 sorts, **35/-.** Excellent value.

Post free on orders of 10/- and over.

Send for FREE Catalogue of Named Double Begonias for Exhibition, Basket varieties, Cyclamen, Gloxinias Polyanthus, Phlox, Herbaceous Plants, etc.

DELPHINIUMS

Gained 17 Awards of Merit at R.H.S. Delphinium Trials at Wisley in 1925.

The ONLY selection to receive in 1924 and 1925 the R.H.S. Gold Medal, the highest award obtainable.

Plant NOW. We have pleasure in offering the following Collections which are specially good value, in strong ground roots, which will make a fine show of bloom this year.

COLLECTION A, 12 extra good sorts	65/-	**COLLECTION D,** 12 good sorts	22/-
" **B,** 12 very choice sorts	42/-	" **E,** 12 average sorts	15/-
" **C,** 12 fine sorts	30/-	CATALOGUE FREE, apply	

BLACKMORE & LANGDON - - - BATH

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

SNAPDRAGONS—*for gorgeous massing*

SIMPSON'S SUPER-SEED

18 *Awards of Merit and* 10 *Highly Commended,* 1920
6 *Awards of Merit,* 1922, *in pots at R.H.S. Wisley Trials*

Send for free illustrated Seed List G, offering seeds of 42 varieties of Snapdragons at 6d. 1/- and 2/6 per packet; with full range of Vegetable and Flower seeds of established merit.

TALL.—Esme, light pink; **Monarch** crimson; **Rose King,** deep rose; **The King,** orange scarlet, white tube; **Yellow King,** yellow.

MEDIUM.—Afterglow, orange scarlet; **Appleby Matthews,** orange terra-cotta, white tube; **Aurore,** fiery terra-cotta; **Charm,** rose pink; **Empress,** crimson; **Estelle,** apricot salmon, suffused pink; **Fascination,** light pink; **Golden Gem,** yellow; **Lady Roberts,** primrose; **Mrs. R. F. Felton,** bright orange-scarlet; **Roseum Superbum,** soft rose pink; **Sybil Eckford,** apricot pink and cream, white tube; **The Fawn,** peach pink, white tube; **Victory,** salmon terra-cotta; **White Queen,** white. A further three varieties can be supplied in Spring-sown Plants.

AUTUMN SOWN. **STRONG PLANTS FROM BOXES.** Delivery about Mid-April from cold frames. 2/3 per doz. (if less than 12 of one variety at 3/- per doz., not less than 6 of any one variety named), 25 or more of any one variety at 15/- per 100. Carriage extra, see below.

SPRING SOWN. **STRONG PLANTS FROM BOXES.** Delivery early in May hardened off. 1/6 per doz. (if less than 12 of one variety at 2/- per doz., not less than 6 of any one variety named), 25 or more of any one variety at 10/6 per 100.

Special rates for cash with order (which must be added). Carriage, box and packing, 24 plants 1/-, more than 24, 1/6. When cash does not accompany order, box, packing and rail charges are charged at cost.

W. H. SIMPSON & SONS, *Super-Seed Specialists,* **BIRMINGHAM**

Wise gardeners order NOW because stocks are not unlimited.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

HIGH GRADE HUMUS STANDARD

GENZYME

RELIABLE HUMUS PLANT FOOD

A

SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY

Apart from its perfectly balanced analysis it

CO-OPERATES WITH THE BACTERIA IN THE SOIL

releasing plant food hitherto locked up.

Whilst earlier and better production is assured

BENEFITS TO THE SOIL CONTINUE FOR YEARS

TINS: **1/6** each. 6d. extra for postage.
SACKS: 7lbs., **3/3**; 14lbs., **5/6**; 28lbs., **9/-**; 56lbs., **16/6**; 112lbs., **29/-**. Carriage paid. Cash with order.

If unable to obtain locally, please write manufacturers giving name of your dealer.

FORSYTH, JONES & COMPANY, Ltd.,
14, SOUTHAMPTON ST., COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THORNTON BUTTERWORTH LTD

The Home Garden Books

A valuable basis for a gardening library!—
Manchester Guardian.

By MARY HAMPDEN
1. **Rose Gardening**
2. **Town Gardening**

By A. J. MACSELF
3. **Bulb Gardening**
4. **Hardy Perennials**
5. **Alpine Plants**
6. **The Horticultural Exhibitor** *3s. 6d. net*
7. **A Real A.B.C. of Gardening**
8. **Flowering Trees and Shrubs**
9. **Gladioli**
10. **Soils and Fertilizers**
11. **Plants from Seed**

Illustrated in colour, half-tone and line, 6s. net each.

Send for Free Illustrated Prospectus of this beautiful series.

15 BEDFORD ST. LONDON W.C.2

"The GLORY of the GARDEN"

depends upon the soil. The finest plants and seeds are not sufficient; you must sterilise and feed the soil in which they grow. "Ferry" Garden Specialities ensure gardens of surpassing loveliness.

SOIL PEST DESTROYER. Sweetens and sterilises the soil and kills all insect pests—wireworms, slugs, caterpillars, ants, &c. Prices: 14lbs., **3/-**; 28lbs., **5/6**; 56lbs., **10/6**; 1cwt., **20/-**.

GARDEN MANURE. The finest manure for general garden purposes. Suitable for Roses, Fruit Trees, Potatoes, Vines, &c. Prices: 14lbs., **3/-**; 28lbs., **5/9**; 56lbs., **11/-**; 1cwt. **20/-**.

LAWN MANURE. A highly concentrated, quick-acting Fertiliser. A wonderful restorative of poor and worn lawns. Does not encourage the growth of coarse grass and clover. Prices: 14lbs., **3/6**; 28lbs., **6/-**; 56lbs., **10/6**; 1cwt., **19/-**

All carriage paid to nearest railway station for cash with order.

The BRITON FERRY CHEMICAL & MANURE Co., Ltd. (Dept. E), **Briton Ferry, South Wales.**
Established 1886.

FERRY BRAND

Regd. Trade Mark

"TRY 'FERRY' FIRST."

THE JACKPAN

"The tool that cuts your costs"

Abolishes trenching. THE deep cultivator. What your Editor and others think of it is told in our Illustrated Folder No. 5, sent on request.

Your retailer can supply, or we will send sample for 6/-

P.E.G.S. LTD., 3, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.1

YOUR GARDEN NEEDS

KILOGRUB

Its fumes are instantly fatal to all insect pests in the soil, but harmless to plants. Really effective because it works underground.

Tins: 9d., 1/6 and 2/6
Bags: ¼ cwt. 6/6, ½ cwt. 9/6, 1 cwt. 18/-

From your seedsmen or from

JOHN PEAK & CO. LTD. WIGAN. Lancs.

SITUATION VACANT.

REPRESENTATIVE WANTED, to book orders for Garden Seeds, Sundries, etc., for large and well known Seed Establishment. Give age, experience, with copies of testimonials, to BOX 122, MESSRS. CLARKE, SON & PLATT, LIMITED, 317, High Holborn, W.C.

The WIZARD Plant LABEL

PATENT NO. 212974

Made in Red Pottery, 2½ x 1¼ ins., with rustless wires, 12 in., 2/- doz.; 7 in., 1/7 doz. 11 x 1 in., with wires 6 in., 1/6 doz. For tying on, 3/6 and 1/3 doz. Waterproof Ink, 9d. and 7½d. bot. Crow Quills, 2d. Postage extra.

Highly commended by the R.H.S. at Wisley.

E. TORKINGTON . NEW HALL . MAIDENHEAD

GARDEN LOVERS

Write for Catalogues of
PROTHEROE & MORRIS'
· HORTICULTURAL SALES ·
MONDAY · WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY
67, 68 Cheapside, London E.C.2. Phone: City 3856

AUCTION SALE OF

TOPIARY WORK

(CLIPPED BOX & YEW)

RARE SPECIMEN CONIFERS. GARDEN FURNITURE, SUNDIALS, TUBS, &c.,

by

PROTHEROE & MORRIS

At 67 & 68, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON, E.C.2.

On FRIDAY, MARCH 5th, 1926,

At ONE o'clock.

Catalogues post free on application.

IDEAL HOMES EXHIBITION
OLYMPIA. March 2nd to 27th

If you are interested in
TRELLIS SCREENS, PERGOLAS, ARCHES, GARDEN FURNITURE, TENNIS PAVILIONS, CHALETS, ETC.
Be sure you visit
STAND No. 47. — GROUND FLOOR, NEW HALL (Bungalow Section).
Cut this out for reference.

SEND TO-DAY FOR ILLUSTRATED LISTS, FREE.

W. T. REVITT, Trellis Works, OLNEY

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE LEADING GLASSHOUSE FUMIGANT.

WEED DEATH

The new NON-POISONOUS Weed Killer (POWDER).
SUPERIOR TO DANGEROUS ARSENICAL COMPOUNDS
Safety first, non-caustic, no smell, kills the roots.
For 4 galls., 1/-; 12½, 2/-; 25, 3/6; 50, 6/6; 100, 12/- & Bulk
From your Nurseryman or Seedsman.

CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by **"ALPHOL"**
Sample 14 lb., 3/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St., Liverpool

GARDEN MANURES

(Thousands of Tons Sold Annually)
OF EVERY POSSIBLE KIND AT LEAST COST CARRIAGE PAID
INSTRUCTIVE CATALOGUE FREE

JAMES & GEO. H. MATTHEWS
Harold Wood, ESSEX. *Phone: Romford 284*

Digitized by Google

Established 1835.
By Appointment.

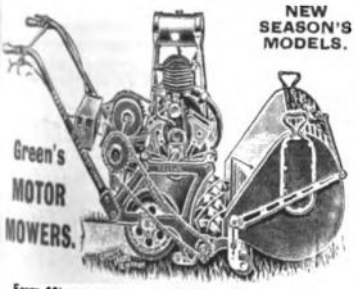
GREEN'S
World-Renowned
LAWN MOWERS

Every Lawn Mower made by Green's is the best for its work. Green's hand, horse and motor Mowers are world famous for efficiency, simplicity, easy running and excellence of design and construction. Green's Motor Mowers won the Motor Mower Trials held at Regent's Park, London, in May, 1925.

Green's SILENS MESSOR MOWER.
The universal favourite. All sizes.

Also **Green's 'NEW CEN-TURY'** The ideal light mower. Over million sold.

GREEN'S
GARDEN ROLLERS
TENNIS MARKERS
ETC.



NEW SEASON'S MODELS.

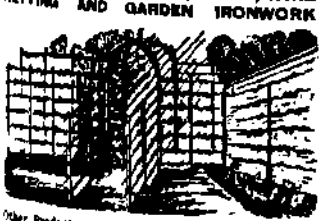
Green's MOTOR MOWERS.

From 16ins. to 42ins. Reliable, Economical.

NEW PRICE LIST No. 8 ON REQUEST.

THOMAS GREEN & SON, Ltd.
Smithfield Ironworks, LEEDS,
and New Surrey Works, Southwark Street, LONDON, S.E.1.

HILL & SMITH, Ltd.,
BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS,
Makers of
IRON FENCING, HURDLES, GATES, WIRE NETTING AND GARDEN IRONWORK



Other Products—Hay and Grain Sheds, Dutch Barns, Galvanized Corrugated Sheets and Structural Steelwork.
Catalogues free on mentioning this paper.
London: 386, Abbey House, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.

A B. & P. GREENHOUSE

No. H47a. LEAN-TO GREENHOUSE.

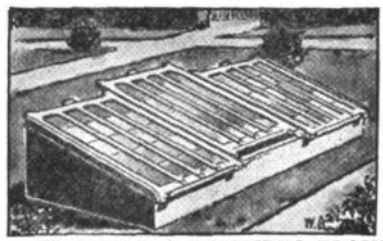
—TENANT'S FIXTURE

Of neat appearance and sound construction, this House is made especially for placing against a sunny wall facing South, South-East, or South-West.

Size 10ft. by 7ft. in four sections, with bolts for easy re-erection. Painted one Coat. Glass cut to size, and packed in boxes **£15**

If glazed at Works, painted two coats, packed in closed cases to prevent damage **£19 : 6 : 0**

Carriage paid to most stations in England and Wales. Prices for heating and stages sent on application. Prices also given for additional lengths. Write for free booklet, No. 748, which tells you all about these Greenhouses.



No. H75. MELON & CUCUMBER FRAME.

TYPICAL EXAMPLE OF B. & P. GARDEN FRAME

The fronts are 11ins. high, back 22ins. high. The frame is 1¼ins. thick and the lights 2ins. Glazed with 21oz. English glass and painted two coats. One-Light Frame 4ft. by 6ft. .. .. **£3 : 12 : 0**

Carriage paid to most stations in England and Wales, packing extra, but allowed for if returned. Garden Frame Catalogue 744 sent free on request.

Boulton & Paul Ltd

Telegrams BOULTON NORWICH **NORWICH** Telephone NORWICH 85115 lines

LONDON OFFICE 135-137 QUEEN VICTORIA ST. E.C
Telegrams Boutique Cent London Telephone 4642 Cent

ENQUIRIES invited for Conservatories and Ranges of Glass-houses, Heating Apparatus and all Accessories
Designs and schemes prepared

BLINDED for YOU

The War-blinded Men of St. Dunstan's (many of whom have lost a limb as well as sight) have been trained to produce the most perfect and hard-wearing

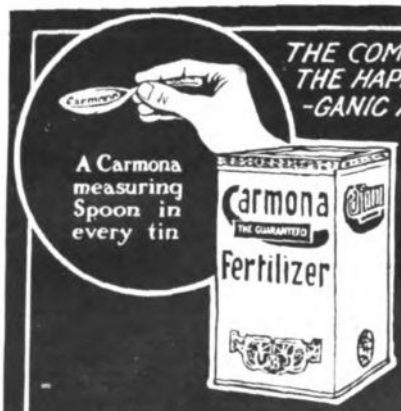
NETS AND NETTING

for Garden, Farm and Sports use. Show these gallant craftsmen that you value the work of their hands.

Moderate prices. List or special quotations on application to—

NETTING DEPT. (A) St. Dunstan's Headquarters, Inner Circle, Regent's Pk., LONDON, N.W.1

THE COMPLETENESS OF ITS COMPOSITION, AND THE HAPPY BLENDING OF ITS HIGHGRADE ORGANIC AND OTHER INGREDIENTS RENDER



A Carmona measuring Spoon in every tin

Carmona Fertilizer

A PAR-EXCELLENT BLOOM PRODUCER

CARRIAGE PAID PRICES :—
1 lb. Tin 1/3 2 lb. Tin 2/-
7 lb. Tin 4/6 112 lb. Bag 26/-
The fullest instructions accompany each package.

Sole Manufacturers :—
ROBINSON BROTHERS LTD., WEST BROMWICH

Digitized by Google

WAKELEY'S *Celebrated* Hop Manure

(PATENTED)

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

AS USED IN THE GARDENS OF GREAT BRITAIN

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL, ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION, 1912

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE, without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

Every ounce of Wakeley's Hop Manure is of value to the soil, supplying the necessary HUMUS in addition to the valuable plant food. Worthless rubbish is not added to make weight (as is the case of some artificial manures advertised).

Thousands do realise it, the proof of this is the constant flow of UNSOLICITED LETTERS received from time to time in praise of the wonderful results obtained at such a moderate cost (see Booklet for selection).

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.—Genuine Only in our Marked Bags containing Guaranteed Analysis.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of post card.

CASH PRICES (including bags):

Small (about 1 bushel)	3/-
Large (about 4 bushels)	7/-
5 Large	33/9
10 Large	65/-
20 Large	120/-

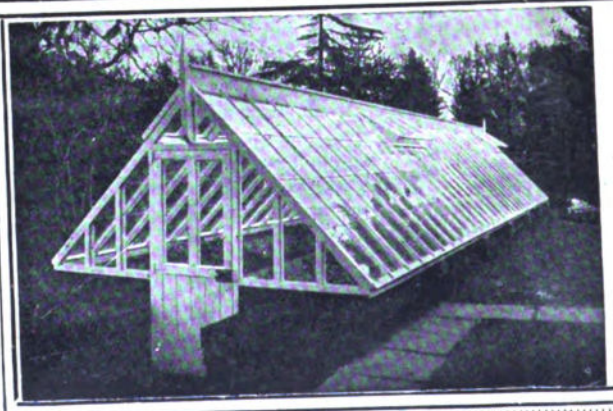
Carriage paid by Pickford's or to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company; 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.

75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

Giving the Public what it wants

Advertising has to stand up to public opinion every day of the year, everywhere . . . . In the limelight . . . . That in itself puts the advertiser on his mettle to give the public what it wants.



GREENHOUSES AND GARDEN FRAMES

I specialize in the Erection of High class Horticultural Buildings.

Garden Frames a speciality. Selected timber, well seasoned, only used.

Being a grower, I understand Glass-house requirements.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.

CATALOGUES WITH PLEASURE.

E. M. HEAP, Cottimore Nurseries, WALTON-ON-THAMES.

By Appointment

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.,
Royal Potteries.
BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

AFTER 23 YEARS—

AN ELOQUENT PROOF OF UNFAILING AND USEFUL SERVICE.

"A better Greenhouse Boiler could not be than the 'Horse Shoe.' I have had it in use for 23 years, and it has answered splendidly." writes Mr. F. G. L.....47, Mt. Carmel, Derby. 23/11/1925.

"HORSE SHOE" BOILERS

CAN BE SUPPLIED FROM IMMEDIATE STOCK.

Write for particulars now.

To CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD.,
Engineers, Southwark Street, S.E.1.

Please send me Booklet E "Making the Most of Your Greenhouse," and price of complete Outfit to suit *(span-roof) (lean-to) greenhouse.....long .....wide inside, sides of *(wood) (brick).....thick.

Name.....

Address.....

*Strike out particulars not needed. Cut out and send by 1d. post.

CHAS. P. KINNELL & Co., Ltd., 65, Southwark St., LONDON, S.E.1

Wire: "Kinnell-Boroh-London." Phone: Hop 362 (three lines.)

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

MAR 22 1926

GLADIOLUS NUMBER

Vol. XC.—No. 2833 Saturday, March 6th, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

PERIODICAL ROOM GENERAL LIBRARY UNIV. OF MICH.

Barr's Large-Flowered GLADIOLI

FOR MARCH PLANTING

3 each of **20** beautiful varieties .. **18/6** and **30/-**
3 ,, **12** ,, .. **10/6** ,, **15/-**
Extra Choice Mixture of **12** Large-flowered Hybrids, per **100**, **21/-**; per doz., **3/-**

Gladiolus Primulinus Hybrids

3 each of **12** beautiful varieties .. **15/-** and **21/-**
3 ,, **6** ,, ,, .. **7/6** ,, **10/-**
New Hybrids, Mixed, per **100**, **17/6**; per doz., **2/6**
GLADIOLUS BRENCHLEYENSIS, the true old Scarlet Gladiolus, per **100**, **25/-**; per doz., **3/6**

Descriptive Catalogue on application.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

WORTH GROWING

SEED POTATOES

SCOTCH & ENGLISH — CLASS I

Selected Stocks

WRITE FOR LIST

ISAAC POAD & SONS, Ltd.,
Seed Potato Growers - - - YORK

Glassbreaks!

WHY USE IT?

'WINDOLITE'

The practical Glass Substitute for all GARDEN USES.

Light. Flexible. Unbreakable

Easy to cut and fix. It keeps out cold and wet, but lets in all the light—even the Ultra Violet Rays which are stopped by glass.

Send **4/6** *for post free sample, 3 ft. by 2 ft.*

WINDOLITE (DEPT. C) 179/185, GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1

. . THE . .

"SOUTHWELL" COLLECTION

BUSH ROSE TREES. FIRST CLASS VARIETIES
ALL BRITISH GROWN. FOR GARDEN EFFECT.

Avoca, crimson scarlet
Caroline Testout, satiny rose
Conrad F. Meyer, silvery rose
Dorothy Page Roberts, salmon pink
Francis Gaunt, fawny yellow
Frau Karl Druschki, white
General McArthur, velvety carmine
Gorgeous, deep orange yellow
Hadley, deep velvety crimson
Henrietta, coral salmon
La Tosca, blush pink
Lieut. Chaure, velvety crimson
Lyon, salmon pink
Mrs. H. R. Darlington, creamy yellow
Mrs. John Laing, clear pink
Red Letter Day, scarlet crimson
Richmond, red scarlet
W. E. Wallace, deep golden yellow

This collection of 18 varieties for **18/9**, or 12 selected from the above for **12/6**
Acme Labels (if required) .. .. **2/6** per dozen.

Carriage and packing free for Cash with Order.

BUY HOME GROWN TREES.

Catalogue of Rose Trees, Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Hardy Plants, etc., free on application to—

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, Ltd., THE NURSERIES, SOUTHWELL, NOTTS.

PLANTING SEASON

GEO. JACKMAN & SON

WOKING NURSERIES, SURREY.

Established over a century.

Invite inspection of their large and varied stock of ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBS, ROSES, CLIMBERS, FRUIT AND FOREST TREES, HERBACEOUS AND ALPINE PLANTS.

200 Acres of Stock to select from. Catalogues free on application.

ADVICE GIVEN ON ALL MATTERS APPERTAINING TO LANDSCAPE GARDENING & ESTATE IMPROVEMENTS

CYCLAMEN

The **"Caledonian" Strain** (PRIZE) *Awarded GOLD Medal*

EARLY FLOWERING CHRYSANTHEMUMS
A Speciality

NOVELTIES, 1926
For GARDEN and GREENHOUSE

NOW READY—OUR NEW CATALOGUE containing many thrills for the Garden enthusiast, together with useful cultural hints.

A POST CARD will bring you this handsome illustrated Edition.

WRITE NOW—

J. W. FORSYTH Cyclamen Grower and Floriculturist PUTTERIDGE, LUTON, BEDS.

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
— New Alpines and Perennials. Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
— Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
— Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
— Begonias, Delphiniums, Gloxinias, Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD
CHELSEA, S.W.
— Seeds, Gladioli, Spiræas, List on Application

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
— Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

BROWN'S TESTED SEEDS. Illustrated Flower and Vegetable Seed Catalogue, giving full cultural directions, at competitive prices, post free if this paper is mentioned. D. T. BROWN & CO., *Seedsmen*, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

BARGAIN CATALOGUE
Land Sold for Building
Real Cambridgeshire grown Fruit Trees, Fruit Bushes, Roses, Shrubs, Avenue Trees, Privet, Plants
Exceptionally strong and healthy.
FRANK RICE (F.R.H.S.), Arbury Nurseries, Cambridge

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
— Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
— Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
HULL
— Weed Destroyers, Fertilisers, Insecticides, Nets and Sundries

HY. RICHARDSON & CO.
SKELDERGATE BRIDGE WORKS
YORK
— Lawn, Garden, Fruit Trees, and Horticultural Fertilisers

LAXTONS', BEDFORD

New BLACK CURRANT
"MITE FREE."
This variety resists mite, and can be grown with safety where mite is prevalent.

Three-year-old Bushes - 42/- per doz.

LAXTON BROTHERS, Nurseries, BEDFORD

Downer's Usually Silent Lupins
are making a great *noise* in the world. Rich, harmonious colours, mixed, 12/- doz. clumps. Lupin List, Herbaceous and Alpine Catalogue free. A necessary warning.—Some firms are selling Lupin Downer's Delight grown from seed. The same remark applies to Lupin Downer's Pink Pearls. It is needless to say these plants are not true.
DOWNER, 2, Drayton Manor Nurseries, Chichester.

Clean and Sweet

Registered Trade Mark.

KEEP greenhouse plants clean! The wise for years have done it with XL ALL Fumigating Compound, either in Liquid or Cake. Simple to use and leaves the atmosphere sweet and clean.

XL ALL FUMIGATING COMPOUND (Liquid or Cake).

SUPPLIES TO BE OBTAINED FROM ALL NURSERYMEN, SEEDSMEN AND FLORISTS.

Please ask for small Pink Price List, dated 1st October, 1925, giving particulars of the above, and many other XL ALL Preparations.

Manufacturers:
G. H. RICHARDS LTD.,
234, Borough High Street, LONDON, S.E.1.
Monomark: BCM/XLALL.

SITUATION VACANT.

REPRESENTATIVE WANTED, to book orders for Garden Seeds, Sundries, etc., for large and well known Seed Establishment. Give age, experience, with copies of testimonials, to BOX 122, MESSRS. CLARKE, SON & PLATT, LIMITED, 317, High Holborn, W.C.

WANTED, a single-handed GARDENER; must be good all-round man; some glass; oil engine. Good personal references essential; no copies considered.—FRASER, Helledon, Daventry.

SENT FREE ON REQUEST

Hints on Fruit Tree Culture

For Amateur and Professional.

Interesting Notes on Soils, Situations and Fertilizers, Popular Fruits for all Purposes
and other useful information will be found in
OUR FRUIT TREE CATALOGUE
— which will be sent Post Free. —

Sit down now while the matter is fresh in your mind and write for your copy.

Established 1785. **Awarded 80 Gold Medals.**
KING'S ACRE NURSERIES, LIMITED, HEREFORD
Gold Medallists of all leading Horticultural Societies

ALPINE PLANTS, BORDER PLANTS, CHOICE FLOWERING SHRUBS, MINIATURE CONIFERS, HARDY HEATHS, HARDY FERNS, CLIMBERS. One of the oldest, and perhaps the finest, all-round collection in the country.

We grow some 4,000 kinds of all the best outdoor garden subjects, including such items as 100 kinds of Michaelmas Daisies, 100 kinds of Campanulas, 50 kinds of Hellebores, 200 kinds of Saxifrages, etc.

Our Catalogue of these is beautifully illustrated, shows how to build a rock wall and water lily pool, and tells about soils, etc., etc. It makes a fine reference book on plants. It is sent post free for 1s. which may be deducted from orders of 10s. and over.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED.
SPECIMENS NAMED.
ADVICE GIVEN FREE.

J. STORMONTH & SON,
Hardy Plant Specialists,
KIRKBRIDE, by CARLISLE.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

WATERER'S GOLD MEDAL RHODODENDRONS, Azaleas, Shrubs, Conifers, Climbers, Heaths, Hardy Perennial and Alpine Plants, Vegetable and Flower Seeds, Scotch Seed Potatoes, Spring Bulbs, English-grown Fruit Trees and Roses. Separate catalogue for each department post free.—JOHN WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LIMITED, Twyford, Berks.

WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE.—The original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See advert. on back page.

WM. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., Lawrence Road, South Tottenham, N.15.—Conservatories, Winter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

BIRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUNDIALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—MOORON, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

FENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Garden Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE STANLEY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, Surrey.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list, post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

ROCK PLANTS AND SHRUBS.—Over 300 varieties in stock. Descriptive catalogue free. Also Herbaceous Plants and Roses.—HODSONS, LTD., 58, Castlegate, Nottingham.

YORK STONE PAVINGS, crazy or rectangular, rustic copings, steps, roughly squared or random shaped, flat bedded wallstones, garden edging, rockery, etc.—MARTIN JOHNSON AND SON (MIRFIELD), LTD., Newgate Stone Works, Mirfield, Yorkshire

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 800 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

Price 2/6 each, by L. E. FOX.

ADAM'S GARDEN: Cultivation of Vegetables and Small Fruit, with Preface by E. J. CHITTENDEN, F.L.S., V.M.H.

EVE'S GARDEN: Cultivation of Flowers, with Preface by JOHN FRASER, F.L.S., V.M.H. *The Gardeners' Chronicle* says of *Adam's Garden*: "Most valuable information is given in a condensed form."—LONGMANS, GREEN AND CO., LTD., 39, Paternoster Row, London, E.C.4

GARDEN NETS. — Protect your Seeds and Buds from frost and birds. Netting, strong, small mesh, specially prepared, will not rot, as supplied by us to the Royal Gardens, 25 sq. yds. for 2/6. Any length or width supplied, price in proportion. Carr. paid. Cheaper kinds kept. List and samples free.—GASSON & SONS, Net Works, Rye. Est. 127 years.

PRIOR'S COLCHESTER ROSES, Fruit Trees, Gladioli, Dahlias, Carnations, Herbaceous. Catalogue containing cheap collections free.—D. PRIOR & SON, LTD., Colchester.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING, small mesh, 25 yds. by 1 yd., 2/-; 25 yds. by 2 yds., 4/-; 40 yds. by 1 yd., 3/3; 40 yds. by 2 yds., 6/6; 40 yds. by 3 yds., 9/9. Measured 8 ft. Carriage paid. Compare our netting with others. Sports Nets and Tennis Nets supplied. Tennis Nets from 8/- . Carriage paid. Compare our netting with others. Sports lists and samples free.—GALLOP, Net Manufacturer, Hastings.

ROCK AND ALPINE PLANTS.—Large and varied collection. All pot grown. Packed and carriage paid. Catalogue free.—M. J. PIGGOTT, Duffield, Nr. Derby.

ROCK PLANTS, best varieties, inexpensive, list free.—MARION GLENSTANES, Fardross, Northern Ireland.

NETS for Gardens and Tennis Courts.—Before ordering elsewhere, send for our free lists and samples. It will pay you.—GASSON & SONS, Net Works, Rye. Est. 127 years.

TO LOVERS OF ROCK GARDENS.—Inexpensive Plants for Sale.—Apply, NELL SHAW, Hatfield Place, Bath.

BARR'S FLOWER & VEGETABLE SEEDS, of finest selected strains and tested growth, also the best Scotch and Irish grown, hand-picked Seed Potatoes.

BARR'S HARDY PERENNIALS, ALPINES, ROCK PLANTS, AQUATICS, CLIMBERS, TALL and DWARF FLAG IRISES, etc., for Spring planting.

BARR'S LILIES, GLADIOLI, DAHLIAS, CANNAS, MONTBRETIAS, ANEMONES, BEGONIAS, TUBEROSES, TIGRIDIAS, &c., for Spring planting. Catalogues free.—BARR & SONS, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are now famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx, and perpetual habit. Illustrated plant list now ready. New Seed, now ready, hand fertilised, 2/6 and 5/- packets.—J. DOUGLAS, Great Bookham, Surrey.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 168. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial: A Coming Flower	139
Impressions of some of the Newer and Better Gladioli	140
The History of Gladioli	142
Gladiolus Culture	142
The Value of Montbretias	143
Primulas for the Garden	144
Notes of the Week	148–149
Spiræa Aitchisonii; Some Japanese Irises; Rubus biflorus; Cypellas; Some Bog-loving Shrubs from Canada; Some Notable Garden Clematis; Tan in the Garden; The Cork Fir; The Winter Aconite.	
Correspondence	150–151
Rose Zéphirine Drouhin; Roses Under Glass; Preserving Flowers; Plant Idiosyncrasies; Colour and Names; Dombeya Cayeuxii; Blue Poppies; Primula capitata; Hydrangea hortensis rosea.	
Early Spring at Vincent Square	151

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL DELPHINIUMS and ROSES. Send a postcard for our catalogue.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI, Chrysanthemums, Dahlias, and Border Carnations.—Our stock includes many new and meritorious varieties. List post free on application.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

MECONOPSIS SEEDS, five species offered in Clarence Elliott's list.—SIX HILLS NURSERY, Stevenage, Herts

WELLS' CATALOGUE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS will be sent post free on application.—W. WELLS AND CO., Merstham, Surrey.

CHOICE DAFFODILS.—Write at once for Herbert Chapman's list of CASH BARGAIN LOTS, offered to clear ground. First-class varieties at astonishingly low figures. —Address, HERBERT CHAPMAN, LTD., Rotherside Gardens, Rye, Sussex.

WIRE NETTING.—From 2s. 5d. per 50-yd. roll. Cheapest House in the Kingdom. Write us for prices. Thousands of rolls stocked. PEA GUARDS, small mesh, 3 ft. long, two ends to each dozen, 3s. 2d. per dozen. Carriage: 1 dozen, 1s.; 2 dozen, 1s. 3d.; 3 dozen, 1s. 6d.; 4 dozen, carriage paid.—E. B. HAWTHORN, Dept. E, Shrewsbury.

SUTTON'S

COLLECTIONS OF VEGETABLE SEEDS.

19 varieties	5/9	30 varieties	8/3
36 "	11/3	38 "	13/6

POST FREE.

Full particulars on application.

SUTTON & SONS, THE KING'S SEEDSMEN, READING.

DOBBIE'S 1926 CATALOGUE AND GUIDE, 144 pages, 225 illustrations, free to all readers. Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.—DOBBIE AND CO., LTD., Edinburgh.

BATH'S SELECT SEEDS AND PLANTS.—New Illustrated Catalogue of choice Vegetable and Flower Seeds and Plants is now ready, and will be sent, post free, on application.—(Dept. E), R. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BRATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO READERS OF "THE GARDEN."—Owing to the great demand for FIDLER'S 1926 GARDEN GUIDE AND CATALOGUE, a limited number of copies have been provisionally reserved for readers of this paper. Please SEND IN YOUR APPLICATION AT ONCE and mark your envelope or postcard "GARDEN" in top left-hand corner.—FIDLER & SONS (established 1856), Reading.

HARDY PLANTS, ROSES AND FRUIT TREES. Revised catalogue now ready. Free on application to THOMPSON AND MORGAN, Ipswich.

NEW RASPBERRIES.—Plant now. Pyne's Royal, Lloyd George, Red Cross. Largest fruit, heaviest and prolonged croppers; richest flavour; very hardy; true stocks. Strong fruiting canes, 2½ft. to 4½ft., 16/- per 100; 50 same rate; £6, 1,000. Sample dozen, 3/-. All carriage paid for cash. Other fruits cheap.—JAS. WALTERS, Grower, 25, Friars Walk, Exeter.

FRUIT STORING STAND (PAT.)—Large storage, small space, easy inspection, sound construction Price List of Stand, also Cloches, free.—CHASE CONTINUOUS CLOCHE (7), Chertsey.

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES.—Per stone: Duke of York, 2/3; Witchhill, 2/6 Express, 2/2; Epicure, 1/10; Eclipse, 2/-; Abundance, 2/2; Great Scot, 2/3; Majestic, 2/4; King Edward, 1/10; Kerr's Pink, 1/10; Bishop, 2/3, etc. Shallots Red, 8d. lb. Amateur's Guide of Vegetable and Flower Seeds free.—TILLIE WHYTE & CO., 12, Melbourne Place, Edinburgh.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS FOR GREENHOUSE AND GARDEN. Also Dahlias, Fuchsias, Show and Zonal Pelargoniums and Coleus. Price List free on application.—J. W. COLE AND SON, Westwood Nurseries, Peterborough.

GARDEN NETS.—Best tanned, small mesh, 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 25yds. by 3yds., 6/-; 25yds. by 4yds., 8/-. Carr. paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Tennis nets from 10s. Special nets for tennis boundary. Pea training nets. Lists and samples free.—G. JARRETT, Netmaker, Rye.

RARE PRIMULA AND ALPINE SEEDS from large (1,500) collection, sold cheap. List free.—REV. J. F. ANDERSON, Glen Hall, Leicester.

SPENCE'S SCOTCH SEED POTATOES.—Write for Descriptive Catalogue and Growing Guide (on Potatoes only).—CHAS. T. SPENCE, Seed Potato Specialist, Dunbar Scotland.

A NAIL WRITES WEBSTER'S METAL LABELS. They can't fade. List 20 sizes.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

ALPINE, ROCK AND CRAZY PAVING PLANTS, all of good varieties: 6 each, 4/6 doz.; 25, 8/6; 50,16/-; 100, 30/-. In 6, 12, 25 varieties respectively. J. H. PAGE, Gardenia, Adelaide Road, Surbiton, Surrey.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

CLAY'S LONDON FERTILIZER TRADE MARK

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then, together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices :—

Tins 10d. and 1/6

and in **Branded and Sealed Bags :**

7 lbs. - **3/6** 14 lbs. - **6/-**
28 lbs. - **10/-** 56 lbs. - **18/-**
112 lbs. - **32/-**

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark.

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers, etc. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**

WATER from WELLS

is easy to raise if you use the "Boulton" Water Elevator. It is simplicity itself, with no parts to give trouble, and has many advantages over the ordinary deep-well pump. Write for special Booklet No. 746.

BOULTON & PAUL, LTD., Norwich

WILLMOTT
Rival Plant Stake

(Patented No. 183779).
As used in Royal Botanic Gardens London and Cambridge.
For all plants. WILL NOT ROT, WEAR OUT OR BREAK.
Sample of eight sizes,
2/- car. pd. United Kingdom.
4/- Overseas.

H. J. **GREENWOOD, F.R.H.S.,** Proprietor, **BRACKNELL, Berks.**

BLINDED for YOU

The War-blinded Men of St. Dunstan's (many of whom have lost a limb as well as sight) have been trained to produce the most perfect and hard-wearing

NETS AND NETTING

for Garden, Farm and Sports use. Show these gallant craftsmen that you value the work of their hands.

Moderate prices. List or special quotations on application to—

NETTING DEPT. (A) St. Dunstan's Headquarters, Inner Circle, Regent's Pk., LONDON, N.W.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND. SOILFUME. NICOTINE, INSECTICIDES, FUMERS, SPRAYS AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES – THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY. IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT. CARRIAGE PAID.

Only Address: TOMLINSON & HAYWARD Ltd. LINCOLN.

DAVID SWAIN & CO. ∴ *Horticultural Builders*

TELEPHONE: NORTH 2807.

SPRING, 1926

GARDEN FRAMES ALL SIZES.
GLASSHOUSES RENOVATED.
REPAIRS AND REPAINTING.
HEATING.

Two-Light Garden Frame.

WRITE for LISTS and ESTIMATES.

Range of Houses.

101, SUSSEX ROAD, HOLLOWAY, LONDON, N.7

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

CUPRESSUS MACROCARPA

the ideal hedging plant, succeeds everywhere, forms a thick impenetrable hedge, always pleasing to the eye. We offer strong, bushy plants, from open ground.

24–30ins., 16/- doz. £5 15 per 100.
30–36ins., 22/- ,, £7 15 ,,
36–42ins., 27/6 ,, £9 15 ,,

Not less than 6 at doz. rate, or 50 at 100 rate. Carriage and packing free on orders of £2 and over. C.W.O.

T. SMITH & SONS, Highcroft Nurseries, ARUNDEL

Fruit Trees Rose Trees

ALL ENGLISH GROWN.

Descriptive Catalogue post free on demand.

INSPECTION INVITED.

S. SPOONER & SONS

Estd. 1820 **The Nurseries, Hounslow, MIDDLESEX**

GLADIOLI NOVELTIES.

	Per doz.	Per 100.
America, rose pink	1/6	10/-
Clemenceau, the best scarlet	1/6	10/-
Corry, fine light blue	1/6	10/-
Halley, salmon pink	1/-	8/-
L'Immaculee, pure white	1/3	8/-
Love's Fire, true scarlet	1/6	10/-
Marechal Foch, pink	1/3	8/-
Nora, extra light blue	2/-	15/-
Panama, deep pink	1/-	8/-
Pink Perfection, soft pink	1/6	10/-
Prince of Wales, orange pink	1/-	8/-
Red Emperor, blood red	1/6	10/-
Rubini, new brilliant orange	1/6	10/-
White Giant, largest white	1/-	8/-

BEDDING GLADIOLI.

	Per doz.	Per 100
Alice Tiplady, soft orange	5/-	35/-
Athalia, fine scarlet	2/6	20/-
Daphne, dazzling vermilion	2/-	14/-
Eurydice, finest clear pink, extra novelty	1/6	10/-
Laetitia, salmon rose	1/-	8/-
Niobe, orange	1/-	7/-
Psyche, orange red	1/-	6/-
Salmonea, salmon-glowing	1/-	7/-
Souvenir, rich yellow	1/-	7/-
Glad. Prim. Mixed Seedlings	1/-	5/-
Glad. Large-flowered Mixed	1/-	5/-

GLADIOLI PRINSIANUS.

These are the most free-flowering Gladioli in existence, a cross between Glad. Colvilli and Glad. primulinus, with very graceful and slender upright stems. They were raised at our Dutch nurseries, and no other firm has the privilege of introducing such a fine strain, which supersedes all other Gladioli.

Perfection, extra fine rose 6/- per dozen
Pink Gem, very light rose with delicate pink thread 5/- ,,
Sulphering, very distinct sulphur colour with rose reverse 5/- ,,
Hybrids, Mixed, all Colours, extra special 2/- ,,

ALL ORDERS CARRIAGE PAID.

Pæonies, Geums, Chrysanthemums and all other herbaceous plants and roots kept in stock. Full illustrated descriptive Catalogue free upon application.

H. PRINS, F.R.H.S., Gladioli Specialist, Wisbech, Cambs.

1926

PERPETUAL FLOWERING
CARNATIONS

Our Illustrated Catalogue will be sent free on request

C. ENGELMANN LTD.
Saffron Walden, Essex.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

BATH'S HOME GROWN GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI

We were awarded the R.H.S. Gold Medal for our magnificent exhibit of Gladioli in August, 1925, also the highest awards at the Gladiolus Show, August 25th, and Holland Park Show in October. We grow eight acres of the best varieties of Gladioli in existence, and our illustrated descriptive catalogue is the most complete list published in this country. Copies may be had post free.

LARGE-FLOWERED HYBRIDS.

		Per Doz.	Per 100.
Black Prince.	Rich crimson maroon, white throat	2/6	18/-
Brilliant.	Dazzling scarlet, very free, early	2/3	16/-
Byron L. Smith.	Cattleya-mauve on white ground	1/- each	10/6
Catharina.	A lovely light blue, dark blotch	2/9	20/-
Chris.	Dark maroon and purple, large flower	2/6	18/-
Clear Eye.	Brilliant scarlet, white blotch, early	5/-	—
Contrast.	Brilliant scarlet with white blotch	2/9	20/-
Crimson Glow.	Crimson-red, large flower	4/-	28/-
Dawn.	Salmon-pink with claret blotch, magnificent	4/-	30/-
E. J. Shaylor.	Deep rose-pink, large blooms, tall	8d. each	7/-
Fair King.	Glowing vermilion; large spike	2/9	20/-
Fire King.	Fiery scarlet, long graceful spikes. Early	8d. each	7/6
Flora	Soft yellow; fine spike; late	2/-	14/-
Gipsy Queen.	Crimson, yellow throat, spotted maroon	2/-	14/-
Halley.	Salmon-pink, excellent variety. Early	1/4	9/-
Imperator.	Creamy-white opening to pure white. Late	10d. each	9/-
Lena Gratz.	Flowers pure white, one of the best	2/6	17/-
L'Immaculee.	Pure white, long spike; strong grower	1/6	10/6
Love's Fire.	Striking coral-scarlet self	2/9	20/-
Mme. Mounet Sully.	Pure white with scarlet blotch	1/- each	11/-
Mr. Mark.	Deep bright blue with dark spot	3/3	22/6
Mrs. F. Pendleton.	Pale pink with scarlet blotches	2/6	18/-
Odin.	Pure salmon-orange with dark blotch. Distinct	1/6	10/6
Pink Perfection.	Delicate apple blossom pink	2/-	14/-
Prince of Wales.	Extra fine salmon rose pink. Early	1/6	10/6
Red Emperor.	Glowing scarlet-red, enormous flowers	2/3	16/-
Rose Ash.	Old rose, lower petals yellow; ruby spots	1/2 each	12/-
Rubini.	Orange-scarlet with white blotch. Very early	2/9	20/-
Sapho.	Steel blue and purple; a striking colour	3/6	25/-
Scarlet Princeps.	Rosy scarlet, large flower and spike	8d. each	7/6
Souboutai.	Salmon-pink suffused blue, white blotch	10d. each	9/-
Viola.	White with rich violet centre. Distinct	3/6	25/-
Yellow Hammer.	Pure yellow, strong grower	2/-	14/-

1 each of the above 33 varieties for **11/6**; 3 each for **33/-**; 6 each for **63/-**

PRIMULINUS HYBRIDS.

		Carr. Paid.	Per Doz.	Per 100.
Alice Tiplady.	Soft orange-saffron self; unique		6/-	42/-
Asia.	Glistening pale silvery rose. Distinct		6/-	—
Attalia.	Brilliant orange-scarlet, lovely for cutting		6/-	42/-
Bernard Kuhn.	Bronzy fawn with golden yellow throat	1/- each	11/-	—
Firefly.	Rich deep scarlet, a pure self colour	9d. each	8/-	—
Gold Else.	Sulphur-yellow tinged apricot, brown tips		1/9	12/-
Hesperia.	Vivid salmon, large flowers, good spike		1/6	10/-
Latonia.	Pale salmon-pink and orange-carmine. Early		2/-	14/-
L'Ecaillon.	Pure soft salmon with carmine blotches		3/-	21/-
L'Exquise.	Outside cherry red, inside madder red, with yellow blotch		3/6	25/-
L'Yser.	Orange-scarlet with orange throat. Early		3/-	21/-
Maiden's Blush.	Beautiful delicate pink		1/6	10/6
Psyche.	Fiery orange-red with velvet red blotch		2/-	14/-
Rosaura.	Carmine-pink tinted old rose. Distinct		2/3	16/-
Salmon Beauty.	Deep salmon with salmon-yellow throat		6/-	—
Souvenir.	Rich clear yellow; the best deep yellow		1/6	10/6
Topaz.	Richest salmon-pink tinted buff		6/-	—
Vanessa.	Fine salmon-orange; splendid for cutting		1/6	10/6
Walter Bloom.	Salmon-scarlet shaded orange, yellow throat	9d. each	8/-	—
Xanthia.	Pure orange self with fine red lines. Unique		3/-	20/-

1 each of the above 20 varieties for **7/-**; 3 each for **20/-**; 6 each for **37/6** carr. paid.

BATH'S GOLD MEDAL MIXTURE.

We are so convinced of the superiority of this mixture of large-flowered unnamed varieties, that we offer it with confidence that they will give satisfaction. The mixture contains every colour known among Gladioli, and for size of flower and spikes, and vigour of growth, this strain is unrivalled. **2/-** per dozen; **12/6** per 100.

GOOD MIXED VARIETIES LARGE-FLOWERED representing all the colours. Good bulbs. **1/3** dozen; **8/-** per 100.

MIXED PRIMULINUS.—This mixture contains a wide range of colours, and will produce spikes most of which are equal to named varieties. **1/6** dozen; **8/6** per 100.

All goods are sent securely packed and Carriage Paid for Cash with order. Complete Catalogue post free on application.

R. H. BATH LTD. The Floral Farms WISBECH

HARDY HERBACEOUS and ALPINE PLANTS

A large, healthy stock in great variety.

NOW is the time to PLANT.

SEND for CATALOGUE to

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.

The Nurseries, CRAWLEY

Webb's SEEDS

Awarded the **Royal Horticultural Society's GOLD MEDAL.**

WEBBS'

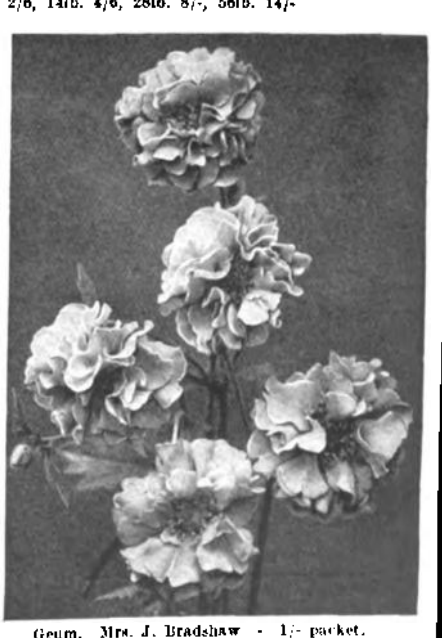
ILLUSTRATED GARDEN CATALOGUE

Post Free on Application.

WEBBS' PRIZE LAWN GRASS SEEDS - - 2/-, 2/9 and 3/- per lb.
WEBBS' LAWN SAND. For destroying Weeds in Lawns - - 7lb. 2/3, 14lb. 4/-, 28lb. 7/-, 56lb. 12/6, 112lb. 22/6
WEBBS' LAWN MANURE - - 7lb. 2/3, 14lb. 4/-, 28lb. 7/-, 56lb. 13/-
WEBBS' "MAGIC" COMPOUND MANURE. For Flowers, Vegetables, Plants, Fruits. 7lb. 2/6, 14lb. 4/6, 28lb. 8/-, 56lb. 14/-

EASILY GROWN Favourite Flowers

	Per Packet.
"Perfection Pink" Aster	6d. & 1/-
"Mammoth White" Aster	6d. & 1/-
"Ostrich Plume" Aster	6d. & 1/-
"Supreme" Antirrhinum	6d. & 1/-
"Rose Queen" Antirrhinum	6d. & 1/-
"Golden Crown" Calendula	6d.
"Sunbeam" Calliopsis	6d.
"Snowflake" Candytuft	6d.
"Imperial" Carnation	1/6 & 2/6
"Imperial" Centaurea	6d. & 1/-
"Decoration" Chrysanthemum	6d.
"Double Salmon" Clarkia	6d.
"Double Pink" Clarkia	6d.
"Choice Mixed" Eschscholtzia	6d.
"Carmine Gem" Eschscholtzia	6d.
"Double Rose" Godetia	6d. & 1/-
"Brilliant" Helichrysum	6d. & 1/-
"Ensign" Larkspur	6d. & 1/-
Lavatera rosea splendens	8d.
"Bluebeard" Lobelia	6d. & 1/-
"Leviathan" Mignonette	6d. & 1/-
"Bedding Gem" Nasturtium	8d.
"Miss Jekyll" Nigella	6d.
Nicotiana affinis	6d.
"Brilliant" Petunia	1/6
Selected "Shirley" Poppy	6d. & 1/-
Large-flowered Sweet Pea	8d.
"Red" Sunflower	6d. & 1/-
"Elegant" Phlox Drummondii	6d. & 1/-
"Admiration" Stock	6d. & 1/-
Large-flowering Stock	6d. & 1/-



Geum. Mrs. J. Bradshaw - 1/- packet.

WEBB & SONS, LTD., The King's Seedsmen, STOURBRIDGE

Digitized by Google

GLORIOUS GLADIOLI

No Garden is complete without these Lovely Flowers, and for house decoration they have few equals.

We hold one of the finest stocks in the kingdom. Ask for our special list.

Special Collections

LARGE-FLOWERED OR PRIMULINUS

100 splendid Corms in 10 Choice Varieties at **5/-, 7/6** and **10/-** per 100.

Choice Lilliums

FINEST QUALITY BULBS.

AURATUM.—The Golden Rayed Lily of Japan, **7½d., 9d., 1/-, 1/6** and **2/-** each; doz., **6/6, 7/6, 10/6, 15/-** and **21/-**

AURATUM PLATYPHYLLUM.—The finest Auratum, **1/3, 1/6, 2/-** and **2/6** each; doz., **13/6, 15/-, 21/-** and **27/6**

BATEMANI.—Apricot Lily, each **1/-**; doz., **10/6**

CROCEUM.—Orange Spotted Black, each **9d.** and **10½d.**; doz., **7/6** and **9/-**

HANSONI.—Golden Yellow, very scarce, each **1/6** and **2/-**; doz., **15/-** and **21/-**

HENRYI.—Orange Yellow, each **1/-**; doz., **10/6**

KRAETZERI.—Pure White, each **1/-**; doz., **10/6**

KRAMERI.—Pink Trumpet Lily, ea. **1/6**; doz. **15/-**

MAGNIFICUM.—White, Crimson Spotted, each **9d.** and **1/-**; doz. **7/6** and **10/6**

MELPOMENE.—White, Red Spots, each **9d.** and **1/-**; doz. **7/6** and **10/6**

RUBRUM.—White, Rose Spotted, each **9d.** and **1/-**; doz. **7/6** and **10/6**

RUBELLUM.—Lovely Pink Lily, ea. **1/6**; doz. **15/-**

TIGRINUM FORTUNEI GIGANTEUM.—Orange, Black Spots, each **9d.** and **10½d.**; doz. **7/6** and **9/-**.

TIGRINUM SPLENDENS.—Salmon, beautifully Spotted, each **9d.** and **10½d.**; doz. **7/6** and **9/-**

Assorted dozens can be sent at the dozen rate.

Beautiful Begonias

Make a wonderful show in Garden or Conservatory

SCARLET, ORANGE, SALMON, WHITE, YELLOW, ROSE OR MIXED

Single ..	**1/-** and **1/6** doz.	**7/6** and **10/-**	100.
Double ..	**1/6** and **2/-** ,,	**10/-** and **15/-**	,,
Frilled ..	**1/6** and **2/-** ,,	**10/-** and **15/-**	,,
Crested ..	**1/9** and **2/6** ,,	**12/6** and **17/6**	,,

Extra Fine Tubers.

Lovely Montbretias

Mixed Varieties .. .. **6d.** doz. **3/6** 100.
,, extra choice .. **1/-** ,, **7/6** ,,

DAINTY FLOWERS FOR CUTTING.
(Very lasting in water.)

Anemones

These produce an abundance of most brilliant flowers in a great variety of colours and last a long time in water.

	doz.	100.
Appenina, dwarf blue flowers, fine for rock garden or border	**1/-**	**6/6**
Fulgens, dazzling scarlet, single or double	**1/-**	**7/6**
Giant French, glorious mixed colours	**1/-**	**6/-**
His Excellency, beautiful deep scarlet	**1/6**	**10/-**
St. Bavo, exquisite shades of pink, salmon, rose, scarlet, etc. ..	**1/-**	**6/-**
St. Brigid, finest Irish strain, mixed colours	**1/3**	**8/6**

Gloxinias

Choice Mixed .. .. **2,6** doz. **18,6** 100.

Ranunculus

These will show a mass of bloom at a time when flowers are scarce, and are very popular on account of their beauty of form.

French, mixed, all colours	**2/6**	100.
Persian ,, ,, ...	**3/-**	,,
Turban ,, ,, ...	**3/6**	,,

Orders value 5/- carriage paid.

LONGSTAFF & SONS

Bulb Growers, Importers and Merchants,

Near Chelsfield Station, Kent.

KER'S CHOICE GLADIOLI

TOP-SIZE ROOTS ONLY.

Post Free. As supplied to the **Royal Gardens, Windsor and Kew; Birmingham, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Hull, Leeds, Liverpool** and other Public Parks and many leading gardens in the country.

	per doz.	per 100
America, pale lilac rose	**2/3**	**15/-**
Baron J. Hulot, distinct violet blue	**2/3**	**15/-**
Halley, beautiful salmon pink	**1/9**	**12/6**
Love Fire, glowing scarlet	**2/6**	**18/6**
Panama, extra fine pink	**2/3**	**15/-**
Pink Perfection, lovely soft pink	**2/3**	**16/-**
Prince of Wales, beautiful salmon	**1/9**	**12/6**
Red Emperor, scarlet, very large	**2/6**	**17/6**
Schwaben, orange yellow, dark blotch	**2/3**	**15/-**
War, beautiful scarlet	**2/3**	**15/-**
White Giant, the largest pure white	**2/3**	**15/-**
Yellow Standard, very long spike	**2/3**	**15/-**

PRIMULINUS HYBRID GLADIOLI

	per doz.	per 100
Hermione, orange, shaded salmon; very attractive	**2/3**	**15/-**
Maiden's Blush, delicate pink	**2/3**	**15/-**
Orange Brilliant, a most attractive variety	**2/6**	**17/6**
Salmonea, salmon, suffused glowing orange; beautiful shade ..	**2/3**	**15/-**
Scarletta, outside brilliant scarlet, inside cinnabar; tall ..	**2/3**	**15/-**
Souvenir, the deepest golden yellow, the best of this colour ..	**2/3**	**15/-**

Full Descriptive List on application. ∴ ***11, BASNETT STREET, LIVERPOOL***

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

AUTUMN and WINTER BEAUTY

In the Garden.

WHEN the first Autumn frost has killed the Summer flowers and the last rose is just existing, many people imagine that the garden must be a dull uninteresting place until Spring awakens the early Daffodils.

There are, however, many trees and shrubs which will provide beautiful pictures throughout Autumn and Winter when rightly placed.

What is more beautiful than the setting sun lighting up the berries of the Cotoneasters, Thorns, and other berried shrubs; or the crimson stems of the Scarlet Dogwood, yellow and crimson barked Willows.

We have prepared a short supplement to our general catalogue, giving a list of the best trees and shrubs for Winter beauty, with fuller descriptions and cultural notes. A copy on application. We devote the same care and thought to the cultivation of our immense stocks of FRUIT TREES, ROSES, ALPINES, HARDY PERENNIALS as we do to the SHRUBS.

THE BARNHAM NURSERIES, LTD., BARNHAM, SUSSEX.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

BEGONIAS

AWARDED 85 GOLD MEDALS.

In superb quality and extra large tubers for Greenhouse or Bedding.

Doubles, in 8 colours, flowers like large Roses and Camellias	**6/-** per doz.	**42/-** per 100	
Doubles, in mixed colours ,, ,, ...	**5/-** ,, ,,	**35/-** ,, ,,	
Singles, in 6 colours, very large fine shaped flowers	**4/6** ,, ,,	**30/-** ,, ,,	
Singles, in mixed colours ,, ,, ...	**3/6** ,, ,,	**24/-** ,, ,,	
,, Frilled or Crested, in 6 colours .. ,, ...	**5/-** ,, ,,	**35/-** ,, ,,	
,, ,, in mixed colours	**4/-** ,, ,,	**28/-** ,, ,,	

Collection of **36** large tubers—12 Doubles, 12 Singles, 12 Frilled Singles—**14/-.**
Collection of **12** named hanging basket Begonias, 3 each 4 sorts, **3/-.** Excellent value.
Post free on orders of 10/- and over.

Send for FREE Catalogue of Named Double Begonias for Exhibition, Basket varieties, Cyclamen, Gloxinias Polyanthus, Phlox, Herbaceous Plants, etc.

DELPHINIUMS

Gained 17 Awards of Merit at R.H.S. Delphinium Trials at Wisley in 1925.

The ONLY selection to receive in 1924 and 1925 the R.H.S. Gold Medal, the highest award obtainable.

Plant NOW. We have pleasure in offering the following Collections which are specially good value, in strong ground roots, which will make a fine show of bloom this year.

COLLECTION A, 12 extra good sorts	**65/-**	**COLLECTION D,** 12 good sorts	**22/-**
,, **B,** 12 very choice sorts	**42/-**	,, **E,** 12 average sorts	**15/-**
,, **C,** 12 fine sorts	**30/-**		

CATALOGUE FREE, apply

BLACKMORE & LANGDON - - - BATH

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

"Flowers Brimful of Gladness"

UNWIN'S Gold Medal GLADIOLI

Unbeatable for Price and Quality

The BEST English, American and Dutch Novelties and Standard Varieties at "buyable" prices

Modern Gladioli are really wonderful, as exquisite as Orchids yet as easily grown as Mustard and Cress. Compare our prices and remember all our Glads. are first quality corms of the best and most distinct varieties. Make up your mind to grow good ones this year and choose your collection from the undermentioned lists. Fuller descriptions are given in our Spring Catalogue, post free on application.

LARGE-FLOWERING VARIETIES.

Splendid, stately and majestic flowers in a wonderful range of colours and colour blendings. One of the most noble and striking of all garden subjects. Adaptable, easy to grow, and inexpensive. Don't be without them this season.

	Ea.	Doz.
A. B. Kunderd. Cream, tinted pink	1/3	13/6
Adelaide de Luxemburg. Pink, white, and yellow centre	—	3/-
Anna Eberius. Lavender-purple	9d.	8/-
Beriet. Apricot-rose	—	4/-
Byron L. Smith. Lavender-pink	10d.	9/-
Blue Celeste. Violet-blue	9d.	8/-
Brenchleyensis. Scarlet	—	2/-
Chris. Chestnut	—	2/6
Crimson Glow. Rich crimson	6d.	5/6
Dr. F. E. Bennett. Fiery-red	18/-	—
Dr. Van Fleet. Yellow, shaded rose-pink	1/3	12/-
Early Sunrise. Salmon-pink	—	3/6
E. J. Shayler. Rose-pink	8d.	7/-
Energie. Blood-red	—	2/6
Evelyn Kirtland. Salmon rose-pink	8d.	7/-
Golden Measure. Golden-yellow	1/-	10/6
Halley. Salmon-rose	—	1/6
Jacoba Van Beiren. Soft purple	8d.	7/-
King Christian. Dark red	—	3/3
L'Immaculee. Pure white	—	2/3
Love Fire. Coral-scarlet	—	2/6
Loveliness. Creamy-pink	—	2/6
Majestic. Orange-pink	6d.	5/-
Marechal Foch. Salmon-pink	1/-	10/6
Mellest. Pink	5d.	4/6
Mrs. F. C. Peters. Lav.-blue	2/-	22/-
Mrs. Frank Pendleton. Pink	—	2/6
Mrs. H. E. Bothin. Salmon, scarlet blotch	10d.	9/-
Mrs. Leon Douglas. Begonia-rose	2/3	24/-
Mr. W. H. Phipps. La France pink, overlaid salmon	15/-	—
My Favourite. Dark mauve	6d.	5/6
Orange Glory. Bright orange	9d.	8/-
Parliament. Salmon-rose	—	2/9
Pink Beauty. Rosy-pink	—	1/9
Pink Wonder. Light rose-pink	1/-	10/6
Princeps. Vivid scarlet	—	2/3
Purple Glory. Purple-maroon	1/6	16/-
Richard Diener. Geranium-pink	2/-	22/-
Rose Precose. Salmon-pink	6d.	5/6
Sapho. Brownish-red, feathered steel-blue	—	3/6
Schwaben. Yellow, dark blotch	—	2/-
Veilchenblau. Viola-blue	3/-	—
Venus. Silvery-rose	—	3/6
Mixed	—	1/6

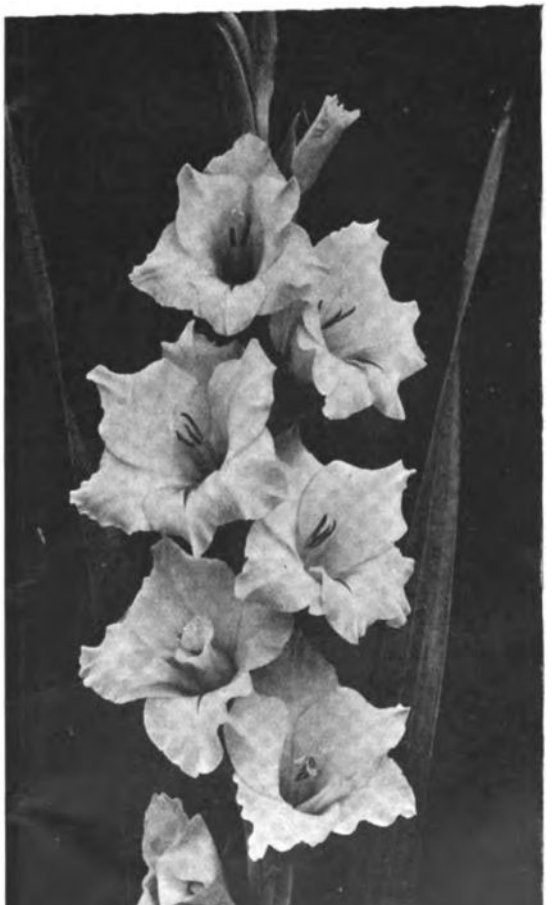
UNWIN'S POPULAR COLLECTION OF LARGE-FLOWERING VARIETIES.

	Per doz.
America, rose-pink	1/6
Baron Hulot, blue	2/3
Empress of India, maroon	2/-
Golden West, orange-red	2/3
Odin, fine salmon	2/3
Panama, deep pink	2/3
Pink Perfection, soft pink	2/3
Prince of Wales, salmon-pink	1/9
Red Emperor, blood-red	2/9
White Giant, grand white	2/-
Willie Wigman, rose and cream	1/9
Yellow Hammer, yellow self	2/-
3 each of above 12 vars., named	5/6
6 each of above 12 vars., named	11/-
12 each of above 12 vars., named	21/-

Our 1925 Awards

for Gladiolus Exhibits

F.R.H.S.—Gold Medal
Southport—Large Gold Medal
Eastbourne—Gold Medal
Oxford—Gold Medal
Leicester—Gold Medal
Cambridge—Gold Medal
Market Bosworth—Silver Cup



PRIMULINUS HYBRIDS.

These charming small-flowered Gladioli embrace the most wonderful art shades imaginable. Light and graceful, they rival Sweet Peas in daintiness, and are excellent for all decorative purposes. If you have never seen them, you have a treat in store.

	Ea.	Doz.
Alice Tiplady. Orange-saffron	5d.	4/6
Athalia. Orange-scarlet	—	3/-
Butter Boy. Butter-yellow	1/3	12/-
Citronella. Creamy-yellow	8d.	4/-
Laetitia. Salmon-pink	—	1/9
Latonia. Salmon-pink and yellow	—	2/-
L'Ecalilon. Soft salmon, rose blotch	—	3/-
L'Yser. Orange-scarlet and yellow	—	3/-
Myra. Salmon, flushed on yellow	6d.	5/-
Orange Queen. Coppery-orange	6d.	5/-
Orientale. Lemon, flushed salmon	—	1/9
Psyche. Salmon, shaded cerise	—	2/-
Salmon Beauty. Salmon on yel.	7d.	6/-
Scarlet Cardinal. Brilliant scit.	2/-	—
Sphinx. Glowing orange	—	2/-
Vermilion Scarlet. Velvety-scit.	6d.	5/-
Mixed	—	1/4

UNWIN'S GOLD MEDAL COLLECTION OF PRIMULINUS HYBRIDS.

	Per doz.
Atalanta. Salmon, shaded orange	1/6
Hermione, orange-salmon	1/6
Maiden's Blush, lovely pink	1/6
Niobe. Orange self	1/9
Salmonea. Salmon, flushed orange	2/-
Souvenir. Rich yellow	1/9
Daphne. Dazzling vermilion	2/3
Rosandra. Cerise-pink	2/3
Orange Brilliant. Orange and yellow	2/-
Xanthia. Pure golden-orange	3/6
3 each of above 10 vars., named	5/-
6 each of above 10 vars., named	9/6
12 each of above 10 vars., named	18/-

OTHER BULBS for Spring Planting

ANEMONES.

Fulgens. Scarlet, 1/9 doz.; 12/6 100.
Giant French. All shades, 1/- doz.; 7/6 100.
St. Brigid. Best mixed, 1/6 doz.; 10/6 100.

BEGONIAS.

White, Dark Red, Pink, Orange, and Yellow.
Giant-flowered Single, in above colours, separate, 3d. each; 2/6 doz.
Giant-flowered Double, in above colours, separate, 4d. each; 3/- doz.
Collections of 3 each of above 5 colours. Singles, 3/-. Doubles, 3/6.
6 each of singles, 5/6. Doubles, 6/-
All named and packed separately.

RANUNCULI.

Double Giant French. Mixed, 8d. doz.; 3/- 100.
Double Persian, 8d. doz.; 3/6 100.
Double Turban, 6d. doz.; 3/6 100.

CARRIAGE TERMS.—Orders of 7/6 or over, carriage free; under 7/6, 6d. extra must be enclosed to partly defray cost of carriage.

Send for a copy of our New Spring Catalogue. Post Free. The Highest Quality Sweet Pea Seeds and Plants, Flower and Vegetable Seeds, Seed Potatoes Gladioli, Charm Dahlias, Roses etc. All at "buyable" prices.

W. J. UNWIN · F.R.H.S. — *Sweet Pea Specialist and Seedsman.* — HISTON - Cambs.

Digitized by Google

Warning

We have registered this "PEDIGREE-QUALITY SEAL" to **warn** purchasers, throughout the United Kingdom **against** buying Seeds described as "Suttons" **which have never been supplied by us from Reading.**

In future every packet of "Sutton's Seeds" will bear this seal and **NONE IS GENUINE WITHOUT IT.**

G *Cut out this Coupon to send for Sutton's Garden Seed Catalogue*

Name.....

Address.....

.....

Sutton & Sons

The King's Seedsmen.
READING.

Notes from Maidstone

SPRING PLANTING.

We get many letters from customers asking if it is too late to plant Fruit Trees and Roses. So far from this being the case, nurserymen do most of their own planting at this time of year. Fruit trees planted now will be much more likely to fruit than if put in in the autumn.

All orders are despatched the day after receipt.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd.,
The Royal Nurseries,
Established 1796. Maidstone.

NEW HARDY CRIMSON BROOM

AT Chelsea Show (1925) the King said, "That red Broom is certainly very striking." This was the new crimson Broom "Dorothy Walpole," which received the unanimous Award of Merit from the R.H.S. as well as other distinctions in London and on the Continent.

In the *Field*, a well known ex-Curator of Kew Gardens wrote: "The richest coloured Broom known is one named 'Dorothy Walpole.' It is as hardy as the common Broom . . . and is very free-flowering . . . the colour is rich velvety crimson . . . more attractive than any of the coloured Brooms yet seen." The colour far surpasses Cytisus Dallimorei, and the growth is as vigorous as C. Andreanus; it requires no special treatment nor any kind of protection whatever—just a hardy shrub for ordinary garden soil in any part of the British Isles, however far north.

A Vice-Chairman, Floral Committee, R.H.S., wrote: "Everyone who has seen my plant has been astonished at its warm glowing red," and from a lady in Devon: "I am so delighted with the Broom 'Dorothy Walpole.' It has done splendidly and is like a sparkling gem in the garden—one mass of flower."

Strong pot-grown plants now ready for planting out, to flower in May, 12/6 each. Carriage paid rates to any station in Great Britain or Ireland: One plant, carriage paid, 15/-; two plants, carriage paid, 28/6; three plants, carriage paid, 41/-; six plants, carriage paid, 79/6.

Coloured illustration sent on application if THE GARDEN is mentioned.

Wm. Watson & Sons, Ltd., Nurseries, Killiney, Co. Dublin.

BY APPOINTMENT.

LAWN SAND

To destroy Clover and Weeds in Lawns apply Lawn Sand. Use at the rate of 4 ozs. to the square yard. 1 cwt. is sufficient for a Tennis Lawn.

Price per cwt. **35/-** in kegs carr. paid.

LAWN GUANO

Turf that has to stand hard wear requires a carefully balanced fertilizer. Fisons' Lawn Guano is used by many of the leading Tennis Clubs.

Price per cwt. **33/-** Carr. paid.

Illustrated Catalogue of Fertilizers for all crops, post free, from

Joseph Fison & Co., Ltd.
Ipswich.

Toogood's Seeds

THE BEST THAT GROW

Fine seeds make fine flowers!

There is nothing one is called upon to buy more 'in the dark' than seeds. Therefore, buy and sow only Guaranteed Garden Seeds.

FREE ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE of "Guaranteed Garden Seeds"—comprising both flower and vegetable seeds—sent free on application.

TOOGOOD & SONS, Ltd.
The King's Seedsmen,
SOUTHAMPTON.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

VOL. XC.—No. 2833. MARCH 6, 1926

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.; Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2. *Offices for Advertisements:* 6–11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

A COMING FLOWER

THE gladiolus is one of the flowers that has made a sudden spurt in general popularity, and certainly not without good justification, for it is easy of cultivation, fine in colour, upstanding in growth, and the flowers last well—four qualities very much to its credit. This is the first gladiolus number of THE GARDEN, and we hope in future to make it an annual event, for progress in the evolution of this flower is already rapid and is sure to increase as time goes on; in fact, it is worthy of having an issue devoted to it. Incidentally, could some scholar clear up the question of pronunciation of the name? I see that most modern authorities accent the first "i." It is a diminutive of the Latin "gladius," a sword, in which the accent is certainly on the "a." Surely the correct stress is "GLADĬŌLŬS"? This may make rather a difficult word to pronounce, but if it is the correct stress, it should be used. I find that the word Gladiolus is found in a Saxon manuscript dated 1000 and that it was certainly in use in the middle of the sixteenth century. On the other hand, I cannot find out for what flower the term was used; perhaps it was the flag iris. At least it must have been something with similar sword-shaped leaves.

Readers of THE GARDEN may remember the article on South African gladioli species, printed in the issue of July 11th, 1925, and the illustrations of them in their native habitat that accompanied it. They show a grace of growth and an unstudied elegance which, unfortunately, our garden forms lack. This, to my mind, is the only real fault that our present-day gladioli possess: they do look stiff and self-conscious, particularly in the large-flowered section. This has been partly rectified by the introduction of the primulinus hybrid; but there are signs that breeders are in this case also beginning to sacrifice shape of plant for shape and colour of flower. On the other hand, I hope and believe that new strains will be introduced by using new species as these become available, for imagine a plant with the present colour and shape of flower but without the suggestion of a soldier on full dress parade—spick and span without a doubt, but ramrod-like in its stiffness. Those illustrations of the species have made me long to try them out in less formal positions in the garden on a hot, dry bank among low berberis, where the modern variety would look out of place. I should say that, although much less has been done to improve the plant, there is no genus on which the keen hybridist could work to better advantage. Incidentally, several firms specialise in selling gladiolus seed; they are interesting to raise and there is always a chance of finding a wonderful seedling among a batch.

This complaint about their stiffness does not mean that I have little use for them in their present form in the garden: far from it. There is hardly a flower that is more effective during August or September, but it needs to be planted carefully, with due regard to background and surroundings. Some may differ, but the general method now is to eschew the single plant or twos or threes and plant them either in masses or in clumps of at least a dozen. A single spike will look incongruous when seen among anything not so well groomed as itself. I prefer not to see them in a herbaceous border even in a large clump; somehow, they do not seem to fit into the picture; but that is a personal opinion. Others prefer them in such a position just for their stateliness. On the other hand, nothing looks so well as a bold mass against a sombre background or a long border at least 3ft. in width filled with them at the base of an old wall, where they can stand with their backs to the wall and there is nothing untidy or fluffy to take one's eye off their primness. Wherever they are planted it should be remembered that in their present state gladioli are formal flowers, and so should have a position fitting to their dignity. In all cases a reserve border should be planted where spikes can be cut for house decoration, for their position as cut flowers is in the very first rank. Few flowers have such a uniform purity of tone, whatever the colour may be, or such a luscious rich texture of petal that makes so wide an appeal to our senses. Everyone should make a mental note to devote at least a tiny patch of their garden to gladioli.

E. H. M. C.

AMONG THE ARTICLES IN OUR NEXT ISSUE WILL BE:

SHRUBS FOR WALLS, by W. J. Bean.

SAXIFRAGES IN GENERAL, by Dr. R. Lloyd Praeger.

SOUTH AFRICAN GLADIOLI AND THEIR HAUNTS, by K. C. Stanford.

NOW THAT THE GROUND IS DRYING AFTER THE SOAKING IT HAS RECEIVED DURING THE PAST TWO MONTHS, REMEMBER THAT THERE IS STILL AMPLE TIME TO PLANT ALPINES, HERBACEOUS PLANTS, TREES AND SHRUBS.

Digitized by Google

IMPRESSIONS OF SOME OF THE NEWER AND BETTER GLADIOLI

PROBABLY I shall be repeating what most readers of THE GARDEN know to be true, if I say that public interest in that beautiful flower, the gladiolus, is steadily increasing in the British Isles. Greater keenness is being exercised in the choice of varieties (a sure indication, this), and a wider interest is noticeable in novelties and the newer varieties. It is significant that more new gladioli are introduced each year than new roses, sweet peas or dahlias, if one includes novelties from all sources. America (where the gladiolus holds a much higher position in public esteem than here) is the birthplace of the majority of new kinds, although a large number hail from Europe and some from Australia.

Enthusiastic and confident though I may be that the gladiolus has a far brighter future than a past, I am not one of those who believe that a greater popularity for it spells a corresponding decrease in favour for such firm favourites as the rose, sweet pea or carnation. Yet, when it is more generally realised how very easy it is to grow good gladioli, how adaptable they are and what great improvement has been registered by many of the newer varieties, many amateur gardeners who now vaguely imagine they are difficult subjects to grow will surely become gladiolus enthusiasts. Again, when one remembers the fact that, broadly speaking, the measure of popularity a flower may attain is governed by the degree of pleasure it affords in proportion to the time and money expended on growing it, one cannot help being quietly confident of the great future the flower has. It appeals equally to the man of small means and a small garden, as to those more fortunately situated in these respects; moreover, there is something aristocratic (I cannot think of a better word) about a vase or basket of gladioli, whether they are found in cottage or mansion.

Maybe there are some readers of THE GARDEN whose familiarity with gladioli is bounded by such varieties as brenchleyensis, Empress of India, etc., and who would like to try some of the newer and better kinds. To these I venture to give my personal impressions of some of the fairly recent introductions, which are, nevertheless, within range of modest purses.

ALICE TIPLADY WILL BECOME A GREAT FAVOURITE.

It is said that every rose has its faults, and in the case of the gladiolus this probably holds good and to a greater extent. There is a very mixed medley of types and species, crossed and intercrossed, forming the ancestry of modern varieties. Consequently, a comparatively wide divergence of form and habit may be expected. This is no detriment, rather the reverse, for there are enough forms, shades of colour and flowering periods of the year to be found in the many hundreds of catalogued varieties to satisfy the most critical. The two most popular present-day types (or collections of types) are the large-flowering hybrids and the primulinus hybrids. As to what might be termed ideal form in either is beyond the scope of this article, although I may, perhaps, endeavour to deal with it later.

The following list embraces varieties which I have grown, one or more seasons, and which have favourably impressed me after careful comparison with the best of the standard kinds of the class of Panama, America, White Giant, etc. I make no claim that the list is complete or that it embraces every meritorious newcomer of recent years, for many which I consider are too expensive have been purposely omitted, and I have not tried, or even seen, nearly all. I will claim, however, that very few, if any, of those mentioned are likely to prove disappointing.

I will deal with the primulinus hybrids first, giving them in alphabetical order and indicating their colours and general characteristics as briefly as possible.

PRIMULINUS HYBRIDS.

The species Gladiolus primulinus (so called because of its yellow colour) is a pretty, small-flowered gladiolus, with its florets widely spaced on comparatively thin and wiry stems, which was discovered about twenty-one years ago growing near the Victoria Falls. Its upper petals are bent over like a hood instead of being wide open as in most other species. Crosses between the large-flowering varieties and the primulinus species and its hybrids have proved a veritable gold-mine to hybridists—not, perhaps, in a material sense, but on account of the wonderful colours and shades which have been released, colours not previously known in gladioli, not, indeed, in some instances, in any other flower. Primulinus hybrids, with their smaller blooms, wider spaced on thin and wiry stems, have a distinct advantage over the larger varieties for many forms of decoration indoors. They rival for daintiness such flowers as roses, sweet peas and carnations. I have heard more than one keen horticulturist predict that they will, in time, become more popular than any other type. I will not go quite as far as that, for my experience is that the average amateur gardener dearly loves a large flower, whether it be a rose, aster, sweet pea or gladiolus. I feel we are only just on the fringe, as it were, of the possibilities for improvement in the primulinus, and a few of the recent introductions make one very optimistic of their future. Should any reader—who may, perhaps, consider gladioli, as a class, too formal for his or her personal taste,have waded thus far through these notes, may I very strongly recommend a trial of these little-known primulinus hybrids. Here is a dainty subject, exquisite for decorative purposes, likely to please where its larger brethren fail to attract through sheer massiveness.

The early primulinus hybrids closely followed their small-flowered parent in size, form and placement. Now, some of the newer ones—particularly Americans—are much larger,

Digitized by Google

veering in general appearance round to the large-flowering gladioli. I sincerely hope raisers will concentrate on a type midway between, something which will combine daintiness and great decorative value with just that size of bloom which will show off their colours to the best advantage. But I am straying somewhat from the point, so will commence my list. I will divide the type into three sections for convenience only, terming them large, medium and small flowered. The small section would embrace such kinds as the well known Orange Brilliant; the medium, Maiden's Blush and the great majority of others; while the large-flowered are represented by the newer Alice Tiplady or Orange Queen.

ALICE TIPLADY (large).—Will become a great favourite. A soft orange saffron, almost a self colour, with first-class decorative qualities.

ATHALIA (medium).—Rather later in blooming than most primulinus, but one of the best, a good grower and a lovely colour. Bright orange salmon.

BUTTERBOY (medium).—Beautifully shaped blooms of clear butter yellow. A very pleasing variety.

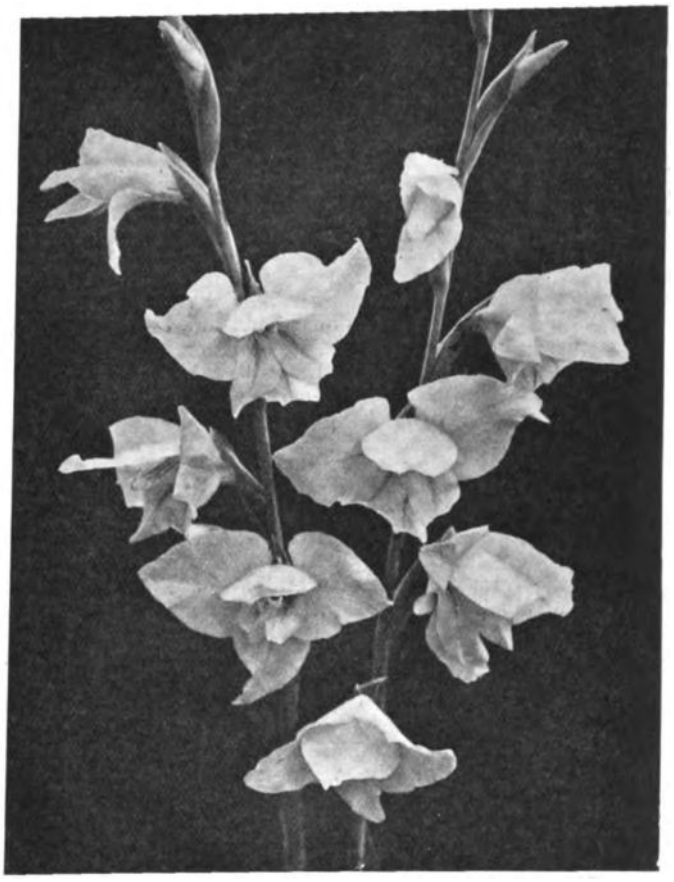
CITRONELLA (medium).—Lighter toned than Butterboy. A dainty spike giving a cooling impression. Clean and pure creamy yellow self.

DAPHNE (medium).—A wonderful dazzling vermilion, richer toned and better than the older variety Scarletta, which it will displace.

EURYDICE (medium).—This has been described as the best pink primulinus, but it has just too much carmine in its make-up to please my personal taste.

L'ECAILLON (medium).—A French introduction. A biscuity salmon with a distinct rose blotch. Very attractive.

L'INNOCENCE (medium).—A disappointment. It was said to be a pure white, but really contains too much cream to have



EURYDICE, A VERY FINE PINK PRIMULINUS.

any pretensions to this description. In my opinion, Citronella is far more pleasing and beautiful.

L'YSER (medium).—Another which originated in France. This will please most growers. It is very distinct and a good grower. Orange scarlet with yellow throat.

MING TOY (medium).—A deep buff self, very fine.

MYRA (large).—A very charming and delicately coloured American variety. Yellow ground, flushed salmon. Well worthy of a trial by all.

NYDIA (medium to small).—A lovely shade of salmon rose, but, in my opinion not a good type. Much of its beauty is lost through the flower stems being very thick in proportion to its size and placement.

ORANGE QUEEN (large).—A shade quite on its own in gladioli. A beautiful warm coppery orange. Sure to be much sought after, and one I can strongly recommend all to try.

ORIENTALE (medium).—This would be one of the best but for the tendency of its flower stems to grow crooked. Its colour is extremely pretty, lemon lightly flushed salmon rose.

ROSE LUISANTE (large).—Well worthy of a place in every collection. Beautiful rosy pink and a good grower.

SALMON BEAUTY (medium).—This is my favourite. Not only does it conform to my ideal size, shape and placement in primulinus hybrids, but its colour is exquisite, a most lovely salmon shade with yellow throat. The best advice I can tender is, whatever others you leave out of your collection, do not miss Salmon Beauty, probably the finest of them all to date.

SCARLET CARDINAL (medium).—Very early and the best scarlet self I have tried.

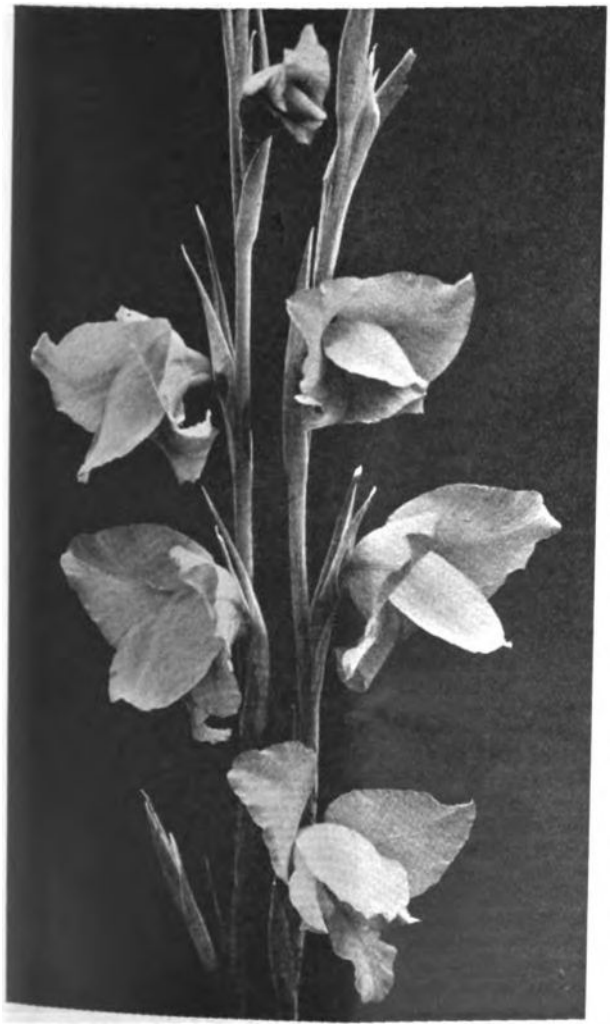
SHELL PINK (medium).—Very pretty. It is one of the best and cleanest of the pink primulinus.

SALMONEA (medium).—For decorations, this is one of the finest of the newer varieties. Salmon flushed glowing orange, very warm toned.

VERMILION SCARLET (medium).—Reminds one of the deep, rich, velvety, blood red of the wallflower. A deep velvety scarlet of great merit.

XANTHIA (medium).—A lovely gladiolus; an excellent grower, of a distinct shade of pure golden orange.

C. H. A. S.



DAPHNE, A RICH TONED VERMILION.

(To be continued.)

Digitized by Google

THE HISTORY OF GLADIOLI

THE SWORD LILY OR CORN FLAG.

BEFORE dealing with the origin of the garden race as we know it to-day, a brief glance at some of the species may prove interesting. The genus includes about a hundred and fifty species, of which some fifteen are natives of Europe and western Asia. The majority of the species, however, are to be found in South Africa, the headquarters of the genus. From time to time many of them have been in cultivation in our gardens, especially when the so-called Cape plants were so popular in this country. No fewer than fifty to sixty South African species are figured in the *Botanical Magazine*. In South Africa they are commonly known as painted ladies, pink and brown Africanders, Avondbloms and South African bluebells, the common names generally including a number of species. For example, the painted ladies include GG. blandus, debilis and other species, and the name is generally applied to species with pale pink flowers with darker markings. G. hirsutus is known as the large pink Africander, and G. recurvus as the blue Africander; while the yellow marsh Africander, G. tristis, is also known as the Avondblom, this name also being applied to other sweet-scented species that flower towards the evening. G. tristis and its variety concolor are still in cultivation.

The so-called bluebells include several species. G. Bolusii, commonly known as the Tulbagh bell; the Riversdale bluebell, G. Bolusii var. Burchelii; and G. spathaceus, the Caledon bluebell. These take their common name from the district in which they grow. The present-day garden race as we know it, descended originally from various South African species. It is divided into several sections, *viz.*, gandavensis, Lemoinei, Nanceianus, Childsii and primulinus.

The first definite records of a hybrid race refer to G. gandavensis. These hybrids were sent out by the well known nurseryman, Louis Van Houtte, in 1841, the stock being purchased from Mr. Bedinghaus, gardener to the Duke of Aremberg.

The parents of this race were given as G. oppositifolius (*Bot. Mag.*, t. 7292) and G. psittacinus (*Bot. Mag.*, t. 3032); on the other hand, some authorities give G. cardinalis (*Bot. Mag.*, t. 135) as one of the parents, while it is also stated that G. blandus (*Bot. Mag.*, t. 605) and G. ramosus were used. In any case, M. Souchet, a French grower, is said to have used these species and also G. pulcherrimus. Dean Herbert appears to have raised many hybrids, using such species as GG. cardinalis, blandus, carneus, inflatus, angustus and tristis; and in his "Amaryllidacea" he describes them as varying in colour from white, scarlet, rose, coppery to blackish purple. He also used GG. hirsutus, recurvus and versicolor, but describes their progeny as being somewhat tender in the open. The gandavensis race, with their large open flowers carried on straight rigid stems, proved very popular, and have continued more or less in favour up to the present day.

In 1878 another strain was placed on the market under the name of G. Lemoinei. They were raised by M. Lemoine of Nancy, France, who used the South African species G. purpureo-auratus (*Bot. Mag.*, t. 5944) as the seed parent, pollinated with some of the best varieties of gandavensis. The influence of the seed parent G. purpureo-auratus, with its roundish, yellow flowers with a purple blotch on the lower petals, is well marked in the hybrid race, which is also characterised by a strong constitution. In Holland a special strain known as Gelria has been selected. This strain is characterised by having flowers of beautiful blue, purple and mauve shades.

The Nanceianus hybrids were raised about 1889 by M. Lemoine of Nancy. Here again a South African species was used, *viz.*, G. Saundersii (*Bot. Mag.*, t. 5873)—a species with fiery red flowers with a white blotch on the lower petals, bordered with a band of minute white spots on a red ground. Crossed with the best Lemoinei varieties, a fine set of hybrids was obtained, in many ways resembling the seed parent G. Saundersii, in the marking of the petals, the large, more or less hooded upper petals, and the large individual flowers.

The Childsii hybrids were raised at Baden-Baden, Germany, by the late Max Leichtlin, as early as 1873. They originated from crossing G. Saundersii with good gandavensis varieties, and were named by the raiser G. Leichtlini. After passing through several hands these hybrids were obtained by the American firm of Childs, who renamed them G. Childsii and put them into commerce in 1892.

G. primulinus is the latest garden group in which a species has been used with the older garden groups. G. primulinus (*Bot. Mag.*, t. 8080) was first discovered in the Usagara Mountains in 1887, by Mr. J. T. Last, who sent corms to the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, in 1890. It was afterwards discovered in the "Rain Forest," opposite the Victoria Falls, by Mr. Francis Fox, the engineer of the bridge over the Zambesi. He reintroduced it into cultivation and flowered it in his garden at Wimbledon.

It is very surprising that this graceful and beautiful species was so long overlooked by the hybridist, for it was not until about 1914 that it attracted much attention. Since then, however, numerous varieties have been raised, the large-flowered varieties of the Lemoinei and Childsii races being used in the first instance for crossing.

There are still many beautiful species in South Africa, which, if introduced, should prove valuable for hybridising. Their introduction seems especially desirable when one considers what has resulted from the use of G. primulinus. It would be an undoubted advantage if some of the sweet-scented species could be used, for up to the present the hybrids are devoid of scent.

In Canada and the United States of America the cult of the gladiolus is very popular, and many fine varieties have been raised, some of the newer sorts being listed at $25 and $75 per corm.

J. C.

GLADIOLUS CULTURE

BOTH in summer and right on to the last days of autumn, the gorgeous spikes of the brilliant gladiolus form one of the most vivid colour pictures which the hardy flower garden can produce. Every imaginable shade—and delicacy of shade, too—is represented, and a single flower will reveal a wealth of beauty that is entirely unsuspected.

Embed half a dozen corms of that old-fashioned form, brenchleyensis, in the damp brown earth round a tuft of pyrethrum in March, and then, after the latter has provided its wealth of daisy flowers in early summer, the distinctive sword-like foliage of the gladiolus will spear its way upwards and August will see a blazing mass of fiery scarlet spikes that completely obliterate the green effect of the pyrethrum leaves. By planting a little earlier or later, too, one can vary the period of flowering of the same variety: although, on this score, there is a wide season covered by naturally early, mid-season and late varieties.

There is no soil that will not grow these handsome flowers to perfection—or, rather, no soil which, by a little cultivation, cannot be made to do so. A rich, deep, sandy loam is the best of all: so that, where the soil is heavy, it will be necessary at planting time to surround each corm with plenty of sharp sand, a precaution which prevents stagnant moisture from lodging round and rotting them. In all cases the ground must be deeply dug and heavily manured during the winter, cow manure being especially valuable where the soil is light and thin. Do not make the mistake of manuring at planting time; the fumes given off by rank manure will soon cause disease in the corms. Since the growth is directly upright, corms may be planted fairly close together, 4ins. apart being about right, unless other plants are growing between them. It will be noted that different varieties vary greatly in the size of their corms, and so call to be planted at different depths, a point that should not be lost sight of when a number of varieties are being grouped together. Do not plant too shallowly, however, as, by deeper planting, the risk of the plants being snapped or broken by high winds in autumn is greatly minimised.

As distinct from their use in mixed borders, the gladioli are capable of superb effects when used in beds of one or more varieties together. In this case, they should be planted 6ins. to 8ins. apart and the ground carpeted with a dwarf annual of suitable colour. A very pretty effect may be secured along the lines of a three

Digitized by Google

tier bed. Thus, the annuals would cover the ground, then single bulbs, evenly spaced, of montbretia would flower at about 18ins. above this, with the gladiolus at 2½ft. to 3ft. In planning out beds of this kind, you can provide for continuity of bloom by planting three batches of corms, at intervals of about three weeks, which will give at least two months' unbroken display—no small achievement when one considers how little demand they make upon our time. If the soil is very light, it is a capital plan to mulch the bed heavily with rotted leaves, as these assist considerably in keeping the soil moist; while, on any soil, free supplies of water must be given when the weather is dry.

To ensure the finest possible spikes for exhibition work, special culture must be given. Not only must the ground be thoroughly prepared, but the best varieties should be chosen; varieties that will give you large flowers and which are known to expand several blooms at once. Directly the spike can be seen or felt within the sheath, begin to feed regularly with liquid manure, taking care to vary this as much as possible and always to use it very weak.

Each spike should be encased in a special frame, consisting of three sides made of wood, with a sliding glass front. The whole of this should be supported by a firm, strong stake and be placed over the spike at an early stage of its development. The object is to shade the lower half of the spike until the upper part has made progress, and, to this end, the lower part of the glass should be well screened by whitewash or some other shading material, so as to retard the opening of the lower flowers until the upper ones are beginning to expand. Do not remove the shading too soon. Gladioli can be raised from seed. Sow in shallow boxes, in gentle heat under glass, and plant out later; but where this cannot be done, the sowings may be made in the open ground early in April. Draw the drills rather shallowly, and cover the seeds but lightly with soil; then take care to keep the soil evenly moist. During the first summer they will only make a mass of short, grass-like growth, and when this has withered in autumn, lift the cormlets and store in a frost-proof place.

The following spring, plant out again, about 1½ins. deep, giving a little more space. Much more top growth will be made, and, when you lift at the end of the season, quite good-sized corms should have been made. The following spring, plant again; but this time allow the full 4ins. from corm to corm. B.

THE VALUE OF MONTBRETIAS

THE plants generally known in gardens as montbretias are more correctly called tritonias. Of these, botanically, there are two sections. One includes T. crocata, the many beautiful varieties of which deserve to be more generally grown for greenhouse decoration; the other, the plants under consideration, *viz.*, tritonia (montbretia). The original species of tritonia are natives of South Africa, and the garden race as we know it to-day first originated as a bi-generic cross between T. Pottsii and the closely related Crocosmia aurea, (syn. Tritonia aurea). T. Pottsii was introduced to the Edinburgh Botanic Garden in 1877 by Mr. G. H. Potts, and in 1883 was figured in the *Botanical Magazine*, t. 6722. Crocosmia aurea was introduced during 1846, and is figured in the *Botanical Magazine*, t. 4335.

In this country, the initial start to the many fine present-day varieties was given by Mr. George Davison of Westwick, who raised many good varieties. His first success was George Davison, a fine yellow, while others of his raising were Westwick, Star of the East, King Edmund and Lady Hamilton. His splendid work was carried on by the late Sidney Earle of Earlham, who raised such fine varieties as Nimbus, Lemon Queen, His Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, Queen Alexandra and Henry VIII.

Montbretias may be had in flower during August, September and October, when, if properly cultivated, they make a wonderful show in beds and borders. Too often, however, their cultivation is more or less neglected and they are allowed to grow into a crowded mass, with the result that their inflorescences and flowers are small and poor. In the cut state they are unrivalled for house and table decoration, opening their flowers in succession for at least ten to fourteen days.

In the colder parts of the country they may be regarded as somewhat tender, and where this is so they should be protected by some loose litter, or the corms may be lifted and stored dry for the winter. Otherwise the plants may be lifted and stored in a cold frame. Later on I shall refer to this method of wintering them.

In the milder parts of the country where the soil and climate suit them—the older varieties, at least, increase very rapidly and, if not restricted, soon overrun all the smaller plants in a herbaceous border. In Wigtownshire I have seen them growing in the grass on the embankments by the railway stations.

As regards their cultivation, they naturally do best in a warm, fairly light and well drained soil, which should be thoroughly cultivated and enriched with plenty of well decayed farmyard manure and a dusting of bone-meal. Before planting, a sprinkling of lime should be lightly forked in on the surface of the bed. In the ordinary way, montbretias should be replanted every second year, otherwise they get overcrowded. Most writers advise replanting during the autumn; this I consider most unwise, except under very favoured conditions, and it certainly should not be attempted with new and scarce varieties. It is wiser to wait until spring, when they are starting into growth, when they may be lifted and divided into small pieces, replanting them about 1ft. apart either way.

Where they are lifted towards the end of October and the corms stored dry for the winter, they may safely be planted towards the end of March, or the corms may be potted up or placed in boxes and started into growth in a cold frame. When hardened off they may be transferred to their flowering quarters towards the end of April. The foregoing remarks

GROUPS OF ONE OF THE MODERN VARIETIES OF MONTBRETIA LOOK WELL IN THE BORDER.

Digitized by Google

apply where just ordinary results and quantities of flower are aimed at.

Where the best results are required, and flowers up to exhibition standard necessary, a somewhat different procedure must be adopted. Towards the end of October the plants should be carefully lifted with a fork, taking care not to injure the stolons. Place the plants carefully in boxes, working a light sandy compost carefully in among the stolons. During the winter they should be stored in a cold frame, keeping them on the dry side at the root. About the middle of February they will have made growth about 3ins. long, and the stolons, rooted by this time, should be detached separately and planted several inches apart in boxes, or placed singly in pots where small quantities are being dealt with. Grown perfectly cool and carefully hardened off, they should be planted out in their flowering quarters towards the end of April or beginning of May, placing them from 9ins. to 12ins. apart. By this method the corms are not used for planting, only the rooted stolons. Each plant usually only produces one flowering shoot, which, however, with most varieties may be from 3ft. to 4ft. in height. During the earlier stages the beds should be kept well stirred with the hoe; but later on in the season, when the stolons begin to run, care must be taken not to injure them. Usually they stand dry weather very well, but during prolonged dry spells it may be necessary to water them. Under such conditions a light mulch of decayed stable manure or leaves may be applied with advantage. Generally, no staking is required, as they are rigid and self-supporting. They are easily raised from seed, but for seed production must be grown indoors in a cool greenhouse. Montbretias have reached such perfection now that only the finest varieties should be used for this purpose. Tritonia rosea (*Botanical Magazine*, t. 9280) is a slender-growing species with small rosy red flowers, and is hardy in warm situations in the more favoured parts of the country. So far as I am aware, this species has never been used for hybridising, and should be valuable for this purpose. J. COUTTS.

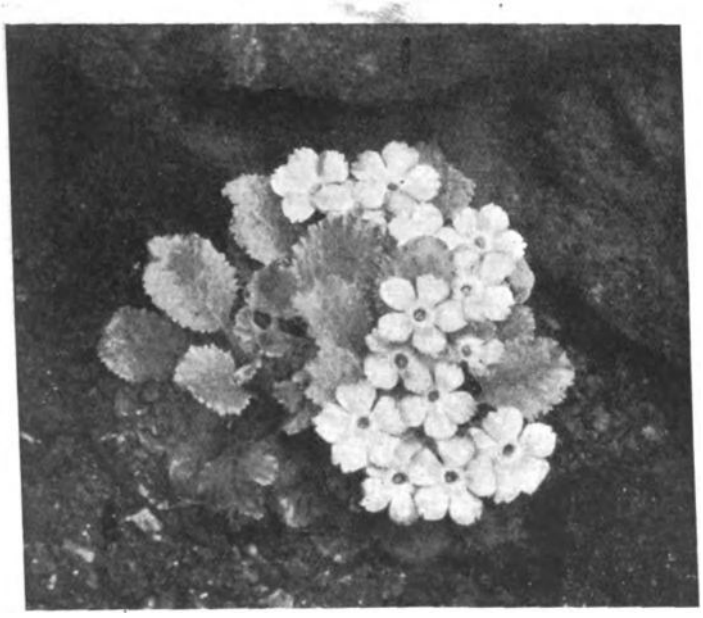
PRIMULAS FOR THE GARDEN

BY JOHN MACWATT.

(*Continued from page* 134.)

SECTION NIVALIS.

IN this section PRIMULA CHIONANTHA promises to become a popular garden plant, as it is not only beautiful to look at, but also hardy and robust in habit. I have seen it growing and flowering to great perfection on the open rockery of Miss Brown at Longformacus, in one of



A FINE PLANT OF P. WINTERI UNDER AN OVERHANGING ROCK.

the coldest situations of the Lammermoors. The rockery was protected from the sun and wind by a wood. Here I also saw P. Reidii growing and flowering in the open. P. chionantha, which flowers in May, has long, leathery leaves about 12ins. long, the under sides of which, with the stem, pedicels and calyx are covered with a bright golden meal. The stout stems, 12ins. to 20ins. in height, bear whorls of lovely fragrant, ivory-white flowers, each about an inch across. It was collected by Forrest on the open alpine meadows of the mountains of Chungtien at a height of 12,000ft. to 13,000ft.

P. SINO-PURPUREA, another of Forrest's collecting on open moist pastures in Yunnan, has dark green leaves, about a foot in length, the under surface being covered with golden meal. The flower stalks and pedicels are also farinose. The flower stem, in length from 12ins. to 24ins., bears an umbel of fine fragrant purple flowers, the eye of which is greyish white. The calyces are brownish purple. This should be a noble plant when it can be well grown. Unfortunately with me it has not proved hardy and the few plants I had all died. It was shown by me at the Chelsea Spring Show, May, 1924, and a good picture of it appeared in THE GARDEN, May 31st, 1924.

P. SINO-PLANTAGINEA has narrower leaves than P. sino-purpurea, farina not so deeply coloured, but the flowers are deeper in colour. It was well figured in THE GARDEN, May 31st, 1924.

P. PARRYI comes from the Rocky Mountains. In its native home it is found in wet ground and is reputed to be a difficult plant to cultivate in this country, but I find it otherwise, as it does well with me in a rich rose border, where it does not get the direct rays of the sun. Here it flourishes. Why this fine plant should be difficult to keep I cannot understand, as it must be hardy, seeing it grows along the margins of brooks near the snow line in the Rocky Mountains. It has erect leaves and stems a foot high, bearing good-sized trusses of crimson flowers with a yellow eye.

SECTION MALACOIDES.

P. MALACOIDES is too well known to call for much detail. The typical plant has lilac flowers, but numerous varieties have been offered recently, with fine colours, including good whites. It is almost hardy and the writer has seen plants which had stood the winter without protection in a sheltered position in south-eastern Scotland.

P. FORBESII is a pretty primula from the rice fields of China and Burma. It is not quite hardy in cold districts and is best in a greenhouse. The original introduction was an annual plant, but that now grown is perennial. It is possible that the annual and perennial forms are distinct species, but may only be microforms of P. malacoides. I have grown a great many plants of P. Forbesii and generally get some with flowers of a lilac colour, much like P. malacoides and others of a good ruby colour.

SECTION SUFFRUTICOSA.

P. FORRESTII, collected by Forrest in Yunnan was introduced to cultivation in 1908 by Bees, Limited. Few hardy primulas attracted more attention than P. Forrestii on its introduction. Its sub-shrubby character led one to hope that it would be a success grown in the open. Unfortunately it has been rather a disappointing plant, damp rather than cold being its chief enemy. If planted outside it should be in a crevice of almost perpendicular rock, with a shady exposure. In this position I saw several plants growing luxuriously in Mr. Hanbury's rockery at Brockhurst, East Grinstead. It grows in limestone cliffs, where its fine green leaves are highly attractive on the great tufts it forms there. The flowers are deep yellow and very fragrant.

P. RUFA, I notice, is catalogued by a number of nurserymen, but I question very much if they have the correct plant, as I have bought a number and all have turned out to be P. Forrestii. P. rufa differs from P. Forrestii in that it has reddish hairs on the leaves and is of stronger habit and the whole plant is mealy. The flowers of P. rufa, when in bud, are sulphury

Digitized by Google

white and a pale yellow when opening, which is quite distinct from P. Forrestii. Anyone unacquainted with P. rufa on first seeing it in the bud state, would say it was a white Forrestii. P. rufa appears to be almost out of cultivation. I showed it some years ago at Chelsea, but have never seen it since and will be most grateful if any reader can tell me where I can procure a plant.

SECTION INVOLUCRATA AND ITS ALLIES.

P. INVOLUCRATA grows mostly in water in its native habitats in the Himalayas. This is one of the easiest and hardiest of primulas to grow. It forms small stalked leaves, almost close to the ground and slender stems from 6ins. to 12ins. in height, with umbels of white flowers, borne early in the year.

P. WARDII is practically the west China form of P. involucrata, from which it differs by its colour. It has light mauve coloured flowers and is very hardy and robust.

P. SIBIRICA is the western representative of P. involucrata and equally good in gardens. The flowers are rose or bluish. The seeds of this primula were collected by Wilson. P. sibirica is exactly equivalent to P. Wardii and it is not possible to keep them as distinct things.

The above three species are all in a series. All have the bracts prolonged deeply below the insertion.

P. CHRYSOPA, a tufted, marsh-loving perennial, found by Forrest in Yunnan growing in strong, moist alpine pasture. Although hardy it is more beautiful when grown under glass, as the meal does not get washed off by rain. The fragrant flowers are of fine lilac colour with an orange eye. It differs from P. Wardii, which it resembles in habit, by being farinose and by having no spurs to the bracts.

P. CONSPERSA has stems about a foot high, bearing whorls of pale lilac flowers above rosettes of petiolate leaves, which are mealy on the under surface. It is a native of Kansu, where it was found by Purdom growing in damp soils at an elevation of 8,000ft. to 9,000ft.

SECTION AURICULATA.

P. TIBETICA has been well figured several times and as far back as 1918 was illustrated in THE GARDEN of July 20th, from the photograph of a plant I had flowering in a cold house. It is a small plant with flowers of a pretty shade of pink, with a yellow eye and with meal on the under side of the leaves—a feature which has been doubted—but the illustration referred to shows the farina quite distinctly. It is said to have been discovered in western Tibet many years ago by Strachy and Winterbottom, and was also found by Sir Joseph Hooker in that part of Tibet north of Sikkim. It reaches a higher altitude than P. sikkimensis and is subject to six or seven months of the most severe weather and covered with snow, which does not thaw off the ground until the end of May.

SECTION SOULIEI.

P. RUPICOLA grows from 3ins. to 8ins. in height and the flowers are described as rose with a yellow eye. P. rupicola comes from Yunnan, where it grows on boulders and stony pastures at an altitude of 12,000ft. It is one of the very mealy primulas.

SECTION CANDELABRA.

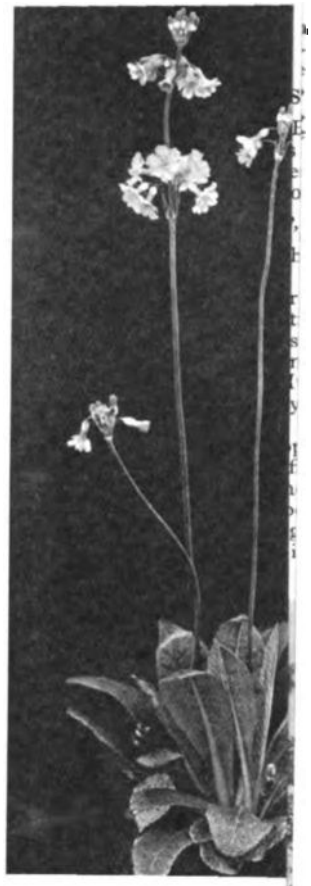
P. GLYCOSMA is very like P. Poissonii, but has strongly scented leaves. The flowers are velvety crimson with a

P. BURMANICA is the Burmese equivalent of and has good claims to be considered quite a dis The flowers are red-purple. It was found by Ki in Upper Burma.

P. HELODOXA is one of the best of our recent primulas and may be foun localities in Yunnan at from 5,000ft. to 6,000ft., a Burma at a height of 8,0 of the plant is covered farina and the scapes sometimes 2ft. or 3ft. several whorls of numer yellow pendent flowers. I marshy land or in a cool, border and is hardy.

P. SMITHIANA may be the Himalayan form of which it much resembles, b flowers of P. Smithiana are with green, a feature a helodoxa. In P. helodoxa i more reflexed, the corolla and the flowers of a de P. helodoxa is a much stro

P. ANISODORA is p darkest coloured flower o primulas. It was discover in the mountains of th plateau in open, moist pa altitude of 11,000ft. A ma is the strong smell of ani by all parts of the pla much more pronounced t members of the same flowers are of a deep p almost black and have been to those of a brown aur yellow eye.



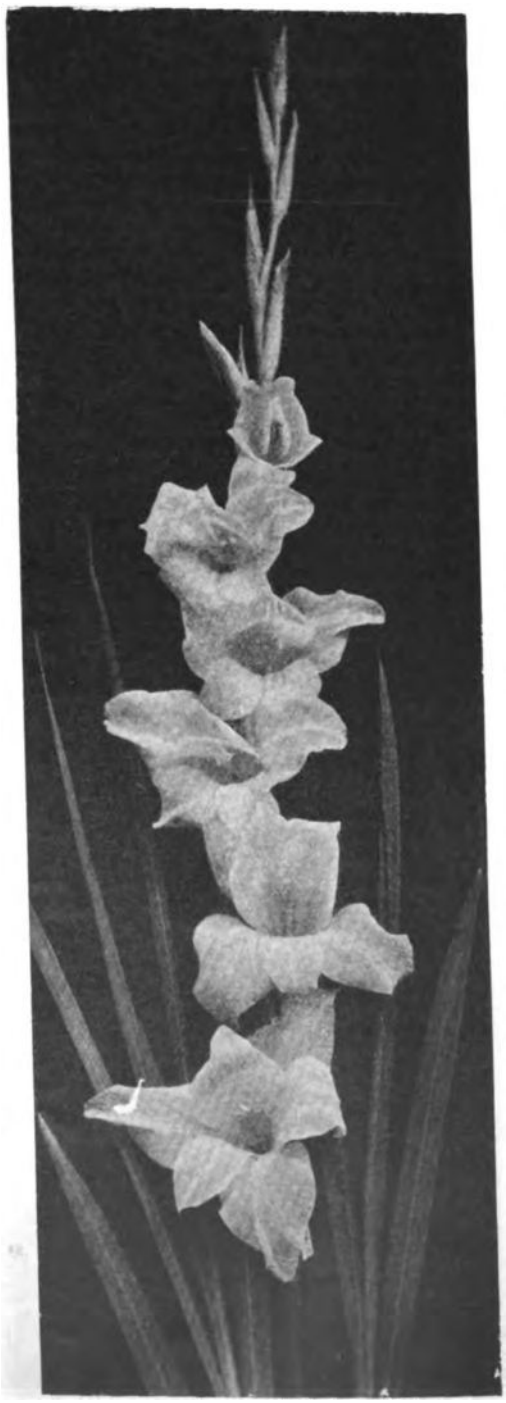
P. SMITHIANA, A YELLOW

P. INVOLUCRATA, ONE OF THE HARDIEST OF ALL PRIMULAS.

Digitized by Google

WHAT TO AIM

There is little doubt that the
kinds has come to stay. If in t
comparatively few gardens, it
near future it will take its pl
sweet pea as a flower that



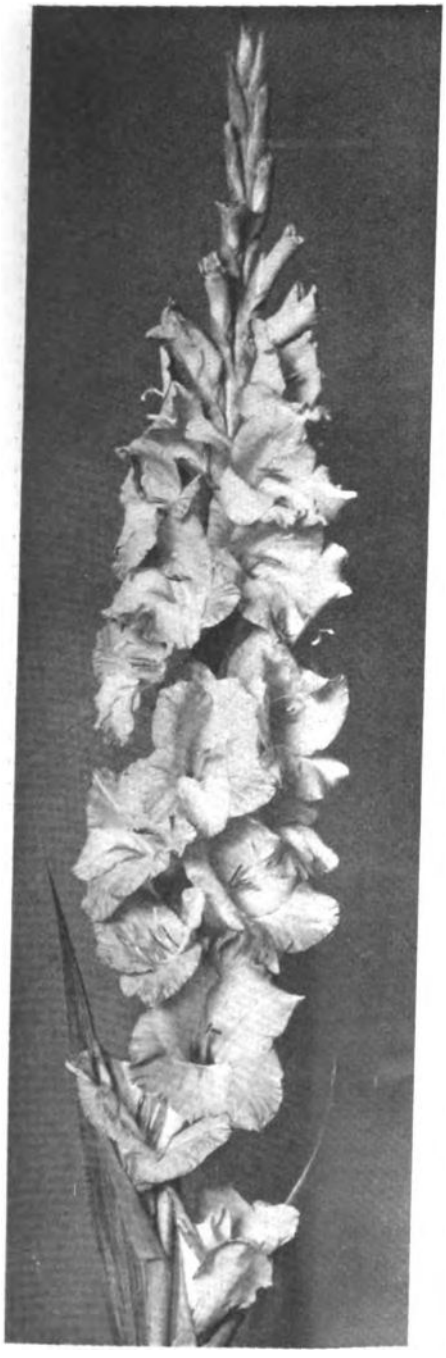
MORE OPEN IN FORMATION.

PERHAPS some readers of THE GARDEN *who have not yet realised all the possibilities of gladioli will look at this page. It should be sufficient to say that Gladioli are pre-eminent in four qualities—ease of culture, good colour, upstanding growth, and the lasting quality of their handsome multi-flowered spikes, so excellent for house decoration. Among large-flowered varieties one may choose: pinks—Pink Perfection, Byron L. Smith, Marechal Foch, America; blues and lavenders—Rev. Ewbank, Baron Joseph Hulot; yellows, etc.—Loveliness, Flora, Golden Measure; white—White Giant; scarlets—Isis and Red Emperor.*

Digitized by Google

AT IN GLADIOLI

the popularity of Gladioli of all in the past it has been a flower for it is safe to prophesy that in the place with the daffodil and the at will be seen in every garden.



CLOSE SET SPIKES.

A LATER introduction than the large-flowered type is the primulinus hybrid, originating from the inclusion of G. primulinus as a seed parent. In primulinus hybrids the large-flowered spike has given place to a more graceful setting of hooded flowers on the stem, thus producing varieties which, although smaller in flower, have every appearance of elegance. No one can go wrong if they include some of the following primulinus hybrids: yellow and orange—Souvenir, Niobe, Psyche and Alice Tiplady; pinks and salmons—Hermione, Laetitia, Salmon Beauty, Maiden's Blush; scarlets—Firefly, Woodcote and Adonis.

Digitized by Google

NOTES OF THE WEEK

PIRÆA AITCHISONII.

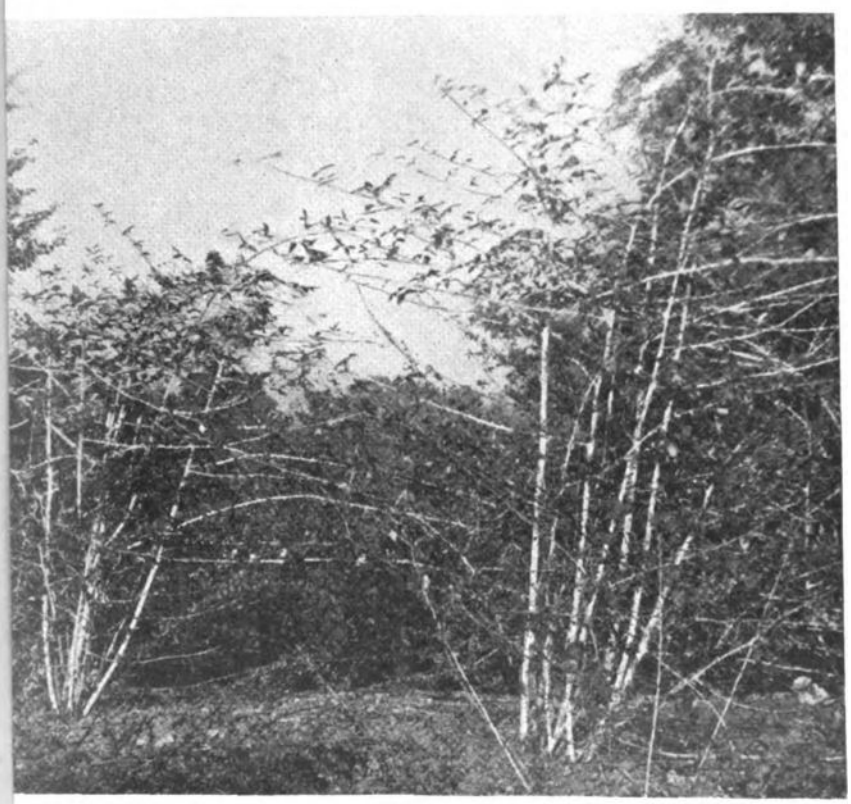
Y spiræas afford us many lovely for the adornment of our gardens nt us with a wonderful choice of d things. They vary greatly in and one of the most distinct is s, which one still sees far too ere shrubs such as this are generally I call it a "shrub," and as such ally grown; but in a garden which il a few years ago I had a plant of onii which was at least 12ft. high nore the aspect of a tree than of a was growing near the base of a poplar and, despite the drain resources made by the proximity plar, it grew rapidly after planting. irst two or three years it did not d was coming to be looked upon as erer of the ground," although its e, of the true pinnate type, was tself. Then it began to flower, and ate summer and autumn big flat of creamy white flowers which, on ng stems of the "shrub," were ly fine. For suitable positions in n this native of Afghanistan and of India is to be recommended. ness is beyond reproach, and its t and attractiveness entitle it to a tion in the estimation of lovers of flowering habit. Planting may be time during early spring.—S. A.

ME JAPANESE IRISES.

new varieties of the Japanese or mpferi iris have been introduced rom Japan and most of them seem xceedingly well when discreetly n a moist but not too cold place. ately we have to rely on "mixed s" from most of our home nursery-seedsmen, but it must not be over-at the houses with a direct Japanese connection stock the named Japanese sorts. These I do not pretend to know well, but I have a few good ones which are well worth mentioning, on account of their fine flowers and delightful colours. I hope the names are correct—but I can tell readers where to go and get them, and other varieties if they wish. Kasumi, almost pure white; Nisiki-yama, edged with rosy carmine; Fuka-murasaki, velvet purple; Sasa-nami, blue and purple; Sakura-gawa, a peculiar pale lavender; Kongo-san, dark blue edged deeper blue; Akafurin, red and white; Yurushi-iro, velvet red. Cost soon calls a halt when purchasing these really gorgeous plants, for they are expensive—but really they are worth it.—CLYDESDALE.

RUBUS BIFLORUS.

WHILE several of the numerous species of rubus are desirable on account of their floral beauty, others are well worth growing for the beauty of their stems, which prove very effective during the winter season. Of the latter group Rubus biflorus is one of the most attractive. This species, which is popularly known as the whitewashed bramble, is an introduction of long standing from the Himalaya and has proved itself to be quite hardy in this country, withstanding the severest frosts. It is a vigorous grower, sending up stout canes up to 10ft. in height, from near the top of which spread other stout shoots which are sparsely clothed with leaves. These are variable in size and shape, having usually three or more lobes, their upper surfaces being downy and pale green in colour and the lower almost white. The stems are armed with stout prickles and are completely covered with a thick, waxy covering, which persists throughout the winter, giving to the growths the appearance of having been whitewashed. Flowers are produced either at the ends of the lateral shoots or in the axils of the leaves, are white and about ¾in. in diameter, but are not very attractive. They are followed by edible, golden yellow fruits, similar in shape to those of the cultivated raspberry. A variety of this species, the recently introduced R. biflorus quinqueflorus, has larger flower clusters, which are not unattractive and is therefore preferable to the type, being similar in all other respects. Though perhaps rather too coarse for growing in a shrub border, R. biflorus is very effective if planted in grassland against a background of conifers or other evergreens, when the whiteness of its stems will be seen to advantage. It likes an open sunny situation and being of a vigorous nature should be planted in deeply worked, loamy soil. Pruning consists of the removal of the fruited canes and any weak shoots during August, their timely removal allowing the development of the present season's growths. The propagation of this species is a simple matter as it produces occasional suckers which may be removed if required, while its seeds will be found to germinate freely and soon produce strong plants.—A. G. F.



THE WHITEWASHED STEMS OF RUBUS BIFLORUS.

CYPELLAS.

IT is a good many years ago since I first made the acquaintance, through a spring-planting bulb list, of Cypella Herberti, and this plant has been a source of much pleasure and interest ever since. A bulbous subject related to the irises, C. Herberti seems to have been introduced from its native Buenos Aires just one hundred years ago, but it has never been common as an outdoor subject, probably owing to the fact that it is usually bracketed with the tigridias, ixias and other half-hardy bulbous subjects, which are not a success everywhere. But I find that in the light loam of a sunny border, C. Herberti is as permanent as most things and, unlike the majority of its relations of the kinds mentioned, it flowers with the most commendable regularity every summer.

C. Herberti grows to about 2ft., the broad, grassy leafage is sparse and the quaint flowers, with a pretty twist at the base of each of the three "falls," are a curious bronzy-buff tint. C. platensis is another species which we grow under similar conditions. It is rather taller than the foregoing and the flowers, pale yellow and white in the cup, have "falls" of a clear blue—a very lovely combination.

In places where these plants are hardly likely to survive the winter the bulbs can always be taken up in autumn and kept indoors until spring. But they are extraordinarily hardy in light, freely drained soil. We have just had severe frosts covering several weeks, over 20 degrees on several nights, but I find that the cypella bulbs are quite sound and they are not deep rooters.—A. T. J.

SOME BOG-LOVING SHRUBS FROM CANADA.

HAVING recently seen these shrubs growing luxuriously in their natural homes, one wonders why they are so rarely seen in our gardens. Admittedly a few are difficult to get established, others are of easy culture and are well worth growing. Ledum grœnlandicum, commonly called the woolly Labrador tea, is a dwarf shrub of about 4ft., with clusters of white blossoms and foliage of a pale green colour, with a woolly-like reverse, which often turns a curious rusty colour. This shrub is proving a slow grower here. Ledum glandulosum is a smooth form of the above.

Chamædaphne calyculata, the dwarf cassandra, is another interesting shrub, 3ft. in height, foliage of a dull green, which sometimes gets a trifle bronzed. Its flowers are white and fragrant, and appear earlier

Digitized by Google

than is the case with ledum. The cassandra has proved a good plant to grow.

Then there are the laurels, Kalmia angustifolia, commonly called the sheep laurel, a charming shrub in every way. Its flowers are in clusters, of a crimson colour fading to pink. It should be planted in sandy peat and in full sun by the waterside. It is a shrub that has much to recommend it. K. polifolia, the swamp laurel, has very narrow foliage with a silver green reverse, which is quite an attraction. Its flowers are of a delightful pink. We collected it at a fairly high altitude by a running stream. This kalmia seems easy to establish, and is very pleasant associated with K. angustifolia. Rhodora canadensis is another shrub growing well here, but it is not evergreen like the kalmias and kalmias, its small pink flowers opening before its leaves. It seems of easy culture if given a moist situation.—R. MOORE, *Thorpe Hall.*

SOME NOTABLE GARDEN CLEMATIS.

AMONG hardy flowering creepers, it would scarcely be possible to point to one that has enjoyed a greater popularity than the clematis. It is ubiquitous, from the fact that it is grown from John o' Groats to Land's End. You meet it clothing pergola and arch, covering veranda and porch with its rich clusters of blossoms, making more attractive the fronts of villa residences in the suburbs, and transforming cottage gardens into places of delight. Perhaps in the various sections of the genus no two are more largely grown than the Jackmanni and lanuginosa, and, practically speaking, they can be planted at almost any season of the year, being always procurable in pots. No time, however, is better than spring for moving them to new quarters, and, having regard to their permanency, it is worth while to consider their requirements and to furnish them with soil in which they will thrive. In planting, it is desirable to dig sufficiently deep to admit of drainage being provided. Two feet should be the minimum, three is better, as it affords ample room for brickbats before filling in with loam, old mortar rubble and cow manure. It is well, too, at the time of planting, to fix some kind of support to admit of the young shoots to be tied, until they are able to "fend for themselves."

In the Jackmanni section, no variety has had more patronage than the one bearing that name, whose rich purplish clusters are so frequently seen in early autumn, but Jackmanni superba gives us much superior flowers, with no diminution of quantity.

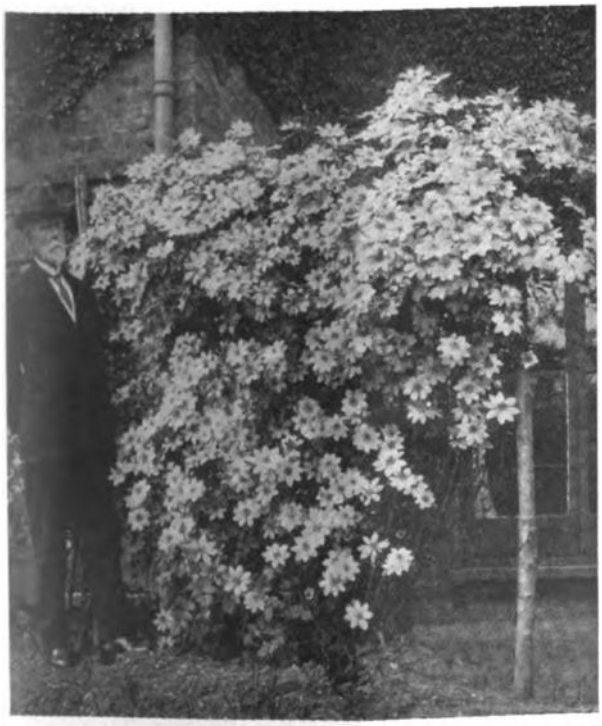
Other members of the Jackmanni group deserving of special mention are:

COMTESSE DE BOUCHARD, rich pink.
MAGNIFICA, reddish purple, red bars.
SNOW WHITE JACKMANNI.
MME. EDOUARD ANDRE, bright velvety red.
PRINCE OF WALES, pucy purple.
BARON VEILLARD, lilac rose.

There are many in the lanuginosa section worthy of special commendation. They are noted for their large handsome flowers, as well as their prodigality. The following have proved themselves, and, once established, contribute much beauty to a garden.

NELLIE MOSER, light mauve, red bars.
ROBERT HANBURY, bluish lilac, edged with red.
FAIRY QUEEN, flesh, pink bars.
HENRYI, creamy white.
BEAUTY OF WORCESTER, bluish violet, white stamens.
LILACINA FLORIBUNDA, pale lilac.

It not infrequently happens that those who take up the culture of clematis for the first time and select their plants from the Jackmanni and lanuginosa groups, fall into a common error in regard to pruning. Those in the first-named section should be pruned in February or March to a foot or so of the base, as they give the finest blossoms on new wood. Those in the lanuginosa section do not need so radical a treatment, a shortening of the shoots after flowering sufficing.—W. LINDERS LEA.



A FINE PLANT OF CLEMATIS NELLIE MOSER.

TAN IN THE GARDEN.

I SOMETIMES notice that in districts where tan can be readily procured it is brought into use for the making up of hotbeds in spring, and for spreading on garden paths. My one and only experience of it for fermenting did not encourage me to try it a second time, as I found that the heat was not maintained as in the case of stable manure; indeed, it quickly cooled, and the tan itself was a happy hunting ground for many pests which it attracted. It was a long time before I could eradicate them, and at the finish the tan had to be dug into the ground to get rid of it, a mistake which I afterwards regretted. In a town near to where I live, tan used to be easily procurable, years ago, and utilised by cucumber growers for a time. I suspect it was given up because of woodlice which followed it. For paths, it is a cheap makeshift; but when decay has once set in it is anything but pleasant to walk upon. —W. FOWKES.

THE CORK FIR.

A VERY beautiful, but little known, fir is Abies arizonica, usually regarded as a variety of Nuttall's A. lasiocarpa (the A. subalpina of Engelmann), widespread in western North America from Alaska southward along the Rocky Mountains. The Arizona fir is a slender tree from 45ft. to 65ft. tall and is remarkable for its thick, greyish white, corky bark, which is in evidence

THE CORK FIR, ABIES ARIZONICA.

on quite young plants. The leaves are pectinately arranged with the upper ones directed forward. The upper surface is more or less grey-green and conspicuous bluish white stripes mark the lower surface. The branching is dense, the leaves abundant and the prominent under surfaces give a delightful bluish grey appearance to the whole plant. In the Hunnewell Pinetum at Wellesley, Mass., there is a singularly handsome specimen of this fir planted when about 4ft. high in 1912 and now 16ft. tall.

The cork fir was introduced into Europe in 1901. According to Bean it came to England in 1903, but gives no promise of thriving there. It is to be hoped that this prophecy proves false, since this fir is more than ordinarily rich in garden merit. It is essentially a subject for trial in those parts of the British Isles, where greatest extremes of climate prevail. In smoke-free parts of the Midlands and the easterly parts of England from the Thames estuary north, there are many gardens in which this fir would probably flourish.—E. H. WILSON, *Arnold Arboretum.*

THE WINTER ACONITE.

THIS plant has a charm of its own. The colour, for one thing, is unique among hardy border plants flowering in January. It is a member of the buttercup family and, if seen in any out-of-the-way place, might be mistaken for a ranunculus.

Its early-flowering habit is well known, and like the crocus, on bright days it opens wide. The flower lasts for over four weeks—quite a long time—and a large quantity of seed is produced. On one stem I have counted as many as nine seed vessels, each containing on an average six seeds, making a total of fifty-six. The winter aconite is a native of central and southern Europe, and is found "in moist shady places, and on hills." It is a pleasant plant to have in the garden, and along the front of the herbaceous borders it is excellent.—DAVID ARMSTRONG.

Digitized by Google

CORRESPONDENCE

ROSE ZEPHIRINE DROUHIN.

SIR,—I was very glad to see the letter from Mrs. E. H. Palmer in THE GARDEN for February 20th on this rose, for, like her, I think it is the best all-round rose to grow, and wonder why it is so seldom seen. I can endorse all Mrs. Palmer says about its good qualities—colour, scent, absence of thorns, ease of cultivation, etc. To judge from catalogue descriptions, this rose would seem hardly worth considering compared to new productions, which are depicted in such sledge-hammer superlatives, yet, for those who want a really good garden rose rather than a few exhibition specimens, the very reverse is the case. One reason only can I suggest for its scarcity; in those few places where I have come across it I have generally found that it has been pruned like a bush rose instead of a climber, with the natural consequence that few blossoms are produced. Why it should be maltreated in this way is a mystery, but, if it is at all general, it may account for the neglect of this most beautiful pink, sweet-scented rose.—F. H. HUTTON, *Lincoln*.

SIR,—Mrs. Palmer's letter *re* the Rose Zéphirine Drouhin is of much interest to me. I have grown it for years as a bush rose, and it has never failed me, whether the summer has been wet or dry. It has a most delicious scent, which, unfortunately, seems a lost art with roses nowadays. Its colour never alters, and I have been able to mix freshly gathered Zéphirine Drouhins in the same vase with others that have been in the house for days. Of how many roses can one say that? One of the most beautiful sights I have ever seen was a hedge of it when in full bloom.—M. NEILSON, *Ayrshire*.

ROSES UNDER GLASS.

SIR,—I was much interested in the note on "Roses Under Glass," by Mr. William Grant, Kincardineshire (page 120, February 20th). I am pleased to comply with his suggestion that I should give a selection of roses suitable for a rose house artificially heated. It is not a wise plan to grow many varieties unless the structure is a large one. A medium-sized house should contain the following: Elsie Beckwith, rich pink; General McArthur, brilliant crimson; Hugh Dickson, deep red; Mrs. G. Norwood, bright rich pink; Mme. Butterfly, an improved Ophelia; Premier, deep pink, very sweet; Ulrich Brunner, cherry crimson; Caroline Testout, bright rose; Charles E. Shea, rose pink; Lady Hillingdon, apricot yellow; Lady Pirrie, coppery red; Margaret D. Hamill, straw tinted orange; Mme. A. Chatenay, carmine pink; Mrs. H. Stevens, white, long buds; Mrs. George Shawyer, brilliant rose; Richmond, scarlet-red; Sunburst, carmine-yellow; Hadley, bright red, very fragrant. Princess Mertchersky, clear pink, does not fade in heat. Molly Sharman Crawford, white, large well shaped buds on strong stems. I have named several hybrid perpetuals in this list because I have them in my own houses and find them excellent.

If there is only room for six varieties in a greenhouse, then I should recommend the following: Mrs. H. Stevens, Molly Sharman Crawford, Mme. Abel Chatenay, Lady Hillingdon, Mme. Butterfly and Richmond. Two whites are named because they cannot be dispensed with. Some cultivators may like to cover a trellis. For this purpose Caroline Testout, Mrs. H. Stevens, Molly Sharman Crawford, Mme. Abel Chatenay, Richmond, Mrs. G. Shawyer and Climbing Mme. E. Herriot may be selected.—HANTS.

PRESERVING FLOWERS.

SIR,—I have just read Mr. Bastin's note on "Wiring Flowers." When I lived in London and had to limit myself to a few shillings a week for flowers, and naturally wanted them to last as long as possible, I always used to tie a thread of ordinary sewing silk (cotton would do equally well) round the tulips. The petals were then held in position till the flowers were quite dead. This seems to me a simpler way than wiring.—MURIEL FEWSTER, *Dorset*.

PLANT IDIOSYNCRASIES.

SIR,—Not only, as is stated in THE GARDEN of January 30th, do some plants succed in one district and fail unaccountably in another, but one thing will thrive in my garden and die in my neighbour's. I had such a supply of culinary mint, which spread from a border and came up through the path, that I rooted it out entirely. Across the road my neighbour cannot get it to grow at all. I cannot grow the Madonna lily, having tried it often. Over a low dividing wall it grows and flowers on the same side of the road. Gentianella acaulis only produces small green flowers, the shape in miniature of what the true flowers are. Knowing that at my old home in the country there was a sapphire blue border of them, I sent my plants to a friend who lived close by in that locality. She told me she had had plants for years which never showed flowers at all. Carnations thrive with me, and I have often given rooted layers to a friend who lives at a distance of about five minutes' walk, and who has a much better garden than mine. The instant they are planted they fade and die. They make no attempt to grow. Even in the same garden the thing happens. I have the common purple-pink creeping phlox. It showed a sparse flower here and there. It lived and languished though in full sunshine. I transplanted it; it flourishes. It has been divided; its children flourish. I have now "purple patches" of it smothered in bloom.

One has to accept these mysteries, and, if possible, profit by accepting them. We shall all have gay and flourishing gardens if we remember what is called the "gardener's secret," *viz.*, only grow those flowers which will grow with you.—E. M. J., *Edinburgh*.

COLOUR AND NAMES.

SIR,—The recent articles and correspondence in THE GARDEN on the subject of colour description are most opportune. Would it not be possible for some authority like the R.H.S. to draw up a standard colour-chart to which both nurserymen and buyers could refer, to the great satisfaction of both? It would seem to be the only way to avoid the quite horrible confusion reigning at present, the commonest error now being to call the shades of purple, lilac and heliotrope "blue"! I know (to my cost!) that I have had more disappointments when purchasing (both overseas and locally) from *incorrect and misleading colour descriptions* than from any other cause, and doubtless countless others have suffered the same experience.

May I also voice a plea to the raisers of novelties for a little more ingenuity and originality in naming their productions? It has recently been my misfortune (I fear I must say) to see the catalogue of a very eminent raiser of a certain flower in the United States of America (who, for his own sake, should he read this, shall remain nameless) in which quite 99 per cent. of the flowers were named after people, and of these quite half the names were simply hideous and unsuitable for any flower. Please remember there are plenty of excellent and *reasonable* names still available, all that is required is a little tact and thought. But if you *must* name the plant after a friend, do use the name in as elegant a form as possible and not half a mile long or with fifteen initials tacked on—*for ornament!*—AUSTRAL, *Geelong, Victoria, Australia*.

DOMBEYA CAYEUXII.

SIR,—The white-flowered Dombeya lately in beauty at Kew so nearly resembles the pink-flowered Dombeya Cayeuxii that is grown in Riviera gardens that I hope for more particulars as to its name and where it originated. Dombeya Cayeuxii is a hybrid between an abutilon and the tender tropical dombeya, but is sufficiently hardy to flower in good seasons on the Riviera. Its large balls of clear rose pink tightly packed "mallow" flowers are most effective and decorative as they hang under the handsome foliage. If this white-flowered dombeya is a similar hybrid, it will be interesting to know where it can be obtained. It looks as if it were the same cross but with white flowers and less vigorous habit than D. Cayeuxii, whose robust growths demand both space and shelter. After the two incursions of frost this winter D. Cayeuxii has been much cut, so a similar but hardier shrub would be welcome. The Chinese abutilon (A. sinense) with its charming open bells of golden buff with a crimson eye is so hardy that a second crop with it would be very desirable.—E. H. WOODALL, *Nice*.

BLUE POPPIES.

SIR,—I do not understand Mr. Kingdon Ward (page 115) describing the plate of Meconopsis simplicifolia in the *Botanical Magazine*, t. 8364, as "exactly resembling" my figure of M. simplicifolia var. Baileyi in "Flowers—a Garden Note Book." In the former the flower is drawn of natural size, and the stamens are represented as set loosely round the ovary, with dark brown or black anthers; whereas my drawing of Bailey's variety as grown here shows the stamens densely crowded with anthers of clear golden yellow, contrasting admirably with the sheen of sky blue petals. Moreover, there is a stain of bright purple at the extreme base of each petal, which greatly enhances effect. I do not think the plate in the *Botanical Magazine* can have been taken from Bailey's variety; indeed, it is doubtful whether that form of the species was known in this country in 1913. We have not experienced the difficulty referred to by Mr. Kingdon Ward in growing this beautiful poppy, which takes quite kindly to a border soil of loam, peat and sand, and produces plenty of seed. Normally it behaves as a biennial, but in the summer of 1925 one of our plants flowered and ripened seed in the second successive season.—HERBERT MAXWELL, *Monreith*.

PRIMULA CAPITATA.

SIR,—In looking through some back numbers of THE GARDEN I came upon an article on Primula capitata written by the late Mr. Malby in 1912. In this he mentions that this primula is particularly desirable, as it has the "very great advantage of coming into blossom in autumn when nearly all the other primulas are over." This has not been my experience. It is true that the other primulas are over and Primula capitata is still "going strong," but it has outflowered the lot of them and has been blooming for over two months with no other assistance during the hot weather than a daily can of water. This makes it a summer bloomer here, though possibly old plants may behave differently. The colony that I have are last season's seedlings, and are growing in loam and leaf-mould in practically

Digitized by Google

The
ATCO
MOTOR MOWER
& SERVICE

Delivery of the ATCO Motor Mower is made by our own vans, our own mechanics ensure that it is in perfect condition when delivered and the nearest ATCO Service Depot—there is a chain of these covering the country—*keeps* it so.
The 1926 ATCO range offers a choice of models from 14 to 30 ins.

PRICES *from* 30 GUINEAS

Ask any of its 10,000 users their opinion of the ATCO Motor Mower—then let us arrange a free demonstration *on your own grass*—without any obligation on your part.

A Monthly Calendar of Turf Culture Notes, of interest to all lovers of turf, is embodied in our 1926 Catalogue of ATCO Turf Culture Specialities. Send for your FREE copy.

CHAS. H. PUGH, Ltd.,
Whitworth Works, 31, Tilton Road, BIRMINGHAM

All owners of ATCO Motor Mowers should fit an ATCO Cultivator. Particulars on application.

LIFE AND DEATH

YOU have been considering ways and means of destroying the weeds in your lawn, and have, doubtless, eliminated such back-breaking methods as hand-weeding.

This is where COOPER'S LAWN SAND will help you to do a tiresome job in double-quick time.

A weed-destroyer and grass fertiliser in concentrated form,

COOPER'S LAWN SAND

is the life of your lawn and the death of your weeds.

PRICES.

2 lbs. ..	1/3	28 lbs. ..	7/6
7 lbs. ..	2/6	56 lbs. ..	13/-
14 lbs. ..	4/-	112 lbs. ..	25/-

3 to 4 ozs. to square yard.

Cooper, McDougall & Robertson, Ltd.,
BERKHAMSTED,
Herts.

Don't Sow your Seed

till you are sure that the soil is fit to receive it. Your seed will not stand a fair chance in starved soil.

Feed your garden well and it will repay you handsomely. There is no better nourishment for the soil than

NORCO
COMPLETE FERTILISERS

THE PERFECT GARDEN FOOD

Which supplies the essential constituents contained in stable manure, but in a far richer and more convenient form.

PRICES (Bags Free and Carriage Paid):—

	7 lbs.	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	112 lbs.
"NORCO" Complete Garden Fertiliser (For Flowers, Fruit and Vegetables)	2/6	4/3	7/3	12/6	23/-
"NORCO" Complete Lawn & Turf Fertiliser	2/4	4/-	6/9	11/9	22/-
"NORCO" Complete Potato Fertiliser	2/6	4/3	7/3	12/6	23/-

Send for free Booklet on the use of Lime, Stable Manure and Chemical Fertilisers.

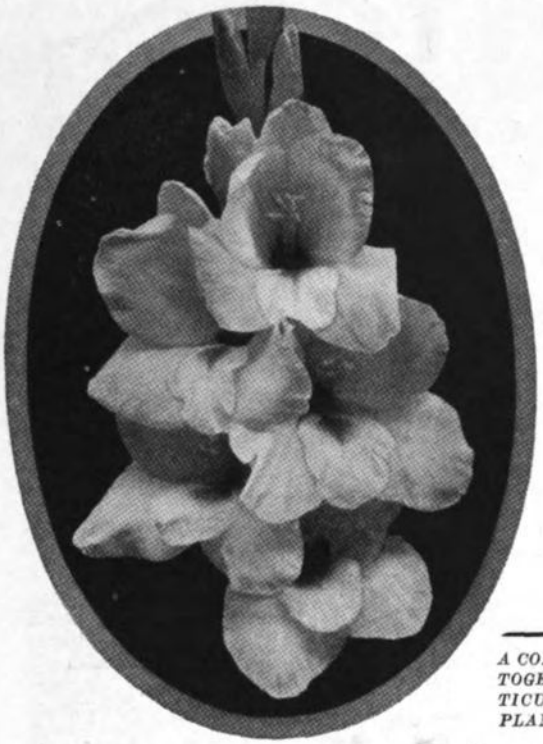
"NORCO" (Regd.) is obtainable only direct from the Sole Manufacturers:—

CHARLES NORRINGTON & CO., LTD.
Cattedown, PLYMOUTH.

Makers of High Grade Fertilisers since 1846. No. 7

Digitized by Google

SEEDSMEN BY APPOINTMENT



VESTA TILLEY

CARTERS for GLADIOLI

PLANT NOW FOR AUTUMN FLOWERING

BEST QUALITY BULBS

The undermentioned varieties are recommended on account of their beautiful colouring and effect in the border :—

	doz.	100
DUCHESS OF YORK.—Bright plum purple, with deeper markings in the throat	4/-	30/-
ADELAIDE DE LUXEMBOURG.—Soft pink shade, with paler throat, shading to pure white; small yellow blotch	3/-	22/6
MEILUST.—Beautiful rose pink with cerise blotch	5/-	37/6
ROSE PRECOSE.—Soft rose, with deeper carmine rose throat. Prettily marked at edge of petals	6/6	50/-
VENUS.—Pale blush, slight pink, suffusing, sulphur blotch at throat	3/9	28/-
PRINCE OF WALES.—Pale salmon	2/-	15/-
GOLDEN WEST.—Orange scarlet, large creamy yellow blotches, crimson spotted	3/-	22/6
RED EMPEROR.—Intense scarlet flowers, flaked crimson	3/-	22/6
WHITE GIANT.—Largest white variety grown	2/3	16/9
VESTA TILLEY.—Fine creamy-white, beautiful cerise throat (*see illustration*)	3/4	25/-

A COMPLETE LIST OF GLADIOLI TOGETHER WITH FULL PARTICULARS OF OTHER SPRING PLANTING BULBS CONTAINED IN "SPRING PLANTING BULBS" POST FREE.

Carters TESTED SEEDS

SEEDSMEN TO H.M. THE KING,

RAYNES PARK, LONDON, S.W. 20

What users are saying about The J·P SUPER

ALL UNSOLICITED.

From a Lawn Owner : "It is the easiest machine to work devised and renders a petrol-driven motor a superfluity."

From a Lawn Owner : "No effort is required to push the machine, which is a 16-inch."

From a Lawn Owner : "In addition to saving a man, our lawns are kept much nicer than ever before at much less cost."

From a Golf Club Secretary : "I would like to register my admiration of your Mower and gratitude for at last producing something so infinitely superior to the 'plumber's jobs' in mowing machines that we have had to suffer from so long."

From a Golf Club Secretary : "The Greenkeeper tells me it is easier, quicker and more thorough than any he has ever seen, and hopes he may never have to revert to the old type."

From a Gardener : "It is the most marvellous machine I have had anything to do with, and have used all the best makes in my time."

"It is so simple to adjust, easy running and best all-round cutting machine I know of. It is all you claim it to be."

free

Send for booklet describing unique patented features and ask for a demonstration.

Sole Makers :
J.P. SUPER LAWNMOWERS LTD.
Meynell Road,
LEICESTER.

Digitized by Google

full sun. Their flower-stems are well over a foot in height. Cockburniana flowered equally well in a similar position.—E. O. CALLAGHAN, *Hawera, N.Z.*

HYDRANGEA HORTENSIS ROSEA.

SIR,—I am indebted to Mr. Ivan Dunlop, Los Angeles, California, for his letter in your issue of February 6th, in which he suggests a firm from whom I might possibly obtain plants of Hydrangea hortensis rosea.

His letter, coming as it does from overseas, is an instance of the friendly interest which exists among readers of THE GARDEN. I have further proof of this, for my query brought me some very interesting correspondence and what is more, actual offers of plants from two sources. The first I gratefully accepted, and although the writer kindly offered me a small plant or two, when the plants came to hand one was a fine specimen, which should not fail to flower this year.

The donor also gave me particulars of his soil in which his hydrangeas are growing, but as I have not got his letter by me at the time of writing, cannot give authentic details. I do, however, remember that he shared the view of several who know H. hortensis rosea, *viz.*, that it is the most glorious blue among the family.

I shall, naturally, watch the behaviour of the plant growing in the natural soil of my own garden with keen interest.

I am grateful to THE GARDEN for providing me through its columns with the means of procuring plants, which may have been difficult to have obtained through the ordinary business channels.—ARTHUR J. COBB.

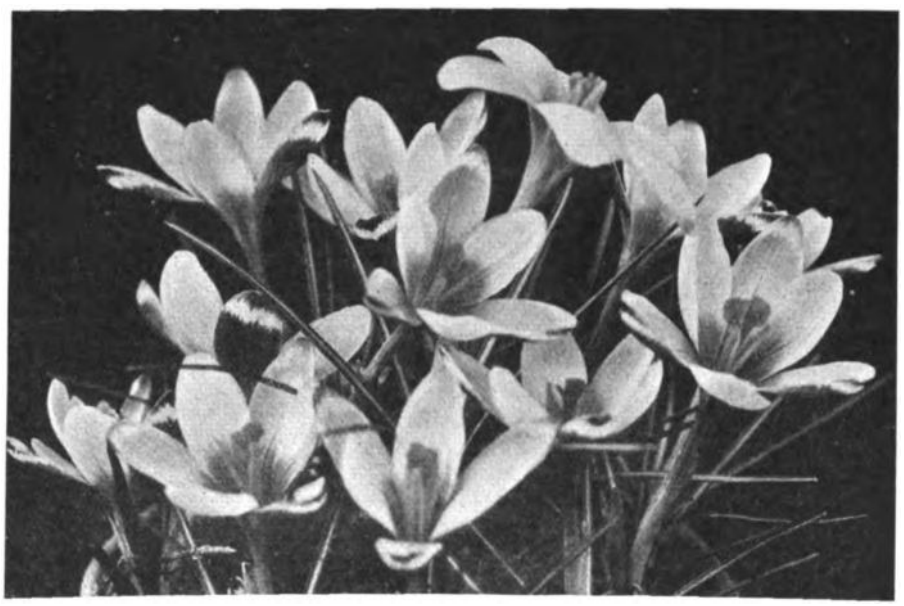
EARLY SPRING AT VINCENT SQUARE

THE recent mild weather conditions have not come alone. They have brought in their train a host of early flowers of all kinds from the greenhouse, the rock garden and the shrubbery. The display at the R.H.S. Hall, Vincent Square, on the occasion of the usual fortnightly show of the Society on February 23rd, was unusually bright and attractive for this period of the year. The contrasting tones of colour were quite a feature, which certainly augurs well for the future shows. Alpines predominated, while bulbous flowers, cyclamens, early-flowering shrubs and azaleas supplied the more brilliant patches of colour.

One of the most outstanding exhibits was that of cyclamens set up by Messrs. Sutton and Sons of Reading. As was the case last year, the plants were laid out in bold circular groups set in a bed of moss, and the whole arrangement was exceedingly effective. This style of exhibiting deserves every praise, as each individual variety can be appraised on its own particular merits and compared with its neighbours with great ease. The plants shown were excellent in every way—in size, vigour and colour. Among the varieties were to be found Giant White, a really excellent variety; Firefly, dainty and of good colour; Giant Salmon Pink; Vulcan, good both in foliage and flower; and Giant Shell Pink. There seems little doubt that, with the production of so many fine varieties during recent years, the cyclamen is the pre-eminent flower for indoor decoration during the winter months.

Near by, a rather interesting collection of new seedling potatoes was also staged by Messrs. Suttons. Rarely has such a collection been seen at the Hall. The varieties as yet are not in commerce, and they are all new and distinct seedlings, grown in the open field in Dumfriesshire, Scotland. In addition, they have passed the necessary tests for immunity to wart disease. All the tubers are of good shape and size, some smooth-skinned, others rough, while all show a tendency to shallow eyes. It was a most interesting as well as instructive collection, and indicates that our large seed houses are as much concerned with the raising of high-class vegetables as with the production of high-class garden flowers.

A large and outstanding group of forced bulbs of all kinds was exhibited by Messrs. R. H. Bath, and from such a fine exhibit one could fully appreciate the great value of tulips, narcissi, hyacinths and also crocuses when grown as pot plants for house decoration. Excellent varieties had been selected, and the bulbs were well grown. The crocuses were, perhaps, too tightly packed in the bowls; but the varieties Mikado and Queen of the Blues, nevertheless, looked most effective. Hyacinth L'Innocence, Narcissus Flame and the Tulip Vermilion Brilliant were especially fine. Bulb enthusiasts were particularly interested in the collection of seedling narcissi shown by the well known hybridists, Messrs. Barr and Sons. In many cases the varieties exhibited were not christened, but given under numbers. Of those already named, some of the finest were Village Beauty, Striking, John Evelyn, Eileen Terry and Lovenest, and all of these possess many good points which should give them great popularity when they become more generally known. An attractive display, crocuses growing in irregular drifts in a lawn, was made by Messrs. Carter and Co. The purple and mauve crocuses formed a pleasant contrast against the vivid green grass.



THE GAILY COLOURED CROCUS SIEBERI VERSICOLOR MAJOR.

An imposing group of apples which consisted of well over a hundred varieties was exhibited by Messrs. G. Bunyard and Co. A collection of forced shrubs was exhibited by Messrs. L. R. Russell. Fine specimens of the azaleas Van Thol and Anthony Koster, the fragrant Viburnum Carlesii, Prunus triloba and a group of handsome Amaryllis hybrids were shown. Mr. G. Prince staged a number of roses, among which were the yellow Banksian rose and that beautiful coppery red briar, Austrian Copper. Mr. Elisha Hicks again exhibited perfect blooms of forced roses. Rhododendrons and anemones were exhibited by Messrs. Gill and Son and a collection of shrubs of all kinds came from the nursery of Messrs. W. Cutbush and Son.

The colour, size and quality of the carnation exhibits left nothing to be desired. Messrs. Allwood Brothers' border carnations Sussex Flake and Sussex Rosalind, and their perpetuals Beauty of Durham and Edward Allwood, were clear in colour and perfect in shape. Messrs. C. Engelmann showed a new variety named Carola striata; and Messrs. Stuart Low had good blooms of Coquette, Lady Hindlip and Lord Lambourne.

The earlier alpines were in full force and flower. Most exhibitors showed some of the recent Kabschia hybrid saxifrages which have introduced a new play of colour into the alpine house, for which the choicer earlier-flowering saxifrages are really better suited than to the open air, where they are so liable to be tarnished and tattered by the rough weather.

Mr. C. G. Kirch, showed a very fine and well grown collection of alpines in pans, including Messrs. Prichard's hybrid saxifrage Delight, which is, perhaps, the purest pink of its class; the rare Saxifraga Tombeanensis, Hall's variety of S. oppositifolia, in which the striping of the type is emphasised and gives us a gay flower with broad lines of dark and light purple pink; and several of Sündermann's hybrids.

Mr. F. G. Wood of Ashtead made a very interesting and effective group of colour by massing the blue-black Muscari paradoxa against the clear purple of Sisyrinchium grandiflorum at the foot of a bush of Magnolia stellata covered with its dead white flowers.

Messrs. Clarence Elliott showed many vigorous plants of the rare Primula Allionii (and they received an award of merit for the pure white form), Sisyrinchium grandiflorum album, with its great bells of almost transparent white silk; Primula Winteri; and a large pan of Saxifraga Faldonside in silver and citron yellow.

Messrs. Waterer showed some very interesting "bulbous plants": Iris Purpurea var. Ruby, reddish purple; I. Sindjarensis, a

Digitized by Google

pale blue Juno; Anemone blanda var. Scythinica, milk white, stained outside with inky blue; I. stylosa var. angustifolia, a fine dark form; and Puschkinia libanotica, a beautiful and vigorous plant that should be more grown for the individual beauty of its white flowers lined with china blue.

Messrs. Rogers of Southampton showed their pigmy cypress, Cupressus tetragona obtusa minima, which grows not much larger than its printed name, and some fine plants of the vigorous and easy Soldanella montana.

Messrs. Prichard and Sons showed their newest hybrid saxifrage, His Majesty, a handsome, striking flower with very large, overlapping white petals and a conspicuous ring of orange at the insertion of the stamens; and Riverslea, with very bright, rosy magenta flowers that contrast admirably with the silver foliage: it is vigorous and free-flowering and probably the best of its colour.

Messrs. Cutbush made a bold group of Kurumi azaleas round a bush of the pink peach Clara Meyer which rather overshadowed the queer, quiet colouring—transparent greenish white—of the rare Juno, Iris palestina.

Messrs. Reuthe showed the gentian blue, white-throated Tecophilea cyanocroceus; a very charming old double red primrose with a white line round the edge of the petals; and several double hepaticas, including the rare double white.

Messrs. Tucker of Oxford showed Morisia hypogæa, that odd little alpine which carries small stemless buttercups, smelling of hawthorn, on a rosette of dandelion leaves, but turns out to be a crucifer; Soldanella alpina; the pale S. Sanderii; and well flowered plants of Saxifraga Irvingii.

Messrs. Charlesworth and Co., Hayward's Heath, arranged a fine exhibit of choice hybrids, noteworthy examples being Odontoglossum Zulu, with a branched spike of fifty-eight flowers; Miltonia William Pitt, in which the labellum is effectively suffused with crimson; and Odontoglossum Serapis, whose flowers are heavily blotched with chocolate red. A silver-gilt Banksian medal was awarded to this group. Messrs. Sanders, St. Albans, were similarly rewarded for their exhibit of fine cymbidium hybrids, various oncidiums, and several excellent examples of Phalænopsis Schilleriana.

Silver Banksian medals were won by Messrs. Cowan and Co., whose group contained a fine variety of Cattleya Enid alba, as well as C. Tityus and C. Octave Doin; while Odontioda Princess Mary came in for appreciation on account of the bright nature of its large reddish flowers. Messrs. Stuart Low and Co. included the elegant Angræcum eburneum in their group, also several well flowered dendrobiums, the brightly coloured Lælia harpophylla, and Lælio-Cattleya General Maude, with a roundly formed flower of bright purplish rose. Messrs. Black and Flory staged a number of cypripediums, of which one bearing the name Robert Paterson was above the usual size, while the colour was also good. Mr. Harry Dixon had an exhibit in the centre of which stood a vigorous example of Dendrobium Melpomene, with numerous flowers of light yellow.

Messrs. J. and A. McBean exhibited various hybrids, including Cattleya intertexta alba, with pure white flowers; C. Cowaniæ alba, also pure white; and Odontoglossum Dictune, noteworthy for its flowers of immense size with the segments boldly blotched with red-brown. Mr. E. R. Ashton, Tunbridge Wells, staged the Broadlands' variety of Odontoglossum St. George, with a spike of nineteen flowers. Mr. G. W. Bird, West Wickham, exhibited Odontioda Gladys, with pleasing flowers of rose-violet blotched with red. Mr. G. F. Moore, Bourton-on-the-Water, showed Cypripedium Mrs. Eley and other notable hybrids from his well known collection.

NEW AND RARE PLANTS.

AWARDS OF MERIT.

CYRTANTHUS O'BRIENII.—The large, graceful flowers of this species are of a delicate coral red in colour and are borne in umbels comprising six to eight flowers, on scapes reaching almost a foot in height. The upper segments of the perianth are slightly overhanging, which has given to this species its other name of C. inæqualis.

VIBURNUM FRAGRANS CANDIDISSIMA.—This is a form with pure white flowers borne in dense clusters at the same time as the leaves are appearing. The flowers are all of the same size as in the type and only differ in colour; they also appear considerably later. The fragrance was much in evidence, due to the plant being indoors. These plants were both shown by Sir William Lawrence.

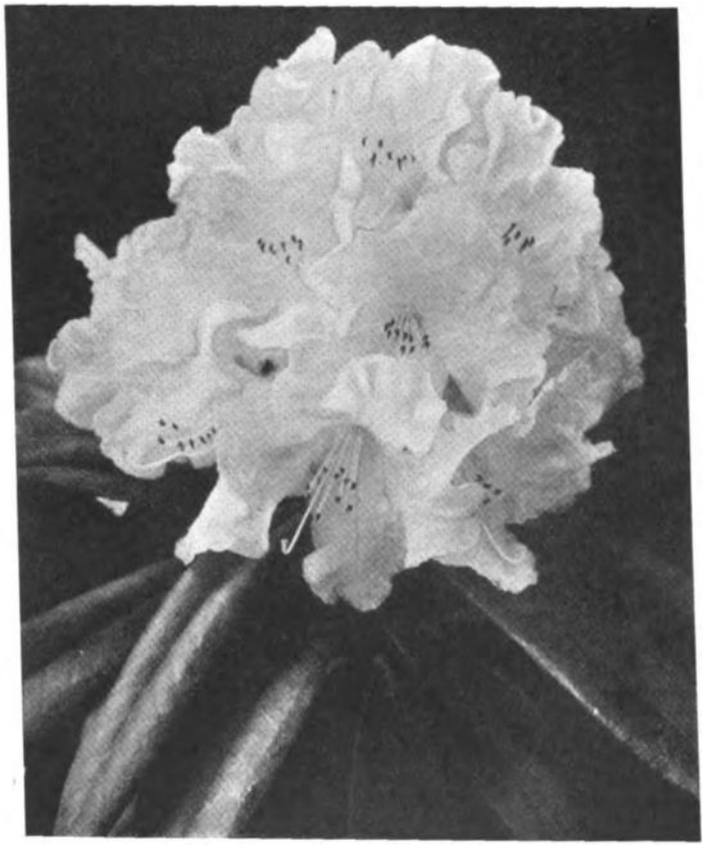
SAXIFRAGA RIVERSLEA.—This is a new hybrid between S. Goldroneana and S. lilacina with deep purplish rose flowers borne on slender stems 2ins. to 3ins. high. The foliage is also rather attractive, with a silvery appearance. Shown by Messrs. Prichard and Sons, Christchurch, Hants.

PRIMULA ALLIONII ALBA.—A pure white form of what Farrer called "the jewel of jewels among our European saxatile species." This is a most delightful form, with tight cushions of grey-green foliage as in the type, with the thin, shapely white blossoms peeping from it on very short stems. A rare treasure, which was well grown. Shown by Messrs. Clarence Elliott, Stevenage.

RHODODENDRON NOBLEANUM ALBUM GILL'S VARIETY.—As shown, this is an exceedingly fine variety, carrying fair-sized and closely set trusses of pure white flowers of some 2ins. across and spotted with delicate green on the throat. The foliage is of a light green. Neither the individual flowers nor the truss bears much resemblance to Nobleanum. Rather would it appear to be a hybrid form, with probably caucasicum blood in its constitution. Shown by Messrs. Gill and Son, Falmouth.

NARCISSUS POETAZ CHEERFULNESS.—The creamy white flowers of this variety are gracefully borne on tall slender stems. The outer petals are well spread, crowned in the centre by a tight bunch showing touches of yellow at the base. Shown by Mr. J. W. Barr, Wimborne.

CROCUS SIEBERI VERSICOLOR MAJOR.—This is a very fine, vigorous-growing form and larger in stature than the type. The flowers show the same intensity of colour in the throat with deep orange which fades to a delicate white, while the deep purple on the reverse of the petals is most striking and provides a vivid contrast. First-class certificate. Shown by Mr. E. A. Bowles.



THE HANDSOME TRUSS OF RHODODENDRON NOBLEANUM ALBUM GILL'S VARIETY.

ORCHIDS.

MILTONIA LYCÆNA, STAMPERLAND VAR.—One of the finest of the Miltonia hybrids. The spike bore three large flowers in which the petals are almost covered with a rich crimson colour; the labellum has the greater part of its area similarly coloured, while the base bears a brownish mask, with radiating lines, and surrounded with a lighter zone. A conspicuous feature is the yellowish crest. Shown by Mr. Robert Paterson, Glasgow. First-class certificate.

BRASSO-LÆLIO-CATTLEYA NIGERIA.—For a hybrid of Brassavola Digbyana this is unusually well coloured, the large flower has the sepals and petals of a deep rose colour, the labellum of a darker tint, with purple venation, and the throat with an orange-yellow disc. Award of merit.

VUYLSTEKEARA MELBA.—An interesting hybrid obtained by crossing Vuylstekeara Brewii with Odontoglossum Gorizia. The whole flower is of a rich crimson-purple, the broadly developed labellum showing more purple than the other segments. In formation it exhibits much of the character of Miltonia vexillaria. Award of merit.

ODONTOGLOSSUM CITRINUM VAR. PRINCE OF ORANGE.—A distinct hybrid composed of the three species crispum, Pescatorei and triumphans, and of which yellow-spotted varieties were used. The spike bore ten flowers of saffron yellow colour, with spotting of deep yellow. The labellum bears the characteristic blotch of O. triumphans, but of light yellow colour. The above three were shown by Messrs. Charlesworth. Award of merit.

CYMBIDIUM FLAMINGO VAR. ROTUNDIFLORUM.—A charming hybrid, produced by crossing Alexanderi with Merlin. The plant carried two spikes, with three and four flowers respectively, the segments broadly formed, blush tinted, the labellum with a crimson blotch on the front lobe, and rose staining on the lateral lobes. Shown by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir George Holford. Award of merit.

Digitized by Google

GLADIOLI

Showy, large-flowered varieties. Plant 4 ins. deep and 10 ins. apart in any good garden soil.

	Per doz.	Per 100
America.—Soft lavender-pink	1/6	10/6
Baron Joseph Hulot.—Violet	2/3	16/-
Empress of India.—Dark crimson	2/-	14/-
Marechal Foch.—Pale pink	1/9	12/6
Panama.—Lovely pink	2/-	14/-
Red Emperor.—Scarlet, grand flowers	2/6	18/-
Superior to Brenchleyensis.		
Schwabia.—Soft yellow	2/-	14/-
White Giant.—Fine spike	2/-	14/-
Other varieties see list free on application.		
The above and others in grand mixture	1/6	11/6

MONTBRETIAS

I recommend the following varieties with every confidence.

	Per doz.	Per 100
Fire King.—Glowing scarlet-red	2/-	14/-
George Davison.—Pale orange	1/6	10/-
King Edmond.—Golden	2/-	—
Lady Hamilton.—Bright vermilion-red	4/-	—
Lord Nelson.—Deep orange-scarlet	4/6	—

Carriage Paid on Orders of 5/-.

ALFRED DAWKINS,
Seventeen Years Manager Seed & Bulb Department James Veitch & Sons.
408, KING'S RD., CHELSEA, S.W.10

GRAND YORKSHIRE
Flower Show & Gala
ASSOCIATION, Ltd., YORK
16th, 17th & 18th JUNE, 1926

For Groups of Stove and Greenhouse Plants, Orchids, Carnations, Begonias, Sweet Peas, Roses, Cut Flowers, etc.

Gold & Silver Medals for Trade Exhibits

For Schedules apply to
ARTHUR ANDERSON, Sec., Assembly Rooms, York

Water Plants

My New Illustrated Catalogue contains the most complete collection ever offered. Free

PERRY'S Hardy Plant Farm, Enfield Middx.

CHEAP ROSES

Home grown SECOND SIZE sturdy plants, which will flower well during the coming season.

	doz.	100
BUSHES in 30 leading varieties, all colours	9/-	65/-
CLIMBERS, 5-7 ft., in 20 leading varieties, all colours	10/6	75/-
STANDARDS and HALF STANDARDS, in 12 leading varieties	30/-	—

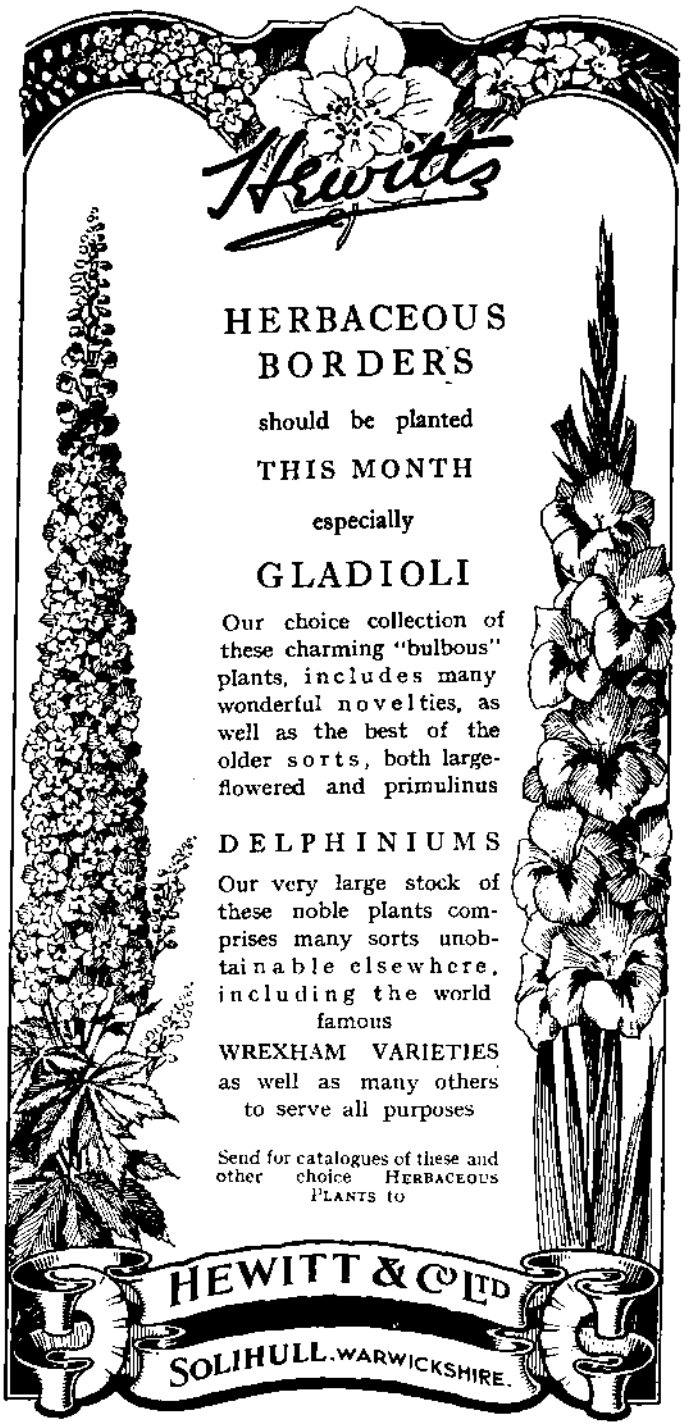
State colours required, or better still leave selection to us. Every plant named Carriage paid and packing free for cash with order

First-size plants at catalogue prices

FRUIT TREES, Shrubs, etc., immense stocks

Write for Catalogues

HILLIER & SONS, Winchester



Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

For success in your Garden USE

THOMSON'S MANURES

On the market for over 50 years, they still hold first place for QUALITY and RESULTS. They are safe, sure and lasting. The direct result of many years' practical experience in gardening, they stand unrivalled at the present day for all Garden Crops.

Prices:—**VINE, PLANT AND VEGETABLE MANURE**—a Perfect Food—1 cwt., 30/-; 56 lb., 16/-; 28 lb. 9/-; 14 lb. 5/-; 7 lb., 3/-; tins, 1/3 and 6d. **SPECIAL TOP DRESSING MANURE**—an excellent stimulant—56 lb., 17/-; 28 lb., 9/6; 14 lb., 5/6; 7 lb. 3/-; tins, 1/3. Carriage paid on 28 lbs. and up.

WRITE FOR OUR BOOKLET—POST FREE ON REQUEST

SOLD BY NURSERYMEN AND SEEDSMEN EVERYWHERE.

Or from Sole Makers, WM. THOMSON & SONS, TWEED VINEYARDS, CLOVENFORDS, SCOTLAND

Digitized by Google

GREENHOUSE FUMIGATION

VIVID recollection of the shudder with which, in apprenticeship days, I heard the chief's order that the long range should be fumigated in the evening compels me to maintain that fumigating in the old style with tobacco paper dropped on to glowing cinders was the one really repulsive task in the routine of garden work.

Happily for all concerned, the scientist grappled with the problem, and although we still find in nicotine one of the most serviceable and reliable of insecticides for indoor use, we have it placed at our disposal in such a form of purity and certified strength that there is a remarkable degree of certainty about the whole procedure of fumigating with nicotine, and, greatest advantage of all, there is no necessity whatever to remain in the house during the process of fumigation.

It is important in the first place that this remarkable difference between the fumigating methods and materials of past and present shall be quite clearly realised, for the simple reason that some horticulturists of long experience are wont to condemn fumigation, bearing in mind only that which they long since proved to be wholly unsatisfactory, and for the further reason that the younger generation of plantsmen may realise that since fumigation has been reduced to a scientific operation the only means of ensuring success is to carry out the task with precision and exacting care in every detail.

Equally important is the necessity for a very clear understanding of the purposes, the capabilities and the limitations of greenhouse fumigation. The purpose in view will be readily agreed to be the destruction of plant pests, but it must be candidly admitted that while nicotine is extremely powerful and effective against many enemies of plant life, it is not capable of killing all foes or curing all diseases of plants. I have known actual instances of nicotine fumigation being used in the hope of checking mildew on pot roses and shanking in grapes, while I have heard a shop salesman assert that it will kill earthworms in plant pots.

The greatest value of nicotine as a fumigant lies in its power to kill aphides and some other small insects which infest various kinds of greenhouse plants, and because the fumes or vapour will penetrate chinks and crevices in staging, shelves and every corner of the greenhouse. Pests which take shelter against sprays or powders may thus be pursued to their lairs. It is well within range of possibility to kill red spider, thrip, mealy bug and snowy fly with nicotine fumes, but, on the other hand, if either of these four wretched pests gains a strong foothold in a greenhouse there will invariably be sufficient left uninjured after fumigation to restock the house and perpetuate the mischief; they require special measures, such as cyaniding, sulphurising or spraying with preparations which kill by contact. There is material here for further articles, but for the time being nicotine fumigation is all-sufficient to occupy our attention.

The commodity is put up in various forms by different firms. Some sell an almost pure nicotine with just sufficient of a volatising agent to ensure rapid and complete vaporisation. The well known firm of G. H. Richards, whose XL All brand of liquid nicotine fumigant has had many years of widespread use, still maintain a strong position in this trade, and it speaks well for the utility of this form of nicotine that while XL All is still as widely used as ever there are quite a number of other brands on the market the basic principles of which are practically the same, thus testifying to the fact that the use of such fumigants is carried on to a vastly increased extent.

The two principal points about this form of nicotine fumigant are: One, that the exact quantity required to ensure maximum results combined with safety of the plants is easily ascertained by measuring and working out the cubic capacity of the house; two, that when the lamps are prepared and lighted the house may be left with assurance that the task will automatically complete itself.

The compound is obtainable in the form of solid cakes or tablets instead of in liquid, but the only possible advantage I can attribute to the cakes is that they may be carelessly dropped without suffering damage, whereas a bottle may be broken, with the resultant loss of its expensive contents. Plants should never be syringed before fumigation, nor should the atmosphere in the house be heavily charged with moisture.

Evening is the best time for fumigation, but if it must be done by daylight choose a sunless day.

Obviously all openings should be covered, gaps under doors matted over, and everything be done to prevent escape of the fumes, and the house should remain closed until the following day, when it will be advisable to ventilate freely, for nobody should loiter in a house surcharged with nicotine fumes, which are rank poison. Most plants, except those carrying fragile flowers and such ferns as maidenhair, Asparagus plumosus or gymnogrammas, will appreciate a copious syringing with tepid water the day following fumigation. In regard to the exceptions named, there should seldom be necessity to fumigate the ferns if their culture is sound, and in the case of fragile flowers all necessary fumigation should be done before the plants begin to bloom.

There is no particular season for fumigating, but the prudent plantsman will make a point of fumigating once or twice quite early in the year, before he has tender young seedlings to consider, and probably during April another couple of fumigations may be required, and unless fresh plants are brought into the house with an accompaniment of unwelcome pests, the probability is everything will remain clean well into the summer months.

A single fumigation may suffice to kill ordinary green fly, but more stubborn foes, such as thrip, will only succumb to repeated fumigations on two or three consecutive or alternate nights.

Other preparations of nicotine than those above mentioned are obtainable, some in the way of sheets, which are to be ignited and left to burn out as in the well known McDougall sheets; others are cones either themselves to be lighted or evaporated by means of small candles. Where all are efficient it would be of little service to attempt to indicate a preference for one or another; the only point that sometimes needs a little careful consideration is that, as these ready-made quantities are usually measured to meet the needs of a certain cubic area, it will be perhaps a matter of difficult calculation to use the precise quantity required for a particular house. Needless to say, poisonous fumigants cannot be used in conservatories which have direct communication with the rooms of a dwelling.

A. J. MACSELF.

The RITO Smile

GARDENERS!

Multiply your crops and produce fragrant flowers with

RITO

The food for soil bacteria.

From Seedsmen, Florists, Corn Merchants, etc.

Prices—1 cwt. **23/-**; 28lb. **6/3**; 14lb. **3/3**; 7lb. **1/9** and in **1/-** cartons

Literature and reports FREE from the MOLASSINE CO. Ltd., Dept. R52, Greenwich, S.E.10

Digitized by Google

THORNTON BUTTERWORTH LTD

GLADIOLI

by

A. J. MACSELF

"A useful and reliable guide."—*Horticultural Trades Journal.*

"Everything essential to the grower, both amateur and professional, is included and the cultivator will find the work of great value as the subject is presented in a style which is both simple and lucid."—*The Garden.*

Beautifully illustrated in colour, half-tone and line. **6s.** *net.*

Send for prospectus of the Home Garden Books, of which the above is Volume 9

15 BEDFORD ST. LONDON W.C. 2

BENTLEY'S
WEED DESTROYER
(POISON) STANDS FOR
Strength Reliability Economy

Stronger than any other. One application keeps gravel paths and drives clean for nearly two years. Commands the largest sale both at home and abroad, with a rapidly spreading popularity.

REDUCED PRICES:
Concentrated Liquid (1 to 80)—1 gal. 6/9; 2 gals. 13/-; 3 gals. 19/9; 6 gals. 35/9; 12gals. 68/-; 24gals. 134/3; 40gals. 218/3
Powder (1 to 25)—4 tins 9/3; 8 tins 17/10; 12 tins 25/6; 20 tins 40/9; 40 tins 78/-

BENTLEY'S
DAISY KILLER
THE ONLY SCIENTIFIC LAWN SAND

Weeds of all kinds are quickly killed by one dressing of this unique specialty. Afterwards the finer grasses are free to develop into a dense, rich, green sward.

One pound is sufficient to dress 3 sq. yds.
1 ton £26; 4 cwts. 28/6 per cwt.; 1 cwt. 28/-; 56 lbs. 15/6; 28 lbs. 8/6 14 lbs. 4/9; tins 1/6 each.

Carriage paid on 15/- orders and upwards

Sole Manufacturers:
JOSEPH BENTLEY LTD.
CHEMICAL WORKS,
BARROW-ON-HUMBER :: LINCS.

THE GARDEN AND ITS NEEDS

THE GREENHOUSE

ABUTILONS.

ABUTILONS are classed as greenhouse evergreen shrubs. The foliage is handsome and graceful, and this character of the plant is considerably enhanced when the flowers are open. In a warm greenhouse it is possible to have flowers on the plants nearly the whole year; a little judicious stopping of some of the young shoots from time to time causes more shoots to grow, and directly flower-buds form a little feeding will strengthen both plant and flower. They are useful as pot plants and also for training to pillars and back walls in lean-to greenhouses and conservatories. Plants raised from seeds flower in the autumn of the same year if grown in a warm greenhouse. The seeds should be sown in March in pots filled with a mixture of fibrous loam and leaf-soil in equal proportions. The resultant seedlings should be potted singly at an early stage of growth and re-potted twice, the last time in 6in. pots. Use a similar compost throughout, but in a coarser or more lumpy condition. Retain the young plants in the greenhouse throughout. Cuttings of young shoots about 4ins. long will root readily in a propagating frame in the spring. The soil for the cuttings should be fine and surfaced with coarse sand. Sever the cuttings just below a joint, or have a tiny heel of older wood attached to it. These young plants will form good specimens 18ins. high by September. Old plants may be planted in sheltered beds in the flower garden, where they will bloom freely during the summer months. If they are retained in their pots and the latter plunged, there is not much trouble entailed in rehousing in October. The colours are lovely, pure white, yellow, orange, orange-red, white

SALE OF ROSES

At 33⅓ per cent. less than catalogue prices.

HAVING so far sold our stock of Roses that the catalogue is no longer a reliable source of selection and not having enough each of different kinds to justify advertising the balance in named collections, we are offering what remains of our stock of bush, standard and climbing Roses in carriage paid quantities in varieties of our selection, at 33⅓ % less than list prices.

The varieties are all first-class (not an obsolete one among them), the trees are excellent and, while all buyers will get remarkably good value for money, the first comers will have the advantage of newer and more expensive varieties for as long as stocks last.

BUSHES
In variety—our selection.
Usual price 1/3 each.
10/- doz.
CARRIAGE PAID.
6/- for 6 trees.

STANDARDS
In variety—our selection.
Usual price 3/9 each.
30/- doz.
CARRIAGE PAID.
16/6 for 6 trees.
9/- for 3 trees.

CLIMBERS
In variety—our selection.
Usual price 1/6 each.
12/- doz.
CARRIAGE PAID.
7/- for 6 trees.
4/3 for 3 trees.

Bakers
SEED AND FLOWER FARM,
CODSALL.
Nr. Wolverhampton.

BEGONIAS
Giant Flowering. For Pots or Beds.

DOUBLES
In splendid mixture, per 100 24/-; per dozen 3/6 Distinct colours: crimson, scarlet, orange-scarlet, salmon, pink, white and yellow, per dozen 6/-

SINGLES
In splendid mixture, per 100 17/6; per dozen 2/6

GLADIOLI
First-size Bulbs in Finest Varieties

Collection 100 bulbs in 10 varieties– 13/6
" 120 " 12 " – 16/6
" 240 " 12 " – 30/–

	Per doz.	Per 100.
America, lilac rose	1/6	10/6
Baron Hulot, indigo blue	1/9	12/6
Brenchleyensis, vermilion-scarlet	2/–	14/–
Glory of Holland, pure white	1/9	12/6
Golden West, orange-scarlet	2/–	14/–
Halley, delicate salmon-pink	1/6	10/6
King of the Reds, coral-scarlet	2/9	18/6
Loveliness, creamy-white	2/3	15/–
Niagara, nankeen-yellow	2/–	14/–
Panama, deep pink	1/9	12/6
Schwaben, soft yellow	1/9	12/6
War, deep blood-red	1/9	12/6
White Giant, extra large pure white	1/9	12/6
Hybrids, Childsii	1/6	10/6
" Primulinus	1/6	10/6

ALL BULBS CARRIAGE PAID. CATALOGUE FREE
WM. POWER & CO., WATERFORD
Nurserymen and Seedmerchants.

Digitized by Google

YOU CAN STILL SECURE
SWEET PEA SEED
from British-grown, hardy, true-to-name plants. All the wonderful new ones as well as the old favourites, at reasonable prices.

GLADIOLI
The best new and standard English, American, French and Dutch varieties. Clean, bright, healthy corms which will grow and bloom.

Our business is based on the strict letter of the Golden Rule. Catalogues free on request.

LES JARDINS DU CHAROST,
(Under American Management)
42, Avenue de Neuilly,
NEUILLY - SUR - SEINE, FRANCE.

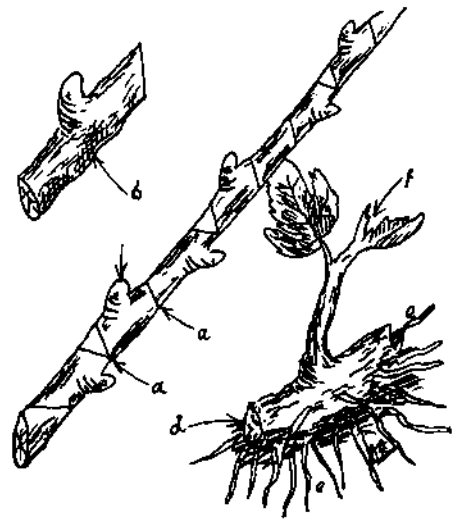
39th SEASON.
Mrs. PYM'S FAMOUS PLANTS
GOOD AND CHEAP
Send for New Spring Catalogue
— NOW READY —
Plant NOW for Success.
Magnificent Choice Hardy Perennials, Rockery Plants, Spring Flowering Plants, Hardy Climbers, Choice Hardy Flowering Shrubs, Splendid Plants for Cool Greenhouse, &c.
ALL STRONG HEALTHY PLANTS THE BEST I HAVE EVER HAD TO OFFER. EVERY PLANT A BARGAIN.
Named, carefully packed and guaranteed to arrive in excellent condition. Stock your gardens with really excellent plants.
Mrs. PYM (F.R.H.S.) & CO.
10, Vine House, Woodston, Peterboro'

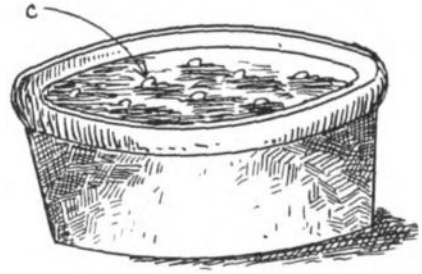
The Little Extra
spent on high-class Fertilisers makes all the difference to plants and flowers. Those fine blooms so seldom seen, except at Shows, can be grown with the famous "Ferry" Fertilisers.
"FERRY" GARDEN MANURE. The finest Manure for general garden purposes. Suitable for Roses, Fruit Trees, Potatoes, Vines, etc.
14lb., **3/-**; 28lb., **5/9**; 56lb., **11/-**; 1cwt., **20/-**.
"FERRY" LAWN MANURE. A highly concentrated quick-acting Fertiliser. A wonderful restorative of poor and worn lawns. Does not encourage the growth of coarse Grass and Clover.
14lb., **3/6**; 28lb., **6/-**; 56lb., **10/6**; 1cwt., **19/-**.
"FERRY" SOIL PEST DESTROYER. Sweetens and sterilises the soil and kills all insect pests: Wireworms, slugs, caterpillars, ants, etc.
14lb., **3/-**; 28lb., **5/6**; 56lb., **10/6**; 1cwt., **20/-**.
All to nearest Railway Station, carriage paid for cash with order.
The BRITON FERRY CHEMICAL & MANURE Co., Ltd.
(Dept. E), Briton Ferry, South Wales. (*Est.* 1886)
FERRY BRAND
Regd. Trade Mark
"TRY 'FERRY' FIRST."

and carmine, pink, orange striped red the foliage of some are green mottled with yellow.—G. G.

GROWING GRAPE VINES FROM EYES.

THIS is very interesting work indeed. Many amateur cultivators like to grow their own young vines, and they are frequently successful. Prunings that have been kept in a cold place are suitable now for cutting up. The extreme ends of the side shoots pruned off should be discarded. Those eyes that do not possess an embryo bunch of grapes in each one are the best for our purpose, but as nearly all buds do contain an embryo bunch, the latter should be carefully cut out when just sufficiently developed as to be distinct from the shoot. The beginning of





March is a suitable time for amateurs to insert the buds, because the latter should begin to grow soon after and continue to do so without any check. If they are left in a cold, wet soil for a long time, the wood is liable to decay—the bark portion from which the roots grow. Provide a few pans or pots, three parts fill them with a very sandy loam and a small quantity of leaf-soil. Place coarse, washed sand thickly on the surface. Be sure that the drainage is good. Cut the eyes as shown at *a*, *a*, about ¼in. above and the same distance below the bud, denoted by the arrow. When severed, you may cut away a small slice of wood and bark, shown at *b*. Insert the buds as at *c*. When the new roots are about 1in. long, shown at *d*, *e*, *e*, carefully lift from the pan and pot each growing bud, *f*, separately in small pots. For about ten days it is beneficial to plunge the small pots in the warm bed, too.

THE FLOWER GARDEN

HOW TO GROW FUCHSIAS FROM CUTTINGS.

FUCHSIAS are all round useful plants quite independent of the charm of the flowers which are produced on well grown plants throughout the summer months. They are

Austins
Scotch Seed Potatoes.
Our stocks are grown and selected specially for seed purposes, and under normal conditions of soil and situation cannot fail to produce first-class crops. All are Class 1, Scotch.

	14lb.	28lb.	56lb.	112lb.
FIRST EARLY.				
Arran Rose	3/-	5/6	10/-	18/-
Immune Ashleaf	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Duke of York	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Sharpe's Express	2/3	4/3	7/6	13/-
Witch Hill Early	3/-	5/6	10/-	18/-
SECOND EARLY.				
Ally	2/3	4/3	7/6	13/-
Arran Comrade	2/3	4/3	7/6	13/-
British Queen	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Great Scot	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Catriona	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
MAIN CROP.				
Abundance	2/4	4/6	8/-	14/-
Arran Chief	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
King Edward	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Kerr's Pink	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Majestic	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Field Marshal	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-

We offer many other varieties, including Arran Consul Ben Lomond, Golden Marvel, White Arran Victory, etc. full particulars of which are given in our Catalogue, which may be had post free on request.
Packing Free. Carriage forward by goods train. If to be sent by passenger train the additional cost would be 14lb., 1/6; 28lb., 2/6; 56lb., 3/-; 112lb., 10/-.
Our catalogue, giving full list of varieties, will be sent on application.
AUSTIN'S GOLD MEDAL GARDEN SEEDS.
Descriptive Catalogue of all varieties of outstanding merit free on request. Write for copy.
Orders have prompt attention.
AUSTIN & McASLAN
The Premier Scottish Seedsmen since 1717,
Mitchell Street, GLASGOW.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

HIGH GRADE STANDARD
GENZYME
RELIABLE PLANT FOOD
A
SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY
Apart from its perfectly balanced analysis it
CO-OPERATES WITH THE BACTERIA IN THE SOIL
releasing plant food hitherto locked up.
Whilst earlier and better production is assured
BENEFITS TO THE SOIL CONTINUE FOR YEARS
TINS: **1/6** each. 6d. extra for postage.
SACKS: 7lbs., **3/3**; 14lbs., **5/6**; 28lbs., **9/-**; 56lbs., **16/6**; 112lbs., **29/-**. Carriage paid. Cash with order.
If unable to obtain locally, please write manufacturers giving name of your dealer.
FORSYTH, JONES & COMPANY, Ltd.
14, SOUTHAMPTON ST., COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

SEEDS

IF YOU WANT

REALLY GOOD SEEDS

AT MODERATE PRICES

SEND TO

ROBERT SYDENHAM LIMITED

10, TENBY STREET, BIRMINGHAM

No one will serve you better.

SWEET PEAS A SPECIALITY

THEIR UNIQUE LISTS

contain only the Best

VEGETABLES, FLOWERS AND

BULBS WORTH GROWING

Post free on application.

ROBERT SYDENHAM LIMITED

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Please send for New List of

SEEDS of HARDY PLANTS

INCLUDING

BROOMS and TREES and SHRUBS.

T. SMITH, Daisy Hill Nursery, NEWRY

N. IRELAND.

LOWE & GIBSON

CRAWLEY DOWN, SUSSEX

OFFER the most comprehensive range of choice Gladiolus Seed in the world, and it is grown in every quarter of the globe.

Write for Seed Leaflet giving special offers and full details of culture.

N.B.—We were the first firm to popularise this entrancing method of growing the Gladiolus

ECKFORD'S GIANT FRILLED

SWEET PEAS

—FOR 1926—

GORGEOUS FLOWERS. MAGNIFICENT STEMS

For a wealth of cut flowers. For garden decoration. For exhibition.

ECKFORD'S ARE THE WORLD'S BEST

Special Offer.—25 specially chosen 1/- packets of Eckford's Giant Frilled Sweet Peas for 1926, each separate and named, for 20/-

The same 25, half-packets, each separate and named, for 10/-

The above are a gorgeous range of colour

WRITE FOR CATALOGUE (FREE) of all the best Sweet Peas for 1926. Also pedigree vegetables and choicest flower seeds

HENRY ECKFORD, Headquarters for Sweet Peas, Dept. 81 Wem, Shropshire

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

valuable subjects for the greenhouse and conservatory, dwelling-room window and flower garden. Groups of the plants in pots, the latter being sunk just below the grass on the lawn, look charming, especially in recesses, partly shaded and backed by evergreen shrubs and trees. There will be numerous shoots available for cuttings in March. These shoots should be inserted in a light, sandy mixture placed in small pots. The latter should be sunk to their rims in ashes or leaf-soil in a frame or box, temporarily placed on the stage in a greenhouse. Judiciously watered and shaded the cuttings root quickly. Then they must be potted singly, also in a light compost and again re-potted before the pots get too full of roots; as, if they do, the free growth of the stems and leaves will be checked. It is while the plants are young that the form they are to take must be decided upon. If standard then allow the shoot to grow and be trained to a neat stick until it is the desired height—2ft. 6ins. or 3ft.—before the point is pinched out to induce head shoots to branch out. If bush, pinch off the end of the leading shoot when the latter is 9ins. high. A bush or a pyramidal specimen can be grown from the same stopping. For all main repottings mix with the compost pounded bricks, mortar rubble and bone-meal. These pot plants may be grown on a bed of ashes outside during the summer.—G.

VIOLAS.

VIOLAS, also called tufted pansies, will thrive in any ordinary garden soil and in wet ground, where many kinds of summer-flowering subjects would fail. Violas are extremely useful in the flower garden as the plants are suitable for wholly filling a border, for a groundwork to taller-growing subjects and as neat, compact flowering edgings to borders. Old plants that have become straggly should be lifted, divided and replanted. Indeed, if the present is the second year of the growth of a viola plant, it should be lifted, carefully divided and the small rooted parts planted in a prepared border at a distance of 6ins. apart. If the soil is light do not add any other kind to it, if of a very heavy nature, then mix some sifted leaf-soil with it; the leaf-soil will induce new roots to grow quickly and thus fit the small tufts for planting out directly the beds are cleared of bulbs and other spring-flowering subjects. Directly these divided plants begin to root freely, flower buds will form and all should be pinched off until about ten days or a fortnight after planting-out work is finished. Throughout the season the faded flowers and their stems should be regularly removed from the plants then the latter will continue to bloom until the beds are required for spring-flowering plants again. Where naturally clayey soils obtain, place a small handful of burnt soil from the garden smother-fire round each viola at planting time to encourage early growth of new roots.—HANTS.

GLOBE THISTLES AND SEA HOLLIES.

JUST as one sometimes finds stocks and asters grown in the same border, so also it may often be seen that globe thistles (echinops) and sea hollies (eryngiums) are closely associated in a garden. March and April are convenient months during which to plant the clumps, and if some old manure is incorporated with the soil the majority of the plants will bloom the same season. The old idea that late autumn planting was the best is not so largely adhered to now, and, provided they are looked after with the water-pot should the succeeding season following removal be dry, there is no reason why the display should not be good. Both the plants, as it is known, are extremely hardy, and the past winter, severe as it has been, has not affected them adversely. To have the best from echinops and eryngiums, they should

Ryders

Quality Seeds in 2d. Packets

The quality of Ryders Seeds is **assured**—it always has been—and it always will be. Years before Ryders Seeds were sold in popular priced packets the name Ryder was an all-sufficient guarantee for the largest growers in the British Isles and Overseas. To-day this same quality and the same guarantee are yours. Send post card to-day for your

FREE COPY OF RYDERS 1926 CATALOGUE

In its 104 pages are nearly 4,000 varieties of the newest and best Flower and Vegetable Seeds, Begonias, Gladioli, Fertilizers, etc.

Ryders

RYDER & SON (1920), LTD.

St. Albans

Forbes' Catalogue

Carnations, Pelargoniums, Pentstemons, Phloxes, Pyrethrums, Violas, Hardy Border and Rock Plants, Seeds, etc.

FREE ON APPLICATION

JOHN FORBES (Hawick), LTD., Dept. 2, The King's Nurserymen, Hawick, Scotland

BORDER CARNATIONS & ALLWOODII

Plant EARLY for best results.

Border Carnations.

Our stocks of the best hardy Garden varieties are superb. Vigorous sturdy stock from 3½in. pots, which cannot fail to give the best results, the undermentioned collections represent the best value obtainable.

CARRIAGE PAID for cash.

6 distinct varieties 8/6
12 " " 16/-
25 Plants in good variety .. 30/-

ALLWOODII.

The ever popular hardy plant, suitable for every garden purpose. Will beautify the border, the lawn vase or window box; is perfectly hardy and the easiest plant to cultivate. New and improved varieties have been introduced, of which the undermentioned CARRIAGE PAID COLLECTIONS ARE MAINLY COMPOSED.

6 distinct varieties 5/6
12 " " 10/6
25 Plants in good variety .. 21/-

CATALOGUE OF ALL CARNATIONS FOR GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE sent post free on request to—

Allwood Bros

The leading Carnation Raisers and Specialists in the World.

Dept. 4, Haywards Heath, Sussex

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing*

Digitized by Google

IDEAL HOMES EXHIBITION
OLYMPIA. March 2nd to 27th
If you are interested in
TRELLIS SCREENS, PERGOLAS, ARCHES, GARDEN FURNITURE, TENNIS PAVILIONS, CHALETS, ETC.
Be sure you visit
STAND No. 47. — GROUND FLOOR, NEW HALL (Bungalow Section).
Cut this out for reference.
SEND TO-DAY FOR ILLUSTRATED LISTS, FREE.

W. T. REVITT, Trellis Works, OLNEY

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE FLOWER OF THE SEASON
BALL'S CALENDULA
Brilliant Orange Double Flowers
THE FINEST PLANT FOR CUT FLOWER OR THE BORDER
OUR exhibit at CHELSEA SHOW made us many customers, and we have had numerous testimonials from all parts of the country
SEED — 1/-, 2/6, 5/- packet
PLANTS, 1/6 doz.; 10/- 100
WM. ARTINDALE & SON
NETHER GREEN NURSERY :: SHEFFIELD

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

DOBBIE'S
SCOTCH-GROWN
PLANTS
FULL DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE
84 pages of Indoor and Hardy Plants
SENT ON APPLICATION
DOBBIE & CO., LTD.
Nurserymen :: EDINBURGH

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THOSE ODD JOBS
Learn how to do them Yourself . .
THE HOUSE DOCTOR
By R. Randal Phillips
2/6 net.
"COUNTRY LIFE" LIBRARY,
20, *Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.*

be given a position where they will get every gleam of sun. Echinops Ritro and E. sphærocephalus are among the best of the blue forms.

Eryngium Oliverianum, steely blue stems and bracts; E. amethystinum, purplish stems and amethyst-purple bracts; E. planum, with numerous thistle-like heads, bluish in colour: are familiar sorts that have a wide popularity. If intended for winter decoration, the stems should be cut before the bracts open and carefully dried.

Both the families can be raised from seed sown in a cold frame in April, and the plants will commence to bloom the following year. —CLAREMONT.

MISCELLANEOUS

RENOVATING LAWNS.

THE grass on lawns, tennis courts, bowling greens and cricket grounds must receive regular attention all the year round if it is to remain closely grown, green and healthy—that is, needing to be cut regularly in normal summers. Something can be done during the summer months to feed the growing grass, but not as much as can be during winter and springtime. The recent rains have shown up the wet parts of many lawns; it is not always desirable that such should be specially drained, as in normal seasons they do not require such drastic treatment. Patches of the kind named should be eased up by inserting the prongs of a strong garden fork at distances of 9ins. apart and each time prise the turf upwards. Surface lifting is not sufficient; the fork should be inserted each time approximately 7ins. deep. After the work is done, do not tread upon the turf nor roll it until drier weather has been experienced for some time. All moss found should be raked off and a liberal dressing of rich soil and a small quantity of lime applied. The soil, sufficient just to cover the grass before it is brushed in, and the lime at the rate of 4 oz. per square yard. Early in April, apply bone-meal at the rate of 2 oz. per square yard. There are often open joints, in the case of newly laid turves, to be dealt with when the first fine weather comes. Do not fill up such with ordinary soil if marl or clay can be procured. The latter should be dried, pounded to a powder, the open spaces filled with it; then a wonderfully good, firm lawn ground will result.—HANTS.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

Messrs. Maurice Prichard and Sons, Riverslea Nurseries, Christchurch, Hants.—List of alpine and herbaceous plants.

Messrs. Stuart Low and Co., Bush Hill Park, Middlesex.—Select carnations for 1926.

Mr. Alfred Edwards, Fordham, Ely.—A select list of gladioli, together with numerous cultural hints.

Mr. T. Smith, Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry.—List of seeds of hardy plants.

Messrs. Storrie and Storrie, Glencarse, Perthshire.—List of seeds and seedlings for 1926. A wide selection is offered.

Messrs. McHattie and Co., Seed Merchants, Chester.—Selected list of farm seeds.

Messrs. Hunters, Chester.—Forty-fourth annual list of agricultural seeds.

Messrs. The Darlington Fencing Co., Limited, Lloyds Avenue, London, E.C.3.—Two interesting and instructive little brochures on wire fences. In one, "'Ware Wire," all particulars of galvanised wire are set forth in an interesting style, with numerous illustrations. The other is a price list and indicates the many uses to which galvanised wire may be put. All kinds of wire fences and also wire gates, tree guards, chestnut paling fence, oak fencing, etc., can be supplied. A wide selection is offered and it is a price list which all keen horticulturists and agriculturists should obtain.

I BELIEVE that the man who smokes a pipe filled with a good tobacco gains a more tolerant, a calmer and happier outlook on life
—*R.F.E.*

There is one tobacco which has given unfailing satisfaction. It is still the same to day—

They call it
PLAYER'S
NAVY CUT
For Cigarette Smokers
PLAYER'S NAVY CUT CIGARETTES

P.1261.

Registered No. 154011.

WAKELEY'S GARDEN SEEDS
We beg to announce to our thousands of customers that we are now offering
GARDEN SEEDS
OF THE VERY
FINEST VARIETIES AND STRAIN.
Send for our **SPRING CATALOGUE** which contains a choice selection of all seeds and other specialities for the garden.
WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.,
75a, Bankside, S.E.

Digitized by Google

MATTHEWS' HIGH GRADE HORTICULTURAL FERTILISER — COMPARE ANALYSIS

MATTHEWS' BIG PRODUCTION FERTILISERS

MATTHEWS' HIGH GRADE TOMATO FERTILISER — COMPARE ANALYSIS

THOUSANDS OF TONS SOLD ANNUALLY

PROFITABLE GROWING IN 1926

EXHIBITION & PROFIT

MATTHEWS' "Maximum Crop" GARDEN SEEDS

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES

Choice Flower Seeds
Finest Spring Bulbs

Write for Catalogue

IT WILL PAY YOU

		Amm.	Phos.	Potash	lbs. 14	28	56	cwts. 1	2
MATTHEWS' HORTICULTURAL	For POTATOES & GENERAL GARDEN use.	7%	21%	4% (Pure)	3/3	5/9	10/9	20/-	37/6
MATTHEWS' TOMATO	All are 'MAXIMUM CROP" COMPLETE MANURES essential	9%	21%	6%	3/6	6/6	12/-	22/6	42/-
MATTHEWS' LAWN	FOR ECOMOMICAL SUCCESS.	4%	25%	2%	3/-	5/6	10/-	18/6	34/-

NOTE - double value compared with some that are sold.

IT PAYS TO USE MATTHEWS' HORTICULTURAL FERTILISER

WHEN ORDERING mention this JOURNAL PLEASE

	Amm.	Phos.	Potash	lbs. 14	28	56	cwts. 1	2
Bone Charcoal ...	1·5%	67%	—	2/9	5/-	9/-	16/6	30/-
Bone Meal, English, Best	4.5%	45%	—	2/9	5/-	9/-	16/6	30/-
Basic Slag	—	30%	—	1/7	2/11	5/-	8/-	14 6
Bone Flour, Steamed	1%	60%	—	2/5	4/3	7/6	13/6	25/6
Fish Manure	10%	14%	—	3/5	6/4	11/9	21/6	40/6
Garden Salt	—	—	—	1/6	2/7	4/3	7/6	14/-
Hoof and Horn	16%			3/6	6/6	12/-	22/6	42/-
Kainit	—	—	14%	1/7	2/10	5/-	8/6	14/6
Lime, Ground Carbonate, Superfine	—	—	—	1/6	2/6	4/-	6/6	12/-
Meat and Bone Meal	8.5%	18%	—	3/-	5/6	10/-	18/6	34/-
Meat Meal	8%	30%	—	3/5	6/4	11/9	21/6	40 6
Nitrate of Soda	18%	—	—	3/5	6/4	11/9	21/6	40 6
Peruvian Guano	14½%	22%	2½%	4/-	7/7	14.3	27/-	51/-
Sulphate of Ammonia. 21% Nitrogen	25.75%	—	—	2/3	5/9	10/9	20/-	37/6
Sulphate of Potash	—	—	50%	3/3	5/9	10/9	20/-	37/6
Superphosphate	—	35%	—	1/8	3/1	5/3	9/6	18 -

CARRIAGE PAID on orders to the value of 5/- upwards to the nearest station in the United Kingdom
ESSEX RESIDENTS 1/6 per cwt. less. Packing and Bags Free; not returnable.

JAMES & GEO. H. MATTHEWS, Head Offices: HAROLD WOOD, ESSEX
Phone: ROMFORD 284
And at COLCHESTER, ONGAR, BRENTWOOD, CHADWELL HEATH, WICKHAM BISHOPS

MORE PROFIT THROUGH EXTRA YIELD AND *IMPROVED QUALITY.*

MATTHEWS' LAWN SAND

Effectively kills all the common weeds in lawns, and at the same time acts as an excellent Fertiliser. Sprinkle evenly over the weedy patches, at the rate of 3-ozs. per square yard, in dry weather Repeat at intervals of a few weeks, till the weeds are killed. The grass will become brown and appear to be burnt, but it will recover, and the useful grasses will grow more vigorously.

4/- 14 lbs. 6 6 28 lbs.
10 9 56 lbs.
20/- cwt.

FERTILISERS.

LAWNS, 20/-; FRUIT TREES, VINES, 19 6; GENERAL GARDEN USE, 17/-; WORM KILLER, 19/-
Per cwt., carriage paid. Also all other fertilisers.
HY. RICHARDSON & CO., Skeldergate Bridge Works, YORK

SHOW & REGAL PELARGONIUMS

for a brilliant show in April and May.

Strong plants ready now, from 3-inch pots, ready for potting into 5-inch pots. Best results obtained from plants now.
12 varieties 9/-, or newer sorts, 12/-, 15/- and 17/6 post free for cash.

ZONAL PELARGONIUMS

Single and Double. 12 varieties 7/6. Including newer sorts 10/-
12 Ivy Leaved varieties 7/6. 2/6 per dozen extra if required in Leatherboard pots, carr. paid

Orders over 5/- post free C. W. O.
Catalogue free on application

J. W. COLE & SON, Westwood Nurseries, Peterborough

THE LEADING GLASSHOUSE FUMIGANT.

CORRY'S WHITE FLY DEATH

WEED DEATH

The new NON-POISONOUS Weed Killer (POWDER).
SUPERIOR TO DANGEROUS ARSENICAL COMPOUNDS
Safety first, non-caustic, no smell, kills the roots.
4 galls., 1/-; 12½, 2/-; 25, 3/6; 50, 6/6; 100, 12/- & Bulk
From your Nurseryman or Seedsman.
CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by "ALPHOL"
Sample 14 lb., 3/6 carr. paid
Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Aids. Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc. to
Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St., Liverpool
Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

ADCO

turns
GARDEN REFUSE
into SYNTHETIC
FARMYARD MANURE

1 cwt. of ADCO makes from two to three tons of manure according to the class of rubbish treated.
ADCO Accelerator .. 28 lb. 4/6, 56 lb. 8/-, 1 cwt. 15/-
Standard ADCO .. 28 lb. 6/- 56 lb. 11/6 1 cwt. 20/-
Carriage Paid to Nearest Goods Station. Cash with Order.
Obtainable from all leading Seedsmen. Write for full particulars.
ADCO Ltd., 40, HARPENDEN, HERTS

YOUR GARDEN NEEDS KILOGRUB

Its fumes are instantly fatal to all insect pests in the soil, but harmless to plants. Really effective because it works underground.
Tins: 9d., 1/6 and 2/6
Bags: ¼ cwt. 6/6, ½ cwt. 9/6, 1 cwt. 15/-
From your seedsmen or from
JOHN PEAK & CO., LTD. WIGAN, Lancs.

THE JACKPAN

"The tool that cuts your costs"

Abolishes trenching. THE deep cultivator. What your Editor and others think of it is told in our Illustrated Folder No. 5, sent on request.

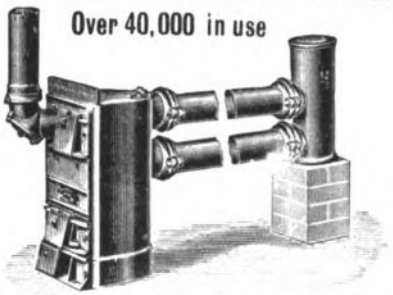
Your retailer can supply, or we will send sample for 6/-
P.E.G.S. LTD., 3, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.1

GARDEN LOVERS

Write for Catalogues of
PROTHEROE & MORRIS'
HORTICULTURAL SALES
MONDAY · WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY
67, 68 Cheapside, London E.C.2. Phone: City 3856

THE LOUGHBOROUGH BOILER

Over 40,000 in use



The high reputation of this Boiler for efficiency and economy is still unrivalled
Easy to fix, easy to manage, and most economical in fuel, it is the ideal Boiler for the Amateur's Greenhouse
Price Lists and Estimates for complete :: apparatus on application ::
MESSENGER & CO., LTD. LOUGHBOROUGH LEICESTERSHIRE
LONDON OFFICE: 122, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

In stockyard paddock, field and garden wear Boots* that have Uppers of "Beva" Waterproof Leather.

*Look for the "Beva" on the looping.

Digitized by Google

WAKELEY'S *Celebrated* Hop Manure

(PATENTED)

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

AS USED IN THE GARDENS OF GREAT BRITAIN

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL, ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION, 1912

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE, without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

Every ounce of Wakeley's Hop Manure is of value to the soil, supplying the necessary HUMUS in addition to the valuable plant food. Worthless rubbish is not added to make weight (as is the case of some artificial manures advertised).

Thousands do realise it, the proof of this is the constant flow of UNSOLICITED LETTERS received from time to time in praise of the wonderful results obtained at such a moderate cost (see Booklet for selection).

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.—Genuine Only in our Marked Bags containing Guaranteed Analysis.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of post card.

CASH PRICES (including bags):

Small (about 1 bushel)	3/-
Large (about 4 bushels)	7/-
5 Large	33/9
10 Large	65/-
20 Large	120/-

Carriage paid by Pickford's or to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company; 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

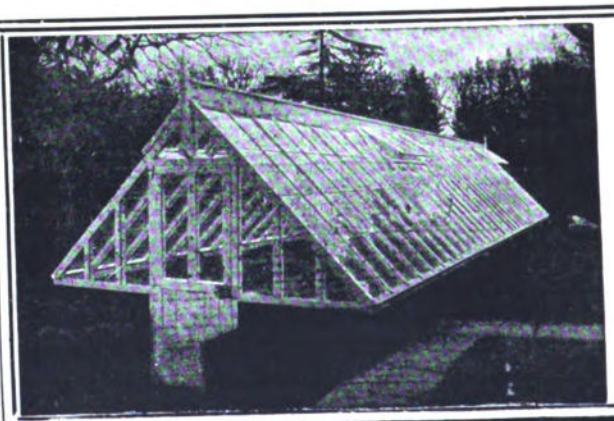
WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.

75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

TRUTH

in Advertising

"To seek the truth and live to it."—Resolution, Convention of Advertising men and women. All advertisers in this journal are **Truthful Advertisers.** If they weren't they wouldn't be there.



GREENHOUSES AND GARDEN FRAMES

I specialize in the Erection of High class Horticultural Buildings.

Garden Frames a speciality. Selected timber, well seasoned, only used.

Being a grower, I understand Glasshouse requirements.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.

CATALOGUES WITH PLEASURE.

E. M. HEAP, Cottimore Nurseries, WALTON-ON-THAMES.

By Appointment

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.,

Royal Potteries.

BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

YOUR LAWN!

TRUE PLAY *IN MANY LAWN GAMES IS IMPOSSIBLE UNLESS THE SURFACE IS CLEAR OF DAISIES AND OTHER WEEDS — THE BEST METHOD OF ERADICATION IS ~*

LAWN SAND

Velvas

applied 5 oz. per Square Yard.

MAKES VELVETY LAWNS

CARRIAGE PAID PRICES:

112 lb. Keg,	29/6	112 lb. Bag,	28/6	14 lb. Tin,	6/-
56 lb. ,,	16/-	56 lb. ,,	14/3	7 lb. ,,	4/-
28 lb. ,,	10/6	28 lb. ,,	9/3	3 lb. ,,	2/6

Sole Manufacturers

ROBINSON BROTHERS LTD, WEST BROMWICH

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

Vol. XC.—No. 2834 Saturday, March 13th, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

Barr's Large-Flowered GLADIOLI

FOR MARCH PLANTING

3 each of 20 beautiful varieties .. 18/6 and 30/-
3 „ 12 „ „ .. 10/6 „ 15/-
Extra Choice Mixture of 12 Large-flowered Hybrids, per 100, 21/-; per doz., 3/-

Gladiolus Primulinus Hybrids

3 each of 12 beautiful varieties .. 15/- and 21/-
3 „ 6 „ „ .. 7/6 „ 10/-
New Hybrids, Mixed, per 100, 17/6; per doz., 2/6

GLADIOLUS BRENCHLEYENSIS, the true old Scarlet Gladiolus, per 100, 25/-; per doz., 3/6

Descriptive Catalogue on application.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

WORTH GROWING

SEED POTATOES

SCOTCH & ENGLISH — CLASS 1

Selected Stocks

WRITE FOR LIST

ISAAC POAD & SONS, Ltd.,
Seed Potato Growers - - - YORK

Glassbreaks!

WHY USE IT?

'WINDOLITE'

The practical Glass Substitute for all GARDEN USES.

Light. Flexible. Unbreakable

Easy to cut and fix. It keeps out cold and wet, but lets in all the light—even the Ultra Violet Rays which are stopped by glass.

Send 4/6 for post free sample, 3 ft. by 2 ft.

WINDOLITE (DEPT. C) 179/185, GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1

. . THE . .

"SOUTHWELL" COLLECTION

BUSH ROSE TREES. ALL BRITISH GROWN.

FIRST CLASS VARIETIES FOR GARDEN EFFECT.

Avoca, crimson scarlet
Caroline Testout, satiny rose
Conrad F. Meyer, silvery rose
Dorothy Page Roberts, salmon pink
Francis Gaunt, fawny yellow
Frau Karl Druschki, white
General McArthur, velvety carmine
Gorgeous, deep orange yellow
Hadley, deep velvety crimson
Henrietta, coral salmon
La Tosca, blush pink
Lieut. Chaure, velvety crimson
Lyon, salmon pink
Mrs. H. R. Darlington, creamy yellow
Mrs. John Laing, clear pink
Red Letter Day, scarlet crimson
Richmond, red scarlet
W. E. Wallace, deep golden yellow

This collection of 18 varieties for 18/9, or 12 selected from the above for 12/6
Acme Labels (if required) .. .. .. 2/6 per dozen.

Carriage and packing free for Cash with Order.

BUY HOME GROWN TREES.

Catalogue of Rose Trees, Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Hardy Plants, etc., free on application to—

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, Ltd., THE NURSERIES, SOUTHWELL, NOTTS.

PLANTING SEASON

GEO. JACKMAN & SON

WOKING NURSERIES, SURREY.

Established over a century.

Invite inspection of their large and varied stock of ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBS, ROSES, CLIMBERS, FRUIT AND FOREST TREES, HERBACEOUS AND ALPINE PLANTS.

200 Acres of Stock to select from. Catalogues free on applicatio. .

ADVICE GIVEN ON ALL MATTERS APPERTAINING TO LANDSCAPE GARDENING & ESTATE IMPROVEMENTS

CYCLAMEN

The "Caledonian" Prize Strain *Awarded GOLD Medal*

EARLY FLOWERING CHRYSANTHEMUMS
A Speciality

NOVELTIES, 1926
For GARDEN and GREENHOUSE

NOW READY—OUR NEW CATALOGUE containing many thrills for the Garden enthusiast, together with useful cultural hints.

A POST CARD will bring you this handsome illustrated Edition

WRITE NOW—

J. W. FORSYTH Cyclamen Grower and Floriculturist PUTTERIDGE LUTON, BEDS.

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
— New Alpines and Perennials. Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
— Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
— Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
— Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD
CHELSEA, S.W.
— Seeds Gladioli Spiræas List on Application

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
— Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

BROWN'S TESTED SEEDS.
Illustrated Flower and Vegetable Seed Catalogue, giving full cultural directions, at competitive prices, post free if this paper is mentioned. T. BROWN & CO., *Seedsmen*, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

BARGAIN CATALOGUE
Land Sold for Building
Real Cambridgeshire grown Fruit Trees, Fruit Bushes, Roses, Shrubs, Avenue Trees, Privet, Plants.
Exceptionally strong and healthy.
FRANK RICE (F.R.H.S.), Arbury Nurseries, Cambridge

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
— Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
— Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
HULL
— Weed Destroyers Fertilisers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

HY. RICHARDSON & CO.
SKELDERGATE BRIDGE WORKS
YORK
— Lawn, Garden, Fruit Trees, and Horticultural Fertilisers

1926
PERPETUAL FLOWERING
CARNATIONS
Our Illustrated Catalogue will be sent free on request
C. ENGELMANN LTD.
Saffron Walden, Essex.

CAULIFLOWER
"MAY QUEEN."
Genuine only direct from Wymondham. The fastest growing, quickest heading variety in existence. Planted in March, large white heads may be cut during May. Autumn-sown Plants, 100, 2/6; 500, 10/-; 1,000, 30/-
Packed in Boxes Carriage Paid with Cultural Hints.
DANIELS & SON, (Dept. 22) WYMONDHAM, NORFOLK.

Lawn Repair
You will see big results from XL ALL Lawn Sand. It banishes the weeds and feeds the grass. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen and florists. Write for the XL ALL Pink List and name of your nearest dealer.
XL ALL LAWN SAND
G. H. RICHARDS, LTD.
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
R. 96.

Fruit Trees Rose Trees
ALL ENGLISH GROWN.
Descriptive Catalogue post free on demand.
INSPECTION INVITED.
S. SPOONER & SONS
Estd. 1820 The Nurseries, Hounslow, MIDDLESEX

GLADIOLI
Our Stock comprises the best new and standard English, American, French and Dutch varieties. Clean, healthy corms which will grow and bloom for you. Prices reasonable. Catalogue free on request.
LES JARDINS DU CHAROST,
(Under American Management)
42, Avenue de Neuilly,
NEUILLY - SUR - SEINE, FRANCE.

SITUATION VACANT.
REPRESENTATIVE WANTED, to boo orders for Garden Seeds, Sundries, etc., for large and well kno Seed Establishment. Give age, experience, with copies testimonials, to BOX 122, MESSRS. CLARKE, SON & PLATT, LIMITE 317, High Holborn, W.C.

BEGONIAS
AWARDED 85 GOLD MEDALS.
In superb quality and extra large tubers for Greenhouse or Bedding.

Doubles, in 8 colours, flowers like large Roses and Camellias	6/- per doz.	42/- per 100
Doubles, in mixed colours	5/- " "	35/- " "
Singles, in 6 colours, very large fine shaped flowers	4/6 " "	30/- " "
Singles, in mixed colours	3/6 " "	24/- " "
" Frilled or Crested, in 6 colours	5/- " "	35/- " "
" " " in mixed colours	4/- " "	28/- " "

Collection of **36** large tubers—12 Doubles, 12 Singles, 12 Frilled Singles—**14/-.**
Collection of **12** named hanging basket Begonias, 3 each 4 sorts, **3s/-.** Excellent value.
Post free on orders of 10/- and over.

Send for FREE Catalogue of Named Double Begonias for Exhibition, Basket varieties, Cyclamen, Gloxinias, Polyanthus, Phlox, Herbaceous Plants, etc.

DELPHINIUMS
Gained 17 Awards of Merit at R.H.S. Delphinium Trials at Wisley in 1925.
The ONLY selection to receive in 1924 and 1925 the R.H.S. Gold Medal, the highest award obtainable.
Plant NOW. We have pleasure in offering the following Collections which are specially good value, in strong ground roots, which will make a fine show of bloom this year.

COLLECTION A, 12 extra good sorts	65/-	**COLLECTION D,** 12 good sorts	22/-
" **B,** 12 very choice sorts	42/-	" **E,** 12 average sorts	15/-
" **C,** 12 fine sorts	30/-	" CATALOGUE FREE, apply	

BLACKMORE & LANGDON - - - BATH

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

ALPINE PLANTS, BORDER PLANTS, CHOICE FLOWERING SHRUBS, MINIATURE CONIFERS, HARDY HEATHS, HARDY FERNS, CLIMBERS. One of the oldest, and perhaps the finest, all-round collection in the country.

We grow some 4,000 kinds of all the best outdoor garden subjects, including such items as 100 kinds of Michaelmas Daisies, 100 kinds of Campanulas, 50 kinds of Hellebores, 200 kinds of Saxifrages, etc.

Our Catalogue of these is beautifully illustrated, shows how to build a rock wall and water lily pool, and tells about soils, etc., etc. It makes a fine reference book on plants. It is sent post free for 1s. which may be deducted from orders.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED.
SPECIMENS NAMED.
ADVICE GIVEN FREE.

J. STORMONTH & SON,
Hardy Plant Specialists,
KIRKBRIDE, by CARLISLE.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

WATERER'S GOLD MEDAL RHODODENDRONS, Azaleas, Shrubs, Conifers, Climbers, Heaths, Hardy Perennial and Alpine Plants, Vegetable and Flower Seeds, Scotch Seed Potatoes, Spring Bulbs, English-grown Fruit Trees and Roses. Separate catalogue for each department post free.—JOHN WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LIMITED, Twyford, Berks.

WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE.—The original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See page 111, or back page.

WM. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., Lawrence Road, South Tottenham, N.15.—Conservatories, Conservatories, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

BIRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUNDIALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—WALKER, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

FENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Hurdles in stock. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE PARK-LEA UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Standard Trees and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list, post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS & SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

ROCK PLANTS AND SHRUBS.—Over 300 varieties in stock. Descriptive catalogue free. Also Herbaceous Plants and Roses.—HODGSONS, LTD., 58, Castlegate, Nottingham.

YORK STONE PAVINGS, crazy or rectangular, random copings, steps, roughly squared or random riven flat bedded wallstones, garden edging, rockery, etc.—THOMPSON AND SON (MIRFIELD), LTD., Newgate Stone Works, Wickersley, Yorkshire.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, lapsas, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-galvanised and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 20-lb. per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card for 56-page free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

Price 2/6 each, by L. E. FOX.

MADAM'S GARDEN; Cultivation of Vegetable and Small Fruit, with Preface by E. J. CHITTENDEN, F.L.S., V.M.H.

OWE'S GARDEN: Cultivation of Flowers, with Preface by JOHN FRASER, F.L.S., V.M.H. *The Observer's Chronicle* says of *Adam's Garden*: "Most valuable information is given in a condensed form."—LONGMANS, GREEN & CO., Ltd., 39, Paternoster Row, London, E.C.4

PRIOR'S COLCHESTER ROSES, Fruit Trees, Herbaceous Dahlias, Carnations, Herbaceous. Catalogue containing cheap collections free.—D. PRIOR & SON, LTD., Colchester.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING, small mesh, 1yd. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 40yds. by 1yd., 4/-; 50yds. by 2yds., 6/6; 40yds. by 3yds., 9/9. Measured and carriage paid. Special Pea Netting supplied. Tennis Nets from 10/-. Compare our netting with others. Sports and samples free.—GALLOP, Net Manufacturer, Hastings.

ROCK AND ALPINE PLANTS.—Large and select collection. All pot grown. Packed and carriage paid. List free.—M. J. PIGGOTT, Duffield, Nr. Derby.

ROCK PLANTS, best varieties, inexpensive, list free.—MARION GLENDINNING, Fardross, Clogher, Northern Ireland.

NETS for Gardens and Tennis Courts.—Before ordering elsewhere, send for our free lists and samples. It will pay you.—GASSON & SONS, Net Works, Rye. Est. 127 years.

TO LOVERS OF ROCK GARDENS.—Rock Plants for Sale.—Apply, NELL SHAW, Hatfield Heath.

GENTIANS.—Cruciata, 6d.; phlogifolia, 1/-; Farreri, 1/-; lagodechiana, 1/6; Salvia Sclarea 2/- (fore). Rock plants, rare, deliciously scented, strong plants, 3/-. Cash with order.—STRICKLANDS, Barnfield, Charing, Kent.

BEAUTIFUL AND RARE ANEMONES.—Fulgens, 2/6; coronaria, 2/-; coronaria, new, 6d.; coronaria, 12, 1/4; coronaria, ap. plena, 4d.; alba plena, 12, 1/6; alba grandiflora, 12, 1/4; apennina, 6d.; coerulea, 6d.; Allenii, 6d.; Cornubiense, 12, 1/4; ap. plena, 4d.; alba plena, 12, 1/6; alba grandiflora, 12, 1/4

CLAY'S LONDON FERTILIZER TRADE MARK

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **OLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then, together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

OLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices :—

Tins 10d. and 1/6

and in **Branded and Sealed Bags :**

7 lbs. -	3/6	14 lbs. -	6/-
28 lbs. -	10/-	56 lbs. -	18/-
112 lbs. -	32/-		

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark.

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers, etc. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**

GARDEN MANURES

(Thousands of Tons Sold Annually)

OF EVERY POSSIBLE KIND AT

LEAST COST CARRIAGE PAID

INSTRUCTIVE CATALOGUE FREE

JAMES & GEO. H. MATTHEWS

Harold Wood, ESSEX. *Phone : Romford 284*

BEGONIAS

Giant Flowering. For Pots or Beds.

DOUBLES

In splendid mixture, per 100 **24/-** ; per dozen **3/6**

Distinct Colours : crimson scarlet, orange-scarlet, salmon, pink, white and yellow, per dozen **6/-**

SINGLES

In splendid mixture, per 100 **17/6** ; per dozen **2/6**

CARRIAGE PAID. CATALOGUE FREE

WM. POWER & CO., WATERFORD

Nurserymen and Seedmerchants.

ROCKERY STONE

Best Westmorland Weathered Limestone for Rockeries, Rock Gardens, etc.

In any sized pieces to suit requirements. Any quantity. Large Stones a speciality.

For price and particulars, write—

J. WARDLEY & SONS,

SLACKHEAD - - MILNTHORPE.

CHEALS' DAHLIAS

UNIQUE COLLECTION

Many Striking Novelties

New Catalogue Free

J. CHEAL & SONS. LTD.

The Nurseries, CRAWLEY

SENT FREE ON REQUEST

Hints on Fruit Tree Culture

For Amateur and Professional.

Interesting Notes on Soils, Situations and Fertilizers, Popular Fruits for all Purposes

and other useful information will be found in

OUR FRUIT TREE CATALOGUE

— which will be sent Post Free. —

Sit down now while the matter is fresh in your mind and write for your copy.

Established 1785. **Awarded 80 Gold Medals.**

KING'S ACRE NURSERIES, LIMITED, HEREFORD

Gold Medallists of all leading Horticultural Societies

SHOW & REGAL PELARGONIUMS

for a brilliant show in April and May.

Strong plants ready now, from 3-inch pots, ready for potting into 5-inch pots. Best results obtained from plants now.

12 varieties 9/-, or newer sorts, **12/-, 15/-** and **17/6** post free for cash.

ZONAL PELARGONIUMS

Single and Double. **12 varieties 7/6.** Including newer sorts **10/-**

12 Ivy Leaved varieties 7/6. 2/6 per dozen extra if required in Leatherboard pots, carr. paid.

Orders over 5/- post free C. W. O.

Catalogue free on application.

J. W. COLE & SON, Westwood Nurseries, Peterborough

The WIZARD Plant LABEL

Made in Red Pottery, 2½ x 1¼ ins., with rustless wires. 12 in., 2/- doz.; 7 in., 1/7 doz. 1¼ x 1 in., with wires 6 in., 1/4 doz. For tying on, 1/6 and 1/3 doz. Waterproof Ink, 9d. and 1/6d. bot. Crow Quills, 2d. Postage extra.

Highly commended by the R.H.S. at Wisley.

E. TORKINGTON . NEW HALL . MAIDENHEAD

SNAPDRAGONS—*for gorgeous massing*

SIMPSON'S SUPER-SEED

13 *Awards of Merit* and 10 *Highly Commended*, 1920
5 *Awards of Merit*, 1922, *in pots at R.H.S. Wisley Trials*

Send for free illustrated Seed List G, offering seeds of 42 varieties of Snapdragons at 6d. 1/- and 2/6 per packet, with full range of Vegetable and Flower seeds of established merit.

TALL.—Esme, light pink; **Monarch** crimson; **Rose King**, deep rose; **The King**, orange scarlet, white tube; **Yellow King**, yellow.

MEDIUM.—Afterglow, orange scarlet; **Appleby Matthews**, orange terra-cotta, white tube; **Aurore**, fiery terra-cotta; **Charm**, rose pink; **Empress**, crimson; **Estelle**, apricot salmon, suffused pink; **Fascination**, light pink; **Golden Gem**, yellow; **Lady Roberts**, primrose; **Mrs. R. F. Felton**, bright orange-scarlet; **Roseum Superbum**, soft rose pink; **Sybil Eakford**, apricot pink and cream, white tube; **The Fawn**, peach pink, white tube; **Victory**, salmon terra-cotta; **White Queen**, white. A further three varieties can be supplied in Spring-sown Plants.

AUTUMN SOWN. **STRONG PLANTS FROM BOXES.** Delivery about Mid-April from cold frames. **2/3** per doz. (if less than 12 of one variety at **3/-** per doz., not less than 6 of any one variety named), 25 or more of any one variety at **15/-** per 100. Carriage extra, see below.

SPRING SOWN. **STRONG PLANTS FROM BOXES.** Delivery early in May hardened off. **1/6** per doz. (if less than 12 of one variety at **2/-** per doz., not less than 6 of any one variety named), 25 or more of any one variety at **10/6** per 100.

Special rates for cash with order (which must be added). Carriage, box and packing, 24 plants **1/-**, more than 24, **1/6**. When cash does not accompany order, box, packing and rail charges are charged at cost.

W. H. SIMPSON & SONS, *Super-Seed Specialists*, BIRMINGHAM

Wise gardeners order NOW because stocks are not unlimited.

Digitized by Google

"Flowers Brimful of Gladness"

UNWIN'S Gold Medal GLADIOLI

Unbeatable for Price and Quality

The BEST English, American and Dutch Novelties and Standard Varieties at "buyable" prices

Modern Gladioli are really wonderful, as exquisite as Orchids yet as easily grown as Mustard and Cress. Compare our prices and remember all our Glads. are first quality corms of the best and most distinct varieties. Make up your mind to grow good ones this year and choose your collection from the undermentioned lists. Fuller descriptions of the undermentioned and many other varieties are given in our Spring Catalogue, post free on application.

LARGE-FLOWERING VARIETIES.

Splendid, stately and majestic flowers in a wonderful range of colours and colour blendings. One of the most noble and striking of all garden subjects. Adaptable, easy to grow, and inexpensive. Don't be without them this season.

UNWIN'S POPULAR COLLECTION OF LARGE-FLOWERING VARIETIES.

	Per doz.
America, rose-pink	1/9
Baron Hulot, blue	2/3
Empress of India, maroon	2/-
Golden West, orange-red	2/3
Odin, fine salmon	2/3
Panama, deep pink	2/3
Pink Perfection, soft pink	2/3
Prince of Wales, salmon-pink	1/9
Red Emperor, blood-red	2/9
White Giant, grand white	2/-
Willie Wigman, rose and cream	1/9
Yellow Hammer, yellow self	2/-
1 each of above 12 vars., named	5/9
3 each of above 12 vars., named	11/-
12 each of above 12 vars., named	21/-

OUR 1925 AWARDS FOR GLADIOLUS EXHIBITS

R.H.S.—Gold Medal
Southport—Large Gold Medal
Eastbourne—Gold Medal
Oxford—Gold Medal
Leicester—Gold Medal
Cambridge—Gold Medal
Market Bosworth—Silver Cup

CARRIAGE TERMS on Gladioli.—Orders of 7/6 or over, carriage free; under 7/6, 6d. extra must be enclosed to partly defray cost of carriage.

PRIMULINUS HYBRIDS.

These charming small-flowered Gladioli embrace the most wonderful art shades imaginable. Light and graceful, they rival Sweet Peas in daintiness, and are excellent for all decorative purposes. If you have never seen them, you have a treat in store.

UNWIN'S GOLD MEDAL COLLECTION OF PRIMULINUS HYBRIDS.

	Per doz.
Atalanta. Salmon, shaded orange	1/6
Herrnione, orange-salmon	1/6
Maiden's Blush, lovely pink	1/6
Niobe. Orange self	1/9
Salmonea. Salmon, flushed orange	2/-
Souvenir. Rich yellow	1/9
Daphne. Dazzling vermilion	2/3
Rosandra. Cerise-pink	2/3
Orange Brilliant. Orange and yellow	2/-
Xanthia. Pure golden-orange	3/6
3 each of above 10 vars., named	5/-
6 each of above 10 vars., named	9/6
12 each of above 10 vars., named	18/-

Send for a copy of our New Spring Catalogue, Post Free. The Highest Quality Sweet Pea Seeds and Plants, Flower and Vegetable Seeds, Seed Potatoes, Gladioli, Charm Dahlias, Roses, etc. All at "buyable" prices.

W. J. UNWIN · F.R.H.S. — *Sweet Pea Specialist and Seedsman,* — HISTON - Cambs.

FERTILISERS.

LAWNS, 20/-; **FRUIT TREES, VINES, 19/6; GENERAL GARDEN USE, 17/-; WORM KILLER, 19/-**
Per cwt., carriage paid. Also all other fertilisers.
HY. RICHARDSON & CO., Skeldergate Bridge Works, YORK

THE FLOWER OF THE SEASON

BALL'S CALENDULA

Brilliant Orange Double Flowers

THE FINEST PLANT FOR CUT FLOWER OR THE BORDER

OUR exhibit at CHELSEA SHOW made us many customers, and we have had numerous testimonials from all parts of the country

SEED — 1/-, 2/6, 5/- packet
PLANTS, 1/6 doz.; 10/- 100

W. ARTINDALE & SON
NETHER GREEN NURSERY :: SHEFFIELD

DOBBIE'S—

SCOTCH-GROWN

PLANTS

FULL DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE
84 pages of Indoor and Hardy Plants
SENT ON APPLICATION

DOBBIE & CO., LTD.
Nurserymen :: EDINBURGH

Water Plants

My New Illustrated Catalogue contains the most complete collection ever offered. Free

PERRY'S Hardy Plant Farm, Enfield Middx.

CUPRESSUS MACROCARPA

the ideal hedging plant, succeeds everywhere, forms a thick impenetrable hedge, always pleasing to the eye. We offer strong, bushy plants, from open ground.

24–30ins., 16/- doz. £5 15 per 100.
30–36ins., 22/- ,, £7 15 ,,
36–42ins., 27/6 ,, £9 15 ,,

Not less than 6 at doz. rate, or 50 at 100 rate. Carriage and packing free on orders of £2 and over. C.W.O.

T. SMITH & SONS, Highcroft Nurseries, ARUNDEL

Seedlings Thrive and Don't Die

off after being transplanted owing to root disturbance or breakage, if brought up in Patent

MILLIONS SOLD ## T. P. SEED RAISERS **NO SLUGS**

because no disturbance can take place.

FOR ANNUALS, as Godetias, Clarkias, Larkspur, etc., *USE* BABY T.P. SEED RAISERS (measuring 1¼in. across by 2in. deep). Sow 2 or 3 seeds per Raiser, pull out to strongest. It will develop strong root growth till planting-out time comes, when Raiser (by that time rotted) will peel off, allowing seedling to be put in soil without knowing it has been touched.

FOR SWEET PEAS *USE* T.P. PEA RAISERS (size 1¾in. across by 4½in. deep). Sow 1 seed per Raiser. You will be delighted with good root action and quick development after planting out.

You get stronger plants, guaranteed to grow well with less labour.

T.P. Raisers take up much less room and retain moisture thus requiring less watering, are easy to handle in bulk and do not break, and ensure good plants, thus saving seed wastage.

PRICES in U.K., cash with order, carriage paid—
Baby" T.P. Seed Raisers, one strong seedling tray with 54 **"Baby"** Raisers complete. 1 for 2/6; 2 for 4/9; 3 for 6/9; 6 for 13/-; 12 for 24/6. **Refills ("Baby"** size), 108 for 2/7; 216 for 4/10; 324 for 7/3; 540 for 11/3.
T.P. Pea Raisers, one wooden box having hinged side with 48 Raisers complete. 1 for 4/3; 2 for 8/-; 3 for 11/6; 6 for 22/6.
Refills. Pea size, 100 for 3/-; 200 for 5/9; 300 for 8/3; 500 for 13/6
Order NOW from your Seedsman. If he does not stock, send direct to Sole Makers:

T.P. SEED BOX Co., 209, Monument Road, BIRMINGHAM.

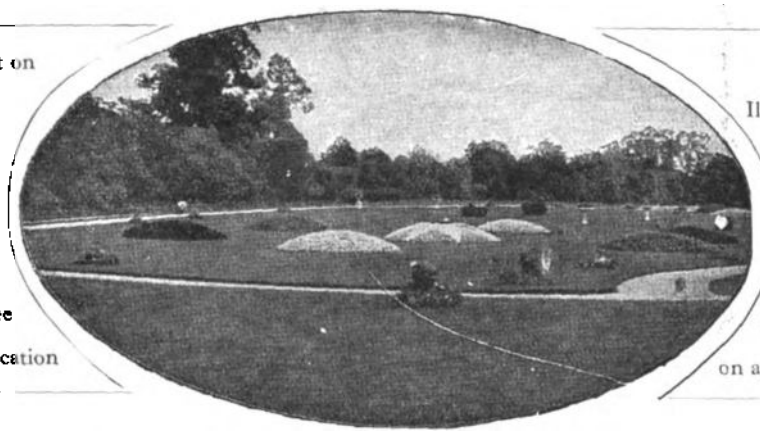
Side of Baby Raiser removed showing root action of Larkspur

Digitized by Google

To restore the Beauty of the Lawn or to make a perfect New Lawn, use

WEBBS' LAWN SEEDS

Pamphlet on Making and Renovating Lawns Post Free on application



Webbs' Illustrated Garden Catalogue for 1926 Post Free on application

Tennis, Croquet and Garden Lawns, Bowling Greens, etc.

No. 1 Mixture (without Perennial Rye Grass) 2/9 lb.; 14 lbs. 37/6; 28 lbs. 72/6
No. 2 Mixture (with Perennial Rye Grass) .. 2/- lb.; 14 lbs. 27/-; 28 lbs. 52/-

Webbs' Improved Lawn Sand
For destroying Weeds.
14 lbs. 4/-; 28 lbs. 7/-; 56 lbs. 12/6; 112 lbs. 22/6

Webbs' Special Lawn Manure
A perfect Fertiliser.
14 lbs. 4/-; 28 lbs. 7/- 56 lbs. 13/-; 112 lbs. 24/-

WEBB & SONS, LTD. THE KING'S SEEDSMEN **STOURBRIDGE**

Notes from Maidstone

SPRING PLANTING.

We get many letters from customers asking if it is too late to plant Fruit Trees and Roses. So far from this being the case, nurserymen do most of their own planting at this time of year. Fruit trees planted now will be much more likely to fruit than if put in in the autumn.

All orders are despatched the day after receipt.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd., The Royal Nurseries, Established 1796. Maidstone.

NEW HARDY CRIMSON BROOM

AT Chelsea Show (1925) the King said, "That red Broom is certainly very striking." This was the new crimson Broom "Dorothy Walpole," which received the unanimous Award of Merit from the R.H.S. as well as other distinctions in London and on the Continent.

In the *Field*, a well known ex-Curator of Kew Gardens wrote: "The richest coloured Broom known is one named 'Dorothy Walpole.' It is as hardy as the common Broom . . . and is very free-flowering . . . the colour is rich velvety crimson . . . more attractive than any of the coloured Brooms yet seen." The colour far surpasses Cytisus Dallimorei, and the growth is as vigorous as C. Andreanus; it requires no special treatment nor any kind of protection whatever—just a hardy shrub for ordinary garden soil in any part of the British Isles, however far north.

A Vice-Chairman, Floral Committee, R.H.S., wrote: "Everyone who has seen my plant has been astonished at its warm glowing red," and from a lady in Devon: "I am so delighted with the Broom 'Dorothy Walpole.' It has done splendidly and is like a sparkling gem in the garden—one mass of flower."

Strong pot-grown plants now ready for planting out, to flower in May, 12/6 each. Carriage paid rates to any station in Great Britain or Ireland: One plant, carriage paid, 15/-; two plants, carriage paid, 28/6; three plants, carriage paid, 41/-; six plants, carriage paid, 79/6.

Coloured illustration sent on application if THE GARDEN is mentioned.

Wm. Watson & Sons, Ltd., Nurseries, Killiney, Co. Dublin.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

BY APPOINTMENT.

CLOVER IN LAWNS

Check the growth of Clover early in the Spring by applying

FISONS' LAWN SAND

Use at the rate of 4 ozs. to the sq. yard. One cwt. is sufficient for a tennis court and a margin of 4 yds. all . . round. . . .

Price per cwt. **35/-** in kegs carr. pd.

Illustrated Catalogue of Fertilizers for all crops, post free, from

Joseph Fison & Co., Ltd. Ipswich.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing*

Toogood's Seeds

THE BEST THAT GROW

You ought to have our free illustrated Guide to "Guaranteed Garden Seeds"—write at once to:—

TOOGOOD & SONS, Ltd.
The King's Seedsmen, SOUTHAMPTON.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

VOL. XC.—No. 2834. MARCH 13, 1926

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.; Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2. *Offices for Advertisements*: 6–11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

THE PRUNING OF SHRUBS

SOME weeks ago I mentioned that I had cut out quantities of wood from several shrubs, such as philadelphus and Spiræa sorbifolia, to see if this would make them flower. Since then I have been making enquiries of my friends about the whole question of pruning, and have come to the conclusion that general pruning is a little understood art and one that is even less practised. In THE GARDEN of February 6th were two letters in answer to a correspondent's complaint that he had failed to flower Lonicera fragrantissima. The writer of one of these letters said that he pruned it hard; the other that he left his plant alone. Both were obviously successful in flowering this plant, and yet they used diametrically opposite methods. A friend of mine told me that he had admired a by no means large plant of Viburnum fragrans in full bloom in Mr. F. G. Wood's nursery. Now, one of the usual complaints about V. fragrans is that it is by no means a free flowerer. Mr. Wood attributes his success to the fact that he topped it. These are but two samples of information that can be picked up.

I am sure that in most gardens—and even large gardens—there is not nearly sufficient attention paid to pruning. It is true that a few plants, such as roses and Buddleias variabilis and Veitchii, are cut back every year as a matter of course: it is equally true that most other trees and shrubs are left severely alone. One argument sometimes heard against pruning is that plants are never pruned in the wild state, therefore the use of a knife is surely unnecessary when the finders write so eulogistically about the magnificent specimens they have found in the wilds. The answer is that no collector has ever seen such fine specimens, with very few exceptions, in the wild as a well grown garden plant. This, of course, only applies to plants that like our climate and conditions.

I should point out that by pruning I do not mean cutting back either to the ground or to the main stem. It is difficult to pin even a specialist down to what he considers the correct method of pruning individual shrubs, particularly newer introductions. It is fairly obvious that not only each genus but each species requires different treatment, but I am certain that a better quality of plant would result if the knife was used with moderation. Something should be learnt of the habit and growth of the shrub before anything is attempted. In the past, in my own garden, I have been accustomed to leaving my shrubs alone, and it is only in the last two years that I have started to use the knife. I use no rules, for I know of none—other than that those plants which flower before the leaves, flower on the old wood; and that the majority of those that flower after the leaves, produce their blossom on the present year's shoots. On the other hand, common sense teaches one a good deal: that too much growth prevents the ripening of the wood, so the shoots should be thinned to let in light and air; that all damaged, diseased and dead wood should be rigorously removed; that if a plant is growing in too spindly a fashion, it should be topped to promote side growth; and so on.

A good example of the value of pruning is in Potentilla fruticosa and its relatives, which I consider to be short-lived plants. If the old wood is heavily cut out, it promotes new growth and the plant responds. If the old wood is not removed, it languishes and no new growth is formed, with its subsequent death. I have lost several of these plants through neglecting to use the knife.

I am sure, also, that a little, if done every year, is better than a sudden inroad on a shrubbery and a persistent hacking off of branches. For one thing, most people like chopping—and pruning fever, a very easily caught complaint, will make you overdo the hacking and lopping and chopping. Many old shrubberies which exist in hundreds of gardens would have been better for a little judicious pruning years ago. The plants would now be shapely specimens instead of overgrown, lanky, gawky objects that are a credit to no one.

I am sure that many readers of THE GARDEN would be interested to hear of the experiences of others in the pruning of shrubs, not those planted as solitary specimens or for exhibition purposes, but the ordinary denizens of the shrub border or wild garden. First-hand information I find difficult to get, but I am sure that much can be done to make an all-round improvement, not only in the shape of the shrub but also in its flowering qualities. Of course one proviso should be made, and that is that the pruning knife should not be used so hard that it destroys the grace and shape of a plant; but it should not be a difficult task to strike a happy medium.

E. H. M. C.

AMONG THE ARTICLES IN OUR SPECIAL SPRING NUMBER WILL BE:

A SELECTION OF ROSES FOR SPRING PLANTING, by Norman Lambert.

THE FIFTY BEST SAXIFRAGES, by Dr. R. Lloyd Praeger.

THE HERBACEOUS BORDER IN SPRING, by A. J. Macself.

VIOLAS FOR SPRING PLANTING.

Digitized by Google

SHRUBS FOR WALLS

BY W. J. BEAN.

AMONG the many phases comprised in the art of gardening, that of the cultivation of plants against walls is one of peculiar interest. The growing of fruit trees is not in consideration in the present article, which is concerned with purely ornamental things, yet the fact that in many parts of the country success with certain fruit-bearing trees, such as figs, peaches and apricots, can only be achieved with the aid of walls, points to a corresponding value in the culture of decorative plants also. Walls, indeed, are as great an asset to the cultivator of ornamental shrubs as they are to the grower of choice fruits. Lucky is he whose garden includes some walls 10ft. or 12ft. high, especially if they are of brick and their

THE GOLDEN BLOSSOMS OF FREMONTIA CALIFORNICA.

colour mellowed with years. Stone walls are not to be despised, but the wide spacing of the mortar layers often makes the attachment of the branches to the wall inconvenient without some form of wiring, which adds to the expense and is not good for the plants.

The two factors which help plants growing against walls are, of course, the shelter they obtain and the greater heat they are able to enjoy there—heat that is not only intensified during actual sunshine, but which is conserved by the wall and radiated during the night. There may, in consequence, be grown there a numerous class of plants which are scarcely hardy enough to succeed fully in the open yet do not absolutely need greenhouse treatment. In this category will be found plants from the south of Europe, north Africa, the Himalaya, the warmer parts of Japan, Australia, New Zealand, the warm temperate parts of South America and California. There are, besides, a number of shrubs which, although perfectly hardy, flower much more freely when planted against a wall.

On the whole, a wall facing south-west is probably the best. It receives a great proportion of all possible sunshine, yet the plants against it are protected from the early sun that so frequently follows a frosty night in spring and often works mischief by too quickly thawing young shoots and flower-buds. But with the exception of those facing due north, which present special problems, all walls are valuable, even those facing east or north-east. For these, shrubs should be selected that commence to grow late and flower after April, giving, if possible, those that flower earlier a southern or, preferably, a western frontage.

The differences in the cultivation of wall shrubs, as distinct from those ordinarily placed, are chiefly in training and pruning. A shrub merely planted close to the base of a wall and left to grow in its natural way enjoys advantages that will often enable it to succeed in districts where it would otherwise fail. Very good examples of such shrubs—more or less tender—may be seen planted between the buttresses of the outer walls of the Temperate House at Kew. A succession of mild winters has no doubt flattered one's hopes unduly, and a real stinging winter, putting us back to the scratch mark again, will leave some woeful gaps. Still, in gardening, there is much to be said in favour of Herrick's injunction to enjoy the rosebuds while we may. Here, at any rate, without being attached by nails or otherwise to the walls, the pomegranate has borne fruit abundantly, Fremontia california flowers freely, and even Erica melanthera has blossomed beautifully for some years past. Tender shrubs of slow growth and of a habit too stiff to be trained easily against a wall may well be tried in such places. But in the present article I am more concerned with shrubs which, planted at the base of a wall, can be trained so as eventually to clothe it from top to bottom. To effect this, their growths have, of course, to be trained upwards and sideways, and a regular system of pruning has to be carried out.

Where the walls are built of bricks I think the old-fashioned system of training the shoots with nails and shreds of cloth has not been improved upon. But where the walls are stuccoed or built of large stones a system of strained wires to which the shoots can be tied becomes necessary. The closer this wiring is to the wall the better. This plan affords a very convenient means of training, but in course of time the wires perish and break, and there is the defect that during very cold weather shoots actually in contact with the cold metal may be injured or killed. By a little management this defect may to some extent be obviated by placing some non-conducting material, like a shred of cloth, between the shoot and the wire, or even the tying material may be so arranged as to serve the same purpose to some extent.

As the shrub grows older and the stems and branches thicken they usually become self-supporting, and nailing and tying become necessary at the extremities only.

PRUNING.

The method and time of pruning is largely dependent on the time of year the shrub flowers and on its mode of growth. Those that flower early in spring, say during March and April, on growths made during the previous summer, such as Prunus triloba flore pleno, should be pruned by simply cutting back the shoots that have flowered nearly to their base as soon as ever the blossoms have faded, thus leaving practically an entire growing season for the shrub to make new shoots for flowering the following spring. The same method of pruning must be adopted for those that flower later in the year on shoots of the current season, such, for instance, as Vitex Agnus-castus or the tecomas. Here, again, by cutting the shoots that have flowered back nearly to the base at any time during winter or early spring a full season of growth is left for new wood to be made that will flower when the time comes round again.

For the remainder of shrubs grown on walls, those, that is, which blossom on the previous year's growths, but too late to be pruned as advised for March and April flowering ones, a process of thinning must be adopted. A shrub that blooms in early May, especially if late in starting growth, may sometimes be shortened back generally, but those that flower in late May and in June on the previous season's wood cannot, as a rule, be pruned in that way. If it is done early enough

Digitized by Google

to leave an entire season for growth, a crop of blossom must be largely sacrificed; if it is done after flowering, the time for new growth is very much reduced and the succeeding crop of flower correspondingly so. The thinning consists in cutting out, or shortening back, branches standing out too far from the wall and in removing branches that have become stunted, worn out, overcrowded, or are in any way unsatisfactory. This should be done as soon as the blossoming is past. At the same time any gaps should be filled and thin places strengthened by "laying in," *i.e.*, tying back, new wood to the wall.

Walls 8ft. to 10ft. high are not very suitable for true climbers of strong growth, like wistarias, tecomas or celastruses. For them the walls of dwelling-houses or other buildings are better, where there is loftiness and greater space. Such climbers have a strong tendency to become devoid of growth at the base and form naked stems, thus leaving the lower part of the wall unfurnished. Where they are used it is a good plan to plant ordinary wall shrubs in addition to cover this lower part with vegetation, leaving the upper part for the climbers. Even less vigorous climbers, like clematises and jasmines, have the same tendency to make for the top of the wall, and it is well to associate tender shrubs of more sturdy habit with them also. For walls 10ft. and upwards high true climbers and ordinary shrubs may even be planted alternately. In fact, any vacant spaces at the lower part of the walls may be furnished with the dwarfer shrubs.

The following are notes on a somewhat comprehensive list of shrubs which may be treated as wall plants:

ABELIA.—The strongest growing of the abelias is A. grandiflora, a hybrid between chinensis and uniflora, usually grown in gardens as either "chinensis" or "rupestris." It is a useful wall shrub for filling spaces up to 5ft. or 6ft. high. It is evergreen, with smallish, lustrous, dark green leaves and pinkish flowers continuing to develop from July to October. Other species that can be used for covering low places on walls are Schumannii, longituba and the Mexican A. floribunda, whose tubular, rosy red flowers, 1½ins. to 2ins. long, are perhaps the most beautiful of the abelias.

ABUTILON VITIFOLIUM.—Except in the warmest counties this must have wall protection. It is really a small tree, and is best adapted for a high wall or house front. It may be used to fill a narrowish space between windows. The flowers, which resemble those of a small single-flowered hollyhock, are 2ins. to 3ins. wide, pale purplish blue in the typical form, pure white in var. alba. They open from May to July.

ACTINIDIA.—Wilson's introduction, A. chinensis, is almost too rampant for a wall. I have never seen it so beautiful as in Mr. Gerald Loder's garden at Wakehurst, where he has planted it to form a tangle against a low building whose roof it partly covers. When I saw it it was laden with white flowers which afterwards turn buff-yellow. A. Kolomikta is worth growing for the remarkable colouring of the foliage, the leaves becoming, as the season advances, partially or wholly pink or pinkish white. Both these are hardy and deciduous, and can be grown in the open on supports.

THE BLUE-FLOWERED ABUTILON VITIFOLIUM WHICH FORMS AN EXCELLENT SUBJECT FOR WALL DECORATION.

ADENOCARPUS DECORTICANS.—A brilliant member of the broom family which needs a sunny wall to show its best. The flowers are rich golden yellow, very abundant, and open in May and June. Suitable for a wall 6ft. high.

AKEBIA. — The two akebias, A. lobata and A. quinata, are vigorous twiners and, being deciduous, quite hardy and self-supporting, are better fitted for climbing over a decrepit small tree than for a wall, where, nevertheless, there is a better chance of their developing the remarkable violet-coloured, sausage-shaped fruits.

ANTHYLLIS BARBA-JOVIS (Jupiter's Beard). — An evergreen of the broom family suitable for a wall 6ft. or so high, where its small, silvery grey, pinnate leaves and rounded heads of pale yellow flowers are quite attractive.

APLOPAPPUS ERICOIDES.—A very distinct, shrubby composite with very numerous heath-like leaves and crowded clusters of yellow flowers opening on the current season's growths in August and September. Grows about 5ft. high, evergreen. California.

ARAUJIA SERICOFERA.—Perhaps better known as Physianthus albens, this vigorous climber needs a wall, even south of London. It is suitable for a lofty wall, towards the top of which it may be allowed to form a tangle of growths. The flowers are white, fragrant, 1in. or rather more wide.

ARISTOTELIA MACQUI.—Without any great attractiveness in blossom, this vigorous Chilean shrub may be used where a dense evergreen covering for a shady wall is desired. It may even be tried on a north wall. The leaves are dark lustrous green, ovate, and average 3ins. to 4ins. in length.

AZARA.—The well known A. microphylla, although it was killed to the ground by the great frosts of February, 1895, at Kew (but never since) may be considered as practically hardy in the London climate. In the north-eastern counties it will probably need a wall, and this, by reason of the grace of its shoots thickly set with the tiny evergreen leaves, and the fragrance of its flowers in early spring, it well deserves. In the south, A. Gilliesii, with much larger shining leaves, certainly needs wall treatment.

(To be continued.)

Digitized by Google

NATURE'S ROCK GARDEN

AS I have described elsewhere in these papers, our limestone Yorkshire dales are in many parts one fine succession of rock gardens. Planned by Nature on the grand scale as regards crag and deep-fissured boulder, they give shelter to broods of small plants that nestle like children in a giant's embrace.

Some of these plants are not beautiful because they are rare, but rare because they are beautiful. This has a cryptic sound, perhaps, but it is the very gist and kernel of the plea that many of us wish to make.

So much depends on the way a crying grievance is made clear to delinquents who sin gaily and without thought. Suppose the usual brigand of our dales was left to wander, alone and unwatched, along the paths of a private rock garden. It would never occur to him to stump up such roots as took his fancy. If a fellow of the baser sort companioned him and prompted such petty theft, he would recoil from the suggestion. He would explain that the plants were another's property, and would probably draw a forceful picture of the owner's desolation when he found his garden ravished of its charm.

It is different altogether when this same moralist is let loose among our highlands. Nature has built and planted and tended here; so he is free to plunder as he lists. We'll not labour the point that Nature sorrows with a gigantic human sort of grief when her nests of flowering plants are spoiled. It is not a whit less true, and simpler to explain, that the owners of these highland gardens will be desolate, too, when they come to see what has happened.

The owners are those countless hosts of people who, by circumstance, cannot afford rock gardens of their own—people who live in the country, loving its every charm of flower and shifting weather, or folk whose recreation and delight is to escape from the soot-laden streets into a larger air. They come to a wooded dingle, where the primroses rioted among the mossy boulders last year; and no laughing, dew-wet eyes glance up at them. The plants are dying, somewhere in a hapless garden befogged by soot and chemicals; and the few who stole are getting nothing at the price of a ruined glen.

There were cowslips once on Kirth Brae, which looks down on Wharfe River, queen of our northern streams. They donned their gold-laced livery when the summer of their pride arrived, and curtseyed to the dancing breeze. Now there's nothing but a bluff of sheep-cropped pasture. Cowslips and primroses grow rare among us, and our loathing of freebooters takes clearer shape.

We should be more free from marauders higher up the dale. So we are, in a sense. But one spring day a car halted at the edge of a woodland that roamed up into a clearing fit for Titania and her revels. The daffodils had bloomed in readiness. Oberon was sleeping beside his bride, till night and the moon arrived. The fairy-sort were slumbering, too.

When the good company awoke, not a daffodil was left to give them cheer. The pages of their bridal dance had all departed, and their feet lagged as they tried to tread a measure. And next day, when lovers of this special haunt roamed out to see the daffodils, their hearts were sorry.

There's little farinosa, too—the primula that roves in happy billows of rose-pink among the circling rocks. They are raiding her haunts, and nothing we can din into their untutored, urban wits will persuade them that the flower will sicken and die in the alien prisons they name gardens. You can find her in plenty still, thanks to the steepness of hills that daunt her ravishers; and she is one of our plants that will survive, I fancy. She is prolific, full of courage, and can adapt herself to the wild vagaries of our weather; but to carry her captive into the towns is to break her heart and spirit. So, on this practical count alone, we plead with would-be brigands to leave her, bonny and undismayed, in the mountain home she loves.

The globe flower, too, grows rarer in our midst. Her charm is evident, of course, when her golden bells ring up the good June weather. She is, perhaps, the belle of all the wonderful buttercup family. So people come and dig her up in spendthrift quantities; and she, like farinosa, pines to death in exile. A picture comes to mind of a certain hollow in a certain wood—a moist, wide clearing between squirrel-haunted trees—where the globe flower riots. Nothing can explain, except actual vision, the midsummer blandishment of that hollow. The mossy turf, the slant, cool shadows of larch and rowans across the golden flowers, make up a picture that almost touches sadness because of its young, glowing loveliness.

That special hollow is unrifled still, though it lies near one of our dale's villages. When strangers who have heard of it come asking for direction, they are given a route that leads them at the finish to what is known locally as the "back-end of nowhere," and they return, fuming at our craftiness. They say we are secretive. We are; but it is they who have made us so. When thieves approach, wise folk hide their precious jewels.

They have made us combative, too. Heaven knows how loth men are these days to ask new laws for a country drenched to the marrow with legislation; but one more is needed. Wild birds are protected in our midst. The plover especially are free to nest, unhindered by the needs of epicures. Ancient buildings are protected. Why should the most helpless of fair, English things—the wild flowers—go still unsheltered by the law?

There are two types of plant hooligans. One is the professional thief who simply takes everything useful that comes to hand and sells it for profit. The other is a covetous sort of amateur who thinks himself a flower-lover. He, too, grubs up everything in the mass, to misplant in his own garden. For these no persuasion avails, no argument. Their only hold-back from crime is a vision of handcuffs rampant on a field of wild flowers azure.

To other bandits of more tender conscience I would explain what happened to the lady's slipper high up our dale. It was never common among us. Such beauty could not be. But it was not rare. Everybody knew where sequestered clumps were to be found, and each summer they pilgrimed to its haunts—not to rifle, but to wonder and appraise. It was, as you might say, a mystical plant, reverenced as something apart from usual flowers.

Then ruffians found out her haunts, and came by stealth. They were like the big criminals who steal diamonds only and pass trinkets by. Clump by clump the lady's slipper went to die in exile, sold to an abhorrent slavery, till we could count only three to cheer us with remembrance of the elder days.

It was about this time that strangers, housed in farmstead or tavern, chided us for our indifference to the beauty of our land—especially the beauty of its flora.

We encouraged their belief in our bucolic disregard of the beauties surrounding us. Queries were met for the most part by stolid ignorance, though some preferred the "back-end of nowhere" method already mentioned, and diverted attention from the three sanctuaries by suggesting plausible, long routes across the fells. For all that, two plants of the lady's slipper went in one season, and next year the third.

I happened to be up-dale that summer, staying at a fell-side inn, and a thing near the heart of sorrow arrived. Through the rosy gloaming that softened limestone screes and pine woods and the dusty road, an oldish man stepped into view. As he reached the old lang-settle that did duty for a seat outside the inn he hesitated for a moment, then dropped into place beside me.

He was weary and distraught. For awhile he sat there, gazing out into the dusk. Then he turned.

"She's gone," he said.

He was so lost—so stunned, somehow—that I could only fancy he had gone through bereavement of a tragic kind. I waited, and presently he opened out his grief.

"Forty years I've come to the dale, just for the joy of seeing her. Nobody else knew where she lived, I thought. And now she's gone."

Then by and by I learned that he was talking of lady's slipper, the last of her race, and it was all curiously moving. A lover bereft of his mate might have shown the same still, rudderless grief. Forty years of constancy to this one pilgrimage were ended.

He got up presently, and glanced at the misty fells "It's good-bye," he said. "The dale will mean nothing to me without Lady Fair."

Digitized by Google

The sound of his footsteps, tired and slow, faded out to silence, and I sat on, wondering if men would ever learn that such as Lady Fair were meant to stay among their mountain fastnesses.

If we have found another clump of lady's slipper since that day, I will tell you exactly where to find her. Any large-scale map will show you the Yorkshire mountains — Ingleborough, Whernside, Penyghent—with great spaces in between, gashed by swart ravines.

It is a big country, hard to explore even for its intimates; and somewhere in it Lady Fair blossoms every summer.

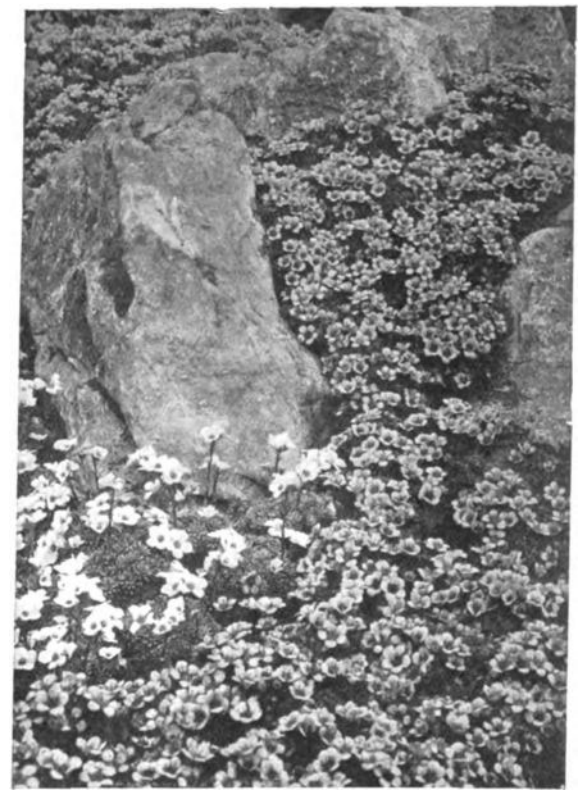
HALLIWELL SUTCLIFFE.

SAXIFRAGES IN GENERAL

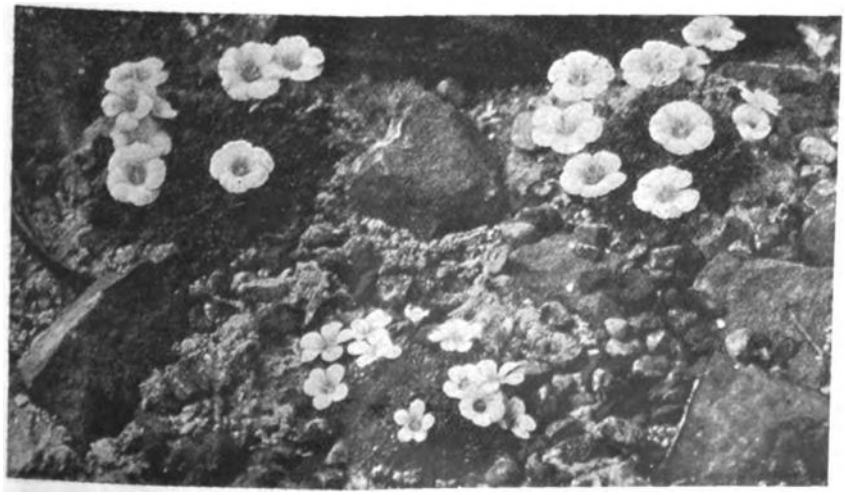
BY DR. R. LLOYD PRAEGER.

TO have to write about the Fifty Best Rock Plants was bad enough, but now the Editor invites a contribution on a more ticklish subject, namely, the Fifty Best Saxifrages. It would seem to be worth while to probe, in the first place, into the whole subject of the saxifrages and to get some general ideas as to the length and breadth of this large and complicated genus before attempting to make a selection for gardens. That it is large enough and complicated enough in all conscience one can see by dipping into the recently published monograph of the group by Engler and Irmscher. This runs to over 700 pages, which by itself speaks volumes. The index, which includes the names of the species and varieties, including their synonyms, contains some 2,800 names. The authors admit 305 plants to the rank of species, and each species has anything from 0 to 100 varieties, sub-varieties, forms, sub-forms and hybrids. Heaven defend us from such an appalling horde! Their native habitats spread over an extensive region, from the high Arctic down to Abyssinia and the Andes, being grouped especially about the mountain ranges, and they vary in height from half an inch to six feet, and their flowers display all the colours of the rainbow—except blue. While many of them are quite distinct and easily identified, others form complexes of closely allied forms of an intricacy unsurpassed among the flowering plants.

It is with some relief that one finds that they can be subdivided into groups. Engler and Irmscher distinguish fifteen such, many of them possessing well marked distinguishing characters. These groups vary much in size—from a single species up to eighty-eight species, to be exact—and while some have a definite geographical location, others are very widely spread. What will interest readers of THE GARDEN most will be the relation of these groups to the plants which are useful for garden purposes—for in the rock garden saxifraga stands head and shoulders above any other genus in importance. We find that the species which are worth growing, and which consent to dwell in our gardens, are distributed most irregularly among the sections of the genus. The largest section of all — Hirculus, with eighty-eight species — yields practically nothing to the horticulturist, consisting as it does mainly of small and not showy herbs of wet places mostly in the north. The next largest group — Boraphila, with sixty-four species—is almost equally unproductive of plants for the garden; the British S. stellaris and S. nivalis give a good idea of the type of plant included in it. In the third largest group—Dactyloides, forty-nine species—we at length arrive at plants familiar to the gardener. Here belong all the "mossies," and it is noteworthy that this is the only group of the saxifrages, the garden value of which has to any great extent been improved by the plant breeder, for the grand range of "red mossies" are a garden creation of recent years. Some of the garden forms of the silver and kabschia saxifrages are certainly very beautiful, it will be admitted, but they are almost all simple crosses, and do not represent nearly so remarkable a break-away from the natural forms as do the "red mossies." Next in order of size of group, and first of all in horticultural interest, comes Kabschia, with forty-five species. This is a high mountain group, of which only a certain number will condescend to dwell in our low-level gardens. Many of the most remarkable or daintiest of them all, such as S. imbricata, S. quadrifaria and S. subsessiliflora, never have been (so far as I am aware) and probably never will be in cultivation, for they come from 10,000ft. to 15,000ft. in the Himalayas, and live in a climate hopelessly different from ours. In this group the hybridiser has been particularly busy, and endless "new" plants, mostly under names by no means euphonious, tempt our eye in catalogues. But very few of these hybrids are better than their parents, and only a saxifrage maniac will be



DRIFTS OF SAXIFRAGA OPPOSITIFOLIA LEND COLOUR AND CHARM TO THE ROCK GARDEN.



S. FALDONSIDE IN COMPANY WITH S. BOYDII, A CHARMING PAIR OF KABSCHIA SAXIFRAGES

Digitized by Google

tempted to order them indiscriminately. But be it admitted that there are a few—mostly with reassuring British names, like Boydii and Irvingii—that are among the very best of Kabschia saxifrages.

Passing by Nephrophyllum (nineteen species), which includes the well known S. granulata, but little else of garden interest, we reach the important group of Euaizoonia, the charming silver saxifrages, only ten species strong, but with varieties and hybrids yielding a host of delightful rock plants, from the noble S. Cotyledon to the tiny S. valdensis. And one feels a special kinship with this group, since they are essentially plants of the mountains of Europe, and they recall (to such of us as have been lucky) visions of delightful expeditions through the Alps and Pyrenees and Carpathians.

THE NOBLE S. COTYLEDON OF THE SILVERY GROUP.

The Diptera group (nine species), on the other hand, are easterners, and mostly far-easterners; and in the pleasing form and colours of S. sarmentosa and S. Fortunei we recognise the peculiar charm which is the inheritance of the flora of Japan and China. The remaining eight sections of saxifraga number only twenty-one species between them, no section possessing more than three or four members. Three of them alone are of horticultural importance, and all are quite in the forefront. These are Robertsonia, which consists of the invaluable London Pride and its allies S. Geum and S. cuneifolia; Porphyrion, which gives us the lovely S. oppositifolia and its cousins S. retusa and S. biflora; and Xanthizoon, which contains a single species, S. aizoides.

To come back to our text—the fifty best saxifrages—we can now see at least from which sections of this large and varied genus they are to be drawn. They will consist of three main groups—"Silvers" (Euaizoonia), Kabschias and "Mossies" (Dactyloides), with some of the few but precious Dipteras, Robertsonias, Porphyrions and the single Xanthizoon added on. Our next duty will be to make a selection from among the very large number of beautiful forms—species, varieties and hybrids—that even this reduced assemblage of saxifrages offers to us.

IMPRESSIONS OF SOME OF THE NEWER AND BETTER GLADIOLI

(*Continued from page* 141.)

AMONG the large-flowering hybrid varieties, the following will be found to give every satisfaction in the garden.

A. B. KUNDERD.—A ruffled or frilled petalled variety. Ruffled gladioli are a fairly recent development and by many considered less formal than the plain petalled types. In sweet peas, the frilled petalled or "Spencer" type quickly ousted the "grandiflora" or plain flower. One wonders whether this will again be the case with gladioli. A. B. Kunderd is a beautiful cream, tinted pink, with cerise lines on its yellow lip. At it best, very lovely indeed, but, in my opinion a tendency of the colour to "run" will prevent its becoming one of the "stars."

ADELAIDE DE LUXEMBOURG.—Of Dutch origin. A good and very strong-growing gladiolus which will be a favourite with many. Pink with white and yellow centre.

ANNA EBERIUS.—Another which can safely be predicted to become very popular on account of its remarkable purity of colour. Quite a distinct shade of lavender-purple with deeper purple throat. Mixed with the light creamy pink or cream shades, it makes a very charming decoration.

BLERIOT produces a very fine spike, is strong growing, large flowered and brightly coloured. Apricot rose with a rich orange throat.

BYRON L. SMITH.—Its colour is reminiscent of a cattleya orchid, a very beautiful lavender pink with cream throat blotch. Very distinct and undoubtedly destined to become a great favourite.

BLUE CELESTE.—There are many so-called blue gladioli, but I feel sure that, when better known, this soft yet clear violet blue will be a firm favourite with many. A free grower and (for a blue) of fair size. It originated in Holland.

CATHERINE COLEMAN.—A beautifully made spike, large bloomed and delightfully coloured. May best be described as a rich shell pink. A gladiolus which has very greatly pleased me.

CLEAR EYE.—Bright scarlet with a clear-cut pure white blotch. A bunch is very distinct and attractive, and I consider it a great improvement on the older and better known variety, Princeps.

CRIMSON GLOW.—Perhaps the best description one can give of Crimson Glow is that it is a much richer and more brilliant Red Emperor. It is the richest crimson I have yet seen, large-flowered and a strong grower.

DR. F. E. BENNETT.—This variety has come to stay. The massive, well made blooms of fiery red are well placed on the spikes and, further, many are open at the same time. One I can recommend all to try with every confidence that it will not prove disappointing. As yet, it is, perhaps, rather expensive but I include it in this list.

DR. W. VAN FLEET.—This is of rather unusual shape and colour, but extremely beautiful and very distinct. It somewhat resembles Mrs. Dr. Norton, but is, in my opinion, a much better variety, both for freedom of growth and colouring. A charming blending of delicate rose pink, deeper at the edges of petals, with a canary yellow throat.

E. J. SHAYLOR.—Just a little disappointing, not as regards its colour, which is a rich rose pink, but, for my taste, not a sufficient number of blooms are open at the same time, and, although a strong grower, many of the bulbs contracted disease and were useless.

EMILE AUBRUN—This unique coloured gladiolus has pleased me as well as any I have seen. The blooms are very large indeed and form a perfect spike. Its colour is very hard to convey in words, and the best I can do is to term it a mixture of copper, slate and cherry, somewhat similar but warmer toned than the border carnation Grey Douglas. This is another one feels sure will become popular.

ENERGIE.—A very handsome and extremely well made and compact spike, well worthy of a trial. The colour is blood red.

EVELYN KIRTLAND.—A beautiful salmon rose pink, shading to shell pink in the centre, with bright red blotches on the lower petals. Although Evelyn may be one of the most lovely

Digitized by Google

varieties ever raised, it has the fault of rather a weak stem and must be staked.

GOLDEN MEASURE.—Briefly, this is the best and richest golden yellow large-flowering gladiolus. It makes a magnificent spike, growing 5ft. tall under favourable circumstances.

JACOBA VAN BEIREN.—Another extremely strong grower, a nice large bloom of soft purple. It will have its adherents, but I prefer the deeper toned Anna Eberius.

MAJESTIC.—Orange pink hardly conveys the wonderful glowing, yet soft, colouring of Majestic. There is something else suggesting the bright soft orange of the begonia. For colour alone, it is superb; but it must be confessed that its growth is rather on the weak side. In spite of this, I expect Majestic to become popular.

MARECHAL FOCH.—This is one of the varieties of the noted American raiser, Mr. Kunderd, and must not be confused with the Le Maréchal Foch of Dutch origin. It is a very valuable large-bloomed gladiolus, giving an extra fine spike, and is sure to please if given a trial. A salmon pink with rich red blotch.

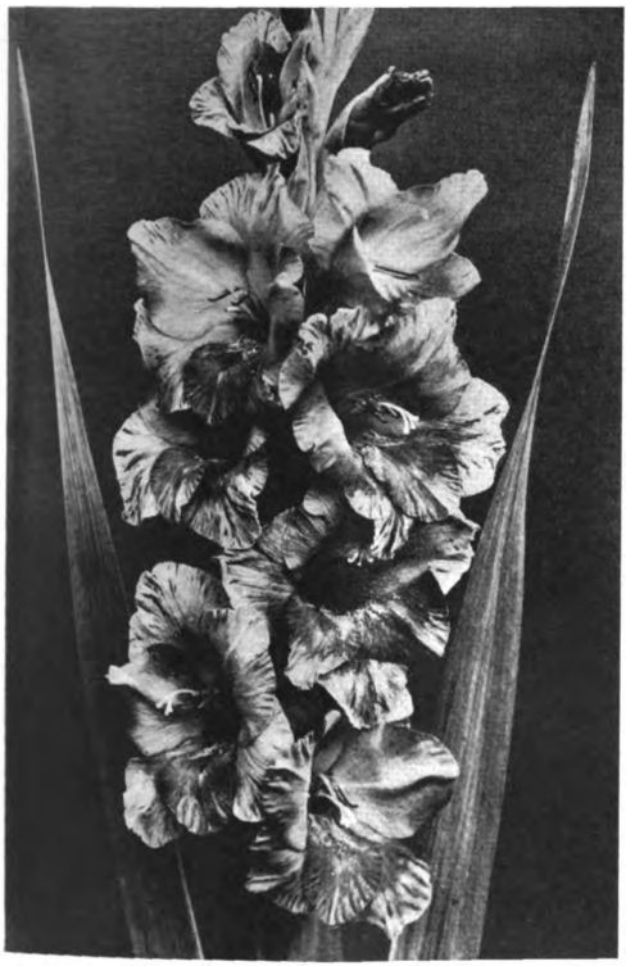
MRS. F. C. PETERS.—One of the best gladioli in existence. A very vigorous grower, giving a perfect spike of the largest size blooms. Its colour is a glorious lavender blue on a white ground. Whatever one's taste may be, Mrs. F. C. Peters will be considered to form one of the best dozen varieties by nine out of ten who grow it.

MRS. H. E. BOTHIN.—Another of ruffled or frilled type. A strong grower, most distinct, of flesh salmon pink colouring with flame scarlet blotch. Although really valuable, one would like to see more blooms open on the spike at the same time. This is its only fault.

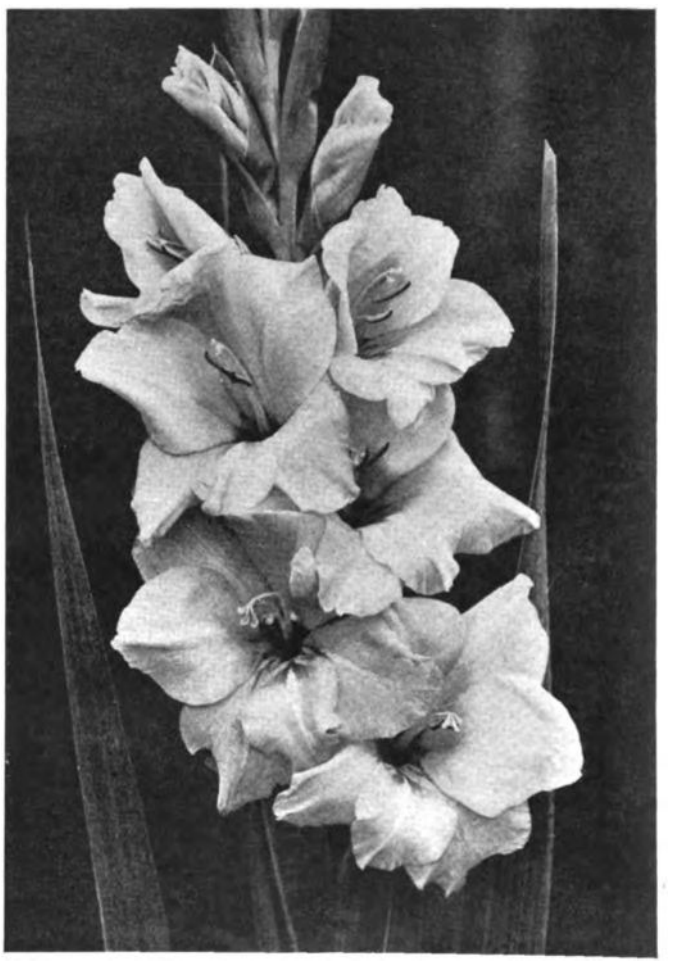
MRS. LEON DOUGLAS.—A giant gladiolus, taller and stronger growing than any others I have ever seen, it towers above them all. The ground colouring is begonia rose, slightly striped flame, with a lemon lip lightly speckled with ruby. Although the individual blooms are not as perfectly made as one would wish, the size of the spike and bloom are sufficient to compensate fully for this fault.

MRS. VAN KONYNENBURG.—This is the best light blue gladiolus I have yet seen. A beautiful and distinct colour and a good grower.

MRS. W. H. PHIPPS.—In my judgment, here we have one of the very best gladioli in existence. Its truly wonderful colour is hard to describe, perhaps impossible accurately to convey in words. It has to be seen to appreciate fully its real worth. La France pink, overlaid light rose salmon, the lower petals striped and speckled with ruby, rivalling the begonias in richness and beauty of coloration. From nine to ten large blooms are open at once on the well made spike, grown naturally. It is, at present, rather high priced, but if this debars a trial this season I advise my reader to jot down the name, for it is a variety all growers will obtain sooner or later. One spike is a bouquet in itself.



THE HANDSOME SPIKE OF PURPLE GLORY.



THE BRIGHT ORANGE RUFFLED BLOOMS OF ORANGE GLORY

ORANGE GLORY.—This is a ruffled gladiolus which has somewhat disappointed me, not by any means on account of its colour or form, but my experience of Orange Glory the past two seasons has been that not more than 50 per cent. of the corms produced a flower spike. This may not, of course, be general. It is a vigorous grower and a glorious bright orange colour.

PAINTED LADY.—A meritorious English-raised variety, very distinct and beautiful. The colour is snow white with a clear-cut and well defined red blotch. Striking and very good.

PINK WONDER.—A fine novelty with large massive-looking blooms. Clear light rose pink with deeper rose lines in the throat. In my opinion, one of the best in the pink shades.

Digitized by Google

PRIDE OF HAARLEM.—A Dutch introduction which has greatly pleased me. The colour is very distinct, a soft cherry rose. Large flowered and a nice spike.

PURPLE GLORY.—One of the "stars." A wonderfully strong-growing ruffled gladiolus with large, well shaped, velvety purple-maroon flowers, having almost black blotches on the lower petals. A grand variety which will most certainly become first favourite in its colour class directly its price is a little easier.

RICHARD DIENER.—Very refined in general appearance. A lovely pure shade perhaps most accurately described as geranium pink, with a sprinkling of ruby on its creamy yellow centre. Almost certain to please all tastes.

ROSE PRECOSE.—In my opinion, this is one of the very best varieties which Holland has ever produced. The spike is well made with a fair number of florets open at once, while the colour is exquisite—salmon pink feathered light red. A most charming gladiolus which all should try.

VEILCHENBLAU.—For colour alone, the finest blue I have tried, a glorious viola blue. Its constitution, apparently, is rather weak, and it is a difficult propagator. For these reasons, it is not likely to become very cheap.

VENUS.—This will appeal to all who like the delicate shades. Venus is very dainty and attractive, an early bloomer, of a light silvery rose colour with creamy white lower petals. It has only one fault: its stem is a little too weak; but, really, its good qualities outweigh this, and I can strongly recommend it.

SAPHO.—Here is a colour quite out of the ordinary run, very quaint but still very beautiful. It will not be everyone's favourite, but will strongly appeal to any who prefer something uncommon. The colour combination is brownish red, feathered steel blue and purple. C. H. A. S.

MORE SOUTH AFRICAN GLADIOLI AND THEIR HAUNTS

THE PREVIOUS ARTICLE ON SOUTH AFRICAN GLADIOLI, WHICH APPEARED IN "THE GARDEN" LAST YEAR, CREATED SO MUCH INTEREST THAT WE ARE PLEASED TO PUBLISH A FURTHER CONTRIBUTION ON THESE BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS.

THE gladiolus is undoubtedly the flower of 1926, and it seems to express the spirit of the age more vividly than any other flower. Intensity of colour and life—success—is written large on its glowing loveliness. Success which may in time appear somewhat blatant, for all is expressed, nothing suggested, in the florist's gladiolus to-day. But this is not the case with their wild "colonial" cousins blooming among the mountains of the Cape; their dainty grace brings back to us the wind-swept rocks among the clefts, and crannies where they find a home.

A warm day in early summer finds us climbing the lower slopes of the Drakenstein mountains, and when we at length reach the top of a ridge to rest and admire the wonderful view — behold! clumps of Gladiolus cuspidatus between the rocks on every side! Only about 1½ft. to 2ft. high, but the blossoms the loveliest deep cream with the typical Painted Lady markings on the lower perianth segments in deepest carmine. The colour effect is also greatly enhanced by the anthers showing a soft powder blue against the rosy cream throat. The plant seems to improve under cultivation, the flowers get larger every year, and the colour a deeper cream, almost yellow.

The ordinary Painted Lady, or G. blandus, is the best known among European and American hybridists. This one we consider very ordinary, a sort of "country cousin" among pypjes, as we call them in our familiar fashion. G. blandus is the most common, perhaps that is why we esteem it least, but compared with the others it is clumsy and thick-set. The leaf is wide, the stems are thick, the flowers set close together, "stodgy" we call it, though I expect did we not know the others we should admire it greatly.

GLADIOLUS BLANDUS.

The one we treasure most is the pink bell, or G. inflatus, and anyone who has fallen a victim to its daintiness will not give a second thought to blandus. Its stem is as fine as a harebell's, which species it suggests in every way, only the blooms are very much larger, much more open and of a clear distinct pink with indescribable carmine markings. It grows about 1½ft. high, with two and sometimes three blooms on a stem. A quantity of these flowers in a large crystal glass bowl was a sight I shall never forget. But, alas! every rose has its thorn. There must be some reason why these do not appear in the nurserymen's lists and only as treasured specimens in our gardens. They grow in the most inaccessible spots on the mountains, and when, after days of climbing, one has the good fortune to come on a patch of them they are almost impossible to dig out, the ground is hard and the corms grow at a most unconscionable depth. However, we had the good fortune this year to hunt down a patch of them in seed. Now we await results.

The kalkocutje, or G. alatus, is quite a distinct type, unlike any of the others. It comes in the spring on the edges of the cornfields and vineyards, and it is always greeted with joy. The blooms are a peculiar terra-cotta shade. The books mostly give them as "red," but this does not in the least describe them. The shade is brighter than terra-cotta, and yet not in the least orange. This is shown up by brilliant green shading in the centre of the flower and yellow markings on the lower segments. Only about 1ft. high, with wide leaves, it seems very different from its relations. The children never call them pypjes. Surely a type that should be useful to the hybridiser, particularly as it has a very sweet scent.

G. grandis and G. tristis are better known, and are often spoken of as one and the same, though very different both in appearance and habit. G. grandis grows about 3ft. high on a thin, delicate stalk which supports one large and very attractive bloom. It is difficult to say what is the colour of the latter. The background is probably cream, but in the specimen I have there is no background to be seen, the entire bloom being covered with brown dots and markings, reminding one somewhat of the markings of Fritillaria Meleagris of the Suffolk pastures. But it varies very much. Some people describe the flowers as cream with crimson or brown blotches, but through all its variations it is extremely attractive. The blossom is very wide and the edges of the segments wave and curve in every direction. A thoroughly unorthodox denizen of the veld, one finds it quite unexpectedly here and there in moist situations.

G. tristis is more common. Walking home on a summer evening after sunset by a sluit, or marshy waste, one will suddenly get a whiff of a most delicious scent, and the pale yellow flowers of tristis, or the avondbloom, will be found gleaming among the tall reeds. It grows to 5ft. with fifteen or more large blooms

Digitized by Google

on its reed-like stem. The *upper* segments are marked with brown, while the lower segments have the markings only on the outer or reflex side of the flower. No wonder it was among the first to be cultivated. One can picture the long summer evenings in England when one sits in the garden in the dusk. What joy one would find in clumps of these tall yellow beauties opening to scent the night air with perfumes from the veld!

There are many, many more, some of them better known than these. For example, the beautiful Caledon bluebell, G. spathaceus, so hard to get; cardinalis, which sends out its long sprays to trail over pools and mountain streams; the dainty G. gracilis, which comes in the springtime in delicate shades of blue, mauve and yellow; and G. recurvus, somewhat bigger and sweetly scented. And for years we may go on finding new ones and growing more and more, enchanted with their beauty.

With regard to their cultivation we have much to learn, but we are learning. In cultivating, the chief thing to remember

G. SPATHACEUS. G. GRANDIS.

is that most of them do their growing in the winter and rest during the hot, dry summer months after flowering. They should therefore not be taken up and stored, but must be protected when the winters are severe. Here they get no frost, but a very wet winter when they do most of their growing; therefore if they are taken up after flowering they must be replanted in the autumn.

When grown from seed most of them flower the second year. The tiny seed bulbs must never be stored. One curious fact in the history of South African gladioli is interesting—they are entirely disregarded in their native country. A handful of enthusiasts are trying to protect them and to save them from extinction at the hands of ruthless flower-sellers, but nine-tenths of the population know nothing of their existence, and while they have some pride in the wonderful South African proteas and heaths, the pypjes interest them not at all, though no doubt they will buy them for their gardens when they come as expensive imported bulbs.

K. C. STANFORD.

THE DAINTY PINK-FLOWERED G. INFLATUS.

THE KALKOCUTJE, OR G. ALATUS.

Digitized by Google

PRUNING BEDDING ROSES

THE time has now come when hybrid perpetuals and, in the southern counties, hybrid teas, may be pruned. A great deal of the bad pruning which one meets is due to badly thought out planting. Selection only by colour and quality and quite regardless of habit will place a bed of Hugh Dickson, for instance, between Mme. Ravary and Ophelia. To prune Hugh Dickson as it should be pruned gives a most uneven immediate effect, and this unevenness is accentuated throughout the season. Hugh Dickson is a robust and excellent rose, but it is not suitable for bedding, and the same remark applies to many other strong growers. Frau Karl Druschki comes to mind as a flagrant instance of a rose quite unsuitable for bedding in association with other varieties, and it is very doubtful whether even that old favourite Caroline Testout is not too tall for the purpose, as well as the salmon pink Joseph Hill. Neither of these varieties lend themselves to pegging down—a course which may generally be adopted with the hybrid perpetuals.

Now, as regards the actual pruning of bedding roses which, if well selected, will almost certainly, with the possible exception of Lady Hillingdon, belong to the hybrid tea and Pernetiana sections. All dead and unripe wood should first be removed. This latter will very probably be the thickest wood in the tree, being strong wood thrown up from the base late in the season. It corresponds roughly with what in fruit trees are called "water-spouts." Any unduly thin wood had better be removed at the same time. The careful pruner will now take a survey of the tree before he commences to prune, since in bedding roses the shapeliness of the tree is an important consideration. Having selected six or eight shoots (if there are so many), which are quite sound and healthy and which leave the centre of the tree a little open, they should be cut back to from four to eight eyes of the base from which they started, always bearing in mind that the weaker the tree, the harder it should be pruned back.

The Pernetiana varieties are invaluable owing to their colouring, but it is wise not to employ them for bedding more than is necessary, as they rather resent hard pruning and, under bedding conditions, are not long-lived. Perhaps the newer sorts will not suffer in this way as much as did those first introduced; but even the universally and deservedly popular Mrs. Wemyss Quin is not free from this defect. It is far stronger and happier when allowed to develop into a large bush. The following recognised bedding varieties call for hard pruning—to say, four or six eyes from the base of the shoots: Augustus Hartmann, Château de Clos Vougeot, Geo. C. Waud, Mrs. C. Russell and Richmond.

The pruning of the dwarf polyanthas, so popular now for bedding, is for this purpose very similar to the H.T. and T. sections, except that, as they are thin growers, more shoots may be retained and these cut over quite close—within two or three eyes of the base. This will give the dwarf effect generally worked for. If there is no desire to keep them down, little pruning need be done other than the removal of the spent (and eyeless) last season's bloom trusses. This pruning may now be proceeded with.

Since some people like pegged-down roses, it may be well to explain the process, which certainly goes far to obtain new wood from the bottom. This, incidentally, where pegged and naturally grown roses are associated together, always forms a young forest, far taller than the vegetation in the other beds. For pegging-down, then all old wood should be cut away and the one-year shoots left almost full length, right up to where the wood thins seriously or to where the buds have broken excessively, should this be lower than the thin wood. Tarred string is used for securing the growths to the notched pegs, which should be long enough when driven in to hold securely. About a foot is the usual length, but much depends upon the character of the soil. In some soil 9in. pegs hold securely, in others it is almost impossible to persuade a peg to hold. Tie the string to the peg first and arch the shoot over to meet. If any attempt is made to lay the shoot along the ground it will snap off at the base.

NOTES OF THE WEEK

ERODIUM CHRYSANTHUM.

TO those who know the plant, it is a matter of some surprise that Erodium chrysanthum is not more general in cultivation than it at present seems to be. A native of Greece, it is, as erodiums go, hardy enough in this country. By the colour of its flowers, which are of a deep primrose hue, it is readily distinguished from the other members of the genus. It flowers most profusely throughout June and the much divided silvery leaves add to the attractiveness of the plant.

The plant is seen at its best when growing in a sun-exposed pocket in the rock garden, the growing medium to be kept open and porous by the inclusion of a fair amount of sand and small gravel.

It is best increased from cuttings taken at the end of July, these cuttings to be inserted, four or five round a 3in. pot containing sand, which pots should be plunged to the rim in sand in the cutting frame.

The frame should be kept moist by light sprayings at intervals, always remembering to have the shading handy. By having the cuttings in pots it is convenient to lift the pots occasionally and look for any signs of roots, whereas, if the cuttings were dibbled in lines across the frame there would be the risk of an over-anxious propagator snapping off young roots in his attempt to ascertain whether or not the cuttings were rooted. The cuttings should be potted off singly as soon as they are rooted, placing them back for the first week or two to the shelter of a covered frame and gradually hardening them off. For the winter, plunge the pots in a cold frame, removing lights on suitable days. Plant them out on the rockery in the spring.—W. H.

FIGHTING CABBAGE PESTS WITH SALT.

SOME interesting experiments have been recently carried out in connection with the fighting of cabbage pests. A close examination of large numbers of wild cabbage plants, which are often found growing close to high-water mark in soil that is saturated with salt and where its foliage must be repeatedly drenched with spray, has revealed the fact that these are hardly ever attacked by caterpillars or grubs of any kind. Pests placed on the wild cabbage leaves speedily deserted them for something more palatable. The reason for this is that insects of all kinds have the greatest dislike to salt. Cabbage plants in gardens treated with salt will show a remarkable freedom from the attacks of pests, although specimens in adjoining plots are badly affected. A moderately strong solution of salt and water may be sprinkled on the foliage with the best results, as this will not harm the plant in the least. A further protection against ground pests is secured by scattering dry salt underneath the cabbage plants.—S. L. B.

NOTES FROM 'FLORAIRE.

THERE formerly grew in gardens—at least, here in Geneva—a so-called Saxifraga japonica which I lost more than twenty-five years ago and only found again last year, in a very old garden near Montmorency in France. It is a form of sarmentosa, quite distinct of the type, and is not the S. japonica, of de Boisseau, described in Engler's "Saxifragales," but a form of sarmentosa with thicker leaves, deep brown underneath, bearing longer and thicker hairs, and forming bushy tufts with a few very short stolons. The flowers are quite similar to those of sarmentosa and slightly spotted with pink.

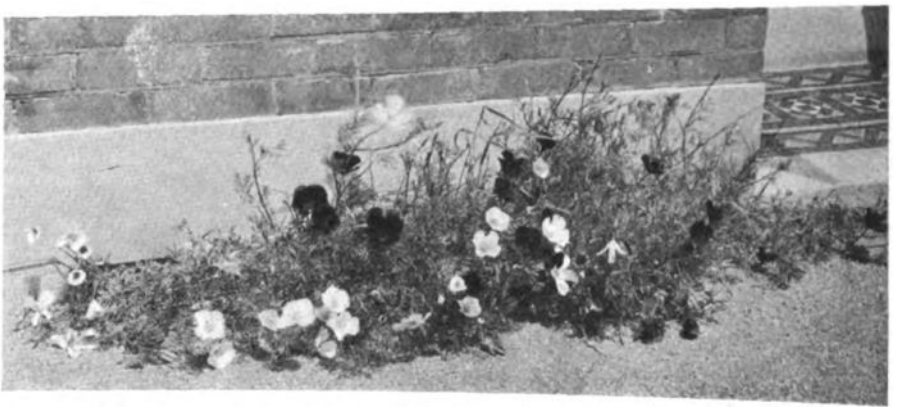
Saxifraga florulenta has been called the gem of the Saxifragas. Indeed, it is one of the most elegant of all rock plants; but it is not of easy cultivation. It grows in a rather small area, between the Colle di Tenda to the Tinee Valley, always in dark clefts among the highest peaks, where it can send its roots very deep down between the narrow crevices of the rock. It is difficult to dig up, but I have found that the best way is to hunt for it at the base of the rock walls. There one may find sometimes large quantities of little seedlings that are very easy to take out and transplant. If you have a wall of granite, there the plant will certainly succeed. It is a lime-hater and cannot endure chalk. We planted a lot of these seedlings here in a turf wall; although the young plants were in very good health when brought home, they perished because of the presence of lime. But in pure peat we grow it easily, although it has not yet flowered. Perhaps our water contains too much chalk.

S. florulenta is a monocarpic plant which dies after flowering. However, the rosette of the plant is of great beauty, and it lives long years before flowering (much longer than longifolia, which is also monocarpic). I have counted the age of one plant in the Maritime Alps, and that was more than 100 years old. The flowers are of the sweetest carnation colour, lighter than those of retusa or oppositifolia. They form a regular pyramid, and flower from August to September. —HENRY CORREVON, *Floraire*.

Digitized by Google

MAKING THE PATH BEAUTIFUL.

WHERE a path runs along close to the side of the house there is often no room for a flower bed. In the dry, stony situations there are few plants that will succeed, but an exception is to be found in the Californian poppy. Remove a little of the gravel here and there and then fill in pockets of soil. Sow mixed seeds of Eschscholtzia and over the seedling period water occasionally. Afterwards no attention is needed and the Californian poppies flower freely. Indeed, in the dry stony soil they often seem to do better than when growing in a well prepared border, especially if the situation is a sunny one. The plants hide the hard angle formed by the house and the path in a very satisfactory manner.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.



ESCHSCHOLTZIAS AS A PATH PLANT.

PRIMULA FASCICULATA.

THIS recently introduced species from China promises to be a precious and welcome addition to the already long list of primulas suitable for the rock garden and the alpine house. In this latter, it is quite easy to grow and flowers profusely (as will be seen from the accompanying illustration), though on the rock garden it needs a choice position, amply supplied with moisture during the growing period—yet sheltered from excessive moisture round the crown during winter. It forms a neat rosette of spoon-shaped leaves, about 1in. long and from ¼in. to ⅓in. wide, on a petiole 1in. to 1½ins. long. From this rosette of shiny, light green foliage rise in February or March, a number of slender stalks 2ins. high in the form of a fascicle (hence the specific name), each of which bears a single flower about ½in. in diameter. These flowers are of a bright, clear, rose pink colour with a small decided orange-yellow eye. The petals are deeply notched as in P. farinosa, though the depth of the notching as well as the depth of colour varies to some extent in the seedlings. If hand pollinated, with pollen from the thrum-eyed flowers dusted on the pistil of the pin-eyed ones with a camel hair brush, seed is set freely. This germinates easily if sown directly it is ripe, and the seedlings should be pricked out into well drained pans of light soil as soon as large enough to handle. These should be kept as hardy as possible and potted singly in a compost of good fibrous loam and leaf mould in equal parts with a little sharp sand added. Care should be exercised when watering so that the soil is not allowed to become soured by over-watering and also that no water is allowed to settle on the foliage, particularly during the winter months and while the seedlings are small.—R. B.

DEUTZIAS.

THERE seems to be an impression that the pretty Deutzia gracilis, which has for so long been grown in pots, is not perfectly hardy. This is quite a mistaken idea, for the plant will flourish out of doors almost anywhere, and when the conditions are suitable a dense bush about 2ft. high is quickly formed. To get the best results this plant must be growing in a very free soil and it will then produce flowers with the same abundance as it is to be observed in the pot examples. Providing the soil is thoroughly well drained, its actual composition does not seem to make much difference to this pretty little bush. D. crenata forms a much larger bush, which not uncommonly grows to the height of from 6ft. to 8ft. or even more. The foliage of this plant is large and rough and, when it is in flower, the slender shoots are adorned with masses of pure white blossoms. Two very distinct and extremely beautiful varieties of D. crenata are available. These are D. crenata flore pleno, with double flowers tinged with reddish purple and D. crenata candidissima, which bears quantities of double blooms of a snowy whiteness. This latter is probably one of the finest flowering shrubs available. All the deutzias are tolerant of a certain amount of shade and, if this is not too pronounced, they often do better than in a very open situation. Deutzias flower much more profusely if they are annually thinned. This is best carried out after flowering, at which time the old wood should be cut away and the new growth thinned. It is well to bear in mind that a very dense growth on the part of a deutzia tends to prevent a free production of flowers. Deutzias are easily propagated by the cuttings of short side shoots taken off with a heel of the old wood in the spring. These, if inserted in sandy soil, and either plunged in a propagating pit or covered with a bell-glass, root freely.—L. B.

PRIMULA FASCICULATA. A USEFUL SPECIES FOR THE ALPINE HOUSE.

THE MOUNTAIN CLEMATIS (C. MONTANA VAR. GRANDIFLORA).

ONE of the most beautiful climbing shrubs ever introduced to our country is the above, which is grown here (at Gravetye Manor), tumbling over a 9ft. wall which serves the purpose of a retaining wall to the flower garden. During May and June this robust, handsome shrub may be seen clothing the trunks of cedars and Corsican pine, garlanding their branches with snowy white flowers to a height of from 40ft. to 50ft., the great white wreaths of blossom even at this height being remarkably handsome and picturesque, while the columns of the trees themselves are draped with bloom and are of noble appearance. This robust shrub is really too large for walls of medium height, although it may be used effectively in such positions for a few years. The ideal site, nevertheless, is a large holly or other evergreen tree, where its long flowery trails are free to rise or fall and are safe from the pruner's attention.

Such trees provide a charming background for its snow white mantle of bloom, and the companionship looks very natural.

The small gardener who does not possess such trees has no cause for despair, as, with a few rough poles to form a tripod, he is able to cultivate and enjoy the flowers of this indispensable climber from the Himalayas.

In a famous garden near me this clematis has been used to form a large screen to obscure some buildings in the rear. The screen rises many feet above a large brick wall, and few things are more striking than this glorious mass of bloom each year.—E. MARKHAM.

[SOLDANELLA ALPINA.

IT was during August many years ago that I first saw this beautiful little plant growing high up in the Alps near Davos at a little place called Sertig Dörfli. It was flowering at the edge of a snowdrift, and gave me quite a thrill, for I had read

Digitized by Google

what Ruskin had to say of it in his "Frondes Agrestis," where he is speaking of the beauty of snowdrifts. He describes it well and accurately with his usual exuberant flow of language: "Through these"—openings in the snow—"emergent a slender, pensive, fragile flower, whose small, dark purple-fringed bell hangs down and shudders over the icy cleft that it has cloven, as if partly wondering at its own recent grave, and partly dying of very fatigue after its hard-won victory."

This diminutive little plant, rising only a few inches above its dark green leathery leaves, is a treasure for the rock garden or the alpine house. Coming as it does from the regions of eternal snow, it must be carefully placed on the rock garden so that its roots can never get dry in summer, and it is as well to afford it some protection in winter, not from cold but from excessive moisture from above. Reginald Malby, in "The Story of My Rock Garden," describes how he constructed small bog gardens by forming little cups in the ground with beaten clay which he filled with good peaty soil and leaf-mould. In just such a position this soldanella will thrive. It must be given some choice little corner where more vigorous plants cannot encroach upon it, and it must not be forgotten that it shows a preference for partial shade.

In the alpine pastures it is found at from 5,000ft. to 9,000ft., and often comes into flower in hollows under the snow where the temperature at most cannot be more than a degree or two above freezing. If we remember that its two great enemies are wet in winter and drought in summer, there is no reason why we should not be successful in growing this little foreign relative of our homely primrose.—EDWARD CAHEN.

THE SCARLET CLUSTERS OF MALE FLOWERS OF ACER RUBRUM.

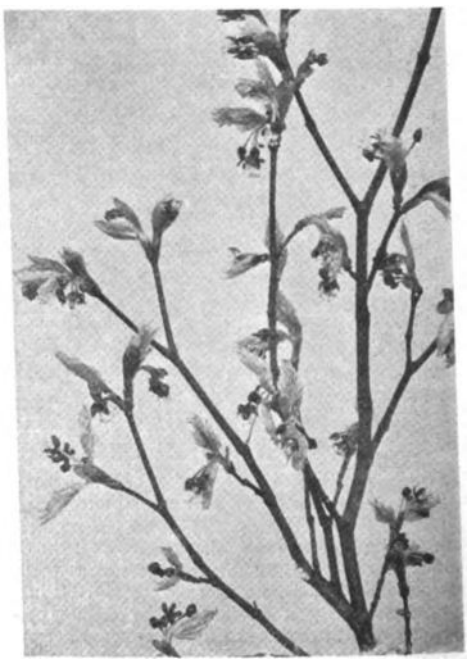
FLOWERING MAPLES.

AMONG our spring-flowering trees and shrubs there are so many species with very showy attractive flowers that we often neglect others of which the flowers seem at first sight to be rather inconspicuous. Especially is this the case when the different kinds of maples burst into bloom. I wish in this note to call attention to some early-flowering species that are frequently met with in collections.

The best known of them is, probably, Acer rubrum, the red maple, a stately North American tree, one of the most beautiful of its family in the New World. How I admired the giant trees in the Arnold Arboretum when, in March or April, the twigs were literally covered with the scarlet clusters of the male flowers. At this early time of the year the red maple is hardly less attractive than in the fall, when its foliage turns red, scarlet and yellow. A few days later the pistillate flowers which are either on the same or, more often, on different trees, develop and are quite different. In its native home the red maple attains a height of about 130ft. It has been well known in Great Britain and on the Continent for nearly three hundred years, and I know of specimens hardly less magnificent than those in the eastern United States.

The male flowers of another well known North American maple are also attractive. This is the western form of the box elder or ash-leaved maple, Acer Negundo var. californicum, sometimes regarded as a species. It differs chiefly from the type by the densely hairy branchlets, leaves and fruits. A. Negundo is easily distinguished from other maples by its pinnate leaves, and also by its dicœcious flowers, the male and the female being borne on different trees. The box elder came to Europe at about the same time as the red maple.

A very ornamental maple, too, when in full bloom is the vine maple, A. circinatum, which was brought to Europe by Douglas from the north-western United States exactly a hundred years ago. It belongs to the same group as the Japanese maple, and is mostly shrubby in habit. Britton says that the common name "vine maple" refers to the trailing or half-climbing habit of the tree, but I have never seen large specimens showing this interesting character. In April, when the flowers appear, together with the silky young leaves, the purplish sepals form a striking contrast with the whitish petals and the showy crimson-hued bud scales. The twigs also are rather a shining purple. This handsome American maple is of the greatest ornamental value, and is growing well in places where its Japanese cousins often do not succeed. Its spring beauty is almost surpassed by the conspicuous red and orange colours of the leaves in the autumn. It is an excellent species for smaller gardens.—CAMILLO SCHNEIDER.



TWIGS OF A. CIRCINATUM IN SPRING.

DELPHINIUMS FOR THE BORDER

BY EDWIN BECKETT.

PLANT fashions, like those of dress, are ever-changing, and one floriferous beauty that has been gradually coming into her own is the subject of these few notes. I confess to have been greatly attracted to these perennial larkspurs, and during the past few years have raised not a few new seedlings and, in addition, tried out many of the novelties raised by our leading specialists. Many of these however, are out of reach of the owner of the suburban garden, and the purpose of these notes is to help him in a selection of really good novelties that may be obtained in commerce at reasonable prices. They are all good garden varieties and a few will give every satisfaction in the garden.

THE ALAKE.—One of the first varieties which an amateur should go for. Fine spikes of large purplish blue dark flowers, so pretty in their arrangement.

CAPRI.—This, sky blue, in fine contrast to the foregoing, is an ideal cutting variety for vases, of good, loose-growing habit.

FANNY STORMOUTH.—Small of spike, but free in growth, this is excellent for cutting for decoration or for bedding work, and is of a pretty clear medium blue.

GENERAL SIR DOUGLAS HAIG.—A beautiful variety of strong character and excellent spikes. The colour is best described as purple mottled with blue, and is most distinct.

HARRY SMETHAM.—One of the older varieties, and still one of the most attractive, with its "porcelain blue" flowers, semi-double, and robust habit.

COSSACK.—More modern and a fine clear bright blue with a "bronzy eye," like a bumble bee; very distinct and good.

EDWIN BECKETT.—Again not modern, but a very strong grower, going up to 7ft. at times, with well placed purplish blue flowers. Good spikes and a good doer.

IDA R. ELLIOTT.—Large spikes and flowers of light-toned bright blue.

JOAN CARTER.—Mauve-toned flowers, good habit, semi-double, fine for cutting.

KING OF THE DELPHINIUMS.—The true variety is first class, tall growing, massive spikes of large (2in. diameter) gentian-coloured flowers with white eye. There are many inferior stocks of this variety.

Digitized by Google

LA FRANCE.—An appealing variety with pink tones running through the lilac semi-double flowers. Very fine spikes.

LAVANDA.—As its name denotes, lavender shade of flower; semi-double, borne in long, thickly clad spikes.

LE DANUBE.—A pretty variety of pale blue, with a pinkish centre.

LORD DERBY.—Very distinct in appearance. Large flowers of deep blue and rosy mauve tones.

LOVELY.—This variety is well named. Fine spikes, flowers lavender-toned bright blue with white eye.

MILLICENT BLACKMORE.—This I look on as one of the best. Spikes gay pyramids of pale mauve-toned blue, very large flowers.

MOERHEIMI.—Worth growing as being a 6ft. tall white-flowered variety of merit; good for cutting and garden effect.

MRS. A. J. WATSON.—Another of the "mauvey" blues, and very free-flowering, and of tall habit and vigorous growth.

MRS. CHRISTIE MILLER.—As a contrast to the blues this cream-coloured variety is well worthy of inclusion, being one of the best with well formed spikes.

MRS. COLIN MCIVER.—A pretty semi-double of heliotrope shade.

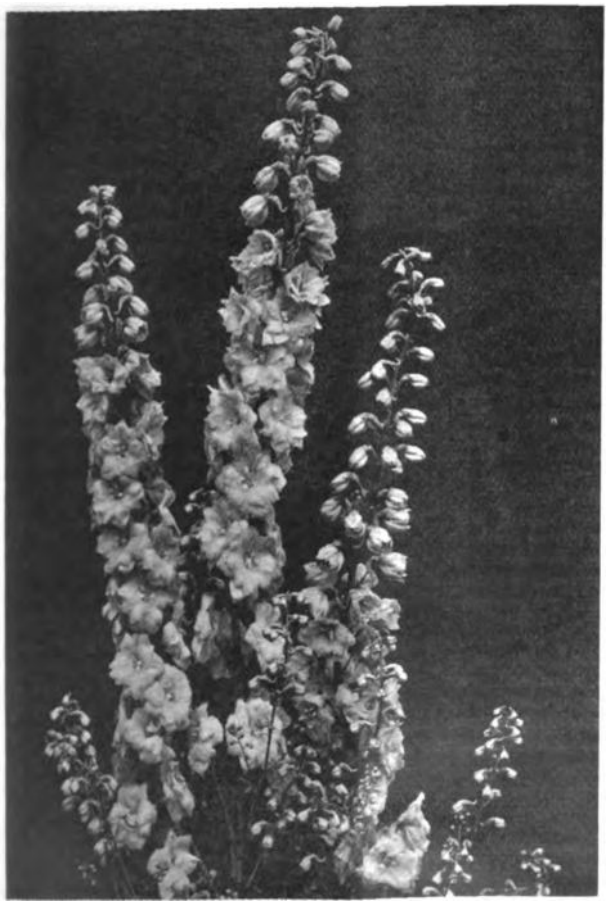
MRS. H. KAYE.—This has a distinct feathery appearance and is a good dark blue shaded with purple.

NORAH FERGUSON.—One of the most distinct varieties, and a general favourite with all growers. It has very fine spikes of pink shaded, pale blue flowers, semi-double in character and with good white eyes.

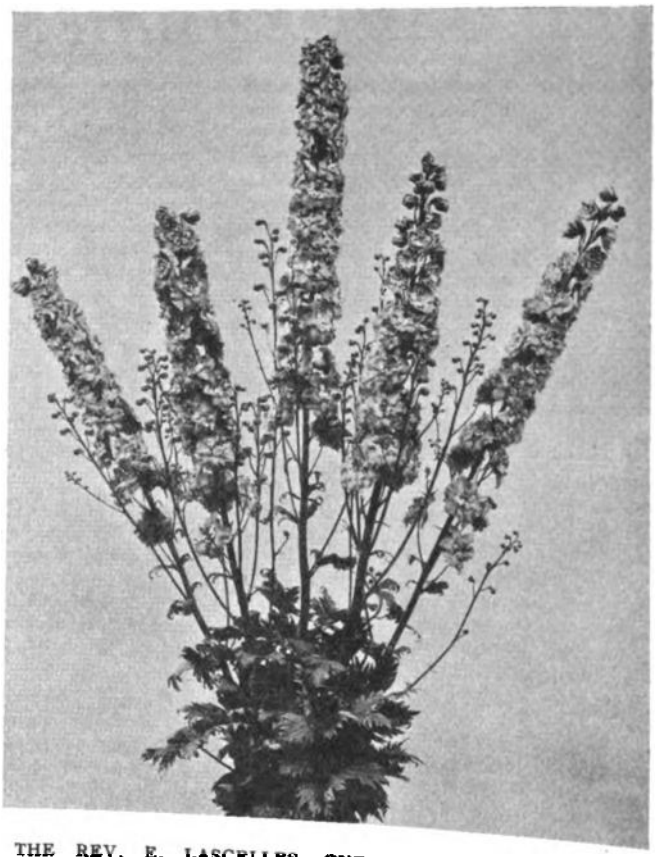
PERSIMMON.—The large circular flowers of medium blue, the strong, branching stems and good general habit make this one of the best for all classes of work.

QUEEN MARY.—The colour of this is generally classed as "silver blue." It is a handsome thing with good semi-double flowers.

REV. E. LASCELLES.—One of the older varieties, and still one of the very best, with large, fine spikes, the flowers of which are intensely blue, contrasting well with the white centre.



NORAH FERGUSON, MOST DISTINCT AND A GENERAL FAVOURITE.



THE REV. E. LASCELLES, ONE OF THE BEST OF THE OLDER VARIETIES.

STATUAIRE RUDE.—A really charming variety of heliotrope shade.

One could go on listing the many fine things, but I think the above selection contains the "pick of the bunch," other than one or two of the belladonna varieties, which must not be overlooked. These are excellent for growing well massed together, being of more dwarf stature than the general run of delphiniums and of slighter build. Flowering over a very long period, they are especially valuable as cut flowers.

Of this class my selection would be Capri, a pretty sky blue; grandiflora, of similar shade, but suffused with a mauve tint; Lamartine, a violet tone of azure blue with a white eye; Semi-plena, really an improved Belladonna of semi-double flowers clear blue in tone; and Theodora, a fine loose-growing variety with medium blue flowers.

The soil wherein the plants are grown should be good, neither light, poor—which tends to starve them—nor tenacious, wet clayey soil, which handicaps them, if, indeed, it does not kill them from the start. Other than this, the delphinium is not fastidious. To get the soil into good condition, work it deeply and add plenty of lime, wood ashes, leaf-soil and such material.

Place the plants in their growing positions in March or early April, and surround each one with a ring of sharp cinder ash to keep away slugs, which have a great partiality for delphiniums. Do not let the cinder ash *touch* the stem. Support the plant as it grows with stout stakes, but do not let them be too obtrusive, for, the habit of the plant being somewhat open, stakes that are too apparent will detract from the beauty of the subject. Space permitting, allow the plants to grow a yard apart each way, and give a sunny position for the best results. Increase of stock can be effected by careful division in spring, by cuttings at the same period of young shoots taken off with a portion of the root stock attached, which may be struck in a cold frame, or by raising from seed, which can be done in the open ground, sowing as soon as the seed is ripe. Raising plants from seed forms a pleasant hobby and in addition plenty of material is obtained for cutting, and there is always the possibility of coming across a really improved new plant.

Digitized by Google

CORRESPONDENCE

SPRING FLOWERING ROCK PLANTS.

SIR,—Is it worth recording that one plant of Primula Allionii is in flower in my rock garden to-day (February 28th) and another shows clearly a pink bud?

A plant of Androsace carnea Laggeri is also dotted with pink buds and will, I fear, be over before I see it again.

If you care for it, here is a complete list: Anemones fulgens, blanda, Hepatica, Hepatica rubra and angulosa; Iris reticulata and I. persica; Narcissus minimus, N. triandrus and N. cyclamineus; Crocus versicolor and C. Tomasinianus; Saxifragas apiculata, a. alba, Elizabethæ, Faldonside, Haagii, Rochelliana, Grisebachii, Biasolettii, Irvingii, Burseriana crenata (B. gloria and sulphurea are over, and so is Kellereri), Blickii, macedonica, Mrs. Leng, scardica, Paulinæ, Salomonii, sancta, lævis, pungens, Petraschi, Myra and oppositifolia; Daphne Blagayana; Muscari azureum; Tulipas Kaufmanniana, polychroma and Turkestanica; Primulas marginata, Winteri, The General, Dusty Miller, denticulata, d. alba and Robertson Hall. One plant of Omphalodes Luciliæ shows the blue of its buds.—AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN, *Five Ashes, Sussex.*

TWO EARLY FLOWERING SHRUBS.

SIR,—Those interested in early-flowering shrubs might include, besides those enumerated in the issue of THE GARDEN, January 2nd, page 2, the earliest flowering witch hazel, Hamamelis vernalis. While not so attractive as H. mollis, it was certainly cheerful to find it covered with its small yellow flowers on New Year's Day at the Arnold Arboretum. The flowers continue over a longer period than is the case with its more popular cousin. The narrow petals are about half an inch long, usually yellow, but on some bushes may bear a reddish tinge. The calyx is red but varies in shade with different individuals, as also does the fragrance, on some bushes being decidedly sweet, while on others no suspicion of scent can be detected. The time of flowering varies according to the intensity of the cold here—that is, from the end of December to March—and the flower buds will stand considerably more than those of H. mollis; but a severe winter—such as we experienced during 1917–18, when the glass did not register above zero (Fahr.) for a week and the ground, lacking the protection of snow, froze solid for a depth of over 5ft.—did kill them. It grows here about 8ft. high and almost as much through, owing to its peculiar habit of throwing up numerous suckers, forming quite a thicket, and which afford a ready means of propagation. It also comes readily from seed, and, contrary to the prevalent idea that these may take two years to germinate, if sown in December will be above ground the following May and fine stocky young plants are in evidence by the next fall. It must be remembered in passing that, like the seeds of Fothergilla, the fruits must be gathered and placed in paper bags in a warm house before they open, otherwise, if allowed to ripen on the bush when the capsule opens they fly far and wide.

Grafting done on H. virginiana in March will produce fine healthy plants by September, but look out for suckers from the stock and avoid this method of propagation if possible. Perhaps, in passing, attention could be called to another early-flowering shrub which appears to be little known, namely, Corylopsis Gotoana, and, while not strictly a January or February shrub, it flowers before the leaves unfold, which in this locality is early in May. Forming a stately shrub, it reaches the height of 6ft. with an equal or greater diameter, clothed with branches to the ground, and is, therefore, an elegant subject for lawn decoration. The conspicuous flower spikes are pendulous, pale yellow in colour and of a pleasant fragrance. The flower buds will stand a lower temperature than any other corylopsis growing here, and came through uninjured the winter recalled above, whereas during almost every ordinary winter here the flower buds on the other species are killed to a great extent. It comes from elevated regions in central Japan, and has been growing in the Arnold Arboretum over twenty years, and, while it has never produced any seed, may be increased fairly readily from hard or soft wood cuttings inserted in a frame with bottom heat.—WM. H. JUDD, *Arnold Arboretum*

IMPROVED SWEET PEAS.

SIR,—In connection with the interesting article on "Sweet Peas of Yesterday," I send you the enclosed note, as it refers to a matter I have never seen in any book on the subject. There have been several publications devoted to the sweet pea, but none of them so far as I have read contains information of the why and wherefore of the late Mr. Henry Eckford's beginnings, any way as I know it. I first came in contact with him when gardener to Dr. Sankey at Boreatton Park. This was in the 'seventies. It is admitted that no man has done so much in the way of improving this popular flower, and who succeeded in producing new types of exceptional beauty and novel colours. Being of an enterprising nature, he saw possibilities. He asked us (I was at the time associated with Messrs. James Carter and Co.) to supply him with a collection of seeds of distinct varieties, and we sent him Invincible Scarlet, for which we had received a certificate from the Royal Horticultural Society in 1865. Violet Queen (see particulars below); Butterfly, raised by Messrs. Sutton and Sons and figured in colour in THE GARDEN, January 12th, 1878; Prince of Prussia, The Queen and Giant Purple. Among his earliest improvements I am enabled to name the following with parentage: Black Prince (Giant Purple × Invincible Scarlet); Victoria, rose dashed with pink, white wings with edge of blue (Violet Queen × Prince of Prussia); Lottie Eckford, nearly white, if I remember rightly, with black seeds (Violet Queen × Prince of Prussia); Duchess of Albany, pink, black wings (Violet Queen × Prince of Prussia); Leviathan, rosy red and white (Scarlet Invincible × The Queen); Grandeur, scarlet rosy purple wings (Scarlet Invincible × The Queen); Blue King and Indigo (The Queen × Prince of Prussia); Salmon Queen (Captain Clarke × Butterfly). I should mention that Violet Queen was raised by Messrs. Carter and Co. and illustrated in colour in their seed catalogue for 1878 with this remarkable description:

"A new and distinct Sweet Pea Violet Queen, see Coloured Illustration. It is now several years since any novel form of this popular flower has been introduced, and the charming variety offered above will, we feel sure, be universally welcomed. Violet Queen sweet pea originated at our seed farms, and while we are enabled to give it most unqualified recommendation, we cannot, we feel sure, speak in too great praise of its beauty and novel character. It is dwarfer in habit than the other varieties, and the seed is also quite distinct in appearance [It was more square than round.—D. McD.], the flowers ranging in colour from deep mauve petals to light violet at the keels, suggestive of the beautiful bougainvillea. Our manager at the St. Osyth Seed Farm considers this pea to be entitled a sub-species, and for the uses of botanical registration we purpose identifying it as Lathyrus odoratus heterosperma, and we look forward with much interest to other introductions from this parentage which appears likely to be the forerunner of quite a new form of this favourite summer flower."

The following paragraph appeared in THE GARDEN, July 27th, 1878. It is signed by a gardener who had to be reckoned with in his day:

"VIOLET QUEEN SWEET PEA.—This remarkably distinct and valuable variety is dwarfer in habit than any of the other varieties which I have grown. Indeed, the seed itself is so different from that of other kinds as to suggest the idea of its being a distinct species, which is not, however, the case. The colour of the flowers is such as to be, as has been stated, suggestive of the beautiful bougainvilleas; consequently, they are exceedingly useful for the purpose of cutting for bouquets or for furnishing vases, as they are equally highly perfumed as the other varieties, while the plant itself, whether grown in lines or in patches, is exceedingly ornamental, its dwarf habit of growth being greatly in its favour.—P. GRIEVE, Culford."

The fact that Mr. Eckford did not receive certificates for any of his novelties until early in the 'eighties is convincing evidence that he worked upon the list shown above, which from my view provides the names of the original parents of the modern sweet pea.—DONALD MCDONALD.

THE POPULARITY OF THE PEONY.

SIR,—We have just received a letter from Mr. A. M. Brand from Minnesota, U.S.A., and as Mr. Brand is president of the American Peony Society—a body of considerable importance—and as the letter puts into words my own thoughts and desires, you may care to publish it in the hope that eventually the peony may become really popular in this country.—JAMES KELWAY.

"GENTLEMEN,—I have understood, as you state in your letter what seems to many of us in this country to be a very strange thing indeed, that the peony is not so popular in Great Britain as it is with us and with our Canadian friends across the lines. From what I have heard of the English climate, it must be ideal for the bringing out of peonies to their very best. In the northern two-thirds of the United States and in the southern half of Canada wherever flowers can be grown there is no flower that compares to the hold the peony has with the people. It is the flower pre-eminent. We grow beautiful roses, we grow all the flowers of the north temperate zone, but no flower is so much thought of and sought after as the peony. This has been true only since the introduction of the choicer peonies, such as have been coming out during the last twenty-five years. Your firm has been very fortunate in the high standing of the comparatively large number which they have added to this list. No peony collection with us is considered complete until it numbers among its varieties Kelway's Glorious, James Kelway, Baroness Schroeder, Phyllis Kelway and Lady Alex. Duff.

"The appreciation of the peony has been brought about through the untiring efforts of the American Peony Society, which is a society international in scope, through many local peony societies, many of which are of considerable size, through the many excellent peony shows which these societies stage during the peony season and also through the heavy advertising campaigns carried on by the large peony growers during the selling season.

"I am glad to believe from what I have read and heard of the English soil and climate that your results with the peony would be more uniformly good than our results. We have too much hot, dry, windy weather apt to visit us right during the blooming season."

Digitized by Google

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING, SURREY
(late ANTHONY WATERER)

PROPRIETOR - **HOSEA WATERER**

has pleasure in offering

STANDARD TREES

in great variety, consisting of

LIMES, NORWAY MAPLES, ELMS, etc., etc.

EVERGREEN & DECIDUOUS SHRUBS, viz. :

Box—Green and Variegated, 3 to 8 ft.
Hollies—Common, 5 to 8 ft.; Variegated and Green varieties, 2 to 6 ft.
Thuiopsis borealis, 10 to 12 ft. Cupressus Lawsoniana, 12 to 14 ft. Cedrus atlantica glauca, very fine, 14 to 16 ft. Osmanthus, Phillyroeas, Spiræas, Lilacs, Viburnums, etc.

GOLDEN YEWS

A Magnificent Stock in all shapes and sizes from 2 to 10 ft.

PRIVET, Common and Oval-leaved.
QUICK and **HORNBEAM** for Hedges.
AZALEAS, 2 to 5 ft.
RHODODENDRONS, without doubt the finest stock in the trade of named varieties, 2 to 6 and 8 ft.
HARDY HEATHS in great variety and a good general nursery stock.

Catalogues ready.

Enquiries and inspection invited.

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING STATION, SURREY

SEEDSMEN BY APPOINTMENT

LOOK TO YOUR LAWNS

ALL lawns should be re-conditioned immediately if the turf and surface are to be in good condition for the coming season, consequently, preparations should be made in advance, and all the required materials—Grass Seed, Fertiliser, Worm Killer, etc., assembled. For particulars how to renovate your lawn, make a new lawn, diagrams and instructions, write to-day for Carters Booklet on "Lawns and Sports Grounds," post free on application.

For Carters Tested Vegetable and Flower Seeds fill in coupon :—

PLEASE SEND, POST FREE, CARTERS "GARDEN & LAWN" CATALOGUE
M.....
.....
G. .....

SERVICE AND ADVICE
Carters will answer any question in regard to the improvement or up-keep of your Turf.

Carters
TESTED SEEDS
Grass Seed and Turf Specialists
RAYNES PARK, LONDON, S.W.20

C.M.R. C.M.R.

PRIDE

YOUR garden pride need never grow less—for with the help of C.M.R. Weedkillers original "path beauty" never grows dim.

Protected by the Weedicidal efficiency of

C.M.R. WEEDKILLERS

the paths you make to-day, live long in original beauty—a cherished possession of many to-morrows.

Make your choice of arsenical or non-arsenical.

COOPER'S WEEDICIDE
(Arsenical)

Pint -	1/9	1 gall. -	9/-
Quart -	3/-	2 ,, -	17/-
½ gall. -	5/-	5 ,, -	36/6

1 gallon to 100 parts water.

McDOUGALL'S PERFECT SAFETY WEEDKILLER
(Non-Arsenical)

Pint -	1/6	½ gall. -	4/-
Quart -	2/6	1 ,, -	6/6
		5 gall. -	25/-

1 pint to 3 gallons water.

Cooper, McDougall & Robertson, Ltd.
BERKHAMPSTED.

Food for your Garden

The cost of a high-class fertiliser is only a trifling addition to the expense of stocking and cultivating a garden, but it makes **JUST ALL THE DIFFERENCE** to the results obtained.

You cannot do better than feed your flowers, fruit, vegetables and turf on

NORCO
COMPLETE FERTILISERS

THE PERFECT GARDEN FOOD

Which supplies the essential constituents contained in stable manure, but in a far richer and more convenient form.

PRICES (Bags Free and Carriage Paid) :—

	7 lbs.	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	112 lbs.
"NORCO" Complete Garden Fertiliser (For Flowers, Fruit and Vegetables)	2/6	4/3	7/3	12 6	23/-
"NORCO" Complete Lawn & Turf Fertiliser	2/4	4/-	6/9	11/9	22/-
"NORCO" Complete Potato Fertiliser	2/6	4/3	7/3	12/6	23/-

Send for free Booklet on the use of Lime, Stable Manure and Chemical Fertilisers

"NORCO" (Regd.) is obtainable only direct from the Sole Manufacturers :—

CHARLES NORRINGTON & CO., LTD.
Cattedown, PLYMOUTH.

Makers of High Grade Fertilisers since 1846. No. 10

Digitized by Google

THE GARDENS AT OLYMPIA

YEAR by year, the standard of the gardens at the Ideal Home Exhibition has shown decided improvement, and in this year more than ever the various nurserymen who are exhibiting have excelled all their previous efforts in the laying out of the gardens. It may be that an indoor position lends itself to more skilled treatment, since the weather conditions have not to be contended with. On the whole, however, although the actual design and lay-out would be hard to better, the gardens look a trifle "shoppy." They resemble in many cases a tightly packed and crowded shop window. In a way, such a method of exhibiting is excusable when the exhibitor has much to show; but, on the other hand, it is a bad habit to cultivate. The onlooker gains an altogether false impression of what a well proportioned garden should really look like. The plants themselves lose that individuality which is one of their chief charms, and, moreover, from the point of view of culture, they cannot and will not grow so close together as shown. Still, these are minor details which may, perchance, only strike the practised eye; but the general effect of the gardens as a whole is both pleasant and charming. The majority of garden plants are represented in shrubs, alpines and bulbous subjects. The predominant tone of colour is provided by the at once vivid and delicate hues of the azaleas; while a more sombre note is introduced to the scheme by the use of evergreens in many forms.

Probably the most ambitious and certainly the most effective garden is that laid out by Messrs. Carters of Raynes Park. It represents a stream glade such as may be found on a day's trek through the Lake District. A tumbling and rushing stream forms the central theme on the sloping grassy bank. From the background of tall conifers which lend that natural touch of enchantment to the scene, one finds drifts of primulas nestling at the edge of tiny pools flanked by a few plants of Prunus triloba. A clump of bamboos looks well as a sentry to the main pool on the lower level, which is most attractive with its groups of yellow and white trumpet daffodils and narcissi. Patches of Erica carnea here and there give to the whole design just that touch of reality which is so necessary to render the lay-out natural and attractive. Messrs. Carter are also responsible for the effective design of the Dutch Tea Garden.

The Anemone Garden, arranged by Messrs. Reamsbottom, is a novel feature among the exhibits. Here there are beds planted up with the gaily coloured St. Brigid anemones for which this firm is famed. The clumps, laid out in mass for the sake of colour effects, are most striking, those around the fountain in the centre of the little formal garden being particularly so. The dark background of evergreen shrubs considerably enhances the appearance of these excellent hardy border flowers, which should be far more grown in gardens both large and small. This exhibit, so tastefully displayed, should do much to popularise the flower.

Not a few gardens are laid out as rockeries or stretches representing an alpine meadow. Messrs. The Central Garden Supplies, Limited, make full use of weather-worn limestone in their rock and water garden. Flowering shrubs, notably azaleas, with heaths and bulbs, all combine to form a pleasant picture. A small rockery planted up by this firm contains a few dainty alpines, but the general appearance is too stiff and set. More latitude might have been allowed to convey the idea of natural and broad masses of bloom. Mr. G. G. Whitelegg's rock garden is most attractive. The individual plants nestling in crannies here and there, especially the saxifrages, are well grown and contribute much to the charm of the garden. A pleasant idea of spaciousness is obtained in the lay-out of this garden, as is also the case with that designed by the Orpington Nurseries after the style of a broad expanse of alpine meadow with a rocky escarpment as a background. Many fine azaleas are also staged by Mr. Whitelegg, of which the most striking is the brilliantly warm-coloured Van Thol, which appears at its best with a background of sombre cypresses.

A small and irregular little garden, aptly termed "The Back o' Beyond," is displayed by Messrs. R. Wallace. It illustrates how an amateur can make full use of even a tiny piece of ground. A garden shelter built of chestnut and a pleasant little dove cote with thatched roof combine happily with the surroundings to provide a harmonious garden scheme. The association of the white-stemmed birches with drifts of Erica carnea, interspersed with clumps of nodding daffodils, is wholly springtime-like in its effect.

The semi-formal garden constructed by Messrs. Cheals is interesting, and also illustrative of yet another way of furnishing small spaces. A lily pool forms the central feature, while beds of hyacinths contribute colour and fragrance. The outside borders contain many shrubby subjects of interest, such as azaleas and hybrid rhododendrons, of which Cynthia, with its upstanding trusses of crimson flowers, is most striking. Examples of topiary work are also to be seen.

The dainty little violet is given a garden all to itself. It is well arranged by Mr. Baldwin Pinney, whose fame as a violet specialist is as well known as the charms of the fragrant little flower. Another solo garden is the Carnation Terrace Garden, designed by Messrs. Allwoods, in which they show their perpetual-flowering and hardy border carnations to distinct advantage. Messrs. L. R. Russell of Richmond provide a gorgeous array of early-flowering shrubs in which the light blue of Wistaria sinensis stands out conspicuously. Many of the azaleas, such as Himodigeri and Hinomayo, which this firm can do so well, are tastefully shown.

A formal garden of somewhat uncommon design is arranged by Mr. Reginald Winder. Herein is housed a collection of roses, polyanthas and ramblers, worked out in a colour scheme of pink and white. The hedge enclosing the garden is formed of that excellent new hedge shrub, Lonicera nitida.

One of the most striking gardens is the large circular formal one constructed by Messrs. Luff and Sons. Four imposing entrances lead to a central figure and fountain. The pergolas at the entrances are draped with Wistaria sinensis, while the raised beds are filled by upstanding fragrant hyacinths in all colours, flowering cherries and magnolias. It is a comprehensive collection of early spring subjects and is well worthy of the attention of all enthusiastic gardeners.

To complete the list there is the rock garden designed by Mr. Crewdson Day, which chiefly consists of a grassy slope with a scree or moraine garden in which are placed a few primulas. A semi-formal garden in which beds of blue hyacinths are laid out is especially attractive.

These gardens will be found exceedingly helpful to the everyday gardener, in that they contain numerous suggestions in their make-up which will both assist and stimulate him to further effort.

AQUILEGIA TRIALS AT WISLEY

THE Royal Horticultural Society will carry out a trial of aquilegias in their gardens at Wisley during the next two seasons. A packet of seed of each variety to be tried should reach The Director, R.H.S. Gardens, Wisley, Ripley, Surrey, on or before March 27th, 1926. The necessary entry forms may be had on application to him.

PRIMULAS

THROUGH our slip an unfortunate error crept into Dr. Macwatt's article on Primulas on page 134. Primula La Lorraine should have been mentioned as a hybrid between P. Sieboldii and P. Veitchii. P. kewensis is, of course, a hybrid between P. verticillata and P. floribunda and comes in the floribunda section.

TRADE NOTES.

IT is beneath the surface that slugs, beetles, wireworms and leather-jackets work their mischief, and it is beneath the surface that Kilogrub combats them.

Dug into the soil before planting or dibbled around the roots of growing plants, the penetrating and powerful fumes of Kilogrub make short work of soil pests, but it is quite harmless to plant life.

Kilogrub is made by Messrs. John Peak and Co., Limited, Wigan, and is obtainable from all seedsmen.

THE possession of a perfect lawn is the ambition of all interested in tennis or croquet, for without it accurate play is rendered impossible. How difficult of attainment this is by ordinary methods all lawn lovers know. In Velvas Lawn Sand, however, they can find the perfect remedy. This product of Messrs. Robinson Brothers, Limited, West Bromwich, not only destroys every kind of noxious weed, but actually feeds the grass; it encourages the growth of finer grasses—which ultimately form well knit turf.

We can confidently recommend it for all lawn troubles, and advise those who do not know its virtues to give it a trial.

Digitized by Google

The ATCO MOTOR MOWER

Demonstrated on your own Grass

We will gladly arrange to demonstrate any model of the ATCO Motor Mower on your own Grass without any obligation upon your part. Such a demonstration will provide our best proof of the economy, reliability and efficiency of ATCO. The 1926 range includes models from 14 to 30 inches at

Prices from 30 Guineas.

Ask any of its 10,000 users their opinion of the ATCO Motor Mower.

Write for 1926 Illustrated Art Catalogue of ATCO Turf Culture Specialities giving full details—sent free on request.

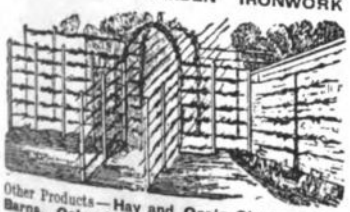
CHAS. H. PUGH, LIMITED,
Whitworth Works 31, Tilton Road, Birmingham,

All owners of ATCO Motor Mowers should fit an ATCO Cultivator Particulars on application.

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by **"ALPHOL"**
Sample 14 lb., 3/6 carr. paid
Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to
Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St., Liverpool
Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.

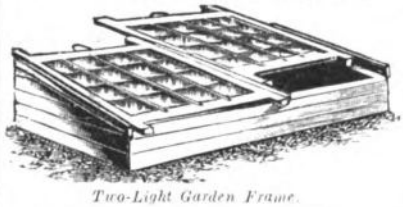
EUREKA WEED KILLER
LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND. SOILFUME. NICOTINE, INSECTICIDES, FUMERS, SPRAYS AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES—THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY. IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT, CARRIAGE PAID.
Only Address: TOMLINSON & HAYWARD Ltd LINCOLN.

HILL & SMITH, Ltd.,
BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS,
Makers of
IRON FENCING, HURDLES, GATES, WIRE NETTING AND GARDEN IRONWORK



Other Products—Hay and Grain Sheds, Dutch Barns, Galvanized Corrugated Sheets and Structural Steelwork.
Catalogues free on mentioning this paper.
London: 300, Abbey House, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

DAVID SWAIN & CO. ∴ *Horticultural Builders*
TELEPHONE: NORTH 2807.
SPRING, 1926
GARDEN FRAMES ALL SIZES.
GLASSHOUSES RENOVATED.
REPAIRS AND REPAINTING.
HEATING.



Two-Light Garden Frame.

WRITE for LISTS and ESTIMATES.

Range of Houses.

101, SUSSEX ROAD, HOLLOWAY, LONDON, N.7

The RITO Smile

GARDENERS!

Multiply your crops and produce fragrant flowers with

RITO

The food for soil bacteria.

From Seedsmen, Florists, Corn Merchants, etc.

Prices—1 cwt. **23/-**; 28lb. **6/3**; 14lb. **3/3**; 7lb. **1/9** and in **1/-** cartons.

Literature and reports FREE from the MOLASSINE CO. Ltd., Dept. R52, Greenwich, S.E.10

Digitized by Google

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

by SAMUEL RYDER.

OWING to the altogether phenomenal demand for the Ryder 1926 Catalogue I appeal to customers and others who have copies in their possession to make the utmost possible use of them. A reprint edition (necessarily limited) is in the hands of the printers, but those who have copies will greatly assist us by lending them to their friends and neighbours as soon as they have finished with them.

By sending orders at once you will ensure prompt receipt of your full selection of seeds without disappointment, but you should make out and post your order at once as the season is advancing and sowing time is here.

Friends making use of your Catalogue may write their order on a separate sheet of paper, but please ask them to write it in Catalogue numerical rotation, as this greatly facilitates the prompt dispatch of orders.

RYDERS QUALITY SEEDS IN 2d. PACKETS for Flower and Vegetable garden.

Ryders St Albans

RYDER & SON (1920), LTD.

GARDEN TECHNIQUE

THE FLOWER GARDEN

VIOLETS.

THE plants have done remarkably well this year, so far, the individual flowers being very fine, on well cultivated plants. It is good cultivation that results in such satisfactory conditions, and those who are disappointed at the present time should note the cause of failure. Good cultivation means careful attention to the plants the whole year through. The right time to begin is the present, whereas it is during the spring months that thousands of plants are neglected. Plants growing in frames should be closely examined and all useless runners cut off. Stir the soil between the old plants with a pointed stick, and remove any old discoloured basal leaves, as it is on such that red spider finds a home early in the spring. The number of young plants required for frame work next winter, and the number for open border cultivation, should be ascertained. In the meantime, the summer quarters for the young stock should be prepared. It should be remembered that violet plants growing steadily and strongly in a moderately rich soil will be, as a rule, free from red spider. A sandy soil should be heavily manured with rotted manure; a hard, clayey soil must be lightened somewhat by the addition of rotted leaf-soil, old potting soil and burned refuse from the garden smother. In a soil of this kind grand plants will be available by next September. Without the lightening material the plants will be failures. I once saw some puny young plants in a hard, clayey soil in the month of July: at this date they should be well established. A border on the north or north-east side of a wall or fence is an ideal one.—G. G.

PLANTING SWEET PEAS.

THOSE who have sown sweet pea seeds in autumn—say throughout the first or second week in October—and wintered the plants in cool conditions should now

SALE OF ROSES

At 33⅓ per cent. less than catalogue prices.

HAVING so far sold our stock of Roses that the catalogue is no longer a reliable source of selection and not having enough each of different kinds to justify advertising the balance in named collections, we are offering what remains of our stock of bush, standard and climbing Roses in carriage paid quantities in varieties of our selection, at 33⅓ % less than list prices.

The varieties are all first-class (not an obsolete one among them), the trees are excellent and, while all buyers will get remarkably good value for money, the first comers will have the advantage of newer and more expensive varieties for as long as stocks last.

BUSHES
In variety—our selection.
Usual price 1/3 each.
10/- doz.
CARRIAGE PAID.
6/- for 6 trees.

STANDARDS
In variety—our selection.
Usual price 3/9 each.
30/- doz.
CARRIAGE PAID.
16/6 for 6 trees.
9/- for 3 trees.

CLIMBERS
In variety—our selection.
Usual price 1/6 each.
12/- doz.
CARRIAGE PAID.
7/- for 6 trees.
4/3 for 3 trees.

Bakers
SEED AND FLOWER FARM,
CODSALL.
Nr. Wolverhampton.

Forbes' Catalogue

Carnations, Pelargoniums, Pentstemons, Phloxes, Pyrethrums, Violas, Hardy Border and Rock Plants, Seeds, etc.

FREE ON APPLICATION

JOHN FORBES (Hawick), LTD., Dept. 2, The King's Nurserymen, Hawick, Scotland

Please send for New List of
SEEDS of HARDY PLANTS
INCLUDING
BROOMS and TREES and SHRUBS.
T. SMITH, Daisy Hill Nursery, NEWRY
N. IRELAND.

SEEDS

IF YOU WANT

REALLY GOOD SEEDS

AT MODERATE PRICES

SEND TO

ROBERT SYDENHAM LIMITED

99, TENBY STREET, BIRMINGHAM

No one will serve you better.

SWEET PEAS A SPECIALITY

THEIR UNIQUE LISTS

contain only the Best
VEGETABLES, FLOWERS AND
BULBS WORTH GROWING
Post free on application.

ROBERT SYDENHAM LIMITED

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

BORDER CARNATIONS & ALLWOODII
Plant EARLY for best results.

Border Carnations.

Our stocks of the best hardy Garden varieties are superb. Vigorous sturdy stock from 3½in. pots, which cannot fail to give the best results, the undermentioned collections represent the best value obtainable.

CARRIAGE PAID for cash.

6 distinct varieties 8/6
12 ,, ,, ... 16/-
25 Plants in good variety .. 30/-

ALLWOODII.

The ever popular hardy plant, suitable for every garden purpose. Will beautify the border, the lawn vase or window box; is perfectly hardy and the easiest plant to cultivate. New and improved varieties have been introduced, of which the undermentioned CARRIAGE PAID COLLECTIONS ARE MAINLY COMPOSED.

6 distinct varieties 5/6
12 ,, ,, ... 10/6
25 Plants in good variety .. 21/-

CATALOGUE OF ALL CARNATIONS FOR GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE sent post free on request to—

Allwood Bros
The leading Carnation Raisers and Specialists in the World.
Dept. 4, Haywards Heath, Sussex

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

ECKFORD'S GIANT FRILLED
SWEET PEAS
—FOR 1926—
GORGEOUS FLOWERS. MAGNIFICENT STEMS
For a wealth of cut flowers.
For garden decoration. For exhibition.
ECKFORD'S ARE THE WORLD'S BEST
Special Offer.—25 specially chosen 1/- packets of Eckford's Giant Frilled Sweet Peas for 1926, each separate and named, for - - - - - 20/-
The same 25, half-packets, each separate and named, for - - - - - - - - - - - - 10/-
The above are a gorgeous range of colour
WRITE FOR CATALOGUE (FREE) of all the best Sweet Peas for 1926. Also pedigree vegetables and choicest flower seeds
HENRY ECKFORD, Headquarters for Sweet Peas, Dept. 61 Wem, Shropshire

WAKELEY'S
GARDEN SEEDS
We beg to announce to our thousands of customers that we are now offering
GARDEN SEEDS
OF THE VERY
FINEST VARIETIES AND STRAIN.
Send for our SPRING CATALOGUE which contains a choice selection of all seeds and other specialities for the garden.
WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.,
75a, Bankside, S.E.

KINNELL'S COKE CRUSHER FROM STOCK

Reduces Fuel to the correct size for long burning
Carriage paid to Stations in England and Wales
Small Crusher for Wall - 20/-
Ditto on Wrought Stand - 40/-
Large Crusher for Wall - 40/-
Ditto on Wrought Stand - 60/-
Strong Coke Pan 10/- extra
Large Crusher breaks 1 cwt. & small one 42 lb. in 20 minutes
CHAS. P. KINNELL & Co LTD
65,65A Southwark St. London, S.E.1

39th SEASON.
Mrs. PYM'S FAMOUS PLANTS
GOOD AND CHEAP
Send for New Spring Catalogue
— NOW READY —
Plant NOW for Success.
Magnificent Choice Hardy Perennials, Rockery Plants, Spring Flowering Plants, Hardy Climbers, Choice Hardy Flowering Shrubs, Splendid Plants for Cool Greenhouse, &c.
ALL STRONG HEALTHY PLANTS THE BEST I HAVE EVER HAD TO OFFER. EVERY PLANT A BARGAIN.
Named, carefully packed and guaranteed to arrive in excellent condition. Stock your gardens with really excellent plants.
Mrs. PYM (F.R.H.S.) & CO.
10, Vine House, Woodston, Peterboro'

Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.

have sturdy, clean and well rooted plants 6ins. or more high. These plants should not be allowed to get overcrowded and spoiled, so each one should have his plants set out within the next week or two.

Some growers will have their plants in pots, while others will have them in long—6ft.—narrow wooden V-shaped boxes. Plants as a rule do quite well grown in either pots or boxes, so long as the cultivator understands how to care for them.

When the surface soil is dry and in workable condition, the plants should be planted in the open border where they are to bloom. A sheltered and warm situation is the best place to choose at this early season, with the rows made to run north and south. The surface soil should be lightly forked over and made level, and if rough it should be raked. The line should then be stretched and a groove about 6ins. deep taken out with the spade.

The ends should then be removed from the boxes and with the help of an assistant each box can be lifted and the contents slipped into the groove without very much disturbance to the plants. By this method the plants receive little or no check, but, instead, they make good headway when once established, and as a rule far surpass in vigour and floriferousness pot-grown plants, which have to be separated at planting-time.

As soon as planting is completed, dust lime along each side of the plants. This is beneficial to the soil and will also deter slugs from getting to the young stems. Little twiggy sticks should then be set at each side of the rows to keep up the stems and act as a shelter screen. This is all the plants will require for some time.—D. ARMSTRONG.

VEGETABLES

RHUBARB.

FEW gardeners seem to realise the value of rhubarb, and hundreds of people who are particularly careful about what sort of potato or onion they grow, do not give a moment's thought to the selection of a good variety of this useful vegetable.

Now, there are rhubarbs and rhubarbs. Some are early and others late: some are green and others red; and some are small and others large. Champagne is a very good early sort, and one which forces well. Victoria is another good one, though rather later. Daw's Champion is one of the biggest sorts, and Sutton is an excellent kind to plant for bottling purposes; it keeps its colour splendidly.

March and April are the best months to make new plantations, and the ground should be deeply trenched and well manured. Propagation is usually effected by division of the old roots, outside buds with vigorous young roots attached being chosen. The ground should be forked over and made fine and level, and the roots set, with the buds 2ins. below the ground level, 3ft. apart in the row, and the same distance from row to row, except in the case of the large-leaved sorts, which require rather more space. Make the soil firm about the roots, and then obliterate the footmarks with a fork to leave a neat finish. If some good decayed manure can be obtained, give the old buds a dressing and fork it in. The life of rhubarb beds depends largely on the amount of manure they receive from time to time, and well looked after they will last from five to ten years.

Pull a little when up, then leave the stalks to grow sturdy. If the stalks are pulled with discretion, the crop will last right on until the autumn. When once planted rhubarb needs little attention; it likes water, and the roots do with a change every few years,

Austins
Scotch Seed Potatoes.
Our stocks are grown and selected specially for seed purposes, and under normal conditions of soil and situation cannot fail to produce first-class crops. All are Class 1, Scotch.

	14lb.	28lb.	56lb.	112lb.
FIRST EARLY.				
Arran Rose	3/-	5/6	10/-	18/-
Immune Ashleaf	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Duke of York	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Sharpe's Express	2/3	4/3	7/6	13/-
Witch Hill Early	3/-	5/6	10/-	18/-
SECOND EARLY.				
Ally	2/3	4/3	7/6	13/-
Arran Comrade	2/3	4/3	7/6	13/-
British Queen	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Great Scot	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Catriona	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
MAIN CROP.				
Abundance	2/4	4/6	8/-	14/-
Arran Chief	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
King Edward	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Kerr's Pink	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-
Majestic	2/6	4/9	8/6	15/-
Field Marshal	2/-	3/9	6/6	12/-

We offer many other varieties, including Arran Consul, Ben Lomond, Golden Marvel, White Arran Victory, etc., full particulars of which are given in our Catalogue, which may be had post free on request.
Packing Free. Carriage forward by goods train. If to be sent by passenger train the additional cost would be: 14lb., 1/6; 28lb., 2/9; 56lb., 5/-; 112lb., 10/-.
Our catalogue, giving full list of varieties, will be sent on application.
AUSTIN'S GOLD MEDAL GARDEN SEEDS.
Descriptive Catalogue of all varieties of outstanding merit free on request. Write for copy.
Orders have prompt attention.
AUSTIN & McASLAN
The Premier Scottish Seedsmen since 1717,
Mitchell Street, GLASGOW.

Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.

GARDEN LOVERS
Write for Catalogues of
PROTHEROE & MORRIS'
• HORTICULTURAL SALES •
MONDAY · WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY
67, 68 Cheapside, London E.C.2. Phone: City 3856

"The GLORY of the GARDEN"
depends upon the soil. The finest plants and seeds are not sufficient; you must sterilise and feed the soil in which they grow. "Ferry" Garden Specialities ensure gardens of surpassing loveliness.
SOIL PEST DESTROYER. Sweetens and sterilises the soil and kills all insect pests—wireworms, slugs, caterpillars, ants, &c. Prices: 14lb., 3/-; 28lb., 5/6; 56lb., 10/6; 1cwt., 20/-.
GARDEN MANURE. The finest manure for general garden purposes. Suitable for Roses, Fruit Trees, Potatoes, Vines, &c. Prices: 14lb., 3/-; 28lb., 5/9; 56lb., 11/-; 1cwt., 20/-.
LAWN MANURE. A highly concentrated, quick-acting Fertiliser. A wonderful restorative of poor and worn lawns. Does not encourage the growth of coarse grass and clover. Prices: 14lb., 3/6; 28lb., 6/-; 56lb., 10/6; 1cwt., 19/-.
All carriage paid to nearest Railway Station for cash with order.
The BRITON FERRY CHEMICAL & MANURE Co., Ltd. (Dept. E), Briton Ferry, South Wales.
Established 1886.
FERRY BRAND
Regd. Trade Mark
"Try 'FERRY,' First."

Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.

Digitized by Google

Rare & Choice Alpines

Omphalodes Luciliæ	2/6
Campanula Allionii	1/-
,, Standsfieldi	1/-
Thlaspi rotundifolium	1/-
Saxifraga valdensis (the true plant) ..	1/-
,, cochlearis major	1/6
,, Faldonside	1/6
,, Irvingi	6d.
Wahlenbergia Pumilio	1/6
Primula tyrolensis	2/6
,, The General	2/-
Androsace pyrenaica	1/6
,, villosa	1/6
Asperula suberosa	1/-
Cistus rosmarinifolius	1/-
Rosa rouletti	2/6

Guaranteed true to name.
Carriage Paid for Orders of 20/-

CASBURN & WELCH,
"THE CAMBRIA NURSERIES,"
Huntingdon Road, CAMBRIDGE.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

NOW *is the time to* PLANT
CHINESE RHODODENDRONS
at popular prices.
NEW AND RARE SPECIES
from seed collected by
FORREST & KINGDON WARD
From **2/6** upwards.
WRITE FOR DETAILED CATALOGUES.
Hillier & Sons, Tree Specialists, **Winchester**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when2writing.*

FRUIT TREES require Nourishment.

Fruit trees obey the same laws of growth as all other vegetations, and it is necessary that their food supply should be correct and regular.

Read the special pamphlets, "The Manuring of Orchards and Fruit Trees," "Successful Gardens for Every Amateur," supplied gratis and post free by THE CHILEAN NITRATE COMMITTEE, Friars House, New Broad Street, London, E.C. 2.

Nitrate of Soda

DELPHINIUM SEED

Wherever the wonderful "British Birds" strain of Delphinium Seed is grown, it is recognised as a commanding example of highest class selection. Customers in all parts of the world say we have the grandest strain in existence.

"B B" Series ..	Dark Blues	2/6 per packet.
,, ,, ..	Light Blues	
,, ,, ..	Mixed	

LOWE & GIBSON
CRAWLEY DOWN, SUSSEX

though splendid crops often come up year after year from roots that are never moved. —R. D.

PLANTING.

A STUB, or dibber, is not so suitable for planting flowers or vegetables as a trowel or a small spade. When a dibber is used, the roots of the plants are liable to be crumpled or bunched.

Plants are best transplanted with a ball of soil adhering to their roots. Without breaking up this ball too much, care should be taken in planting to spread out the rootlets. This cannot be done if the plant is simply popped into a hole made with a stub, or dibber.

It is also important to firm the roots well, so that there will be no check to growth. Potatoes, when sprouted, are sometimes planted with a dibber; but it is a better plan to open a shallow trench with a small garden plough, or a well worn spade, and to plant the sets therein. Then draw a little soil over the tubers with a hoe or a rake.

In planting cabbages, strawberries, etc., which require a fairly firm roothold, it is best to roll or tread the plot to beg n with, and rake the surface level. Then line off the rows and cut out a shallow trench, or "sheugh," for the plants. Space the plants at the required distance apart. Plant to the proper depth, and cover the roots with the soil. Tread it firm around the plants.

The largest leaves of cabbages, etc., may be cut off before planting. When this is done the plants take root much faster, especially if the weather is somewhat dry. The reason is that the plant gives away less moisture when deprived of its more expansive outside leaves,

One good watering is better than repeated sprinklings. If the hoe is used frequently among growing crops, little watering, as a rule, will be needed.—J. W.

BRUSSEL SPROUTS

I HAVE just completed a variety trial of Brussels sprouts. The results have such a definite practical value that I should like to pass them on to others while they are fresh in my mind. The crop was grown in firm, moderately rich soil and in an open situation. Each variety was tested for firmness of sprout and ability to button near the ground. The varieties tried were The Favourite, Harrison's X X X, Dalkeith, Wroxton, The Darlington, Ormskirk Giant and Aigburth. First place must be given to the variety The Favourite. It forms sprouts as near to the ground as possible and every one is as firm as a rock. In addition the heads of the plants turn in and harden to cabbage form. Varietal characteristics are difficult to fix in the Brassica tribe, but the difficulties have been overcome in this case. Harrison's X X X is a thoroughly good sprout.

Dalkeith was rather disappointing. It emerged from the drought of summer in a forlorn condition, but recovered when rain fell. The lower leaves, however, turned yellow before sprouts could form and those which did form were not firm enough to be marked as good quality. I think Dalkeith is a variety which has had its day.

The Wroxton and The Darlington appear to be varieties of equal merit. Both develop good firm sprouts, but might amend their behaviour somewhat by developing them nearer the ground.

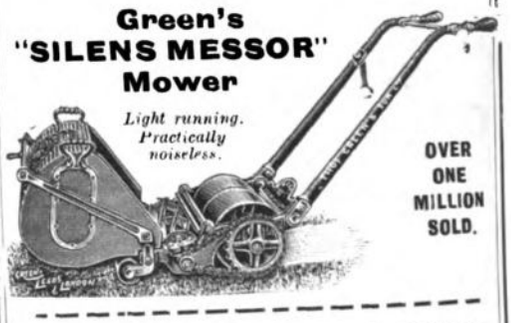
Ormskirk Giant is an excellent variety. It is tall in stature and a splendid drought-resister. The sprouts are large and solid and the varietal characters firmly fixed. If it had been possible to fix a stronger constitution in Ormskirk Giant, the variety would have compared well with the Favourite. The keen frost of the past winter left a definite mark upon it.—GEO. H. COPLEY.

ESTABLISHED 1835. ESTABLISHED 1835.
BY APPOINTMENT.

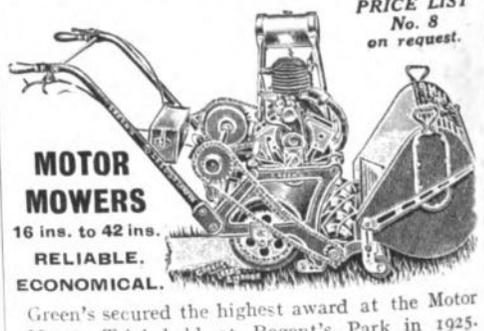
GREEN'S WORLD FAMOUS LAWN MOWERS

Green's are the world's leading Lawn Mower Makers. Every description of Mower supplied, hand, pony, horse, or motor mower, and each the world's best.

Green's "SILENS MESSOR" Mower
Light running. Practically noiseless.
OVER ONE MILLION SOLD.



GARDEN ROLLERS
TENNIS MARKERS
ETC.
PRICE LIST No. 8 on request.



MOTOR MOWERS
16 ins. to 42 ins.
RELIABLE.
ECONOMICAL.
Green's secured the highest award at the Motor Mower Trial held at Regent's Park in 1925.

THOMAS GREEN & SON, Ltd.
Smithfield Ironworks, LEEDS.
And New Surrey Works,
Southwark St., LONDON, S.E.1.

THE LEADING GLASS HOUSE FUMIGANT.

WEED DEATH
The new NON-POISONOUS Weed Killer (POWDER).
SUPERIOR TO DANGEROUS ARSENICAL COMPOUNDS
Safety first, non-caustic, no smell, kills the roots.
For 4 galls., 1/-; 12½, 2/-; 25, 3/6; 50, 6/6; 100, 12/- & Bulk
From your Nurseryman or Seedsman.
CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

Digitized by Google

I KNOW of a pipe tobacco which has for fifty years gained steadily in favour.

Generations have passed their verdict on its incomparable purity and excellence.

The greatest care is taken to ensure perfect uniformity of quality.

—R.F.E.

They call it

PLAYER'S NAVY CUT

For Cigarette Smokers
PLAYER'S NAVY CUT CIGARETTES

P.1262

Reg. No. 154011.

YOUR GARDEN NEEDS

KILOGRUB

Its fumes are instantly fatal to all insect pests in the soil, but harmless to plants. Really effective because it works underground.

Tins: 9d., 1/2 and 2/6
Bags: ¼ cwt. 4/6, ½ cwt. 8/6, 1 cwt. 15/-

From your ironmonger or from
JOHN PEAK & CO., LTD. WIGAN, Lancs.

THE JACKPAN

"The tool that cuts your costs"

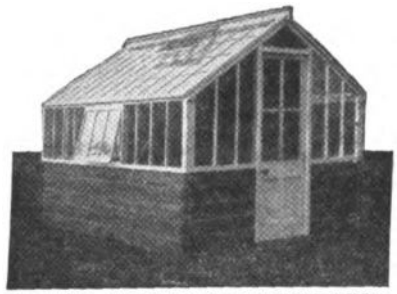
Abolishes trenching. THE deep cultivator. What your Editor and others think of it is told in our Illustrated Folder No. 5, sent on request.

Your retailer can supply, or we will send sample for 6/-

P.E.G.S. LTD., 3, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.1

A B. & P. GREENHOUSE

—TENANT'S FIXTURE

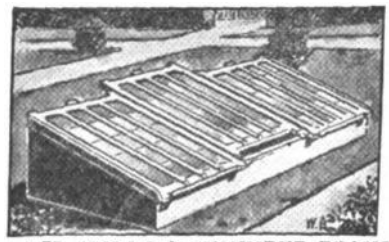


No. H49a. SPAN ROOF GREENHOUSE.

With this compact, inexpensive Greenhouse you can grow rare flowers that cannot be reared out-of-doors. It will double the interest and pleasure of gardening. Easily erected in 90 minutes. Size 10ft. x 8ft. In six sections, with bolts for easy erection. Painted one coat. Glass cut to size and packed in boxes. **£18 10 0**

If glazed at works and painted two coats, packed in close cases to prevent damage **£22 7 0**

Carriage paid to most stations in England and Wales. Prices for heating and stages sent on application. Prices also given for additional lengths. Write for free booklet, No. 743, which tells you all about these Greenhouses.



No. H75. MELON & CUCUMBER FRAME.

TYPICAL EXAMPLE OF B. & P. GARDEN FRAME

The fronts are 11ins. high, back 22ins. high. The frame is 1¼ins. thick and the lights 2ins. Glazed with 21oz. English glass and painted two coats. One-Light Frame 4ft. by 6ft. .. .. **£3 : 10 : 0**

Carriage paid to most stations in England and Wales, packing extra, but allowed for if returned. Garden Frame Catalogue No. 744 sent free on request.

Boulton & Paul Ltd

Telegrams BOULTON NORWICH **NORWICH** Telephone NORWICH 851 (5 lines)

LONDON OFFICE 135-137 QUEEN VICTORIA ST. E.C.
Telegrams Boutique Cent London Telephone 4642 Cent

ENQUIRIES invited for Conservatories and Ranges of Glasshouses, Heating Apparatus and all Accessories

Designs and schemes prepared

AUTUMN and WINTER BEAUTY

In the Garden.

WHEN the first Autumn frost has killed the Summer flowers and the last rose is just existing, many people imagine that the garden must be a dull uninteresting place until Spring awakens the early Daffodils.

There are, however, many trees and shrubs which will provide beautiful pictures throughout Autumn and Winter when rightly placed.

What is more beautiful than the setting sun lighting up the berries of the Cotoneasters, Thorns, and other berried shrubs; or the crimson stems of the Scarlet Dogwood, yellow and crimson barked Willows.

We have prepared a short supplement to our general catalogue, giving a list of the best trees and shrubs for Winter beauty, with fuller descriptions and cultural notes. A copy on application. We devote the same care and thought to the cultivation of our immense stocks of FRUIT TREES, ROSES, ALPINES, HARDY PERENNIALS as we do to the SHRUBS.

THE BARNHAM NURSERIES, LTD., BARNHAM, SUSSEX.

FOSTER & PEARSON LIMITED

Established 1841

Please write for Estimates for durable Greenhouses, Boilers, etc., to

BEESTON NOTTS

Digitized by Google

WAKELEY'S Celebrated Hop Manure

(PATENTED)

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL, ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION, 1912

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE, without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

Every ounce of Wakeley's Hop Manure is of value to the soil, supplying the necessary HUMUS in addition to the valuable plant food. Worthless rubbish is not added to make weight (as is the case of some artificial manures advertised).

Thousands do realise it, the proof of this is the constant flow of UNSOLICITED LETTERS received from time to time in praise of the wonderful results obtained at such a moderate cost (see Booklet for selection).

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.—Genuine Only in our Marked Bags containing Guaranteed Analysis.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of post card.

CASH PRICES (including bags):

Small (about 1 bushel)	3/-
Large (about 4 bushels)	7/-
5 Large	33/9
10 Large	65/-
20 Large	120/-

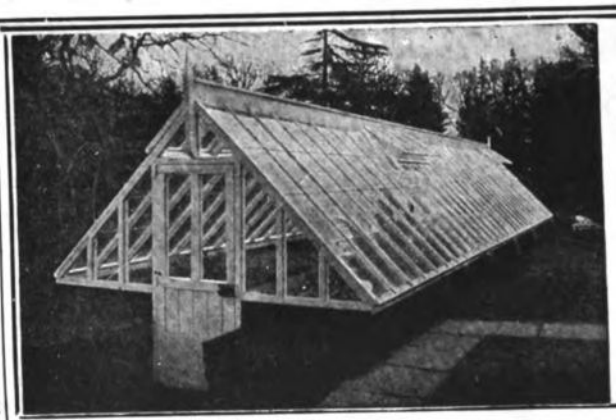
Carriage paid by Pickford's or to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company; 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.

75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

THINK...

Think of all the satisfactory purchases you have made during the past month. How would you have obtained these articles if at some time or other you had not seen them **advertised?**



GREENHOUSES AND GARDEN FRAMES

I specialize in the Erection of High class Horticultural Buildings.

Garden Frames a speciality. Selected timber, well seasoned, only used.

Being a grower, I understand Glass-house requirements.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.

CATALOGUES WITH PLEASURE.

E. M. HEAP, Cottimore Nurseries, **WALTON-ON-THAMES.**

By Appointment

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.,

Royal Potteries

BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

THE COMPLETENESS OF ITS COMPOSITION AND THE HAPPY BLENDING OF ITS HIGHGRADE ORGANIC AND OTHER INGREDIENTS RENDER

A Carmona measuring Spoon in every tin

Carmona Fertilizer

A PAR-EXCELLENT BLOOM PRODUCER

CARRIAGE PAID PRICES:—

1 lb. Tin 1/3 — 2 lb. Tin 2/-

7 lb. Tin 4/6 — 112 lb. Bag 26/-

The fullest instructions accompany each package.

Sole Manufacturers:—

ROBINSON BROTHERS LTD., WEST BROMWICH

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

SPRING NUMBER

MAR 30 1926
PERIODICAL ROOM
GENERAL LIBRARY

THE GARDEN

ORCHARD GARDEN WOODLAND

Vol. X. No. 2835. Saturday, March 20th, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

WALLFLOWERS FOR EVERY GARDEN.

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
New Alpines and Perennials
Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
Begonias
Delphiniums
Gloxinias
Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD
CHELSEA, S.W.
Seeds
Gladioli
Spiraeas
List on Application

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
HULL
Weed Destroyers
Fertilisers
Insecticides
Nets and Sundries

HY. RICHARDSON & CO.
SKELDERGATE BRIDGE WORKS
YORK
Lawn, Garden, Fruit Trees, and Horticultural Fertilisers

BROWN'S TESTED SEEDS.

Illustrated Flower and Vegetable Seed Catalogue, giving full cultural directions, at competitive prices, post free if this paper is mentioned. D. T. BROWN & CO., *Seedsmen*, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

BARGAIN CATALOGUE
Land Sold for Building
Real Cambridgeshire grown Fruit Trees, Fruit Bushes, Roses, Shrubs, Avenue Trees, Privet, Plants.
Exceptionally strong and healthy.
FRANK RICE (F.R.H.S.), Arbury Nurseries, Cambridge

THE FLOWER OF THE SEASON
BALL'S CALENDULA
Brilliant Orange Double Flowers
THE FINEST PLANT FOR CUT FLOWER OR THE BORDER
OUR exhibit at CHELSEA SHOW made us many customers, and we have had numerous testimonials from all parts of the country
SEED — 1/-, 2/6, 5/- packet
PLANTS, 1/6 doz.; 10/- 100
Our new and interesting illustrated Catalogue of all kinds of Hardy Plants is now ready, and will be sent on receipt of post card.
WM. ARTINDALE & SON
NETHER GREEN NURSERY :: SHEFFIELD

1926
PERPETUAL FLOWERING
CARNATIONS
Our illustrated Catalogue will be sent free on request
C. ENGELMANN LTD.
Saffron Walden, Essex.

CAULIFLOWER
"MAY QUEEN."
Genuine only direct from Wymondham. The fastest growing, quickest heading variety in existence. Planted in March, large white heads may be cut during May. Autumn-sown Plants, 100, 3/6; 500, 10/-; 1,000, 30/-
Packed in Boxes Carriage Paid with Cultural Hints.
DANIELS & SON, (Dept. 22) WYMONDHAM, NORFOLK.

Fruit Trees Rose Trees
ALL ENGLISH GROWN.
Descriptive Catalogue post free on demand.
INSPECTION INVITED.
S. SPOONER & SONS
Estd. 1820 The Nurseries, Hounslow, MIDDLESEX

GLADIOLI
Our Stock comprises the best new and standard English, American, French and Dutch varieties. Clean, healthy corms which will grow and bloom for you. Prices reasonable. Catalogue free on request.
LES JARDINS DU CHAROST,
(Under American Management)
42, Avenue de Neuilly,
NEUILLY - SUR - SEINE, FRANCE.

XL ALL Specialities
Registered Trade Mark.
Have been the most popular Garden Requisites for the past 30 years.

XL ALL Liquid Nicotine Insecticide
provides the finest solution for spraying plants and fruit trees.

XL ALL Nicotine Vaporising Fumigator
either in Liquid or Cake, is still unsurpassed.

A New Introduction!
XL ALL Leaf Miner Insecticide
for Marguerites, Chrysanthemums, Cinerarias, etc. An infallible remedy.

XL ALL New White Fly Vapour
for use in Tomato Houses. One application kills every fly.

SUPPLIES TO BE OBTAINED FROM ALL NURSERYMEN, SEEDSMEN AND FLORISTS.

Please ask for small Pink Price List, giving particulars of the above, and many other XL ALL Preparations.

Manufacturers:
G. H. RICHARDS LTD.,
234, Borough High St., London, S.E.1
Monomark: BCM/XLALL.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

TUBS FOR SHRUBS
WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 19 prizes. R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. — Price List from A. PRADA 26, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

ALPINE PLANTS, BORDER PLANTS, CHOICE FLOWERING SHRUBS, MINIATURE CONIFERS, HARDY HEATHS, HARDY FERNS, CLIMBERS. One of the oldest, and perhaps the finest, all-round collection in the country.

We grow some 4,000 kinds of all the best outdoor garden subjects, including such items as 100 kinds of Michaelmas Daisies, 100 kinds of Campanulas, 50 kinds of Hellebores, 200 kinds of Saxifrages, etc.

Our Catalogue of these is beautifully illustrated, shows how to build a rock wall and water lily pool, and tells about soils, etc., etc. It makes a fine reference book on plants. It is sent post free for 1s. which may be deducted from orders.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED.
SPECIMENS NAMED.
ADVICE GIVEN FREE.

J. STORMONTH & SON,
Hardy Plant Specialists,
KIRKBRIDE, by CARLISLE.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

WATERER'S GOLD MEDAL RHODODENDRONS, Azaleas, Shrubs, Conifers, Climbers, Heaths, Hardy Perennial and Alpine Plants, Vegetable and Flower Seeds, Scotch Seed Potatoes, Spring Bulbs, English-grown Fruit Trees and ... Separate catalogue for each department post free.—JOHN WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LIMITED, Twyford, Berks.

WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE.—The original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See advert. on back page.

WM. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., Lawrence Road, South Tottenham, N.15.—Conservatories, Winter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

BIRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUNDIALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—MOORTON, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

FENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Garden Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE STANLEY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, Surrey.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list, post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

ROCK PLANTS AND SHRUBS.—Over 300 varieties in stock. Descriptive catalogue free. Also Herbaceous Plants and Roses.—HOBSONS, LTD., 58, Castlegate, Nottingham.

YORK STONE PAVINGS, crazy or rectangular, rustic copings, steps, roughly squared or random shaped, flat bedded wallstones, garden edging, rockery, etc.—SAMUEL JOHNSON AND SON (MIRFIELD), LTD., Newgate Stone Works, Mirfield, Yorkshire.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 89, Albert Street, Lytham.

Price 2/6 each, by L. E. FOX.

ADAM'S GARDEN : Cultivation of Vegetables and Small Fruit, with Preface by E. J. CHITTENDEN, F.L.S., V.M.H.

EVE'S GARDEN : Cultivation of Flowers, with Preface by JOHN FRASER, F.L.S., V.M.H. *The Gardeners' Chronicle* says of *Adam's Garden* : "Most valuable information is given in a condensed form."—LONGMANS, GREEN AND CO., LTD., 39, Paternoster Row, London, E.C.4

PRIOR'S COLCHESTER ROSES, Fruit Trees, Gladioli, Dahlias, Carnations, Herbaceous. Catalogue containing cheap collections free.—D. PRIOR & SON, LTD., Colchester.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING, small mesh, 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 40yds. by 1yd., 3/3; 40yds. by 2yds., 6/6; 40yds. by 3yds., 9/9. Measured mesh closed. Special Pea Netting supplied. Tennis Nets from 8/-. Carriage paid. Compare our netting with others. Sports lists and samples free.—GALLOP, Net Manufacturer, Hastings.

ROCK AND ALPINE PLANTS.—Large and varied collection. All pot grown. Packed and carriage paid. Catalogue free.—M. J. PIGGOTT, Duffield, Nr. Derby.

NETS for Gardens and Tennis Courts.—Before ordering elsewhere, send for our free lists and samples. It will pay you.—GARSON & SONS, Net Works, Rye. Est. 127 years.

WIRE NETTING.—From 2/5 per 50yd. roll. Cheapest House in the Kingdom. Write us for prices. Thousands of rolls stocked.

PEA GUARDS.—Small mesh, 3ft. long, two ends to each dozen. 4/3 dozen. 2 doz. Carriage Paid.

DEFY THE BIRDS.—Rotless Tanned Netting. Small mesh, as supplied by us to the Royal Gardens. In three Qualities. 50 x 1yd., 3/6, 4/-, 6/9; 2yds., 7/-, 8/-, 13/6; 3yds., 10/6, 12/-, 20/3; 4yds., 14/-, 16/-, 27/-; 25 x 1yds., 14/-, 16/-, 27/-. Any size supplied. Carriage paid. Approval. Measured mesh closed.

PEA NETTING.—Tanned, Superior Quality. 6in. mesh, 6ft. wide, 6d. yard. Carriage paid 12yds. and over. Other widths *pro rata*, prices of smaller meshes on application. —E. B. HAWKHORN, LIMITED, Dept. E., Shrewsbury.

BARR'S FLOWER & VEGETABLE SEEDS, of finest selected strains and tested growth, also the best Scotch and Irish grown, hand-picked Seed Potatoes.

BARR'S HARDY PERENNIALS, ALPINES, ROCK PLANTS, AQUATICS, CLIMBERS, TALL and DWARF FLAG IRISES, etc., for Spring planting.

BARR'S LILIES, GLADIOLI, DAHLIAS, CANNAS, MONTBRETIAS, ANEMONES, BEGONIAS, TUBEROSES, TIGRIDIAS, &c., for Spring planting. Catalogues free.—BARR & SONS, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are now famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx, and perpetual habit. Illustrated plant list now ready. New Seed, now ready, hand fertilised, 2/6 and 5/- packets.—J. DOUGLAS, Great Bookham, Surrey.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial : The Effect of Spring	167
A Selection of Roses for Spring Planting	168
The Modern Border Carnation	170
Violas for Present Planting	170
The Herbaceous Border in Spring	172
Shrubs for Walls	173
The Fifty Best Saxifrages	175
Correspondence	176–177
Primula Successes and Failures ; Varieties of Greenhouse Primulas ; Hardiness of Shrubs ; Rose Zéphirine Drouhin ; The Haresfoot Fern ; Shrubby Veronicas and Frost ; Planting Seeds.	
Notes of the Week	178–179
Amazon Lily ; Daffodils at the New York Botanic Gardens ; Ipomœa rubro-cærulea Heavenly Blue ; Zauschneria californica ; The Darlingtonia ; Genistas ; Polygonium campanulatum ; Platycerium alcicorne ; Rhododendron calophytum.	
Cymbidiums and Shrubs at Vincent Square	180
A Choice Selection of Potatoes and Peas	181

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL DELPHINIUMS and ROSES. Send a postcard for our catalogue.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI, Chrysanthemums, Dahlias and Border Carnations.—Our stock includes many new and meritorious varieties. List post free on application.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

MECONOPSIS SEEDS, five species offered in Clarence Elliott's list.—SIX HILLS NURSERY, Stevenage, Herts

TO LOVERS OF ROCK GARDENS:—Inexpensive Plants for Sale.—Apply, NELL SHAW, Hatfield Place, Bath.

WELLS' CATALOGUE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS will be sent post free on application.—W. WELLS AND CO., Merstham, Surrey.

SPENCE'S SCOTCH SEED POTATOES.—Write for Descriptive Catalogue and Growing Guide (on Potatoes only).—CHAS. T. SPENCE, Seed Potato Specialist, Dunbar, Scotland.

SUTTON'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI.

Indispensable for all kinds of decoration work.

Special Collections (Our Selection).

36 in 12 showy varieties 6/6
50 " 10 " " 9/6

SUTTON AND SONS, THE KING'S SEEDSMEN, READING.

DOBBIE'S PLANT CATALOGUE now ready. Free to all readers. Please mention THE GARDEN when writing. —DOBBIE AND CO., LIMITED, Edinburgh.

BATH'S SELECT SEEDS AND PLANTS.—New Illustrated Catalogue of choice Vegetable and Flower Seeds and Plants is now ready, and will be sent, post free, on application.—(Dept. E), R. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO READERS OF "THE GARDEN."—Owing to the great demand for FIDLER'S 1926 GARDEN GUIDE AND CATALOGUE, a limited number of copies have been provisionally reserved for readers of this paper. Please SEND IN YOUR APPLICATION AT ONCE and mark your envelope or postcard "GARDEN" in top left-hand corner.—FIDLER & SONS (established 1856), Reading.

HARDY PLANTS, ROSES AND FRUIT TREES. Revised catalogue now ready. Free on application to THOMPSON AND MORGAN, Ipswich.

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES.—Per stone : Duke of York, 2/3; Witchhill, 2/6 Express, 2/2; Epicure, 1/10; Eclipse, 2/-; Abundance, 2/2; Great Scot, 2/3; Majestic, 2/4; King Edward, 1/10; Kerr's Pink, 1/10; Bishop, 2/3, etc. Shallots Red, 8d. lb. Amateur's Guide of Vegetable and Flower Seeds free.—TILLIE WHYTE & CO., 12, Melbourne Place, Edinburgh.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS FOR GREENHOUSE AND GARDEN. Also Dahlias, Fuchsias, Show and Zonal Pelargoniums and Coleus. Price List free on application.—J. W. COLE AND SON, Westwood Nurseries, Peterborough.

GARDEN NETS.—Best tanned, small mesh, 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 25yds. by 3yds., 6/-; 25yds. by 4yds., 8/-. Carr. paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Tennis nets from 10s. Special nets for tennis boundary. Pea training nets. Lists and samples free.—G. JARRETT, Netmaker, Rye.

LAXTONS' SEEDS.—New Catalogue, post free on application. Containing novelties for 1926. New Peas "Bedford Champion," 4ft., early; "Progress," 1ft. early.—LAXTON BROTHERS, Seedsmen, Bedford.

LAXTONS' POT STRAWBERRIES for present planting. Will fruit this year. "The Duke," "Royal Sovereign" and "King George," 30/- 100, 4/- doz.—LAXTON BROTHERS, Bedford.

RARE PRIMULA AND ALPINE SEEDS from large (1,500) collection, sold cheap. List free.—Rev. J. F. ANDERSON, Glen Hall, Leicester.

A NAIL WRITES WEBSTER'S METAL LABELS. They can't fade. List 20 sizes.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

ROCKERY LABEL, WEBSTER'S METAL. —A nail writes, also neat stakes, 6, 8, 12in.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

ROSE LABELS, WEBSTER'S METAL.—A nail writes, round or oblong, 8/- 100, wires 1/-.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

ROCK PLANTS, best varieties, inexpensive, list free.—MARION GLEDSTANES, Fardross, Clogher, Northern Ireland.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

Continued from page iii.

HIMALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODENDRONS on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and Alpine Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write for Catalogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

CHOICE DAFFODILS.—Write at once for Herbert Chapman's list of CASH BARGAIN LOTS, offered to clear ground. First-class varieties at astonishingly low figures. —Address, HERBERT CHAPMAN, LTD., Rotherside Gardens, Rye, Sussex.

FOR SALE.—Large trees—Cedars, Hollies, Yews, etc.—can be selected now, and left until autumn, if desired; also Hollies for hedges, Laurel and a large selection of Rhododendrons, large and small. Apply Box, THE GARDEN, 8-11, Southampton Street, London, W.C. 2.

CHEALS'
DAHLIAS

UNIQUE COLLECTION
Many Striking Novelties

New Catalogue Free

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
The Nurseries, CRAWLEY

BEGONIAS
Giant Flowering. For Pots or Beds.
DOUBLES
In splendid mixture, per 100 **24/-**; per dozen **3/6**
Distinct Colours: crimson-scarlet, orange-scarlet, salmon, pink, white and yellow, per dozen **6/-**
SINGLES
In splendid mixture, per 100 **17/6**; per dozen **2/6**
CARRIAGE PAID. CATALOGUE FREE
WM. POWER & CO., WATERFORD
Nurserymen and Seedmerchants.

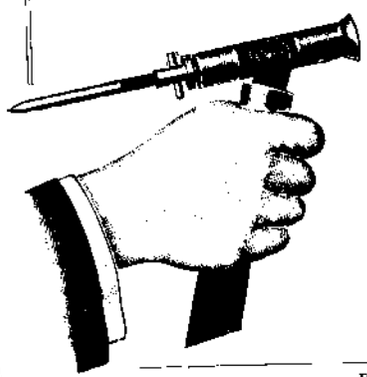
Glassbreaks!

WHY USE IT?
'WINDOLITE'
The practical Glass Substitute for all GARDEN USES.
LIGHT FLEXIBLE UNBREAKABLE
Easy to cut and fix. It keeps out cold and wet, but lets in all the light—even the Ultra Violet Rays which are stopped by glass.
Send 4/6 for post free sample, 3 ft. by 2 ft.
WINDOLITE (DEPT. C) 179/185, GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

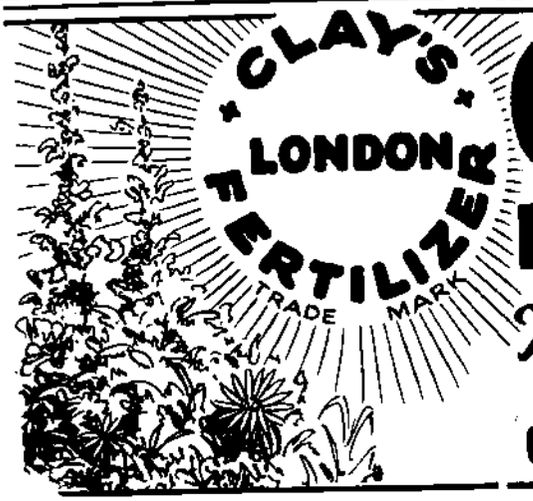
The "handy" 3-purpose garden appliance for 1926!

Willcox's "Penberthy"
"Water Gun"



Convertible instantly, by a few turns of a small tee-piece, from a straight stream to medium or wide fine fan spray. Will water borders or beds, or will sprinkle lawns of any shape. Can be spiked into soil and left alone spraying as long as desired. Can be moved from place to place without operator getting wet. Weighs only 9½ oz. Has a pistol grip, and fits snugly in the hand—causing no muscular efforts.
Also unique for car cleaning, window washing and sundry purposes.
Made of solid brass, heavily nickel plated.
Price 7/6 Connector (if required) for ¼in., ⅜in. or ½in. Hose—1/3 extra.
Obtainable from Ironmongers, Nurserymen, or direct from us.
W. H. WILLCOX & CO., LTD.
32/38, SOUTHWARK STREET, LONDON, S.E.1.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*



CLAY'S FERTILIZER
The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then, together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.
CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices:—
Tins 10d. and 1/6
and in **Branded and Sealed Bags:**
7 lbs. - 3/6 14 lbs. - 6/-
28 lbs. - 10/- 56 lbs. - 18/-
112 lbs. - 32/-
or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).
Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark.

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers etc. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**

Digitized by Google

PLANTING SEASON

GEO. JACKMAN & SON

WOKING NURSERIES, SURREY

ESTABLISHED OVER A CENTURY

INVITE INSPECTION OF THEIR LARGE AND VARIED STOCK OF ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBS, ROSES, CLIMBERS FRUIT AND FOREST TREES HERBACEOUS AND ALPINE PLANTS

300 ACRES OF STOCK TO SELECT FROM. CATALOGUES FREE ON APPLICATION

Advice given on all matters appertaining to Landscape Gardening and Estate Improvements

DOBBIE'S

SCOTCH-GROWN

PLANTS

FULL DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE

81 pages of Indoor and Hardy Plants

SENT ON APPLICATION

DOBBIE & CO., LTD.

Nurserymen :: EDINBURGH

VIOLETS

FOR BEDS, ROCK GARDENS & NATURALIZING.

MISS STANISTREET has ready now young plants of highest quality, as supplied to U.S.A. and Canadian Governments. Properly selected and packed by experts. 50 Varieties. Princess of Wales, Marie Louise, etc., 3/6 doz. carriage paid. Lists free.

KILLALOE :: Co. CLARE

Berberis Darwinii and stenophylla.

(DAISY HILL HYBRIDS.)

	each.	
Darwinii macrophylla	1/6	2/6
" pendula	2/6	3/6
" prostrata	2/6	3/6
Stenophylla autumnalis, flowers in autumn as well as spring	3/6	5/-
" coccinea, scarlet flower buds	3/6	5/-
" compacta, cushion habit	2/6	3/6
" corallina compacta, the gem of the series	3/6	5/-
" diversifolia, most profuse flowering	2/6	3/6
" gracilis, charming habit	2/6	3/6
" " nana, a miniature of the latter	2/6	3/6
" irwinii, a well known and profuse variety	2/6	3/6
" latifolia, the most robust	2/6	3/6
" reflexa, very distinct	2/6	3/6
" semperflorens, an ideal Rock Garden shrub, in flower for eight months of the year	2/6	5/-

All the above are Daisy Hill production and are offered as own rooted plants.

Full descriptions will be found in Tree and Shrub List, free on application.

T. SMITH,

Daisy Hill Nursery, NEWRY.

Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.

Glorious Gladioli

(THE FINEST VALUE EVER OFFERED)

Large Flowered

Special Collection, No. 1

100 Corms in 10 varieties.

Second size corms.

BARON HULOT.	AMERICA.
BRENCHLEYENSIS.	HALLEY
CAPT. FRYATT.	PANAMA.
PRINCE of WALES.	SCHWABEN.
WHITE GIANT.	RED CANNA.

100 for 5/-

Special Collection, No. 2

100 Corms in 10 varieties.

First size corms.

BARON HULOT.	AMERICA.
EMPRESS of INDIA.	HALLEY.
MARECHAL FOCH.	WILBRINK.
WHITE GIANT.	RED CANNA.
YELLOW STANDARD.	
PRINCE of WALES.	

100 for 7/6

Special Collection, No. 3

100 Corms in 10 varieties.

First size corms.

PINK PERFECTION.	CHRIS
CAPT. FRYATT.	RUBINI.
MASTER WEITSE.	ODIN.
L'IMMACULEE.	FLORA.
RED EMPEROR.	WHITE CITY.

100 for 10/-

Primulinus

Special Collection, No. 1

100 Corms in 10 varieties.

Second size corms.

MAIDEN'S BLUSH.	NIOBE.
ATALANTA.	LATONIA.
HERMOINE.	LAETITIA.
HESPERIA.	VANESSA.
SOUVENIR.	SALMONEA.

100 for 5/-

Special Collection, No. 2

100 Corms in 10 varieties.

First size corms.

ORANGE BRILLIANT.	PSYCHE.
ATALANTA.	HERMOINE.
HESPERIA.	LATONIA.
SOUVENIR.	VANESSA.
MAIDEN'S BLUSH.	NIOBE.

100 for 7/6

Special Collection, No. 3

100 Corms in 10 varieties.

First size corms.

ORANGE BRILLIANT.	TYPE.
EURYDICE.	PSYCHE.
SALMONEA.	SCARLETTA.
SOUVENIR.	DAPHNE.
LATONIA.	HESPERIA

100 for 10/-

Ask for Special Lists of Gladioli, Liliums, Begonias, Gloxinias, Montbretias, Anemones and Ranunculus.

ORDERS VALUE 5/- CARR. PAID.

Longstaff & Sons

F.R.H.S.

Bulb Growers, Importers and Merchants,

Near Chelsfield Station, KENT

Border Carnations

THERE are many points about our service which justify the often expressed opinion of our customers that we are the Premier firm in the trade. Chief amongst these are:

Supreme quality of our plants.

Most perfect packing.

Liberal and courteous treatment.

Speedy and efficient attention to all orders, large and small.

Garden Collections, from .. **12/6** to **23/-** per doz.

Clove Scented Collections, in all colours except yellow shades, **30/-** per doz.

Exhibition Collections, for keenest competition.. .. **30/-** per doz.

Carriage: All charges paid in each case. Plants ready for immediate dispatch.

LOWE & GIBSON

CRAWLEY DOWN, SUSSEX

To help to make your Garden a Joy in 1926.

PLANT NOW

STORRIE'S

HARDY SCOTCH GROWN PLANTS

We quote a few specialities of our Gold Medal Strains

	½-doz.	Doz.
AURICULA.—Giant Border, Mixed	2/3	4/-
AQUILEGIA.—Long Spurred, Mixed	3/3	6/-
CANTERBURY BELLS.—Mixed	1/6	2/6
COREOPSIS grandiflora ..	2/-	3/6
COWSLIPS.—Giant Mixed ..	2/6	5/-
FOXGLOVES.—Superb Spotted ..	2/-	3/6
GAILLARDIA grandiflora ..	2/-	3/6
GEUM Mrs. Bradshaw ..	3/-	5/6
FORGET-ME-NOT	1/9	3/-
ICELAND POPPIES.—Storrie's Art Shades	1/9	3/-
PANSIES.—Mixed	2/-	3/6
POLYANTHUS.—Giant Border, Mixed	2/3	4/-
PRIMROSE.—Mixed	3/3	6/-
SWEET WILLIAM.—Mixed ..	1/6	2/6
VIOLAS.—Mixed	1/2	1/9

Carriage Paid. Cash with Order.

Full & descriptive Catalogue of all our Specialities in Seeds, Tiny Seedlings and Plants, Post Free on mentioning this Paper.

STORRIE & STORRIE

The Specialists

GLENCARSE, By PERTH

Digitized by Google

GLADIOLI NOVELTIES.

	Per doz.	Per 100.
America, rose pink	1/6	10/-
Clemenceau, the best scarlet	1/6	10/-
Corry, fine light blue	1/6	10/-
Golden West	1/-	8/-
Halley, salmon pink	1/3	8/-
L'Immaculee, pure white	1/6	10/-
Love's Fire, true scarlet	1/3	8/-
Marechal Foch, pink	2/-	15/-
Nora, extra light blue	1/-	8/-
Panama, deep pink	1/6	10/-
Pink Perfection, soft pink	1/-	8,-
Prince of Wales, orange pink	1/6	10/-
Red Emperor, blood red	1/6	10/-
Rubini, new brilliant orange	1/-	8/-
White Giant, largest white	1/-	8/-

BEDDING GLADIOLI.

	Per doz.	Per 100
Alice Tiplady, soft orange	5/-	35/-
Athalia, fine scarlet	2/6	20/-
Daphne, dazzling vermilion	2/-	14/-
Eurydice, finest clear pink, extra novelty	1/6	10/-
Laetitia, salmon rose	1/-	8/-
Niobe, orange	1/-	7/-
Psyche, orange red	1/-	8/-
Salmonea, salmon-glowing	1,-	7/-
Souvenir, rich yellow	1/-	7/-
Glad. Prim. Mixed Seedlings	1/-	5/-
Glad. Large-flowered Mixed	1/-	5/-

GLADIOLI PRINSIANUS.

These are the most free-flowering Gladioli in existence, a cross between Glad. Colvilli and Glad. primulinus, with very graceful and slender upright stems. They were raised at our Dutch nurseries, and no other firm has the privilege of introducing such a fine strain, which supersedes all other Gladioli.

Perfection, extra fine rose ... 6/- per dozen
Pink Gem, very light rose with delicate pink thread ... 3/- "
Sulphering, very distinct sulphur colour with rose reverse ... 5/- "
Hybrids, Mixed, all Colours, extra special ... 2/- "

ALL ORDERS OF £1 AND UPWARDS CARRIAGE PAID.

Pæonies, Geums, Chrysanthemums and all other herbaceous plants and roots kept in stock. Full illustrated descriptive Catalogue free upon application.

H. PRINS, F.R.H.S., Gladioli Specialist, Wisbech, Cambs.

AUTUMN and WINTER BEAUTY
In the Garden.

WHEN the first Autumn frost has killed the Summer flowers and the last rose is just existing, many people imagine that the garden must be a dull uninteresting place until Spring awakens the early Daffodils.

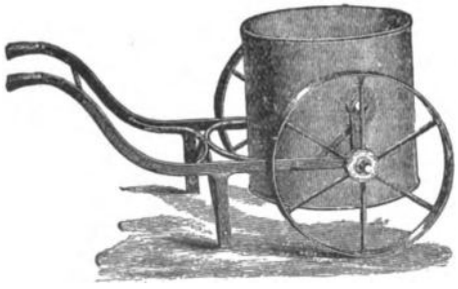
There are, however, many trees and shrubs which will provide beautiful pictures throughout Autumn and Winter when rightly placed.

What is more beautiful than the setting sun lighting up the berries of the Cotoneasters, Thorns, and other berried shrubs; or the crimson stems of the Scarlet Dogwood, yellow and crimson barked Willows.

We have prepared a short supplement to our general catalogue, giving a list of the best trees and shrubs for Winter beauty, with fuller descriptions and cultural notes. A copy on application. We devote the same care and thought to the cultivation of our immense stocks of FRUIT TREES, ROSES, ALPINES, HARDY PERENNIALS as we do to the SHRUBS.

THE BARNHAM NURSERIES, LTD., BARNHAM, SUSSEX.

BARNARDS
LIMITED
NORWICH



STRONG WATER BARROW

With Pump, Hose, Lance, and Suction Pipe. Ideal for Watering and Spraying.

12 gallon	£6	10	0
18 "	7	2	6
30 "	7	15	0

CARRIAGE PAID.

Specially designed by us for such favourites as **Dorothy Perkins, Hiawatha, Queen Alexandra, &c.** Makes a most charming addition to the Rose Garden. Total height, 5 ft. 9 in. Diameter of canopy, 3 ft. 6 in.

Price 17/6 each.

Carriage paid on £6 value.

Specialists in Garden Requirements of all kinds

INQUIRIES INVITED

WORTH GROWING.

SEED POTATOES
Scotch and English—Class I

Selected Stocks. Write for List.

Isaac Poad & Sons, Ltd.,
SEED POTATO GROWERS,
YORK.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

SHOW & REGAL PELARGONIUMS

for a brilliant show in April and May.
Strong plants ready now, from 2-inch pots, ready for potting into 5-inch pots. Best results obtained from plants now.
12 varieties 9/-, or newer sorts, 12/-, 15/- and 17/6 post free for cash.

ZONAL PELARGONIUMS

Single and Double. 12 varieties 7/6. Including newer sorts 10/-
12 Ivy Leaved varieties 7/6. 2/6 per dozen extra if required in Leatherboard pots, carr. paid.
Orders over 5/- post free C.W.O.
Catalogue free on application.

J. W. COLE & SON, Westwood Nurseries, Peterborough

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE CULTURE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

By W. WELLS, 2/6 net; cloth, 3/6 net; by post 6d. extra. —Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

NOW is the time to PLANT
CHINESE RHODODENDRONS
at popular prices.
NEW AND RARE SPECIES
from seed collected by
FORREST & KINGDON WARD
From 2/6 upwards.
WRITE FOR DETAILED CATALOGUES.
Hillier & Sons, Tree Specialists, **Winchester**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

ROCKERY STONE

Best Westmorland Weathered Limestone for Rockeries, Rock Gardens, etc.
In any sized pieces to suit requirements. Any quantity. Large Stones a speciality.
For price and particulars, write—
J. WARDLEY & SONS,
SLACKHEAD - - MILNTHORPE.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

GOW'S LAWN SAND

In Tins at:— 1/-; 3/6 (7lbs.), 6/- (14lbs.).

ERADICATES
Daisies, Moss and Similar Weeds.

— A MOST EFFECTIVE —
GRASS STIMULANT.

28 lbs. will dress 100 square yards or 84 lbs. a full size Tennis Court.
In Bags:— 28lbs. 10/-; 56lbs. 16/6; 1 cwt. 30/-

FROM ALL SEEDSMEN.
Makers—**HUNTER & GOW LTD., 28, Thomas Street, LIVERPOOL.**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

FOR NEW AND RARE

ALPINE AND HERBACEOUS

—PLANTS—

Grown under hardy Scotch conditions. Send for our new catalogue just published also Seed List of choice Primulas, etc.

OLIVER & HUNTER

MONIAIVE———DUMFRIESSHIRE

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

CHALUME QUARRY,

8, QUEEN STREET, LONDON E.C.4.

REAL OLD GARDEN STONE AND CRAZY PAVING

ILLUSTRATING USE OF WALLING STONE.

DRY WALLING AND ROCKERY

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

WHY is "HOMES and GARDENS" such a Great Success?

BECAUSE it shows greater House Comfort & Convenience —with less Labour and Expense.

Send to-day for a Free Specimen Copy of this helpful and Beautifully Illustrated Magazine to 20, Tavistock St., Covent Garden, W.C.2

AWARDED 90 GOLD MEDALS

A most Interesting

FRUIT TREE CATALOGUE

Free and Post Free.

THIS Catalogue, nicely produced and well printed, contains a valuable host of useful hints on FRUIT TREE CULTURE—for Amateur and Professional. Herein will be found all the best and most popular Fruits for all purposes, alphabetically arranged for ready reference. A feature has been made of interesting Chats on soils, situations, and fertilisers; in fact, it is a valuable book, which should be in the hands of all those who possess a Garden or Fruit Farm, large or small. Sit down now, while the matter is fresh in your mind, and write for your free copy.

ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBS

and Useful Hedging Subjects.

Illustrated and fully descriptive. One of the most useful Lists issued.

FREE GARDEN SEED CATALOGUE

THE 1926 SEED LIST issued by the famous King's Acre Nurseries is far more than just a Catalogue: it provides definite expert solution to your seed problems. Its 60 well printed and profusely illustrated pages are full of valuable hints that no gardener should neglect, thus furnishing the reason why, after over 140 years, the King's Acre Nurseries Catalogue still stands pre-eminently "the gardener's best friend."

The most helpful of all Seed Lists comes to you by return of post, free and post free. Write to-day for your copy.

KING'S ACRE NURSERIES, Ltd.,

—HEREFORD—

ESTABLISHED 1785. *NURSERIES 140 ACRES.*

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

CYCLAMEN

Awarded GOLD Medal — The "Caledonian" PRIZE Strain — *Awarded GOLD Medal*

Giant White Wonder	per pkt.	3/-
Giant Pink	,,	3/-
Silver-leaved Salmon	,,	2/6
Silver-leaved Crimson	,,	2/6
Improved Brilliant	,,	2/-
Scarlet Queen	,,	2/-
Caledonian Frilled	,,	3/-
Selected Mixed	,,	2/-

Our Selection, 1 packet each of 6 distinct varieties, 10/-

NOW READY—OUR NEW CATALOGUE containing many thrills for the Garden enthusiast, together with useful cultural hints. A POST CARD will bring you this handsome illustrated Edition.

WRITE NOW—

J. W. FORSYTH Cyclamen Grower & Floriculturist Putteridge, Luton, Beds.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

New Rhododendron

CUNNINGHAM'S SULPHUR

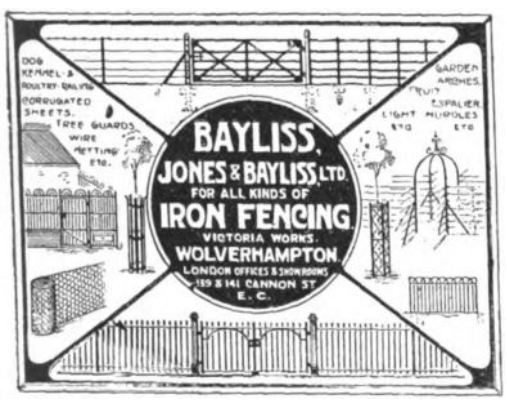
A large stock of this rare variety NOW READY for dispatch.

Grown on own roots, and quite hardy in any part of Britain. Very free flowering—Colour: Sulphur yellow, flowering in April. Very valuable for Spring decoration, plants offered average 9 ins. high, 3–6 flower buds, 6–9 shoots, 7 ins. diameter.

Price **12/6** *each*
CARRIAGE EXTRA.

FROM THE RAISERS—
CUNNINGHAM FRASER & CO., LTD.
Comely Bank Nurseries, EDINBURGH

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*



39th SEASON.

Mrs. PYM'S FAMOUS PLANTS

GOOD AND CHEAP

Send for New Spring Catalogue

— NOW READY —

Plant NOW for Success.

Magnificent Choice Hardy Perennials, Rockery Plants, Spring Flowering Plants, Hardy Climbers, Choice Hardy Flowering Shrubs, Splendid Plants for Cool Greenhouse, &c.

ALL STRONG HEALTHY PLANTS THE BEST I HAVE EVER HAD TO OFFER. EVERY PLANT A BARGAIN.

Named, carefully packed and guaranteed to arrive in excellent condition. Stock your gardens with really excellent plants.

Mrs. PYM (F.R.H.S.) & CO.
10, Vine House, Woodston, Peterboro'

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

SHRUBS are becoming more and more the fashion in gardening. "Shrubs for Amateurs," Mr. W. J Bean's new book, is the best on the subject at a reasonable price. 5/- net. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

Water Plants

My New Illustrated Catalogue contains the most complete collection ever offered. Free

PERRY'S Hardy Plant Farm, Enfield Middx.

MAKE THIS WORK YOUR GUIDE, PHILOSOPHER AND FRIEND.

THE

GARDENER'S ASSISTANT

By **WM. WATSON, F.R.Hort.S.**

IT is **THE** Scientific work on gardening, and is the most important book ever published on the subject, in fact, it is regarded by gardeners as the **STANDARD WORK**. The editor, Mr. Watson, F.R.Hort.S., late Curator of Kew Gardens has been assisted in his task by 22 specialists—each an expert on the subject he writes upon. There are hundreds of text illustrations in addition to a magnificent series of full page coloured plates. Each branch of horticulture and its allied subjects has a definite section of its own, and each section is correlated by cross-reference wherever needful. It is written in plain every-day language. The information is clear, concise, and on unimpeachable authority, and thoroughly justifies its claim to be a work of deep interest and importance to everyone connected, professionally or as an amateur, with gardening.

A BOOK WITH A GREAT REPUTATION.

A CUSTOMER WRITES:—
Redruth, 28.12.25.
"One cannot fail to strongly recommend the books to garden lovers, professional or otherwise. I have seen nothing yet to approach them for definite instruction and description."
(*Signed*) H. E. T.

THE ENCYCLOPÆDIA BRITANNICA OF FLOWERS, ETC.
(*Yorkshire Post*).

BRIEF SYNOPSIS OF CONTENTS.

The Fruit and Vegetable Garden.
Kitchen Garden Vegetables.
Collecting, Storing, and Packing Vegetables.
Allotment Gardening.
Medicinal Plants.
Vegetables for Exhibition.
Orchards.
Spraying Fruit Trees.
The Apple. The Pear.
Plums and Damsons.
Peaches and Nectarines.
Apricots, Cherries, Currants.
Gooseberries, Raspberries.
Strawberries, etc.
Miscellaneous Hardy Fruits.
The Orchard House.
Grape Vines. Figs. Melons.
Pineapples, Bananas, Oranges & Lemons.
Storing Fruits.
Packing Fruits for Road and Rail.
Fruit Preserving.
Preserving Vegetables by Bottling.
Plant Diseases caused by Fungi.
Insect and other Plant Enemies.
Garden Friends.
Transplanting. Pruning.
Tools, Instruments, &c., used in Gardens.
Flower Gardens and Pleasure Grounds.
Hardy Ornamental Trees and Shrubs.
Hardy Herbaceous and Alpine Plants.
Hardy and Half-Hardy Annuals.
Aquatic and Bog Plants.
Bedding.
The Sub-tropical Garden.
Popular Garden Plants.
Greenhouse and Conservatory.
The Stove or Tropical House.
Orchids, Ferns, Palms, Cycads.
Succulent Plants.
Forcing and Retarding.
Garden Structures.
Artificial Heating. Propagation.
Botany for Gardeners.
Meteorology.
Calendar of operations in the Garden.
Index, &c., &c.

READ WHAT YOUR PAPER SAYS:
It appeals to all who garden, professional or amateur. The former will find it of the greatest possible use in supplying a ready and satisfactory answer to all those detailed questions which crop up with marked persistency in the carrying out of gardening duties.
To the amateur it comes like the Waverley Pen, as "a boon and a blessing."—THE GARDEN.

OTHER PRESS VIEWS.
The work is one that should find a place on every gardener's bookshelf, to be "read, marked, learned and inwardly digested."—GARDEN LIFE.

The "GARDENER'S ASSISTANT"—like Goldsmith's immortal schoolmaster—"allures to brighter worlds and leads the way."—GARDENERS' CHRONICLE.

It is unnecessary for us to recommend the work to garden-lovers, amateur or professional. They know it already.—GLASGOW HERALD.

It is the gardeners' whole library in six complete volumes, a work which no gardener, amateur or professional, can dispense with.—LIVERPOOL COURIER.

THE WORK IS COMPLETE IN SIX HANDSOME VOLUMES TASTEFULLY AND STRONGLY BOUND, A CHARMING EXAMPLE OF PRINTER'S ART.

Send this Coupon To-Day for a Free Illustrated Booklet.

COUPON

To **THE GRESHAM PUBLISHING CO., LTD.,**
66, Chandos Street, Strand, London, W.C.2

Please send me your Free Illustrated Booklet describing "THE GARDENER'S ASSISTANT" and full particulars of your Special Terms. This request does not commit me in any way to purchase.

Name.....

Address.....

The "G" 20,3/26. .....

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

FOR ROSE ENTHUSIASTS.

Roses, and How to Excel With Them

By R. V. GIFFARD WOOLLEY. *Illustrated.* **2/6.** *Cloth* **3/6.**
"COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

THIS Bronze Inlaid Verse Stone makes a beautiful addition to the Crazy Path, Rockery, Conservatory or Lawn. Dimensions (approx.) 16 ins. x 10 ins. x 2 in.
Natural Stone Colour. *Permanent and Durable.*

21/- *Carriage Paid.*
Cheques and P.O.'s crossed.
Mottoes or Verses to order.
CONWAY & COOPER, Ltd., Hollis Croft, D[illegible]

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing*

Digitized by Google

CITY OF NORWICH.

WANTED.—Propagator, experienced in budding, grafting and general outside Nursery work; wages to commence at a basic rate of 30/- per week plus a fluctuating bonus (at present £1 2 6). Applicants must be under 35 years of age and will be required to contribute towards the Superannuation fund. Applications, enclosing two recent testimonials, to be addressed to PARKS SUPERINTENDENT, TUCK'S COURT, NORWICH.

THE NEW COMPLETE LIST
of
GARDEN BOOKS -
published by "Country Life"
is
NOW READY

FREE ON APPLICATION TO THE PUBLISHERS
20, TAVISTOCK ST., COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2

A Prolific Garden

cannot be maintained without the aid of some kind of manure. Stable manure is now scarce, and is bulky to cart and spread on the land. No artificial will altogether take the place of natural manure, but a good well-balanced fertiliser, used during the growing season, is a wonderful aid in producing high-class garden crops. No fertiliser is cleaner, more effective, or economical than

PEARSON'S CHEMICAL MANURE

which is compounded from the purest chemicals. It contains every element necessary to plant life which is not present in any ordinary garden soil. A glance at the analysis will prove that this manure is as cheap as any on the market, while nothing can beat it in ease of application and results.

ANALYSIS
PEARSON'S "CHEMICAL MANURE"
(ARTIFICIALLY COMPOUNDED)
Contains at least 11·70 *Phosphates, soluble and insoluble;* 6·68 *Potash;* 6·44 *Nitrogen* (*Ammonia Nitrogen* 4·56, *Nitric* 1·88).

Per cwt. 25/-, ½ cwt. 13/- carr. paid. ¼ cwt. 7/-, 14 lb. 4.6, 7 lb. 2/9, carr. forward.

Procure Now for Coming Season.

J. R. Pearson & Sons, Ltd.
The Nurseries, Lowdham, Notts.
(Established 1782)

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

BEGONIAS
AWARDED 85 GOLD MEDALS.
In superb quality and extra large tubers for Greenhouse or Bedding.

Doubles, in 6 colours, flowers like large Roses and Camellias	6/- per doz.	42/- per 100
Doubles, in mixed colours	5/- „ „	35/- „ „
Singles, in 6 colours, very large fine shaped flowers	4/6 „ „	30/- „ „
Singles, in mixed colours	3/6 „ „	24/- „ „
„ Frilled or Crested, in 6 colours	5/- „ „	35/- „ „
„ „ „ in mixed colours	4/- „ „	28/- „ „

Collection of 36 large tubers—12 Doubles, 12 Singles, 12 Frilled Singles—14/-.
Collection of 12 named hanging basket Begonias, 3 each 4 sorts, 35/-. Excellent value.
Post free on orders of 10/- and over.

Send for FREE Catalogue of Named Double Begonias for Exhibition, Basket varieties, Cyclamen, Gloxinias, Polyanthus, Phlox, Herbaceous Plants, etc.

DELPHINIUMS
Gained 17 Awards of Merit at R.H.S. Delphinium Trials at Wisley in 1925.

The ONLY selection to receive in 1924 and 1925 the R.H.S. Gold Medal, the highest award obtainable.
Plant NOW. We have pleasure in offering the following Collections which are specially good value, in strong ground roots, which will make a fine show of bloom this year.

COLLECTION A, 12 extra good sorts	65/-	**COLLECTION D,** 12 good sorts	22/-
„ **B,** 12 very choice sorts	42/-	„ **E,** 12 average sorts	15/-
„ **C,** 12 fine sorts	30/-	CATALOGUE FREE, apply	

BLACKMORE & LANGDON - - - BATH

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

BARR'S LARGE-FLOWERED GLADIOLI
FOR MARCH PLANTING.

3 each of 20 beautiful varieties	18/6 and 30/-
3 „ „ 12 „ „	10/6 „ 15/-
Choice Mixture of Large-flowered Hybrids, per 100, 21/-; per doz., 3/-	

GLADIOLUS PRIMULINUS HYBRIDS

3 each of 12 beautiful varieties	15/- and 21/-
3 „ „ 6 „ „	7/6 „ 10/-
New Hybrids, Mixed per 100, 17/6; per doz., 2/3	

GLADIOLUS BRENCHLEYENSIS, the true old Scarlet Gladiolus, per 100, 25/-; per doz., 3/6

Descriptive Catalogue on application.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

The
"SOUTHWELL" COLLECTION
BUSH ROSE TREES. FIRST CLASS VARIETIES FOR GARDEN EFFECT :: :: ALL BRITISH GROWN

Avoca, crimson scarlet
Caroline Testout, satiny rose
Conrad F. Meyer, silvery rose
Dorothy Page Roberts, salmon pink
Francis Gaunt, fawny yellow
Frau Karl Druschki, white
General McArthur, velvety carmine
Gorgeous, deep orange yellow
Hadley, deep velvety crimson
Henriette, coral salmon
La Tosca, blush pink
Lieut. Chaure, velvety crimson
Lyon, salmon pink
Mrs. H. R. Darlington, creamy yellow
Mrs. John Laing, clear pink
Red Letter Day, scarlet crimson
Richmond, red scarlet
W. E. Wallace, deep golden yellow

This collection of 18 varieties for **18 9,** or 12 selected from the above for **12/6**
Acme Labels (if required) .. .. **2 6** per dozen

Carriage and Packing Free for Cash with Order.

BUY HOME GROWN TREES

Catalogue of Rose Trees, Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Hardy Plants, etc., free on application to—

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.
The Nurseries · Southwell · Notts.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

SEEDSMEN BY APPOINTMENT

GRASS SEED

ALL lawns should be re-conditioned immediately if the turf and surface are to be in good condition for the coming season, consequently, preparations should be made in advance, and all the required materials—Grass Seed, Fertiliser, Worm Killer, etc., assembled. For particulars how to renovate your lawn, make a new lawn, diagrams and instructions, write to-day for Carters Booklet on "Lawns and Sports Grounds," post free on application. Fill in coupon below:—

PLEASE SEND, POST FREE, BOOKLET
"LAWNS & SPORTS GROUNDS."
M.....
.....
G. .....

SERVICE AND ADVICE
Carters will answer any question in regard to the improvement or up-keep of your Turf.

Carters
TESTED SEEDS
Grass Seed and Turf Specialists,
RAYNES PARK, LONDON, S.W.20

Toogood's Seeds
The Best that Grow

By sowing Guaranteed Garden Seeds you will be able to rest assured that they will produce the best flowers and vegetables of their kind.

For a carefully arranged and beautifully illustrated guide to "Guaranteed Garden Seeds" for 1926 write at once.

TOOGOOD & SONS, Ltd.
The King's Seedsmen,
SOUTHAMPTON.

IDEAL HEDGING SHRUB
THUJA LOBBII
Hardy, fast grower, stands clipping, 12-15 in. **25/-** per 100, 3-4 ft. **21/-** per doz. Carriage Paid.
LLANGARRON NURSERIES
ROSS-ON-WYE.

"ACME" WEED KILLER
Awarded Gold Medal at Anglo-American Exhibition and Bronze Medal by Royal Horticultural Society.
Has stood the test of over 30 years.

POWDER.—No. 1 Tin makes 25 gals., **3/-**; No. 2, 50 gals., **6/-**; carriage paid on No. 4 which makes 150 gals., **15/-**

LIQUID.—1 gal. to 50 gals. of water. 1 gal., **6/-**; 2 gals., **10/6**; carriage paid on 5 gals., **25/-**

NON-POISONOUS.—No. 1 tin makes 6 gals., **1/6** post free; No. 2, 12 gals., **2/3** post free; No. 4, 50 gals., **7/-** post free.

LAWN SAND
destroys weeds and moss in grass and fertilizes the lawn. No other manure necessary.
14 lbs., **4/-**; 28 lbs., **7/-**; 56 lbs., **13/-**; 1 cwt., **25/-**. Carriage paid on 1 cwt.

WORM KILLER.—Non-poisonous.
For destroying Worms in Lawns, Bowling Greens and Putting Greens.
14 lbs., **3/3**; 28 lbs., **6/-**; 56 lbs., **11/6**; 1 cwt., **21/-**. Carriage paid on 1 cwt.

Insecticides. Bone Meal and other Fertilizers.
Send for Price List.
ACME CHEMICAL Co., Ltd., TONBRIDGE, KENT.

WEBBS'

"ADMIRATION" STOCK
The Finest Strain in existence—White, Rosy Lilac, and Flesh Colour, each **1/-** pkt. Mixed Colours, **6d.** & **1/-** pkt.

"GARDEN and LAWN" CATALOGUE FREE.
WEBB & SONS, LTD., The King's Seedsmen, **STOURBRIDGE.**

BY APPOINTMENT.

FERTILIZERS FOR THE GARDEN

As soon as pruning is finished, Rose Trees and Bushes need feeding. No section of the garden responds more to the use of fertilizers

ROSE FERTILIZER

Use 4 oz. to the square yard on the beds

Price per cwt. **29/-** Carr. paid.

Illustrated Catalogue of Fertilizers for all Garden Crops post free from

Joseph Fison & Co., Ltd. Ipswich.

Digitized by Google

VOL. XC.—No. 2835. MARCH 20, 1926
Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s 4d Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2. *Offices for Advertisements:* 6–11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

THE EFFECT OF SPRING

SPRING is supposed to affect everything living in a cheerful fashion. Lambs gambol; horses cavort; hardy mortals leave off their thick woollens; and poets ransack their dictionaries for appropriate words. Very important is the thrilling effect that the first warm days of the year have upon most gardeners: in one of his letters Farrer speaks of the throb of spring. "Don't I know it? For that is what always turns my heart to the hills in June, and what, in the first warm day of March, sets me itching to get my fingers into the vibrations of the awakening earth: why, it is like running one's fingers through the hair of La Belle au Bois Dormant as she stirs from sleep!" That is perhaps more poetically expressed, but it is what every lover of the countryside and of flowers feels deep down in his being. Sometimes this feeling is like a slight touch of malaise: you are restless; you mope, if you are cooped up in a city; you want something vaguely and have no idea what it is. If you only knew, it is Nature asserting herself. When first I was buried in a city, I knew not what it was: now I am wiser.

To some like Farrer—and I must be included among them—even a garden is not quite satisfying; it savours too much of man's handiwork. We long to be primitive and rush away in solitude to the wilds and dig our fingers into the vibrations of the awakening earth. Unfortunately for me, at least at the present moment, this is impossible, and I have to be satisfied with what I can get. But let me advise all who can to revitalise themselves by putting a "jeely piece" in their pocket and making a solitary excursion on the first warm, fine morning to the loneliest part of the countryside within reach, and there spend the day in peace and solitude. It is good for body and soul alike.

Then, as I am writing for horticulturists, let me suggest that you walk around your gardens in the late afternoon and with peace in your soul and the blood coursing through your veins see if it comes up to your expectations. If it does, well and good, for it is *your* garden and other people's opinions are of no importance. If it does not, just think slowly and serenely wherein the fault lies. For me, there is no time like the first days of spring for using my imagination in the garden. In the autumn I look upon the dank soil with the cold of winter in front of it with something very close to actual distaste. In the spring I view the soil with a kindly feeling and smell the re-awakening earth, a very kindly scent. Once in this frame of mind all is well, for, after all, the soil gives most things to a plant, and those who love the soil and like to dig their fingers into it go a long way to understanding life, as it affects a plant, a subject that is not taught in text-books.

There is little use trying to copy Nature so closely that you must have your bank smothered in primroses or a swathe of thin woodland drenched with bluebells, or, earlier in the year, acre upon acre snow-white with snowdrops. Probably, if you did, you would not be successful, for Nature is occasionally jealous and likes keeping some things to herself; but there is a happy mean: everyone should aim at, not Nature's garden, but a natural garden. There is a world of difference between the two. Some plants are complacent enough to look well in almost any position; some require immense care; most of them lie between the two extremes. In all cases they should look as happy as possible. In my opinion, the gardener can do more in arranging his plants in the spring than at any other time of the year. It may be imagination, but to me it seems as if at this time of the year they fall more naturally into their places. If one likes what the earth brings forth, one is better tuned to catch the earth's throb at the awakening of spring.

This may appear to be an odd note on which to begin a number that ought to help gardeners in the important matters of what to plant in the spring and how to plant it; but there is sometimes something lacking, something that is not entirely matter-of-fact and which yet has a great influence on successful cultivation. In successful gardening a little imagination and a little understanding are almost as important as skill and knowledge. That is my excuse.

E. H. M. C.

AMONG THE ARTICLES IN OUR NEXT ISSUE WILL BE:

A RHODODENDRON TOUR.

CARNATIONS OF THE FLORISTS' SHOP, by Montagu Allwood.

RHODODENDRONS IN WIND AND DROUGHT, by W. Arnold Forster.

FRAGRANCE IN ALPINES AND WATER PLANTS, by H. W. Canning-Wright.

IF YOU LIKE "THE GARDEN," REMEMBER TO TELL YOUR FRIENDS ABOUT IT.

Digitized by Google

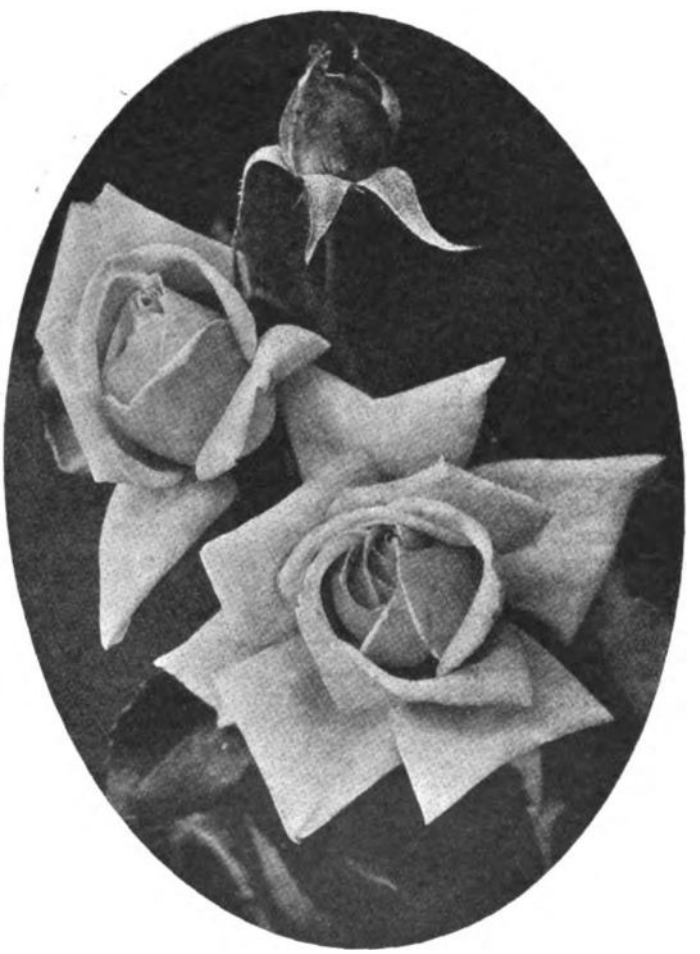
A SELECTION of ROSES for SPRING PLANTING

THIS should be one of the busiest spring planting seasons on record, for the weather during last November was so unpropitious that most of the work of late autumn was left over until the new year. Favourable weather conditions, that have prevailed in most districts during January and February, have seen much of the lost ground made up, but there must be many growers who have not completed their planting, and it is to these that I offer a few suggestions.

Each season sees the decorative type more firmly established as the most popular as well as the most useful class of rose. The exhibitor is in the minority, and it is perhaps quite safe to say that at least 75 per cent. of rose enthusiasts favour the free-flowering type. Our leading raisers are alive to the importance of public demand, for the majority of novelties now introduced possess some claim to be regarded as useful garden varieties. Strong, or moderately strong, branching habit, as well as free-flowering capabilities, should be a desideratum of any novelty that is likely to hold its own as a popular introduction, and if there is fragrance in addition, so much the better.

FAVOURITE DECORATIVE VARIETIES.

There are many names that come readily to mind when one is compiling a list of popular decorative varieties, and readers will need no introduction to such well known kinds as Caroline Testout, Mme. Abel Chatenay, Lady Pirrie, Ophelia, Mme. Butterfly, General McArthur, Mrs. Henry Morse, Los Angeles, Golden Emblem and others that have firmly established themselves in public favour. Most of these do well in any locality, and this partly explains their immense popularity. The test of a variety is really settled by the rose-growing public, and it is safe to say that public opinion is the best selection committee. Many of our gold medal roses have made good after being placed in commerce, others have disappointed. Sometimes a variety that has received no awards proves itself to be a good garden rose. While it is perfectly fair to assume that a variety must have some outstanding features to secure the highest awards, it is well to understand that all gold medal varieties cannot be relied upon to give entire satisfaction for all purposes. It sometimes happens that a gold medal rose is better for exhibition than for general garden cultivation, while many varieties that secure the premier award at the spring show are ideal for cultivation under glass, but useless out of doors.



THE RICH YELLOW ROSE SOVEREIGN.

SOME NEWER DECORATIVE VARIETIES OF MERIT.

I do not propose to discuss any of the well known kinds, but will confine my remarks to a few of the newer introductions that I have found reliable.

Betty Uprichard is a comparatively new variety that has come to the front by leaps and bounds. It deserves its high place in public esteem, for it is a delightful decorative rose. Mr. Alexander Dickson, who has probably seen more of this rose than most of us, told me two years ago that he considered it the best decorative variety, taking one season with another, that we have. This is high praise, but Mr. Dickson is not far off the mark, for Betty does not seem troubled by the wet, and in sunny weather, even if the blooms are somewhat fleeting, they retain a certain amount of beauty of form long enough for us to enjoy them. The rich carmine is suffused with orange so that there is no crude colouring, and the lighter facing of the petal gives that striking contrast which adds to the variety's distinctiveness. The only rose of this colouring that we had previously seen was Edith Part, a very pretty variety that is still worth growing, but the richer tones of Betty Uprichard, together with its strong, branching habit, combine to make it a better rose. It also has quite a moderate degree of fragrance.

Shot Silk, from the same firm, promises to be a fine rose if it has a sufficiently strong constitution. It is not quite as robust as Betty Uprichard, but it is certainly far from being a weakling. The colouring is glorious and the blooms possess good form, and sufficiently full to open in all kinds of weather, and there is fragrance. It should make a good bedding variety, and doubtless will be planted in large quantities when it reaches a normal price.

There seems to be a divided opinion as to the merits of Mabel Morse as a decorative variety. It is not a particularly strong grower with me, but in other districts, especially in the west, I believe it is quite satisfactory in this respect. The blooms are full, invariably of good form, and they rarely come "quartered," as is often the case with Golden Emblem. As a decorative yellow I prefer Florence Izzard, which appears to be almost a yellow Chatenay. The blooms are not as fine specimens as those usually found on Mabel Morse, but they are produced on long stems and have fairly good lasting qualities. There are good points about all these three yellows from Portadown, and in certain respects one has a pull over the other. An ideal yellow would combine their best characteristics. Until it comes along the best plan is to grow all three.

Another good yellow that has come to the fore is Messrs. B. R. Cant's gold medal variety that bears the honoured name of the Rev. F. Page Roberts. It has been the aim of raisers for many years to produce a rose suitable for outdoor culture that carried the colouring of the old favourite, Maréchal Niel. Although it may be rather a bold assertion to make that this has been achieved in the rose in question, we may safely say that it approaches very nearly the ideal. The blooms are of good shape and carried erect on long stout stems; the habit is vigorous and there is a pronounced fragrance. I have no doubt that Rev. F. Page Roberts will become still more popular.

Another yellow from the same firm is the delightful little bedding variety that bears the descriptive name of Sovereign. Some of us, with memories of the gold coin that used to jingle (usually all too rarely), in the days before the advent of paper money, might find some pleasure in the comparison, and enjoy the lustrous and metallic sheen of the flower, the rich colour of which is retained till the petals drop. Sovereign is rather diminutive in habit, but it makes a capital bedder where one does not require the taller, branching type. It is one of the freest of all the decorative kinds, and Messrs. Cant's tell me that in their nurseries there is more bloom

Digitized by Google

per plant on Sovereign than on any other variety. Its lovely, shining foliage is also an asset, and it is, naturally, mildew proof.

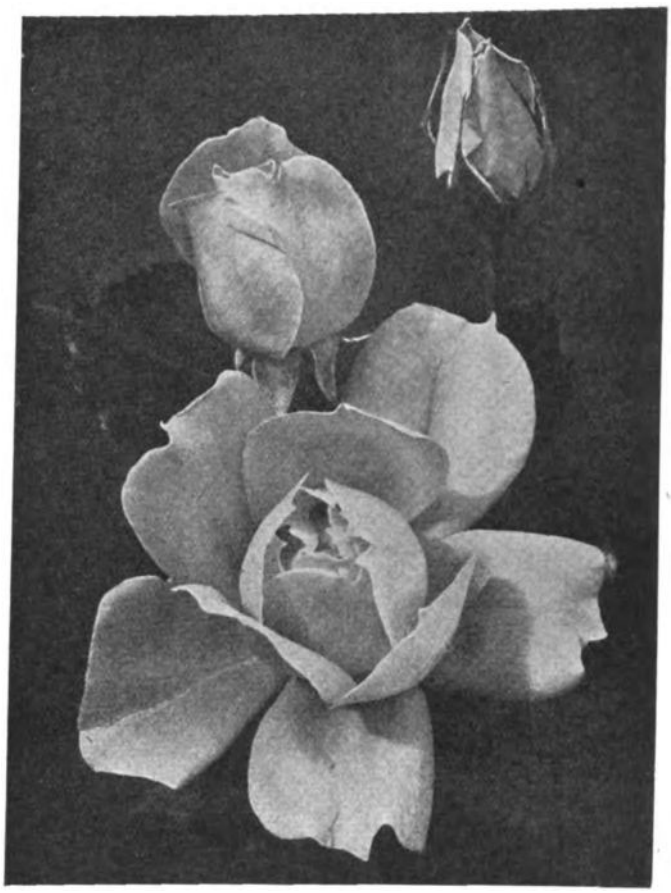
A fine rose for all purposes is Captain Harvey Cant, a beautiful salmon pink of splendid build and good lasting qualities, from Messrs. Frank Cant's Braiswick Nurseries. It has a strong, erect habit and the blooms are carried on long stems. Mrs. Alfred West, a rich salmon pink in the finished flower, is another splendid rose from the same firm. The blooms are full, finely formed and very lasting. In these days of so many pink varieties it is well to remember these two out standing salmon pinks from Colchester.

I have a very high opinion of the merits of Mr. Easlea's beautiful variety, James Walley. It is a splendid grower with a strong, branching habit, lovely foliage and long flower stems. The blooms are Ophelia-like in form and colouring, but there is a richer colour tone—shades of yellow and apricot—in the heart of the bloom. The flowers are of perfect formation from the bud stage to the half open bloom, and in autumn they open into large, shapely, full flowers.

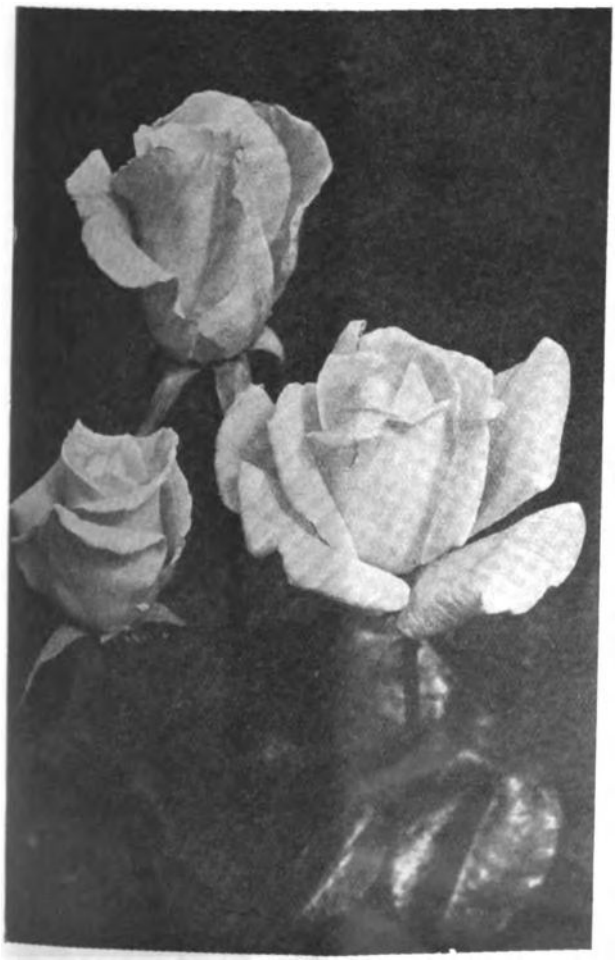
A rose of somewhat similar shape and colouring is Vanity Fair, one of Messrs. Dobbie's introductions. In the colouring there is certainly some resemblance to Ophelia, but the habit and foliage are reminiscent of Joseph Hill, which was probably one of the parents. Vanity Fair is a good autumnal.

Two useful crimson roses that deserve a place in every up-to-date collection are Etoile de Hollande and Lord Charlemont. The former is a Continental introduction that is now becoming very popular. It is a deep, velvety crimson that carries full perfume and the blooms are freely produced. They are pretty in the bud and half-open stage and make good buttonholes. The growth of the plant is sturdy and the foliage is handsome, and as far as I have seen, mildew proof.

Lord Charlemont is a grand clear crimson that will become a favourite for bedding or massing. It is strong in growth and the flowers, which are of good form, are freely produced.



THE BEAUTIFUL AND SHAPELY BLOOMS OF ANGELE PERNET.



THE DECORATIVE MUSTARD YELLOW FLORENCE M. IZZARD.

Though not as strongly scented as some of the other crimsons, it has a delicate perfume. Another good crimson from Portadown is Arthur Cook, a very sweetly scented and promising variety. When better known it is likely to become a popular rose.

I have been very pleased with the Rev. Joseph Pemberton's prettily coloured variety named Ruth, in which there is a subtle blend of orange and carmine. The flowers are full and of good form and the plant appears to have plenty of vigour. It is a variety that will increase in popularity.

Both the cerise varieties, Lady Inchiquin and Mrs. Courtney Page are noted for their purity of colour, and where they will grow well they can be recommended. They are sunshine roses and delight in a fine, dry summer.

Other useful varieties that are worthy of a trial are Admiration (cream shaded with vermilion), a fine decorative rose; Doris Trayler, shades of orange, yellow and red; June Boyd, shades of carmine, yellow and amber, changing to peach; Souvenir de Georges Pernet, a fine bold bloom of somewhat unique colouring in which there is a mixture of Orient red and yellow; William F. Dreer, a soft blend of golden yellow and peach shades, identical in habit with Los Angeles; and Souvenir de Mme. Boullet, a fragrant dark cadmium yellow with long, elegant buds and large, full flowers. The new Pernet-Ducher production, Angele Pernet, is a lovely bit of colour and promises to be useful as a decorative variety, but it is somewhat thin and rather short in the petal. It is, however, impossible to judge it on one season's test, and we may find it better in 1926.

Those who try the novelties, too, will probably find several acquisitions among them, and one expects great things of Gwyneth Jones, White Ensign, Empire Queen, Barbara Robinson and Dame Edith Helen. I have just received a note from Mr. Alexander Dickson and his comments on Dame Edith Helen are: "This will be the best of our new set. It is a real outstanding rose full of good points."

The forthcoming season—the Jubilee Year of the National Society—will probably see the advent of many new fragrant roses, and the autumn introductions should include several decorative roses of merit.

NORMAN LAMBERT.

Digitized by Google

THE MODERN BORDER CARNATION

THE planting of these hardy border subjects can be carried out within the next few weeks. In one of Bacon's essays he tells us that in July we may expect to see gilliflowers of all kinds in bloom, and it is interesting to observe that the old gilliflower is still with us, although the gilliflower or carnation of to-day has made great progress since Bacon's time.

Now we have a race of carnations hardy and able to withstand, without protection of any kind, the wet and cold, and the rapid changes of temperature to which we have become accustomed; while, at the same time, when the summer comes, the flowers are found to be incomparably superior to those which graced our gardens a few years back. We find now that the border carnation of to-day is hardy, that the flowers have been developed until their colouring, shape and size are upon a much higher level than ever before, and that such faults as weak stems and split calyces have been practically eliminated.

Bearing these facts in mind, it is a little difficult to understand why the border carnation is not more generally grown, and the only possible solution seems to be that the average gardener confuses it with the perpetual-flowering type which needs protection in winter, and has failed to realise that plants can be put out in the autumn and left without any protection at all until they come into bloom in the following June and July. There is every evidence, however, that this misapprehension is being rapidly dispelled and that soon border carnations will be grown extensively, not only by those enthusiasts who appreciate their many wonderful qualities but by everyone who possesses a garden.

Border carnations may be obtained either as rooted layers in the autumn and planted in their permanent quarters without delay, or, alternatively, they may be purchased ex pots in the spring and planted out in late March or early April. Each method has its own following and there is a lot to be said for both. While I myself prefer to plant in autumn if possible, very successful results can certainly be obtained from planting in spring, and, if the plants are obtained from a good grower who will take care not to disturb the roots, they should grow right on without any harm being done. Spring planting has many advocates, and this is evidenced by the fact that those trade growers who specialise in carnations always dispose of as many, if not more, plants in the spring than in the autumn.

It would have been as well if a bed had been prepared in the autumn to receive the plants; but if this was not possible, the ground would probably benefit from a good dressing of slaked lime, for carnations like lime and will flourish where it is found. I have always found ground garden lime very satisfactory, as it is easy to handle.

Assuming, then, that the ground is ready, the plants should be firmly planted 15ins. apart, allowing 15ins. between the rows, and, if it is possible to put sticks for support in place without delay, all the better, for then there is less chance of disturbing the young roots later on in the spring. Cane or light sticks are best and quite strong enough to support the plants. While on the subject of tying, I feel that I must make a brief reference to this necessary but irksome work. Many growers, apparently, continue to use raffia for tying, but I cannot advocate too strongly the great advantage of split rings made from galvanised wire.

Just one more word regarding spring cultivation. One of the most useful

CARNATION VICEROY, A FINE YELLOW-GROUND FANCY.

tools in the tool-shed is the Dutch hoe, and, where carnations are concerned, it is invaluable. I have found hoeing most beneficial, as it keeps the ground clear of weeds and, more important still, renders the surface sweet and fresh. The successful carnation grower uses the Dutch hoe on every possible occasion, and the result of its continued use soon becomes evident.

Such progress has been made in the evolution of the border carnation in the last few years that I should like to say a few words on the different varieties obtainable. A wide range of colours is embraced, and perhaps the most useful way would be to give a list of really good varieties which are suitable for border cultivation.

Among the selfs the following can be recommended as good strong growers:

White.—Elaine, Bookham White.

Yellow.—Mary Murray, Border Yellow, Eldorado.

Scarlet.—Veldtfire, Grenadier.

Crimson and Maroon.—Joan Wardale, Gordon Douglas, The King.

Orange.—Dr. R. Crawfurd, Elizabeth Shiffner, Loyalty.

Lavender.—Yvonne Thomas, The Grey Douglas.

Pink and Rose.—Bookham Rose, Salmonea, Lady Hermione.

The yellow ground fancies offer a wide selection, and the following are all very good: Centurion, Linkman, Viceroy, Pasquin, David Stobart, Mrs. J. L. Gibson, Lady Shackleton, Sheila Gibson, J. Saville and Dr. Stone.

It is probably the white ground class which has made the greatest progress of late. The following three varieties are particularly good: Mrs. E. Charrington, Steerforth and John Stobart.

Other good kinds are: Jessie Murray, A. St. Clair Amos, Mrs. G. D. Murray and Mrs. Hawksbee.

There are also one or two varieties of fancies which cannot be included in the two classes already mentioned, in that they have neither white nor yellow grounds, and the two most notable examples are James Griggs and Sam Griffiths, which have cerise or rose markings on a lavender grey ground.

Those growers who insist on a strong scent in their flowers will probably find their requirements more than covered by the clove-scented class, which embraces such well known varieties as Steerforth, to which reference has already been made, Pearl Clove, Fragrance, Doris Trayler, Blush Clove and Salmon Clove.

In closing, let me make a brief reference to the yellow ground picotees. These beautiful flowers have never received the attention that they have deserved in the past, and it is difficult to understand why, for they are quite hardy and deserve a place in every garden. Her Majesty, Mrs. J. J. Keen, Margaret Lennox and Togo are all good, and once they have been tried they are not likely to be discarded again.

ANGUS BENNETT.

VIOLAS FOR PRESENT PLANTING

PANSIES and violas are not only becoming increasingly popular, but the newer introductions contain a large number of improvements on older sorts which denotes progress in hybridisation. Our leading raisers, too, are realising the importance of producing novelties that have both a good constitution and a neat, tufty habit. Both these are important considerations from a decorative point of view, and as the great majority of growers require pansies and violas for garden decoration, this is a step in the right direction. Our Scottish friends number among their enthusiasts many expert growers, and here the system of staging on boards is paramount; but there are also several champions on this side of the Border, where the method of staging in small tubes fitted into sand-filled pans covered with moss—a method that is commonly known as "vasing"—is in favour. For the latter purpose the long-stemmed

Digitized by Google

flowers are necessary. For showing on boards a bloom that lies flat is preferred.

THE DECORATIVE TYPE.

For garden decoration the free-flowering bedding type is best. These have smaller flowers than the exhibition sorts, but they are more freely produced. The habit is dwarf and compact, and a young plant will, by autumn, grow sufficiently round and tufty that it can hardly be covered with an ordinary sized basin. If trimmed and left undisturbed it will generally survive the winter and, as a two year old, give a brilliant display of bloom the second season. A further supply of plants can be raised from cuttings or a division of the older plants.

Some of the larger-flowered types have a fairly compact habit, and those that are of a strong constitution can be used effectively for bedding purposes, although as a rule they are not so eminently suited for the purpose as the purely bedding type. Pansies, too, consist of two kinds. There is a bedding type that has a neat, compact habit, and the rich colours of these—shades that are not found among the violas—are very striking. The varieties that are used for exhibition include fancy pansies and show pansies. The former are general favourites, being large-flowered, with a central blotch and markings or suffusions on the upper petals. The lower and side petals have margins—white, cream, yellow and so on—and these should be regular and clearly defined. The show pansy is much smaller, with a lesser blotch. It is very pretty, but during late years it has not been widely cultivated, and it is doubtful if it will ever again become very popular.

SELECTING A SITE AND PREPARING THE SOIL.

Pansies and violas like an open situation that receives some protection from the full glare of the sun in summer. If this can be provided by an adjacent wall or from trees that are near but not overhanging the beds, so much the better; but if not, then it is sometimes necessary to shade the plants if the weather continues to be hot and sunny. A mulch will often answer the purpose of conserving moisture during the summer drought, but it is better to provide the beds with a good foundation of well rotted animal manure before the plants are put out. The sooner this is done the better, so that the beds have sufficient time to settle down. The animal manure, together with a little bone-meal, superphosphate, wood ashes and soot, should be worked into the soil as digging proceeds. Do not let the beds lie too low, especially if the garden is a shady one. In this case it is better to raise the beds a little. Very little damping off or stem rot results if plants are grown on slightly raised beds.

V. MRS MARRISON, A STUDY IN CHOCOLATE AND ROSE.

VIOLAS IN THE SUMMER BORDER.

A SELECTION OF BEDDING VARIETIES.

The best white bedder is Swan, a rayless pure white variety with a conspicuous orange eye. It is a capital grower with a splendid tufty habit, and it is very fine the second season if left undisturbed. In cream selfs there are Lady Knox and Cream King. I prefer the former. In the yellows there is a wide choice, from pale primrose to deep orange. Margaret Wood, Royal Sovereign, Moseley Perfection, Mrs. C. B. Douglas, Bullion, Kingcup, Klondyke, Redbraes Yellow, Walter Welsh and Tangerine are all good, most of them having a tufty habit. Mauve shades also give plenty of choice. The most popular are Maggie Mott, John Quarton, Mauve Queen, Kitty Bell, and Fred Williams. W. H. Woodgate is a pretty light blue, and Archie Grant Improved one of the best dark blues. The finest purple is Royal Purple, an improved Councillor Waters. In the edged varieties James Pilling, A. S. Frater, Gladys Finlay and Pride of Darras are all reliable. The two last-named have deep purple beltings. One of the prettiest fancies is Dunbryan, a soft shade of heliotrope suffused over a white ground; and Mrs. Marrison, with its chocolate and rose marbling, is very striking.

Digitized by Google

Some of the best of the larger-flowered kinds that can be used for bedding are Master Bankes (lemon yellow), J. V. Macdonald (white), Mrs. J. Scalley (white, edged with blue), Jean D. Cowan (chrome yellow, edged and suffused with mauve), John Adamson (orange), Mrs. W. R. Milligan (white, with a thin wire edge of pale blue) and Peace Fold (creamy white).

POPULAR EXHIBITION VARIETIES.

The following are some of the most popular of the standard exhibition kinds: William Barr (white), Mrs. Andrew Stevenson (yellow, edged with violet mauve), John Adamson (orange), Chriss Littlejohn (white suffused with lilac), Mabel Spencer (white, with blue edge), Mrs. J. Ritchie (white, with faint edge of light blue), Lily Stark (deep violet, with lavender top petals), Kathleen Condry (deep purple), William Gibb (primrose self), Malcolm Milner (deep primrose, edged with blue) and Annie Hamilton (glossy black shading out to lavender).

NEWER VARIETIES AND NOVELTIES.

In the newer introductions that have not yet had time to become very popular, Mrs. William Boyes (lemon yellow, edged with lavender), Jenny Simpson (lemon self), Mary Douglas (cream, edged with mauve), Sheila Mathews (cream suffused with rosy mauve), Smith's Purity (white), Mrs. Adam Young (cream, edged with pale lavender), Rowan Hood (chrome yellow, belted with lavender) and Andrew Jamieson (a fine striped variety) are all promising. The novelties for 1926 include many outstanding sorts. The best are Moseley Ideal (a beautiful canary yellow edged with blue), Mrs. H. J. Milner (a splendid white ground edged with bluish heliotrope), James Sievewright (white, with a distinct band of deep blue), Mrs. A. C. Thomson (cream, with a heavy band of light heliotrope), Jeannie Rutherford (lemon, edged with mauve), Etta Shaw (white, with deep violet band), Mary Watson (cream, edged and suffused with reddish lavender), Helen W. Cochrane (a very notable advance in the white varieties) and Harry McDougall (a beautiful yellow that has long stems).

YORKS.

THE HERBACEOUS BORDER IN SPRING

MARCH is an excellent month—particularly, of course, in the event of a spell of hard-bound winter, or of excessive saturation—for planting such herbaceous plants as could not, for various reasons, be planted in autumn. Indeed, many plants will move with practical certainty of success in March which are by no means safely transplanted in November. Scabiosa caucasica is one among the considerable number of plants which are seldom successful when planted late in autumn, that, in fact, being the principal reason so many people have to confess they have failed to establish this much desired plant, the supplementary reason being that the majority of people will crave for "strong clumps," and the scabious is one of those hard, woody rooted, yet sappy plants which move very badly when once they have firmly established themselves. Quite young plants, either propagated from crown cuttings or from seed, will go ahead comfortably when planted in March.

A PLEASANT ASSOCIATION OF BLUE DELPHINIUMS AND PINK ROSES.

Alstrœmerias ought never to be disturbed in autumn; at the best they are extremely impatient of root disturbance and the two surest methods of establishing a good bed are by sowing new seed very thinly on the site which is to be their permanent bed (and, of course, thoroughly well prepared by extra deep digging), or by planting young stock which has been grown for one season from seed in pots. These plants may be put out in March and a very good method, if the natural soil inclines to heaviness, is to dig out holes 18ins. deep, having first double-trenched the whole area, place 6ins. or 8ins. of rough, gritty compost, burnt earth, etc., in the bottom of the hole, then place the pot-ball unbroken upon this compost and surround and cover it with a mixture of light loam, leaf-mould and sand. Alstrœmerias are better allocated to a bed by themselves or to a corner of the border where they are not brought in close contact with surrounding plants. They should be looked upon as a permanent feature and if occupying the middle part of a mixed border they will either encroach upon other plants or suffer during necessary periodical renovations.

Lupins and delphiniums both transplant so well in March that it should be the recognised month for the task. When one is planting fresh stock from the nursery the plants are usually small enough to go into the ground as they are, but where one's own stock undergoes a triennial upheaval, and neither lupins nor delphiniums should spend longer than their third season undisturbed, transplanting must be rather an elaborate business if the finest results are to be secured.

Let it, in the first place, be understood that in lifting either of these subjects it is the tips of the smallest young roots that will be of greatest service in re-establishing the plants. It is folly, therefore, to wrench the plants from the ground, levering them out by pressure on the handle of a fork or spade; by such means the really valuable portion of the roots will be torn away. Dig well round and carefully lift the clump. The next step is to remove soil from the roots with the aid of a pointed stick, until the junctions of main roots, with the solid root stock, can be discerned. The plant is then ready for division. The object should be as nearly as possible to separate individual crowns with a fair proportion of healthy young roots attached. This may sound quite simple, but the unpractised hand will find it is terribly easy to break away the majority of the good crowns with little or no root, and ultimately to leave the great mass of roots united but almost destitute of crowns. The beginner will be well advised to try his hand first on a few common old plants and should certainly master the task before mutilating a Millicent Blackmore delphinium or a Goldcrest lupin. I have found the best implements for dividing big clumps to be a couple of chisels of good length and strength and with good handles. One may usually find a spot where the clump may be laid upon its side without breaking

Digitized by Google

crowns, and in such a position that the two chisels may be placed close together midway between principal crowns. With careful pressure the chisels are driven through the trunk or main body of the root stock, and then by very gently levering the handles in opposite directions the clump is split in two comparatively even pieces. Examination will now show where the next divisions may be made, using a strong knife in such a way that the crown remains at the top of a substantial piece of root stock, with as much fibre as possible attached thereto. Do not leave badly torn pieces of root stock untrimmed. Dust over all torn or cut surfaces with finely powdered charcoal and the pieces are ready for planting. Make holes large enough to let the roots comfortably into the ground, that the base of the young shoots is about level with, but certainly not above, the normal level of the ground. Spread the young roots out in a natural manner and let some fine soil trickle among them. Pack well round the crown of the plant and if the natural soil is heavy, use a lighter, gritty mixture close around the roots. Lupin roots should be covered with a white, slimy-looking substance and have numerous little pea-like nodules attached to the roots. Many inexperienced gardeners imagine this to be some fungus or disease and endeavour to remove it, but this is wrong; the apparent disfigurement is natural to lupins and other leguminous plants and must be allowed to remain.

It is unwise to disturb growing bulbs in borders at this season; but all the summer and autumn flowering perennials, such as phloxes, heleniums, erigerons, Michaelmas daisies and many other kinds, will repay overhauling. Any plant which makes a lot of separate crowns with a direct attachment of young roots will yield the best results if pulled apart and replanted singly, distributing the pieces evenly over an allotted area instead of placing three or four dense clumps at 2ft. apart as is so frequently advised. Rhizomatous plants, such as aconitum, liatris, doronicum and polygonatum should not be planted deeply; let the rhizome be close to the surface, and when planting is completed, mulch with about an inch of sifted, gritty compost which rains will wash into the little cavities and crevices which settlement is bound to cause.

Old stools of aquilegias, hollyhocks, verbascums, Gypsophila paniculata, eryngiums, echinops and Coreopsis grandiflora, are not really worth transplanting. One year old seedlings are always more satisfactory, but the sterile hybrids of perennial verbascums and the echinops, as well as eryngiums, should be propagated from root cuttings.

Kniphofias transplant better now than at any other time and the pampas grass, the asphodels, anthericums, incarvilleas, platycodons, Asclepias tuberosa, Dictamnus fraxinella, Baptisia australis, Thalictrum dipterocarpum and Romneya Coulteri all take kindly to fresh quarters when planted during this month, which gives them time to lay hold of the soil before the possibility of a spell of drought such as we frequently experience when spring is merging into summer. A. J. MACSELF.

SHRUBS FOR WALLS

BY W. J. BEAN.

(Continued from page 155.)

THE splendid evergreen, BERBERIDOPSIS CORALLINA, with its leathery, dark green, toothed leaves up to 4ins. long, and its long, pendent racemes of rich blood-red flowers, is one of the most beautiful climbers in cultivation. It is undoubtedly better suited (like so many Chilean plants) for the soft, south-western counties than it is for our average climate, where, nevertheless, it can be grown on a sheltered wall; not, however, exposed to full sunshine. It might even be tried on a north, or preferably north-west, wall and given some protection during very severe weather by means of a glass light if possible. As far north as Northumberland it has been successfully cultivated in this way. Failing a glass covering, one of light canvas might be used. It flowers from July onwards. When it has filled its allotted space it may grow in a tangle, reducing it only when it gets too heavy.

BERBERIS.—Two species belonging to the mahonia section of this genus are sometimes grown on walls. They are B. Fremontii and B. trifoliolata, both from the south-western United States and both with vividly glaucous foliage. The former has five or seven leaflets to each leaf, the latter as its name implies, only three. Both have yellow flowers and black fruits covered with a blue bloom. They must have as sunny a position as possible and are rather for lovers of rarities than for general cultivation.

BIGELOVIA GRAVEOLENS.—An interesting shrubby composite from western North America, growing 6ft. to 8ft. high on a wall; it has grey young shoots and very narrow leaves 2ins. or 3ins. long. The flowers are bright yellow, densely clustered at the ends of the current season's shoots, and open in September and October. It likes a sunny wall, but has succeeded very well at Kew on one with an eastern exposure.

BILLARDIERA LONGIFLORA.—This charming evergreen climber, with its slender stems, its narrow dark green leaves, its yellowish flowers and its rich blue fruits, is becoming better known and has several times lately been shown at Vincent Square. Probably it grows taller, but I do not remember to have seen it more than 4ft. to 5ft. high out of doors. It is, at any rate, suitable for furnishing a vacant spot at the base of a warm wall, where it may grow in a sort of tangle with little pruning. Tasmania.

BUDDLEIA COLVILEI.—So far as its individual flowers are concerned, this is the finest of all the buddleias, each one being nearly 1in. long and as much wide, of a lovely shade of rose (in one form crimson) and borne in pendent panicles 6ins. or 8ins. long. A vigorous grower, it is suitable for a lofty wall. Himalaya.

BUPLEURUM FRUTICOSUM.—Of interest as being the only shrubby umbellifer we can grow out of doors, this is not without beauty either. It has long been grown on the old walls at Kew, where it is 10ft. high. Its blue-green leaves, rather like those of a large-leaved spurge, and its small yellow flowers in umbels 3ins. or 4ins. wide, make an effective contrast from July onwards.

BURSARIA SPINOSA.—In Mr. P. D. Williams' delightful garden at Lanarth in Cornwall this is a very elegant small tree, being perhaps 15ft. high, but farther north we have to grow it as a wall shrub. It is an evergreen from New South Wales and Tasmania, with small, very abundant leaves and small white fragrant flowers borne in great profusion. It has a second season of beauty when the small reddish fruits develop, each one shaped like that of the common shepherd's purse. It used to be very attractive at both seasons on a wall in Canon Ellacombe's garden at Bitton, near Bath. It is figured in THE GARDEN, October 11th, 1919, page 483.

CÆSALPINIA.—Nearly one hundred years ago C. Gilliesii was introduced from the Argentine, yet it still remains very scarce. It has doubly pinnate leaves like those of the small-leaved "mimosa," but green, not glaucous, and erect racemes carrying thirty to forty flowers that open successively, each with a rather cup-shaped corolla of yellow petals from the centre of which rises a cluster of scarlet stamens each 2ins. to 3ins. long—a brilliant combination. It is grown on the south side of No. 1 Museum at Kew and, being a tall grower, is suitable for a narrow space between windows. It must have full sunshine. Sir Herbert Maxwell told me a few years ago it succeeds splendidly in Spain. He saw it there in a deserted Andalusian garden in full flower—"a magnificent piece of firework." There, of course, it gets the sunshine it loves.

The other cæsalpinia, C. japonica, with handsome foliage and fine racemes of bright yellow flowers, is a very handsome shrub, but so thorny and unapproachable that it is unsuitable as a wall plant. It used to thrive on a sheltered sunny slope in the Coombe Wood Nursery, but at Kew we find it scarcely hardy in the full open. It has, however, for many years past, succeeded well in one of the recesses of the wall of the Temperate House facing south-east. It is best in some such place, where one can leave it alone and admire it from a sufficient distance away.

Digitized by Google

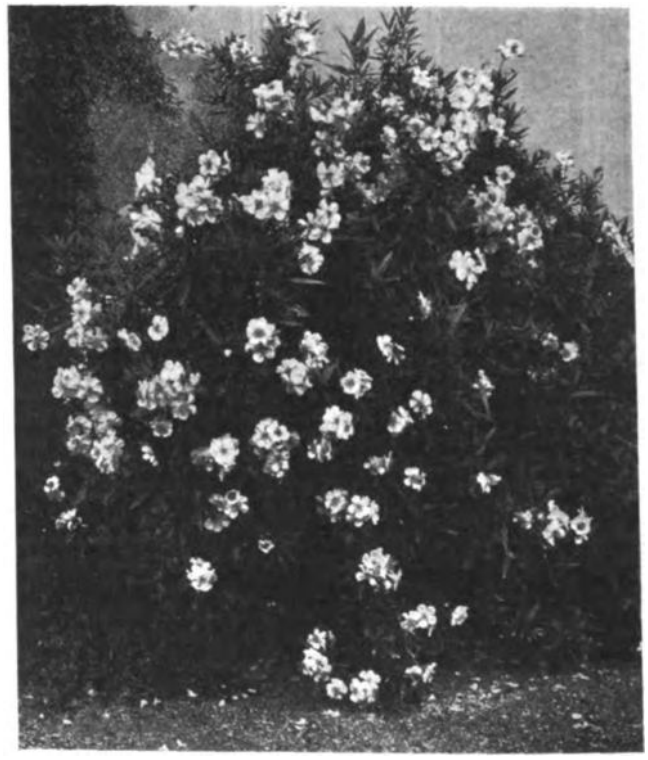
CAMELLIA.—I think the forms of C. japonica are well worth trying against a north wall. They would not flower so freely as in a sunnier place, but they do flower quite well in partial shade, and in any case would make a fine furnishing of glittering dark green foliage. C. Sasanqua would also be worth trying.

CARPENTERIA CALIFORNICA.—This charming evergreen, with its narrow, bright green leaves and clusters of pure white, fragrant flowers, each 2ins. to 3ins. wide is one of those shrubs which succeed at the base of a sunny wall, enjoying its protection without being actually trained upon it.

CEANOTHUS.—The ceanothuses possess an almost unique value as wall shrubs on account of their blue flowers. One may find a few others perhaps of that colour, but none capable of producing such gorgeous effects as they do. Coming from California, as the best blue-flowered ones do, they enjoy all the sunlight they can get in this country. Therefore a south wall is to be preferred for them, but, failing that, they may be given places on those facing east or west. The kinds most to be recommended are rigidus, dentatus, papillosus, floribundus, Lobbii and Veitchianus, all of which are evergreen and have blue flowers. The last three are natural hybrids, not very dissimilar, so one of them may suffice. Veitchianus is perhaps the hardiest of the three, and thirty miles or so south of London begins to be hardy in the open ground. It gives a wonderful display in Mr. L. de Rothschild's garden at Exbury. The typical C. thyrsiflorus is perfectly hardy at Kew with no protection at all, but its variety griseus, with larger leaves and pale grey-blue flowers, needs a wall, making there a very attractive display in late May and June. For those who like rare shrubs, C. velutinus var. lævigatus may be noticed. It has larger leaves than any other of the cultivated ceanothuses, these being heart-shaped, strongly three-veined, of a blackish varnished green, and up to 3ins. long by 1½ins. wide. The flowers do not open till late autumn and are dullish white.

The variety Gloire de Versailles is well known as, on the whole, about the best of the hardy deciduous ones, giving as it does a continuous display of its richly blue flowers from July to October. It is one of the hardiest of all ceanothuses and, of course, does not need a wall. But, visiting a garden in Suffolk a few years ago in July, I was astonished by seeing there a house-front covered with it from the ground to 12ft. up and producing the most gorgeous mass of blue blossom I ever saw by any wall shrub.

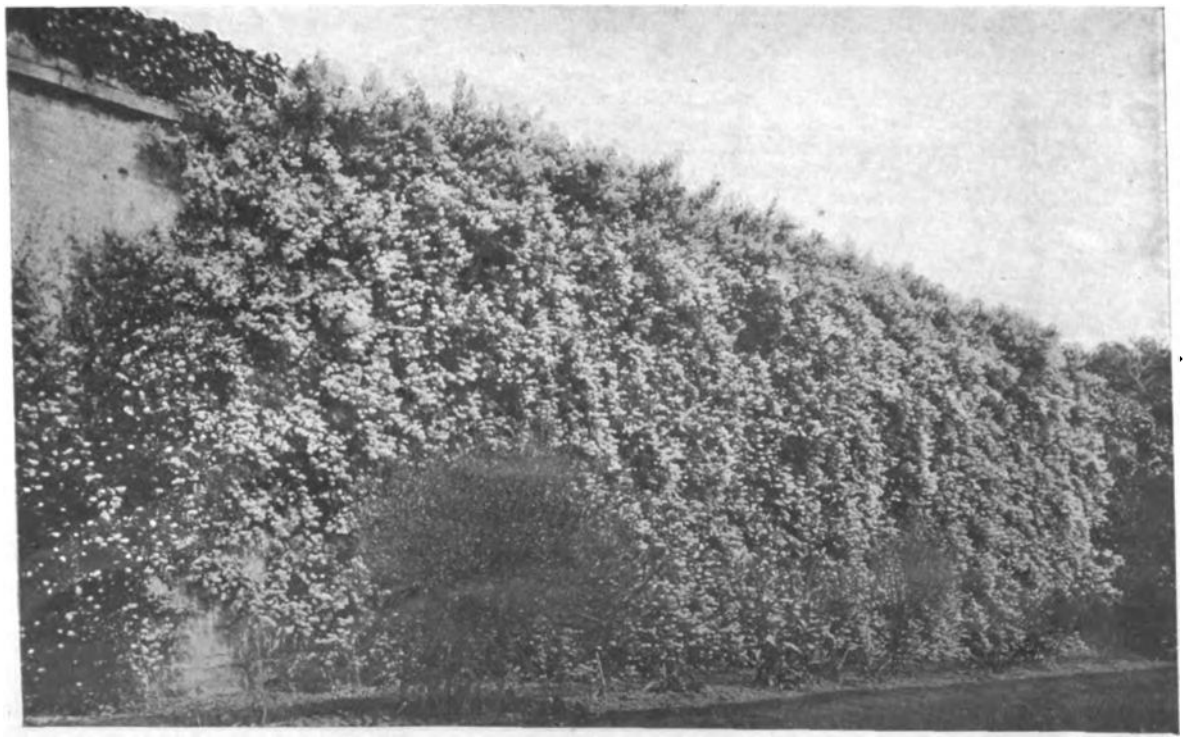
CHIMONANTHUS FRAGRANS.—Although quite hardy, this charming old shrub is often given wall space because it will flower there from December to February, bearing its delightfully fragrant blossoms in abundance. In the typical form they are scarcely 1in. wide, the outer petals greenish yellow, the inner ones purplish; in the variety grandiflorus the flower is of a purer yellow and is half as large again. The shrub is deciduous and should be pruned not later than March.



THE SUN LOVING CARPENTERIA CALIFORNICA.

CLEMATIS.—Being mostly pure climbers, the clematises are not of much use for furnishing walls. They make for the top too quickly, leaving the lower part naked. But where there is plenty of head room, such as is given by the side of a house, rather tender species like C. Armandii may be planted. No species, perhaps, produces so fine an effect on a house front as C. montana, especially if it can be allowed to form heavy masses, the long shoots of the previous season being wreathed from end to end in May with beautiful white blossom. Still, a wall is not essential for it, nor for its rose-coloured var. rubens. Both are hardy, especially the latter, and they can be used to festoon pergolas or allowed to ramble over bushes and trees. The varieties of the Jackmannii group are worth trying on a north wall where, although direct sunlight rarely reaches them, there is plenty of diffused light. I have seen the fine dark one called "Gipsy Queen" flower well in such a position.

(To be continued.)



CEANOTHUS THYRSIFLORUS AT ITS BEST.

Digitized by Google

THE FIFTY BEST SAXIFRAGES

BY DR. R. LLOYD PRAEGER.

RECENTLY (p. 157 *supra*) I reviewed briefly the whole of the extensive tribe of saxifrages to show from what portions of its populous domain we draw the many beautiful plants which adorn our rock gardens, and how our choice is limited in the search for "fifty best." From what was then said it appears that we rely for our material on only seven subdivisions out of fifteen, these seven subdivisions supplying 120 species out of a known total of over 300. Furthermore, taking into consideration the number and garden value of the species and varieties of each section, it will be admitted that our "fifty best" should be made up something like this: Silvers, 14; Kabschias, 20; mossies, 8; others, 8: Total 50. It is wise to over-represent the "others," since all of them differ widely from the mass of silvers, Kabschias and mossies, and thus help materially to give variety to the collection. Now for an attempt at selection.

SILVERS.—The noblest of the silvers is the variable S. Cotyledon, a grand plant, with beautiful foliage and fountains of white flowers, the better part of a yard in height; it shall be represented

A SHEET OF DAZZLING WHITE BETWEEN PATH AND STREAM.
An informal ribbon edging of one of the mossy rock foils.

Digitized by Google

by the fine varieties pyramidalis and caterhamensis. Then the remarkable S. longifolia, with its great leaf-rosettes, must have a place, although it is monocarpic and a little disappointing in flower. The Hostii group must be included, notably the var. altissima, quite a yard in height. Then we can get away from the prevailing white of the flowers of the "silvers" by including the pink cartilaginea var. Kolenatiana. The valuable S. lingulata must not be omitted, and we shall take vars. lantoscana and Albertii as being about the best. Neither can S. cochlearis be left out, var. major being given precedence, while instead of var. minor we shall take the minute S. valdensis, as dainty as a tiny Kabschia; but see that you get the right thing, not cochlearis minor, which often masquerades as valdensis. Then the polymorphic S. Aizoon must be included, and by choosing vars. balcana, lutea and rosea we shall get away from the monotony of white blossoms. Finally, we may add two excellent crosses, S. splendens (longifolia × Cotyledon) and S. paradoxa (crustata × Hostii). This selection will give us about the best of the silvers, as well as a wide range as regards size and habit.

KABSCHIAS.—In this group we get a diminished range of form, for all are small and tufted, but a greater variety of colour, since there are plenty of yellows and reds in addition to whites. These are the rock saxifrages *par excellence*, and their close, often tiny tufts are the most charming things imaginable. A few are difficult, and in other cases it is almost impossible to get the true plants, but there remains a large number of charming things from which to make our selection. This group has been hybridised by growers to an excessive extent. Many of these crosses are real good things, but many others are not preferable to their parents, and some of the most high-sounding and unpronounceable names need not be allowed to take us in, for the names are the most striking things about them.

Well, first of all there are four plants which for vigour, ease of cultivation and general satisfactoriness stand in the forefront—apiculata, its var. alba, sancta and Elizabethæ (and, as if to refute what I have just said, all of them but sancta are hybrids). None of the other Kabschias is capable of making a mat the better part of a yard across, nor of existing under such unfavourable conditions as these can. All but the second are yellow, of different shades. Of many other yellows from which we may choose, perhaps the best, taken all round, are Ferdinandi-Coburgi, the lovely Faldonside, the pale Borisii set off by the vivid Haagii, and the dainty Paulinæ (if you are lucky enough to get the right thing). Then of whites, we must have at least one Burseriana, that best of Kabschias, and a good form of var. major cannot be beaten. S. cæsia is dainty and easy. S. marginata must have a place, say, in its var. Rocheliana; scardica and Petraschii are delightful; and we may close with two tinies, tombeanensis and squarrosa. Of the reds, a very striking group of small rosette-forming plants, Grisebachii and Stribnryi, with their fluffy flower-heads, are representative; and our list must close with the dainty pink Irvingii and the lilac-flowered lilacina—both unique in their coloration.

The MOSSIES need not detain us long. Normally white flowered, the red flowers of moschata atropurpurea gave raisers a chance of which they were not slow to avail themselves, so that now we have a whole range of reds from pink on to deep velvety crimson. And—joy of joys—all are as easy and vigorous as one could desire, and in contrast to the Kabschias, which want all the sun they can get, they rejoice in half-shade. Of the reds, we may select sanguinea superba, Red Hussar and the dainty pink atropurpurea Stormonth's variety (I do not feel sure about the parentage of these, so omit specific names). The original moschata atropurpurea is very dwarf and pleasing. Of the whites, S. Camposii (= Wallacei) must take a high place. Then there are two very fine strong things, trifurcata and its var. ceratophylla, which make grand cushions and have the advantage of coming in when most of the saxifrages are over; and, finally, S. tenella is very dainty and different in appearance from the rest.

MISCELLANEA.—We now come to the fourth and last division of our fifty saxifrages, the miscellaneous plants, drawn from several sections of the genus, which will round off the series, and impart further variety to our selection of silvers, Kabschias and mossies. We may first call on the Robertsonia or London pride group, for these are really lovely plants, though extreme familiarity tends to blind us to their beauty. S. umbrosa primuloides, with its tiny hairy rosettes and pink flowers, is the daintiest of the London prides, and with it we may bracket the boldly toothed form Colvillei. The valuable hybrid Andrewsii will make a good third. The monotypic section Xanthozoon consists of S. aizoides, of which the deep red var. atrorubens is one of the best of saxifrages, and eminently suitable for a damp corner. The section Porphyrion includes three species, of which two, retusa and oppositifolia, are quite essential to our selection. Of the former we take var. grandiflora, which, properly grown, will make a sheet of royal purple in April. It and the little dainty rosy-flowered retusa introduce a welcome change from the whites and yellows which prevail among the saxifrages. The Diptera section also supplies a novelty in the shape of rather large palmate leaves and loose butterfly-like sprays of white flowers with one or two long petals hanging down far beyond the others. We must have S. Fortunei, and we should plant it in a cool, shady spot, for it likes moisture and does not flower till October, when early frosts may injure it. Only one place is now left among our fifty, and it may well go to the tiny S. Brunoniana, with its web of thread-like red stems spreading over the ground—a most dainty and unusual saxifrage.

It has taken us a good while to make our selection of fifty best saxifrages—I hesitate to say *the* fifty best—but there it is for my readers to pull to pieces, and I shall conclude by giving the list in alphabetical order.

Saxifraga aizoides var. atrorubens
Aizoon var. balcana
A. var. lutea
A. var. rosea
Andrewsii
apiculata
a. var. alba
Borisii
Brunoniana
Burseriana var. major
cæsia
Camposii
cartilaginea var. Kolenatiana
cochlearis var. major
Cotyledon var. caterhamensis
C. var. pyramidalis
decipiens var. Red Hussar
d. var. sanguinea superba
Elizabethæ
Faldonside
Ferdinandi-Coburgi
Fortunei
Grisebachii
Haagii
Hostii var. altissima
Irvingii
lingulata var. Albertii
l. var. lantoscana
lilacina
longifolia
marginata var. Rocheliana
moschata var. atropurpurea
m. Stormonth's variety
oppositifolia var. grandiflora
paradoxa
Paulinæ
Petraschii
retusa
sancta
scardica
splendens
squarrosa
Stribnryi
tenella
tombeanensis
trifurcata
t. var. ceratophylla
umbrosa var. Colvillei
u. var. primuloides
valdensis.

CORRESPONDENCE

PRIMULA SUCCESSES AND FAILURES.

SIR,—What I think is so very interesting and makes one wonder, are the reasons for the successes and failures of different people in growing primulas. I should like to add a few notes as I grow various kinds in a stream garden, partially shaded by rhododendrons and oaks.

P. chionantha, I find, requires a piece of glass over it in winter as the plants without it all rotted. P. Palinuri was also glassed over as I have it on the level, elevated above the bog. It is now in flower, with the glass removed. I found that taking up and dividing P. secundiflora after flowering seemed to save it from rotting. P. lichiangensis died this winter, largely through my own fault. It needs glass in a damp garden. P. Loczii is quite hardy if in a suitable position. It must have peat, leaf-mould and sand and a moist position. It is an attractive little primula just coming into flower now.

P. anisidora seems quite hardy, likes rich potting soil and an open position. P. Littoniana does not like much sun, it prefers a cool, peaty shady position.

I find P. sikkimensis longer lived on a sloping rather than flat bog. I lost several plants of P. frondosa last autumn by rotting. I promptly put glass over the rest and saved them.

P. Giraldiana seems impossible. It rots at once after flowering. P. helodoxa likes light rich soil and a cool position; it is very easy. P. luteola is a delightful plant with its mop of yellow flowers; it likes deep, rich, light soil, a cool position, but not wet; it is quite hardy.

The severe winter was too much for P. Poissoni. It was growing in wet bog and held out for a long time, but finally succumbed. I shall grow it again and protect it in winter.

I find P. deorum perfectly hardy and have it on the edge of the pond and on an elevated position above the bog, both doing well. It appears to me that the critical time for many primulas is after flowering, say August or September, when they want to ripen their leaves and form crowns for the next year,

Digitized by Google

and if one puts glass over them at this time they are saved from rotting.

Two primulas that do not mind being submerged by winter floods are P. pulverulenta and P. cashmeriana. The thermometer registered zero once by the stream this winter and we had 15ins. of snow.—D. D. V., *Newbury*.

VARIETIES OF GREENHOUSE PRIMULAS.

SIR,—Although there is a large number of primulas to select from, in all probability the P. stellata varieties are the most popular. The plants are vigorous, light and graceful, and their flowering is spread over a fairly long period. Three varieties are illustrated from plants grown at Castleford, Chepstow. Reading from left to right, they are Ruby, a richly coloured primula; Light Blue, with fairly large porcelain blue flowers; and Coral Pink, a pretty shade of creamy pink, and it is one of the best primulas in commerce. Other good forms embrace Silver Star, a pure white variety; Vesuvius, a brilliant crimson; and Symmetry, a rich rose pink and an exceptionally strong grower. All the above are Messrs. Sutton's varieties, and the plants in the illustration were grown from their seeds. There is also a fine selection of P. sinensis, such as The Duchess, Coral Pink, blue, and white. For those who can handle P. obconica, a good mixed strain is very profitable; there are also some distinct varieties of this fine primula. The exquisite P. malacoides must not be forgotten, or the beautiful yellow P. kewensis. Many of the hardy primulas make excellent cool greenhouse subjects. An additional charm of greenhouse primulas is the foliage and the striking colour of the leaf stalks and flower stems.—T. W. B.

HARDINESS OF SHRUBS.

SIR,—Some of the recent notes on the hardiness of shrubs, flowering and evergreen, have been most interesting.

Last week a Somerset correspondent wrote that in the north of that county Garrya elliptica and Desfontainea spinosa suffered at times. I have known those come through quite bad weather in the south of Forfarshire. It is true they were planted against a wall within 500yds. of high tide and about 100ft. above sea level. The bush of Garrya elliptica must now be more than sixty-five years old, but the other plant had to be renewed more than once. In the same garden I grew and flowered Notospartium Carmichaeliæ and Olearia macrodonta.

Here, where the conditions are less favourable, as I am six miles from the sea, with an intervening ridge of low hills, the frost is much more intense, but this winter I have been astonished at the way some plants have escaped injury and am comparing my experience with the article by "A. T. H." in THE GARDEN of February 27th, page 126.

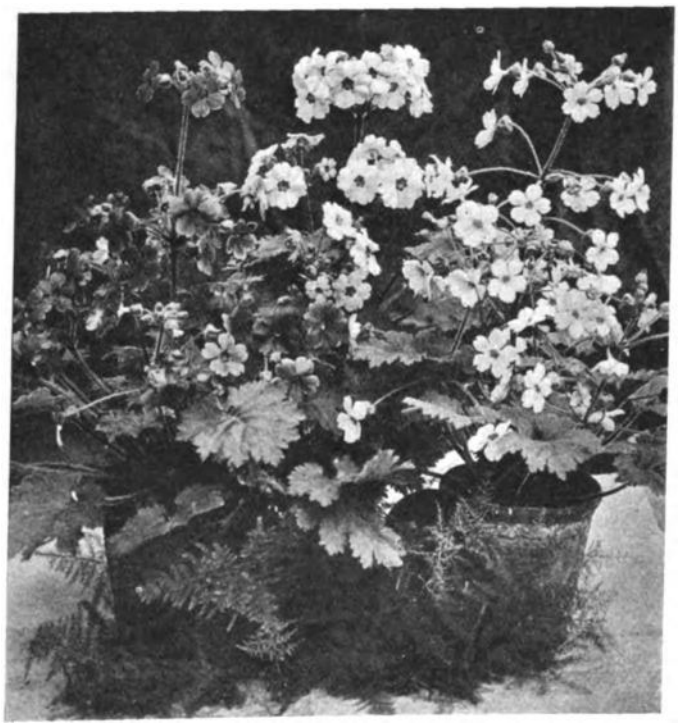
Choisya ternata, Escallonia macrantha, Notospartium Carmichaeliæ, Buddleia alternifolia, and the common rosemary, all growing on or near walls, have escaped injury. The common myrtle, however, has been badly scorched, but is not dead. Lonicera nitida has been grown here in an exposed position for twelve years and I have it growing as a hedge as well.

The immunity to frost damage this winter is due to the weather, a comparatively dry October, frost beginning about November 8th, never very severe until just at the end of December (26th), when the minimum fell to 7 degrees F.—25 degrees of frost! The severe frost was accompanied by dry, light snow, which itself was a great protection. Had the autumn been wet and the frost severe to begin with, the result would have been different.

I can just manage Olearia Haastii here; it gets cut to the ground occasionally, but pushes away again from the root, provided there is no peat in the soil where it is planted. —WILLIAM LOW, *Montrose*.

ROSE ZEPHIRINE DROUHIN.

SIR,—I was much interested in Mrs. E. H. Palmer's account, in THE GARDEN of February 20th, of the Rose Zéphirine Drouhin. I have grown it for years and am also surprised that so few people know it. I have four large plants each in a different situation and all doing equally well. There is just one further attraction which might be added to the list with which Mrs. Palmer so justly endows it. Although quite a good



PRIMULA STELLATA AND ITS VARIETIES.

pink by daylight, by artificial light (at all events by lamplight, which I have in my old-fashioned house), the colour becomes almost startling in its brilliant vividness. It has then a living, glowing quality which makes it quite unique.

The foliage with me is almost evergreen and the bushes look well all the winter.—MRS. R. E. VERNEDE, *Standon, Herts*.

THE HARESFOOT FERN.

SIR,—I think it may interest your readers to have an account of a fine specimen of the Haresfoot fern, Davallia canariensis, which has been in the possession of our family between forty and fifty years. My late mother-in-law's gardener remembers it as a small plant in a 7in. pot, in the summer of 1882. About the next spring he potted it on into a 10in. pot, and it was not potted afterwards. It did so well that in the summer of 1896, when it was photographed, it was about 20ft. in circumference. The old fronds were (and still are), cut off annually, when the new fronds began to show in the spring. It was then given a sprinkling of Clay's Fertiliser, worked in among the "feet" and fed regularly with liquid manure about twice a week, till it had finished its growth. The fern remained in the same pot, which was almost hidden from sight, until about eight years ago, when it fell off the pot, having quite outgrown it. Being of such bulk it was impossible to re-pot it, but since then the fern has continued to live quite happily, resting on a pot, living without soil, simply depending on water and chemical manure. I regret that I am unable to send a photograph of this fine plant, which appears to be still in good health, though it is not so large as it was ten years ago.—ANNIE C. BULLEY, *Painswick, Glos.*

SHRUBBY VERONICAS AND FROST.

SIR,—I was much interested in the note by E. Brown of Sittingbourne, Kent, in your issue of February 27th, on "Shrubby Veronicas and Frost."

In this part of the country we have had a very hard winter, with severe frosts, in spite of which I find that none of my shrubby veronicas has suffered at all. I have been growing the following dwarf varieties, and find they have come unscathed through the last three winters with all their variations of rain and cold: VV. salicornoides, cupressoides, buxifolia, Hectori, decumbens and pinguifolia. My soil is very sandy, and the veronicas are planted in the rock garden, and are exposed to all the winds of a very stormy neighbourhood. In spite of our position on the east coast of Scotland, I find various so-called half-hardy plants are thoroughly at home, such as Cistus cobariensis, Helichrysum bellidioides, Bellis coerulescens rotundifolia and Nierembergia rivularis; and, while the following three may suffer a little from the frost, they all come up freely from the root: Antirrhinum Asarina, Abronia arenaria and Æthionema cordifolia.

We have a drier climate than many parts of the country; to which (and my sandy soil) I always attribute the hardiness of various species which suffer more in the milder, damper winters of the west coast.—M. FORREST MILL, *Montrose, Scotland*.

PLANTING SEEDS.

SIR,—Mr. J. R. Matthews' article and accompanying illustrations in THE GARDEN of February 27th in relation to the planting of large seeds is very interesting and descriptive of what takes place on the germination of seed and the commencement of growth.

He asks other readers to give the results of their observations and experience in that direction.

For my own part, I really could not go into any scientific detail on the germination of the various kinds of seeds which I have noticed, apart from those Mr. Matthews has mentioned, such as beans, etc. It is well known to most cultivators, however, that the seeds of melons, cucumbers and marrows give a higher percentage of plants and better results if these large, flat, thin seeds are placed in the soil with the thin side or end down, than they would if placed on their flat side.

The large flat seeds of Grevillea robusta form another example of where a much higher percentage of plants is obtained if the seeds are placed on edge before covering with soil.—WM. GRANT, *Crathes, Kincardineshire, N.B.*

Digitized by Google

NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE AMAZON LILY.

(EUCHARIS AMAZONICA GRANDIFLORA.)

THIS is a charming greenhouse plant and is extremely useful, for it blooms at a time of year when flowers are scarce, and, furthermore, its beautiful pure white waxy flowers are appreciated for decoration. It has a peculiar habit of growth, for it may receive the same kind of treatment at two different establishments and will probably flourish luxuriantly at one place, while at the other it is a failure. One reason for this is that the bulbs are liable to be attacked by eucharis mite, and although certain preventive measures, such as an application of lime and soot in equal parts occasionally, may help to check the pest somewhat, it certainly does not cure, and in the long run the only remedy to prevent the pest from spreading is to burn all bulbs affected. When an abundant supply of heat is available, propagation may be done at any time, but as a rule it is advisable to wait until after the flowering period is over and the plants have been given a short period of rest. Old plants should be turned out of their pots and the bulbs carefully separated, the largest being selected for repotting. The small bulbs may be grown in 6in. pots into flowering-size bulbs for another season. A suitable compost should be made up as follows: Two parts fibrous loam broken up into pieces about the size of a hen's egg, one part leaf-soil, one part dried cow manure and sufficient sand to make the whole porous. Into 10in. pots a plentiful supply of drainage should be put, for the plant is a moisture-loving subject and good drainage is essential for good culture. Fill up the pots with two-thirds of compost and work it down moderately firm before setting the bulbs. The bulbs should be set about 3ins. apart and about five bulbs to each pot will be sufficient. In potting, ample room should be allowed for watering. After potting, remove the pots to a greenhouse where a bottom heat of 80° is maintained. This will greatly assist in speeding up the root action so that the plants will quickly become established. Careful watering is necessary at all times. The plants will only need keeping just nicely moist until the flowering period starts, when an abundance of water must be given regularly, also an occasional syringing will prove beneficial. To induce the plant to flower at any particular time the temperature must be reduced. A temperature of about 65° should be aimed at during the flowering period. Established plants will flower in the same pots for four or five years without being interfered with and, as a matter of fact, the less the roots are disturbed the better, but a top-dressing should be given them every year.—G. BARTON.

DAFFODILS AT THE NEW YORK BOTANIC GARDEN.

THE recent ruling of the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States, not to postpone the embargo on narcissi, has shown that the decision of Mr. Nathaniel L. Britton, Director of the New York Botanic Garden, to make a considerable planting of these bulbs in a location and manner which would show their beauty and effectiveness to the large numbers of people who visit the Gardens in the early spring, was a wise one. About forty-eight thousand bulbs in a large number of varieties were put in during the autumn of 1924 in a portion of the grounds eminently suited for such a collection and where there were already growing some thousands of large trumpet varieties. During the blooming season of 1925 the display was so successful that it was decided to add to the planting, and thirteen thousand additional bulbs were obtained and put in. The site chosen is adjacent to the original collection and follows both sides of a drive-way all the way out to an entrance to the Gardens. The daffodils have been "naturalised," so that the effect will not be stiff, and strong spots of yellow have been concentrated where they will attract the attention of passing motor cars on two main highways just outside the grounds.—ETHEL ANSON PECKHAM, *New Rochelle, N.Y.*

A SPRINGTIME DISPLAY IN THE NEW YORK BOTANIC GARDEN.

IPOMŒA RUBRO-CŒRULEA HEAVENLY BLUE.

THIS fine plant is closely associated with the convolvulus or bindweed family, and if a free-flowering strain of the variety Heavenly Blue is procured, good flowering examples can be had in three or four months from sowing the seed. It is a plant that is highly prized on account of its pure sky blue convolvulus blooms, which open in the morning, when a well flowered plant is a sight to behold. No written description or photograph can do it justice, and it has received the popular and suitable sobriquet of Morning Glory.

For several years I was greatly disappointed with the results attained in its cultivation. Seeds were bought from several reliable firms, and they germinated freely and grew like weeds, but no flowers appeared. After making enquiries, I found that in all probability Ipomœa Learii was doing duty for the subject of this note.

A few years ago, however, at the Chelsea Show, a kind friend gave me a plant of the true Heavenly Blue variety, and since then I have saved my own seed, with excellent results. It would be interesting to know if any reader still receives the non-flowering form, because I have every reason to believe that several firms now sell seeds of the right variety, usually under the name of I. rubro-cœrulea Heavenly Blue early-flowering.

Seeds should be sown now, and for succession a few more could be planted two months hence. It can also be increased by cuttings. Seeds will germinate in a temperature of 60°, but care must be taken to prevent the soil becoming wet, or many of the seeds will decay. Being a climber, suitable positions must be chosen for the plant to display its full beauty, and any greenhouse, warm or cool, will suit it; while a few plants could be tried outside in warm, sunny situations. The end of a greenhouse is a good place, and it can also be trained to pillars or on the roof, but if the latter is chosen the house should be a low one, so that the flowers could be seen from the outside. When trained to the roof of high structures, most of the exquisite beauty is lost, as the flowers open towards the light. They are very effective when trained as balloons, and the thoughtful grower will fine many corners where plants will ornament an otherwise bare place during the summer months. It should be treated as a greenhouse annual, and pots 6ins. and 8ins. in diameter will suit them admirably. Give them a generous rooting medium, and, when the receptacles are filled with roots, a weekly application of fertiliser or liquid manure will prolong the flowering period. Use the syringe occasionally to keep down red spider.

All this beautiful greenhouse annual requires is a few twigs or string to which it can cling, and a liberal diet. It is said that good wine needs no bush; but to those who have never grown it, my advice is, give it a trial.—T. W. BRISCOE.

ZAUSCHNERIA CALIFORNICA.

THIS plant is a native of California and Mexico, and is known as the Californian fuchsia and humming-bird's trumpet. It grows from 12ins. to 18ins. high, has small rather hairy leaves, and loose spikes of bright vermilion flowers which are produced during the late summer and autumn. It is a showy, hardy plant that will thrive in any good soil rather on the light side, and is well adapted for an open position on the rock garden, flowering at a period when the majority of plants are past their best.

The growths die down for the winter, when a light top-dressing of leaf-mould is beneficial. Old plants can be lifted and divided in the spring, and the stock may also be increased by cuttings of the young side shoots in September.

Perhaps in cold parts of the country it may be advisable to propagate a few plants annually and winter them in a cool greenhouse or frame, transferring them to their flowering quarters in the spring.

I have met with two varieties of Z. californica, *viz.*, mexicana and splendens, but they are little improvements on the type.—T. B., *Glos.*

Digitized by Google

FREE
Personal Delivery
of the
ATCO
MOTOR MOWER

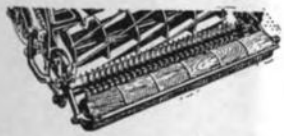
Every ATCO Motor Mower is delivered by our own Demonstrator, whose duty it is to ensure that the owner and user are fully conversant with its operation. This free delivery, demonstration and instruction is a part of the ATCO Service designed to ensure that every ATCO Mower gives the maximum of economical service. There are ATCO Models for every kind of lawn, ranging in size from 14 to 30 inches at

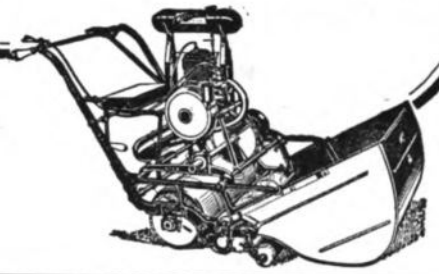
Prices from 30 Guineas.

Ask any of its 10,000 users their opinion of the ATCO Motor Mower.

Write to-day for 1926 Illustrated Art Catalogue of ATCO Turf Culture Specialities giving full information—It will be sent post free.

CHAS. H. PUGH, LIMITED,
Whitworth Works, 31, Tilton Road, Birmingham,





The ATCO Turf Cultivator (illustrated), made exclusively for use with the ATCO Motor Mower, refreshes the turf, aerates the roots, eliminates weeds and moss, and maintains the good condition of the grass. Ask for particulars.

RELIEF FROM GARDEN PESTS

HAPPY is the gardener who uses Katakilla—the non-poisonous guardian of his crops from the eternal attack of devastating pests.

The Green-fly, the Apple Sucker, the Caterpillar, all succumb to

KATAKILLA
(The Perfect Insecticide)

In its astounding efficiency is a magic that destroys insect pests, enhances growth and preserves beauty.

Cartons (for 10 gallons wash) 2/-
Cartons (for 50 gallons wash) 6/-

Of all Agents

Cooper, McDougall & Robertson, Ltd.,
BERKHAMSTED,
Herts.

Food for your Garden

Your flowers, fruit, vegetables and turf must have an adequate supply of plant food.

Make sure of satisfaction and a good return for your money and labour by feeding your garden well and with the best

NORCO
COMPLETE FERTILISERS

THE PERFECT GARDEN FOOD

Which supplies the essential constituents contained in stable manure, but in a far richer and more convenient form.

PRICES (Bags Free and Carriage Paid):—

	7 lbs.	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	112 lbs.
"NORCO" Complete Garden Fertiliser (For Flowers, Fruit and Vegetables)	2/6	4/3	7/3	12/6	23/-
"NORCO" Complete Lawn & Turf Fertiliser	2/4	4/-	6/9	11/9	22/-
"NORCO" Complete Potato Fertiliser	2/6	4/3	7/3	12/6	23/-

Send for free Booklet on the use of Lime, Stable Manure and Chemical Fertilisers.

"NORCO" (Regd.) is obtainable only direct from the Sole Manufacturers:—

CHARLES NORRINGTON & CO., LTD.
Cattedown, PLYMOUTH.

Makers of High Grade Fertilisers since 1846. No. 4

Digitized by Google

Glass House Building

THE building and designing of Glass Houses is a highly specialised work—that is, if the structure is to be correctly designed and built to last.

In dealing with the firm of Duncan Tucker & Sons, Ltd., you are obtaining the combined experience of many years devoted exclusively to the erection of every form of Glass House ranging from the modest "Lean-to" to the expansive Winter Garden.

Whether your enquiry is for renovating an existing Glass House or designing a new one you will receive the same courteous and prompt attention.

IF you are contemplating the erection of a Glass House we should be glad to send you interesting and helpful literature to aid you in your choice of a suitable structure.

Wm. Duncan Tucker & Sons Ltd.
ESTABLISHED-1830
TOTTENHAM. N.15.

Gilbert Ad. 2548

What users are saying about The J·P SUPER

ALL UNSOLICITED.

From a Lawn Owner: "It is the easiest machine to work devised and renders a petrol-driven motor a superfluity."

From a Lawn Owner: "No effort is required to push the machine, which is a 16-inch."

From a Lawn Owner: "In addition to saving a man, our lawns are kept much nicer than ever before at much less cost."

From a Golf Club Secretary: "I would like to register my admiration of your Mower and gratitude for at last producing something so infinitely superior to the plumber's jobs' in mowing machines that we have had to suffer from so long."

From a Golf Club Secretary: "The Greenkeeper tells me it is easier, quicker and more thorough than any he has ever seen, and hopes he may never have to revert to the old type."

From a Gardener: "It is the most marvellous machine I have had anything to do with, and have used all the best makes in my time."

"It is so simple to adjust, easy running and best all-round cutting machine I know of. It is all you claim it to be."

free

Send for booklet describing unique patented features and ask for a demonstration.

Sole Makers:
J.P. SUPER LAWNMOWERS LTD.
Meynell Road,
LEICESTER.

Digitized by Google

THE CURIOUSLY FORMED FLOWERS OF THE CALIFORNIAN PITCHER PLANT.

AN INTERESTING BOG PLANT.

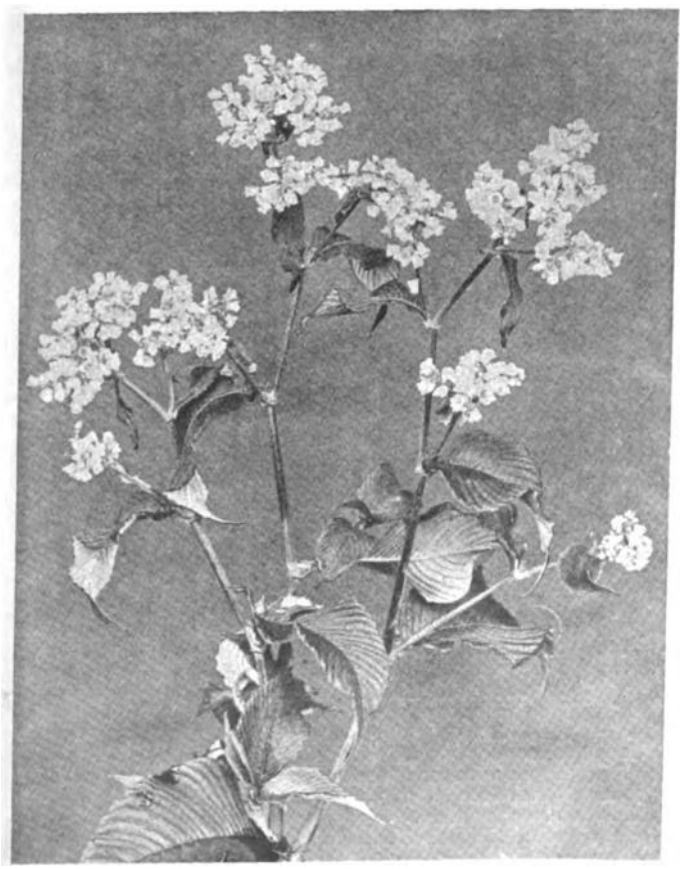
THE Californian pitcher plant (Darlingtonia californica), is one of the most interesting of the insectivorous species. The leaves, which rise to the height of 2ft. or more, are hollow and terminate in a curiously shaped hood from which hang two appendages. Most of the leaf is bright green, but, when mature, the hood assumes a red colour, relieved by semi-transparent areas. The darlingtonia, which is a native of the high bog tracts in the mountains of California, makes a most interesting plant for a sheltered bog garden. With care it is often less trouble to manage out of doors than under glass. An ideal situation is in a moderately wet bog where the soil is a mixture of fibrous peat and sphagnum moss. It is important that the plants be fully exposed to direct sunlight, but some protection should be given against the cold winds of the spring, at which season the darlingtonia is developing its leaves. If there is the least tendency on the part of the bog to become dry during the summer, frequent waterings are essential. Most of the best darlingtonias in the open are those which have been planted in close proximity to a pool or a stream where there is no fear of water shortage. When the darlingtonia is well established it produces numerous side shoots and these, if taken away and potted, soon make good plants. Raising the plants from seed is a most tedious business, as in the first few years the seedlings develop very slowly. The flowers of the darlingtonia, which are borne in April, are yellow in colour and extremely curious in their formation.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

GENISTAS.

OF shrubs that bring beauty and sweetness in their train in the greenhouse in the early days of spring, few can rival genistas, with their prodigality of yellow blossoms, almost reminding one of the pungency of an aloysia (lemon-scented verbena). Grown from cuttings taken with a "heel" and inserted in pans of sandy loam after plants have flowered, they soon develop into bushy little specimens and can be finally potted into 5in. or 6in. pots. Young plants furnish the finest spikes, but older plants need not of necessity be despised. The latter, however, if left too long in the same pot become impoverished at the roots; but root starvation may be obviated by taking away some of the old material and substituting a mixture of old turf and leaf-mould, with a little coarse silver sand. It will be within the recollection, doubtless, of not a few readers that genistas are hardy in many parts of the country, in Devonshire and Somerset, for instance. My mind reverts to a garden in north Wales where, near the doorway, two huge bushes have filled the air with fragrance in summer, these many years, and one wonders how these old stalwarts have fared during the severe weather we have experienced. There used to be some in the Conway Valley; perhaps Mr. A. T. Johnson could say whether these deserving shrubs have escaped in the arctic conditions they have had to contend with.—W. LINDERS LEA.

POLYGONUM CAMPANULATUM.

THIS attractive plant is a fine subject for the herbaceous border, being of special value because of its late flowering period. Of free growing habit, it forms a bushy plant from 2ft. to 3ft. in height, composed of numerous much-branched shoots. Its leaves are also very attractive and of varying shape, being either ovate, elliptical or lanceolate, and of a rich green colour, the under sides being thickly clothed with brown hairs. Its flowers are very profusely borne on terminal clusters, and are usually pale pink in colour, though sometimes of a considerable deeper shade, being produced throughout September and October. An introduction from the Himalaya, it is quite hardy and free-growing, thriving in any average garden soil.—A. G. F.



POLYGONUM CAMPANULATUM, AN ATTRACTIVE SUBJECT FOR THE HERBACEOUS BORDER.

AN UNUSUAL FERN FOR A HANGING BASKET.

PLATYCERIUM ALCICORNE.

THE platyceriums are epiphytic ferns, usually attaining a large size. Five or six species are in cultivation, the most widely grown being, probably, P. grande and P. alcicorne. Peculiar to this genus is the production of two kinds of leaves. In the subject of this note the fertile leaves are erect and narrow, forking at the tip into two or three lobes, on the under sides of which the sporangia are borne in dense, irregular masses. These leaves are of a bright, rich green colour above, and covered beneath by a soft, white felt. The sterile leaves cling to the object which affords the plant support. When young they are pale green and downy, later becoming stiff and brown. Near their bases they are rather fleshy and probably serve as water-storage organs; when decayed they supply a certain amount of humus to meet the future needs of the plant. The specimen shown in the illustration is a young plant growing in a hanging wooden basket on a block of fibrous peat, through which its roots penetrate to the bottom and sides, there producing numbers of young plants from adventitious buds. These can be removed and used for the purpose of propagation.—N. K. G.

RHODODENDRON CALOPHYTUM.

THIS is certainly one of the finest species. In places where there is plenty of moisture passing through, but not stagnant in the soil, it grows quickly. The leaves are often as much as 12ins. in length, and are peculiarly apt to twist and sway in wind, hence the need for shelter. When about ten years of age it commences to flower. The large trusses contain twenty or more flowers, each about 2ins. to 2½ins. across, bell-shaped, blush white with a deep blotch on the upper petals. The plant itself is apparently quite hardy, although the flowers opening in March are liable to be destroyed by severe frost.

Our largest plant is probably one of Wilson's first

Digitized by Google

introduction in 1904, and is now 7ft. in height and 11ft. through, bearing over one hundred trusses of flower this season. I only mention this as showing what is possible in Sussex. No doubt in more genial climates individual plants have already attained a much greater size. In its native China and Tibet it is said to reach a height of 50ft., but it has none of the tree-like appearance of R. arboreum in a young state. All the plants known to me are rounded and bushlike.—J. COMBER, *Nymans Gardens*.

CYMBIDIUMS AND SHRUBS AT VINCENT SQUARE

RARELY, if ever, has such a brilliant display been seen in the month of March at the R.H.S. Hall, Vincent Square, as was the case on the 9th and 10th inst., on the occasion of the ordinary fortnightly meeting. The Hall was filled with exhibits, as varied as they were beautiful, from almost all over the country. Cymbidiums were the principal feature, but flowering shrubs, carnations and bulbs were there in plenty and produced a wealth of colour, while alpines and cyclamen added to the general interest of the Show.

The largest exhibit was that of Azalea indica, shown by Messrs. L. R. Russell of Richmond. The plants were exceedingly well grown and carried masses of bloom. Many varieties in all shades were to be seen. Blushing Bride, a large-flowered, delicate pink was particularly good; Apollo was a striking orange scarlet; and President Oswald de Kerchove, a soft pink blotched with carmine. Messrs. Cuthbert and Co. showed a number of varieties of Azalea mollis × sinensis in varying tones of yellow, orange and orange salmon. Sybil, Hugo Koster, Hortulanus Witte, should be mentioned. Vice-Admiral Walker Heneage Vivian exhibited fine specimens of Rhododendron grande, R. Nivium hybrid and R. Falconeri × eximeum. Lady Loder's rhododendron exhibit was much admired. Good trusses of R. Thomsoni × arboreum Blood Red and R. sutchuenense were among the collection, and a spray of Magnolia Campbelli, carrying on its leafless branches several large and beautiful blooms of soft pink, attracted considerable attention. Sir John Ramsden and Messrs. Gill and Son, also showed a number of rhododendrons. R. Thomsoni × barbatum from the garden of Sir John Ramsden was a handsome specimen. Messrs. W. Cutbush and Messrs. R. Wallace, both had varied and interesting shrub collections.

A large group of hyacinths in pots was admirably staged by Messrs. Carter and Co. The varieties were arranged in patches of contrasting colours, which looked most effective. Perfect blooms of General Wetter, Moreno and Queen of the Blues were noted. Tulips were set in a large bed of moss by Messrs. Sutton and Son, such varieties as Prince de Ligne, Louis Pasteur and Van de Neer had been used. Messrs. R. H. Bath showed a number of tulips growing in bowls. Narcissi of all kinds were exhibited by several bulb specialists. Messrs. J. R. Pearson and Messrs. Barr and Son had interesting groups of new varieties and a number of fine seedlings. March Sunshine, Marshlight and Rosary were shown by the former, and Sweet Peggy, Tasse d'Or (a new jonquil hybrid), and St. Germans (a large trumpet daffodil), were noted on the stand of the latter. Messrs. Cartwright and Goodwin, Limited, and Messrs J. W. Barr, also showed narcissi.

A very beautiful group was formed by Mr. Dalrymple's coloured freesias. The great variety in shade and the delicacy in colour of these fragrant flowers were surprising. The best kinds were Buttercup, a golden yellow freesia of good substance; Treasure; Glowing Embers and Apotheose. Another group which showed the valuable work done by selection and hybridisation, was that of Mr. J. W. Forsyth's Caledonian Strain cyclamen, the popularity of which is becoming widespread.

The carnations exhibited were better in colour and form than usual. Mr. C. Engelmann showed a number of blooms of old and new varieties. Messrs. Allwood Bros. had good vases of Shot Silk, Wivelsfield Claret and Mary Allwood. Messrs. Stuart Low showed carnations and a number of greenhouse plants, such as acacias and hippeastrums. Messrs. Reamsbottom exhibited their famous St. Brigid anemones, Messrs. Bunyard a collection of apples, Mr. G. Miller primroses and polyanthus, and forced roses came from the nurseries of Mr. Elisha Hicks and Mr. George Prince. Violets were shown by Mr. Baldwin Pinney and Mr. J. J. Kettle.

Alpines were shown in great plenty and old favourites found no startling novelties to outshine them. Messrs. Prichard showed a fine deep coloured form of Primula denticulata, and an interesting group of new, unnamed hybrid saxifrages. Messrs. Tucker showed a very beautiful Primula tirolensis, a rounded flower of clear, pale lavender, and P. sinensis, similar in colour, but with rather starry petals. Clarence Elliott and Co. received an award of merit for a well flowered plant of the hybrid saxifrage "Arco-Valleyi," and exhibited a number of vigorous plants of the rare Primula Allioni.

Messrs. Jeans and Trowbridge, exhibiting for the first time, brought the interesting little heather, Erica hypnoides, a very compact mossy variety that suggests one of the very dwarf conifers and the uncommon Helionopsis breviscapa in pale purple and white.

Messrs. J. Robinson of Eltham, another newcomer, made a neat little miniature landscape with two small river valleys winding down from a mountain side, wooded with dwarf conifers.

In Messrs. Gavin Jones' garden a patch of rough grey scree showed up the bright magenta crimson of Saxifraga retusa and S. Frederici-Augusti, and a patch of turf made a natural background to the native, well known but hard to beat Anemone Pulsatilla. Messrs. Cheal showed the early-flowering white trillium, T. ovata, and a small fairy-like form of Primula farinosa, collected in Yorkshire but very like the variety known as "scotica."

Messrs. Reuthe exhibited some fine vigorous plants of Shortia galacifolia, lifted from the open, showing that this very beautiful woodlander is not necessarily difficult or hard to please. With it was shown another good plant for a cool corner, the ivory white, fragrant Daphne Blagayana from the Alps of Carniola.

Messrs. Barr showed a particularly fine hybrid hellebore, "Fairy Queen," a warm white with a delicately flamed central patch of pale purple, together with many choice small daffodils and the rare, gentian blue Tecophilæa cyanocrocus from Chile.

Messrs. Waterer showed Iris persica, that very old garden plant whose strange beauty of white and purple-black and aquamarine is not often seen in modern gardens; the natural hybrid daffodil "Queen of Spain," very elegant and distinguished; Tulipa præstans Tubergen's variety, a flaming orange scarlet; and the large, cool forget-me-nots of Omphalodes cappadocica.

AN IMPOSING GROUP OF CALEDONIAN STRAIN CYCLAMEN

Messrs. J. and A. McBean, Cooksbridge, Sussex, were awarded a gold medal for an exceptionally fine group of various cymbidium hybrids and odontoglossums. Other notable plants were Lycaste Skinneri var. Mrs. Hamilton Smith, the largest form yet seen; Phalænopsis Rimestadiana, with large moth-like flowers; the richly coloured Oncidium McBeanianum; Odontioda Thela, of bright scarlet red; and along the back some tall plants of Epidendrum Nebo, with clusters of bright rose coloured flowers.

Silver-gilt Banksian medals were awarded to Messrs. Sanders, St. Albans, for an extensive exhibit containing many superb cymbidiums, the rare Ærides Houlletianum and Brasso-Cattleya St. André, with pale green flowers, having a rose flushed lip. Messrs. Cowan and Co., Southgate, N., who also staged many excellent cymbidiums, as well as Odontioda Cora, of bright red colour, and Brasso-Cattleya British Queen, of large size and rich colour. Messrs. Charlesworth and Co., Haywards Heath, whose exhibit of new odontonias and odontoglossum hybrids came in for much attention, as also did their Premier type of Odontoglossum crispum. The group of Mr. J. J. Joicey, The Hill, Witley, contained two finely flowered specimens of Cymbidium Devonianum, and among others a large plant of Dendrobium Wardianum.

Digitized by Google

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING, SURREY
(late ANTHONY WATERER)

PROPRIETOR - **HOSEA WATERER**

has pleasure in offering

STANDARD TREES

in great variety, consisting of

LIMES, NORWAY MAPLES, ELMS, etc., etc.

EVERGREEN & DECIDUOUS SHRUBS, viz.:

Box—Green and Variegated, 3 to 8 ft.
Hollies—Common, 5 to 8 ft.; Variegated and Green varieties, 2 to 6 ft.
Thuiopsis borealis, 10 to 12 ft. Cupressus Lawsoniana, 12 to 14 ft. Cedrus atlantica glauca, very fine, 14 to 16 ft. Osmanthus, Phillyreas, Spiræas, Lilacs, Viburnums, etc.

GOLDEN YEWS

A Magnificent Stock in all shapes and sizes from 2 to 10 ft.

PRIVET, Common and Oval-leaved.

QUICK and **HORNBEAM** for Hedges.

AZALEAS, 2 to 5 ft.

RHODODENDRONS, without doubt the finest stock in the trade of named varieties, 2 to 6 and 8 ft.

HARDY HEATHS in great variety and a good general nursery stock.

Catalogues ready.

Enquiries and inspection invited.

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING STATION, SURREY

BENTLEY'S WEED DESTROYER

(POISON) STANDS FOR

Strength Reliability Economy

Stronger than any other. One application keeps gravel paths and drives clean for nearly two years. Commands the largest sale both at home and abroad, with a rapidly spreading popularity.

REDUCED PRICES:

Concentrated Liquid (1 to 80)—1 gal. **6/9**; 2 gals. 13/-; 3 gals. **18/9**; 6 gals. **35/9**; 12gals. **69/-**; 24gals. **134/3**; 40gals. **218/3**

Powder (1 to 25)—4 tins **9/3**; 8 tins **17/10**; 12 tins **25/6**; 20 tins **40/9**; 40 tins **78/-**

BENTLEY'S DAISY KILLER

THE ONLY SCIENTIFIC LAWN SAND

Weeds of all kinds are quickly killed by one dressing of this unique speciality. Afterwards the finer grasses are free to develop into a dense, rich, green sward.

One pound is sufficient to dress 3 sq. yds.

1 ton **£36**; 4 cwts. **20/6** per cwt.; 1 cwt. **22/-**; 56 lbs. **12/6**; 28 lbs. **6/6**; 14 lbs. **4/-**; tins **1/6** each.

Carriage paid on 15/- orders and upwards

Sole Manufacturers:

JOSEPH BENTLEY LTD.
CHEMICAL WORKS,
BARROW-ON-HUMBER :: LINCS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

KELWAY COLOUR BORDERS

The name of Kelway is inseparably connected with the wonderful development of Delphiniums, Pæonies, Pyrethrums, Gaillardias and other Hybrid Plants such as Gladioli. Hardy Herbaceous Plants give a wonderful succession of harmonious tints when grouped together in the **KELWAY COLOUR BORDER,** which can be arranged specially for you. From early Spring to late Autumn your garden may be beautified by groups of colour.

Send us particulars of your border spaces (soil, area, aspect, etc.), and we will make a suitable selection, advising you how to arrange them, or we take your own instructions.

KELWAY & SON *The Royal Horticulturists* LANGPORT, SOMERSET

For success in your Garden USE

THOMSON'S MANURES

On the market for over 50 years, they still hold first place for QUALITY and RESULTS. They are safe, sure and lasting. The direct result of many years' practical experience in gardening, they stand unrivalled at the present day for all Garden Crops.

Prices:—**VINE, PLANT AND VEGETABLE MANURE**—a Perfect Food—1 cwt., 30/-; 56 lb., 16/-; 28 lb. 8/-; 14 lb. 5/-; 7 lb., 3/-; tins, 1/3 and 2d. **SPECIAL TOP DRESSING MANURE**—an excellent stimulant—56 lb., 17/-; 28 lb., 9/6; 14 lb., 5/6; 7 lb. 3/-; tins, 1/3. Carriage paid on 28 lbs. and up.

WRITE FOR OUR BOOKLET—POST FREE ON REQUEST

SOLD BY NURSERYMEN AND SEEDSMEN EVERYWHERE.

Or from Sole Makers, WM. THOMSON & SONS, TWEED VINEYARDS, CLOVENFORDS, SCOTLAND

"They'll be ready in May"

"Oh yes! I know it's weeks earlier than usual. It won't be only potatoes, either—I get *all* my vegetables up early now. I sow them at least a month before I used to, and then protect the sowings with the Chase Continuous Cloche. It makes the very most of every glimmer of sunshine, and gives complete protection from heavy rain and cold snaps, so that the weather doesn't matter a bit. And I get much finer, better-grown crops than I ever did before I started using it."

Made of glass and wire only. Reduces labour of hoeing by keeping surface of ground open. Protects from birds and animals. Free ventilation and absence of shadows ensure sturdy natural growth just as in the open in perfect growing weather.

For general use, order "A" PATTERN, 7 in. high: box of 12, enough for 14 ft., **18/-**; 24, **35/-**; 52, **55/-** For fairly large plants, "B" PATTERN, 9 in. high: set of 15, enough for 22½ ft., **35/-**; 30, **60/-**.

Write for full particulars.

Chase Continuous Cloche
A Trap to catch the Sunbeams
(Dept. 7), CHERTSEY, SURREY

Carriage paid to nearest railway station England or Wales, 1d. in the 1/- extra for Scotland or Ireland, f.o.b. for I.O.W., Channel Islands and Overseas.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

MATTHEWS' HIGH GRADE HORTICULTURAL FERTILISER — COMPARE ANALYSIS

MATTHEWS' BIG PRODUCTION FERTILISERS

MATTHEWS' HIGH GRADE TOMATO FERTILISER — COMPARE ANALYSIS

PROFITABLE GROWING IN 1926

EXHIBITION & PROFIT

MATTHEWS' "Maximum Crop" GARDEN SEEDS

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES

Choice Flower Seeds
Finest Spring Bulbs

Write for Catalogue

IT WILL PAY YOU

THOUSANDS OF TONS SOLD ANNUALLY

		Amm.	Phos.	Potash (Pure)	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	1 cwt.	2 cwts.
MATTHEWS' HORTICULTURAL	For POTATOES & GENERAL GARDEN use.	7%	21%	4%	3/3	5/9	10/9	20/-	37/6
MATTHEWS' TOMATO	All are "MAXIMUM CROP" COMPLETE MANURES essential FOR ECOMOMICAL SUCCESS.	9%	21%	6%	3/6	6/6	12/-	22/6	42/-
MATTHEWS' LAWN		4%	25%	2%	3/-	5/6	10/-	18/6	34/-

NOTE - double value compared with some that are sold.

IT PAYS TO USE MATTHEWS' HORTICULTURAL FERTILISER

WHEN ORDERING mention this JOURNAL PLEASE

	Amm.	Phos.	Potash	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	1 cwt.	2 cwts.
Bone Charcoal	1·5%	67%	—	2/9	5/-	9/-	16/6	30/-
Bone Meal, English, Best	4·5%	45%	—	2/9	5/-	9/-	16/6	30/-
Basic Slag	—	30%	—	1/7	2/11	5/-	8/-	14/6
Bone Flour, Steamed	1%	60%	—	2/5	4/3	7/6	13/6	25/6
Fish Manure	10%	14%	—	3/5	6/4	11/9	21/6	40/6
Garden Salt	—	—	—	1/6	2/7	4/3	7/6	14/-
Hoof and Horn	16%			3/6	6/6	12/-	22/6	42/-
Kainit	—	—	14%	1/7	2/10	5/-	8/6	14/6
Lime, Ground Carbonate, Superfine	—	—	—	1/6	2/6	4/-	6/6	12/-
Meat and Bone Meal	8·5%	18%	—	3/-	5/6	10/-	18/6	34/-
Meat Meal	8%	30%	—	3/5	6/4	11/9	21/6	40/6
Nitrate of Soda	18%	—	—	3/5	6/4	11/9	21/6	40/6
Peruvian Guano	14½%	22%	2½%	4/-	7/7	14/3	27/-	51/-
Sulphate of Ammonia, 21% Nitrogen	25.75%	—	—	3/3	5/9	10/9	20/-	37/6
Sulphate of Potash	—	—	50%	3/3	5/9	10/9	20/-	37/6
Superphosphate	—	35%	—	1/8	3/1	5/3	9/6	18/-

CARRIAGE PAID on orders to the value of 5/- upwards to the nearest station in the United Kingdom
ESSEX RESIDENTS 1/6 per cwt. less. Packing and Bags Free; not returnable.

JAMES & GEO. H. MATTHEWS, Head Offices: HAROLD WOOD, ESSEX. Phone: ROMFORD 284

And at COLCHESTER, ONGAR, BRENTWOOD, CHADWELL HEATH, WICKHAM BISHOPS

MORE PROFIT THROUGH EXTRA YIELD AND *IMPROVED QUALITY.*

MATTHEWS' LAWN SAND

Effectively kills all the common weeds in lawns, and at the same time acts as an excellent Fertiliser. Sprinkle evenly over the weedy patches, at the rate of 3-ozs. per square yard, in dry weather Repeat at intervals of a few weeks, till the weeds are killed. The grass will become brown and appear to be burnt, but it will recover, and the useful grasses will grow more vigorously.

4/- 14 lbs. 6 6 28 lbs. 10 9 56 lbs. 20/- cwt.

WATER from WELLS

is easy to raise if you use the "Boulton" Water Elevator. It is simplicity itself, with no parts to give trouble, and has many advantages over the ordinary deep-well pump. Write for special Booklet No. 746.

BOULTON & PAUL, LTD., Norwich

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

WILLMOTT

Rival Plant Stake

(Patented No. 183779).

As used in Royal Botanic Gardens London and Cambridge.

For all plants. WILL NOT ROT, WEAR OUT OR BREAK.

Sample of eight sizes,

Closed — 2/- car. pd. United Kingdom. 4/- Overseas. — Open

H. J. GREENWOOD, F.R.H.S., Proprietor, BRACKNELL, Berks.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

The RITO Smile

GARDENERS!

Multiply your crops and produce fragrant flowers with

RITO

The food for soil bacteria.

From Seedsmen, Florists, Corn Merchants, etc.

Prices—1 cwt. **23/-**; 28lb. **6/3**; 14lb. **3/3**; 7lb. **1/9** and in **1/-** cartons.

Literature and reports FREE from the MOLASSINE CO. Ltd., Dept. R52, Greenwich, S.E.1

THE 'PATTISSON' HORSE (LAWN) BOOTS

THE NEW (PATENT) MAJESTIC REVOLVING SPRINKLER

The simplest and most efficient Sprinkler for large areas.

Made in three sizes.

No. 1 waters 500 square yards,

No. 2 waters 1,200 square yards,

No. 3 waters 2,000 square yards,

without being moved.

Illustrated Price List, with Testimonials, from the makers—

KINDLY NOTE NEW ADDRESS **H. PATTISSON & CO., STANMORE, MIDDLESEX.**

"The ONLY Economical Ones."

USED in the Royal and Thousands of the Principal Gardens, GOLF and CRICKET GROUNDS, and exclusively at the Oval (S.C.C.C.) for the past 20 years. *OVER 10,000 SETS IN USE IN THE U.K.*

Fig. 1 for Shod Horses.

Fig. 2. Welted Boot.

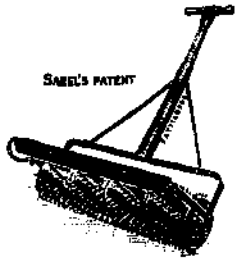
HUNDREDS OF TESTIMONIALS.

The Field says: "As good as anything that could be devised."

Mr. Wm. Hardy (Gardener to Lt.-Col. Hon. W. Guinness): "The boots supplied 17 years ago are still in use and have always been satisfactory."

SAREL'S PATENT SPIKED ROLLER.

COMM. HILLYARD, R.N., The All England Lawn Tennis Club, Wimbledon, writes: "The 'Sarel' Roller is invaluable for aerating the ground. It saves an enormous amount of labour and is most beneficial to the turf. I should be very sorry to be without such a valuable implement."



Digitized by Google

Silver Banksian medals were won by Messrs. Stuart Low and Co., for a group containing the singular Dendrobium linguæforme, and the pretty Cœlogyne cristata var. Lemoniana, as well as Cypripedium Boltonii, with snow-white flowers, and attractive cymbidiums. Messrs. Sutton Bros., Hassocks, Sussex, a new firm, who staged Cattleya Cowaniæ alba, the pleasing Dendrobium Cybele, and a fine example of Brasso-Cattleya Hannibal. A bronze Banksian medal was awarded to Mr. Harry Dixon, Wandsworth Common, for an exhibit of various species and hybrids.

Sir George Holford exhibited a selection of his noted cymbidiums, including Petrel var. Black Dot, in which the lip is blackish crimson and Flamingo, with roundly formed flowers of delicate blush tint. Mr. J. J. Bolton, Claygate, Surrey, staged Odontoglossum ardentissimum var. Robsonæ, with heavily blotched flowers. Mr. F. J. Hanbury, Brockhurst, East Grinstead, exhibited Odontoglossum Porteus, with large flowers of purple colour. Messrs. Black and Flory staged Brasso-Cattleya Mrs. Robert Paterson, of excellent formation and colour, also Cattleya Dr. M. Lacroze, with the lip of intense ruby purple, and C. Tityus, with roundly formed petals.

NEW AND RARE PLANTS.

FIRST-CLASS CERTIFICATES.

RHODODENDRON SINO-GRANDE.—A striking looking species with a large heavy truss of creamy yellow flowers blotched with crimson and enormous leathery leaves, measuring nearly 18ins. in length. Shown by Mr. G. H. Johnstone, Thewithen Probus, Cornwall.

NARCISSUS MEDUSA.—A fine white variety of good form. The flower is of medium size with a slightly reflexed perianth and a cup of bright orange scarlet. Shown by Mr. P. D. Williams, Lanarth, Cornwall.

AWARDS OF MERIT.

AZALEA INDICA ALBERT-ELIZABETH.—Innumerable large semi-double white blooms edged and heavily penciled with clear pink are borne on a plant of good habit and fine foliage. Shown by Messrs. L. R. Russell, Limited, Richmond, Surrey.

CARNATION ROUGE.—An attractive glowing red perpetual carnation of fair size. The blooms are fragrant and carried on long wiry stems. Should prove a good market variety. Shown by Mr. C. Engelmann, Saffron Walden, Essex.

CLEMATIS ARMANDII VAR. APPLE BLOSSOM.—An exceedingly fine clematis, smothered with snowy white blossom, borne in loose axillary cymes. The flowers measure about 2ins. in diameter and the bright green leaves are 4ins. to 5ins. in length and 1½ins. wide. The plant appears to be a vigorous grower. Shown by Captain B. Symons-Jeune, Runnymede House, Old Windsor.

HELLEBORUS ORIENTALIS BLACK KNIGHT.—A very dark variety of this species with purplish black flowers and finely divided bluish-green leaves. Shown by Messrs. Barr and Sun, Covent Garden, London.

LACHENALIA MONTE CARLO.—This Cape cowslip carries, on spikes of 4ins. to 6ins. in length, pendent bells of deep orange shaded with orange scarlet. Shown by Messrs. Carter Page and Co., 53, London Wall.

PRIMULA BAILEYANA.—A dainty Chinese primula with violet blue flowers carried in threes or fours on thin slender stems of 4ins. in height. The small, light green foliage has a deeply serrated edge and the leaf stalks are long and thin. The stems and flowers are lightly dusted with farina. Shown by Lady Aberconway and Hon. Henry McLaren, Bodnant, North Wales.

RHODODENDRON FARGESII.—Pinkish mauve flowers spotted in the throat are loosely carried in trusses of medium size and the foliage is neat and small. Shown by Mr. G. W. Lodge, Wakehurst Place, Ardingly, Sussex.

RHODODENDRON HIS MAJESTY.—A hybrid of glowing rosy red, the trusses are compact and closely set upon the dark green foliage. Shown by Messrs. R. Gill and Son, Falmouth.

SAXIFRAGA ARCO VALLEY.—A member of the Kabschia group, with very pale pink flowers tinged with mauve and neat foliage of glaucous grey. The habit of the plant is good. Shown by Messrs. Clarence Elliott, Stevenage, Sevenoaks.

SOLANDRA GRANDIFLORA.—A showy evergreen shrub, suitable for the warm greenhouse. The flowers are large and funnel-shaped, measuring nearly 6ins. in length. Their colour is creamy white shading to green in the throat. The calyx is long and tubular and the shiny, leathery foliage is most attractive. Shown by The Director, University Botanic Gardens, Cambridge.

SYCOPSIS SINENSIS.—A Chinese evergreen shrub of the Hamamelidacea family. The attraction of this shrub lies in the staminate flowers, which are borne in small heads and carry numerous reddish anthers on slender filaments. The shiny foliage is oval and about 3ins. in length. Shown by Hon. Vicary Gibbs, Aldenham House, Elstree.

ORCHIDS.

ODONTIODA JOICEYI VAR. JOHN COWAN.—An attractive hybrid, which was originally shown with a spike of four flowers by Mr. J. J. Bolton, of Claygate, Surrey, on April 29th, 1924, when it obtained an award of merit. It has now been staged again by the same exhibitor with a spike of nine flowers. The roundly formed segments are of rich crimson colour, except for a narrow white margin, while the whitish lip has a crimson blotch adjoining the yellow crest. First-class certificate.

CYMBIDIUM ALEXANDERI, WESTONBIRT VAR. (EBURNEO-LOWIANUM × INSIGNE).—A first-class certificate wes awarded to this plant on March 14th, 1922, when exhibited by Sir George Holford, K.C.V.O. Since then it has been cultivated to a large specimen, which on the present occasion bore three spikes, with an aggregate of twenty-three large flowers, porcelain-white, the labellum rendered attractive by rosy coloured tracery, while the column is rose pink. It proved the finest orchid of the day, and was deservedly awarded a silver-gilt Lindley medal.

AWARDS OF MERIT.

SOPHRO-LÆLIO-CATTLEYA EDNA VAR. MRS. HANMER.—This remarkable hybrid bore three flowers of a beautiful rose-purple colour, having a crimson tinge and venation of darker colour, the front lobe of the labellum purplish crimson, and the throat veined with gold. Shown by Messrs. J. and A. McBean, Cooksbridge, Sussex.

CYMBIDIUM WHEATEAR, WESTONBIRT VAR.—A distinct hybrid which bore a spike of nine flowers, of yellowish bronze colour, the labellum having a crimson zone of colour on the front lobe. Shown by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir George Holford, Westonbirt, Tetbury, Glos.

CATTLEYA LINDA (COWANIÆ ALBA × LADY VEITCH).—This charming novelty bore flowers of pure white, except for some yellow in the throat, and with the segments prettily frilled at the margin. Shown by Messrs. Cowan and Co., Southgate, N.

CYMBIDIUM LOUISIÆ VAR. SPLENDENS (PAUWELSII × ANDREANUM).—An attractive hybrid of recent origin. The spike carried twenty-one large flowers of light terra-cotta colour, the labellum effectively marked with reddish spots. Shown by Messrs. Cowan and Co., Southgate, N.

CYMBIDIUM TOUCAN.—A pretty hybrid of unrecorded parentage. The spike bore fifteen flowers of reddish bronze tints, the labellum whitish, the front lobe having a crimson band. Shown by Sir George Holford, K.C.V.O.

CYMBIDIUM CASTOR (INSIGNE × WOODHAMSIANUM).—A beautiful hybrid with an arching spike of thirteen large flowers of porcelain white nature, the labellum rendered distinct by rose-coloured markings.—Shown by Mr. J. J. Joicey, The Hill, Witley, Surrey.

A CHOICE SELECTION OF POTATOES AND PEAS

POTATOES revel in a light loam, a soil that crumbles when you touch a clod with fork or spade or crush it in the hand, a soil that is sufficiently retentive of moiture never to become arid—in short, one in which the tubers can develop rapidly. It may be that the reader's garden consists of soil of this nature, but even if it inclines to the sandy side or is of closer texture it will grow potatoes well if a few elementary cultural details are followed out. It is unecessary to enlarge on the advantage of thoroughly digging or forking over the potato plot. Every good gardener knows this. The use of animal manure is also essential. I have often read that the old-fashioned idea of spreading the manure in the rows and planting the tubers on it is the cause of disease in potatoes, and should not be practised. All I can say is that farmers in this district who have grown potatoes all their lives still adopt this method, and they would have ceased to do so if it had not been the right thing. Early varieties are better sprouted. It does not seem to matter whether the sprouts are long or short as long as they are covered over with soil and not allowed to peep above ground before the frosts have disappeared. Regarding artificials to use at planting time, sulphate of ammonia and muriate of potash are generally favoured. Some growers also use superphosphate, but this usually gives better results in the late crops. When earthing up a further light dressing of sulphate of ammonia is sometimes given along the sides of the rows.

EARLY VARIETIES.

There is a good choice of first earlies for garden use, although most of them are not profitable as farm crops. The earliest varieties are Duke of York, Midlothian Early and Sharpe's Victor. The last-named variety is suitable for frame culture, as it has a dwarf habit. Sharpe's Express is a white kidney-shaped variety that usually gives a good crop. Its cooking qualities are probably not first-rate, but when the tubers are sufficiently large for lifting the anticipation of home-grown new potatoes dispels any criticism of quality.

With regard to quality, I know of no finer table potato than Witch Hill, an immune variety. It is a little later than the varieties I have just mentioned, but it soon follows them. The tubers cook

Digitized by Google

like balls of flour, and they retain their quality until autumn, so that the crop can be left to mature and can then be lifted and stored.

SECOND EARLIES.

Great Scot is the popular second early. Its round tubers are large, with eyes of medium depth, and the quality is quite good. I recommend this as a reliable variety for most districts. Eclipse is another favourite, a kidney-shaped, non-immune variety that gives a big crop. The flesh is white and, although it is not regarded as a first-rate cooker, I find that many people like it for the table. Katie Glover gave promise of being a first-class novelty, but I am afraid that it will never give the big crop that the farmer desires—at any rate, not sufficient "ware." However, it is quite a good variety for the garden, and its medium-sized haulm is spreading and gives plenty of cover. I consider this variety the most beautiful when growing, as the foliage is glossy, almost like barberry. Arran Comrade is another good second early for the garden. It is an immune variety with white skin and flesh, and the eyes are very shallow. On heavy soils I have known British Queen, a non-immune white-fleshed sort do well.

MAIN-CROP VARIETIES.

The old favourites, King Edward and Arran Chief, need no comment. Most gardeners know which suits their particular soil. Majestic is a big cropper that is now widely grown. The skin is rather tender, and it will not bear rough handling. This variety should not be too heavily manured or it will grow coarse. The Bishop is one of the prettiest kidney-shaped varieties, and those who like to exhibit could not grow a better maincrop variety. Kerr's Pink, a rather tall grower for general garden use, is a deep-eyed coloured variety that gives a big crop, and its table quality is excellent.

One other maincrop variety need be mentioned, and this for the epicure. It is Golden Wonder, a brown-skinned, shallow-eyed kidney potato with a rich nutty flavour. It will not do well in cold heavy soils, but where it is likely to succeed it is worth growing.

A SUCCESSION OF PEAS.

I usually grow Superb as a first early in preference to Pilot. It is a dwarf, only 2ft. in height, and requiring practically no support; the flavour and cropping quality are both good, and it can be sown very early in the season.

Bedford Champion belongs to the Gradus class, but it is earlier and more robust. It is a heavy cropper with very large pods.

Advance Guard is an immense cropper and the finest flavoured first crop variety that can be grown. It has dark green pods, slightly curved, hanging in pairs and filled to bursting point. I saw a flat of this variety last season that produced one of the heaviest crops known in this district, and the flavour was delicious.

The Cropper is one of Mr. Unwin's best productions, and, like his Advance Guard, gives peas of excellent flavour It grows abot 18ins. high, a little dwarfer than Advance Guard, and is ready about ten days later.

GENERAL CROP.

Chancelot is one of the best varieties that I have grown in this section. It bears a very heavy crop of dark green pods, usually borne in pairs, and it has a fine flavour. The height is about 3½ft.

Rentpayer is a good dwarf variety in this section. It gives a big crop of large-podded peas of quite a good flavour, and may be described as an improved Senator.

One other variety that is well worth a trial is Liberty, a big cropper with large pods hanging in pairs, bearing peas of the finest flavour. It grows to a height of about 5ft.

LATE CROP.

Three varieties will suffice in this section.

The Bell is a very fine late pea with a strong haulm that withstands mildew. The pods are large, in pairs, and of excellent flavour.

Autocrat has the quality of the old variety Ne Plus Ultra, but it is not so tall, only about 3½ft., and it resists mildew well. It is a heavy cropper.

The Gladstone is useful both for exhibition and table, and its handsome dark green pods are borne in pairs.

Sowings of peas may be made from March onwards in almost any locality. The use of too much animal manure produces haulm at the expense of crop. Potash in any form and phosphates should be used, and a constant use of the Dutch hoe between the rows will keep the soil well aerated and also conserve moisture during drought.

NORMAN LAMBERT.

STOPPING AND TRAINING GREENHOUSE PLANTS.

GREENHOUSE plants, whether grown in pots or planted in borders, must be nursed, pinched where shoots are not growing regularly, and trained. Some specimens require to be trained to neat stakes while others must be trained to wires or a trellis. In every case the necessary stopping and training should be commenced while the plants are small, in order to obtain well balanced specimens. Where warm greenhouses exist, coleus plants form lovely specimens when they are well grown. Nearly all kinds of plants have a natural tendency to form one straight stem, and under glass this long straight stem soon becomes ungainly and practically useless. This is not so much the case in regard to the coleus as to many other kinds of plants, as some coleus plants, left to grow naturally, become good specimens, possessing very large leaves. The fine bushy plants, however, are those stopped twice in due course—the central stem once and the resultant side stems once. In the case of fuchsias three or four stoppings may be necessary, and only in cases where certain varieties are pendulous-growing is it necessary to place stakes to the plants. Roses, clematises, passifloras and ivy-leaved pelargoniums, jasminums, hoyas, lapagerias and similar climbing plants should be so trained that their branches will not be overcrowded and thus prevent the natural ripening of the wood. The judicious opening out of the branches of pot-grown plants also helps towards maturity of wood and free-flowering. —CHRISTCHURCH.

FORMING NEW EDGES TO LAWNS: TRIMMING OLD ONES.

A NEAT edge to a lawn, whether it be next to a path or to flower beds, enhances the beauty of the lawn itself. The edge should be a distinct one, but not a noticeable one. For instance, I once entered a villa garden; my visit was to the owner of the house, and did not have any reference to the garden; but I had an opportunity to inspect, briefly, both beds, lawn and paths. The shrubberies were bold and effective, the lawn itself very well kept, but the edges to the beds were 9ins. deep. This defect could have been remedied by raising the soil in the beds to the normal level, as even the soil in the centre of the beds was below the normal level of the lawn. This reference may be helpful to many owners of gardens where the flower beds may be in a similar condition. A too shallow edge is a defective one, too, as it is too indistinct and the lower blade of the edging shears cannot pass under the grass when an attempt is made to cut the latter. It is a good plan to pare off soil from edges now, as all danger of severe frost is past and the soil there will remain firm all through the summer. If severe frost comes after the paring is done the soil edge crumbles away. Where new grass edgings are laid, care must be taken to form a firm, even base of the right depth so that the new turves will be even with the lawn when they are beaten down. The quality of the grass in the new turves should be good, not any coarse tufts of grasses in them. The soil placed under the new turves must not be too rich or the grass will grow much stronger than that on the lawn itself.—HANTS.

MELONS.

THE large leaves of melon plants are arranged alternately on the main stems. From the axils of the petioles are produced the lateral shoots, and these grow rapidly and soon ramble all over if left unpinched. These are the shoots on which the fruits are borne, and they elongate 6ins.—from axil of petiole on main stem—before they unfold a leaf. In the axils and at the base of these secondary leaf petioles are situated the female flowers. It, however, depends somewhat on the variety whether female flowers—later fruits—are sent out from the axils of every first leaf on these primary side shoots, yet as a rule that is where the first female flowers appear on the variety called Ringleader, which, by the way, is a noted variety of many years' standing and, indeed, is still one of the foremost green-fleshed kinds in cultivation. Its encomium for 1926 is as follows: "One of the finest melons. Fruit above the average size, oval in form with a yellow skin beautifully netted over the entire surface. Flesh pale green, extremely thick, with a most delicious flavour. The plant has a robust constitution, sets with great freedom, ripens fruit very early, and does well in frames." Ringleader can be depended upon to bear female flowers—and fruits—in the axils of the first leaf on each lateral shoot. In other words, scarcely a shoot without a fruit. Ringleader is given premier place in these notes, as results have shown that it deserves that honour.

Dover House does not show such a regular arrangement of the female flowers.

Sutton's Scarlet is somewhat similar to Dover House.

Superlative is slightly better than the two former flowers in bearing.—DAVID ARMSTRONG.

Digitized by Google

Ryders Warning

OWING to the phenomenal demand this season for Ryders Quality Seeds it is necessary to urge all customers who desire their seeds for Easter sowing to make out their orders at once and post them to Ryders, St. Albans, with the least possible delay.

Ryders 1926 Catalogue

If you have not yet received a copy of the 1926 Academy Picture Edition of Ryders fully illustrated Catalogue Guide, send a p.c. to-day.

Ryders
RYDER & SON (1920), LTD.
St. Albans

GARDEN TECHNIQUE

THE GREENHOUSE

TREATMENT OF OLD ZONAL PELARGONIUMS.

IN hundreds of greenhouses, windows and glazed porches, there are many old zonal pelargoniums, leggy, almost leafless, and certainly neither useful nor ornamental in their condition as described. But it is not at all necessary to discard them. If properly treated they will be both useful and ornamental by midsummer or a little before that time. First take off the tops and insert them as cuttings near the sides of flower-pots filled with a sandy loam made moderately firm. Apply water forthwith, but do not overwater afterwards. Place the cutting pots on a stage or shelf in the greenhouse. The cuttings will be rooted by mid-May. It may be necessary still further to reduce the length of the old stems after severing the tops; if so, the stems may be inserted as cuttings, too. They will be ready for planting out by the middle of June, and will be useful in yielding young shoots in August, available as cuttings to ensure a winter stock. After the old plants have been so cut back, young side shoots will soon grow and when these are 1in. long, re-pot the plants, reducing the ball of soil. Use fibrous loam, leaf-soil, old mortar rubble and a small quantity of bone-meal as a potting compost.—CHRISTCHURCH.

PESTS TROUBLING CHRYSANTHEMUMS NOW.

THE chrysanthemum plant should be grown without any check from the cutting to the flowering stage. Wrong treatment as regards necessary re-pottings always causes a check to growth Wrong treatment as regards ventilation, watering, etc., favours the spread of disease and insect pests. The latter are, mainly, aphides and leaf-maggots; the former, mildew and rust. Usually, ordinary attacks of mildew can be dealt with by a judicious use of flowers of sulphur.

SALE OF ROSES

At 33⅓ per cent. less than catalogue prices.

HAVING so far sold our stock of Roses that the catalogue is no longer a reliable source of selection and not having enough each of different kinds to justify advertising the balance in named collections, we are offering what remains of our stock of bush, standard and climbing Roses in carriage paid quantities in varieties of our selection, at 33⅓ % less than list prices.

The varieties are all first-class (not an obsolete one among them), the trees are excellent and, while all buyers will get remarkably good value for money, the first comers will have the advantage of newer and more expensive varieties for as long as stocks last.

BUSHES
In variety—our selection.
Usual price 1/3 each.
10/- doz.
CARRIAGE PAID
6/- for 6 trees.

STANDARDS
In variety—our selection.
Usual price 3/9 each.
30/- doz.
CARRIAGE PAID.
16/6 for 6 trees.
9/- for 3 trees.

CLIMBERS
In variety—our selection.
Usual price 1/6 each.
12/- doz.
CARRIAGE PAID.
7/- for 6 trees.
4/3 for 3 trees.

Bakers
SEED AND FLOWER FARM,
CODSALL.
Nr. Wolverhampton.

Beautiful Hardy Flowers
ARTINDALES New Illustrated Catalogue now ready and will be forwarded on application.
WM. ARTINDALE & SON
NETHER GREEN :: SHEFFIELD

SEEDS
IF YOU WANT
REALLY GOOD SEEDS
AT MODERATE PRICES
SEND TO
ROBERT SYDENHAM LIMITED
98, TENBY STREET, BIRMINGHAM
No one will serve you better.
SWEET PEAS A SPECIALITY
THEIR UNIQUE LISTS
contain only the Best VEGETABLES, FLOWERS AND BULBS WORTH GROWING
Post free on application.
ROBERT SYDENHAM LIMITED

Forbes' Catalogue
Carnations, Pelargoniums, Pentstemons, Phloxes, Pyrethrums, Violas, Hardy Border and Rock Plants, Seeds, etc.
FREE ON APPLICATION
JOHN FORBES (Hawick), LTD., Dept.
The King's Nurserymen, Hawick, Scotlar

BORDER CARNATIONS & ALLWOODII
Plant EARLY for best results.

Border Carnations.
Our stocks of the best hardy Garden varieties are superb. Vigorous sturdy stock from 3½in. pots, which cannot fail to give the best results, the undermentioned collections represent the best value obtainable.
CARRIAGE PAID for cash.
6 distinct varieties 8/6
12 " " 16/-
25 Plants in good variety .. 30/-

ALLWOODII.
The ever popular hardy plant, suitable for every garden purpose. Will beautify the border, the lawn vase or window box; is perfectly hardy and the easiest plant to cultivate. New and improved varieties have been introduced, of which the undermentioned CARRIAGE PAID COLLECTIONS ARE MAINLY COMPOSED.
6 distinct varieties 5/6
12 " " 10/6
25 Plants in good variety .. 21/-
CATALOGUE OF ALL CARNATIONS FOR GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE sent post free on request to—
Allwood Bros
The leading Carnation Raisers and Specialists in the World.
Dept. 4, Haywards Heath, Sussex

Please mention THE GARDEN when writing

Digitized by Google

:CKFORD'S GIANT FRILLED
SWEET PEAS
—FOR 1926—

GORGEOUS FLOWERS. MAGNIFICENT STEMS
For a wealth of cut flowers.
For garden decoration. For exhibition.
ECKFORD'S ARE THE WORLD'S BEST
Special Offer.—25 specially chosen 1/- packets of Eckford's Giant Frilled Sweet Peas for 1926, each separate and named, for - - - - - 20/-
The same 25, half-packets, each separate and named, for - - - - - - - - - - - 10/-
The above are a gorgeous range of colour
WRITE FOR CATALOGUE (FREE) of all the best Sweet Peas for 1926. Also pedigree vegetables and choicest flower seeds
ENRY ECKFORD, Sweet Peas, Dept. 61 Headquarters for Wem, Shropshire

Austins
"MAYFLOWER"
A SPLENDID EARLY PEA
READY fully 10 days before *Gradus* or *Pilot*—Hardy, Robust, flavour excellent, pods large and produced mostly in pairs. Many customers say this is the most reliable early pea grown. It is also of the utmost value for successional cropping.
½ Pint, 1/3 (post free) Pint, 2/6 (post free)
AUSTINS "RELIANCE." A maincrop variety, is also notable. It gives ten and eleven peas per pod, is an enormous cropper, and according to customers is the finest flavoured pea extant.
½ Pint, 1/5 (post free) Pint, 2/9 (post free)
Scotch Seed Potatoes a Speciality.
Write for Catalogue, post free.
AUSTIN & McASLAN, Mitchell St., Glasgow

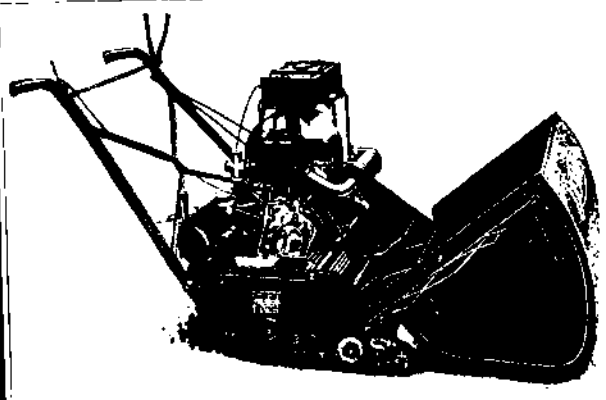
Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

ARDEN NETS.—Protect your Seeds and uds from Frost and Birds. Netting, strong, small mesh; pecially prepared, will not rot, as supplied by us to the Royal ardens. 25 square yards for 2/6. Any length or width pplied, price in proportion, carr. paid. Cheaper kinds kept. 5 square yards for 1/6. Lists and samples free.—GASSON & ONS, Net Works, Rye. Estab. 127 years.

WAKELEY'S
GARDEN SEEDS
We beg to announce to our thousands of customers that we are now offering
GARDEN SEEDS
OF THE VERY
FINEST VARIETIES AND STRAIN.
Send for our SPRING CATALOGUE which contains a choice selection of all seeds and other specialities for the garden.
WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.,
75a, Bankside, S.E.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THOSE ODD JOBS
Learn how to do them Yourself . .
THE HOUSE DOCTOR
By R. Randal Phillips
2/6 net.
"COUNTRY LIFE" LIBRARY,
20, *Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2*



"I cannot speak too highly of the 'Dennis' as I consider it the best Motor Lawn Mower on the Market" says Mr. C. H. Cook, Head Gardener, Royal Gardens, Windsor Castle

THE DENNIS
MOTOR LAWN MOWER

Both the 30 in. and the 24in. models received the
HIGHEST POSSIBLE AWARDS
at the Royal Horticultural Society's Trials.

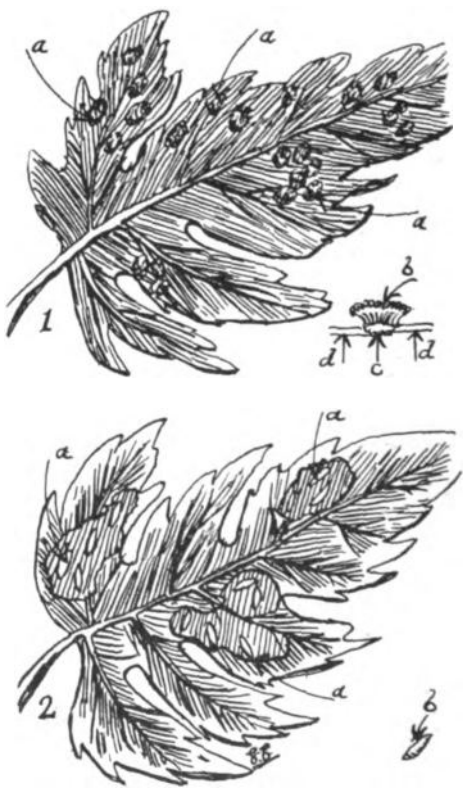
PRICES:
Less 5 per cent. for cash within 7 days, and delivered to any Railway Station in Great Britain.

24 inch £75
30 inch £90
Trailer Seat for either model, £7 10s.

has a 4 h.p. 4-stroke engine, which is easier to start, much more silent, and can be run at a slower speed than the usual 2-stroke engine. It is fitted with differential gear, which enables it to turn in its own ground; separate clutches for the roller and cutting cylinders, so that the machine can be used as a roller only, if desired; automatic lubrication, detachable covers to driving chains, mechanical adjustment for cutter blades, and many other unique features.

Write to Department "G" for Illustrated Catalogue
DENNIS BROS., LTD., GUILDFORD
Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

The rust is not eradicated as easily, and many cultivators are having trouble with it this spring. I am showing how it forms on the leaves in the accompanying sketch. No. 1, the underside of the leaf is shown with patches of the rust at *a*, *a*, *a*. At *b* it is also shown, magnified and in section form; it eats away the leaf, forming a hole in it, shown at *c*; *d*, *d*, represents the section of the leaf. Sulphide of potassium in solution will kill the rust. This remedy has previously been recommended in THE GARDEN. No. 2 shows at *a*, *a*, *a*, the leaf-mining grub at work. It is shown slightly magnified at *b*. While the plants are under glass—in a house or frame—it is possible to fumigate them and so destroy the fly. Darlington's Autoshreds will answer the purpose if used twice a week and judiciously. Directly the plants are placed outside scatter fresh soot on the ashes near the plants, also twice weekly till the end of June to render the plants distasteful to the fly. This is more effective



if the leaves are syringed fortnightly with clear soot water. Directly any grubs are seen in the leaves crush them with the fingers. —G. G.

THE FLOWER GARDEN

RE-POTTING WINDOW AND PORCH PLANTS.

THE window or the glass porch serves as a greenhouse to many dwelling-houses. Besides the actual window sills or narrow stages in the porches, small supplementary stages are often erected for the accommodation of pot plants. The latter are raised from seeds, bulbs or cuttings. It is of the latter that I wish to write a few hints now. In thousands of windows the displays of flowers are charming. These good results are obtained by giving close attention to the requirements of the plants in due season. Those that will be benefited by re-potting should be examined now and if, on turning out the balls of soil, roots are plentiful round the sides and in a matted state at the bottom, and, probably, some are perishing, they require re-potting. Those with dead or dying roots should be placed in smaller

Digitized by Google

pots after the old ball of soil has been judiciously reduced. Those possessing many, but healthy, roots, should be re-potted into larger pots. The best general compost for plants, other than ferns, is one made up as follows: fibrous loam, two parts; leaf-soil, one part; sand and old mortar rubble, one part. For ferns, use the loam and leaf-soil in equal proportions and the mortar rubble in place of sand. Provide very sound drainage; do not over water the newly-potted plants; water must not be left in the saucers. For a period of three weeks after the potting remove all flower buds. Sponge and wash large, smooth leaves. Feed the plants later on when they possess many new roots.—CHRISTCHURCH.

MARGUERITES.

A BATCH of marguerites in flower makes a fine display, especially in the winter-time. The shoots should then support sprays of three and four clean, white, yellow-centred flowers. As pot plants they are most useful for house decoration. About the end of March or early in April cuttings should be inserted round the sides of small pots containing fine sandy soil with a modicum of leaf-mould or other opening material. If the plants are wanted to flower in November and December, one stopping will be enough. This should be done as soon as the cuttings are well rooted. Two, three and even four young growths should now spring from each little plant, and if three rooted cuttings are grown on as one plant quite bushy specimens will be had. Two months later plants should be placed in 5in. pots, making the potting mixture fairly firm around the ball of each plant. This is all the repotting the plants will require. Throughout the summer and on till October the plants should be grown in a cold frame, and here they should do splendidly.

The plants after passing out of flower in January should not be cut down. The increased light and warmth of the longer days will encourage the growths at the base of the old flower-stems to push up. Some of the plants at this stage should be set to one side and the young growths when sufficiently matured taken as cuttings. These will produce three and four flower-buds each, so that another display of bloom will be had about the end of March.—D. A.

MISCELLANEOUS

FEEDING ROSES.

BEDDING roses need feeding at this time of the year as well as pruning. After the pruning is finished, food in the form of well decayed manure should be applied. The manure should be very lightly forked into the soil or spread on as a thin dressing after the soil has been lightly turned over. Care should be taken that the roots are not disturbed. Farmyard manure is often difficult to obtain, and has the disadvantage of making the beds look untidy. An excellent substitute for farmyard manure is Wakeley's Hop Manure. This material possesses complete manurial qualities, it is easy to handle, and gives most satisfactory results. A dressing of this kind not only feeds the plants, but also helps to conserve moisture during hot, dry weather. The beds can be made neat and tidy by sprinkling a layer of fine soil over the manure; this hides all the strawy ends.

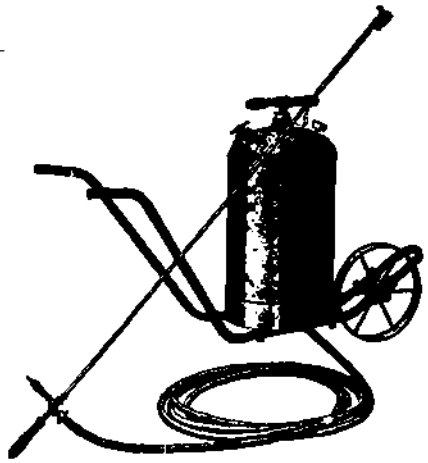
VENTILATION OF GLASS STRUCTURES AND WATERING IN SPRING

AFTER a long spell of dull wet weather, we have recently had several weeks of brilliant sunshine. During half of the time the wind was fairly warm, in the other half

"MARTSMITH"

THE MOST EFFICIENT PNEUMATIC SPRAYER ON THE MARKET.

Prices from **34/6** *to* **£17 10 0** *each.*



CAPACITY FROM TWO PINTS TO TEN GALLONS. FOR HAND, WHEEL OR KNAPSACK PATTERNS.

MARTINEAU & SMITH,
56-62, Holloway Head, BIRMINGHAM.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

AFTER 23 YEARS

AN ELOQUENT PROOF OF UNFAILING AND USEFUL SERVICE.

"A better Greenhouse Boiler could not be than the 'Horse Shoe.' I have had it in use for 23 years, and it has answered splendidly," writes Mr. F. G. L.....47, Mt. Carmel, Derby. 23/11/1925.

"HORSE SHOE" BOILERS

CAN BE SUPPLIED FROM IMMEDIATE STOCK.

Write for particulars now.

To CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD., Engineers, Southwark Street, S.E.1.
Please send me Booklet F. "Making the Most of Your Greenhouse," and price of complete Outfit to suit *(span-roof)(lean-to) greenhouse.....long .....wide inside, sides of *(wood) (brick).....thick.
Name.....
Address.....
*Strike out particulars not needed. Cut out and send by id. post.

CHAS. P. KINNELL & Co., Ltd., 65, Southwark St., LONDON, S.E.1
Wire: "Kinnell-Boroh-London." Phone: Hop 362 (three lines.)

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing*

THE USE OF YOUR LOIN MUSCLES
is the factor governing the ease of operating the
PATENTED "RETRO CULTIVATORS."
Over 100 different combinations of Tools can be obtained.
THE IDEAL TOOLS FOR THE GARDEN, ETC.
Ask also for particulars of the labour-saving
"EDEN CULTIVATORS"
the new hand implements which are available at extremely low prices.
SIMAR ROTOTILLERS (*Dept. B*),
58, Compton St., Goswell Rd., LONDON, E.C.1.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

The Little Extra

spent on high-class Fertilisers makes all the difference to plants and flowers. Those fine blooms so seldom seen, except at Shows, can be grown with the famous "Ferry" Fertilisers.

'FERRY' GARDEN MANURE. The finest Manure for general garden purposes. Suitable for Roses, Fruit Trees, Potatoes, Vines, etc.

14lb., 3/-; 28lb., 5/9; 56lb., 11/-; 1cwt., 20/-

"FERRY" LAWN MANURE. A highly concentrated quick-acting Fertiliser. A wonderful restorative of poor and worn lawns. Does not encourage the growth of coarse Grass and Clover.

14lb., 3/6; 28lb., 6/-; 56lb., 10/6; 1cwt., 19/-

"FERRY" SOIL PEST DESTROYER. Sweetens and sterilises the soil and kills all insect pests: Wireworms, slugs, caterpillars, ants, etc.

14lb., 3/-; 28lb., 5/6; 56lb., 10/6; 1cwt., 20/-

All to nearest Railway Station, carriage paid for cash with order.

The BRITON FERRY CHEMICAL & MANURE Co., Ltd.
(Dept. E), **Briton Ferry, South Wales.** *(Est. 1886)*

Regd. Trade Mark

GARDEN LOVERS

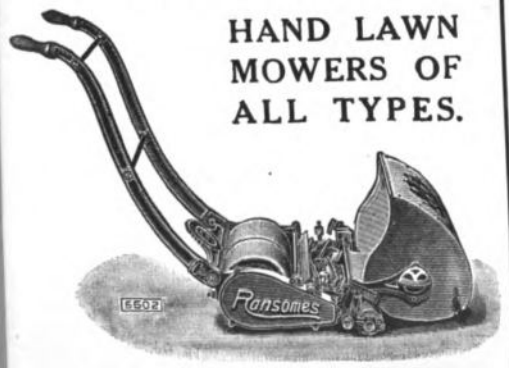
Write for Catalogues of
PROTHEROE & MORRIS'
• HORTICULTURAL SALES •
MONDAY · WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY
67, 68 Cheapside, London E.C.2. Phone: City 3856

By Appointment.

RANSOMES' LAWN MOWERS

"The Best in the World"

HAND LAWN MOWERS OF ALL TYPES.



"MARQUIS."

The most perfect cutting and easiest running Roller Mower obtainable. Fitted with ball bearings throughout.

Also MOTOR, HORSE, PONY and DONKEY MOWERS.

PROMPT DELIVERY.

Write for List No. 111 to—

RANSOMES, SIMS & JEFFERIES, LTD.,
ORWELL WORKS, IPSWICH.
Obtainable from all Ironmongers and Seedsmen.

it was cold. As the bright sunshine tempted some inexperienced cultivators to open ventilators wide and so admit the cold air which favoured the increase of aphides, especially on roses, I am giving a few hints here which will be helpful to others during the spring, as we are sure to have spells of hot sunshine and cold winds at the same time. The amateur who, perhaps, possesses a greenhouse or conservatory well filled with flowering and foliage plants, should carefully watch the weather conditions early in the morning, and ventilate accordingly. If the wind is very cold and the sun's rays increase in power, open the top ventilators on the opposite side of the house to that from which the wind blows, if this is possible—just a little at first and judiciously increase the amount of ventilation until noon, but do not admit a lot of air, rather make the atmosphere moister. At the same time, closely examine the pot plants early in the day and again at noon, applying water to those needing it. It is not wise to water plants at this season, late in the day. The sun may make certain plants droop a little, but if the soil is not very dry they will freshen up and not need water before the next day. Extra care should be taken in ventilating vines and peaches, as cold currents of air will cause mildew to spread on young vine leaves and the tiny berries, and aphides, especially black fly on peach shoots. A moist atmosphere on very hot days will be very beneficial in the fruit houses.—GEO. GARNER.

A FRENCH INVENTION—THE RETRO-CULTIVATOR.

MANY gardeners have discovered for themselves the advantage of using a hand hoe fitted with one or two wheels in place of the old-fashioned Dutch or draw hoe, but a French invention, called the Retro-Cultivator, which has been patented in this country, certainly promises to show advantages over any implement of this type we have as yet seen. The inventor had for many years used the type of hoe fitted with wheels which has to be pushed forwards, with the inevitable result that the soil stirred by hoe or plough is again trampled upon by the man pushing the machine. He then thought of a novel and labour-saving method. Why tread on the freshly ploughed soil—why not reverse the tool and pull the machine backwards, using the hands merely to guide the implement? The necessary power to draw the machine through the soil is obtained in a very clever manner. A broad canvas belt is worn by the operator and in front of this belt is fitted a ring, to which the chain of the machine itself is attached. The implement consists of two wooden handles, provided with metal grips for the hands. The handles are joined together at the base by a central bar on either side of which are metal arms containing the holes into which any attachments, such as hoes or ploughs can be fitted and secured by means of a spanner and the necessary bolts and nuts. The arms themselves are adjustable to any angle. In front of the central piece a strong chain is attached and at the end of this is a strong spiral spring fitted with a hook for attaching to the ring on the body belt. Gripping the handles the user walks backwards very slowly, using the handles merely for guiding the implement. About five hundred yards per hour may be covered with a single large plough in use, and up to two thousand yards per hour may be dealt with on light soil when ordinary cultivators are attached and the operator is proficient.

On light, sandy soil near Hampton Court the machine has certainly fulfilled all expectations and the only suggestion that one can make is that winged hand nuts might be fitted so as to do away with the necessity for the use of any spanner.—ROBERT W. ASCROFT.

For Orchards and Fruit Trees.

Nitrate of Soda puts back into the soil what the trees take out—Nitrogen. Helps young trees to grow thrifty and strong; keeps old trees from losing their productiveness.

Read the special pamphlets, entitled "The Manuring of Orchards and Fruit Trees," "Successful Gardens for Every Amateur," supplied gratis and post free by THE CHILEAN NITRATE COMMITTEE, Friars House, New Broad Street, London, E.C. 2.

Nitrate of Soda

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by **"ALPHOL"**
Sample 14 lb., 3/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St., Liverpool

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND, SOILFUME, NICOTINE, INSECTICIDES, FUMERS, SPRAYS, AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES - THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT, CARRIAGE PAID.

Only Address: TOMLINSON & HAYWARD L.td LINCOLN.

DULAU & CO., LTD.

Natural History Booksellers and Publishers.

¶ Highest Prices given for books dealing with horticulture, botany, silviculture, geology, insects, etc.

¶ Send us the lists of books on gardening you require this season.

¶ Large numbers of second-hand items always in stock.

Published this week.

The Pruning of Trees and Shrubs

Being a description of the methods practised in the Royal Botanic Gardens.

By W. DALLIMORE.
Assistant, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

Cr. 8vo. Fully Illustrated. **4/6** net. Postage extra.

Published in January.

The Scent of Flowers and Leaves

Its purpose and relation to man.

By F. A. HAMPTON.

Cr. 8vo. **6/-** net. Postage extra.

INCLUDES DIRECTIONS FOR LAYING OUT A SCENTED GARDEN AND LISTS OF SCENTED PLANTS.

"Should find a place and welcome in many bookshelves."—*Evening Standard.*

"The author is to be congratulated on the way he presents his facts."—*The Garden.*

From all Booksellers.

DULAU & CO., LTD.
34, 35, 36, MARGARET STREET
LONDON, W.1

Digitized by Google

I COUNT that man fortunate who has done with experimenting and found a tobacco which consistently gives a full measure of enjoyment—*R.F.E*

There is one brand which to many a man is his best friend

They call it

PLAYER'S

NAVY CUT

For Cigarette Smokers

PLAYER'S NAVY CUT CIGARETTES

PLAYER'S NAVY CUT

Registered No. 154013.

P.1263.

THE LEADING GLASSHOUSE FUMIGANT.

CORRY'S WHITE FLY DEATH

WEED DEATH

The new NON-POISONOUS Weed Killer (POWDER).
SUPERIOR TO DANGEROUS ARSENICAL COMPOUNDS
Safety first, non-caustic, no smell, kills the roots.
For 4 gals., 1/-; 12½, 2/-; 25, 3/6; 50, 6/6; 100, 12/- & Bulk
From your Nurseryman or Seedsman.
CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

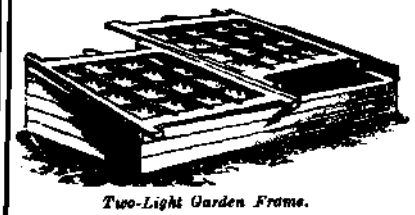
DAVID SWAIN & CO. ∴ *Horticultural Builders*

TELEPHONE: NORTH 2807.

SPRING, 1926

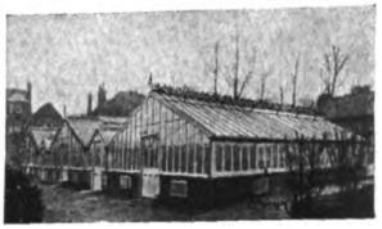
GARDEN FRAMES ALL SIZES.
GLASSHOUSES RENOVATED.
REPAIRS AND REPAINTING.

HEATING.



Two-Light Garden Frame.

WRITE for LISTS and ESTIMATES.



Range of Houses.

101, SUSSEX ROAD, HOLLOWAY, LONDON, N.7

ADCO turns GARDEN REFUSE into SYNTHETIC FARMYARD MANURE

1 cwt. of ADCO makes from two to three tons of manure according to the class of rubbish treated.
ADCO Accelerator .. 28 lb. 4/6, 56 lb. 8/-, 1 cwt. 15/-
Standard ADCO .. 28 lb. 6/- 56 lb. 11/6 1 cwt. 20/-
Carriage Paid to Nearest Goods Station. Cash with Order.

Obtainable from all leading Seedsmen.

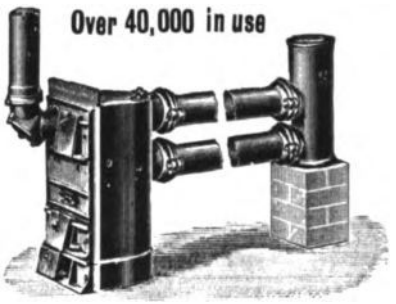
Write for full particulars.

ADCO Ltd., 40, HARPENDEN, HERTS

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE LOUGHBOROUGH BOILER

Over 40,000 in use



The high reputation of this Boiler for efficiency and economy is still unrivalled

Easy to fix, easy to manage, and most economical in fuel, it is the ideal Boiler for the Amateur's Greenhouse

Price Lists and Estimates for complete apparatus on application

MESSENGER & CO., LTD. LOUGHBOROUGH LEICESTERSHIRE

LONDON OFFICE: 122, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

YOUR GARDEN NEEDS KILOGRUB

Its fumes are instantly fatal to all insect pests in the soil, but harmless to plants. Really effective because it works underground.

Tins: 9d., 1/6 and 2/6
Sizes: 1 cwt. 6/6, ½ cwt. 3/6, ¼ cwt. 1/9.

From your seedsman or from

JOHN PEAK & CO. LTD. WIGAN, Lancs.

KINNELL'S COKE CRUSHER FROM STOCK

Reduces Fuel to the correct size for long burning

Carriage paid to Stations in England and Wales

Small Crusher for Wall - 20/-
Ditto on Wrought Stand - 40/-
Large Crusher for Wall - 40/-
Ditto on Wrought Stand - 60/-
Strong Coke Pan 10/- extra

Large Crusher breaks 1 cwt. & small one 42 lb. in 20 minutes

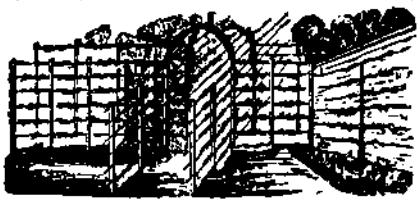
CHAS. P. KINNELL & Co LTD
65.65A Southwark St. London. S.E.1

FERTILISERS.

LAWNS, 20/-; FRUIT TREES, VINES, 19/6; GENERAL GARDEN USE, 17/-; WORM KILLER, 19/-
Per cwt., carriage paid. Also all other fertilisers.

HY. RICHARDSON & CO.,
Skeldergate Bridge Works, YORK

HILL & SMITH, Ltd.,
BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS,
Makers of
IRON FENCING, HURDLES, GATES, WIRE NETTING AND GARDEN IRONWORK



Other Products—Hay and Grain Sheds, Dutch Barns, Galvanized Corrugated Sheets and Structural Steelwork.

Catalogues free on mentioning this paper.

London: 300, Abbey House, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

For mud & marshland mire & meadow wear Boots* with Uppers of "Beva" Waterproof Leather.

*Look for the "Beva" on the looping.

Digitized by Google

WAKELEY'S Celebrated Hop Manure

(PATENTED)

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

AS USED IN THE GARDENS OF GREAT BRITAIN

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL, ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION, 1912

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE, without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

Every ounce of Wakeley's Hop Manure is of value to the soil, supplying the necessary HUMUS in addition to the valuable plant food. Worthless rubbish is not added to make weight (as is the case of some artificial manures advertised).

Thousands do realise it, the proof of this is the constant flow of UNSOLICITED LETTERS received from time to time in praise of the wonderful results obtained at such a moderate cost (see Booklet for selection).

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.—Genuine Only in our Marked Bags containing Guaranteed Analysis.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of post card.

CASH PRICES (including bags):

Small (about 1 bushel)	3/-
Large (about 4 bushels)	7/-
5 Large	33/9
10 Large	65/-
20 Large	120-

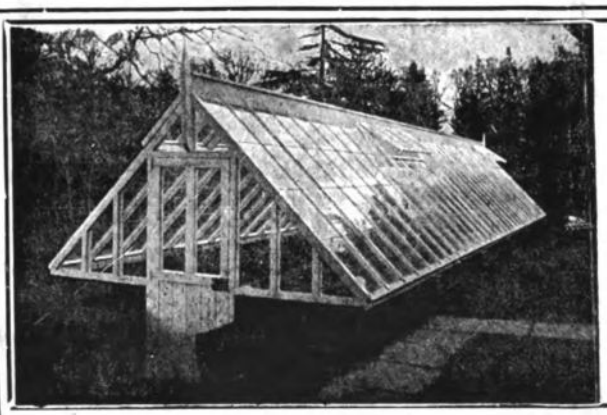
Carriage paid by Pickford's or to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company; 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.

75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

By Test—the Best

The advertiser must—and does—rigidly test and scrutinise his goods before putting them before the critical eye of the public. This is just one reason why **you are safe in buying Advertised Goods.**



GREENHOUSES AND GARDEN FRAMES

I specialize in the Erection of High class Horticultural Buildings.

Garden Frames a speciality. Selected timber, well seasoned, only used.

Being a grower, I understand Glass-house requirements.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.
CATALOGUES WITH PLEASURE.

E. M. HEAP, Cottimore Nurseries, WALTON-ON-THAMES.

By Appointment

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.,
Royal Potteries.
BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

YOUR LAWN!

TRUE PLAY *IN MANY LAWN GAMES IS IMPOSSIBLE UNLESS THE SURFACE IS CLEAR OF DAISIES AND OTHER WEEDS — THE BEST METHOD OF ERADICATION IS ~*

LAWN SAND

Velvas

applied 5 oz. per Square Yard.

MAKES VELVETY LAWNS

CARRIAGE PAID PRICES:

112 lb. Keg,	29/6	112 lb. Bag,	26/6	14 lb. Tin,	6/-
56 lb. ,,	16/-	56 lb. ,,	14/3	7 lb. ,,	4/-
28 lb. ,,	10/6	28 lb. ,,	9/3	3 lb. ,,	2/6

Sole Manufacturers
ROBINSON BROTHERS LTD, WEST BROMWICH

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

GENERAL LIBRARY
UNIV. OF MICH.
APR 7 1926

Vol. XC.—No. 2836 Saturday, March 27th, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

TWO BEAUTIFUL NEW PLANTS

FOR MARCH AND APRIL PLANTING.

MICHAELMAS DAISY BARR'S PINK.
THE FINEST PINK MICHAELMAS DAISY YET RAISED.

Excellent as a cut flower, remaining open and lasting well in water; equally charming in artificial light as in daylight.

"Until lately one had to exercise a certain amount of imagination with the pink Michaelmas Daisies, but now the pinks are really and truly pink, and of the newest varieties none is more prominent than Barr's Pink, which, with great beauty of rich colouring, combines a graceful habit, and one recognises that in this Messrs. Barr & Sons of Covent Garden have raised a variety that will long continue in the front rank of hardy flowers."—COUNTRY LIFE, Oct. 10th, 1925.

Strong plants .. .. .. per doz. **36/-**; each **3/6**

SCHIZOSTYLIS, "Mrs. Hegarty."

(NEW PINK CAFFRE LILY). This beautiful NOVELTY was shown before the Floral Committee of the ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY on October 18th, 1921, and was at once given an AWARD OF MERIT. The flowers are of a beautiful satiny rose-pink, and keep on opening out in succession for a very long time. The general habit of growth is that of *S. coccinea*; it is as hardy and requires the same treatment.

A charming pot-plant .. .. per doz. **12/6**; each **1/3**

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

WORTH GROWING

SEED POTATOES

SCOTCH & ENGLISH — CLASS I

Selected Stocks

WRITE FOR LIST

ISAAC POAD & SONS, Ltd.,
Seed Potato Growers - - - YORK

Glass breaks!

WHY USE IT?

'WINDOLITE'

The practical Glass Substitute for all GARDEN USES.

Light. Flexible. Unbreakable

Easy to cut and fix. It keeps out cold and wet, but lets in all the light—even the Ultra Violet Rays which are stopped by glass.

Send 4/6 for post free sample, 3 ft. by 2 ft.

WINDOLITE (DEPT. C) 179/185, GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1

RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

The First Show, devoted entirely to
RHODODENDRONS
and AZALEAS
will be held at the
ROYAL HORTICULTURAL HALL,
Vincent Square, on
TUESDAY, the 27th APRIL, 1926

Intending exhibitors should apply to The Secretary, Royal Horticultural Society, Vincent Sq., S.W.1, for schedule of entry and prizes

OPEN TO ALL

. . THE . .
"SOUTHWELL" COLLECTION

BUSH ROSE TREES. ALL BRITISH GROWN.
FIRST CLASS VARIETIES FOR GARDEN EFFECT.

Avoca, crimson scarlet
Caroline Testout, satiny rose
Conrad F. Meyer, silvery rose
Dorothy Page Roberts, salmon pink
Francis Gaunt, fawny yellow
Frau Karl Druschki, white
General McArthur, velvety carmine
Gorgeous, deep orange yellow
Hadley, deep velvety crimson
Henrietta, coral salmon
La Tosca, blush pink
Lieut. Chaure, velvety crimson
Lyon, salmon pink
Mrs. H. R. Darlington, creamy yellow
Mrs. John Laing, clear pink
Red Letter Day, scarlet crimson
Richmond, red scarlet
W. E. Wallace, deep golden yellow

This collection of 18 varieties for **18/9**, or 12 selected from the above for **12/6**
Acme Labels (if required) .. .. **2/6** per dozen

Carriage and packing free for Cash with Order.

BUY HOME GROWN TREES.

Catalogue of Rose Trees, Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Hardy Plants, etc., free on application to—

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, Ltd., THE NURSERIES, SOUTHWELL, NOTTS.

CHEALS' DAHLIAS

UNIQUE COLLECTION
Many Striking Novelties

New Catalogue Free

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
The Nurseries - - CRAWLEY

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
New Alpines and Perennials
Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD
CHELSEA, S.W.
Seeds Gladioli Spiræas List on Application

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

BROWN'S TESTED SEEDS.
Illustrated Flower and Vegetable Seed Catalogue, giving full cultural directions, at competitive prices, post free if this paper is mentioned.
D. T. BROWN & CO., *Seedsmen,* **Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.**

TUBS FOR SHRUBS.
WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 100 prizes. R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. — Price List from A. PRADAL 26, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

BARGAIN CATALOGUE
Land Sold for Building
Real Cambridgeshire grown Fruit Trees, Fruit Bushes, Roses, Shrubs, Avenue Trees, Privet, Plants.
Exceptionally strong and healthy.
FRANK RICE (F.R.H.S.), Arbury Nurseries, Cambridge

Water Plants
My New Illustrated Catalogue contains the most complete collection ever offered. Free
PERRY'S Hardy Plant Farm, Enfield Middx.

THE FLOWER OF THE SEASON
BALL'S CALENDULA
Brilliant Orange Double Flowers
THE FINEST PLANT FOR CUT FLOWER OR THE BORDER
OUR exhibit at CHELSEA SHOW made us many customers, and we have had numerous testimonials from all parts of the country
SEED — 1/-, 2/6, 5/- packet
PLANTS, 1/6 doz.; 10/- 100
WM. ARTINDALE & SON
NETHER GREEN NURSERY :: SHEFFIELD

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
HULL
Weed Destroyers Fertilisers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

HY. RICHARDSON & CO.
SKELDERGATE BRIDGE WORKS
YORK
Lawn, Garden, Fruit Trees, and Horticultural Fertilisers

1926
PERPETUAL FLOWERING
CARNATIONS
Our Illustrated Catalogue will be sent free on request
C. ENGELMANN LTD.
Saffron Walden, Essex.

CAULIFLOWER
"MAY QUEEN."
Genuine only direct from Wymondham. The fastest growing, quickest heading variety in existence. Planted in March, large white heads may be cut during May & June. Autumn-sown Plants, 100, 3/6; 500, 16/-; 1,000, 30/-
Packed in Boxes Carriage Paid with Cultural Hints.
DANIELS & SON, (Dept. 22) **WYMONDHAM, NORFOLK.**

Fruit Trees Rose Trees
ALL ENGLISH GROWN.
Descriptive Catalogue post free on demand.
INSPECTION INVITED.
S. SPOONER & SON
Estd. 1820 The Nurseries, Hounslow, MIDDLESEX

DOBBIE'S
SCOTCH-GROWN
PLANTS
FULL DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE
84 pages of Indoor and Hardy Plants
SENT ON APPLICATION
DOBBIE & CO., LTD.
Nurserymen :: EDINBURGH

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Pests need oxygen
Insects all need oxygen. XL ALL Nicotine Liquid Insecticide kills the insect, because it cuts off the insect's oxygen supply. Refuse uncertain substitutes. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen, florists and chemists.
XL ALL NICOTINE LIQUID INSECTICIDE
G. H. RICHARDS, LTD.
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
R. 106. Monomark: BCM/XLALL.

Continued from page iii.

ROCK AND ALPINE PLANTS.—Large and varied collection. All pot grown. Packed and carriage paid. Catalogue free.—M. J. PIGGOTT, Dufield, Nr. Derby.

GARDEN NETS.—Protect your Seeds and Buds from Frost and Birds. Netting, strong, small mesh; specially prepared, will not rot, as supplied by us to the Royal Gardens. 25 square yards for 2/6. Any length or width supplied, price in proportion, carr. paid. Cheaper kinds kept. 25 square yards for 1/6. Lists and samples free.—GASSON & SONS, Net Works, Rye. Estab. 127 years.

HIMALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODENDRONS on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and Alpine Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write for Catalogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

CHOICE DAFFODILS.—Write at once for Herbert Chapman's list of CASH BARGAIN LOTS, offered to clear ground. First-class varieties at astonishingly low figures. —Address, HERBERT CHAPMAN, LTD., Rotherside Gardens, Rye, Sussex.

GARDEN NETS. — Best Tanned Heavy, 50 × 4, 25 × 8, 100 × 2yds., £1; ditto, 25 × 2, 5/-; 25 × 4, 10/-; lighter, 50 × 4, 25 × 8, 100 × 2yds., 16/-. Carriage paid, passenger train. Satisfaction guaranteed. New Garden and Tennis Boundary Netting, samples and full particulars from the manufacturers, W. OLIVER ALLEN AND SONS, Net Makers, Porthleven, Cornwall.

WELLS' CATALOGUE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS will be sent post free on application.—W. WELLS AND CO., Merstham, Surrey.

SPENCE'S SCOTCH SEED POTATOES.—Write for Descriptive Catalogue and Growing Guide (on Potatoes only).—CHAS. T. SPENCE, Seed Potato Specialist, Dunbar, Scotland.

ALPINE PLANTS, BORDER PLANTS, CHOICE FLOWERING SHRUBS, MINIATURE CONIFERS, HARDY HEATHS, HARDY FERNS, CLIMBERS. One of the oldest, and perhaps the finest, all-round collection in the country.

We grow some 4,000 kinds of all the best outdoor garden subjects, including such items as 100 kinds of Michaelmas Daisies, 100 kinds of Campanulas, 50 kinds of Hellebores, 200 kinds of Saxifrages, etc.

Our Catalogue of these is beauti ully illustrated, shows how to build a rock wall and water lily pool, and tells about soils, etc., etc. It makes a fine reference book on plants. It is sent post free for 1s. which may be deducted from orders.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED.
SPECIMENS NAMED.
ADVICE GIVEN FREE.

J. STORMONTH & SON,
Hardy Plant Specialists,
KIRKBRIDE, by CARLISLE.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

WATERER'S GOLD MEDAL RHODODENDRONS, Azaleas, Rare Hardy Shrubs, Alpine and Perennial Plants, Vegetable and Flower Seeds. Scotch grown Seed Potatoes, Asparagus, 3 year, 17/6; 2 year, 12/6 per 100. Catalogue free.—JOHN WATERER, SONS AND CRISP, LIMITED, Twyford, Berks; Bagshot, Surrey; and London.

WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE.—The original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See advert. on back page.

WM. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., Lawrence Road, South Tottenham, N.15.—Conservatories, Winter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

BIRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUNDIALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—MORTON, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

FENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Garden Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE STANLEY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, Surrey.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list, post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

ROCK PLANTS AND SHRUBS.—Over 300 varieties in stock. Descriptive catalogue free. Also Herbaceous Plants and Roses.—HODSONS, LTD., 58, Castlegate, Nottingham.

YORK STONE PAVINGS, crazy or rectangular, rustic copings, steps, roughly squared or random shaped, flat bedded wallstones, garden edging, rockery, etc.—SAMUEL JOHNSON AND SON (MIRFIELD), LTD., Newgate Stone Works, Mirfield, Yorkshire.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/8 per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

PRIOR'S COLCHESTER ROSES, Fruit Trees, Gladioli, Dahlias, Carnations, Herbaceous. Catalogue containing cheap collections free.—D. PRIOR & SON, LTD., Colchester.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING, small mesh, 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 40yds. by 1yd., 3/6; 40yds. by 2yds., 6/6; 40yds. by 3yds., 9/9. Measured mesh closed. Special Pea Netting supplied. Tennis Nets from 8/-. Carriage paid. Compare our netting with others. Sports lists and samples free.—GALLOP, Net Manufacturer, Hastings.

NETS for Gardens and Tennis Courts.—Before ordering elsewhere, send for our free lists and samples. It will pay you.—GARSON & SONS, Net Works, Rye. Est. 127 years.

WIRE NETTING.—From 2/5 per 50yd. roll. Cheapest House in the Kingdom. Write us for prices. Thousands of rolls stocked.

PEA GUARDS.—Small mesh, 3ft. long, two ends to each dozen. 4/3 dozen. 2 doz. Carriage Paid.

DEFY THE BIRDS.—Rotless Tanned Netting. Small mesh, as supplied by us to the Royal Gardens. In three Qualities. 50 x 1yd., 3/6, 4/-, 6/9; 2yds., 7/-, 8/-, 13/6; 3yds., 10/6, 12/-, 20/3; 4yds., 14/-, 16/-, 27/-; 25 x 6yds., 14/-, 16/-, 27/-. Any size supplied. Carriage paid. Approval. Measured mesh closed.

PEA NETTING.—Tanned, Superior Quality. 3in. mesh, 6ft. wide, 6d. yard. Carriage paid 12yds. and over. Other widths *pro rata*, prices of smaller meshes on application. —E. B. HAWTHORN, LIMITED, Dept. E., Shrewsbury.

PRIMULAS, HARDY.—Red Hugh, Scarlet; Julie, purple; pulverulenta, crimson; Bulleyana, yellow; frondosa, lavender; capitata, blue. 6 splendid plants, 4/6.—MILNE, South Darley, Matlock.

AURICULAS.—Choice, 12 splendid plants, from pots, 7/6.—MILNE, South Darley, Matlock.

PRIMULA JULIÆ.—A real gem, profuse purple flowers, 12 strong plants, 5/-.—MILNE, South Darley, Matlock.

BARR'S FLOWER & VEGETABLE SEEDS, of finest selected strains and tested growth, also the best Scotch and Irish grown, hand-picked Seed Potatoes.

BARR'S HARDY PERENNIALS, ALPINES, ROCK PLANTS, AQUATICS, CLIMBERS, TALL and DWARF FLAG IRISES, etc., for Spring planting.

BARR'S LILIES, GLADIOLI, DAHLIAS, CANNAS, MONTBRETIAS, ANEMONES, BEGONIAS, TUBEROSES, TIGRIDIAS, &c., for Spring planting. Catalogues free.—BARR & SONS, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are now famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx, and perpetual habit. Illustrated plant list now ready. New Seed, now ready, hand fertilised, 2/6 and 5/- packets.—J. DOUGLAS, Great Bookham, Surrey.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial: An Answer	183
A Rhododendron Tour in Sikkim	184
On Hybrid Rhododendrons	185
Rhododendrons in Wind and Rain	186
The Rhododendron Bug	187
Spring Frosts	188
Fragrance in Herbs, Alpines and Water Plants	189
Carnations of the Florist's Shop	190
Notes of the Week	192–193
Camellias—Growing Plants in the Open Air; A Fine Herbaceous Perennial; A Good Dwarf Rhododendron; A Note on Sweet Peas; A Decorative Greenhouse Annual; The True Azalea indica; Showy Border Plants; Azaleas—A Common Cause of Non-flowering.	
Correspondence	194
The Pruning of Shrubs; Fedges; Newer and Better Gladioli; What's in a Name; Daphne Laureola; Montbretias; Frost and Some Shrubs.	
Rhododendrons in Various Areas	195
Bog Primulas in Winter	196
Garden Technique	196–198

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL DELPHINIUMS and ROSES. Send a postcard for our catalogue.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI, Chrysanthemums, Dahlias and Border Carnations.—Our stock includes many new and meritorious varieties. List post free on application.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

MECONOPSIS SEEDS, five species offered in Clarence Elliott's list.—SIX HILLS NURSERY, Stevenage, Herts

TO LOVERS OF ROCK GARDENS.—Inexpensive Plants for Sale.—Apply, NELL SHAW, Hatfield Place, Bath.

ALPINE ROCK AND CRAZY PAVING PLANTS, all of good varieties: 6 each, 4/6 doz.; 25, 8/6; 50, 16/-; 100, 30/-, in 6, 12, 25 varieties respectively.—J. H. PAGE, Gardenia, Adelaide Road, Surbiton, Surrey.

SUTTON'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI.

Indispensable for all kinds of decoration work.
Special Collections (Our Selection).
36 in 12 showy varieties 6/6
50 „ 10 „ „ 9/6
SUTTON AND SONS, THE KING'S SEEDSMEN, READING.

DOBBIE'S PLANT CATALOGUE now ready. Free to all readers. Please mention THE GARDEN when writing. —DOBBIE AND CO., LIMITED, Edinburgh.

BATH'S SELECT SEEDS AND PLANTS.—New Illustrated Catalogue of choice Vegetable and Flower Seeds and Plants is now ready, and will be sent, post free, on application.—(Dept. E), R. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BRAYTH, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO READERS OF "THE GARDEN."—Owing to the great demand for FIDLER'S 1926 GARDEN GUIDE AND CATALOGUE, a limited number of copies have been provisionally reserved for readers of this paper. Please SEND IN YOUR APPLICATION AT ONCE and mark your envelope or postcard "GARDEN" in top left-hand corner.—FIDLER & SONS (established 1856), Reading.

HARDY PLANTS, ROSES AND FRUIT TREES. Revised catalogue now ready. Free on application to THOMPSON AND MORGAN, Ipswich.

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES.—Per stone: Duke of York, 2/3; Witchhill, 2/6 Express, 2/2; Epicure, 1/10; Eclipse, 2/-; Abundance, 2/2; Great Scot, 2/3; Majestic, 2/4; King Edward, 1/10; Kerr's Pink, 1/10; Bishop, 2/3, etc. Shallots Red, 8d. lb. Amateur's Guide of Vegetable and Flower Seeds free.—TILLIE WHYTE & CO., 12, Melbourne Place, Edinburgh.

HARDY CYCLAMEN.—Varied shades of pink, rose and pure white, handsome marbled foliage, 3/6 per doz. Rare Anemones, see advert., March 13th, J. CORNHILL, Byfleet, Weybridge.

GARDEN NETS.—Best tanned, small mesh, 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 25yds. by 3yds., 6/-; 25yds. by 4yds., 8/-. Carr. paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Tennis nets from 10s. Special nets for tennis boundary. Pea training nets. Lists and samples free.—G. JARRETT, Netmaker, Rye.

LAXTONS' SEEDS.—New Catalogue, post free on application. Containing novelties for 1926. New Peas "Bedford Champion," 4ft., early; "Progress," 1ft. early.—LAXTON BROTHERS, Seedsmen, Bedford.

LAXTONS' POT STRAWBERRIES for present planting. Will fruit this year. "The Duke," "Royal Sovereign" and "King George," 30/- 100, 4/- doz.—LAXTON BROTHERS, Bedford.

RARE PRIMULA AND ALPINE SEEDS from large (1,500) collection, sold cheap. List free.—Rev. J. F. ANDERSON, Glen Hall, Leicester.

A NAIL WRITES WEBSTER'S METAL LABELS. They can't fade. List 20 sizes.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

ROCKERY LABEL, WEBSTER'S METAL. —A nail writes, also neat stakes, 6, 8, 12in.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

ROSE LABELS, WEBSTER'S METAL.—A nail writes, round or oblong, 8/- 100, wires 1/-.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

ROCK PLANTS, best varieties, inexpensive, list free.—MARION GLEDSTANES, Fardross, Clogher, Northern Ireland.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND S Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

CLAY'S LONDON FERTILIZER TRADE MARK

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then, together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices :—

Tins 10d. and 1/6

and in **Branded and Sealed Bags :**

7 lbs. - 3/6 14 lbs. - 6/-
28 lbs. - 10/- 56 lbs. - 18/-
112 lbs. - 32/-

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark.

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers etc. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**

NEW

CHRYSANTHEMUMS

Clean healthy Plants free from rust, aphis, etc.

FOR GREENHOUSE FLOWERING : 12 New Exhibition Japanese of 1925, **20**/-; 12 Exhibition Japs, including 1924 sorts, **5**/-; 12 Incurved varieties, **5**/-; 12 Decorative sorts, including one 1925 novelty, **5**/-; 12 Decorative Single varieties, **4**/-

FOR THE GARDEN : 12 Aug.-Sept flowering varieties, including one novelty 1925, **5**/-; 12 Sept.-Oct. flowering sorts, **4**/-; 12 Aug.-Sept. single varieties, **4**/-

The above three dozens can be supplied now, but must not be protected until the end of April.

Pelargoniums (Show and Regal), from 3in. pots: 12 good varieties, **9**/-; newer sorts, **12**/- & **15**/- doz.

Zonal Pelargoniums (Geraniums), from 3in. pots: 12 fine single varieties, **7/6**; 12 double and semi-double varieties, **7/6**; 6 Cactus Geraniums, **4**/-; 6 Ivy-leaved Geraniums, **4**/-, including Sir Percy Blakeney

Dahlias : 12 Cactus varieties (pot roots) - **6**/-

Plumbago capensis (blue), **1**/- ea.; (alba), **1**/- ea.

Post free for orders over 5/-, others 6d. extra.

Catalogue free on application.

J. W. COLE & SON

Westwood Nurseries . Peterborough

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" Lawn Sand, Soilfume, Nicotine, Insecticides, Fumers, Sprays, and other Chemicals and Sundries. See List. Please ask your agent for the Eureka Articles – They are always satisfactory if any difficulty in obtaining, we send direct, carriage paid.

Only Address: TOMLINSON & HAYWARD L^TD LINCOLN.

Beautiful Hardy Flowers

ARTINDALES New Illustrated Catalogue now ready and will be forwarded on application.

WM. ARTINDALE & SON

NETHER GREEN :: SHEFFIELD

The "HELICHRYSA" PERMANENT LABEL

Reg. Design, 713923. P ov. Prot.

LASTING, LEGIBLE, AND LOW IN PRICE

IT LOOKS YOU STRAIGHT IN THE FACE

The labels are embossed aluminium in galvanised wire holders. From **2/- dozen** according to amount of lettering necessary.

Write for circular and full particulars to

THE "HELICHRYSA" PERMANENT LABEL CO.

EAST STREET, COGGESHALL, ESSEX

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Berberis Darwinii and stenophylla.

(DAISY HILL HYBRIDS.)

	each.	
Darwinii macrophylla	1/6	2/6
,, **pendula**	2/6	3/6
,, **prostrata**	2/6	3/6
Stenophylla autumnalis, flowers in autumn as well as spring	3/6	5/-
,, **coccinea,** scarlet flower buds	3/6	5/-
,, **compacta,** cushion habit	2/6	3/6
,, **corallina compacta,** the gem of the series	3/6	5/-
,, **diversifolia,** most profuse flowering	2/6	3/6
,, **gracilis,** charming habit	2/6	3/6
,, ,, **nana,** a miniature of the latter	2/6	3/6
,, **Irwinii,** a well known and profuse variety	2/6	3/6
,, **latifolia,** the most robust	2/6	3/6
,, **reflexa,** very distinct	2/6	3/6
,, **semperflorens,** an ideal Rock Garden shrub, in flower for eight months of the year	3/6	5/-

All the above are Daisy Hill production and are offered as own rooted plants.

Full descriptions will be found in Tree and Shrub List, free on application.

T. SMITH,

Daisy Hill Nursery, NEWRY.

NETTINGS

GARDEN NETS

For Fruit Protection

Any lengths and widths. Corded all round.

	per sq. yd.
NEW 1 in. sq. mesh, heavy	6½d.
NEW 1 in. ,, medium	5½d.
NEW ¾ in. ,, light	5½d.
NEW ⅝ in. ,, medium	7½d.
REPAIRED 1 in. sq. mesh, heavy	3½d.
REPAIRED ¾ in. ,, ,,	4d.

REPAIRED (not corded) 1 in. diamond mesh 9/- per 100 sq. yards.

NEW TENNIS BOUNDARY NETS

Any lengths and widths. Corded all round.

7d. per sq. yard.

NEW TENNIS NETS

Various qualities, from **16**/- to **31**/- each.

Nets for All Purposes

Samples and full particulars from the manufacturers.

JOSEPH BENTLEY, LTD.

Barrow-on-Humber, LINCS.

(Sole Proprietors of B. EDDY & SONS)

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

BORDER CARNATIONS & ALLWOODII

Plant EARLY for best results.

Border Carnations.

Our stocks of the best hardy Garden varieties are superb. Vigorous sturdy stock from 3½in. pots, which cannot fail to give the best results, the undermentioned collections represent the best value obtainable.

CARRIAGE PAID for cash.

6 distinct varieties 8/6
12 ,, ,, ... 16/-
25 Plants in good variety .. 30/-

ALLWOODII.

The ever popular hardy plant, suitable for every garden purpose. Will beautify the border, the lawn vase or window box; is perfectly hardy and the easiest plant to cultivate. New and improved varieties have been introduced, of which the undermentioned CARRIAGE PAID COLLECTIONS ARE MAINLY COMPOSED.

6 distinct varieties 5/6
12 ,, ,, ... 10/6
25 Plants in good variety .. 21/-

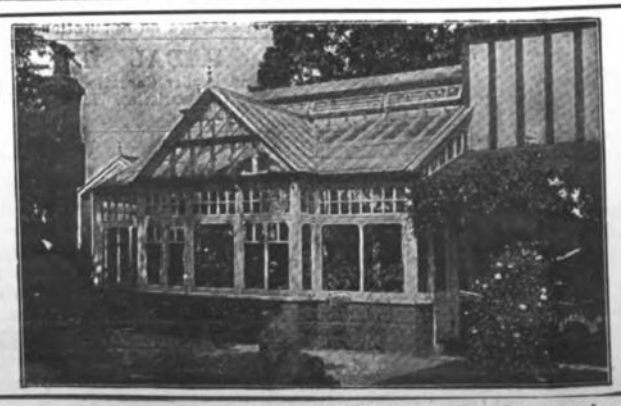
CATALOGUE OF ALL CARNATIONS FOR GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE sent post free on request to—

Allwood Bros

The leading Carnation Raisers and Specialists in the World.

Dept. 4, Haywards Heath, Sussex

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*



FOSTER & PEARSON LIMITED

Established 1841

Please write for Estimates for durable Greenhouses, Boilers, etc., to

BEESTON NOTTS

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING, SURREY
(late ANTHONY WATERER)

PROPRIETOR - **HOSEA WATERER**

has pleasure in offering

STANDARD TREES

in great variety, consisting of

LIMES, NORWAY MAPLES, ELMS, etc., etc.

EVERGREEN & DECIDUOUS SHRUBS, viz.:

Box—Green and Variegated, 3 to 8 ft.
Hollies—Common, 5 to 8 ft.; Variegated and Green varieties, 2 to 6 ft.
Thujopsis borealis, 10 to 12 ft. Cupressus Lawsoniana, 12 to 14 ft. Cedrus atlantica glauca, very fine, 14 to 16 ft. Osmanthus, Phillyreas, Spireas, Lilacs, Viburnums, etc.

GOLDEN YEWS

A Magnificent Stock in all shapes and sizes from 2 to 10 ft.

PRIVET, Common and Oval-leaved.

QUICK and **HORNBEAM** for Hedges.

AZALEAS, 2 to 5 ft.

RHODODENDRONS, without doubt the finest stock in the trade of named varieties, 2 to 6 and 8 ft.

HARDY HEATHS in great variety and a good general nursery stock.

Catalogue ready.

Enquiries and inspection invited.

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING STATION, SURREY

GOW'S # LAWN SAND

In Tins at:— 1/-; 2/6 (7lbs.), 4/- (14lbs.).

ERADICATES
Daisies, Moss and Similar Weeds.

— A MOST EFFECTIVE —
GRASS STIMULANT.

28 lbs. will dress 100 square yards or 84 lbs. a full size Tennis Court.

In Bags:— 28lbs. 10/-; 56lbs. 18/6; 1 cwt. 30/-.

FROM ALL SEEDSMEN.

Makers—**HUNTER & GOW LTD., 23, Thomas Street, LIVERPOOL.**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Austins "MAYFLOWER"

A SPLENDID EARLY PEA

READY fully 10 days before *Gradus* or *Pilot*—Hardy, Robust, flavour excellent, pods large and produced mostly in pairs. Many customers say this is the most reliable early pea grown. It is also of the utmost value for successional cropping.

½ Pint, 1/3 (post free) Pint, 2/6 (post free)

AUSTINS "RELIANCE." A maincrop variety, is also notable. It gives ten and eleven peas per pod, is an enormous cropper, and according to customers is the finest flavoured pea extant.

½ Pint, 1/6 (post free) Pint, 2/9 (post free)

Scotch Seed Potatoes a Speciality.
Write for Catalogue, post free.

AUSTIN & McASLAN, Mitchell St., Glasgow

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

SNAPDRAGONS—*for gorgeous massing*

SIMPSON'S SUPER-SEED

12 *Awards of Merit and* 10 *Highly Commended*, 1920
5 *Awards of Merit*, 1922, *in pots at R.H.S. Wisley Trials*

Send for free illustrated Seed List G, offering seeds of 42 varieties of Snapdragons at 6d. 1/- and 2/6 per packet, with full range of Vegetable and Flower seeds of established merit.

TALL.—**Earne**, light pink; **Monarch** crimson; **Rose King**, deep rose; **The King**, orange scarlet, white tube; **Yellow King**, yellow.

MEDIUM.—**Afterglow**, orange scarlet; **Appleby Matthews**, orange terra-cotta, white tube; **Aurore**, fiery terra-cotta; **Charm**, rose pink; **Empress**, crimson; **Estelle**, apricot salmon, suffused pink; **Fascination**, light pink; **Golden Gem**, yellow; **Lady Roberts**, primrose; **Mrs. R. F. Felton**, bright orange-scarlet; **Rosseum Superbum**, soft rose pink; **Sybil Eckford**, apricot pink and cream, white tube; **The Fawn**, peach pink, white tube; **Victory**, salmon terra-cotta; **White Queen**, white. A further three varieties can be supplied in Spring-sown Plants.

AUTUMN SOWN. **STRONG PLANTS FROM BOXES.** Delivery about Mid-April from cold frames, 2/3 per doz. (if less than 12 of one variety at 3/- per doz., not less than 6 of any one variety named), 25 or more of any one variety at 15/- per 100. Carriage extra, see below.

SPRING SOWN. **STRONG PLANTS FROM BOXES.** Delivery early in May hardened off. 1/6 per doz. (if less than 12 of one variety at 2/- per doz., not less than 6 of any one variety named), 25 or more of any one variety at 10/6 per 100.

Special rates for cash with order (which must be added). Carriage, box and packing, 24 plants 1/-, more than 24, 1/6. When cash does not accompany order, box, packing and rail charges are charged at cost.

W. H. SIMPSON & SONS, *Super-Seed Specialists*, BIRMINGHAM

Wise gardeners order NOW because stocks are not unlimited.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

AUTUMN and WINTER BEAUTY
In the Garden.

WHEN the first Autumn frost has killed the Summer flowers and the last rose is just existing, many people imagine that the garden must be a dull uninteresting place until Spring awakens the early Daffodils.

There are, however, many trees and shrubs which will provide beautiful pictures throughout Autumn and Winter when rightly placed.

What is more beautiful than the setting sun lighting up the berries of the Cotoneasters, Thorns, and other berried shrubs; or the crimson stems of the Scarlet Dogwood, yellow and crimson barked Willows.

We have prepared a short supplement to our general catalogue, giving a list of the best trees and shrubs for Winter beauty, with fuller descriptions and cultural notes. A copy on application. We devote the same care and thought to the cultivation of our immense stocks of FRUIT TREES, ROSES, ALPINES, HARDY PERENNIALS as we do to the SHRUBS.

THE BARNHAM NURSERIES, LTD., **BARNHAM, SUSSEX.**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

BEGONIAS
AWARDED 85 GOLD MEDALS.

In superb quality and extra large tubers for Greenhouse or Bedding.

| | | |

SEEDSMEN BY APPOINTMENT

GRASS SEED

ALL lawns should be re-conditioned immediately if the turf and surface are to be in good condition for the coming season, consequently, preparations should be made in advance, and all the required materials—Grass Seed, Fertiliser, Worm Killer, etc., assembled. For particulars how to renovate your lawn, make a new lawn, diagrams and instructions, write to-day for Carters Booklet on "Lawns and Sports Grounds," post free on application. Fill in coupon below :—

PLEASE SEND, POST FREE, BOOKLET
"LAWNS & SPORTS GROUNDS."
M.....
.....
G. .....

Carters
TESTED SEEDS

Grass Seed and Turf Specialists,
RAYNES PARK, LONDON, S.W.20

SERVICE AND ADVICE
Carters will answer any question in regard to the improvement or up-keep of your Turf.

Toogood's Seeds
THE BEST THAT GROW

Fine seeds make fine flowers!
There is nothing one is called upon to buy more 'in the dark' than seeds. Therefore, buy and sow only Guaranteed Garden Seeds.

FREE ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE of "Guaranteed Garden Seeds"—comprising both flower and vegetable seeds—sent free on application.

TOOGOOD & SONS, Ltd.
The King's Seedsmen,
SOUTHAMPTON.

BY APPOINTMENT

CLOVER IN LAWNS

Check the growth of Clover early in the Spring by applying

FISONS' LAWN SAND

Use at the rate of 4 ozs. to the sq. yard. One cwt. is sufficient for a tennis court and a margin of 4 yds. all . . round. . .

Price per cwt. **35/-** in kegs carr. pd.

Illustrated Catalogue of Fertilizers for all crops, post free, from

Joseph Fison & Co., Ltd. Ipswich.

ROCKERY STONE

Best Westmorland Weathered Limestone for Rockeries, Rock Gardens, etc.
In any sized pieces to suit requirements. Any quantity. Large Stones a speciality.
For price and particulars, write—
J. WARDLEY & SONS,
SLACKHEAD - - MILNTHORPE.

VIOLETS

FOR BEDS, ROCK GARDENS & NATURALIZING.
MISS STANISTREET has ready now young plants of highest quality, as supplied to U.S.A. and Canadian Governments. Properly selected and packed by experts. 50 Varieties. Princess of Wales, Marie Louise, etc., 3/6 doz. carriage paid. Lists free.
KILLALOE :: Co. CLARE

WALTER CHAS. SLOCOCK
— *offers* —
NEW AND SCARCE
RHODODENDRONS
in Hybrids and Species, including
HIMALAYAN, CHINESE,
and other Rhododendrons
also a large quantity of HYBRID SEEDLINGS raised from these, in various colours, early and late flowering. The best have been grafted and can be supplied correctly under numbers.

Also a large assortment of
AZALEAS, ANDROMEDA, KALMIA, HEATHS, Etc.,
and a large GENERAL NURSERY STOCK.

AREA 300 ACRES.
Goldsworth Old Nursery, WOKING, SURREY.
Station: WOKING (Southern Railway) 1 mile.
General Catalogue on application.

A Prolific Garden

cannot be maintained without the aid of some kind of manure. Stable manure is now scarce, and is bulky to cart and spread on the land. No artificial will altogether take the place of natural manure, but a good well-balanced fertiliser, used during the growing season, is a wonderful aid in producing high-class garden crops. No fertiliser is cleaner, more effective, or economical than

PEARSON'S CHEMICAL MANURE

which is compounded from the purest chemicals. It contains every element necessary to plant life which is not present in any ordinary garden soil. A glance at the analysis will prove that this manure is as cheap as any on the market, while nothing can beat it in ease of application and results.

ANALYSIS
PEARSON'S "CHEMICAL MANURE"
(ARTIFICIALLY COMPOUNDED)
Contains at least 11·79 *Phosphates, soluble and insoluble;* 6·68 *Potash;* 6·44 *Nitrogen* (*Ammonia Nitrogen* 4·56, *Nitric* 1·88).

Per cwt. 25/-, ½ cwt. 13/- carr. paid. ¼ cwt. 7/-, 14 lb. 4/6, 7 lb. 2/9, carr. forward.

Procure Now for Coming Season.

J. R. Pearson & Sons, Ltd.
The Nurseries, Lowdham, Notts.
(Established 1782)

Digitized by Google

VOL. XC.—No. 2836. MARCH 27, 1926
Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s 4d. Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2. *Offices for Advertisements:* 6-11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

AN ANSWER

A CONTRIBUTOR to this week's issue has answered an article which I wrote last year on hybridising. I can refer those who are interested to "Where will it End," published May 16th, 1925. In his reply "L. R." has misunderstood the object of my previous article. I did not decry hybrid rhododendrons as such, but I did try to warn enthusiasts against indiscriminate hybridising. I frankly agree that hybrids flower better and at a younger stage than most species; I also admit that for ordinary gardens where space is often at a premium a quick and certain flowering hybrid is better than a slow-growing and doubtful-flowering species. What I have to complain of is that "L. R." and other enthusiasts blithely cross each new rhododendron as it flowers with everything in sight in their own garden and with what they have heard of in their friend's gardens, searching blindly for a better plant. If they confined themselves to trying to fill gaps or to better some individual plants, I should have no grounds for complaint, but these enthusiasts are nothing if not lavish in the scale in which they produce new seedlings, and I think that my remark "Where will it end?" is justified. Perhaps in their enthusiasm amateur hybridists forget that every hybrid seedling is different, and also the time that it takes for a plant raised by an amateur to get into general cultivation. Let us take "L. R.'s" own figure of flowering in seven years from seed. There are only three methods of increasing a hybrid—cuttings, layers and grafts. Remember that one plant only of a particularly fine form may be raised from seed. It is unlikely that the raiser in his first enthusiasm will denude or throw the entire plant for the benefit of others. Perhaps three or four cuttings or layers may be taken from it in the first two years; these have to grow for a year or two before they can be propagated again. In fact, I doubt if a fine hybrid can be reproduced in large quantities in under thirty years. No one can expect the amateur raiser to be so altruistic as to ensure other people's enjoyment of a plant he has raised before his own.

This argument may appear shortsighted, but it, naturally, only applies to the present generation, in which I happen to be interested. Doubtless the sheep will be separated from the goats by the time the next generation is old enough to appreciate rhododendrons, but the results of the frenzied hybridising that has taken place since the war will have no general influence for many years to come. There is a great deal to be said for older hybrids, for they were made at a time when the majority of species in this country were not satisfactory garden plants. Hybridists, such as the Waterers, Mr. Mangles, Cunningham and Fraser, Fisher Sons and Sibray and Sir Edmund Loder, set out to fill a gap and set about it on definite lines with admirable results. It is doubtful if more floriferous plants than Loder's White, Manglesi, Duchess of Portland, Cunningham's White or Pink Pearl could be found.

It must also be remembered that new hybrids must differ absolutely in some definite point, such as date of flowering, infinite superiority of colour and shape, and so on. It is easy for the specialist to make comparisons when he has every variety growing in his garden, in addition to a perception trained by long years in growing rhododendrons. It is much more difficult to persuade the tyro who has admired, say, three species or hybrids in a friend's garden and can perhaps only recognise ten or a dozen kinds that a novelty is better than an old form. He has few means of comparison. This, of course, applies equally to new species.

Keen as I am on rhododendrons, I realise that the enthusiast is in a fair way to defeating his own ends by the multiplicity of species and hybrids. The beginner can hardly see the wood for the trees. Doubtless there are many species and hybrids which will be so infinitely better than their neighbours that they will tower as giants out of the wood, but in the present state of flux the beginner, however much he may admire rhododendrons, will stick in desperation to those plants which he knows. And he will probably be right.

Yet in a way this is a pity, for there are a number of good new species and a few new hybrids that have already appeared that are worthy of much more notice by the amateur beginner than is paid them at the present. I shall give just one instance, some of the rhododendron species that centre round R. triflorum. They are as floriferous as most hybrids; they are easy to grow and take kindly to most positions provided that they are not in full sun. I mean such rhododendrons as Augustinii, yunnanense, chartophyllum, villosum, ambiguum.

E. H. M. C.

AMONG THE ARTICLES IN OUR NEXT ISSUE WILL BE:

CAPRICIOUS PLANTS, by Flora Dysart.

SHRUBBY VERONICAS, by C. M. Bailey.

THE MAKING OF A WATER LILY POND, by A. Osborn.

The front cover of our Spring Number, which has been so much admired, is an illustration of Messrs. Carters' Wallflowers.

Digitized by Google

A RHODODENDRON TOUR in SIKKIM

IN May of last year, under the guidance of a friend who has an intimate knowledge of the district and its flora, I spent a fortnight among the rhododendrons in Sikkim. A few notes on what I saw may possibly be of interest to rhododendron lovers.

The setting is very grand. In the lower altitudes semi-tropical trees of superb proportions; higher up, steep mountain slopes in sweeps of 5,000ft. to 8,000ft.; and, over all, the 28,000ft. snows. Seldom, however, could all this grandeur be seen, for the flowering time of the rhododendrons coincides with the season of mist and rain, and sometimes for days together, we passed through what we knew to be some of the finest scenery in the world, seeing nothing beyond the immediate foreground save an infinity of mist. The too frequent absence of sunlight made efforts to photograph both difficult and unsatisfactory, and many a fine subject had to be passed by unrecorded.

My first rhododendron was R. Dalhousiæ, and it was indeed a thrill to find this greenhouse treasure growing profusely in the little rocky glens which opened off the roadway, and even by the roadside itself. It also frequently grew high up on the trees as an epiphyte. Next came R. Edgeworthii, a whole hillside of it, filling the air with its fragrance. These were near Darjeeling. It was not till we had reached 10,000ft. to 12,000ft. altitude towards the frontier of Nepal that we got to the true rhododendron area. *Trees* of R. Falconeri, 20ft. to 30ft. high, laden with great trusses of blossom; R. arboreum still bigger; R. cinnabarinum var. Roylei; R. fulgens; miles of R. campanulatum, and miles of R. Hodgsonii. Lower down we found two plants—the only two in our tour—of R. Aucklandii, which does not seem to be common, in this district at any rate.

For the most part the different species were rather segregated, but sometimes they mixed. One hillside was specially memorable. For a background there was a subtle mixture of grey greens, russet and purple browns, and the very dark green of conifers. Interspersed were the rhododendrons, ranging in colour from sulphur, through apricot, salmon, greyish peach, pink and rose red, to deep crimson, with here and there a little mauve or lavender, the whole suggestive of the soft richness of a splendid tapestry.

Crossing Sikkim eastwards we sank below the rhododendron region, and it was only on approaching the Tibet and Bhutan frontier—10,000ft. to 13,500ft.—that we regained it. Here again were nearly all the varieties we had found in the west, with some notable additions, such as R. cinnabarinum var. blandfordiæflorum in its ordinary form, and one plant of it of a scarlet of the intensity of Lonicera fuchsioides, and, like that honeysuckle, with a narrow edging of yellow to its waxy bells. Here were the largest plants of R. cinnabarinum var. Roylei and R. Thomsonii that I have ever seen, reaching 20ft. and over, and a mass of gorgeous crimson blossom. Also R. campylocarpum, and, to my surprise and delight, numbers of a natural hybrid between R. campylocarpum and R. Thomsonii, ranging in colour from the sulphur of the one, through apricot and salmon, to the crimson of the other. The shape of the corolla was like that of the parent plants, and the calyx about half-way between the inconspicuous one of R. campylocarpum and the large one of R. Thomsonii.

R. WIGHTII WITH THE WHITE FORM OF R. CAMPYLOCARPUM IN THE CENTRE.

I had the good fortune to find a white form of R. campylocarpum, only one plant among the thousands I saw. It was of great beauty, the bell having a shade of ivory in its depth, and a sprinkling of claret-coloured spots in the middle upper segment.

Getting to about 12,000ft. we attained one of our chief objectives, the region of R. Wightii—miles and miles of hillsides covered with it. Here again I had extraordinary good fortune, for of this also I found a white form. Though not of the largest size, nor possessing the globular truss of the best forms of R. Wightii, it was very beautiful. The blossoms had a faint suspicion of mauve in the bud state, and were thickly spotted with claret red in the upper part. The leaves were less brown on their under sides than are those of the normal form. Though I saw I suppose hundreds of thousands of plants of R. Wightii, I found but one white one. In fact, I am informed that it has not been recorded before. I may here mention that our fires—very necessary at these cold heights—were built of faggots of R. Wightii wood!

One point which struck me forcibly was the great difference in horticultural value which exists between the different forms of some of the species. This is especially true of R. Wightii. One would hardly want to grow it in its poorest form, with loose truss and smallish bells, whereas in its finest forms I would count it one of the noblest of the genus. There are two of these very fine forms. Both have large leaves with rich brown under sides, and large globular trusses of flowers of soft, pure yellow and solid texture. In one variety the centre of the upper part of the corolla is heavily spotted with claret red; in the other a blotch of the claret red occupies the base of the bell, the rest of which is self-yellow.

Of R. Dalhousiæ there were two forms. One had rather smaller flowers of a slightly deeper shade of yellow than the other, which was larger and finer, and went to palest ivory white when fully expanded.

There was another rhododendron resembling R. Dalhousiæ, but which was white with a faint flush of pink on the outside and a yellowish stain in the bottom of the bell, and exceedingly sweetly scented. It was suggested to me that this also was

R. EDGEWORTHII ON THE HILLSIDE.

Digitized by Google

R. Dalhousiæ; but I thought it could not be, for I had never seen that rhododendron with any trace of pink in it; as I know it, it goes from green in the bud through greenish yellow, yellowish to ivory white in the full blown flower. On my return home I found that Hooker in his "Rhododendrons of the Sikkim Himalaya," describing the blossom of R. Dalhousiæ, says: "Corolla white . . . with an occasional tinge of rose. In age the flowers assume a delicate roseate tinge." I have been endeavouring to find out if this pinkish form of R. Dalhousiæ is known in cultivation, but so far without success. It would be interesting to learn if any of your readers know of it—a *true* R. Dalhousiæ, not a hybrid form. If such a plant is not known I would—if one so ignorant of botany as I am might venture to do so—hazard the suggestion that when Hooker spoke of R. Dalhousiæ as having flowers sometimes tinged with rose, it was R. Lindleyi, not R. Dalhousiæ that was in his mind. Mr. J. Hutchinson points out ("Notes from the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh," Vol. XII, No. LVI) that both in Hooker's dried material of R. Dalhousiæ and in the coloured plate of it there are portions of R. Lindleyi (which was not distinguished as a separate species till many years later) mixed up with it. If, then, Hooker mixed the plants, it is possible that he mixed the colours of their flowers also, and that would account for his statement that the flowers of R. Dalhousiæ are sometimes tinged with rose, which surely is not characteristic of them as generally known in cultivation.

But to return from this digression. Most of the plants of this last-mentioned rhododendron were epiphytes growing so far up the trees that their presence was made known only by the fallen bells strewing the ground below.

R. campanulatum ranges from a delicate lavender to an unpleasant purple. Some forms of R. Hodgsonii are of a beautiful peach pink, while in the normal form the pink has too much of blue in it to be quite pleasing. Of R. campylocarpum there is a small form as well as the larger and more desirable one. R. arboreum varies very greatly both as regards form and colour. I may say that I did not find any plant of it as fine as the blood-red one in the Temperate House at Kew. R. Falconeri occurred both with and without the purple spot at the base of the bell, and R. Thomsonii varied greatly both in the size of the blossoms and in the depth and purity of their colours. What one would like to do would be to make this tour in spring, marking the finest forms; then go over it again in autumn, gathering seeds from or digging up seedlings from under these marked plants.

After the rhododendrons, the plants which interested me most were, I think, the arisæmas, of which there were many strange and beautiful species. The most wonderful was A. Wallichianum, with its very large frilled and ribbed greenish and purplish marbled flower, lined with velvety chocolate purple, and having its spadix terminating in a thread 18ins. to 21ins. in length, which gets entangled in the neighbouring leaves. I can only suppose that this threadlike appendage must be meant to form a path along which small insects may be led to the pollen, and so effect pollination and ultimately fertilisation.

Besides these, there were innumerable other flowers of the greatest beauty and interest, ranging from orchids, hoyas and such-like tropical plants in the valleys, up to primulas and alpines on the heights.

Altogether this visit to Sikkim is a never-to-be-forgotten experience, and is a help to the better appreciation of the achievements of the plant-hunters of the remoter east. J. C. W.

[Since the above article was written the dried material of the white form of R. Wightii has been examined by Professor Wright Smith, who confirms an additional distinction between this form and the type, namely, that the form exhibits an almost glabrous ovary and might be provisionally named R. Wightii var. leucochroum.—ED.]

TYPICAL RHODODENDRON COUNTRY AT 13,500 ft. WITH A WHITE FORM OF R. WIGHTII IN FOREGROUND.

ON HYBRID RHODODENDRONS

SOME time last year an article appeared in THE GARDEN decrying the hybrid rhododendron. I am aware that it is the fashion to state that the species is so much more refined, and I agree that no more glorious sight is possible than a large Aucklandii in full bloom in a Cornish garden, or even an Augustinii or a campylocarpum in some of the less favoured districts of England; but, generally speaking, it is from the hybrid rhododendrons and azaleas that the majority of gardens derive their great annual colour treat. The Waterer and the Dutch hybrid rhododendrons flower year after year with unfailing regularity wherever they may be planted, so long as the soil is free from lime. With the species, however, the vagaries of our British climate have a great deal to say as to the effect that we shall get in our gardens; should, in any particular year, they happen to coincide with those of the locality where a particular plant grows wild, it might be good, but this is not always so. Some years may be too dry, some too hot, some too mild in the winter and some too cold—one year it may be the early autumn frost which blackens the buds before they are hard and well set, at other times it is an early spring frost which catches them just as they are coming into flower. It stands to reason that all these species which have been introduced from different altitudes, different latitudes and, above all, coming from places where the rainfall varies from 24oins. a year in some cases to 30ins. to 40ins. a year in others, cannot all find our climate to their liking; the hybridist on the other hand has evolved a race eminently suitable to our part of the world.

It is true that in some favoured gardens the trusses may be larger, the colours more intense; but, generally speaking, Cynthia or Pink Pearl, Britannia or Doncaster, Helen Schiffner

Digitized by Google

or the Duchess of Portland can be depended upon to give, year in and year out, a blaze of colour for the few weeks during which these plants are in bloom. These rhododendrons are all raised with the aid only of the Himalayan rhododendrons introduced by Hooker and the addition of catawbiense and ponticum.

With the entry of the new Chinese rhododendrons a much greater chance for the skilled hybridist has arisen. By using iscolor and auriculatum, we have a chance of prolonging the season until June or July, and we may perhaps be able to produce late hardy rhododendrons of as beautiful a hue and shape as those Aucklandii and blood red arboreum hybrids which now can only be grown in the milder gardens on our sea coast. How many people have admired the exhibits that Gill has put up at the Royal Horticultural Hall in the early months of the year and wished that they could grow those plants in their gardens. With successful hybridising, this should not be impossible.

DUCHESS OF PORTLAND ONE OF THE BEST WHITE HYBRIDS

Take only two of the newer Chinese rhododendrons which have been introduced as examples of what might be done. Few will deny that any more startling colour has ever been seen in a rhododendron than that of Griersonianum, and many may say that no more beautiful shrub could be evolved by the hybridist, and yet in many gardens at present this forms a loose-growing bush—free-flowering, it is true, but never sufficient to stand out in the landscape. This may be due to the fact that no mature bush is yet to be found in a British garden; but it hybridises very freely, and surely this must help to improve the colour of our garden hybrids—a compact, free-flowering bush with a good truss and the glorious colour of Griersonianum would surely be a very desirable asset to British gardens.

The neriiflorum section also is one which may help to produce many small, brilliant-coloured hybrids for our gardens. Neriiflorum itself flowers very freely, and when seen at its best in Cornish gardens is a glorious blotch of scarlet on the landscape. The hæmatodes section, which has larger flowers, only occasionally flowers freely—perhaps, again, because the plants are not large enough at the present time; but hæmatodes will often miss a year's flowering, and with successful crossing there is no doubt that this section will give a series of compact dwarf rhododendrons, which will flower every year and will grow in every garden.

Life, unfortunately, is very fleeting: the writer has watched rhododendrons growing year after year, hoping some time to see a flower bud form; year after year the species have grown bigger and bigger, full of vigour and health, pleasing in leaf, but with no sign of bud. Some of these tree rhododendrons take twenty to thirty years to flower, and then only flower really well once in every three years—in fact, the owner of one of the finest gardens in Cornwall stated only the other day that he had only seen once in thirty years a large plant of Falconeri really covered with bloom in his garden.

Hybrids usually start flowering after seven years and, once they have started flowering, are fairly consistent; and as the whole object of a garden is to beautify nature with colour, it seems to the writer that it is the hybrid rhododendron which will appeal most to the majority of garden lovers in this country and that the real use of all the explorations into the Roof of the World for new plants is to give the curious plants to collect, and the hybridist scope to fill the gardens of Britain with beautiful shrubs and plants.

L. R.

RHODODENDRONS IN WIND AND DROUGHT

IN the introduction to his invaluable book on rhododendrons Mr. Cox suggests mass planting of the moorland species in open windswept ground in place of heather. I have not yet enough plants to carry out mass planting, but I have a scrap of moorland windswept enough to afford as severe a test as anyone could wish for, and though the planting is as yet very young, it is old enough to have afforded already some striking indications of the power of these mountain rhododendrons to withstand extremes of wind and of drought.

The garden is over 600ft. above the sea, on open moorland so sheared by the Atlantic winds that for some miles around not a single tree exists, except a few down in the vicinity garden and at one farm. There is hardly a tree between here and Land's End, hardly a bush taller than gorse. The garden includes at its highest part, a bit of moorland, from which I have cleared couch grass and bramble, leaving nothing but clean native peat and rotted couch-grass and the beautiful fern-clad granite rocks. RR. oleifolium and racemosum were among the first to be tried, and these have not turned a hair, even in the most ferocious gales. They have flowered very freely and are making excellent growth. R. hippophæoides, also, planted closely, in damp, rather stony soil, is very happy, and so, rather to my surprise, is R. primulinum, though this has not yet flowered. R. cuneatum appears to be equipped for my trials. Its leaf has a satisfactory toughness, and as the plant comes from southward-facing cliffs, I am going to try it in some quite shallow soil on the rock. Sphæranthum and ledoides share the same conditions as hippophæoides and get some shade from a young pine. I think these will go on all right, though I do not feel quite so sure about them as about the others. Sphæranthum was a lovely sight when it was out last May, with its flower-heads like rosy white daphnes, and the aromatic scent is alone sufficient inducement for one to make every effort to grow this delightful plant. Myrtilloides, calostrotum and impeditum grow together on top of a rock beside the path. The soil is very shallow, and they had to face seven weeks of unbroken drought last summer, but with the help of a mulch of lawn

Digitized by Google

mowings they pulled through perfectly when Erica vagans near by was actually killed. Each plant has about doubled its size in a season. The little mounds of myrtilloides, with crimson-brown varnished leaves and the whitest of glaucous leaf-buds, are certainly very attractive; and calostrotum, I am glad to find, is as easy to strike from cuttings as I had hoped. Caloxanthum, with pale yellow bells, has not flowered yet, but is doing well. I hope the six or seven plants will grow together presently and make a thicket such as Farrer describes. Sperabile, which is reputed to be difficult, is doing well so far, though not yet of flowering size. I tried to imitate for these the mossy scree Farrer mentions as their home. They get so much wind that most shrubs so situated would lose all their leaves in the first gale. Dichroanthum is another stout fellow, hard as nails it seems. I wish I could mass this, as Mr. Cox suggests. And I believe aemulorum is going to prove one of the toughest of all. The leaves of this have a leather strength, so that, Farrer said, it can hold aloft its heads of blazing crimson-scarlet flowers in the storms of snow and sleet on the mountains of its home. I hope I shall see these little plants turn into trees with gnarled grey trunks.

I had supposed that citriniflorum and sanguineum would stand the same sort of conditions as sperabile, for they come from screes and among boulders high on the mountains, but the attachments of their leaves seem to be too fragile. Sanguineum has not liked the ordeal a bit, though some plants of citriniflorum are coming through all right.

Rubiginosum, the triflorum series, and plants such as searsiæ and zaleucum get cut to bits in such an exposure as I have been speaking of, though I am hopeful that oreotrephes may prove able to stand it. I think hæmatodes will be all right, but have not yet given it the full dose of wind. Moupinense, which will certainly stand exposure in mass planting, flowers so early and is so beautiful that I have not yet put it in quite so wild a place, and the same applies to ciliatum.

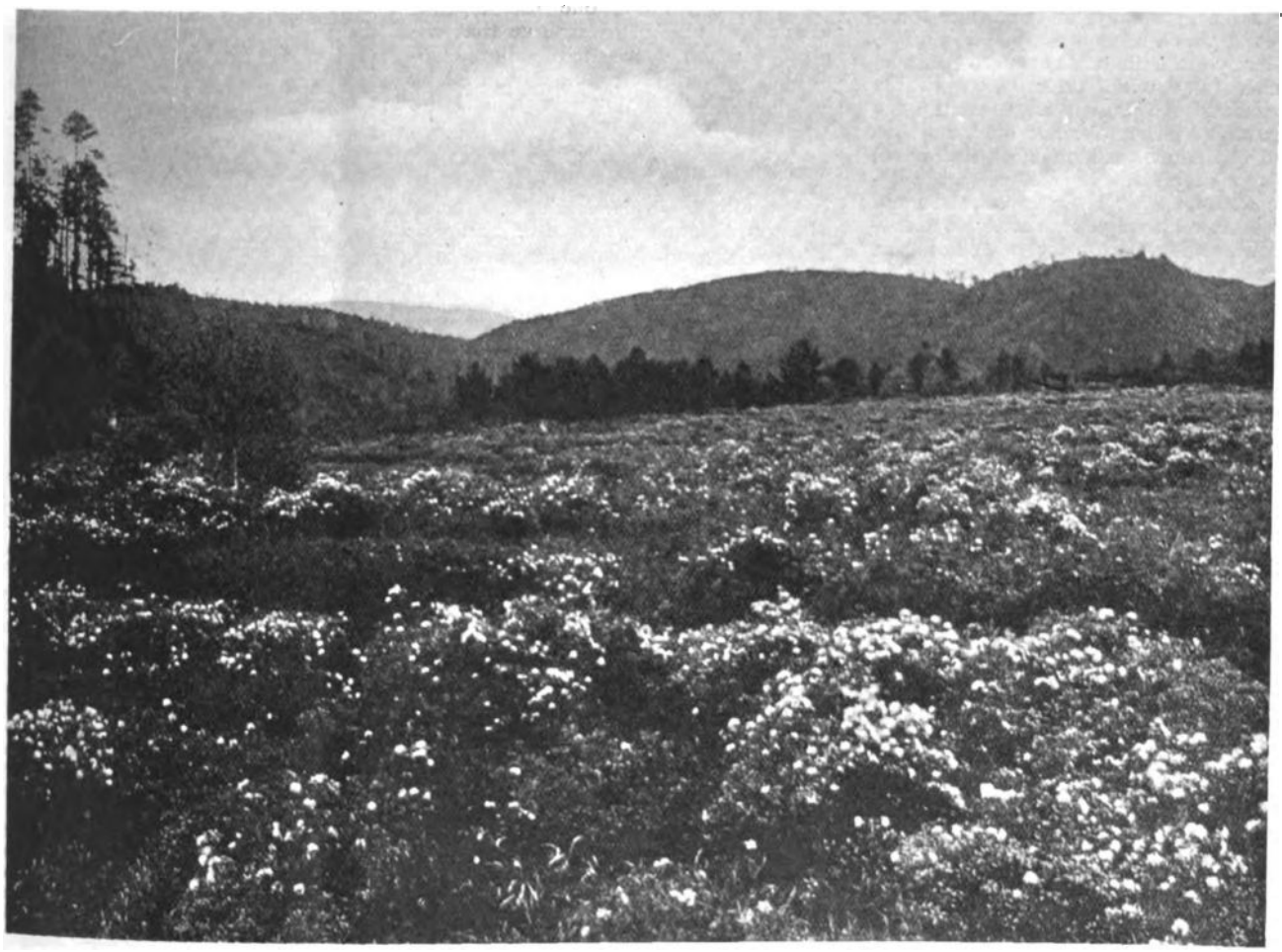
There are hundreds more species worth trying, if these will do. Megeratum, for instance, in yellow, and aiolosalpinx in white to crimson, and scyphocalyx in some coppery colour, martinianum, plebeium, troops of them that I have not tried. But these beginner's notes, based though they are on all too brief and narrow an experience, may perhaps serve to cheer some other experimenter in some other windswept garden. Perhaps, if I am lucky, they may lead some expert to be so kind as to advise me. Mr. Tagg recently pointed out in these columns that many of the mountain species are xerophytes, able to stand extremes of drought. Mr. A. Olsen, writing from Denmark, has shown that many can stand extremes of cold, and as regards those species I have named (and presumably many more), a similar claim can evidently be made as regards resistance to wind. W. ARNOLD FORSTER.

P.S.—In order to test these statements further I have held up this article till we have had some more first-class winter gales, but all the plants have passed the test.—W. A. F.

THE RHODODENDRON BUG*

BY J. C. F. FRYER

IN an issue of this journal devoted specially to the rhododendron, so important a pest as the rhododendron bug could hardly be overlooked; but it must be admitted that there is yet relatively little to add to articles on the subject by Mr. Hoare and Mr. Fox-Wilson which have appeared in the Journals of the Royal Horticultural Society (Vol. 48, page 16, and Vol. 50, page 46). The following notes must, therefore, comprise much which is already



RHODODENDRON MOORLAND IN CHINA WHICH MIGHT BE COPIED TO ADVANTAGE IN THIS COUNTRY.

* Leptobursa rhododendri, *Hartwig*.

Digitized by Google

well known to rhododendron growers, but it is hoped that they may, nevertheless, prove of some interest by drawing attention to various considerations of a practical character in connection with the control of the bug.

The rhododendron bug—sometimes, though incorrectly, called the rhododendron fly—is a foreign insect, probably of American origin, which obtained entry into this country some time prior to 1910. It may have arrived on rhododendrons from Holland, where it had been detected as early as 1908; or it may have come direct from the U.S.A., where it has been found upon wild plants of Kalmia latifolia and Rhododendron maximum. However this may be, by 1913 the pest was well established in Surrey and probably in the adjoining counties of Hampshire and Sussex, where it was detected shortly afterwards. It succeeded in establishing itself unobtrusively and without attracting the attention of rhododendron growers until it had already spread too widely to justify attempts to bring about its complete extermination.

Here the first practical point emerges. There are, probably, in the wilder countries in which rhododendrons are native, other pests still unknown to science, which may work their way towards England. At present there is in force legislation which did not exist in 1910 and which now tends to check the arrival of foreign pests. If such pests are detected soon after their arrival, it should prove a relatively easy matter to exterminate the first colonies; once, however, a pest is well established, it usually proves quite impossible to eradicate it, and the most that can then be sought is an efficient means of control. The co-operation of rhododendron growers (particularly of those who import plants from abroad) in the early detection of new pests is, therefore, very desirable.

HABITS OF THE PEST.

The insect is in the egg stage during late winter, the eggs being inserted well inside the tissues of the midribs on their undersides, rarely in other parts of the leaf, the position of each egg being indicated by a small scab of gummy secretion. So far as is known, the bugs do not lay their eggs in any other part of the plant, such as the stem or buds, as has been suggested. It, therefore, follows that, if the leaves of an infested bush are removed in winter, the bugs will be destroyed—a fact confirmed by an experiment in which bushes, heavily infested and showing large numbers of eggs, had all their leaves removed two or three years ago and have remained quite free from the bug since.

During the last days of May and practically throughout June, the young bugs are hatched from the eggs and at once begin to suck the sap from the undersides of the leaves, causing the familiar signs of damage. The length of the hatching period is of some practical importance and may have led to failures in spraying, owing to the work being done before the hatch was completed.

By about the first week in July the earlier hatched bugs have become adult and have obtained the beautiful lace-like wings which are so characteristic of them: the remainder arrive at maturity as the month proceeds. Eggs are laid in July or August; gradually the bugs die, and no more will be seen until the following year.

A last practical point in connection with the insect's habits concerns the use of its wings. No one appears ever to have caught the bug flying: it is possible it does not fly, in which case a garden once freed from the pest should remain free until infested plants are again introduced. But there is also the fact that very sluggish winged insects occasionally require exactly the right weather conditions before flying, and it may be that the rhododendron bug only flies on very occasional suitable days. The possibility is worth investigation by anyone situated in a district where the bug is plentiful, for it has a definite bearing upon the selection of control measures.

NATURAL ENEMIES.

When a foreign insect becomes established in a country, one of the first measures to take is to arrange that the pest's natural enemies—ichneumon, chalcid and tachinid flies, etc., should follow it. Unfortunately, no such enemies of the rhododendron bug are yet known, and until they are discovered this measure cannot be taken.

CONTROL MEASURES.

In the American *Journal of Economic Entomology* (Vol. VIII, page 409–414), Crosby and Hadley write as follows: "Our experience has shown that it is not a difficult matter to control these insects. They may be killed by a soap and water spray at the rate of 1lb. soap to 10 gallons water." (U.S. gallons.) Mr. Hoare's experiments, as well as those of others, confirm this statement and prove that the bugs are readily killed either by a soap spray (soft soap 1lb., soft water 10 gallons) or a nicotine and soap spray (soft soap ½lb., nicotine 95 per cent. ¾oz., soft water 10 gallons)—indeed, they are very susceptible to the action of any contact insecticide, as they are incapable of moving rapidly away from its influence. Nevertheless, it appears that, in practice, difficulties have been found in controlling the bug by spraying, and it is of importance to discover the cause of these failures, since spraying is almost the only weapon available for use against the bugs. Reference has already been made to too early spraying as one possible source of failure. The converse is also true—if the spray be applied too late, *i.e.*, after some bugs have become mature and laid eggs, the result would also appear good, but the following year the bushes would again be found to be infested. Where they can be afforded, perhaps two sprays will be found best, one about the middle of June and the second about July 8th.

Another difficulty is likely to be encountered from the fact that the bugs live on the undersides of the leaves and that rhododendron bushes—at all events, of some varieties—are very dense, so that it is not easy to spray in such a manner as to reach all the insects. This source of trouble can only be overcome by efficient work and efficient tackle, and as the spread of the bug from bush to bush is slow, it would probably pay to deal with any considerable area of rhododendrons by spraying each year only so large a block as can be very thoroughly treated.

In connection with spraying, it may be mentioned that it is just possible that dry spraying with a nicotine dust might prove useful, as dusts will often work their way into corners which a wet spray will not reach; but experiments with dusts do not appear to have been recorded.

Finally, there is a third difficulty in dealing with the bug in those areas in which rhododendrons of miscellaneous varieties have been planted in woodland and under semi-wild conditions, so that thorough spraying is not feasible. Here there appears to be no remedy, unless it should prove possible to prune back the bushes between autumn and spring in such a way as to remove their leaves, dealing with the area in small blocks. It remains to rhododendron growers to say whether this is anything more than a wild suggestion. The few bushes which were mentioned previously as having been defoliated in winter appeared to suffer no permanent injury from their treatment.

Finally, it may be emphasised that the two dominant factors in the control of the pest are, first, the ease with which it is killed when *touched* by an insecticide; and, secondly, its sluggish nature, which should permit any treatment to be carried out gradually, dealing each year only with the number of bushes which can be thoroughly sprayed.

SPRING FROSTS

GARDENERS know only too well the immense amount of damage which is done, particularly to fruit trees, by spring frosts. Quite often the giving of a little protection to a particular tree may be the means of saving a fruit crop. In the case of a large tree it is difficult to do much, but with smaller specimens, and these trained on walls, a few pieces of sacking, or even paper, will check the worst effects of the freezing temperature. It is well to bear in mind the conditions when a frost at night in the spring months may be expected. In April it is not uncommon to experience a spell of wintry weather. The wind is in a northerly quarter, and, if the barometer falls, there is every probability of hail or snow showers, followed by frost of some severity. Again, in the same month, during a spell of rainy weather when the wind is in the south or south-west, the glass falls and the wind veers to the north or north-west. Often this change comes in the late afternoon, and then the sky clears and there is a rapid drop in temperature. Another type of weather during which frost may be expected is that which often occurs for some weeks in late March, April and even May. Here the days are fine and bright and, under the influence of the sun, temperature may be relatively high. Owing to the clear sky the thermometer falls quickly after sundown, and very sharp frosts will ensue. At such times the difference between the highest temperature of the day and night will be very considerable. Naturally, this warming and chilling is likely to do harm to many kinds of vegetation. S. L. B.

Digitized by Google

FRAGRANCE IN HERBS, ALPINES AND WATER PLANTS

I CAN imagine no more delightful method of approaching the kitchen garden than along a pathway composed of red bricks, fringed by a broad band of white pinks and enclosed upon both sides by an old but well kept lavender hedge. Let the actual entry be framed in an arch of honeysuckle or fragrant roses and, so that the transition may be gradual; mass fragrant herbs in beds and borders immediately within the entry.

Take rosemary, for instance. Would you forego its fragrant charm? Certainly not, and a great spreading bush or two forms a delightful welcome. If wished, this may, by trimming, be induced to form a low hedge, a fitting continuation of the lavender walk. All sorts and conditions of herbs should fill up the borders, not forgetting the annuals—such as sweet basil—as well as those of more permanent duration. Here, a mass of hyssop; there, a clump of grey-green sage, rubbing shoulders with thyme and balm and marjoram; while height is secured by the addition of a few plants of fennel, with its sturdy growth and finely divided leaves.

ALPINES.

Let us now journey to the rock garden and see what may be found in the way of fragrance. Nothing in this part of the garden excels the dianthus for perfume and also variety of colour and form. There are, indeed, dianthus and alpine pinks that will fit in with every conceivable condition that may be encountered, whether this be soil or position and whether a close, compact clump or a broad spreading mass is the desire. One of the commonest plants that is particularly good for shaded corners where it can be allowed to run semi-wild is Asperula odorata. In spite of the ease with which this may be grown and the rapidity with which it spreads, it is really a very choice plant when seen at its best, with the deep green whorls of leaves surrounding the stems and every point tipped with a beautiful cluster of starry white fragrant flowers. Flowering simultaneously with the forget-me-not and interplanted with a deep blue variety of this, one plant sets off the other and a delightfully delicate colour picture is produced.

The violet is another plant for the alpine garden, and we would put in a plea for it in its simplest form. By this, we mean that the finest doubles or the giant singles should not be chosen, but just the small purple or white fragrant forms. Another simple flower with a distinctive fragrance is the cowslip, and it should not be forgotten that this may now be obtained in a variety of garden forms, the curious little flowers appearing in nearly as wide a colour range as the polyanthus. Silvery leaved shrubs are always valuable in the rock garden, and one beautiful example of this is to hand in the santolina or French lavender. This is effective all through the year, with tiny silvery white leaves and stems, the older ones of which gradually become woody. The fragrance is not apparent until the plant is touched or brushed, and then a pungent aromatic odour, which clings to the fingers for a long time afterwards, is given off. Southernwood, or old man, is another though taller grower of similar class, that is so well known that further comment would be superfluous.

Anemone sylvestris, a foot tall grower, graces the month of June with its pretty nodding white flowers; while A. rivularis, which is half a foot taller, with large white flowers with conspicuous anthers, is equally desirable in May and June. A somewhat scarce plant is Jaborosa integrifolia, with very fragrant white flowers in June. This is a native of Buenos Ayres, forming tuberous roots and needing a sheltered and sun-baked nook if it is to do well. Not only are the flowers especially good, but the foliage is also very handsome and the plant forms a striking specimen that will appeal to all flower lovers. Adenophora lilifolia has many points to recommend it, for it is late flowering—July—pleasantly perfumed, and bears a profusion of blue flowers that reveal their close companionship to the campanulas.

THE WATER GARDEN.

Apart from the lilies, do not miss the water hawthorn—Aponogeton distachyon—a floating aquatic that is one of the loveliest of all. It blooms over a long period, producing large pure white flowers which are rendered still more conspicuous by the jet black anthers and which amply justifies the name of hawthorn in the delicious scent.

THE WATER HAWTHORN, APONOGETON DISTACHYON, WITH PURE WHITE FLOWERS AND HAWTHORN SCENT.

Among the nymphæas, some varieties are very fragrant while others are practically without scent at all. These we may divide into two classes—those of moderate dimensions and suitable for culture in small ponds, etc., and strong growers that soon cover a wide area of surface and which can only be grown where a broad sheet of water is available for their rampant growth. Let us deal with the moderate growers first. In Laydeckeri lilacina we have an especially free blooming plant with lovely rosy lilac flowers that are shaded with carmine and fade off to deep rosy crimson. The odorata group provides us with two fine forms, in alba and suavissima. Alba is exquisite, in pure white with medium-sized flowers that are freely produced over the entire summer; while suavissima is clear pink on long stalks that hold the flowers well out of the water. The perfume of this is beyond all praise and quite at the head of the odorata group. With a sheet of deeper water, the choice of fragrant water lilies can be tremendously extended and, did one wish to plant for fragrance alone, no criticism of the varieties of flower and foliage would ultimately be possible.

With small growers it is, of course, an easy matter to keep these near to the edge, so that their fragrant qualities may be fully appreciated; but with the more vigorous types this becomes increasingly difficult, although it is not a point that should be overlooked when considering their grouping.

Of varieties that can be specially commended, Carolinianum perfecta is splendid. This has large semi-double flowers of a delicate blush pink. Fulva, of medium size, is very distinct with yellow flowers shaded by pink and ultimately changing to orange red as they age, a feature that adds not a little to the charm of so many of our water lilies.

The Marliacea group provides us with two fragrant species—Marliacea albida, with gigantic white flowers and yellow stamens; and rosea, with large clear rose flowers that fade off to a lighter flesh pink. A new variety is Masaniello, with very large flowers of deep rose that becomes carmine on the edges of the petals. The contrast of these with the white sepals and yellow stamens combines to make up a very striking flower. Odorata gigantea is a noble form of this for a large sheet of water, and its huge white flowers and deep bronzy leaves together make a most effective plant.

SUSSEX.

Digitized by Google

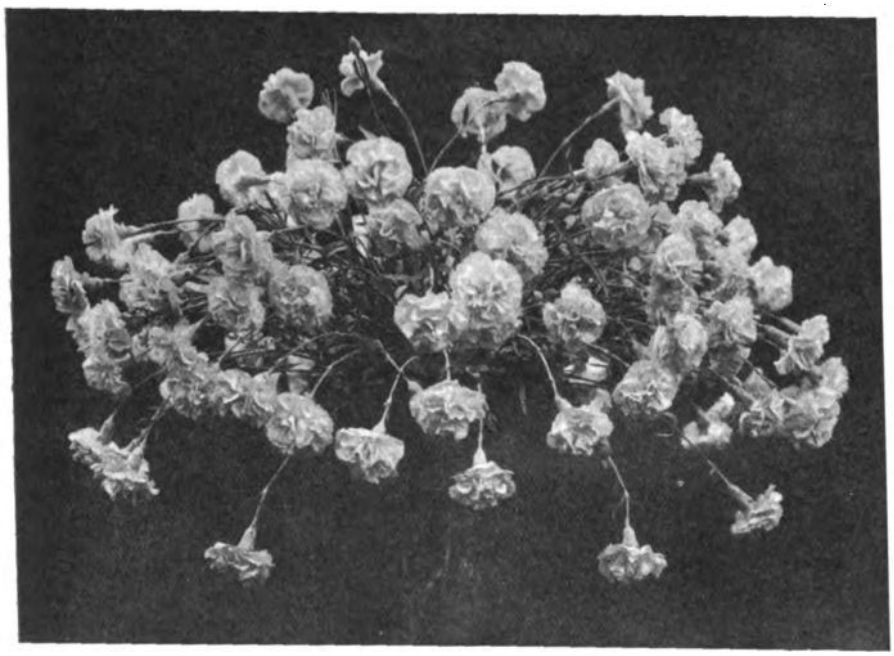
CARNATIONS OF THE FLORISTS' SHOP

THE most consistent flower in the florists' shop is the carnation, as every day throughout the year they are in abundance. It is the greatest commercial flower of to-day, for they are always obtainable. Yet if you enquire of a florist's girl the name of a variety or where it was grown, how seldom she knows.

Practically all the carnation flowers sold in the British Isles are produced in the home counties by large firms which specialise more or less in growing carnations only.

The perpetual-flowering type is the race almost exclusively grown for cut flowers; they are cultivated in very large greenhouses, the plants being planted out in beds or on shallow benches. Many of these plants flower perpetually from two to four years, producing from twelve to twenty-five flowers per year. The great secret in the successful cultivation of the perpetual-flowering carnation is to provide good light, and a fresh, cool, buoyant atmosphere of not exceeding 50° Fahr. at night.

The selection of varieties plays a most important part in the commercial production of carnation blooms, the variety must be free flowering and of a free, healthy growth, also the blooms must be of a good lasting quality and a saleable colour. Unfortunately, the flower salesman in Covent Garden Market, and in many florists' shops, often shows lack of enterprise in recognising or handling any new improved variety, and progress is retarded.



LADY NORTHCLIFFE, A POPULAR PALE SALMON.

To-day the most popular varieties as seen in the shops are:

Light Pink.
- Lady Northcliffe, pale salmon.
- May Day, flesh pink.
- George Allwood, blush salmon.
- Laddie, large pale salmon.

Dark Pink.
- Mrs. C. W. Ward, cerise.
- Master Michael Stoop, deep cerise.

White.
- Wivelsfield White
- White Enchantress.
- White Pearl (large white).

Crimson.
- Triumph.
- Topsy, very large.

Red.
- Aviator.
- Edward Allwood.
- Brilliant.

Yellow.
- Maine Sunshine, primrose yellow.
- Saffron, buttercup yellow.

Heliotrope.
- Mikado.

Apricot.
- Wivelsfield Apricot.

Fancy coloured kinds which sell in limited quantities.
- Eldora, white flaked red.
- Sunstar, yellow flaked red.
- Wivelsfield Beauty, apricot flaked bronze.

Some growers have seedlings of their own of which they will not sell stocks to the specialists for dissemination, preferring to hold the monopoly; while other varieties grow well only in certain districts, and thus never become generally popular.

Of course, when the amateur and private gardener grow perpetual-flowering carnations, as a rule, they are grown in flower-pots very similar to the method used in chrysanthemum culture.

The carnation suffers on account of the fact that people will imagine that they are difficult to grow—that they must have specially built houses. As a rule, those who fail do so because their plants have been coddled and killed by kindness, or the compost they used consisted of too elaborate a mixture. The soil must have free drainage. This is essential. Mix old yard manure and mortar rubble or slaked lime, and you may add a little sand if the soil is of too close a texture, also burnt ashes from garden refuse. Carnations love potash. The young plant should be grown under cool conditions, with a night temperature of about 50° Fahr.

The essentials for growing carnation plants are a strong light and a fresh, buoyant, cool atmosphere. There are no substitutes for these.

It is most essential that the plant should have a strong direct light, and only be shaded from the strongest sun until the young plant is established; this applies to all carnations. If you unduly shade a young plant, it has naturally a weakening effect. As soon as the young plant is established in the 3in. pot, pot on into a larger one, growing them in a cool, well ventilated greenhouse, with an abundance of light.

General horticultural knowledge has become so common that everyone understands the importance of stopping certain plants, and, without exception, every young carnation (the old border type excepted) should be stopped when in the 3in. pot. This should be done, on an average, at the sixth joint, and the plant should be growing vigorously when the operation is performed. It is wrong to pull out the point of the growth: rather should the top be removed just above a pair of matured leaves so that the remaining eyes are at an even state of maturity, and so produce a full complement of breaks.

It is a complex question where to grow your carnations during the summer for winter flowering. They are best cultivated under glass in a well ventilated light greenhouse, or under frame lights with a free circulation of air, although the common practice is to grow them out in the open, like pot chrysanthemums.

For the final potting a 7in. pot is big enough. For the compost for final potting, use one-fourth manure and sufficient sand to give a free drainage. Old mortar rubble or air-slaked lime is used in small quantities and benefits nearly all carnation soils, as also do wood ashes.

I do not favour leaf-mould for the final potting; it has a tendency to turn the soil sad and sour, and no carnation can grow in a sour soil.

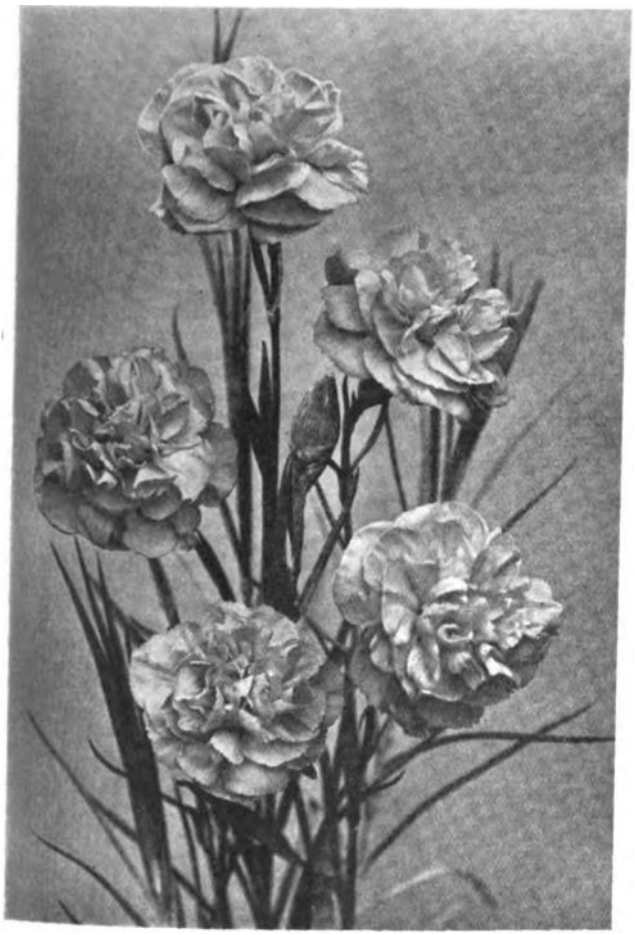
Now we come to the point of second stopping. Of course, this only applies to perpetual-flowering carnations for blooming in the heated greenhouse. The plants, having received their

Digitized by Google

first stopping in the 3in. pot, and the growths having attained a length of about 6ins., you again stop it in the ordinary way by pinching off the growth at the sixth joint from its base. When the next growth has reached the required length, you stop it, and so on, until the middle of July. The idea of that is to break up a cropping tendency. If a plant was producing six flowers at one time they would not be such fine flowers as if it were producing one flower, a bud just opening, another bud forming, and so on. If you break up the cropping tendency, you get a perpetual-flowering plant.

It saves time and is better for your plants if you use patent wire plant supports, because they allow the plants to grow naturally, producing finer flowers with stronger stems and healthier cuttings.

I believe in housing the plants in August for winter flowering. The winter treatment is very simple. In September we may get hot weather, and you would say, "Surely that must force them." That is not the point. Heat and light work hand

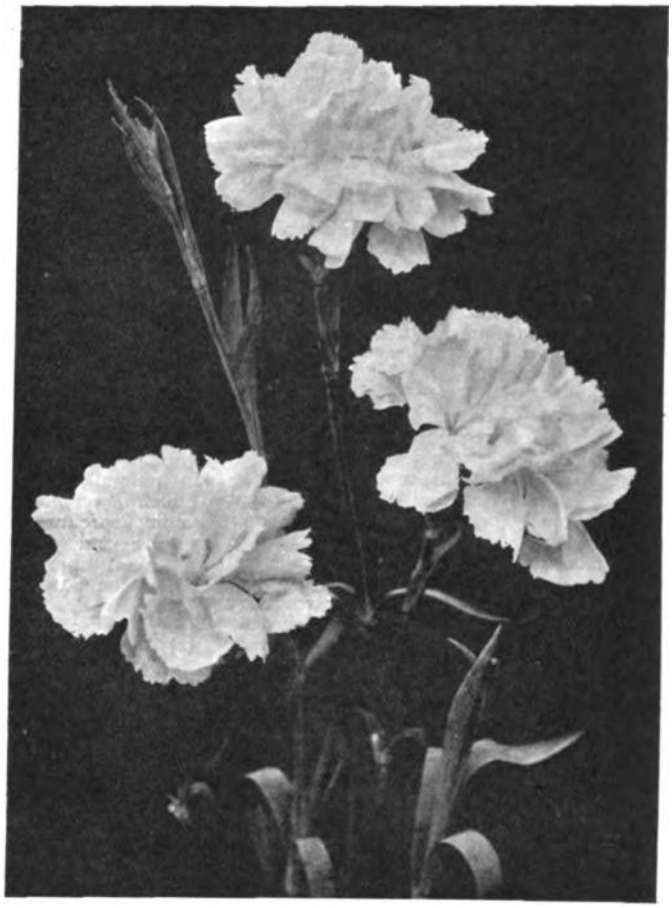


THE FINE RED EDWARD ALLWOOD.
One of the best of the florists' carnations.

in hand. If your greenhouse ran up to 80°, 90° or even 100°, it would not matter. If you had increased light and an abundance of air, you would not be forcing the plant. On the other hand, if you have a high temperature during the night, and no light, you will be forcing them. During the wintertime give as much air as is reasonable. At no time are our ventilators closed. We keep our houses at 50° at night in the winter. If you cannot do that, keep them at 40° or 45° in the winter, but you must be prepared for a slower growth. If you get plants stopped at the right time, you get buds set in the autumn before the dull weather comes. You must have night ventilation irrespective of the night temperature, and in this lies the crux of the whole matter.

All these little details, which may seem so prosaic, make for success in the cultivation of carnations, and more especially for the production of those fine blooms which beautify the shop windows of the leading florists in this country.

MONTAGU C. ALLWOOD.



WIVELSFIELD WHITE.

ELDORA. WHITE FLAKED WITH RED.

Digitized by Google

NOTES OF THE WEEK

CAMELLIAS: GROWING PLANTS IN THE OPEN AIR.

I AM now referring to those plants that are grown outside all the year round, planted out either as bushes or against high walls. It is generally accepted, I think, that camellias like an open position—that is, one fully exposed to the sun. I have had some considerable experience with these lovely flowering shrubs during the past forty years: experience gained in Lancashire and as far south as Hampshire. In Lancashire the specimens that I had to deal with were not quite fully exposed; they had been grown originally in an old conservatory standing by itself in a garden, but the roof fell in and the structure remained in ruins for many years, so I was able to note how the big bush fared, as I paid visits to it for the purpose of gathering the numerous magnificent flowers which it bore year after year. It was a white-flowered variety, double. There was not any protection afforded this specimen, and sometimes the blooms near the top were discoloured by frost. The plant was very healthy. In Hampshire there was for many years a group of fine bushes, averaging 10ft. in height and wide in proportion; they were nicely balanced specimens, grand as regards health of stem and leaves, but the flowers were not very fine individually, though they combined to make the group, as a whole, very charming. These bushes grew in a mixture of stones, peat and light soil on a slope facing due south, not protected except on the north side by conifers in belt form.

Another group of these bushes grew in the Bournemouth public gardens, in conjunction with palms and cordyline and the collection as a whole was most striking and interesting. The camellias flowered freely. Near Southampton I had charge of a large garden for many years in which camellias were grown on the north sides of two high walls. One collection was situated under the branches of large trees. The annual growth was moderate, but flowers nil. On the other wall, fully exposed to the north, the trees did much better and flowered freely. Being in a northern aspect, the flowers when slightly frozen escaped the morning sun's rays and were rarely spoiled. Putting aside all reference to the flowers of these shrubs, I think it is a pity that more of them are not grown in various positions in the open in the southern counties. The foliage is evergreen, the habit of the plant is naturally bushy and sturdy.

It is not wise to attempt to grow the camellia in soil in which there is lime; and in naturally dry soils a summer surface mulch is very beneficial to the roots. Plant young specimens—those that are full of vigour—and not old stunted ones from greenhouses, as they never become vigorous. —GEORGE GARNER.

A FINE HERBACEOUS PERENNIAL.

OF the comparatively large family of meadow sweets none is more useful to the gardener and garden lover than Spiræa Aruncus, more widely known perhaps as goat's-beard. A native of the sub-alpine woods and meadows of central Europe, it is of easy culture, asking nothing more than a moist, rich, loamy soil, consequently it is suitable for a number of positions in the garden. This herbaceous perennial is particularly effective in a shady border, grown either as a single specimen or massed; but it is no less handsome when bordering a path in the wild garden or wood, or beside a pool in a shady part of the water garden. It is especially beautiful when planted against a background of plants with a dark foliage, when the beauty of its delicate panicles is much enhanced by contrast. Attaining a height of 4ft., its wrinkled, serrated leafage, surmounted by ample sprays of creamy white flowers in June, makes it a very desirable plant. Once it is established it needs very little attention beyond cutting off the dead flowers just above the foliage, leaving this until it dies down in winter. As this plant objects to being moved or divided more often than is absolutely necessary, it should be allowed to remain undisturbed, except for the purpose of propagation, when it should be carefully divided in spring and replanted.—R. B.

SPIRÆA ARUNCUS IS PARTICULARLY EFFECTIVE IN A SHADY BORDER.

A GOOD DWARF RHODODENDRON.

AMONG the older dwarf evergreen rhododendrons none is more worthy of being widely known than R. ledifolium. It is twenty years since chance brought a specimen to this garden, and it has ever since been one of the most trustworthy as well as the most admired of spring-flowering shrubs. Though it will grow taller in more genial climates, as in Cornwall, the specimen referred to is not much above 30ins. high, spreading to 4ft. or 5ft. in diameter. The habit is somewhat

THE DWARF-GROWING R. LEDIFOLIUM.

dense, and the leaves, bright green above with paler undersides, are covered with hairs, especially when young. Buds begin to form at the ends of the twigs in April, or earlier, and shortly afterwards these expand into pure white flowers, usually borne in twos or threes. These exquisite blooms are each 2½ins. across and deliciously fragrant.

In habit, leaf and flower R. ledifolium bears a close resemblance to Azalea indica of our greenhouses. Indeed, it was at one time known as A. indica alba, and appears to be a Chinese representative of that species, though now accorded specific rank. For all practical purposes, at any rate, we have in R. ledifolium a hardy A. indica, with all the excellent attributes of that species. I have never known the shrub to be affected by frost (and we have recently had 22° on several consecutive nights), but the flowers are, of course, liable to be injured. On account of this latter we grow R. ledifolium under tall deciduous trees (this partly explaining the spreading habit of the shrub referred to), which do much to ward off the effects of spring frosts.

Comely and neat in general appearance, second to none in the beauty of its flowers and fragrance, hardy and easy enough in any fairly light lime-free soil, it is surprising that a shrub of such sterling merits that was introduced as long ago as 1818 is not accorded fuller recognition.—A. T. JOHNSON.

A NOTE ON SWEET PEAS.

IT may interest enthusiasts of this plant to read that a row of plants was staked here on February 8th. The seed was sown on September 25th. The plants are the picture of health and average 3ins. above the ground with tendrils showing, although it has been a cold, trying winter. This proves how thoroughly hardy this delightful annual must be, for the kitchen garden here, where the row is growing, lies low and is very cold. Every year I make a sowing round about the same date, as plants so raised begin to flower earlier than if sowing was deferred until spring—a very great boon where early

Digitized by Google

flowers are in constant demand. Quite apart from this gain in early flowering, however, is the fact I think that it emphasises the hardiness of the sweet pea.

Enquiries made have proved to me how few amateurs or gardeners realise the stout nature of this plant. One sometimes reads a list of annuals considered hardy for autumn sowing, but the sweet pea is not mentioned, although it would prove to be, in ninety-eight cases out of the hundred, the most virile. I am aware some sow in autumn in pots, keeping the latter in cold frames until spring, but such precautions are necessary only in the most bleak and trying of districts. The above sowing is supplemented by further sowings now and later on.—C. TURNER, *Ampthill Park.*

A DECORATIVE GREENHOUSE ANNUAL.

SCHIZOPETALON WALKERI.

THIS somewhat out-of-the-way and too seldom seen annual bids fair to become extinct, as some firms who used to list the seed do not do so now; but, if only for the pleasant, almond-like perfume the white flowers impart, it is worthy of attention. Scanning a catalogue, the name alone—rather a laboured one, it seems to me!—does not convey much idea of its value; but as an easily grown, simple annual, it should not be lost sight of. It is called the good-luck flower, and the one firm I have come across this year who are sending it out describe it as rare. I suppose it is the seed which is referred to, as my experience of it prompts me in saying that it yields little seed. A sunny border and light, well drained soil are all that it asks. If sown out of doors in May, or in the greenhouse in March or April, and the young plants hardened before being put out, "good luck" is almost bound to follow.—CLAREMONT.

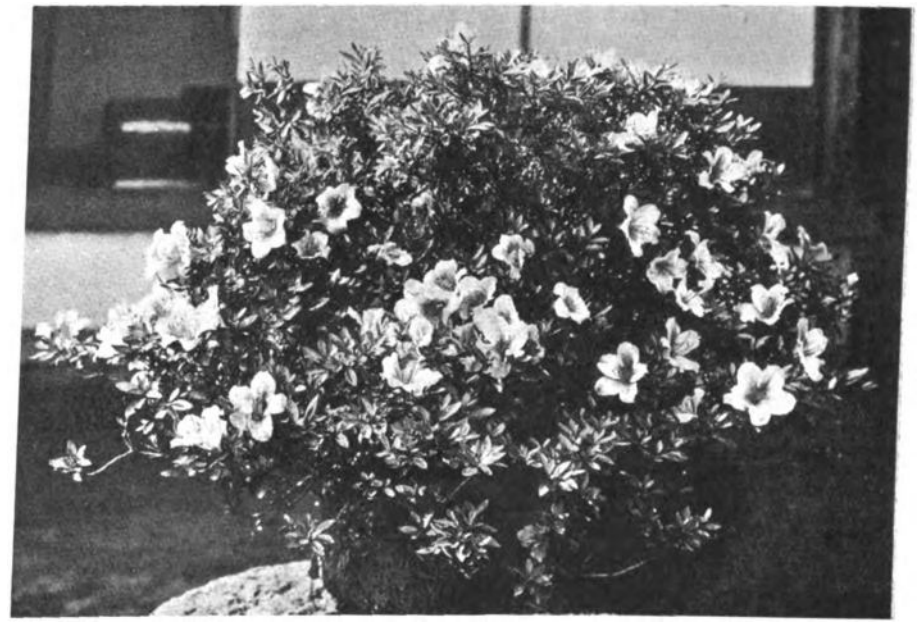
THE TRUE AZALEA INDICA.

THE real Azalea indica is almost unknown in British gardens, yet it is a pretty plant well adapted for moist, half-shady places in rockeries. It is a native of extreme south Japan, where it is a common fluviatile shrub growing from 2ft. to 6ft. tall and forming dense thickets on the banks and among the boulders of rock-strewn streams. Often it is decumbent or nearly prostrate in habit. The branches are very numerous, slender and rigid, clothed with narrow lanceolate to oblanceolate obscurely toothed leaves, which in autumn assume crimson and vinous purple tones. The flowers are terminal, either solitary or in pairs, broad funnel-shaped, from 2ins. to 3ins. across, bright red to scarlet, sometimes rose-coloured and always with five prominent stamens. The flowers are large for such a slender-growing plant, and the whole habit of the plant is singularly pleasing.

This was the earliest known Oriental azalea, and its name "indica" is indication of the ignorance in geography which prevailed at the time it was first known in Europe. A native of Japan, it never knew India. Carried by Dutch traders from Nagasaki to Batavia and hence to Holland, it was growing in the garden of Jerome van Beverningk at Leiden in 1680 and known as Chamærhododendron exoticum. It is figured by Hermann in his "Horti Academici Lugduno-Batavi Catalogus" (fig. facing page 142), published in 1687 under the name of Cistus Indicus. The figure is crude, but the plant is easily recognisable. It was on this plant that Linnæus based his Azalea indica, though there is nothing to indicate that he ever saw it in a living state. Apparently it was lost to European gardens when other azaleas reached England from China at the close of the eighteenth century and early in the nineteenth century, for these were given its name, and the confusion existing to-day dates from that period. The story is too intricate to be told in detail here, but the curious may read it in my book on Azaleas. Suffice to say the so-called Indian azaleas of to-day, so abundantly raised in Belgium, are the product of another species and have no right to the name they universally bear. The true plant was re-introduced into England in 1833, and for a decade was cultivated freely, but seems to have disappeared in 1850. The fact that it cannot be forced by strong heat to blossom out of season doubtless led to its being superseded by other sorts that admit of this treatment.

In Japanese gardens Azalea indica is still a great favourite, and some two hundred named forms are recognised under the native name of Satsuki-tsutsuji—that is, "fifth-month azalea," from the fact that it blossoms in June, which is the fifth month of the Chinese calendar. This azalea is planted on or among rocks, singly or in groups, and is used as a garden edging. It bears trimming well, and its naturally low dense habit makes it particularly useful in Japanese gardens. I admired it much in old burial grounds at Nikko and elsewhere; the plants were prostrate or nearly so, and, with their scattered large red flowers, strongly suggested the rock cistus, and one saw how very applicable was the name the ancients gave this plant.

In 1914 I sent seeds and plants of this azalea from Japan to the Arnold Arboretum, and these were distributed under the name of Azalea macrantha, the identity of the plant at that time not being established. Some of these have struggled through the severe winters of Massachusetts, and there is little doubt that the plant will prove quite at home in most English rockeries. In recent years odd forms of this azalea have reached England from Japan, and Millais mentions one or two. And since about 1877 there has been in European gardens an azalea with double flowers and known variously as A. Rollisoni, A. rosæflora and A. balsaminæflora. This is none other than Azalea indica with double flowers.—E. H. WILSON.



A WELL FLOWERED PLANT OF THE TRUE AZALEA INDICA.

SHOWY BORDER PLANTS.

THE genus liatris contains several species of the highest value for border decoration, and those who are at present building up a herbaceous border should not overlook their decorative capabilities. They thrive vigorously in all medium to light loams; they are not quite so good in heavy or cold soil. All the species may be raised from seed, if seed is procurable; sow now in the frame or in a seed bed. The flowers are borne in long spikes; of centaurea nature, they are set closely together and, as we have stated, they are very showy. L. pycnostachya, 4ft. high, has rosy purple blossoms in late August and September; L. spicata, 2ft., has erect, stiff spikes of purple flowers; L. dubia, 2ft., is rather brighter in colour; L. odoratissima is a dwarf, 9ins. high, bearing pink flowers of delightful fragrance. These are the best species.—LANARKSHIRE.

AZALEAS: A COMMON CAUSE OF NON-FLOWERING.

I DO not think that, among hard-wooded plants which bring colour and beauty to a greenhouse during the first few months of the year, so much neglect, after their flowering season, is shown as in the case of azaleas. This applies, mostly, to small growers, whose houses, being of moderate dimensions are crowded, often to excess, with other plants in preparation for their summer quarters, and, as a consequence, plants having finished blooming are placed either in a house with a much lower temperature or, worse still, transferred to a cold frame to take their chance. More than once I have been appealed to as to the "cause of my azaleas not flowering this year," and enquiry, in nearly every instance, went to show that plants, after flowering, had to give way to others coming into bloom, and were removed from a warm and genial atmosphere to one much colder, where, not infrequently, they were allowed to become dry. As azaleas contribute such a wealth of beauty to a greenhouse in the early year, nothing should be allowed to happen to prevent their blooming the following year. With this in mind, arrangements should be made for them to continue in warm surroundings after they have ceased to flower; watered as needed, and syringed to encourage the growth of new wood from which one has to look for the finest flowers another season. As is well known, in common with other hard-wooded subjects like epacrises, boronias, etc., azaleas are grown mostly in peat, which is of such a close, retentive nature that the amount of water which would be deemed sufficient for a fuchsia, for example, is quite

Digitized by Google

inadequate for these showy flowering shrubs, and whenever water is administered it should be done thoroughly. Azaleas in smallish pots may be plunged up to the rims for a short time to ensure the water reaching the roots. Plants are often starved out of existence because of the failure to appreciate how to water them properly, and at no time is it more important that this detail should be closely watched than now. Free, uninterrupted growth cannot take place, though azaleas are kept in the greenhouse, unless it is encouraged in this way. Syringing will do much for them, but that of itself is not enough. Those who study the best interests of the plants will so plan their work as to allow azaleas to remain in the house until they have perfected their growth, and not seek to put them in cold frames until towards the end of May. Their summer quarters should be a cold frame in a north aspect—where they can enjoy shade as well as sun for part of the day—with the lights off most of the time, and where it is possible to plunge the pots in a few inches of fine ashes which not only keeps the roots cool in the hottest weather, but also reduces, in a degree, the labour of watering. It is these details that go a long way towards ensuring a good display year after year.—W. LINDERS LEA.

CORRESPONDENCE

THE PRUNING OF SHRUBS.

SIR,—In your interesting editorial article on the above, your readers' experiences are invited on the subject. Surely the pruning of shrubs must be governed by their growth and flowering qualities. Some shrubs make rampant growth in some localities and are practically at a standstill in others; for instance, here, Eupatorium Weinmannianum flowers every autumn and never makes much growth, and the same shrub I have seen severely pruned in some gardens to induce it to bloom.

We find shrubs like Malva olbia and shrubby veronicas must be pruned hard to save them dying back; at the same time, we have never pruned Potentilla fruticosa.

Forsythia suspensa in these gardens responds to heavy pruning; but Viburnum fragrans has never been cut and never fails to blossom.

Erica mediterranea we prune carefully, as it makes a large shrub here and gets ragged if not cut; the same applies to Olearia macrodonta; but OO. stellulata and Haastii are never touched.

We find all the cistuses repay for careful cutting, and so do most of the elæagnus. Clianthus puniceus is another shrub we prune fairly hard; teucriums also pay for cutting.

We find in most cases that the best time to prune shrubs is immediately after their flowering period, and, in the foliage shrubs, the early autumn.

No doubt, the secret of the whole thing is knowing one's shrubs and their capabilities.—R. MOORE, *Thorpe Hall*.

[Our correspondent has certainly stated the case correctly when he says that the pruning of shrubs must be governed by local conditions and in stating that the secret lies in knowing one's shrubs. The latter was one of the points on which I tried to lay stress: few gardeners take the trouble to know their shrubs.—ED.]

FEDGES.

SIR,—Ivy fences, which Mr. Elliott calls Fedges, were in use many years ago. They let no wind through when old and therefore have to be strong enough to resist the wind. Instead of split chestnut, posts as thick as gateposts should be used. There were several "Fedges" in a garden I knew for over forty years, but they have nearly all disappeared. They were probably planted about a hundred years ago.—G. B. COPE, *Wolverhampton*.

"NEWER AND BETTER GLADIOLI."

SIR,—In the recent article, "Newer and Better Gladioli," "C. H. A. S." in mentioning the "mixed medley types and species, crossed and intercrossed, forming the ancestry of modern varieties," expresses the opinion that the resulting divergence in form and habit shown by present-day kinds is desirable rather than the reverse. Weighing up the pros and cons, this may be so; but is there no standard by which the merit of either the large-flowering or the primulinus hybrid varieties may be judged, or is it purely and simply a matter of personal taste as to what may be considered good form in either section? Judges at exhibitions, of course, must have an ideal, and I should like "C. H. A. S." to give us what he considers good form in modern gladioli, for I feel sure many of your readers, like myself, have rather foggy ideas on the subject.—A LOVER OF GLADIOLI.

WHAT'S IN A NAME.

SIR,—A name should at once give a clue as to what the flower is like, and as colour is one of the chief points by which to remember it, I think a clue as to its colour is of importance. Mrs. John Smith gives no clue. Golden Queen does. Yet, as Mr. J. MacGregor says, kings and queens are overdone. So a better name, more distinctive and equally descriptive, should be found. Mr MacGregor gives a list of names of roses as being memorable and distinctive; but I do not think some of them are descriptive or can convey much to anyone unacquainted with them; for instance, what colour, form or habit does Colleen, La Tosca, Janet's Pride, etc., convey? They are distinctive, but that is all. Our ancestors may have chosen haunting names, but what *do* any of these convey? Sweet William, London Pride, Traveller's Joy—pretty and original, but not descriptive. Yet I do not want to get back to the Golden Kings and Queens and Snow Kings and Queens and all the Lady This and Mrs. That; but the descriptive, original and distinctive names are difficult, and as a raiser's job is to name his plants, he knows the difficulty and gets over it easily by using the Kings and Queens and Perfections and Glorys, and so saves himself much worry and thought. As a raiser of new plants, I know the difficulty, and I am guilty and plead guilty to the charge of using personal names. The Editor mentions Primula Mrs. Berkeley as being inaptly named and conveying nothing to the uninitiated. It should have been Primula *pulverulenta* Mrs. Berkeley, which would have given a little more information, but not enough. As the raiser of the fertile forms of this primula, I should like to have some suggestions as to what I should have named the varieties I raised to give them original, distinctive and descriptive names. A rich rose pink is named Lady Thursby—named on account of the encouragement given by her to me in raising this strain. Hew Dalrymple, a pink with a dark crimson eye (should it have been named Dark-eyed Sue?), named after the raiser at the suggestion of several friends, to commemorate the raising of this strain.

I would welcome suggestions for better names, though I cannot change the name of the first one.

I am now at the beginning of the freesia season and hope to have several worth naming in yellow and mauve shades. I named my new variety "Wistaria" on account of its likeness to Wistaria sinensis. This described it very accurately, but a fellow freesia raiser objected to the use of the name of any plant or flower.—G. H. DALRYMPLE.

[I am tempted to try my hand at suggestions for names. Pink primulas: Strawberries and Cream, Coraline, Cherry Ripe. Yellow freesias: Yellow Locks, Orangeade. Mauve freesias: Woodsmoke, Plum-Bloom. Although not strictly accurate, they might give some idea of the colour.—ED.]

SIR,—In THE GARDEN of February 27th Mr. J. MacGregor of Cumbernauld has opened a subject, on the nomenclature of flowers, which I am sure must be of great interest, and will be welcomed by many readers of this paper, myself included. As a commencement has now been made and backed by the Editor, I think this subject ought to be thrashed out to a finish. The appalling yearly increase of florists' plant names is not only confusing and senseless, but really very often most perplexing to many when making a selection.

Antirrhinums I have particularly in mind as I write. Their names are legion. One may be the proud possessor of quite a number of distinct names, the plants showing little difference in form. Black Prince, Carmine Queen, White Queen, Coral Queen, indicate the colour of the flower, and little mistake can be made when giving an order for such to a good seedsman. Such names as Captivation, Admiration, Exquisite, Beauty and Charm in themselves carry no meaning as regards colour.—WM. GRANT, *Crathes, Kincardineshire, N.B.*

DAPHNE LAUREOLA.

SIR,—In the course of the discussion that took place in THE GARDEN a year ago about the scent or scentlessness of the flowers of the spurge laurel, I stated that, although I remembered enjoying their fragrance in my youth, I could detect none in the plants which grow and seed themselves pretty freely in the woods here. That statement I must now amend, because on March 1st, in passing through a wood about sundown, I found the flowers deliciously scented. But on March 4th and 5th I could not detect the slightest fragrance in the flowers on the same bushes as I tested on the 1st inst. I have tested several bushes again to-day, and neither I nor a lady who was with me could detect any fragrance, nor do the flowers emit any scent after standing in water in a warm room.—HERBERT MAXWELL, *Monreith*.

MONTBRETIAS.

SIR,—In the issue of THE GARDEN, March 6th, there is an unfortunate slip, which you, no doubt, will be pleased to rectify. In Mr. J. Coutts' article on montbretias, page 143, second paragraph of the article, he says that the Montbretias Nimbus, Lemon Queen, etc., were raised by "the late Sidney Earle of Earlham." They were, in point of fact, raised by my old friend Mr. Sydney Morris, J.P., D.L. of Earlham Hall, Norwich.—F. HERBERT CHAPMAN.

[We thank our correspondent for pointing out this error.—ED.]

FROST AND SOME SHRUBS.

SIR,—The sharp frosts of this winter have taken a heavier toll of shrubs than was apparent a month ago. Buddleia globosa has suffered badly with me and my largest plant killed. Olearia stellulata has died back to ground level. Ceanothus divaricatus, a vigorous bush 7ft. high, is dead, as also are Polygala latifolia, Desfontainea spinosa and Andromeda floribunda. A good specimen of Abutilon vitifolium lost every vestige of leaf, but is now shooting from every tip and is little the worse.—E. BROWN, *Kent*.

Digitized by Google

RHODODENDRONS IN VARIOUS AREAS

BELOW will be found an attempt at tabulating the success or failure of rhododendron enthusiasts in various areas of the British Isles in growing different rhododendrons, both species and hybrids. Naturally, such a survey is by no means conclusive, for various reasons: the situation of the various gardens may not conform to the standard of the district, in that they may be more sheltered or more exposed, have different degrees of sun heat or of moisture to the average garden of the neighbourhood; also, individual plants may be placed in more advantageous positions than others; also, the various readers who so kindly gave us of their experience may have different ideas of their success or failure with a plant—standards are never the same. On the other hand, even after making allowances, certain useful information is crystallised in these columns. They show, for instance, that certain species are uniformly successful throughout the country, such as Augustinii, calophytum, campanulatum, sutchuenense, which every list includes, and a number with, perhaps, one "fair" to eight "goods." They also show that rhododendrons of the campylocarpum and Souliei types thrive better on the east coast than on the west, and that, as a rule, dwarfs such as intricatum flourish better in the colder north than in the warmer south. Those unmarked have not been attempted in the area concerned.

Name of Species and Hybrids	Hampshire	Cornwall	Sussex	Berks	Suffolk	Northumberland	Peebleshire	Midlothian	Elgin	Wigtown	North Wales
ADENOGYNUM	Good.	Good.	Poor.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	—	Good.	Good.
AMBIGUUM	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	—	Good.	Good.
ARBOREUM	Good.	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Good.	Poor.	Poor.	Poor.	Good.	Good.	Good.
*ASCOT BRILLIANT	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	—	—	Good.
AUCKLANDII	Fair.	Good.	Bad.	Poor.	—	Poor.	Fair.	Poor.	—	Good.	Fair.
AUGUSTINII	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.
AURICULATUM	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Fair.	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Good.
BARBATUM	Good.	Fair.	Fair.	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Fair.	Good.	—	Good.	Good.
*BROUGHTONI	Good.	—	—	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	—	—	Good.
BULLATUM	Poor.	Fair.	Bad.	Poor.	Fair.	Poor.	Poor.	Poor.	—	Good.	Fair.
CALLIMORPHUM	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	—	—	Good.	Good.	—	—	Good.
CALOPHYTUM	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.
CALOSTROTUM	Good.	Good.	—	Good.	—	Good.	Good.	Good.	—	—	Good.
CAMPANULATUM	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.
CAMPYLOCARPUM	Good.	Poor.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Good.
CATAWBIENSE	Good.	Good.	—	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	—	Good.	Good.
CHARTOPHYLLUM	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	—	—	Good.
CILIATUM	Good.	Good.	Poor.	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Good.	—	Good.	Good.
*CORNUBIA	Good.	Good.	Fair.	—	Poor.	Fair.	Fair.	Fair.	—	—	Good.
*CUNNINGHAM'S SULPHUR	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Good.	Good.	Good.	—	Good.
DECORUM	Fair.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Good.	Good.
DICHROANTHUM	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.
DISCOLOR	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Fair.	—	Good.
FALCONERI	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Good.	Poor.	Fair.	Fair.	Fair.	Fair.	Good.	Good.
FARGESII	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Poor.	Good.	Good.	Good.	—	—	Good.
FASTIGIATUM	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Fair.	Fair.	Good.	Fair.	Good.	—	—	Good.
FERRUGINEUM	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	—	Good.	Good.	Good.	—	—	Poor.
FICTOLACTEUM	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good	Good.	—	Good.	Good.	Good.	—	Good.
FULVUM	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Poor.	Good.	Good.	—	Good.	Good.
*GILL'S TRIUMPH	Fair.	Good.	Poor.	—	Poor.	—	Good.	Fair.	—	—	Good.
GLAUCUM	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Good.	—	Good.	Good.
HABROTRICHUM	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Poor.	Fair.	Good.	Fair.	—	—	Good.
HÆMATODES	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Fair.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.
HIPPOPHÆOIDES	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Fair.	Fair.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.
HIRSUTUM	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	—	Poor.	Good.	Good.	—	—	Poor.
HODGSONI	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	—	Good.	Good.
INTRICATUM	Good.	Fair.	Fair.	Fair.	Fair.	Good.	Fair.	Good.	—	Good.	Good.
IRRORATUM	Good.	Fair.	Poor.	Fair.	Poor.	—	Good.	Fair.	—	Fair.	Good.
LANATUM	Good.	Poor.	Poor.	Good.	—	—	Good.	Fair.	—	—	Good.
*LODERI	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Good.	Good.	Good.	—	Good.
*LODER'S WHITE	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	—	Good.	—	—	Good.
*LUSCOMBEI	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	—	Good.	Good.	Good.	—	—	Good.
LUTESCENS	Good.	Fair.	Fair.	Good.	Fair.	Fair.	Good.	Fair.	Good.	Good.	Good.
*MANGLESI	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	—	Good.	—	—	Good.
METTERNICHII	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	—	Fair.	Fair.	Good.	—	—	Good.
NERIIFLORUM	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Poor.	Fair.	Poor.	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Good.
NIVEUM	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Good.
*NOBLEANUM	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Good.	Good.	—	Good.
ORBICULARE	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	—	—	Good.	Poor.	—	Fair.	Good.
OREOTREPHES	Fair.	Fair.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Good.	—	Fair.
*PINK JACKSONI	Good.	—	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	—	—	Good.
*PRÆCOX	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Good.	Good.	—	Good.
RACEMOSUM	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Good.	Good.	—	Good.
ROYLEI	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Fair.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.
SMIRNOWI	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	—	Fair.	Good.
SOULIEI	Fair.	Poor.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Poor.
STRICILLOSUM	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Good.	Good.	—	—	Good.
SUTCHUENENSE	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.
THOMSONI	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.
VILLOSUM	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Good.	—	Good.	Good.	Good.	—	—	Good.
*TYPICAL HYBRIDS	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	—	Good.	Good.	—	Good.
WILLIAMSIANUM	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Fair.	Good.	Fair.	—	Good.	Good.
YUNNANENSE	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Good.	Fair.	Good.

*Hybrids.

Digitized by Google

BOG PRIMULAS IN WINTER

ONE often hears of these striking primulas as being only biennial or prone to die after flowering. While not contradicting this statement entirely, I am, however, of the opinion that many of them are far more permanent than generally believed, if only they are watched carefully during the winter months.

Most members of this group, with the exception, possibly, of P. secundiflora and P. vittata, loose their leaves entirely at the first autumn frost. These leaves collapse in a nasty, juicy mess around the crown. Opinions vary as to whether this mess ought to be left during the winter or not. On the one side it is said that nature is giving the crown a protecting covering and so the mess ought to be left. But that is all very well in the plant's native habitat, where a thick mantle of snow probably covers the crown and keeps it dry and dormant during the winter. From watching the results of leaving this mess in our own climate I have come to the conclusion that it is far better to remove it at once. If left, it forms a welcome shelter for slugs while they consume the crown, and also the mild wet days we so often have, tend to make the rotting process spread from the leaves to the crown.

Turning now to the dormant crown of the plant, if it is examined carefully it will be noticed that all the roots have also rotted away to within an inch or so of the base. This, consequently, leaves the crown very loosely planted in the soil. Also the shrinkage of the dead leaf-stalks tends to separate the soil from the crown itself, leaving it as it were loose in a little pit, in which water collects. Now, when any plant appears to be sickly or loosely planted, the birds will nearly always pull it out of the soil, thinking, no doubt, that a loose plant means a fat grub among the roots. Consequently the dormant crown may often be found lying loosely on the surface some distance away from its original site. It then becomes a certain prey to slugs, and if it survives their appetites, when the warm weather comes it will shrivel and die, and be pronounced "Biennial."

If on the other hand birds and slugs leave the crown alone, which is very unlikely, there will sure to be occasional frosts which will also lift it out of the soil to take what poor chance it may have of re-establishing itself later.

From these points, I think, it is quite clear that an occasional look round the bed where these plants are grown, will be sufficient to bring most of them successfully through the winter to another flowering period. First of all, the dead leaves must be removed and when the roots have rotted and the crown is loose, I advise lifting it completely and replanting firmly at once. Needless to say, this is a most suitable occasion for division of a large crown. After every frost a further inspection should be made and all loose crowns made firm again.

P. secundiflora and P. vittata differ slightly in that the crown retains a certain number of leaves throughout the winter months. Apart from this fact, however, the habit of the group in shedding its roots is still present. When the roots are separated the basal leaves form yet another factor in lifting the crown from the soil, for they show a marked tendency to curl directly downwards, thus lifting the crown high and dry. Further than this, when the crown is raised from the soil, the tips of these leaves curl right round beneath it until they touch the tips of the opposite leaves. This, of course, turns the crown over on to its side, and any strong wind may blow it a considerable distance away. If an attempt is made to replant the crown, much difficulty is met by the rigidity of the curled leaves, and it may be necessary to cut them off before the crown can be made firm. Before replanting any crowns a careful search should be made on the underside among the root stumps, as slugs often eat themselves into little holes at this spot, and, of course, will soon destroy the whole crown if not removed.

P. involucrata and its allies also form leafless crowns during the winter months, but in these the roots do not die. The root system here is entirely of the surface type, the roots themselves being thin and short, and having very little hold on the soil. Consequently, the crowns are nearly always lifted clear by the slightest frost, and worms will often drag them upside down into their burrows, so that the threadlike roots are left waving in the air. Needless to say they must be replanted at once, and in doing so it is wiser to place the top of the crown half an inch below the surface of the soil, in order to prevent further lifting during future frosts.

The muscaroides section appears to be quite different from the previous ones, in that the chief enemy is insufficient drainage and too much wet. Plants of this group should be grown in perfectly drained situations and should be covered with a pane of glass during the winter months.

The most difficult enemy to cope with when growing any of the bog primulas is the eel-worm. This insect riddles the crowns just at the moment of flowering in the height of summer, with the result that the flower-stalks and leaves suddenly wilt and die, and the crown itself becomes a wet, sticky mass of rottenness. The worm multiplies rapidly in the soil and should a plant be attacked, no further plants should be grown in that situation until the soil has been treated with a good steriliser or fumigant.

I hope that these few notes may prove helpful to lovers of these beautiful plants, who, like myself, have experienced difficulty in bringing them successfully through the vagaries of our winter months.

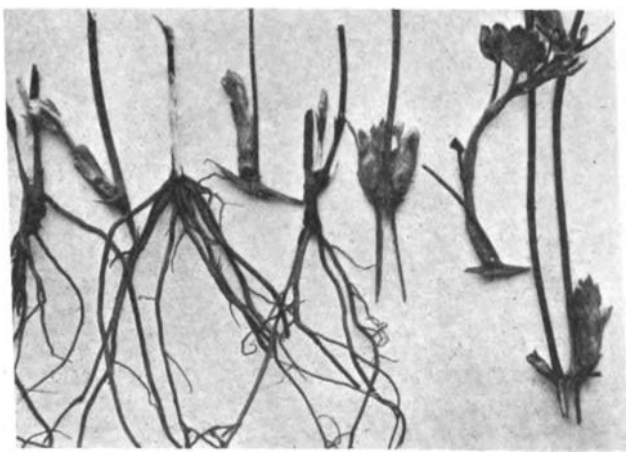
Canterbury. H. STEWART WACHER.

GARDEN TECHNIQUE

THE FLOWER GARDEN

CLEMATIS FROM CUTTINGS.

FROM two 4½in. pots of clematis cuttings inserted last February I have just potted up twenty-four good plants, and as the time will soon be here when good cuttings are again available it may be as well to remind lovers of the clematis that cuttings of these are by no means as difficult to strike as is generally imagined.



TYPICAL CLEMATIS CUTTINGS SHOWING METHOD OF ROOTING.

I have photographed three of the young plants mentioned above, together with cuttings typical of those which produced them, and with all of which I have been successful, but at the time of taking the photograph it was not possible to find shoots quite long enough, with the exception of the third from the right, and this must be borne in mind by those who may be persuaded to try this method for the first time. I prefer as cuttings the new growth when from 2ins. to 3ins. in length with a slice of old wood an inch or so in length, and on the Jackmanii varieties there will soon be plenty such to be had.

Examination of the illustration will show that roots are emitted from the old wood as well as from the node itself, similar to the grape vine when propagated from eyes, but, of course, the vine eyes are used when dormant.

The type of cutting shown on the extreme right is, perhaps, not quite so successful as the others, but as there are plenty of them to be had at pruning-time, and as they can be inserted thickly in the pots, they may as well be tried as thrown away. When the new growth is sufficiently advanced for use prepare as many pots as are wanted with good drainage and a compost of loam with plenty of sharp sand and a little lime rubble or finely crushed oyster shell, commandeered from the poultry supply, incorporated. Prepare the cuttings and insert firmly and well water them in. Plunge the pots to the rim in ashes in a shady place—against the north side of a wall is an excellent position—and cover with a hand-light. Here they will remain for several weeks, due attention being given to watering when necessary. Aim at keeping the soil always moist, but never in a sodden state.

In early summer take out and examine some of the cuttings, and when it is found that a good callus has formed air may be gradually admitted and after a week or so the hand-lights may be removed, leaving the pots plunged where they are until the approach of winter, when they may be removed to the shelter of a cold frame, and when the young growths appear above the soil towards spring the young plants should be very carefully shaken out and potted separately in small pots in a similar but less gritty compost to that used for the cuttings. Keep the young plants in the cold frame until they can safely be placed outside, but do not coddle them in any way.

As there is usually very little or no visible progress made during the first year, propagation of the clematis from cuttings is obviously much too slow a process for commercial raisers who have to provide plants as quickly as possible in their thousands, and for this reason they use the wild clematis as a stock on which to graft the better kinds, this being the readiest way of obtaining rapid increase, and around this practice, controversy has raged for years, some well known cultivators holding the opinion that the use of this stock is responsible for the disease which causes the wilting and sudden

Digitized by Google

collapse of young plants. When buying grafted plants from the nursery to add to their collection see that they are planted deep enough to bury the point of union with stock and scion below the surface of the soil and very soon the plant will be on its own roots. —H. C. W.

PRIMULA SINENSIS.

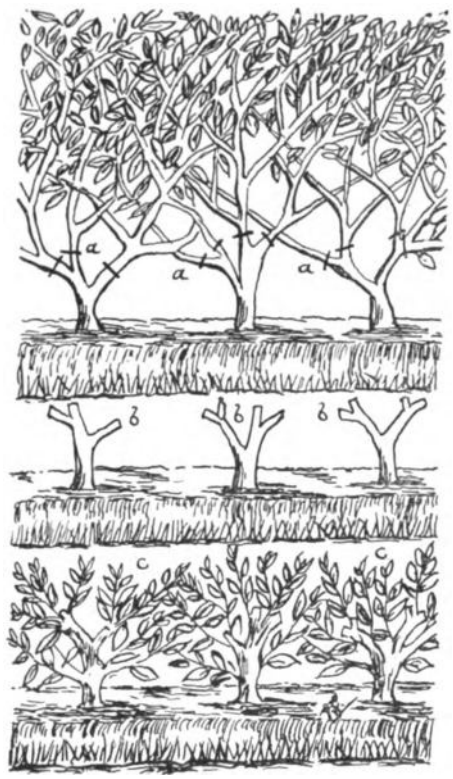
AMATEURS a generation ago were not eager to grow primulas unless they had a good artificial heat available. Certainly, the plants do very well where heat from pipes can be commanded at will; but, unless some amount of forcing is to take place in the late wintertime, the plants will thrive better without being subjected to a high temperature. They like a little artificial heat while young, if the seeds are sown early in the spring; no artificial heat when raised in May, and only sufficient throughout the winter to keep the atmosphere buoyant and the plants safe from frost. A mixture of good fibrous loam and leaf-soil in equal quantities and a nice sprinkling of coarse, clean sand or old powdered mortar will constitute a suitable compost in which to sow the seeds. A similar compost, in a rougher state, will answer for the first potting of the resultant seedlings. Pans or pots are best for raising seedlings in, and both pots and crocks must be clean and dry when used. A thorough drainage is essential. Three parts fill the pot or pan with the compost, make it level with a piece of dry board, or the bottom of an empty pot; apply water and allow the soil to settle for one hour before sowing the seeds thinly—about 1in. apart. Cover the seeds ¼in. deep, place a sheet of glass on the pot, also some brown paper. Maintain the soil in an even state of moisture, and wait patiently for germination to take place. Germination is irregular, so it is wise to lift the forward seedlings carefully and wait awhile for others to appear before discarding the pot or pan of soil.

CANNAS.

THE canna has been very much improved during the past few years. Thirty years ago there were not many varieties in cultivation and the plants of these were rather tall-growing and bore indifferent flowers as regards substance and quality. Now we have some very beautiful varieties, possessing good substance of leaf and flower. The plants are dwarf-growing and their leaves are highly ornamental. For filling flower beds in the summer these plants are valuable as the foliage is so rich and effective. Roots that have been stored in sheds during the winter months soon make substantial growth when subjected to a greenhouse heat. Very early forcing into growth of the new leaves is not advisable as the latter, unless exceptionally carefully dealt with in frames prior to being planted out, will become weakly and drawn and very liable to injury when fully exposed to strong winds. The treatment of the roots should be very similar to that suitable for dahlias. The present is a good time to purchase canna roots. After the new roots appear it is advisable to place each plant separately in pots and from the latter plant in the flower border. Specimens that are to be grown and flowered in pots in the greenhouse should be started in the pots and be once repotted, this taking place just before the flower spike appears. Canna seeds are hard, and should be soaked in water for two days before sowing and, until germination is complete, the soil should be kept consistently moist. Sow in heat, a gentle bottom-heat, if such is available.—GEORGE GARNER.

THE TREATMENT OF OLD LAURELS.

ONLY too soon the old neglected laurel hedge becomes unsightly and useless as a fence and of very little use as a windbreak, because the wind blows through the leafless lower stems in a cold current. Such cold draughts of air, blowing upon tender plants near, are favourable to the spread of mildew and insect pests, especially aphides and red spider. The present is a suitable time to cut back old leggy specimens. By the end of the year new shoots will have formed a nice bushy fence quite 3ft. high. My remarks apply to both the common and Portugal laurels. Sometimes it is found necessary to move an old hedge forward or back a few feet. Many years ago I assisted in the work of lifting and replanting a Portugal laurel hedge from its old position to a new line 6ft. back. The plants were old, some of the stems measuring 6ins. in diameter. All were cut down as shown in the accompanying sketch, sufficient soil excavated around the roots, some of the latter cut off and the mutilated specimens duly levered to their new positions. At the end of two years



the laurels formed a very fine compact hedge. The dark cross lines at *a*, *a*, *a* in the sketch show the operator the approximate height at which he should saw off the branches. Smooth the cut stumps with a sharp knife. When the cutting is finished the stumps will look like those shown at *b*, *b*, *b*, and at the end of the year like the sketches *c*, *c*.—HANTS.

HOLLYHOCKS.

THERE are few flowers that add to the charm of a garden, especially an old-world one, more than the hollyhock does. Grown in clumps amid shrubs and trees, or in beds with a shrubbery background, the stately stems well clothed with richly coloured flowers look very beautiful. The dreaded rust almost stopped the cultivation of the plants many years ago. Then our florists began to raise plants from seeds, mostly single-flowered at first, and the seedlings, being robust, resisted the disease. Now, we may sow seeds and reasonably expect a big percentage of plants bearing double flowers. Those who are growing old plants should treat them well. I find that specimens growing in a poor rooting medium fall victims to the disease sooner than those grown in a rich soil made moderately firm. Prepare the soil now and plant the hollyhocks at the end of March or early in April. In the latter month where the soil is heavy, as it is so essential to success that the plants grow freely and strongly right from the start. First decide as to the positions in the borders, then take out the soil to a depth of 18ins., put in some well rotted cow manure or farmyard manure mixed; thoroughly incorporate the manure with the soil till the hole is filled up again. A space of 2ft. across so treated will accommodate three plants. Old plants wintered in the border should have the surface soil around them removed and good fresh soil and rotted manure mixed placed on as a surface dressing. Seedlings resultant from seeds sown recently should be grown on strongly in a firm bed of good soil in a cold frame. Before they become overcrowded replant them in outside beds.—CHRISTCHURCH.

TRANSPLANTING HALF-HARDY ANNUALS.

PRIOR to the final planting of these lovely annuals in their flowering quarters, it is necessary to transplant the seedlings of the majority of the kinds once in boxes of soil or in a bed in a frame. We will presume that readers now possess seedlings in pots or boxes. They should make up a compost of loam and leaf-soil with sand or old mortar rubble added. This compost should be placed in a box or formed into a bed in a cold frame. Make the soil moderately firm while it is in a fairly dry condition and transplant the seedlings, generally 3ins. apart each way, and firm the soil around the roots carefully so as not to injure them or the stems. Always lift the seedlings with a pointed stick or trowel so that all their roots are retained practically intact; place them in the new soil in a similar position with roots straight down. Stocks and asters sometimes damp off in their seed quarters; directly any such damping occurs, get all the sound ones transplanted, or they too will damp off. Do not merely sprinkle the newly planted seedlings, but apply a really good soaking through a fine-rosed watering can, then wait until the soil is again becoming dry before applying more water in a like manner. Some shade may be necessary: but it must not at any time be excessive, as weakly plants are almost useless for planting out. Gradually harden the young plants by taking off the lights from frames in fine weather during the day time, and all night, too, after the third week in May. Plants in boxes should be placed in a sheltered position outside early in May and protected by placing stakes over them to support sacks or similar covering material. Partial exposure for a fortnight, then day and night exposure for a week and the plants will be in a fit condition to plant in the borders where they should, in due course, make a fine display of blossom.—G. G.

FRUIT & VEGETABLES

SPRING PLANTATIONS OF STRAWBERRIES.

STRAWBERRIES succeed better in some districts when plantations are made in April. Of course, they bear no fruit the first season, but a crop of small vegetables may be taken between the rows. The plants are well established and produce a fine crop of berries the second season.

The strawberry plot should be well prepared. If the soil is light or sandy a heavy dressing of farmyard manure may be applied when the ground is dug or trenched. In the following seasons when the plantation is forked over or hoed and weeded, in the springtime, further dressings of farmyard manure may be given between the rows, as a mulching.

Digitized by Google

If manure is plentiful, this mulching may be at the rate of a barrowload to a row of about 10yds. to 15yds. in length, or even heavier. This heavy mulching serves to conserve the moisture in the soil, and only in the event of a severe drought will watering be needed when the fruit is forming.

When planting, draw light drills with a hoe and plant carefully. Spread out the roots in their natural position and cover lightly with fine soil. Tread firmly. Allow plenty of room between the plants, say 15ins. to 18ins., and keep the rows 24ins. to 30ins. apart. Nothing is gained through planting too closely.

Autumn plantations may now be looked over and the soil made firm around the plants. Any vacancies caused through plants dying off should be filled up. For this purpose, it is well to have a number of runner plants laid in, or planted as in a nursery bed, in some convenient corner. These are easily lifted with a ball of soil at their roots and scarcely suffer any check from being transplanted.

Where cranefly grub (or leather jacket) is troublesome, scatter around the plants a handful or two of broad bran moistened with water and mixed with a dusting of Paris green.—J. W.

EXHIBITING AND EXHIBITION POTATOES.

TO any reader of THE GARDEN who is an intending exhibitor of potatoes during the coming season of shows, I can very earnestly recommend the following list of twelve names as varieties which have just that kind of special merit in form, depth of eye and good skin which so very much helps to catch the judge's eye. In exhibiting potatoes, it is a very essential factor in the setting up of either single dishes of from six to twelve of any one variety, or of collections of six, eight or twelve distinct varieties, always to remember that judges of experience soon observe where there is class of the right sort, in either the single dish or collection sections; so always aim at growing the true type of exhibition potato. The white kidney classes at most shows are generally considered of greatest importance, so I give the five following, as having all the qualities of what a white kidney should be: Sharp's Express, Main Crop, King George, Improved Up-to-date and, in the writer's opinion, Sutton's International, as one of the most beautiful of all white kidneys ever raised for exhibition purposes. King Edward and a newer one named Catriona, which has purple markings about the eyes, are two of outstanding merit, to be exhibited as any other variety kidneys, not white. The pink eye marks of one, against the purple of the other, with their other high-class merits, put them in the front rank of exhibition dishes. In the class for pink kidneys, I cannot pass Mr. Breeze, as a beautiful pink kidney in all particulars; get the true type, and it has no equal for giving colour as a single dish, or in a collection of either six, eight or twelve varieties. Round whites: this class of potato is none too common for selecting true round types, therefore I only suggest two which have all the points needed to place them in the class as true rounds. Arran Comrade and that grand old favourite, Schoolmaster; nothing further said could enhance the value of these two. As a round pink, Kerr's Pink needs no further endorsement; grow plenty, and no trouble will be found in getting satisfaction. Golden Wonder has come to stay as one of the very best for a collection of dishes up to twelve, or in a single dish class as any variety round. The foregoing list, if grown under ideal conditions of culture, which is a very necessary factor in the art of exhibiting such a high-class vegetable, cannot fail to give the best results in the right sort of awards from the show boards, which all true exhibitors covet.—V. H. LUCAS.

NEWNES'

"HOW TO GROW"

GARDENING SERIES

Handy Pocket Size. : : : : : *Three-Colour Covers.*

EDITED BY WALTER BRETT, F.R.H.S.

(*Editor of "The Smallholder."*)

No. 1.—ROSES

Takes you through all the operations that fall to the lot of all who would grow the Queen of Flowers to perfection, explaining them so simply that future mistakes are impossible. Gives not only the practical principles of planting and pruning, but information on raising your own rose trees, growing roses in the greenhouse, etc.

No. 2.—PANSIES AND VIOLETS

Covers a group of garden plants—pansies, violas and violets—without which no garden is considered complete, giving those intimate details, those little "professional" secrets which enable those who know them to grow so much more perfect flowers, to have them in bloom from the earliest to the latest moment—violas to go along with the bulbs of spring, violets in the depth of winter.

No. 3.—SIMPLE FLOWERS FROM SEED

Tells you how to grow to perfection the flowers to which half the gardens of the country owe their summer and autumn beauty—those that can be raised with a minimum of trouble from seed. Enables you to make of the hardy annuals—whose seeds so many buy in packets—plants so big, so free-flowering, so decorative, that they are hardly recognisable to those who grow them in the ordinary way. Shows you how easy and economical it is to raise from seed many of the plants usually bought as roots.

No. 4.—DAHLIAS AND BORDER FLOWERS

The pride of every gardener is his mixed border. This book gives those secrets that enable the professional to contrive such a striking border display, so continuous a succession of flowers, such artistry in his grouping and his colour schemes—at such a modest outlay. The book also explains the whole art of growing dahlias to perfection—and dahlias, with their adaptability (there are dwarf sorts now to use in the summer bedding schemes as well as those tall kinds that make such a blaze of colour in autumn) and their great utility, are to-day ranking among *the* most popular flowers.

No. 5.—SWEET PEAS

Prized as they are for their fragrance and beauty, sweet peas are seldom grown in the ordinary garden as they should be—with big, perfectly formed flowers, three or four to the spike. This book tells you why not, corrects your faults, puts you on the right road and keeps you there. It places at your disposal all the discoveries which enable the professional grower to produce not only perfect sweet peas but a continuous succession of them from early summer to late autumn.

No. 6.—CARNATIONS AND PINKS

Besides explaining all the cultural operations, introduces you to new schemes that will make these most popular among flowers more than ever your favourite, more than ever useful to you, more than ever a striking feature in your garden. Gives special directions on growing carnations so that you may have them in bloom at seasons when they are considered the rarest luxury.

EACH **1/-** BOOK

Six titles sent per Postal C.O.D. on receipt of postcard or telephone message. ***Simply pay the postman 6/9 on delivery.*** *GEORGE NEWNES, LTD., 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, London, W.C.2. (Telephone: Regent 0760.)*

DOREEN JOAD, F.R.H.S.

ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S CERTIFICATE
SOMETIME LECTURER STUDLEY HORTICULTURAL COLLEGE

FORMAL GARDENS designed and executed.

WINDOW BOXES, BALCONIES, and ROOF GARDENS designed, planted and maintained at a fixed annual charge.

London gardens are particularly suitable for the formal garden treatment which flourished in the seventeenth century, and it is hoped to revive this formal type of gardening.

SPECIMEN designs will be sent upon application.

39, DEVONSHIRE ST., LONDON, W.C.1

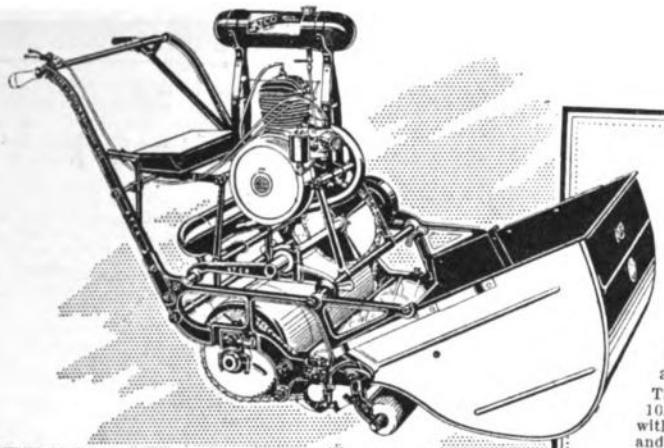
Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

WHY is "HOMES and GARDENS" such a Great Success?

BECAUSE it shows greater House Comfort & Convenience —with less Labour and Expense.

Send to-day for a Free Specimen Copy of this helpful and Beautifully Illustrated Magazine to 20, *Tavistock St., Covent Garden, W.C.2*

Digitized by Google



The ATCO TURF CULTIVATOR

The ATCO TURF REPLACING WEEDER

The ATCO LAWN EDGE TRIMMER

THE

ATCO

TURF CULTURE SPECIALITIES

IN the ATCO Range of Specialities every need of the lawn culturist is provided. The ATCO Motor Mower is the most economical, most dependable means of mowing without manual labour, and this year a complete range of models from 14in. to 30in. is offered at prices to suit everybody.

The success of the ATCO is best demonstrated by the fact that over 10,000 are now in use. The ATCO Turf Cultivator, for use exclusively with the ATCO Motor Mower, aerates the grass roots, eliminates moss and weeds and maintains the health of the turf.

ATCO Motor Mowers, the ATCO Cultivator, the ATCO Turf Replacing Weeder and the ATCO Lawn Edge Trimmer are all described in our 1926 Catalogue. Copy will be sent free on receipt of a post card.

ATCO MOTOR MOWER

PRICES From 30 GUINEAS

CHAS. H. PUGH
LIMITED
Whitworth Works,

31, Tilton Rd., BIRMINGHAM

Let us demonstrate the ATCO Motor Mower on your own grass without obligation upon your part.

KILL those WEEDS!

You want to keep your paths clean and yet, quite naturally, you do not relish that back-aching job of hoeing up the weeds. You can completely destroy the weeds and avoid that laborious task by using

COOPER'S

Weedicide

Which is used at a dilution of 1—100 and "Highly Commended" by the R.H.S.

One gallon of Weedicide is sufficient to treat 300 to 400 square yards. The cost of the ready for use mixture is about 1d. per gallon.

Write for our illustrated leaflet *"The Weed Problem Solved"* and you will see how quickly and easily you can clean your garden paths.

You may prefer to use a non-arsenical weedkiller and in that case there is
McDOUGALL'S PERFECT SAFETY WEEDKILLER

If unable to obtain locally, please write

COOPER, McDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, Ltd.,
BERKHAMSTED.

FOOD FOR YOUR GARDEN

Healthy Plant Growth

is the outcome of the proper association of all the elements of plant food. You get this in

NORCO

COMPLETE FERTILISERS

THE PERFECT GARDEN FOOD

Which supplies the essential constituents contained in stable manure, but in a far richer and more convenient form.

PRICES (Bags Free and Carriage Paid):—

	7 lbs.	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	112 lbs.
"NORCO" Complete Garden Fertiliser (For Flowers, Fruit and Vegetables)	2/6	4 3	7 3	12 6	23/-
"NORCO" Complete Lawn & Turf Fertiliser	2 4	4/-	6 9	11 9	22 -
"NORCO" Complete Potato Fertiliser	2 6	4 3	7 3	12 6	23 -

Send for free Booklet on the use of Lime, Stable Manure and Chemical Fertilisers

"NORCO" (Regd.) is obtainable only direct from the Sole Manufacturers:—

CHARLES NORRINGTON & CO., LTD.
Cattedown, **PLYMOUTH.**

Makers of High Grade Fertilisers since 1846. No. 9

Digitized by Google

UNWIN'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI

Our 1925 Awards at six of the leading Shows were: Six Gold Medals and One Silver Cup. We offer the very best and most distinct English, American and Dutch Novelties and standard varieties at "*buyable*" prices.

PRIMULINUS HYBRIDS.

These charming small-flowered Gladioli embrace the most wonderful art shades imaginable. Light and graceful, they rival Sweet Peas in daintiness, and are excellent for all decorative purposes. If you have never seen them you have a treat in store.

UNWIN'S GOLD MEDAL COLLECTION OF PRIMULINUS HYBRIDS.	Per doz.
Atalanta, salmon, shaded orange	1/6
Hermione, orange salmon	1/6
Maiden's Blush, lovely pink	1/9
Niobe, orange self	2/-
Salmonea, salmon, flushed orange	1/9
Souvenir, rich yellow	2/3
Daphne, dazzling vermilion	2/3
Rosandra, cerise pink	2/-
Orange Brilliant, orange and yellow	3/6
Xanthia, pure golden orange	5/-
3 each of above 10 vars., named	9/6
6 each of above 10 vars., named	18/-
12 each of above 10 vars., named	

Full Catalogue of Gladioli post free on application.

Carriage Terms.—Orders of **7/6** or over, carriage free; under 7/6, **6d.** extra must be enclosed to partly defray cost of carriage. **Send for a copy of our New Spring Catalogue. Post free.** The Highest Quality Sweet Pea Seeds and Plants, Flower and Vegetable Seeds, Seed Potatoes, Gladioli, Charm Dahlias, Roses, etc. All at "buyable" prices.

W. J. UNWIN, F.R.H.S.,
Seedsman - **Histon, Cambs.**

Forbes' Catalogue

Carnations, Pelargoniums, Pentstemons, Phloxes, Pyrethrums, Violas, Hardy Border and Rock Plants, Seeds, etc.

FREE ON APPLICATION

JOHN FORBES (Hawick), LTD., Dept. 2, The King's Nurserymen, Hawick, Scotland

ECKFORD'S GIANT FRILLED SWEET PEAS —FOR 1926—

GORGEOUS FLOWERS. MAGNIFICENT STEMS

For a wealth of cut flowers. For garden decoration. For exhibition.

ECKFORD'S ARE THE WORLD'S BEST

Special Offer.—25 specially chosen 1/- packets of Eckford's Giant Frilled Sweet Peas for 1926, each separate and named, for - - - - - **20/-**
The same 25, half-packets, each separate and named, for - - - - - - - - - - - **10/-**

The above are a gorgeous range of colour WRITE FOR CATALOGUE (FREE) of all the best Sweet Peas for 1926. Also pedigree vegetables and choicest flower seeds

HENRY ECKFORD, Headquarters for Sweet Peas, Dept. 61 **Wem, Shropshire**

VEITCH'S NURSERIES

contain HARDY TREES AND SHRUBS (specialising in MAGNOLIAS, CHINESE RHODODENDRONS and CHOICE SHRUBS), also in CAMELLIAS and GREENHOUSE PLANTS

INSPECTION OF OUR NURSERIES INVITED

ROBERT VEITCH & SON
ROYAL NURSERIES . . EXETER

SOME GOOD HYBRID RHODODENDRONS

IT may be of interest to gardeners who wish to start growing rhododendrons to have a small list of general favourites at hand: and by general favourites I not only mean those which are of the finest colour and good trusses, but those which are easy to grow and give general satisfaction year after year with a wealth of flower, provided, of course, that they are dead-headed and mulched every year with peat moss or old leaves and rotten wood. Provided that they are well planted at the start in well worked ground with good drainage, there is no reason why these hybrids should not flourish in full sun, although the best position for them is undoubtedly that in which the sun's rays do not fall on them throughout the whole of the long summer days. This is by no means a complete list, and, doubtless, many enthusiastic rhododendron authorities would add to it or remove some of the hybrids listed; but, on the whole, these plants have been tested in many gardens throughout the country and have proved eminently satisfactory.

DEEP REDS.

Ascot Brilliant.—A fairly early flowerer, but a fine red crimson in a large, well shaped truss.

J. G. Millais.—A particularly rich colour in good trusses, also flowers in April.

Earl of Athlone.—Probably the best hardy deep red yet raised, but still a trifle expensive, as it has only been introduced a few years.

BRIGHT REDS.

Bagshot Ruby.—Flowers in May, a great favourite.

B. de Bruin.—Another old favourite, also flowers in May and June.

Britannia—A new Dutch hybrid of great brilliance, in large trusses.

Broughtonii.—Flowers in April, a very old arboreum hybrid with a good deal of rose in the colour; grows to a large size.

Doncaster.—One of the best; does not fade in the brightest sun.

Essex Scarlet.—Close and rather tight trusses, but a fine clear colour in May.

UNWIN'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI

Our 1925 Awards at six of the leading Shows were: Six Gold Medals and one Silver Cup. We offer the very best and most distinct English, American and Dutch Novelties and standard varieties at "*buyable*" prices.

LARGE FLOWERING VARIETIES.

Splendid, stately and majestic flowers in a wonderful range of colours and colour blendings. One of the most noble and striking of all garden subjects. Adaptable, easy to grow and inexpensive. Don't be without them this season.

UNWIN'S POPULAR COLLECTION OF LARGE FLOWERING VARIETIES.	Per doz.
America, rose pink	1/9
Baron Hulot, blue	2/3
Empress of India, maroon	2/-
Golden West, orange red	2/3
Odin, fine salmon	2/3
Panama, deep pink	2/3
Pink Perfection, soft pink	2/3
Prince of Wales, salmon pink	1/9
Red Emperor, blood red	2/9
White Giant, grand white	2/-
Willie Wigman, rose and cream	1/9
Yellow Hammer, yellow self	2/-
3 each of above 12 vars., named	5/9
6 each of above 12 vars., named	11/-
12 each of above 12 vars., named	21/-

Full Catalogue of Gladioli post free on application.

Carriage Terms.—Orders of **7/6** or over, carriage free; under 7/6. **6d.** extra must be enclosed to partly defray cost of carriage. **Send for a copy of our New Spring Catalogue. Post free.** The Highest Quality Sweet Pea Seeds and Plants, Flower and Vegetable Seeds, Seed Potatoes, Gladioli, Charm Dahlias, Roses, etc. All at "buyable" prices.

W. J. UNWIN, F.R.H.S.,
Seedsman - **Histon, Cambs.**

WAKELEY'S GARDEN SEEDS

We beg to announce to our thousands of customers that we are now offering

GARDEN SEEDS
OF THE VERY
FINEST VARIETIES AND STRAIN.

Send for our **SPRING CATALOGUE** which contains a choice selection of all seeds and other specialities for the garden.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.,
75a, Bankside, S.E.

SEEDS

IF YOU WANT

REALLY GOOD SEEDS

AT MODERATE PRICES

SEND TO

ROBERT SYDENHAM LIMITED
99, TENBY STREET, BIRMINGHAM

No one will serve you better.

SWEET PEAS A SPECIALITY

THEIR UNIQUE LISTS
contain only the Best VEGETABLES, FLOWERS AND BULBS WORTH GROWING
Post free on application.

ROBERT SYDENHAM LIMITED

Digitized by Google

Rhododendrons

Himalayan and Chinese Species

R. aloeasalpinx (Farrer 926), Thomsonii series, flowers varying white to crimson, 3–6ins. .. 5/- each

R. arboreum, early flowering, varying in colour white to crimson, 1½–2ft. .. .. 5/- and 7/6 each

R. arboreum, fine large white form, 1½–2ft. 5/- and 7/6 each

R. auriculatum, Fortunei series, flowers white, sweetly scented, August flowering. A few plants only to offer. 2ft. .. .. 21/- each

R. apodectum, neriiflorum series, dwarf grower, flowers varying bronzy rose to crimson, 9-12ins., bushy .. .. 10/6 each

R. Beesianum, lacteum series, flowers white to deep rose, 6-9ins. .. .. .. 5/- and 7/6 each

R. brevistylum, pinkish rose, late flowering, 1½-2ft. 2/6 and 3/6 each

R. campanulatum, bell shaped pale lilac flowers, very pretty, 9-12ins. .. .. 30/- doz.

R. dichroanthum, neriiflorum series, flowers yellow to deep orange, dwarf grower 6ins, 7/6; 9ins., 10/6; 12ins., 15/- each

R. fulvum, colour pure white to pink, chocolate spot at base of flower, very pleasing, fine foliage, flowering here this year for the first time 1½-2ft, 10/6; 2-2½ft., 15/- each

R. hippophaeoides, lapponicum series, a fine alpine species, flowers lavender blue to violet, 1½-2ft. 7/6 each

R. lutescens, triflorum series, flowers lemon to deeper yellow, young foliage a beautiful mahogany brown. A few large plants, 4ft. .. .. .. 15/- each

R. nivalum, flowers violet lilac, 2-2½ft. .. 7/6 and 10/6 each

R. oreodoxa, Fortunei series, colour blush to rosy pink, 1½-2ft. .. .. 7/6 and 10/6 each

R. Ririei, arboreum series, flowers deep purple, with black spot, 1½ft. .. .. 10/6 each

R. rhantum, Fortunei series, flowers pale rose, 1½-2ft. .. .. 10/6 each

R. scyphocalyx (Farrer 1024), neriiflorum series, colour variable, coppery yellow, 6-9ins. 5/- and 7/6 each

R. strigillosum forme (Wilson), colour a beautiful ruby carmine, 1-1½ft. .. .. .. 7/6 each

R. taliense (Forrest 10204), pinkish white with crimson markings, 1-1½ft. .. .. .. 3/6 and 5/- each

R. Thomsonii, deep blood red waxlike flowers beautiful glaucous foliage, a few good specimens, 4-5ft .. .. 30/- to 42/- each

R. trichocladum, shades of yellow, flat, star-like flowers, 1½-2ft. .. .. 2/6 and 3/6 each

R. xanthinum, triflorum series, colour reddish purple, 1½-2ft. .. .. 2/6 and 3/6 each

Choice Hybrids

R. Boddaertianum, fine large white flowers, with dark eye, 2-2½ft. .. .. .. 7/6 and 10/6 each

R. Dawn's Delight, a beautiful Aucklandii hybrid, flowers open carmine ruby changing to a beautiful soft pink .. .. 1½ft., 10/6; 2-2½ft., 15/- each

R. Dr. Stocker, a fine Aucklandii hybrid, large pure white flowers, 2-2½ft. .. .. 7/6 and 10/6 each

R. Kewense, fine Aucklandii hybrid, flowers large blush white, 1½-2ft. .. .. 10/6 each

Rhododendron Loderi

R. Loderi, Fortunei × Aucklandii, raised by the late Sir Edmund Loder. One of the finest Rhododendrons ever raised, enormous flowers, frequently 6-7ins. across each individual pip. Flower buds of all are pink before expanding. We have now a few plants available which are quite hardy here, grown in a thin wood, which gives a little shelter. We have registered 27 degrees of frost, and the plants have not been injured. 1½-2ft. .. .. 50/- each

R. Loderi "Gamschick," colour pinkish to white, interior. 1½-2ft. .. .. 63/- each

R. Loderi Patience, extra fine large white, green 1½-2ft. .. .. 50/- each

R. Loderi White Diamond, extra fine ivory white, 1½-2ft. .. .. 7/6 each

R. maximum triumphans, bright scarlet, 1½ft. .. 3/6 and 5/- each

R. Smithii aureum, yellow, 1-1½ft. .. .. 2/- each, 18/- doz.

R. Jacksonii, light crimson, very early, dwarf grower, 1ft. .. .. 3/- each, 30/- doz.

Azalea amœna, beautiful purple crimson, 1-1½ft.

A very large collection of Himalayan and Chinese species grown.

CATALOGUE ON APPLICATION.

H. WHITE

Sunningdale Nurseries

WINDLESHAM II SURREY

(Late NOBLE'S. Established 1847.)

Telegrams—WINDLESHAM. *Telephone*—44 BAGSHOT

Unknown Warrior.—Very fine large trusses; size of flower and leaf depends on a certain amount of shade.

PINKS.

Corona.—Excessively floriferous, with good large trusses in varying shades of soft rose and pink; inclined to fade in full sun, but even the colour to which it fades is pretty.

Cynthia.—A rose that hovers on the crimson; might be included under bright reds. May and June.

George Hardy.—Large trusses of pink fading to white; flowers in April and early May.

Lady Clementina Mitford.—Peach-coloured; an uncommon shade.

Lady Eleanor Cathcart.—A good clear rose spotted with crimson. Flowers carried abundantly in smallish trusses in May.

Mrs. E. C. Stirling.—Would be magenta if deeper in tone, but is so pale that it is most attractive.

Pink Pearl.—One of the best known of all hybrids.

WHITES.

Duchess of Portland.—One of the best of all whites, large foliage and a large truss. Corolla faintly tinged with yellow. Flowers in May and June.

Gomer Waterer.—White flushed with pink.

Helen Schiffner.—An old white with smallish trusses carried in May.

Loder's White is the best hardy white hybrid, enormous flowers carried in fairly loose trusses, and so does not look crowded. Is best in partial shade.

Mrs. A. Waterer.—White with a yellow eye, in tight trusses.

Mrs. Lionel de Rothschild.—A fine large-trussed white with a crimson blotch.

The Bride has green markings and a small truss, but is included for its great free-flowering qualities.

PURPLES AND MAUVES.

Fastuosum flore pleno.—Popular with those who like double flowers; a deep mauve in May

Purple Splendour is the best rhododendron of a real purple colour.

YELLOWS.

Cunningham's Sulphur.—A good yellow and low growing; coming into cultivation again.

Smithii aureum.—Large trusses of rather a washy yellow, but yellows are rare.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

Messrs. Maxwell and Beale, Broadstone, Dorset.—Plants for rock and alpine gardens, moraines and herbaceous borders. Also a comprehensive list of hardy heathers which all lovers of heaths should procure.

Messrs. Perry, Hardy Plant Farm, Enfield.—Hardy plants for the water garden, with several fine illustrations. Also an extensive selection of all hardy plants.

Mr. J. W. Forsyth, Cyclamen Grower, Putteridge.—A list of cyclamen of the Caledonian Strain, and early flowering chrysanthemums.

Messrs. Barr and Sons, Covent Garden.—List of hardy perennials, including rock plants, alpines, hardy climbers and wall shrubs.

Messrs. J. Stormonth and Son, Kirkbride, Cumberland.—A well illustrated list of rock and border plants. There is a wide selection offered and all rock garden enthusiasts would do well to write for this catalogue.

Messrs. Sutton and Sons, Reading.—A supplement to their seed catalogue, which deals solely with garden equipment. This handy brochure is well illustrated and will be found exceedingly useful to have as a reference book.

Messrs. James and Geo. H. Matthews, Harold Wood, Essex.—A list of vegetable and flower seeds.

Messrs. Knights, Wolverhampton. — A handy and useful little booklet on the upkeep of lawns, greens and tennis courts, which all amateurs would find of great assistance. Price 6d.

SALE OF ROSES

At 33⅓ per cent. less than catalogue prices.

HAVING so far sold our stock of Roses that the catalogue is no longer a reliable source of selection and not having enough each of different kinds to justify advertising the balance in named collections, we are offering what remains of our stock of bush, standard and climbing Roses in carriage paid quantities in varieties of our selection, at 33⅓ % less than list prices.

The varieties are all first-class (not an obsolete one among them), the trees are excellent and, while all buyers will get remarkably good value for money, the first comers will have the advantage of newer and more expensive varieties for as long as stocks last.

BUSHES
In variety—our selection.
Usual price 1/3 each.
10/- doz.
CARRIAGE PAID
6/- for 6 trees.

STANDARDS
In variety—our selection.
Usual price 3/9 each.
30/- doz.
CARRIAGE PAID.
16/6 for 6 trees.
9/- for 3 trees.

CLIMBERS
In variety—our selection.
Usual price 1/6 each.
12/- doz.
CARRIAGE PAID.
7/- for 6 trees.
4/3 for 3 trees.

Bakers
SEED AND FLOWER FARM,
CODSALL.
Nr. Wolverhampton.

New Rhododendron

CUNNINGHAM'S SULPHUR

A large stock of this rare variety NOW READY for dispatch.

Grown on own roots, and quite hardy in any part of Britain. Very free flowering—Colour: Sulphur yellow, flowering in April. Very valuable for Spring decoration, plants offered average 9 ins. high, 3–6 flower buds, 6–9 shoots, 7 ins. diameter.

Price **12/6** *each*
CARRIAGE EXTRA.

FROM THE RAISERS—
CUNNINGHAM FRASER & CO., LTD.
Comely Bank Nurseries, EDINBURGH

NOW is the time to PLANT
CHINESE RHODODENDRONS
at popular prices.
NEW AND RARE SPECIES
from seed collected by
FORREST AND KINGDON WARD
From **2/6** upwards.
WRITE FOR DETAILED CATALOGUES.
HILLIER & SONS
TREE SPECIALISTS
WINCHESTER.

Digitized by Google

"The GLORY of the GARDEN"

depends upon the soil. The finest plants and seeds are not sufficient; you must sterilise and feed the soil in which they grow. "Ferry" Garden Specialities ensure gardens of surpassing loveliness.

SOIL PEST DESTROYER. Sweetens and sterilises the soil and kills all insect pests—wireworms, slugs, caterpillars, ants, &c. Prices: 14lb., 3/-; 28lb., 5/6; 56lb., 10/6; 1cwt., 20/-.
GARDEN MANURE. The finest manure for general garden purposes. Suitable for Roses, Fruit Trees, Potatoes, Vines, &c. Prices: 14lb., 3/-; 28lb., 5/9; 56lb., 11/-; 1cwt., 20/-.
LAWN MANURE. A highly concentrated, quick-acting Fertiliser. A wonderful restorative of poor and worn lawns. Does not encourage the growth of coarse grass and clover. Prices: 14lb., 3/6; 28lb., 6/-; 56lb., 10/6; 1cwt., 19/-.

All carriage paid to nearest Railway Station for cash with order.

The BRITON FERRY CHEMICAL & MANURE Co., Ltd. *(Dept. E)*, Briton Ferry, South Wales. *(Est. 1886)*

FERRY BRAND

Regd. *Trade Mark*

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

GARDEN LOVERS

Write for Catalogues of
PROTHEROE & MORRIS'
· HORTICULTURAL SALES ·
MONDAY · WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY
67, 68 Cheapside, London E.C.2. Phone: City 3858

MATTHEWS'
BIG PRODUCTION FERTILISERS

Thousands of tons sold annually. For prices, see THE GARDEN, March 20th, 1926 (page xiv). Catalogue of Scotch Seed Potatoes and Seeds on application.

JAMES & GEO. H. MATTHEWS, Harold Wood, Essex. 'Phone Romford 284.

MAGNIFICENT VEGETABLES

Magnificent vegetables and choice flowers can be grown by those who use Nitrate of Soda in conjunction with phosphates and potash.

Write for pamphlets, entitled, "Successful Gardens for Every Amateur," "The Manuring of Orchards and Fruit Trees," supplied gratis and post free by THE CHILEAN NITRATE COMMITTEE, Friars House, New Broad Street, London, E.C. 2.

Nitrate of Soda

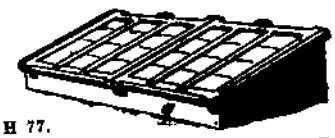
By Appointment

BOULTON & PAUL GARDEN FRAMES

High grade, solidly built. Renowned for durability, strength and simplicity.

Delivered ready painted, glazed 21 oz. English glass, complete with bolts, and can be put together in a few minutes by any amateur.

TYPICAL EXAMPLES

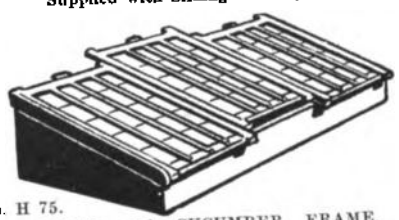


No. H 77.

VIOLET or BORDER FRAME.

Cash Prices:		
1-Light Frame (sliding) ..	3 ft. × 4 ft.	£1 . 15 . 0
2-Light Frame ,, ..	6 ft. × 4 ft.	£2 . 19 . 0
3-Light Frame ,, ..	9 ft. × 4 ft.	£4 . 4 . 0
1-Light Frame (hinged) ..	3 ft. × 4 ft.	£2 . 2 . 0
2-Light Frame ,, ..	6 ft. × 4 ft.	£3 . 15 . 0
3-Light Frame ,, ..	9 ft. × 4 ft.	£5 . 7 . 0

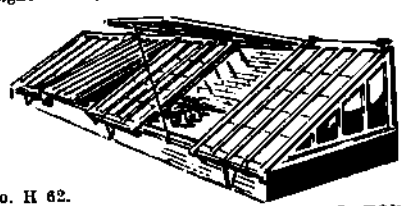
Supplied with Sliding or Hinged Lights.



No. H 75.

MELON and CUCUMBER FRAME.

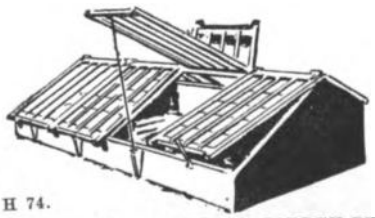
Cash Prices:	
1-Light Frame, 4 ft. long × 6 ft. wide .	£3 . 10 . 0
2-Light Frame, 8 ft. long × 6 ft. wide .	£5 . 13 . 0
3-Light Frame, 12 ft. long × 6 ft. wide	£7 . 15 . 0



No. H 62.

LEAN-TO FRAME or FORCING PIT FOR BRICKWORK.

Cash Prices:	
10 ft. long × 3 ft. wide × 1 ft. 9 ins. high at back, above wall	£5 . 19 . 0
15 ft. long × 3 ft. wide, ditto ditto ..	£8 . 7 . 0
10 ft. × 4 ft. × 2 ft. at back	£8 . 5 . 0
15 ft. × 4 ft. × 2 ft. at back	£10 . 5 . 0



No. H 74.

THREE-QUARTER SPAN-ROOF GARDEN FRAME

Cash Prices:	
4 ft. long × 6 ft. wide	£7 . 3 . 0
8 ft. long × 6 ft. wide	£10 . 18 . 0
12 ft. long × 6 ft. wide	£14 . 13 . 0

Carriage paid to most stations in England and Wales, packing extra, but allowed for if returned.
GARDEN FRAME CATALOGUE No. 744 SHOWING OTHER SIZES AND DESIGNS SENT FREE ON REQUEST.

Boulton & Paul Ltd
Telegrams BOULTON NORWICH NORWICH Telephone NORWICH 854 (5 lines)
LONDON OFFICE 155-157 QUEEN VICTORIA ST E.C.
Telegrams Boulogne Cent London Telephone 4647 Cent

Rhododendrons for Amateurs

BY E. H. M. COX

Is the only up-to-date, cheap illustrated book on Rhododendron culture. It is written by an expert specially for the amateur

It costs only
5s. net
By post, 5/4

Published by "Country Life," Limited, 20, Tavistock Street, London, W.C.2

DULAU & CO., LTD.

Natural History Booksellers and Publishers.

¶ Highest Prices given for books dealing with horticulture, botany, silviculture, geology, insects, etc.

¶ Send us the lists of books on gardening you require this season.

¶ Large numbers of second-hand items always in stock.

Just Published.

The Pruning of Trees and Shrubs

Being a description of the methods practised in the Royal Botanic Gardens.

By W. DALLIMORE.
Assistant, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.
Cr. 8vo. Fully Illustrated. 4/6 net. Postage extra.

Published in January.

The Scent of Flowers and Leaves

Its purpose and relation to man.

By F. A. HAMPTON.
Cr. 8vo. 6/- net. Postage extra.

INCLUDES DIRECTIONS FOR LAYING OUT A SCENTED GARDEN AND LISTS OF SCENTED PLANTS.

"Should find a place and welcome in many book-shelves."—*Evening Standard.*
"The author is to be congratulated on the way he presents his facts."—*The Garden.*

From all Booksellers.

DULAU & CO., LTD.
34, 35, 36, MARGARET STREET
LONDON, W.1

Digitized by Google

THE LEADING GLASSHOUSE FUMIGANT.

CORRY'S WHITE FLY DEATH

WEED DEATH

The new NON-POISONOUS Weed Killer (POWDER).
SUPERIOR TO DANGEROUS ARSENICAL COMPOUNDS
Safety first, non-caustic, no smell, kills the roots.
For 4 galls., 1/-; 12½, 2/-; 25, 3/6; 50, 6/6; 100, 12/- & Bulk
From your Nurserymen or Seedsmen.
CORRY & CO., Shed Thames, London, S.E.1

YOUR GARDEN NEEDS
KILOGRUB
Its fumes are instantly fatal to all insect pests in the soil, but harmless to plants. Really effective because it works underground.
Tins: 8d., 1/3 and 3/6
Bags: 1 cwt. 6/6, ½ cwt. 3/6, ¼ cwt. 1s/-
From your ironmonger or from—
JOHN PEAR & CO., LTD. WIGAN, Lancs.

FERTILISERS.
LAWNS, 20/-; FRUIT TREES, VINES, 19/6; GENERAL GARDEN USE, 17/-; WORM KILLER, 19/-
Per cwt., carriage paid. Also all other fertilisers.
HY. RICHARDSON & CO.,
Skeldergate Bridge Works, YORK

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by "ALPHOL"
Sample 14 lb., 5/6 carr. paid
Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Aids, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc. to
Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St., Liverpool

The WIZARD Plant LABEL
PATENT No 212978
Gentiana Farreri
BACK VIEW
Made in Red Pottery, 2½ x 1¼ ins., with rustless wires, 12 in., 2/- doz.; 7 in., 1/7 doz. 14 x 1 in., with wires 6 in., 3/6 doz. For tying on, 1/6 and 1/3 doz. Waterproof Tab, 9d. and 7½d. doz. Crow Quills, 2d. Postage extra.
Highly commended by the R.H.S. at Wisley.
E. WORKINGTON . NEW HALL . MAIDENHEAD

Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.

HILL & SMITH, Ltd.,
BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS,
Makers of
IRON FENCING, HURDLES, GATES, WIRE NETTING AND GARDEN IRONWORK

Other Products—Hay and Grain Sheds, Dutch Barns, Galvanized Corrugated Sheets and Structural Steelwork.
Catalogues free on mentioning this paper.
London: 300, Abbey House, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

The RITO Smile

GARDENERS!

Multiply your crops and produce fragrant flowers with

RITO

The food for soil bacteria.

From Seedsmen, Florists, Corn Merchants, etc.

Prices—1 cwt. **23/-**; 28lb. **6/3**; 14lb. **3/3**; 7lb. **1/9** and in **1/-** cartons.

Literature and reports FREE from the MOLASSINE CO. Ltd., Dept. R52, Greenwich, S.E.1.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

DAVID SWAIN & CO. ∴ *Horticultural Builders*

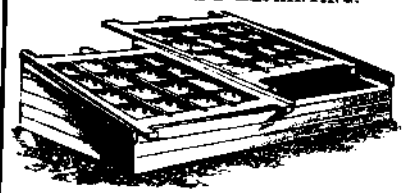
SPRING, 1926

TELEPHONE: NORTH 2807.

GARDEN FRAMES ALL SIZES.
GLASSHOUSES RENOVATED.
REPAIRS AND REPAINTING.

HEATING.

WRITE for LISTS and ESTIMATES.



Two-Light Garden Frame.

Range of Houses.

101, SUSSEX ROAD, HOLLOWAY, LONDON, N.7

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing*

By Appointment

GREEN'S WORLD FAMOUS LAWN MOWERS

GARDEN ROLLERS & TENNIS MARKERS

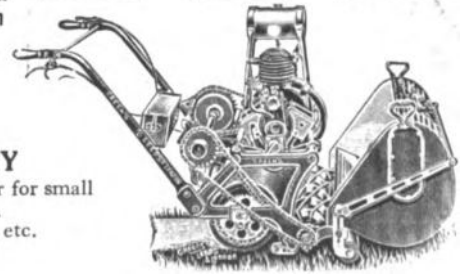
Est. 1835

GREEN'S
"SILENS MESSOR"
The Universal Favourite.
Light running and almost noiseless. Supreme in construction. Perfect in operation.

GREEN'S
MOTOR MOWERS
won the Highest Award at the Motor Mower trials held at Regent's Park, London, in 1925.
Light Motor Mowers made in the following sizes, 16in. £45, 20in. £62 10s., 24in. £72 10s., 30in. £92 10s.
Also heavier type Motor Mowers up to 42in.

Efficient. Reliable. Economical.

Over a Million Sold.



Also
GREEN'S NEW CENTURY
with adjustable bearings. The ideal light mower for small lawns, tennis courts, slopes and banks.
To be had of all Seedsmen, Ironmongers, etc.
New Price List No. 8, on request.

THOMAS GREEN & SON, LTD., Smithfield Ironworks, LEEDS; and New Surrey Works, Southwark St., LONDON, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

WAKELEY'S *Celebrated* Hop Manure

(PATENTED)

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL, ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION, 1912

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE, without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

Every ounce of Wakeley's Hop Manure is of value to the soil, supplying the necessary HUMUS in addition to the valuable plant food. Worthless rubbish is not added to make weight (as is the case of some artificial manures advertised).

Thousands do realise it, the proof of this is the constant flow of UNSOLICITED LETTERS received from time to time in praise of the wonderful results obtained at such a moderate cost (see Booklet for selection).

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.—Genuine Only in our Marked Bags containing Guaranteed Analysis.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of post card.

CASH PRICES (including bags):

Small (about 1 bushel)	3/-
Large (about 4 bushels)	7/-
5 Large	33/9
10 Large	65/-
20 Large	120/-

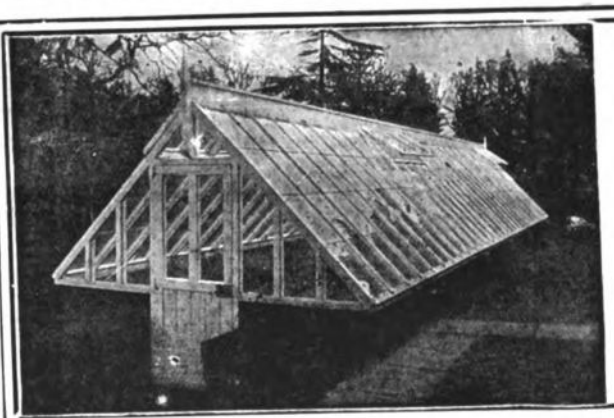
Carriage paid by Pickford's or to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company; 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.

75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

GIVING THE PUBLIC A SQUARE DEAL

"To tell the advertising story simply and without exaggeration, and to avoid even a tendency to mislead." Resolution, Associated Advertising Clubs of the World, Wembley, 1924 . . . . . Before and since lived up to . . . will continue to be lived up to by all advertisers in this journal.



GREENHOUSES AND GARDEN FRAMES

I specialize in the Erection of High class Horticultural Buildings.

Garden Frames a speciality. Selected timber, well seasoned, only used.

Being a grower, I understand Glass-house requirements.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.

CATALOGUES WITH PLEASURE.

E. M. HEAP, Cottimore Nurseries, WALTON-ON-THAMES.

By Appointment

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.,

Royal Potteries

BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

THE COMPLETENESS OF ITS COMPOSITION AND THE HAPPY BLENDING OF ITS HIGHGRADE ORGANIC AND OTHER INGREDIENTS RENDER

Carmona *Fertilizer*

A PAR-EXCELLENT BLOOM PRODUCER

CARRIAGE PAID PRICES:—

1 lb. Tin 1/3 — 2 lb. Tin 2/-

7 lb. Tin 4/6 — 112 lb. Bag 26/-

The fullest instructions accompany each package.

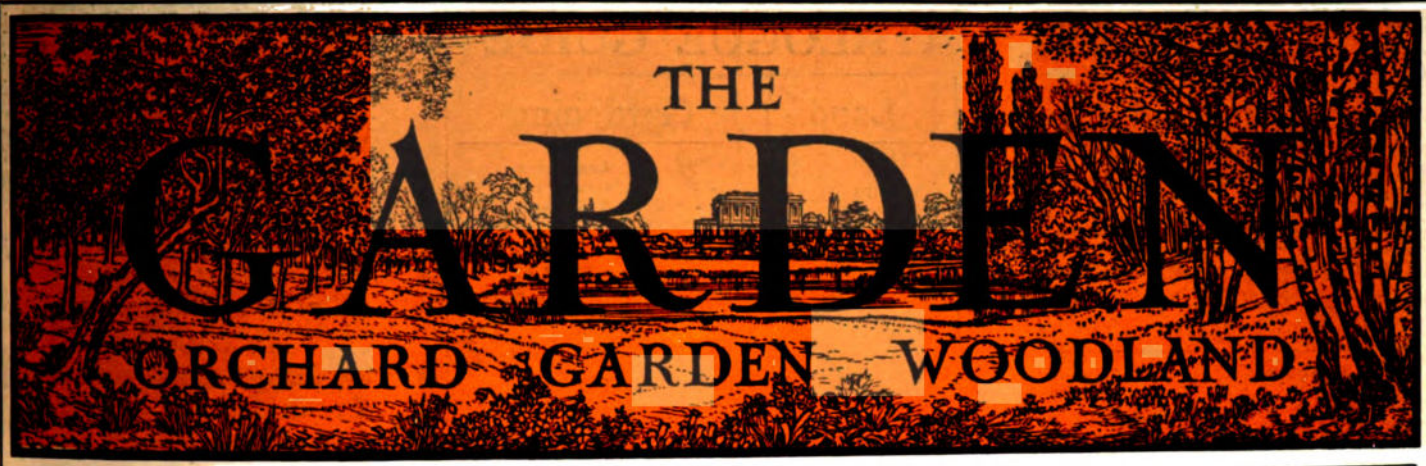
Sole Manufacturers:—

ROBINSON BROTHERS LTD., WEST BROMWICH

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2. Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

APR 12 1926



Vol. XC.—No. 2837 Saturday, April 3rd, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

TWO BEAUTIFUL NEW PLANTS

FOR MARCH AND APRIL PLANTING

MICHAELMAS DAISY BARR'S PINK.

THE FINEST PINK MICHAELMAS DAISY YET RAISED.

Excellent as a cut flower, remaining open and lasting well in water; equally charming in artificial light as in daylight.

"Until lately one had to exercise a certain amount of imagination with the pink Michaelmas Daisies, but now the pinks are really and truly pink, and of the newest varieties none is more prominent than Barr's Pink, which, with great beauty of rich colouring, combines a graceful habit, and one recognises that in this Messrs. Barr & Sons of Covent Garden have raised a variety that will long continue in the front rank of hardy flowers."—COUNTRY LIFE, Oct. 10th, 1925.

Strong plants .. .. .. per doz. **36/-**; each **3/6**

SCHIZOSTYLIS, "Mrs. Hegarty."

(NEW PINK CAFFRE LILY). This beautiful NOVELTY was shown before the Floral Committee of the ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY on October 18th, 1921, and was at once given an AWARD OF MERIT. The flowers are of a beautiful satiny rose-pink, and keep on opening out in succession for a very long time. The general habit of growth is that of *S. coccinea*; it is as hardy and requires the same treatment.

A charming pot-plant .. .. per doz. **12/6**; each **1/3**

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

WORTH GROWING

SEED POTATOES

SCOTCH & ENGLISH — CLASS I

Selected Stocks

WRITE FOR LIST

ISAAC POAD & SONS, Ltd.,
Seed Potato Growers - - - YORK

The Flower of the Season

BALL'S CALENDULA

— Brilliant Orange Double Flowers —

THE FINEST PLANT FOR CUT FLOWER OR THE BORDER

Our exhibit at CHELSEA SHOW made us many customers, and we have had numerous testimonials from all parts of the country.

SEED .. .. **1/-, 2/6, 5/-** packet
PLANTS .. .. **1/6** doz.; **10/-** 100

WM. ARTINDALE & SON
NETHER GREEN NURSERY :: SHEFFIELD

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

FOR THE GARDEN! FOR EXHIBITION!
FOR BEDS! FOR EVERYWHERE!

Also Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees, Alpines and Hardy Plants.

BUY HOME-GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries.

Catalogue Free on Application, and Addresses booked for Revised Catalogue in late Summer.

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.,
Garden Specialists - - SOUTHWELL, NOTTS

DOBBIE'S Scotch-Grown PLANTS

FULL DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE
84 pages of Indoor and Hardy Plants
— SENT ON APPLICATION —

DOBBIE & CO., LIMITED
Nurserymen :: EDINBURGH

CHEALS' DAHLIAS

UNIQUE COLLECTION
Many Striking Novelties

New Catalogue Free

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
The Nurseries - - CRAWLEY

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S HARDY PLANT FARMS, ENFIELD, MIDDX. — New Alpines and Perennials. Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS. NURSERIES, BEDFORD — Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR. HARDY PLANT NURSERY, MERSTHAM, SURREY — Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON, TWERTON HILL NURSERY, BATH — Begonias, Delphiniums, Gloxinias, Cyclamen, etc.

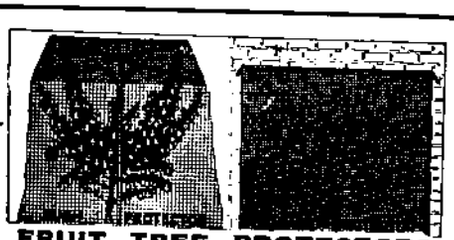
DAWKINS, 408, KING'S ROAD, CHELSEA, S.W. — Seeds, Gladioli, Spiræas, List on Application

R. H. BATH, LTD. THE FLORAL FARMS, WISBECH — Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

BROWN'S TESTED SEEDS. Illustrated Flower and Vegetable Seed Catalogue, giving full cultural directions, at competitive prices, post free if this paper is mentioned. D. T. BROWN & CO., *Seedsmen*, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

BARGAIN CATALOGUE
Land Sold for Building
Real Cambridgeshire grown Fruit Trees, Fruit Bushes, Roses, Shrubs, Avenue Trees, Privet, Plants
Exceptionally strong and healthy
FRANK RICE (F.R.H.S.), Arbury Nurseries, Cambridge

Water Plants
My New Illustrated Catalogue contains the most complete collection ever offered. Free
PERRY'S Hardy Plant Farm, Enfield Middx.



FRUIT TREE PROTECTORS
Against BIRDS, FROST, COLD WINDS, WASPS.
TRANSFERABLE FRUIT CAGES.
SPECIAL GARDEN NETTINGS
NEW PORTABLE TENNIS SURROUND.
Apply for new Illustrated Booklet giving his SYSTEM OF FRUIT CULTURE
Major C. Walker, Dept. G., Brecon, S. Wales

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD. NURSERIES, CRAWLEY — Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG, THE NURSERIES, CHISLEHURST, KENT — Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD, BARROW-ON-HUMBER, HULL — Weed Destroyers, Fertilisers, Insecticides, Nets and Sundries

1926
PERPETUAL FLOWERING **CARNATIONS**
Our Illustrated Catalogue will be sent free on request

C. ENGELMANN LTD.
Saffron Walden, Essex.

CAULIFLOWER
"MAY QUEEN."
Genuine only direct from Wymondham. The fastest growing, quickest heading variety in existence. Planted in March, large white heads may be cut during May & June. Autumn-sown Plants, 100, 3/6; 500, 15/-; 1,000, 30/-
Packed in Boxes Carriage Paid with Cultural Hints.
DANIELS & SON, (Dept. 22) WYMONDHAM, NORFOLK.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Fruit Trees Rose Trees
ALL ENGLISH GROWN.
Descriptive Catalogue post free on demand.
INSPECTION INVITED.
S. SPOONER & SONS
Estd. 1820 The Nurseries, Hounslow, MIDDLESEX

Trapped!
The enveloping, penetrating fumes of XL ALL Fumigating Compound leave no loophole of escape for the greenhouse pest. Swift, remorseless and complete. Refuse imitations. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen, florists and chemists.
XL ALL FUMIGATING COMPOUND
(Liquid or Cake)
G. H. RICHARDS, LTD.
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
R. 102. Monomark: BCM/XLALL.

Continued from page iii.

ROCK AND ALPINE PLANTS.—Large and varied collection. All pot grown. Packed and carriage paid. Catalogue free.—M. J. PIGGOTT, Duffield, Nr. Derby.

GARDEN NETS.—Protect your Seeds and Buds from Frost and Birds. Netting, strong, small mesh, specially prepared, will not rot, as supplied by us to the Royal Gardens. 25 square yards for 2/6. Any length or width supplied, price in proportion, carr. paid. Cheaper kinds kept. 25 square yards for 1/6. Lists and samples free.—GASSON & SONS, Net Works, Rye. Estab. 127 years.

HIMALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODENDRONS on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and Alpine Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write for Catalogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

CHOICE DAFFODILS.—Write at once for Herbert Chapman's list of CASH BARGAIN LOTS, offered to clear ground. First-class varieties at astonishingly low figures. —Address, HERBERT CHAPMAN, LTD., Rotherside Gardens, Rye, Sussex.

GARDEN NETS. — Best Tanned Heavy, 50 × 4, 25 × 8, 100 × 2yds., £1; ditto, 25 × 2, 5/-; 25 × 4, 10/-; lighter, 50 × 4, 25 × 8, 100 × 2yds., 16/-. Carriage paid, passenger train. Satisfaction guaranteed. New Garden and Tennis Boundary Netting, samples and full particulars from the manufacturers, W. OLIVER ALLEN AND SONS, Net Makers, Porthleven, Cornwall.

WELLS' CATALOGUE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS will be sent post free on application.—W. WELLS AND CO., Merstham, Surrey.

SPENCE'S SCOTCH SEED POTATOES.—Write for Descriptive Catalogue and Growing Guide (on Potatoes only).—CHAS. T. SPENCE, Seed Potato Specialist, Dunbar, Scotland.

Forbes' Catalogue
Carnations, Pelargoniums, Pentstemons, Phloxes, Pyrethrums, Violas, Hardy Border and Rock Plants, Seeds, etc.
FREE ON APPLICATION
JOHN FORBES (Hawick), LTD., Dept. 2, The King's Nurserymen, Hawick, Scotland

DOWNER'S LUPINS, 12/- doz., large, mixed.
Apply for List. Also Herbaceous and Alpine Catalogue.
DOWNER, 2, Drayton Manor Nurseries, Chichester.

NEW ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE OF

WATER LILIES, BOG & AQUATIC PLANTS

containing the most complete collection ever offered in this country at prices that will bear very favourable comparison with any other reliable house at home or abroad. - - *Free on application.*

PERRY'S HARDY PLANT FARM, ENFIELD.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing*

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

Try one of
WEBB'S POPULAR COLLECTIONS of Vegetable Seeds. Best quality and value obtainable.
5/6 Collection contains 21 varieties.
8/- " " 30 "
10/6 " " 36 "
21/- Exhibitor's Collection contains 30 varieties specially for Show purposes. Post free. Contents on request.
WEBB & SONS, The King's Seedsmen, STOURBRIDGE.

WATERER'S GOLD MEDAL RHODODENDRONS, Azaleas, Rare Hardy Shrubs, Alpine and Perennial Plants, Vegetable and Flower Seeds. Scotch grown Seed Potatoes, Asparagus, 3 year, 17/6; 2 year, 12/6 per 100. Catalogue free.—JOHN WATERER, SONS AND CRISP, LIMITED, Twyford, Berks; Bagshot, Surrey; and London.

WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE.—The original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See advert. on back page.

WM. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., Lawrence Road, South Tottenham, N.15.—Conservatories, Winter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

BIRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUNDIALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—MOORTON, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

FENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Garden Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE STANLEY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, Surrey.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Flowering Ornamental and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and in large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

YORK STONE PAVINGS, crazy or rectangular, rustic copings, steps roughly squared or random shaped, flat bedded wallstones, garden edging, rockery, etc.—SAMUEL JOHNSON AND SON (MIRFIELD), LIMITED, Newgate Stone Works, Mirfield, Yorkshire.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 1/6 per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

PRIOR'S COLCHESTER ROSES, Fruit Trees, Gladioli, Dahlias, Carnations, Herbaceous. Catalogue containing cheap collections free.—D. PRIOR AND SON, LIMITED, Colchester.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING, small mesh, 2yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 40yds. by 1yd., 40yds. by 2yds., 6/6; 40yds. by 3yds., 9/9. Measured mesh closed. Special Pea Netting supplied. Tennis Nets from 8/- Carriage Paid. Compare our netting with others. Sports lists and samples free.—GALLOP, Net Manufacturer, Hastings.

NETS for Gardens and Tennis Courts.—Before ordering elsewhere, send for our free lists and samples. It will pay you.—GASSON & SONS, Net Works, Rye. Est. 127 years.

WIRE NETTING.—From 2/5 per 50yd. roll. Cheapest House in the Kingdom. Write us for prices. Thousands of rolls stocked.

PEA GUARDS.—Small mesh, 3ft. long, two rods to each dozen. 4/3 dozen. 2 doz. Carriage Paid.

DEFY THE BIRDS.—Rotless Tanned Netting. Small mesh, as supplied by us to the Royal Gardens. In three Qualities. 50 x 1yd., 3/6, 4/-, 6/9; 2yds., 7/-, 8/-, 13/6; 3yds., 10/6, 12/-, 20/3; 4yds., 14/-, 16/-, 27/-; 25 x 1yd., 14/-, 15/-, 27/-. Any size supplied. Carriage paid. Approval. Measured mesh closed.

PEA NETTING.—Tanned, Superior Quality. 2in. mesh, 6ft. wide, 6d. yard. Carriage paid 12yds. and over. Other widths pro rata, prices of smaller meshes on application.—E. B. HAWKINS, LIMITED, Dept. E., Shrewsbury.

BARR'S FLOWER & VEGETABLE SEEDS, of finest selected strains and tested growth, also the best Scotch and Irish grown, hand-picked Seed Potatoes.

BARR'S HARDY PERENNIALS, ALPINES, ROCK PLANTS, AQUATICS, CLIMBERS, TALL and DWARF FLAG IRISES, etc., for Spring planting.

BARR'S LILIES, GLADIOLI, DAHLIAS, CANNAS, MONTBRETIAS, ANEMONES, BEGONIAS, TUBEROSES, TIGRIDIAS, etc., for Spring planting. Catalogues free.—BARR AND SONS, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are now famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx, and perpetual habit. Illustrated plant list now ready. New Seed, now ready, hand fertilised, 2/6 and 5/- packets.—J. DOUGLAS, Great Bookham, Surrey.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial : The Value of Correspondence	199
Annual Composites in the Garden	200
Capricious Plants	201
Some Beautiful Shrubby Veronicas	202
A Water Lily Pond	203
Notes of the Week	205–207
An Uncommon Early-flowering Shrub ; Pyrola in the Rock Garden ; The R.H.S. Amateur Show ; Rock and Stone Edged Borders ; Narcissus Emperor ; Baskets of Flowering and Foliage Plants ; The Flame Flower, Tropæolum speciosum ; A Beautiful Barberry ; Pulmonaria angustifolia azurea Munstead variety ; Geranium Farreri ; A Remarkable Water Plant ; The Prickly Thrift.	
Fumigation with Cyanide	208
Daffodils at Vincent Square	208
Correspondence	210–211
Rose-growing Under Glass ; Wild Flower Protection ; Rhododendron Nobleanum album ; The Pronunciation of "Gladiolus" ; Primula Successes and Failures ; Bowling-green from Seed ; Growing Grape Vines from Eyes.	
Brassicas for Spring Sowing	212
Garden Technique	212
Pricking Out Antirrhinum Seedlings ; Bedding Geraniums ; Ivies—Cutting and Planting ; Planting Jerusalem Artichokes ; Planting Pine Trees.	

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL DELPHINIUMS and ROSES. Send a postcard for our catalogue

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI, Chrysanthemums, Dahlias and Border Carnations.—Our stock includes many new and meritorious varieties. List post free on application.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

MECONOPSIS SEEDS, five species offered in Clarence Elliott's list.—SIX HILLS NURSERY, Stevenage, Herts.

TO LOVERS OF ROCK GARDENS.—Inexpensive Plants for Sale.—Apply NELL SHAW, Hatfield Place, Bath.

PRIMULA JULIÆ.—A real gem, profuse purple flowers, 12 strong plants, 5/-.—MILNE, South Darley, Matlock.

SUTTON'S SEEDS
for Lawns and Sports Grounds.
Get your Lawn ready now for the coming season.
A note to our Advisory Department giving details of the condition of the turf will bring, by return post, a suggested course of treatment for the Renovation, Destruction of Weeds, Worms, etc.
SUTTON & SONS, THE KING'S SEEDSMEN, READING.

DOBBIE'S PLANT CATALOGUE now ready. Free to all readers. Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.—DOBBIE AND CO., LIMITED, Edinburgh.

BATH'S SELECT SEEDS AND PLANTS.—New Illustrated Catalogue of choice Vegetable and Flower Seeds and Plants is now ready, and will be sent, post free, on application.—(Dept. E), R. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

HARDY PLANTS, ROSES AND TREES TREES. Revised catalogue now ready. Free on application to THOMPSON AND MORGAN, Ipswich.

GARDEN NETS.—Best tanned, small mesh, 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 25yds. by 3yds., 6/-; 25yds. by 4yds., 8/-. Carr. Paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Tennis nets from 10s. Special nets for tennis boundary. Pea training nets. Lists and samples free.—G. JARRETT, Netmaker, Rye.

LAXTONS' SEEDS.—New Catalogue, post free on application. Containing novelties for 1926. New Peas "Bedford Champion," 4ft., early; "Progress," 1ft. early.—LAXTON BROTHERS, Seedsmen, Bedford.

LAXTONS' POT STRAWBERRIES for present planting. Will fruit this year. "The Duke," "Royal Sovereign" and "King George," 30/- 100, 4/- doz.—LAXTON BROTHERS, Bedford.

RARE PRIMULA AND ALPINE SEEDS from large (1,500) collection, sold cheap. List free.—Rev. J. F. ANDERSON, Glen Hall, Leicester.

A NAIL WRITES WEBSTER'S METAL LABELS. They can't fade. List 20 sizes.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

ROCK PLANTS, best varieties, inexpensive, list free.—MARION GLEDSTANES, Fardross, Clogher, Northern Ireland

PRIMULAS, HARDY.—Red Hugh, Scarlet; Julias, purple; pulverulenta, crimson; Bulleyana, yellow; frondosa, lavender; capitata, blue. 6 splendid plants, 4/6.—MILNE, South Darley, Matlock.

AURICULAS.—Choice, 12 splendid plants, from pots, 7/6.—MILNE, South Darley, Matlock.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70 Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

LOOK ! TANNED GARDEN NETS.—All orders despatched same day. 25 yards by 1 yard, 2/-; 25 by 2, 4/-; 25 by 3, 6/-. Odd netting for bushes, 6lbs. for 2/6. All carriage paid. Any sizes supplied. Also Tennis Boundary Nets.—MOORE & CO., Net Works, Rye.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING—"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

CLAY'S LONDON FERTILIZER TRADE MARK

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then, together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices :—

Tins 10d. and 1/6

and in Branded and Sealed Bags :

7 lbs. - 3/6 — 14 lbs. - 6/-
28 lbs. - 10/- — 56 lbs. - 18/-
112 lbs. - 32/-

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers etc. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**

COAL

Trucks to any station or delivered into cellar.

BEST DERBY BRIGHTS .. .. .. 25/- ton pit
KITCHEN COBBLES OR NUTS .. .. 16/- ,,
COKE, for Central Heating and Greenhouses 15/- ,,
ANTHRACITE, for all purposes .. .. 23/6 ,,

From **BUCKLE COLLIERY CO., Box 98, CHELTENHAM**

FERTILISERS.

LAWNS, 20/-; FRUIT TREES, VINES, 19/6; GENERAL GARDEN USE, 17/-; WORM KILLER, 19/-
Per cwt., carriage paid. Also all other fertilisers.

HY. RICHARDSON & CO., Skeldergate Bridge Works, YORK

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by "ALPHOL" Sample 14 lb., 3/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

ALPINE PLANTS, BORDER PLANTS, CHOICE FLOWERING SHRUBS, MINIATURE CONIFERS, HARDY HEATHS, HARDY FERNS, CLIMBERS. One of the oldest, and perhaps the finest, all-round collection in the country.

We grow some 4,000 kinds of all the best outdoor garden subjects, including such items as 100 kinds of Michaelmas Daisies, 100 kinds of Campanulas, 50 kinds of Hellebores, 200 kinds of Saxifrages, etc.

Our Catalogue of these is beautifully illustrated, shows how to build a rock wall and water lily pool, and tells about soils, etc., etc. It makes a fine reference book on plants. It is sent post free for 1s. which may be deducted from orders.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED.
SPECIMENS NAMED.
ADVICE GIVEN FREE.

J. STORMONTH & SON,
Hardy Plant Specialists,
KIRKBRIDE, by CARLISLE.

KILL those WEEDS!

HOEING & HAND-PICKING OF WEEDS ARE BACK-ACHING, TEMPER-TRYING JOBS.

WHY NOT SAVE TIME & TROUBLE BY CLEANING THE PATHS WITH

COOPER'S Weedicide

("Highly Commended" by the Royal Horticultural Society)

1 gallon of Weedicide (price 9/-) dilutes to 100 gallons water; the cost of the ready-for-use mixture is, therefore, about 1d. per gallon, and is sufficient for treating 300 to 400 square yards.

1 pint 1/9 1 quart 3/- ½ gallon 5/- 2 gallons 17/- 5 gallons 36/6

IF YOU PREFER TO USE A NON-ARSENICAL WEEDKILLER, WE RECOMMEND

McDOUGALL'S PERFECT SAFETY WEEDKILLER

Involves no danger of poisoning to Domestic Animals, Poultry, Game, etc.

1 pint 1/6 1 quart 2/6 ½ gallon 4/- 1 gallon 6/6 5 gallons 25/-

Write for our Illustrated Leaflet, "THE WEED PROBLEM SOLVED" and you will learn how weeds can be eradicated quickly and easily.

If unable to obtain these Weedkillers locally, please write :—

COOPER, McDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, Ltd.,
BERKHAMSTED, Herts. 1469

Digitized by Google

BORDER CARNATIONS & ALLWOODII

Plant EARLY for best results.

Border Carnations.

Our stocks of the best hardy Garden varieties are superb. Vigorous sturdy stock from 3½in. pots, which cannot fail to give the best results, the undermentioned collections represent the best value obtainable.

CARRIAGE PAID for cash.

6 distinct varieties .. 5/6
12 " " 10/-
25 Plants in good variety .. 20/-

ALLWOODII.

The ever popular hardy plant, suitable for every garden purpose. Will beautify the border, the lawn vase or window box; is perfectly hardy and the easiest plant to cultivate. New and improved varieties have been introduced, of which the undermentioned CARRIAGE PAID COLLECTIONS ARE MAINLY COMPOSED.

6 distinct varieties 5/6
12 " " 10/6
25 Plants in good variety .. 21/-

CATALOGUE OF ALL CARNATIONS FOR GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE sent post free on request to—

Allwood Bros The leading Carnation Raisers and Specialists in the World.

Dept. 4, Haywards Heath, Sussex

WILLMOTT
Rival Plant Stake

(Patented No. 183779).
As used in Royal Botanic Gardens London and Cambridge.
For all plants. WILL NOT ROT, WEAR OUT OR BREAK.
Sample of eight sizes,
Closed 2/- car. pd. United Kingdom. Open
4/- Overseas.

E. J. GREENWOOD, F.R.H.S., Proprietor, BRACKNELL, Berks.

WATER

raised by simply turning a handle. The wonderful Boulton Water Elevator lifts a continuous stream of water from well of any depth.

Ask for Catalogue No. 746

BOULTON & PAUL, LTD. : : NORWICH : :

NEW
CHRYSANTHEMUMS

Clean healthy Plants free from rust, aphis, etc.

FOR GREENHOUSE FLOWERING: 12 New Exhibition Japanese of 1925, 20/-; 12 Exhibition Japs, including 1924 sorts, 5/-; 12 Incurved varieties, 5/-; 12 Decorative sorts, including one 1925 novelty, 5/-; 12 Decorative Single varieties, 4/-

FOR THE GARDEN: 12 Aug.-Sept flowering varieties, including one novelty 1925, 5/-; 12 Sept.-Oct. flowering sorts, 4/-; 12 Aug.-Sept. single varieties, 4/-

The above three dozens can be supplied now, but must be protected until the end of April.

Pelargoniums (Show and Regal), from 3in. pots: 12 good varieties, 9/-; newer sorts, 12/- & 15/- doz.

Zonal Pelargoniums (Geraniums), from 3in. pots: 12 fine single varieties, 7/6; 12 double and semi-double varieties, 7/6; 6 Cactus Geraniums, 4/-; 6 Ivy-leaved Geraniums, 4/-, including Sir Percy Blakeney

Dahlias: 12 Cactus varieties (pot roots) - 6/-

Plumbago capensis (blue), 1/- ea.; (alba), 1/- ea.

Post free for orders over 5/-, others 6d. extra.

Catalogue free on application.

J. W. COLE & SON
Westwood Nurseries . Peterborough

Glorious Gladioli

THE FINEST VALUE EVER OFFERED

LARGE FLOWERED

Special Collection No. 1
100 Corms in 10 varieties.
Second size corms.
BARON HULOT. AMERICA. BRENCHLEYENSIS. HALLEY. CAPT. FRYATT. PANAMA. PRINCE OF WALES. SCHWABEN. WHITE GIANT. RED CANNA.
100 for 5/-

Special Collection No. 2
100 Corms in 10 varieties.
First size corms.
BARON HULOT. AMERICA. EMPRESS OFINDIA. HALLEY. MARECHAL FOCH. WILBRINK. WHITE GIANT. YELLOW STANDARD. RED CANNA. PRINCE OF WALES.
100 for 7/6

Special Collection No. 3
100 Corms in 10 varieties.
First size corms.
PINK PERFECTION. CHRIS. CAPT. FRYATT. RUBINI. MASTER WEITSE. L'IMMACULEE. ODIN. FLORA. RED EMPEROR. WHITE CITY.
100 for 10/-

PRIMULINUS

Special Collection No. 1
100 Corms in 10 varieties.
Second size corms.
MAIDEN'S BLUSH. NIOBE. ATALANTA. LATONIA. HERMIONE LAETITIA. HESPERIA. VANESSA. SOUVENIR. SALMONEA.
100 for 5/-

Special Collection No. 2
100 Corms in 10 varieties.
First size corms.
ORANGE BRILLIANT. PSYCHE. ATALANTA. HERMIONE. HESPERIA. LATONIA. SOUVENIR. VANESSA. MAIDEN'S BLUSH. NIOBE.
100 for 7/6

Special Collection No. 3
100 Corms in 10 varieties.
First size corms.
ORANGE BRILLIANT. TYPE. EURYDICE. PSYCHE. SALMONEA. SCARLETTA. SOUVENIR. DAPHNE. LATONIA. HESPERIA.
100 for 10/-

CHOICE LILIUMS

Finest Quality Bulbs.

AURATUM, the Golden Rayed Lily of Japan, 7½d., 9d., 1/-, 1/6 and 2/- each; per doz. 6/6, 7/6, 10/6, 15/- and 21/-.

AURATUM PLATYPHYLLUM, the Finest Auratum, 1/3, 1/6, 2/- and 2/6 each; per doz. 13/6, 15/-, 21/- and 27/6. One plant of this variety has been sold at 5/-. Extra choice.

BATEMANII, Apricot Lily, each 1/-; per doz. 10/6.

CROCEUM, Orange Spotted Black, each 9d. and 10½d.; per doz. 7/6 and 9/-.

HANSONI, Golden Yellow, very scarce, each 1/6 and 2/-; per doz. 15/- and 21/-.

HENRYI, Orange Yellow, each 1/-; per doz. 10/6.

KRAETZERI, Pure White, each 1/-; per doz. 10/6.

KRAMERI, Pink Trumpet Lily, each 1/6; per doz. 15/-.

MAGNIFICUM, White, Crimson Spotted, each 9d. and 1/-; per doz. 7/6 and 10/6.

MELPOMENE, White, Red Spots, each 9d. and 1/-; per doz. 7/6 and 10/6.

RUBRUM, White, Rose Spotted, each 9d. and 1/-; per doz. 7/6 and 10/6.

RUBELLUM, Lovely Pink Lily, each 1/6; per doz. 15/-

TIGRINUM FORTUNEI GIGANTEUM, Orange, Black Spots, each 9d. and 10½d.; per doz. 7/6 and 9/-.

TIGRINUM SPLENDENS, Salmon, Beautifully Spotted, each 9d. and 10½d.; per doz. 7/6 and 9/-.

Assorted dozens can be sent at the dozen rate.

SPECIAL OFFER.

LILIUM AURATUM, Sound Flowering Bulbs, 5/- doz.

Orders value 5/- Carriage paid. Immediate despatch.

Ask for Special Lists of Gladioli, Begonias, Gloxinias, Montbretias, Anemones and Ranunculus.

Longstaff & Sons

F.R.H.S.

Bulb Growers, Importers and Merchants,

Near Chelsfield Station, KENT

RICHARDSON'S DAFFODILS

Gold Medal and Special Congratulations from the Council of the R.H.S., March 23rd, 1926

FIRST CLASS CERTIFICATE—
Narcissus Gloriosa and Beersheba

AWARDS OF MERIT—
Alroi, Fairy Circle, Mitylene, Loyalist

1925 *AWARDS—*
2 GOLD MEDALS 17 FIRST PRIZES
LONDON & BIRMINGHAM SHOWS

NEW CATALOGUES NOW READY
— FREE ON APPLICATION —

J. LIONEL RICHARDSON
Prospect Gardens, Waterford, IRELAND

APRIL PLANTING

There are many shrubs and plants which may be successfully planted during this month.

EVERGREENS such as Hollies, Yews, Bays, Laurels, Thuya Lobbii, Cupressus and other Shrubs.
CLIMBING PLANTS in pots, including Climbing Roses.
HARDY PERENNIALS and ALPINE PLANTS.
HARDY CHRYSANTHEMUMS. VIOLAS.

We grow large quantities of shrubs in pots such as Cupressus, Escallonias, Veronicas, Rosemary, Choisyas, Fuchsias, etc., for planting at any season.

Catalogue and Special Spring List on application.

THE BARNHAM NURSERIES LTD. - BARNHAM, SUSSEX

Berberis Darwinii and stenophylla.

(DAISY HILL HYBRIDS.)

		each.	
Darwinii macrophylla		1/6	2/6
" pendula		2/6	3/6
" prostrata		2/6	3/6
Stenophylla autumnalis, flowers in autumn as well as spring		3/6	5/-
" coccinea, scarlet flower buds		3/6	5/-
" compacta, cushion habit		2/6	3/6
" corallina compacta, the gem of the series		3/6	5/-
" diversifolia, most profuse flowering		2/6	3/6
" gracilis, charming habit		2/6	3/6
" " nana, a miniature of the latter		2/6	3/6
" irwinii, a well known and profuse variety		2/6	3/6
" latifolia, the most robust		2/6	3/6
" reflexa, very distinct		2/6	3/6
" semperflorens, an ideal Rock Garden shrub, in flower for eight months of the year		3/6	5/-

All the above are Daisy Hill production and are offered as own rooted plants.

Full descriptions will be found in Tree and Shrub List, free on application.

T. SMITH,
Daisy Hill Nursery, NEWRY

Digitized by Google

SEEDSMEN BY APPOINTMENT

GRASS SEED

ALL lawns should be re-conditioned immediately if the turf and surface are to be in good condition for the coming season, consequently, preparations should be made in advance, and all the required materials—Grass Seed, Fertiliser, Worm Killer, etc., assembled. For particulars how to renovate your lawn, make a new lawn, diagrams and instructions, write to-day for Carters Booklet on "Lawns and Sports Grounds," post free on application. Fill in coupon below :—

PLEASE SEND, POST FREE, BOOKLET
"LAWNS & SPORTS GROUNDS."
M.....
.....
G. .....

Carters
TESTED SEEDS

Grass Seed and Turf Specialists,
RAYNES PARK, LONDON, S.W.20

SERVICE AND ADVICE
¶ Carters will answer any question in regard to the improvement or up-keep of your Turf.

BY APPOINTMENT.

FERTILIZERS FOR THE GARDEN

Increase your yields by a small outlay on

FISONS' CHAMPION FERTILIZER

for Potatoes and Vegetables

Price per cwt. **26/-** Carr. paid.
7-lbs. **3/-**; 14-lbs. **5/-**; 28-lbs. **8/6**; 56-lbs. **15/-**
USE 7 LBS. TO THE ROD.

Illustrated Catalogue of Fertilizers for the Garden and Lawn post free from

Joseph Fison & Co., Ltd. Ipswich.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Beautiful Hardy Flowers

ARTINDALES New Illustrated Catalogue now ready and will be forwarded on application.

WM. ARTINDALE & SON
NETHER GREEN :: SHEFFIELD

VIOLETS

FOR BEDS, ROCK GARDENS & NATURALIZING.

MISS STANISTREET has ready now young plants of highest quality, as supplied to U.S.A. and Canadian Governments. Properly selected and packed by experts. 50 Varieties. Princess of Wales, Marie Louise, etc., 3/6 doz. carriage paid. Lists free.

KILLALOE :: Co. CLARE

"Mine are five weeks early"

"—and I know why, too. It's because I make *sure* that they have plenty of sunshine. . . . How? Why, by trapping all the sunshine they get with the Chase Continuous Cloche. It keeps young plants always warm and snug whatever the weather. Keeps the ground moist, too—there's hardly any hoeing to do, and all watering can be done without once removing the cloche. The water soaks right to the roots from outside—which is one reason why the ground never cakes. That's much more convenient than the old-fashioned frame that has to be perpetually opened and shut. Besides, as you get no shadows at all, there's no unnatural 'drawing up.' And the ventilation's splendid—the Chase Continuous Cloche doesn't coddle, I can tell you. Why, look how sturdy these early plants are. . . ."

With the Chase Continuous Cloche you can make sure of having big, fine vegetables ready weeks before the usual time—and save time, trouble and seeds as well. It gives complete protection from frost, birds, animals and excessive rain.

For general use, order "A" PATTERN, 7 in. high; box of 12, enough for 14 ft., **18/-**; 24, **35/-**; 52, **55/-** For fairly large plants, "B" PATTERN, 9 in. high; set of 15, enough for 22½ ft., **35/-**; 30, **60/-**.

Write for full particulars.

Chase Continuous Cloche
A Trap to catch the Sunbeams
(Dept. 7), CHERTSEY, SURREY

Carriage paid to nearest station in England and Wales; 1d. in the 1/- extra to stations in Scotland, Ireland, Isle of Man, Isle of Wight and Channel Islands. F.o.b. for colonial and foreign countries.

A Prolific Garden

cannot be maintained without the aid of some kind of manure. Stable manure is now scarce, and is bulky to cart and spread on the land. No artificial will altogether take the place of natural manure, but a good well-balanced fertiliser, used during the growing season, is a wonderful aid in producing high-class garden crops. No fertiliser is cleaner, more effective, or economical than

PEARSON'S CHEMICAL MANURE

which is compounded from the purest chemicals. It contains every element necessary to plant life which is not present in any ordinary garden soil. A glance at the analysis will prove that this manure is as cheap as any on the market, while nothing can beat it in ease of application and results.

ANALYSIS
PEARSON'S "CHEMICAL MANURE"
(ARTIFICIALLY COMPOUNDED)
Contains at least 11·79 *Phosphates soluble and insoluble;* 6·68 *Potash;* 6·44 *Nitrogen* (*Ammonia Nitrogen* 4·56, *Nitric* 1·88).

Per cwt. 25/-, ½ cwt. 13/- carr. paid. ¼ cwt. 7/-, 14 lb. 4/6, 7 lb. 2/9, carr. forward.

Procure Now for Coming Season.

J. R. Pearson & Sons, Ltd.
The Nurseries, Lowdham, Notts.
(Established 1782)

Digitized by Google

VOL. XC.—No. 2837. APRIL 3, 1926

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.; Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2. *Offices for Advertisements:* 6-11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

THE VALUE OF CORRESPONDENCE

WITHIN the last three months a large number of letters of appreciation of THE GARDEN have been sent in from interested readers. A natural and becoming modesty has kept us from printing them, but it is pleasant to learn that THE GARDEN is appreciated by every kind and condition of gardener. There is one letter, however, that appeared in the issue of March 6th, from which I shall quote. The correspondent writes about a form of Hydrangea hortensis and says, "His letter, coming as it does from overseas, is an instance of the friendly interest which exists among readers of THE GARDEN. I have further proof of this, for my query brought me some very interesting correspondence. . . ." Now, this friendly feeling is what we wish to encourage, for, as I have remarked before, there is no profession or hobby like horticulture for showing a willing *camaraderie* among its members. The only complaint that I have to make is that all answers might have been sent to the paper, for doubtless other readers have been interested in this correspondence. That is our point: that most correspondents are satisfied with the replies given by readers of the paper. We should like this section to increase in value, and are always willing to help readers to trace plants that are difficult to find through ordinary channels, and by ordinary channels I mean the nurserymen and seedsmen's catalogues. There is no doubt that many fine old plants that are now forgotten except in some cottage gardens would be worth reintroducing into popularity again.

It is just as true that many people do not realise the possibilities of the Correspondence columns. To give an instance: A reader wrote and said that he did not approve of the selection of varieties of a herbaceous plant given in one of our articles. He said that he found that others were far better, and left it at that. He mentioned none by name. Everybody is entitled to their own personal opinions, and the author of the article in question was only giving a suggested list, not laying down the law. It would have been instructive to have had our correspondent's alternative list, and it would certainly have been printed. If he felt so strongly that he could better our contributor's suggestions, he should have sent in his own ideas. The purpose of THE GARDEN is not to be dogmatic and say that such a thing must be so because it is mentioned in the paper. Its purpose, as I have said before, is a clearing house of horticultural information. Many times has a little healthy argument in our columns helped to clear up some difficult point about a plant or some peculiarity of cultivation. It is by such means that the friendly interest which exists among readers of THE GARDEN is fostered. No one who has the real horticultural spirit should mind criticism as long as it is constructive. As long as the correct information is disseminated it is all that matters, for correct information should be everybody's property.

PECULIARITIES OF THIS SPRING

This odd season has produced many curious anomalies in the flowering of plants. A week ago R. lacteum was almost over in a garden in Berkshire, while R. præcox was hardly in full bloom; the opposite was the case in another garden in Hampshire. At Kew last week tulips that were just showing colour on April 12th of last year were nearly out. What has happened is that, whereas January and February flowers have kept their proper season, or were even a trifle late, those whose normal flowering time is April have become precocious and have been forced into untimely growth and flower. Consequently, many plants whose normal times of flowering are a month or six weeks apart are to be seen in flower at the same time. This is a rare occurrence and not one to be encouraged, for, if the present cold spell increases, there is bound to be damage, at least in the south. In any case, the immense show of bloom this spring is glorious; prunus, magnolia, stachyurus, forsythia, rhododendrons are making as fine a show as they have ever done, a sign that they have liked the hard winter and responded to the consequent ripening of their wood. It will be noticed that shrubs planted in fairly open positions are flowering particularly well, owing to their unusual ripening, a sign that the freest circulation of air around them is often beneficial. From every part of the country come reports of the promise of the coming season as one particularly favourable to gardening, so long as the weather is kind to us On the other hand, to be really pessimistic, it is just at such promising times that we are usually favoured with a May blizzard: the weather has been so peculiar up to the present that there is no reason to hope for an immediate normality. All we can do is to hope for the best and be suspicious enough of our climate's intentions to be ready to rush out in the middle of a snowstorm to render first aid to some particular favourite in our gardens.

E. H. M. C.

AMONG THE ARTICLES IN OUR NEXT ISSUE WILL BE:

TULIPS IN THE GARDEN.

EARLY SPRING IN AN EAST YORKSHIRE GARDEN.

THE HARDY HEATHS.

SOME ADVANTAGES OF POT-GROWN ROSES.

Digitized by Google

ANNUAL COMPOSITES in the GARDEN

THERE is a subtle fascination to many of us connected with the composite flowers. In the earliest days of childhood, long before the hows, whys and wherefores of plant life or the problems of cultivation trouble the infantile mind, the flower of all flowers is the humble daisy—the commonest of our native flowers and the most perfect example of its Natural Order. After a few short years, when the daisy-chain-maker has developed into a young student of botany, he appreciates the inspiration of that earlier botanist who gave this easiest of all families of flowers to distinguish the sound, descriptive name of compositæ.

It is interesting to recollect that while it is a perennial composite that is the family's commonest representative, it is the annuals that are the most numerous hardy garden plants, and at the moment, when the planting of the longer lived trees and shrubs and herbaceous perennials is, or should be, finished for the time, the sowing and growing of annuals are of most importance.

For the most part the annual composites are plants which may well be sown directly out of doors, where they are to flower. Their value is great for such purposes as temporarily filling up the hardy flower border which has recently been newly made or has been overhauled, for the majority of the annual composites have the great merit of flowering freely unaccompanied by too luxuriant foliage, so that there need be no vacant places around and between the groups of permanent plants.

In the background where tall plants are required, one would sow seeds of such composites as the annual sunflowers and would include in addition to the giants, which produce huge golden plaques of flowers, some of the newer varieties, such as Wine and Primrose, which gives an uncommon combination of claret and deep primrose shades. In contrast to the tall single sunflowers, there are the large doubles, Sun's Eye and Californian, which produce bold rosettes of rich colouring. Even though the plants did not produce many flowers, the cosmeas would be valuable for their graceful foliage. The newer varieties which are catalogued by the leading seedsmen are rather dwarfer in habit and flower much earlier in the summer. By mid-August the graceful spreading plants are spangled with lovely composite flowers of purple, pink, mauve and rose shades.

For the middle portion of the border the choice of suitable composites is much wider and often there will be found sufficient space to grow seedling dahlias and Japanese chrysanthemums. The possibilities of these plants as annuals were splendidly illustrated by Messrs. Sutton and Sons last year at the fortnightly shows at Vincent Square. Although these attractive exhibits were mostly composed of delightful flowers from seeds sown out of doors, it is wiser in the private garden to sow the seeds in gentle heat and plant out the seedlings towards the end of May. The tallest of the everlastings, the helichrysums, have an especial value in their shining, globular flowers of so many beautiful colours. The newer zinnias also have particular colour value, for the middle of the herbaceous border. The colours have been improved and in several strains the plants are also improved in habit. The best results are obtained when the seeds are sown in heat early in April and the plants set out towards the end of May in fairly rich soil. Where this method is not practicable, very good plants may be raised by sowing *in situ* under a hand-glass during the middle of April.

Although they are of perennial habit, it is found necessary in many gardens to treat the best of gorgeous gaillardias as annuals and they are well worth procuring and planting annually. Apart from the beautiful named varieties which are raised from root-cuttings, good showy flowers may be obtained from seeds sown early in the season. The gaillardias are best grown towards

A LARGE-FLOWERED DOUBLE ANNUAL SUNFLOWER.

HELICHRYSUMS ARE THE TALLEST OF THE EVERLASTING FLOWERS AND ARE USEFUL IN THE BORDER.

Digitized by Google

the front of the border and for similar positions there are the delicious sweet sultans, coreopsis, cornflowers, marigolds, sweet scabious and the annual varieties of dimorphotheca. The last named are sun-loving plants in their own country, but if the soil is well drained they seem to bloom equally well with us and over a long period in wet seasons. The sweet sultans should not be sown in a hot and dry position, as under those conditions the flowers are very liable to be infested with insects.

The true annual chrysanthemums are composites which produce flowers of great charm over a long period. The varieties known as Morning Star, Evening Star and Northern Star are excellent. As a neat, edging plant or as a groundwork for taller subjects, no other composite is so floriferous or is more valuable than the dwarf ageratum. The seeds should be sown in gentle heat to obtain good results.

The value of the annual composites for furnishing a regular supply of cut flowers is as great as in the flower border. The most suitable kinds include sweet sultans, calliopsis (coreopsis), cornflowers, sweet scabious, marigolds, annual chrysanthemums, helichrysums, cosmeas and gaillardias. A. C. B.

CAPRICIOUS PLANTS

SINCE we have had this little garden I tried in vain to grow herbaceous phloxes till a fit of impatience led to wonderful results. I could not blame the soils I used. Clay is the foundation soil here, and in it I have dug and trenched and dug again. Every time we go out in the car I sneak a sack, basket and trowel into it inside an old rug. It has got to be done that way, because the bored look that crept over my husband's face when I did it openly was really painful to look upon, and the main business of a home-maker is to avoid an atmosphere of boredom. I was lucky to come across a few loads of tennis ground turves which had been lying piled up for a year. The groundsman named a stiff price, but the garden was crying out for such and I mentally decided what I could do without in the way of new apparel. My birthday brought a gift of two tons of river sand and my Christmas cheque is already condemned for plants already obtained. So with sand, fibrous loam, leaf-mould and such like, I have no excuse. Yet, I ordered phloxes by the dozen and followed the instructions sent by each nurseryman with his special bundle of plants, all with the same result—death. My last lot had very special attention—I lifted them before the fatal season, potted them up and plunged them in sand in a cold frame. They were planted out, looking very healthy, in early spring. Near the flowering season, though mulched with oak-leaf mould and kept moist, they began to look miserable. Now, in one corner of the garden I had a large pile of broken up asphalt path—the ground under it was sodden clay—so I added beech hedge clippings, grass roots and any refuse that would not throw seeds to make a foundation for another bed.

One morning I went to inspect my group of phloxes. Some domestic arrangement had ruffled my temper. I grimly dug those phloxes up and threw them on the rubbish heap, saying that at least they would make a foundation for more grateful plants.

We went to the moors for some weeks, when I returned I had to tackle a herbaceous border, dig it out, lighten up the soil, and replant. This kept me going all the winter in my spare time, because there were a great many house-bulbs to see to. Spring came. One morning I thought I would begin to get the asphalt heap sorted up. There were my phloxes, strong and happy, the perverse things! they were in their element. This brought to mind that when I first made this garden, it was done in groups of colours, somehow a lilac phlox got in among the blue colours. It was looking miserable, too, so I carried it on a spade and left it high and dry all one winter, forgotten, on a small heap of gravel. Next spring, healthy shoots came up, so I just threw some soil round the roots and the plant flowered well. The colour was not good, washed out; it was a poor type, so I threw it away. No more pudding mixtures of rotted leaf-mould, sand and loam for my phloxes.

AQUILEGIA GLANDULOSA, OR THE BLUE SIBERIAN COLUMBINE.

Aquilegia glandulosa led me a dance, too. I brought one little plant back from Clarence Elliott's garden at Stevenage with a collection of "try its." That little aquilegia dwindled away and died: I watched the little green bud in the centre, but one day something ate that. I dug the plant up and found that no fresh growth had been made. So I ordered half a dozen and planted them in pairs. The tennis lawn sods were by that time a delightful border, so one pair was planted at the end of it; the second couple went into a border which was well mixed with smashed-up flower pots, potting soil and old black soil from a garden where we were extending some house property, the third was planted in a border of yellow loam led from the side of a beck, supposed to be the top spit, but I "hae me doots." The first pair won easily, the second grew, but not heartily, the third seemed to attract all the little worms to sleep at the roots while their mothers (the worms) came to the surface for leaves to aerate that pretty heavy soil. I dug these four aquilegias up, washed the roots gently and placed them in sanded holes near the winners.

There was a time when I tried the oft-given advice to leave plants alone. That cannot be done on this north-east coast. I have gone back to some of the methods I used as a child. In those impressionable days a hospital nurse told me that the first thing that happened to a patient on entering the hospital was to get a bath. Now, when I see a plant miffing off, it is dug up, roots inspected and swished in barely lukewarm water or else left in a moist bed of sand for a bit. A double lilac primrose resented its removal from Ireland (I don't wonder,

Digitized by Google

to a district like this). It had many rides round on the trowel to different quarters and soils, till I chopped it up and planted the bits in the new border. A healthy group of young primroses has now come up.

Last summer at a meeting of some biological students in Edinburgh Botanic Garden, we were taken to the propagating frames. The demonstrator showed us how cuttings were just stripped and inserted in moist sand, pulled up at intervals without ceremony to see if they had struck and were just put back again to go on with their work. Another habit of our youth!

Two plants, Buddleia alternifolia and Dracocephalum Isabellæ (what a name, I did not realise till I was transplanting, that I was dealing with a sage), have not flowered with me. This is their second year, so perhaps I am impatient. I transplanted the buddleia last spring into newly made quarters and splendid growth has been made. I have staked it round with beech branches for the winter. It ought to bloom next year. I was held spellbound by this buddleia in the Edinburgh Botanic Garden. It was a welcome change of conversation, too. I had just rashly asserted that I did not like rhododendrons, would not grow them and really did not want to see any. I was politely but dryly asked if I knew anything about them. I had not seen the gardens for some years and made this statement just as I was going to see all the alterations.

I am not prepared to love any of the large types yet, but the dwarfs intrigued me. In a new border just behind the rock garden was a group of beautifully shaped tiny rhododendrons; they were not in flower. I grow six dwarfs now and hope to meet many more as my knowledge increases. Servant maids often refuse to eat venison, hare, macaroni and cheese, simply because they are not used to such fare. It is just custom and use. When we run down a fashion, no matter if it be in plants, animals, or hats, we should pause to remember that a closer acquaintance might change our opinion.

Dracocephalum Isabellæ came up last spring after all, for I thought the winter had killed it. It did not flower. I have removed it over to the new garden where the lawn was, into fibrous loam and sand and leaf-mould with freestone chips freely scattered down through the soil. Two freestone rocks are embedded so as to shelter it as well as Veronica Hulkeana and Cistus formosus. Bracken is packed about this trio and held in place by beech twigs. At the end of the sage branches I see purple blobs, I wonder if these are the future flowers! As the plant seems to die back in winter, what is to be done? FLORA DYSART.

SOME BEAUTIFUL SHRUBBY VERONICAS

WHEN making a selection from among the almost innumerable flowering and ornamental shrubs available at the present time, the merits of the subject of this brief article should on no account be overlooked. A variety of shrubs recently introduced from China and elsewhere are nowadays being offered in ever-increasing numbers, and while many of these are unquestionably of great value, the shrubby veronicas hailing from New Zealand should receive a fair share of consideration, as they are ornamental whether in flower or out of it, and some or other of the many varieties are in bloom from early summer until the frost cuts short their efforts; in fact, at the beginning of last December flowers were still showing, and that after a spell of fairly severe frost and generally cold weather experienced at that time.

Veronicas offer no difficulty with regard to cultivation, and even when cut severely back by a hard frost they, in most cases, break away freely again—in this garden some good plants of Andersonii variegata and other varieties were practically given up as lost a couple of winters ago after some heavy black frosts—but they, with few exceptions, broke away again and are to-day as fine as ever. Of course, I do not mean by this that veronicas should be planted in exposed positions, except perhaps the very hardy Blue Gem, but merely wish to point out that from our own experience they are reasonably hardy and can stand a fair amount of severe weather.

For the front of shrubbery borders some of the dwarfer and more compact hybrids can be recommended, while farther back and in situations where they will have room to develop varieties such as Reine de Blanc and Veitchii may be planted to advantage. The following varieties are all worth growing, and, judging from results in this garden situated in the north of Ireland, they are not unduly fastidious as to soil and are reasonably hardy.

GAUNTLETTII.—This is one of my favourite varieties, a neat, compact grower and very free-flowering from late summer until frost intervenes. The flower-spikes are a very attractive shade of deep pink, and are always certain to attract attention even in a large collection.

REDRUTH.—Another compact-growing veronica with darker foliage than the preceding, bearing large spikes of bright crimson flowers. A really striking variety.

LA FAVOURITE.—A very fine deep purple with glossy crimson shaded dark green foliage that always looks fresh and cheerful.

VEITCHII.—This is a coarser-growing and more vigorous veronica which requires a greater amount of room than those previously mentioned. It is, nevertheless, a handsome variety and bears very large flower-spikes of a bright, almost sapphire blue colour that is very attractive. The flowers are produced as long as frost will permit, but it may be rather more susceptible to "Jack" than some of the others, as it grows very freely and the young shoots are rather soft. It is still flowering here, however, and that, as previously stated, after a pretty severe spell of hard weather.

REINE DE BLANC.—An exceedingly vigorous and early-flowering white that helps to extend the flower season by coming into bloom quite early in the summer. This is much the hardiest of those noted so far, and does extremely well in places overhung by tall trees where few other dwarf shrubs would succeed. The flower-spikes are long and very freely produced, while the plant should be given plenty of room in which to develop.

ANDERSONII.—A vigorous grower with large spikes of lilac-coloured flowers. It is very effective, but not so refined as most of the others, and I much prefer the variegated form, Andersonii variegata, which is a very ornamental shrub and makes a most attractive subject for the front of a shrubbery. It is reasonably hardy and even if cut back by frost breaks away freely again, and in late summer the large lilac flowers are freely produced. The foliage is soft green variegated with creamy yellow.

TRICOLOUR.—This is another handsome variegated variety with warmer coloured foliage than the preceding, being shaded with a purplish crimson. The flowers are deep purple red and contrast well with the beautiful leaves.

BLUE GEM, as already mentioned, is hardier, and while, in the writer's opinion, not nearly so attractive as the others, it is, nevertheless, showy and may be planted in exposed situations. It is becoming almost too common and is very largely employed in seaside gardens.

AUTUMN GLORY is a violet-coloured variety with small flowers and foliage, the latter being a dark green. It also is hardy and makes a good show when in full flower.

The above varieties, of course, are only a very small selection out of the many available, but they are sufficient to show those who have not grown them what a wide range in form and colour is available among the shrubby veronicas. It would only be tedious further to enumerate varieties, but before closing I should like to mention one of the dwarf shrubby forms, namely, Veronica Lyallii, a beautiful and free-flowering little shrub covered in summer with small pale mauve white flowers with dark eyes—a very attractive plant for rock garden or border.

Most nurseries specialising in shrubs offer a good selection of veronicas, but with so many sorts available it would be practically impossible for any one firm to offer all. However, with few exceptions, good plants of the above should be easy to obtain. Tricolour and Gauntlettii do not seem to be generally offered, but good plants of them may be obtained from one or two nurseries. CECIL M. BAILEY.

Digitized by Google

A WATER LILY POND

A SHEET of water in the pleasure grounds or park adds very considerably to the beauty of the landscape. It also provides scope for the planter to adorn the surface with irregular groups and masses of water lilies, and the margins round the pond with suitable trees and moisture loving shrubs and plants.

Water lilies succeed best in still water. When planted by the sides of a running stream one must construct creeks or basins, protected by large boulders. These form practically still pools for the plants.

When considering the construction of an artificial pond or tank a choice is often between one distinctly formal in outline to fit the rigid lines of the surroundings, or one as natural as possible, so as to appear part of the landscape. Obviously, this will be in a low-lying part of the grounds to save labour in excavating. The accompanying illustrations are of a water lily pond at Kew that is a very good example of an artificial piece of water in natural surroundings.

In the construction of an artificial tank or pond the question of providing a water-tight bottom and sides is important. Whether clay or bricks and concrete is used will to some extent depend on the local conditions and the position. I am of the opinion that the water lilies thrive better in a clay-lined sheet of water. It is certainly easier to keep clean, and cheaper to construct, unless clay is very difficult to obtain. For obvious reasons bricks and concrete are generally employed in the making of a formal tank or basin to be in keeping with formal surroundings.

Do not stint the use of clay for puddling in the original construction. A depth of 1ft. all over the bottom is not too much, particularly if the natural soil is light and gravelly. The thickness of the clay forming the sides may slope up from 1ft. at the bottom to 6ins. or 8ins. at the top, but here again err on the side of plenty, as a little will be lost when cleaning in subsequent years.

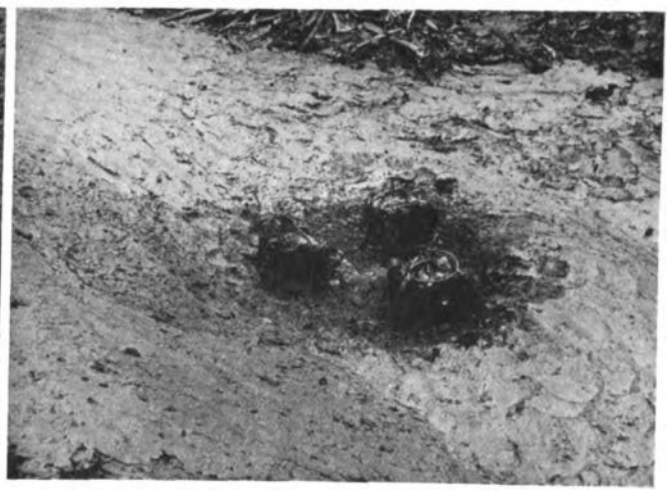
SOIL.

In natural ponds or lakes the soil will probably be suitable for the plants if not too deep, but it is advisable to add some good fibrous loam and a little cow manure to cover the clumps at the outset.

When dealing with artificial water it is another matter. Good material for water lilies consists of fairly heavy top-spit loam from grassland, with a little cow manure incorporated. Whenever possible provide for the emptying of artficial water. It aids so much in the cleaning, and in the planting and re-planting of water lilies.

There is nothing to be gained in crowding the surface of water with plants. Open stretches of water between the groups or clumps add very materially to the charm of the plants in flower and the picture as a whole. In dealing with large areas of water opportunity should be taken to plant a number of groups or a colony of one variety in preference to a general mix-up of sorts in single mounds or baskets. In the latter case the effect cannot be so bold and striking, while there is also the liability of the stronger growers spreading to the positions of the smaller-growing sorts.

THE MOUND IN THE MAKING.



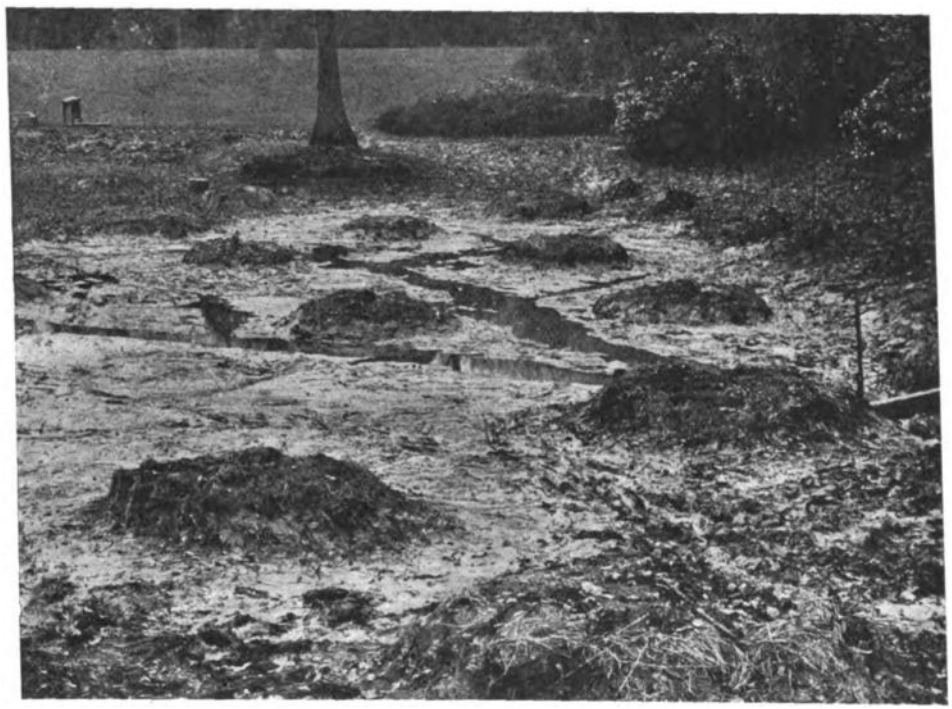
THREE CLUMPS PLACED IN POSITION AFTER PUDDLING.

PROTECTION OF PLANTS AGAINST FROST AND COLD WINDS DURING CLEANING OPERATIONS.

A WELL ESTABLISHED CLUMP, THE RESULT OF CAREFUL PLANTING.

Digitized by Google

The question of planting the roots in mounds of soil formed on the bottom or in baskets is largely a matter of local conditions and convenience. Baskets are obviously desirable when the water cannot be drained off. They provide an easy means of placing the roots in suitable soil and sinking in the water. By the time the wickerwork rots away the lily roots should be safely anchored in the mud at the bottom. Useful baskets for the purpose are the round kind, 1ft. to 1½ft. deep and 3ft. or 4ft. in diameter, used for the transport of trees and shrubs by rail. These will hold sufficient soil to plant three clumps or tufts of water lily roots when divided. Line the inside of the basket with turfy loam and place pieces averaging 1ft. square on the top to hold the nymphæa roots in position and prevent the fine soil in the centre floating away in the water.



A POND DRAINED, SHOWING THE SPACING OF MOUNDS TO PREVENT OVERCROWDING IN THE WATER.

THE DEPTH TO PLANT.

A depth of 18ins. to 2ft. of water above the plants is a useful average for the stronger-growing sorts. Obviously it must vary according to the depth of water in the lake or pond. It is very desirable that the minimum depth of water above the crowns should be not less than 1ft. in the event of hard spells of frosts. The strongest varieties will grow in a depth of 4ft. or 5ft. of water, but this means excessive growth of leaf-stalks and flower-stalks, and should be avoided when circumstances permit the building up of mounds to bring the plants nearer the surface.

All things considered, April is the best time to plant and replant clumps of nymphæas. A little earlier or a week or two later is of no consequence. Do not disturb water lilies when dormant during the winter. The thick fleshy roots are very easily broken, which may cause decay and weakening, if not loss of the plants. Planting is sometimes done as late as June, but in this case the summer will be well advanced before the plants begin to make a show.

During the annual cleaning of lakes and ponds which can be emptied, cover the water lily plants with light litter when likely to be exposed for several days. Cold winds, frosts and hot sunshine in April will soon damage the tender young growths of water lilies when the water is drained off. Should any delay occur in planting nymphæa roots coming to hand from the nurseries, immerse them temporarily in a tub of water or cover with wet moss and mats as a protection from the weather.

The question of cold water or stagnant water and its effect on the growth of water lilies does not arise in the case of natural water fed by springs. When growing in artificial waters it is a mistake to add frequently fresh cold water, as such is liable to chill the plants.

Permanganate of potash is valuable applied to the water once every fortnight during the summer. It keeps the water sweet and prevents the development of the slimy green surface growth called blanket weed. Applied at the rate of about 4 oz. to 2,500 gallons of water it will not harm plants, fish or waterfowl. Either dissolve the potash crystals in an earthenware vessel and spray on the surface of the water between the water lilies or tie in a canvas bag and draw through the water. We often tie the bag at the end of the boat when working over the surface of the pond or lake removing dead leaves from the water lilies, etc.

SELECTION OF VARIETIES.

To be of value to the largest number of readers the following selection of varieties includes the best of the older varieties and a number of the newer introductions. Atropurpurea, crimson purple; Attraction, granite red, tipped with white; *Colossea, rose, changing to a delicate flesh; *Ellisiana, rich currant red with prominent stamens; *Escarboucle, vermilion red; Formosa, rich pink; *Gladstoniana, large pure white flowers with yellow stamens; Gloriosa, carmine red to dark red; Indiana, orange yellow, shaded copper; *James Brydon, rosy crimson; Marliacea albida; M. carnea; M. chromatella, yellow; M. ignea, carmine red; M. rosea and M. rubra-punctata; *Moorei, soft yellow; Mrs. Richmond, violet pink; Newton, rosy vermilion; Picciola, red, carmine and white; Robinsoni, crimson vermilion, lighter centre; Rosita, deep rose, shading to white; Sioux, rich yellow, edged with red; Venusta, flesh pink; and Virginalis, a splendid white.

In forming a limited collection of, say, the best six varieties for a pond I would advise the selection of those marked with an asterisk.

For cultivation in rock pools, tubs and small tanks the following varieties are useful: Laydekeri fulgens, red, and rosea, rosy pink; odorata alba and minor (pumila), starry white flowers; pygmæa alba and Helvola, sulphur yellow.

A. O.

SERVICE FOR READERS

Though so many subjects are dealt with in each issue of THE GARDEN, it must constantly happen that readers seek information which is not immediately available. In such circumstances they should make use of our Service Department. Through its medium each reader's own particular enquiry can be dealt with. No matter what the question is, whether advice is sought as to—

RESTOCKING A GARDEN, COLOUR SCHEMES FOR GARDENS, THE BEST PLANTS FOR CERTAIN SITUATIONS, WHERE TO OBTAIN NEW AND RARE PLANTS, INSECT PESTS, NAMING OF PLANTS, AND THE HUNDRED AND ONE OTHER DETAILS RELATING TO THE GARDEN—

there is always information available from a staff of expert contributors and consultants; *and there is no charge for this.* It is one of the additional means of Service which THE GARDEN is glad to render to its readers.

Also, there is the further convenience which the Service Department affords of supplying readers with data about anything that is advertised in the pages of the paper. Thus, on receipt of an enquiry, particulars will be sent of, say, half a dozen things about which the reader seeks information. The only stipulation is that a stamped addressed envelope shall be sent with the enquiry.

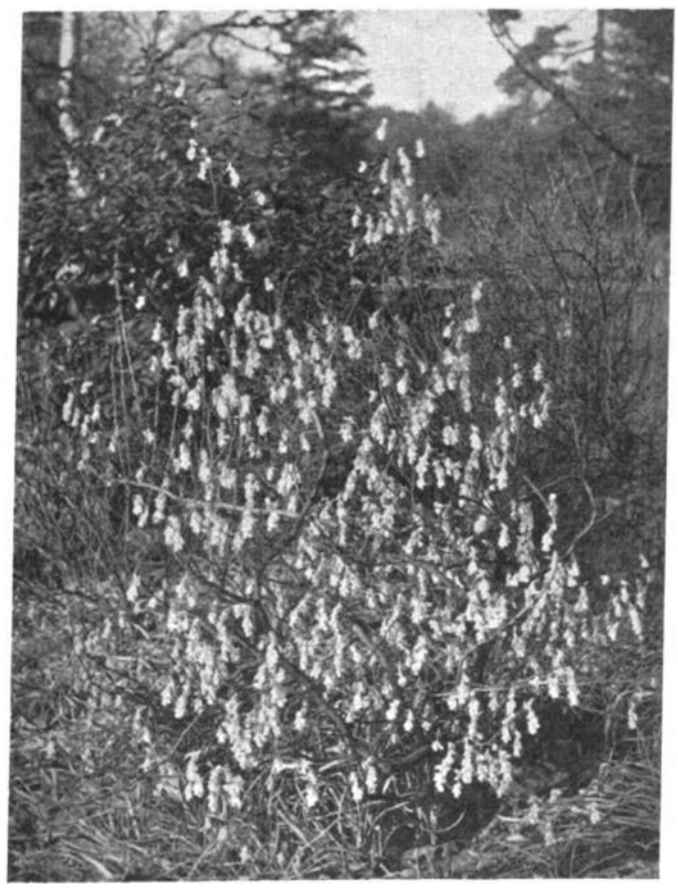
All communications should be addressed to the Service Department, THE GARDEN, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

NOTES OF THE WEEK

AN UNCOMMON EARLY-FLOWERING SHRUB.

WHILE walking round Kew Gardens about a fortnight ago I was much struck with the quiet beauty of that graceful shrub Corylopsis spicata, so seldom seen in a private garden. This year its precocity is most marked, being in flower about three weeks before its time. Like many of our other early flowerers, it is a member of the hamamelis family, and like many of them bears flowers of a pure delicate yellow. I wonder if it has struck any readers how strange it is that so many of our spring-flowering subjects have flowers of a yellow tone. There would appear to be a subtle connection between colour and season. To get back to our shrub, it makes a charming acquisition to any shrubbery, and its chief merit lies in its early flowering season. It is a dainty flowerer with rather twining flexible shoots from which dangle the loose spikes of from eight to a dozen flowers. The spike itself shows a fine contrast in colour between the small bell-like flowers with the colour and fragrance of a cowslip, and the greenish yellow bracts in whose axils the flowers are borne. When in leaf the aptitude of its generic name becomes more obvious, as it assumes the general appearance of the common Nut Bush, with its long-stalked, heart-shaped and feather-veined leaves. It is surprising that it is not more extensively grown, as it was introduced by Fortune as far back as 1864. It forms one of the striking examples, and there are many, of a shrub whose beauty—perhaps not outstanding, but nevertheless attractive—has been long overlooked and now deserves to come into its own.—G. T.



CORYLOPSIS SPICATA WITH DELICATE YELLOW FLOWERS.

PYROLAS IN THE ROCK GARDEN.

EVERY botanist knows Pyrola minor, which he has found growing in woods and shady glades where the grass did not grow too luxuriantly. It is not at all a common plant, and so, grown in the rock garden in a moist corner and in shade, it is sure to attract the observant visitor. The flowers are almost white, somewhat like the lily of the valley and borne on a spike some 4ins. to 6ins. high, which rises from the rosette of leaves. Another wintergreen, Pyrola rotundifolia, can be obtained from nurserymen; it is slightly taller than the former, but otherwise very similar. Pyrola uniflora has only one blossom on the stem, a sweet-scented pretty white flower; it, too, is well worth introducing, but the grower must collect it himself, as few, if any, nurserymen stock it—and he may have to travel far, as the plant is seldom found outside the northern pinewoods. All are members of our country's flora, but comparatively unknown to the usual run of gardeners, and therefore worthy of a place. They are rather difficult to transplant, and should be grown in a moist place, in half peat, half loam.—CLYDESDALE.

THE R.H.S. AMATEUR SHOW.

IT would seem that there is quite a possibility of American amateurs competing at the Royal Horticultural Society's Amateur Show, which is to be held at the Society's Hall, Vincent Square, on June 22nd. We understand that Mrs. Edward Harding of Burnley Farm, Plainfield, New Jersey, has written to Sir William Lawrence, Treasurer of the R.H.S., saying that she proposes to enlist the interest of other American amateurs and with their assistance to send over various examples of American floriculture, especially peonies. (It will be remembered that Mrs. Harding, who is well known to the gardening fraternity on both sides of the Atlantic, has presented cups for peony competitions at Vincent Square.) The immense distance which the American exhibits will have to travel does not in any way daunt this enterprising lady, who we understand, has already thought out the problem of transportation and she is optimistic that, with the aid of cold storage, she and her American friends will be able successfully to compete with British amateurs.

ROCK AND STONE EDGED BORDERS.

I AM noticing in suburban, and more particularly in country, districts where new houses are being erected, a disposition to discard the formal edging tiles and divide the path on either side with pieces of stone or rock. In localities where it is not very difficult to procure these—which are really waste pieces or chippings—it is an economical proposition for those erecting or purchasing their own houses, and, incidentally, it gives one the opportunity of making a garden much more attractive than is often the case when blue or red tiles are employed. Some of these roughly constructed edgings are raised above ground level, and thus give one a chance of planting among the stones plants of cushion-like growth, like aubrietias, saxifrages, armerias, lesser-growing campanulas such as carpatica, turbinata and pusilla, besides arabis, helianthemums, cerastiums and various sedums. In niches among the stones one can contrive to put in scillas, chionodoxas, snowdrops, aconites and crocuses, so that, quite early in the year, when once established, these informal edgings become miniature rock gardens that give pleasure for a long time and seldom need to be interfered with.—W. LINDERS LEA.

NARCISSUS EMPEROR.

A NOTE on the behaviour of Narcissus Emperor may be of interest at this season of the year, when spring-flowering bulbous plants are pushing into growth. On one occasion bulbs of this variety were boxed and potted up in the month of October. After being well rooted and top growth sufficiently advanced, the boxes and pots containing the bulbs were brought into heat and gently forced to get early flowers.

When the bulbs had done service indoors they received attention in the way of watering until the foliage died down. Late in autumn—twelve months or more after the bulbs were purchased—they were set out in clumps of eighteen bulbs each on a border which had been recently manured and trenched. The following year not one of the bulbs in the clump under observation produced a flower. But very different were the results the next year, as I counted thirty-three flower buds in April. Yet another clump of eighteen bulbs exhibited thirty-six flower buds at once.

One day I dug down to examine a bulb in one of the clumps, and found that the original bulb had produced three more and each one of these had a flower, making a total of four.—D. A.

BASKETS OF FLOWERING AND FOLIAGE PLANTS.

THERE is always something very attractive about a well furnished and finished hanging basket in a greenhouse or conservatory and the present is an opportune time to prepare them. Quite a number of plants, owing to their straggling, pendulous habits are peculiarly adapted for growing in baskets suspended from a roof. As a general rule it is better to start with young plants—rooted cuttings in March or April—and grow not more than two kinds—(one is better) in the same receptacle. Old plants, as it will be obvious, cannot well be crammed into a limited space, without roots suffering. Among the best and possibly still as popular as any are the ivy-leaved pelargoniums, and fuchsias follow them closely. Some of the long-service varieties of the latter—like Lord Beaconsfield, General Roberts and Rose of Castile—may be instanced. Heliotropes, on account of their sweet perfume, are worth taking in hand, as are also verbenas and petunias. A delightful annual which revels in a warm greenhouse is Thunbergia alata.

Of plants valued for their foliage, Asparagus Sprengeri and Nepeta glechoma variegata are worth consideration.

Fresh green moss should be used for lining the baskets and a compost of loam and leaf-mould provided and firmly pressed in at the time of planting.—W. F.

Digitized by Google

THE FLAME FLOWER, TROPÆOLUM SPECIOSUM.

An interesting account of success with one of the best of all climbing plants.

THERE are few owners of gardens who, seeing this plant for the first time, do not straightway attempt to grow it. Nor is this strange, considering the charm of its slender stems, delicate green leaves, and soft vermilion flowers. I have no experience of it in Scotland, where it is said to grow so exuberantly; but in Sussex it will completely garland the northern face of a cottage, establish itself in a yew hedge, illuminating both sides (north and south) with trails of blossom in June—and that in heavy soil, with clay beneath. In this garden we had some difficulty with it at first. In preparing the site behind a north wall, we filled a deep, well drained trench with a mixture of peat, loam and sand. The plants—not too good—made only a few miserable growths, showed no desire to climb, and were killed to the ground-line each winter. Others have, apparently, had the same experience, for Mr. Robinson, in the "English Flower Garden," describes the stems as *annual*. Discouraged, but determined to persevere, we top-dressed the ground with rotted hot-bed manure and sand one year, and when the shoots appeared that April, each was given a string to lead it up the wall. No sooner did the leaf-stalks clasp the string than the plant assumed a stronger, bolder growth, which soon arrived at the top of the wall and flowered profusely. Where the stems had clustered, the dead leaves were a sufficient protection and they survived the winter. From that time onward we had no trouble, except to repress it. Now, one never quite knows where it is going to appear next! It has dived under the foundations of the wall and permeates the southern border, where it is allowed to wreathe the commoner shrubs. Behind a dense holly bush it was planted in company with trilliums, ourisias and haberleas, but, disdaining their company and the peat bed, it wandered 33ft. through the bush and, appearing on the other side, claimed a position next to and among a Clematis Jackmani, forming a rich contrast. The holly efficiently protects the stems in winter; if not perennial, they are at least biennial, and break forth into growth at a height of 6ft. to 8ft.: many of these stems had as much as 12ins. of new growth at the beginning of March, and as a natural consequence, they flower early and produce their sapphire-coloured fruits in profusion, adding not a little to the beauty of the plant in late summer.

To those who wish to establish this plant I would say: Obtain really good roots and prepare the site well. Plant in early April, near something that will shade its roots and provide it with something to cling to.—J. COMBER, *Nymans*.

THE FLAME FLOWER ON A YEW HEDGE.

BERBERIS VERNÆ AT THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM.

A BEAUTIFUL BARBERRY.

THE accompanying illustration shows a well developed shrub of Berberis Vernæ *C. Schneider* as it grows in the Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Plain, Mass. The picture shows the graceful habit of this shrub, but, unfortunately, not the abundance of the pretty yellow flowers, which make it one of the most attractive plants of the Arboretum. Indeed, Prof. Sargent, Director of the Arnold Arboretum, pointed it out to me as one of the best introductions of later years.

B. Vernæ is a native of western Kansu in China; it was first collected at Min-chou, at an elevation of 10,500ft. to 12,000ft., by W. Purdom, and introduced to the Arnold Arboretum. It was described by the dendrologist, C. Schneider, in "Plantæ Wilsonianæ," Vol. III, page 372, in 1913, and named after Miss Verna Berger.

It is a deciduous shrub and perfectly hardy in the Arnold Arboretum, and should do well everywhere in the British Isles. The leaves are clustered, lanceolate, about 1in. long, entire and bright green on both sides. The drooping racemes appear very abundantly, and, although but 1½ins. to 1¾ins. long, are very conspicuous and graceful with their numerous small bright yellow flowers. The berries are said to be red, very numerous and highly coloured, and render the shrub equally attractive later on.

I was very pleased to see this shrub, which was named after my daughter by my friend C. Schneider, when it was in its best towards the end of May.—ALWIN BERGER.

PULMONARIA ANGUSTIFOLIA AZUREA MUNSTEAD VARIETY.

A fine spring-flowering border plant.

THERE is no doubt certain colours of flowers charm us more than others, and those who have not yet grown Pulmonaria angustifolia azurea Munstead variety should add a plant to their collection. It is by no means a fastidious plant to grow and in a few years it will soon form a good sized colony. Some years ago a friend procured a plant for the garden and we had it carefully planted near the front of a south border. Here the situation was somewhat shaded and sheltered, and the border soil inclined to be heavy. In this position the plant soon became established and flowered each year. Last year this lungwort started flowering in the third week of March, while in the middle of April it made a grand display.

The blue tone of this really fine spring flowering plant reminds one of the rich charm colour of Salvia patens flowers. In R. Wallace's Alpine and Hardy Plant Catalogue, this pulmonaria is described as "the true form, uncommon in cultivation, twin heads of flowers each half-an-inch across, and of the palest blue, buds purple, leaves unspotted."

One would like to associate Iris reticulata with this pulmonaria, as its stiff, yet pleasing dark blue flowers are fully expanded when this lungwort is beginning to bloom.

To increase the stock, the large plant was dug up early in October last year and separated in such a way that each portion severed had roots and crowns; then these were notched into one line on another border. While I write these notes—end of February—the young and tender-looking pale greenish red leaves are clasping the compact and clustered round heads of flower buds. The thick roots of this pulmonaria are somewhat

Digitized by Google

dark in colour, while the extremities of some are quite black, and sometimes these black portions are found to be dead.—DAVID ARMSTRONG.

GERANIUM FARRERI.

HAVING had this dainty little plant for two or three years, I suppose one is entitled to consider it successfully established, especially as its career from the first has been in every way satisfactory. Being a very high alpine, we gave it a north aspect with partial shade from the hottest sun, the root-run consisting of gritty loam, leaf-mould and old mortar. It is an entirely herbaceous species, but the growths appear early in spring and the leaves, dull green and something after the style of those of G. argenteum, are followed by a succession of bloom that is maintained pretty well all summer. These blossoms are a good deal larger and open flatter than those of the other species named. They are a very pale shell pink with just a hint of blue to afford them that delicate, evanescent loveliness which is so appealing. Farrer wrote of this geranium producing "runners," but of these we have seen nothing as yet. Indeed, the plant seems to increase so slowly that it would not be easy to detach an offset. The height of the flower-stalks, which rise clear of the foliage, is not more than some 3ins.—A. T. JOHNSON.

THE DAINTY AND FREE FLOWERING GERANIUM FARRERI.

A REMARKABLE WATER PLANT.

ONE of the most interesting of water plants is the Italian eelwort (Vallisneria spiralis), a species which is of easy culture in a tank. The eelwort is a native of southern Europe and grows in still waters. The plant has strap-shaped leaves, and the different sexes are on distinct plants. The eelwort flowers freely during the summer, and it is then easy to observe its remarkable habits. The pistillate or female flowers are borne on long stalks, each of which, while the stigmas are maturing, are enclosed in a kind of bladder. The staminate or male flowers are invested in much the same way, but these grow in thick clusters and one sheath suffices for all the individuals of a cluster. Each of the male flowers is borne on a short stalk which never extends. In the case of the female flowers the stalks lengthen to a considerable extent and finally reach the surface of the water. At this time the floral sheaths of both sexes fall apart and everything is ready for the union. Then a somewhat baffling problem arises. The female flowers held by their long stalks are floating on the surface of the water. On the other hand, the male flowers are fixed far below to the short stalks. In what manner can the sexes be brought together? The difficulty is surmounted in a very wonderful way. At a certain stage in their development the male flowers detach themselves from their stalks and, being lighter than water, rise to the surface. Here they drift about for a while and finally open. At this time the three sepals are twisted back in a most ingenious manner so as to make a little raft. At the same time the two perfect stamens are revealed and these now stand clear of the water like a pair of snail's horns. When, as often happens, the male flower is stranded in the recesses of a female flower, it will adhere to the trilobed stigma and some of the pollen grains are sure to be left. As soon as pollination is an accomplished fact the stalk of the fertilised flower contracts spirally and the ovary is thus conveyed to the muddy bottom, where the development of the seeds takes place.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

THE PRICKLY THRIFT.

THE number of acantholimons known to botanists is very great, but few of them are in commerce, and of these undoubtedly the best is Acantholimon glumaceum, which has acquired the popular English name of the prickly thrift. It is one of the most distinct of rock plants, and, as its culture is generally easy, there is no reason why it should not be still more largely grown than at present. Yet it has its requirements; the principal of these being a sunny place and a dry soil, with adequate shelter from the coldest draughts of wind in winter. Its native headquarters are on Mount Ararat, so that its needs should not surprise us when we think of the conditions under which it lives at home. Yet it has accommodated itself wonderfully to the conditions of our gardens, and is now a favourite plant with those who cultivate it. It soon forms a large mound of green, spiny leaves, over which are displayed, all the summer, its pretty flowers of a rose pink, the whole constituting a pleasing picture among the rocks and stones of the rock garden. Its main defect with us is an unaccountable habit of dying off, just when we are congratulating ourselves that it will live for many years. Sometimes, too, it develops a bare spot in the centre of the cushion which depreciates its beauty. It is not too easy to propagate, and the best method to adopt is to work some sandy soil among the outer branches and to peg these down into it until they emit roots, when they may be detached. I recommend purchasing plants in pots, rather than from the open ground. —S. ARNOTT.

THE PRICKLY THRIFT IS ONE OF THE MOST DISTINCTIVE OF ROCK PLANTS.

Digitized by Google

FUMIGATION WITH CYANIDE

WHEN potassium cyanide was first introduced to horticulture as a greenhouse fumigant its early champions claimed that it would supplant nicotine and most of the insecticides used in plant houses and vineries; that not only the simple green fly and wood louse would be annihilated, but that red spider and mealy bug were doomed. It was realised and admitted that the gas liberated by combining potassium cyanide and sulphuric acid is of a deadly poisonous nature; but ingenuity had contrived to devise a method by which the operation could be carried out by a person outside the house and therefore beyond the danger zone. It was urged that the immense advantage of clearing glasshouses of all the insect pests which worry plants fully justified the exercise of all necessary care in carrying out what was, after all, no more than a tedious task.

With that contention nobody who has experienced the depredations of red spider and mealy bug can possibly disagree; but it must, nevertheless, be admitted that the new method of dealing with greenhouse pests progressed very slowly for the first few years of its vogue. To attribute this fact to any one cause would be inaccurate, although the enthusiasts sometimes declared that nothing but prejudice hampered the progress of the new and up-to-date fumigant.

It was not long before, in place of potassium cyanide of variable percentage, a double salt of sodium and potassium cyanide came into use which could be guaranteed not only to be far more powerful but consistent in regard to strength and purity; and the vendors also supplied sulphuric acid of a specific gravity.

Another great boon was the invention of a workmanlike apparatus which came on the market as a "cyaniding machine," and with such vastly improved equipment good work became possible. From that time forward cyaniding became increasingly popular in nurseries and the large establishments where indoor plants and crops are produced for market.

Unfortunately, the cyaniding machines were, and still are, expensive, and, except in very large establishments, cyaniding has not been so largely practised in private gardens as might be desired, for it is undoubtedly capable of clearing a greenhouse or vinery of pests which ordinary tobacco or nicotine fumigation cannot shift. The poisonous nature of the gas renders it unfit for use in conservatories attached to dwellings or in small greenhouses standing closely surrounded by inhabited dwellings, but so long as one is satisfied that the interior of a glasshouse may be cyanided without risk of injury to persons or animals outside there is no reason why cyaniding should not be carried on with confidence.

It is quite unnecessary to enter into detail regarding the method of using a cyaniding machine, for the makers provide clear instructions which can only be repeated without amendment. It is well, however, that the operator shall observe certain points of importance in regard to preparations.

First, all ventilators should be closely shut, but left in such a way that they can be opened from outside, for on no account must anyone enter a house while the atmosphere is still charged with fumes.

No vinery or tomato house should be cyanided while ripe fruit hangs. A highly essential point is that the temperature of the house should not exceed 50° Fahr. The atmosphere must be as dry as possible, and no moisture must hang about the foliage of the plants.

The sulphuric acid used is first diluted by mixing with 2½ times its bulk of water: but it is very important that the acid shall be very gently and slowly poured into the water in an earthenware vessel, and that the measurement of the acid and water shall be accurate. If the reverse method is adopted, of pouring water on to sulphuric acid, there is danger of a slight explosion.

The cubic capacity of the interior of the house should be ascertained with precision; but inexperienced users are advised to commence with a moderate fumigation, which may be increased until the maximum is reached should observation indicate that pests have survived the weaker dose, and plants are unharmed.

Assuming that the full strength sodium cyanide is used, the minimum strength may be reckoned at ¾oz. per 1,000 cubic ft. This is usually strong enough to kill aphis and other simple insects. The maximum strength may be reckoned at 1½ oz. per 1,000 cubic ft.; but in dormant vineries and orchard houses a further ¼oz. has been used with safety, and for red spider and mealy bug that strength is sometimes necessary.

One small house may be cyanided by placing the sodium cyanide in a basin and balancing over it a bottle containing the dilute sulphuric acid. A string should be attached to the bottle, looped over a wire, and carried through the keyhole of the door, or through a tiny hole drilled in a convenient spot for the purpose, the motive being to ensure that when the string is pulled from outside the base of the bottle is lifted so that the acid runs into the basin beneath.

The operation should be carried out in the evening; never in broad daylight. Forty-five minutes is the full extent of time the house may remain closed. When opening, hold the breath until well away from the escaping fumes. See that no dog, and certainly no human being enters the house for a few hours after cyaniding.

After several years of research and experiment a new method of cyaniding by means of a powder, without sulphuric acid, has been evolved. Cyanogas Calcium Cyanide is the name given to a preparation which can be used in a much more simple manner, for it is only necessary to scatter the powder evenly along the paths of the greenhouse, and leave it closely shut down all night.

The same gas (Hydrocyanic acid gas) is liberated by thus bringing the powder in contact with the atmosphere and very slight moisture of the paths as is generated by the former method of adding sulphuric acid to sodium cyanide; but the liberation goes on steadily at a very much slower pace over a period of several hours. The same conditions of low temperature and dry foliage are required, but the slowness of action enables the operator to start at the far end of a house, distributing the powder as he walks backwards towards the door, and then shutting it. Next morning open the house wide and wait until all trace of the gas has disappeared before working in the house. A. J. MACSELF.

DAFFODILS at VINCENT SQUARE

THE spring of 1926 must surely stand as a record early-flowering season if one is to judge by the recent displays at the Royal Horticultural Society's Hall at Vincent Square. On the occasion of the last meeting on March 23rd and 24th quite a dazzling blaze of colour met the eye on entering the hall. Yellow provided by numerous exhibits of narcissi was the predominating colour, while the brighter tones were supplied by tulips, hyacinths, shrubs, a fine exhibit of brilliant imantophyllums and alpines. The alpine section had much of interest to show to the rock garden enthusiast, and it was pleasant to note the return of amateur exhibits on a somewhat large scale, reminiscent of pre-war shows.

Daffodil hybridists are working apace, and each year they are raising new varieties which, in many cases, show a marked increase in size and a greater variation in colour when compared with the older kinds. It remains to be seen whether these new introductions have come to stay, for although on the exhibition table they leave nothing to be desired, they may not be good doers and of sufficiently strong constitution to take their place with such excellent all-round varieties as King Alfred. Time will prove whether this is the case or no, but, in spite of this doubt the true daffodil enthusiast will surely hasten to add a few of these choice seedlings to his collection. He will not be able to resist their beauty. Two magnificent narcissi collections came from Ireland, one shown by Mr. J. L. Richardson, and the other by the Donard Nursery Co. The latter firm had some splendid trumpet varieties of immense size and fine substance—Gog and Magog were outstanding. Grenade, Macebearer and March Wind were other noteworthy narcissi. Mr. J. L. Richardson showed a number of excellent novelties, some unfortunately rare at present and consequently expensive. Golden Pedestal, a self yellow incomparabilis of his own raising; Beersheba, a variety showing great development in the white trumpet section; and Glorious, an attractive vigorous poetaz, were a few of the best. There were many other good narcissi, several of which received awards of merit.

Messrs. Barr and Sons exhibited an interesting and varied narcissi exhibit, including many unnamed seedlings. The Leedsii and Barrii types were well represented. Duke of Bedford, a large handsome bicolor trumpet; Crœsus, a showy incomparabilis; and Orange Prince, a poetaz with a yellow

Digitized by Google

perianth and a cup of dark rich orange, were some of their fine and increasingly popular varieties. Pure white trumpet daffodils were much in evidence on Messrs. J. R. Pearson's stand of narcissi blooms cut from home-grown bulbs. Fortune, the rare giant incomparabilis, which created quite a sensation at the time of its introduction, was also exhibited. Messrs. R. H. Bath staged a group of narcissi, including Loud Speaker, a new trumpet variety of unusual size. Prince Umbria was a fine giant Leedsii shown by Mr. J. W. Barr. Narcissi were also shown by Messrs. Cartwright and Goodwin and Messrs. Carter and Co., the latter firm arranging their exhibit in the form of a long grass bank, tightly packed with groups of poetaz narcissi and trumpet daffodils.

The most striking exhibit at the Show was that of imantophyllum shown by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir George Holford. These handsome greenhouse bulbous plants were perfectly grown and the varieties exhibited were particularly brilliant in colour and fine in form. Westonbirt Perfection, Field Marshal, Westonbirt Brilliant and Flame were varieties of the most vivid orange-scarlet. An attractive group of clematis was shown by Messrs. L. R. Russell, particularly flotiferous varieties being President and Nellie Moser.

Rhododendrons and other shrubs came from the nursery of Mr. G. Reuthe. Messrs. R. Veitch showed a number of interesting shrubs. They exhibited the new Corylopsis Veitchiorum, the free-flowering white heath, Erica Veitchii, Rhododendron neriiflorum, and a fine form of R. hippophaeoides, the Japanese Azaleas Kirin and Tsuta Momiji and Magnolia Veitchii, a beautiful novelty with blush pink flowers similar to those of M. Campbelli, one of its parents.

A good strain of polyanthus was shown by Messrs. Blackmore and Langdon, a fine blue primrose by Mr. G. A. Miller, cinerarias and Primula obconica grandiflora by Messrs. R. and G. Cuthbert; and sweetly scented roses by Mr. G. Prince and Mr. E. Hicks. Carnation groups were staged by three leading growers, Messrs. Allwood Bros., C. Engelmann and Stuart Low and Co. The Violets Princess of Wales, Princess Mary and Mrs. Lloyd George, were shown both by Mr. J. J. Kettle and Mr. Baldwin Pinney. The old-fashioned Dusty Miller, Primula auricula in many varieties, was exhibited by Mr. James Douglas, and a group of Caledonian strain cyclamen was set up by Mr. J. W. Forsyth. Freesias were shown by Mr. G. H. Dalrymple and Messrs. Dobbie and Co., and a group of multiflora hyacinths in bowls by Messrs. Sutton and Sons.

The most interesting alpines were in two amateur exhibits. Lady Abercrombie and the Hon. H. D. McLaren showed us some rare primulas—PP. Bulleyana, Giraldiana, Cawdriana, sino-plantaginea—and several dwarf rhododendrons, of which R. rupicola, very woody and compact with large heads of violet flowers, and R. racemosum, with pale pink flowers and red stems, were the most obviously beautiful. Large healthy plants of Androsace imbricata and A. pyrenaica studded with their minute pearly flowers showed that these high alpine androsaces are not impossible in this country.

Mr. Mark Fenwick's collection was especially interesting for its daphnes: D. arbuscula, which is said to be a local form of D. Cneorum but does not look it, for it makes a stocky little bush with large, starry flowers; D. retusa, very woody and slow growing with wide flowers of purplish pink that suggest D. indica; D. tangutica with white flowers; the now well known and very splendid D. rupestris grandiflora and D. Blagayana.

Messrs. Gavin Jones made a naturalistic rock garden with a grey mountain topped with a gnarled old specimen of Picea obtusa nana gracilis, and sparsely planted with Gentiana verna and honey-scented Thlaspi rotundifolia.

Messrs. Maxwell and Beale showed some good heathers, including the very fine deep-coloured and prostrate variety of Erica carnea called Vivelli, and several happy-looking plants of Andromeda tetragona with pinkish lily of the valley flowers and the general look of a club moss.

Stylophorum diphyllum, an excellent vigorous plant for a shady corner with crinkled yellow poppy flowers, was shown by Messrs. Cutbush with the wonderful orange-scarlet tulip T. præstans Tubergen's variety.

Messrs. Clarence Elliott showed some of the excellent forms of Primula pubescens, Mrs. J. H. Wilson (violet) and Faldonside (maroon crimson).

Messrs. Tucker showed the dead white albino of Anemone appenina and pans of small daffodils growing through a carpet of Raoulia australis and Primula Juliæ.

Messrs. F. G. Wood had a neat little paved garden round a bed containing some neat small hybrids of Primula Juliæ (some of them pale yellow), and in the background the true oxlip, an interesting hose-in-hose cowslip, Erin's Gem, and the little pink double daisy Dresden China.

Messrs. Prichard showed Viola pedata bicolor, the rare pansy from North America, which carries its velvety purple upper petals thrown back like the ears of a rabbit, a good bluish form of Primula marginata and many other things.

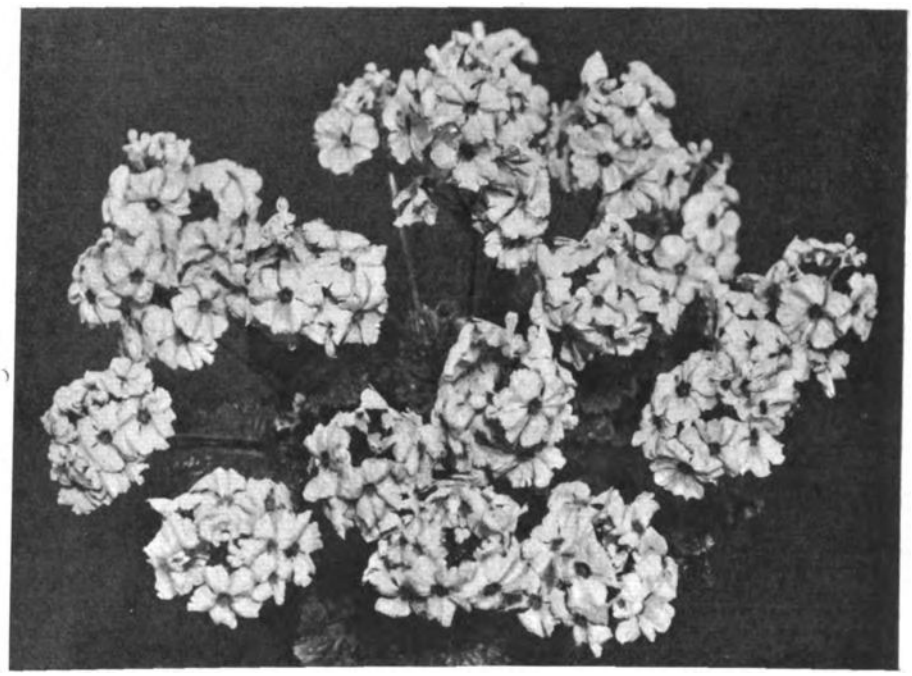
Mr. H. T. Pitt, Rosslyn, Stamford Hill, was awarded a silver Banksian medal for an interesting group containing many selected varieties of Epidendrum Endresio-Wallisii, also two well grown examples of Cymbidium Devonianum and a strong plant of Epidendrum sceptrum. A pretty species was staged in Polystacha lutescens, with erect spikes of numerous yellow flowers. Other species were Odontoglossum Uro-Skinneri album, O. pulchellum, the charming O. Rossii, and the singular Cirrhopetalum gracillimum. A similar medal was given to Messrs. Cowan and Co., Southgate, who staged a fine lot of Cymbidium hybrids, also Cattleya Tityus and C. Clotho, both well coloured, and C. Freda Sander, with pure white flowers. Miltonia Bleuana bore flowers somewhat larger than usual, and among the other popular hybrids was a pleasing variety of Odontoglossum promerens.

A silver Banksian medal was also awarded to Messrs. Sanders, who had an extensive exhibit of Cymbidium hybrids, the majority with many-flowered spikes. Cattleyas included Evelyn Sander and Mary Sander, both with pure white flowers, and the now scarce C. amethystoglossa. A pleasing species was staged in Cirrhopetalum pulchrum, and another in a richly coloured variety of Lycaste Skinneri. A similar award was given to Messrs. Stuart Low and Co., Jarvisbrook, Sussex, who staged an interesting selection of species and hybrids. The former included several examples of the pretty Oncidium cucullatum, Lycaste Skinneri and several of the popular Dendrobiums, such as nobile virginale and suavissimum. Hybrids were best seen in Cattleya Albion (pure white), Miltonia Bleuana and Sophro-Lælia Psyche with reddish-coloured flowers.

Mr. Harry Dixon, Wandsworth Common, received a bronze Banksian medal for a pleasing exhibit in which Cattleya Empress Frederick and several Cypripedium hybrids stood out prominently. Dendrobium Radiant and Odontoglossum Doris may also be mentioned.

Lady Aberconway and the Hon. H. D. McLaren exhibited Cymbidium Emery var. Tangerine, a pleasing hybrid with a spike of eight flowers. Sir G. H. Kenrick, Whetstone, Edgbaston, exhibited the scarce Dendrobium undulatum from northern Australia, and several other members of the genus. Mr. William Cursham, Thrumpton, *via* Derby, sent Odontoglossum Phyllis Cursham, a pleasant hybrid with flowers of bright bluish purple.

Messrs. Charlesworth and Co., Haywards Heath, staged Miltonia Princess Mary with the segments flushed with crimson, also Odontioda Beryl with flowers of deep rose-violet colour, and examples of their Premier type of Odontoglossum crispum. Messrs. Black and Flory, Slough, exhibited Cattleya G. P. Walker with pretty flowers of rose pink colour and a rich purple lip, also Brasso-Cattleya Albion (pure white) and S.-L.-C. Heatherwood of reddish purple tints.



PRIMULA MALACOIDES DWARF ECLIPSE.
A decided break from the type.

Digitized by Google

Messrs. Sutton Brothers, Hassocks, showed Odontoglossum crispum citrinum with yellow spotting and a richly coloured odontioda bearing the name Grisell Lady Polwarth.

NEW AND RARE PLANTS.

AWARDS OF MERIT.

CALLISTEMON CITRINUS VAR. SPLENDENS.—This species is probably the most handsome of the bottle-brushes. It is a most ornamental plant with its bright red showy flower clusters about 2–4ins. long and its long, lanceolate leaves which set off the flower-spike to advantage. An admirable decorative subject for a temperate greenhouse, where it attains a height of from 8–12ft. Shown by the Director, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

RHODODENDRON LACTEUM.—This was the true plant which was shown and not the one commonly known as such. It is an exceedingly beautiful species, carrying large, compact trusses of pale yellow, wide-open campanulate flowers, some absolutely pure in colour, others showing a plum-coloured blotch at the base. The leaves of this species are also handsome, oblong-ovate in shape and felted beneath. It reflects great credit on Mr. A. M. Williams of Werrington Park, Cornwall, who showed this species, as it has the reputation of being an exceedingly difficult plant to grow well.

ACACIA RICEANA.—The acacia which was given an award under this name differs from that species in not a few respects. The award is only given subject to a change in the nomenclature. The plant shown was exceedingly ornamental with its graceful, drooping branchlets having its phyllodes in loose clusters. These are short and linear. The flowers are carried in small rounded clusters of a pale lemon yellow colour. Shown by Mrs. Charles Williams, Greenway, South Devon.

PRUNUS SALICINA SYN. P. TRIFLORA.—Sprays of this ornamental cherry showed the pure white flowers some ¾in. across borne in clusters of two or three on the naked dark smooth twigs. It is known as the Japanese plum, but is presumably a native of China. It is not such an ornamental species as some of its close relatives. Shown by Messrs. Notcutt

ANEMONE CREAGH CASTLE STRAIN.—This is an excellent strain of the St. Brigid anemones with much larger and more spreading flowers of a brighter and deeper colouring if that be possible. The colours are many and varied, from blues to reds, some showing red bars on a white ground. Shown by Mrs. Bucknall, Creagh Castle, County Cork.

PRIMULA CAWDORIANA K.W. 5741.—A recent acquisition to the muscarioides section of the primula genus. It is a neat little plant with a compact rosette of light green leaves from which arises a thin, graceful flowering stem varying in height from 9–12ins. and bearing at its apex a dense head of drooping pale lilac-blue flowers coated with farina in the throat. The flowering stem is also heavily covered with meal. Shown by the Hon. H. D. McLaren, Bodnant, North Wales.

PRIMULA MALACOIDES DWARF ECLIPSE.—This plant represents an entire breakaway from the typical P. malacoides as we know it. The habit is more or less that of P. malacoides, but is more compact. Three whorls of flowers are carried. The foliage is good and the plant is vigorous and very floriferous. The flowers are about ½–¾in. across, and are of a rosy lilac in colour with a bronze yellow eye reminiscent of an obconica type. It is likely to prove an extremely popular variety in the near future. Shown by Messrs. Sutton and Sons of Reading.

IMANTOPHYLLUM WESTONBIRT BRILLIANT.—A really wonderful variety carrying a perfect truss of flowers of a gorgeous fiery orange red in colour which gives way gradually to a pure yellow in the throat. The petals are of good substance and lend a distinct velvety appearance to the flowers, which are perfect in shape and form. The flowering stem is from 18ins. to 2ft. in height. Shown by Sir George Holford, Westonbirt.

Numerous narcissi were put up for award, and the following varieties received awards of merit:

NARCISSUS ST. BERNARD.—Shown by Mr. Herbert Chapman, Rye.

N. MITYLINE.—Shown by Mr. J. Lionel Richardson.

N. DUKE OF NORMANDY.—Shown by Mr. C. B. Blaneysied, Guernsey.

N. LOYALIST.—Shown by Mr. J. Lionel Richardson.

N. ALROI.—Shown by Mr. J. Lionel Richardson.

N. FAIRY CIRCLE.—Shown by Mr. J. Lionel Richardson.

N. GRENADE.—Shown by Mr. W. B. Cranfield, Enfield Chase.

N. ADVANCE GUARD.—Shown by Messrs. R. H. Bath, Wisbech.

N. PROSPECTOR.—Shown by Messrs. The Donard Nursery Company.

N. EVEREST.—Shown by Messrs. The Donard Nursery Company.

N. ORANGE BRILLIANT.—Shown by Messrs. R. H. Bath, Wisbech.

The following varieties secured first-class certificates:

N. GLORIOUS.—An excellent poetaz variety in which the brilliant orange frilled and crinkled cuplike corona is set off admirably by the pure white almost silvery perianth. Shown by Mr. J. Lionel Richardson.

N. BEERSHEBA.—Probably the finest pure white trumpet variety in existence. A really wonderful flower of perfect form with a long, straight trumpet rising from a shapely perianth of pure white. Shown by Mr. J. Lionel Richardson.

ORCHIDS.

CYMBIDIUM PETREL WESTONBIRT VAR. (Pauwelsii × Garnet).—A most striking hybrid. The spike bore eight flowers of deep rose-pink colour, the labellum having the apical area of solid crimson, with longitudinal lines of similar colour on the side lobes, The median lobe has a narrow whitish border line. In no other member of the genus has so much colour been seen on the labellum, and as C. Lowianum is represented in both parents, it is probable that this species has given rise to so fine a result. Shown by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir George Holford, K.C.V.O., Westonbirt, Tetbury Gloucestershire. First-class certificate.

CATTLEYA MINNEHAHA THE DELL PARK VAR. (Trianæ × Lady Rowena).—The finest variety so far produced of this beautiful albino hybrid. The petals are exceptionally well developed and pure white, as are the other segments, the throat alone showing some yellow colour. Shown by Baron Bruno Schröder, Englefield Green, Surrey. First-class certificate.

CATTLEYA TITRIANÆ MANOR HOUSE VAR.—This elegant hybrid between C. Trianæ var. Mooreana and C. Tityus bore a large flower in which all the segments are much broader than usually seen. In colour rosy mauve, the roundly formed labellum bright purple and with the margin prettily frilled. Shown by Mr. Geo. W. Bird, The Manor House, West Wickham, Kent. Award of merit.

LÆLIO-CATTLEYA RAJAH.—A showy hybrid between L.-C. Smilax and L.-C. Cupid. The erect spike bore five large flowers of bright orange yellow, the sepals and petals having crimson veining and suffusion, the labellum crimson and with the margin frilled. Shown by Lieutenant-Colonel Stephenson R. Clarke, C.B., Borde Hill, Cuckfield, Sussex. Award of merit.

POTINARA JULIETTÆ BROCKHURST VAR.—In this hybrid between S.-L.-C. Marathon and B.-C. Ena the well known colour of the former parent is much in evidence, resulting in a flower of soft carmine-rose tints, the labellum solid ruby colour and with gold venation in the tube portion. Shown by Mr. F. J. Hanbury, Brockhurst, East Grinstead. Award of merit.

CORRESPONDENCE

ROSE-GROWING UNDER GLASS.

SIR,—I am much obliged to "Hants" for the list of roses which he gave on page 150 of THE GARDEN of March 6th, of varieties which he considered suitable for a rose house. Among his selection I note that he included a few hybrid perpetuals. Now, perpetuals, apart from their beauty, size, texture and delightful fragrance, either economically or commercially, are none of them worth a trellis or permanent place in the rose house. With perhaps the exception of one or two varieties, such as Victor Hugo and Mrs. J. Laing, which may give a few straggling blooms after the main crop is over, they may all be classed as "annual croppers," one crop of flowers annually, and no artificial methods will induce them to do more.

Frau Karl Druschki is a splendid rose, but it, in particular, is absolutely hopeless for a continuation of bloom. In my opinion, if hybrid perpetuals are to be grown under glass, they ought to be grown in pots, as a matter of convenience and economy of space, as the pots can be taken inside as required and then put outside again, and the pots may be plunged in ashes after they have given their crop of bloom. In an open, sunny situation the wood will become firm and ripe. A rose house, needless to say, is not necessary in which to grow hybrid perpetuals to secure a full crop of bloom. The hybrid tea under glass is entirely a different subject, and its freedom of flowering and the successive crops of bloom it will give in a rose house—if advantage be taken of artificial heat—will prove it to be a truly perpetual-flowering plant, and may be flowered for months. As regards its bearing successive crops of bloom, as the name would indicate, the hybrid perpetual has next to no claim.—WM. GRANT, *Crathes, Kincardineshire, N.B.*

WILD FLOWER PROTECTION.

SIR,—Mr. Halliwell Sutcliffe's eloquent denunciation of the wild flower robbers must find an echo in the minds of all who love our countryside, as this wholesale despoiling seems so prevalent. Just now the school children come in from the meadows with huge bunches of wild daffodils, cyclists pass with sheaves of the flowers tied on the handle-bars and the hawker goes by with his clothes basket piled full. Perhaps in this particular case it does not really matter, for the daffodil is so plentiful that myriads still remain to gild the meadowland of many acres of Gloucestershire, but quantities are picked for no purpose whatever, and the children tire of them before they reach home and throw them away. The same thing happens to the blue bells. Though the flowers are pulled unmercifully, enough remain to give those drifts of deep blue, gleaming through the woods as if the sea

Digitized by Google

itself had invaded them. But all wild flowers cannot stand this wholesale slaughter. One of the prettiest of all grows in considerable numbers on the limestone ridges over the top of Leckington Quarry, the bee orchis. This is annually raided till scarce a bloom can be found. Last year it was even seen on a hawker's barrow, and one enterprising gentleman had for sale a target of closely packed wild flowers, a yellow ring of buttercups, white of moon daisies, red of poppy, purple of knapweed and a dark ring of bee orchis. I have an idea this orchid dies after bearing seed, for I have carefully marked plants growing, and after the seed has ripened have not been able to find any trace of the bulbous root. The lovely blue spikes of the viper's bugloss used often to be seen on the hillsides; to-day it is quite a rarity. Last summer I wanted particularly a good specimen of the pretty fringed buckbean, and asked an old friend who roams both hill and dale for pleasure and who knows every wild flower that grows, to get me one. He knew of a colony of it beside a small stream some seven miles away with many flowers out, and when his weary tramp in the broiling sun brought him to the spot he found that a nature study class from some college or school had paid a visit the previous day and the patch of buckbean was trampled into a muddy mass and every flower gone.

The suggestion Mr. Sutcliffe makes of protection by law for the wild flowers has been adopted as a by-law by the Thames Conservators, and the picking of flowers on the river is prohibited.

It seems a sad pity that the spirit of a poem by Robert Storey, the Northumberland poet, is not more in evidence to-day:

"I cam to the hill where a Boy I had wander'd,
And high beat my heart when I traced it again;
As up its steep side, now an auld man, I dander'd,
I stopt, whare a bonnie Pink blossom'd its lane:
It seem'd a wee star lighted up amang heather!
My first thought said, 'Pu' it, and bring it away'—
But a tenderer pleaded—'How soon it wad wither!
Oh! leave it to bloom on its ain native brae.'

"'For wha kens,' pled the thought, 'but this bonnie flower blooming
May hae some kind of feeling, or sense o' its ain?
It'll change wi' the lift, be it smiling or glooming,
Exult in the sunshine, and droop in the rain!
And wha kens that it has na some pleasure in gieing
Its flower to the e'e, and its sweets to the day?
That it hasna a secret and sweet sense of being?'
Sae I left it to bloom on its ain native brae."

—J. POUNSETT.

RHODODENDRON NOBLEANUM ALBUM.

SIR,—In your issue of March 6th (page 152) you said that Gill's Nobleanum album did not much resemble Nobleanum, but looked as if it had caucasicum blood in it. Nobleanum album is, of course, a caucasicum hybrid with white arboreum as the parent instead of red arboreum, as in the true Nobleanum. The cross has been made several times; the variety shown by Gill was one of the older forms and probably the true form. The form usually supplied by nursery gardeners is one with spots, and should, I believe, be called Heatherside Beauty.—L. R.

THE PRONUNCIATION OF "GLADIOLUS."

SIR,—You are undoubtedly right. This is a word of four short syllables. That the Latin tongue in classical times could pronounce them as such with an ease impossible to English is evident from the frequent occurrence of *five* consecutive short syllables in the rapid Galliambic metre, *e.g.*, in the Attis of Catullus. Virgil fitted the words abiete, ariete, pariete into his hexameter lines by giving the *i* the consonantal force of *j*, *i.e.*, of our *y*. In the same way we shall pronounce gladiolus as a trisyllable, gládyolŭs, stressing the first syllable by the necessity of English speech.—G. H. ENGLEHEART.

PRIMULA SUCCESSES AND FAILURES.

SIR,—Primula Palinuri, mentioned by "D. D. V." on page 176, is really a rock plant, like all those with the auricula type of leaf. I have a fine plant growing on the side of an exposed limestone wall 4ft. from the level and full exposed to the south-west winds, yet it is looking quite happy and coming into flower. It is also doing well on the top of the rockery, fully exposed. Primula pubescens alba is now flowering here. Farrer mentions it in one of his books as he saw it in a cottage garden near him, and again in a garden in Devonshire. My first plants came from Aberdeen many years ago, but were lost. It differs from nivalis of gardens and helvetica alba by having longer and narrower leaves, smaller trusses of flower and these hung to one side, cowslip fashion. It is also taller. P. Rhenania, a hybrid between P. marginata and an auricula, is also flowering here for the first time. It has the marginata foliage, but a tall scape of dark lilac flowers somewhat resembling Linda Pope.—JOHN STORMONTH, *Carlisle*.

BOWLING GREEN FROM SEED.

SIR,—In the issue dated February 13th a very interesting article entered into the details connected with the successful construction of a bowling green from seed. Having had some experience in "not very successful" construction, I would emphasise one part of that article on which I think sufficient stress has not been laid—that urging the sterilisation of the soil used for surfacing. Within the precincts of Greater Glasgow and under the ægis of a prominent horticulturist, lately deceased, a bowling green was constructed from seed in the grounds of a public institution. The surfacing soil was a fine black friable loam, such as delights the eye of every gardener—but it was not sterilised. We can sum up the result in a few words: for two years that green was an absolute heart-break, and even now, in its sixth year, there are obvious traces of wild growths in it. It is thus I emphasise the sterilisation of the soil used to surface all greens, preferably by heating it in some way. Only by being careful in that way can the greenmaker hope to obtain a green which, from the first, will be successful.—CLYDESDALE.

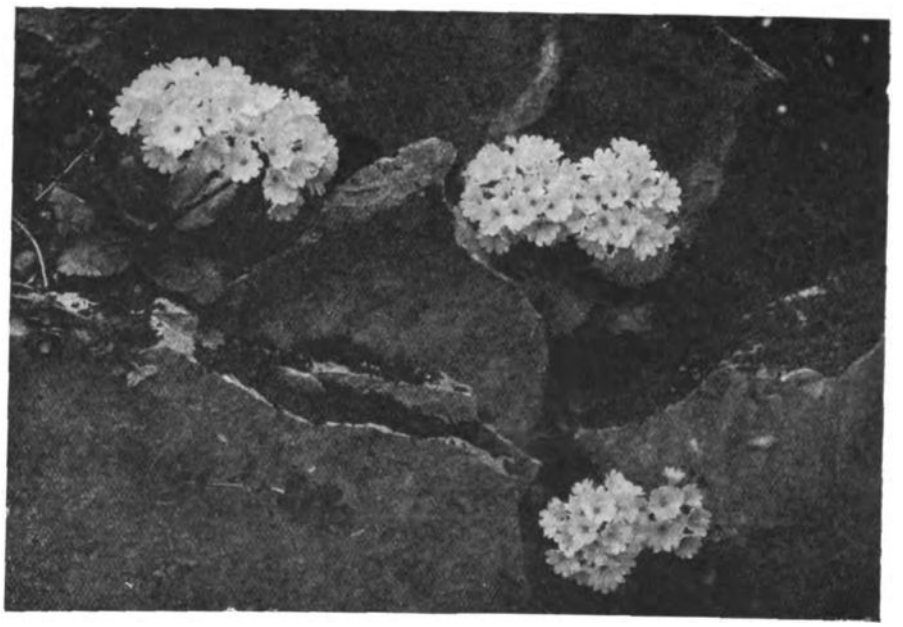
GROWING GRAPE VINES FROM EYES.

SIR,—I am afraid the amateur who tries to grow young vines on the lines laid down in THE GARDEN for March 6th would only have moderate success. Half an inch of wood each side of the eye is too little; 1½ins. below and 1in. above is much better. The top part is less important, as (in spite of the picture) the cutting *never* roots above the eye. It is best to put each cutting into a small pot separately. If lifted from a pan as shown, the bulk will probably go back and die, as no plant I know resents disturbance at the root more than a young vine, and if it once flags, either amateur or professional will find it difficult to get it up again.

As regards pinching off the embryo bunch, I have grown tens of thousands of young vines, and only once saw the embryo bunch come out on the young shoot. It was always a puzzle why, as, of course, nearly all well ripened buds have an embryo bunch in them.

As regards shaving the under side of the cutting, I once tried 200 this way for experiment, and only forty grew, as against over 90 per cent. of the regular stock.

March is rather a late start. I always used to put my cuttings in before Christmas and started them with the New Year, but an amateur with limited conveniences would, perhaps, do better to start a month or so later.—CHAS. E. PEARSON, *Lowdham*.



PRIMULA PUBESCENS ALBA, OF NEAT HABIT AND WITH DAINTY FLOWER TRUSSES.

Digitized by Google

BRASSICAS for SPRING SOWING

BEFORE saying anything about individual varieties, just a word must be said regarding the preparation of the seed bed and the sowing of the seed. The soil should be fairly rich and well worked. Fork it over as soon as possible (presuming, of course, that it has been dug some time previously), and leave for the air and sun to dry the surface before raking down to a fine tilth. Before raking down, give the soil a good dusting with lime, enough to whiten the ground. This, besides being good for the soil, will also check club root disease should it be present.

Now for the sowing of the seed. I often see seed beds where the sowing is done broadcast and I also see gardens where sowing in drills is practised. Personally, I always sow thinly in drills—for the simple reason that it is easier to hoe between the youngsters and one can easily choose the best plants. Again, there is not that overcrowding and consequent leggy plants that one gets by sowing broadcast.

The time to sow, of course varies slightly according to the soil one is dealing with and the part of the country in which one is working. As a rule one general sowing of cabbage, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, etc., is made in early April; but, where possible, it is advantageous to vary the dates of sowing, as I will endeavour to point out.

Taking the common cabbage first—I say "common" with a reason, for, although it is possible to maintain a supply of this vegetable throughout the year, excepting the coldest winter months, there is often no demand for it during the summer months when peas, beans and cauliflowers are plentiful—it is usual to arrange for a crop to mature in spring (by autumn sowing) and another for autumn, to provide greenstuff when cauliflowers, peas and beans are over, or nearly over. This crop for autumn use is the one with which we are at present concerned. April, as a rule, is early enough; but where one wishes for cabbages in, say, August, it is necessary to sow in March. Planting out should be done in June or July, as soon as the plants are ready. Where possible, the seedlings should be pricked out into nursery beds before finally planting out, but this, as a rule, cannot be undertaken owing to lack of room and the fact that so much other work calls for attention in the late spring. From among the hosts of varieties cultivated I have chosen these, not as being exceptional in any way, but as really good ones for general culture.

FIRST AND BEST.—For use in September.

ST. JOHN'S DAY.—Coming in just after the above.

WINNINGSTADT.—A useful late autumn cabbage which is a tall, conical variety and perhaps the best of all for spring sowing.

CHRISTMAS DRUMHEAD.—Not a great favourite, but useful where a smooth-leaved cabbage is required during winter.

To follow these spring sown cabbages, savoys are in demand. They stand the severe weather and, in fact, are always better for use after frost. Sowing should take place in April and the plants be put out in June or July, as soon as they are large enough and ground is vacant. The distance allowed when planting out will depend on the variety. For instance, while 15ins. to 18ins. will be ample for such a small grower as Early Man, 2ft. to 2½ft. will not be too much space to allow for Drumhead.

The best varieties for general use are:

EARLY MAN.—A small, early variety.

DWARF GREEN CURLED.—Another early variety which has much curled leaves—it looks quite pretty.

ORMSKIRK.—A standard maincrop variety, a large, firm grower.

DRUMHEAD.—Another huge late variety.

Turning attention now to the cauliflower, one of the aristocrats of the cabbage family, I really do not know when to advise sowing. Being confined to outdoor sowing I should be inclined, especially if I possessed a suitable warm border, to make a sowing in early March (weather permitting) of such an early variety as Septon Forcing or Early Favourite for use in July and August. A sowing in April of the same variety together with Purity and Autumn Giant will enable one to enjoy cauliflowers until frost comes and stains the rest. However, those who are wise will not be altogether deprived of this luxury by the first frost, for, by lifting and packing in a frost-proof shed with some soil about their roots, the season may be extended for a week or two and then—well we still have the broccoli, those hardy cauliflowers (if I may so call them) to fall back on.

The time to sow broccoli for the best results is debatable, but, personally, I like to sow my Veitch's Self Protecting (the earliest variety—to follow the cauliflowers), in March, so that I have good plants for putting out in May. The rest of my varieties are sown in April and the selection I favour to give a supply until spring are:

SNOW'S WINTER WHITE, for use about Christmastime.

LEAMINGTON.—To follow in the New Year.

LATE QUEEN.—To fill in the gap until MODEL (one of the latest), is ready for use.

When planting out choose a firm piece of ground and plant firmly.

Brussels sprouts next claim attention. They need a long season of growth and I like to sow a row or two in autumn for planting out early. When one is relying on spring sown plants it is well to raise some in heat in February and March for early use, sowing the main crop outdoors during March. As with broccoli, plant firmly and allow plenty of room There is quite a number of varieties, but the following will give satisfaction in most cases:

THE WROXTON.—Not exactly a dwarf, but still shorter than most. A good variety for early use.

DALKEITH and AIGBURTH.—Two of the best of the taller varieties.

Remember to pick the sprouts first and leave the tops of the plants till last. If you cut the tops first the sprouts will begin to open.

The last item on the programme is kale—a much neglected vegetable. It is not of such high quality, perhaps, as some of the other brassicas I have mentioned, but it has one very strong point and that is its extreme hardiness.

SCOTCH CURLED is the best variety to grow. Just one more word about kale before I finish. I wonder how many people grow variegated kale. It is worth growing if one wishes to add colour to the garden during winter. The yellows, reds and purples make rather a show if put in in time for them to get established before winter.

N. D. H.

GARDEN TECHNIQUE

FLOWER GARDEN

PRICKING OUT ANTIRRHINUM SEEDLINGS.

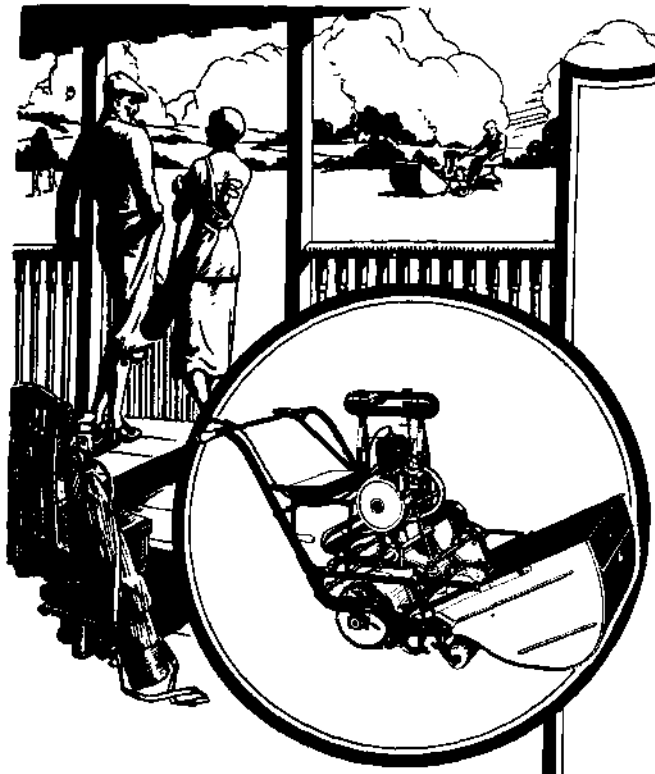
ANTIRRHINUMS have now come to be regarded as everybody's flower. They thrive and grow in almost any soil, and are equally suitable for the adornment of a cottage plot or for the beds in a garden of larger pretensions. Those who have sown early in February should now have seedlings sufficiently well advanced to have them pricked out. Where large numbers of plants are required, cold frames should be made ready by spreading a sandy compost of medium fine soil all over the frame to the depth of 3ins. or 4ins.; this soil should be well firmed with the feet, then the seedlings pricked off 2ins. or 3ins. distant from each other, according to their size. When each light or frame has been filled, give the seedlings a good watering, using a medium fine rose on the watering can for the purpose; then close the frame lights. Daily shading with mats while the sun is shining on the frames will be necessary for the first week or two. As soon as the little plants have got a start in the fresh soil, admit a little air throughout the day; then, later on, when no frost threatens, the lights should be left tilted at nights, and taken off throughout the day when the weather is fine.

BEDDING GERANIUMS.

ALTHOUGH great changes have taken place in the bedding out of flower beds, and even more so in the kind of plants used, yet geraniums are still used in large numbers every year to fill the borders and beds of city dwellings. There is no doubt that well grown geraniums, when planted in masses in an open and sunny position, give a decided tone of brightness to the surroundings.

Geranium cuttings are usually inserted in quantity in boxes of sandy soil in the late summer and early autumn, and wintered in a structure with an intermediate temperature. At this time these geraniums should be fairly well rooted, and to prevent giving the plants a set-back at the bedding-out time, it is necessary now to place the young plants singly into 3in. or 4in. pots, or have them mossed.

Digitized by Google



The
ATCO
MOTOR MOWER
The Sports Field—— The Small Lawn

For each there is an ATCO Motor Mower—for every size of lawn there is an ATCO machine that will prove more economical, more efficient than any other method of mowing, and will reduce the labour of maintaining the condition of turf to a negligible minimum. For the Sports Field there is the 30-inch model with, if required, a trailer seat attachment. For the suburban garden the 14, 16 or 18 inch Mowers at

Prices from 30 Guineas.

Ask any of its 11,000 users their opinion of the ATCO Motor Mower.

Write to-day for 1926 Illustrated Art Catalogue of ATCO Turf Culture Specialities giving full information—It will be sent post free on request.

CHAS. H. PUGH, LTD.,
Whitworth Works, 31, Tilton Road,
BIRMINGHAM.

BY APPOINTMENT TO H.M. THE KING.

DON'T GAMBLE

FAILURE to get rid of leaf-eating insect pests means gambling on the prospects of adequate crops of sound, good-looking fruit.

NOW IS THE TIME for fruit growers to order

McDOUGALL'S
SUPER-ARSENATE

the original Arsenate of Lead powder.

Super-Arsenate is the latest scientific achievement in Lead sprays. Mixes well, remains long in suspension, coats foliage uniformly and does not scorch when properly used.

Only 2 lbs. required to 100 gallons water.
1 lb. 3/3, 2 lbs. 6/3, 5 lbs. 15/-

If unable to obtain locally, please write:

COOPER, McDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, LTD.,
BERKHAMSTED.

FOOD FOR YOUR GARDEN

Growing Plants need Nourishment

Your flowers and vegetables will handsomely repay you for occasional "top-dressings" of "NORCO" whilst they are in active growth.

THE PERFECT GARDEN FOOD

Which supplies the essential constituents contained in stable manure, but in a far richer and more convenient form.

PRICES (Bags Free and Carriage Paid):—

	7 lbs.	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	112 lbs.
"NORCO" Complete Garden Fertiliser (For Flowers, Fruit and Vegetables)	2/6	4 3	7 3	12 6	23/-
"NORCO" Complete Lawn & Turf Fertiliser	2 4	4/-	6 9	11 9	22/-
"NORCO" Complete Potato Fertiliser	2 6	4 3	7 3	12 6	23/-

Send for free Booklet on the use of Lime, Stable Manure and Chemical Fertilisers

"NORCO" (Regd.) is obtainable only direct from the Sole Manufacturers:—

CHARLES NORRINGTON & CO., LTD.
Cattedown, PLYMOUTH.

Makers of High Grade Fertilisers since 1846. No. 8

Digitized by Google

What users are saying about The J·P SUPER

From a Lawn Owner: "It is the easiest machine to work devised and renders a petrol-driven motor a superfluity."

From a Lawn Owner: "No effort is required to push ths machine, which is a 16-inch.

From a Lawn Owner: "In addition to saving a man, our lawns are kept much nicer than ever before at much less cost."

From a Golf Club Secretary. "I would like to register my admiration of your Mower and gratitude for at last producing something so infinitely superior to the 'plumber's jobs' in mowing machines that we have had to suffer from so long."

From a Golf Club Secretary: "The Greenkeeper tells me it is easier, quicker and more thorough than any he has ever seen, and hopes he may never have to revert to the old type."

From a Gardener: "It is the most marvellous machine I have had anything to do with, and have used all the best makes in my time."

"It is so simple to adjust, easy running and best all-round cutting machine I know of. It is all you claim it to be."

ALL UNSOLICITED.

Free

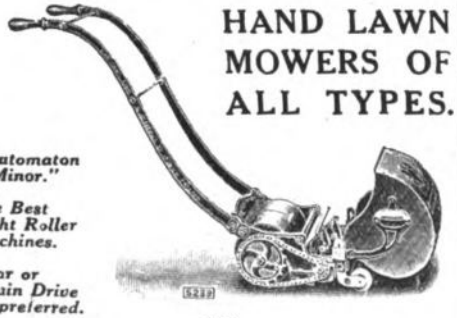
Send for booklet describing unique patented features and ask for a demonstration.

Sole Makers:
J.P. SUPER LAWNMOWERS LTD.
Meynell Road, LEICESTER.

By Appointment.

RANSOMES' LAWN MOWERS

"The Best in the World."



HAND LAWN MOWERS OF ALL TYPES.

"Automaton Minor."

The Best Light Roller Machines.

Gear or Chain Drive as preferred.

ALSO

MOTOR, HORSE, PONY AND DONKEY MOWERS.

PROMPT DELIVERY.

Write for List No. 111 to

RANSOMES, SIMS & JEFFERIES, LTD.

ORWELL WORKS, IPSWICH.

Sold by all Ironmongers and Seedsmen.

The RITO Smil

GARDENERS!

Multiply your crops and grow fragrant flowers with

RITO

RITO is a humus, organic and natural soil food; a stimulant and energising medium for soil bacteria. Its use results in larger crops. Rito is suitable for garden, greenhouse and allotment.

Seedsmen, Florists, Corn Merchants, etc., sell RITO at the following prices: 1 cwt., 23/-; 28lbs., 6/3; 14lbs., 3/3; 7lbs., 1/9; and in 1/- cartons. Write to The Molassine Co., Ltd. (Dept. R52), Greenwich, for FREE literature

For success in your Garden USE

THOMSON'S MANURES

On the market for over 50 years, they still hold first place for QUALITY and RESULTS. They are safe, sure and lasting. The direct result of many years' practical experience in gardening, they stand unrivalled at the present day for all Garden Crops.

Prices:—**VINE, PLANT AND VEGETABLE MANURE**—a Perfect Food—1 cwt., **30/-**; 56 lb., **16/-**; 28 lb. **9/-**; 14 lb. **5/-**; 7 lb., **3/-**; tins, **1/3** and **9d.** **SPECIAL TOP DRESSING MANURE**—an excellent stimulant—56 lb., **17/-**; 28 lb., **9/6**; 14 lb., **5/6**; 7 lb. **3/-**; tins, **1/3.** **Carriage paid on 28 lbs.** and up.

☞ WRITE FOR OUR BOOKLET—POST FREE ON REQUEST

SOLD BY NURSERYMEN AND SEEDSMEN EVERYWHERE.

Or from Sole Makers, WM. THOMSON & SONS, TWEED VINEYARDS, CLOVENFORDS, SCOTLAND

Digitized by Google

Mossing is done by wrapping, then making secure with matting, a good handful or two of semi-damp moss all around the earth and roots of each plant as they are taken out of the boxes. It is often advisable when doing this mossing to add a little fresh soil to some of the roots before closing the moss and fixing the matting around each plant. As soon as the plants are mossed they should be set back into cutting boxes and soil placed between the moss "balls" to keep the plants upright and steady, and also to keep the roots in a properly moist condition.

The boxes should be placed in a brisk heat, and kept there until the plants have got thoroughly over the check of root disturbance. Afterwards they should be removed to cooler quarters, until eventually they can be set out in frames.

At the bedding-out period—last week of May or early in June—these mossed geraniums are quite easily removed from the boxes, and when set out in the beds—moss and all—they receive little or no check, and usually their roots have ramified throughout the moss "balls" at this time. By adopting this method with geraniums there is a great saving in pots.—DAVID ARMSTRONG.

MISCELLANEOUS

IVIES—CUTTING AND PLANTING.

IVY plants will grow in almost any kind of soil and in any position. But there are isolated cases where the plants are difficult to establish, it may be in a cold, clayey soil. In such instances I recommend the addition of some old mortar rubble to the ordinary soil; I have used it with great success in such soils. The plants require cutting at this time of the year—from early in April to mid-May, in the south, and the end of May in the northern counties. However well treated ivy plants are during the summer months, where they are grown on walls, there will be some faded leaves and other foreign matter collected behind the luxuriant foliage and when the latter is trimmed off, the collected rubbish will be exposed. It should be cleared away. Cut the old leaves well back, do not leave long leaf-stalks visible. Specimen plants of ivies, grown in flower pots, are very useful and ornamental when placed in draughty positions in or near to front porches, which are open-built, and in which few plants will live. Ivy should never be allowed to cling to living trees where the latter are valued. For establishing specimens in pots, those growing in pots in nurseries should be selected. Usually the plants are much pot-bound and should be re-potted at once in pots two sizes larger. The central stake must be a sound one and the plant trained from the first so that all sides will be well balanced.—G. G.

PLANTING JERUSALEM ARTICHOKES.

THESE may be so grown that they yield a big crop of tubers, while the stems and leaves form a really effective wind-break in the case of very exposed gardens. Furthermore, in many town and suburban gardens the stems and leaves, during the summer months, will form a screen shutting out objects that may be unsightly, such as rubbish and cinder heaps, fowl shed, pet rabbit boxes, as well as forming a division fence between the flower and vegetable quarters. Treat the plants well, dig the soil deeply and enrich it with rotted manure or hop manure if other kinds are not procurable. Select nice tubers possessing three or four eyes, plant them 5ins. to 7ins. deep, 1ft. apart in the rows and 30ins. from row to row. These are for block plantations; if one row only is required, make it a double one by planting the two rows about 16ins. apart. In heavy soils plant 5ins. deep, and in sandy or light, 7ins. Plant every year rather than rely upon straggling tubers left in the ground. From the end of March to the middle of April is the time to plant.—HANTS.

PLANTING PINE TREES.

VARIOUS kinds of pine are so useful for shelter purposes that a few points on the planting of the trees may be of interest. Many people plant pine trees with results that are anything but satisfactory and, in quite a large number of cases, the specimens die. One mistake is to choose trees that are really too large to transplant well. It is a great temptation to select specimens that are 5ft. or 6ft. in height in order to get a good effect at once. As a matter of fact, trees of this size hardly ever give good results. Healthy little trees of 2ft. or even less in height are far more satisfactory. All pines make a branch growth which is out of all comparison to their roots, and large examples usually transplant very badly. Even if they do not actually die, they will remain stationary for years and often present a shabby appearance. On the other hand, small trees re-establish themselves readily and soon start a vigorous growth. When preparing the opening in the ground for the pine tree it is essential that the bottom soil should be thoroughly loosened. It is really a good plan to spread the roots on a layer of pure sand, and this will often make it possible to establish pines on land which is not naturally very suitable. Provide each tree with a stout stake so that the roots may not be disturbed through wind action. For general purposes the Austrian and Scots pines are, perhaps, the best, although in the southern counties, especially near the sea, Pinus Pinaster and P. insignis are strongly to be recommended.—S. LEONARD BASTIN, *Bournemouth.*

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING, SURREY
(late ANTHONY WATERER)

PROPRIETOR - **HOSEA WATERER**

has pleasure in offering

STANDARD TREES

in great variety, consisting of

LIMES, NORWAY MAPLES, ELMS, etc., etc.

EVERGREEN & DECIDUOUS SHRUBS, viz.:

Box—Green and Variegated, 3 to 8 ft.
Hollies—Common, 5 to 8 ft.; Variegated and Green varieties, 2 to 6 ft.
Thuiopsis borealis, 10 to 12 ft. Cupressus Lawsoniana, 12 to 14 ft. Cedrus atlantica glauca, very fine, 14 to 16 ft. Osmanthus, Phillyreas, Spiræas, Lilacs, Viburnums, etc.

GOLDEN YEWS

A Magnificent Stock in all shapes and sizes from 2 to 10 ft.

PRIVET, Common and Oval-leaved.
QUICK and **HORNBEAM** for Hedges.
AZALEAS, 2 to 5 ft.
RHODODENDRONS, without doubt the finest stock in the trade of named varieties, 2 to 6 and 8 ft.
HARDY HEATHS in great variety and a good general nursery stock.

Catalogues ready.

Enquiries and Inspection Invited.

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING STATION, SURREY

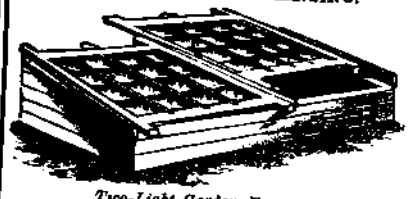
DAVID SWAIN & CO. ∴ *Horticultural Builders*

SPRING, 1926

TELEPHONE: NORTH 2307.

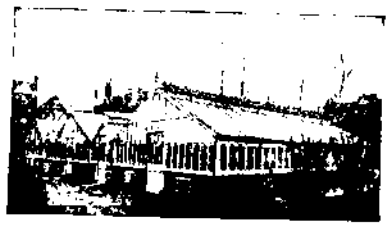
GARDEN FRAMES ALL SIZES.
GLASSHOUSES RENOVATED.
REPAIRS AND REPAINTING.

HEATING.



Two-Light Garden Frame.

WRITE for LISTS and ESTIMATES.



Range of Houses.

101, SUSSEX ROAD, HOLLOWAY, LONDON, N.7

BEGONIAS

AWARDED 85 GOLD MEDALS.

In superb quality and extra large tubers for Greenhouse or Bedding.

Doubles, in 8 colours, flowers like large Roses and Camellias	6/-	per doz.	42/-	per 100
Doubles, in mixed colours	5/-	" "	35/-	" "
Singles, in 6 colours, very large fine shaped flowers	4/6	" "	30/-	" "
Singles, in mixed colours	3/6	" "	24/-	" "
" Frilled or Crested, in 6 colours	5/-	" "	35/-	" "
" " " in mixed colours	4/-	" "	28/-	" "

Collection of 36 large tubers—12 Doubles, 12 Singles, 12 Frilled Singles—14/-.
Collection of 12 named hanging basket Begonias, 3 each 4 sorts, 25/-. Excellent value.
Post free on orders of 10/- and over.

Send for FREE Catalogue of Named Double Begonias for Exhibition, Basket varieties, Cyclamen, Gloxinias, Polyanthus, Phlox, Herbaceous Plants, etc.

DELPHINIUMS

Gained 17 Awards of Merit at R.H.S. Delphinium Trials at Wisley in 1925.

The ONLY selection to receive in 1924 and 1925 the R.H.S. Gold Medal, the highest award obtainable.

Plant NOW. We have pleasure in offering the following Collections which are specially good value, in strong ground roots, which will make a fine show of bloom this year.

COLLECTION A, 12 extra good sorts 65/-
" **B**, 12 very choice sorts 42/-
" **C**, 12 fine sorts 30/-

COLLECTION D, 12 good sorts 22/-
" **E**, 12 average sorts 15/-

CATALOGUE FREE, apply

BLACKMORE & LANGDON - - BATH

Digitized by Google

Put *this*
into your garden
to get *more out!*

A nutritious plant food.

PRICE'S
COMPLETE GARDEN
FERTILISER

Mixed with three or four times its bulk of fine dry soil or sand, this excellent fertiliser promotes healthy, substantial growth—not by *forcing* but by *feeding*.

Price's Complete Garden Fertiliser cannot be washed out by the rain, and its effects are also noticeable during the succeeding year.

Ready for immediate use. Will keep for any length of time in a dry place. Does not exhaust fertility of soil.

Sold in 7-lb. containers—sufficient for about 40 square yards of garden—at **2/6** each.

If your dealer cannot supply you, send post card direct to—
PRICE'S
(Fertiliser Dept.),
BELMONT WORKS,
BATTERSEA, LONDON,
S.W.11.

PRICE'S PATENT CANDLE CO., LTD.,
BATTERSEA - LONDON - S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

ECKFORD'S GIANT FRILLED
SWEET PEAS
—FOR 1926—

GORGEOUS FLOWERS. MAGNIFICENT STEMS
For a wealth of cut flowers.
For garden decoration. For exhibition.

ECKFORD'S ARE THE WORLD'S BEST
Special Offer.—25 specially chosen 1/- packets of Eckford's Giant Frilled Sweet Peas for 1926, each separate and named, for - - - - 20/-
The same 25, half-packets, each separate and named, for - - - - - - - - - - - - 10/-
The above are a gorgeous range of colour
WRITE FOR CATALOGUE (FREE) of all the best Sweet Peas for 1926. Also pedigree vegetables and choicest flower seeds

HENRY ECKFORD, Headquarters for Sweet Peas, Dept. 61 Wem, Shropshire

VEITCH'S
NURSERIES

contain HARDY TREES AND SHRUBS (specialising in MAGNOLIAS, CHINESE RHODODENDRONS and CHOICE SHRUBS), also in CAMELLIAS and GREENHOUSE PLANTS

INSPECTION OF OUR NURSERIES INVITED

ROBERT VEITCH & SON
ROYAL NURSERIES . . EXETER

BENTLEY'S
WEED DESTROYER
(POISON) STANDS FOR
Strength Reliability Economy

Stronger than any other. One application keeps gravel paths and drives clean for nearly two years. Commands the largest sale both at home and abroad, with a rapidly spreading popularity.

REDUCED PRICES:
Concentrated Liquid (1 to 80)—1 gal. 6/9; 2 gals. 13/-; 3 gals. 18/9; 6 gals. 35/9; 12gals. 69/-; 24gals. 134/3; 40gals. 218/3
Powder (1 to 25)—4 tins 9/3; 8 tins 17/10; 12 tins 25/6; 20 tins 40/9; 40 tins 78/-

BENTLEY'S
DAISY KILLER
THE ONLY SCIENTIFIC LAWN SAND

Weeds of all kinds are quickly killed by one dressing of this unique speciality. Afterwards the finer grasses are free to develop into a dense, rich, green sward.

One pound is sufficient to dress 3 sq. yds.
1 ton £26; 4 cwts. 26/6 per cwt.; 1 cwt. 28/-; 56 lbs. 15/6; 28 lbs. 8/6 14 lbs. 4/9; tins 1/6 each.

Carriage paid on 15/- orders and upwards

Sole Manufacturers:
JOSEPH BENTLEY LTD.
CHEMICAL WORKS,
BARROW-ON-HUMBER :: LINCS.

SPRING-PLANTED ROSES

THE continued rains throughout last autumn and the early winter have compelled many who prefer planting their new roses during November or very early in December to carry out the work in the spring this year. The pros and cons of autumn *versus* spring planting of roses have been discussed very many times and over a long period in the pages of THE GARDEN and, to take a slight liberty with Gilbert and Sullivan, the adherents of the opposed methods have "upheld, with very little heat, their various opinions." But, be that as it may, most experienced growers will agree that in the present circumstances spring planting, with its better soil conditions, is the more likely to be successful on this occasion.

The chief enemy and drawback to success when roses are planted in the spring is the possibility of a serious check from dry weather, especially when it is accompanied by cutting easterly winds. Much as I dislike the mulching of roses planted during the autumn, I have found the practice beneficial and, indeed, almost essential, when planting in the spring has, for various reasons, had to be carried out. But mulching must not be confused with top-dressing. The former should be a comparatively loose, non-manurial material, while a top-dressing contains plant food.

The object of the mulching should be to assist in conserving the soil moisture, and it may consist of such materials as straw from the stables after the manure has been shaken out, bracken, or the late autumn's tree leaves. Failing any of these materials, recourse may be had to peat moss litter laid loosely, or even the woody and undecayed matter from the garden rubbish heap.

When the pruning has been completed, it is good practice to remove the mulching temporarily and hoe or rake over the surface soil, so as to allow sufficient air to enter. If this is repeated a few times during the early days of April, choosing warm, sunny days for the work, the roses will benefit greatly. In fact, it is not good cultivation to allow any mulching or top-dressing to remain

SALE OF ROSES
At 33⅓ per cent. less than catalogue prices.

HAVING so far sold our stock of Roses that the catalogue is no longer a reliable source of selection and not having enough each of different kinds to justify advertising the balance in named collections, we are offering what remains of our stock of bush, standard and climbing Roses in carriage paid quantities in varieties of our selection, at 33⅓% less than list prices.

The varieties are all first-class (not an obsolete one among them), the trees are excellent and, while all buyers will get remarkably good value for money the first comers will have the advantage of newer and more expensive varieties for as long as stocks last.

BUSHES
In variety—our selection.
Usual price 1/3 each.
10/- doz.
CARRIAGE PAID
6/- for 6 trees.

STANDARDS
In variety—our selection.
Usual price 3/9 each.
30/- doz.
CARRIAGE PAID.
16/6 for 6 trees.
9/- for 3 trees.

CLIMBERS
In variety—our selection.
Usual price 1/6 each.
12/- doz.
CARRIAGE PAID.
7/- for 6 trees.
4/3 for 3 trees.

Bakers
SEED AND FLOWER FARM,
CODSALL.
Nr. Wolverhampton.

GOW'S LAWN SAND

In Tins at:—
1/-; 3/6 (7lbs.), 6/- (14lbs.).

ERADICATES
Daisies, Moss and Similar Weeds.

— A MOST EFFECTIVE —
GRASS STIMULANT.

28 lbs. will dress 100 square yards or 84 lbs. a full size Tennis Court.
In Bags:— 28lbs. 10/-; 56lbs. 16/6; 1 cwt. 30/-

FROM ALL SEEDSMEN.
Makers—HUNTER & GOW LTD., 28, Thomas Street, LIVERPOOL.

NETTINGS
GARDEN NETS
For Fruit Protection
Any lengths and widths. Corded all round.

	per sq. yd.
NEW 1 in. sq. mesh, heavy ..	6½d.
NEW 1 in. ,, medium ..	5½d.
NEW ¾ in. ,, light ..	5½d.
NEW ½ in. ,, medium ..	7½d.
REPAIRED 1 in. sq. mesh, heavy ..	3½d.
REPAIRED ¾ in. ,, ,, ..	4d.
REPAIRED (not corded) 1 in. diamond mesh	9/- per 100 sq. yards.

NEW TENNIS BOUNDARY NETS
Any lengths and widths. Corded all round.
7d. per sq. yard.

NEW TENNIS NETS
Various qualities, from 16/- to 31/- each.

Nets for All Purposes
Samples and full particulars from the manufacturers.

JOSEPH BENTLEY, LTD.
Barrow-on-Humber, LINCS.
(Sole Proprietors of B. EDDY & SONS)

Digitized by Google

"The" Little Extra

spent on high-class Fertilisers makes all the difference to plants and flowers. Those fine blooms so seldom seen, except at Shows, can be grown with the famous "Ferry" Fertilisers.

'FERRY' GARDEN MANURE. The finest Manure for general garden purposes. Suitable for Roses, Fruit Trees, Potatoes, Vines, etc.
14lb., 3/-; 28lb., 5/9; 56lb., 11/-; 1cwt., 20/-

"FERRY" LAWN MANURE. A highly concentrated quick-acting Fertiliser. A wonderful restorative of poor and worn lawns. Does not encourage the growth of coarse Grass and Clover.
14lb., 3/6; 28lb., 6/-; 56lb., 10/6; 1cwt., 19/-

"FERRY" SOIL PEST DESTROYER. Sweetens and sterilises the soil and kills all insect pests: Wireworms, slugs, caterpillars, ants, etc.
14lb., 3/-; 28lb., 5/6; 56lb., 10/6; 1cwt., 20/-

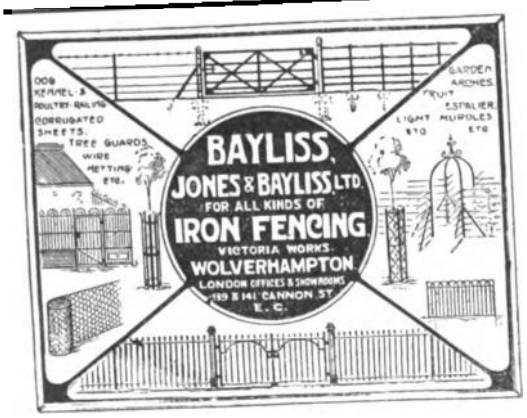
All to nearest Railway Station, carriage paid for cash with order.

FERRY BRAND

Regd. Trade Mark

The BRITON FERRY CHEMICAL & MANURE Co., Ltd. (Dept. E), Briton Ferry, South Wales. (Est. 1886)

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*



Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

By Appointment.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.,
Royal Potteries
BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

undisturbed for more than a few weeks, as there is every likelihood of the soil becoming stagnant. When it is impossible to obtain suitable mulching material the surface soil should be frequently stirred to keep 2ins. or 3ins. loose and thus check excessive evaporation of the soil moisture.

Particularly with light soils the planting should be done very firmly with roses of all types, and especial care should be taken to ensure that the new standard roses are securely staked and tied. Of late some nurserymen have wisely pruned the roses which have had to be despatched late in the season, so that, if they are planted as soon after arrival as conditions permit, they should be just as successful as those planted earlier in the spring.

Unless it is evident that the soil is sufficiently moist when planting roses at the present time there should be no hesitation in applying sufficient water to thoroughly moisten the roots and soil. In such cases as soon as the surface soil can be worked it should be hoed and then covered with the mulching.—A. C. B.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

Mr. William Sydenham, The Gayborder Nurseries, Melbourne, Derbyshire. We would draw our readers' attention to four of the well known Gay Border booklets which have just reached us. These are handy little lists which can be dropped into one's pocket easily and are most convenient in size. One deals with hardy border plants, including alpines, and a very extensive list it is, while the others give particulars of new chrysanthemums, delphiniums and Michaelmas daisies. All amateurs should procure these novel lists.

Messrs. Geo. Jackman and Son, Woking. A list of hardy herbaceous, alpine, bulbous and border plants, offering a wide selection.

Messrs. G. H. Richards, Limited, Borough, London, S.E.1. Price list of all the XL All specialities manufactured by this firm.

Messrs. Allwood Brothers, Hayward's Heath. A well illustrated list of carnations, offering varieties of perpetual flowering, perpetual malmaison, hardy perpetual border, border and Allwoodii carnations. Many novelties are offered for the first time this year. It is a catalogue which should be in the hands of all carnation lovers.

THE Amateur Flower Show under the auspices of the Royal Horticultural Society will be held at the Society's Hall on Tuesday, June 22nd. Copies of the schedule can now be obtained on application to the secretary.

WE would draw the attention of readers to the thirty-first floral meeting of the British Carnation Society, which is to be held in the Royal Horticultural Society's Hall, Westminster, on April 15th. There are numerous classes open to both amateurs and professionals, and there is a considerable list of prizes. The entries for the Show close on April 8th. The secretary, Mr. P. Bunyard, will be only too pleased to supply any additional information which may be required.

Daffodil Conference.—The R. H. S. Daffodil Show will be held in the Hall at Vincent Square, Westminster, on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 13th and 14th. On the second day of the Show a conference will be held in the Lecture Room. The morning session, from 11.30 a.m. to 1 p.m., will be devoted to diseases of daffodils, while in the afternoon from 2.30 p.m. there will be discussions on the aims of daffodil breeders and the garden value of these popular spring flowers. It is hoped that all daffodil lovers who are in London that day will attend the Conference and add to the common stock of knowledge by joining in the discussions.

"ACME" WEED KILLER

Awarded Gold Medal at Anglo-American Exhibition and Bronze Medal by Royal Horticultural Society.

Has stood the test of over 30 years.

POWDER.—No. 1 Tin makes 25 gals., 3/-; No. 2, 50 gals., 6/-; carriage paid on No. 4 which makes 150 gals., 15/-

LIQUID.—1 gal. to 50 gals. of water. 1 gal., 6/-; 2 gals., 10/6; carriage paid on 5 gals., 25/-

NON-POISONOUS.—No. 1 tin makes 6 gals., 1/6 post free; No. 2, 12 gals., 2/3 post free; No. 4, 50 gals., 7/- post free.

LAWN SAND

destroys weeds and moss in grass and fertilizes the lawn. No other manure necessary.

14 lbs., 4/-; 28 lbs., 7/-; 56 lbs., 13/-; 1 cwt., 25/-. Carriage paid on 1 cwt.

WORM KILLER.—Non-poisonous.

For destroying Worms in Lawns, Bowling Greens and Putting Greens.

14 lbs., 3/3; 28 lbs., 6/-; 56 lbs., 11/6; 1 cwt., 21/-. Carriage paid on 1 cwt.

Insecticides. Bone Meal and other Fertilizers.

Send for Price List.

ACME CHEMICAL Co., Ltd., TONBRIDGE, KENT.

MAGNIFICENT VEGETABLES

Magnificent vegetables and choice flowers can be grown by those who use Nitrate of Soda in conjunction with phosphates and potash.

Write for pamphlets, entitled, "Successful Gardens for Every Amateur," "The Manuring of Orchards and Fruit Trees," supplied gratis and post free by THE CHILEAN NITRATE COMMITTEE, Friars House, New Broad Street, London, E.C. 2.

Nitrate of Soda

Digitized by Google

MATTHEWS' HIGH GRADE HORTICULTURAL FERTILISER — COMPARE ANALYSIS

MATTHEWS' BIG PRODUCTION FERTILISERS

MATTHEWS' HIGH GRADE TOMATO FERTILISER — COMPARE ANALYSIS

THOUSANDS OF TONS SOLD ANNUALLY

MATTHEWS'		Amm.	Phos.	Potash (Pure)	lbs. 14	28	56	cwts. 1	2
HORTICULTURAL	For POTATOES & GENERAL GARDEN use.	7%	21%	4%	3/3	5/9	10/9	20/-	37/6
TOMATO	All are "MAXIMUM CROP" COMPLETE MANURES essential	9%	21%	6%	3/6	6/6	12/-	22/6	42/-
LAWN	FOR ECOMOMICAL SUCCESS.	4%	25%	2%	3/-	5/6	10/-	18/6	34/-

NOTE - double value compared with some that are sold.

	Amm.	Phos.	Potash	lbs. 14	28	56	cwts. 1	2
Bone Charcoal	1·5½%	67%	—	2/9	5/-	9/-	16/6	30/-
Bone Meal, English, Best	4.5%	45%	—	2/9	5/-	9/-	16/6	30/-
Basic Slag	—	30%	—	1/7	2/11	5/-	8/-	14/6
Bone Flour, Steamed	1%	60%	—	2/5	4/3	7/6	13/6	25/6
Fish Manure	10%	14%	—	3/5	6/4	11/9	21/6	40/6
Garden Salt	—	—	—	1/6	2/7	4/3	7/6	14/-
Hoof and Horn	16%			3/6	6/6	12/-	22/6	42/-
Kainit	—	—	14%	1/7	2/10	5/-	8/6	14/6
Lime, Ground Carbonate, Superfine	—	—	—	1/6	2/6	4/-	6/6	12/-
Meat and Bone Meal	8.5%	18%	—	3/-	5/6	10/-	18/6	34/-
Meat Meal	8%	30%	—	3/5	6/4	11/9	21/6	40/6
Nitrate of Soda	18%	—	—	3/5	6/4	11/9	21/6	40/6
Peruvian Guano	14½%	22%	2½%	4/-	7/7	14.3	27/-	51/-
Sulphate of Ammonia. 21% Nitrogen	25.75%	—	—	3/3	5/9	10/9	20/-	37/6
Sulphate of Potash	—	—	50%	3/3	5/9	10/9	20/-	37/6
Superphosphate	—	35%	—	1/8	3/1	5/3	9/6	18/-

PROFITABLE GROWING IN 1926

EXHIBITION & PROFIT

MATTHEWS' "Maximum Crop" GARDEN SEEDS

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES

Choice Flower Seeds
Finest Spring Bulbs

Write for Catalogue
IT WILL PAY YOU

IT PAYS TO USE MATTHEWS' HORTICULTURAL FERTILISER

WHEN ORDERING mention this JOURNAL PLEASE

MORE PROFIT THROUGH EXTRA YIELD AND *IMPROVED QUALITY.*

MATTHEWS' LAWN SAND

Effectively kills all the common weeds in lawns, and at the same time acts as an excellent Fertiliser. Sprinkle evenly over the weedy patches, at the rate of 3-ozs. per square yard, in dry weather. Repeat at intervals of a few weeks, till the weeds are killed. The grass will become brown and appear to be burnt, but it will recover, and the useful grasses will grow more vigorously.

4/- 14 lbs. 6/6 28 lbs. 10/9 56 lbs. 20/- cwt.

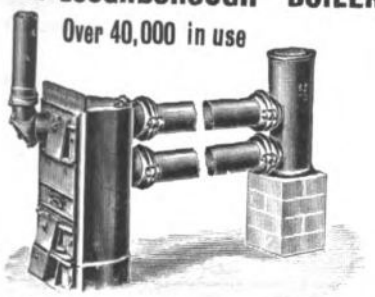
CARRIAGE PAID on orders to the value of 5/- upwards to the nearest station in the United Kingdom
ESSEX RESIDENTS 1/6 per cwt. less. Packing and Bags Free; not returnable.

JAMES & GEO. H. MATTHEWS, Head Offices: HAROLD WOOD, ESSEX
Phone: ROMFORD 284

And at COLCHESTER, ONGAR, BRENTWOOD, CHADWELL HEATH, WICKHAM BISHOPS

THE LOUGHBOROUGH BOILER

Over 40,000 in use



The high reputation of this Boiler for efficiency and economy is still unrivalled

Easy to fix, easy to manage, and most economical in fuel, it is the ideal Boiler for the Amateur's Greenhouse

Price Lists and Estimates for complete :: apparatus on application ::

MESSENGER & CO., LTD. LOUGHBOROUGH LEICESTERSHIRE
LONDON OFFICE: 122, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

ADCO turns GARDEN REFUSE into SYNTHETIC FARMYARD MANURE

1 cwt. of ADCO makes from two to three tons of manure according to the class of rubbish treated.
ADCO Accelerator .. 28 lb. 4/6, 56 lb. 8/-, 1 cwt. 15/-
Standard ADCO .. 28 lb. 6/- 56 lb. 11/6 1 cwt. 20/-
Carriage Paid to Nearest Goods Station. Cash with Order.

Obtainable from all leading Seedsmen. Write for full particulars.

ADCO Ltd., 40, HARPENDEN, HERTS

YOUR GARDEN NEEDS KILOGRUB

Its fumes are instantly fatal to all insect pests in the soil, but harmless to plants. Really effective because it works underground.

Tins: 9d., 1/6 and 2/6
Bags: ¼ cwt. 6/6, ½ cwt. 9/6, 1 cwt. 18/-

From your seedsmen or from
JOHN PEAK & CO. LTD. WIGAN, Lancs.

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND. SOILFUME. NICOTINE, INSECTICIDES, FUMERS, SPRAYS AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES - THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY. IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT. CARRIAGE PAID

Only Address: TOMLINSON & HAYWARD Ltd. LINCOLN.

GARDEN LOVERS

Write for Catalogues of
PROTHEROE & MORRIS'
· HORTICULTURAL SALES ·
WEDNESDAY
67, 68 Cheapside, London E.C.2 Phone City 3856

AFTER 23 YEARS

AN ELOQUENT PROOF OF UNFAILING AND USEFUL SERVICE.

"A better Greenhouse Boiler could not be than the 'Horse Shoe.' I have had it in use for 23 years, and it has answered splendidly," writes Mr. F. G. L.....47, Mt. Carmel, Derby. 23/11/1925.

"HORSE SHOE" BOILERS

CAN BE SUPPLIED FROM IMMEDIATE STOCK.

Write for particulars now.

To CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD.,
Engineers, Southwark Street, S.E.1.
Please send me Booklet E "Making the Most of Your Greenhouse," and price of complete Outfit to suit *(span-roof) (lean-to) greenhouse.....long .....wide inside, sides of *(wood) (brick).....thick

Name.....

Address.....

*Strike out particulars not needed. Cut out and send by 1d. post.

CHAS. P. KINNELL & Co., Ltd., 65, Southwark St., LONDON, S.E.1
Wire: "Kinnell-Boroh-London." Phone: Hop 362 (three lines.)

THE LEADING GLASSHOUSE FUMIGANT.

WEED DEATH

The new NON-POISONOUS Weed Killer (POWDER).
SUPERIOR TO DANGEROUS ARSENICAL COMPOUNDS
Safety first, non-caustic, no smell, kills the roots.
For 4 galls., 1/-; 12½, 2/-; 25, 3/6; 50, 6/6; 100, 12/- & Bulk
From your Nurseryman or Seedsman.
CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

Digitized by Google

I MAINTAIN that a certain fastidiousness in the choice of a pipe tobacco is not wasted if it leads eventually to the discovery of one's ideal brand
R.F.E.

One tobacco, by reason of its qualities, has claimed the allegiance of many smokers of the 'hard-to-please' variety—

They call it

PLAYER'S
NAVY CUT

For Cigarette Smokers
PLAYER'S NAVY CUT CIGARETTES

P.1260.

Reg. No. 154011.

National Approval

THIS is probably the one and only instance where an honest advertiser—and most advertisers are honest—has lost the confidence of the public. The advertiser of hairpins can't sell . . . . hairpins. The cause, of course, is not so serious as it sounds. There is no reflection on **him**. The barber and the fashion have become too persuasive. Meanwhile, the slogan "Advertised Goods" continues to merit national **approval and support.**

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION 1912

WAKELEY'S *Celebrated* **HOP MANURE**
(PATENTED)
THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY
RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DO YOU REALISE IT?
A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE, without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.
A beautiful Free Booklet giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.
BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. GENUINE ONLY IN OUR MARKED BAGS, CONTAINING GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.
Cash Prices, including bags: Small (about 1 bushel), 3/-; Large (about 4 bushels), 7/-. 5 Large, 33/9
10 Large, 65/-; 20 Large, 120/-
Carriage Paid to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company. 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.
WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE PATTISSON HORSE BOOTS

SIMPLEST
STRONGEST
MOST ECONOMICAL

Fig. 2—Welted Pattern.

Fig. 1—For Shod Horses.
Best English Leather or Rubber Soles.
Used for many years in the Royal and in thousands of the Principal Gardens.
Silver Medals:—Royal Horticultural Society, 1904 and 1914
Royal International Horticultural Exhibition, 1912.
HUNDREDS OF TESTIMONIALS.

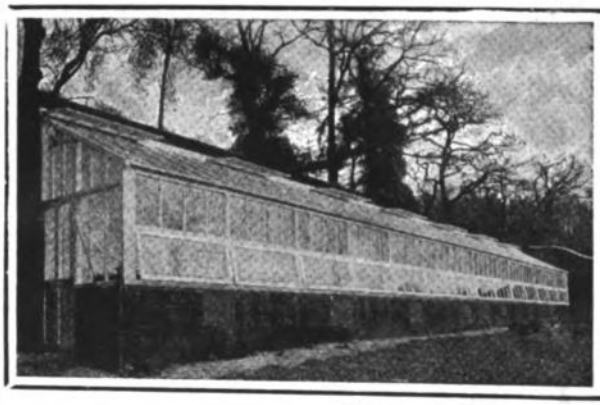
ONCE TRIED
ALWAYS USED

Fig. 2—No Welt Pattern

Illustrated Price Lists from the Makers:

H. PATTISSON & CO., STANMORE, MIDDLESEX

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*



GREENHOUSES
AND
GARDEN FRAMES

I specialize in the Erection of High class Horticultural Buildings.
Garden Frames a speciality. Selected timber, well seasoned, only used.
Being a grower, I understand Glass-house requirements.
SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.
CATALOGUES WITH PLEASURE.

E. M. HEAP, Cottimore Nurseries,
WALTON-ON-THAMES.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

YOUR LAWN!

TRUE PLAY *IN MANY LAWN GAMES IS IMPOSSIBLE UNLESS THE SURFACE IS CLEAR OF DAISIES AND OTHER WEEDS — THE BEST METHOD OF ERADICATION IS ~*

LAWN SAND
Velvas
applied 5 oz. per Square Yard.
MAKES VELVETY LAWNS

CARRIAGE PAID PRICES:

112 lb. Keg,	29/6	112 lb. Bag,	26/6	14 lb. Tin,	6/-
56 lb. ,,	16/-	56 lb. ,,	14/3	7 lb. ,,	4/-
28 lb. ,,	10/6	28 lb. ,,	9/3	3 lb. ,,	2/6

Sole Manufacturers
ROBINSON BROTHERS LTD, WEST BROMWICH

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

APR 22 1926

THE GARDEN

ORCHARD GARDEN WOODLAND

Vol. XC.—No. 2838 Saturday, April 10th, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

TWO BEAUTIFUL NEW PLANTS

FOR APRIL PLANTING

MICHAELMAS DAISY BARR'S PINK.

THE FINEST PINK MICHAELMAS DAISY YET RAISED.

Excellent as a cut flower, remaining open and lasting well in water; equally charming in artificial light as in daylight.

"Until lately one had to exercise a certain amount of imagination with the pink Michaelmas Daisies, but now the pinks are really and truly pink, and of the newest varieties none is more prominent than Barr's Pink, which, with great beauty of rich colouring, combines a graceful habit, and one recognises that in this Messrs. Barr & Sons of Covent Garden have raised a variety that will long continue in the front rank of hardy flowers."—COUNTRY LIFE, Oct. 10th, 1925.

Strong plants .. .. .. per doz. **36/-**; each **3/6**

SCHIZOSTYLIS, "Mrs. Hegarty."

(NEW PINK CAFFRE LILY). This beautiful NOVELTY was shown before the Floral Committee of the ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY on October 18th, 1921, and was at once given an AWARD OF MERIT. The flowers are of a beautiful satiny rose-pink, and keep on opening out in succession for a very long time. The general habit of growth is that of *S. coccinea*; it is as hardy and requires the same treatment.

A charming pot-plant .. .. per doz. **12/6**; each **1/3**

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

NETTINGS

GARDEN NETS FOR FRUIT PROTECTION

Any lengths and widths. Corded all round.

	per sq. yd.		per sq. yd.
NEW 1 in. sq. mesh, heavy ..	6½d.	NEW ¾ in. ,, medium ..	7½d.
NEW 1 in. ,, medium ..	5½d.	REPAIRED 1 in. sq. mesh, heavy	3½d.
NEW ¾ in. ,, light ..	5½d.	REPAIRED ¾ in. ,, ,,	4d.

REPAIRED (not corded) 1 in. diamond mesh, **9/-** per 100 sq. yards.

NEW TENNIS BOUNDARY NETS

Any lengths and widths. Corded all round. **7d.** per sq. yard.

NEW TENNIS NETS

Various qualities from **16/-** to **31/-** each.

NETS FOR ALL PURPOSES

Samples and full particulars from the manufacturers.

JOSEPH BENTLEY, Ltd., Barrow-on-Humber, LINCS.

(Sole Proprietors of B. EDDY & SONS)

The Flower of the Season

BALL'S CALENDULA

— Brilliant Orange Double Flowers —

THE FINEST PLANT FOR CUT FLOWER OR THE BORDER

Our exhibit at CHELSEA SHOW made us many customers, and we have had numerous testimonials from all parts of the country.

SEED .. .. **1/-, 2/6, 5/-** packet

PLANTS .. .. **1/6** doz.; **10/-** 100

WM. ARTINDALE & SON

NETHER GREEN NURSERY :: SHEFFIELD

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

FOR THE GARDEN! FOR EXHIBITION!

FOR BEDS! FOR EVERYWHERE!

Also Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees, Alpines and Hardy Plants.

BUY HOME-GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries.

Catalogue Free on Application, and Addresses booked for Revised Catalogue in late Summer.

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.,

Garden Specialists - - SOUTHWELL, NOTTS

APRIL PLANTING

There are many shrubs and plants which may be successfully planted during this month.

EVERGREENS, such as Hollies, Yews, Bays, Laurels, Thuya Lobbii, Cupressus and other Shrubs.

CLIMBING PLANTS, in pots, including Climbing Roses.

HARDY PERENNIALS and ALPINE PLANTS.

HARDY CHRYSANTHEMUMS. VIOLAS.

We grow large quantities of shrubs in pots such as Cupressus, Escallonias, Veronicas, Rosemary, Choisyas, Fuchsias, etc., for planting at any season.

Catalogue and Special Spring List on application.

The BARNHAM NURSERIES, Ltd.

BARNHAM, SUSSEX.

CHEALS' DAHLIAS

UNIQUE COLLECTION

Many Striking Novelties

New Catalogue Free

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.

The Nurseries - - CRAWLEY

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S HARDY PLANT FARMS ENFIELD, MIDDX. — New Alpines and Perennials — Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS. NURSERIES BEDFORD — Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR. HARDY PLANT NURSERY MERSTHAM, SURREY — Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON TWERTON HILL NURSERY BATH — Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS 408, KING'S ROAD CHELSEA, S.W. — Seeds Gladioli Spiræas List on Application

R. H. BATH, LTD. THE FLORAL FARMS WISBECH — Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

BROWN'S TESTED SEEDS. Illustrated Flower and Vegetable Seed Catalogue, giving full cultural directions, at competitive prices, post free if this paper is mentioned. D. T. BROWN & CO., *Seedsmen*, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

DOWNER'S LUPINS, 12/- doz., large, mixed. Apply for List. Also Herbaceous and Alpine Catalogue. DOWNER, 2, Drayton Manor Nurseries, Chichester.

MATTHEWS' BIG PRODUCTION FERTILISERS

Thousands of tons sold annually. For prices, see THE GARDEN, April 3rd, 1926 (page xiii). Catalogue of Scotch Seed Potatoes and Seeds on application.

JAMES & GEO. H. MATTHEWS, Harold Wood, Essex. 'Phone Romford 284

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD. NURSERIES CRAWLEY — Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG THE NURSERIES CHISLEHURST, KENT — Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD. BARROW-ON-HUMBER HULL — Weed Destroyers Fertilisers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

1926

PERPETUAL FLOWERING **CARNATIONS**

Our illustrated Catalogue will be sent free on request

C. ENGELMANN LTD. Saffron Walden, Essex.

Water Plants

My New Illustrated Catalogue contains the most complete collection ever offered. Free

PERRY'S Hardy Plant Farm, Enfield Middx.

KING'S ACRE.

SUPERIOR Asparagus Crowns *FOR PRESENT PLANTING.*

Giant Argenteuil & Connover's Colossal

TWO YEARS, 15/- per 100 THREE YEARS, 20/- per 100

PACKED CAREFULLY AND CARRIAGE PAID.

Useful Pamphlet—"ASPARAGUS AND HOW TO GROW IT" Free on Request.

KING'S ACRE NURSERIES LTD., HEREFORD.

Nurseries 140 Acres. AWARDED 90 GOLD MEDALS. Established 1785.

No more white-fly!

This year, let there be no more white-fly. Deal with this pest drastically. Keep greenhouses clean right from the start with XL ALL White-fly Vapour. Refuse imitations. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen and florists.

XL ALL WHITE-FLY VAPOUR

G. H. RICHARDS, LTD. 234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1 Monomark: BCM/XLALL.

R. 108.

Continued from page iii.

ROCK AND ALPINE PLANTS.—Large and varied collection. All pot grown. Packed and carriage paid. Catalogue free.—M. J. PRIGOTT, Duffield, Nr. Derby.

GARDEN NETS.—Protect your Seeds and Buds from Frost and Birds. Netting, strong, small mesh; specially prepared, will not rot, as supplied by us to the Royal Gardens. 25 square yards for 2/6. Any length or width supplied, price in proportion, carr. paid. Cheaper kinds kept. 25 square yards for 1/6. Lists and samples free.—GASSON & SONS, Net Works, Rye. Estab. 127 years.

HIMALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODENDRONS on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and Alpine Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write for Catalogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

CHOICE DAFFODILS.—Write at once for Herbert Chapman's list of CASH BARGAIN LOTS, offered to clear ground. First-class varieties at astonishingly low figures. —Address, HERBERT CHAPMAN, LTD., Rotherside Gardens, Rye, Sussex.

GARDEN NETS. — Best Tanned Heavy, 50 × 4, 25 × 8, 100 × 2yds., £1; ditto, 25 × 2, 5/-; 25 × 4, 10/-; lighter, 50 × 4, 25 × 8, 100 × 2yds., 16/-. Carriage paid, passenger train. Satisfaction guaranteed. New Garden and Tennis Boundary Netting, samples and full particulars from the manufacturers, W. OLIVER ALLEN AND SONS, Net Makers, Porthleven, Cornwall.

WELLS' CATALOGUE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS will be sent post free on application.—W. WELLS AND CO., Merstham, Surrey.

TENNIS COURT BOUNDARY NETS.—Good colour, very strong, specially prepared with strong line at top and bottom throughout, making nets hang square; easy to erect or take away; can be left out in all weathers. 25yds. by 2yds., 16/6; 25yds. by 3yds., 18/6; 25yds. by 4yds., 25/6; carriage paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Iron Standards for same, with strong earth plate, 4d. per foot. Regulation Playing Nets 10/6, 15/6, 18/6, 21/-. Lists and samples free.—GASSON AND SONS, Net Works, Rye. Established 127 years.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING.—Best selected nets, small mesh only supplied. 50yds. long, 4yds. wide, 14/-; 25 x 8yds., 14/-; 100 x 2yds., 14/-; 25 x 4yds., 7/-; 25 x 2yds., 5/-. Any size to order; all sent carriage paid.—W. GOULDING, Walmer Road, South Lowestoft.

PRIMULA JULIÆ.—A real gem, profuse purple flowers, 12 strong plants, 5/-.—MILNE, South Darley, Matlock.

MECONOPSIS SEEDS, five species offered in Clarence Elliott's list.—SIX HILLS NURSERY, Stevenage, Herts.

TUBS FOR SHRUBS. WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 100 prizes. R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. — Price List from A. PEARL, 28, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

SITUATIONS VACANT.

GARDENER AND SON WANTED FOR Sussex, North countryman (preferably Scotsmen), capable of laying out small garden and lawn; no glass. Wife and daughter caretakers when needed. Good cottage. Must have previously been good service.—Apply SIR STEPHEN DEMETRIADI, K.B.E., 41, Hans Place, London, S.W.1.

WANTED 1st MAY, HANDYMAN GARDENER, not over forty. Married. Cottage with garden provided. References required.—MISS WARD, Greystones, Danby, North Yorkshire.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

Try one of
WEBB'S POPULAR COLLECTIONS of Vegetable Seeds. Best quality and value obtainable.
5/6 Collection contains 21 varieties.
8/- " " 30 "
10/6 " " 36 "
11/3 Exhibitor's Collection contains 50 varieties specially for Show purposes. Post free. Contents on request.
WEBB & SONS, The King's Seedsmen, STOURBRIDGE.

WATERER'S GOLD MEDAL RHODODENDRONS, Azaleas, Rare Hardy Shrubs, Alpine and Perennial Plants, Vegetable and Flower Seeds. Scotch grown Seed Potatoes, Asparagus, 3 year, 17/6; 2 year, 12/6 per 100. Catalogue free.—JOHN WATERER, SONS AND CRISP, LIMITED, Twyford, Berks; Bagshot, Surrey; and London.

WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE.—The original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See advert. on back page.

WM. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., Lawrence Road, South Tottenham, N.15.—Conservatories, Winter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

BIRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUNDIALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—MOUSLEY, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

FENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Garden Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE STANLEY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, Surrey.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth Herts.

YORK STONE PAVINGS, crazy or rectangular, rustic copings, steps roughly squared or random shaped, flat bedded wallstones, garden edging, rockery, etc.—SAMUEL JOHNSON AND SON (MIRFIELD), LIMITED, Newgate Stone Works, Mirfield, Yorkshire.

PRIOR'S COLCHESTER ROSES, Fruit Trees, Gladioli, Dahlias, Carnations, Herbaceous. Catalogue containing cheap collections free.—D. PRIOR AND SON, LIMITED, Colchester.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING, small mesh, 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 40yds. by 1yd., 3/-; 40yds. by 2yds., 6/6; 40yds. by 3yds., 9/9. Measured mesh closed. Special Pea Netting supplied. Tennis Nets from 8/-. Carriage Paid. Compare our netting with others. Sports lists and samples free.—GALLOP, Net Manufacturer, Hastings.

WIRE NETTING.—From 2/5 per 50yd. roll. Cheapest House in the Kingdom. Write us for prices. Thousands of rolls stocked.

PEA GUARDS.—Small mesh, 3ft. long, two ends to each dozen. 4/3 dozen. 2 doz. Carriage Paid.

DEFY THE BIRDS.—Rotless Tanned Netting. Small mesh, as supplied by us to the Royal Gardens. In three Qualities. 50 x 1yd., 3/6, 4/-, 5/9; 2yds., 7/-, 8/-, 10/6; 3yds., 10/6, 12/-, 20/3; 4yds., 14/-, 16/-, 27/-; 25 x 8yds., 14/-, 16/-, 27/-. Any size supplied. Carriage paid. Approval. Measured mesh closed.

TENNIS BOUNDARY NETTING.—Lines top and bottom. 25 x 2yds., 15/3; 3yds. 18/3, 4yds., 25/3. Carriage paid. Approval. Standards for fixing to, also Playing Nets, Poles and all requisites supplied.

GARDEN BARROWS.—Full size, 8 spokes. Best value in the kingdom, 24/9. Painted, 28/3.

LAWN MOWERS.—Five Riveted Blades, High Wheels, Brass Bushings. Close Cutting. Highly Finished. Unequalled Value 8in, 23/-; 10in., 24/-; 12in., 25/-; 14in., 30/-. Grass Boxes, 8/6 each. Garden Rollers, 30/.

PEA NETTING.—Tanned, Superior Quality. 4in. mesh, 6ft. wide, 6d. yard. Carriage paid 12yds. and over. Other widths pro rata, prices of smaller meshes on application. —E. B. HAWTHORN, LIMITED, Dept. E., Shrewsbury.

BARR'S FLOWER & VEGETABLE SEEDS, of finest selected strains and tested growth, also the best Scotch and Irish grown, hand-picked Seed Potatoes.

BARR'S HARDY PERENNIALS, ALPINES, ROCK PLANTS, AQUATICS, CLIMBERS, TALL and DWARF FLAG IRISES, etc., for Spring planting.

BARR'S LILIES, GLADIOLI, DAHLIAS, CANNAS, MONTBRETIAS, ANEMONES, BEGONIAS, TUBEROSES, TIGRIDIAS, etc., for Spring planting. Catalogues free.—BARR AND SONS, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are now famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx, and perpetual habit. Illustrated plant list now ready. New Seed, now ready, hand fertilised, 2/6 and 5/- packets.—J. DOUGLAS, Great Bookham, Surrey.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial: Variety in Vegetables ..	213
Notes on Tulips in the Garden	214
Early Spring in an East Yorkshire Garden	215
Shrubs for Walls	216
Notes of the Week	218–219
Plantain Lilies, Ideal Plants for Shady Positions; Reflections on the Origin of Varieties; Arsenic in Apples; Two New Shrubs Worthy of Notice; Interesting Early Flowers.	
Hardy Heaths	220
Some Advantages of Pot-grown Roses ..	222
Beneficial Insects	222
The Scope of the Garden Frame ..	223
Fungicides for Present Use	224
Hints on Mushroom Culture	225
Correspondence	225–226
Plants from Seed; The Fifty Best Saxifrages; Staking of Plants; Red Sage; A Selection of Potatoes.	
Garden Technique	227–228
Polyanthuses for Next Year; Columbines; Wild Heather and Bracken Fern; Forming and Planting a Herb Garden; The Making and Utilisation of Celery Trenches; The Onion Fly Maggot; Damping Off; Pruning Plumbago and Bougainvillea; Spring and Early Summer Treatment of Autumn-laid Turves; Patching Lawns.	
Book Review	228

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL DELPHINIUMS and ROSES. Send a postcard for our catalogue

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI, Chrysanthemums, Dahlias and Border Carnations.—Our stock includes many new and meritorious varieties. List post free on application.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

NEW AND RARE HARDY HEATHERS Alpine and Herbaceous Plants. Catalogues on application.—MAXWELL AND BEALE, Broadstone, Dorset.

SUTTON'S SEEDS
For Lawns and Sports Grounds.
Get your Lawn ready now for the coming season.
A note to our Advisory Department giving details of the condition of the turf will bring, by return post, a suggested course of treatment for its Renovation and the Destruction of Weeds Worms, etc.
SUTTON AND SONS, THE KING'S SEEDSMEN, READING.

DOBBIE'S PLANT CATALOGUE now ready. Free to all readers. Please mention THE GARDEN when writing —DOBBIE AND CO., LIMITED, Edinburgh.

BATH'S SELECT SEEDS AND PLANTS.—New Illustrated Catalogue of choice Vegetable and Flower Seeds and Plants is now ready, and will be sent, post free, on application.—(Dept. E), B. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

HARDY PLANTS, ROSES AND TREES TREES. Revised catalogue now ready. Free on application to THOMPSON AND MORGAN, Ipswich.

GARDEN NETS.—Best tanned, small mesh, 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 25yds. by 8yds., 6/-; 25yds. by 4yds., 8/-. Carr. Paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Tennis nets from 10s. Special nets for tennis boundary. Pea training nets. Lists and samples free.—G. JARRETT, Netmaker, Rye.

LAXTON'S ASPARAGUS PLANTS, 4 years old, 20/- 100; 3 years, 15/- 100; 2 years, 10/- 100.—LAXTON BROTHERS' Nurseries, Bedford.

LAXTONS' POT STRAWBERRIES for present planting. Will fruit this year. "The Duke," "Royal Sovereign" and "King George," 30/- 100, 4/- doz.—LAXTON BROTHERS, Bedford.

A NAIL WRITES WEBSTER'S METAL LABELS. They can't fade. List 20 sizes.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

ROCK PLANTS, best varieties, inexpensive, list free.—MARION GLEDSTANES, Fardross, Clogher, Northern Ireland

PRIMULAS, HARDY.—Red Hugh, Scarlet; Julia, purple; pulverulenta, crimson; Bulleyana, yellow; frondosa, lavender; capitata, blue. 6 splendid plants, 4/6.—MILNE, South Darley, Matlock.

AURICULAS.—Choice, 12 splendid plants, from pots, 7/6.—MILNE, South Darley, Matlock.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 183. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70 Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

LOOK ! TANNED GARDEN NETS.—All orders despatched same day. 25 yards by 1 yard, 2/-; 25 by 2, 4/-; 25 by 3, 6/-. Odd netting for bushes, 6lbs. for 2/6. All carriage paid. Any sizes supplied. Also Tennis Boundary Nets. —MOORE & CO., Net Works, Rye.

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES.—Per stone: Duke of York, 2/3; Witchhill, 2/6; Express, 2/2; Epicure 1/10; Eclipse, 2/-; Abundance, 2/2; Great Scot 2/3; Majestic, 2/4; King Edward, 1/10; Kerr's Pink, 1/10; Bishop, 2/3, etc. Shallots, Red, 8d. lb. Amateur's Guide of Vegetable and Flower Seeds, free.—TILLIE WHYTE & CO., 12, Melbourne Place, Edinburgh.

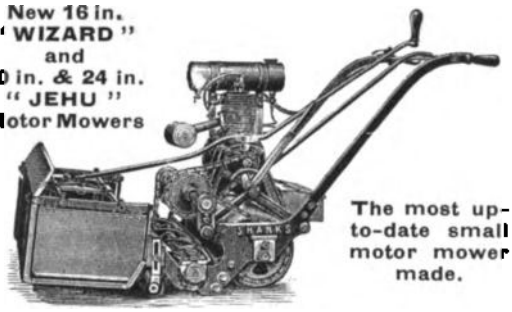
GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 6/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

Lawn Maintenance and Lawn Perfection

are the keynote of Great Britain's famous gardens. They are the legacy of the centuries—the imprint of Time and Mowing efficiency. Nearly 100 years of experiment and improvement go to the making of

New 16 in. "WIZARD" and 20 in. & 24 in. "JEHU" Motor Mowers



The most up-to-date small motor mower made.

SHANKS'S LAWN MOWERS

unrivalled to-day for **perfect working, durability,** and **simplicity of design.**

First in the R.H.S. Motor Mower Trials, 1925.

The "CALEDONIA"
Lightest, Cheapest, and Strongest Roller Mower in the World.

ALEX. SHANKS & SON, Ltd., Dens Iron Works, Arbroath, Scotland; and Bush Lane House, Cannon Street, London, E.C.4

Put THIS into your garden to get MORE OUT!

A nutritious plant food.

PRICE'S COMPLETE GARDEN FERTILIZER

Ready for use—Prepared by expert horticulturists—Gives perfect nourishment to all plants—Promotes strong, healthy growth — Does *not* exhaust soil fertility—Cannot be washed out by rain — Keeps any length of time. . . . . .

Each 7-lb. container—price 2/6—sufficient for about 40 square yards of garden. Cannot be washed out by the rain. Keeps any length of time. Ready for immediate use.

If your dealer cannot supply you, send postcard direct to—
PRICE'S (Fertiliser Dept.),
Belmont Works,
Battersea, LONDON, S.W.11.

PRICE'S PATENT CANDLE CO. Ltd., Battersea, London, S.W.11

CHRYSANTHEMUMS

We guarantee to give every satisfaction with the following selections.

		Per doz.
12 of the best new Japanese (1924) varieties	.. ..	15-
12 " " standard " "	..	5-
12 " " incurved " "	..	5-
12 " " decorative double varieties	.. ..	4-
12 " " singles	.. ..	4-

The above are for flowering inside from October until Xmas, and the following for flowering in the garden from August to October.

		Per doz.
12 of the best distinct double varieties	.. ..	7 6
12 " " standard " "	.. ..	4-
12 " " single varieties	.. ..	4-

PERPETUAL-FLOWERING CARNATIONS

We have now for immediate delivery a large and varied stock ready for potting on, 12 of the best varieties ex 2-in. pots, 10/-. Carriage paid if cash with order. 50 in 25 varieties, 37/6, or 100 in 50 varieties, 70/-.

Catalogue or Novelty List sent post free from—

KEITH LUXFORD & CO.

Sheering Nurseries, HARLOW, ESSEX
and at Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

BRITISH CARNATION SOCIETY

THE
Thirty-First Floral Meeting
WILL BE HELD ON
THURSDAY, APRIL 15th
AT THE
Royal Horticultural Society's Hall
— *12 noon to 6 p.m.* —

Greatly increased prizes and new postal class.
Schedule on application.

P. F. BUNYARD, Hon. Sec., 57, Kidderminster Rd., Croydon

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED

by "ALPHOL"
Sample 14 lb., 2/8 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Aides, Lawn Improvers, "Verinest" Seeds, etc., to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

FERTILISERS.

LAWNS, 20/-; FRUIT TREES, VINES, 18/6; GENERAL GARDEN USE, 17/-; WORM KILLER, 19/-
Per cwt., carriage paid. Also all other fertilisers.

HY. RICHARDSON & CO., Skeldergate Bridge Works, YORK

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then, together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices:—

Tins 10d. and 1/6
and in Branded and Sealed Bags:
7 lbs. - 2/6 14 lbs. - 4/-
28 lbs. - 10/- 56 lbs. - 18/-
112 lbs. - 32/-

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the T[illegible]

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers etc. **STRATFORD, LONDO[illegible]**

Digitized by Google

BORDER CARNATIONS & ALLWOODII

Plant EARLY for best results.

Border Carnations.

Our stocks of the best hardy Garden varieties are superb. Vigorous sturdy stock from 3½in. pots, which cannot fail to give the best results, the undermentioned collections represent the best value obtainable.

CARRIAGE PAID for cash.

6 distinct varieties ..	3/6
12 ,, ,, ..	16/-
25 Plants in good variety ..	30/-

ALLWOODII.

The ever popular hardy plant, suitable for every garden purpose. Will beautify the border, the lawn vase or window box; is perfectly hardy and the easiest plant to cultivate. New and improved varieties have been introduced, of which the undermentioned CARRIAGE PAID COLLECTIONS ARE MAINLY COMPOSED.

6 distinct varieties	5/6
12 ,, ,, ...	10/6
25 Plants in good variety ..	21/-

CATALOGUE OF ALL CARNATIONS FOR GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE sent post free on request to—

Allwood Bros

The leading Carnation Raisers and Specialists in the World.

Dept. 4, Haywards Heath, Sussex

W. TRESEDER, Ltd.

The Nurseries ∴ CARDIFF

DAHLIAS

Our British Empire Exhibit of Dahlias during 1924 and 1925 was considered a feature of the Horticultural Section at Wembley.

ASK FOR A CATALOGUE.

IS it SEEDS, TINY SEEDLINGS or BUSHY FIBROUS ROOTED PLANTS? For HERBACEOUS BORDER, SUMMER & AUTUMN BEDDING, or GREENHOUSE? YES! WE are actual GROWERS.

TRY US! We pay Carriage.

Full and Descriptive Catalogue ready now, and Special List of Bedding Plants will be ready in late April.

STORRIE & STORRIE,

Glencarse, PERTHSHIRE, SCOTLAND.

NEW CHRYSANTHEMUMS

Clean healthy Plants free from rust, aphis, etc.

FOR GREENHOUSE FLOWERING: 12 New Exhibition Japanese of 1925, 20/-; 12 Exhibition Japs, including 1924 sorts, 8/-; 12 Incurved varieties, 8/-; 12 Decorative sorts, including one 1925 novelty, 8/-; 12 Decorative Single varieties, 4/-

FOR THE GARDEN: 12 Aug.-Sept flowering varieties, including one novelty 1925, 8/-; 12 Sept.-Oct. flowering sorts, 4/-; 12 Aug.-Sept. single varieties, 4/-

The above three dozens can be supplied now, but must be protected until the end of April.

Pelargoniums (Show and Regal), from 3in. pots: 12 good varieties, 9/-; newer sorts, 12/- & 15/- doz.

Zonal Pelargoniums (Geraniums), from 3in. pots: 12 fine single varieties, 7/6; 12 double and semi-double varieties, 7/6; 6 Cactus Geraniums, 4/-; 6 Ivy-leaved Geraniums, 4/-, including Sir Percy Blakeney

Dahlias: 12 Cactus varieties (pot roots) - 6/-

Plumbago capensis (blue), 1/- ea.; (alba), 1/- ea.

Post free for orders over 5/-, others 6d. extra.

Catalogue free on application.

J. W. COLE & SON

Westwood Nurseries . Peterborough

ALPINE PLANTS, BORDER PLANTS, CHOICE FLOWERING SHRUBS, MINIATURE CONIFERS, HARDY HEATHS, HARDY FERNS, CLIMBERS. One of the oldest, and perhaps the finest, all-round collection in the country.

We grow some 4,000 kinds of all the best outdoor garden subjects, including such items as 100 kinds of Michaelmas Daisies, 100 kinds of Campanulas, 50 kinds of Hellebores, 200 kinds of Saxifrages, etc.

Our Catalogue of these is beautifully illustrated, shows how to build a rock wall and water lily pool, and tells about soils, etc., etc. It makes a fine reference book on plants. It is sent post free for 1s. which may be deducted from orders.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED.
SPECIMENS NAMED.
ADVICE GIVEN FREE.

J. STORMONTH & SON,

Hardy Plant Specialists,

KIRKBRIDE, by CARLISLE.

FLOWERS and VEGETABLES

Flowers and Vegetables will not give of their best unless they receive a dressing of Nitrate of Soda.

The difference can be seen in one week.

Write for pamphlets, entitled, "Successful Gardens for Every Amateur," "The Manuring of Orchards and Fruit Trees," supplied gratis and post free by THE CHILEAN NITRATE COMMITTEE, Friars House, New Broad Street, London, E.C. 2.

Nitrate of Soda

RICHARDSON'S DAFFODILS

Gold Medal and Special Congratulations from the Council of the R.H.S., March 23rd, 1926

FIRST CLASS CERTIFICATE—

Narcissus Glorious and Beersheba

AWARDS OF MERIT—

Alroi, Fairy Circle, Mitylene, Loyalist

1925 AWARDS—

2 GOLD MEDALS 17 FIRST PRIZES

LONDON & BIRMINGHAM SHOWS

NEW CATALOGUES NOW READY
— FREE ON APPLICATION —

J. LIONEL RICHARDSON

Prospect Gardens, Waterford, IRELAND

SWEET PEAS AND HOW TO EXCEL WITH THEM By HORACE WRIGHT, 9d. net, by post 11d. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

THE CULTURE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS. By W. WELLS, 2/6 net; cloth, 3/6 net; by post 6d. extra. —Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

BROOMS for NATURALISING

One year transplanted seedlings of the various Daisy Hill Hybrids of Andreanus, in nice condition—and April is the best Month for planting. Planted now will make a display in Spring, 1927.

20/- per 100 160/- per 1,000

Special prices for larger quantities.

T. SMITH, Daisy Hill Nursery, NEWRY

SNAPDRAGONS—*for gorgeous massing*

SIMPSON'S SUPER-SEED

13 *Awards of Merit* and 10 *Highly Commended*, 1920.
5 *Awards of Merit*, 1922, *in pots at R.H.S. Wisley Trials.*

Send for free illustrated Seed List G, offering seeds of 42 varieties of Snapdragons at 6d. 1/- and 2/6 per packet, with full range of Vegetable and Flower seeds of established merit.

TALL.—Esme, light pink; **Monarch,** crimson; **Rose King,** deep rose; **The King,** orange scarlet, white tube; **Yellow King,** yellow.

MEDIUM.—Afterglow, orange scarlet; **Appleby Matthews,** orange terra-cotta, white tube; **Aurore,** fiery terra-cotta; **Charm,** rose pink; **Empress,** crimson; **Estelle,** apricot salmon, suffused pink; **Fascination,** light pink; **Golden Gem,** yellow; **Lady Roberts,** primrose; **Mrs. R. F. Felton,** bright orange-scarlet; **Roseum Superbum,** soft rose pink; **Sybil Eckford,** apricot pink and cream, white tube; **The Fawn,** peach pink, white tube; **Victory,** salmon terra-cotta; **White Queen,** white. A further three varieties can be supplied in Spring-sown Plants.

AUTUMN SOWN. **STRONG PLANTS FROM BOXES.** Delivery about Mid-April from cold frames, 2/3 per doz. (if less than 12 of one variety at 3/- per doz., not less than 6 of any one variety named), 25 or more of any one variety at 15/- per 100. Carriage extra, see below.

SPRING SOWN. **STRONG PLANTS FROM BOXES.** Delivery early in May hardened off. 1/6 per doz. (if less than 12 of one variety at 2/- per doz., not less than 6 of any one variety named), 25 or more of any one variety at 10/6 per 100.

Special rates for cash with order (which must be added). Carriage, box and packing, 24 plants 1/-, more than 24, 1/6. When cash does not accompany order, box, packing and rail charges are charged at cost.

W. H. SIMPSON & SONS, *Super-Seed Specialists,* BIRMINGHAM

Wise gardeners order NOW because stocks are not unlimited.

Digitized by Google

SEEDSMEN BY APPOINTMENT

GRASS SEED

ALL lawns should be re-conditioned immediately if the turf and surface are to be in good condition for the coming season, consequently, preparations should be made in advance, and all the required materials—Grass Seed, Fertiliser, Worm Killer, etc., assembled. For particulars how to renovate your lawn make a new lawn, diagrams and instructions, write to-day for Carters Booklet on "Lawns and Sports Grounds," post free on application. Fill in coupon below :—

PLEASE SEND, POST FREE, BOOKLET
"LAWNS & SPORTS GROUNDS."
M.....
.....
G. .....

SERVICE AND ADVICE
Carters will answer any question in regard to the improvement or up-keep of your Turf.

Carters
TESTED SEEDS

Grass Seed and Turf Specialists,
RAYNES PARK, LONDON, S.W.20

BY APPOINTMENT.

FERTILIZERS FOR THE GARDEN

Tomatoes cannot be grown without the aid of Fertilizers. To keep the plant healthy, to swell the fruit and to hasten maturity, use

FISONS' SPECIAL

TOMATO FERTILIZER

Price per cwt. **28/-** Carr. paid.

Illustrated Catalogue of Fertilizers for all Garden Crops post free from

Joseph Fison & Co., Ltd.
Ipswich.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

DAVID SWAIN & CO. ∴ *Horticultural Builders*

SPRING, 1926

TELEPHONE: NORTH 2807.

GARDEN FRAMES ALL SIZES.
GLASSHOUSES RENOVATED.
REPAIRS AND REPAINTING.

HEATING.

WRITE for LISTS and ESTIMATES.

Two-Light Garden Frame.

Range of Houses.

101, SUSSEX ROAD, HOLLOWAY, LONDON, N.7

BEGONIAS

AWARDED 85 GOLD MEDALS.

In superb quality and extra large tubers for Greenhouse or Bedding.

Doubles, in 6 colours, flowers like large Roses and Camellias	6/- per doz.	42/- per 100
Doubles, in mixed colours	5/- " "	35/- " "
Singles, in 6 colours, very large fine shaped flowers	4/6 " "	30/- " "
Singles, in mixed colours	3/6 " "	24/- " "
" Frilled or Crested, in 6 colours	5/- " "	35/- " "
" " in mixed colours	4/- " "	28/- " "

Collection of 36 large tubers—12 Doubles, 12 Singles, 12 Frilled Singles—14/-.
Collection of 12 named hanging basket Begonias, 3 each 4 sorts, 25/-. Excellent value.
Post free on orders of 10/- and over.

Send for FREE Catalogue of Named Double Begonias for Exhibition, Basket varieties, Cyclamen, Gloxinias, Polyanthus, Phlox, Herbaceous Plants, etc.

DELPHINIUMS

Gained 17 Awards of Merit at R.H.S. Delphinium Trials at Wisley in 1925.

The ONLY selection to receive in 1924 and 1925 the R.H.S. Gold Medal, the highest award obtainable.

Plant NOW. We have pleasure in offering the following Collections which are specially good value, in strong ground roots, which will make a fine show of bloom this year.

COLLECTION A, 12 extra good sorts	65/-	**COLLECTION D,** 12 good sorts	22/-
" **B,** 12 very choice sorts	42/-	" **E,** 12 average sorts	15/-
" **C,** 12 fine sorts	30/-	CATALOGUE FREE, apply	

BLACKMORE & LANGDON - - - BATH

A Prolific Garden

cannot be maintained without the aid of some kind of manure. Stable manure is now scarce, and is bulky to cart and spread on the land. No artificial will altogether take the place of natural manure, but a good well-balanced fertiliser, used during the growing season, is a wonderful aid in producing high-class garden crops. No fertiliser is cleaner, more effective, or economical than

PEARSON'S CHEMICAL MANURE

which is compounded from the purest chemicals. It contains every element necessary to plant life which is not present in any ordinary garden soil. A glance at the analysis will prove that this manure is as cheap as any on the market, while nothing can beat it in ease of application and results.

ANALYSIS

PEARSON'S "CHEMICAL MANURE"
(ARTIFICIALLY COMPOUNDED)

Contains at least 11·79 *Phosphates soluble and insoluble;* 6·68 *Potash;* 6·44 *Nitrogen* (*Ammonia Nitrogen* 4·56, *Nitric* 1·88).

Per cwt. 25/-, ½ cwt. 13/- carr. paid. ¼ cwt. 7/-, 14 lb. 4/6, 7 lb. 2/9, carr. forward.

Procure Now for Coming Season.

J. R. Pearson & Sons, Ltd.
The Nurseries, Lowdham, Notts.
(Established 1762)

Digitized by Google

VOL. XC.—No. 2838. APRIL 10, 1926

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s 4d. Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2. *Offices for Advertisements*: 6–11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

VARIETY IN VEGETABLES

THE fact that at the French market the other day I was able to get what the French call mangetout suggests to me that I might again draw attention to the fact that we do not have sufficient variety in our vegetables. Last time, I suggested that we cooked vegetables in a dull fashion, thereby bringing down on my innocent head the wrath of several readers who apparently live for cabbage boiled railway fashion and cut in slabs. This time I shall try suggesting a few out-of-the-way vegetables and salads, and, lest I be accused of advocating plants that are not obtainable here, let me point out that in every case seed can be bought in this country from our own seedsmen. Also, I should state that these suggestions are for additions to our vegetable supply, not as alternatives. No one knows better than I do the succulence of a dish of home-grown peas, or the satisfaction gained from a generous spoonful or two of "chapped neaps."

Few people probably know what mangetout is. It is the French sugar pea, with a pod flatter and wider than the ordinary pea. The novelty about it is that one eats the pod and the pea inside it. The pod is chopped in coarse slices, boiled in the usual fashion and then eaten, after being mixed with a generous lump of butter and a little sugar. The succulence of this dish is wonderful, and, in addition, it is economical. Incidentally, too few people realise how pleasant is hot beetroot cut in cubes with a cream sauce poured over it. But I am off on cooking again. Another excellent vegetable for cooking is the Couve Tronchuda, or Portugal cabbage. In this the leaves have prominent white midribs, which are used in the same way as seakale.

Two plants that are not quite hardy are the aubergine, or egg plant, and sweet corn, or maize. The former is a solanum and in this country requires a greenhouse for real success. It is eaten either fried in slices or stuffed, and is useful, as it comes in early autumn, when our own summer vegetables are inclined to be tough and the winter supply is not fully advanced. The sweet corn is quite easily managed if it is started in the greenhouse and planted out when it is about 18ins. high. This is also a good early autumn addition to our vegetable supply. The cobs should be picked when the seeds are just on the point of turning from green to yellow. It is very excellent, but messy, when eaten like you play a mouth organ. Warning: it only requires boiling for a very few minutes, otherwise the skins of the seeds become tough.

It is in salads that we as a nation particularly lack variety. For instance, few people grow corn salad, what the French call mâche, a very hardy and useful salad for the autumn and winter. The seed should be sown in early autumn, when a plentiful supply of the tender leaves will be available throughout the winter. Chicory is not so uncommon, but still it should be grown in every garden, for it is not only good cooked, but also as a salad. I have found that most people in this country do not start blanching it early enough, the consequence being that the outside leaves are inclined to be coarse and so a part of the plant is wasted. The common chicory, what the French call Barbe-de-Capucin, an attractive name, on the other hand, is uncommon. Its curious beard-like growth is, perhaps, against it, but when blanched it is excellent in a salad and not so tough as Chicorée frisée (endive) is inclined to be. We are also inclined to neglect the simple herbs and leaves that are so popular on the Continent and mean so much, not only in French cooking, but also in salads. Sweet bay leaves give an excellent flavour to a stew, while tarragon and chervil are, to my mind, a necessity in a salad. A teaspoonful of chopped tarragon and half the quantity of chervil add a piquancy that is often lacking, particularly as the usual vinegar of the malt variety is harsh and tastes of nothing in particular. Not only are these common herbs rarely grown in the ordinary garden, but they are difficult to find in shops.

We are so good in our peas and beans and sprouts that one might imagine that we had a sufficiency of good vegetables, but even the best palls if it is seen every day. It is surprising how a slight change makes one appreciate our good standard vegetables all the more. I think it is the constant change rather than the quality that makes one realise the importance of vegetables as an article of diet on the Continent, that and their excellent habit of having a separate vegetable course. I can strongly recommend ringing the changes in our own home grown supply; for one thing it would save an immense amount of money being sent abroad in payment for imported tinned vegetables.

E. H. M. C.

AMONG THE ARTICLES IN OUR NEXT ISSUE WILL BE:

DWARF CONIFERS, by W. Dallimore.

SUGGESTIONS FOR SUMMER BEDDING, by D. Joad.

PRUNING OF TREES AND SHRUBS, by J. Hill.

IF YOU LIKE "THE GARDEN," REMEMBER TO TELL YOUR FRIENDS ABOUT IT.

Digitized by Google

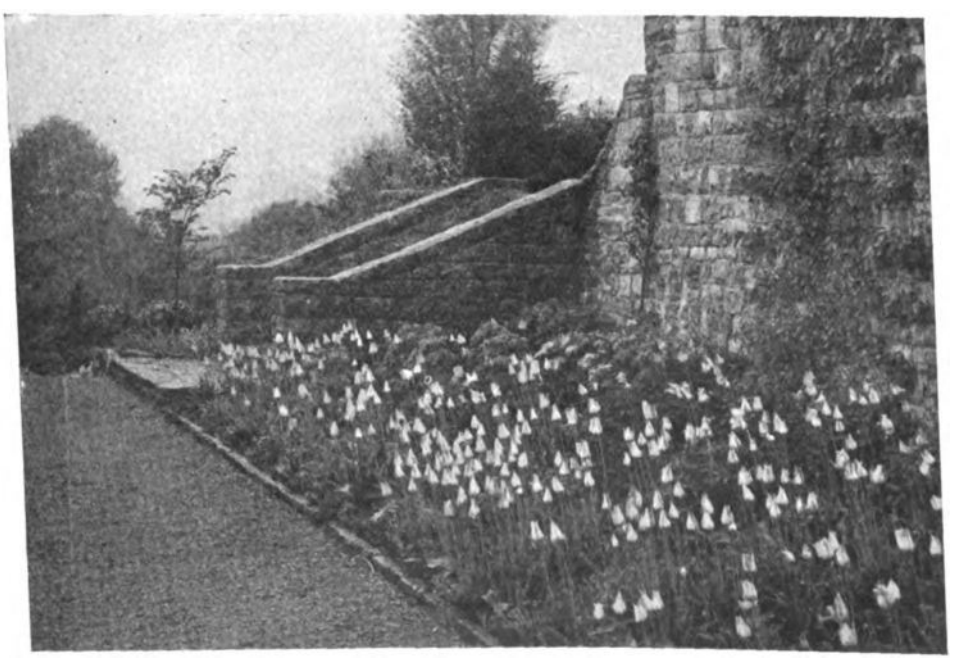
NOTES ON TULIPS IN THE GARDEN

BY THE LATE REV. JOSEPH JACOB.

WITH THE APPROACH OF THE TULIP SEASON READERS MAY LIKE TO COMPARE THEIR IDEAS OF PLANTING WITH THOSE WRITTEN BY ONE WHO WAS AN ACKNOWLEDGED EXPERT.

EXCEPT for a very few, a mere handful of enthusiasts, who grow tulips for show and who are, as it were, a law unto themselves in their methods of culture and in their aims, tulips are valued and wanted for garden decoration. When they are used in herbaceous borders it must of necessity be in the form of clumps; their number and size will depend upon what room there is among the other occupants and the taste of the planter. Three practical considerations must have weight, whatever is decided upon, if the best results are to be obtained: (1) It should be remembered that tulips should be lifted every year. From my own experience, and from all that I am told by others, I am quite convinced that this is far and away the best plan to adopt with all tulips, and that it is only in exceptional cases that a clump is as good the second time of blooming as it was the first, if it has been left in the ground all the time. In very light soils and in places where there are not many slugs, tulips may remain undisturbed for years, but the size of the flower will be very different from what it would have been if the bulbs had been taken up every year.

AN EFFECTIVE BED OF THE GORGEOUS COLOURED PRIDE OF HAARLEM.



ANY BORDER GIVEN OVER TO SUMMER FLOWERING PERENNIALS CAN BE MADE BRIGHT IN SPRING BY A FLOURISHING COLONY OF GOLDEN CROWN TULIPS.

(2) It should be borne in mind that slugs are fond both of the bulbs and the leaves, and that it would, in consequence, only be courting disaster to plant in parts where it is known these little pests are rife. Nothing looks worse than damaged leaves. Beautiful flowers with miserable foliage look like rings on dirty fingers. Should there be occasions when it is necessary for any reason to make the attempt, traps must be set until the slugs are conquered. (3) The question of backgrounds is most important. A dark hedge or foliage, such as that of Cupressus Lawsoniana, demands bright and light colours, and not such dark varieties as Fra Angelico or Faust. A hedge which will be clothed with fresh green leaves at blooming time may have anything put in front of it. Dark or light, bright or dull shades will be set off equally well. A brick wall spoils many reds, but is the very thing for all mauve and purple shades, and also for yellows. But surroundings must not be lost sight of. If the tulip clumps can rise from a mass of green, so that a large proportion of the bed is covered, their general effect will be all the better. Where collections of perennial phloxes or of Michaelmas daisies are grown in beds by themselves, they might very suitably have tulips planted between them and an early summer show obtained as well as an autumn one. And now a few words about magnified clumps, or, in other words, beds. A large mass of colour is always effective, and, although scoffers may say that to be fascinated by it indicates a bizarre taste, I must candidly own up to much more than a sneaking liking for the barbaric splendour of, say, two hundred Farncombe Sanders, Pride of Haarlem or Petrus Hondius in one big blaze. A break away for this purpose is the branching Mons. S. Mottet.

To begin with, it opens white and ends off rose, much in the same way that Picotee does, so it is never quite the same two days running. Again, its blooms are of varied heights and sizes, so it is much less stiff in a mass than an ordinary variety. A round bed of it, in my garden was greatly admired on account of its graceful appearance. I have found it to be a good laster. To get a first-rate show, only *large* bulbs must be planted, and the soil in which they are to grow must be *rich*. The following are some suggestions for beds:

(1) De Wet and Cardinal Rampollo, mixed.
(2) Prince of Austria (early)
(3) Scarlet Mammoth (mid-season)
(4) General de Wet (early, orange)
(5) Millet (crimson Darwin, late)
(6) Mons. S. Mottet (branching late)
(7) Marksman (late)
(8) Electra, Erguste, Euterpe, Gudin, Dream, Bleu Aimable, Salomon

Digitized by Google

and Duchess of Hohenberg (all lavenders or mauves), with a *very few* dark flowers, such as Viking, Moralis, Jubilee and Faust here and there among them.

(9) Suzon, L'Ingénue, Sophrosyne, Maiden's Blush, Fanny, Flamingo and Mrs. Cleveland (all some shade of pink), with a few tall, smoky tinted varieties such as Remembrance, La Tristesse and Ronald Gunn.

(10) An early variety, such as Vermilion Brilliant, planted alternately with a late cottage or Darwin—if a red, say Eclipse or William Pitt. As soon as it is over the early variety must be cut off at ground level: thus two displays are made, and each can be varied to suit individual tastes. The early variety should be a cheap one, as it has to be sacrificed, and should be as early a one as possible.

(11) A higgledy-piggledy mixture of a dwarf-growing kind with a taller one—say The Fawn and Mrs. Kerrell, Prince Albert and Golden Bronze, Isabella with Picotee, Golden Crown with Mrs. Moon, and Inglescombe Yellow with Ellen Willmott.

(12) Small bed of the dwarf yellow and white Dasystemon (species).

(13) Entire beds of broken tulips mixed together, if the bed is large enough. They are not so effective if there are only a few.

(14) Entire beds of a mixture of Darwins and cottage varieties. I like this better than a bed of Darwins alone.

The above suggestions it will be noted are samples of what may be done with tulips alone. If notes are made at the time of flowering of what strikes us in the gardens we visit, it is an easy matter to expand the above list to any extent.

EARLY SPRING in an EAST YORKSHIRE GARDEN

THIS INTERESTING ARTICLE SHOWS THE VALUE OF KEEN GARDEN OBSERVATION WHICH ALL GARDENERS SHOULD PRACTISE.

THE Christmas rose, Helleborus niger, usually the first winter flower to be noticeable and well out by Christmas, did not come into flower until well into January, along with the green-flowered British species, H. viridus. Snowdrops, S. nivalis, were noted in flower on January 27th, three weeks later than 1925. They grow and flower very freely, revelling in the open poor soil in or near the roots of box, euonymus, privet and other evergreens and also where the ground is sucked pretty dry by tree roots. This is a hint that might be acted on by readers who find difficulty in establishing this welcome, if rather "icy" cold white flowered species. The position is one that might also be worth trying for some of the southern European or Eastern bulbs, such as bulbocodiums, tulip species, etc., that may possibly flower once and then disappear, probably owing to damp conditions that you never find where box and many other evergreens keep the soil well drained and always open. The double snowdrop, S. nivalis fl. pl. comes into flower much later. A small group of Iris histrioides which has been in its present position for some years, produced its very lovely short stemmed flowers from February 2nd onwards, fourteen days later. I. stylosa commenced about the middle of the month and I. reticulata on the 28th, curiously a week earlier than the previous year, producing a magnificent lot of flowers which, unfortunately, have hit on rather a bad spell, high winds followed by frost and snow on March 3rd and 4th, which will, I am afraid, hurry them over.

THE PRETTY DEEP BLUE ANEMONE BLANDA.

CROCUS VERSICOLOR, ONE OF THE LATEST TO FLOWER.

Daphne Mezereum and D. M. alba, along with Jasminum nudiflorum, are surely among the loveliest of easy shrubs for winter flowering. Although a little later than usual, they have been magnificent this year. D. M. alba especially, with its long spikes covered with white scented flowers. It seems strange that this shrub, which, with ordinary care, thrives even in town gardens, is not more freely planted, not only in private gardens but in public parks, in which, in most instances, early flowering shrubs and flowers seem to be totally neglected. My daphnes are all on their own roots, mostly being self-sown in various parts of the garden, no doubt with the assistance of birds, which only too readily strip the seed berries off. If it is possible to cross this species with D. Cneorum, some hybrids of garden

Digitized by Google

value might result, as they do not bloom at the same period it would be necessary to bring the D. Cneorum into flower earlier inside for purposes of cross-pollination.

The great joy has been in the lovely crocus species, which have been fine, and especially so in the last few days of February, when, due to milder weather conditions, after the winter hold up, they came out with a rush. Not a single species ventured to flower in January, the first appearance being C. Sieberi, on February 5th, with its dainty and always welcome lilac blue flowers, four weeks later than in 1925. C. Imperatii, from the mountains near Naples, the finest of all the crocus family, was in bud on February 7th, but not fully opened until February 18th, six weeks later than last year. It is as lovely in bud, with its large, fine buff ground, darkly feathered outer leaves, as when fully opened out on sunny days and showing its beautiful soft lavender purple inner leaves. My clump of this species is the result of three bulbs which were planted in 1916 in the position that they at present occupy in the garden. C. candidus is a species from Asia Minor, with pretty white flowers with yellow base when fully opened and with the back of the outer segments stippled with a purplish blue. It began flowering on February 10th, or three weeks later. The bulbs were obtained in 1916 and placed in a portion of the island moraine and numberless seedlings have come up all round. The yellow-flowered var. sub-flavus, is also alongside and is usually a fortnight or three weeks later in making its appearance. On February 12th mice commenced to eat down to the ground clumps of the yellow garden crocus. Traps were set, but only resulted in odd long-tailed field-mice and a single pigmy shrew being taken, and the eating down continued in all parts of the garden until a hard frost set in.

C. Tomasinianus flowered from February 18th, fourteen days later. This is probably the most useful of the early flowering species. A native of Dalmatia, it is an easy doer in our gardens, it seeds freely, perhaps too freely if among precious plants. Its groups of flowers are an outstanding feature in the garden, especially if you have the more robust form, with ashen grey outer segments to the perianth, intermingled with those that have a grey base and lovely deep lavender darker flushed upper segments. They are then quite as lovely in bud as when fully opened out. It stands unsettled weather conditions quite well and flowers over a long period. C. susianus, with its yellow dark purple feathered outer leaves and brilliant golden yellow lovely star shaped flowers when fully opened out in the sun, came into flower on February 20th, a week earlier than in 1925, as did also C. Korolkowi, a dainty, but rather fragile small flowered species from Turkestan, having fuscous brown outer leaves and brilliant yellow star-shaped flowers. A delicate little species received as C. heufellianus, has dainty blue lilac rounded flowers, slightly tinted yellow at the base inside, with orange stigma. One variety of this has the outer leaves darkly feathered. The last two species to appear are: (1) the so-called Scotch crocus, C. versicolor, which grows wild in the Riviera (and not in Scotland); it is one of the Imperati group and the usual white flowers, with the outer petals feathered deep purple, is one of the hardiest, prettiest and easiest of the crocus species; (2) C. biflorus of gardens, according to Bowles probably a seedling form of C. versicolor; it is a hardy and free growing species, increasing very freely, too freely for some positions, opens its flowers in masses whenever the sun blinks out, and is very attractive to bees.

Mild windy weather, with more frequent sun, brought many other plants into flower towards the end of February, among them being the pretty deep blue Anemone blanda, a fine lot of A. triloba, including white, rose and some lovely deep blue flowered self-sown seedlings, and one with very large green bracts, much larger than the blue petals at first, but eventually the blue petals just about got equal with them. The dwarf daffodils, Narcissus minimus and N. nanus, which come into flower year after year, some of the latter from under the shade of good sized plants of Acantholimon glumaceum and A. venustum, such positions as I noticed some bulbous and other plants occupying in hot positions in the Sierra Nevada. One of the prettiest of the fumitories is Corydalis cava alba, with beautiful white flowers which, when fully developed, look not unlike a white-flowered orchis spike at a distance. Primula marginata, in two forms is in full flower, with its fine powdered serrated leaves and rosy pink flowers, one variety having a much more prominent yellow eye. Other primulas are trying to show, including the large Italian P. Palinuri, which I had had outside for some years.

An exceedingly pretty plant for peaty soil in a shaded position is Synthyris reniformis, which is now carrying its lovely bright pale blue flower spikes, to which the shapely dark green foliage provides a pleasant foil. In a recent issue of THE GARDEN, Muehlenbeckias were recommended. I agree that they have very pretty foliage and are useful for the positions named, although there are many plants that produce much more attractive flowers that would be preferable. My experience with Muehlenbeckia nana has been rather an unpleasant one. Placed in the stone joints of a built-up moraine it pushed its roots in behind and came up into the moraine through 2ft. of grit to the surface, running its roots about in all directions. It entailed taking down a considerable portion, including the disturbance of many much more valuable plants before it could be got out and, I hope, exterminated. It has also taken possession of another part of the garden, strangling everything else as it goes along. Hence this warning.

T. ASHTON LOFTHOUSE.

Linthorpe, Middlesbrough.

SHRUB FOR WALLS

BY W. J. BEAN.

(*Continued from page* 174.)

ALTHOUGH it has no flower beauty to recommend it, COCCULUS LAURIFOLIUS, a Himalayan shrub, is one of the handsomest of evergreens. It has lance-shaped leaves about 6ins. long, conspicuously three-ribbed and of a dark shining green. It may be recommended to those who like to grow uncommon plants.

COROKIA.—Three interesting New Zealand evergreens belonging to this genus may be grown on walls, *viz.*, buddleioides, Cotoneaster and virgata. C. Cotoneaster is, I think, the most attractive and makes a very pleasing covering for a wall up to 7ft. or 8ft. high. Its thin wiry twigs, tortuous and interlaced, bear tiny leaves, dark green above, white beneath, and, in May, quantities of small, star-shaped, bright yellow flowers, ¼in. wide. It requires very little pruning and may be allowed to grow well away from the wall. C. buddleioides and virgata have yellow flowers also, but larger leaves.

COTONEASTER HORIZONTALIS.—This is, of course, perfectly hardy, and is ordinarily a flat-growing, almost prostrate shrub, but planted near a wall, it will grow erect and spread itself out near the wall without actually pressing against it, in that way giving a charming effect, especially when freely set with its brilliant red fruits. I have seen it growing like this against a wall with a northern exposure, and it is worth noting by those who want shrubs for such a place. It is deciduous, but the leaves fall late, often changing to orange or red before they drop.

CYDONIA.—All the quinces are hardy, but several are grown against walls. C. japonica, for instance, will bear 30 degrees of frost without injury, but is, nevertheless, often given a place on a south wall, because it blossoms earlier there, its blood red flowers commencing sometimes to open in December, or, if the winter be severe, in February and March. It flowers from the lower leaf-axils of the preceding summer's growth or from spurs on still older wood. The varieties sinica and cardinalis are very rich red; nivalis is a good white; aurora a beautiful rose suffused with yellow. C. cathayensis is also used as a wall plant, because it usually bears fruit more freely there; but it has a gaunt, thin habit, and is chiefly of interest for its very large fruits, often 5ins. or 6ins. long and half as much wide.

Digitized by Google

CYTISUS SUPRANUBIUS.—This broom is found wild on the Peak of Teneriffe and, except in our warmer climates, needs a wall. In habit and branching it resembles the well known Spartium junceum, but the flowers are much smaller and creamy white, opening in May. A very charming shrub. A neighbour of this is C. palmensis (sometimes regarded as a variety of C. proliferus), the "Tagasaste." This has the trifoliate leaves of the brooms in general, and is a tall shrub of graceful form adapted for covering a pillar. Flowers white. May.

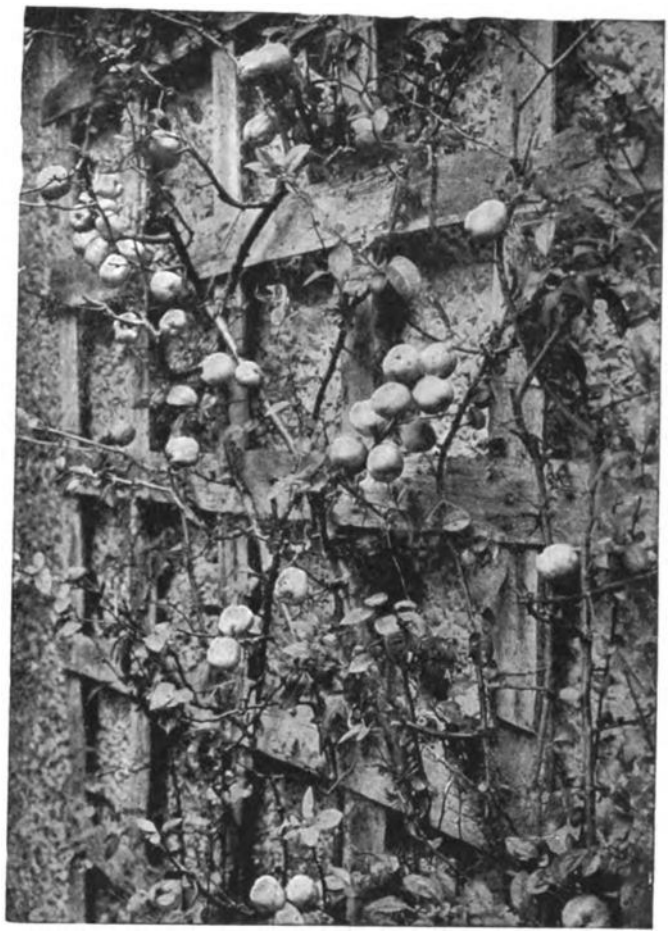
DECUMARIA BARBARA.—A deciduous climber related to the hydrangeas and clinging to the surface of a wall or other support by means of aerial roots. The small white flowers are in trusses 3ins. wide. I saw a very fine specimen covering a wall 10ft. or more high, in Sir Stuart Samuel's garden at Chelwood Vetchery, near Ashdown Forest, in bloom last July. This is by far the best specimen I have seen, and makes a neat, close wall covering. South-eastern United States.

DENDROMECON RIGIDUM.—Belonging to the poppy family and coming from California, this beautiful shrub needs the heat and protection of a sunny wall. It will reach to the top of one 10ft. or 12ft. high, and does not need hard pruning. The leaves and young shoots are glaucous and the fragrant flowers bright yellow, 2ins. to 3ins. wide, and continue to open during all the summer and autumn months.

DESFONTAINEA SPINOSA.—This evergreen shrub, with its holly-like leaves and its funnel-shaped, scarlet and yellow flowers, so well known in the south-west of England and the west coast of Scotland, is nearly hardy and should succeed planted at the base of a wall facing north-west, or one shaded in the hottest part of the day.

DRIMYS WINTERI.—At Nymans in Sussex, Colonel Messel has a fine plant of this evergreen growing against a wall. It was, when I saw it a few years ago, approaching 20ft. in height very luxuriant, and grew out several feet away from the wall. This species is, in fact, hardier than has been generally supposed. When well furnished with its fine clusters of white flowers, which come at the end of the shoots in May and are admirably set off by the luxuriant foliage, it is both elegant and beautiful. It comes from Chile. D. aromatica, a sturdier, dwarfer shrub from Tasmania, is not so attractive in flower, but has rich red young shoots. It also succeeds well as a wall shrub at Nymans, where it blossoms in April.

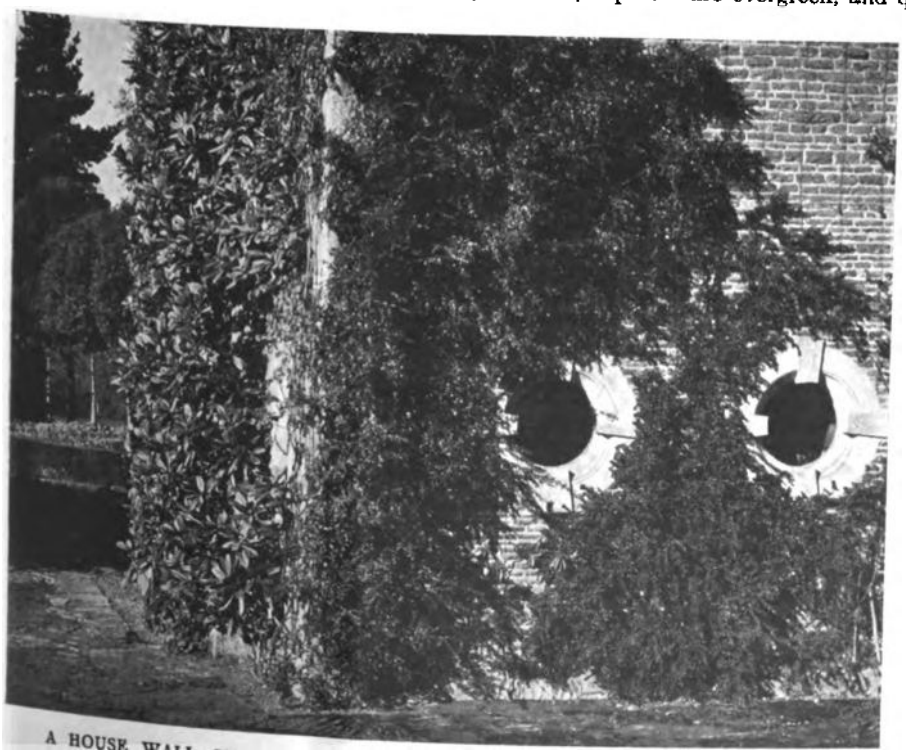
ERIOBOTRYA JAPONICA.—To those desiring an evergreen shrub with unusually fine, handsome leaves, this may be recommended. It will grow to a height of 20–30ft., and as its leaves are from 6ins. to 12ins. long and nearly half as wide, it gives a striking effect. One must not, however, expect beauty of blossom, for it does not flower freely, and it has rarely ripened fruit except in unusually favourable places.



CYDONIA JAPONICA IS NOT ONLY HANDSOME IN FLOWER BUT ALSO IN FRUIT.

ESCALLONIA.—All the escallonias that need wall protection are evergreen, and quite an interesting selection may be made from the genus. EE. rubra, exoniensis, illinita, viscosa, as well as langleyensis and its group of related hybrids, may be accounted hardy enough near London to do without wall protection. Of those needing it, E. montevidensis (often erroneously called floribunda) is a very pleasing shrub with white blossom; E. pterocladon (nearly hardy), E. pulverulenta and E. revoluta are others. Those with red flowers are organensis, a sturdy grower; E. punctata, nearly hardy; and E. macrantha, the species with brilliantly dark green foliage and rich red blossom so much planted in the south-west, often for hedges. All these are valuable as flowering from June onwards; and all, except the hybrids, are of South American origin.

FABIANA IMBRICATA.—I remember, one day during late May, some years ago, seeing a bush of this growing in Mr. H. W. Grigg's very interesting garden at Cann House, near Plymouth, perhaps 8ft. high, but more in diameter, which was one of the most beautiful objects I have ever looked upon. It was growing against a wall without being trained on it, and made an elegant, loose-growing mass, every one of its slender shoots being transformed into a long raceme of pure white blossom. Farther north we cannot, I



A HOUSE WALL SUITABLY CLOTHED WITH COTONEASTER AND MAGNOLIA.

Digitized by Google

fear, hope to reproduce such an effect, but the shrub is well worth giving wall shelter to, especially away from the region afflicted by London smoke. It likes a sunny position. The flower is a slender tube ¾in. long, the foliage heath-like. It belongs to the solanum family and comes from Chile.

FEIJOA SELLOWIANA.—Naturally, this is an evergreen shrub or small tree, but, coming from South Brazil and Uruguay, it needs wall protection except in the milder districts. It has dark lustrous green, oval leaves, 2ins. or 3ins. long, covered with whitish felt beneath. It flowers on the lower part of the current year's shoots in July, the blossoms being solitary, 1¼ins. wide, with the four rounded petals deep red, but whitish at the margin, while a conspicuous cluster of long, rich crimson stamens fills the centre. It is a flower very characteristic of the myrtle family to which it belongs. Grown on a wall, this shrub must not be too closely pruned; each year after flowering it should be thinned out by cutting away the strongest out-growing branchlets, not pruned back all over.

(To be continued.)

NOTES OF THE WEEK

PLANTAIN LILIES: IDEAL PLANTS FOR SHADY POSITIONS.

MAY I be allowed, at a season when so much planting is being done, to call the attention of those who have not hitherto grown them to funkias or plantain lilies, as being especially suitable for shady places in the garden, and extremely hardy withal? Last winter, severe as it was for a time, does not appear to have interfered with their progress, as in the middle of March clumps in my own garden were on the move. They meet, to a large extent, the solving of the problem of the shady garden, and will thrive planted under trees. Early in May they unfold their attractive foliage, and in June and July the lily-like flowers appear. They are not over particular in regard to soil, a stiff loam suiting them very well, and, given a representative collection, one may, with these hardy herbaceous plants, transform a sombre corner of a garden into an attractive place when the foliage broadens into beauty. In some instances the leaves possess the greater charm, I think. The following are all worthy of culture:

F. grandiflora.—Foliage pale green, flowers in white spikes.

F. Sieboldi.—Large grey-green leaves, lavender flowers.

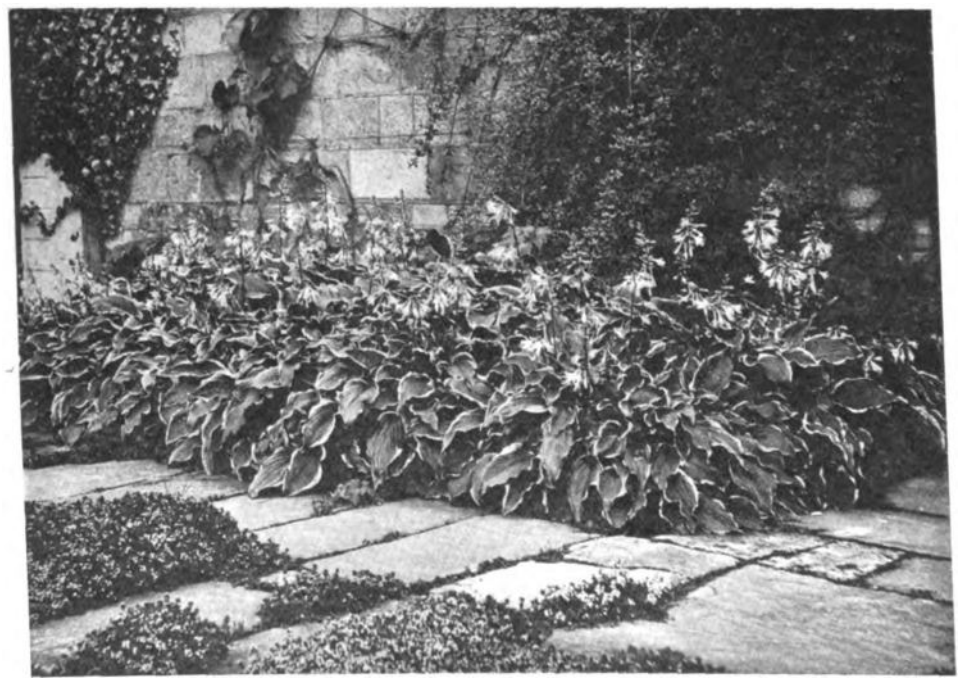
F. undulata variegata.—Pale green and yellow leaves.

F. aurea marginata.—Striped yellow leaves.

F. Fortunei.—Grey-blue leaves, heart-shaped mauve flowers.

F. ovata.—Deep green leaves, mauve flowers.

F. lancifolia.—Narrow green foliage.—W. LINDERS LEA.



FUNKIAS MAKE IDEAL SUBJECTS FOR A SHADY GARDEN.

REFLECTIONS ON THE ORIGIN OF VARIETIES.

IT has often struck me what little we know, generally speaking, of the origin of most of the popular varieties of flowers, fruits and vegetables of to-day. Hybridists rarely make the results of their crosses public property, although catalogues occasionally mention the parents of varieties when this information will not tend to react unfavourably on sales. There is, of course, no means by which one can gauge the approximate percentages of varieties which have originated firstly, as a result of artificial cross-pollination; secondly, by natural cross-pollination; thirdly, as natural "sports" or "breaks"; and lastly, by the selection and improvement of existing strains. I suppose the majority are like Topsy, they "just growed" and were spotted by the keen eye of someone who appreciated their value and possibilities. I may be of a particularly curious turn of mind, but it stimulates my interest, for instance, in the apple Allington Pippin to read that it was raised from a cross between Cox's Orange Pippin and King of the Pippins. Remembering the qualities of both parents, one is intrigued into wondering whether it combines their good points. The Worcesterberry (gooseberry × black currant) or the new Veitchberry (raspberry × blackberry) would hardly be as attractive to possible purchasers if the information concerning their origin was withheld. There seems to be many cases where a valuable variety has been well known for many years in the immediate locality where it was originally found or raised but has not appeared in general commerce for many years. Again, the public often take years to find out the real merit of a particular variety after it has been introduced through the medium of the nurseryman or seedsman's catalogues and the horticultural Press.

In talking with an elderly relative a day or two ago, this subject cropped up, and she told me of the origin of the apple Chivers' Seedling, which, I think, will bear repeating, for although this variety does not appear in many modern catalogues, it is fairly well known. Her grandfather raised the apple. One day he asked my relative to pick out the pips from a mass of rotted apple pulp. He had saved an apple or two, she thought, from every variety in the orchard; in all, nearly a teacupful of pips were obtained. Then she helped him to make crude plant pots out of clay and chopped straw which were afterwards dried off in the sun. She remembers this incident quite well on account of the child-like pleasure it gave her to make these pots. To return to the pips. These were sown rather thickly in the home-made pots, and the seedlings, when large enough, were planted in one long row in the garden. In time they bore fruit, and an apple or two from each little tree was sampled and judged, both from the dessert and culinary points of view. There must have been a couple of hundred trees or more, but only two were deemed of sufficient merit to save, all the others were destroyed. One of these, apparently, was kept just because it was a freak; it would not cook, neither was it of any use to eat raw. Its only good point was that it would keep for a twelvemonth. Her grandfather called it the "Bitter-sweet" apple. The other apple greatly pleased him. It cropped freely, was well above the average for dessert and cooking purposes and, best of all, when baked whole it needed no sugar (evidently sugar was dear in those days). Gradually the apple found its way into most of the gardens in the district and was named after its raiser Chivers' Seedling.

Judged by modern standards, Chivers' Seedling cannot be called first class. It is not quite large enough, and has no colour with the exception of a reddish flushing near the stalk, which, by the way, I fancy is unique. This apple, which was saved nearly three-quarters of a century ago because it "needed no sugar," has seen its best days, but perhaps its history may interest readers of THE GARDEN who know it.—S.

[We would welcome accounts of the origin of any popular variety of flowers, fruits or vegetables from other readers where the information is interesting and not generally known.—ED.]

Digitized by Google

ARSENIC IN APPLES.

I SUPPOSE all readers are by now familiar with the heading I have chosen for this article. It has been made very familiar to many newspaper readers by certain people. My object in writing is in answer to many queries concerning the use of various washes containing arsenic in some form or another for spraying apple and plum trees.

In the first place, for what pests do we use arsenical insecticides? Being a stomach poison, we naturally assume it is only of value against biting insects, and that is the use we put it to. Caterpillars in particular are dealt with by these means. Now, in dealing with any pest, we attempt to eradicate it in the early stages of its life-history, therefore we spray as soon as the pest is seen, usually in May and very seldom later than early June.

Of course, were gooseberries, which are to be picked soon, sprayed with one of these washes, it would be very risky to eat the fruit, but with the apple it is very different. During the normal English summer we have more than enough rain to wash off any arsenical deposits from fruit picked in autumn. Most of our biting and chewing insect pests have in England only one generation in the course of the year, so that the early sprayings with arsenic do away with the necessity of later sprayings for these pests.

One of the insects for which arsenical washes are used in quantity is the codlin moth. The young grubs usually enter the fruit by way of the eye, so that the most obvious method of dealing with it is to poison the eye so that the first meal taken by the grub is also the last one. This is effected by spraying, usually with arsenate of lead, within a few weeks of the setting of the fruit, before the fruitlet turns downwards and the eye closes.

The only possible chance of anyone being affected by arsenic in English apples would be if one were to make a remarkably large meal of the eye parts of apples alone, so large a meal, in fact, that the resulting feeling of discomfort would more probably be due to eating too much than to the effect of any infinitesimal particle of arsenic that might possibly have been swallowed.

To sum up, I honestly do not believe there is the slightest risk of anyone being affected by arsenic in English apples, more specially as the core, eye and stalk end are not usually consumed. As for American apples, with them I am not so much concerned, but I am not afraid of being poisoned by consuming quantities of these, although, of course, I always prefer English fruit, not because of any arsenic scare, but on account of the much better flavour.

Now just a word or two about the preparation and use of these washes. In spite of all I have said about the harmlessness of arsenical sprays, I am always very careful when mixing them, and always keep the stuff under lock and key, for it is dangerous to leave about. It is always preferable to buy a proprietary arsenical wash than to attempt to mix it oneself. There are many good brands advertised in THE GARDEN, and of these I rely almost entirely on Voss' lead arsenic paste, which has always proved satisfactory with me.

A fine spray should be used, as we want a light covering over the whole of the tree, and always stop spraying before the fluid drips from the foliage.

In conclusion, I would add this warning. Where it is at all probable that other plants may be wetted by the spray, do not use lead arsenate. Therefore where fruit trees are undercropped with other crops, it is advisable, almost necessary, to rely on some such specific as Katakilla or one other of the many proprietary washes advertised in THE GARDEN.—N. D. H.

TWO NEW SHRUBS WORTHY OF NOTICE.

ABELIA GRÆBNERIANA.

SEVERAL new abelias have been introduced by Mr. Wilson during his explorations in China, and one, A. Græbneriana, is certainly worthy of becoming a popular shrub in gardens, owing to its decorative qualities.

The plant is a native of western Hupeh, where it grows in thickets at altitudes ranging from 2,500ft. to 5,000ft. In Europe, and particularly at the Verrières Arboretum, where it was received from Professor Sargent seven or eight years ago, it forms a rather dwarf shrub, 3ft. to 5ft. in height, of semi-compact habit, bearing rather small, deep green, ovate lanceolate foliage, slightly villous on the upper surface and glabrous, or nearly so, underneath.

In May-June the pretty flowers are produced, grouped, sometimes as many as seven to eight at the end of the annual twigs, three-quarters or four-fifths of an inch in length, the wide open corolla is of a pale pink colour, hairy in the interior and glabrous on the outside. The throat is of a conspicuous yellow orange tone. The extremities of the divisions pass gradually to a creamy white. The shrub is very floriferous and quite conspicuous when covered with its elegant, not unlike dipelta looking, flowers.

According to Mr. Wilson, the species is somewhat variable in foliage and also in flower in its native country. So far, it has proved quite hardy, although at the Arnold Arboretum (where the climate is rather severe), for some reason or other, it has disappeared. Still quite rare in cultivation, its wider distribution is, to my mind, only a question of its becoming sufficiently well known.

THE CLUSTERED BLOSSOMS OF ABELIA GRÆBNERIANA.

THE GRACEFUL FEATHERY FLOWERS OF SORBARIA ARBOREA GLABRATA.

At the Arnold Arboretum two other new Asiatic abelias can be seen and both do rather well. One, A. Zanderi attains 8ft. in diameter and as much in height; while the other, A. Engleriana, is also doing well, but the rather inconspicuous flowers of these do not render them especially useful from the garden point of view.

SPIRÆA (SORBARIA) ARBOREA GLABRATA.

Another of Wilson's introductions, this beautiful sorbaria is distinguished by its very great vigour, its extra fine foliage and abnormally large racemes of flowers. At Verrières, we have several times measured plants 10ft. to 12ft. high and racemes 3ft. in length. When covered with flowers it is quite a remarkable sight. The flowers are pure white and the inflorescences exceedingly light and graceful. Although botanically a form of S. arborea, it is, speaking from a purely decorative point of view, a distinct and far superior plant altogether. In fact, of all the sorbarias that I know, this is by far and away the most striking, leaving all the other species and forms far behind. It is to be seen in many places on different continents and everywhere it is a conspicuous subject.

Sorbaria arborea glabrata deserves to be propagated freely, and this can be easily done as it seeds readily and suckers freely.—CH. LERAY.

INTERESTING EARLY FLOWERS.

THE dentarias are interesting early flowers, which seem to grow almost anywhere, but prefer a moist, sheltered spot in the woodland. They are known by the common name of "crinkleroot," as they have a curious notched, crinkly rootstock. Dentaria diphylla commenced to bloom here on March 2nd. It has broad leaves with soft pink flowers about 15ins. high. Another species, D. lacinata, is white and much taller than the above. They are easily propagated by root division, and belong to the mustard family. Dentarias prove a welcome addition to early spring flowers. The above species come from Canada, where they revel in moist woods.—R. MOORE, *Thorpe Hall.*

Digitized by Google

HARDY HEATHS

IN ALL GARDENS, BOTH LARGE AND SMALL, AT LEAST A CORNER SHOULD BE GIVEN OVER TO THE GROWING OF A FEW CHOICE HARDY HEATHS. THEY ARE INVALUABLE IN THE ROCK GARDEN AND IN THE WILD GARDEN, WHILE THEY ARE MOST EFFECTIVE WHEN PLANTED IN BOLD CLUMPS IN SHRUBBERY BORDERS, OR EVEN USED IN BEDS OF FORMAL GARDENS. DWARF VARIETIES LEND THEMSELVES TO MAKING ATTRACTIVE EDGINGS, WHILE THE TALLER KINDS LOOK WELL IN HEDGE FORMATION.

THE colour range in the hardy heaths is not remarkable when brought into comparison with some other families of garden plants, and even differences of form are of a character which frequently calls for close examination in order fully to appreciate their significance.

Nevertheless, the hardy members of the erica tribe are plants of unique charm, powerful appeal and unquestionable importance, and it may be contended with some justification that good collections, or even colonies, of what may be described as leading kinds should be far more generally established than they are throughout British gardens. Acquaintance with the nursery trade extending over a considerable number of years enables one to state that vast quantities of hardy ericas have been propagated in nurseries and have been sold, and one is driven to the conclusion that a very considerable proportion of that distributed stock has failed to establish itself in its new quarters. Prompt reply to the query "Why?" will generally attribute mortality to lime in the soil, but it is an assumption that must not be too readily accepted as a full and satisfactory answer to the question. In the first place some few kinds of hardy heaths do not share the accredited antipathy to lime which, admittedly, the majority do. Furthermore, there is a very great deal of lime-free soil in British gardens, as evidenced by the flourishing condition of many other lime-resenting plants. Still further, it may be maintained that failure to establish heaths has on various occasions, been witnessed in gardens where azaleas, andromedas and other plants which equally dislike lime flourish in a highly satisfactory manner.

In search of other causes of failure, one is drawn to the conclusion that a prevalent cause is the habit of demanding big clumps, in order to produce immediate effect. The nurseryman, in order to cater for the demand for big clumps, is driven to resort to division as a rapid means of propagation; but it would be surprising if any experienced plantsman should assert that such stock can be as satisfactorily established as plants propagated from cuttings and grown on for sale in pots. The side growths of ericas which are used for propagation are very tiny, and at best only a small plant can be produced from a cutting in a couple of years. Nevertheless, it would be infinitely more satisfactory in the long run to plant these small pot plants, which commence to grow without a check and make substantial headway during the period the coarser roots of old plants will be vacillating between effort and inaction. It would be incorrect to represent that no ericas can be successfully lifted and transplanted, for if the precaution is taken to bend down the outer branches, either weighting them with stones or securing them with pegs and then burying the bare wood in a mixture of sandy peat, these stems will emit young roots which will be more useful feeders than the tough old roots below. It is a mistake simply to get the old root beneath the surface and leave all the bare stems above the ground line.

Where soil is known to contain lime the selection of heathers should be among the varieties of EE. carnea, australis and mediterranea, including the various interesting hybrids among the last named.

Of Erica carnea alone a dozen good varieties are available, and, although several of these are of very similar shades of pink, the flowering season may be considerably prolonged by planting the greater portion of the series. Of course, E. carnea alba provides relief from the prevailing pink, and a comparatively new variety named King George is quite a deep red. This was flowering gaily in Messrs. Wallace and Co.'s nursery on the occasion of a mid-February visit. Messrs. Maxwell and Beale have been showing E. c. Vivelli, which makes a wonderful bit of winter colour, the foliage assuming bronzy red tints, while the flowers are bright carmine.

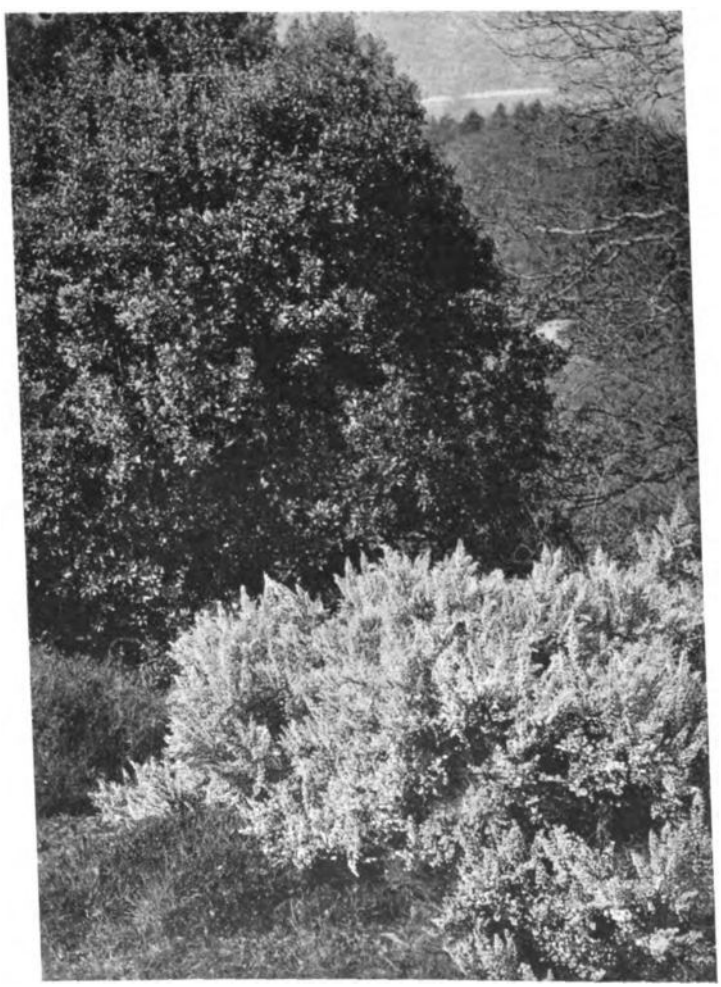
Of the mediterranea class the hybrid darleyensis is a delightful winter-blooming heath; and of unusual freedom is the white-flowered E. mediterranea alba; while hibernica Brightness is of a cheery, warm-tinted pink.

Still another idea occurs to mind regarding possible cause of failure to establish heaths in a satisfactory manner, and it concerns the method of introducing peat to soils of a more or less stubborn, tenacious character.

One has frequently seen basin-like excavations made in stiff, unyielding soil into which chunks of peat have been placed for the reception of the ericas. These basins are quickly saturated in wet weather, and are dried right out by a brief spell of drought. The spongy nature of the peat is responsible for excessive expansion and contraction as the mass becomes alternately soaked and dried, and such an unstable medium is detrimental to satisfactory rooting. An infinitely better plan is to trench the soil, work in some porous rubble with the subsoil, and mix the peat with some more solid but lime-free soil for the top spit, exposing the whole to a winter's frosts in order to make it friable and capable of being thoroughly well mixed.

Ericas from pots may be transplanted whenever soil is in a good, workable condition. March and April are good months for lifting from the open, but there is much to be said for the prudence of planting the different species and their varieties just as their flowering season ends.

A. J. MACSELF.



THE FINE WHITE HYBRID HEATH, ERICA VEITCHII.

Digitized by Google

THE TALL-GROWING E. AUSTRALIS IN THE BACKGROUND WITH THE POPULAR E. MEDITERRANEA ALBA IN FRONT.

HARDY HEATHS ARE INVALUABLE FOR COLOUR IN THE WILD GARDEN THROUGH MANY MONTHS OF THE YEAR.

Digitized by Google

SOME ADVANTAGES OF POT GROWN ROSES

THE ardent rosarian will not be satisfied in having blooms of his favourites from June to October, but he will desire to have some pot-grown plants so that he may enjoy the sight of beautiful roses during March, April and May.

The superb specimens exhibited at the Spring Show of the National Rose Society are evidence of what may be accomplished by the skilled amateur: and there is a growing number of amateurs who try their hands at pot-rose culture who do not attempt exhibiting for prizes.

Both Mr. E. J. Holland and Mr. Hammond, keen amateur growers of pot-roses, have exhibited specimens that have never been equalled at the summer shows. These gentlemen are really skilled hands at pot-rose culture; but any amateur who will just give the matter his earnest attention can in time produce fine specimens.

One of the secrets of success is to have good strong plants, well established in their pots. It is useless to attempt to grow pot roses unless they have good healthy roots and are potted up into good loamy soil.

Another important detail is to leave the plants undisturbed at the root for a few years. Each autumn the plants receive a top-dressing with some good fertiliser, such as Clay's, and have the drainage made good. Beyond this nothing is done in the way of disturbing them.

Of course, hard pruning is essential to obtain fine large specimen flowers. But pot roses are useful for those who do not care to exhibit their blooms or plants.

What can be more delightful than to walk into a house in March or early April, when perhaps the wind is biting cold outside, and to see the lovely roses in bud and in bloom?

No one can be successful in pot-rose culture unless a structure can be devoted to them alone. I know climbing roses are often grown in the roof of a greenhouse of other subjects, but even in their case they are the better if the house is kept for roses and roses only.

In a general way the hybrid tea and pernetiana roses will be grown; but the rambler and polyantha roses may become quite useful for conservatory decoration.

It is a good plan to pot up a number of plants from the open ground early in October. Do not attempt to force them the first year; but if kept in cold pits during the winter and plunged in ashes outdoors for the summer, they are available for forcing the following spring.

An additional number should be potted up, as they come in useful to fill up gaps in the beds; or they may be used as bedding plants where bulbs have been. It is unnecessary to turn them out of their pots, but simply plunge them in the beds and, of course, pay attention to their watering. The same plants may then be utilised next winter for forcing.

Any reader desirous of having some plants to bloom in May and early June can purchase prepared plants from most of the large rose growers. If such are pruned hard and put into a temperature of 45° Fahr. at night and 50° to 55° Fahr. by day, increasing to 60° to 65° as growth advances, they would have plants in bloom before the outdoor roses, but it would need to be done at once.

Another advantage of pot-grown roses is that they can be planted to fill gaps when it is too late to plant roses from the open ground; but unless they are sturdy, well grown plants, not much can be expected from them this summer.

Standard roses grown in pots form very beautiful subjects for conservatory decoration, and they are quite easily handled, and will soon develop glorious heads. Standards on the rugosa stock are by far the best for this purpose, as they have such an abundance of fibrous roots. Visitors to Chelsea may see such trees, and I would counsel them to observe those on rugosa stock and those on the briar.

The same may be said of the polyantha roses on short standards. They form delightful objects, very useful for decoration.

WALTER EASLEA.

BENEFICIAL INSECTS

IN every garden there are hundreds of insects which are in no way harmful, but help to rid the plants of various pests. Among these beneficial insects, the rove beetle, ground beetle, ladybird, lacewing or golden eye, and the hover fly take prominent places. Ichneumon flies, which lay their eggs in the bodies of caterpillars (frequently in such species as eat and spoil vegetables), do much to help the gardener. The wasp and the robber fly also clear off some insect pests, but those first mentioned may especially be looked upon as the gardeners' allies, and should never be destroyed or disturbed.

The larvæ of the ladybird (coccinellidæ), feed greedily upon aphides and scale insects (coccidæ). Therefore, when hundreds of ladybirds arrive at maturity it must mean that many thousands of aphides have been consumed in nourishing them; and since in case of an aphis shortage the incipient ladybirds have no hesitation in sating their appetites on members of their own family when they are hungry, the ratio of the numbers of ladybirds to those of available aphides is remarkably soon adjusted.

Although the ladybird is well known for its beauty, comparatively few people recognise its larva. This is black or very dark grey, developing some orange-red spots as it approaches maturity. It looks somewhat like a small reptile, with its rather prominent legs attached to the fore part of the oval body. The eggs have a waxy appearance, are creamy yellow in colour and stand upon their ends, in little groups, on leaves of currant and other bushes.

The lacewing (Chrysopa vulgaris) is also very beautiful, with its long neck and shining yellow eyes. Its green wings slightly resemble skeleton leaves and are set on the body in a graceful, sweeping line. The curious looking eggs are suspended on the ends of threads attached to the undersides of rose and other leaves. The larvæ are similar to those of the ladybird, and like them, live principally on aphides and scale insects. They have a strange habit of throwing the skins of their victims upon their own backs and allowing them to remain there.

The hemerobidæ are grey in colour, but of similar form and habits.

Most people will have noticed flies which appear to stand still in the air for several seconds above some leaf or flower. These are known as hover flies (syrphus), and in their larval stage are exceedingly useful for their ravages among the aphides and like pests. The appearance of these larvæ is not attractive, for they are rather slug-like and show little trace of formation, except that the head is narrow and the body gradually widens from the neck backwards. When feeding, the head is held up, away from the leaf on which the creature is sitting, while the victim's juices are being assimilated. The appetite of these larvæ is enormous.

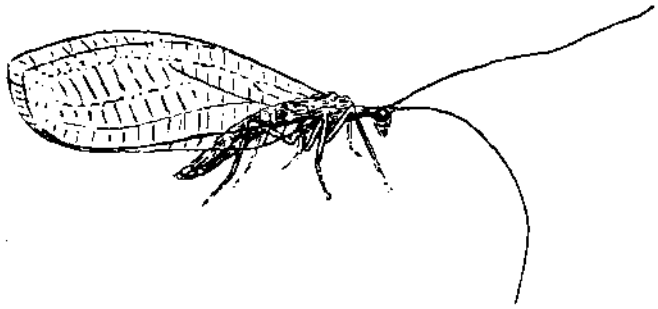
Ichneumon flies (ichneumonidæ), have very slender waists, but are otherwise much like the common saw flies, which lay their eggs on our gooseberry bushes, thus providing that host of sticky green caterpillars. The reproduction of the ichneumon fly is very different. Each species of this fly is attracted to certain kinds of caterpillars, which it uses as nursing homes for its offspring. With a sharp-pointed ovipositor it inserts one or more eggs into the body of the caterpillar, in which the eggs hatch and the larvæ grow until ready to pupate. The caterpillar does not eat less because it carries its uninvited guests; but it can never hatch into butterfly, moth or fly, in order to continue the species; on the contrary, each ichneumon pupa may provide another enemy to the caterpillars. This is not always the case, however, for certain other species of ichneumon actually reach the larva of the ichneumon which is already hidden in the body of the caterpillar, by means of their ovipositors, and in it place their egg, which hatches and matures as does the one first deposited in the caterpillar. In spite of this the ichneumon must be regarded as an extremely useful ally and one which is well worth while recognising and preserving.

The robber fly (asilidæ) is a hairy insect that in its perfect form preys upon other insects and so assists in diminishing some of our pests and also merits preservation.

Wasps also do good work in the same way, but counterbalance it by their habit of fruit spoiling.

Digitized by Google

1.—THE ROBBER FLY.



2.—THE LACEWING FLY.

3.—THE HOVER FLY.

The rove beetle (Ocypus olens), better known perhaps as the Devil's Coachhorse, is a true friend, continually appeasing its appetite on small insects, which are mostly inimical to the interests of the gardener. This is a repulsive looking creature, with an aggressive habit of turning up its tail when touched, that is rather alarming to a stranger, but in spite of its scorpion mimicry it has no sting and may be handled with impunity.

The tiger beetles (cicindelidæ) and their near relatives, the ground beetles (carabidæ), are equally useful in the same way, and should not be destroyed. They may be known, roughly, by their handsome bodies, long legs and active habits, but it is quite worth while to take some trouble to visit a museum and learn to recognise these families with certainty.

In distinguishing carnivorous from herbivorous beetles, it should be borne in mind that those creatures which prey upon their fellows are likely to have stronger limbs and more intelligence with which to pursue their hunting than is needed by those which merely feed upon vegetation.

The illustrations of these insects have been enlarged (in order to show details) to about twice their natural size. All the characteristics of our three main insect friends may be thus clearly recognised.

M. L. BROOKE.

THE SCOPE OF THE GARDEN FRAME

IS FULL ADVANTAGE TAKEN OF ITS POSSIBILITIES?

FOR most well equipped gardens there is generally a good stock of frames, either the portable wooden frame or the permanent brick heated frame. But how often does one go round some of these very fortunate gardens, and see row after row of frames standing empty? On the other hand, where they are used, are they suitably placed to save labour in shading, and conveniently placed near the water tank, so that the plants they contain will not suffer for want of water?

I passed through one of the finest equipped gardens in the district not very long ago, and was very much interested in the frame section, especially in seeing frame after frame standing empty, and the few that were occupied covered up with heavy shading mats to keep out the strong rays of the midday sun. Not only was this causing a great deal of extra labour in shading, but on looking into these frames I discovered subjects that would have been happier if they had full advantage of the light or been placed in frames with a different exposure.

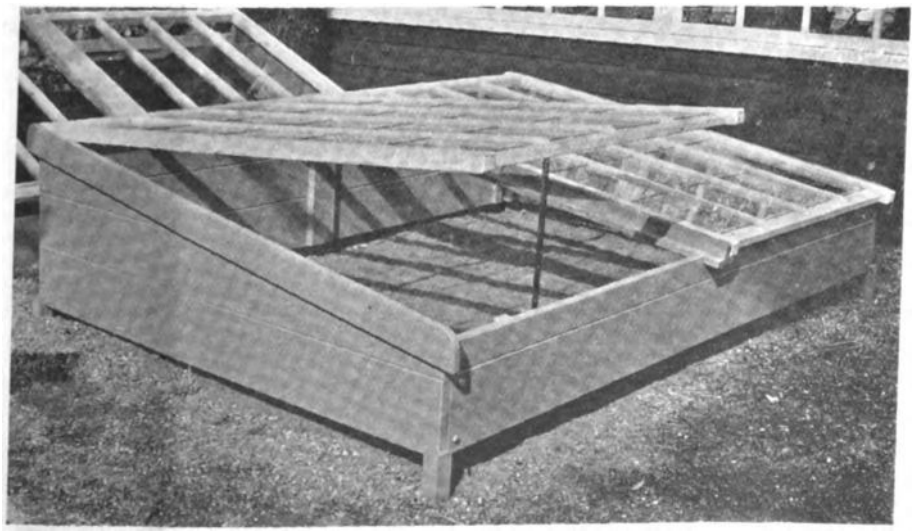
I will adhere strictly to the portable wooden frame, as this, if of a convenient size, can be moved about to the required site best suited to the class of plants it is to contain. It is mostly during the months of April and May that these frames are used, principally for the use of bedding plants.

Frames, when empty and well cleaned are far superior to the greenhouse for the growing of pot plants during the summer months. Yet, how often do we go round some of our great gardens and see greenhouse after greenhouse packed with subjects horribly out of place there which would have been more at home in the garden frame, and would then have left the greenhouse free for more useful plants, such as the tomato.

Undoubtedly, cinerarias, cyclamen, calceolarias and primulas are quite at home in a garden frame during the summer months. But what is more detrimental to their growth than to be placed in a frame facing due south where it gets the full blaze of the sun and has to be covered up with heavy shading mats? Not only does this entail extra labour and create a very high temperature, but it also causes the plants to become drawn and subject to the attacks of green fly. Whereas, if the frame in which they are to be grown were placed behind a wall or hedge facing north, they would need no shading, less watering, and have that nice cool atmosphere so essential to this class of plant.

At the end of the summer months, when all the plants are removed from the frames to the greenhouse, the frames may again stand empty until the following spring; whereas every one should be used to full advantage for various purposes.

First, in the garden there may be a plot of parsley which, if exposed to the elements during the winter, would be completely lost, but protected by a frame it will supply the house with good clean parsley during the dull days of winter and be much appreciated. Secondly, how often are we caught by early autumn frost? Perhaps for one night only, but just sufficient to cause great damage, especially to French beans. If a frame be at hand, however, it is a matter of a few minutes to place it over these if there is the least sign of frost, for with a little



A USEFUL PORTABLE FRAME.

Digitized by Google

forethought the beans could have been sown in such a way to allow of this being done, and so have a supply of beans well into the winter.

Some years ago I noticed a small outside border in front of a vinery planted with strawberry plants about six inches apart, the gardener told me he covered these with frames all winter and could, with a little care, pick strawberries about the end of April; whereas in most places they are grown in specially heated houses, which means extra expense and a great deal of labour.

In most cases garden frames are treated as makeshifts; but they should receive the same care as the heated structures, for it is out of these makeshifts that most of our valuable pot plants come to adorn our heated structures during the dull days of winter; so, if these makeshifts are not kept clean, we cannot expect those nice clean plants which adorn our greenhouses. All that is required is a wash down with soap and water in the inside, and the glass wiped down with a cloth—for how often does one see the glass in frames covered with green slime which no light will ever penetrate?

Pages could be written on the various ways in which frames could be used to better advantage when, most of the time, they are lying idle and being neglected; but space will not permit.

JACK LONDON.

FUNGICIDES FOR PRESENT USE

IN the constant warfare against the enemies of plant life fungicides are of equal importance with insecticides, but there appears to be a greater readiness on the part of writers to deal with insecticides than with fungicides, and of that which is written regarding the latter a large proportion is in a highly scientific strain which mystifies rather than helps the average gardener or garden owner.

Diseases are essentially more difficult to deal with than insect or animal pests. These latter are for the most part easily discernible even if sometimes difficult to identify, but diseases—and most plant diseases are of a fungoid or parasitical nature—are frequently invisible to the naked eye until they have made so much progress that serious damage is done and cure is rendered extremely difficult, if not practically impossible. It may be taken as a general rule that a fungus in an advanced stage of activity has gained a foothold in the cellular tissues of its victim, and that, in consequence, anything which is strong enough to kill the fungus in its active stage will either kill or seriously injure the plant. True, some fungoid diseases may be held considerably in check by means of applications of various chemical preparations applied after the disease has established itself, but in the long run it is far more effective to adopt preventive rather than curative measures.

Winter spraying of hardy fruits is generally advocated, and chiefly in connection with fungoid diseases; partly because more powerful chemicals may be used while trees are leafless, but also because many of the diseases are more vulnerable in winter than during summer activity.

The same thing applies to diseases of grape vines and various other subjects under glass, and it would be of untold benefit to rosarians if the doctrine were widely preached that common mildew of roses may be more effectively dealt with during late autumn and winter than when foliage begins to whiten in summer.

Fungicides may be conveniently, although somewhat loosely, divided into several more or less independent groups. There are simple, harmless, non-poisonous fungicides which are useful up to a point, and may be used with no great risk by inexperienced hands at most seasons of the year and on most kinds of plants. There are also powerful poisons which are so effective against very serious diseases that, despite the necessity for the exercise of extreme care in handling, they must rank among the essential equipment of every extensive garden.

Fungicides for summer and for winter use, for outdoors and under glass, dry powders and liquids, all constitute groups of considerable importance, and there are numerous proprietary articles or mixtures on the market which may worthily be termed combined fungicides and insecticides.

For our present purpose it may probably be of greatest service to deal first with the simplest and safest fungicides, having regard to the fact that the season is too far advanced for the present use of the more powerful mixtures such as can be used to great advantage on dormant trees and plants.

FLOWERS OF SULPHUR.

In its dry, powdered state this familiar article is very largely used as a cure for mildew on roses, delphiniums and various outdoor subjects, and upon grape vines and many other plants under glass. Faith in its powers is frequently greater than can be justified by actual demonstration, and it would be correct to say that dry flowers of sulphur or flour of sulphur, as it may more appropriately be called, is somewhat overrated. Nevertheless, if it is carefully applied in good time, it is capable of checking the development of the common mildews, and it has the distinct advantage of being harmless ammunition for the veriest novice to use. It is essential that the sulphur shall be of high quality, perfectly "sublimed," as technical language has it, to form the finest of flour-like powders. Dry sulphur frequently fails to reach its maximum efficiency through defective application. The ordinary dredger-topped rubber puffs deposit the powder in separated hillocks, and the small hand bellows eject it in irregular jets. The real need is to coat over every particle of a plant with a perfectly even but extremely thin covering of sulphur. Powder machines of considerable size are available which are capable of good work on large, dense plantations, such as nursery quarters of young trees, fields of potatoes, etc., but it is a difficult matter to secure an equally smooth discharge on a small enough scale to enable an isolated rose bush or delphinium to be covered without also scattering a vast quantity of sulphur over the soil and still more before the wind. Powder spraying is not confined to the use of sulphur, but it is not at present of equal standing with liquid spraying; to bring it into widespread general use it is very essential that attention shall be directed to the improvement of *small* distributors for private garden use.

LIME-SULPHUR SPRAYS.

Whatever may be the correctly estimated value of sulphur as an independent fungicide, it is of still greater service as an ingredient of compounds or mixtures of lime and sulphur to form a liquid spray. It must be admitted that some practical men consider lime-sulphur spray of small account, the usual criticism being that it is variable and unreliable. When such complaints have been closely investigated it has generally been found that the spray has been home-made according to formulæ which have been published in many books and pamphlets. The difficulty is that, although it is a simple matter to weigh specific quantities of both lime and sulphur, and to measure very accurately the water in which the ingredients are boiled, it is by no means so easy for the horticulturist to ascertain the precise strength or caustic power of his lime or the purity and solubility of his sulphur, and upon this, together with analysis of the water used, depends the efficiency of the spray.

It is a perfectly reasonable proposition that well known manufacturing chemists are able to ensure that the preparations they send out to face the competition of the open market shall be of highest grade and uniform strength, and with the numerous brands of lime-sulphur spray which are readily available it seems a pity to risk failure for the sake of the small economy effected by making home-made mixtures of doubtful quality.

Lime-sulphur has proved effective against mildew of most kinds, apple and pear scab, hollyhock rust and various leaf-spot diseases, for which its use is generally recommended during spring, when spores are liberated and blown about by winds to find lodgment upon young foliage.

The spray, however, is of even greater use in February, when it will prevent birds picking out fruit-buds from both tree and bush fruits. Furthermore, it will at this season do good service by suffocating the first hatchings of aphis, and being a very harmless spray it may be strongly recommended as one that should have a place in the annual spraying calendar, and which combines the fungicidal properties with the other powers mentioned.

L. I. ATRIS.

(*To be continued.*)

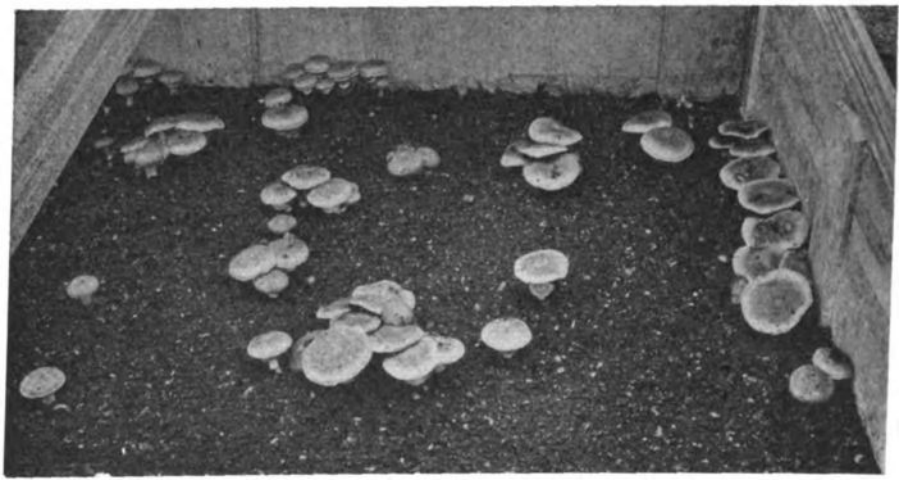
Digitized by Google

HINTS on MUSHROOM CULTURE

THERE is no great mystery connected with mushroom culture, providing a few simple details are observed. Two things are essential, a quantity of horse droppings from animals fed on dry food, and reliable mushroom spawn. The latter is bought in cakes, or bricks, and should be obtained from a reliable source, where they have quick sales, otherwise the mycelium of the mushroom may have perished before it reaches the grower. The droppings from horses fed on grass or roots are of little value, and if at any time the animals are given medicine, it will be advisable to discard the droppings until things are again normal. Collect the droppings daily, and store them on the floor of an open shed, free from drip and rain, and turn them over twice or thrice a week, at the same time forking out all the long straw. This should continue until sufficient manure has been collected to make up a bed, and operations can begin with two or three cart loads. Before the bed is constructed, it will be necessary to form a long heap of the manure and turn it several times, say every day for a week. At each turning the sides of the heap must be worked into the centre, then it will heat or ferment and in seven or eight days all the rankness of the manure will be eradicated, and the whole sweetened. When ready the droppings will be dark in colour, neither wet nor really dry, a condition that can be ascertained by taking a handful and pressing it. If it is cohesive, without losing any of its moisture, it is ready for making into a bed.

Where there is no proper mushroom house (and these are often a failure), select a dark shed, a frame, or an old stable—a cellar is also suitable, where it is easy of access; but the enthusiastic grower will find some building wherein a bed can be made. During the spring and summer months a little spawn inserted in the cucumber frame is often a success, while I have also had a fair crop on the asparagus beds from spawn planted in April. Darkness is essential, especially when growing them inside. The size of the bed will depend upon the quantity of material available, but the depth varies very little. The back should be about 20ins. deep, with a gradual slope to the front, which ought to be say 1ft. in depth. Make the manure quite firm, and in a few days it will generate considerable heat. A hot-bed thermometer is well-nigh indispensable for the beginner, and when this falls to 80° the bed should be spawned. The bricks are broken up into pieces about the size of a hen's egg, inserted 2ins. deep and about 8ins. or 9ins. apart all over the bed. A small hand fork is useful for planting the spawn, and care should be taken to bring the manure close to the spawn to prevent any hollow spaces. Level the bed with the back of a spade or shovel, and after a few days it should be covered with a 2in. layer of virgin loam, and gently pressed down with the back of the spade. No water will be needed until the crop appears, and when moisture is needed it must be tepid, and given through a fine-rosed can. The temperature in the shed for a start should be about 60°, but when the bed is bearing, 10° lower will do no harm. A few barrow loads of fermenting material will help to keep up the requisite temperature, and if the atmosphere is on the dry side, steps must be taken to counteract this by syringing the sides and floor of the building with tepid water. Mushrooms enjoy a moist atmosphere, and an equable temperature.

The period between spawning and cropping is from six to eight weeks, but I have had beds spawned in the autumn lie dormant till the following spring when a good crop has been gathered.



MUSHROOMS ON A HOT BED.

How long the bed will continue to be profitable depends largely on how it was prepared, but when it begins to show signs of exhaustion a handful of salt in four gallons of water will sometimes help it.

When gathering the mushrooms, take care that the root comes out with the stem. The old practice of cutting is obsolete, as the portion of stem left in the bed is detrimental rather than otherwise. Woodlice are occasionally present, but can be trapped with flower pots partly filled with moss, and laid on their sides.

The procedure is much the same for beds in the open, except that they are slightly different in shape. The bed should have a base of 4ft. or 4½ft., and be gradually built up to a foot in width when it is finished off. When completed it will be similar to the roof of a house, and it is spawned at the same temperature and in a similar way to other beds. Cover them with a good layer of clean straw, and then make it secure from rough winds. Hurdles, or mats, will be suitable for this purpose. T. W. BRISCOE.

CORRESPONDENCE

PLANTS FROM SEED.

SIR,—Perhaps in all the variety of garden work there is nothing of such absorbing interest as raising—or attempting to raise—plants of every sort from seed. I am not thinking now of the hardy annuals which, as a matter of course, we sow for the adornment of our gardens, but rather of perennials, alpines, bulbs, shrubs and even trees. THE GARDEN has done well from time to time to give instruction in this art. In the issue before me (January 16th), there are two useful articles about it, one of detailed instructions for raising various perennials and the other about the treatment of seeds of shrubs and trees, and I cherish a set of old numbers (to wit, those of December 24th, 1921, July 1st and 15th, August 12th, and December 23rd and 30th, 1922, and August 18th and December 15th, 1923), which give much help and many hints. In particular the table, "When and How to Sow," in the number of August 18th, 1923, has proved valuable. Seeds are, however, not only, like Cleopatra, of infinite variety, they are of infinite vagary as well. The seed-pot has always hope at the bottom. If I venture to give some notes on my own successes—we will take the much more numerous failures for granted—it is because I would pass on the experience to other amateurs.

First, where are we to get our seeds outside the usual run of florists' flowers? Everybody of course knows the catalogue of Messrs. Thompson and Morgan, of Ipswich. Other lists, not so extensive, but in some cases specialist, are issued by Messrs. Barr, Messrs. Wallace of Tunbridge Wells (many lilies), Messrs. Perry of Enfield (many bulbous plants), Mr. W. E. Th. Ingwersen of Sharpthorne, Mr. J. F. Anderson of Glenn Hall, Leicester, and Messrs. Clarence Elliott, Limited, of Stevenage. M. Henry Correvon, of Floraire, Chêne-Bourg, Geneva, has an enormous list of seeds of alpines and perennials, many unobtainable elsewhere. Messrs. E. and W. Hackett will send you from Adelaide a list of seeds of Australian native plants, and Messrs. Starke and Ayres of Cape Town a list of those of South Africa. And for South African seeds you can become a Member or Associate of the National Botanic Gardens at Kirstenbosch, which issues yearly a list of seeds for distribution. From the Chandra Nursery, Rhenock Sikkim, Bengal, you can obtain some Indian seeds. And Messrs. Vilmorin-Andrieux et Cie, 4, Quai de la Mégisserie, Paris, will send you catalogues (ask for the catalogue of seeds of greenhouse trees and shrubs, as well as the catalogue of hardy ones), which will open to you possibilities of which you had not dreamt.

Digitized by Google

I have mentioned lilies and other bulbous plants. I should call these notably easy, though some of them are slow. Of the raising of lilies from seed a good deal has been written lately. Crinums seem to come readily from seed, though nowhere have I ever seen it offered. Scilla peruviana, babiana, watsonia, tigridia, Sparaxis pulcherrima (bad to transplant—sow *in situ*, or try one seed to a pot), Asphodeline lutea, Fritillaria Meleagris, muscari, brodiæa, are ventures of my own which have come up in the most heartening way. Indeed, I have had hardly any failures with bulbous plants so far as germination is concerned. The South African bulbs are surprisingly easy. Lilies do not come up in so high a proportion; or is it that the prowling slug too frequently scents that one vital first leaf from afar? For lilies I suggest that the soil on and under which they rest should be even grittier and lighter than that of their lower stratum, and I put them in edgeways, to avert rotting. In their case, and in the case of all seeds large enough to handle (as all those mentioned above), it is best to put them in individually at about an inch apart. This is more trouble than scattering, but it is worth it. Indeed, there is no reason why, say, tigridias, which come up practically every one, should not be sown in the pot in which they are to flower, and the seed spaced out in it with that in view.

Let me mention some other plants which I have raised—not always for keeps. Sesbania Tripetii, Rhodotypus kerrioides, Poinciana Gilliesii, indigofera, erythrina, hedychium, Strelitzia Reginæ, acacia, crowea, marianthus, boronia, mandevillea, libertia, Kniphofia rufa, Phlomis fruticosa, Cassia corymbosa, Commelina cœlestis, Æthiopappus pulcherrimus, sedum and sempervivum. Nelumbium fairly startled me. I obtained a packet of a dozen or so, and found them black, beanlike and hard. "These," I thought, "will take months to germinate, if they ever do." According to instructions I filed them lightly, and sowed them in pots which stood in pails of water in the open garden in summer. They were up in fourteen days! So the veriest amateur of us may make his attempts, though we should make them with intelligence and care, for these things of beauty with which we deal have their claim to existence and opportunity.

May I mention something which has occurred to me? The germinating seed requires air. Is it possible that when we cover smallish seeds with the compost which we have used to sow them on it becomes, when it subsequently has to be watered from above, a clog to their breathing? Should we not give them a better chance if our thin layer of covering soil was almost entirely a sandy grit?—W. R. J.

THE FIFTY BEST SAXIFRAGES.

SIR,—Saxifraga atropurpurea Stormonth's variety, of which Dr. R. Lloyd Praeger does not know the parentage, was raised here. It was a seedling noticed alongside its coloured parent, and, apparently, owing its paler colour and broader petal to a dwarf mossy white variety growing near. Several years after its appearance, there sprung to light S. Fergusoni in Dr. Ferguson's garden at Duns, N.B., and S. Guildford Seedling in Mr. H. Selfe Leonard's garden at Guildford. Both of these were noticed in the same season and apparently owed their colour to S. Rhei, which was grown by both these gentlemen.

ONE OF THE BEST TALLER GROWING RED SAXIFRAGES, S. DECIPIENS GRANDIFLORA.

I think we are indebted to Mr. G. Arends of Ronsdorf for the seeds, sent to this country, and from which S. decipiens grandiflora—the first and, perhaps, still one of the best of the larger growing reds—was raised at Bath by the late Mr. Kitley.—JOHN STORMONTH, *Kirkbride, by Carlisle.*

THE STAKING OF PLANTS.

SIR,—I often read in THE GARDEN of the various ways of staking plants in a border and so many people seem to suffer, as I did, before discovering my present very simple method, that I venture to describe it on the chance that it may be a help to someone. The soil here is a sandy peat, very light and in a high wind the ordinary bamboo merely pulls up and lies flat with the plant it is supposed to be supporting. Single bamboos, also, look hideous in my opinion, and still worse is the clump of phlox tied round its middle in a compact lump.

My plan is this, arrived at after many experiments. You get for each clump three bamboos, or in the case of taller plants, such as delphiniums, hazel sticks about 5ft. long. You push in these three sticks round your clump, neither more nor less will do, as far in as you can get them. Then tie the three tops together with tarred string as firmly as possible, about 3ins. or 4ins. from the top, forming a tripod. You then tie a stout string round the tripod about a foot from the ground. That is all. The plant grows up through the tripod, which supports it firmly and is quite invisible once the leaves are fully grown.

Sometimes in a wet summer I have put a second waistband farther up the stakes, but only now and again. The strongest winds do not shift the stakes tied in this way and at the end of the summer you can cut the string, pull up your stakes in a few moments before cutting down your plants for the winter.

I hope I am not teaching my grandmother a new method of eating eggs; very possibly I may be, but I confess I have not seen this plan in any other garden but ours. I see someone enquires why peonies are not so popular as roses. In my case it is because the price is usually too high. I mourn the fact because roses are not happy here and peonies flourish. The other drawback is the lack of scent. Only a few seem to be scented.

May I add a P.S. to the praises of rosemary. Rosemary: a culinary hint.—A small spray of rosemary put beneath the Sunday joint before it goes into the oven, is the greatest improvement to a dull leg of mutton or round of beef. It is best with mutton and gives a delightful flavour to the gravy.—NORA ELOART, *Devon.*

RED SAGE.

SIR,—With regard to my article in THE GARDEN of January 2nd, on "Red Sage," I did not in the least mean that I thought Bergamot Pear and Monarda fistulosa were one and the same thing. What I wrote was in answer to your correspondent's query as to what was the "Red Sage," which possesses medicinal virtues. Monarda fistulosa, which, like Salvia officinalis, belongs to the labiates, is known in many country districts in Britain as either bergamot or red sage and is classed among medicinal plants. In the Midlands the peasants call monarda sometimes by one of these names and sometimes by the other. Its popular name in France is Sange rouge. The name red sage is not meant to imply that the plant is a salvia, any more than its popular name of bergamot, that it is the bergamot orange or the pear of that name. Neither of these names is, of course, scientifically correct. They are the popular ones used in local parlance.

I regret very much indeed and offer my very humble apologies to our seedsmen for the misleading statement I made with regard to Didiscus cœruleus. I ought, of course, to have stated that, as I had never come across it in Britain, I concluded that it was not very well known there.—VICTORIA SLADE. *Hautes-Pyrénées, France.*

A SELECTION OF POTATOES.

SIR,—Mr. Norman Lambert's article on selection of potatoes in THE GARDEN, March 20th, prompts me to ask why one variety is mentioned twice, namely, Duke of York. The National Institute of Agricultural Botany and the Board of Agriculture for Scotland have at their trial stations proved beyond any doubt that Duke of York and Midlothian Early are synonymous, and that the correct name for this splendid first-early variety is Duke of York.

I have grown Midlothian Early, The Duke and Victory, to mention but a few names, and so far could find no botanical difference between them and the Duke of York. It is a great surprise to me that so many people duplicate their varieties of potatoes. What if the same thing happened with varieties of apples, etc.? What a hopeless muddle we would get into.

The Potato Synonym Committee is doing splendid work, but still many people grow

Digitized by Google

varieties under different names. It must be admitted that if we take a variety and compare it with a standard type and it is indistinguishable in its botanical characteristics, then they are synonymous. Why, then, hamper that standard type with so many names?

If we are to take Mr. Lambert's selection of first-early varieties and order, say, 1cwt. of Duke of York and 1cwt. of Midlothian Early, would we not get them supplied by the seedsman out of the same pit? Then why not order 2cwt. of Duke of York and save all this confusion?—GEO. STUART, *Edinburgh*.

GARDEN TECHNIQUE

FLOWER GARDEN

POLYANTHUSES FOR NEXT YEAR.

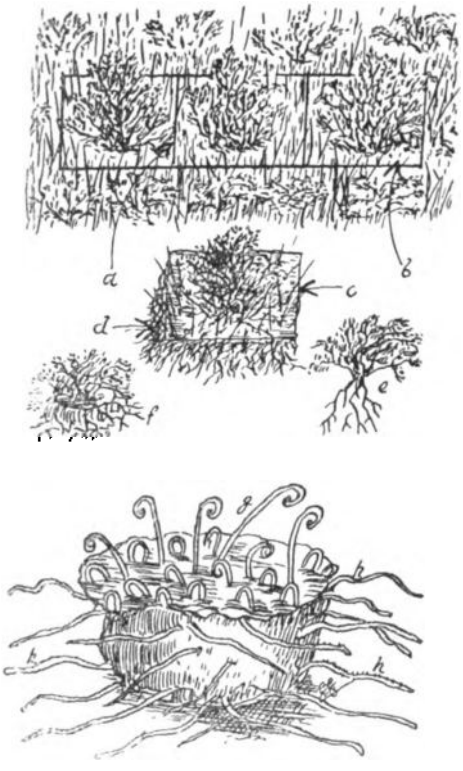
IT may seem a very early date on which to talk about polyanthuses for 1927. But all experienced cultivators know, already, how very important it is to have early stock if success is to be achieved. These notes will, therefore, be helpful to beginners who wish to have fine displays as early as possible in the spring. Do not grow a poor strain, grow the best obtainable. Even the poorest flowers, I admit, possess some individual beauty, but those of the best strains are exquisitely beautiful. Like our greenhouse primulas, the seeds of the polyanthus germinate irregularly, so that it is advisable to sow them thinly and to wait patiently for the laggards to appear in tiny plant form. I advise the use of flower pots or pans for raising seedlings where a few plants only are required, but boxes may be used and especially for large numbers, as ample room should be allowed for the young seedlings, owing to the fact that some of them must be lifted and transplanted before others are forward enough for removal. The polyanthus is a plant that thrives best in a cool temperature and fails if subjected to a very dry soil and arid atmosphere; therefore, provide cool quarters for both the seedlings and the growing plants in the summer. Place the seed vessels in a cold frame, fill them with good loam and a small proportion of rotted leaf-soil. Sow the seeds thinly and cover them an eighth of an inch deep. Keep the vessels in darkness until the first few seedlings appear, then gradually expose them to the light, but shade from bright sunshine. Transplant with care, once prior to planting them in their summer quarters, which should be on cool borders and in a medium rich soil.—CHRISTCHURCH.

COLUMBINES.

NO one who values these quaint and beautiful blossoms would dream, when sowing seed or adding to their stock of plants, of leaving out of their purview the popular long-spurred varieties; yet, I sometimes imagine, in their desire to grow the latest modern sorts, many overlook the older and beautiful forms as represented by Aquilegia vulgaris. Some firms appear to have dropped the latter altogether and content themselves with pushing the long-spurred sorts, but I venture to say the common species of vulgaris, which give an abundance of short-spurred flowers of purple and blue and red and white, are worthy of culture. It is admitted that the older forms are stiffer in build and lack that "airy lightness" which characterises the long-spurred; yet who shall say that, seen in groups about a garden, they lack charm? It is well known that columbines last a long time as cut flowers for table decoration, and equally is it admitted that nothing further is needed to enhance them than their own foliage. I find it best when making a sowing of seed in May or June to do so in a cold frame, using a generous compost made up of loam, leaf-mould and old manure, with sand added. Even after a winter like the past, one comes across "self sowings" in the borders, and it is not, therefore, necessary to resort to sowing seed every year. Perhaps most of us associate these old-fashioned garden plants with sunny places, but if one desires the longest display, a partially shaded position will be found the best. They do well, so treated.—CLAREMONT.

WILD HEATHER AND BRACKEN FERN.

WHEN one sees the heather growing wild on the common and the bracken fern beside it or fringing the near-by wood, carpeting acres of woodland or clothing the rough bank with beautiful, graceful green foliage, one wishes a few patches could be transferred bodily to one's own far-off garden. Sometimes it is found desirable to shift clumps growing in the garden to another



position. I have lived among hundreds of acres of these plants for nearly fifty years and have transplanted them with much success. Clumps may be lifted and transplated at any time now. But the positions should be duly prepared for them beforehand, and, if the soil is all stiff loam, add small stones and peat, packing the latter round each clump as well as making of them a nice firm bed for the clumps to rest on. Wild heather may be found thriving on a very dry bank, but if the clumps are disturbed while in that condition most of them will die, because it is so difficult to get the soil and roots moistened again when they are surrounded by loose compost. Therefore, water the soil thoroughly before the clumps of heather are lifted. Lift large clumps, cut across between them, as shown at *a*, and then all round, as shown at *b*. Use a spade for this work, and leave a smooth edge at the top, *c*; but roots well drawn out of the lower soil, *d*, by the aid of a garden fork. Plants lifted as shown at *e* will probably die; but small ones lifted as shown at will live. Bracken fern with fronds growing as shown at *g* may be safely lifted in clumps if the rhizomes, *h*, *h*, *h*, are carefully preserved. Plant all firmly, water and shade for a time.—GEORGE GARNER.

VEGETABLE GARDEN

FORMING AND PLANTING A HERB GARDEN.

IN many cases, not in all, I admit, the herb borders are made in unsuitable quarters in the garden and the plants are neglected. Many kinds of herbs can be raised from seeds; a few, such as chives, tarragon, lemon thyme and mint, are raised by root division. Plants, resultant from seeds, are generally strong and stocky of growth, consequently a good stock of herbs is soon ready for harvesting. The position of the herb garden should be an open one so that the plants will flower early and freely; the full strength of some kinds of herbs is reached when they are flowering and it is at this stage that they should be harvested. If the quarter selected is sheltered on the north and east sides it does not matter much about full exposure on the other sides. For general convenience in matters attendant on sowing, weeding and harvesting, the plants should be grown in rows in beds about 4ft. wide. The beds, being raised about 4ins., with alleys 18ins. wide between them. Parsley and kinds that are in most request should occupy whole beds, while several of those less frequently used may share one bed. Some seeds may be raised in boxes and the resultant seedlings duly transplanted in the herb garden. It may be advisable to have a special border in a more moist part of the garden for mint and angelica, as these two kinds thrive best in a moist rooting medium. This will be necessary only where the general soil for the herb border is a dry one. It should be rather a dry soil to suit the majority of herbs. The plants raised under glass should be finally planted out early in June. Seeds sown in open borders should be got in about the middle of April. A moderately rich soil is the best.—HANTS.

THE MAKING AND UTILISATION OF CELERY TRENCHES.

THE sooner the celery trenches are made the better. There is still a good deal of moisture in the earth at this season, and so the smoothing of the sides of the trenches is more easily accomplished now than later, when the earth is dry and crumbly.

Celery plants make numerous roots, and it is necessary if good plants are to be grown that rich material should be spread in the bottom of each trench. On very heavy soil, or where the situation is somewhat shaded by tall trees, it is not a good plan to make the trenches too deep. If the soil is excavated to the depth of 15ins. and banked up on either side in a neat and proper manner, the trenches will be quite deep enough should the soil below that depth be of a clayey nature. The cultivator should—if leaf-mould, old potting soil or farmyard manure is scarce or difficult to get—keep to one side a sufficient quantity of the surface soil while excavations are going on to make up and mix afterwards with the manure or other feeding matter, which should fill the bottom of each trench to the depth of 9ins., and on this the celery plants should be set when planting-time comes round. When the trenches are made they can be filled temporarily with bedding calceolarias; then wire pea trainers can be placed along the top, and thus a framework is made, over which frame mats can be spread in the evenings when frosts threaten.—D. ARMSTRONG.

Digitized by Google

MISCELLANEOUS

THE ONION FLY MAGGOT.

WHAT a source of constant trouble the onion fly maggot is to nearly every gardener, every year! And how many remedies have we all tried, some with success, some with only partial success and others—quite a large number—with only disappointment and a sparsely filled onion bed! There are such useful formulæ as paraffin emulsion, hellebore powder in water, paraffin and ashes, soot and lime and many others. But several years ago a friend of mine gave me a "tip," which has proved itself well worth trying.

For quite a number of years in succession, onion beds in the district where my friend was head gardener, had been badly pestered by the onion fly maggot. It was noticed in a very marked way, each year, that, while everybody apparently failed hopelessly to raise onions worthy of note—although, like honest gardeners, they had used every conceivable method of prevention and of cure—one man only seemed able to show a bed of onions worthy of the name. How was it done? He chose for his onion bed the previous year's celery trenches, levelled off, manured and re-dug. I pass it on!—ELSON.

DAMPING-OFF.

MOST gardeners are only too well aware of the disastrous effects of the trouble known as "damping-off." The happening is due to the attacks of a minute fungus which is able to make headway where there is an excessive amount of moisture in the atmosphere or soil. The effects are most marked among young and tender seedlings when these are crowded together or placed under unsuitable atmospheric conditions. A common cause of damping-off among seedlings is to be found when the temperature in a glass house or propagating frame is lower than that outside. This induces condensation of water on all parts of the plants as they become colder. Here, if it is possible to raise the temperature of the house, the moisture soon evaporates and is once more suspended in the air. Free ventilation, when the outdoor conditions make this possible, will often prevent and remove the excessive formation of moisture on the seedlings. Directly any signs of damping-off are to be seen, healthy seedlings should be transplanted and placed out singly in fresh soil. All affected specimens should be destroyed. The wisest course of all for the gardener is to bear in mind the conditions which lead up to the activities of the fungus. Much may be done to prevent the attack by providing ample drainage, a porous compost, and the exercise of great care in watering. Any watering should be done as early as possible in the day, so that, before nightfall, every trace of superfluous moisture has vanished.—L. B.

PRUNING PLUMBAGO AND BOUGAINVILLEA.

THESE plants, treated somewhat similarly to grape vine rods, look charming when in full flower under the roofs of lofty greenhouses and conservatories. In lower structures they look best treated as pillar plants or under the roof near the end of the house. Throughout the winter months the soil in which the plants grow should be kept almost wholly dry, but in spring it should be thoroughly saturated with clear water. Last autumn well managed plants would be pruned back to within 1ft. of the main rods. These side shoots or branches, which so much resemble the vine branches, should be pruned to within 1in. of the base of each. By the first week in April the young side shoots will be about 3ins. long, and by the middle of June or a little later, perhaps, the first flower-buds will form. From March to the middle of July the plants should be fed with weak doses of liquid manure twice every week. The flowering branches—all of them will not bear flowers—should be allowed to depend gracefully from the roof and not be tied in stiffly and formally. The appearance of these long, flower-laden shoots is very effective indeed. Heliotrope may be treated in a similar way, but the flowering branches must be carefully pulled down, as they naturally tend to grow upwards at first. When once a cultivator has judiciously furnished the roof of his lofty greenhouse with great masses of the flowers named, he will continue their cultivation, as the roof will rival the staging in the rich colours of the blossoms.—GEO. GARNER.

SPRING AND EARLY SUMMER TREATMENT OF AUTUMN-LAID TURVES.

IT is generally an advantage to lay turves before Christmas—October and November being the two best months for the work: then there are sure to be a good quantity of new roots available and permeating the soil below before the hot weather comes. Only in exceptional instances should turves be laid in late springtime. But in the case of autumn-laid ones it does not follow that they will form a perfect lawn, tennis court or bowling green without some close attention during the spring. Although the turves may be left in very good condition in the autumn, the weather that follows has a bad effect on them if it is frosty, and if very dry in spring uneven turves are difficult to get level again. Frosts loosen hard, undisturbed ground, and recently cut turves are sure to be displaced a little. Before the drying winds come, closely examine the ground, have a quantity of finely sifted soil in readiness, also some wood ashes; add a 6in. potful of the latter to each bushel of prepared soil. First fill up all open spaces found between the turves, then scatter 2 pecks per square rod, generally, on the turves, gently brush it all to and fro, working in the fine soil and ashes. Follow with the roller, doing all while the surface is fairly dry. Early in June apply 2 oz. of bone-meal per square yard, and a beautiful firm lawn of fine grasses will result. Do not use farmyard or other fresh organic manure.

PATCHING LAWNS.

TOWARDS the end of the winter unsightly bare patches on lawns are not uncommon. The writer has found that a very good way of repairing these is by means of grass mats formed in the following manner: Cut out a piece of sacking somewhat larger than the bare patch. Rest this on the floor of an outhouse where there is a certain amount of light. Sprinkle the sacking with water, and then, on the material, sow grass seed thickly. Naturally, if the grass mat is kept moist it is soon thick with green growth. One point should be borne in mind, and that is, if the grass mat is resting on soil it should be moved about every few days to prevent the roots getting a hold. On the whole, it is better to have the mat on a brick floor where there will be no possibility of any rooting. On any mild day, when the grass has grown well, the mat may be transferred to the patch on the lawn. Loosen the surface of the ground well and trim the mat with scissors to the correct shape. Then place it in position, pressing it down lightly. It will be found that, in good growing weather, the grass plants rapidly take root and render the repair a permanency. The sacking soon rots away and does not interfere at all with the development of the grass. This plan gives a much more certain effect than the usual method of re-sowing bare places on a lawn.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

BOOK REVIEW

THE value of "The Pruning of Trees and Shrubs," by W. Dallimore (8vo, illustrated, Dulau, 1926), will be recognised by all who are interested in the cultivation and care of trees and shrubs. Written by Mr. Dallimore, of Kew Gardens, who has had much practical experience of his subject, as well as a theoretical knowledge underlying the practice of pruning, the information it contains is both interesting and instructive.

To those who wish to secure good examples of trees and shrubs in their gardens and grounds, a perusal of the methods recommended for pruning their specimens will be of great assistance. Evidence of neglect and bad pruning of the occupants of parks and gardens are only too common, which a study of the advice given in this little book would prevent. The writer treats his subject in a masterly manner, with instructions for the treatment of a juvenile tree, to its development into an adult well balanced specimen.

The best methods of protecting the wounds caused by the pruning of large branches, from the attacks of fungus and insects are given, and illustrations showing the effects of neglect of these precautions are figured. Many valuable hints are also given in regard to the preservation of old and decaying trees, which from historic or sentimental reasons it is necessary to take steps to preserve. A chapter is devoted to the treatment of broad-leaved evergreen trees, and conifers, while the so-called flowering trees so essential for the decoration of gardens receive attention. Here the reader will find instructions as to the best seasons for pruning, as well as the growths that may with advantage be removed. This applies also to the chapter on hedges, of both the evergreen and deciduous types. To the owners of gardens of smaller dimensions the pages devoted to the pruning of shrubs will be of especial value. Here are indicated the differences in the time of pruning the branches from shrubs which bloom on the wood formed in the current year, in distinction to those plants which bloom on the wood formed during the year previous. An alphabetical list of nearly thirty pages is devoted to climbers and other shrubby plants grown against walls, and many useful directions for the successful culture of these desirable plants are given. The whole book is written in a simple and concise manner, which is readily understandable by the amateur or professional.

R. L. HARROW.

Means of Access to the R.H.S. Gardens, Wisley.—Wisley, as most people know, lies a few yards off the Portsmouth Road on the banks of the Wey, about a mile and a half on the London side of Ripley and about midway between two lines of the Southern Railway from Waterloo. Four stations, two on the Waterloo-Salisbury line, *viz.*, Byfleet and Weybridge, and two on the "new" Guildford line (served by electric trains), *viz.*, Effingham and Horsley, are each about four or five miles from the entrance to the Gardens. The London General Omnibus Co. runs an hourly service of motor 'buses (No. 115), between Kingston and Guildford and this passes within five minutes of the Garden entrance and recently another service of motor 'buses has been started between Horsley and Ripley village. Passengers by the latter service can alight at Stratford Bridge, half a mile from the Gardens.

The Gardens are open to those bearing Fellows Tickets (each of which will admit three), between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. on weekdays. The Sunday opening does not start until May 2nd, and continues during the summer from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Digitized by Google

The ATCO MOTOR MOWER

Gone are the Bad Old Days

Gone are the bad old days of slow and inefficient turf culture—this is the ATCO era—these are the days of better lawns, maintained without heavy labour and with a minimum of expense. The ATCO is used by over eleven thousand Turf Culturists because it is the most efficient Motor Mower extant.

Prices from 30 Guineas

Write to-day for 1926 Illustrated Art Catalogue of ATCO Turf Culture Specialities, sent POST FREE on request.

Chas. H. Pugh, Limited
Whitworth Works, 31, Tilton Road,
BIRMINGHAM.

INSECT PESTS

EVEN a short recital of some of the pests which threaten every gardener makes melancholy reading—Green Fly on Roses, Caterpillars on Fruit Trees, Red Spider on Gooseberries and Currants, the list could be extended indefinitely of all the foes the gardener has, but it is comforting to know that he has a ready ally to hand to aid him in the fight.

"KATAKILLA"

The non-poisonous Powder Insecticide is certain death to—

GREEN FLY
CATERPILLAR
WOOLLY APHIS
RED SPIDER and other Pests.

Write for our Illustrated leaflet "Katakilla."

Get your supplies from your usual dealer or write direct to—

Cooper, McDougall & Robertson, Ltd.,
BERKHAMSTED,
Herts.

GOW'S LAWN SAND

In Tins at:—
1/-; 3/6 (7lbs.),
6/- (14lbs.).

ERADICATES
Daisies, Moss and Similar Weeds.

— A MOST EFFECTIVE —
GRASS STIMULANT.

28 lbs. will dress 100 square yards or 84 lbs. a full size Tennis Court.
In Bags:— 28lbs. 10/-; 56lbs. 16/6; 1 cwt. 30/-

FROM ALL SEEDSMEN.

Makers—HUNTER & GOW LTD.,
28, Thomas Street, LIVERPOOL.

Beautiful Hardy Flowers

ARTINDALES New Illustrated Catalogue now ready and will be forwarded on application.

WM. ARTINDALE & SON
NETHER GREEN :: SHEFFIELD

Forbes' Catalogue

Carnations, Pelargoniums, Pentstemons, Phloxes, Pyrethrums, Violas, Hardy Border and Rock Plants, Seeds, etc.

FREE ON APPLICATION

JOHN FORBES (Hawick), LTD., Dept. 2, The King's Nurserymen, Hawick, Scotland

The RITO Smile

GARDENERS!

Multiply your crops and grow fragrant flowers with

RITO

RITO is a humus, organic and natural soil food; a stimulant and energising medium for soil bacteria. Its use results in larger crops. Rito is suitable for garden, greenhouse and allotment.

Seedsmen, Florists, Corn Merchants, etc., sell RITO at the following prices: 1 cwt., 23/-; 28lbs., 6/3; 14lbs., 3/3; 7lbs., 1/9; and in 1/- cartons. Write to The Molassine Co., Ltd. (Dept. R52), Greenwich, for FREE literature

Digitized by Google

THE COOL CULTURE OF CINERARIAS.

THE antipathy which seems to be inherent in the minds of many towards the culture of cinerarias because of their being an easy prey to green fly has not entirely disappeared. It was bred and fostered in the days when only the large-flowering sorts were known, but when the light, graceful star forms were introduced and found so many admirers quite a number of gardeners began to adopt a more conciliatory attitude to a plant that hitherto they had looked upon more in the light of an enemy. To-day we have progressed far in understanding the culture of these greatly improved and admittedly beautiful greenhouse flowering plants. While our forefathers perpetuated their stock from offshoots or suckers and, consequently, always had them on hand, we have no occasion to do so, as the highly finished strains leave nothing to be desired. We recognise them as indoor annuals, quick in growth, succulent and therefore when in full vigour needing sufficient water at the right time. We know them as being best served when cultivated in an atmosphere in which great heat on the one hand and cold on the other is avoided. In a nutshell, cinerarias dislike extremes of temperature, and those who would avoid pitfalls will endeavour to strike the happy medium, and grow their plants under cool conditions without excitement. As is known, it is usual to sow seed in the warmth of the greenhouse in June for flowering in March following, and early in April if plants are wanted to bloom by December. Mellow loam and leaf-mould with the addition of a little sand passed through a sieve and rendered fine is the ideal compost in which to start the seed. As soon as the seedlings are well into their second leaf, then is the time for their first shift into small pots. In removing them into final pots a small proportion of old manure can be added to the compost suggested. During their early stages it is better to err on the side of coolness than subject plants to a close, stuffy atmosphere.

I find that in transferring them to their summer quarters a cold frame in a north aspect is best, and the pots should be stood on a bed of fine ashes clear of each other so that the foliage, which adds considerably to the beauty of the blossoms, is not liable to become broken or bruised. My experience prompts me to say that plants so located and treated, having the lights off whenever possible, are in prime condition by the autumn, when they can be taken indoors and given a place not far removed from the roof, where they can obtain light and air. Occasional supplies of soot water keep them vigorous and healthy. One of the secrets of producing cinerarias with fine heads of bloom is a long period of growth under cool conditions, and it is when the reverse of this treatment is given that trouble with green fly invariably commences.—W. F.

NICOTINE INSECTICIDES.

THE nicotine, derived from tobacco, is the gardener's friend, used judiciously, his enemy used indiscriminately. Our manufacturers have devoted much time and care to the perfecting of the various compounds—pure nicotine and materials containing it—so that the gardener, who may be suffering loss through some pest to his crops, may be able to eradicate that pest in a simple way, if he follows faithfully the directions accompanying each bottle or packet, as the case may be. Even in recent years there has been a great advance in the preparations of various kinds and forms. Of course, we all know that nicotine is poisonous and must be used with great care. Some of us know how offensive it is in an old favourite pipe, sometimes, when it has not been duly cleaned. Possibly it was a pipe of this kind that I once found a carnation enthusiast using in his glass structure in a northern town. The greeting was quickly over, as I preferred the manufactured nicotine compounds to that from my friend's pipe. He said he was killing green fly on the plants. The pipe and its contents were strong enough to kill the user. That was one primitive way of applying a nicotine remedy. The general way is to apply the remedy in vaporising or fumigating, when the contents of the house are quite dry, but I have always found it advisable lightly to damp the path; furthermore, the vapour or the smoke is more efficacious when the weather is calm and rain drizzle has almost hermetically sealed the tiny openings between the squares of glass. The smoke remains dense in the structure for a considerable time. If the weather is windy and the ventilators are not very close-fitting, many injurious insect pests will recover from their sudden fainting fit and soon go on again with their destructive work. The vaporising of plants should be done in a similar way, and, in both instances, the remedy is more complete if applied on two consecutive nights not over strong, than on one night quite at full strength. In solution form, whether applied by sponge or syringe, the best time to use it is in the evening and to moisten thoroughly all parts of the affected leaves, stems, etc. The foliage will be dry, or almost dry, the following morning and in every instance, after fumigating or syringing, the ventilators at the top of the house should be opened a little before the sun shines strongly on the house.

Manufacturers and vendors supply at reasonable prices nicotine fumigators and vaporising fumigators which will last in good condition for many years if taken care of. It is better to use such than to make a guess at it with make-shift appliances. Some, again, do not require any vessel, I refer to those applied in dry form; shred, cone or sheet. Practically all the leading manufacturers and vendors supply, with the insecticides, tables showing their strength and how to ascertain the cubic feet of various glass structures. I have had practical experience of Messrs. Richard's "XL All" compounds, Darlington's Patent "Auto-shreds," McDougall's Fumers and Sheets, Abol Insecticides, Corry's, Bentley Limited, Cross and Sons Compounds, Osman and Co.'s, W. Wood and Sons, Hunter and Gow's Nicoticides, and several others, and have found them all very efficacious. These insecticides may be obtained by readers from firms and nurserymen advertising in this journal.—HAMPSHIRE.

THE HARDINESS OF GEUMS.

I WONDER what the general experience is in regard to the culture and staying power of geums? Since the advent of that well known variety Mrs. Bradshaw and, more recent still, that of Lady Stratheden with rich golden yellow flowers, they have become extremely popular. Personally, I cannot bring myself to regard geums as hardy perennials—though classed as such—in the same way as one looks upon, say, pyrethrums or campanulas, inasmuch as geums, after being planted out a couple of years or so have a way of damping off, if one may describe it as such. A bed, comprising two dozen plants—two years old—which I saw in March, had all perished, the leaves having all gone mouldy and the roots had died. My own experience with them prompts me to say that, to keep up a stock of Mrs. Bradshaw, one should sow seed every year, and not trouble further with plants after their second season of blooming. In a flower so prolific it seems to be the one weak point, *i.e.*, it has little or no staying power; but my experience may not coincide with that of other readers who grow it in the south of England.—W. LINDERS LEA.

PREPARING THE GROUND AND PLANTING BORDER CARNATIONS.

MOST cultivators, I think, prefer to plant young carnations as early in September as possible, and to have the ground well prepared some weeks in advance of the planting period. Even if one gets well rooted layers set out in October, there is every chance of the plants doing well—especially when we get mild and open weather such as we experienced in November and December, 1924. Throughout those two months there was little or no frost and the temperature even as late as December 20th reached 53 degrees F. It may be worth while stating that our rooted layers were set out late in October of that year, and the plants flowered exceptionally well in 1925.

Those, however, who may have wintered poorly rooted layers in cold frames or have left the layers attached to the old plants in the open, should make a start now, and have these young plants set out in their flowering quarters.

We find that plants grow well and flower splendidly on a border having a western aspect and sheltered from the east and north. The soil is deeply dug and manured and, just before planting, old lime or wood ashes is spread over the surface soil. The September set out plants are looking very healthy at present, although a few had been partly raised from the soil in the early part of the year, owing to the frosts and thaws acting on the earth. It sometimes happens that one wants to get up a stock of some variety, or special coloured favourite, but finds when layering that many good shoots, or growths, on the earmarked plants are far too short for layering. Well, what is to be done? The answer is, pull off carefully those fine healthy shoots, then dibble them into sandy soil in a cold frame and keep them close—and shaded from bright sunshine—for a few weeks. We did this with shoots of a floriferous red variety called Mrs. Wilson, and had nicely rooted plants in less than seven weeks time from date of inserting the shoots, and out of forty-two shoots put in, only one failed to root.—DAVID ARMSTRONG.

FERTHRIVER (REGD.)

THE COMPLETE FERTILISER, WITH GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

	7-lb.	14-lb.	28-lb.	56-lb.	1-cwt.
Ferthriver	1/6	2/9	5/-	9/-	16/-
Bone Meal	1/6	2/9	5/-	9/-	16/-
Nitrate of Soda	1/6	3/-	6/-	11/-	21/-

Add the following extras for Carriage Paid lots. 1/- 1/9 2/- 2/6 4/-

ANALYSIS:

Ammonia	4 per cent.
Phosphates	15 "
Potash	3 "
Pot. Sulphate	6.6 "

3d. Tin of Ferthriver *As Illustrated,* 6d. Post Free.

THE NECESSARIES CO., 25, Edward Road, Balsall Heath BIRMINGHAM.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

HARDY HEATHERS.

The most complete collection in the trade. All from cuttings; mostly from pots.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE FREE.

Special Collection, for continued Winter blooming, 25 in 25 sorts, to bloom the whole year round (in their respective varieties), even in bleak districts. Price **£1,** carriage paid.

Special Collection, for Limy or Chalky Soil. One dozen, **14/-** carriage paid.

MAXWELL & BEALE
BROADSTONE - DORSET

The "HELICHRYSA" PERMANENT LABEL

Reg. Design. 719923. Prov. Prot.

LASTING, LEGIBLE, AND LOW IN PRICE

IT LOOKS YOU STRAIGHT IN THE FACE

The labels are embossed aluminium in galvanised wire holders. From **2/- dozen** according to amount of lettering necessary.

Write for circular and full particulars to

THE "HELICHRYSA" PERMANENT LABEL CO.
EAST STREET, COGGESHALL, ESSEX

VIOLETS

FOR BEDS, ROCK GARDENS & NATURALIZING.

MISS STANISTREET has ready now young plants of highest quality, as supplied to U.S.A. and Canadian Governments. Properly selected and packed by experts. 50 Varieties. Princess of Wales, Marie Louise, etc., 3/6 doz. carriage paid. Lists free.

KILLALOE :: Co. CLARE

PROFIT or PLEASURE?

Is your Garden a source of profit to you, or a place of delight? In either case you need

FERRY BRAND
Regd. *Trade Mark*

SPECIAL FERTILISERS

—for heavier crops and lovelier flowers

THE "Ferry" Garden Manure is unequalled for general garden purposes. It is suitable for Potatoes, Tomatoes, Peas, Beans, Fruit Trees, Vines, Roses, &c. Poor soils are greatly improved and "worn-out" gardens are restored by "Ferry" Garden Manure. It feeds the soil with the essential plant foods.

14 lbs. 3/-; 28 lbs. 5/9; 56 lbs. 11/-; 1 cwt. 20/-

carriage paid to the nearest Railway Station for cash with order.

Write for the Orange Book at containing valuable garden hints, and particulars of special Fertilisers for Roses, Sweet Peas, Carnations, Chrysanthemums, Fruit Trees, Strawberries, Potatoes, Tomatoes, &c.

THE BRITON FERRY CHEMICAL & MANURE CO., LTD. (Dept. E), Briton Ferry, South Wales. (Established 1866)

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

WATER LILIES IN CONCRETE PONDS

GORGEOUS water lilies can easily be grown in small artificial ponds made of concrete or some similar substance. All that is required is a quantity of good garden loam and preferably some kind of receptacle to hold it together under the water; a little manure may be added to the loam with great advantage, but only if a flow of water is provided; otherwise, an offensive smell and scum are apt to prove troublesome.

In a small tank the loam may be spread over the bottom; in a large tank it is better to place it in heaps where the lilies are desired, and in some kind of receptacle. The receptacle may be an old basket, a tub, or merely a circle of stones or turf; it should be about 18ins. to 24ins. in diameter.

Plant out in April or May. The best method is to empty the tank or pond and to plant the lilies in the soil at the bottom. Shallow planting is desirable, the soil being some 6ins. to 9ins. deep and the roots buried in that to a depth of 3ins.

When the pond cannot be emptied the planting is more difficult. The usual plan is to plant the lilies in some receptacle first, then to sink them in the water. Or, if the soil is already there, to plant the lilies firmly in small baskets, in cardboard boxes or even in a brown-paper parcel full of loam—anything which will allow the roots to pass through or will decay quickly. These are then slowly dropped into the pond and planted as firmly as possible in the soil at the bottom, stones being laid on either side to hold them in place.

There should be 18ins. to 24ins. of water above the plants; they will easily reach the surface and flower in season.

Beginners should take care that they really obtain choice varieties, for, the pond being small in their case, greater satisfaction is obtained from quality. The double white must be included; if another white is desired, then Marliacea albida may be grown. Ellisiana, vermilion; odorata sulphurea grandiflora, yellow; Marliacea rosea, red; Laydekeri fulgens, amaranth; Aurora, orange red; Caroliniana perfecta, salmon pink; Arc-en-ciel, salmon red; William Falconer, red;

SALE OF ROSES

At 33⅓ per cent. less than catalogue prices.

HAVING so far sold our stock of Roses that the catalogue is no longer a reliable source of selection and not having enough each of different kinds to justify advertising the balance in named collections, we are offering what remains of our stock of bush, standard and climbing Roses in carriage paid quantities in varieties of our selection, at **33⅓%** less than list prices.

The varieties are all first-class (not an obsolete one among them), the trees are excellent and, while all buyers will get remarkably good value for money the first comers will have the advantage of newer and more expensive varieties for as long as stocks last.

BUSHES
In variety—our selection.
Usual price 1/3 each.
10/- doz.
CARRIAGE PAID
6/- for 6 trees.

STANDARDS
In variety—our selection.
Usual price 3/9 each.
30/- doz.
CARRIAGE PAID.
16/6 for 6 trees.
9/- for 3 trees.

CLIMBERS
In variety—our selection.
Usual price 1/6 each.
12/- doz.
CARRIAGE PAID.
7/- for 6 trees.
4/3 for 3 trees.

Baker's
SEED AND FLOWER FARM,
CODSALL,
Nr. Wolverhampton.

DOBBIE'S DAHLIAS

OUR DAHLIAS have a world-wide reputation, and our collection is unsurpassed for all that is really worth growing in their respective classes.

Plants may be had from now onwards till June—the earlier for potting on, the later for planting out direct.

Place orders at once and say when required.

Any class: **Collarette, Cactus, Decorative, Pæony, Pompon, Show, Single, Dwarf Bedders.**

Plants from Pots: 10 for **6/3**; 20 for **11/6**; 30 for **17/3**; 40 for **21/-**; 50 for **25/-**; 100 for **47/6** Cash with order.

Our Selection. Carriage Paid.

Catalogues on Application.

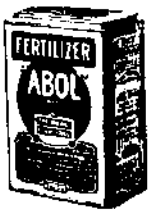
DOBBIE & CO., Ltd.
Royal Florists,
EDINBURGH.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

Abol

Horticultural Fertilizer



Feeds your plants, ensures lovely gardens and fine vegetables.

To maintain the fertility of any garden or allotment it is necessary to keep the soil supplied with the essential elements—nitrogen, phosphates and potash—blended in their proper proportions.

Abol Fertilizers can be relied upon to give the best results with economy. For full particulars, with analysis, please

WRITE FOR DESCRIPTIVE FOLDERS.

Packages: 10d., 1/3, 2/-; 7lbs. 3/- 14lbs. 5/- 28lbs. 8/- 56lbs. 14/- 112lbs. 25/-. Postage extra.

From all Nurserymen, Seedsmen, Ironmongers, Chemists and Stores. If any difficulty write to the Sole Proprietors,

Abol Limited, 9, Beltring, Paddock Wood, Kent.

WRITE FOR GUIDE TO GARDEN PESTS. GRATIS AND POST FREE.

KNAP HILL NURSERY

WOKING, SURREY

(late ANTHONY WATERER)

***PROPRIETOR* - HOSEA WATERER**

has pleasure in offering

STANDARD TREES

in great variety, consisting of

LIMES, NORWAY MAPLES, ELMS, etc., etc.

EVERGREEN & DECIDUOUS SHRUBS, viz.:

Box—Green and Variegated, 3 to 8 ft.
Hollies—Common, 5 to 8 ft.; Variegated and Green varieties, 2 to 6 ft.
Thuiopsis borealis, 10 to 12 ft. Cupressus Lawsoniana, 12 to 14 ft. Cedrus atlantica glauca, very fine, 14 to 16 ft. Osmanthus, Phillyroeas, Spiræas, Lilacs, Viburnums, etc.

GOLDEN YEWS

A Magnificent Stock in all shapes and sizes from 2 to 10 ft.

PRIVET, Common and Oval-leaved.

QUICK and **HORNBEAM** for Hedges.

AZALEAS, 2 to 5 ft.

RHODODENDRONS, without doubt the finest stock in the trade of named varieties, 2 to 6 and 8 ft.

HARDY HEATHS in great variety and a good general nursery stock.

Catalogues ready.

Enquiries and inspection invited.

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING STATION, SURREY

and a white and a yellow pygmæa would make a fine dozen, easily picked up in any nursery supplying aquatics, all well tested, old, but good varieties.—CLYDESDALE.

TRADE NOTE

All gardeners will welcome the new preparation of Messrs. Vinolia Company, Limited, known as "Sprinko." It is a toilet soap compound, and will be found excellent for cleaning the hands after a few hours' work in the garden. Motorists and mechanics will also find it of great service. One of its good points is that it is equally effective in hard, soft, pond or salt water. The majority of us when working in the garden generally find some little difficulty in removing dirt and grease from the skin, and this preparation undoubtedly does what it claims to do. It is obtainable in two sizes, and Messrs. Vinolia state that they are willing to send a free sample to any of our readers who care to apply to "Sprinko," P.O. Box 52, Blackfriars, London, E.C.4.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

"The Sweet Pea Annual for 1926." published by the National Sweet Pea Society, price 5s. A volume which all lovers of the sweet pea should procure if they are not already members of this promising Society. It indicates to some extent the increasing interest which is being taken in sweet pea culture throughout the country. The secretary, Mr. A. C. Bartlett, is to be congratulated on the excellence of the publication and for his activity on behalf of the Society, which shows a substantial increase in membership year by year.

"Plants from Seed," by A. J. Macself. Published by Messrs. Thornton, Butterworth, price 6s. net. Another member of the Home Garden Book Series which all amateurs will find of the greatest interest and assistance in their gardening duties. It is written in an easy style and in simple language which will be readily understood by all. There are a number of excellent half-tone illustrations and colour reproductions throughout the pages, which add considerably to the attractiveness of the book.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

Miss Stanistreet, Killaloe, Co. Clare. Spring list of violets containing a unique collection.

Messrs. The Barnham Nurseries, Limited, Barnham, Sussex. List of ornamental shrubs with numerous illustrations.

Mr. George G. Whitelegg, The Nurseries, Chislehurst, Kent. A general list covering a wide field, including alpine and herbaceous plants, trees and shrubs, and roses.

Messrs. Messenger and Co., Limited, Loughborough. The new edition of this catalogue of horticultural buildings is an excellent publication in every sense of the word. It contains one of the most comprehensive series of illustrations in line and half-tone of greenhouses, conservatories, porches, summer-houses, etc., which we have seen. In addition, at the opening of the brochure, many practical hints and technical advice are given on the construction and equipment of glasshouses generally as an aid to success in the cultivation of plants, fruit and flowers under glass. It is a handsome brochure, and we have pleasure in bringing it to the notice of our readers. A copy may be had on application to Messrs. Messenger.

WE much regret an error which appeared in Mr. J. Lionel Richardson's advertisement on page v. in our issue of April 3rd, 1926. The varieties which received First Class Certificates should have read as follows: Narcissus Glorious and Beersheba.

By Appointment

BOULTON & PAUL GARDEN FRAMES

High grade, solidly built. Renowned for durability, strength and simplicity.

Delivered ready painted, glazed 21 oz. English glass, complete with bolts, and can be put together in a few minutes by any amateur.

CASH PRICES

No. H 77.

VIOLET or BORDER FRAME.

1-Light Frame (sliding) ..	3 ft. × 4 ft.	£1. 15. 0
2-Light Frame ,, ..	6 ft. × 4 ft.	£2. 19. 0
3-Light Frame ,, ..	9 ft. × 4 ft.	£4. 4. 0
1-Light Frame (hinged) ..	3 ft. × 4 ft.	£2. 2. 0
2-Light Frame ,, ..	6 ft. × 4 ft.	£3. 15. 0
3-Light Frame ,, ..	9 ft. × 4 ft.	£5. 7. 0

Supplied with Sliding or Hinged Lights.

No. H 75.

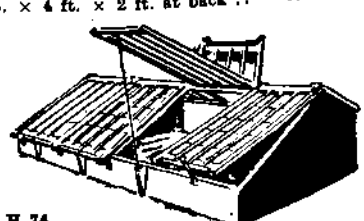
MELON and CUCUMBER FRAME.

1-Light Frame, 4 ft. long × 6 ft. wide.	£5. 10. 0
2-Light Frame, 8 ft. long × 6 ft. wide.	£6. 18. 0
3-Light Frame, 12 ft. long × 6 ft. wide	£7. 15. 0

No. H 62.

LEAN-TO FRAME or FORCING PIT FOR BRICKWORK.

10 ft. long × 3 ft. wide × 1 ft. 9 ins. high at back, above wall	£5. 19. 0
15 ft. long × 3 ft. wide, ditto ditto ..	£8. 7. 0
10 ft. × 4 ft. × 2 ft. at back	£8. 5. 0
15 ft. × 4 ft. × 2 ft. at back	£10. 5. 0



No. H 74.

THREE-QUARTER SPAN-ROOF GARDEN FRAME

4 ft. long × 6 ft. wide	£7. 3. 0
8 ft. long × 6 ft. wide	£10. 18. 0
12 ft. long × 6 ft. wide	£14. 13. 0

Carriage paid to most stations in England and Wales, packing extra, but allowed for if returned.

GARDEN FRAME CATALOGUE No. 744 SHOWING OTHER SIZES AND DESIGNS SENT FREE ON REQUEST.

See our Exhibit, CHELSEA SHOW, MAY 18th to 20th, 1926.

Boulton & Paul Ltd
NORWICH
LONDON OFFICE 135-137 QUEEN VICTORIA ST E.C.

Digitized by Google

BY APPOINTMENT

MOTOR MOWERS a Speciality In all Sizes.

GREEN'S

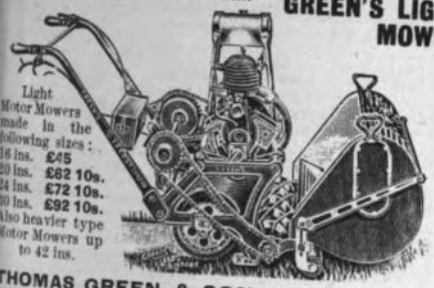
WORLD FAMOUS LAWN MOWERS

HAND and HORSE MOWERS

GARDEN ROLLERS & TENNIS MARKERS

Reliable. Efficient Economical.

GREEN'S LIGHT MOTOR MOWERS



Light Motor Mowers made in the following sizes:
16 ins. £45
20 ins. £62 10s.
24 ins. £72 10s.
30 ins. £92 10s.
Also heavier type Motor Mowers up to 42 ins.

16, 20, 24, and 30 in. (fitted with kick starter)

Supreme in Construction
Perfect in Operation

NEW SEASON'S PRICE LIST No. 8 FREE ON REQUEST.

GREEN'S NEW "CENTURY" LAWN MOWER.

The Ideal Light Mower.
Over a Million Sold.

GREEN'S "SILENS MESSOR" LAWN MOWER

The Universal Favourite.

GREEN'S Lawn Mowers

Obtainable from all Ironmongers.

THOMAS GREEN & SON, Ltd., Smithfield Ironworks, Leeds, and New Surrey Works, Southwark Street, London, S.E.1. (Est. 1835)

The WIZARD Plant LABEL

PATENT No 212974

Made in Red Pottery, 2½ x 1½ ins., with rustless wires, 12 in., 2/- doz.; 7 in., 1/7 doz. 1½ x 1 in., with wires 6 in., 1/6 doz. For tying on, 1/6 and 1/3 doz. Waterproof Ink, 9d. and 7½d. bot. Crow Quills, 2d. Postage extra.

Highly commended by the R.H.S. at Wisley.

E. TORKINGTON . NEW HALL . MAIDENHEAD

HILL & SMITH, Ltd.,

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS,

Makers of

IRON FENCING, HURDLES, GATES, WIRE NETTING AND GARDEN IRONWORK

Other Products—Hay and Grain Sheds, Dutch Barns, Galvanized Corrugated Sheets and Structural Steelwork.

Catalogues free on mentioning this paper.

London: 300, Abbey House, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

By Appointment.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.,
Royal Potteries
BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

Put him in his right place with

SANITAS POWDER

Sanitas Powder erects an impassable barrier against worms, caterpillars, slugs and snails—but is harmless to plants and flowers. It is non-poisonous—except to pests.

THE "SANITAS" CO. LTD. LIMEHOUSE, LONDON, E.

SAN 229-89

GARDEN LOVERS

Write for Catalogues of

PROTHEROE & MORRIS'

• HORTICULTURAL SALES •

WEDNESDAY

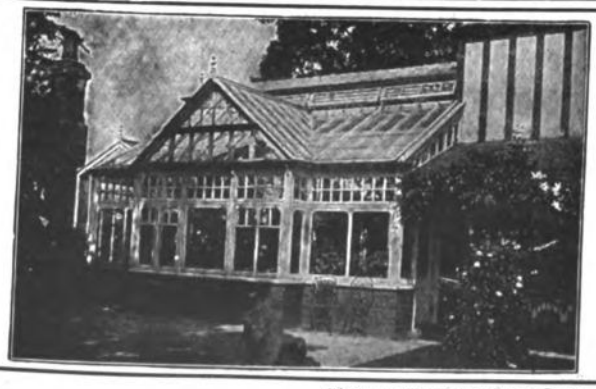
67, 68 Cheapside, London E.C.2. Phone: City 3656

COAL

Trucks to any station or delivered into cellar.

BEST DERBY BRIGHTS	.. 23/- ton pit
KITCHEN COBBLES OR NUTS ..	.. 16/- ,,
COKE, for Central Heating and Greenhouses	15/- ,,
ANTHRACITE, for all purposes ..	.. 23/6 ,,

From BUCKLE COLLIERY CO., Box 98, CHELTENHAM



FOSTER & PEARSON LIMITED

Established 1841

Please write for Estimates for durable Greenhouses, Boilers, etc., to

BEESTON NOTTS

Digitized by Google

I BELIEVE that the man who smokes a pipe filled with a good tobacco gains a more tolerant, a calmer and happier outlook on life
—*R.F.E.*

There is one tobacco which has given unfailing satisfaction. It is still the same to day—

They call it

PLAYER'S

NAVY CUT

For Cigarette Smokers
PLAYER'S NAVY CUT CIGARETTES

Registered No. 154011.

P.1261.

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION 1912

WAKELEY'S *Celebrated* (PATENTED) **HOP MANURE**

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DO YOU REALISE IT ?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE, without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

A beautiful Free Booklet giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. GENUINE ONLY IN OUR MARKED BAGS, CONTAINING GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

Cash Prices, including bags: Small (about 1 bushel), 3/-: Large (about 4 bushels), 7/-: 5 Large, 33/9
10 Large, 65/-: 20 Large, 120/-

Carriage Paid to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company. 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE LEADING GLASSHOUSE FUMIGANT.

WEED DEATH

The new NON-POISONOUS Weed Killer (POWDER).
SUPERIOR TO DANGEROUS ARSENICAL COMPOUNDS
Safety first, non-caustic, no smell, kills the roots.
For 4 galls., 1/-; 12½, 2/-; 25, 3/6; 50, 6/6; 100, 12/- & Bulk.
From your Nurseryman or Seedsman.
CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

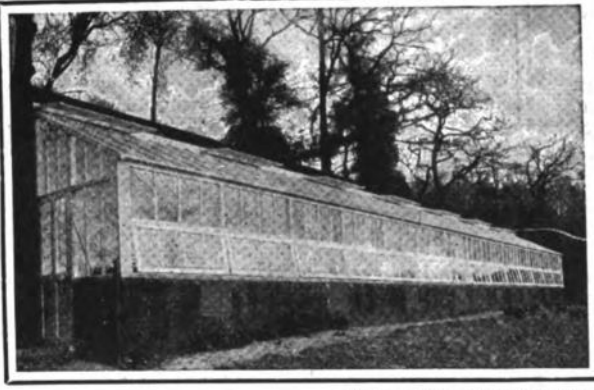
YOUR GARDEN NEEDS

KILOGRUB

Its fumes are instantly fatal to all insect pests in the soil, but harmless to plants. Really effective because it works underground.
Tins: 9d., 1/6 and 2/6
Bags: ¼ cwt. 6/6, ½ cwt. 9/6, 1 cwt. 15/-
From your seedsmen or from
JOHN PEAK & CO. LTD. WIGAN. Lancs.

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND. SOILFUME. NICOTINE, INSECTICIDES, FUMERS, SPRAYS, AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES—THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY. IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT, CARRIAGE PAID.
Only Address: TOMLINSON & HAYWARD Ltd. LINCOLN.



GREENHOUSES AND GARDEN FRAMES

I specialize in the Erection of High class Horticultural Buildings.
Garden Frames a speciality. Selected timber, well seasoned, only used.
Being a grower, I understand Glasshouse requirements.
SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.
CATALOGUES WITH PLEASURE.

E. M. HEAP, Cottimore Nurseries, WALTON-ON-THAMES.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE COMPLETENESS OF ITS COMPOSITION AND THE HAPPY BLENDING OF ITS HIGHGRADE ORGANIC AND OTHER INGREDIENTS RENDER

A Carmona measuring Spoon in every tin

Carmona *Fertilizer*

A PAR-EXCELLENT BLOOM PRODUCER

CARRIAGE PAID PRICES:—
1 lb. Tin 1/3 — 2 lb. Tin 2/-
7 lb. Tin 4/6 — 112 lb. Bag 26/-
The fullest instructions accompany each package.

Sole Manufacturers:—
ROBINSON BROTHERS LTD., WEST BROMWICH

To your Lasting Benefit.

The dictionaries of the future will define advertising as "the most direct channel for the economic purchase of dependable products of all kinds." It is that now, to the lasting benefit of millions of buyers.

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

ICAL ROOM
LIBRARY
APR 28 1926

Vol. XC.—No. 2839 Saturday, April 17th, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

BARR'S SURPLUS LILIES FOR APRIL PLANTING.

AT GREATLY REDUCED PRICES.

LILIUM BATEMANI, beautiful rich glowing apricot flowers in August and September, height 3ft., per dozen, **10/6**; each, **1/-**.
LILIUM KRAMERI, very beautiful delicate rose pink and graceful habit of growth, July flowering, height 2ft., per dozen, **10/6**; each, **1/-**.
LILIUM LONGIFLORUM EXIMIUM, bearing several large handsome white trumpet-shaped flowers, beautiful, height 3ft., per dozen, **10/6**; each, **1/-**.
LILIUM LONGIFLORUM GIGANTEUM, a robust-growing Japanese variety, producing beautiful white flowers, extra strong bulbs, per dozen, **10/6**; each, **1/-**
LILIUM SPECIOSUM MELPOMENE, dark crimson, spotted purple crimson and margined white, extra strong, per doz., **12/6**; each, **1/3.**
LILIUM SPECIOSUM ROSEUM, flowers large, white suffused and spotted delicate rose, per dozen, **12/6**; each, **1/3.**
LILIUM SPECIOSUM RUBRUM MAGNIFICUM, a fine handsome lily-flowers suffused and heavily spotted crimson on a white ground, ht. 3ft., extra strong bulbs, per dozen, **16/-**; each, **1/6.**
LILIUM TIGRINUM FORTUNEI GIGANTEUM, rich orange-scarlet flowers, ht. 4ft., per dozen, **8/6** each, **9d.**

List of other Surplus Bulbs sent on application.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

NETTINGS

GARDEN NETS FOR FRUIT PROTECTION

Any lengths and widths. Corded all round.

	per sq. yd.		per sq. yd.
NEW 1 in. sq. mesh, heavy	6½d.	NEW ½ in. sq. mesh, medium	7½d.
NEW 1 in. ,, medium	5½d.	REPAIRED 1 in. sq. mesh, heavy	3½d.
NEW ½ in. ,, light	5½d.	REPAIRED ½ in. ,, ,,	4d.

REPAIRED (not corded) 1 in. diamond mesh, **9/-** per 100 sq. yards.

NEW TENNIS BOUNDARY NETS

Any lengths and widths. Corded all round. **7d.** per sq. yard.

NEW TENNIS NETS

Various qualities from **16/-** to **31/-** each.

NETS FOR ALL PURPOSES

Samples and full particulars from the manufacturers.

JOSEPH BENTLEY, Ltd., Barrow-on-Humber, LINCS.
(Sole Proprietors of B. EDDY & SONS)

The Flower of the Season

BALL'S CALENDULA

— Brilliant Orange Double Flowers —

THE FINEST PLANT FOR CUT FLOWER OR THE BORDER

Our exhibit at CHELSEA SHOW made us many customers, and we have had numerous testimonials from all parts of the country.

SEED .. .. **1/-, 2/6, 5/-** packet
PLANTS .. .. **1/6** doz.; **10/-** 100

WM. ARTINDALE & SON
NETHER GREEN NURSERY :: SHEFFIELD

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

FOR THE GARDEN! FOR EXHIBITION!
FOR BEDS! FOR EVERYWHERE!

Also Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees, Alpines and Hardy Plants.

BUY HOME-GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries.

Catalogue Free on Application, and Addresses booked for Revised Catalogue in late Summer.

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.,
Garden Specialists - - SOUTHWELL, NOTTS

APRIL PLANTING

There are many shrubs and plants which may be successfully planted during this month.

EVERGREENS, such as Hollies, Yews, Bays, Laurels, Thuya Lobbii, Cupressus and other Shrubs.
CLIMBING PLANTS, in pots, including Climbing Roses.
HARDY PERENNIALS and ALPINE PLANTS.
HARDY CHRYSANTHEMUMS. VIOLAS.

We grow large quantities of shrubs in pots such as Cupressus, Escallonias, Veronicas, Rosemary, Choisyas, Fuchsias, etc., for planting at any season.

Catalogue and Special Spring List on application.

The BARNHAM NURSERIES, Ltd.
BARNHAM, SUSSEX.

CHEALS' DAHLIAS

UNIQUE COLLECTION
Many Striking Novelties

New Catalogue Free

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
The Nurseries - - CRAWLEY

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
New Alpines and Perennials
Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD,
CHELSEA, S.W.
Seeds Gladioli Spiræas List on Application

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

BROWN'S TESTED SEEDS.
Illustrated Flower and Vegetable Seed Catalogue, giving full cultural directions, at competitive prices, post free if this paper is mentioned.
D. T. BROWN & CO., *Seedsmen*, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

DOWNER'S LUPINS, 12/- doz., large, mixed.
Apply for List. Also Herbaceous and Alpine Catalogue.
DOWNER, 2, Drayton Manor Nurseries, Chichester.

YOUR GARDEN NEEDS KILOGRUB
Its fumes are instantly fatal to all insect pests in the soil, but harmless to plants. Really effective because it works underground.
Tins: 9d., 1/6 and 2/6
Bags: ½ cwt. 6/6, 1 cwt. 9/6, 1 cwt. 15/-
From your seedsman or frs.
JOHN PEAK & CO. LTD. WIGAN. Lancs.

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
HULL
Weed Destroyers Fertilisers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

1926
PERPETUAL FLOWERING CARNATIONS
Our Illustrated Catalogue will be sent free on request
C. ENGELMANN LTD.
Saffron Walden, Essex.

Water Plants
My New Illustrated Catalogue contains the most complete collection ever offered. Free
PERRY'S Hardy Plant Farm, Enfield Middx.

KING'S ACRE.

SUPERIOR Asparagus Crowns *FOR PRESENT PLANTING.*

Giant Argenteuil & Connover's Colossal
TWO YEARS, 15/- per 100 THREE YEARS, 20/- per 100
PACKED CAREFULLY AND CARRIAGE PAID.

Useful Pamphlet—"ASPARAGUS AND HOW TO GROW IT" Free on Request.

KING'S ACRE NURSERIES LTD., HEREFORD
Nurseries 140 Acres. AWARDED 90 GOLD MEDALS. Established 1785.

A simple method!

Fumigation, the most certain method of dealing with indoor pests, is made simple by XL ALL Fumigating Shreds. No lamp needed—simply let them smoulder. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen, florists and chemists.

XL ALL FUMIGATING SHREDS

G. H. RICHARDS, LTD.
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
R. 104. Monomark: BCM/XLALL.

Continued from page iii.

ROCK AND ALPINE PLANTS.—Large and varied collection. All pot grown. Packed and carriage paid. Catalogue free.—M. J. PIGGOTT, Duffield, Nr. Derby.

GARDEN NETS.—Protect your Seeds and Buds from Frost and Birds. Netting, strong, small mesh, specially prepared, will not rot, as supplied by us to the Royal Gardens. 25 square yards for 2/6. Any length or width supplied, price in proportion, carr. paid. Cheaper kinds 100 25 square yards for 1/6. Lists and samples free.—GARROD SONS, Net Works, Rye. Estab. 127 years.

HIMALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODE
DRONS on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous Alpine Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. W for Catalogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

CHOICE DAFFODILS.—Write at once fo Herbert Chapman's list of CASH BARGAIN LOTS, offered clear ground. First-class varieties at astonishingly low figu —Address, HERBERT CHAPMAN, LTD., Rotherside Garde Rye, Sussex.

GARDEN NETS. — Best Tanned Hem 50 × 4, 25 × 8, 100 × 2yds., £1; ditto, 25 × 2, 5/-; 25 × 10/-; lighter, 50 × 4, 25 × 8, 100 × 2yds., 16/-. Carr paid, passenger train. Satisfaction guaranteed. New Ga and Tennis Boundary Netting, samples and full particu from the manufacturers, W. OLIVER ALLEN AND SONS, Makers, Porthleven, Cornwall.

WELLS' CATALOGUE OF CHRYSANTE MUMS will be sent post free on application.—W. WELLS Co., Merstham, Surrey.

TENNIS COURT BOUNDARY NETS.—Ge colour, very strong, specially prepared with strong line a and bottom throughout, making nets hang square; easy erect or take away; can be left out in all weathers. 25yds. 2yds., 16/6; 25yds. by 3yds., 18/6; 25yds. by 4yds., 2 carriage paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Iron Standards same, with strong earth plate, 4d. per foot. Regulation Play Nets 10/6, 15/6, 18/6, 21/-. Lists and samples free.—GAR AND SONS, Net Works, Rye. Established 127 years.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING.—Best select nets, small mesh only supplied. 50yds. long, 4yds. wide, 1 25 x 8yds., 14/-; 100 x 2yds., 14/-; 25 x 4yds., 7/-; 25 x 5 5/-. Any size to order: all sent carriage paid.—W. GOU Walmer Road, South Lowestoft.

PRIMULA JULIÆ.—A real gem, profu purple flowers, 12 strong plants, 5/-.—MILNE, South Dar Matlock

MECONOPSIS SEEDS, five species offered Clarence Elliott's list.—SIX HILLS NURSERY, Stevenage, H

GARDEN DESIGN is best dealt with "Planning and Planting of Little Gardens," by G. DILLIST 6/-; by post, 6/6. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LI LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

MANURES.—The most complete little bo on the subject is "The Manual of Manures," by H. VENDELE 4/6; by post, 4/9. Published at the Offices of "COU LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C

A CATALOGUE of gardening books be sent free on application to "COUNTRY LIFE," LIM 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

THE DOG: MAN'S FIRMEST FRIEN How to choose and care for him, by A. CROXTON SMI copy of this helpful booklet on the housing, breeding, and care of dogs will be sent post free on receipt of addressed to The Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITE Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

WATERER'S GOLD MEDAL RHODODENDRONS, azaleas, Rare Hardy Shrubs, Alpine and Perennial Plants, Vegetable and Flower Seeds. Scotch grown Seed Potatoes, Asparagus, 3 year, 17/6; 2 year, 12/6 per 100. Catalogue free.—JOHN WATERER, SONS AND CRISP, LIMITED, Twyford, Berks; Bagshot, Surrey; and London.

WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE.—The original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See advert. on back page.

WM. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., Lawrence Road, South Tottenham, N.15.—Conservatories, Winter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

BIRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUNDIALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—MORTON, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

FENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Garden Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE HASLEMERE UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, Surrey.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth Herts.

YORK STONE PAVINGS, crazy or rectangular, rustic copings, steps roughly squared or random shaped, flat bedded wallstones, garden edging, rockery, etc.—JAMES JOHNSON AND SON (MIRFIELD), LIMITED, Newgate Stone Works, Mirfield, Yorkshire.

PRIOR'S COLCHESTER ROSES, Fruit Trees, Bedding Dahlias, Carnations, Herbaceous. Catalogue containing cheap collections free.—D. PRIOR AND SON, LIMITED, Colchester.

CANNED GARDEN NETTING, small mesh, 1yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 40yds. by 1yd., 2yds., 6/6; 40yds. by 3yds., 9/9. Measured & mesh closed. Special Pea Netting supplied. Tennis Nets from 1/- Carriage Paid. Compare our netting with others. Sports nets and samples free.—GALLOP, Net Manufacturer, Hastings.

ROCK PLANTS, best varieties, inexpensive, list free.—MARIOS GLEDSTANES, Pardrosa, Clogher, Northern Ireland

SWEET PEA PLANTS, AUTUMN SOWN, 1/- per dozen, 5/6 per 100. Exhibition varieties.—MILLS, Harrington Garden, Market Drayton.

WIRE NETTING.—From 2/5 per 50yd. roll. Cheapest House in the Kingdom. Write us for prices. Thousands of rolls stocked.

PEA GUARDS.—Small mesh, 3ft. long, two rods to each dozen. 4/3 dozen. 2 doz. Carriage Paid.

DEFY THE BIRDS.—Rotless Tanned Netting. Small mesh, as supplied by us to the Royal Gardens. In Best Qualities. 50 x 1yd., 3/6, 4/-, 6/9; 2yds., 7/-, 8/-, 3yds., 10/6, 12/-, 20/3; 4yds., 14/-, 16/-, 27/-; 25 x 1yd., 14/-, 16/-, 27/-. Any size supplied. Carriage paid. On approval. Measured mesh closed.

TENNIS BOUNDARY NETTING.—Lines top and bottom. 25 x 2yds., 16/3; 3yds, 18/3, 4yds., 25/3. Carriage paid. Approval. Standards for fixing to, also Playing Nets, Posts and all requisites supplied.

GARDEN BARROWS.—Full size, 8 spokes, best value in the kingdom, 24/9. Painted, 28/3.

LAWN MOWERS.—Five Riveted Blades. Ball Wheels. Brass Bushings. Close Cutting. Highly Finished. Unequalled Value 8in., 23/-; 10in., 24/-; 12in., 25/-; 14in., 28/-. Grass Boxes, 8/6 each. Garden Rollers, 30/-.

PEA NETTING.—Tanned, Superior Quality. 4in. mesh, 6ft. wide, 6d. yard. Carriage paid 12yds. and over. Other widths pro rata, prices of smaller meshes on application. —H. S. HARTHORN, LIMITED, Dept. E., Shrewsbury.

BARR'S FLOWER & VEGETABLE SEEDS, of finest selected strains and tested growth, also the best Scotch and Irish grown hand-picked Seed Potatoes.

BARR'S SURPLUS LILIES AND OTHER Summer-flowering Bulbs for present planting, in splendid condition and at greatly reduced prices. List on application. —BARR AND SONS, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are now famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx, and perpetual habit. Illustrated plant list now ready. New Seed, now ready, hand fertilised, 2/6 and 5/- packets.—J. DOUGLAS, Great Bookham, Surrey.

VIOLETS.—Good rooted cuttings of Princess of Wales and Admiral Avellan, 3/- doz., free.—MARGARET SLATTER, Salford Priors, Warwickshire.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial: On Coddling Plants	229
Edgings for Herbaceous Borders	230
Suggestions for Summer Bedding	231
Shrubs for Walls	232
The Grey Bulb-rot of Tulips	233
Dwarf Conifers for the Rock Garden	234
Notes of the Week	236–237
A Decorative Evergreen Shrub; Plants for Damp Soils; Some Modern Erigerons, or Fleabanes; Herbaceous Phloxes and Lupins—Late Planting.	
Pruning Shrubs and Trees	238
Correspondence	238–239
Rhododendrons in Various Areas; Form in Gladiolus Primulinus Hybrids; Gladioli from Seed; A Fine Wintergreen; A Free-flowering Water Lily; The Scent of Gladiolus tristis.	
Spring Flowers at Vincent Square	240
Fungicides for Present Use	242
Garden Technique	243–244
Early Tomatoes; Boxing Seedlings; Repotting Palms; Zonal Pelargoniums for Flowering Next Winter; Feeding Vines and Peaches; Chrysanthemums; Zinnias for Exhibition; Early Brussels Sprouts; Tomatoes for Outside Borders; Planting Out Early Vegetables; Main-crop Peas; Mowing Old and New Lawns Early in the Season.	

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL DELPHINIUMS and ROSES. Send a postcard for our catalogue

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI, Chrysanthemums, Dahlias and Border Carnations.—Our stock includes many new and meritorious varieties. List post free on application.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

NEW AND RARE HARDY HEATHERS Alpine and Herbaceous Plants. Catalogues on application.—MAXWELL AND BEALE, Broadstone, Dorset.

SUTTON'S SEEDS.

ANNUALS.

These beautiful yet simple flowers should find a place in every Garden.

Sutton's Special Collections of the best Annual Flowers.

12	varieties	5/6
24	,, ...	10/-
36	,, ...	15/-
50	,, ...	20/-

The finest Investment for your Garden to-day.

SUTTON AND SONS, THE KING'S SEEDSMEN, READING.

DOBBIE'S PLANT CATALOGUE now ready. Free to all readers. Please mention THE GARDEN when writing —DOBBIE AND CO., LIMITED, Edinburgh.

BATH'S SELECT SEEDS AND PLANTS.—New Illustrated Catalogue of choice Vegetable and Flower Seeds and Plants is now ready, and will be sent, post free, on application.—(Dept. E), R. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

GARDEN NETS.—Best tanned, small mesh, 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 25yds. by 3yds., 6/-; 25yds. by 4yds., 8/-. Carr. Paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Tennis nets from 10s. Special nets for tennis boundary. Pea training nets. Lists and samples free.—G. JARRETT, Netmaker, Rye.

LAXTON'S ASPARAGUS PLANTS, 4 years old, 20/- 100; 3 years, 15/- 100; 2 years, 10/- 100.—LAXTON BROTHERS' Nurseries, Bedford.

LAXTONS' POT STRAWBERRIES for present planting. Will fruit this year. "The Duke," "Royal Sovereign" and "King George," 20/- 100, 4/- doz.—LAXTON BROTHERS, Bedford.

A NAIL WRITES WEBSTER'S METAL LABELS. Can't fade or break. List 20 sizes.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

ROCKERY LABELS, WEBSTER'S METAL. —12 sizes, also neat hold-tight stakes, 6, 8, 12in.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

ROSE LABELS, WEBSTER'S METAL.—A nail writes. Round or oblong, 8/- 100, wires 1/-.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

PRIMULAS, HARDY.—Red Hugh, Scarlet; Julia, purple; pulverulenta, crimson; Bulleyana, yellow; frondosa, lavender; capitata, blue. 6 splendid plants, 4/6.—MILNE, South Darley, Matlock.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70 Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

LOOK! TANNED GARDEN NETS.—All orders despatched same day. 25 yards by 1 yard, 2/-; 25 by 2, 4/-; 25 by 3, 6/-. Odd netting for bushes, 6lbs. for 2/6. All carriage paid. Any sizes supplied. Also Tennis Boundary Nets. —MOORE & CO., Net Works, Rye.

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES.—Per stone: Duke of York, 2/3; Witchhill, 2/6; Express, 2/2; Epicure 1/10; Eclipse, 2/-; Abundance, 2/2; Great Scot, 2/3; Majestic, 2/4; King Edward, 1/10: Kerr's Pink, 1/10; Bishop, 2/3, etc. Shallots, Red, 6d. lb. Amateur's Guide of Vegetable and Flower Seeds, free.—TILLIE WHYTE & CO., 12, Melbourne Place, Edinburgh.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra: 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then, together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices :—

Tins 10d. and 1/6

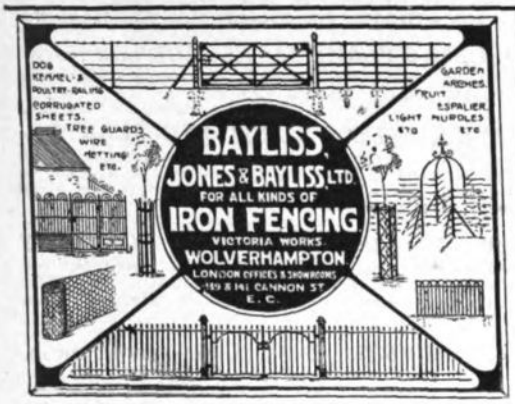
and in **Branded and Sealed Bags:**

7 lbs. -	**3/6**	14 lbs.	**6/-**
28 lbs. -	**10/-**	56 lbs. -	**18/-**
		112 lbs. -	**32/-**

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark.

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers, etc. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**



"NICOTICIDE"

FUMIGATING COMPOUND

DESTROYS

GREEN FLY, RED SPIDER, APHIS, MEALY BUG and all greenhouse pests.

old in Tins for 40,000 cu. ft., **20**/-, for 20,000 cu. ft., **10**/-
,, Bottles ,, 12,000 ,, **6**/-, ,, 8,000 ,, **4**/-

OBTAINABLE FROM SEEDSMEN, ETC.

Write for booklet of "Gow's Garden Specialities."

HUNTER & GOW, LTD.,
28, Thomas Street, LIVERPOOL.

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by **"ALPHOL"**
Sample 14 lb., 3/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

FERTILISERS.

LAWNS, 20/-; FRUIT TREES, VINES, 19/6; GENERAL GARDEN USE, 17/-; WORM KILLER, 19/-

Per cwt., carriage paid. Also all other fertilisers.

HY. RICHARDSON & CO.,
Skeldergate Bridge Works, YORK

WILLMOTT
Rival Plant Stake

(Patented No. 183779).
As used in Royal Botanic Gardens London and Cambridge.
For all plants. WILL NOT ROT, WEAR OUT OR BREAK.
Sample of eight sizes,
2/- car. pd. United Kingdom.
4/- Overseas.

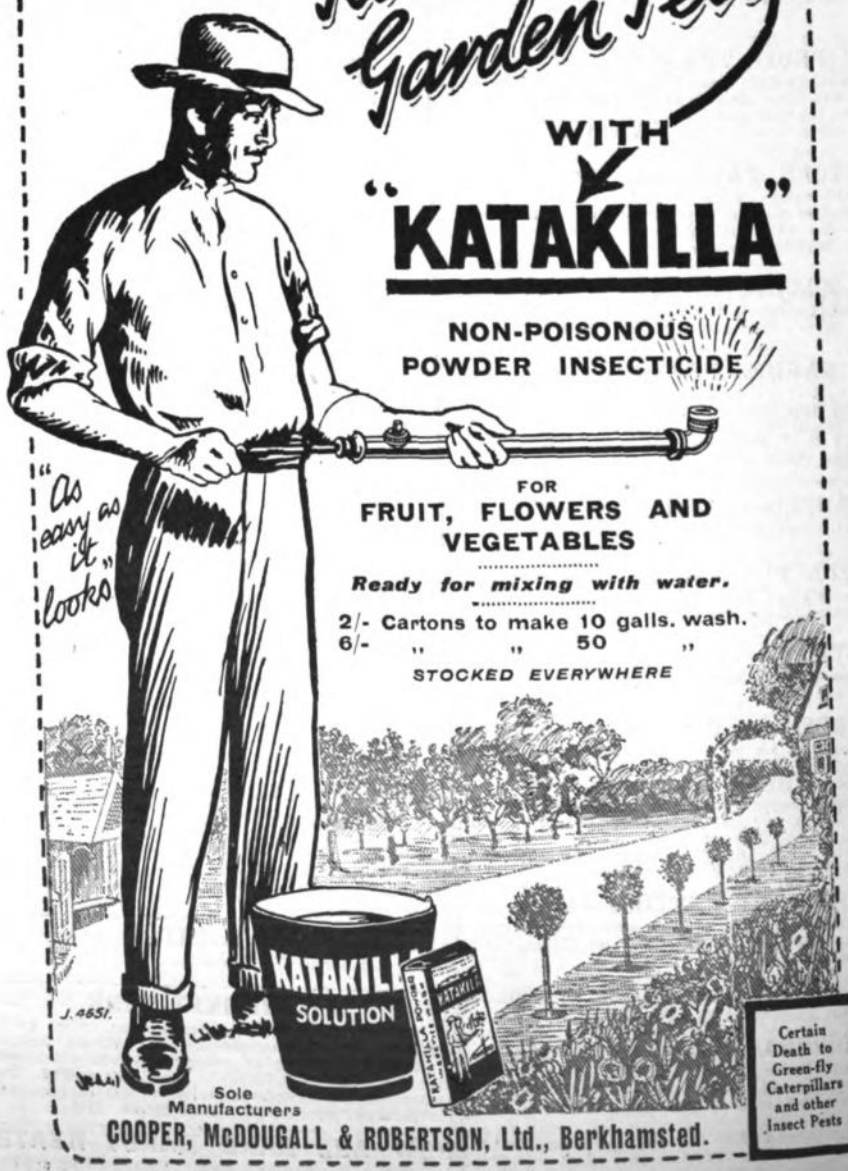
H. J. **GREENWOOD, F.R.H.S.**, Proprietor,
BRACKNELL, Berks.

Kill those Garden Pests

WITH

"KATAKILLA"

NON-POISONOUS POWDER INSECTICIDE



FOR FRUIT, FLOWERS AND VEGETABLES

Ready for mixing with water.

2/- Cartons to make 10 galls. wash.
6/- ,, ,, 50 ,,

STOCKED EVERYWHERE

Certain Death to Green-fly Caterpillars and other Insect Pests

Sole Manufacturers
COOPER, McDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, Ltd., Berkhamsted.

Digitized by Google

Glorious Gladioli

THE FINEST VALUE EVER OFFERED

LARGE FLOWERED

Special Collection No. 1
100 Corms in 10 varieties.
Second size corms.

BARON HULOT. AMERICA. BRENCHLEYENSIS. HALLEY. CAPT. FRYATT. PANAMA. PRINCE OF WALES. SCHWABEN. WHITE GIANT. RED CANNA.

100 for 5/-

Special Collection No. 2
100 Corms in 10 varieties.
First size corms.

BARON HULOT. AMERICA. EMPRESS OF INDIA. HALLEY. MARECHAL FOCH. WILBRINK. WHITE GIANT. YELLOW STANDARD. RED CANNA. PRINCE OF WALES.

100 for 7/6

Special Collection No. 3
100 Corms in 10 varieties.
First size corms.

PINK PERFECTION. CHRIS. CAPT. FRYATT. RUBINI. MASTER WEITSE. L'IMMACULEE. ODIN. FLORA. RED EMPEROR. WHITE CITY.

100 for 10/-

PRIMULINUS

Special Collection No. 1
100 Corms in 10 varieties.
Second size corms.

MAIDEN'S BLUSH. NIOBE. ATALANTA. LATONIA. HERMIONE LAETITIA. HESPERIA. VANESSA. SOUVENIR. SALMONEA.

100 for 5/-

Special Collection No. 2
100 Corms in 10 varieties.
First size corms.

ORANGE BRILLIANT. PSYCHE. ATALANTA. HERMIONE. HESPERIA. LATONIA. SOUVENIR. VANESSA. MAIDEN'S BLUSH. NIOBE.

100 for 7/6

Special Collection No. 3
100 Corms in 10 varieties.
First size corms.

ORANGE BRILLIANT. TYPE. EURYDICE. PSYCHE. SALMONEA. SCARLETTA. SOUVENIR. DAPHNE. LATONIA. HESPERIA.

100 for 10/-

CHOICE LILIUMS

Finest Quality Bulbs.

AURATUM, the Golden Rayed Lily of Japan, 7½d., 9d., 1/-, 1/6 and 2/- each; per doz. 6/6, 7/6, 10/6, 15/- and 21/-.

AURATUM PLATYPHYLLUM, the Finest Auratum, 1/3, 1/6, 2/- and 2/6 each; per doz. 13/6, 15/-, 21/- and 27/6. One plant of this variety has been sold at 5/-. Extra choice.

BATEMANII, Apricot Lily, each 1/-; per doz. 10/6.

CROCEUM, Orange Spotted Black, each 9d. and 10½d.; per doz. 7/6 and 9/-.

HANSONI, Golden Yellow, very scarce, each 1/6 and 2/-; per doz. 15/- and 21/-.

HENRYI, Orange Yellow, each 1/-; per doz. 10/6.

KRAETZERI, Pure White, each 1/-; per doz. 10/6.

KRAMERI, Pink Trumpet Lily, each 1/6; per doz. 15/-.

MAGNIFICUM, White, Crimson Spotted, each 9d. and 1/-; per doz. 7/6 and 10/6.

MELPOMENE, White, Red Spots, each 9d. and 1/-; per doz. 7/6 and 10/6.

RUBRUM, White, Rose Spotted, each 9d. and 1/-; per doz. 7/6 and 10/6.

RUBELLUM, Lovely Pink Lily, each 1/6; per doz. 15/-

TIGRINUM FORTUNEI GIGANTEUM, Orange, Black Spots, each 9d. and 10½d.; per doz. 7/6 and 9/-.

TIGRINUM SPLENDENS, Salmon, Beautifully Spotted, each 9d. and 10½d.; per doz. 7/6 and 9/-.

Assorted dozens can be sent at the dozen rate.

SPECIAL OFFER.

LILIUM AURATUM, Sound Flowering Bulbs, 5/- doz.

Orders value 5/- Carriage paid. Immediate despatch.

Ask for Special Lists of Gladioli, Begonias, Gloxinias, Montbretias, Anemones and Ranunculus.

Longstaff & Sons

F.R.H.S.

Bulb Growers, Importers and Merchants,

Near Chelsfield Station, KENT

"I *trap* the sunshine!"

"That's why all these plants of mine are so big and sturdy. They've had all the sunshine they needed—and more—because they've been under the Chase Continuous Cloche all along. It lets in all the warmth of the sun and traps it—there's none wasted, because there are no shadows to keep any out, for the Chase Continuous Cloche consists entirely of glass and wire. Much better than a frame with wooden sides and framework to block out the light—cheaper too. You can put a whole garden under glass this way at very little expense. I tried just a dozen "A" Cloches to begin with—now I'm using over two hundred regularly."

The Chase Continuous Cloche is freely ventilated and need not be removed for watering. It gives complete protection from birds, animals, cold, and excessive rain, and prevents the surface of the ground from caking.

For general use, order "A" PATTERN, 7 ins. high; box of 12 enough for 14ft., 18/-; 24, 35/-; 52, 65/-. For fairly large plants, "B" PATTERN, 9in. high; set of 15, enough for 22½ft., 35/-, 50, 60/-.

Write or full particulars.

Chase Continuous Cloche

A Home to watch the Sunbeams

(Dept. 7), CHERTSEY, SURREY

Carriage paid to nearest station in England and Wales; 1d. in the 1/- extra to stations in Scotland, Ireland, Isle of Man, Isle of Wight and Channel Islands. F.o.b. for colonial and foreign countries.

Beautiful Hardy Flowers

ARTINDALES New Illustrated Catalogue now ready and will be forwarded on application.

WM. ARTINDALE & SON

NETHER GREEN :: SHEFFIELD

Forbes' Catalogue

Carnations, Pelargoniums, Pentstemons, Phloxes, Pyrethrums, Violas, Hardy Border and Rock Plants, Seeds, etc.

FREE ON APPLICATION

JOHN FORBES (Hawick), LTD., Dept. 2, The King's Nurserymen, Hawick, Scotland

IS it SEEDS, TINY SEEDLINGS or BUSHY FIBROUS ROOTED PLANTS? For HERBACEOUS BORDER, SUMMER & AUTUMN BEDDING, or GREENHOUSE? YES! WE are actual GROWERS.

TRY US! We pay Carriage.

Full and Descriptive Catalogue ready now, and Special List of Bedding Plants will be ready in late April.

STORRIE & STORRIE,

Glencarse, PERTHSHIRE, SCOTLAND.

BROOMS for NATURALISING

One year transplanted seedlings of the various Daisy Hill Hybrids of Andreanus, in nice condition—and April is the best Month for planting. Planted now will make a display in Spring, 1927.

20/- per 100 160/- per 1,000

Special prices for larger quantities.

T. SMITH, Daisy Hill Nursery, NEWRY

Put THIS into your garden to get MORE OUT!

A nutritious plant food.

PRICE'S COMPLETE GARDEN FERTILIZER

Ready for use—Prepared by expert horticulturists—Gives perfect nourishment to all plants—Promotes strong, healthy growth—Does *not* exhaust soil fertility—Cannot be washed out by rain—Keeps any length of time if stored in a dry place.

Each 7-lb. container—price 2/6—sufficient for about 40 square yards of garden. Cannot be washed out by the rain. Keeps any length of time if stored in a dry place. Ready for immediate use.

If your dealer cannot supply you, send postcard direct to—

PRICE'S (Fertiliser Dept.)
Belmont Works,
Battersea, LONDON, S.W.11

PRICE'S PATENT CANDLE CO. Ltd., Battersea, London, S.W.11

Digitized by Google

The ATCO MOTOR MOWER

Gone are the Bad Old Days

Gone are the bad old days of slow and inefficient turf culture—this is the ATCO era—these are the days of better lawns, maintained without heavy labour and with a minimum of expense. The ATCO is used by over eleven thousand Turf Culturists because it is the most efficient Motor Mower extant.

Prices from 30 Guineas

Write to-day for 1926 Illustrated Art Catalague of ATCO Turf Culture Specialities, sent POST FREE on request.

Chas. H. Pugh, Limited
Whitworth Works, 31, Tilton Road, BIRMINGHAM.

A Prolific Garden

cannot be maintained without the aid of some kind of manure. Stable manure is now scarce, and is bulky to cart and spread on the land. No artificial will altogether take the place of natural manure, but a good well-balanced fertiliser, used during the growing season, is a wonderful aid in producing high-class garden crops. No fertiliser is cleaner, more effective, or economical than

PEARSON'S CHEMICAL MANURE

which is compounded from the purest chemicals. It contains every element necessary to plant life which is not present in any ordinary garden soil. A glance at the analysis will prove that this manure is as cheap as any on the market, while nothing can beat it in ease of application and results.

ANALYSIS

PEARSON'S "CHEMICAL MANURE"
(ARTIFICIALLY COMPOUNDED)

Contains at least 11·79 *Phosphates, soluble and insoluble;* 6·68 *Potash;* 6·44 *Nitrogen* (*Ammonia Nitrogen* 4·56, *Nitric* 1·88).

Per cwt. 25/-, ½ cwt. 13/- carr. paid. ¼ cwt. 7/-, 14 lb. 4/6, 7 lb. 2/9, carr. forward.

Procure Now for Coming Season.

J. R. Pearson & Sons, Ltd.
The Nurseries, Lowdham, Notts.
(Established 1782)

NEW HARDY CRIMSON BROOM

AT Chelsea Show (1925) *the King said, "That red Broom is certainly very striking." This was the new crimson Broom "Dorothy Walpole," which received the unanimous Award of Merit from the R.H.S. as well as other distinctions in London and on the Continent.*

In the "Field," a well known ex-Curator of Kew Gardens wrote: "The richest coloured Broom known is one named 'Dorothy Walpole.' It is as hardy as the common Broom . . . and is very free-flowering . . . the colour is rich velvety crimson . . . more attractive than any of the coloured Brooms yet seen." The colour far surpasses Cytisus Dallimorei, and the growth is as vigorous as C. Andreanus; it requires no special treatment nor any kind of protection whatever—just a hardy shrub for ordinary garden soil in any part of the British Isles, however far north.

A Vice-Chairman, Floral Committee, R.H.S., wrote: "Everyone who has seen my plant has been astonished at its warm glowing red," and from a lady in Devon: "I am so delighted with the Broom 'Dorothy Walpole.' It has done splendidly and is like a sparkling gem in the garden—one mass of flower."

Strong pot-grown plants now ready for planting out, to flower in May, 12/6 each. Carriage paid rates to any station in Great Britain or Ireland: One plant, carriage paid, 15/-; two plants, carriage paid, 28/6; three plants, carriage paid, 41/-; six plants, carriage paid, 79/6. Coloured illustration sent on application if THE GARDEN *is mentioned.*

Wm. Watson & Sons, Ltd., Nurseries, Killiney, Co. Dublin.

BY APPOINTMENT.

FERTILIZERS FOR THE GARDEN

As soon as pruning is finished, Rose Trees and Bushes need feeding. No section of the garden responds more to the use of fertilizers

ROSE FERTILIZER

Use 4 oz. to the square yard on the beds

Price per cwt. **29/-** Carr. paid.

7 lbs., 3/6; 14 lbs., 6/6; 28 lbs., 10/-; 56 lbs., 16/6

Illustrated Catalogue of Fertilizers for the Garden and Lawn post free from

Joseph Fison & Co., Ltd. Ipswich.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

VOL. XC.—No. 2839. APRIL 17, 1926

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.; Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2. *Offices for Advertisements:* 6–11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

ON CODDLING PLANTS

A FORTNIGHT ago an article appeared in THE GARDEN in which Flora Dysart mentions a few capricious plants. Our contributor was polite about them, so polite and so kind that I suspect she must have an angelic temper. Do plants appreciate the fact that gardeners with a sweet disposition say nice things about them, however crotchety they may be, and that all blame for failure lies at the door of the gardener and is not owing to the sneaky underhand temperament of the plant? I doubt it. We are given detailed instructions about growing a number of difficult plants; we become frightened of them. They appear such tyrannical beings; we give in to all their whims. As like as not they do not appreciate this loving care and, like certain savages, decline to live, and so we are left with unbecoming brown skeletons that have cost us money.

There is another method of treating capricious plants, an entirely opposite treatment, that I have tried and in many cases have found successful: that is, to ignore them. Before approaching the plant, think out the approximate place where *you* would like to see it. Provided that a marsh plant is not placed in a dry wall or a woodland plant in full sun in a dry border, pay little attention to what is told you. Then approach the plant with a bold face, tread on it and kick it, clutch it in one hand and a trowel in the other, and shove it in, if possible while talking hard to some friend, who hates plants, about the League of Nations or the price of bacon. I learnt this invaluable lesson in the first instance with Gentiana sino-ornata, which is supposed to be difficult and is not. Mr. Clarence Elliott and others give detailed instructions about peat and how to use it, which, I think, are unnecessary. At any rate, I laid my best plant of this incomparable gentian on the top of some nobbly loam between two stones, was called away, and promptly forgot all about it. It was never planted at all; but it is still my best plant. It has had numerous bits hacked off it, and it is still about a foot square. This curious treatment, at the first instance, obviously startled it, so it started off to show what it could do. I was so surprised with my success that I have tried the same off-hand manner of planting, though not quite so negligently, with other plants, such as Shortia uniflora and Incarvillea grandiflora, with equally gratifying results.

In fact, I am sure that a number of capricious plants only laugh at you, if you mother them and take an immensity of pains over their comfort. Flora Dysart mentions Aquilegia glandulosa as a difficult plant, and I agree. Unfortunately, nurserymen consider that they should be planted out as tiny morsels, and I have not the heart to tread on such an innocent-looking shrimp of a plant. If some kind nurseryman would present me with a big clump, it would give me great pleasure to kick it around the garden and then plant it. I am sure it would succeed.

Many gardeners are, I think, inclined to keep plants far too long a time under their personal supervision. The consequence is that they are handled too frequently, which is often injurious to them. Many of the primulas object strongly to pot treatment, and so do many natives, such as Dryas octopetala, which certainly responds better to coarse treatment than to coddling. There is a great deal to be said in favour of early planting, however small the plants may be, in preference to the old method of letting them get established in pots. The more they get in the way of mothering the more stimulus and artificial conditions they require; whereas if they are left to themselves, they respond quicker to their environment in a natural manner. Deaths may be more, though I doubt this; but the survivors are usually stronger and more healthy as the result of finding their own feet than if their way is made smooth for them. Horticulture has risen to a science, but science and common sense should run hand in hand, and common sense says that the more a plant is grown in as natural a manner as possible the healthier it will be. This applies equally to alpines, shrubs, herbaceous plants and bedding plants. Numbers of so-called failures in various areas are undoubtedly due to an undue regard to their health, that and a lack of knowledge of the broad lines of their requirements.

E. H. M. C.

OWING to the extraordinarily early season, the schedule of the first Show of the Rhododendron Society, to be held on April 27th at the Royal Horticultural Society's Hall, Vincent Square, has had to be considerably enlarged. It is to be hoped that all readers who are interested in this marvellous flowering shrub will make an effort to make this Show a success. Schedules and entry forms may be obtained from the Secretary of the R.H.S.

AMONG THE ARTICLES IN OUR NEXT ISSUE WILL BE:

THE ORANGE CORNER IN THE GARDEN, by Edward Cahen.
SOME UNCOMMON PEAT PLANTS, by A. T. Johnson.
AQUATICS FOR PRESENT PLANTING, by T. W. Briscoe.

Digitized by Google

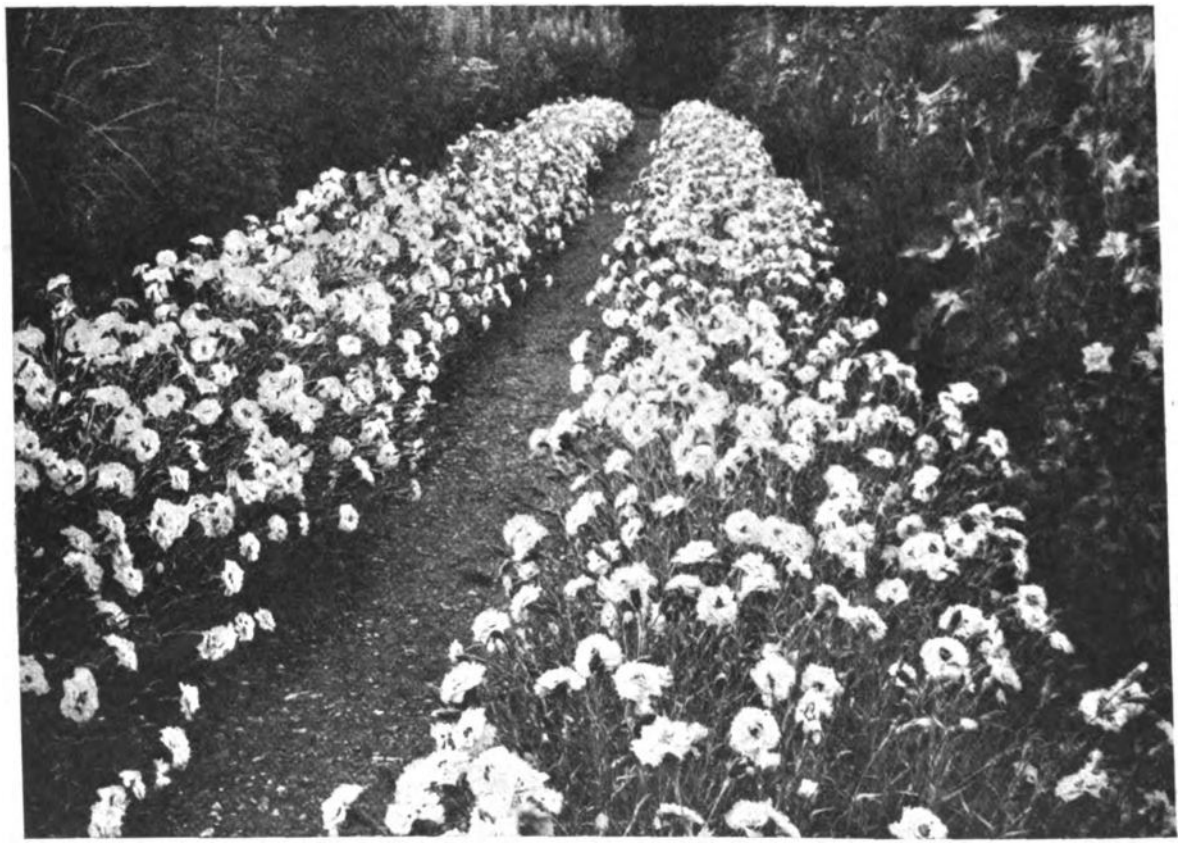
EDGINGS FOR HERBACEOUS BORDERS

A FORMAL edging to a herbaceous border is not an absolute necessity provided the plants in the front row do not exceed 18ins. or so in height and are brought well forward; still, an edging gives a pleasant finishing touch to the whole and undoubtedly makes for neatness. To begin with "dead" edgings, which have the advantage certainly of preventing the border soil getting on to path or lawn, they may be of tiles, slate, wood, bricks or stone. Of these, tiles are the ugliest, more particularly those dreadful varieties that have a sort of cable pattern or are scalloped at the top, while slabs of slate are uninteresting and slightly funereal, if durable and tidy-looking. Wood was a favourite edging material in the formal gardens of the past. John Rea in his "Flora" gives preference to it over box and sets forth at length the manner of preparing, painting and fixing what he calls the "rails," which were to be 5ins. broad, 1½ins. thick and nailed on "legs" 18ins. long for driving into the earth. Bricks were also much used for this special purpose in old gardens, and these Loudon and Wise in "The Retir'd Gardener"—really a free translation of "Le Jardinier Solitaire"—advise should be set on edge and the ends cemented together. The bricks were to be very well burnt and when in position should stand about 2ins. clear of the ground.

Of stone edgings there are three varieties. The first consists of rectangular blocks of stone roughly dressed and set flat; the second of well weathered rockery stones standing at least from 10ins. to 12ins. above the level of the path; and the third consists of a narrow strip of "crazy" paving. By far the most satisfactory of these is number two, as over the high stones can be grown an infinite variety of trailing and creeping plants, such as dwarf campanulas, aubrietias, alpine pinks, phloxes, veronicas, violas, helianthemums and saxifrages which, if selected with care, will provide a blaze of colour from May to September. The least satisfactory of the stone edging is the "crazy" type, but this can be quite tolerable if well laid and the crevices between the stones filled with suitable plants of low growth and neat habit.

As a "live" edging dwarf box (Buxus suffruticosa) comes easily first, although its leisurely growth is apt to be a trial to impatient gardeners, and Euonymus japonicus, especially in its gold and silver varieties, is satisfactory in mild districts, but in cold ones is liable to get badly cut by frost if hard clipped. Ivy edgings, once very popular for both beds and borders, are now rarely seen, but if well kept they are not unattractive, although they share with those of box the drawback of harbouring snails. Bush ivy may be used for the purpose, but the small-leaved clinging kinds—the Irish variety grows fastest—the trails of which are pegged down as they grow, is better. Vinca minor may be treated in the same way. V. major is too straggling to be satisfactory. Some of the thymes, notably T. aureus and T. argenteus, are suitable, and in the late Canon Ellacombe's wonderful garden at Bitton, Erica carnea was used as an edging, but beautiful as this is when in full bloom it has rather a dull appearance when out of flower.

Among herbaceous plants appropriate for such a position Nepeta Mussini is one of the most pleasing. The soft lavender of its cloud of delicate blossoms seems to harmonise with almost all other colours, and it remains in bloom throughout the whole summer. It is hardy nearly everywhere. Still, in an exposed situation it is advisable to let the old flowering-stems remain as a protector during the winter. Old plants of nepeta do not stand moving well, but cuttings strike easily. The best of the perennial candytufts for an "edger" is the dwarf and free-flowering Iberis correæfolia, said to be a hybrid between I. sempervirens and I. saxatilis. It is not to be trusted to come true from seed and should be propagated by cuttings. White pinks, especially the old small-flowered very fragrant kind, now unfortunately scarce; Veronica incana with its silver leaves and blue flowers; violas, both the ordinary bedding varieties and the species gracilis and cornuta; and the dwarf campanulas, in particular pusilla, are all recommendable; but for a shady border there is nothing to surpass our humble old friend Saxifraga umbrosa, better known by its vernacular names of London pride, St. Patrick's cabbage and—quaintest of all—Kiss-me-at-the-garden-gate. S. u. Ogilviana is the best variety to use. Asperula odorata also will thrive in practically sunless conditions, and its little white flowers are effective in a mass if insignificant individually.



A FINE EDGING OF A MODERN HYBRID PINK.

Digitized by Google

Thrift makes a nice green cushiony edging in sun or semi-shade, but the rather aggressive pink of its flowers does not always go well with the general colour-scheme of the border and the white blossomed sort is less satisfactory in habit. The colour of A. maritima Laucheana is deeper and more agreeable in tone than the ordinary type. Two plants which are not as often employed for border edgings as they deserve to be are Tiarella cordifolia (the foam flower) and Thalictrum adiantifolium, both of which prefer a moist soil to a dry one. The feathery white blossoms of the tiarella are beautiful, but the little flowers of the thalictrum are quite uninteresting and are better removed, for its charm is to be found in its finely cut bright green foliage, which so strongly resembles the fronds of the maidenhair fern. For a very dry situation there is something to be said in favour of Waldsteinia trifolia, the barren strawberry. Its flowers are not attractive and are often only sparsely produced, but if its rather pertinacious runners are pinched off it forms a band of deep green foliage.

R. E. HEAD.

SUGGESTIONS FOR SUMMER BEDDING

ALTHOUGH the unlimited use of beds in gardens is no longer practised, nevertheless there are times and places when bedding is both necessary and fitting. In these cases, beds should be grouped, either in a small garden or on a lawn where they are seen from windows, as single beds are uninteresting from any point of view. They should be simple in shape, and, if on a lawn, they should have a good margin of grass round them; narrow grass margins are finnicking in appearance and difficult to keep in order. When deciding on the flowers to be used in beds, certain considerations must be borne in mind: (1) Flowers with a fairly long period of blooming must be chosen; (2) they must be effective in the mass—the individual beauty of the flowers is not of first importance; (3) they must look well from every point of view, as beds, unlike borders, have to bear scrutiny from all points of the compass. Having made up our minds to accept these limitations, the next thing is to decide upon a colour scheme. This is important, as the formal nature of bedding makes the colours used conspicuous, and badly chosen varieties cannot be inoffensively obliterated by the judicious addition of other plants as they can in a mixed border. Nor is the bedding alone the chief factor in a colour scheme. The general *ensemble* of the garden must be thought of and sympathetically treated. The size of the garden, the plan of it, the nature of the boundaries, the immediate background of the beds, and, above all, the prevailing "feeling" of the garden, must all have a place in the final decision. Formal gardens must have formal and restrained bedding; charming old-world gardens can be given riotous beds of mixed colours; a little secluded garden may have a restful scheme of greys and mauves. Americans are making "ghost gardens"; dim, cool places planted with silvery grey and white; but these are not practicable unless the whole area of garden is large enough to contain a small specialised garden. Then, of course, there are beds which are bedded out, say twice a year, with spring and then with summer bedding plants; and beds in which perennial plants or small shrubs are permanently planted. But these latter belong to herbaceous gardening and, for the purposes of this article, only those beds which have their flower contents changed every year will be dealt with.

GROW PELARGONIUM PAUL CRAMPEL BOLDLY IN A BED BY ITSELF.

To keep beds well filled and interesting is neither easy nor cheap, but the effects which can be produced with care and a certain expenditure compensate for these drawbacks. Summer bedding plants should be cleared by the beginning of October, when the beds are ready for digging and manuring; autumn bedding is lifted about the end of May.

Of summer bedding there is no end. The following are a few schemes:

(1) Tobacco plant—either pink or white—with a good carpeting of alonsoa. This is a delightful combination for beds near house windows, as the evening scent of the nicotiana is delicious.

(2) The well known dahlia, Coltness Gem, has proved good for summer bedding. It is dwarf, very bushy and rich scarlet in colour. It has a remarkably long flowering period, and begins to flower in early July. No carpeting or edging is needed, as the plants themselves fill any space adequately.

(3) Standard or bush heliotrope grown with a carpeting of pink cupid's sweet peas is pleasant in a quiet way.

(4) Coreopsis with Nemesia cœrulea makes a dainty yellow and blue effect; while white campanulas carpeted with Viscaria cœrulea have been tried with good results.

A STRIKING BED OF SCARLET GLADIOLI AND GOLDEN VIOLAS.

Digitized by Google

(5) Mauve pentstemons with a sprinkled undergrowth of matthiola or any other grey-leaved bedding plant, together with purple pansies, makes a restful scheme. Grey undergrowth is also very effective as a foil to vivid bedding plants, such as cannas, some of the geraniums, Salvia splendens, and other similar subjects.

(6) Beds of mixed African marigolds in orange, middle yellow and pale yellow shades are gay and inspiring. They also possess the advantage of a long season.

(7) Tall white antirrhinums planted with pale, cool pink gladioli are charming. Another bolder effect can be gained by planting scarlet gladioli with golden violas.

(8) Cosmeas are not grown enough in this country. They are quite delightful in beds if a tall effect is wanted. Well grown plants should be used and planted, say, 8ins. apart to give a good display. The foliage is feathery and is apt to look thin unless enough plants are used. Shades of blush pink, mauve and white can be used together.

(9) A great deal has been said of late years against scarlet geraniums, as we call the zonal pelargoniums; but, given the right setting, these much abused flowers are handsome and good. They should be used to lighten a sombre or heavy garden where delicate effects would be overlooked. Use either the old-fashioned Paul Crampel or a soft red such as Mrs. Bartleman, and, if grown near spikes of the tropical-looking yucca, the result will be most striking. But grow them alone and grow them boldly. Do not repent half-way and introduce some other plant to soften the effect.

(10) Salvias can be used for the same purpose. Salvia splendens is vivid and has a long flowering season. With a background of heavy yew it looks particularly fine. This, again, should be used alone or with a heavy grey foliage plant. It is of shrubby habit and does not look well when mixed with tender annuals. Salvia patens is blue and more delicate, so that it can be used with great effect with pink or white stocks, or with a carpeting of white or purple violas. D. JOAD.

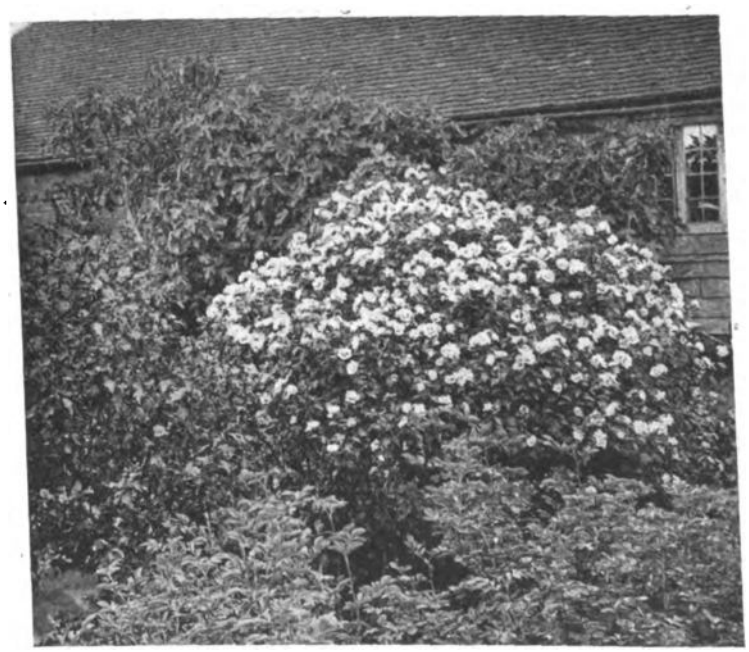
SHRUBS FOR WALLS

BY W. J. BEAN.

(*Continued from page* 218.)

THE shrub FENDLERA RUPICOLA is not often seen, but it is worth growing on a south wall for its abundant, faintly blush-tinted white flowers borne in May and June on long slender shoots of the previous year. Judging by some flowering shoots from Mr. Bowles which I saw a few years ago, it must succeed very well at Myddleton House. It has small leaves, and each flower is an inch or rather more wide, with four petals and yellow anthers. It is hardy in the open, but seems to need the heat of a wall to bring out its greatest beauty. South-western United States.

FREMONTIA CALIFORNICA.—Although this Californian small tree is very nearly hardy in the London district, for it has succeeded well in a sheltered nook against the Temperate House at Kew during a good many years, it is worth a place on a south wall because the greater heat there induces it to bloom more freely. It need not be trained close back to the wall like a fruit tree, but allowed rather to form a bushy growth coming away from the wall 1ft. or 2ft. It flowers during summer, and its waxen, rich yellow blossoms, each 2ins. to 3ins. wide, are remarkably distinct and beautiful. There are two forms in cultivation, one with slightly overlapping lobes, the other with narrower ones. Both are handsome, but I think the former preferable, especially as the flowers are larger.



HIBISCUS SYRIACUS AS A WALL SHRUB.

GARRYA ELLIPTICA.—Although quite hardy in the south of England—and even in the Botanic Garden at Cambridge, where it has grown to be an enormous shrub—this likes a wall in the less sunny north. It also flowers rather earlier there. Its long, silvery grey, tail-like catkins, produced in winter and early spring, make it at that season a very pleasant evergreen. California.

HIBISCUS SYRIACUS is another shrub perfectly hardy in the south, but in the north giving much better results on a south wall than in the open. In dull, cold autumns, even in the south, its flowers, which open normally in September, will often fail to develop properly. I remember, many years ago at Belvoir, that a large plant growing against one of the terrace walls of the castle used to give a fine display of blossom.

HOLBŒLLIA.—Two species are grown on walls, *viz.*, H. latifolia from the Himalaya, and H. coriacea, introduced by Wilson from China, both evergreen. The former is the more tender, although it does well at Nymans in Sussex. Both are genuine climbers, and on walls have a tendency to form a tangle at the top. Their natural habit, I suppose, is to climb over trees. The flowers, which are unisexual, are dull white or purplish, the most notable feature of the plants being the fruits, which are sausage-shaped and purple.

HYDRANGEA PETIOLARIS.—This hardy Japanese climber deserves to be grown more frequently. It is deciduous and clings of itself to walls, which it will cover as completely as ivy does. Of course, it is leafless in winter, but, on the other hand, produces in June broad clusters of white flowers. It is well worth trying for a north wall.

ITEA ILICIFOLIA.—This evergreen shrub is not found to be hardy at Kew, but it makes a charming furnishing for a wall, both on account of its dark shining green, rather holly-like, leaves and its slender, pendulous racemes, 6ins. to 12ins. long but only ¼in. wide, densely set with small greenish white flowers in August. Western China.

JASMINUM.—No wall of any considerable length can afford to be without the beautiful winter-flowering J. nudiflorum, whose bright yellow, abundant flowers, opening as the weather permits between November and February, make it the gayest of wall shrubs at that season. It flowers quite well on a north wall, although not so freely as on those where it gets direct sunshine. The common jasmine, J. officinale, charming for the fragrance and beauty of its white flowers from June onwards, can scarcely be left out either. Being a true climber, it will make a thick tangle towards the top of a wall or house front.

LINDERA PRÆCOX.—One of the aromatically scented shrubs that belong to the bay laurel family, may be mentioned as a March-flowering plant which does best on a wall, where, if given a sunny position, it blossoms so freely as to be very pretty. The flowers are small, yellow tinged with green, and produced in numerous small clusters. Japan and Korea.

Digitized by Google

LIPPIA CITRIODORA, the well known "lemon-scented verbena," most people will like to grow for the charming fragrance of its leaves; but near London and northwards it will need wall protection.

LONICERA.—The common honeysuckles, L. Periclymenum and L. Caprifolium, in my experience, find an ordinary wall too sunny for them and they become infested with aphis there. They are better as one sees them in nature, with their roots in the cool shade of a bush or hedge, their flowering parts only reaching the full sun. In the moister parts of the country, however, they are often charming on a wall facing nearly north. L. tragophylla, which also fails in full sun, I never saw so fine as with Mr. Eley at East Bergholt in Suffolk, where he had planted it on the north side of a wall and over the top of which it had formed a tangle of its long, slender shoots and was a beautiful object in July. The finest of the honeysuckles in regard to its blossom, it has, unfortunately, no fragrance. The two winter-flowering species, L. fragrantissima and L. Standishii, are, neither of them, in any way showy, but they are often grown on walls for their sweetly scented flowers which continue to open through the winter when the weather is favourable; they are, however, usually at their best in February. More out-of-the-way species are: L. Giraldii, with very hairy shoots and leaves, and curious purplish red flowers covered with yellowish down; L. alseuosmoides, with purple and yellow flowers: and L. Delavayi, with pale yellow flowers. All these are evergreen and prefer a west or north-west wall. For the warmer, moister parts of Britain, L. etrusca and L. italica may be recommended, both being singularly beautiful honeysuckles from the south of Europe and vigorous deciduous climbers.

MAGNOLIA GRANDIFLORA is, of course, very well known as a wall tree—it is more than a shrub; but, although slow-growing, it is quite hardy in the open near London. On a house front it always appears to me ungainly and unsuitable, but it flowers much more freely there, and its individual blossom is about the finest we can see in the open air in Britain. It will cover the front of a good-sized house, and keeping it pruned and in order, with the necessary tying-in of young shoots, entails considerable labour. Another evergreen species, M. Delavayi, can only be successfully grown against a wall, except in such places as Cornwall, where it makes a particularly striking tree. It has the same defect as M. grandiflora, in that the size of its leaves and the thickness and strength of its shoots make it somewhat unsuited for wall cultivation. Its dull green leaves are often 12ins. long and half as wide, and its dull white flowers 7ins. or 8ins. across.

MYRTUS.—We may grow at least four kinds of myrtle on walls, where they are only injured by the severest winters. On the south wall, the common myrtle (M. communis) will blossom quite freely. Without the same associations, but even more attractive on a wall, is its variety tarentina, the Tarentum myrtle; this has much smaller leaves and flowers, but the latter are often very abundant. The other two myrtles are of Chilean origin, M. Ugni and M. apiculata, both often given the generic name of Eugenia. They have the typical myrtle flowers and bear many palatable blackish fruits.

(*To be continued.*)

THE GREY BULB-ROT OF TULIPS

THE grey bulb-rot of tulips is a well known disease in many of the bulb-raising districts of Holland, where it causes very serious damage to the young bulbs in the nurseries. The disease has very rarely been reported in this country, but recently there are indications that diseased bulbs are being imported from Holland. Therefore it is important that the disease should be recognised by all growers of bulbs on a large scale and measures taken to stamp it out before it obtains a footing in this country.

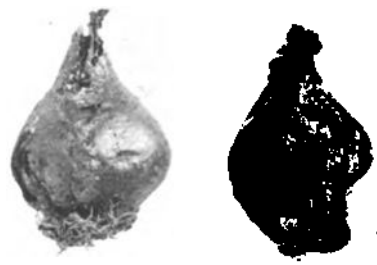
DISEASED BULBS.
Showing young sclerotia developing on the shoots.

Grey bulb-rot is caused by a fungus Rhizoctonia Tuliparum, which does not possess reproductive spores, but spreads by means of fungal threads growing out from the affected bulbs. The fungus winters in the soil in the form of small, dark-brown bodies termed sclerotia, which consist of fungal threads very compactly woven together. Only the outer layer of the sclerotium is dark brown in colour, and if one of the sclerotia be cut in two it will be seen that the interior is light yellow. The dark brown and light yellow colorations are very characteristic and aid in distinguishing Rhizoctonia Tuliparum from other fungal diseases which may infect the tulip bulb.

The first evidences of the disease in the Dutch bulb nursery are the presence of bare spots in the tulip beds in the spring, where the plants have failed to come up. These bad spots, or "kwaden plekken" as the Dutch term them, are very heavily infected with the fungus. Nearly all the bulbs planted in such an area are usually so severely injured that they fail to grow. When infected bulbs do produce leaves, the growth is much retarded and the whole shoot soon withers down, due to the fact that the fungus has rotted off the lower portion just at the neck of the bulb.

When diseased bulbs are dug up and examined it is found that they are more or less rotted, the infection beginning at the tip of the bulb and working downwards. A rather striking feature is that the soil adheres very firmly to the rotted portions, due to the presence of a felt-like covering of fungal threads which binds the particles of soil to the bud scale. The infected bud scales show a distinct change in appearance; the diseased tissue of the scale becomes more or less translucent and greyish in colour, in marked distinction to the healthy tissue, which is quite opaque and white. The greyish appearance of the diseased tissue is very distinctive of this disease, and has led the American investigator Whetzel to name it the grey bulb-rot. As the lower portion of the bulb is the last to be attacked, an abundance of healthy roots is usually produced. The dark brown sclerotia of the fungus are found in the soil surrounding the diseased bulb and also very typically on the neck of the bulb.

The measures taken to combat this disease in the Dutch bulb nursery are largely preventive. It has been found that the disease spreads very slowly through the soil from one bulb to the next in the tulip bed, therefore the Dutch growers make use of a special tool termed a "Tulpenstecker" to remove any diseased bulbs. The tulpenstecker is a metal cylinder, with a pair of handles at one end, which is pressed down over the diseased bulb, and bulb and soil contained within it are carefully removed and burned. No practicable method of sterilising bulbs or soil has been evolved, though Whetzel states that on a small scale the use of commercial formalin (at the rate of 2lb. to one square yard diluted with enough water thoroughly to wet down through from 6ins. to 8ins. of loosely spaded

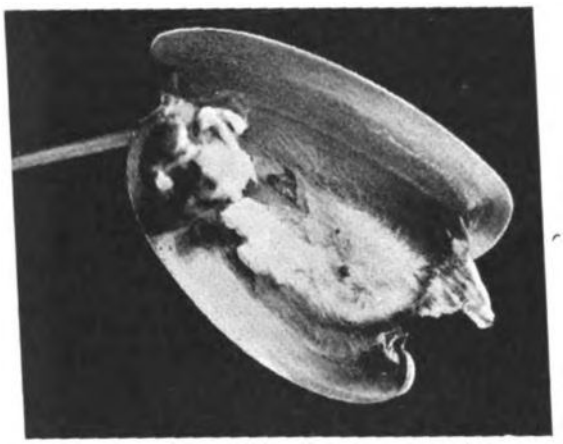


DISEASED BULBS.
Showing mature sclerotia at the neck of the bulb.

Digitized by Google

soil) is very efficient. He has also successfully tried pan steaming the soil for one hour.

It is extremely difficult to detect the presence of the fungus on bulbs in the dormant condition which have been imported into this country from Holland to grow on for flower. It is only after the bulbs have been placed under suitable conditions of warmth and moisture, such as are present in the forcing house, that the fungus develops. When growth of the bulb takes place and the young shoot appears it is seen that it is covered with a greyish white felt of fungal hyphæ. In many cases the leaves fail to unfold and the shoot soon rots off. When the leaves do develop they are stunted and malformed, due to the fact that their apices have been attacked by the fungus. The upper surface of each leaf usually becomes covered with a white felt of fungal hyphæ, which is densest in any depression such as that formed at the midrib. The characteristic sclerotia of Rhizoctonia Tuliparum very rapidly develop on the fungal felt on stem and leaf. At first they are white in colour, but later they acquire the typical dark brown colour of the mature sclerotium.



MALFORMED TULIP LEAF.
Showing white felt of fungal threads.

A forcing house containing many boxes of infected tulips is a very striking sight, which brings home forcibly to the observer that the presence of the fungus is responsible for a considerable amount of loss to the grower. In one nursery from which the disease has been reported it is the custom to plant the bulbs fifty in a box. In many of the boxes containing infected tulips only two or three plants developed leaves, and one with as many as twenty-five healthy bulbs was rarely obtained. At this nursery every precaution was taken to ensure that soil and boxes used in growing the bulbs should be free from infection. It is certain, therefore, that the disease was imported on the bulbs, which came from Holland. It is interesting to note that the tulips were obtained from three growers, two of whom had their nurseries in the same district and were responsible for sending badly diseased bulbs, while the third had his nursery in another district and sent perfectly healthy bulbs. This indicates that the British nurseryman would do well to be very careful with regard to the source of his tulips, and he should buy from the Dutch grower who is able to produce a clean bill of health for his nursery. If the disease has been observed among his tulips, the grower will be wise to reject boxes and soil for further use, and he should dispose of them very carefully so that there is no risk of infecting fresh boxes and soil.

The Botrytis blight of tulips, a disease caused by the fungus Botrytis tulipæ, has often been confused with grey bulb-rot. This disease is more common in this country, and is spread much more rapidly, because reproductive spores are formed, as well as sclerotia. The tulip is usually attacked much later, often when it is in flower, and every part of the plant may be affected. The sclerotia formed are smaller than those of Rhizoctonia Tuliparum, and have a black external coat with a white interior. They are generally scattered all over the outer bulb scales and not confined to the neck of the bulb as in Rhizoctonia Tuliparum. The fungus causes light brown withered spots to appear on leaves and flower petals, and the small black scelerotia often occur in the centre of these discoloured areas. This disease is also imported on Dutch bulbs, so that it is an additional reason for selecting with great care the grower from whom the bulbs are purchased.

DISEASED TULIP SHOOTS.
Showing, to right and left, immature sclerotia; in the centre, mature sclerotia.

E. J. CADMAN.

DWARF CONIFERS FOR THE ROCK GARDEN

THE great increase that has taken place during late years in the number of rock gardens has created a considerable demand for dwarf, evergreen trees and shrubs. Such plants are extremely useful in rockeries, for not only do they introduce an air of reality to the surroundings of alpine plants by representing the stunted character of trees at alpine altitudes, but they relieve the winter bareness and, later on, form ideal backgrounds for choice flowering plants. Probably the most popular plants for this purpose are the dwarf conifers. These were brought into very prominent notice in 1923, by the publication of "Dwarf and Slow Growing Conifers," a book by Mr. Murray Hornibrook. Unfortunately, however, it is not possible to procure some of the plants there mentioned and others can only be obtained with great difficulty. Mr. Hornibrook explains in the preface to his book what great trouble he had in obtaining plants true to name. Some have never been common; some

A ROUNDED HUMMOCK OF PICEA EXCELSA GLOBOSA NANA.

come and go; some of the original plants have been lost; new forms constantly appear and they often masquerade under old names, or maybe under a variety of names. Consider the many varieties of the common spruce (Picea excelsa). Some of them have been known since the middle of last century, but whether the original stocks exist in all cases is doubtful. In 1900 a very considerable number of abnormal seedling spruces of the common European kind, were raised in the Forest Garden at Adlisberg, Switzerland, which exhibited all kinds of variations from the type. The seed was collected from a single tree, an abnormal tree of erect habit with a peculiar bunching character of the branches. The seedlings when seen by the writer were thirteen years old and 16 per cent. were of normal habit, with single trunks; 31 per cent. had developed several trunks from a common rootstock, while 53 per cent. had formed dense, round cushion-like plants of heights varying from a few inches to several feet. At that time it

Digitized by Google

appeared to be possible to match many of the cultivated, named varieties among these seedlings, yet, with age, differences may have arisen. This indicates how difficult it may be to keep dwarf conifers true to type, for one kind being out of stock, it may easily be substituted by another which may alter in character as it advances in age. However, there are certain well marked kinds that are in general cultivation and those mentioned below are offered for sale at moderate prices in nurserymen's catalogues.

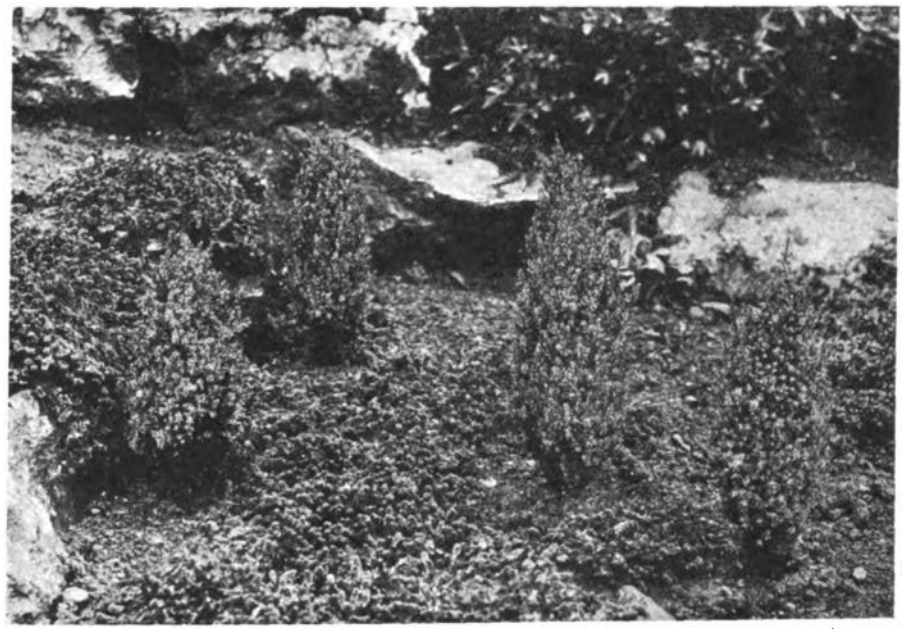
CUPRESSUS OBTUSA, one of the most important cypresses from the Far East, has long been cultivated by the Japanese, both as a timber tree and for garden purposes. It is one of the most popular trees for dwarfing in Japan and in the hands of Japanese gardeners it has developed a large number of varieties of very striking character. In most instances the branches of these varieties are stunted and they bear a dense mass of short branchlets covered with bright green or golden foliage. They are among the best of the dwarf conifers suitable for rockeries and the following varieties are easily obtainable. C. obtusa var. compacta, a dense bush that, with age, reached 2ft. to 3ft. high and as far through; varieties nana and pygmæa, which are similar to the last named, but smaller in stature; nana aurea, a small dense plant with golden foliage; and tetragona minima, a variety with a looser branch system than other varieties and a curiously angled system of branching. Most of the varieties of C. obtusa are characterised by the dense, flat, fern-like appearance of the branches and leaves and they sometimes appear in nurserymen's catalogues under the generic name of chamæcyparis. Quite distinct from other varieties is C. obtusa var. Sanderi, a dense, slow-growing plant, often not more than 9ins. to 15ins. high, that only produces the juvenile type of foliage. The leaves are about one-sixth of an inch long and they stand well out from the shoot. Their grey green colour makes them very attractive. This variety is sometimes catalogued as Retinispora Sanderi and Juniperus Sanderi.

CUPRESSUS PISIFERA, sometimes called Retisispora pisifera, produces a number of varieties in which the juvenile type of foliage persists for many years. Most of these varieties are extremely beautiful, particularly those with gold, sulphur or silver-coloured foliage, but most of them grow too large for the rock garden. The varieties nana aurea, a dense rounded bush with golden foliage, and ericoides, a greyish-green leaved plant, are worth consideration where space is restricted.

CUPRESSUS LAWSONIANA is another species that is prolific in varieties. Most of them are too tall or too spreading for the rock garden, but there are several dwarf kinds that are easily obtained. Two good green-leaved varieties are compacta and pygmæa, both dwarf, compact plants with normal foliage, that take many years in attaining a height of 2ft. Two charming varieties with the juvenile type of foliage persisting are Fletcheri, which forms a slow-growing pyramid of plumose habit with blue-green leaves; and Rheingold, a bushy variety with pretty golden foliage. Both make good rock garden plants. Another dwarf variety is Fosteriana, a slow-growing, compact variety with blue-green leaves, that never grows tall. There is some doubt as to whether the variety now on the market is the one originally described under that name. Cupressus thyoides var. leptoclada is a dense bush, bearing a mixture of the mature and juvenile types of leaves.

Among the junipers are several species that are naturally small in stature and others that are dwarf forms of taller-growing species. On hillsides Juniperus communis is often found less than a foot high and sometimes as a prostrate shrub, but given good soil and suitable position it may reach a height of 10ft. or 12ft. However, there are forms that never grow big and the neatest of them is J. communis var. compressa. This forms a tiny pyramidal tree with a close, formal branch system of erect slender branchlets, clothed with glaucous green leaves. It grows very slowly and takes many years in attaining the height of 2ft., although it may grow twice as high in the end. The name of J. hibernica compressa is sometimes applied to the plant. The variety alpina is a more or less prostrate shrub and the variety canadensis is a spreading bush often not more than 12ins. high. J. horizontalis is a spreading species that may be planted on banks where a low covering is required. J. squamata is another dwarf species, suitable for the rock garden, but at present it is rather expensive. J. Sabina and its several varieties are all suitable for covering banks where tall plants would be out of place. As a rule they do not exceed 3ft. or 4ft. in height, especially where the soil is on the poor side. The variety known as "Knap Hill," is one of the most effective.

Pinus montana var. Pumilio is one of the dwarfest of the numerous forms of the mountain pine. It can be planted with effect in the rockery. Another dwarf pine is P. pumila, a small, dense bush from Siberia.



A GROUP OF JUNIPERUS HIBERNICA COMPRESSA.

There are many dwarf forms of the common spruce (Picea excelsa), some of the best of the cushion-like forms are dumosa, pygmæa and Gregoriana. Both Thuya occidentalis and T. orientalis provide dwarf varieties. Of the former, globosa, Little Gem and pygmæa are all low-growing bushes, suitable for restricted places, while of T. orientalis the varieties compacta and ericoides should have attention. The last named variety is peculiar in retaining the juvenile type of foliage. W. DALLIMORE.

SERVICE FOR READERS

Though so many subjects are dealt with in each issue of THE GARDEN, it must constantly happen that readers seek information which is not immediately available. In such circumstances they should make use of our new Service Department. Through its medium each reader's own particular enquiry can be dealt with. No matter what the question is, whether advice is sought as to—

RESTOCKING A GARDEN, COLOUR SCHEMES FOR GARDENS, THE BEST PLANTS FOR CERTAIN SITUATIONS, WHERE TO OBTAIN NEW AND RARE PLANTS, INSECT PESTS, NAMING OF PLANTS, AND THE HUNDRED AND ONE OTHER DETAILS RELATING TO THE GARDEN—

there is always information available from a staff of expert contributors and consultants; *and there is no charge for this.* It is one of the additional means of Service which THE GARDEN is glad to render to its readers.

All communications should be addressed to the Service Department, THE GARDEN, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

NOTES OF THE WEEK

A DECORATIVE EVERGREEN SHRUB.

THE genus arctostaphylos belongs to the heath family (ericaceæ) and is represented in cultivation by some ten or a dozen species in varieties varying in habit from trailing plants useful for carpeting to shrubs and small trees; nearly all are evergreen. The genus is widely distributed in the Northern Hemisphere, ranging from California to the mountains of central Europe and Britain, and northern Asia; while one variety is found in China. In cultivation all require a moist well drained peaty soil and a sunny position. They do not transplant readily, and it is better to grow them in pots until they are of sufficient size to be transferred to their permanent positions. Two species are found wild in Britain. Of these, Arctostaphylos Uva-ursi (red bearberry) is the more common. This is found in the higher mountains of the north of England and Scotland, and also in central Europe and California. The British form is more stunted in habit than the Californian, and plants usually offered by nurserymen are of American origin. Several forms are sent out under trade names, but they vary little from the type. Planted in a suitable position in a peaty border or rock garden, Arctostaphylos Uva-ursi makes a good evergreen carpet and spreads rapidly, producing its clusters of small, attractive, pink, heath-like flowers at the ends of its branches from April to June. Cuttings will root readily and afford the best means of increase.

Arctostaphylos alpina is the other British native. This is much rarer, being confined to the higher Scottish mountains, where it is found growing in association with another rare alpine ericaceous shrub, Loiseleuria procumbens.

It is of dwarf creeping habit with short racemes of white flowers followed by black edible fruits. Of no outstanding garden value, this shrub is nevertheless interesting to the collector of novelties. In the autumn its leaves turn a bright red. It requires cool, moist conditions in cultivation, and may be propagated by division, seeds and cuttings.

The Californian species provide us with the best-flowering members of the genus, and the outstanding one is Arctostaphylos Manzanita—commonly called Manzanita in its native habitat, where it grows into a small tree about 20ft. high. Although introduced about thirty years ago to Britain, it has never become widely grown, and it is difficult to understand why such a splendid winter-flowering evergreen has been so little appreciated. In cultivation it forms a medium-sized evergreen bush with thick leathery leaves like a eucalyptus, borne in such a way that only the edges of the leaves are presented to the full light of the sun. There would appear to be several forms in cultivation, which show slight variation in season of flowering, colour of flower and bark of the young shoots. How these forms originated it is difficult to say.

The flowers are borne in terminal racemes, and vary in colour from white tinged with pink, to pink; but I have never seen one with so much colour as that figured in the *Botanical Magazine*, Tab. 8128.

By selecting the different forms it is possible to get a continuous display of flowers from December to April. The earliest form I have seen is growing in a sheltered, sunny border in the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, where, regardless of weather conditions (for the flowers are not damaged by frost), it flowers freely throughout the winter.

ARCTOSTAPHYLOS MANZANITA, A FINE EVERGREEN SHRUB FROM CALIFORNIA.

Several good specimen plants are growing at Kew. These vary in the colour of their flowers and bark, but none commences flowering until March. The bark varies from green to red, and it is noticeable that the green stems are thinner than the red, although bushes with the former are the more free-flowering. On the older branches the bark peels off after the manner of an arbutus.

For a considerable time it was generally supposed that cuttings of Arctostaphylos Manzanita would not root. This idea, however, is erroneous, as numerous young plants have been propagated by means of rooted cuttings at the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh. Cuttings made about 3ins. long of the tips of the branches root readily in about three months, if inserted in pure sand. They can be taken at almost any time. It is unwise to remove any more than about two leaves at the base of the cuttings, and these should then be inserted at a depth sufficient to keep them upright. Care should be taken in potting them up. I have obtained excellent results from batches put in in December. Fruits are rarely produced on cultivated plants, and imported seeds prove difficult to germinate. Some authorities recommend subjecting the seeds to heat before sowing, and any trouble taken in raising this plant is more than repaid by the sight of a bush in full flower.

Another Californian species worth cultivating is the rare Arctostaphylos tomentosa, a white-flowered form distinguished from all the others through being densely clothed with stiff hairs.

Several other species and varieties are grown, but there is little to merit their inclusion in other than a botanical collection.—F. P. K.

PLANTS FOR DAMP SOILS.

IN many gardens there are low-lying parts where only moisture-loving plants will thrive. Such places are not made as beautiful as they should be; instead of rushes and marsh weeds being allowed to flourish in them a selection of water and bog plants should be planted. It may be that some cleaning-out work will be necessary first—the removal of rushes and similar plants. All such work should be very thorough, as very small roots will grow and form big masses of stems and leaves if they are left in the ground. Where there is a basin containing muddy loam full of weeds, the most satisfactory way of dealing with it is to excavate the whole of the soil as well as the weeds and their roots, and partly to replace with good clean loam; this will soon become muddy and a fit rooting medium for aquatic and bog plants. The sloping sides of such hollows must be dry-cleaned, as it were: poor soil taken out and good put in where the new subjects are to be planted. It is much easier, afterwards, for the cultivator to keep the whole of the surroundings in a clean condition. The following kinds of plants are suitable for growing where their roots will be constantly in water: Alisma (water plantain), Juncus communis, menyanthes, nymphæas in variety, parnassia, Peltandra virginica, Ranunculus lingua, stratiotes and Typha latifolia. On the slopes and near the margin of the water, plant spiræas, Acorus Calamus, Caltha palustris, Bottonia palustris, and the pickerel weed in masses at the edge of the pond, and clumps of bamboos.—G. G.

SOME MODERN ERIGERONS, OR FLEABANES.

WE have in cultivation quite a number of good erigeron species, many of which are of high beauty, and there are some growers who affect to despise the modern forms, generally hybrids, of the majority of which the parentage has not been disclosed. Most of these are exceedingly beautiful, however,

Digitized by Google

and those who desire to have in their gardens the best of the modern plants of the day cannot afford to neglect these very charming flowers. They all partake of the general features of the erigeron species—aster-like flowers with narrow, graceful ray florets. They form excellent border flowers and prefer a good, well manured soil in sun or partial shade and not too dry below, yet not what may be called moist, either. Propagation is effected by division.

A very pretty hybrid which grows to about 2ft. in height is that called Antwerpia, which has large and charming flowers of a fine shade of lavender blue. This is a great favourite with many. Asa Gray, which has been for a good many years in cultivation, and in which it is not difficult to trace the influence of E. auriantiacus, one of its parents, has flowers of a kind of apricot hue. It is very different from all the others and is about a foot high, or rather more.

Elsie is a most distinct little flower, with a dwarf and bushy habit, which will suggest its inclusion in the rock garden or the front of the border. It is only about 6ins. high, and has nice, rosy pink blooms. Edina is esteemed by a goodly number of growers. It is about 18ins. in height and has large white flowers. B. Ladhams is coming greatly into favour and is becoming popular, not only for its appearance in the garden, but also for yielding cut flowers of considerable beauty. It grows about 2ft. high, and gives a plentiful supply of bright rose blooms. Merstham Glory, which originated—or was, at least sent out—by Mr. W. Wells, is very distinct, inasmuch as its flowers open double and only show an eye when they are passing their best. These blooms are violet-blue and are borne plentifully on a plant of good branching habit. Pink Pearl is a comparative novelty. It is another which grows about 2ft. high, but its flowers are of a lovely shade of pink. Its claim to be the best of its colour has much to support it. Although there are others, I shall conclude at present by mentioning the favourite Quakeress, also about 2ft. high, which supplies us with a wealth of bonny flowers of a soft lavender blue, almost reminiscent of the Quaker garb so much worn by the ladies of this faith in former times.

These erigerons are all worthy of the consideration of lovers of the best hardy border flowers, and their extended cultivation is much to be recommended.—S. ARNOTT.

ONE OF THE BEST OF THE FLEABANES, ERIGERON QUAKERESS.

HERBACEOUS PHLOXES & LUPINS: LATE PLANTING.

ALTHOUGH the season is far advanced this year, and the recent warm weather has hastened on growth, it is still possible to plant herbaceous perennials in a number of districts; but the work should be carried out without delay, and particular care should be taken of the plants during the early summer. It must be remembered that these plants will not have made enough root growth before the summer to enable them to withstand a prolonged period of drought, but if the ground is kept well hoed round about them and they are given copious supplies of water in very dry weather, they should not suffer in any way.

Both herbaceous phloxes and lupins are first-rate border plants which have been improved within recent years to a marked degree. The colour ranges in each case are infinitely wider, and their form and constitution have also been greatly improved. These two perennials are inexpensive to buy, will last for many years, succeed in practically any soil—provided it is well prepared—and they need but little cultural attention. Phloxes are particularly adaptable. Their value in the herbaceous border is known to all, but their decorative value in beds alone, and in narrow borders backed by tall evergreen hedges, is not always fully appreciated. In whatever position phloxes are planted it is not advisable to mix the varieties. One colour by itself is far more effective.

A WELL GROWN PERENNIAL PHLOX.

Phloxes have a long season of blooming. The first flowers appear during July, and the flowering carries on until well into the autumn. There is considerable difference in the height of the different varieties; some, such as Thor, will attain a height of 4ft., while others, such as Flora Hornung, do not often grow taller than 1½ft. Phloxes prefer a deeply dug, fairly moist loam which has been enriched with well decayed manure. In the spring they greatly benefit by a light mulching of rotted manure, as they exhaust the soil in which they are growing, and in hot weather an occasional thorough soaking with water is helpful. About 18ins. apart is a suitable distance for planting.

There are innumerable varieties in white, shades of pink, rose, salmon, scarlet, purple and many intermediate shades. A few of the finest white and salmon varieties are: Lady Grisel, an early-flowering white; Europa, another white with a conspicuous carmine eye; Lemon Queen, white with a lemon eye; America, salmon pink; Mrs. M. Van Hoboken, a soft pink; Mrs. Oliver, salmon with a white centre; Elizabeth Campbell, another salmon; and Baron van Dedem, a brilliant orange scarlet. The rose and crimson varieties are very attractive, and among them are Africa, Aegir, and Marechal Foch. A careful choice should be made from the blues, lilacs and purples; Le Mahdi is a fine large-flowered lilac; Reichgraf von Hochberg is a brilliant purple blue; Miss Ellen Willmott a pale mauve flushed with crimson; and Offenbach an attractive lilac.

One of the advantages of the phlox is the ease with which it can be propagated, but it is a great mistake to propagate from inferior stock. Strong and healthy stock should be purchased at the outset, and from this one can produce good young plants either by division or by cuttings of well ripened shoots.

There are several types of lupins suitable for the garden, besides a number of species. Each one of these types has a number of varieties, all fine border plants. The most important class is Lupinus polyphyllus. L. arboreus, the tree lupin, is a splendid shrubby perennial; and the third class consists of a number of hybrids raised by crossing L. polyphyllus and L. arboreus.

Lupins are equally suitable for the semi-wild garden or the herbaceous border, and they are admirable for massing at the edge of a woodland; in fact, no garden should be without some of the modern lupins. They are not fastidious as to soil. If lupins have not been grown to any extent in the garden, try some of the new shades, such as Cross Roads and Downer's Delight or Light of Lodden, a beautiful yellow-flowered variety. Downer's Pink Pearl is really charming; Favorite, a light, clear blue; Sunshine, a bright golden yellow; 21st Lancers, a striking variety with orange standards and lavender keels; Happiness, a rich, deep purple; The Bride, a pale yellow shaded rosy pink; and Excelsior, with handsome tall spikes of reddish purple, should also be tried. The hybrid lupins are semi-shrubby in habit, and of this class a few of the best are Beauty of Somerset, Sweet Lavender and Effective. Lupins and phloxes are border plants which are particularly suitable for the amateur, as they are in no way difficult to grow, and yet they give a fine display of bloom for many weeks. M. P.

Digitized by Google

PRUNING SHRUBS AND TREES

AS regards the proper pruning of a large mixed shrubbery there are many points, all important, to keep in view, consequently the pruning season extends nearly all the year round. Many subjects are pruned to induce them to flower freely, others for production of large foliage, and all for general effect and tidiness; but here let me warn pruners not to pay too much attention to "tidiness," which often means "good shape," etc., more often than not at the expense of the crop of bloom.

What I propose in this short article is just to run through the months of the year and touch on the most important subjects usually dealt with each month.

I will therefore commence with April. This is a great month for pruning such evergreens as rhododendrons, aucubas, laurels, ilex, ligustrum, laurustinus, ivies—in fact almost all evergreens, leaving the more tender varieties till quite the end of the month. Pruning may, especially in the case of rhododendrons, mean simply removing the terminal buds from shoots which are just a little too long, thereby inducing the lateral buds to break early and ensuring the formation of flower buds for the following season. On the other hand, rhododendrons which are already out of hand, and I know there are many such, may be cut back with safety to any desired height; in some cases they may not break too freely, in this case the terminal buds of the one year growths should be removed the following April. Specimen evergreens should never be sheared over, but cut carefully with the knife, thereby retaining the natural growth as much as possible. Generally speaking, deciduous subjects should give way to evergreens, as in most cases these are considered of greater value, and on the other hand most deciduous subjects will bear, and in fact often require, more drastic pruning than evergreens. During April buddleias, amorphas, some hypericums, lavandula, Perovskia atriplicifolia, etc., should be pruned back to almost ground level, exceptions being Buddleias alternifolia and Colvilei. By this treatment plants never get out of hand or exceed their allotted space. As the years pass, a woody trunk or stem will naturally be formed, but its growth will be slow. Other plants for foliage effect which should be similarly treated are ailanthus and paulownia.

During May rhododendrons should continue to receive attention, for many gardeners will not care to sacrifice the flowers, so as soon as they begin to fade the plants may be pruned into shape. The ilex must, during this month, receive attention, cutting out a branch here, pinching out a terminal bud there, so as to ensure perfectly furnished specimens. Early-flowering deciduous shrubs may be pruned as hard as may be desired, such as forsythias, Cornus Mas, ribes, etc., and such evergreens as have finished flowering, including Berberis Darwinii and other early-flowering berberis; but here again comes the rub, to prune away the flowering wood is to lose the effect of the beautiful fruits in early autumn, so care must be used in selecting only the badly placed shoots for removal each year. Tender evergreens, such as drimys, pittosporum, etc., may be pruned into shape; if these plants have not been neglected it often means that pruning simply consists of removing terminal buds, excepting, of course, those of the leaders.

During June there is a quantity of pruning to attend to, a notable group of trees and shrubs being syringas and laburnums, immediately these have finished their flowering they should be attended to, if only to remove the seed pods, which will now be forming at the expense of next year's flowers. Laburnums usually grown as standards can now be cut into shape and syringas certainly should be properly pruned, due regard being paid to the desired shape of the plant. Last year's growth, which has just finished flowering, should be cut back to two pairs of eyes and these, with proper cultivation and feeding, should each give at least two trusses of bloom, *i.e.*, from the upper pair of buds. The end of June is not too late to finish pruning rhododendrons which have now, for the most part, finished flowering. This applies also to azaleas, but at this season it is necessary to use a styptic where cuts are made or bleeding will take place. If no other pruning is needed, it is still necessary to remove the young seed pods which, if left will seriously deplete the following year's show of bloom.

July is a particularly busy month for the pruner, for there are now three groups of important shrubs needing attention: philadelphus, spiræas and deutzias. All three require similar treatment, and if I say they require somewhat the same system of pruning as does the raspberry I shall be understood by all. Pruning should not be so rigorous as with the raspberry, but on the same lines, *i.e.*, remove the old wood, which has flowered and retain the new. A good many of the spiræas and deutzias will stand this method and give excellent results each year, but it is as well not to cut choice subjects too ruthlessly until one gets to know their habits and requirements.

During the latter part of July and on through the first half of August, is an important time among malus, prunus, cherry and pyrus. Many gardeners understand and practise "summer pruning" of fruit trees. This applies with equal force to the above-mentioned ornamental section and, generally speaking, the same treatment, if properly carried out, will induce greater crops of flowers, better shaped trees and, in the case of those which bear ornamental fruits, better and brighter coloured specimens. On through August attention must be paid to the removal of faded bloom and, where not required for propagation, seed pods, the nipping out of the tips of shoots which look like encroaching on their neighbours' space.

During September comes a lull in the pruning world, and the knife should not be used except when found to be absolutely necessary. The chief reason being that growth everywhere is now practically finished and the wood is ripening. To cut away shoots upsets the natural function of the plant: part of an unfinished process is cut away, consequently Nature begins over again, and to do this she has to produce new material, *i.e.*, new growth. This, from a gardener's point of view, is undesirable, as it means soft sappy growth to be nipped by the first touch of frost. Many gardeners will insist upon cutting evergreens in autumn, for tidiness sake. This is quite wrong: be patient and wait till spring

October, November, December, January and February, constitute the hardwood pruning season, which I think is best understood by the majority of gardeners of all classes and little harm can come to hardy deciduous trees and shrubs by their annual thin out and trim up. But those who study the subject and prune at the proper season during the whole year will have their winters' task considerably lightened, as most of the work will have been done as recommended and considerable time gained, which can then be expended on digging, or trenching where necessary, the shrubbery borders.

March is a month which, coming just between winter and genial spring weather, should make the pruner wary. It is far better to wait a little longer before pruning tender subjects, and in this respect there are many sad tales being told of March pruned ilex and blackened shoots in early May, "the proper time to prune."

Paignton. JOHN HILL.

CORRESPONDENCE

RHODODENDRONS IN VARIOUS AREAS.

SIR,—It is stated in the fore note to the tabular list on page 195 that "rhododendrons of the campylocarpum and Souliei types thrive better on the east coast than on the west." This does not accord with our experience on the Scottish west coast, where RR. Souliei, campylocarpum, cyclium, Williamsianum and myrtilloides may be mentioned as species of those sub-series offering no difficulty in cultivation. The table does not include a report from Argyll, and as for Wigtownshire, where my lot is cast, we are accorded a blank against such generous growers as RR. barbatum, Thomsoni, Loderi, præcox, decorum and oreotrephes. R. Fargesii also is accorded a blank, whereas within a bowshot of my writing-table there is a bush with over one hundred trusses open. Let no west coast amateur be discouraged in planting these fine rhododendrons. It is no more than fair to add a note about the species with which I have failed. No amount of care and coddling will induce R. camschaticum to give me a blossom. It flourishes lavishly in the Edinburgh Botanic Garden. RR. camelliæflorum, giganteum, prophantum, facetum, bullatum and Boothii have perished, or nearly so, from last winter's frost. R. grande has never been satisfactory here, probably because our plants are derived from parents growing at

Digitized by Google

a low altitude, and out of five plants of R. sino-grande, one is dead, two are past praying for, while two on higher ground are all that could be desired.—HERBERT MAXWELL, *Monreith*.

FORM IN GLADIOLUS PRIMULINUS HYBRIDS.

SIR,—I am glad that a number of THE GARDEN has been devoted to the gladiolus this year, for the articles in that and the following number were very instructive, and I see that a correspondent has already (page 194) raised the problem touched on by "C. H. A. S." in his article (page 140) as to form in gladioli. Personally, I am in agreement with this writer concerning the value of primulinus hybrids for indoor decoration, and also on the desirability of avoiding those hybrids which approach the large-flowered in shape. Salmon Beauty, of which I believe an illustration was given on the middle page of the Special Number, under the title of "A Primulinus Hybrid," is, perhaps, worth taking as standard for primulinus hybrids, as it combines the gracefulness of the species primulinus with the display of flower of the large-flowered, and as it is also of good substance, a quality which many of these hybrids lack.

But if all primulinus were modelled on these lines we should get a little tired of them, and other types are very useful to provide variety. Daphne, as illustrated, is typical of many varieties which have flowers very loosely arranged on the spike, and in articles a few years ago in THE GARDEN several writers defended this type as being the most desirable. However, the spreading of the flowers demands a larger number of spikes for an effective display, and many of these varieties have thin petals.

The variety L'Innocence—which, by the way, on my light soil comes pure white—has a very novel shape, and I do not know whether to praise or condemn it. It has a tall, stiff stem with closely set flowers, but each individual flower is quite small, extremely neat and dainty, and very fresh-looking. Unfortunately, as in many medio-prims (if I may use the name), a number of these flowers are not of true prim. shape. I fancy L'Innocence would be best as a choice garden variety.—H. J. WARREN, *Leeds*.

GLADIOLI FROM SEED.

SIR,—It is very gratifying to find so many catalogues and horticultural magazines stressing the ease with which this inexpensive and most fascinating method of making a collection of gladioli may be carried out. May I once again emphasise the following facts: Gladiolus seed *germinates freely, grows easily* and *quickly* (flowers can be had in six months). The gladiolus seeds very freely, and artificial fertilisation carried out by hand is simple in the extreme—at least 85 to 90 per cent. or more of such crosses will set seed in a normal season, and the raiser has the additional thrill of knowing just what the seed is, can indulge in pleasant anticipations and, above all, can work with a set purpose in view. If the seed be from good standard varieties the number of really good seedlings is astonishingly high and very few will be bad enough to discard—only the very best should be named. Compare this with the dahlia or daffodil, where only one seedling out of hundreds, or sometimes thousands, is worth retaining! For the benefit of any reader whose climatic conditions are similar to mine, I give briefly my experiences of seed raising. Prior to this year (1925) I always sowed the seed in boxes containing about 9ins. of good soil in warm situation out of doors as soon as seeds were ripe (March to May), according to date of planting the corms from which the seed eventually grew.

Most of the seeds sprouted in from three to six weeks, but appeared to suffer a check during the cold months (June to August—winter here), and only a few flowered at the end of their first year's growth—I think possibly due to this check. As soon as the foliage withered the corms were planted out in the open in prepared beds—the corms varying in size from cormlet size up to 3½ins. diameter—and next season all the larger corms flowered. This year I kept the seed till early spring and planted in the open in a rather warm position, but found, to my surprise, that, although the soil was kept moist, the seeds positively refused to germinate so long as the soil was exposed to the sun, but, as soon as a covering of straw was applied, germinated and grew vigorously. I am hoping some of them will flower in six months, as I know it has been done here under similar conditions.—AUSTRAL, *Geelong, Victoria, Australia*.

A FINE WINTERGREEN.

SIR,—A week or two ago you printed a note on Pyrola rotundifolia. I now send a picture which shows an unusually fine specimen of it which I photographed in the rock garden house of the Botanic Garden at Nymphenburg. It is not easy to grow this species with much success. P. rotundifolia is frequently seen in shady and rather humid positions in deciduous woods, but it is often difficult to move it into the garden. Once established it ought to remain undisturbed for years. It is the showiest species of the genus, with open white flowers appearing in June or July. In North America it is represented by the similar P. americana, which is apparently somewhat easier to cultivate. All wintergreens are stoloniferous, but like a light sandy soil well mixed with peat and leaf-mould. They will not grow in the common garden soil. Some, like P. chlorantha, P. secunda or P. umbellata, want a dry position, while P. rotundifolia, P. americana, to a certain extent also P. media and P. minor, like a humid or almost wet situation. This is the case, too, with the small one-flowered P. uniflora, sometimes called Moneses uniflora, which is found in moist, cool woods. It has white, open flowers with two-horned anthers.—CAMILLO SCHNEIDER.

PYROLA ROTUNDIFOLIA PREFERS A SHADY MOIST POSITION.

A FREE-FLOWERING WATER LILY.

SIR,—I am writing to express my great appreciation of your Spring Number. The illustration of wallflowers is certainly most excellent. I commenced alpine and water gardening about thirty years ago under the guidance of my old friend, the late E. H. Jenkins, and still have copies of your paper containing articles by him, one of which is a great source of satisfaction to me, describing, as it does, my own small rock and water garden. It is certainly larger to-day, but I doubt if I derive more pleasure than I did when first beginning, though I am as keen as ever. Your article on alpines and water plants in the March 27th issue is A 1. You would, in my opinion, do well, when writing of water lilies, to emphasise those which are particularly suited to small sheets of water and tubs. Many years ago I planted a Nymphæa Marliacea carnea in a small pond, large enough to breed carp in, but it overran everything. Among bog plants I would warn enthusiasts against the bog bean, Menyanthes trifoliata, which, though an aquatic, speedily spreads at a most alarming rate and is as much at home in the bog as in the water. Again I express my thanks for your most excellent articles now appearing.—THOS. P. WEBB, *Hampton Hill*.

THE SCENT OF GLADIOLUS TRISTIS.

SIR,—Perhaps the following observation on another plant may have some bearing on the question of the scent or scentlessness of the flowers of the spurge laurel as recorded by Sir Herbert Maxwell in the issue of THE GARDEN, March 27th. For some years I have flowered Gladiolus tristis in a small conservatory for the—to me—delicious fragrance with which it fills the house. On some evenings the odour is very strong; on others, following dull and cloudy days, it is imperceptible; also that it never comes out so long as direct sunlight is on the plants. One sunny afternoon in 1924 a heavy thundercloud came up about five o'clock, and the premature darkening brought out the blossoms' strong perfume, which disappeared, however, when, after the storm, the sun shone on the plants again at 7 p.m., but, of course, returned once more after sundown. —J. WALLACE WALKER, *Lyntwood, Bridge of Allan*.

Digitized by Google

SPRING FLOWERS AT VINCENT SQUARE

ALTHOUGH a week in advance of the official Narcissus Show, which at one time was thought to be too early for this season, the sudden change to very summery weather has hastened development so rapidly that daffodils and narcissi were the dominant floral feature of the Show.

The best novelties seemed to be in the giant Incomparabilis section, and particularly those which have coloured coronas. Generally, the colour is given by delicate flushings of pink and of apricot, and when, as is the case with the best novelties, this is on a fairly substantial corona set in the centre of a large, rounded, white or primrose yellow perianth, the effect is delightful. This type of flower is also substantial, so that the blooms will withstand the buffetings of winds—the delicate, semi-transparent floral segments are not for general decoration in the garden or the breezy uplands.

In a splendid collection arranged by Messrs. Barr and Sons there were many seedlings of the type mentioned. These are the latest comers and are not yet named; but Mrs. R. O. Backhouse, although strictly a giant Leedsii variety, showed the charming pink-flushed corona perfectly. Fiery Monarch, of true Incomparabilis type, has a most brilliant corona; while John Evelyn is uncommon in its pretty frilled corona. Inez, in the smaller collection of Mr. F. M. Copeland, is another good example of the pink-flushed Incomparabilis narcissus, and he had quite a number of unnamed seedlings.

The large trumpet daffodils always attract immediate attention, and on the present occasion there were many of such great size that they quite dwarfed King Alfred, which only a short time ago was considered to be the daffodil of daffodils. Van Waveren's Giant, Potentate, Tresserve and General Townsend, in a fine exhibit by Messrs. J. R. Pearson and Sons; Canute, shown by the Welsh Bulb Fields Company; Pilgrim Father, Noble Bravo and Wheel of Fortune, in the most attractive group of Messrs. Sutton and Sons, are the names of some of the best of the large trumpet daffodils, mostly of rich yellow colour; while Carmenta, lemon yellow tube, and Tamora, sulphur yellow tube, shown by Mr. J. W. Barr; and Conqueror, primrose tube, shown by R. H. Bath, Limited, were also splendid examples of large trumpet daffodils.

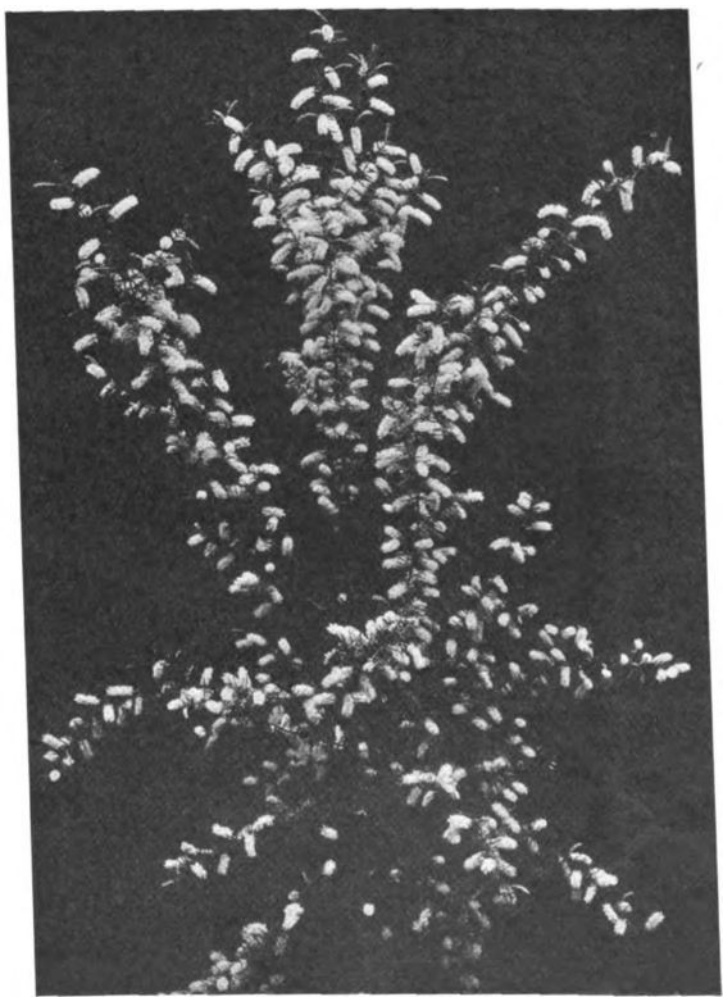
The Barrii type, which has a medium-sized to small brightly coloured corona, was freely shown, and the best varieties included Harpagon, Doctrinaire, Sunset Glow, Owen, Masterpiece, Lucifer, Brilliant Star and Pixie. The best Poetaz varieties combine decorative value with strong, but not too strong, perfume; and of this type a little collection, including Sycamore and Orange Cup, by Messrs. R. H. Bath was admirable.

Of the various uncommon types of narcissi a hybrid Triandrus with a crested corona, shown by Messrs. Sutton and Sons; Milk and Honey, a good double flower; and Snowsprite, one of the very few double Leedsii varieties shown by Messrs. Barr and Sons; Copeland's Triandrus; and the true Jonquil, a most dainty little twin-flowered stem of rich yellow colour and delightful fragrance, shown by Mr. J. W. Barr, are all worthy of much admiration.

While the blooms would not please the florist, who places form in a flower first, and almost last as well, the baskets of the semi-double Tulip Apple Blossom, staged by Messrs. Carter and Co., have considerable decorative value.

What may be the last exhibit of coloured freesias for the year was made by Mr. G. H. Dalrymple. The varieties were much the same as at the previous Show, but they were in such abundance as to make a lovely display. Bluebeard is of blue-mauve colouring; Buttercup well describes the colour, while the flowers are large and rounded; Cream-cheese is of paler yellow and, having long stems, is admirable as a cut flower; Treasure is the largest flower of all and of bright yellow colour lightly shaded with mauve on the outside. Besides the freesias, Mr. Dalrymple brought excellent plants of his Bartley strain of Primula pulverulenta. The different varieties are in pale blush, soft pink and rose pink.

The show auriculas staged by Mr. James Douglas were splendid examples of this fascinating flower. Some of his latest seedlings, especially those of blue colour, seem to be more floriferous than the old, as well as being of new colour. Prince of Tyre, of velvety purple colour; Janet, of rose maroon colour and a yellow zone; and Red Self are excellent varieties.



THE ORNAMENTAL CLUSTERS OF ACACIA VERTICILLATA.

Roses were shown so well that many must have been reminded that it was only about a fortnight to the Spring Show of the National Rose Society. Mr. Hicks had lovely vases of Clovelly, Mme. Abel Chatenay, America and Mrs. H. Stevens. Messrs. B. R. Cant and Sons set up splendid vases of Joan, Lady Wakefield, Golden Ophelia and Mrs. Beatty. Mr. George Prince showed Souvenir de Claudius Pernet, Mabel Morse and Padre, of great excellence, and also had beautiful sprays of the yellow Banksian rose. The cluster-flowered sorts were displayed by Messrs. Frank Cant and Co and by Mr. G. H. Pemberton; the latter had decorative little pot plants of such sorts as Koster's Orleans, Edith Cavell, Echo and Alice Amos; while the former arranged weeping standards of Excelsa and Yvonne above the dwarfer La Reine Elizabeth, Queen Wilhelmina, Orange King and other sorts.

Carnations were staged in considerable quantity and of the accustomed quality by Messrs. Allwood Brothers, Mr. C. Engelmann and Messrs. Stuart Low and Co., who displayed the best varieties. Adjoining their carnations, Messrs. Stuart Low and Co. had an attractive group of well flowered mimosas, chorozemas, the fragrant Boronia megastigma, splendid spikes of hippeastrums and yellow spathes of Richardia Elliotiana.

A restrained and satisfying group of forced shrubs was set up by Messrs. R. and G. Cuthbert, who employed bushy plants of Viburnum Opulus, V. Carlesii, Wistaria sinensis, Laburnum Vossii, Deutzia gracilis and Staphytea pinnata. The clematis plants associated with vines, Azalea Hinodigiri and other shrubs, by Messrs. L. R. Russell, Limited, included President, Mrs. Cholmondeley, Fairy Queen and King Edward VII.

Colonel Stephenson Clarke sent from Cuckfield, Borde Hill, splendid trusses of his rhododendrons. Beauty of Tremough, Barclayi, Duke of Cornwall and arboreum were magnificent. Mr. J. Klinkert grouped topiary specimens; and Mr. J. J. Kettle staged fragrant violets.

Polyanthuses of enviable size and colours were shown by Messrs. Blackmore and Langdon and by Messrs. John and A. H. Crook. The latter had a mixed collection, while the Bath firm grouped their large exhibit in good distinct colours. In Mr. Miller's exhibit we noted the old favourite double lilac primrose and the double white, as well as laced polyanthus and Miller's yellow strain. He had many vases of the deep blue Muscari Heavenly Blue, which was also shown in great quantity by Messrs. R. H. Bath, Limited.

Messrs. F. G. Wood of Ashtead showed some interesting primulas: P. chionantha, a fairly recent arrival from China that has taken kindly to our climate and seems to have come to stay in our gardens, where it should soon be well known, for it is a fine plant, distinct in its colouring of grey-green, black and white, and in its rich fruity scent; P. Wardii, from Tibet, another vigorous plant, whose large starry flowers of the usual primula pink have sometimes a slight twirl to them which gives the flowers an elegantly gay

Digitized by Google

carriage. In the middle of the exhibit was a bank of P. altaica, which replaces our yellow primrose in the Caucasus and eastwards; it is an old garden plant, but its delicate, cool lilac is hardly matched by any of the hybrid primroses, and it is wonderfully free-flowering. Beside it was an older plant still, Prince Silverwings, a double red and white polyanthus nearly lost to cultivation.

Messrs. Cutbush had a patch of the rare little white daffodil Moschatus of Haworth, Tulipa Clusiana (splashed cherry red and white), and the lavender daisy Bellis cœrulescens, between large bushes of rhododendron and azalea. Their Daphne oleoides, with its loose heads of large rose-purple flowers fading to white, was a finer plant than the wild form in southern Europe, and is probably a hybrid between it and D. Cneorum.

Messrs. Reuthe's exhibit contained, as usual, a large number of rare and distinguished plants; Schizocodon soldanelleoides, a sub-alpine woodlander from Japan, looked very hearty and vigorous, carrying three or four soldanella flowers in pale pink veined with crimson on 2in. stems; Anemone Halleri, a version of our native A. Pulsatilla in deep violet, is an excellent garden plant and would associate well with Fritillaria armena, which has the look of a tall, chrome yellow snowdrop.

Messrs. Clarence Elliott showed the rare old red Dusty Miller, whose fragrant, wallflower red flowers go so well with the powdered leaves; Petrocallis pyrenaica and a large pan of Androsace arachnoidea superba.

Messrs. Prichard grouped large patches of Gentiana angulosa (a large, vigorous and comparatively easy form of G. verna); the double white wood anemone, A. nemorosa fl. pl., whose doubling has given a formal charm to its flowers and prolonged their life without robbing them of their grace; and Narcissus Johnsoni or Queen of Spain, that very graceful hybrid of nature's raising.

Messrs. Waterer showed the curious dead white of Trillium grandiflorum against the pale china blue of Mertensia virginica; the double gorse and a vigorous clump of Gentiana verna.

Messrs. W. L. Rogers showed off their alpines in large clumps, the buttercup yellow of Morisia hypogæa against the dark chocolate of the form of Anemone Pulsatilla rather oddly named "rubra," embroidered with the white Hutchinsia alpina.

Messrs. Maxwell and Beale showed good stocky plants of the sub-arctic Phyllodoce empetrifolia; while Messrs. Hemsley's Nurseries showed Mazus repens, a very prostrate creeper with flowers that look like flattened-out lilac snapdragons, and other miniature alpines.

NEW AND RARE PLANTS.

AWARDS OF MERIT.

ACACIA VERTICILLATA.—Two very decorative plants of this mimosa, or, as the Australians term it, wattle, were shown. They were slender and erect and bore plenty of oblong spikes of pale yellow flowers. The narrow sharp-pointed leaves are borne in whorls. Shown by Messrs. Stuart Low and Co.

DRIMYS AROMATICA.—This species, which is a native of Tasmania and South Australia, is not usually considered to be so hardy as the South American Winter's Bark (Drimys Winteri), but the sprays from Sussex had quite a robust appearance. It is a stocky little shrub with red stems and buds and smooth dark green leaves. The little clusters of yellowish flowers were freely produced in the axils of the leaves. Shown by Mr. Gerald Loder.

MAGNOLIA CONSPICUA R. VEITCH'S VAR.—This is a very desirable variety of the well known Yulan tree. The flowers are larger and more rounded than those of the type. Shown by Colonel Stephenson Clarke.

MECONOPSIS BAILEYI.—This is one of the uncommonly beautiful blue poppies from China and the Himalayas. It was quite a charming plant, nearly 2ft. high, furnished with soft pale green leaves and bearing solitary well disposed flowers of sky blue colour. Shown by Lady Aberconway.

RHODODENDRON ADENOPODUM.—A graceful truss of soft pink flowers which have small rosy spots and are borne on rather long curving, reddish stalks set with fine hairs The long, narrow leaves have a cinnamon-coloured tomentum. Shown by Mr. Gerald Loder.

RHODODENDRON AUGUSTINII.—A small truss of bright mauve flowers of wavy outline which have a few dull spots on the upper segment. The leaves are relatively small. Shown by Dame Alice Godman.

RHODODENDRON CAMPYLOCARPUM × DR. STOKER.—The trusses have much in common with those of R. campylocarpum, and their clear yellow colour is enhanced by a bright carmine blotch at the base and small spots of the same colour on the upper segment. Shown by Mr. K. M'Douall, Logan.

TEMPLETONIA RETUSA.—This was the rarest and most uncommon plant in the hall. It makes an erect, compact little shrub with ovate, entire coriaceous leaves, and bears pea-shaped flowers of a striking orange red colour. It is known in Australia as the coral bush, and was introduced in 1803. Shown by Lieutenant-Colonel Messel, Nymans.

NEW NARCISSI.

Awards of merit were given to the following new varieties:

ELEGANCE.—A pure white giant Leedsii. Shown by Messrs. R. H. Bath, Limited.

DITTY.—A medium-sized Poeticus variety. Shown by Messrs. Herbert Chapman Limited.

NENE BEAUTY.—A good Incomparabilis variety. Shown by Messrs. R. H. Bath, Limited.

PARAMOUNT.—A fine Incomparabilis variety.

ROSARY.—A large trumpet daffodil. Shown by Messrs. Herbert Chapman, Limited.

SCARLET BEAUTY.—A large Incomparabilis variety Shown by Messrs. R. H. Bath, Limited.

SYBIL.—A giant Leedsii. Shown by Messrs. R. H. Bath, Limited.

ORCHIDS.

DENDROBIUM MODEL MAGNIFICUM.—A very fine garden-raised hybrid containing the two species nobile and Findlayanum. The large flowers have the apical half of each segment of mauve purple colour, the labellum with a dark crimson blotch at the base, and the apex mauve purple. Shown by Baron Bruno Schröder, Englefield Green, Surrey. First-class certificate.

CYMBIDIUM GOOSANDER, WESTONBIRT VAR.—A beautiful hybrid between insigne and Merlin. The spike bore six roundly formed flowers of light rose pink colour, the front lobe of the labellum yellowish and with some red markings, the column dark rose. Shown by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir George Holford. First-class certificate.

BRASSO-LÆLIO-CATTLEYA CALIGULA MAGNIFICA.—One of the finest of the brassavola hybrids, the parents being B.-C. Cliftonii and L.-C. callistoglossa. The immense flower has broadly formed segments of rosy mauve colour, the labellum dark purple, with the margin undulated and minutely fringed, while each of the side lobes bears a yellowish area. Shown by Sir George Holford, First-class certificate.

BRASSO-CATTLEYA MARY J. S. HANBURY.—An unusually large and well coloured flower of unknown parentage, but resembling the best forms of B.-C. Vilmoriniana. Of rich rosy mauve colour on all the segments, the front part of the labellum much frilled, and the throat veined with golden yellow. Shown by Mr. F. J. Hanbury. First-class certificate.

BRASSO-CATTLEYA GRAND MONARQUE.—This is the result of crossing C. Schroederæ with B.-C. Cliftonii. The large flower is of light blush colour, the labellum having a purplish front lobe, margined with white and prettily fringed. Shown by Mr. F. J. Hanbury. Award of merit.

ODONTIODA BRACKENHURST VAR. MEMORIA J. GURNEY FOWLER.—The spike bore thirteen flowers of moderate size, but remarkable for their extremely dark crimson colour, the lip having a purplish outer zone and a bright yellow crest. The result of crossing Oda. Charlesworthii with Odm. eximium. Shown by Mr. J. J. Bolton. Award of merit.

ODONTIODA ROSALEEN.—A charming hybrid of O. Coronation, with a branched spike of thirty flowers, the segments having a broad zone of rose purple on their outer area and with spotting of similar colour on the central part, the crest on the labellum bright yellow. Shown by Mr. R. Gerrish. Award of merit.

A SPRING FLOWER SHOW

THIS show, arranged by Messrs. Austin and McAslan, was held in the M'Lellan Galleries, Glasgow, on March 31st and April 1st last, and was wonderfully successful in attracting numerous exhibitors and spectators, giving great encouragement to the promoters to attempt another and greater display in the near future. One of the outstanding features of the show was a comprehensive collection of forced shrubs, plants and bulbs, staged by Messrs. Austin and McAslan. This collection was arranged on the floor in the form of three main groups or pyramids, point and distinction being achieved by the use of Japanese cherries.

Besides providing a gorgeous feast in colour and form, it also conveyed a valuable object lesson for such as have to provide a succession and quantity of flowers throughout the winter months.

Constructed by the same firm and forming a charming feature of the show was a miniature rockery. This was composed of water-worn limestone and built in the form of a natural outcrop.

Sir John Reid of Ardencraig, Bute (gardener, J. Davidson), set up a fine collection of narcissi in forty kinds, comprising old and new sorts and represented by excellent flowers.

The object of this collection was manifold, in that it afforded material for comparison to the experts and yet was sufficiently pleasing in aspect to attract and maintain the interest of the ordinary lovers of these beautiful flowers.

Adjacent to, enhancing and assisting in the objects aimed at in Sir J. Reid's exhibit, was another collection of narcissus, staged by Messrs. Austin and McAslan, and this group contained many new and unnamed seedlings of surpassing merit not yet on the market.

The same firm also set up an uncommon and interesting collection of muscari in twenty-seven pots. Prominent varieties were: botryoides, albus, and Blue, latifolius, Palleas, neglectum and commutatum.

Mr. R. Paterson, Stamperland, Cathcart, exhibited a group of orchids from the noted collection which gained for him a gold medal and first-class recommendation at a recent R.H.S. meeting. It was composed of odontoglossums, cypripediums, cymbidiums, etc. in a suitable setting of palms, ferns and moss.

Two small groups of Primula obconica were shown by Lady Muir, Doune (gardener, Mr. W. McCarrell), and were tastefully arranged in association with Primula malacoides, palms and pteris ferns.

There were numerous amateur exhibits, and keen competition resulted in the various classes, which augurs well for any future shows of this kind held by this enterprising firm.

Digitized by Google

FUNGICIDES FOR PRESENT USE

(*Continued from page 224.*)

SULPHIDE OF POTASSIUM OR POTASSIUM SULPHIDE.

COMMONLY known as "liver of sulphur," this is an extremely serviceable outdoor fungicide which may be used on a variety of plants for many kinds of diseases. Three points should be borne in mind: (1) It is malodorous, and should not, in consequence, be used close around a dwelling-house. (2) It badly discolours white paint, and is therefore unsuitable for use in vineries and greenhouses. (3) It will stain flowers. With these restrictions potassium sulphide may be used during spring, and after the flowering or fruiting season of any subject requiring a fairly powerful fungicide.

To obtain maximum benefit from the spray it should be freshly prepared, and the proper strength for general use is half an ounce to the gallon of water.

Place the required amount of sulphide in a stone or earthenware jar and stand the jar in a saucepan of water. Place the pan on a fire and allow to boil until the sulphide is completely dissolved. The boiling should be done outdoors or in a shed removed from the dwelling; the obnoxious smell would be unbearable in the house.

Allow the solution to cool down considerably and then stir in the whites of eggs at the rate of one egg to 8 ozs. of sulphide, the object being to make the fungicide adhesive to foliage and stems. Stir the preparation into the requisite quantity of luke-warm water and spray forthwith. Practically all mildews, chrysanthemum rust, carnation leaf-spot, sweet pea leaf and haulm diseases, lily fungus, onion mould, peach-leaf curl, anthracnose of currants, rose-leaf rust and sclerotinia diseases may all be treated with the spray.

COPPER-SULPHATE FUNGICIDES.

The use of copper sulphate is of importance to practically all outdoor gardens, whether devoted to vegetables, fruits, ornamental shrubs or flowering plants, and some of the copper fungicides are serviceable under glass, particularly for peach and nectarine trees, for various indoor shrubs and for tomatoes.

Copper sulphate alone, dissolved in water, makes a spray so powerful that it can only safely be used on dormant life. The object of mixing lime, soda or other substances with the copper is to reduce without destroying the potency of the copper salts, thus making a spray which is sufficiently powerful to kill the diseases of plants without inflicting serious injury on the leaves and young growth.

While using the term "to kill" it may be advisable to qualify it by adding —or check, for not even copper-sulphate sprays can kill a fungus which has gained a foothold among the inner cells and tissues of leaves and stems, and the greatest service it renders is to prevent the spores gaining such a foothold. This obviously means that the spray requires to be applied before the fungus develops, and in order to ensure this some knowledge of the nature and life-history of the fungus concerned is necessary.

Ignoring for the present the winter washes, it may be serviceable to describe

BORDEAUX MIXTURE

and to take note of a few diseases for which it may be successfully used, for it is certainly among the most serviceable of present-day fungicides.

Copper sulphate alone, as has already been stated, is too hot or caustic to be used on growing foliage, but by mixing with a certain proportion of lime the caustic properties of the copper sulphate are toned down, and that mixture is the Bordeaux mixture which became so widely popularised by the war-time aid of Ministry of Agriculture propaganda as the greatest preventive of phytophthora disease in potatoes. The important points are to know the purity of the copper sulphate and the caustic strength of the lime. The theoretical proportions should be 1lb. of copper sulphate and 1lb. of lime to five gallons of water, but in consequence of liability to variation in strength it is customary, when making, to test the liquid with litmus paper.

First the copper sulphate is placed in half the water to dissolve, using a wooden tub for the purpose. The lime is vigorously stirred into the other half of the water in another vessel, and, after all solubles in the lime have dissolved, time is allowed for the solids to settle, leaving clear lime water above. This clear lime water is then slowly poured into the copper-sulphate solution. Allow this mixture to settle down, and then place a piece of blue litmus paper in the solution. If it remains blue all is well, but if it turns red more lime water must be added.

There are, happily, several very reliable Bordeaux pastes upon the market which are mixed in strictly accurate proportions and require only to be diluted to the proper extent by the addition of rain water and, as so frequently urged, it is infinitely wiser to take advantage of such convenient preparations than to run any risk of damaging plants with a faulty home-made spray.

The principal summer use of Bordeaux mixture is upon potatoes for the purpose of preventing attacks of potato disease (Phytophthora infestans). The spores of this fungus are liberated and blown about to settle on the growing crops, usually between the end of June and middle of July. The spores are capable of lying dormant until favourable atmospheric conditions, which are a combination of warmth and moisture, facilitate germination. The aim should be to coat over the whole surface of the potato haulm, upper and under surface of foliage, and stems, with a thin film of the Bordeaux spray, and if this is done before the spores have become active they will be destroyed. The spray does not remain effective for a prolonged period, and it is frequently necessary, especially if thunderstorms and sultry weather prevail, to spray twice during July, and perhaps even a third time in early August.

BURGUNDY MIXTURE.

This is a combination of copper sulphate and sodium carbonate, which, in plain language, is washing soda. Its capabilities and purposes are the same as those of ordinary Bordeaux mixture, and although claims have been made which purport to show distinctions between the two, the sensible course is to look upon Burgundy mixture as a convenient alternative when from any cause a reliable supply of lime is unavailable for the making of Bordeaux mixture. It usually requires double the weight of soda to reach the same effect as lime. With the prepared pastes already recommended the circumstances which might necessitate the substitution of soda for lime are less likely to occur that was formerly the case.

WOBURN BORDEAUX EMULSION

is a copper-sulphate preparation made to a special formula prescribed by the late Spencer Pickering during his connection with the Woburn Experimental Station. It is held to be capable of killing caterpillars and various other insects, as well as checking the fungoid pests for which ordinary Bordeaux mixture is used. Potatoes occasionally suffer from insect as well as fungoid pests, particularly the Lygus bug and the potato frog fly, and when these are discovered it is well to use Woburn Bordeaux Emulsion. In the usual course, however, it would be among roses, chrysanthemums and also euonymus that the emulsion will be most required.

These copper sulphate mixtures cannot claim the same power over fruit tree diseases that plain copper sulphate has in winter, and if good use is made of the latter in the proper season there should be no cause to spray again for fungoid pests in summer. The mixed sprays, however, are frequently serviceable in combating cucumber mildew (Plasmopara cubensis), a disease which also attacks melons. The under sides of the foliage should be sprayed, but it must not be used on fruiting plants unless it can be guaranteed that the fruits of cucumbers will be carefully peeled. Cherry leaf scorch (Gnomonia erythrostoma) is another troublesome disease which Bordeaux mixture will hold in check. The disease frequently attacks cherries growing on harsh gravelly soils. It is identifiable from the shrivelling and browning of the leaves, which, however, do not fall from the tree but frequently remain hanging throughout the winter. One spraying shortly before the trees burst into blossom and a second immediately after fruit has set will usually prevent a recurrence of the trouble.

The yellow spot disease of tomatoes (Cladosporium fulvum) may be prevented or checked by spraying with either Bordeaux mixture or the emulsion. Gather ripe fruits before spraying, and immediately wipe the remainder, or at least the larger green fruits before the spray dries.

L. I. ATRIS.

Digitized by Google

GARDEN TECHNIQUE

THE GREENHOUSE

EARLY TOMATOES.

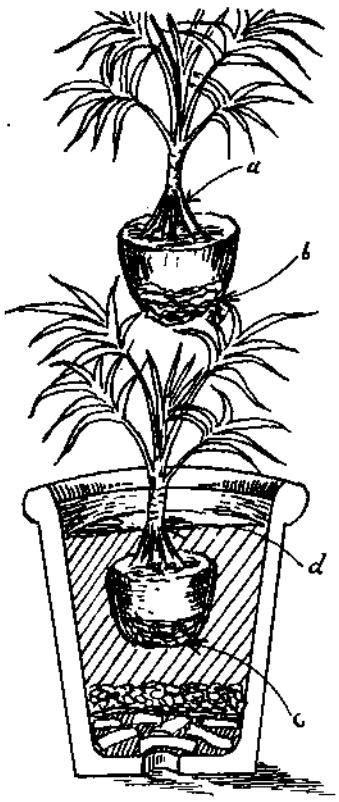
WITHOUT a certain amount of heat it is not possible to obtain very early ripe tomatoes. Heat is essential, a naturally early fruiting variety is also necessary. The early sorts are generally small, but of good shape and numerous on the plants. Sometimes the very early plants die off wholesale while small, and mostly soon after they are transplanted. This often occurs when the seedlings are transplanted into a very finely sifted soil. A rather lumpy soil with some old mortar rubble in it obviates this trouble usually. Frequently when a too fine soil is used there is loss of seedlings in cases where amateurs raise young plants in their greenhouses during the latter part of February and throughout March. I am writing these notes for the benefit of amateurs who have not had much experience and wish to get their plants forward with the aid of a moderate heat in the greenhouse. Undoubtedly the earliest crops are grown in large pots—10in. 11in. and 12in. ones—and are duly repotted from the seedling stage. We will suppose that the young seedlings are ready for transplanting; instead of doing this into pans or boxes pot them separately into quite small pots. Place one crock in the pot and a small quantity of soil; put in the seedling and almost bury the stem to the seed leaves, but do not press the soil against the stem hard enough to bruise it. Only apply tepid water to prevent the drooping of the plants. Repot again into 6in. pots and then into the large ones. Three parts fill the latter at first, and afterwards top-dress and feed. High, sunny shelves at the back of a lean-to house or on the stage near the front glass are ideal positions for the fruiting plants.—G. G.

BOXING SEEDLINGS.

THIS constitutes a big business in the spring-time. In nearly every garden there are thousands of seedling plants requiring more space to grow in. It is a time of the year when many things need attention at the same time; if neglected, seedlings, growing in a crowded state, become weakly and they rarely recover normal strength. The plan of transplanting the seedlings in boxes prior to their final planting in the open border is a good one. All the seedlings may not be required, then pick out those growing most thinly and others near the sides of the pans or boxes—as such, being more isolated, are sturdier and more vigorous than those growing near the centre, and perhaps, in a very crowded state. Of course, all young seedlings intended for the flower garden should receive this attention; but those for greenhouse and conservatory decoration should be even more carefully treated in this way. Tuberous begonias possess quite large leaves in a seedling stage; if left unduly crowded for a week or ten days, many may be lost through overcrowding. These remarks apply to seedling gloxinias, too. Here, again, all the seedlings may not be required, so we must deal with them at an early stage and select the strongest. The boxes should be filled with good old loam and well decayed leaf-soil in equal proportions and a free sprinkling of silver sand. The seedlings are almost rootless at this stage, each one merely possessing a thin thread-like root. Each seedling should be balanced on the point of a thin stick, dipped into water every time it is used to raise a tiny plant from the seed pan. The seedlings are too small to be handled freely and much too tender. It is only necessary gently to press the delicate root into the surface of the newly prepared soil with the point of a second thin stick. Then place the filled boxes in a shaded part of the house, and in a short time these young seedlings will be strong specimens. Allow a space of 2ins. between the seedlings. As other kinds of seedlings become fit transplant them in a similar way, then pot each one singly.

REPOTTING PALMS.

THE date palm, Phœnix dactylifera, can be grown very successfully in a greenhouse where heat is only used to exclude frost. Other varieties should be grown in a warm greenhouse or in a heated conservatory. I refer to palms so, because many lovers of the plants try to grow numbers of palms in an unheated house; after a short time the fronds begin to turn yellow and then the inexperienced think re-potting is necessary, whereas it is warmth and moisture that they require.



But many thousands of palms do require repotting every year—not necessarily the same specimens—and the present time is a suitable one for the carrying out of the work. As stated, cold causes the leaves to turn yellow, so also do they become yellow when the plants are starved—lacking nourishment. Palms are frequently placed in halls, corridors and even dwelling rooms. They should never be left in such positions for a long time, but be changed frequently, as cold draughts and a dry atmosphere are bad for them. Newly-potted specimens should not be used in these positions; wait until new roots have formed and taken possession of the fresh compost. A rich, fibrous loam, inclined to heaviness, rather than lightness, is an ideal one to use. Rotted manure may be added, but not fresh; bonemeal is also beneficial. Palms generally form many roots in the bottom of the pots, often causing the plants to lift bodily out of them. A little drainage, but very efficient, should be the rule, and very firm potting. At *a*, a plant is shown badly in need of repotting; the roots *b* should be disentangled so that the base, *c*, may be placed low down in the new soil and the top roots, *d*, buried, but not any portion of the stem. Water carefully afterwards; do not apply liquid manure the first year.—G. GARNER.

ZONAL PELARGONIUMS FOR FLOWERING NEXT WINTER.

MANY owners of greenhouses like to have zonal pelargoniums flowering during the winter months as well as in the summer. To rely solely upon the summer-blooming plants for the winter display would mean much disappointment. April is an ideal month in which to propagate the cuttings. The latter should be inserted singly in small flower-pots so that when rooted they will not be disturbed when first repotted. Only use fibrous loam, a very small quantity of leaf-soil and some coarse, clean silver sand for the cuttings; the loam must be lumpy, not sifted too finely. Medium strong shoots make the best cuttings, and these should possess about five main leaves, the two lower ones being removed and the stem cut off through the bottom joint with a sharp knife. Insert each cutting near the side of each pot, water and place them on a shelf in the greenhouse, shading only from bright sunshine with sheets of paper. Directly the cuttings are well rooted repot them, and again as they need more rooting space, until they occupy 6in. pots, or 7in. ones at the most. The first named are the best in which to flower the plants, as the latter can be well fed during August and September. When established in their flowering pots the plants should be placed on a bed of ashes in a sunny position outside. While there remove all flower-stems and stop forwards shoots to induce a bushy habit. Six weeks prior to the date when flowers are needed stop the practice of removing the flower-stems. Place the plants under glass about the middle of September. I strongly recommend the majority of the varieties to be of the single-flowered section, as the trusses do not damp as much as those of the semi-double. Use bone-meal in the summer composts. —CHRISTCHURCH.

FEEDING VINES AND PEACHES.

AMATEUR cultivators are always very eager to grow fine bunches of grapes and large handsome peaches. To produce such it is necessary to feed the vines, not only with suitable food but at the right time and in proper doses. These matters often puzzle amateurs, and, in consequence, those who are not experienced either fail to apply sufficient food or deluge the borders with very strong manures. In the case of both vines and peaches well diluted farmyard manure or that of a similar nature, made in tubs or cisterns, is ideal. There are special concentrated manures, sold by firms advertising in this journal, suitable for these fruits as well as others. In every instance, when a stimulating food is to be applied the soil should be thoroughly moistened first with clear water. The right times to feed vines are, first, when the berries have just been thinned; second, directly the stones in them have hardened; and third, the moment that the berries begin to colour for ripening—three times during the growing season. Peaches should be fed, first, directly the first thinning is finished and the young fruits are about the size of Barcelona nuts; second, when the stones in them have hardened; and third, when the fruits begin to soften for ripening. The stones require a period of three weeks in which to harden, and during that time the fruits do not swell much, so it is unwise to force them by extra feeding.

Digitized by Google

FLOWER GARDEN

CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

RUST on the leaves may appear at any time now. There is more danger of this pest infesting the plants in gardens where the plants are not subjected to a slight artificial heat as occasion arises. Every cultivator should closely examine the plants, on the under sides of the leaves especially, as it is there that the rust is to be found. As its name implies, rust is dark reddish brown in colour, appears in single or grouped clusters which, if touched, will discolour the fingers. Applications of sulphide of potassium will entirely free the leaves from the disease. It was found on our weed, the plantain, I believe, more than a century back, so if such weeds are found growing in dry places in or near the garden they should be destroyed before the chrysanthemums are placed in their summer quarters. The rust spores, when dry, are readily blown from plant to plant. The sulphide should be retained in rock form in a bottle, tightly corked, till required for use, as it soon loses its strength if exposed to the air. Half an ounce, dissolved in 1 quart of water, will do well for use at the rate of 2 wineglassfuls to 1 quart of clear water. Dip the young plants in this towards the end of the day. The following morning the leaves will be dry and the rust killed. To strengthen the young plants at this time they should be placed on high shelves close to the roof glass and receive plenty of air on fine days. Before the young stems become in the least drawn up and weakened, they should be transferred to a cold frame, and in it receive abundance of air.—HANTS.

ZINNIAS FOR EXHIBITION.

THE double-flowered varieties are grown more extensively every year for exhibition, especially by amateur cultivators. In my district they are so grown year after year, and so well that I think it would be difficult to find better blooms in any other part of the country. Zinnias are impatient of very wet soils and of dull, sunless weather. Furthermore, the plants receive a very serious check if they are transplanted when attaining to a large size. Avoid very wet soils, late transplanting and select the hottest position in the garden. Most of the shows at which zinnias are staged are held from the third week in July to the first week in September, mid-August being the ideal time and to have the blooms at their best the plants should be raised in a greenhouse or frame at the beginning of April. The plan I recommend is the following one: Sow the seeds in 3in. pots filled with a good compost of fibrous loam, leaf-soil and a small proportion of builders' mortar rubble. Sow several seeds in each pot, thin out the resultant seedlings to one, repot if necessary into 6in. pots, give frame treatment until mid-May; then gradually harden the young plants and finally plant them early in June. Prepare the soil in a warm part of the garden, deeply dig it and bury a liberal quantity of rotted manure. If the soil is naturally clayey, raise the bed 4ins., surface dress with leaf-soil in this case and well rotted manure if the soil is light. Shading of the blooms is neither necessary nor advisable; timely disbudding in the case of side growths is, and also careful staking. Feed but do not apply strong doses of manure.—G. GARNER.

VEGETABLE GARDEN

EARLY BRUSSELS SPROUTS.

THE earliest sprouts are generally ready at the end of September. They are not required before that time, as the summer vegetables have been available. Furthermore, the sprouts are always sweeter when they have been touched by frost or, at least, been exposed for a time to very cold weather. The earliest sprouts are generally borne on plants raised eleven months previously. At the present time autumn-raised plants will be growing in their final quarters or in nursery beds. If in the former, they should be examined and, on the first occasion that the soil is found fairly dry, tread the soil around each plant and immediately after draw up some loose earth to the stems, right up to the basal leaves. Firmness of soil is a very important point in the successful cultivation of Brussels sprouts, and yet so many growers do not pay sufficient attention to it. The rooting medium should be firmed when the soil is dry. Successful cultivation means stems well clothed with very firm sprouts. Loose ones are almost useless. Firm sprouts remain sound and keep well; they are the sweetest, too. Spring-raised plants should be grown on steadily, not in great heat, but in a greenhouse temperature till the first week in March, then in a cold frame till the end of the month, being hardened and planted in firm ground about the middle of April.

TOMATOES FOR OUTSIDE BORDERS.

WE do not know, of course, what kind of weather will prevail during the coming summer. If we did we should plant out more, or fewer, tomato plants accordingly. But during the past forty years I have observed that three summers out of five are fairly favourable, and in adverse seasons we rarely lose by having a few plants in outside borders. A great deal depends upon the cultivator, too. He must be well prepared with strong plants by June 10th in the southern and June 15th in the northern counties. It is, as a rule, safe to plant on these dates if the stock has been duly hardened. Pot-bound plants, if healthy, are an advantage, as the first trusses of fruits soon set on them. But if large numbers are to be planted out, it is best to do without pots throughout. I have found the following a good plan: The seedlings, raised late in March, are transplanted 4ins. apart in boxes 5ins. deep in due course. They are given warm greenhouse treatment until the middle of April, then the boxes are transferred to a cold frame which is covered every night to exclude cold air and actual frost. In the meantime a special bed is prepared on the south side of a wall by putting down a thin layer of sifted ashes, then one of rotted manure and finally 3ins. of good compost. Early in May the tomatoes are planted 6ins. apart in this bed, the soil well firmed and watered. For several days and nights a covering of mats is necessary, these being supported on stakes, afterwards night coverings are sufficient. When finally transplanting, the whole of the soil can be moved as the roots have taken possession of it down to the ashes and the plants do not receive any check.—CHRISTCHURCH.

PLANTING OUT EARLY VEGETABLES.

IN numerous instances where very heavy, cold soils obtain, gardeners make it a rule every year to raise an extra number of young vegetables under glass, mostly in cold frames, and in due course plant them in their permanent positions. These gardeners succeed because they pay very close attention to the work, and reap early crops of tender produce. Amateur cultivators may also succeed. I daresay hundreds of readers of THE GARDEN now possess nice stocks of young plants in boxes or frames; it is a critical stage and time of year for such plants, as they have been sheltered and are, in consequence, tender. To expose them fully without due preparation would result in such severe checks as to make the plants almost useless, and thus later-sown seeds would prove the most satisfactory. Autumn-raised cauliflowers are now in cold frames; these should be planted out about mid-April. Young cauliflowers raised in a little heat this year must be given cold frame treatment till the end of April. From the middle of this month to the end will be suitable for planting out box-raised onions, and May 20th for leeks. Lettuces should be planted out in sheltered borders late in April, and early in May in open borders. Runner beans the first week in June, and marrows the second week in June. It is most helpful if tiny but bushy branches are stuck in near the plants and, generally, advantageous if tiny ridges are formed north to south and the plants are placed on the west side of each ridge. Later on, when the ground is hoed, the ridges are levelled.—BOURNEMOUTH.

MAINCROP PEAS.

SOMETIMES one notices that little difference is made between the method of sowing early and maincrop peas. While one may err somewhat by sowing the former more generously if one starts in March, in order to allow for failures and depredations by birds, mice, etc., the case with maincrop varieties is different. Many of these are not sown until April or early May, and at that date it is a mistake to sow seed thickly without having regard to the robustness of the sort. Peas of the type of Duke of Albany and Alderman, noted for their vigorous constitution and large haulm, obviously need more room for development than do some of the early dwarfs, and to cramp the taller growing varieties in the matter of room at the beginning is never satisfactory. It is sometimes pointed out that peas found to be sown thicker than was intended can be thinned out afterwards, but I have never found it easy to lift once the roots have got hold of the soil, without disturbing roots of the remaining. It is, I submit, better in the case of robust varieties to give them room from the start and avoid the need for lifting any of them.—W. LINDERS LEA.

MISCELLANEOUS

MOWING OLD AND NEW LAWNS EARLY IN THE SEASON.

SOILS vary in different parts of the country, and, of course, the grasses growing in them vary too in quality. The grass improves or deteriorates according as the lawn is cared-for or neglected. I am now referring to lawns that have been well formed in the first instance, during recent years. But the great majority are lawns indifferently made and clothed with mixed grasses, many of them of a coarse nature. Even such lawns can be very much improved by good management—feeding, mowing and cleaning. During the first few weeks, old, neglected lawns should be cut rather low down; if this is not possible at the first cutting, it should be at the second; then the young grass, as it springs up, will not be mixed with the wiry stems of coarse and dead grasses. The latter should be cleared off the lawn as soon as possible. Note how the mowing machine has been set for this severe cutting and raise the blade a little for subsequent cuttings, so that the new grass will be cut about 1in. above the old, thus, in a few weeks' time, ensuring a nice green lawn of thickly grown grasses. On the other hand, new grass raised from seeds should be cut high at first, and then gradually to the normal height. Coarse weeds and tufts of coarse grasses should always be rooted out cleanly and the holes made filled up with sifted loam. If left, such grasses and weeds will spread. In June, all except lawns on very rich soil will be improved by a dressing of bone-meal—2 oz. per square yard.—G. G.

Digitized by Google

What users are saying about The J·P SUPER

ALL UNSOLICITED.

From a Lawn Owner:
"It is the easiest machine to work devised and renders a petrol-driven motor a superfluity."

From a Lawn Owner:
"No effort is required to push the machine, which is a 16-inch.

From a Lawn Owner:
"In addition to saving a man, our lawns are kept much nicer than ever before at much less cost."

From a Golf Club Secretary.
"I would like to register my admiration of your Mower and gratitude for at last producing something so infinitely superior to the 'plumber's jobs' in mowing machines that we have had to suffer from so long."

From a Golf Club Secretary:
"The Greenkeeper tells me it is easier, quicker and more thorough than any he has ever seen, and hopes he may never have to revert to the old type."

From a Gardener:
"It is the most marvellous machine I have had anything to do with, and have used all the best makes in my time."

"It is so simple to adjust, easy running and best all-round cutting machine I know of. It is all you claim it to be."

free

Send for booklet describing unique patented features and ask for a demonstration.

Sole Makers:
J.P. SUPER LAWNMOWERS LTD.
Meynell Road, LEICESTER.

WORMS—AND WEEDS

TO clear these pests from your lawn, bowling or putting green:—Brush or rake away the worm casts. Scatter **Cooper's Powder Wormkiller** evenly over the turf during damp, dull, warm weather, and water the ground thoroughly. The worms will come up to the surface, and then all you have to do is to sweep them up and bury them.

The "worm cast" nuisance is over, but you still have the weeds, and other rank growth to consider. After using the Wormkiller, let the ground dry thoroughly, then apply **Cooper's LAWN SAND** which will destroy all daisies, dandelions, etc., which disfigure the lawn. Cooper's Lawn Sand also acts as a lawn food, assisting growth and distribution of the finer grasses.

Further particulars are given in our leaflet, "ENEMIES OF THE LAWN," which will be sent free on request.

Sole Manufacturers:—
Cooper, McDougall & Robertson, Ltd.
Holiday Street, BERKHAMSTED

For success in your Garden USE

THOMSON'S MANURES

On the market for over 50 years, they still hold first place for QUALITY and RESULTS. They are safe, sure and lasting. The direct result of many years' practical experience in gardening, they stand unrivalled at the present day for all Garden Crops.

Prices:—**VINE, PLANT AND VEGETABLE MANURE**—a Perfect Food—1 cwt., 30/-; 56 lb., 16/-; 28 lb., 9/-; 14 lb., 5/-; 7 lb., 3/-; tins, 1/3 and 9d. **SPECIAL TOP DRESSING MANURE**—an excellent stimulant—56 lb., 17/-; 28 lb., 9/6; 14 lb., 5/6, 7 lb., 3/-, tins, 1/3. **Carriage paid on 28 lbs.** and up.

WRITE FOR OUR BOOKLET—POST FREE ON REQUEST.

SOLD BY NURSERYMEN AND SEEDSMEN EVERYWHERE.

Or from Sole Makers, WM. THOMSON & SONS, TWEED VINEYARDS, CLOVENFORDS, SCOTLAND.

The RITO Smile

GARDENERS!

Multiply your crops and grow fragrant flowers with

RITO

RITO is a humus, organic and natural soil food; a stimulant and energising medium for soil bacteria. Its use results in larger crops. Rito is suitable for garden, greenhouse and allotment.

Seedsmen, Florists, Corn Merchants, etc., sell RITO at the following prices: 1/- per 1 cwt., 23/-; 28lbs., 6/3; 14lbs., 3/3; 7lbs., 1/9; and in 1/- cartons. Write to The Molassine Co., Ltd. (Dept. R52), Greenwich, for FREE literature

Digitized by Google

Edge your Garden in a Few Minutes!

The Quickest — Easiest — and most Effective way.

"Bordex" will endow your beds and borders with the charm of graceful lines and curves. "Bordex" is made from weatherproof metal, finished in dark green, in lengths of one yard, with a total depth of 5½ inches. "Bordex" can be bent by hand to conform to any curve or angle. The rigid spurs can be pushed rapidly into place. No digging—no effort. A child could do it. The ends interlock and ensure perfect alignment. "Bordex" sets with surprising firmness and gives a handsome finished effect, superior to tiling at half the cost. "Bordex" is indestructible. "Bordex" will stay where you put it for good; or it can be lifted and replaced if you decide to redesign your borders. The first low cost is the last, and a splendid investment. Professional and amateur gardeners everywhere are enthusiastic about "Bordex." Immediate delivery and satisfaction guaranteed.

1/3 Per Yd. Length

ORDER NOW BY POST

CARRIAGE PAID on 31 lengths and over in U.K. CARR. EXTRA: 10 to 20 lengths, 2/-; 21 to 30 lengths, 2/6
Millbrook Manufacturing Co. (Dept. O.1.), **37, Furnival Street, Holborn, E.C.4.** 'Phone: Holborn 2226

BORDEX *The New Garden Edging* **1'3 per yard**

Patent applied for.

BORDEX IS ALL BRITISH

ALPINE PLANTS, BORDER PLANTS, CHOICE FLOWERING SHRUBS, MINIATURE CONIFERS, HARDY HEATHS, HARDY FERNS, CLIMBERS. One of the oldest, and perhaps the finest, all-round collection in the country.

We grow some 4,000 kinds of all the best outdoor garden subjects, including such items as 100 kinds of Michaelmas Daisies, 100 kinds of Campanulas, 50 kinds of Hellebores, 200 kinds of Saxifrages, etc.

Our Catalogue of these is beautifully illustrated, shows how to build a rock wall and water lily pool, and tells about soils, etc., etc. It makes a fine reference book on plants. It is sent post free for 1s. which may be deducted from orders.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED.
SPECIMENS NAMED.
ADVICE GIVEN FREE.

J. STORMONTH & SON,
Hardy Plant Specialists,
KIRKBRIDE, by CARLISLE.

NEW
CHRYSANTHEMUMS

Clean healthy Plants free from rust, aphis, etc.

FOR GREENHOUSE FLOWERING: 12 New Exhibition Japanese of 1925, **20/-**; 12 Exhibition Japs, including 1924 sorts, **5/-**; 12 Incurved varieties, **5/-**; 12 Decorative sorts, including one 1925 novelty, **5/-**; 12 Decorative Single varieties, **4/-**.

FOR THE GARDEN: 12 Aug.-Sept. flowering varieties, including one novelty 1925, **5/-**; 12 Sept.-Oct. flowering sorts, **4/-**; 12 Aug.-Sept. single varieties, **4/-**.

The above three dozens can be supplied now, but must be protected until the end of April.

Pelargoniums (Show and Regal), from 3in. pots: 12 good varieties, **9/-**; newer sorts, **12/-** and **15/-** doz.

Zonal Pelargoniums (Geraniums), from 3in. pots: 12 fine single varieties, **7/6**; 12 double and semi-double varieties, **7/6**; 6 Cactus Geraniums, **4/-**; 6 Ivy-leaved Geraniums, **4/-**, including Sir Percy Blakeney.

Dahlias: 12 Cactus varieties (pot roots) - **6/-**

Plumbago capensis (blue), **1/-** each; (alba), **1/-** each.

Post free for orders over **5/-**; *others* **6d.** *extra.*
Catalogue free on application.

J. W. COLE & SON
Westwood Nurseries - - Peterborough

The Seaside Planting of Trees and Shrubs

By Alfred Gaut, F.R.H.S. 28 Illustrations. **5/-** net. By post, **5/6.**

"Country Life" Library, 20, Tavistock Street Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

W. TRESEDER, Ltd.

The Nurseries ∴ CARDIFF

DAHLIAS

Our British Empire Exhibit of Dahlias during 1924 and 1925 was considered a feature of the Horticultural Section at Wembley.

ASK FOR A CATALOGUE.

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING, SURREY
(late ANTHONY WATERER)

PROPRIETOR - **HOSEA WATERER**

has pleasure in offering

STANDARD TREES

in great variety, consisting of

LIMES, NORWAY MAPLES, ELMS, etc., etc.

EVERGREEN & DECIDUOUS SHRUBS, viz.:

Box—Green and Variegated, 3 to 8 ft.
Hollies—Common, 5 to 8 ft.; Variegated and Green varieties, 2 to 6 ft.
Thuiopsis borealis, 10 to 12 ft. Cupressus Lawsoniana, 12 to 14 ft. Cedrus atlantica glauca, very fine, 14 to 16 ft. Osmanthus, Phillyroeas, Spiræas, Lilacs, Viburnums, etc.

GOLDEN YEWS

A Magnificent Stock in all shapes and sizes from 2 to 10 ft.

PRIVET, Common and Oval-leaved.
QUICK and **HORNBEAM** for Hedges.
AZALEAS, 2 to 5 ft.
RHODODENDRONS, without doubt the finest stock in the trade of named varieties, 2 to 6 and 8 ft.
HARDY HEATHS in great variety and a good general nursery stock.

Catalogues ready.
Enquiries and Inspection Invited.

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING STATION, SURREY

MARK SMITH, Ltd.,
LOUTH, LINC.
"PERFECT"
WEED KILLER
STRONGEST, CHEAPEST & BEST.

MANURES.

The most complete little book on the subject is "The Manual of Manures," by H. VENDELMANS, 4/5; by post, 4/9. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

Meconopsis Pratti; Aquilegia glandulosa; Achillea King Edward; Pentstemon heterophyllus; Primula Wanda; Pulmonaria angustifolia azurea; Verbascum Harkness Hybrids;
At **6/-** doz. and many other choice plants.
FLORA HARDY, Windy Ridge, Knockholt, Kent

BORDER CARNATIONS & ALLWOODII
Plant EARLY for best results.

Border Carnations.

Our stocks of the best hardy Garden varieties are superb. Vigorous sturdy stock from 3½in. pots which cannot fail to give the best results. The undermentioned collections represent the best value obtainable. **Carriage paid** for cash.

6 distinct Varieties **8/6**
12 " " **16/-**
25 Plants in good variety **30/-**

ALLWOODII.

The ever popular hardy plant, suitable for every garden purpose. Will beautify the Border, the lawn vase or window box, are perfectly hardy and the easiest plant to cultivate. New and improved varieties have been introduced, of which the undermentioned **Carriage Paid Collections are Mainly Composed.**

6 Distinct Varieties **5/6**
12 " " **10/6**
25 Plants in good variety **21/-**

CATALOGUE OF ALL CARNATIONS FOR GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE sent post free on request to—

Allwood Bros

The leading Carnation Raisers and Specialists in the World.

Dept. 4, **Haywards Heath, Sussex**

Digitized by Google

Abol

Horticultural Fertilizer

Feeds your plants, ensures lovely gardens and fine vegetables.

To maintain the fertility of any garden or allotment it is necessary to keep the soil supplied with the essential elements—nitrogen, phosphates and potash—blended in their proper proportions.

Abol Fertilizers can be relied upon to give the best results with economy. For full particulars, with analysis, please

WRITE FOR DESCRIPTIVE FOLDERS.

Packages: 10d., 1/3, 2/-; 7lbs. 3/- 14lbs. 5/- 28lbs. 8/- 56lbs. 14/- 112lbs. 25/-. Postage extra.

From all Nurserymen, Seedsmen, Ironmongers, Chemists and Stores. If any difficulty write to the Sole Proprietors,

Abol Limited, 9, Beltring, Paddock Wood, Kent.

WRITE FOR GUIDE TO GARDEN PESTS. GRATIS AND POST FREE.

VIOLETS

FOR BEDS, ROCK GARDENS & NATURALIZING.

MISS STANISTREET has ready now young plants of highest quality, as supplied to U. S. A. and Canadian Governments. Properly selected and packed by experts. 50 Varieties. Princess of Wales, Marie Louise, etc. 3/6 doz., carriage paid. Lists free.

KILLALOE :: Co. CLARE

Your Garden Needs

"FERRY" BRAND

Regd. Trade Mark.

FERTILISERS.

THE "FERRY" GARDEN MANURE for general garden purposes. It is suitable for Potatoes, Tomatoes, Peas, Beans, Fruit Trees, Vines, Roses, &c. Poor soils are greatly improved, and "worn-out" gardens are restored by "Ferry" Garden Manure. It feeds the soil with the essential plant foods.

14 lbs. 3/-; 28 lbs. 5/9; 56 lbs 11/-; 1 cwt. 20/- Carriage paid to nearest railway station for cash with order.

Write for the Orange Booklet containing gardening hints and particulars of special Manures for Roses, Sweet Peas, Carnations, Chrysanthemums, Fruit Trees, Strawberries, Potatoes, &c.

THE BRITON FERRY CHEMICAL & MANURE CO. LTD. (Dept. E), Briton Ferry, South Wales. (Est. 1886.)

Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.

TWO HANDSOME FLOWERING SHRUBS

PIERIS JAPONICA and P. floribunda, known in many gardens under the name of andromeda, have shown their beauty to distinct advantage during the past few weeks, and have proved themselves valuable acquisitions to the garden in early spring. Pieris japonica is a native of Japan, and has drooping sprays of bell-shaped flowers so freely produced that they completely cover the whole plant. All the pieris are valuable for shrubs, and this one is doubly so, as its free-growing and early-flowering habit renders it indispensable to the garden. The flowers and foliage are not so large as in P. formosa, but, unlike that species, which is only to be seen at its best in the milder districts of the south or south-west, it is fairly hardy, but should be planted in a sheltered spot where there is no chance of its foliage and flowers being damaged by winds. The young growths made after flowering are of a brilliant colour, reminding one of the Japanese maples. To appreciate the full beauty of this, one has to see plants that have attained large dimensions. One very fine specimen which has been in flower since the beginning of February is to be seen in the wild garden at Wisley, measuring approximately 12ft. high and 45ft. in circumference.

There is also a fine plant of the more common and hardier variety, P. floribunda, a native of the eastern United States. This makes a neat, slow-growing bush, eventually reaching a height of 6ft. to 9ft., and at present is covered with its erect terminal lily of the valley-like flowers. It is valuable for its early and free-flowering habit, but lacks the graceful outline of japonica.

Propagation is effected by layers or seeds Of the latter method good examples can be seen at Wisley, where self-sown seedlings are to be found growing on mossy banks near the parent bush. Layering from stools in the nursery ground is much quicker, however, and is the usual method adopted to increase the stock.

Like the rhododendrons, the pieris require plenty of moisture; and positions that suit the rhododendron, with soil of a peaty nature, or a sandy loam with which plenty of decayed

PRIMULA "WANDA"

— A.M., R.H.S. —

THE WINE-COLOURED PRIMROSE.

Raised and introduced by Bakers.

THE short history of "WANDA" is a record of extraordinary sales. In the three years it has been seriously on sale, we have sold over 30,000 plants.

Odd specimens of its wonderfully rich wine-coloured flower will appear in December in sheltered places, and from then onwards it gathers way until it reaches perfection in March. "WANDA" is the brightest of all spring flowers.

Order plants now to be sent after flowering at 8/- per dozen, carriage paid

GLADIOLI

Having a few excellent bulbs in good varieties left we are offering them in mixture only.

Autumn flowering Primulinus at 1/- per dozen, 7/6 per 100

Orders to the value of 7/6 carriage paid, otherwise 9d. extra.

Bakers

SEED AND FLOWER FARM, CODSALL.

Nr. Wolverhampton.

BENTLEY'S WEED DESTROYER

(POISON) STANDS FOR

Strength Reliability Economy

Stronger than any other. One application keeps gravel paths and drives clean for nearly two years. Commands the largest sale both at home and abroad, with a rapidly spreading popularity.

REDUCED PRICES:

Concentrated Liquid (1 to 80)—1 gal. 5/9; 2 gals. 10/-; 5 gals. 22/6; 6 gals. 25/9; 12gals. 49/-; 24gals. 94/3; 40gals. 216/3

Powder (1 to 25)—4 tins 3/3; 8 tins 17/10; 12 tins 25/6; 20 tins 40/9; 40 tins 78/-

BENTLEY'S DAISY KILLER

THE ONLY SCIENTIFIC LAWN SAND

Weeds of all kinds are quickly killed by one dressing of this unique speciality. Afterwards the finer grasses are free to develop into a dense, rich, green sward.

One pound is sufficient to dress 3 sq. yds.

1 ton £30; 4 cwts. 26/6 per cwt.; 1 cwt. 28/-; 56 lbs. 15/6; 28 lbs. 8/6 14 lbs. 4/6; tins 1/6 each.

Carriage paid on 15/- orders and upwards

Sole Manufacturers:

JOSEPH BENTLEY LTD.

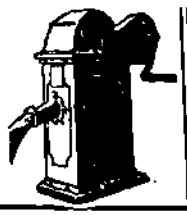
CHEMICAL WORKS, BARROW-ON-HUMBER :: LINCS.

Digitized by Google

ADCO
turns
GARDEN REFUSE
into SYNTHETIC
FARMYARD
MANURE

1 cwt. of ADCO makes from two to three tons of manure according to the class of rubbish treated.
ADCO Accelerator ... 28 lb. 4/6, 56 lb. 8/-, 1 cwt. 15/-
Standard ADCO ... 28 lb. 5/-, 56 lb. 11/6, 1 cwt. 20/-
Carriage Paid to Nearest Goods Station. Cash with Order.
Obtainable from all leading Seedsmen. Write for full particulars.
ADCO Ltd., 40, HARPENDEN, HERTS

WATER
raised by simply turning a handle. The wonderful Boulton Water Elevator lifts a continuous stream of water from well of any depth.
Ask for Catalogue No. 746
BOULTON & PAUL, LTD.
: : NORWICH : :



THE LEADING GLASSHOUSE FUMIGANT.

WEED DEATH
The new NON-POISONOUS Weed Killer (POWDER).
SUPERIOR TO DANGEROUS ARSENICAL COMPOUNDS.
Safety first, non-caustic, no smell, kills the roots.
For 4 galls., 1/-; 12½, 2/-; 25, 3/6; 50, 6/6; 100, 12/- & Bulk.
From your Nurseryman or Seedsman.
CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

"ACME" WEED KILLER
Awarded Gold Medal at Anglo-American Exhibition and Bronze Medal by Royal Horticultural Society.
Has stood the test of over 30 years.
POWDER.—No. 1 Tin makes 25 gals., 3/-; No. 2, 50 gals., 6/-; carriage paid on No. 4 which makes 150 gals., 15/-
LIQUID.—1 gal. to 50 gals. of water. 1 gal., 6/-; 2 gals., 10/6; carriage paid on 5 gals., 25/-
NON-POISONOUS.—No. 1 tin makes 6 gals., 1/6 post free; No. 2, 12 gals., 2/3 post free; No. 4, 50 gals., 7/- post free.
LAWN SAND
destroys weeds and moss in grass and fertilizes the lawn. No other manure necessary.
14 lbs., 4/-; 28 lbs., 7/-; 56 lbs., 13/-; 1 cwt., 25/-. Carriage paid on 1 cwt.
WORM KILLER.—Non-poisonous.
For destroying Worms in Lawns, Bowling Greens and Putting Greens.
14 lbs., 3/3; 28 lbs., 6/-; 56 lbs., 11/6; 1 cwt., 21/-. Carriage paid on 1 cwt.
Insecticides. Bone Meal and other Fertilizers.
Send for Price List.
ACME CHEMICAL Co., Ltd., TONBRIDGE, KENT.

leaves have been incorporated will prove excellent for pieris.—R. FINDLAY, *Wisley.*

TRIAL OF "ADCO" MANURE.

PROMPTED by frequent applications from gardeners and allotment holders for advice regarding effective substitutes for farmyard manure, early last year the West Sussex County Council decided to make a plot trial of the Adco process at their demonstration ground, Kingsham Farm Garden, Chichester. Supplies of "Standard Adco" and "Adco Accelerator" were obtained, the former being used for treating wheat straw and the latter a collection of garden rubbish, comprising weeds, grass, leaves, cabbage stalks and general vegetable refuse. After a few months' fermentation, both the straw and garden refuse had decomposed thoroughly and were deemed fit for use.

It was arranged to test the Adco manures on a crop of potatoes against similar plots dressed with farmyard manure. For this purpose four plots each of 4 rods were chosen, and the soil (medium loam) dug one spit deep. The manuring was carried out as follows:

Plot (*a*).—"Adco" Straw manure, 7 barrowloads (about 20 loads per acre).

Plot (*b*).—Farmyard manure, 7 barrowloads (about 20 loads per acre).

Plot (*c*).—"Adco" treated garden refuse, 7 barrowloads (about 20 loads per acre).

Plot (*d*).—Farmyard manure: not completed owing to shortage of labour.

Artificial Fertilisers:

Superphosphate, 12lb. per plot (4cwt. per acre).

Sulphate of ammonia, 3lb. per plot (1cwt. per acre).

Sulphate of potash, 3lb. per plot (1cwt. per acre).

Note.—Organic and artificial manures both applied at time of planting.

The seed selected was Scotch once-grown, the following varieties being sown at the rate of approximately 42lb. per plot (15cwt. per acre): (1) Bishop; (2) Irish Chieftain; (3) Up-to-date. One row of each variety, containing the same number of tubers in each case, was sown on each plot on May 15th.

The potatoes were lifted on October 9th, when the following results were obtained:

Plot (*a*).—"*Adco*" *Straw Manure:*

	Ware	Seeds & Chats.	Total
	Lb.	*Lb.*	*Lb.*
Up-to-date.. ..	178	49	227
Irish Chieftain ..	135	10	145
Bishop	97	35	132
	410	94	504

= 9 tons per acre.

Plot (*b*).—*Farmyard Manure:*

Up-to-date.. ..	139	32	171
Irish Chieftain ..	84	33	117
Bishop	111	9	120
	334	74	408

= 7 tons 5cwt. per acre.

Plot (*c*).—*Garden Refuse:*

Up-to-date.. ..	114	38	153
Irish Chieftain ..	110	36	146
Bishop	98	38	136
	323	112	435

= 7 tons 15cwt. per acre.

Average yield of potato crop for England and Wales for 1925 = 6.6 tons per acre.

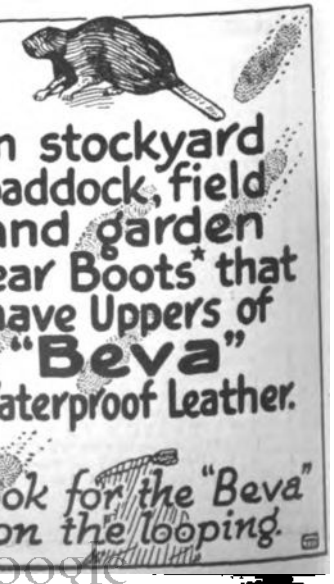
CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

Messrs. J. Cheal and Sons, Limited, The Nurseries, Crawley. Select list of excellent dahlias for immediate planting. There are fine novelties in these flowers offered for this year. A catalogue all gardeners should have.

Messrs. John Waterer, Sons and Crisp, Limited, Twyford. Roses and fruit trees for 1926. The varieties offered in roses are all excellent and popular sorts.

County Borough of Southport
The SCHEDULE for the THIRD GREAT ANNUAL
SOUTHPORT
Flower Show
AUGUST 25th, 26th & 27th, 1926
IS NOW READY
The Schedule contains a List of Judges.
SILVER CHALLENGE TROPHIES, MEDALS and CASH PRIZES are offered to the value of
Over £3,000
The National Rose Society will hold a Special Jubilee Show in conjunction with the Southport Show.
There will be Two Competitive Rose Sections for Nurserymen, *i.e.*—One for Nurserymen South of a line drawn across the Country from Spalding to Aberystwyth, and the other for Nurserymen North of that line and including Ireland.
Spaces 15 ft. x 10 ft. will be provided inside the Showground for Exhibits of HORTICULTURAL SUNDRIES at £5 per space.
Schedules and plan of Showground, showing the positions of the spaces for horticultural sundries and the Official Guide Book of Southport, may be obtained post free from THE SECRETARY, FLOWER SHOW, TOWN HALL, SOUTHPORT.

FLOWERS and VEGETABLES
Flowers and Vegetables will not give of their best unless they receive a dressing of Nitrate of Soda.
The difference can be seen in one week.
Write for pamphlets, entitled, "Successful Gardens for Every Amateur," "The Manuring of Orchards and Fruit Trees," supplied gratis and post free by THE CHILEAN NITRATE COMMITTEE, Friars House, New Broad Street, London, E.C. 2.
Nitrate of Soda



Digitized by Google

FERTHRIVER (REGD.)

THE COMPLETE FERTILISER, WITH GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

	7-lb.	14-lb.	28-lb.	56-lb.	1-cwt.
Ferthriver	1/6	2/9	5/-	9/-	16/-
Bone Meal	1/6	2/9	5/-	9/-	16/-
Nitrate of Soda	1/8	3/-	6-	11/-	21/-

Add the following extras for Carriage Paid lots.

1/-	1/9	2/-	2 6	4/-

ANALYSIS:

Ammonia	4 per cent.
Phosphates	15 "
Potash	3 "
Pot. Sulphate	5.6 "

3d. Tin of Ferthriver
As Illustrated,
6d. Post Free.

THE NECESSARIES CO.,
25, Edward Road,
Balsall Heath BIRMINGHAM.

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND, SOILFUME, NICOTINE, INSECTICIDES, FUMERS, SPRAYS AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES—THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY. IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT. CARRIAGE PAID.

Only Address: TOMLINSON & HAYWARD L^td LINCOLN.

THE LOUGHBOROUGH BOILER

Over 40,000 in use

The high reputation of this Boiler for efficiency and economy is still unrivalled

Easy to fix, easy to manage, and most economical in fuel, it is the ideal Boiler for the Amateur's Greenhouse

Price Lists and Estimates for complete :: apparatus on application ::

MESSENGER & CO., LTD. LOUGHBOROUGH LEICESTERSHIRE
LONDON OFFICE: 122, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

By Appointment.

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List

RICHARD SANKEY & SON. LTD.,
Royal Potteries
BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

MAKE CERTAIN OF SUCCESS

MATTHEWS' HIGH GRADE HORTICULTURAL FERTILISER — COMPARE ANALYSIS

MATTHEWS' BIG PRODUCTION FERTILISERS

MATTHEWS' HIGH GRADE TOMATO FERTILISER — COMPARE ANALYSIS

THOUSANDS OF TONS SOLD ANNUALLY

NOTE - double value compared with some that are sold.

		Amm	Phos.	Potash (Pure)	lbs. 14	28	56	cwt. 1	2
MATTHEWS' HORTICULTURAL	For POTATOES & GENERAL GARDEN use.	7%	21%	4%	3/3	5/9	10/9	20/-	37/6
TOMATO	All are "MAXIMUM CROP" COMPLETE MANURES essential	9%	21%	6%	3/6	6/6	12/-	22/6	42/-
LAWN	FOR ECONOMICAL SUCCESS	4%	25%	2%	3 -	5/6	10/-	18/6	34/-
Rose Fertiliser ...	Autumn Dressing	5%	30%	8%	3/5	6/1	11/6	21/6	40/6
" "	Spring Dressing	8%	20%	3%	3/5	6 1	11/6	21/6	40/6
Sweet Pea Fertiliser		3½%	32%	6%	3/8	6/10	12/9	24/-	45/6
Special Bulb Fertiliser		5%	38%	4½%	3/2	5/10	10/9	20/-	37/6
Bone Charcoal		1·5%	67%	—	2/9	5/-	9/-	16/6	30/-
Bone Meal, English, Best		4.5%	45%	—	2/9	5/-	9/-	16/6	30/-
IT PAYS TO USE MATTHEWS' HORTICULTURAL FERTILISER	Basic Slag	—	30%	—	1/7	2/11	5/-	8/-	14/6
	Bone Flour. Steamed	1%	60%	—	2/5	4/3	7/6	13/6	25/6
	Fish Manure	10%	14%	—	3/5	6/4	11/9	21/6	40/6
	Garden Salt	—	—	—	1/6	2/7	4/3	7/6	14/-
	Hoof and Horn	16%			3/6	6/6	12/-	22/6	42/-
	Kainit	—	—	14%	1/7	2/10	5/-	8/6	14/6
Lime, Ground Carbonate, Superfine ...		—	—	—	1/6	2 6	4/-	6/6	12/-
WHEN ORDERING mention this JOURNAL PLEASE	Meat and Bone Meal	8.5%	18%	—	3/-	5/6	10/-	18/6	34/-
	Meat Meal	8%	30%	—	3/5	6/4	11/9	21/6	40/6
	Nitrate of Soda	18%	—	—	3/5	6/4	11/9	21/6	40/6
	Peruvian Guano	14½%	22%	2½%	4/-	7/7	14/3	27/-	51/-
Sulphate of Ammonia. 21% Nitrogen		25.75%	—	—	3/3	5/9	10/9	20/-	37/6
MATTHEWS' LAWN SAND Sprinkle evenly over the weedy patches, 3-ozs. per square yard.	Sulphate of Potash	—	—	50%	3/3	5/9	10/9	20 -	37/6
	Muriate of Potash	...	...	50%	3/-	5 4	9/9	18/-	34/-
	Superphosphate	—	35%	—	1/8	3/1	5/3	9 6	18/-
	Sulphate of Iron	...	...	...	3/3	5/9	10/9	20/-	37/6
	" Magnesia	...	...	...	2/9	5 -	9/-	16/6	30/-
Ammonia Federation GARDEN FERTILISER		5%	22%	6%	2/9	5/-	9/-	16/6	30/-
MATTHEWS LAWN SAND KILLS ALL COMMON WEEDS					4/-	6/6	10/9	20/-	

" HOP MANURE. Abt. 1 Bus., 3/-. Abt. 2 Bus., 4/9. Abt. 4 Bus., 7/-
ESSEX RESIDENT 1/6 PER CWT. LESS.

CARRIAGE PAID. United Kingdom, value 5/- upwards, with the exception of Hop Manure which is delivered free in Essex and to other Counties up to 35 miles of London. Distances beyond add 6d. per bag for each 50 miles.

JAMES & GEO. H. MATTHEWS, Head Offices HAROLD WOOD ESSEX
Phone: ROMFORD 284
And at COLCHESTER, ONGAR, BRENTWOOD, CHADWELL HEATH, & WICKHAM BISHOP, WITHAM.

GARDEN LOVERS

Write for Catalogues of
PROTHEROE & MORRIS'
· HORTICULTURAL SALES ·
WEDNESDAY
67 & 68 Cheapside London E.C.2 Phone City 3856

COAL

Trucks to any station or delivered into cellar.

BEST DERBY BRIGHTS	23/- ton pit
KITCHEN COBBLES OR NUTS	16/- "
COKE, for Central Heating and Greenhouses	15/- "
ANTHRACITE, for all purposes	23/6 "

From BUCKLE COLLIERY CO., Box 98, CHELTENHAM

AFTER 23 YEARS

AN ELOQUENT PROOF OF UNFAILING AND USEFUL SERVICE.

" A better Greenhouse Boiler could not be than the 'Horse Shoe.' I have had it in use for 23 years and it has answered splendidly,' writes Mr. F. G. L.....47 Mt. Carmel, Derby. 23/11/1925

"HORSE SHOE" BOILERS

CAN BE SUPPLIED FROM IMMEDIATE STOCK

Write for particulars now

To CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD.,
Engineers, Southwark Street, S.E.1.

Please send me Booklet F "Making the Most of Your Greenhouse," and price of complete Outfit to suit *(span-roof)(lean-to) greenhouse.....long .....wide inside, sides of *(wood) brick).....thick

Name.....

Address.....

*Strike out particulars not needed. Cut out and send by ½d. post.

CHAS. P. KINNELL & Co., Ltd., 65, Southwark St., LONDON, S.E.1
Wire: "Kinnell-Boroh-London." Phone: Hop 362 (three lines.)

Digitized by Google

I KNOW of a pipe tobacco which has for fifty years gained steadily in favour.

Generations have passed their verdict on its incomparable purity and excellence.

The greatest care is taken to ensure perfect uniformity of quality.

—*R.F.E.*

They call it

PLAYER'S

NAVY CUT

For Cigarette Smokers

PLAYER'S NAVY CUT CIGARETTES

P.1262

Reg. No. 134011.

A very Real Boon

By virtue of its mass appeal good advertising so expands the advertiser's business as to enable him to reduce the cost of the article to the public. A very real boon is thus conferred on the community.

Advertising IS a boon.

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION 1912

WAKELEY'S *Celebrated* **HOP MANURE**

(PATENTED)

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE, without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

A beautiful Free Booklet giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. GENUINE ONLY IN OUR MARKED BAGS, CONTAINING GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

Cash Prices, including bags: Small (about 1 bushel), 3/-: Large (about 4 bushels), 7/-; 5 Large, 33/9
10 Large, 65/-: 20 Large, 120/-

Carriage Paid to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company. 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE PATTISSON HORSE BOOTS

SIMPLEST
STRONGEST
MOST ECONOMICAL

ONCE TRIED
ALWAYS USED

Fig. 1—For Shod Horses.

Best English Leather or Rubber Soles.

Used for many years in the Royal and in thousands of the Principal Gardens.

Silver Medals:—Royal Horticultural Society, 1904 and 1914
Royal International Horticultural Exhibition, 1912.
HUNDREDS OF TESTIMONIALS.

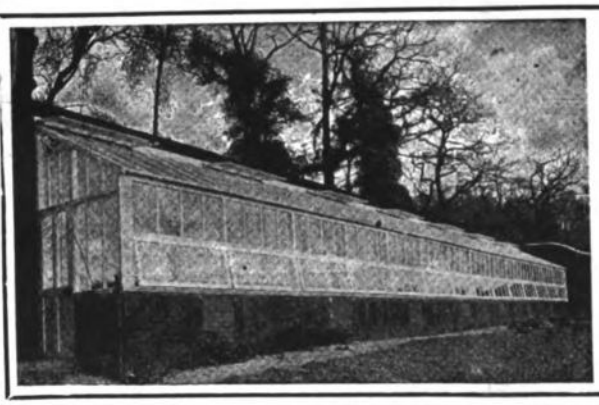
Fig. 2—Welted Pattern.

Fig. 2—No Welt Pattern

Illustrated Price Lists from the Makers:

H. PATTISSON & CO., STANMORE, MIDDLESEX

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*



GREENHOUSES AND GARDEN FRAMES

I specialize in the Erection of High class Horticultural Buildings.

Garden Frames a speciality. Selected timber, well seasoned, only used.

Being a grower, I understand Glass-house requirements.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.
CATALOGUES WITH PLEASURE.

E. M. HEAP, Cottimore Nurseries, **WALTON-ON-THAMES.**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

YOUR LAWN!

TRUE PLAY *IN MANY LAWN GAMES IS IMPOSSIBLE UNLESS THE SURFACE IS CLEAR OF DAISIES AND OTHER WEEDS — THE BEST METHOD OF ERADICATION IS ~*

LAWN SAND

Velvas

applied 5 oz. per Square Yard.

MAKES VELVETY LAWNS

CARRIAGE PAID PRICES:

112 lb. Keg,	29/6	112 lb. Bag.	28/6	14 lb. Tin,	6/-
56 lb. ..	16/-	56 lb. ..	14/3	7 lb. ..	4/-
28 lb.	10/6	28 lb.	9/3	7 lb	2/6

Sole Manufacturers

ROBINSON BROTHERS Ltd, WEST BROMWICH

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

ORCHARD · GARDEN · WOODLAND

Vol. XC.—No. 2840 Saturday, April 24th, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

BARR'S SEED POTATOES

FOR APRIL AND MAY PLANTING.

Extra selected hand-picked Tubers.

		14lbs.	56lbs.
Ashleaf Immune, first early Kidney ..	Scotch	4/6	16/-
Midlothian Early, first early Kidney ..	Scotch	4/6	16/-
Sharpe's Express, early Kidney ..	Scotch	4/-	14/-
British Queen, second early White Kidney	Scotch	4/-	14/-
Irish Elegance (new), second early White Kidney,	Irish	5/-	18/-
Arran Chief, main crop White Round ..	Scotch	4/-	14/-
Irish King, main crop White Kidney, ..	Irish	4/6	16/-
King Edward, main crop, Kidney	Irish	4/-	14/-
Kerr's Pink, main crop, Round, ...	Scotch	4/-	14/-
Tinwald Perfection, immune, White Kidney	Scotch	4/-	14/-
Up-to-Date, selected stock, White Kidney	Scotch	4/6	16/6

For other fine Potatoes see Barr's Seed Guide, Free.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

NETTINGS

GARDEN NETS FOR FRUIT PROTECTION

Any lengths and widths. Corded all round

per sq. yd.		per sq. yd.
NEW 1 in. sq. mesh, heavy .. 6½d.	NEW ½ in. sq. mesh, medium ..	7½d.
NEW 1 in. ,, medium .. 5½d.	REPAIRED 1 in. sq. mesh, heavy	3½d.
NEW ½ in. ,, light .. 5½d.	REPAIRED ½ in. ,, ,,	4d.

REPAIRED (not corded) 1 in. diamond mesh, 9/- per 100 sq. yards.

NEW TENNIS BOUNDARY NETS

Any lengths and widths. Corded all round. 7d. per sq. yard.

NEW TENNIS NETS

Various qualities from 16/- to 31/- each.

NETS FOR ALL PURPOSES

Samples and full particulars from the manufacturers.

JOSEPH BENTLEY, Ltd., Barrow-on-Humber, LINCS.
(Sole Proprietors of B. EDDY & SONS)

The Flower of the Season

BALL'S CALENDULA

— Brilliant Orange Double Flowers —

THE FINEST PLANT FOR CUT FLOWER OR THE BORDER

Our exhibit at CHELSEA SHOW made us many customers, and we have had numerous testimonials from all parts of the country.

SEED .. .. 1/-, 2/6, 5/- packet
PLANTS .. .. 1/6 doz.: 10/- 100

WM. ARTINDALE & SON
NETHER GREEN NURSERY :: SHEFFIELD

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

FOR THE GARDEN! FOR EXHIBITION!
FOR BEDS! FOR EVERYWHERE!

Also Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees, Alpines and Hardy Plants.

BUY HOME-GROWN TREES

Support British Industries.

Catalogue Free on Application, and Addresses booked for Revised Catalogue in late Summer.

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.,
Garden Specialists - - SOUTHWELL, NOTTS

APRIL PLANTING

There are many shrubs and plants which may be successfully planted during this month.

EVERGREENS, such as Hollies, Yews, Bays, Laurels, Thuya' Lobbii, Cupressus and other Shrubs.
CLIMBING PLANTS, in pots, including Climbing Roses.
HARDY PERENNIALS and ALPINE PLANTS.
HARDY CHRYSANTHEMUMS. VIOLAS.

We grow large quantities of shrubs in pots such as Cupressus, Escallonias, Veronicas, Rosemary, Choisyas, Fuchsias, etc., for planting at any season.

Catalogue and Special Spring List on application.

The BARNHAM NURSERIES, Ltd.
BARNHAM, SUSSEX.

SEND YOUR ENQUIRIES *NOW* FOR . . .

Autumn Planting of

CHOICE DAFFODILS

British Grown Bulbs

COMPLETE CATALOGUE NOW READY, FREE ON APPLICATION

CARTWRIGHT & GOODWIN Ltd.
BULB GROWERS,
Churchill, Kidderminster, WORCS., ENGLAND.

PERIODICAL ROOM GENERAL LIBRARY UNIV. OF MICH.

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
New Alpines and Perennials
Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD,
CHELSEA, S.W.
Seeds Gladioli Spiræas List on Application

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

DOWNER'S LUPINS, 12/- doz., large, mixed.
Apply for List. Also Herbaceous and Alpine Catalogue.
DOWNER, 2, Drayton Manor Nurseries, Chichester.

YOUR GARDEN NEEDS KILOGRUB
Its fumes are instantly fatal to all insect pests in the soil, but harmless to plants. Really effective because it works underground.
Tins: 2d., 1/6 and 3/6
Bags: ¼ cwt. 6/6, ½ cwt. 9/6, 1 cwt. 15/-
From your ironmonger or from
JOHN PEAK & CO. LTD. WIGAN, Lancs.

FERTILISERS.

LAWNS, 20/-; FRUIT TREES, VINES, 19/6; GENERAL GARDEN USE, 17/-; WORM KILLER, 19/-
Per cwt., carriage paid. Also all other fertilisers.
HY. RICHARDSON & CO., Skeldergate Bridge Works, YORK

THE NEW COMPLETE LIST
of
GARDEN BOOKS
published by "Country Life"
is
NOW READY
FREE ON APPLICATION TO THE PUBLISHERS
20, TAVISTOCK ST., COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
HULL
Weed Destroyers Fertilisers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

1926
PERPETUAL FLOWERING
CARNATIONS
Our Illustrated Catalogue will be sent free on request
C. ENGELMANN LTD.
Saffron Walden, Essex.

Beautiful Hardy Flowers
ARTINDALES New Illustrated Catalogue now ready and will be forwarded on application.
WM. ARTINDALE & SON
NETHER GREEN :: SHEFFIELD

Forbes' Catalogue
Carnations, Pelargoniums, Pentstemons, Phloxes, Pyrethrums, Violas, Hardy Border and Rock Plants, Seeds, etc.
FREE ON APPLICATION
JOHN FORBES (Hawick), LTD., Dept. 2, The King's Nurserymen, Hawick, Scotland

W. TRESEDER, Ltd.
The Nurseries ∴ CARDIFF
DAHLIAS
Our British Empire Exhibit of Dahlias during 1924 and 1925 was considered a feature of the Horticultural Section at Wembley.
ASK FOR A CATALOGUE.

TUBS FOR SHRUBS.
WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 100 prizes R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. — Price List from A. PRADAL, 28, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

Not an experiment

Tomatoes can be kept clean all the time. XL ALL White-Fly Vapour does it easily and with perfect efficiency. And XL ALL White-Fly Vapour is a well proved remedy—it is not an experiment. Use XL ALL.

XL ALL WHITE-FLY VAPOUR

G. H. RICHARDS, LTD.
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
R. 117. Monomark: BCM/XLALL.

Continued from page iii.

ROCK AND ALPINE PLANTS.—Large a
varied collection. All pot grown. Packed and carriage
Catalogue free.—M. J. PIGGOTT, Duffield, Nr. Derby.

GARDEN NETS.—Protect your Seeds a
Buds from Frost and Birds. Netting, strong, small m
specially prepared, will not rot, as supplied by us to the R
Gardens. 25 square yards for 2/6. Any length or w
supplied, price in proportion, carr. paid. Cheaper kinds
25 square yards for 1/6. Lists and samples free.—GAS
SONS, Net Works, Rye. Estab. 127 years.

HIMALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODE
DRONS on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous
Alpine Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting.
for Catalogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

CHOICE DAFFODILS.—Write at once
Herbert Chapman's list of CASH BARGAIN LOTS, offer
clear ground. First-class varieties at astonishingly low
—Address, HERBERT CHAPMAN, LTD., Rotherside Gard
Rye, Sussex.

GARDEN NETS. — Best Tanned Hem
50 × 4, 25 × 8, 100 × 2yds., £1; ditto, 25 × 2, 5/-; 25
10/-; lighter, 50 × 4, 25 × 8, 100 × 2yds., 16/-. Carr
paid, passenger train. Satisfaction guaranteed. New Ga
and Tennis Boundary Netting, samples and full particu
from the manufacturers, W. OLIVER ALLEN AND SONS,
Makers, Porthleven, Cornwall.

WELLS' CATALOGUE OF CHRYSANTE
MUMS will be sent post free on application.—W. WELLS
Co., Merstham, Surrey.

TENNIS COURT BOUNDARY NETS.—Co
colour, very strong, specially prepared with strong line a
and bottom throughout, making nets hang square; easy
erect or take away: can be left out in all weathers. 25yds.
2yds., 16/6; 25yds. by 3yds., 18/6; 25yds. by 4yds., 25
carriage paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Iron Standards
same, with strong earth plate, 4d. per foot. Regulation Play
Nets 10/6, 15/6, 18/6, 21/-. Lists and samples free.—GAS
AND SONS, Net Works, Rye. Established 127 years.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING.—Best select
nets, small mesh only supplied. 50yds. long, 4yds. wide, 1
25 × 8yds., 14/-; 100 × 2yds., 14/-; 25 × 4yds., 7/-; 25 × 3
5/-. Any size to order; all sent carriage paid.—W. GOU
Walmer Road, South Lowestoft.

PRIMULA JULIÆ.—A real gem, profu
purple flowers, 12 strong plants, 5/-.—MILNE, South Dar
Matlock

OUR NEW ILLUSTATED CATALOGUE
Alpine and Herbaceous Plants, Dwarf Trees and Shrubs
Bulbs for the Rock Garden, now ready. "A Mine of Infor
tion." Post free on application.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, L
Stevenage, Herts.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Id
for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, archer, greenho
tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible,
stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses
10/6 per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post
to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GRE
GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

GLASS BREAKS ! — Use Windolite,
PRACTICAL GLASS SUBSTITUTE for all GARDEN purp
Light, flexible, unbreakable. Easy to cut and fix. Send
card for sample, 3ft. by 2ft. C.O.D. 4s. 10d.—WINDO
(Dept. C.), 179-185, Great Portland Street, London, W.1.

WILD GARDEN.—Spotted Orchis, Iri
Ferns, etc., from 7/6 per 100. Bog Orchises, Bunglews, Bu
wort, Clubmoss, etc., List Free.—THE NATIVE PLANT
SERIES, Rockheare, Exeter.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

WATERER'S GOLD MEDAL RHODODENDRONS, Azaleas, Rare Hardy Shrubs, Alpine and Perennial Plants, Vegetable and Flower Seeds. Scotch grown Seed Potatoes, Asparagus, 3 year, 17/6; 2 year, 12/6 per 100. Catalogue free.—JOHN WATERER, SONS AND CRISP, LIMITED, Twyford, Berks; Bagshot, Surrey; and London.

WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE.—The original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See advert. on back page.

WM. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., Lawrence Road, South Tottenham, N.15.—Conservatories, Winter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

BIRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUNDIALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—MORTON, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

FENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Garden Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE HARLEY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, Surrey.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Pot Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS & SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth Herts.

YORK STONE PAVINGS, crazy or rectangular, rustic copings, steps roughly squared or random laid, flat bedded wallstones, garden edging, rockery, etc.—HUNT, JOHNSON AND SON (MIRFIELD), LIMITED, Newgate Stone Works, Mirfield, Yorkshire.

PRIOR'S COLCHESTER ROSES, Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Dahlias, Carnations, Herbaceous. Catalogue containing many collections free.—D. PRIOR AND SON, LIMITED, Colchester.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING, small mesh, 1yd. by 1yd., 2/-; 2yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 4yds. by 1yd., 4/-; 4yds. by 2yds., 6/6; 4yds. by 3yds., 9/9. Measured and closed. Special Pea Netting supplied. Tennis Nets from 10s. Carriage Paid. Compare our netting with others. Sports Nets and samples free.—GALLOP, Net Manufacturer, Hastings.

ROCK PLANTS, best varieties, inexpensive, list free.—MARION GARDSTANERS, Fardrose, Clogher, Northern Ireland

SWEET PEA PLANTS, AUTUMN SOWN, 1/- per dozen, 6/6 per 100. Exhibition varieties.—MILLS, Bridgtown Garden, Market Drayton.

WIRE NETTING.—From 2/5 per 50yd. roll. Largest House in the Kingdom. Write us for prices Thousands of rolls stocked.

ROYAL GUARDS.—Small mesh, 3ft. long, two pegs to each dozen. 4/3 dozen. 2 doz. Carriage Paid.

BUY THE BIRDS.—Rotless Tanned Netting. Small mesh, as supplied by us to the Royal Gardens. In Two Qualities. 50 x 1yd., 3/6, 4/-, 6/9; 2yds., 7/-, 8/-, 13/-; 3yds., 10/6, 12/-, 20/3; 4yds., 14/-, 16/-, 27/-; 25 x 1yd., 14/-, 16/-, 27/-. Any size supplied. Carriage paid. Royal. Measured mesh closed.

TENNIS BOUNDARY NETTING.—Lines top and bottom. 25 x 2yds., 16/3; 3yds. 18/3, 4yds., 25/3. Carriage Paid. Approval. Standards for fixing to, also Playing Nets, Posts and all requisites supplied.

GARDEN BARROWS.—Full size. 8 spokes. Best value in the kingdom, 24/9. Painted, 28/3.

LAWN MOWERS.—Five Riveted Blades. Ball Bearing Wheels. Brass Bushings. Close Cutting. Highly Finished. Handsomely Valce 8in., 23/-; 10in., 24/-; 12in., 25/-; 14in., 27/6. Grass Boxes, 3/6 each. Garden Rollers, 30/.

FISH NETTING.—Tanned, Superior Quality. 2in. mesh, 6ft. wide, 6d. yard. Carriage paid 12yds. and over. Other widths pro rata, prices of smaller meshes on application. W. S. HAWTHORN, LIMITED, Dept. H., Shrewsbury.

BARR'S FLOWER & VEGETABLE SEEDS of finest selected strains and tested growth, also the best Scotch and Irish grown hand-picked Seed Potatoes.

BARR'S SURPLUS LILIES AND OTHER Summer-flowering Bulbs for present planting, in splendid condition and at greatly reduced prices. List on application.—BARR AND SONS, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are now famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx, and perpetual habit. Illustrated plant list now ready. New Seed, now ready, hand fertilised, 2/- and 5/- packets.—J. DOUGLAS, Great Bookham, Surrey.

VIOLETS.—Good rooted cuttings of Princess of Wales and Admiral Avellan, 3/- doz., free.—MARGARET SLATTER, Salford Priors, Warwickshire.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial: Notes from My Garden ..	245
The Orange Corner in the Garden ..	246
Rhododendrons in the Greenhouse	247
Some Uncommon Peat Plants	248
A Noble Chinese Tree	249
Notes of the Week	250–251
Attractive Evergreen Shrubs for Planting Now; The Gloriosas; Another Blue Poppy; A Valuable Trophy for Plant Breeders; Ranunculus amplexicaulis; An Alpine for Every Garden; Cassiope Selaginoides; An Interesting Tender Shrub.	
Aquatics for Present Planting	252
Greenhouse Carnations at Westminster ..	254
The London Daffodil Show	254
Mowing Machines and Their Selection ..	256
Correspondence	256–258
Trapæolum speciosum; A Winter Garden; Crocus biflorus; Geranium Farreri; Plant Nomenclature; A Rare but Beautiful Shrub; Polygonum campanulatum; Genistas; The Pruning of Shrubs; Spring Peculiarities; Ipomœa rubro-cærulea.	
Greenfly: A Troublesome Pest	258
Garden Technique	259–260
Campanula pyramidalis alba; Propagation of Daphne Genkwa from Root Cuttings; Roses: Manuring or Feeding and Stopping; Nemesia Sutton's Hybrid Blue Gem; Gesneras; Primula malacoides; Potting Plants; An Efficient Spray; White Fly; Novel Plant Supports.	

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL DELPHINIUMS and ROSES. Send a postcard for our catalogue

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI, Chrysanthemums, Dahlias and Border Carnations.—Our stock includes many new and meritorious varieties. List post free on application.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

NEW AND RARE HARDY HEATHERS Alpine and Herbaceous Plants. Catalogues on application.—MAXWELL AND BEALE, Broadstone, Dorset.

SUTTON'S

WALLFLOWERS.

The cultivation of the Wallflower was revolutionised when we introduced the wonderful orange-scarlet varieties, and we strongly recommend flower lovers to try the following:

SUTTON'S FIRE-KING (orange-scarlet), per packet, 2/6 and 1/6.

SUTTON'S ORANGE-BEDDER (vivid orange), per packet, 2/6 and 1/6.

SUTTON'S PRIMROSE MONARCH (pale yellow), per packet, 1/6.

SUTTON'S GIANT VULCAN (a fine crimson variety) per packet, 2/6 and 1/6.

SUTTON & SONS, THE KING'S SEEDSMEN, READING.

DOBBIE'S PLANT CATALOGUE now ready. Free to all readers. Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.—DOBBIE AND CO., LIMITED, Edinburgh.

LOOK! GARDEN NETS.—Tanned small mesh, for peas, seeds and bud protection; 30yds. long, 1yd. wide, 2/6; 30yds. long, 2yds. wide, 5/-; 30yds. long, 3yds. wide, 7/6; 30yds. long, 4yds. wide, 10/-. Satisfaction or cash returned.—A. SIMMS, Net Works, Rye.

TO LOVERS OF ROCK GARDENS.—Inexpensive Plants for Sale.—Apply NELL SHAW, Hatfield Place, Bath.

RARE PRIMULA AND ALPINE SEEDS from large (1,500) collection, sold cheap. List free.—Rev. J. F. ANDERSON, Glen Hall, Leicester.

BATH'S SELECT SEEDS AND PLANTS.—New Illustrated Catalogue of choice Vegetable and Flower Seeds and Plants is now ready, and will be sent, post free, on application.—(Dept. E), R. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

GARDEN NETS.—Best tanned, small mesh, 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 25yds. by 3yds., 6/-; 25yds. by 4yds., 8/-. Carr. Paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Tennis nets from 10s. Special nets for tennis boundary. Pea training nets. Lists and samples free.—G. JARRETT, Netmaker, Rye.

LAXTON'S ASPARAGUS PLANTS, 4 years old, 20/- 100; 3 years, 15/- 100; 2 years, 10/- 100.—LAXTON BROTHERS' Nurseries, Bedford.

LAXTONS' POT STRAWBERRIES for present planting. Will fruit this year. "The Duke," "Royal Sovereign" and "King George," 30/- 100, 4/- doz.—LAXTON BROTHERS, Bedford.

A NAIL WRITES WEBSTER'S METAL LABELS. Can't fade or break. List 20 sizes.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 85. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 168. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

LOOK! TANNED GARDEN NETS.—All orders despatched same day. 25 yards by 1 yard, 2/-; 25 by 2, 4/-; 25 by 3, 6/-. Odd netting for bushes, 6lbs. for 2/6. All carriage paid. Any sizes supplied. Also Tennis Boundary Nets.—MOORE & CO., Net Works, Rye.

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES.—Per stone: Duke of York, 2/3; Witchhill, 2/6; Express, 2/2; Epicure 1/10; Eclipse, 2/-; Abundance, 2/2; Great Scot, 2/3; Majestic, 2/4; King Edward, 1/10; Kerr's Pink, 1/10; Bishop, 2/3, etc. Shallots, Red, 8d. lb. Amateur's Guide of Vegetable and Flower Seeds, free.—TILLIE WHYTE & CO., 12, Melbourne Place, Edinburgh.

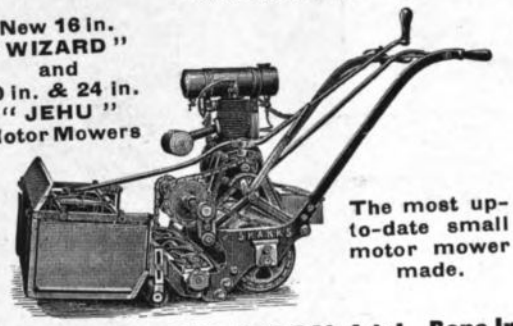
GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING.—"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 6/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

Lawn Maintenance and Lawn Perfection

are the keynote of Great Britain's famous gardens. They are the legacy of the centuries—the imprint of Time and Mowing efficiency. Nearly 100 years of experiment and improvement go to the making of

New 16 in. "WIZARD" and 20 in. & 24 in. "JEHU" Motor Mowers



The most up-to-date small motor mower made.

SHANKS'S LAWN MOWERS

unrivalled to-day for **perfect working, durability,** and **simplicity of design.**

First in the R.H.S. Motor Mower Trials, 1925.

The "CALEDONIA"
Lightest, Cheapest, and Strongest Roller Mower in the World.

ALEX. SHANKS & SON, Ltd., Dens Iron Works, Arbroath, Scotland; and Bush Lane House, Cannon Street, London, E.C.4

MANURES.

The most complete little book on the subject is "The Manual of Manures," by H. VENDELMANS, 4/5; by post, 4/9. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

The Half-Crown Garden Books

A new series. Thoroughly practical, well printed and illustrated. The first two are now ready.

VEGETABLE GROWING By GEORGE GARNER

ROCK GARDENING By WALTER IRVING

2s. 6d. net each.

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

NEW

CHRYSANTHEMUMS

Clean healthy Plants free from rust, aphis, etc.

FOR GREENHOUSE FLOWERING: 12 New Exhibition Japanese of 1925, **20/-**; 12 Exhibition Japs, including 1924 sorts, **5/-**; 12 Incurved varieties, **5/-**; 12 Decorative sorts, including one 1925 novelty, **5/-**; 12 Decorative Single varieties, **4/-**.

FOR THE GARDEN: 12 Aug.-Sept. flowering varieties, including one novelty 1925, **5/-**; 12 Sept.-Oct. flowering sorts, **4/-**; 12 Aug.-Sept. single varieties, **4/-**.

The above three dozens can be supplied now, but must be protected until the end of April.

Pelargoniums (Show and Regal), from 3in. pots: 12 good varieties, **9/-**; newer sorts, **12/-** and **15/-** doz.

Zonal Pelargoniums (Geraniums), from 3in. pots: 12 fine single varieties, **7/6**; 12 double and semi-double varieties, **7/6**; 6 Cactus Geraniums, **4/-**; 6 Ivy-leaved Geraniums, **4/-**, including Sir Percy Blakeney.

Dahlias: 12 Cactus varieties (pot roots) - **6/-**

Plumbago capensis (blue), **1/-** each; (alba), **1/-** each.

Post free for orders over **5/-**; *others* **6d.** *extra.*

Catalogue free on application.

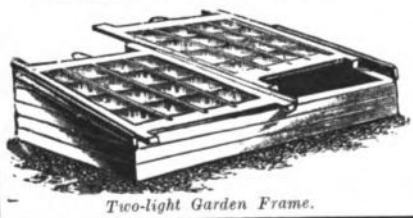
J. W. COLE & SON

Westwood Nurseries - - Peterborough

DAVID SWAIN & CO.

Horticulutral Builders Telephone: NORTH 2807.

GARDEN FRAMES ALL SIZES.
GLASSHOUSES RENOVATED.
REPAIRS AND REPAINTING. HEATING.



Two-light Garden Frame.

See our Exhibit at the CHELSEA SHOW, May 18th to May 20th.

ERECTED AT MOFFAT.

Write for LISTS and ESTIMATES.

101, SUSSEX ROAD, HOLLOWAY, LONDON, N.7

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then, together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices:—

Tins 10d. and 1/6

and in **Branded and Sealed Bags:**

7 lbs. - **3/6** 14 lbs. - **6/-**
28 lbs. - **10/-** 56 lbs. - **18/-**
112 lbs. - **32/-**

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers, etc. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**

Digitized by Google

RICHARDSON'S
DAFFODILS

DAFFODIL SHOW SUCCESSES.

(April 13th and 14th, London).

Gold Medal
A.M., "Seraglio"
" "White Sentinel"
9 Firsts
8 Seconds

Gold Medal and Special Congratulations from the Council of the R.H.S., March 23rd, 1926

FIRST CLASS CERTIFICATE—
Narcissus Glorious and Beersheba

AWARDS OF MERIT—
Alroi, Fairy Circle, Mitylene, Loyalist

NEW CATALOGUES NOW READY
— FREE ON APPLICATION —

J. LIONEL RICHARDSON
Prospect Gardens, Waterford, IRELAND

BROOMS for NATURALISING

One year transplanted seedlings of the various Daisy Hill Hybrids of Andreanus, in nice condition—and April is the best Month for planting. Planted now will make a display in Spring, 1927.
20/- per 100 160/- per 1,000
Special prices for larger quantities.
T. SMITH, Daisy Hill Nursery, NEWRY

BORDER CARNATIONS & ALLWOODII
Plant EARLY for best results.

Border Carnations.

Our stocks of the best hardy Garden varieties are superb. Vigorous sturdy stock from 3½in. pots which cannot fail to give the best results. The undermentioned collections represent the best value obtainable. Carriage paid for cash.

6 distinct Varieties 5/6
12 " 10/-
25 Plants in good variety 20/-

ALLWOODII.

The ever popular hardy plant, suitable for every garden purpose. Will beautify the Border, the lawn vase or window box, are perfectly hardy and the easiest plant to cultivate. New and improved varieties have been introduced, of which the undermentioned Carriage Paid Collections are Mainly Composed.

6 Distinct Varieties 5/6
12 " 10/6
25 Plants in good variety 21/-

CATALOGUE OF ALL CARNATIONS FOR GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE sent post free on request to—

Allwood Bros
The leading Carnation Raisers and Specialists in the World.
Dept. 4, Haywards Heath, Sussex

Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.

B.D.H. SOIL TESTING OUTFIT

INDISPENSABLE TO THE GARDENER AND FARMER

It is well known that one of the first and fundamental principles in regard to soil treatment is to ensure a sufficiency of lime, for without this essential soil ingredient satisfactory crops can never be obtained, as the soil is, or soon will become, sour. By means of this handy outfit it is possible to find out in a few moments whether a given soil requires treatment with lime in order to remove sourness, and thus

TO ENSURE HEALTHY CROPS AND BETTER PRODUCTION

THE B.D.H. SOIL TESTING OUTFIT
Needs no technical knowledge—A child can use it.

The set comprises:—
SPATULA
SPECIAL PORCELAIN BOAT
BOTTLE OF B.D.H. INDICATOR
Complete in cardboard box, with directions for use.

Price **4s. 6d.**
Obtainable from Chemists and Dealers in Scientific Instruments

Descriptive leaflet, if desired, from the Sole Manufacturers:—

THE BRITISH DRUG HOUSES, LTD., LONDON, N.1.
MAKERS OF FINE CHEMICALS

EUREKA WEED KILLER
LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND, SOLFUME, NICOTINE, INSECTICIDES, FUNGICIDES, SPRAYS AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES—THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT, CARRIAGE PAID.
MANUFACTURERS: TOMLINSON & HAYWARD LTD. LINCOLN

MARK SMITH, Ltd.
LOUTH, LINCS.
"PERFECT"
WEED KILLER
STRONGEST
CHEAPEST & BEST

ESTABLISHED 1804. INCORPORATED 1809.

— THE —

ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S
AMATEUR SHOW

Vincent Square, S.W. 22nd June, 1926.

82 Classes. *OPEN TO ALL AMATEURS.* *No Entrance Fees.*

Division A.—Open to all Amateurs.
Division B.—Open only to those Amateurs whose average garden wage-bill does not exceed £4 a week.
Division C.—Open only to those Amateurs who employ no gardener.

IN ADDITION TO SUBSTANTIAL PRIZES A CUP IS OFFERED TO THE MOST SUCCESSFUL COMPETITOR IN EACH DIVISION.

For Schedules apply to THE SECRETARY, R.H.S., Vincent Square, S.W.1.

Digitized by Google

BRITAIN'S BEST BULBS

GOLD MEDAL R.H.S. 23rd MARCH, 1926. **ALL HOME GROWN.** GOLD MEDAL R.H.S. 13th APRIL, 1926.

DAFFODIL LOVERS SHOULD PLACE THEIR ORDERS *NOW*.

A FEW GEMS - To ensure the best results we advise planting by the end of August, although this may be continued later. . . The following are some of the choicest varieties :—

ACE OF DIAMONDS (Poeticus).—This is undoubtedly the finest all-red-eyed Poeticus yet seen. Each, **35/-**.

BERNARDINO (Incomparabilis).—A very bold and beautiful flower; large creamy perianth, suffused deep orange; a good free grower. A.M. Each, **1/3**; doz., **12/-**.

CROESUS (Incomparabilis).—This famous flower is still the finest richly coloured Incomparabilis. Each, **5/-**.

DAOTYL (Poeticus).—In size, substance and quality, this is the high water mark in POETS; a very vigorous grower. Each, **18/-**.

DONAX (Incomparabilis).—One of the late Mrs. Backhouse's remarkable introductions. A most distinct and striking flower, having a broad yellow perianth and wide orange-scarlet cup. Each, **4/-**.

EVEREST (White Trumpet).—The flower is pure white throughout and is of fine waxy texture, having broad, well formed perianth, standing at right angles to the trumpet. Award of Merit, 1922. Each, **£2 10s.**

FESTIVE (Incomparabilis).—A very beautiful and brilliantly coloured flower; overlapping but pointed perianth, shaded yellow towards base of segments; long crinkled crown, flushed clear orange-scarlet. Each, **12/6**.

FIRETAIL. Without doubt the finest red-crowned Barrii yet seen. A.M., R.H.S., 1920; F.C.C., 1922. Each, **10/6**.

GOG (Yellow Trumpet).—A very early and very vigorous Yellow Trumpet; a fine long stem, carried very erect. Each, **5/-**.

GOLDEN PEDESTAL (Incomparabilis).—This is without doubt the finest self yellow INCOMPARABILIS yet seen; a flower of the most perfect form and quality. Award of Merit, R.H.S., 1922. Each, **£9**.

IRISH PEARL.—One of the very best Giant Leedsiis ever raised from MINNIE HUME, crossed with a Trumpet. Each, **3/-**; per dozen, **30/-**.

JERSEY CREAM (Bicolor Trumpet).—One of the most beautiful and distinct bicolors on the market. The bloom has great substance and waxy texture; white perianth, with well flanged trumpet. Each, **15/-**.

LADY SACKVILLE (Giant Leedsii).—This we consider one of the finest varieties raised by the late Mrs. Backhouse. It is remarkably early, of the purest white, excellent form, and fine lasting qualities. Each, **45/-**.

MAGOG.—A splendid, graceful, self-golden giant Trumpet of immense stature and vigour. Somewhat after KING ALFRED in style, but larger. Will grow where KING ALFRED fails. A.M., 1922. Each, **4/6**.

MARKET GEM (Giant Incomparabilis).—A flower of excellent form and substance and a very profuse bloomer, carrying its flowers well above the strong, broad foliage. A very vigorous plant, and an excellent garden variety and splendid market flower. This variety was one of the three which won the "Walter Ware" Challenge Cup for market varieties, at Birmingham Show, 1921 and 1922. Each, **1/-**; per dozen, **10/-**.

MARKET GLORY (Giant Incomparabilis).—A very large and very tall flower, having rich deep lemon-yellow perianth and large, long crown, flushed throughout with glowing coppery red-orange; a gorgeous decorative flower, and one that we shall hear of a good deal in the near future. Each, **35/-**.

SELINA MALONE.—Certainly one of the finest Bicolor Trumpets yet offered. Flowers of enormous size, yet of beautiful quality, having grand, broad, smooth white segments and noble, clear soft lemon trumpet; grows with great vigour. Each, **7/6**.

SILVER FOX.—A very large and striking Giant Leedsii with spreading white perianth and large, well expanded crown, which is more or less reflexed at the brim; the crown opens sulphur, but very soon the whole flower passes to pure white. Very tall and vigorous; a fine effective garden plant. Each, **6/6**.

ST. DOROTHEA (White Trumpet).—This variety caused a great sensation when first exhibited at the Midland Daffodil Show; at that time it was described in the Press as "a white edition of ROYALIST," and we ask for no better praise; it is of the purest white throughout, with broad overlapping perianth; it is probably more dainty than vigorous; certainly one of the most refined varieties we have ever seen. One or two bulbs to offer this season. Each, **£5 5s.**

TENEDOS (Giant Leedsii).—The sensation of 1921. Both in London and Birmingham this variety came in for more praise than any other variety, and rightly deserved it. When first opened the crown is primrose, but passes soon to pure white; of first-rate texture. First Class Certificate, Birmingham, 1924. Each, **£5 10s.**

WHITE EMPEROR (White Trumpet).—From the standpoint of the florist and exhibitor alike, this superb flower is unrivalled. It has attained in the marble-like smoothness and solidity of its texture, and classical purity and perfect symmetry of its outline, a point of excellence beyond which it is difficult to imagine much improvement. For many years it will be indispensable to all who aspire to the front rank as exhibitors, and to the hybridist it will be no less essential; it is a very free seeder. Each, **30/-**.

WHITE STAR (Barrii).—A distinct and very beautiful flower of decorative type, spreading star shaped pure white perianth of good substance, 4ins. in diameter; shallow crinkled crown of a beautiful, cool, greenish primrose. A very charming and refined flower, plant of good constitution. Each, **2/6**.

WHITEWELL (Incomparabilis).—Although a modest price, this variety has still to be reckoned with where a flower of good quality is needed; it carried off first prize at the Daffodil Show on April 12th, 1926, although it was up against the newest and most expensive varieties. Per dozen, **8/-**.

COMPLETE LIST WILL BE FORWARDED POST FREE ON APPLICATION.

DONARD NURSERY Co. (WILLIAM SLINGER, Sole Proprietor) **Newcastle, Co. DOWN**

A Prolific Garden

cannot be maintained without the aid of some kind of manure. Stable manure is now scarce, and is bulky to cart and spread on the land. No artificial will altogether take the place of natural manure, but a good well-balanced fertiliser, used during the growing season, is a wonderful aid in producing high-class garden crops. No fertiliser is cleaner, more effective, or economical than

PEARSON'S CHEMICAL MANURE

which is compounded from the purest chemicals. It contains every element necessary to plant life which is not present in any ordinary garden soil. A glance at the analysis will prove that this manure is as cheap as any on the market, while nothing can beat it in ease of application and results.

ANALYSIS

PEARSON'S "CHEMICAL MANURE"
(ARTIFICIALLY COMPOUNDED)

Contains at least 11·79 *Phosphates, soluble and insoluble;* 6·68 *Potash;* 5·44 *Nitrogen* (*Ammonia Nitrogen* 4·56, *Nitric* 1·88).

Per cwt. 28/-, ½ cwt. 13/- carr. paid. ¼ cwt. 7/-, 14 lb. 4/6, 7 lb. 2/9, carr. forward.

Procure Now for Coming Season.

J. R. Pearson & Sons, Ltd.
The Nurseries, Lowdham, Notts.
(Established 1782)

NEW HARDY CRIMSON BROOM

AT Chelsea Show (1925) *the King said, "That red Broom is certainly very striking." This was the new crimson Broom "Dorothy Walpole," which received the unanimous Award of Merit from the R.H.S. as well as other distinctions in London and on the Continent.*

In the "Field," a well known ex-Curator of Kew Gardens wrote: "The richest coloured Broom known is one named 'Dorothy Walpole.' It is as hardy as the common Broom . . . and is very free-flowering . . . the colour is rich velvety crimson . . . more attractive than any of the coloured Brooms yet seen." The colour far surpasses Cytisus Dallimorei, and the growth is as vigorous as C. Andreanus; it requires no special treatment nor any kind of protection whatever—just a hardy shrub for ordinary garden soil in any part of the British Isles, however far north.

A Vice-Chairman, Floral Committee, R.H.S., wrote: "Everyone who has seen my plant has been astonished at its warm glowing red," and from a lady in Devon: "I am so delighted with the Broom 'Dorothy Walpole.' It has done splendidly and is like a sparkling gem in the garden—one mass of flower."

Strong pot-grown plants now ready for planting out, to flower in May, 12/6 each. Carriage paid rates to any station in Great Britain or Ireland: One plant, carriage paid, 15/-; two plants, carriage paid, 28/6; three plants, carriage paid, 41/-; six plants, carriage paid, 79/6.

Coloured illustration sent on application if THE GARDEN *is mentioned.*

Wm. Watson & Sons, Ltd., Nurseries, Killiney, Co. Dublin.

BY APPOINTMENT.

FERTILIZERS FOR THE GARDEN

Increase your yields by a small outlay on Fison's

CHAMPION FERTILIZER

for

POTATOES AND VEGETABLES

Price per cwt. **26/-** Carr. paid.

7-lbs. **3/-**; 14-lbs. **5/-**; 28-lbs. **8/6**; 56-lbs. **15/-**
USE 7 LBS. TO THE ROD.

Illustrated Catalogue of Fertilizers for the Garden and Lawn post free from

Joseph Fison & Co., Ltd. Ipswich.

Digitized by Google

VOL. XC.—No. 2840. APRIL 24, 1926
Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription: Inland, 17s. 4d., Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2. *Offices for Advertisements:* 6–11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

NOTES FROM MY GARDEN

THERE surely has never been such a bulb year as this. The weather on the east coast of Scotland has certainly suited them, for daffodils and early tulips are in full blaze and of excellent size, particularly those naturalised in grass, and the same applies to fritillaries and chionodoxas. Even a Crown Imperial is fully out in a sheltered corner, and this is extraordinary in our cold climate. Usually, we find that we are behind the south until the end of July, and then we begin to catch up; but the growth in the past few days has been so extraordinary that I doubt if we are so far behind as usual. Geans, which are practically native to these woods, were in full bloom on April 8th: we usually look for them at the end of the first week in May. Pyrus Vilmorinii, that last year burst its leaf buds on May 8th, has its leaves half fledged at the time of writing, April 15th. All the sorbus are early this year, so are the horse-chestnuts. In addition to the ordinary one, Æsculus indica and Æ. californica are both in advance of their time; Æsculus turbinata, on the other hand, pays little attention to the vagaries of the season and intends to open its leaves according to the calendar, for the buds are still hard.

Another genus that is noticeably fine this year is the berberis. Deciduous species and varieties have come into leaf with an amazing rapidity, and the leaves appear to be larger and better formed than usual. A rather small round-leaved variety found by Farrer and myself in Burma is flowering for the first time here, and the flower is quite remarkable. So far, they are borne singly, and almost double, about the size of a sixpenny bit, the outer petals flat, forming a platter-shaped perianth, with a tight inner ball like a yellow pea. Berberis Wallichianum is also flowering, and is undoubtedly one of the best of all the small evergreen species. The leaves are large without being coarse, very dark green above and so glaucous on the under surface as to be nearly white. The flowers are borne in short racemes and are pretty without being striking. For foliage and general shape it is difficult to beat this evergreen species, and it should be far more widely grown. Berberis undoubtedly grows best with me on a steep bank where the drainage is all that it should be and where they get a maximum of sun. Provided that the soil is not too light, what are difficult positions for most shrubs seem to suit them; but they must be given a fair start, with the soil broken up for a considerable depth below them, so that their roots can escape from the parched surface and so can anchor the plant with the tips of its roots in cool earth or rock. I usually give them a heavy mulch of leaf-mould the first year and then leave them to their own devices, with the exception of an annual hoeing about this time of year. I have never found this treatment fail, excepting in the case of some of the Mahonia group, which respond to richer conditions, and here, at any rate, like a soil and exposure suitable for a herbaceous border.

I wonder if any readers can give their experience of growing outside some of the native South African bulbs, such as tritonias, babianas, gladioli species and so on. I have had a few sent me, and I am entirely ignorant about them. Presumably, one of the great difficulties with them is that of ripening, which means annual lifting. So far so good for that is not a difficult job when the numbers are few. But are they otherwise hardy? As far as I have seen, they are all graceful in growth and flower and are distinctly lovely flowers; but about their success I am doubtful. In the Cape they must have an enormous amount of sun, and sun of a hot, scorching quality. This is probably supplied in the eastern and midland counties of the British Isles to a greater extent than elsewhere: but is even this sun hot enough? I have heard of occasional plants of all these genera being grown at the foot of a hot wall; but will a hot and rocky bank in full exposure suit them as well?

Some time ago I mentioned that I had thinned a philadelphus and Spiræa sorbifolia heavily to see if it would make them flower. In the case of the former the result has been miraculous; each bush is now heavily set with buds. There are no signs of flower buds on the spiræa, but it is a little early as yet. What it has done is to break and send out numerous short branchlets instead of the usual willowy wands. It is a very lovely shrub in its young foliage, but I wish it would produce its fine upright panicles of flower. Many of the spiræas are inclined to make ungainly, lanky bushes with age, but Spiræa arguta is an exception. Its long arching branches never become so naked as many of them with age and the small panicles of white flowers are a delight from April to June. It is one of the best for all gardens. E. H. M. C.

We have been asked to draw attention to a printer's error which occurs in the Royal Horticultural Society's Gardener's Diary. The date of the Rhododendron Society's Show is there given as Monday, April 26th, whereas it will be held in the R.H.S. Hall, Vincent Square, on the following day, Tuesday, April 27th.

AMONG THE ARTICLES IN OUR NEXT ISSUE WILL BE:

THE RETURN OF THE DAHLIA, by Norman Lambert.
SOME FLOWERING BARBERRIES, by Camillo Schneider.

Digitized by Google

THE ORANGE CORNER in the GARDEN

FASHION changes, and whereas England was formerly a country with somewhat dowdy tastes in dress and house decoration, to-day there is a most noticeable bias the other way to a love of bright colours. Of these colours none is more popular at the moment than orange.

It appears, if one is to believe the gardening journals and seed catalogues, that gardens are to follow suit and be in the fashion this year. We are told that the marigold Orange King is to be the flower of the year. For me, orange flowers have always held a fascination; the word "aurantiacus" tacked on to a flower name has a certain magical charm which is difficult to resist.

Now, when I speak of orange flowers for the orange corner in the garden, I really mean orange flowers. I am not going to admit the "salmony orange scarlet" kind, if I can help it, though in the case of sweet peas this may be rather difficult. Absolutely orange flowers are not very common, and we may have to allow a few scarlet ones to add to the gaiety of this corner. Such plants as the Oriental poppy, the scarlet lychnis and the geum called Mrs. Bradshaw. They will only enhance the blaze of colour we are going to create.

CHEIRANTHUS ALLIONII FLOWERS LATER THAN OTHER WALLFLOWERS.

I suppose that the earliest orange flowers we can find are the polyanthus and the wallflower; neither of them very startling, but still a good beginning. Then we have that early-flowering berberis which was first discovered in Chili by Darwin and named after him. Its pendent orange blossoms are followed later in the season by plum-coloured berries, beloved of the birds. By now the Crown Imperials, the lordly relatives of the fritillaries, are pushing through the ground. Though we have been able to name one or two spring flowers of orange colour, it is really not till the summer and early autumn that they are at all common. The well known orange wallflower (Cheiranthus Allionii) does not, as a rule, come into flower till the ordinary wallflowers are on the wane. But as soon as spring passes into summer, it is easy to name a score or so of orange flowers. The eschscholtzias, growing untidily at the pathside, will produce a continuous succession of flowers. Beautiful in the bud when closed at night, they are positively glorious when fully expanded in the sun. In a recent number of THE GARDEN a relative of this flower was mentioned—Hunnemannia fumariæfolia. Its poppy-like orange flowers contrast well with its glaucous foliage. The author of the article in which reference is made to this flower seems to have a special *penchant* for orange flowers, for he mentions others as well. Venidium calendulaceum, which has glowing orange marigold-like flowers, very suitable for the edge of a hot sunny border, is one; the Star of the Veldt or, as it is sometimes called, the Namaqualand Daisy, with a delicate charm all its own, is another.

Besides the giant marigold Orange King, we have the French marigolds and the African varieties, all of which are more or less orange. The marigold is one of the flowers especially dedicated to the Virgin Mary, because it is in bloom at all the festivals throughout the year which celebrate the various events of her life.

The neglected Iceland poppies must not be forgotten; some of them are a splendid orange. The nemesia, too, can be had in brilliant orange shades. It may be associated with another good edging plant, the orange fleabane (Erigeron aurantiacus). This latter might also, perhaps, find a place on the rock garden, where orange flowers are rather rare, though the delightful miniature leptosiphons can be had in this colour. Rather stiff and unnatural-looking, but gorgeous in colour, are the orange zinnias. Of orange lilies there are quite a number: Lilium croceum, so common in our cottage gardens, very effective and of easy culture; the tiger lily, with its great pendent flowers and curious little bulbils in the axils of the leaves. We must not forget the Peruvian lily (Alstrœmeria aurantiaca), with its curious fleshy roots so difficult to dig up without injury. It is a terrible plant to spread when once it takes a liking to your soil. Of sweet peas we must have a group or two in

THE LOVELY ORANGE ALSTRŒMERIA AURANTIACA.

Digitized by Google

our corner, though they are not really very orange. The best of them are, perhaps, Tangerine, Orange Scarlet, Mandarin, Gloriosa and Royal Sovereign. Among the snapdragons, Orange King will be the best for our purpose.

Of climbing plants there are not many of orange colour. The old-fashioned Eccremocarpus scaber, though usually considered half-hardy, will survive the winter in the open in Cornwall and throw up its new shoots the following spring. It has nice bunches of orange flowers which hang gracefully amid its bright green foliage which sets them off so admirably. The nasturtiums, too, would come under this category unless the Tom Thumb varieties are preferred.

As summer passes into autumn, the red-hot pokers rear their tall spires at the back of the orange corner, and the montbretias and antholyzas form great clumps here and there. Then the stiff spikes of the autumn-flowering gladioli help to add gaiety to the declining year. The varieties to choose are Orange Brilliant, Niobe and Xanthia, Orange-coloured dahlias will also find a place in the orange corner till the first frost cuts them down.

Lastly, the orange fruits: the pyracantha, which seems to set the walls of the house on fire; the winter cherry, affording decoration for the home during the winter months when flowers are scarce. This may be associated with the orange seeds of the stinking iris, so beautifully set in their tripartite pod, which opens to display them about this time of year. These, and not a few others, can be tried, and the results are certain to be most pleasant and effective. EDWARD CAHEN.

RHODODENDRONS IN THE GREENHOUSE

WHERE THEY ARE NOT ALREADY GROWN, ONE OR TWO OF THESE FRAGRANT AND BEAUTIFUL SHRUBS SHOULD BE GIVEN A TRIAL. THEY ARE NOT OF DIFFICULT CULTURE AND PROVIDE THE MOST BRILLIANT EFFECTS.

AT this time many greenhouses are made more brilliant by an occasional plant of one of the old Himalayan rhododendrons or their varieties, none of which is satisfactory outside in any but the most sheltered gardens of the south and west. The best for general purposes are either species of the Maddeni group, such as R. ciliicalyx, R. Edgeworthii or R. Maddeni, or their hybrids and varieties. There are few more economical shrubs for the ordinary greenhouse, since with fair treatment they flower year after year and live for a long time. The necessary treatment is simple, an annual repotting in half loam, half leaf-mould with good drainage, and plenty of moisture during the growing season. When the growth is finished they can be put in the cold house or a frame for the summer months. In fact, they thrive under this treatment, provided they are shaded from the direct rays of the sun. They are all the better for not being given great heat at any time of the year, as this makes them tender and forms long, lanky growths. Probably the three best varieties for the ordinary amateur are the Countess of Haddington, which opens a pale pink and turns, as the flowers age, to a blush white; Forsterianum, a particularly lovely white form with large flowers that smell deliciously of cloves; and fragrantissimum, also a pure white and with even a stronger fragrance. None of these gets out of hand and grows to a large size, which is an advantage. Those who have more room can try R. Dalhousiæ, a fine sulphur yellow, and R. Nuttalli, with fragrant tubular trumpets of white tinged with rose. Neither of them is so free-flowering as the ciliicalyx group mentioned above, and both are apt to grow leggy and so become ungainly in time. R. Maddeni itself is also inclined to lankiness, and so is R. Edgeworthii but the latter is most attractive with its thick leathery leaves and sweetly scented white flowers.

THE VERY FRAGRANT INDOOR RHODODENDRON FORSTERIANUM.

Digitized by Google

SOME UNCOMMON PEAT PLANTS

THOUGH I use the term "peat plants," this is done only as a matter of convenience. Most people will understand by that term, that it includes, for the most part, those many ericaceous subjects which, while they doubtless enjoy a peaty medium, will often do as well in any light to medium, cool lime-free loam. Indeed, none of the plants here alluded to has ever had any peat, the only addition made to the natural woodland loam being a little leaf-mould at planting time, with subsequent top-dressing of this, and grit whenever it seems desirable.

THE HANDSOME AND HARDY BRYANTHUS EMPETRIFORMIS OF PROSTRATE HABIT.

One of the most fascinating of these plants at the time of writing (end of February), is Arcteria nana. This is one of the smallest of shrubs, the Tiny Tim of the once-called andromeda clan, one which does not seem to aspire to a greater stature than a little over an inch, the spread of its wee branches only being 2ins. to 3ins. across. At the present moment this most engaging shrublet is bearing at the tips of each of its twigs ½in. racemes of white, urn-shaped flowers which smell most sweetly of honey. So generously are these blossoms yielded that they almost conceal the dark green leathery leaves, yet the whole affair could easily be covered by a breakfast cup. A. nana comes from Spitzbergen, and about three years ago it was the proud recipient of a R.H.S. award of merit.

Some two or three years have elapsed since a trio of strangers arrived here labelled respectively, Cyathodes ericoides, C. empetrifolia and C. robusta. They were experiments, for, coming from somewhere in the Antipodes, I had grave doubts as to their hardiness. However, those doubts have been dispelled, for they have withstood 20° of frost without protection and have every appearance of "making good." These curious species are said to be allied to the epachrideæ. They have a crisp, heath-like foliage, more or less suffused with a bronzy tint, and the semi-prostrate habit of a phyllodoce. In all of them the waxen-textured flowers are cylindrical and not contracted at the mouth as in the ericas. C. ericoides has these blossoms in an ivory yellow, those of the other two being white. They all have a slight fragrance, suggesting a blend of almonds and honey.

Phyllodoce (Andromeda) cærulea we have coaxed into a tolerably good temper by affording it a cool aspect facing its beloved north and by maintaining an even moisture supply during summer. This latter has been accomplished by giving plenty of leaf-mould and, in emergency, an occasional cold compress of chopped-up sphagnum. At any rate, this rather squeamish native has maintained a cheerful verdure and every season at midsummer rewards us with its blue flowers which, if not as blue as they are sometimes painted, are nearer to that colour than those of any of the smaller ericaceæ of its class.

The foregoing is said to be one of the parents of that most adorable little shrub, Phyllothamnus (Bryanthus) erectus. the other being Rhododendron Chamæcistus—hence the derivation of its new generic name. Though raised nearly a century ago, this plant is still very uncommon and one wonders why, for it is by no means difficult and it has a beauty and refinement all its own. That P. erectus may be impatient of excessive heat, drought and a dry atmosphere one must admit, but it will prosper in the humid west and north and demand no more care than one would give to any of the choicer allied subjects. P. erectus is an upright, neat shrub of about 10ins. with the hard, pale green, glossy foliage of Phyllodoce empetriformis. In the later spring the flowers appear at the extremities, half-a-dozen or more in a cluster. These are a delicate shade of rose and as the corolla is not constricted at the mouth, the five triangular segments standing out so as to give it a bell-like form, the flowers are more suggestive of some azalea in miniature than an erica. P. erectus can always claim a high place among the best of its kindred.

Also differing from the ericas in its open-mouthed corollas is a dwarf, heath-like plant from the heights of eastern Europe, Bruckenthalia spiculifolia. This species makes a dense cushiony mass of very leafy little wiry twigs, the whole rarely rising much above 6ins. and often not attaining half the height. The foliage is a bright, cheerful green and the flowers appear in June in terminal racemes rather under 1in. in length. Individually the blossoms may be small, but not in proportion to the size of the shrub. They are bell-shaped and rosy-white in colour and deserve a close-up position on a cool rock garden ledge where their very special daintiness can be appreciated to the full.

Gaultheria tricophylla is a priceless gem for partly shaded cool, rocky places, which it will cover with its charming heathy verdure of about 3ins. With mahogany-red slender stems, little deep green glossy ovate leaves and sapphire berries as large as horse beans, this winsome Himalayan is exceedingly attractive. And once it gets away in a stony, gritty bed of vegetable soil, it will creep about by means of its underground runners and so gradually colonise quite a large patch. Regarding this some may say, yes, just the carpeting for choice crocuses or erythroniums. But I contend that G. tricophylla is fully sufficient in itself, and those who can boast of having a few square feet of it well established will feel not only that they have had their reward, but that it would be what Shakespeare called "ridiculous excess" to grow anything of the above kind along with it.

If G. tricophylla must carpet something, let it companion its own kindred. For example, I once saw it clambering about the interstices of some mossy, slatey rocks among which were perched two or three bushes of G. cuneata pyrolæfolia. The latter, so bright a green, so comely and neat, and not more than about 8ins. high, were laden with their white berries—like sugar-coated pills. The two species suited each other and together they suited the place so well that I have ever since been trying to create the same effect.

Vaccinium glauco-album is a shrub whose merits deserve a wider recognition. Though a Himalayan and not as hardy as one would wish, it is robust enough to stand at least 15° of frost. Growing to about 3ft. this vaccinium is an evergreen with hard, rough-textured ovate leaves some 2ins. long and half as wide. The stems are red, and the pinky-white flowers are borne in bold racemes, 3ins. in length, which are rendered the more attractive by the bluish-white of their conspicuous bracts. The black fruits which follow are coated by a "bloom"

Digitized by Google

of the same tint, so that the shrub both in summer and throughout the autumn is singularly pleasing.

Closely allied to vaccinium are the gaylussacias, of which G. dumosa is, perhaps, the best. People who share my partiality for ericaceous subjects will find in this species a deciduous shrub of two or more feet which adorns its downy-leaved, loose-habited branches in June with bell-shaped, pure white flowers of remarkable beauty. They will also find this huckleberry an easy and willing doer in any cool, free loam, with full exposure or part shade and one that will afford brilliant autumn tints of crimson and scarlet.

Arctostaphylos Manzanita is a most distinctive member of the ericaceæ, albeit one with which I have enjoyed a more intimate association in its own country than in this. Given a fairly sheltered position with all possible sun and not too dry a loam, the "manzanita" of California will prove reasonably hardy, while its large, heart-shaped, grey-green leaves and clusters of rose pink, white sepalled blossoms in April will always command admiration. A. Manzanita, though rarely seen, grows to about 5ft. in this country, but on its native hillsides it attains a much greater stature, sometimes forming thickets 20ft. high along the lower slopes of canons whose upper flanks are, as often as not, dappled with the dark green of the equally rare Heteromeles arbutifolia.

A. T. JOHNSON.

A NOBLE CHINESE TREE

BY E. H. WILSON.

ONE of the oldest and best known exotic trees in our gardens is Thuya orientalis, often called Biota orientalis, the Chinese Arbor-vitæ. The first mention of this tree in western literature is by Kaempfer in his "Amœnitates Exoticæ," published in 1712, where it is styled Finoke altera, with a brief description added that is sufficient for its identity. It was christened by Linnæus in 1753, but he had earlier described it in his "Hortus Cliffortianus," in 1737, where he says it was communicated by Royen and cultivated in the Botanic Gardens at Leiden. Phillip Miller had it growing in the Apothecaries Garden at Chelsea in 1752 and in the sixth edition of his dictionary, published that year, says that it had not been long in Europe and that the cones of the tree were sent from China by some of the French missionaries. Probably some Jesuit priest sent it from Peking, but I have not been able to find out anything more definite about its introduction to Europe.

Though known in Europe for nearly two centuries, I can find no record of large trees or, indeed, of specimens showing the real habit of the tree. This is all the more remarkable when its accommodating nature and ease of propagation are remembered. Dozens of forms have originated in gardens and received names, yet a real adult tree seems unknown in the entire Occident. The books devoted to conifers, even the very latest, describe it as a bush or tree of columnar or pyramidal habit, with erect branches and branchlets and from 20ft. to 60ft. high. This description faithfully portrays the tree as we of the west know it, but is far, very far from picturing its real habit.

Slow of growth it takes centuries for this tree to attain its proper form. One must go to China to see this and to Peking especially. In the grounds of the Confucian temple at Peking and in the city park near the Imperial Palace are noble arbor-vitæ trees standing isolated in groves and in avenues. These are from 70ft. to 75ft. tall and have trunks from 15ft. to 20ft. in girth, with enormous massive contorted limbs spreading horizontally and forming open, flattened-round crowns. The trunks are clothed with fibrous fissured bark, grey without and red-brown within, and some of them richly embellished with burls large and small and of fantastic shapes. Nothing could be more unlike the tree we know in western gardens than these gigantic old monarchs. Only those who have seen rugged old trees of Juniperus chinensis or of the Monterey cypress (Cupressus macrocarpa), can appreciate the astounding difference in habit between adolescence and ripe age as presented by these venerable giants in Peking.

A GIGANTIC OLD MONARCH OVER SIX HUNDRED YEARS OLD.

THE MASSIVE AND BURLED TRUNK OF THE ARBOR-VITÆ.

Digitized by Google

I have been to some pains to find out the age and history of these trees. According to the best evidence available, the Temple of Confucius was built during the Yuan dynasty and, in accordance with the custom, trees were planted at that time. The local tradition is that the trees now remaining in the main courtyard were all planted when the temple was built, with the exception of one tree, which is said to have been already there and which must, therefore, belong to the Sung dynasty. The earliest dated tablet in the temple enclosure was erected in the eleventh year of the Emperor Ta Te, *i.e.*, A.D. 1307. The Sung dynasty lasted from A.D. 970 to 1260, but was driven from Peking in 1118. The famous Emperor Kublai Khan made Peking his capital in 1264 and there the great Venetian, Marco Polo, served him as Advisory Minister. Beneath the ancient tree above referred to and others which doubtless grew with it, Marco Polo may well have rested and found shade during his sojourn at the Khan's court.

In the past many cities have occupied the present site of Peking, and as regards the trees in the city park I am informed that there is no means of determining their exact age. The evidence available would show that the oldest of them could not have been planted earlier than the reign of the Emperor Yung Lo of the Ming dynasty, A.D. 1403–25.

During my travels in the Orient I did not see spontaneous specimens of the Chinese Arbor-vitæ widely cultivated, though it is and in many places naturalised. In Korea and Japan it is known only as a planted tree. Its hardiness supports the belief that it is a native of northern China rather than of other parts of the Empire. It is the Poh-tree of the classics and the fruit, the leaves and the inner bark all have medicinal uses. In the temples the branchlets and pieces of wood are burnt as incense. In former days the tree distinguished the gardens of princes and sheltered the tombs of emperors, and to-day it is most commonly met with in gardens and burial grounds. Throughout the New Year festivities sprays of this fragrant evergreen are used to symbolise long life, happiness and prosperity.

NOTES OF THE WEEK

ATTRACTIVE EVERGREEN SHRUBS FOR PLANTING NOW.

THE introduction of the hardier escallonias, which thrive in places where the noble E. macrantha proves tender, has done a great deal to bring these fine shrubs into popularity. The hybrid named langleyensis, originating from E. macrantha and E. philippiana, is becoming increasingly appreciated, not only because of its greater endurance than E. macrantha, but because of its intrinsic beauty. It bears hosts of bright red flowers in July. The allied E. edinensis, which is understood to be of the same parentage, is even more floriferous, and, as the colour is pink, it will be acceptable as a companion to E. langleyensis. Its blooms are also a little larger. It does not seem to be generally known among amateurs that the pretty white-flowered E. philippiana is very hardy and will stand severe winters in places where E. macrantha suffers terribly in an average winter. The latter, by the way, makes a capital and beautiful seaside shrub, and by the sea is hardy even considerably north of the Tweed.—S. ARNOTT.

THE GLORIOSAS.

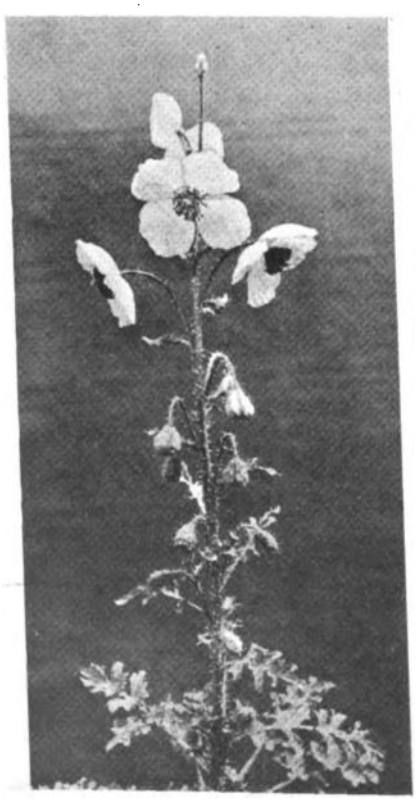
Popular Greenhouse Climbers.

THIS genus of climbers seems to be very popular among gardeners and plants of it are greatly prized. It certainly consists of very showy plants, well worthy of the little attention their growth entails. The gloriosa is a very common plant in tropical Africa, and perhaps a few notes on the conditions under which they grow naturally may suggest different methods of cultivation in this country. The situation usually given the plant in our gardens is the hottest and moistest part of the stove house, generally a position of shade. These are quite different conditions from those under which it grows naturally. It is an open grassland plant, never found in shady positions, or in the steamy atmosphere of the forest. It stands the full rigour of the tropical sun in exposed places on hill slopes, where it must often get very dry at the root; where bush fires annually burn off the dried-up vegetation, and the night temperature drops considerably below that to which the plant stove is allowed to fall. Its common associates are Clerodendron ugandensis and Pycnostachys Dawei. These latter plants are both given much cooler conditions in our plant houses, and there seems to be no reason why gloriosas should not succeed with them.

I agree that gloriosas are very well grown in our gardens, but I imagine that the flowers would be much more highly coloured, and more freely produced, were natural conditions more faithfully copied. Moreover, doubtless many gardeners have hesitated to attempt their cultivation, under the belief that extreme heat is a necessity. Naturally, the tubers are deeply buried—at least 18ins.—and for this reason it is quite difficult to eradicate the plant when clearing land for plantation purposes.—E. BROWN, *Kent*.

ANOTHER BLUE POPPY.

THE enclosed photograph shows Meconopsis aculeata, which flowered in my garden in Perthshire last summer. This is one of



THE SKY BLUE MECONOPSIS ACULEATA

the biennial species and grows about 18ins. high. The flowers are normally a sky blue colour, but some of the seedlings had flowers of a reddish and purple colour. The foliage is quite distinct from that of the other blue meconopsis, such as latifolia and Prattii, as can be seen from the illustration. It is much more cut or fern-like. M. aculeata sets seed freely and is easily raised, and well worth the attention of gardeners who grow a selection of these poppies.—A. HARLEY.

A VALUABLE TROPHY FOR PLANT BREEDERS.

A HAPPY thought inspired Messrs. Abol, Limited, when they decided to recognise in a handsome and generous manner the important and valuable achievements of our plant breeders. The "Abol" Challenge Trophy, value seventy guineas, is to be offered at the Staffordshire and Midland Counties Show, to be held on August 11th and 12th at Burton-on-Trent, for the exhibit which demonstrates the greatest development or improvement of recent years in any one family, strain or variety of plants or their produce. It is a noble gift for a worthy purpose. The term "recent years" may be broadly interpreted to mean since the war, but, wisely, it does not sharply cut a dividing line on the basis of dates, the sole desire being to bring together for comparison all the new breaks, strains, selections and hybrids which have carried British horticulture far along the road of progress, and to select for the highest honour that particular subject which is considered to mark the greatest stride of improvement upon the types or kinds from which it was produced. Truly, this should create a class of unbounded interest, and focus the attention of all sections of the horticultural world upon the outcome of the plodding labours of our hybridists and plant breeders.

There are points in this novel idea which command particular attention, and upon which comment may well be made. It would be obviously impossible at any one show to bring the plants and flowers of all seasons into the arena, but Messrs. Abol's choice of an August show ensures a "lead off" at the period of greatest abundance in floral treasures. The venue, too, has been well chosen. Burton-on-Trent is very centrally situated: it is accessible alike to northern, southern, eastern and western exhibitors, and the show attracts an immense throng of visitors. The show is young, but wonderfully well planned and managed, and its future is full of promise. It is understood that in fairness to all sections of horticulture the trophy will in due time be offered at spring shows and autumn shows, and in various centres. The winner each year will receive a permanent memento of his success, and the name of each holder of the trophy will be engraved upon it.

It would be invidious to say in advance of the show to what subject it should be given, but one may quite appropriately mention various things that ought to be

Digitized by Google

well represented in the class. Southern growers will find it late to show their finest delphiniums at the top of their form, and it would undoubtedly require the very best to mark the real extent of recent progress, for it must be admitted we had extremely fine delphiniums some years previously to the war. There are northern specialists, however, who will probably be in quite good form about that period of August. We have various strains of perpetual border carnations and perpetual pinks which are decidedly of modern development, and the "House" race of selected varieties of Scabiosa caucasica affords a striking instance of modern development in a most serviceable flower. This trophy class should afford an excellent opportunity to compare and place a decisive estimate upon the relative value of the numerous distinct classes of lupins which certainly have made somewhat sensational strides of progress in recent years, and it may well be found that some wonderful astilbes, of which remarkable developments have been seen in certain quarters, will come forward in grand form.

What may be seen in annual flowers it is difficult to foretell, but, of course, many of to-day's most meritorious strains and stocks of annuals have been the result of long years of patient and painstaking selection rather than the outcome of startling new breaks of hitherto unknown character. Possibly, in greenhouse plants, the new bi-generic hybrids between achimenes and gesneras may challenge the hardy flowers for prior claim to honour, and in hydrangeas we may see a demonstration of very pronounced advancement.

Gladioli of the primulinus hybrid class are practically certain to make a bold bid for distinction, more especially as the same show is the venue of the gladiolus exhibition.

Truly, there is no dearth of material for the making of a glorious display to the great honour of British horticulture.—A. J. MACSELF.

RANUNCULUS AMPLEXICAULIS.

SOME of the alpine gems of the genus ranunculus are troublesome things in the ordinary border and require to be relegated to some specially favoured spot in the rock garden, where their idiosyncrasies can be humoured. Ranunculus amplexicaulis, on the contrary, though it is not of

CASSIOPE SELAGINOIDES, A NEW AND ATTRACTIVE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE HEATH FAMILY.

miniature growth and is less suitable for the rock garden than the border, is very easy and gives one practically no trouble, while in the garden in summer it is not only pleasing but distinct from many of its neighbours. A rich soil is recommended with wisdom, but all do not possess a garden of rich loam, and R. amplexicaulis does not resent a poorer fare, and the writer grew good plants for years in a sandy soil with a poor, dry subsoil of sand below. There the plants throve, though not with the same robustness as they attained in the soil of the fertile garden whence they originally came. Yet they were happy and beautiful.

R. amplexicaulis is a distinct-looking plant, growing from about 9ins. to 1ft. high, and having rather large, oval pointed leaves of glaucous blue-green, which clasp round the stems, giving origin to the specific name of amplexicaulis, or stem-clasping. These stems are surmounted by large, broad-petalled flowers of a pure white, forming, altogether, a very distinct summer-flowering subject. Any ordinary border will do for R. amplexicaulis, and it can be grown well in sun or partial shade. Propagation is effected by division, preferably in spring.—DUMFRIES.

AN ALPINE FOR EVERY GARDEN.

A VALUABLE little alpine plant, easy to grow in almost every garden, and giving for a good length of time in summer its flat heads of yellow flowers above woolly-looking foliage of considerable charm. Such is Achillea tomentosa, a lover of dry and sunny places from far-off lands, such as Siberia, which has been in our gardens for many years. It soon makes a good clump when happy, and is effective with its gay heads of yellow flowers 6ins. or 9ins. above the flat carpet of foliage. It loves, as mentioned above, a dry place and a sunny bank or the warmest slopes of the rock garden will suit it well. A very pretty plant of the same character, generally called A. King Edward, has been in commerce for some time. It has pale yellow flowers and is much admired by growers of alpine plants. A. tomentosa is increased by seeds, division and cuttings, and A. King Edward by division or cuttings. These good plants may be planted any time.—S. ARNOTT.

CASSIOPE SELAGINOIDES.

A Valuable Rock Garden Plant.

THIS is a most beautiful plant, and, should it prove to be hardy, will be a great asset to the rock garden. It has a fine habit and forms a close, compact mass of growth. The seed of this plant was gifted to the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, on April 19th, 1922, by Mr. Reginald Cory. The plants are now well established. There are, however, two forms of this plant, one plant having a green tomentose pedicel and green calyx—the same as Fig. B. 9003, *Bot. Mag.*; whereas the other plant has a reddish brown hairy pedicel with a calyx the same colour. The plant with the reddish brown pedicel and calyx is the more showy, but the two forms seem to have equal vigour. The plants have now attained a height of 3ins.; the pedicels are 1–1¼ins. in length and throw the flowers well above the growth, which helps them to be seen at a distance. The flower tubes measure ⅜in. at the mouth of the bell. Regarding the cultivation of this plant, it will be found that the grower can handle it with impunity, as the plants growing in this garden have been shaken out, repotted in small pots, and none seemed to mind the treatment; whereas in the spp. C. fastigiata and C. tetragona they are both very impatient at being disturbed at the root. They can all be propagated by seeds or by cuttings, but the establishment of C. selaginoides is by far the more easy. The plant at this season is one mass of bloom and should soon become a popular garden plant.—L. B. S.

AN INTERESTING TENDER SHRUB.

IN gardening, the unexpected always seems to be turning up and it came as no surprise to me, while walking round a garden in Cornwall a few weeks ago, to stumble across that tender Australian shrub, Correa speciosa,

CORREA SPECIOSA GROWING OUTSIDE.

growing happily out of doors. There was no appearance of home sickness about it or even a suggestion that it was longing for the barren stretches of sandy waste of its native home. It apparently had taken kindly to its new quarters, where, by the way, is housed probably the finest collection of Australian and New Zealand shrubs outside a botanic garden.

Cornwall is a county where the majority of things grow moderately well and those who are lucky enough to garden in that corner of the country can try their hand at growing many plants out of doors which by others less favourably situated must be grown inside. C. speciosa is a shrub, I should imagine, which will do fairly well on the west coast, even far north if it is given a sheltered situation. In the garden I have in mind it was growing on the edge of a raised bed under the shelter of two lofty Pinus insignis and numerous other taller growing but tender shrubs. The garden stands moderately high and in addition has to withstand the full blast of a south-west wind, which, judging from my experience of a few days, is of great severity.

It forms a striking little shrub some 2ft. to 3ft. high, with slender, brownish branches, which are loose and rather spreading. The foliage is attractive, small and neat, with a dark green upper surface and a felted white reverse. It is when in flower, however, that the shrub becomes of real beauty. The long, almost bright scarlet tubular flowers are borne with a free will and hang gracefully from the slender shoots on dangling stalks, giving the bush a well furnished appearance.

In less favoured situations it is a plant which is well worth growing in a greenhouse, both for the sake of its ornamental flowers and its decorative foliage.—G. T.

Digitized by Google

AQUATICS FOR PRESENT PLANTING

IT is at this season of the year when all water plants and ponds should be thoroughly overhauled in preparation for the summer and autumn. In close proximity to the rock garden are often found pools of various shapes and sizes where water lilies and other aquatic plants find a congenial home. It should be clearly understood that a rock garden is not a necessity to water gardening, and it should be borne in mind that the nymphæas and other plants mentioned in this article are quite hardy. Splendid results can be obtained in small ponds and shallow lakes, tanks, gentle streams, moats, etc., whether artificial or not. An ample water supply is essential, and an efficient outlet to prevent stagnation. Ordinary barrels cut across the middle are often employed for water lilies, and, if needed, the tubs could be sunk to the ground level. A well arranged collection of aquatics will soon beautify an otherwise uninteresting piece of water. A barren, boggy piece of land where little but foul water and coarse rushes exist could often be made beautiful by cutting a few channels and the judicious use of drain-pipes, so guiding the water into one large pond or a series of small pools. These would suit the water lilies, and the margins could be filled with a host of other subjects, which must be dealt with in another note. For the present I confine my remarks to plants that will succeed in water. The nymphæas, of course, will make the principal feature, and the less rampant species and hybrids will need a depth of about 18ins. of water; while the stronger growing kinds, such as N. Marliacea chromatella, should be placed in water to a depth of 2ft. These figures are for small pools or tanks; but for larger areas the more robust lilies will succeed at a depth of 4ft.

THE STATELY BLOSSOMS AND HANDSOME FOLIAGE OF N. STELLATA.

In time the crowns become overcrowded, and it is then advisable to divide them. The best time to do this, and to plant out new varieties or make fresh colonies is from early April to the beginning of June.

Overcrowding, especially in small areas, must be avoided, or many of the flowers will never be seen, while the leaves will rise above the water considerably and much of the beauty will be lost. A few of the leaves may be cut out, but it is a practice to be condemned if carried out on a large scale. It is much better to run off the water about the end of March and remove the small crowns, which usually produce foliage only. These, if taken off, with a little care will readily establish themselves in new positions where they have ample space to develop. At the bottom of the pool will be found a layer of what is commonly referred to as "mud," but this should be left, as it will form a rooting medium for the lilies. The planting of nymphæas is a comparatively easy task. Old wicker baskets about 2ft. across are obtained and the roots placed in these, filling up the intervening spaces with good fibrous loam. Pieces of wire netting will be found useful if bent round in a way similar to a basket. When the planting is completed, make the soil secure with strong string. Now the whole will be ready for its final quarters, and the operation is finished by dropping the plants wherever desired.

If there is a tendency for the baskets to "float," a few stones will be sufficient to keep them in position. Where a start is made with good plants, there is rarely a failure; growth will soon commence, and a number of flowers will appear the first season. The nymphæas constitute a charming and varied group of aquatics, and if a judicious selection is made the pools or streams will be a leading feature of the garden throughout the summer and autumn months. One of the best hardiest yellows is N. Marliacea chromatella; it is a strong grower, and well adapted to large areas where there is a depth of 2ft. to 4ft. of water. N. M. rosea is a pink or soft rose; while N. M. albida is white. Another good white is N. Gladstoniana, and one of the darkest-coloured lilies is N. William Falconer, but not free flowering. Other desirable varieties are N. W. B. Shaw, bright rosy pink; N. Robinsoni, orange red; N. odorata, pure white; N. o. rosea, rose pink; N. o. gigantea, white; the new Escarboucle, deep vermilion red; and N. odorata exquisite, a beautiful deep rose carmine in colour. For shallow water such as tanks, tubs or basins, the most suitable embrace the following varieties: N. Laydekeri rosea, soft rose pink; N. pygmæa, white; N. p. Helvola, yellow; N. odorata minor, white; and N. Seignoureti, yellow shaded carmine and pink. For very large areas our old favourite English water lily, N. alba, should be included, but bear in mind it is a quick grower.

Stagnant water is not suitable for water lilies, neither is a fast-running stream; to prevent the former, the water should be changed occasionally; and the latter is a failure because the soil would be washed away from the

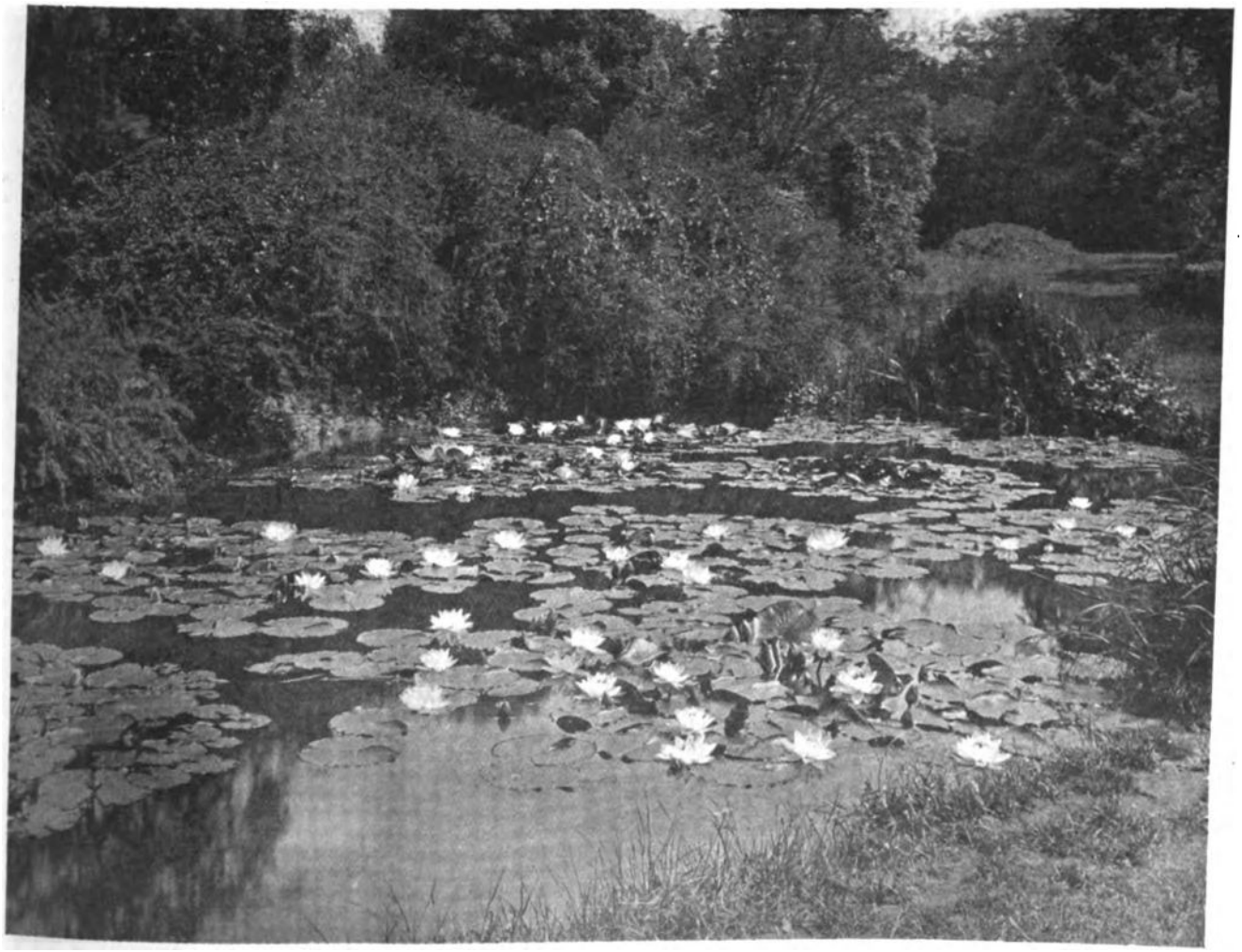
Digitized by Google

roots. Few insect pests trouble nymphæas, but occasionally, during a spell of hot weather the black aphides will appear on the leaves. The hose-pipe with a good pressure of water will remove these marauders if employed daily for about a week. If any fungoid disease is present on the foliage, a weak solution of Bordeaux mixture sprayed over the leaves will soon cure it. This operation should be carried out every second day for a week, and late in the afternoon is the safest time for spraying. Leaves badly affected must be collected and burnt.

A number of other plants could be grown in water, such as the fragrant sweet "flowering hawthorn," Aponogeton distachyon. Its white flowers float on the water in pairs. The typha family, such as T. angustifolia and T. latifolia, "Common Cat's-tail," produce a fine effect in a large piece of water where there is ample space for development. Their spathes on 6ft. to 9ft. stems are quite a feature in the autumn months. For a shallow spot, too, we have the bog bean, Menyanthes trifoliata, whose bean-shaped leaves and pale pink flowers are always full of interest. Stratiotes aloides, the "water soldier," produces white flowers on stems 6ins. or so in length. The arrow-heads, Sagittaria sagittifolia, and S. gracilis, are useful; also the water violet, Hottonia palustris; Villarsia Nymphoides, a quick growing little plant with yellow flowers; Caltha palustris, the marsh marigold, is a quaint yet pretty plant; while the water buttercup, Ranunculus lingua, grows about 2ft. high and produces a quantity of large golden yellow flowers. The white R. aquatilis, on the other hand, keeps to the water's surface, which is studded with numerous white flowers with yellow stamens.

THE OLD-FASHIONED MARSH MARIGOLD IS MOST EFFECTIVE AT THE POND SIDE.

There are other subjects suitable for our purpose, but sufficient have been mentioned to create an interest in this delightful branch of gardening, and to show what a wealth of material there is to choose from. T. W. BRISCOE.



AN IDEAL HOME FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE WATER LILY IN THE QUIET OF A WOODLAND POOL. THE WAXEN WHITE FLOWERS STAND OUT LIKE MAMMOTH STARS FROM THE MASSIVE FOLIAGE.

Digitized by Google

GREENHOUSE CARNATIONS AT WESTMINSTER

THE decorative value of the greenhouse carnation was well illustrated on the occasion of the Spring Show of the British Carnation Society, which was held at the Royal Horticultural Society's Hall, Westminster, on April 15th last. In the middle of the hall there were some very effective dinner-table decorations, and the first prize "confection" of Mrs. A. Swann, Colwood Lodge, Warninglid, Hayward's Heath, was particularly charming. Mr. R. H. Hall, Hatfield House Gardens, was second, with a good pink carnation, probably Laddie.

The four exhibits of not more than 100 carnation blooms arranged on a table space were also highly decorative. The first prize display of Mr. E. Martin Smith, Codicote Lodge, Welwyn, Herts, was an excellent example of splendidly grown blooms arranged with artistic skill. Sir Randolf Baker, Bt., Ranston, Blandford, who was second, had, in the centre, a pretty raised basket of Laddie, with surrounding vases of Spectrum, Topsy, Crystal White and Saffron. This, also, was an exhibit of considerable excellence.

There was only one collection of carnation plants, and this was a magnificent group sent by Sir Charles Nall-Cain, Bt., Brocket Hall, Hatfield. The many plants were perfect examples of such sorts as Laddie, Saffron, Topsy, Carola and Lady Northcliffe, and they were skilfully arranged.

In the open classes, the tall vases of 100 blooms each were placed at intervals in the middle of the staging, where, rising above the other exhibits, they made a delightful display. The rules seem to permit a competitor to show as many exhibits in a class as he wishes, though only one prize may be taken, and in this class Mr. C. Engelmann had several magnificent vases. That of the rich salmon pink Laddie won the first prize; while Mrs. Walter Burns, North Mimms Park, Hatfield, was second with another good pink variety. Mr. Engelmann was the only exhibitor of seven vases of twenty-five blooms each, and he was awarded the Monro Silver-gilt Challenge Cup for splendid blooms of Laddie, Cupid and Improved Ward, of pink shades, White Enchantress and the fragrant Mary Allwood.

The best three vases of English-raised novelties were of Carola Striata, crimson with scarlet flakes; Janet, cerise; and Dainty; while the chief American novelties were Spectrum, scarlet; Surprise, salmon pink; and Donald, crimson. Both first prizes were won by Mr. Engelmann. He also had the best large vase of a British novelty, where he showed Katja, a very large dusky heliotrope flower; and was first with Dorcas, a delicious bloom, as the most fragrant crimson variety.

To test the lasting properties of the varieties, the Society has an interesting competition. A box of twenty-four blooms of one variety has to be posted three clear days before the Show. They are opened at 5 p.m. on the day before the Show, placed in water, and judged on the morning of the Show. Eight boxes were sent, and the prize was awarded to magnificent blooms of the rich pink Laddie, sent by Mr. Engelmann, which seemed as fresh as though they had just been gathered. The other sorts sent in competition included Starter, Lady Northcliffe and Wivelsfield Apricot, and all of them stood the trying condition very well indeed. Also of great value and interest was the class for two boxes of distinct varieties as packed for market. This also was very popular with the trade growers, and the judges had no enviable task, for all were splendidly packed. The first prize was awarded to Messrs. Allwood Brothers, whose varieties were Wivelsfield Apricot and the blush salmon George Allwood. Mr. W. H. Page was second, and Mr. C. Engelmann was third.

What may be termed the Colour classes were very instructive, as they enabled visitors easily to select the best variety of all of the different colours. The first prize-winning varieties were White Pearl; Master Michael Stoop, in the light rose or deep pink class; Laddie, salmon pink; Tarzan, red; Topsy, crimson; Mrs. Hamilton Fellowes, purple; and Saffron, yellow. The best fancy carnation was the blush mauve Chintz, with the striped Benora second. Miss M. Pixley, Wooburn House, Wooburn Green, Bucks, had the best salmon pink blooms; and the other first prizes were won by Mr. C. Engelmann and Messrs. Allwood Brothers. Then, as though to show how beautiful the selected varieties are when tastefully arranged together in a large vase, there was a class for a bloom each of the twelve colour classes of the Society, and here Messrs. Allwood Brothers were first, and Mr. C. Engelmann, who had the best vase of apricot shades, was second.

In the amateurs' classes the same high quality was continued. Lady Mond, D.B.E., Melchet Court, Romsey, was first in the British-raised novelty class, with magnificent blooms of Melchet Beauty, of beautiful heliotrope colour flaked with scarlet, and other sorts. Mrs. Walter Hyde, Kempton House, Sunbury, won the Stuart Low and Co.'s prize, with an admirable collection; and Mr. S. T. Hore, Wonham Hill, Betchworth, was first with a decorative vase of carnations.

In the colour classes of this section the best varieties were Crystal White, R. F. Felton, light rose; Baroness de Brienen, salmon pink; Tarzan, red; Topsy, crimson; Saffron, yellow; Mary Pearson, heliotrope; and Jona, fancy. Especially good vases were shown by Lady Mond, Sir Charles Nall-Cain, Bt., Sir Randolf Baker, Bt., Mrs. E. Martin Smith and Mr. S. T. Hore, in these classes. In this section there was also a class for a large vase of the different sorts taken from the colour classes, and Sir Randolf Baker was first with a splendid exhibit.

Four classes were provided for members who are unable personally to attend the Show, and their exhibits are staged by the Society. Mr. John Hanmer, Pinewood Towers, Conway, won one of the first prizes; and Mr. Ernest Walker, Radcliffe-on-Trent, won the others. Both sent highly creditable blooms. Mrs. Walter Hyde, Kempton Park, Sunbury, was similarly first with a very good vase of twelve blooms in not fewer than four varieties; and Mr. R. H. Hall, The Gardens, Hatfield House, Hatfield, had the best decorative bowl of carnations.

THE DAFFODIL SHOW

EXCEPT for some, relatively few, spaces, reserved for exhibits in the amateurs' division, which did not materialise, the Royal Horticultural Hall at Westminster was filled with a wonderful array of daffodils and narcissi on the occasion of the annual Daffodil Show of the Society, on April 13th and 14th.

All around the Hall there were the generous collections of all the noted trade growers and some of the amateurs who specialise in narcissi. Near the clock, Mr. P. D. Williams, Lanarth, St. Keverne, Cornwall, set out a choice selection of his famous seedlings. Many of them still had their seedling numbers, they were, of course, some of the newest and best of the Lanarth raising and destined to have distinctive names in the near future. Of those already named, St. Anthony, a vividly coloured Barrii; St. Glavias, a twin poetaz variety with flowers as large as those of Barrii type; Gulliver, with a deep primrose perianth and fiery orange corona; and Kynance, which has a white perianth and an orange cup, were beautiful examples.

Mr. W. B. Cranfield, another well known amateur raiser, had a charming selection of his new narcissi of various types and also set up beautiful vases of Venetia, Wistful and St. Olaf, three chaste Leedsii varieties. But the variety of the Show was Firetail, which he and others showed so well and, considering its relative newness, in quantity. It was the best of all the many Barrii narcissi with vividly coloured coronas which is set off by a smooth, overlapping primrose coloured perianth. The specialists say that it increases rapidly, so, soon, the price will permit extensive planting, when it will have a great future, both as a garden flower and for house decoration.

Firetail was also shown splendidly by the Donard Nursery Co. in their extensive collection of most desirable varieties. Moira O'Neill, a bicolor trumpet daffodil with a perfectly formed, clear lemon tube; White Wax, of similar type, but with a paler trumpet; Festive and Tempest, incomparabilis with orange coloured crowns; Vintage, a white trumpet; Spanish Flag, which has a very large flattened crown with uncommon alternations of orange and yellow; Gallipoli one of the best of the giant incomparabilis; and Herod, a handsome bicolor trumpet, are the names of only a few of their magnificent sorts.

Although it is full early for the poet's narcissus, Messrs. Barr and Sons had quite a number of beautiful varieties in their excellent exhibit, and these were all of the best type, which has a small, brightly coloured corona in a perfectly round perianth of sparkling waxy whiteness. Juliet, Horace, Kestral, Oracle, James Hogg, and Nightingale, were the best examples. But fascinating as these were it was to the centre vases of Mrs. R. O. Backhouse that every eye returned. At present this wonderful narcissus, with its long pink tube, is the rich man's flower, but later on everyone will be ordering it. Prince of Wales, a rich yellow trumpet daffodil; Washington, incomparabilis with an immense yellow cup; Gertie Miller, a giant Leedsii, with widely expanded primrose tube; Virgilia, of similar type, with lemon yellow tube; and Diana Kasner, which has an orange tipped corona and white perianth, were all very fascinating.

The Barrii sorts made a bright display in the excellent exhibit of Messrs. J. R. Pearson and Sons, who gave special prominence to Firetail, Marshlight, Joan of Arc and Miss Bartley, which has a glowing crimson crown. Crœsus, Gertie Miller and Countess of Radnor, were noteworthy incomparabilis sorts, while John Cairns, a fine trumpet, also attracted much admiration. Mr. Guy Wilson had vases of Bulwark and Goldbeater, rich yellow trumpets; Beersheba, white trumpet; Rose Morran Giant, bicolor trumpet; and Hymethus, a widely opened trumpet tipped with lemon yellow. Fair Lady, Noel, Joan of Arc and Matthew Arnold, poeticus; Buttercup, of rich colour; Phyllidia, large incomparabilis; and several of the fragrant poetaz varieties were well shown by Messrs. R. H. Bath, Limited.

Many of the best sorts and various seedlings were shown by Mr. J. W. Barr, who had some charming small Leedsii varieties; and the Welsh Bulb Fields Co., who included Twinkle (a delightful little flower of apricot flushing).

Digitized by Google

Jingle (a vivid Barrii) and Phyllis Vansittart. Mr. J. L. Richardson had many good trumpet daffodils, including Lady Primrose, White Knight, Mrs. Wakefield, Christie Miller and Master Robert.

Seedlings of merit were shown by Messrs. Cartwright and Goodwin and Mr. W. F. M. Copeland, who had pretty Leedsii and other varieties; and Messrs. Dobbie and Co. set out a quantity of the Leedsii variety, Osprey, very attractively in mounds of moss.

Of quite distinctive character was the exhibit of Messrs. Seymour Cobley, Limited, who grow at Spalding countless numbers of English raised daffodil bulbs for marketing. They had panels of market bunches of the highest quality, which made a striking show. The chief varieties were white Lady Leedsii; Firetail, in astonishing quantity; Crœsus, incomparabilis, with orange corona; Robespierre, Barrii, and an excellent seedling poet's narcissus.

COMPETITIVE CLASSES.

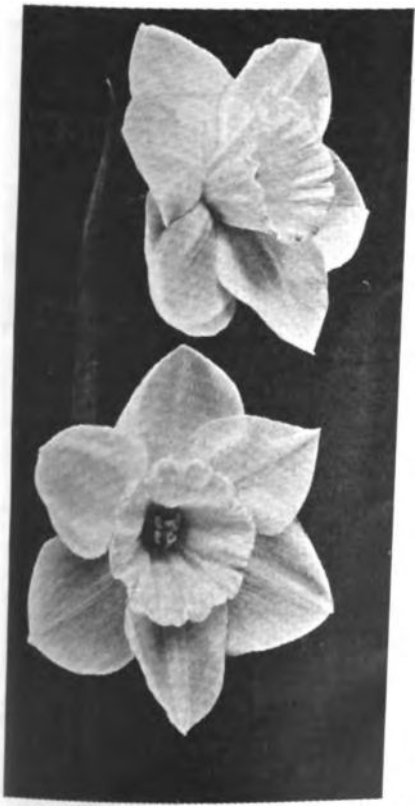
Except, as we have remarked, for some in the amateur division, the classes were well filled, though in nearly every section the same names appeared on the prize-winning tickets. Mr. P. D. Williams was first and Mr. J. L. Richardson was second in the class for twelve varieties of any division of narcissus, but unfortunately the very best of their splendid exhibits were unnamed seedlings.

In the class for twelve varieties of the different types, the Donard Nursery Co., Mr. Guy Wilson and Mr. J. L. Richardson, were the principal first prize winners. The competition among them was very keen and in the class for poet's narcissus the judges could not discriminate between Mr. Richardson and Mr. F. H. Chapman, so placed them equal first. In respect to equal firsts the show must constitute a record, for this happened in three of the classes.

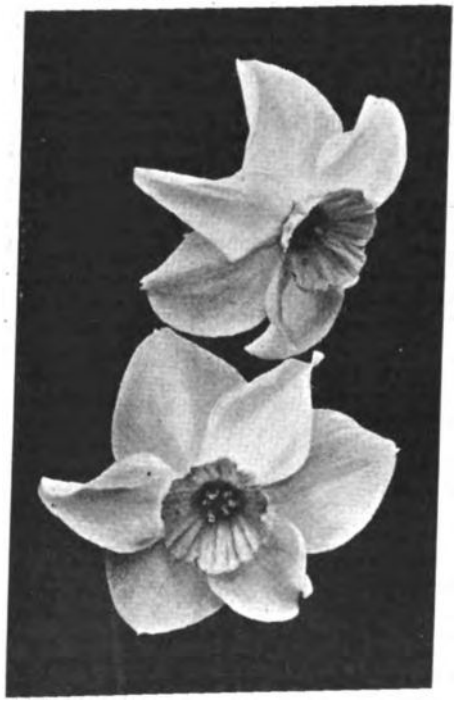
Although the classes for new varieties raised by the exhibitor did not bring many competitors, there were some lovely flowers to be seen. Mr. P. D. Williams was first in the large class, where he showed Folly and Traboe, which both received awards of merit, and Menadue, a perfectly formed poeticus variety with a small orange scarlet corona. The next class was won by Mr. E. T. England of Baring Place, Exeter, and the Rev. T. Buncombe, Black Torrington, North Devon, was first with three varieties; both had unnamed seedlings.

The class for twelve varieties was fairly well filled, but the first prize did not seem to be awarded. The Rev. H. Rollo Meyer, Watton Rectory, Hertford, had the best six varieties and his were unnamed, while Mr. England, who had a lovely vase of Monitor, a bicolor trumpet, was first with three varieties.

There were sixteen classes each for a single bloom of the different divisions. The principal first prize winners were Mr. W. B. Cranfield, Mr. J. L. Richardson, The Donard Nursery Co., Mr. W. F. M. Copeland. These classes lost much of their value to the visitor in that several of the first prize winning blooms were unnamed.



WHITE SENTINEL, A GIANT LEEDSII OF GOOD SUBSTANCE.



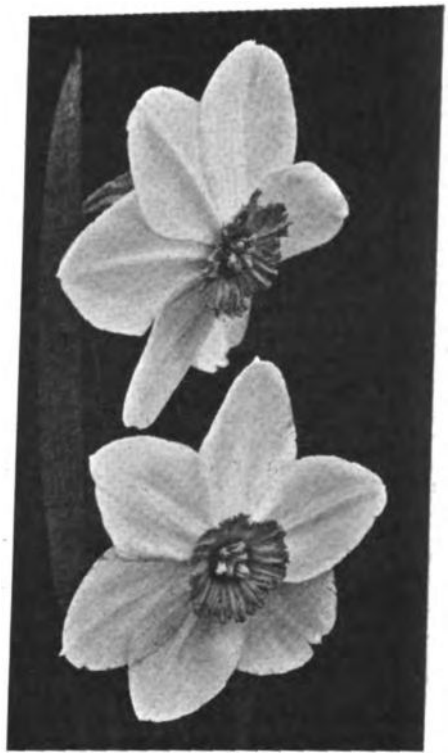
FOLLY, A NEW INCOMPARABILIS VARIETY.

The best amateur's collection was set up by Mr. W. B. Cranfield, East Lodge, Enfield Chase, whose twenty-four varieties were of high merit. Mr. Cranfield also won most of the other first prizes in the section and also the Barr Silver Vase. The fine array of novices' classes was disappointing, for there were few exhibitors. Mr. H. J. Morris, Woodfield House, Penryn, was the chief exhibitor and he was awarded many first and second prizes for praiseworthy exhibits.

NEW DAFFODILS.

A first class certificate was awarded to "Red Rim," and awards of merit to the remainder of the following varieties:

RED RIM.—A very shapely poeticus variety with a round white perianth and a flat corona of greenish yellow colour with a distinct fiery orange margin. Shown by Mr. F. A. Secrett.



NARCISSUS MULBERRY, A BEAUTIFUL BARRII, WITH A GLOWING ORANGE CUP

BETHA.—Two vases of this very fragrant poetaz variety were shown, one contained single blooms on a stem and the other was of twin-flowered blooms. The blooms are round and approach in size those of a Barrii variety. They have a primrose-coloured perianth and corona of the same colour, with a narrow, deep orange rim. Shown by Mr. W. Welshman.

CARMEL.—A large bicolor trumpet daffodil. It has a white perianth and a long, lemon-coloured tube with an attractively waved margin. Shown by Mr. Guy Wilson.

FOLLY.—A large incomparabilis variety with a white perianth and a basin-shaped, fiery orange corona. Shown by Mr. P. D. Williams.

MULBERRY.—A beautiful Barrii variety which has a white perianth and a flattened, fluted corona of rich orange colour, shading to a deeper tone at the margin. Shown by Mr. P. D. Williams.

PAPYRUS.—A very valuable poeticus variety, which has a substantial round white perianth and a slightly cupped corona with a fiery orange rim. Shown by Mr. F. A. Secrett.

SAMARIA.—A beautifully formed Leedsii variety with a white perianth as substantial and round as any of the best Poeticus type. The small white corona is prettily frilled and has a pale yellow rim. Shown by Mr. F. Herbert Chapman.

SERAGLIO.—A large Barrii variety with a pale primrose perianth and a yellow basin-shaped corona with a deep orange rim. Shown by Mr. J. L. Richardson.

TRABOE.—A striking Barrii variety with a corona which is green in the centre, yellow midway and rich orange scarlet at the margin. Shown by Mr. P. D. Williams.

VALETTA.—A handsome white trumpet variety. The wide tube is attractively frilled. Shown by Mr. Guy Wilson.

WHITE SENTINEL.—A giant Leedsii variety with a short, funnel-shaped cup of pale primrose colour. Shown by Mr. J. L. Richardson.

Digitized by Google

MOWING MACHINES AND THEIR SELECTION

IN THIS ARTICLE IS DESCRIBED A NUMBER OF SUITABLE HAND-DRIVEN MACHINES, ANY ONE OF WHICH WILL PROVE SERVICEABLE IN THE ORDINARY-SIZED GARDEN.

THE purchase of a mowing machine is not a task in which many of us can afford to indulge every year, and, as it is an implement which usually comes in for a fair share of hard work each season, it is as well to exercise a little care in the selection of a suitable machine which can be depended upon to give the maximum amount of efficient service. There are so many different makes on the market to-day that a very wide choice is offered. Unfortunately, a number of them are constructed of such poor materials and badly finished parts that it is wise to hesitate before purchasing in this direction, though the low price quoted often forms a tempting bait. A reliable machine should give practically a lifetime's service, provided it receives proper treatment and careful attention. On the other hand, a poor machine is just as likely to be a source of constant trouble, no matter how carefully it is looked after. When thinking of lawn mowers the names of several reputable firms who specialise in their manufacture automatically come to one's mind, and it is as well when examining a probable purchase to look for the maker's name. That which has no name seldom has much reputation; while a machine bearing the name of a specialist maker carries with it a reputation gained by many years of careful study and experience. The actual selection of a suitable machine will, of course, be governed by individual circumstances and requirements, but the main points to be looked for are practically the same, whether it be a small machine with only an 8in. cut or one of the larger types with a cut of anything up to 30ins. It will be found that the side wheel machine is the easier to push, but the roller machine gives a much better finish at the expense of slightly more energy, and, for general all-round efficiency, would always be my selection. The latter type can be obtained with either gear or chain drive from the land roller to the cutting cylinder. Of the two, I prefer the chain drive, which, in spite of the necessity for occasional adjustments, is usually very much easier to push. Many of the later types of machine are fitted with ball bearings, a factor which lends itself to easy working. Make sure that the arrangements for adjustment of both cutters and front roller are of the simplest possible nature and easily accessible, and also that lubrication is allowed for at every bearing. Another excellent point embodied in many machines are adjustable handles, which, by simply loosening two nuts, can be arranged to suit the height and likes of any individual user. It will usually be found that a 14in. machine is quite large and heavy enough for one man to work by himself, and this factor should be taken into consideration where it is not desirable to employ additional labour. Having secured a sound machine, particular attention should be paid to its upkeep in after use if the best service is required from it. More damage can be done in a few weeks by faulty adjustments, careless usage, etc., than by years of hard work. No machine should ever be put away after use until it has been cleaned. This, if done regularly, is an operation which takes but a few moments to perform. An old spoke brush will be found to remove most of the dirt and mowings picked up during use; while a disused tooth brush, or even a piece of thin wood, will serve to reach the more inaccessible parts of the mechanism. Having removed the dirt and other foreign matter, wipe all parts, especially the cutting blades, with a greasy rag. Oil the machine regularly during use, and the benefit will be found in ease of working. Use a good oil which is neither too heavy nor too thin, and do not scatter it broadcast over the machine. Oil only at the correct lubricating points on each bearing, and this should be found quite sufficient. When the cutting cylinders become dull and blunt through hard wear, it is not advisable to attempt to sharpen them with the aid of a grindstone or file. Very few amateurs are sufficiently skilful to tackle this operation successfully. To sharpen cutters of this description in a proper manner involves the use of an elaborate plant, and in most towns of any importance there are workshops specially equipped for dealing with this at a trifling cost. Most manufacturers have a repair service department, and if the machine is sent direct to them when sharpening is required, the sender can rest assured that it will be thoroughly overhauled before it is returned. A few brief particulars are appended herewith which will provide readers with a comprehensive selection of reliable and trustworthy machines. Among the hand machines made by Messrs. Thomas Green and Sons, the *Model de Luxe* "Silens Messor" deserves special mention. Its cutting cylinder is equipped with nine blades, and an easy free-wheel action is incorporated. It is easily adjusted, being fitted with self-aligning ball bearings. The aluminium chain-gear-case forms an oil bath, and special provision has been made for lubrication in all parts. It is made in 12in., 14in. and 16in. sizes. The firm of Ransomes, Sims and Jefferies publishes a list containing many different types of machine; but for the purpose of this article special mention need only be made of two of the most popular makes, *viz.*, the "Marquis" and the "Automaton." The main features of the former are: Self-aligning ball bearings to every journal, in dust-proof housings; enclosed roller chain, which is grease-lubricated; no open oil holes; simple screw adjustments to cutting cylinder and front rollers; and adjustable handles to suit user. The "Automaton" is made in all sizes from 8in. to 24in., and is fitted with either gear or chain drive. They are fitted with ribbed rollers and a drawing rope and handle is supplied with all machines from 14in. upwards. The models of Messrs. Alex. Shanks and Son include the well known "Talisman" and "Standard" machines. The first-named are of the side wheel type and are easy running and clean cutting in use. They are made in all sizes. The latter type can be obtained with either chain or gear drive, and are fitted with double-edged sole plate and reversible cutters. In each case the handles are adjustable to suit the user. Special machines can be obtained fitted with ball bearings.

The "J P. Super Lawn Mower" has been described as the "Rolls Royce" of mowers, and its manufacture certainly leaves little to be desired. All parts, including the rotary cutters, are interchangeable and run on ball bearings, while the gears, etc., are encased in aluminium dust-proof covers and run in oil. The land roller is in three sections, which prevents the turf from being torn while turning. Adjustment is very simply arranged by the manipulation of two small hand wheels, and it is a machine which can be relied upon to give excellent service in every way.

The "Pennsylvania" is a side wheel machine made in various sizes, with either high or low side wheels. It is intended for hard wear, and in actual use is very easy running. There is a machine of this type for practically every use, from cutting a small grass border to mowing the fairway of a golf course, and all machines are fitted with oil-hardened and water-tempered cutters. In all the machines mentioned parts are interchangeable and can easily be procured if new ones become necessary.

A. J. C.

(*To be continued.*)

CORRESPONDENCE

TROPÆOLUM SPECIOSUM.

SIR,—I am interested in Mr. Comber's remarks on Tropæolum speciosum. Here we are sixteen miles from Bath, five miles from Wells, 550ft. above sea level, annual average rainfall 46.55ins.

We have T. speciosum planted on the north-east side of a holly hedge; it comes over the top and through the hedge, and flowered magnificently last year. It also flowers luxuriantly in another part of the garden, climbing over rhododendrons.—WALDEGRAVE.

A WINTER GARDEN.

SIR,—Will it interest any of your readers who are beginning to make and enjoy a garden to hear about an outdoor garden during the past three months? Many make spring gardens and spring rockeries, and seem to be unaware of what a winter garden can be. Here, there has been a long succession of flowers, with Iris unguicularis flowering for three months, along with such species as alata, Histrio, reticulata and now boucharica. Many early tulips are in full flower, and many species, including biflora, Kaufmanniana (several with beautiful bright blotches of red), the "brilliant" Kaufmanniana, præstans, Eichleri and Hagen are in full bloom. Anemones have for long been very bright. Anemone blanda is in full bloom, and a few have already set seed. A. anguloss is

Digitized by Google

over, while A. Hepatica is still very blue and A. fulgens is a blaze of crimson; also A. Blue Bonnet among the nemorosas, with A. n. rosea, and grandiflora; while A. n. Alleni and Robinsonians have not yet opened. Primula Juliæ has been flowering and is still gay; and P. denticulata is perfection, and the garden polyanthus. In January and February the cyclamen attracted much attention, as did various winter-flowering ericas, which have never yet been without flowers since October. I omitted snowdrops and winter aconites, which flourish and add charm to the winter garden.—CHANDLER'S FORD.

CROCUS BIFLORUS.

SIR,—There is an unaccountable slip in the reference to C. biflorus as it appears in my notes in THE GARDEN of April 10th, *i.e.*: "(2) C. biflorus of gardens, according to Bowles probably a seedling form of C. versicolor."

In Mr. Bowles "Handbook of the Crocus," his reference on page 120 is as follows: "C. biflorus, as generally grown, is an old garden form, called the Scotch crocus, which most likely originated as a seedling in some Scottish garden and was introduced from thence into England and Holland. Nothing very closely resembling it has been found in a wild state, and like other old garden varieties it is sterile and increases rapidly by corm division."—T. ASHTON LOFTHOUSE, *Middlesbrough.*

GERANIUM FARRERI.

SIR,—I have grown this geranium for three years and have given it rather different treatment from that described by A. T. Johnson (page 207), and I think with equally good results. I have it growing in a moraine mixture on a southern slope, where it gets the sun almost the whole day long. It has shown no signs of forming runners, and one could hardly imagine that it could do so, but I notice this year that there are several seedlings of it coming up in the surrounding gravel. If these grow they will no doubt form the best means of increasing this dainty alpine.—R. B. COOKE.

PLANT NOMENCLATURE.

SIR,—The discussion on the naming of flower novelties is both very interesting and important; but, while agreeing with the desirability of suitable and attractive names, I think it is going much too far to expect that these should give clues as to colour. In some plants, where the number of new varieties is not very numerous, it might be possible, but in the case of many others it would be impracticable, as, for example, roses, daffodils, sweet peas, chrysanthemums, etc.

In my opinion, names should be brief and attractive, while the prefixes "Mr.," "Mrs.," "Miss," etc., should be avoided altogether; in fact, except for naming after the raiser or his special friends, the use of surnames might be dispensed with. It is easy to criticise, but it must be far from easy for raisers of novelties in many popular plants to find original and distinctive names. However, I think more use might be made of simple and appropriate nomenclature.

Personally, I think that names such as Colleen and La Tosca for roses are quite good, and I also like the Christian names adopted by Messrs. Allwood Brothers for Allwoodii, and the names of birds for the seedling dieramas raised by the Donard Nursery Company, and also for the new gladioli offered by Messrs. Ryder and Sons—they are attractive and, especially in the case of the dieramas, are appropriate.

Mr. Dalrymple asks for suggestions for his seedling freesias, and I venture to suggest the following for his consideration: Chaffinch, Bullfinch, Golden Oriole, Daydream, Merlin, Morning Mist, Pipes of Pan and Orpheus. These are just noted at random, and, in most cases, I fear Mr. Dalrymple would turn them down as not sufficiently indicative of the colour.

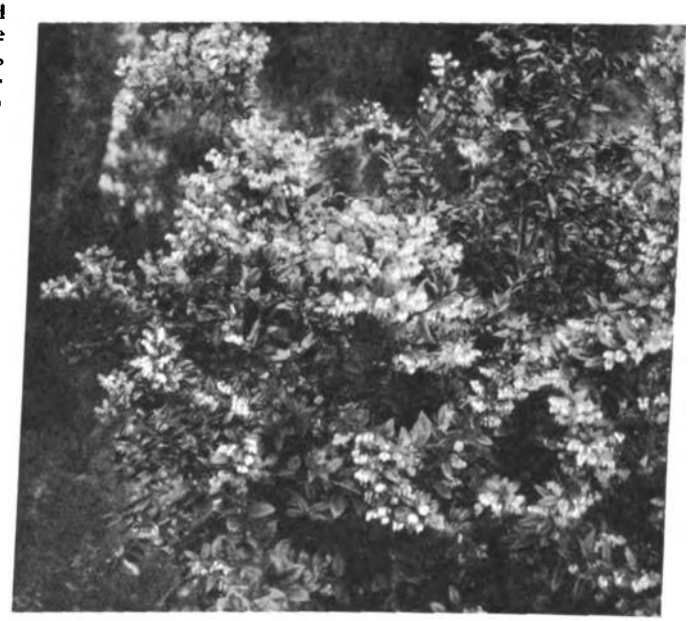
Personally, I do not care for such names as Carmine Queen, Crimson King, etc., as they really give little idea as to the shade and become far more confusing than those without any colour label.

These remarks, I am afraid, are not very original, nor are they particularly helpful, but I have tried to express my own personal opinion on a vexed and difficult subject.—CECIL M. BAILEY.

A RARE BUT BEAUTIFUL SHRUB.

SIR,—Not so long ago, while visiting a garden in Cornwall, I was introduced to a most attractive shrub which at first glance I took to be a pieris, but which I was later informed was a Pernettya ciliaris. The owner was, rightly, very proud of this plant, and, although there were many other fine things in the garden I thought this the finest.

It is a most attractive evergreen shrub, reaching, in this garden, some 3ft. or 4ft. in height, and of compact, upright and bushy habit. The leaves are bright green, ovate in shape, 1in. to 1½ins. long, and, what is most characteristic, as hard as boards. In addition, they are quite hairy. It is when in flower, however, that the full beauty of the shrub can be seen. When I saw it it was literally smothered with tiny white bells, borne in dense racemes after the manner of a pieris, and, I understand, the fruits are of much the same tone as its more common relative *P. mucronata*. It seems fairly hardy, as it was growing in the open, although sheltered from the wind, on the edge of a rockery bed, in well drained soil. I should think this must be one of the few plants of this species in the country, as in the "Hortus Veitchii" it says, when speaking of this plant, "a native of Mexico whence it was introduced. Now almost certainly lost to cultivation."



PERNETTYA CILIARIS SMOTHERED IN TINY WHITE BELLS.

It seems a great pity that such an attractive and ornamental evergreen as this plant certainly is should have been lost to our gardens, and I wonder if any of your readers may chance to know anything further regarding the plant.—SHRUB-LOVER.

POLYGONUM CAMPANULATUM.

SIR,—In writing of this attractive plant "A. G. F." does not mention that it is a most miserable thing without sufficient moisture. In a drought it is about the first plant to hold out signals of distress, even before Rudbeckia Newmannii and the phloxes. It is better, therefore, to plant it near water than in a herbaceous border, though if kept well watered it is certainly quite suitable for a border, as it does not run all over the place like some of the knotweeds.—M. F., *Gloucestershire.*

GENISTAS.

SIR,—In reply to Mr. W. Linders Lea, who asks me (page 179) how "genistas" in my district have fared this winter, I am happy to say that my own are none the worse, that is, assuming he is referring to Cytisus fragrans (Genista racemosus). Shrubs of this species have come through twenty degrees of frost with no more than a "singeing" of the tender tips and they are not against a wall. There is no doubt that C. fragrans is a good deal hardier than is generally supposed, but it is, of course, liable to have its flowers destroyed by spring frosts.

It may interest Mr. Linders Lea and others to know that the above specimens are among the survivors in a border containing Diplacus glutinosus, Malvastrum phœniceum, Cistus vaginatus and Olearia semi-dentata, all of which have been killed. Coronilla glauca, close by, only just escaped. I am afraid the particular shrubs of C. fragrans in the Conway Valley referred to by Mr. Linders Lea are unknown to me; some parts of that district do not enjoy the sea influence to the same extent as others.—A. T. JOHNSON, *N. Wales.*

THE PRUNING OF SHRUBS.

SIR,—In your editorial article in THE GARDEN of March 13th on the pruning of flowering shrubs, you ask readers to relate their experiences on the subject. As it is a particularly interesting and very important item in their cultivation, I would like to make a few remarks on the same, more in relation to the commoner sorts. The method the Editor followed in pruning the various kinds, very distinctly outlined in words easily understood, should be a safe guide for anyone to follow. In my opinion there are no points he gave which could be improved upon. I have for a long time noticed that the pruning of flowering shrubs has presented a mysterious and weighty problem to the beginner, and been a continuous bone of contention in the columns of the garden papers. To the experienced and practical gardener, accustomed to the pruning of various kinds of bushes and trees, it cannot for long present a great difficulty. A study of their different seasons of flowering soon enables one to know how to deal with them—what wood is to be cut back, left, or thinned out. In any case, close observation is required of different subjects, and more particularly those of recent introduction, in order to know them and become acquainted with their likes and dislikes, etc.

In pruning evergreens and deciduous shrubs, different methods must be adopted respecting each. We may take the evergreen berberis as an instance—such as B. Darwinii, B. Jamesonii, etc., and others of the same

Digitized by Google

type. Pruning of these should be done when they have finished flowering, and should consist in the cutting well back of old wood; a saw being used in the case of old specimens which have become top-heavy and the stems hard and bare. If possible they should be cut near to the ground to induce vigorous young wood to spring from the base or stems that remain.

Of the deciduous class, the philadelphus is a fair example; it flowers in early summer, but should not be pruned until winter or before growth starts in spring. The pruning consists of the wood being well thinned out to admit light and air, the branches regulated, cross and weakly shoots cut hard back. Spurring back of young wood should on no account be practised, as it would curtail the following crop of flowers. This method of pruning is applicable to diervillas (weigelas), ribes, etc. When cutting out the wood, however, an eye should be kept to the symmetry of the bushes to see that they are kept in shape and balance. We have, again, the forsythia, an early-flowering shrub; when it has finished flowering it should be spurred back annually to within a few buds of the old wood. This spurring will result in getting two or three strong and vigorous shoots from each spur which will flower next spring. Merely taking off the tips *as a matter of care* will do no good, and will only prove ruinous to the future of the shrub, making it top-heavy and exhausting it in a few years. If the plants be spurred as stated, they will have ample time during summer to make and ripen the wood thus made by autumn, which, if well ripened, should flower the following spring.

Olearias are evergreen, and should only be pruned to keep them in shape. O. macrodonta was cut to the ground with frost here last winter in exposed situations, but in well sheltered situations came through little the worse.

I have also noted what Mr. R. Moore, Thorp Hall, says in THE GARDEN of March 27th in relation to his experience with certain shrubs. Lavatera Olbia he cuts back every year previous to it dying back. We grow it on a wall here and find it retains its full growth over the winter. I am taking advantage of this trait and contemplate seeing it cover a large area of wall space with its great profusion of pink blossoms. The wood not dying back is a great advantage when one wishes to cover a wall. Thinning out of weakly and superfluous wood, and removing an old branch here and there, is all that I do for them. Some shoots are kept at full length as the plant flowers both on old and new wood. Mr. Moore, by allowing his Potentilla fruticosa to grow unpruned and not cut back year after year, and only making extension growths, would not assist in forming a shapely or flowering bush, as the want of cutting back is bound to make them become lanky and heavy at the top. I very much favour the Editor's method of keeping the knife on them annually, to thin out the growths and to induce them to replace the old wood with vigorous young growth. I hope I have made it clear that the cutting back of wood encourages the making of new wood on bushes and starts dormant buds into life—cutting to make wood which may flower.—WM. GRANT, *Crathes, Kincardineshire, N.B.*

SPRING PECULIARITIES.

SIR,—I was much interested in the article "Peculiarities of this Spring," in your issue of THE GARDEN, April 3rd, especially as to early rhododendrons.

Rhododendron præcox and R. Nobleanum were in full bloom here (Leicestershire) by the middle of February. They are growing on a steep bank with a south-east aspect, 500ft. above the sea, and their bloom lasted for nearly three weeks. Nobleanum was covered with exceptionally fine trusses of bloom of unusually brilliant colour, in spite of severe frosts and heavy snow in January. The bloom on all flowering trees and shrubs is remarkable this year, especially Magnolias Soulangeana and stellata, Viburnum Carlesii, etc.—ELLEN MURRAY SMITH.

IPOMŒA RUBRO-CŒRULEA.

SIR,—In answer to Mr. T. W. Briscoe's letter in the March 20th issue of THE GARDEN, I have grown this beautiful convolvulus for many years and have bought the seed from several of the well known firms; it has always come true, but has not done well every year.

Last year I had a specially fine show on about six plants, Sutton's seed, but I gave away more than this number to four different gardening friends and not one of these plants flowered, though all were taken from the same seed pan, this I think shows that the fault is not in the seed. I think red spider is the trouble, to which they are particularly subject.

I sow my seed in heat in March, pot up three in a pot in April, in the beginning of June I sink the pots out of doors in a warm corner, then re-pot and bring into the house again in late September; this gives me a fine show every bright day till the end of November, if red spider will leave them alone. I find that spraying with an insecticide does more harm to the plant than the blight.—H. HALCOMB HUGHES, *Belmont, Shrewsbury.*

SIR,—Having grown this ipomœa for several years, I gladly endorse all Mr. Briscoe says in its praise (page 178). No flower in the greenhouse comes in for admiration from visitors more quickly than this beautiful convolvulus. Its pure blue colour is so rare, though certainly evanescent. I have had an experience similar to Mr. Briscoe in getting seed of an ipomœa that was non-flowering, the plants grew strongly into a regular tangle, but never flowered. I did not put the blame on Learii, however, for I had some plants of Learii that bloomed all right, but it is a variety I did not care for. It is neither so free flowering nor the colour so fascinating as rubro-cœrulea. I have grown I. imperialis and had some very pretty flowers, pink and deep rose, and some daintily edged with white. I can recommend it.—J. P., *Glos.*

GREEN-FLY: A TROUBLESOME PEST

ALL GARDENERS SHOULD PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE REMEDIAL MEASURES WHICH CAN BE TAKEN AGAINST THE DESTRUCTIVE GREEN-FLY SO AS TO ENSURE CLEAN AND HEALTHY PLANTS.

TO be "forewarned is to be forearmed." I must make an excuse for writing about these almost universal pests and this is the most appropriate excuse I can call to mind at the moment. Not only do I wish to forewarn readers, for everyone is well aware of the harm greenfly do, but I want to help them also to be forearmed.

I want, if I may be excused the liberty of transgressing on gardeners' valuable time, to devote a few lines to the life history of this very troublesome genus (or is it a family?). There is some variation from this life history among some species but the following will, I think, give a fair idea of how these small, but numerous and disastrous insects, live and multiply. In most cases the winter is passed in the egg stage; I have just been examining some of the small black shiny eggs to see what effect, if any, various washes have had. On the approach of warmer weather these eggs hatch out into nymphs or immature "green fly." Now these pests do not go through what we understand as the normal life cycle of insects, that is to say, that they do not change from egg to larva, larva to pupa (or chrysalids), and then pupa to imago (or perfect insects). Instead of that the grub continues to feed and grow and after moulting several times, reaches the mature stage. All the aphides produced from the eggs are females and they, when mature, give rise to another generation of females, the young being produced in a live state. For the first few generations only wingless offspring are brought into this world of plenty. When, however, doubt appears of plenty," then winged females, able to fly to other food plants, are produced.

Well, this process goes on (if nobody interferes with some beastly sprayer) until autumn, when both males and females are produced and the latter, after pairing, lay the eggs which are to tide the insects over the winter season. Just one more item. Aphides do not bite or chew, they simply force their proboscis into the leaf or shoot and suck up the sap of the plant, this, as I shall mention later is of importance when we come to deal with remedies.

Now for being forearmed. In the first place Huxley once said that "the uninterrupted breeding of ten generations of plant lice from a single ancestor would produce a mass of organic matter equivalent to the bulk of five hundred millions of human beings, about the population of the Chinese Empire"—just to give an idea of how quickly these pests do multiply.

Of course, even in a state of nature, "the uninterrupted breeding" never occurs. Rain will destroy a certain number, ladybirds and their larvæ (especially the latter) account for many more, while birds also devour quantities of them, to mention only three factors which work against "uninterrupted breeding." However, these natural checks are insufficient, in the majority of cases, to keep our plants clean.

I have heard it said quite frequently that "an east wind brings blight." The only way in which an east wind, or, for that matter, any wind, can bring blight, is to carry it from one plant or plantation to another. An east wind certainly does have an effect, but it is, I believe, in this way. A cold, drying east wind checks growth and weak growth is always more susceptible to attack than strong growth.

Before I go on to say anything about the actual spray fluids, I wish to emphasize the necessity to *spray early*. If only people will do that, then I can consider that this article has done its work. Of course, by spraying early I mean spraying as soon as the pest is seen; it is of no use spraying before there is any fly about (unless it be during winter,

Digitized by Google

when we use "Mortegg" winter wash to kill the eggs on fruit trees), as all the washes we use are intended to kill by contact with the insect itself and not by poisoning the leaf as for biting insects. Soft soap alone is effective if used with force, mixing 1–2oz. in a gallon of rain water and spray thoroughly. This is the best wash to use on very tender plants.

Forceful syringing with clear water will cleanse a plant, but it may only wash the pests to the ground or on to another plant, and in any case one is more sure when using a wash which if it touches the pest will kill it.

Among the washes it is possible to use with effect are various paraffin emulsions, which can be mixed at home, but these are somewhat dangerous unless one thoroughly understands their use and is very careful in mixing. Again nicotine may be obtained and one's own nicotine washes prepared, but here again great care must be taken to keep the fluid out of harm's way, for it is extremely poisonous. Notwithstanding the fact that most gardeners are also servants of "My Lady Nicotine," I have known the fumes from nicotine to make even moderate smokers to feel well—out-of-sorts—to be polite.

On the whole I think it is preferable for gardeners, more especially those who only use small quantities of fluid, to rely on one of the excellent washes which are manufactured by firms specialising in this business. One of the advantages of using these proprietary insecticides is that they are uniform in composition, and if one is careful to follow the maker's directions as to mixing, no harm to even tender plants need be feared.

Regarding the brands to be used, one may be satisfied that those firms advertising in THE GARDEN are offering reliable washes, and personally I favour "Abol" (which will also control rose mildew), "XL ALL" and "Katakilla," three washes which I have used most successfully.

For an amateur with only a few plants, that invaluable powder (which one only asks for when the shop is empty), "Keatings," will be effective if dusted over the "flies," or tobacco powder may be used with equal effect. N. D. H.

GARDEN TECHNIQUE

Notes on the Technical Side of the Garden and the Cultivation of Plants.

FLOWER GARDEN

CAMPANULA PYRAMIDALIS ALBA.

An Excellent Pot Plant.

THOSE who have sown seed of the chimney campanula early in the year should now have the seedlings pricked off into a box containing a medium fine potting compost. After being kept for a few weeks in a genial growing atmosphere, they should then be transferred to a cold frame. If given sufficient space in the box, no further shift will be required until August, when each plant should be potted singly into a 5in. pot, using ordinary potting soil. The plants should be put back into the frame and kept there until severe weather sets in, when they can be wintered in a house in which heat is available when frosts threaten.

In January the plants may be transferred to 7in. and 8in. pots, then kept for a few weeks in an intermediate house, afterwards removing to a cool house, and at the end of May plunging the pots in the open border. A few of the plants may flower in the autumn.

Those that do not flower should be accommodated in 10in. pots, about the middle of October, and wintered once more in a cool house. In the spring the plants will grow apace and should be assisted periodically with artificial manure applied with the water.

In June the flower spikes should be supported with 3½ft. and 5ft. stakes, and the plants spaced out, when, later on, they should be set in the conservatory or show house. The plants here commenced flowering in July, and one of the number—from base of pot—stood over 8ft. high and carried thirteen flower spikes.

In the cultivation of these campanulas, avoid pinching if large, handsome plants are desired. Pinched plants throw a larger number of flower spikes, but these are weak in comparison with the unpinched plants.—DAVID ARMSTRONG, *Midlothian.*

PROPAGATION OF DAPHNE GENKWA FROM ROOT CUTTINGS.

THE usual method employed in propagating Daphne Genkwa is by grafting on Daphne Mezereum. An interesting experiment, however, has been tried in propagating this daphne by means of root cuttings. The plants from which the root cuttings were taken had originally been raised from layers. The roots, being of a fleshy nature, seemed to suggest a ready means of propagation, which later proved fairly successful.

The treatment of the root cuttings was as follows: In January small pieces of root varying from 2ins. to 5ins. in length were laid horizontally in a box of sandy soil. A few of the shorter and thicker pieces were inserted upright. The box was then placed on a stage over bottom heat. Careful attention was paid to watering, and the soil was kept slightly moist. If too much water had been given there was a tendency for the roots to rot owing to their soft nature.

ROOTED CUTTINGS OF DAPHNE GENKWA.

Within a month buds developed on a few of the roots, and in most cases one bud to a root. One root, however, produced two buds, and both made good growth.

The roots were allowed to finish their growth in the box before being lifted and potted. At the time of potting, which was in August, the tip of one plant was cut back, and shortly afterwards the two buds at the apex developed short lateral branches with small flower clusters at their tips. It is unusual for this daphne to flower in August, as the usual period is from April to May.

By the middle of March the plants were in full bloom, the stems being covered with lilac-coloured flowers. The growth attained in the first season by the root cuttings was about 12ins.

It is not advisable for one to interfere with an established plant, as in all probability it will be a grafted plant, and in addition daphnes dislike being disturbed after they have established themselves.

Another plant which is closely allied to the daphne family, namely, Dirca palustris, can also be increased by means of root cuttings.—H. H. BRYCE.

ROSES: MANURING OR FEEDING AND STOPPING.

THE long spell of cold weather stopped the bursting of the buds at an early date; but directly milder weather came, especially the warmer nights, the buds burst forth and soon became clothed with leaves, some pale green, others deep red. At the ends of these shoots one can see the tiny flower buds already forming, and so this is the stage when some food may be applied with much benefit. If the roots are carefully examined, it will be clearly seen that a network of young fibrous roots is now forming. Stimulants, applied in moderation, will do a lot of good from now on until the end of June. It is much better to feed now than during the winter, as then the roots are not active and cannot benefit. Diluted liquid manure is very beneficial; also bone-meal and concentrated rose tree manures, as sold by advertisers in this journal. This is also the time for applying neat surface mulches to conserve moisture around the roots. A flush of blossom comes towards the end of June, then there is a scarcity in July; but if the following plan be adopted, there need not be any lack of blossom in the latter month. The young shoots of hybrid perpetuals and hybrid teas should have the tips pinched off about the last week in May and until June 9th. More young shoots will grow from the stopped ones, and they will bear very neat flowers about six weeks later—mid-July to the second week in August.—GEORGE GARNER.

NEMESIA SUTTON'S HYBRID BLUE GEM.

THERE are many choice and coloured varieties among the nemesias which are eminently suited for decorative furnishing in the flower garden. Some care, however is required to grow nemesias properly before they are ready to set out in the open ground.

At this time of the year the seedlings should be pricked off into boxes and kept in a genial growing atmosphere until re-established in the soil; afterwards they should be gradually exposed to cooler quarters as growth advances. The aim should be to grow the

Digitized by Google

plants sturdy, by keeping them well aired and under cool conditions such as those provided by a cold frame, until they are permanently set out in borders by the beginning of June.

A bed of about fifty plants of the light blue variety called Sutton's Hybrid Blue Gem provides the most charming effects. Well grown plants of this variety range from 12ins. to 18ins. in height, and produce flower heads 8ins. in diameter.—DAVID ARMSTRONG.

THE GREENHOUSE

GESNERAS.

THESE are lovely plants for furnishing a warm greenhouse or conservatory; they possess exceptionally beautiful foliage, much more beautiful than that of the gloxinia, although the leaves are somewhat similar in texture. The flowers are borne on strong stems and form pyramids of blossom on well grown specimens. The colours emanating from the newer strains are remarkably beautiful. The foliage is massive and quite hides the flower pots, also the stage on which they are placed. Seeds should be sown in much the same way as those of tuberous begonias or gloxinias. The ideal compost for the seeds is one made up of well rotted loam and old leaf-soil in equal proportions, with sufficient clean coarse sand to render it all porous and sweet. Provide sound drainage in a pot or pan; three-parts fill the pan with the compost, make it moderately firm, water, and one hour later sow the seeds on the surface, gently pressing them into the soil. Cover with glass and paper until the seeds germinate, then gradually expose to light but not sun. Duly transplant and pot on the seedlings. Seeds may be sown now, and tubers may also be started by slightly burying them in the surface of a similar compost, but of a rougher or more lumpy nature. Plant several tubers in each pot so that there will not be any need to repot. Do not overcrowd, and be careful not to over-feed or over-water, and be especially careful not to wet the foliage. Many years ago I first saw a fine batch of plants grouped on a conservatory floor, and I thought they were very charming, so arranged.—HANTS.

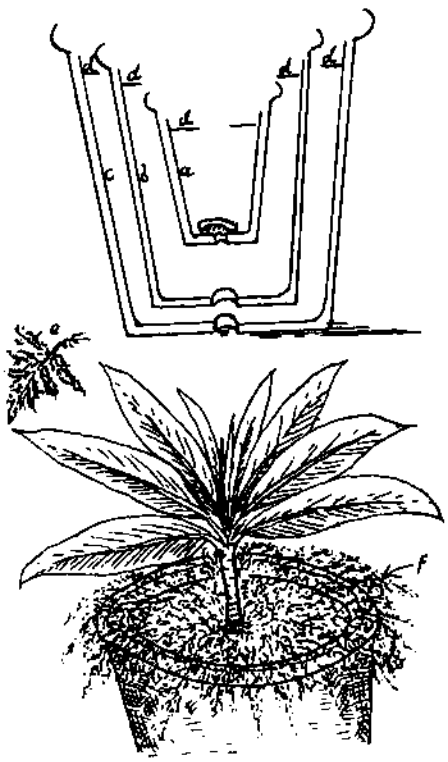
PRIMULA MALACOIDES.

WE find greenhouses built in almost every conceivable position. Some are very hot in summer, others rarely receive any sunshine. To fill such structures satisfactorily we must grow those kinds of plants that do best in sunshine or shade, as the case may be. This small but profusely flowered primula is a gem for growing in the sunless structure, provided there is plenty of light—and the latter is available if there are no very high buildings or trees near. Sow seeds now in a pot or pan in preference to a box, as there is a more constant moisture around the tender roots in pots, and this is very beneficial. The compost should be half loam and half leaf-soil with sand; or, better still, if available, some good old mortar rubble. The pots or pans should be clean and dry inside when used. Place the compost on perfect drainage and level the surface; water, then drop the seeds about half an inch apart and very lightly cover them. Place the seed vessels in a shaded part of the greenhouse. As the seedlings become fit for transplanting, transfer them to a larger pan or several pots, and in due course pot them singly in small pots. From this stage till next October the best position for the young plants is one on a bed of ashes in a cold frame. Get the plants established in 5in. and 6in. pots as soon as possible, using a similar compost with the addition of a small proportion of rotted manure. Ventilate judiciously, be careful about watering and feeding, and keep the foliage always dry.—GEO. GARNER.

MISCELLANEOUS

POTTING PLANTS.

FROM early in April to the end of June there will be a lot of potting and repotting work done in gardens, both large and small. Not only should the cultivator understand how to pot and repot a plant in the first instance, but he should provide suitable composts. I have seen greenhouses filled with the stumps of plants in very large pots, the latter containing a few decaying roots and loose, fibreless soil taken in the first instance from the vegetable garden borders. Mostly, it is worse than labour in vain; it means devastation as far as plants are concerned. If some good old fibrous turf cannot be obtained and duly rotted, then it would be wise on the part of the cultivator to buy a few bushels of



compost ready mixed from a near-by nursery. The turf and some sweet leaf-soil will combine with coarse sand to form a good general compost. In the first instance many seedlings will require potting. They are placed singly in small pots similar to the one shown at *a*, and the soil must not be pressed down too much, as their roots and stems are so brittle. The first repotting should, usually, be into a larger-sized pot than may seem necessary—into pot *b*. Then the third repotting should be into pot *c*, as shown, each time observing space left for watering, shown at *d*, *d*, *d*, *d*, *d*. If plants are being grown for placing in vases on tables or in halls, such specimens as crotons, dracænas and ornamental grasses, with small palms, may be covered with selaginella moss after the final potting. Small pieces of this moss, as shown at *e*, should be laid on the soil in the pot, shown at *f*, and a small quantity of fine soil placed on to half bury the moss. If kept in a moist state the selaginella soon grows and forms a lovely green cushion entirely hiding the top of the pot. This should not be done in the case of plants generally.—CHRISTCHURCH.

AN EFFICIENT SPRAY.

WE have not yet reached the time when we can say that any one spray fluid is the elixir of immunity to pests; but it is possible to be discreet, and so reduce the actual work necessary in preventing pests from assuming outrageous proportions.

From long experience we have decided that two applications about this time do more good than several sprayings at other times against certain pests—one just before the buds begin to open on apples and pears, and one after the petals fall.

The spray fluid we recommend is a combination of lime, sulphur and nicotine. The concentrated lime-sulphur is diluted to the proper strength as indicated, then this is treated as water and the requisite proportion of nicotine added. As several nicotine concentrates of varying strengths are sold, we can merely quote one example in which ½oz. of the nicotine is added to each 4 gallons of lime-sulphur wash.—CLYDESDALE.

WHITE FLY.

QUESTION.—Does white fly live on plants throughout the winter under glass?

Answer.—Yes, it lives on weeds, if there happen to be any growing in pots or borders, as well as on cultivated subjects—such as roses, chrysanthemums, cinerarias, begonias, and sweet peas—and on the rooted cuttings of many kinds of plants.

Question.—Should attempts be made to get rid of the fly during the winter months; if so, how should an amateur cultivator act?

Answer.—Certainly, every effort should be made throughout the winter to eradicate the fly. Indeed, much success will follow any careful, judicious attempts. First, be sure that those plants that are unable to withstand the action of several proprietary fumigants are taken to other houses or buildings while the structures containing the fly are fumigated or vaporised. Usually, the plants that should not be subjected to the fumes are named on the packets containing the remedies. Care should be taken that such plants are free from fly before they are returned to the house after it has been fumigated. If there are any remains of old crops, such as those of tomatoes, being cleared away, it is a good plan to syringe thoroughly the stems, old leaves and surface of the borders with paraffin emulsion. I use pure paraffin vigorously stirred up in clear water for this purpose, and it kills all the insects it touches while preventing others flying and leaving the old plants. Then the latter and the surface soil may be conveyed to the garden fire. Following this action the house can be treated with white fly remedies as advertised in THE GARDEN. White fly soon breed wholesale on young vegetable marrow plants, cucumbers, schizanthus, melon plants and the common buttercup, so we see how important it is that the plants start clean.—G. G.

NOVEL PLANT SUPPORTS.

SOME plants, like mignonette, have such very soft stems that they will not stand much in the way of tying to supports. Ordinary metal meat skewers have in these cases proved very useful for holding up the stems. The ring at the top was opened out a little and then bent over at a right angle. After pushing a skewer into the ground the stem was gently brought into the ring, where it was securely, but not tightly, held. Being galvanised, the meat skewers do not rust, and they will last for an indefinite time.—S. L. B.

Digitized by Google

"The Atco Way Turns Work to Play"

Follow the Lead of Wimbledon

The ATCO Motor Mower is used exclusively on the Lawns at Wimbledon—adequate testimony to its efficiency, economy and utility. If you have lawns to maintain you need

The ATCO MOTOR MOWER

It ensures better lawns with a minimum of labour, and saves its cost in a single season.

Prices from 30 Guineas

There are well over 11,500 ATCO Motor Mowers in use. Ask any owner his opinion of his ATCO.

Write to-day for 1926 Illustrated Art Catalogue of ATCO Turf Culture Specialities—POST FREE on request.

CHAS. H. PUGH, Ltd.
Whitworth Works, 31, Tilton Rd, BIRMINGHAM

WORMS—AND WEEDS

TO clear these pests from your lawn, bowling or putting green:—Brush or rake away the worm casts. Scatter **Cooper's Powder Wormkiller** evenly over the turf during damp, dull, warm weather, and water the ground thoroughly. The worms will come up to the surface, and then all you have to do is to sweep them up and bury them.

The "worm cast" nuisance is over, but you still have the weeds, and other rank growth to consider. After using the Wormkiller, let the ground dry thoroughly, then apply **Cooper's LAWN SAND** which will destroy all daisies, dandelions, etc., which disfigure the lawn. Cooper's Lawn Sand also acts as a lawn food, assisting growth and distribution of the finer grasses.

Further particulars are given in our leaflet, "REMARKS ON THE LAWN," which will be sent free on request.

Sole Manufacturers:—

Cooper, McDougall & Robertson, Ltd.
Holliday Street, BERKHAMSTED

BLINDED for YOU—

The War-blinded Men of St. Dunstan's (many of whom have lost a limb as well as sight) have been trained to produce the most perfect and hard-wearing

NETS AND NETTING

for Garden, Farm and Sports use. Show these gallant craftsmen that you value the work of their hands.

Moderate prices. List or special quotations on application to—

NETTING DEPT. (A) St. Dunstan's Headquarters, Inner Circle, Regent's Pk., LONDON, N.W.1

The RITO Smile

GARDENERS!

Multiply your crops and grow fragrant flowers with

RITO

RITO is a humus, organic and natural soil food; a stimulant and energising medium for soil bacteria. Its use results in larger crops. Rito is suitable for garden, greenhouse and allotment.

Seedsmen, Florists, Corn Merchants, etc., sell RITO at the following prices: 1 cwt., 23/-; 28lbs., 6/3; 14lbs., 3/3; 7lbs., 1/9; and in 1/- cartons. Write to The Molassine Co., Ltd. (Dept. R52), Greenwich, for FREE literature

Digitized by Google

VEGETABLE GARDEN

PLANTING ONIONS.

PROBABLY many readers experience great difficulty with their onion plants during the growing season, particularly during the months of May and June, owing to the ravages of the onion fly maggot. My experience with onion fly is that eggs are deposited under the base of the plants, and not among the scale leaves and for this reason plant fairly deep, insert the base of the stem, for at planting time there is no bulb, about 2ins. below the surface; plant in firm soil and pack the soil firmly among the roots, leaving the surface loose. Keep the Dutch hoe going continually when the ground is dry and feed during June and July with dressings of artificial manure. A good fertiliser for onions consists of 1½lb. sulphate of ammonia, 3lb. superphosphate of lime, and 1½lb. sulphate of potash, mixed together. Give the plants the mixture in two applications to 30 sq. yds.

After the fly period is over, remove the soil from around the bulbs to allow them to swell, swelling of the bulbs generally taking place about the end of July and early August, according to the variety and season. —G. S., *Edinburgh*.

THE CUTTING OF SEED POTATOES.

ONE occasionally meets with those who are afraid to cut their seed potatoes in case of failure—and those who do cut, dust with lime or flowers of sulphur before planting. Many fail to appreciate the fact that if a potato is cut the tuber forms a corky layer so that lime or sulphur is unnecessary.

Last year I conducted a small experiment with three well known commercial varieties. All the potatoes were planted in drills 2ft. 3ins. apart and the sets 12ins. apart in the drills. Artificial manure was applied at the rate of 7cwt. per acre—2cwt. sulphate of ammonia, 3cwt. super-phosphate of lime, and 2cwt. sulphate of potash, together with 20 tons farmyard manure. The soil was a light loam containing very little organic matter.

KERR'S PINK.—Whole sets planted, weighed when lifted 5 tons 15cwt. per acre, while cut sets weighed 6 tons 2cwt.

RHODERIC DHU.—Whole sets and cut sets planted, each weighed 9 ton 3cwt.

FIELD MARSHAL (a russet Up-to-Date).—Whole sets planted weighed when lifted 7 tons 4cwt., and cut sets 8 tons 9cwt.

While it is not advisable to base exact conclusions on the result of the experiment, it is evident, however, that by cutting fairly large potato "seed," the yield is not reduced on light soil.—G. S.

PEAS FOR SUCCESSION.

I WONDER how many amateurs, who do all they possibly can, succeed in obtaining a regular supply of tender peas after the first batch is exhausted? They rarely begrudge the time spent in growing the first lot of peas; their minds are fixed on varieties, site, soil, manures, sticks and feeding and the reward is a splendid lot of early peas. But afterwards, very frequently, a break in the regular supply comes. To obtain an unbroken supply of tender green peas is, I admit, a difficult matter sometimes and expert cultivators often meet with failure. But we must not look for failure, so let us see what should be done to secure success. Where good soils obtain it is unwise to use much organic manure; where they are poor, I favour the use of a moderate dressing of well rotted manure to obtain some substance in the haulm, and where soils are heavy in character, mix with them free dressings of wood ashes and burned rubbish, with a small percentage of burned soil. Now, as regards varieties; we all have our favourites, but for the benefit of the inexperienced, I will name a few reliable sorts. Earliest of All, Laxtonian, Peter Pan, The Pilot, Gradus. These may do for the first pickings, which should be available late in May and till mid-June. To follow them we may sow seeds of Daisy, more of Gradus, Fillbasket, Edwin Beckett, The Bell, Alderman, Gladstone, Mainstay, Standard and Veitch's Perfection. Again, where soils are difficult for late crops, seeds of Laxtonian and Peter Pan, sown during the early part of July, will result in very useful crops with the haulm comparatively free from mildew. The variety Ne Plus Ultra is a grand late pea in some districts, but it is unwise to depend upon it, owing to proneness to mildewing. The great difficulty in pea cultivation comes during midsummer, generally. To combat drought, deep cultivation of the soil and surface mulching without stint should be the rule.—GEO. GARNER.

LATE WINTER GREENS.

WE rarely realise the importance of a good batch of greens from March to June as fully as we should do, until we are faced with a scarcity during that period. Really we should concern ourselves with the matter at once and strive to prevent it. To do this we should provide, now, a nice batch of plants in variety both as regards kinds and sorts, and also make provision for the final planting in due course. A few seedling Brussels sprouts transplanted in a nursery bed in readiness for planting out as soon as early potatoes are lifted will fill a big gap. Late broccoli, including June King, will also turn in most useful when greens are scarce. Both the white and the purple sprouting broccoli should be freely grown. Several kinds of greens are allowed to make secondary shoots, but these are mostly woody. This does not happen in the case of the sprouting broccoli—it is always tender.

J·P SUPER

"Worth the extra cost"

"IT took a man and a boy," writes a J.P. user, "two days to mow lawns with old machines. Now *the man* can do them all in *one* day."

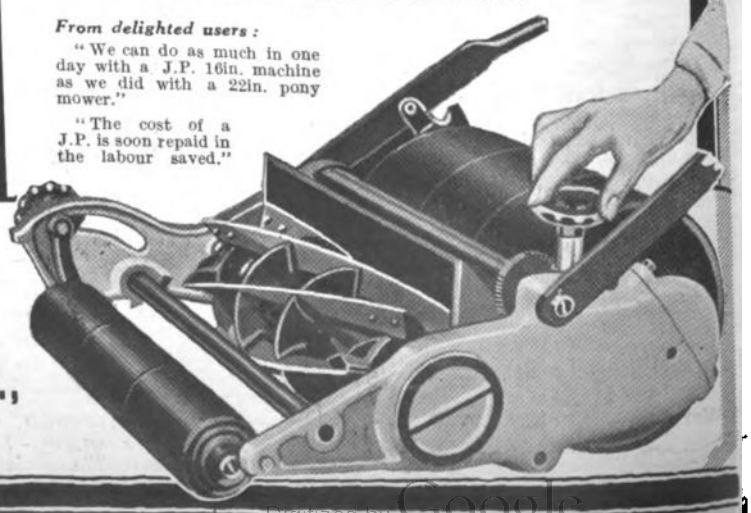
Could anything be more conclusive or convincing than this simple statement of fact?

It is a real economy to pay a little more for a mower which is so infinitely better. Its patented time and labour-saving features—such as hand-wheel adjustment of cutters (shown in illustration)—render it ahead of all in value.

From delighted users:

"We can do as much in one day with a J.P. 16in. machine as we did with a 22in. pony mower."

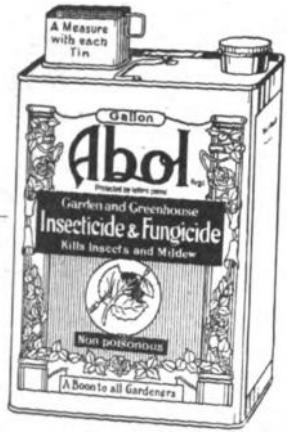
"The cost of a J.P. is soon repaid in the labour saved."



free *Send for Booklet describing unique patented features and ask for demonstration.*

J.P. SUPER LAWN MOWERS, LTD.,
Meynell Road, Leicester.

Digitized by Google



Abol is absolutely **Non-poisonous**

and contains nothing that can do the slightest harm. It is altogether the safest and most certain remedy for Green Fly and other Pests and is without equal for Mildew on Roses and other Plants. Used in the Royal Gardens.

No Licence required.

½-pint, 1/4; pint, 2/2; quart, 3/4; ½-gallon, 5/3; gallon, 9/6

Of all Nurserymen, Seedsmen, Florists, Ironmongers, Chemists and Stores. Sole proprietors and manufacturers, Abol Limited, 0, Beltring, Paddock Wood, Kent.

Write for Interesting Treatise on Garden Pests—Gratis and post free.

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING, SURREY
(late ANTHONY WATERER)

PROPRIETOR - **HOSEA WATERER**

has pleasure in offering

STANDARD TREES

in great variety, consisting of

LIMES, NORWAY MAPLES, ELMS, etc., etc.

EVERGREEN & DECIDUOUS SHRUBS, viz.:

Box—Green and Variegated, 3 to 8 ft.
Hollies—Common, 5 to 8 ft.; Variegated and Green varieties, 2 to 6 ft.
Thuiopsis borealis, 10 to 12 ft. Cupressus Lawsoniana, 12 to 14 ft. Cedrus atlantica glauca, very fine, 14 to 16 ft. Osmanthus, Phillyreas, Spireas, Lilacs, Viburnums, etc.

GOLDEN YEWS

A Magnificent Stock in all shapes and sizes from 2 to 10 ft.

PRIVET, Common and Oval-leaved.

QUICK and **HORNBEAM** for Hedges.

AZALEAS, 2 to 5 ft.

RHODODENDRONS, without doubt the finest stock in the trade of named varieties, 2 to 6 and 8 ft.

HARDY HEATHS in great variety and a good general nursery stock.

Catalogues ready.

Enquiries and Inspection Invited.

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING STATION, SURREY

SOME AUSTRALIAN TREES

EARLY in the warm month of December (midsummer) in New South Wales one of our numerous handsome evergreen trees, Elæocarpus cyaneus, is laden with thousands of white, fringed flowers, and for two or three weeks, followed by vast quantities of fruit, which, when ripe, become a beautiful dark blue, ovoid in shape and about half an inch in length, but of no value whatever for consumption. It has several local names, such as wild sloe, native olive, white boree and white bark.

Generally speaking, this tree is small, about 30ft. or so in height, frequently much less, but sometimes under favourable circumstances it attains a height of about 60ft. Its favourite habitat is among the sandstone rocks along the New South Wales coast, and oft-times in the poorest of sandy soil. It thrives well under cultivation, when it becomes remarkably conspicuous and beautiful when in full bloom. It is but seldom made use of, however, for ornamental purposes. There has been a prejudice until quite recently against anything indigenous, unfortunately, and most beautiful trees and flowering shrubs are recklessly destroyed, to give place to exotics, many of which may never succeed.

There are several species of the Tiliaceæ Order, to which the above belongs, one of the most handsome being E. grandis, which grows to great perfection in the semi-tropical north-east coastal district of New South Wales and in Queensland. Its local name is blue fig, the aboriginal name being cooloon. It bears innumerable white fringed flowers, larger than cyaneus, and its handsome fruit attains a size of about an inch or more in diameter. This tree attains a height of 80ft., more at times, and its timber is useful for many purposes.

Another species, E. obovatus, known locally as ash, pigeon-berry tree, attains a great height, sometimes 130ft., with a diameter of about 5ft. The timber is light and is used for making oars, etc. It was first discovered on an alluvial island near the mouth of the Hunter river, about seventy miles north of Sydney. The discoverer

ANTIRRHINUMS

IT'S only the fact that we grow and deliver especially good plants that we wish to advertise. The brightness, the long-flowering life, the wonderful adaptability of Antirrhinums (Snapdragons) are known to everyone. Although our plants are properly grown, transplanted, well rooted, hardened off, in all ways particularly good, as becomes a firm which reckon to do things well, the price is only

1/- dozen. **6/6** 100.

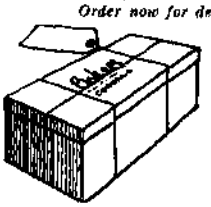
Carriage paid on orders value 5/- and over, otherwise 9d. extra.

And these are the varieties and colours

Codsall Rose, delicate pink
Cottage Maid, pink, white throat
Crimson King, rich dark crimson
Dainty, gold and terra cotta pink
Electra, salmon orange, white throat
Dazzler, orange scarlet
Firefly, scarlet
Glow, orange apricot
Melrose, bright rose
Rose Queen, rose pink self
White Queen, pure white
Yellow King, rich yellow

DELIVERED DIRECT FROM THE GROWERS, CARRIAGE PAID, IN MAY.

Order now for delivery in May.



Bakers
FLOWER FARM,
CODSALL.
Nr. Wolverhampton.

By Appointment.

RANSOMES' LAWN MOWERS

"The Best in the World."

Illustration of "LION" LAWN MOWER.

9in., **46/-** 11in., **49/-** 13in., **53/-** 15in., **57/-**

Grass boxes, extra:—

9in., **13/-** 11in., **14/-** 13in., **15/-** 16in., **16/-**

HAND LAWN MOWERS IN NUMEROUS TYPES

ALSO

MOTOR, HORSE, PONY AND DONKEY MACHINES

To suit every requirement.

Write for List No. 111 to

RANSOMES, SIMS & JEFFERIES, LTD.

ORWELL WORKS, IPSWICH.

Obtainable from all Ironmongers and Seedsmen.

Digitized by Google

FERTHRIVER (REGD.)

THE COMPLETE FERTILISER, WITH GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

	7-lb.	14-lb.	28-lb.	56-lb.	1-cwt.
Ferthriver	1/6	2/9	5/-	9/-	16/-
Bone Meal	1/6	2/9	5/-	9/-	16/-
Nitrate of Soda	1/6	3/-	6/-	11/-	21/-

Add the following extras for Carriage Paid lots.
1/- 1/9 2/- 2/6 4/-

ANALYSIS:
Ammonia - - 4 per cent.
Phosphates - 15 ,,
Potash - - 8 ,,
Pot. Sulphate - 5.6 ,,

3d. Tin of Ferthriver
As Illustrated,
6d. Post Free.

THE NECESSARIES CO.,
25, Edward Road,
Balsall Heath BIRMINGHAM.

VIOLETS

FOR BEDS, ROCK GARDENS & NATURALIZING.

MISS STANISTREET has ready now young plants of highest quality, as supplied to U.S.A. and Canadian Governments. Properly selected and packed by experts. 50 Varieties. Princess of Wales, Marie Louise, etc. 3/6 doz., carriage paid. Lists free.

KILLALOE :: Co. CLARE

The WIZARD Plant LABEL

PATENT No 21,071

Made in Red Pottery, 2½ x 1½ ins., with rustless wires. 12 in., 2/- doz.; 7 in., 1/7 doz. 1½ x 1 in., with wires 6 in., 1/6 doz. For tying on, 1/6 and 1/3 doz. Waterproof Ink, 6d. and 9½d. bot. Crow Quills, 3d. Postage extra.

Highly commended by the R.H.S. at Wisley.

E. TORKINGTON . NEW HALL . MAIDENHEAD

PROFIT or PLEASURE?

Is your Garden a source of profit to you, or a place of delight? In either case you need

"FERRY" BRAND

Regd. Trade Mark

SPECIAL FERTILISERS

—for heavier crops and lovelier flowers

THE "Ferry" Garden Manure is unequalled for general garden purposes. It is suitable for Potatoes, Tomatoes, Peas, Beans, Fruit Trees, Vines, Roses, &c. Poor soils are greatly improved and "worn-out" gardens are restored by "Ferry" Garden Manure. It feeds the soil with the essential plant foods.

14 lbs. 3/-; 28 lbs. 5/9; 56 lbs. 11/-; 1 cwt. 20/-

Carriage paid to the nearest Railway Station for cash with order.

Write for the Orange Booklet containing valuable garden hints, and particulars of special Fertilisers for Roses, Sweet Peas, Carnations, Chrysanthemums, Fruit Trees, Strawberries, Potatoes, Tomatoes, &c.

THE BRITON FERRY CHEMICAL & MANURE CO. LTD. (Dept. E), Briton Ferry, South Wales.
(Established 1886)

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

considered this tree to resemble the English ash, hence the local name. The island was named Ash Island, which it has retained.

Probably E. cyaneus would succeed very well in warm coastal localities in Great Britain, and it is well worth a trial. Of course, for all I am aware, it may have been introduced and made use of for ornamental purposes.—WALTER S. CAMPBELL, *Sydney, N.S.W.*

WE have pleasure in announcing that in consequence of the increase of his business, Mr. Alfred Dawkins, Seedsman, King's Road, Chelsea, so well known to many of our readers, has taken into partnership Mr. Donald Blaxill of Colchester.

Mr. Blaxill was for some time a student at Wisley and afterwards served with Messrs. Dobbies and Messrs. Watkins and Simpson. He holds the National Diploma in Horticulture (Seed Section).

Mr. Dawkins will continue to give to the business his active interest and attention and it will continue to be carried on under the name and style of Alfred Dawkins.

WE are pleased to hear from the Netting Department at St. Dunstan's that the result of the advertising of the garden, farm and sports nets made by the war blinded men, has brought along a considerable number of orders and many enquiries. The late Sir Arthur Pearson always maintained that "a blinded soldier busy is a blinded soldier happy," and we feel sure that our readers will send along all possible orders for the excellent work produced by these sightless craftsmen. An enquiry to the Netting Department (A), St. Dunstan's Headquarters, Inner Circle, Regent's Park, N.W.1, will bring all details and a price list.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

"Aristocrats of the Garden," by E. H. Wilson. The Stratford Company, Boston, Mass., U.S.A. Price $5.00.

"The Culture of Vegetables and Flowers," by Messrs. Sutton and Sons. Seventeenth edition. Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent and Co., Ltd. Price 7s. 6d. net.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

ONCE more the season has come round when attention must be given to the bog and water garden and an inventory taken of its inmates. Many of the old plants may require to be renewed and a few new kinds introduced to provide a variety and add a freshness to the scheme. Where there exists some doubt as to what to plant, we should suggest a look through Messrs. Perry's new list of hardy plants for the water and bog garden. It is a well illustrated little brochure and offers numerous subjects for providing decorative effects in this part of the garden. A wide selection is offered in water lilies suitable for all sizes of lakes and pools, and, in addition, many other ornamental waterside plants are fully described. It is a list which the majority of gardeners who are interested in this branch of gardening will find of the greatest interest and service at this time.

FOREIGN.

Mr. J. W. Crow, Simcoe, Ontario, Canada.—A list of choice gladioli, including the best of the new varieties.

Glen Road Iris Garden, Wellesley Farms, Massachusetts, U.S.A.—A comprehensive and unpublished list of iris varieties, with adequate descriptions.

The Cherry Meadow Farm, Framingham Centre, Mass., U.S.A.—A small list of annual and perennial seeds.

Les Jardins du Charost, 42, Avenue de Neuilly, Neuilly-sur-Seine, France—List of sweet peas for 1926.

ROYAL SHOW

READING

July 6th to 10th, 1926.

85TH ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF HORSES, CATTLE, GOATS, SHEEP, PIGS, POULTRY AND FARM PRODUCE, HORSE JUMPING, AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION, FORESTRY AND HORTICULTURE.

HORTICULTURE

Entries close MAY 26th.

LIVE STOCK entries close MAY 20th.

Prize Sheets and Entry Forms will be forwarded on application to

T. B. TURNER, Secretary.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF ENGLAND, 16, Bedford Square, London, W.C.2.

Wolverhampton Floral Fete

July 13th, 14th and 15th, 1926

£1,000 IN PRIZES

Schedules on application to the Secretary (POST FREE)

G. W. A. MARTIN, 48, Queen Street WOLVERHAMPTON

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by "ALPHOL" Sample 14 lb., 5/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Aids, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

A well-filled Garden

A well-filled garden needs to be well fed.

Nitrate of Soda together with phosphates and potash give the necessary nourishment.

Write for special pamphlet, entitled, "Successful Gardens for Every Amateur," "The Manuring of Orchards and Fruit Trees," supplied gratis and post free by THE CHILEAN NITRATE COMMITTEE, Friars House, New Broad Street, London, E.C. 2.

Nitrate of Soda

Digitized by Google

HILL & SMITH, Ltd.,
BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS,
Makers of
IRON FENCING, HURDLES, GATES, WIRE NETTING AND GARDEN IRONWORK

Other Products—Hay and Grain Sheds, Dutch Barns, Galvanized Corrugated Sheets and Structural Steelwork.

Catalogues free on mentioning this paper.

London: 300, Abbey House, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

THE LEADING GLASS HOUSE FUMIGANT

CORRY'S WHITE FLY DEATH

THOUSANDS OF TOMATO CROPS ENTIRELY SAVED
No alterations needed since first introduced.
Be satisfied with the best, it is the cheapest in the end.
Commended by the Royal Horticultural Society.

Cubic ft.	1,000	2,000	4,000	8,000	16,000	32,000	64,000
	10d.	1/3	2/-	3/6	6/-	10/6	19/-

Also in 2, 5 and 10 gall. FREE drums;

ALSO

FOWLER'S LAWN SAND AND FERTILIZER

The Originator of Lawn Sands

Destroys all obnoxious weeds, and discolours the grass least of any. Produces a rich velvety green. 60 years' experience in lawn culture.

In tins, 1/6, 3/-, and 5/6; ¼ cwt., 8/6; ½ cwt., 16/-; 1 cwt., 30/-

ALSO

SLUGS, LEATHER-JACKETS, ONION FLY, WIRE-WORMS

SOIL FUMIGANT AND FERTILIZER

Does two jobs perfectly in one operation.

7 lbs., 2/6; 14 lbs., 3/6; ¼ cwt., 6/-; ½ cwt., 10/6; 1 cwt., 18/-; 5 cwt., 80/- Sold by Nurserymen. Write for Leaflet—

CORRY & CO., Ltd., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

By Appointment.

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.,
Royal Potteries
BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

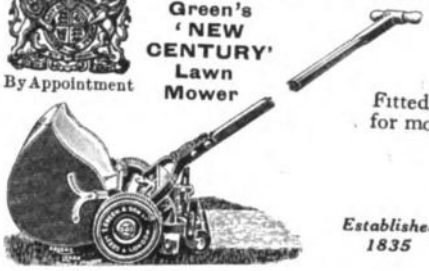
Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

GREEN'S WORLD FAMOUS LAWN MOWERS

By Appointment

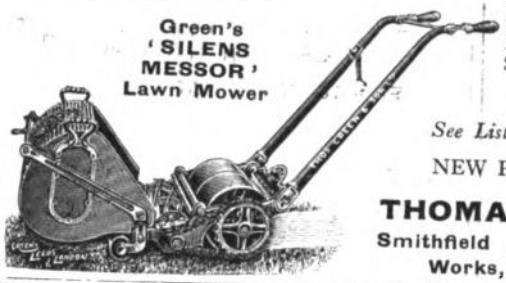
GARDEN ROLLERS & TENNIS MARKERS

Green's 'NEW CENTURY' Lawn Mower



Established 1835

Green's 'SILENS MESSOR' Lawn Mower



Green's 'NEW CENTURY'

Fitted with adjustable bearings, is an ideal light machine for mowing small lawns, tennis courts, slopes and banks.

Green's 'SILENS MESSOR'

Is a very light running machine, practically noiseless, and gives a fine even surface. Reversible cylinder has eight cutters adjustable to any cut.

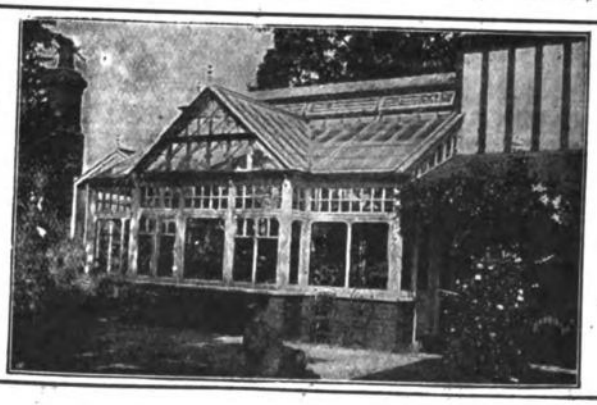
May be obtained from any Ironmonger or Seedsman in the United Kingdom.

OVER A MILLION SOLD.

See List for Horse Mowers and Motor Mowers.

NEW PRICE LIST No. 8 ON REQUEST.

THOMAS GREEN & SON, LTD.
Smithfield Ironworks, Leeds, and New Surrey Works, Southwark Street, London, S.E.1



FOSTER & PEARSON LIMITED

Established 1841

Please write for Estimates for durable Greenhouses, Boilers, etc., to

BEESTON NOTTS

Put him in his right place with

SANITAS POWDER

Sanitas Powder erects an impassable barrier against worms, caterpillars, slugs and snails—but is harmless to plants and flowers. It is non-poisonous—except to pests.

THE "SANITAS" CO. LTD. LIMEHOUSE, LONDON, E.

SAN 226-26

Digitized by Google

I COUNT that man fortunate who has done with experimenting and found a tobacco which consistently gives a full measure of enjoyment—*R.F.E*

There is one brand which to many a man is his best friend

They call it

PLAYER'S

NAVY CUT

For Cigarette Smokers

PLAYER'S NAVY CUT CIGARETTES

Registered No. 154011.

P.1263.

WHY is "HOMES and GARDENS" such a Great Success?

BECAUSE it shows greater House Comfort & Convenience – with less Labour and Expense.

Send to-day for a Free specimen Copy of this helpful and beautifully Illustrated Magazine to 20, Tavistock St., Covent Garden, W.C.2

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION 1912

WAKELEY'S *Celebrated* **HOP MANURE**

(PATENTED)

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE, without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

A beautiful Free Booklet giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. GENUINE ONLY IN OUR MARKED BAGS, CONTAINING GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

Cash Prices, including bags: Small (about 1 bushel), 3/-: Large (about 4 bushels), 7-. 5 Large, 33/9

10 Large, 65/-: 20 Large, 120/-

Carriage Paid to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company. 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

"NICOTICIDE"

FUMIGATING COMPOUND

DESTROYS

GREEN FLY, RED SPIDER, APHIS, MEALY BUG and all greenhouse pests.

Sold in Tins for 40,000 cu. ft., **20**/-, for 20,000 cu. ft., **10**/-
" Bottles " 12,000 " **6**/-, " 8,000 " **4**/-

OBTAINABLE FROM SEEDSMEN, ETC.

Write for booklet of "Gow's Garden Specialities."

HUNTER & GOW, LTD.,
28, Thomas Street, LIVERPOOL

COAL

Trucks to any station or delivered into cellar.

BEST DERBY BRIGHTS	23/- ton
KITCHEN COBBLES OR NUTS	16/- "
COKE, for Central Heating and Greenhouses	15/- "
ANTHRACITE, for all purposes	23/6 "

From BUCKLE COLLIERY CO., Box 98, CHELTENHAM

GARDEN LOVERS

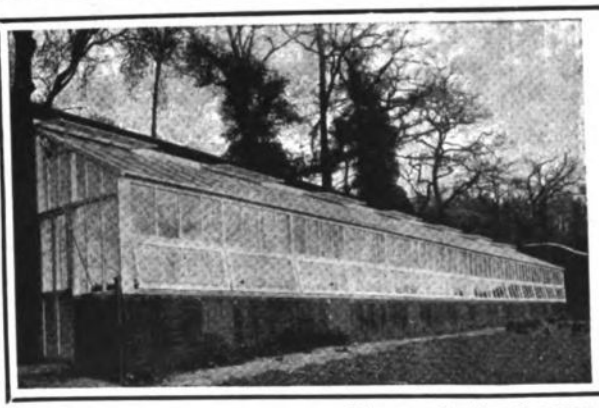
Write for Catalogues of

PROTHEROE & MORRIS'

HORTICULTURAL SALES

WEDNESDAY

67, 68 Cheapside, London E.C.2. Phone: City 3856



GREENHOUSES AND GARDEN FRAMES

I specialize in the Erection of High class Horticultural Buildings.

Garden Frames a speciality. Selected timber, well seasoned, only used.

Being a grower, I understand Glasshouse requirements.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.

CATALOGUES WITH PLEASURE.

E. M. HEAP, Cottimore Nurseries, WALTON-ON-THAMES.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE COMPLETENESS OF ITS COMPOSITION AND THE HAPPY BLENDING OF ITS HIGHGRADE ORGANIC AND OTHER INGREDIENTS RENDER

Carmona *Fertilizer*

A PAR-EXCELLENT BLOOM PRODUCER

A Carmona measuring Spoon in every tin

CARRIAGE PAID PRICES:—

1 lb. Tin **1/3** 2 lb. Tin **2/-**
7 lb. Tin **4/6** 112 lb. Bag **26/-**

The fullest instructions accompany each package.

Sole Manufacturers:—

ROBINSON BROTHERS LTD., WEST BROMWICH

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.

Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

PERIODICAL LIBRARY UNIV. OF MICH.
MAY 12 1926

Vol. XC.—No. 2841 Saturday, May 1st, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

BARR'S SEED POTATOES

FOR MAY PLANTING.

Extra selected hand-picked Tubers.

		1 lbs.	56lbs.
Ashleaf Immune, first early Kidney ..	Scotch	4/6	16/-
Midlothian Early, first early Kidney ..	Scotch	4/6	16/-
Sharpe's Express, early Kidney ..	Scotch	4/-	14/-
British Queen, second early White Kidney	Scotch	4/-	14/-
Irish Elegance (new), second early White Kidney,	Irish	5/-	18/-
Arran Chief, main crop White Round ..	Scotch	4/-	14/-
Irish King, main crop White Kidney ..	Irish	4/6	16/-
King Edward, main crop, Kidney	Irish	4/-	14/-
Kerr's Pink, main crop, Round	Scotch	4/-	14/-
Tinwald Perfection, immune, White Kidney	Scotch	4/-	14/-
Up-to-Date, selected stock, White Kidney	Scotch	4/6	16/6

For other fine Potatoes see Barr's Seed Guide, Free.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

NETTINGS

GARDEN NETS FOR FRUIT PROTECTION

Any lengths and widths. Corded all round

	per sq. yd.		per sq. yd.
NEW 1 in. sq. mesh, heavy ..	6½d.	NEW ½ in. sq. mesh, medium ..	7½d.
NEW 1 in. „ medium ..	5½d.	REPAIRED 1 in. sq. mesh, heavy	3½d.
NEW ½ in. „ light ..	5½d.	REPAIRED ½ in. „ „	4d.

REPAIRED (not corded) 1 in. diamond mesh, 9/- per 100 sq. yards.

NEW TENNIS BOUNDARY NETS

Any lengths and widths. Corded all round. 7d. per sq. yard.

NEW TENNIS NETS

Various qualities from 16/- to 31/- each.

NETS FOR ALL PURPOSES

Samples and full particulars from the manufacturers.

JOSEPH BENTLEY, Ltd., Barrow-on-Humber, LINCS.
(Sole Proprietors of B. EDDY & SONS)

The Flower of the Season

BALL'S CALENDULA

— Brilliant Orange Double Flowers —

THE FINEST PLANT FOR CUT FLOWER OR THE BORDER

Our exhibit at CHELSEA SHOW made us many customers, and we have had numerous testimonials from all parts of the country.

SEED .. .. 1/-, 2/6, 5/- packet
PLANTS .. .. 1/6 doz.: 10/- 100

WM. ARTINDALE & SON
NETHER GREEN NURSERY :: SHEFFIELD

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

FOR THE GARDEN! FOR EXHIBITION!
FOR BEDS! FOR EVERYWHERE!

Also Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees, Alpines and Hardy Plants.

BUY HOME-GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries.

Catalogue Free on Application, and Addresses booked for Revised Catalogue in late Summer.

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.,
Garden Specialists - - SOUTHWELL, NOTTS

SPRING PLANTING

There are many shrubs and plants which may be successfully planted now.

EVERGREENS, such as Hollies, Yews, Bays, Laurels, Thuya Lobbii, Cupressus and other Shrubs.
CLIMBING PLANTS, in pots, including Climbing Roses.
HARDY PERENNIALS and ALPINE PLANTS.
HARDY CHRYSANTHEMUMS. VIOLAS.

We grow large quantities of shrubs in pots such as Cupressus, Escallonias, Veronicas, Rosemary, Choisyas, Fuchsias, etc., for planting at any season.

Catalogue and Special Spring List on application.

The BARNHAM NURSERIES, Ltd.
BARNHAM, SUSSEX.

CHEALS' DAHLIAS

UNIQUE COLLECTION
Many Striking Novelties

New Catalogue Free

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
The Nurseries - - CRAWLEY

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S HARDY PLANT FARMS ENFIELD, MIDDX. — New Alpines and Perennials. Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS. NURSERIES BEDFORD — Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR. HARDY PLANT NURSERY MERSTHAM, SURREY — Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON TWERTON HILL NURSERY BATH — Begonias, Delphiniums, Gloxinias, Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS 408, KING'S ROAD, CHELSEA, S.W. — Seeds, Gladioli, Spiræas, List on Application

R. H. BATH, LTD. THE FLORAL FARMS WISBECH — Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

DOWNER'S LUPINS, 12/- doz., large, mixed.
Apply for List. Also Herbaceous and Alpine Catalogue.
DOWNER, 2, Drayton Manor Nurseries, Chichester.

YOUR GARDEN NEEDS **KILOGRUB**

Its fumes are instantly fatal to all insect pests in the soil, but harmless to plants. Really effective because it works underground.

Tins: 2/6, 1/6 and 2/6
Bags: ¼ cwt. 6/6, ½ cwt. 9/6, 1 cwt. 15/-

From your seedsman or from JOHN PEAK & CO. LTD. WIGAN. Lancs.

Water Plants

My New Illustrated Catalogue contains the most complete collection ever offered. Free

PERRY'S Hardy Plant Farm, Enfield, Middx.

W. TRESEDER, Ltd.

The Nurseries,
CARDIFF.

DAHLIAS

Growers for over Half a Century.

Our British Empire Exhibit of Dahlias during 1924 and 1925 was considered a feature of the Horticultural Section at Wembley.

ASK FOR A CATALOGUE.

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD. NURSERIES CRAWLEY — Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG THE NURSERIES CHISLEHURST, KENT — Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD. BARROW-ON-HUMBER HULL — Weed Destroyers, Fertilisers, Insecticides, Nets and Sundries

1926
PERPETUAL FLOWERING
CARNATIONS
Our Illustrated Catalogue will be sent free on request

C. ENGELMANN LTD.
Saffron Walden, Essex.

Forbes' Catalogue

Carnations, Pelargoniums, Pentstemons, Phloxes, Pyrethrums, Violas, Hardy Border and Rock Plants, Seeds, etc.
FREE ON APPLICATION
JOHN FORBES (Hawick), LTD., Dept. 2, The King's Nurserymen, Hawick, Scotland

FERTILISERS.

LAWNS, 20/-; FRUIT TREES, VINES, 19/6; GENERAL GARDEN USE, 17/-; WORM KILLER, 19/-
Per cwt., carriage paid. Also all other fertilisers.
HY. RICHARDSON & CO., Skeldergate Bridge Works, YORK

FRUIT TREE PROTECTORS
Against BIRDS, FROST, COLD WINDS, WASPS.
TRANSFERABLE FRUIT CAGES.
SPECIAL GARDEN NETTINGS.
NEW PORTABLE TENNIS SURROUND.
On view at Stands 107–108, R.H.S. Show, Chelsea.
Apply for new Illustrated Booklet giving his SYSTEM OF FRUIT CULTURE
Major C. Walker, Dept. G., Brecon, S. Wales

Clean greenhouses

Greenhouses must be clean of pests all the time. Regular attention with XL ALL Fumigating Compound is the only thing necessary—it is absolutely certain. Be sure you use XL ALL. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen, florists and chemists.

XL ALL FUMIGATING COMPOUND

G. H. RICHARDS, LTD.
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
R. 113. Monomark: BCM/XLALL.

Continued from page iii.

PRIMULA JULIÆ.—A real gem, profuse purple flowers, 12 strong plants, 5/-.—MILNE, South Darley, Matlock.

HIMALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODENDRONS on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous & Alpine Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write for Catalogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

WELLS' CATALOGUE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS will be sent post free on application.—W. WELLS & Co., Merstham, Surrey.

TENNIS COURT BOUNDARY NETS.—Good colour, very strong, specially prepared with strong line at top and bottom throughout, making nets hang square; easy to erect or take away; can be left out in all weathers. 25yds. by 2yds., 16/6; 25yds. by 3yds., 18/6; 25yds. by 4yds., 25/- carriage paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Iron Standards to same, with strong earth plate, 4d. per foot. Regulation Play Nets 10/6, 15/6, 18/6, 21/-. Lists and samples free.—GAMAGE AND SONS, Net Works, Rye. Established 127 years.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING.—Best selected nets, small mesh only supplied. 50yds. long, 4yds. wide, 14/-; 25 x 8yds., 14/-; 100 x 2yds., 14/-; 25 x 4yds., 7/-; 25 x 5yds., 5/-. Any size to order; all sent carriage paid.—W. GORHAM, Walmer Road, South Lowestoft.

ROCK AND ALPINE PLANTS.—Large and varied collection. All pot grown. Packed and carriage paid. Catalogue free.—M. J. PICCOTT, Duffield, Nr. Derby.

OUR NEW ILLUSTATED CATALOGUE of Alpine and Herbaceous Plants, Dwarf Trees and Shrubs and Bulbs for the Rock Garden, now ready. "A Mine of Information." Post free on application.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, Ltd., Stevenage, Herts.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, well stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GERRARD GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING, small mesh 26yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 40yds. by 1yd., 3/3; 40yds. by 2yds., 6/6; 40yds. by 3yds., 9/9. Measure mesh closed. Special Pea Netting supplied. Tennis Nets from 8/-. Carriage Paid. Compare our netting with others. Send lists and samples free.—GALLOP, Net Manufacturer, Basting

WALL AND WATER GARDENS. With chapters on rock gardens, heath gardens, and paved gardens. By GERTRUDE JEKYLL. 7th edition, revised. 17/- net; by post, 18/4.—Published at the Offices of "Country Life," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

NETTINGS

GARDEN NETS for fruit protection. Any length or width, corded all round.

New 1in. sq. mesh, stout	5½d. per sq. yd.
New medium	4½d. " "
New ½ in. stout	6d. " "
New ½ in. medium	4½d. " "
Best ½ in. salmon twine	7½d. " "
Repaired 1 in. sq. mesh	3d. " "
Repaired ½ in.	3½d. " "

NEW TENNIS BOUNDARY NETTING, roped around.

Heavy hand braided	7½d. per sq. yd.
Medium	6½d. " "
Little lighter	4½d. " "
Selected repaired	3d. " "

Any length or width supplied.
NEW TENNIS NETS, regulation size, various qualities, steel and copper head lines, from 30s. to 35s. each. Selected. **DIAMOND NETS,** measured mesh closed, 3s. 6d., or ¼ yds., 7s. Repaired, small mesh, 2½ yds. x 2 yds., 3s. 6d., or 4 yds., 7s., or 8 yds., 14s. Heavy quality, about 1½ mesh, 25 x 2 yds., 5s.; 4 yds., 10s.; 8 yds., £1, carriage paid passenger train; receipt order.
Satisfaction Guaranteed. Samples and full particulars from the Manufacturers:
W. OLIVER ALLEN & SONS, Net Makers, Porthleven, Cornwall.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

WEBB'S LOVELY ANNUALS.
Choice Hardy Strains for sowing now in the open Garden.
Webbs' Snowflake Candytuft
" Golden Crown Calendula
" White Carpet Alyssum
" Double Mixed Clarkia
" Express Mixed Cosmea
" Giant Blue Cornflower
" Ensign Mixed Larkspur
" Choice Mixed Godetia
" Double Rose Godetia
" Leviathan Mignonette
" Selected Shirley Poppy
" Nigella Miss Jekyll.
Each 6d. per packet.
WEBB AND SONS, LTD., THE KING'S SEEDSMEN, STOURBRIDGE.

WATERER'S GOLD MEDAL RHODODENDRONS, Azaleas, rare Hardy Shrubs, Alpine and Perennial Plants, Vegetable and Flower Seeds. Catalogues free. Bedding Catalogue now ready, containing the best in Dahlias and special offer of Gladiolus.—JOHN WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LIMITED, Twyford, Berks; Bagshot, Surrey; and London.

WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE.—The original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See advert. on back page.

WM. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., Lawrence Road, South Tottenham, N.15.—Conservatories, Winter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

BIRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUNDIALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—HOOPER, 80, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

FENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Garden Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE STANLEY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, Surrey.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

YORK STONE PAVINGS, crazy or rectangular, rustic copings, steps roughly squared or random shaped, flat bedded wallstones, garden edging, rockery, etc.—SAMUEL JOHNSON AND SON (MIRFIELD), LIMITED, Newgate Stone Works, Mirfield, Yorkshire.

PRIOR'S COLCHESTER ROSES, Fruit Trees, Bush, Dahlias, Carnations, Herbaceous. Catalogue containing cheap collections free.—D. PRIOR AND SON, LIMITED, Colchester.

WIRE NETTING.—From 2/5 per 50yd. roll. Cheapest House in the Kingdom. Write us for prices. Thousands of rolls stocked.

PEA GUARDS.—Small mesh, 3ft. long, two ends to each dozen. 4/3 dozen. 2 doz. Carriage Paid.

DEFY THE BIRDS.—Rotless Tanned Nets. Small mesh, as supplied by us to the Royal Gardens. In three Qualities. 50 x 1yd., 3/6, 4/-, 6/9; 2yds., 7/-, 8/-, 12/6; 3yds., 10/6, 12/-, 20/3; 4yds., 14/-, 16/-, 27/-; 25 x 2yds., 14/-, 16/-, 27/-. Any size supplied. Carriage paid. Approval. Measured mesh closed.

TENNIS BOUNDARY NETTING.—Lines top and bottom. 25 x 2yds. 16/3; 3yds., 18/3; 4yds., 25/3. Carriage paid. Approval. Standards for fixing to, also Playing Nets. Poles and all requisites supplied.

GARDEN BARROWS.—Full size. 8 spokes. Best value in the kingdom, 24/9. Painted, 28/3.

LAWN MOWERS.—Five Riveted Blades. High Wheels. Brass Bushings. Close Cutting. Highly Finished. Unequalled Value. 8in., 23/-; 10in. 24/-; 12in., 25/-; 14in., 26/-. Green Boxes, 8/6 each. Garden Rollers, 30/-.

PEA NETTING.—Tanned, Superior Quality. 6in. mesh, 6ft. wide, 6d. yard. Carriage paid 12yds. and over. Other widths *pro rata*, prices of smaller meshes on application.—E. R. HAWTHORN, LIMITED, Dept. E, Shrewsbury.

BARR'S SEEDS FOR MAY SOWING, for Vegetable and Flower Garden, Rock Garden and Greenhouse. Finest selected strains and tested growth. Also finest quality Seed Potatoes for May planting. Special Lists Free.—BARR AND SONS, 11—13, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are now famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx, and perpetual habit. Illustrated plant list now ready. New Seed now ready, hand fertilised, 2/6 and 5/- packets.—J. DOUGLAS, Great Bookham, Surrey.

VIOLETS.—Good rooted cuttings of Princess of Wales and Admiral Avellan, 8/- doz., free.—MARGARET SLATTER, Salford Priors, Warwickshire.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial: Notes on Primulas	261
The Return of the Dahlia	262
Some Flowering Barberries	263
Notes of the Week	264–266
Shortia galacifolia; Anchusa myosotidiflora; Omphalodes linifolia and Geranium lancastriense; Two Good Rock Roses; Agapanthus umbellatus; A Fine Alpine from New Zealand; A Charming Windflower; The Hardiness of Geums.	
Shrubs for Walls	266
Ideal Form in the Modern Gladiolus ..	268
Mowing Machines and Their Selection ..	270
Alpine Flowers at Westminster	271
Salad Vegetables in the Garden	273
Correspondence	273
Names of Early Potatoes; Rhododendrons in Various Areas; The Staking of Plants.	
The Spring Rose Show	279
Practical Aids to Garden Efficiency ..	281

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL DELPHINIUMS and ROSES. Send a postcard for our catalogue.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS —Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI, Chrysanthemums, Dahlias and Border Carnations.—Our stock includes many new and meritorious varieties. List post free on application.

HEWITT & CO. LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

NEW AND RARE HARDY HEATHERS Alpine and Herbaceous Plants. Catalogues on application.—MAXWELL AND BEALE, Broadstone, Dorset.

ROCK PLANTS, best varieties, inexpensive, list free.—MARION GLENDINNING, Fardross, Clogher, Northern Ireland

SWEET PEA PLANTS, AUTUMN SOWN, 9d. per dozen, 6/6 per 100. Exhibition varieties.—MILLS, Shavington Garden, Market Drayton.

SUTTON'S WALLFLOWERS.
The cultivation of the Wallflower was revolutionised when we introduced the wonderful orange-scarlet varieties, and we strongly recommend flower lovers to try the following:
SUTTON'S FIRE-KING (orange-scarlet), per packet, 2/6 and 1/6.
SUTTON'S ORANGE-BEDDER (vivid orange), per packet, 2/6 and 1/6.
SUTTON'S PRIMROSE MONARCH (pale yellow), per packet, 1/6.
SUTTON'S GIANT VULCAN (a fine crimson variety) per packet, 2/6 and 1/6.
SUTTON & SONS, THE KING'S SEEDSMEN, READING.

DOBBIE'S PLANT CATALOGUE now ready. Free to all readers. Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.—DOBBIE AND CO., LIMITED, Edinburgh.

BATH'S SELECT SEEDS AND PLANTS.—New Illustrated Catalogue of choice Vegetable and Flower Seeds and Plants is now ready, and will be sent, post free, on application.—(Dept. E), R. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

LOOK! GARDEN NETS.—Tanned small mesh, for peas, seeds and bud protection; 30yds. long, 1yd. wide, 2/6; 30yds. long, 2yds. wide, 5/-; 30yds. long, 3yds. wide, 7/6; 30yds. long, 4yds. wide, 10/-. Satisfaction or cash returned.—A. SIMMS, Net Works, Rye.

TO LOVERS OF ROCK GARDENS.—Inexpensive Plants for Sale.—Apply NELL SHAW, Hatfield Place, Bath.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

GARDEN NETS.—Best tanned, small mesh, 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 25yds. by 3yds., 6/-; 25yds. by 4yds., 8/- Carr. Paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Tennis nets from 10s. Special nets for tennis boundary. Pea training nets. Lists and samples free.—G. JARRETT, Netmaker, Rye.

LAXTON'S ASPARAGUS PLANTS 4 years old, 20/- 100; 3 years, 15/- 100; 2 years, 10/- 100.—LAXTON BROTHERS' Nurseries, Bedford.

LAXTON'S POT STRAWBERRIES for present planting. Will fruit this year. "The Duke," "Royal Sovereign" and "King George," 30/- 100, 4/- doz.—LAXTON BROTHERS, Bedford.

A NAIL WRITES WEBSTER'S METAL LABELS. Can't fade or break. List 20 sizes.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

LOOK! TANNED GARDEN NETS.—All orders despatched same day. 25 yards by 1 yard, 2/-; 25 by 2, 4/-; 25 by 3, 6/- Odd netting for bushes, 6lbs. for 2/6. All carriage paid. Any sizes supplied. Also Tennis Boundary Nets.—MOORE & CO., Net Works, Rye.

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES.—Per stone: Duke of York, 2/3; Witchhill, 2/6; Express, 2/2; Epicure, 1/10; Eclipse, 2/-; Abundance, 2/2; Great Scot, 2/3; Majestic, 2/4; King Edward, 1/10; Kerr's Pink, 1/10. Bishop, 2/3, etc. Shallots, Red, 8d. lb. Amateur's Guide of Vegetable and Flower Seeds, free.—TILLIE WHYTE & CO.; 12, Melbourne Place, Edinburgh.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING—"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then, together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices :—

Tins 10d. and 1/6

and in **Branded and Sealed Bags :**

7 lbs.	3/6	14 lbs.	6/-
28 lbs.	10/-	56 lbs.	18/-
	112 lbs.	32/-	

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark.

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers, etc. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**

Send your Enquiries NOW for

Autumn Planting of

CHOICE DAFFODILS

BRITISH GROWN BULBS

COMPLETE CATALOGUE NOW READY, FREE ON APPLICATION

Cartwright & Goodwin Ltd.

BULB GROWERS,

CHURCHILL, KIDDERMINSTER, WORCS., ENGLAND.

BENTLEY'S WEED DESTROYER

(POISON) STANDS FOR

Strength Reliability Economy

Stronger than any other. One application keeps gravel paths and drives clean for nearly two years. Commands the largest sale both at home and abroad, with a rapidly spreading popularity.

REDUCED PRICES:

Concentrated Liquid (1 to 80)—1 gal. 8/9; 2 gals. 13/-; 3 gals. 18/9; 6 gals. 35/9; 12gals. 69/-; 24gals. 134/3; 40gals. 215/3

Powder (1 to 25)—4 tins 9/3; 8 tins 17/10; 12 tins 25/6; 20 tins 40/9; 40 tins 78/-

BENTLEY'S DAISY KILLER

THE ONLY SCIENTIFIC LAWN SAND

Weeds of all kinds are quickly killed by one dressing of this unique speciality. Afterwards the finer grasses are free to develop into a dense, rich, green sward.

One pound is sufficient to dress 3 sq. yds.

1 ton 236; 4 cwts. 26/6 per cwt.; 1 cwt. 28/-; 56 lbs. 15/6; 28 lbs. 8/6 14 lbs. 4/9; tins 1/6 each.

Carriage paid on 15/- orders and upwards

Sole Manufacturers :

JOSEPH BENTLEY LTD.

CHEMICAL WORKS,

BARROW-ON-HUMBER :: LINCS.

KILL those WEEDS!

HOEING & HAND-PICKING OF WEEDS ARE BACK-ACHING, TEMPER-TRYING JOBS.

WHY NOT SAVE TIME & TROUBLE BY CLEANING THE PATHS WITH

COOPER'S Weedicide

("Highly Commended" by the Royal Horticultural Society)

1 gallon of Weedicide (price 9/-) dilutes to 100 gallons water; the cost of the ready-for-use mixture is, therefore, about 1d. per gallon, and is sufficient for treating 300 to 400 square yards.

1 pint 1/9 1 quart 3/- ½ gallon 5/- 2 gallons 17/- 5 gallons 36/6

IF YOU PREFER TO USE A NON-ARSENICAL WEEDKILLER, WE RECOMMEND

McDOUGALL'S

PERFECT SAFETY WEEDKILLER

Involves no danger of poisoning to Domestic Animals, Poultry, Game, etc.

1 pint 1/6 1 quart 2/6 ½ gallon 4/- 1 gallon 6/6 5 gallons 25/-

Write for our Illustrated Leaflet, "THE WEED PROBLEM SOLVED" and you will learn how weeds can be eradicated quickly and easily.

If unable to obtain these Weedkillers locally, please write :—

COOPER, McDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, Ltd.,

BERKHAMSTED, Herts. J 463

Digitized by Google

NEW
CHRYSANTHEMUMS

Clean healthy Plants free from rust, aphis, etc.

FOR GREENHOUSE FLOWERING: 12 New Exhibition Japanese of 1925, 20/-; 12 Exhibition Japs, including 1924 sorts, 5/-; 12 Incurved varieties, 5/-; 12 Decorative sorts, including one 1925 novelty, 5/-; 12 Decorative Single varieties, 4/-.

FOR THE GARDEN: 12 Aug.-Sept. flowering varieties, including one novelty 1925, 5/-; 12 Sept.-Oct. flowering sorts, 4/-; 12 Aug.-Sept. single varieties, 4/-.

Zonal Pelargoniums (Geraniums), from 3in. pots: 12 fine single varieties, 7/6; 12 double and semi-double varieties, 7/6; 6 Cactus Geraniums, 4/-.

Plumbago capensis (blue), 1/- each; (alba), 1/- each.

Post free for orders over 5/-; others 6d. extra.

Catalogue free on application.

J. W. COLE & SON
Westwood Nurseries - - Peterborough

THE SPADE SCRAPER removes all mud from just those parts of the boot which the ordinary fixed scraper cannot touch. There is a curve or angle to fit every odd corner.

THE SPADE BRUSH entirely supersedes the old type because:—It is raised off the damp ground on three little feet, and you can get the toe and sides of the boot underneath the bristles. Scraper 10/3 carr. paid. Brush 25/6; or the pair for 35/-

From your Bootmaker, Gunmaker or Ironmonger; or direct from

"SPADE SCRAPERS"
Dept. G), Wappenham, Towcester, Northants, also on the stand of Messrs. Holtzapffels' Stand, CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW.

THE DOG: MAN'S FIRMEST FRIEND.—How to choose and care for him, by A. CROXTON SMITH. A copy of this helpful booklet on the housing, breeding, feeding and care of dogs will be sent post free on receipt of 11d., addressed to The Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Bristol Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

Your Garden Needs
FERRY BRAND
Regd. Trade Mark.
FERTILISERS.

THE "FERRY" GARDEN MANURE for general garden purposes. It is suitable for Potatoes, Tomatoes, Peas, Beans, Fruit Trees, Vines, Roses, &c. Poor soils are greatly improved, and "worn-out" gardens are restored by "Ferry" Garden Manure. It feeds the soil with the essential plant foods.

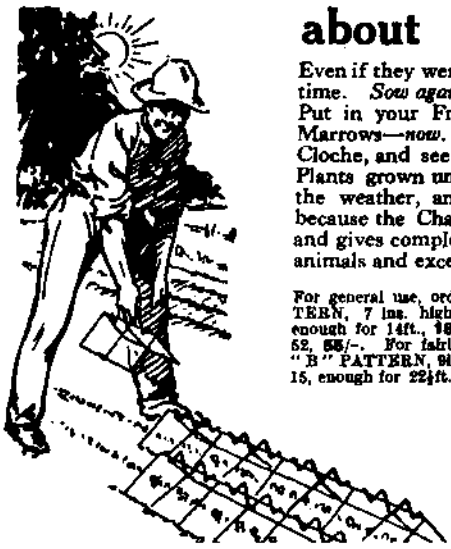
14 lbs. 2/-; 28 lbs. 5/9; 56 lbs 11/-; 1 cwt. 20/-
Carriage paid to nearest railway station for cash with order.

Write for the Orange Booklet containing gardening hints and particulars of special Manures for Roses, Sweet Peas, Carnations, Chrysanthemums, Fruit Trees, Strawberries, Potatoes, &c.

THE BRITON FERRY CHEMICAL & MANURE CO. LTD. (Dept. E), Briton Ferry, South Wales. (Est. 1888.)

Don't despair

about those early sowings



Even if they weren't a success, you can easily make up for lost time. *Sow again now*—and use the Chase Continuous Cloche. Put in your French Beans, plant out your Tomatoes and Marrows—*now*. Then cover them with the Chase Continuous Cloche, and see how quickly they will grow big and sturdy. Plants grown under Chase Continous Cloche thrive whatever the weather, and mature weeks earlier than in the open, because the Chase Continuous Cloche traps all the sunshine and gives complete protection against cold winds, frost, birds, animals and excessive rain.

For general use, order "A" PATTERN, 7 ins. high; box of 12 enough for 14ft., 18/-; 24, 35/-; 52, 65/-. For fairly large plants, "B" PATTERN, 9in. high; set of 15, enough for 22½ft., 35/- 80, 60/-

Free Booklet (explaining how the Chase Continuous Cloche saves labour, time and seeds, and ensures bigger, better crops) is gladly sent on request. Send a postcard *now* to

Chase Continuous Cloche
A Ray to catch the Sunbeams
(Dept. 7), CHERTSEY, SURREY

Carriage paid to nearest station in England and Wales; 1d. in the 1/- extra to stations in Scotland, Ireland, Isle of Man, Isle of Wight and Channel Islands. F.o.b. for colonial and foreign countries.

GARDEN LOVERS
Write for Catalogues of
PROTHEROE & MORRIS'
HORTICULTURAL SALES
WEDNESDAY
67, 68 Cheapside, London E.C.2. Phone: City 3856

MARK SMITH, Ltd.,
LOUTH, LINCS
"PERFECT"
WEED KILLER
STRONGEST
CHEAPEST & BEST

ESTABLISHED 1804. INCORPORATED 1809.

— THE —
ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S
AMATEUR SHOW
Vincent Square, S.W. 22nd June, 1926.

82 Classes. *OPEN TO ALL AMATEURS.* *No Entrance Fees.*

Division A.—Open to all Amateurs.
Division B.—Open only to those Amateurs whose average garden wage-bill does not exceed £4 a week.
Division C.—Open only to those Amateurs who employ no gardener.

IN ADDITION TO SUBSTANTIAL PRIZES A CUP IS OFFERED TO THE MOST SUCCESSFUL COMPETITOR IN EACH DIVISION.

For Schedules apply to THE SECRETARY, R.H.S., Vincent Square, S.W.1.

Digitized by Google

The ATCO MOTOR MOWER

Demonstrated on your own Grass

We will gladly arrange to demonstrate any model of the ATCO Motor Mower on your own Grass without any obligation upon your part. Such a demonstration will provide our best proof of the economy, reliability and efficiency of ATCO. The 1926 range includes models from 14 to 30 inches at

Prices from 30 Guineas.

Ask any of its 12,000 users their opinion of the ATCO Motor Mower.

Send to-day for 1926 Illustrated Catalogue of ATCO Turf Culture Specialities—post free on request.

CHAS. H. PUGH, LIMITED,

Whitworth Works, 31, Tilton Road, Birmingham.

REDUCED ATCO PRICES FOR 1926.

14 in. .. 30 Guineas		*22 in. .. 54 Guineas*	
16 in. .. 36	*,,*	*24 in. .. 60*	*,,*
18 in. .. 42	*,,*	*30 in. .. 75*	*,,*

Trailer attachment with spring seat, suitable for the 24 in and 30 in. models—8 Guineas.

KNAP HILL NURSERY

WOKING, SURREY

(late ANTHONY WATERER)

PROPRIETOR - **HOSEA WATERER**

has pleasure in offering

STANDARD TREES

in great variety, consisting of

LIMES, NORWAY MAPLES, ELMS, etc., etc.

EVERGREEN & DECIDUOUS SHRUBS, viz.:

Box—Green and Variegated, 3 to 8 ft.
Hollies—Common, 5 to 8 ft.; Variegated and Green varieties, 2 to 6 ft.
Thuiopsis borealis, 10 to 12 ft. Cupressus Lawsoniana, 12 to 14 ft. Cedrus atlantica glauca, very fine, 14 to 16 ft. Osmanthus, Phillyroeas, Spiræas, Lilacs, Viburnums, etc.

GOLDEN YEWS

A Magnificent Stock in all shapes and sizes from 2 to 10 ft.

PRIVET, Common and Oval-leaved.

QUICK and **HORNBEAM** for Hedges.

AZALEAS, 2 to 5 ft.

RHODODENDRONS, without doubt the finest stock in the trade of named varieties, 2 to 6 and 8 ft.

HARDY HEATHS in great variety and a good general nursery stock.

Catalogues ready.

Enquiries and Inspection invited.

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING STATION SURREY

NEW HARDY CRIMSON BROOM

AT Chelsea Show (1925) the King said, "That red Broom is certainly very striking." This was the new crimson Broom "Dorothy Walpole," which received the unanimous Award of Merit from the R.H.S. as well as other distinctions in London and on the Continent.

In the "Field," a well known ex-Curator of Kew Gardens wrote: "The richest coloured Broom known is one named 'Dorothy Walpole.' It is as hardy as the common Broom . . . and is very free-flowering . . . the colour is rich velvety crimson . . . more attractive than any of the coloured Brooms yet seen." The colour far surpasses Cytisus Dallimorei, and the growth is as vigorous as C. Andreanus; it requires no special treatment nor any kind of protection whatever—just a hardy shrub for ordinary garden soil in any part of the British Isles, however far north.

A Vice-Chairman, Floral Committee, R.H.S., wrote: "Everyone who has seen my plant has been astonished at its warm glowing red," and from a lady in Devon: "I am so delighted with the Broom 'Dorothy Walpole.' It has done splendidly and is like a sparkling gem in the garden—one mass of flower."

Strong pot-grown plants now ready for planting out, to flower in May, 12/6 each. Carriage paid rates to any station in Great Britain or Ireland: One plant, carriage paid, 15/-; two plants, carriage paid, 28/6; three plants, carriage paid, 41/-; six plants, carriage paid, 79/6.

Coloured illustration sent on application if THE GARDEN *is mentioned.*

Wm. Watson & Sons, Ltd., Nurseries, Killiney, Co. Dublin.

BY APPOINTMENT.

FERTILIZERS FOR THE GARDEN

As soon as pruning is finished, Rose Trees and Bushes need feeding. No section of the garden responds more to the use of fertilizers

ROSE FERTILIZER

Use 4 oz. to the square yard on the beds

Price per cwt. **29/-** Carr. paid.

7 lbs., 3/6; 14 lbs., 6/6; 28 lbs., 10/-; 56 lbs., 16/6

Illustrated Catalogue of Fertilizers for the Garden and Lawn post free from

Joseph Fison & Co., Ltd. Ipswich.

Digitized by Google

VOL. XC.—No. 2841. MAY 1, 1926

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.; Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2. *Offices for Advertisements:* 6–11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

NOTES ON PRIMULAS—I

THE primula stands among the foremost of plants that are becoming known as more and more worthy each year. This is particularly the case with Asiatic species. Their quality has been recognised in the past by a few, but in many cases their requirements have not been understood, so they have been labelled as difficult plants. Even now, when they are so much admired at flower shows and in various gardens, the average gardener is afraid to come to grips with them and is inclined to leave them severely alone. He is wrong—of course I must make an exception in what I say of the Candelabra group, such as japonica, Beesiana, Bulleyana, pulverulenta, Helodoxa, burmanica and so on, those, in fact, which send up spikes or whorls of flowers in tiers, for these have already achieved a considerable popularity through ease of growth, free-flowering habit and general suitability. They are sturdy and hardy and, provided that they have sufficient moisture, they are not only perennial in habit, but seed themselves freely. Even they are not sufficiently grown; there should be masses of them in every garden.

I find that half the battle with these Asiatic primulas is to keep them free from weeds. It is hopeless to expect much of them in ground clogged with vegetation. They like space, among rocks if you like, for they help to conserve moisture and keep the roots cool, quite an important consideration. They like moisture and, I think, good subsoil drainage, although at the Royal Botanic Garden at Edinburgh they have flourishing colonies of many species in the marshy low ground near the lake. However, I am sure that if drainage is deficient, more care must be taken over the composition of the soil in which they are planted and, also, they do not increase so readily. They also require a certain amount of shade, although the cooler the roots are kept the less shade is necessary.

I grow practically every species I have in ordinary loam, if anything on the heavy side, in clefts and pockets on the rocky sides of a stream. The drainage is excellent and they are kept cool and moist without the soil getting stagnant. I may be lucky in having such a situation, but almost every garden I see has some corner where Asiatic species would flourish. A stream is fortunate, but it is not a necessity. At any rate, under these conditions practically every species that I have tends to increase. One plant of sino-purpurea planted two years ago, has now nine crowns, a capita four years old has eleven, a candelabra of Kingdon Ward's two years planted has no fewer than thirteen, secundiflora two years old has eight; even such a difficult plant as P. melanops of the muscarioid group, planted last spring, has now two crowns. I put this down partly to moisture in the atmosphere from the stream, but mostly to good subsoil drainage and because they are not crowded. I plead no special knowledge, for I only became really interested in primulas three years ago, nor to special care, for I only see them about four times a year. The only things I do are to prevent crowding, aerate the soil each spring with a hand fork and leave it fairly loose around them. So far I have not bothered about dividing them, but this year, although not a single crown has died, I shall have to do so. The time to do so is after they have flowered.

Although I have by no means a large collection and about half of what I have are untried, yet they are sufficiently representative to form some opinion of the very debatable point as to whether primulas should be raised from seed each year. Here I must walk warily, for even experts differ, but I should certainly say that it depends upon circumstances and that no golden rule can be given. The real tinies, such as bella and moscophora, can be left out of the question, for they all have the strongest objection to whatever we can offer them in the way of growing conditions. They may flower from imported seed, but they will neither survive nor set seed here, so they can be ruled out. The main reason why others of more reasonable size fail to survive is not because they are monocarpic, which they are not, but because the crown rots during the winter and so the plant dies. This rotting may be caused either through insufficient drainage or, what I think is even more important, from the resting crown being covered with damp, rotting vegetation. This is one reason why weeds should be eliminated. It is also a good plan to remove carefully their own dead foliage as soon as it has withered. It is really an error to coddle primulas with the mistaken idea of keeping them warm. It is much better to have the bare earth around them during the winter. I think that another cause of the crown rotting is too deep planting, an error which causes more damage to all kinds of plants in the garden than any other manual operation. It is far better to plant primulas too shallow than too deep, for it is easier for a plant to pull itself down than shove itself up.

E. H. M. C.

AMONG THE ARTICLES IN OUR NEXT ISSUE WILL BE:

NATIVE PLANTS IN OUR GARDENS, by Dr. Lloyd Praeger.

THE DRY SUNNY BANK, by J. Birkentall.

Digitized by Google

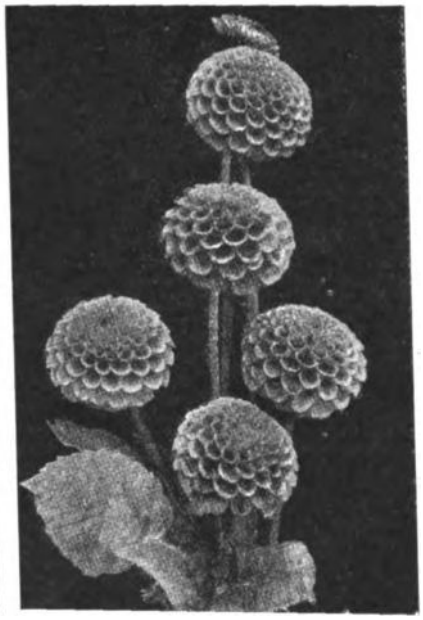
THE RETURN OF THE DAHLIA

THE first severe frost that strikes down the dahlias leaves a note of sadness in the garden. What was yesterday a blaze of colour is to-day a blackened, pulpy mass of shrunken foliage and flowers. During the last two or three years the Frost-spirit's stroke has come about the third week in October, but as this is nearly three months after the date when the first bloom can be gathered, it is hardly fair to say—as many critics do—that the fault of the dahlia is its short blooming period.

Last season I had a large collection of dahlias comprising all sections and numbering one hundred and thirty plants. During September and early October they made a perfect kaleidoscope of colour.

Now is the time to ask, "Have you experienced the pleasures of dahlia culture?" They are very easy plants to grow. All they need is a well cultivated plot, forked over in spring and enriched with a liberal dressing of well rotted animal manure and bone meal, an open, sunny site that is fairly well sheltered from prevailing winds, but not overhung with trees, and necessary protection and staking. If the site has previously been manured, say for a potato crop, all that is necessary is to clear it of surface weeds, and mark out the positions to be occupied by the plants. Dig out a hole about two or three spits deep, mix a little animal manure in the bottom and some bone meal and superphosphate in the upper layers as the soil is replaced, pressing the disturbed soil down firmly. Plants should be well hardened off before planting out in late May or early June, and if danger of frost is not over, protect the plants by means of inverted pots at night. Stake early and tie securely, afterwards repeating the tying up as the plants develop. In light soils a mulch is beneficial in a dry season. Dahlias revel in moist conditions at the roots and a sunny sky.

TYPICAL OF THE STAR TYPE.



AN ATTRACTIVE POMPON VARIETY.

A FINE SINGLE DAHLIA.

TYPES TO SELECT.

Cactus dahlias are mainly exhibition flowers, superb when well grown, but generally a failure as decorative plants. The following are the best decorative kinds:

Arthur Pickard, pinkish salmon with lighter tips; Border King, scarlet crimson; Conquest, crimson maroon; Constance, rich rosy pink; Cygnet, yellow with scarlet stripes and spots; Edith Carter, yellow suffused carmine; F. W. Fellowes, orange scarlet; Honesty, white changing to pale pink; Ivory White, a name descriptive of the colour; Mary Purrier, crimson scarlet; Mrs. A. Harvey, light salmon pink; Patriot, crimson scarlet; Sweet Briar, rosy pink; and Wild Rose, pink with lilac tips.

COLLARETTES.

These are mostly useful for decorative work, either in the garden or indoors. They are single flowers with a collar of shorter petals coming from the base of the outer petals. The following is a good selection: Admiral, blackish maroon with white collar; Agathe, creamy buff with rose tints, collar cream and white; Circe, white suffused lavender, white collar; Clarice, silvery pink with white tips, white collar; Doon, orange scarlet, bright yellow collar; Eclipse, reddish crimson edged yellow, yellow collar; Gipsy, maroon edged rosy crimson, white collar; Gold Tip, scarlet and gold with gold tipped collar; Ivor, orange scarlet, collar yellow suffused scarlet; Janet, crimson, collar white edged crimson; Lolah, brilliant scarlet, yellow collar, a very fine variety for massing; Scarlet Queen, intense scarlet with deep yellow collar, one of the finest varieties in commerce; and Verona, coppery red, collar red suffused yellow, a very fine variety.

THE PEONY-FLOWERED TYPE.

These are very large, semi-double flowers, not formal like the cactus or show dahlia, and very popular for garden decoration. They are too heavy for effective arrangement in vases.

The most outstanding kinds are Orpheus, reddish salmon heavily suffused buff; Albina, white; Angelos, yellow suffused scarlet; Blazer, brilliant scarlet; Brightness, one of the best; Candida, white, medium sized flowers on strong stems; Corban, bright salmon red; Crusader, salmon rose on white; Edith Cavell, old gold shaded reddish bronze; Enchantress, pure silvery pink, a very delicate and pleasing colour; Faithful, pale sulphur yellow, a very fine flower of refined colouring; Gipsy Queen, dark crimson; Gladys, yellow suffused cinnamon; Hope, soft pinky mauve; Iliad, creamy buff suffused salmon, a very fine large flower; Juliet, salmon buff, suffused yellow; Liberty, scarlet crimson; Martial, brilliant scarlet; Old Gold, deep golden amber; Oriana, pure rose; Peggy, a lovely shade of pure yellow; Radium, bright scarlet; Salute, deep blood red; Scarlet King, bright orange scarlet; Toreador, scarlet; and White Lady, a fine white self.

THE CHARMS.

These are sometimes called miniature peony-flowered dahlias, but "Charms" is a more appropriate name, and it is now becoming more generally used. They are all that the name signifies, being charming for home decoration and equally beautiful in the garden. This type has revolutionised the decorative dahlia, being unsurpassed for beauty of colour, freedom of

Digitized by Google

flowering, and they give brilliant colour effects that are unobtainable from any other autumn flower.

Some of the finest varieties are Charmer, shades of orange chestnut and orange salmon; Dennys, intense orange scarlet self; Mac, a lovely salmon rose on a yellow ground; Peach, rose suffused lemon with a wire edge of crimson; Amos, a wonderful shade of rich scarlet crimson; Crimson Glow, deep crimson; Dazzle, brilliant scarlet; Elegance, soft silvery rose; Fusee, a beautiful shade of rosy salmon on a yellow ground; Gladys Unwin, soft pink with lemon yellow base; Jess, orange suffused scarlet; Little Edie, a beautiful shade of shrimp pink; Norah Bell, pure cerise on a yellow ground, almost like the colour of the cottage; Our Annie, shrimp pink on a yellow ground; Picture, a blend of orange flame and chestnut, a distinct and attractive colour; Rosie, a soft shade of deep rose; and The General, madder crimson.

THE DECORATIVE TYPES.

These include two sections, the large and the small flowered decorative dahlias.

In the former the following are all varieties of merit: Aristocrat, cream, lightly suffused salmon, a beautiful flower of delicate colouring; Christine, chrome yellow; Emblem, rose pink, very strong stems; Mirth, salmon mauve changing to pale rose; Cambria, rich pink with white centre; Fireman, fiery scarlet; Mrs. Courtney Page, creamy rose shaded salmon; Nancy, a lovely shade of almond blossom pink; Psyche, deep chrome yellow self, large flowers on very strong stems; Romney, maroon crimson with blackish centre.

The small-flowered sorts are nearly as useful as the charms. The following are some of the best varieties: Carine, a magnificent orange-scarlet self; Raider, cinnamon with chrome base; Tipsy, a brilliant scarlet self; Aglaia, orange fawn overlaid salmon, very beautiful in artificial light; Feodora, cerise salmon with lemon base; Mrs. F. J. Sage, a brilliant scarlet red; Rhoda, orange rose passing to shrimp, curling florets; Thursa, a distinct shade of madder red; and Velma, bright rose on yellow base.

SINGLE DAHLIAS.

These include the mignon type, of which the popular Coltness Gem is a well known example, and the Parisian singles, of which Crawley Beauty is a type. The latter have longer and more loosely arranged florets than the ordinary singles.

Clematis, rosy lavender, which has flowers resembling the clematis; and White Tip, a flat flower of distinct shape with a light, graceful habit and deep crimson flowers tipped with white, are two other useful singles.

THE STAR DAHLIAS.

This is a well known and very popular type, being much used for garden decoration or cut flowers. They have a good, bushy habit, attaining a height of from 3ft. to 4ft., and the semi-double flowers are freely produced on long, wiry stems. Crawley Star, White Star, Crimson Star, Coral Star, Reigate Star and Yellow Star are all beautiful varieties.

POMPONS.

Owing to their somewhat formal character these are not popular, and are mainly used for exhibition. Good varieties for this purpose are Amelia, pale pink with white centre; Glow, orange; Gannymede, fawn; and Ideal, clear yellow.

DOBBIE'S BEDDER.

This is a camellia-flowered variety of pale yellow colouring and very floriferous, which is admirable for massing in large beds. It is extensively used in public parks.

NORMAN LAMBERT.

SOME FLOWERING BARBERRIES

AMONG our spring-flowering shrubs the members of the genus berberis are not the least important. Most of the species look well when laden with golden blossom. At first sight the inflorescences of the different species seem to be rather similar, but if one looks at them more closely one is surprised by the many variations in their structure, as well as in the individual flowers. The flowers are mostly arranged in more or less elongated racemes, but in a number of species the inflorescences are reduced to one or a few fasciculate flowers, while in others the inflorescences become paniculate. The last type shows an extraordinary development in a group of South American species which at present are almost wholly absent from our gardens.

The best known type of species with solitary flowers or few flowered fascicles is B. Thunbergii. I did not know its real beauty until I saw it around Boston in Massachusetts. In the Arnold Arboretum and in the public and private gardens of Boston and its vicinity it is not only a common but a very handsome shrub. When flowering in spring we enjoy the somewhat pale yellow of its flowers, which is delicately suffused with red. It is, however, at its best in the autumn with its richly tinted leaves and its bright red fruits. There are a few varieties; one is called var. Maximowiczii, which hardly differs from the type at all. A dwarf compact form is var. minor, and a very similar, if not identical, one var. Dawsonii. The so-called var. pluriflora is mostly B. ottawensis, a hybrid between B. Thunbergii and B. vulgaris of which I have seen different forms in American as well as in European gardens. There may exist a form of the true Thunbergii with somewhat racemose inflorescences, but, after all, it may be of hybrid origin, representing a form of B. ottawensis that comes very near the Japanese parent. B. ottawensis ought to be propagated freely, because it seems to be a shrub of great merit for our gardens. Other species with few flowered inflorescences are B. diaphana from northern and central China, and B. yunnanensis from south-western China. The individual flowers

B. AMURENSIS, ONE OF THE FIRST TO FLOWER.

THE GRACEFUL INFLORESCENCES OF B. ARISTATA.

Digitized by Google

of both are much larger than those of B. Thunbergii, and of a clear yellow without any reddish hue. The berries, too, are larger. The leaves of both these species show a beautiful crimson colouring in fall. Like their Japanese cousin, they form rather dense round bushes.

Of the species with true simple racemes, B. vulgaris is the well known type. Very closely related to it are two species of eastern Asia, B. amurensis and B. Regeliana. All three species look much alike, and it is hardly possible to state the differences. Of the last species which is a native of Japan, the leaves are of somewhat firmer texture than those of B. vulgaris and its relative from the Amurland. The serration, too, of the leaves of B. Regeliana is finer and closer. B. amurensis is usually the first one to sprout and to flower in spring, as is the case with so many other woody plants from this region. In autumn it seems the finest of the three when covered with its berries. There are, however, in our gardens quite a few hybrids, of which one or the other of these species is a parent, or even hybrids between vulgaris and either amurensis or Regeliana. It is, therefore, rather difficult to establish the true forms. Our illustrations show flowering parts of the two Asiatic barberries.

B. REGELIANA, SIMILAR IN APPEARANCE TO THE COMMON BARBERRY.

A very interesting and valuable species with racemose inflorescences of which I can show the flowers, too, is B. aristata from the central Himalayas. It was probably introduced by Wallich at least a hundred years ago. At about the same time, in 1820, another species came to England from Nepal, which has been confused wth aristata. It was first pictured under this name by Ker in 1823 in the Botanical Register. Ker took it for B. aristata of De Candolle, but the plant figured is B. chitria of Hamilton. The latter is an entirely different plant, and probably has to be put in a different section on account of its paniculate inflorescences. I am surprised that such an acute observer as Mr. Bean still keeps B. chitria as a variety of B. aristata. This species belongs to a section I have called Tinctoriæ, of which several forms are found in the Himalayas.

Of B. chitria I saw an extremely fine large specimen in the gardens of the R.H.S. at Wisley. It is one of the most beautiful barberries when in flower, the handsomest of the deciduous ones. The panicles reach a length of more than 8ins. I do not know whether it fruits freely. It does not seem to be quite as hardy as aristata, of which I have seen several old specimens in the gardens of western and central Europe. B. aristata is not quite as showy when in flower; the fruits are of a rather dull, plum red colour when fully ripe, covered with a faint bluish white bloom. I regard B. aristata as a good garden plant, but there are some hybrids of which it is one of the parents that are certainly of a greater ornamental value.

Another species I wish to mention is B. Gilgiana, a member of a section rather distinct by the shape of the inflorescence as well as by the pubescence of the leaves, a character very seldom observed among the barberries. This species from northern China and those related to it from the same region are still almost unknown in cultivation. I had an opportunity to study B. Gilgiana, B. brachypoda and B. Giraldiana in the Arnold Arboretum. B. brachypoda is the best known of them. B. Giraldiana had been raised from seeds sent by Père Giraldi from Shensi, and had been distributed by the well known nursery of H. A. Nesse, at Weener, Germany; but it is not mentioned in his latest catalogue.

One of the finest of the barberries that came into cultivation within the last decade is B. vernæ, which was mentioned in THE GARDEN a week or two back. CAMILLO SCHNEIDER.

NOTES OF THE WEEK

SHORTIA GALACIFOLIA.

THE late E. C. Buxton grew many plants well, but he excelled with this shortia. A few days ago I had a look at them. All were just about to break bud, the season being very early, and such vigour and development as theirs must be uncommon in this country. In the first place, the leaves are so large that they could scarcely be distinguished from those of Galax aphylla, which grows among them. The stout, rambling branches of the plants flop about the rocks, covering their mossy crowns, and they filled in the spaces between with dense masses of healthful foliage. One secret of this striking success is doubtless the selection of the right spot in the first instance. The site is cool, partly shaded, and it is never really dry or really wet. The mountain atmosphere of Bettws-y-Coed probably also helps. But Mr. Buxton always held the opinion that pine-needle leaf-mould was the food for shortias, and this he provided, with a certain amount of peat. But the plants for many years have enjoyed a natural fall of pine-needles from a small Pinus montana which stands over them, and a large Douglas fir and other conifers close by. They are, in fact, at practically any season always more or less sprinkled with these leaves, and it is into the loose, friable residue of the latter that they root as they spread about. In our own garden shortias are given a similar fare, and they certainly seem to thrive on it, but we have not yet managed to inspire them with the amazing vigour of the Bettws-y-Coed plants. —A. T. JOHNSON.

A SHOWY ROCK [illegible]DEN OR BORDER PLANT, ANCHUSA MYOSOTIDIFLORA.

ANCHUSA MYOSOTIDIFLORA.

THERE appears to be a diversity of opinion regarding the subject of this note. Farrer consigns it to cool, shady and undesirable corners, while one catalogue says it is good for a rough corner, and a plant which has not lived up to its reputation. However, I am going to say a few words in its favour. It can, perhaps, be described as a very fine

Digitized by Google

CISTUS LORETI, A NEAT SHRUB FOR THE ROCK GARDEN.

forget-me-not, and the illustration, taken early in March, 1926, gives a good idea of what the plant is like. It is not really a rampant grower and at this period of the year a clump of its light flowers are very showy on the rock garden or in the border; the plant attaining a height of about a foot. This pretty plant is a native of Siberia, from whence it was introduced a century ago. It is increased by seeds and division, and is sometimes known under the name of Myosotis macrophylla.—T. W. B.

OMPHALODES LINIFOLIA AND GERANIUM LANCASTRIENSE.

THIS little picture illustrates the method adopted at Gravetye Manor of growing alpine and other choice flowers in retaining walls. It is also a pretty example of the charming results arising from this much abused form of gardening. The plant in the foreground is Geranium lancastriense, which hails from a little island near the county of that name. It is a beautiful plant, and, in addition to its value in the rock garden, forms lovely edgings to beds of other flowers, and in October the plants are covered with pretty soft rose-coloured blossoms each 1¼ins. across and finely marked with dark lines. In the rear is that delightful hardy annual from Portugal, Omphalodes linifolia, which grows about 18ins. in height, and arising out of its grey-blue glaucous foliage are numbers of elegant branching spikes of the most lovely white forget-me-not like flowers faintly suffused with blue and delightful for cutting. This is one of our most graceful annuals, the flower sprays so thin and yet wiry as to withstand any storm without support of any kind. The seeds may be sown either in spring or autumn, the latter for preference, as the resulting growth is much stronger and the plants more effective. Once established this annual flower reproduces itself if allowed to remain in the same place, for which reason it is a very desirable plant to associate with alpine flowers. Between the two groups mentioned above will be seen Erysimum linifolium, a little wallflower-like plant with spikes of pretty lavender or mauve-coloured flowers. The seeds are scattered where the plants are to grow about the end of July each year, and thus we get the flowers during May and June.

Not the least important part of this little picture is the stone itself, which is quarried on the estate and very plentiful and, as will be seen, weathers beautifully, lichens in masses of various shades of grey and green forming a mantle of tender colouring over the exposed parts in quite a short time, and this, associated with plants in bloom, often reaches the ideal of beauty. The wall was not built without reason, as in the first place a loose bank 4ft. in height had to be supported, and therefore it serves a very necessary purpose. The stones are cut by the men on the place to a uniform thickness, and as each layer is put down, are tilted slightly inwards and the plants laid along the surface of each layer of stone as the work proceeds. Little or no soil is used between the layers, and this is a very important point, for half the wall gardening we see to-day is ruined by the cramming of large quantities of loose soil between the stones, which during times of drought and frost crumbles away exposing the roots of the plants. The plants here shown get their nourishment from the bank of earth in their rear, and to increase the supply of moisture each layer of stone is set back 1½ins. beyond the face of the preceding layer. Gentians flourish and bloom profusely when grown in this manner.—E. MARKHAM.

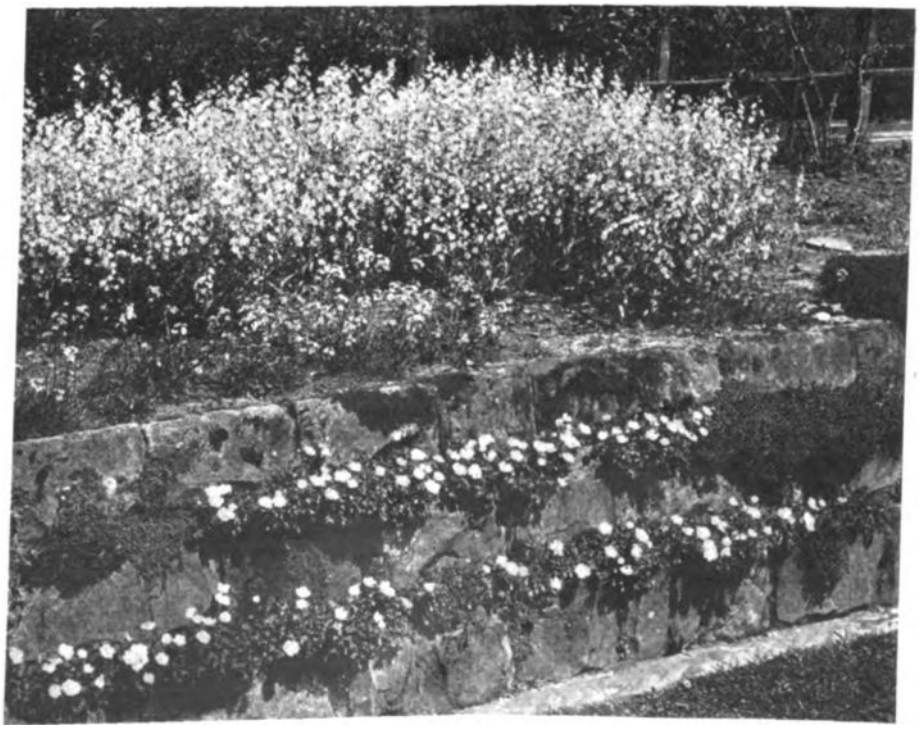
TWO GOOD ROCK ROSES.

Cistus ladaniferus and C. Loreti.

AMONG the taller rock roses C. ladaniferus is perhaps the most beautiful, it being unequalled in the elegance of its habit, and none can rival it in the size and delicate texture of its flowers. The latter, borne singly at the axils of the long, narrow leaves, are often 4ins. across, and each pure white petal has at its base a bold blood-crimson blotch. If not the hardiest of its race, C. ladaniferus will withstand 20° of frost in a light, well drained, stony soil. It is a fast grower, soon making a bush 5ft. high and as much through, but greater heights are by no means uncommon in our milder counties. Still, this species, like many others of its genus, is not long lived, and a few young plants, which are easily raised from seed or cuttings, should always be kept coming on.

The unblotched form of C. ladaniferus known as var. immaculatus (albiflorus) is, to my mind, even more beautiful than the type, and if ever I were condemned to grow but one rock rose, I think this would be my choice. Its blooms are not only very large, 5ins. and sometimes more in width, but the pure white, papery petals are exquisitely crimped.

C. Loreti (a ladaniferus × monspeliensis hybrid) is a most delightful rock rose for the rock garden, its compact habit, low stature (about 3ft.), ample foliage of a cheerful green, and large and abundant flowers together making a most engaging little bush. The blossoms, which are rather more than 2ins. across, are borne singly or in small clusters; they are white with a rosy carmine blotch, and it is noteworthy that they last longer than those of most cistuses, often till the next morning. This is one of the hardiest of the rock roses, frequently being quite uninjured by frost, which has killed many of its kindred. It is readily increased by cuttings in August. Syn. C. lusitanicus.—A. T. JOHNSON.



AN EXCELLENT METHOD OF GROWING ALPINE AND OTHER CHOICE FLOWERS.

Digitized by Google

AGAPANTHUS UMBELLATUS.

A Plant for Tubs or a Warm Border.

THIS is a half-hardy plant coming from the Cape of Good Hope. It has been for many years a favourite in our gardens, succeeding well outside in our southern counties throughout the year when our winters are mild. It has, however, been regarded mainly as a greenhouse subject, and it is a very charming one, too, when properly treated. Usually, the specimens are giants, growing partly out of big cracked flower-pots as the plants produce roots freely in any good soil. There is a use, however, for large plants in fairly large gardens, as they look well in recesses on lawns and at the sides of broad paths; but they are not so attractive in small gardens, unless the plants are smaller, too. I strongly recommend these small plants both for gardens and greenhouses, as they flower just as freely when the pots begin to fill with roots. Every two or three years the plants should be reduced by division and the number increased in this way. Small specimens look splendid as dot plants in the summer flower beds; they flower from August to early in October and produce quite long flower stems—2ft. to 4ft. high. —G. G.

A FINE ALPINE FROM NEW ZEALAND.

Tratia linnæoides (*syn. Lobelia linnæoides*).

IT may be that Tratia linnæoides is not so well known as one or two other members of the genus, or it may be that some have found it more difficult of cultivation; but, whatever the reason, it is certain that this valuable plant is not so much grown as it deserves to be. This gem hails from New Zealand and is not difficult to propagate. It can be increased from cuttings taken at the end of July and inserted in a very sandy compost in the hardy cutting frame, taking care to pot up the cuttings as soon as rooted. If grown in a pan in the alpine house it will soon spread to fill the pan, and in the autumn can be tapped out and divided. It comes into bloom about the end of July or the beginning of August, when numerous flowers are produced on very slender stems about 3ins. or 4ins. long. The flowers are almost pure white, though at times, in the young stage, there is a faint tinge of blue which seems to become more pronounced as the blooms get older.

The leaves, which are small and round, arise along the creeping stems in pairs. What it most enjoys on the rockery is a position where it can get a fair share of both sun and shade and a good soil in which peat and sand are present.—W. H.

A CHARMING WINDFLOWER.

Anemone Seemannii.

WINDFLOWERS of the character of our lovely wood anemone are always favourites and, whether in the border, the rock garden or naturalised, receive the unstinted admiration of most flower-lovers. There are few species or varieties which do not deserve our favour, and a collection of windflowers of this type is full of delight to those who possess it. Yet few of them can hope to oust our wild Anemone nemorosa, and its influence in the creation of A. Seemannii, a hybrid between it and A. ranunculoides, has given us a plant of much, though quiet beauty. The union has produced a plant almost intermediate between the parents, its size of foliage and flower showing the influence of A. nemorosa by having its leaves and flowers larger than those of A. ranunculoides, but that of the latter in the colour of its pretty flowers, which are of a pleasant shade of straw yellow. This hybrid has been raised in more than one quarter, and is even found as a natural hybrid in some woods where the two parents grow wild. It is in commerce, though not frequently offered, and I see it in the list of Mr. Van Tubergen of last season. It first came under my notice through being sent me by a Danish correspondent twenty years ago, and so pleased was I with this little hybrid that I have never lost sight of it since then. It flourishes wherever A. nemorosa or A. ranunculoides do well.—S. ARNOTT.

THE HARDINESS OF GEUMS.

I MUST confess that, grown under normal conditions—that is to say, in the herbaceous border—I have found Geum Mrs. Bradshaw a fractious person to deal with. Recently, however, I have come to the conclusion she suffers a good deal from sore throat, especially if given rich soil. My soil is very light, sandy loam, and a good deal of old manure has been added to the herbaceous border. Lady Stratheden thrives exceedingly well, being one of the first and one of the last plants to flower. Mrs. Bradshaw looks thoroughly unwholesome, and like a hypochondriac, draws all possible attention to herself by lifting pathetic, semi-rotten crowns out of the ground for my inspection, and spreading an invalid's shawl of decaying leaves round about her. So much for the border plants.

On the lower slopes of the rock garden she is happier, but I am not at all sure she appreciates the autumn mulch of old manure and leaf-mould she shares with the rock plants. On the higher slopes, where she is perched 6ft. up, with a drop so sudden that moisture drains away quickly, and where I never climb to give her manure, she is as vigorous as is Lady Stratheden in the border. These particular high grown plants are at least four years old, and to-day they form large, flourishing clumps of handsome foliage, with upstanding flower stems showing promise of profuse bloom.

I am experimenting with seedlings in the border. These have a plentiful admixture of sharp sand with the soil about their roots, and solid collars of sand about their susceptible throats.—GWENDOLYN ANLEY.

SHRUBS FOR WALLS

BY W. J. BEAN.

(*Continued from page* 233.)

A GOOD many of the Australasian daisy bushes (OLEARIA) can be grown on walls, but comparatively few have much beauty of flower, although a goodly number are handsome enough in leaf. Near London the best perhaps for blossom is O. macrodonta, but even with wall protection it is a poor shadow of the plants covered with large trusses of white flowers one sees in the gardens of mid-Sussex and farther southwards and westwards. The beautiful O. semidentata, whose flowers are 2ins. to 2½ins. wide, with purple ray florets and a darker disc, is worth trying at the foot of a wall. As having more beauty of leaf than of flower the following may be mentioned: OO. argophylla, Forsteri, furfuracea, nitida and Traversii.

O. albida and O. myrsinoides are nearly hardy at Kew and the latter especially produces its white flowers with great freedom. O. Solandri, with long, slender, broom-like branches and heath-like leaves, is elegant, the whole shrub having a yellowish tone due to the down on the young shoots and beneath the leaves, also to the outer bracts of the flower-heads being of that colour.

OSTEOMELES.—There are two kinds of osteomeles in cultivation—O. Schwerinæ and its variety microphylla—which (certainly the species itself) seem to need a wall for their successful cultivation, and are worth it. They have small, pinnate leaves, pure white flowers ½in. wide and blue-black fruits. The type makes long, graceful, slender shoots which blossom in June. The var. microphylla, which Wilson introduced from the Min River valley in Western China in 1908, is a closer, neater grower with tiny leaflets only one-twelfth to one-sixth of an inch long. It has borne large crops of its small white flowers and egg-shaped purplish fruits on an east wall at Kew. It is suitable for filling a vacant place 4ft. or 5ft. high.

PENTSTEMON.—Several of the Californian shrubby and sub-shrubby pentstemons are very showy in flower and a few species are well deserving of a place on a sunny wall, a space up to 3ft. or 4ft. high being sufficient for them. They all have the typical funnel-shaped flower of the genus and the following may be recommended: PP. cordifolius, flowers scarlet; corymbosus, bright red; heterophyllus, reddish purple. They flower from late June onwards.

PHLOMIS FRUTICOSA.—With its foliage like that of a giant sage, and its bright yellow stalkless flowers clustered in their axils, this shrubby labiate (often called "Jerusalem Sage") is an interesting plant that flowers over a considerable length of time in autumn. It is a sun lover.

PHYGELIUS CAPENSIS.—In the milder parts of the country this South African shrub is grown fully in the open and is very handsome, with its terminal panicles 1ft. or so high, stiffly erect, but with the scarlet tubular flowers, each about 1in. to 1½ins. long, pendulous. Near London it needs wall protection. It grows 7ft. or 8ft. high.

PILEOSTEGIA VIBURNOIDES.—Although known to botanists as an Indian plant for many years, this climber appears to have first reached this country from China, whence Wilson introduced it in 1908. It is the only species in the genus, and is an evergreen with dark green, rather leathery leaves up to 5ins. or 6ins. long. The flowers are creamy white, densely crowded in a terminal pyramidal panicle 4ins. to 6ins. across. Each flower is ¼in. to ⅓in. wide, with four or five petals, conspicuous stamens and opens in September. Closely related to the hydrangeas, it promises to make a pleasant addition to

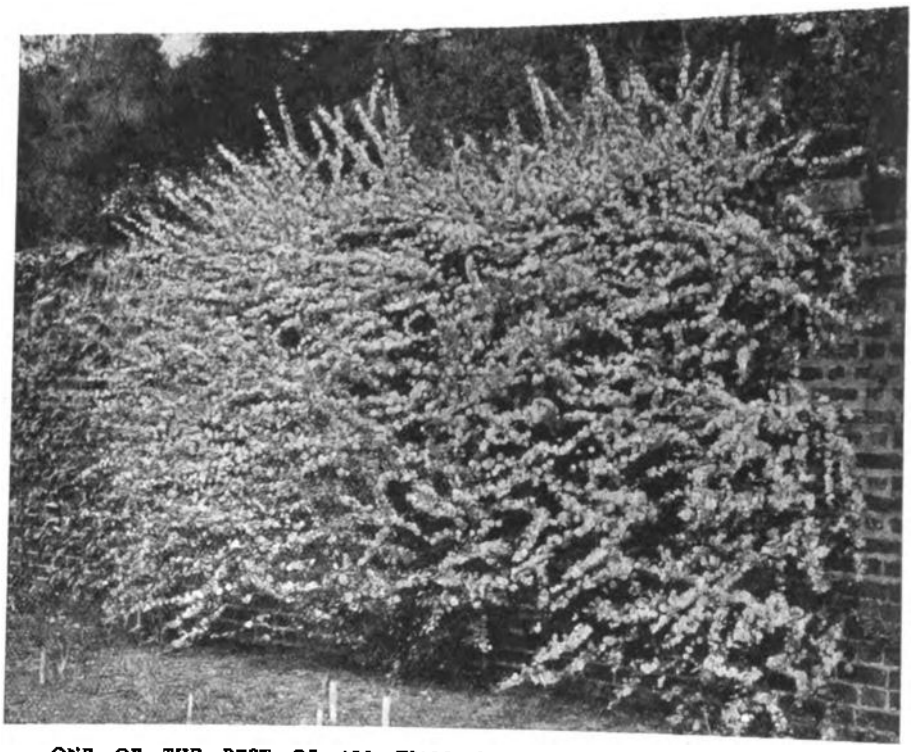
Digitized by Google

evergreen wall plants. Wilson gives its maximum height as 22ft. It has succeeded very well at Aldenham.

PITTOSPORUM. — Of this extensive genus very few are hardy away from the milder localities and few in my opinion are worth wall space. P. crassifolium has for many years been grown on a wall at Kew and covers its space densely with the dark evergreen foliage, but rarely flowers. P. Tobira, the Japanese species, also evergreen, has charmingly fragrant, creamy white flowers in clusters, 2ins. or 3ins. wide. One of the best of all variegated shrubs as one sees it in the gardens of the south-west, is P. eugenioides variegata, but I have not seen it tried on a wall. Its variegation is peculiarly pure and clean-looking.

PRUNUS.—Nearly all the members of this very extensive genus are, of course, among the very hardiest of trees and shrubs, but P. ilicifolia, a Californian evergreen of the cherry laurel group, must be given wall protection. It has small, white flowers in short racemes and shining, conspicuously toothed leaves. A curious and interesting species of the almond group is P. orientalis, with silvery grey foliage; this, too, needs a wall and as much sun as it can get. But by far the finest of all prunuses for walls is the double-flowered form of P. triloba, one of the most beautiful indeed of all wall shrubs. The individual flower is 1½ins. wide, delicate rose, composed of many petals. Its flowers appear in March and April and the blossoming shoots should be pruned back almost to the old wood as soon as they are over. This gives the shrub a full season to make a new crop of shoots, which will grow 1ft. to 2ft. long before the summer is over and flower in their turn the following spring. For very many years a plant on a wall at Kew, covering a space 15ft. by 8ft., made a glorious display until it was destroyed by the silver leaf disease.

PUNICA GRANATUM.—The pomegranate is nearly hardy and in a sheltered corner outside the temperate house at Kew has stood uninjured and borne flowers and fruit for some years past. Possibly a really hard winter would be too much for it. For wall cultivation the double-flowered variety, with its fine bright red flowers, 1in. to 1½ins. wide, is better than the type; and for a low space, say 3ft. or 4ft. high, the charming dwarf var. nana should be selected. They flower from June onwards and love the sun.



ONE OF THE BEST OF ALL WALL SHRUBS. PRUNUS TRILOBA FL. PL.

PYRACANTHA.—All the pyracanthas as yet introduced are perfectly hardy, with the exception of P. angustifolia, which must have wall cultivation. The common one, P. coccinea (especially its var. Lalandei), flowers so freely and bears such magnificent crops of its brilliant red fruits in the open ground that it need not be given wall space if that be scarce. At the same time, for a sunny house front it would be difficult to find an evergreen more admirable. It is still, I consider, the best of the genus, but it does not retain its berries so long as either P. Gibbsii or P. yunnanensis. The latter, with its profuse crops of orange red fruits is a good wall shrub, but P. Gibbsii is so vigorous and so hardy that it is better in the open. It is really a small tree at Aldenham. Both have smaller fruits than coccinea, and they remain on the branches well into the New Year, as they do also on the yellow-fruited P. angustifolia. In general appearance, P. Rogersiana, with its small leaves, is the most elegant of the pyracanthas, and its fruits vary in colour from yellow to orange red, but I have never seen very large crops on it.

RAPHIOLEPIS. — The commonest species of this genus, R. japonica, seems to be quite hardy in the London district. The newer R. Delacouri, also, is growing well in the open, although it has not yet been put to a very severe test and may eventually prove to be only really safe on a wall. If so, it will well deserve it as a pleasing evergreen producing its clusters of charming rosy pink blossoms at almost all seasons and not needing much room.

RHUS TOXICODENDRON (Poison Ivy).—So evil are the effects of the sap of this plant on the skin of many persons—producing painful and unsightly eruptions, that take long to cure and occasionally recur—that it is better kept out of the garden altogether. There are two forms of it, one a spreading bush, the other a climber, the trifoliate leaves of both of which turn a beautiful red in autumn. They are only mentioned here by way of warning, not of recommendation.

PYRACANTHA GIBBSII. A MOST ORNAMENTAL PLANT FOR WALL DECORATION.

(To be continued.)

Digitized by Google

IDEAL FORM in the MODERN GLADIOLUS

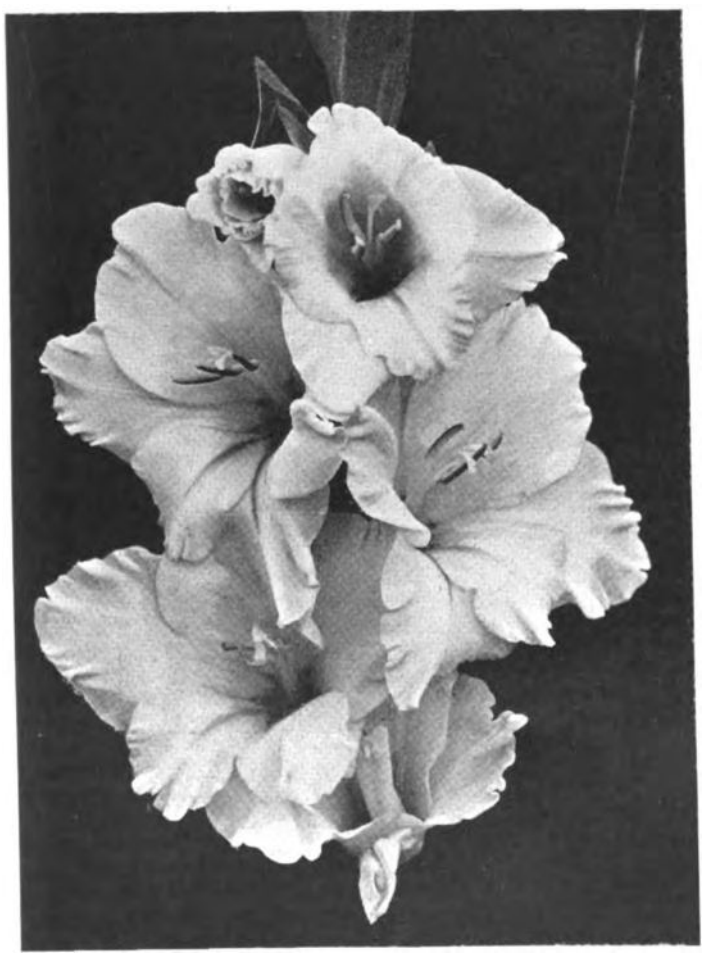
IN many popular flowers, there is a recognised ideal, a generally-accepted standard (or standards) by which the merit of the different varieties of those flowers may be judged, but to the individual, ideal form or type in any flower must always be that which most completely satisfies personal taste and requirements.

The purposes for which a flower is intended have a decided bearing upon how its merit should be ascertained. From the point of view of the exhibitor some varieties of roses would be hopeless, yet as bedders they may be superb. We find in many flowers the distinction made between "exhibition" varieties and "bedding" (or "decorative") kinds, and it must be said that the latter of late years has, in most instances, become the more popular type. Roses and dahlias furnish good examples of this, and although I would never belittle the undoubted influence for the better which the exhibitor exerts, he is, after all, greatly in the minority. I believe hybridists and raisers, generally, are fully alive to this tendency in public taste, and are the less likely to condemn a variety lacking in exhibition "points" provided it is pleasing to the eye.

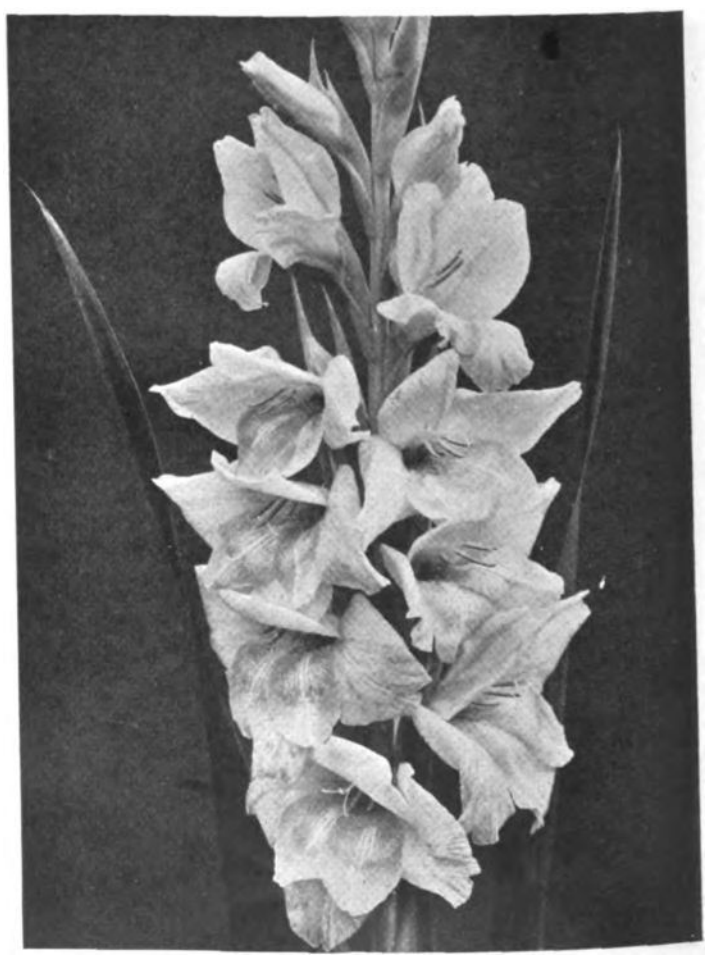
It is exceedingly difficult, perhaps impossible, for any one individual to lay down hard and fast rules as to what might be considered good form in modern gladioli. Personal taste is given a much wider scope than in the case of most other flowers on account of the divergence of form and habit. Even the two divisions known as large-flowering varieties and primulinus hybrids, are being bridged by some of the comparatively large-flowered primulinus hybrids, and the distinction between the two classes is, in some instances, very small indeed. It is, of course, not surprising that present-day gladioli present such a wide divergence in form, for their ancestors comprise a large number of distinct species. "J. C." in a very interesting article in THE GARDEN of March 6th, 1926, gave details of the four distinct types (gandavensis, Lemoinei, nanceianus and Childsii), themselves raised by crossing and inter-crossing various species, which are the parents of present-day large-flowering varieties. The primulinus hybrids came later, and are the result of crossing the large kinds with G. primulinus.

In giving my personal views on what is good form, I will deal with the large-flowering section first. I do hope the increasing interest now being taken in gladioli may not make some of us hypercritical or give us fixed hide-bound ideas on this question of "ideal form." We must remember we are not dealing with a flower of the nature, or the limitations in form, of such subjects as carnations, sweet peas, violas, etc., and just those points of size, shape and placement of blooms in gladioli which may be condemned as faults by some, might appeal to others. A few days ago, I asked a friend—a gladiolus enthusiast who in the past has exhibited them very successfully—if he had an ideal or a definite standard by which he arrived at the merit of any variety for his particular purpose. He said "Yes" and rather astonished me by asserting that, judged by his standard, he perceived little or no improvement among varieties of to-day as compared with those of a quarter of a century ago. Be that as it may, I was surprised to find that his standard of perfection (an exhibitor's point of view), was almost identical with my own, for with me, their decorative value is everything. Apart from colour, these are the points which appealed to us both:

FLOWERS.—Large and wide open, with rounded petals. General outline inclined more to the form of a circle than triangular. Petals of good substance and the larger number of florets open on the spike at the same time, the better.



1.—A good large-flowered gladiolus with plenty of substance in the petals.



2.—A spike of rather loose habit with too much stem showing, but with a large number of flowers out at one time.

Digitized by Google

The spike itself should be long and straight and the placement of florets regular, all running more or less in one way, not with the two sides facing in nearly opposite directions and showing an expanse of stem in the middle, nor yet sticking out at all angles in an irregular kind of way. The florets should not be crowded as though they each find it difficult to expand fully without covering their immediate neighbours, neither should there be noticeable looseness in the fully open spike. To make these points clear, shall we just judge the two spikes illustrated (No. 1 and No. 2) by this standard, finding out their defects and their good qualities. May I request my reader to turn back to page 159 of the March 13th number, which also shows two spikes to which I will refer by their names, Purple Glory and Orange Glory.

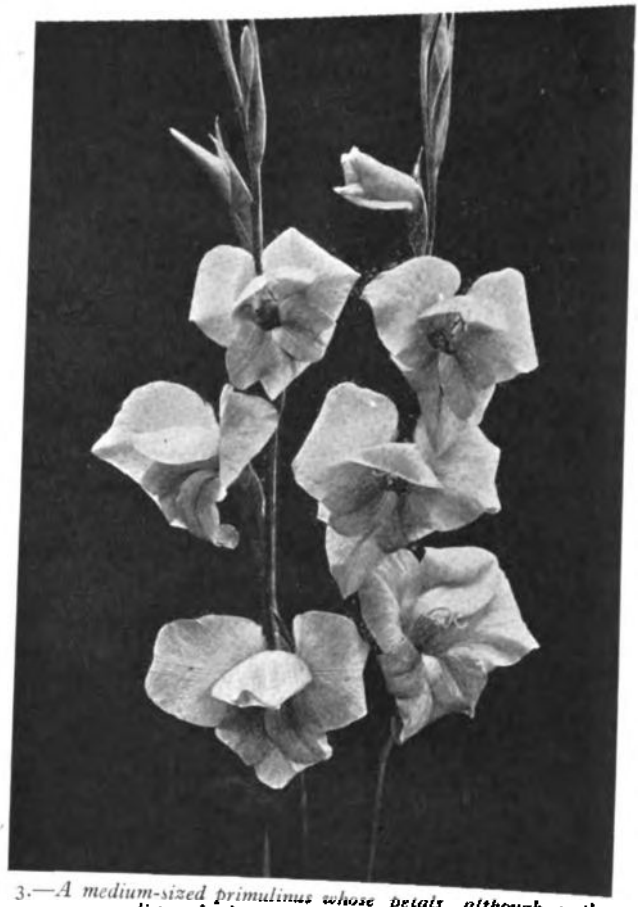
No. 1.—*Defects:* Florets rather too crowded on the spike and not nearly enough open at once. Very slightly tubular in form. *Assets:* Fairly large flowered with plenty of substance in the petals (which are ruffled or crimped).

No. 2.—*Defects:* Florets a little on the small side, very tubular, with top petal almost hooded. Petals too pointed and too "thin." Very lacking in substance, which causes a curl on some of them approaching the twisting of the skin peeled off a tomato. Owing to the tubular shape of florets, the whole spike appears "loose" and too much stem is shown, particularly towards the top. *Assets:* A large number of florets open at the same time.

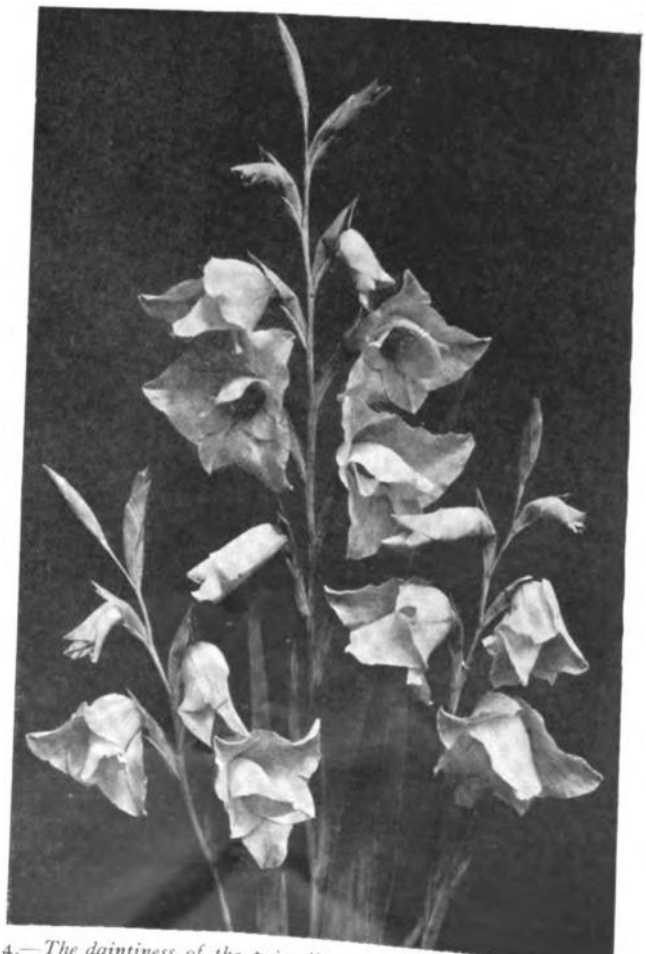
If we turn back to page 159, much better spikes are given. The only defect from my point of view in Purple Glory is that the second bloom from the bottom on the right-hand side is slightly misplaced (a fault easily remedied by an exhibitor). The shape of the flowers and the texture of petals obviously are excellent. They are wide open (just glance again at No. 2 and note the great difference). Each individual petal is well rounded and the outline of each floret circular rather than triangular. Perhaps a keen exhibitor might say that not enough flowers are open, but for all that, it is a very handsome, well made spike and easily the best of the four we are discussing. Orange Glory, too, is a nice spike, large, wide open, rounded blooms, with plenty of substance, but their placement is just a wee bit crowded. I should place it second, for it is certainly far ahead of both No. 1 and No. 2.

This sums up my personal opinion of good form. Many of the most popular and valuable of all varieties would fall short of it, or indeed, any similar attempt. Take the case of Red Emperor; here we have a variety which never fails to invoke admiration if half a dozen or so spikes are nicely arranged in a large vase, bowl or basket. No one would wish to dispense with it, yet judging by the above standard, apart from colour and size of flower, there is apparently little to recommend it; from a decorative point of view, one would rate it higher in value than some other deep red varieties which would conform more nearly to the suggested exhibition standard. Then there are the closely-knit, well made and compact spikes, typical of many of the Dutch introductions and the fairly wide spaced, curiously reflexed petals shown in the American gladiolus Dr. W. Van Fleet. One could mention other distinct forms, every one of them very beautiful and each making its separate appeal. I feel confident the frilled or ruffled petal has come to stay; it may not be such a vast improvement as was the "frilled" type in sweet peas, or so quickly take precedence over the plain flower, but it is a step in the right direction and in my opinion tends to make a very charming flower still more beautiful. Judging by personal experience, if we leave out the question of colour entirely, I think the Purple Glory form is nearer the average taste than other types of large-flowering gladioli.

Primulinus hybrids differ so much in size, shape and placement on the spike, that ideal form is even more largely a question of individual taste than in the large-flowering varieties. Prims. are less formal, much daintier and more graceful, generally speaking, and their value is confined to a greater extent to their purely decorative qualities, particularly for indoor work. I feel sure *one should judge them entirely from the decorative standpoint.* Perhaps it will be a good plan to enumerate those points which are inartistic or likely to detract from the lightness and gracefulness of the flower. Too thick and fleshy a stem, quite out of proportion to the size of the bloom, is the fault of a few varieties. Nydia being a good example, although small corms of Nydia will often produce a spike in which the fault is modified. The characteristic hooded upper petal of primulinus species is sometimes slightly exaggerated in the hybrids. Personally, I do not wish to see this rather refined hood disappear, but if the droop is so pronounced as to hide the stamens and pistil in a spike held on a level with one's eyes, I consider it a fault. I like to see this petal nearly horizontal except for a curling upward of the end ¼in. or so. The three outer



3.—*A medium-sized primulinus whose petals, although well disposed, show too much of a reflex.*



4.—*The daintiness of the primulinus is here shown to advantage but the stem is too prominent in this specimen.*

Digitized by Google

petals should be wide open like a butterfly's wings, with a dainty, but by no means pronounced reflex backward at their tips. In general outline, the flowers are triangular and, in some varieties, a trifle stiff looking. (The ruffled or crimped petals of some of the newer large-flowering varieties, such as A. B. Kunderd or Purple Glory, would be a decided acquisition in this class and would dispel any suspicion of formality.) Just a slight nodding or drooping of the florets, gives a demure and altogether charming appearance, but a few kinds develop this virtue so far as to become a fault; we like to see the faces of our prims. without having to hold them above our heads. Another defect in just a few prims. is the tubular shape and like their larger brethren, an open flower is to be preferred. As regards size of the blooms, the well known Orange Brilliant is among the smallest, while Orange Queen and Alice Tiplady are representative of the larger prims. Most of the named kinds fall between the two, such as Hermoine, Atalanta, etc. My own preference in respect to size is for a "medium to large" form, somewhat after the type of Salmon Beauty. A number of prims. are thin in the texture of their petals, and there are very few which would not bear improvement in substance. The flower stem should be long and wiry, not with a twist or two in it such as one finds in Orientale and sometimes in Souvenir, and the placement of the florets should be regular as in the large-flowering gladioli. The two sides of florets facing in opposite directions and exposing the whole length of the stem is a defect. I like to "see daylight" right round every floret and any suspicion of crowding or overlapping of florets is certainly a fault much more serious in the primulinus hybrids than in the large-flowering varieties. About three open blooms and one half-opened bud on each spike are sufficient to give a nice colour effect, a smaller number of open flowers making them appear "all stem." My ideal bunch of prims. would compare, for lightness, with a bunch of sweet peas. C. H. A. S

MOWING MACHINES AND THEIR SELECTION

IN THIS SECOND ARTICLE IS DESCRIBED A NUMBER OF SUITABLE SELF-PROPELLED MACHINES, ANY ONE OF WHICH WILL PROVE SERVICEABLE IN THE UPKEEP OF MODERATE-SIZED AND EXTENSIVE LAWNS AND LARGE SPORTS GROUNDS.

THE application of motor power to the mowing and rolling of grasslands is a comparatively recent innovation, but it is undoubtedly an introduction which has come to stay. While it is only a few years ago since the first self-propelled machine made its appearance, such rapid strides have been made in the evolution of the general idea that the up-to-date machines listed in the 1926 catalogues bear only a very faint resemblance to the original types. Most of the earlier machines consisted of an ordinary hand or pony mower with a small petrol motor built on the framework and connected to the driving roller. While this idea was for a time satisfactory, it soon became evident that, in most cases, the original framework and mechanism of the machine would not withstand the constant vibration and jarring which the motor caused in working. Manufacturers have now solved this difficulty, and the motor mower of to-day is practically a self-contained unit, designed, like the chassis of a motor car, by experienced motor engineers and capable of bearing the strain and stress imposed by constant use. For use on large lawns or sports grounds they undoubtedly go a long way towards that saving of expensive labour which is usually so important, while the difference between the initial cost of an up-to-date motor machine and the older type of hand machine can generally be saved by their economical working during the first season. Neither must their general efficiency be lost sight of. The secret of good mowing lies in the size of the cutting cylinder, the number of the knives and the speed at which they revolve. It follows, therefore, that a machine which, by its own power, can cover the ground at a fair pace, thus automatically increasing the revolving speed of the cutting cylinder, has a great advantage over a hand machine, the speed of which is naturally governed by the energy displayed by the operator.

As in the case of hand machines, prospective buyers are confronted with a large and comprehensive number of models from which to select a suitable machine. Each different make embodies special attractive points, but as many of these apply particularly to the type and pattern of the engine used, the discussion of these is perhaps a subject which is more fitted for the columns of an engineering journal. Messrs. Ransomes, Sims and Jefferies offer many fine models which are designed to meet the needs of all users. They range in size from the large 42in. machine, which weighs 21cwt. and is driven by an 11 h.p. engine, to the convenient little 16in. machine which weighs but 2cwt. 6lb. and is driven by a 1½ h.p. engine. Messrs. Alex. Shanks are also in the forefront with a fine list of various-sized machines, ranging from the giant 36in. cut with a weight of 13½ cwts. to the nippy little "Jehu" 20in. and "Wizard" 16in. The latter machine is an ideal type for general use in a comparatively small garden.

Messrs. Thomas Green and Sons is another firm whose name and reputation are well known in connection with this subject, and their 16in., 20in. and 24in. light models are well known. In addition to these they also manufacture heavier types up to 42in. cut, and their 36in. machine fitted with driver's seat and steering gear is a particularly useful machine for dealing with large areas.

A machine of outstanding merit which demands attention is the "Atco," made by Messrs. Pugh of Birmingham in all sizes from 14ins. to 30ins. Many up-to-date improvements are embodied in this machine, and I am impressed with the pattern of land roller adopted. The 14in. machine is, I believe, the smallest self-contained motor machine on the market. One of the most remarkable features of the "Atco" Company is their Service Scheme. By means of this not only can new parts be obtained but they will be personally fitted by this progressive firm's representatives without the inconvenience and delay caused by the removal of the machine.

The famous motor manufacturers Messrs. Dennis Brothers are also responsible for a very fine machine which is made in two sizes, 24in. and 30in. respectively, and both models secured the highest possible award at the Motor Lawn Mower Trials, held in Regent's Park, in May last, by the Royal Horticultural Society. The Dennis mower is designed in accordance with the best principles of motor car practice, and includes the fitting of differential gears to the driving rollers; oil circulation by pump, gear-driven from the engine; separate clutches to roller and cutter cylinders, etc. A trailer seat can be fitted to both models, and the 4 h.p., 4-stroke engine is powerful enough to draw the trailer and driver up steep gradients and to travel on the level up to five miles per hour.

The Auto-Mower Engineering Company are the manufacturers of a machine which can be obtained in sizes from 15in. to 30in. The aim of the manufacturers has been to construct a simple machine without sacrificing efficiency, and it would seem that this has certainly been accomplished. It is manufactured almost entirely of steel and all rotary shafts are mounted on ball bearings, while the height of cutters can be very easily adjusted without the use of tools.

One seldom sees a motor mower of the side wheel type, and the "Pennsylvania Moto" mower is all the more interesting on this account. The side wheels, of course, do away with the land roller, and, considering it has a cutting width of 27ins., its total approximate weight of only 200lb. is a factor which will be considered favourably by many. The manufacturers claim that it will cover from four to five acres per day, with a petrol consumption of about one gallon. For really hard and rough work this machine is to be strongly recommended.

No article on power machines would be complete without some reference to the well known "Mower Pusher" attachment. This consists of a very ingenious separate motor unit which can be connected at will to most makes of ordinary hand mower, lawn sweeper or roller. It is so arranged that the operator just sits on the attachment and guides the machine. It is simple and extremely economical in working. A. J. C.

Digitized by Google

ALPINE FLOWERS AT WESTMINSTER

THE great floral feature of the meeting was the superb collection of hippeastrums shown by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir George Holford, from his famous garden at Westonbirt, Gloucestershire. It is several years since a really large group of these handsome lilies has been seen, and never before have they been shown so finely. As ever, it was the new colours that attracted most, and of these the very best were the lovely little New Pink Pearl, the gorgeous rose cardinal-coloured Cardinal Beaton, of immense size and perfect form; Cardinal York, deep old rose; Black Knight, crimson maroon; Flashlight, orange; Rose Brocade and Pink Topaz, which have the base of the flowers feathered with white.

The most striking exhibit among the alpines was the rock garden for which the Hon. Vicary Gibbs (gardener, Mr. Beckett) was awarded a gold medal. This was a steep bank of rock traversed by a cliff path and planted, perhaps, a little too lavishly with brilliant plants and flowering shrubs. Torrents of azaleas and drifts of Daphne Cneorum overwhelmed magnificent plants of Haberlea virginalis, Daphne rupestris and Androsace arachnoidea. Very old specimens of Juniperus compressa and Pinus albertiana conica had acquired with age something of the solidity of the rocks with which they harmonised so admirably, and Taxus baccata pygmæa aurea made a rounded hummock of dull yellow.

Messrs. Waterer showed Iris cristata, many vigorously flowering plants of the reputed difficult Viola pedata; Genista sericea, a trailing woody little broom; Anemone palmata alba, a stocky anemone that has strayed into Europe from Africa; and several forms of Anemone nemorosa, of which Alleni, large, solid and deeply coloured, is perhaps the best.

Messrs. Maxwell and Beale brought up some interesting new mossy saxifrages. Picture, white, flushed and veined with pink from a dark centre; Queen of the Belgians, carmine veined crimson (and much prettier than it sounds); Wenlock Peach, shaded pink; and Saxifraga lævis, whose foliage turns red in winter.

Messrs. Hodsons, Limited, showed Ranunculus graminifolius, a clear-cut design of grey, spiky leaves and pure yellow flowers; Dianthus alpinus, and the very dwarf Erigeron leiomeris with large, cool lavender flowers.

Messrs. W. H. Rogers and Son showed some interesting small shrubs. Iberis saxatilis, whose creeping woody stems and almost black leaves suggest some dark conifer until the many heads of chalk white flowers appear; Azalea serpyllifolia, a delicate little bush with very small leaves and dainty lilac pink flowers.

Messrs. Prichard showed off the floriferousness of their Ramondia pyrenaica in a large clump on a miniature cliff, and exhibited a dark form of Cortusa Matthioli (C. pubens), which is rather superior to the type.

One of the best of Mr. F. G. Wood's plants was Potentilla fragiformis, with soft strawberry leaves and very large, saucer-shaped flowers, clear yellow with an orange centre. An old plant, but a rarity, was a hose-in-hose oxlip and a new plant (though now well known and appreciated), Primula secundiflora, which is a wine-coloured version of P. sikkimensis, delicately powdered with white bloom.

Mr. Clarence Elliott made a *pré fleuri* of gentianella and the pale, silky bells of Sisyrinchium filifolium in a dark corner that scarcely did justice to the robust terra-cotta red of The General and the violet of The Professor, two brilliant hybrids of Primula pubescens, or to a large group of the grandiflora variety of Daphne rupestris hiding themselves with fragrant pink flowers.

Messrs. Baker of Wolverhampton showed Primula chrysopa, whose delicate lavender is almost blue, and a bank of Armeria cæspitosa.

Mr. J. Robinson of New Eltham made a pleasant little garden of sedums, aubrietia and the tangerine-scented Thymus azoricus.

Messrs. Tucker and Sons showed the minute Bulgarian pink Dianthus microlepis; Myosotis Rehsteineri, a mat-forming forget-me-not; a soft apricot form of Geum Heldreichii, and many other good plants.

Mr. J. C. Allgrove showed a form of the common primrose with flowers twice as large as the type which was found in a wood in the west of England by Miss Evelyn Arkwright, whose name it bears.

Among interesting plants exhibited by Messrs. Jeans and Trowbridge were Cyathodes ericoides, a powerfully scented, heather-like

AN ATTRACTIVE GREENHOUSE SHRUB, ANOPTERUS GLANDULOSUS.

alpine with waxy white bells from New Zealand that has proved quite hardy; Iris lacustris, an exquisite miniature of I. cristata; the flat, open-flowered Trollius pumilus; and Felicia petiolata, a rambling little shrub with delicate, lavender pink cineraria flowers on tall, slender stems.

Mr. E. M. Preston showed not only that it is possible to grow our native terrestrial orchids, but that the fly, the sweet-scented, the butterfly and the spotted orchids are well worth the trouble.

Cinerarias and their near relatives, the senecios, were shown as very decorative pot plants. Messrs. Sutton and Sons had a good group of their new variety (see New and Rare Plants); while Mr. E. M. Preston of The Warren, Hayes, sent a well grown batch of Senecio Beauty of Cambridge, well furnished with the white purple blush tipped cineraria-like flowers.

The scented Cape pelargoniums from Wisley attracted a deal of attention, partly on account of the pungent, refreshing scent of the leaves, but also by reason of the decorative value of the flowers of some of the species. In the Annexe Messrs. Jarman and Co. had a good collection of trusses of bloom of the zonal pelargoniums which made a very bright display. They had a good selection of both the double and the single flowered varieties.

The possibilities of a good strain of schizanthus when sensibly grown was illustrated by Messrs. Dobbie and Co. in their splendid collection of Dr. Badger's strain, which has such a delightful range of colouring. The seed was sown early last September, and the plants have been grown under cool conditions ever since.

Mimosas, as pot plants, were also displayed in great excellence. Messrs. Stuart Low and Co. had very floriferous bushes of Acacia pendula, A. armata and A. junipifera. Other beautiful plants in their collection included the yellow Richardia Elliotiana, hippeastrums, gloxinias and the sweetly scented Boronia megastigma.

Flowering trees and shrubs made a bright display. Mr. R. C. Notcutt had a beautiful group of the best pyruses, Japanese cherries, berberis and lilacs. Messrs. R. W. Wallace and Co. showed floriferous bushes of rhododendrons, including the Earl of Athlone, Daphne Millais and Douglas McEwan, and they also had good examples of Japanese azaleas; while Messrs. L. R. Russell and Co. again exhibited clematis in flower. Flowering crabs were also displayed by Messrs. J. Cheal and Sons, with the orange-coloured Cydonia Maulei and the dwarf Berberis Crawley Gem. Mr. G. Reuthe had many trusses of various rhododendrons.

The earliness of the season was illustrated in an exhibit by Mr. J. C. Allgrove, who lifted a large clump of the lovely Pæonia obovata alba from the open ground; this received a first-class certificate at the Chelsea Show last year. The tall spikes of Rheum palmatum rubra in his group were very decorative.

Carnations were shown in abundance by the usual exhibitors, and there were small collections of roses. Mr. G. H. Dalrymple had another large collection of the Bartley strain of Primula pulverulenta, and included a few plants of P. Littoniana, Miss Christy's New Polyanthus, Greenway's Glory, was very charming. Polyanthuses were also shown by Messrs. John and A. Crook and by Mr. G. W. Miller.

Although the Daffodil Show is a thing of the past, Messrs. Barr and Sons were able to set up many excellent seedlings of various types and a large quantity of named sorts. Of the latter, Suda, which has a long, fluted primrose trumpet; Rosary, with an old ivory trumpet; and Hexagon, an immense Incomparabilis with a long, pale yellow tube, were the very best.

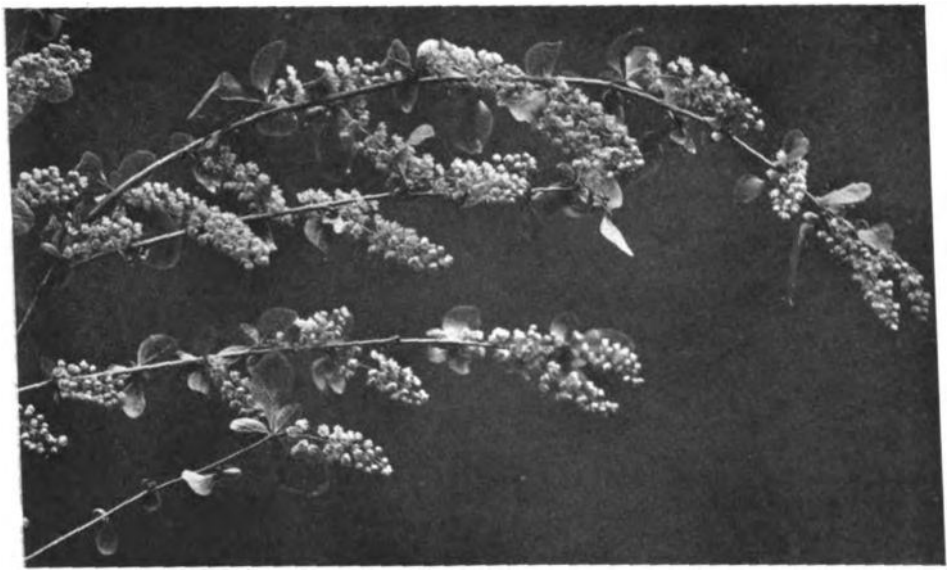
In the Gallery, Messrs. R. H. Bath, Limited, had narcissi and tulips; and Messrs. F. H. Chapman, Limited, showed a few good seedlings of the Barrii and Poeticus types with some named varieties.

A most attractive garden of Darwin tulips was laid out by Messrs. Carter and Co., who had generous quantities of Centenaire, pink; Roi d'Islande, rich pink; Velvet King, shining purple maroon; Valentine, satiny heliotrope; and Mr. Farncombe Sanders.

Messrs. Charlesworth and Co., Haywards Heath, staged the only group to which a silver Banksian medal was awarded. It contained a very dark variety of Lælio-Cattleya St. George, some fine examples of Miltonia William Pitt, with crimson flushed segments, and a distinct variety of Odontioda Madeline, with dark yellow flowers having reddish blotching. An interesting plant was staged in Wilsonara Wendy, with elongated spikes bearing large reddish flowers; and species were represented by the pretty Cypripedium niveum, with flowers of porcelain white, and the handsome Dendrobium thyrsiflorum.

In conjunction with this Show, the National Auricula and Primula Society held their floral meeting for 1926. Although the number of exhibitors was somewhat small, there were several good groups of the quaint old-fashioned Dusty Miller. Mr. James Douglas won first prizes in various classes, both for alpine and show auriculas. The

Digitized by Google



THE GRACEFUL FLOWERING SPRAYS OF BERBERIS KANSUENSIS.

alpine varieties Day Dream, Morning Star and Argus, shown by Mr. Douglas, were excellent specimens. Mr. E. Heron Allen staged a number of well grown plants; Mr. C. Kirch exhibited, among others, an attractive white-edged seedling; and Mr. A. S. Hampton won a first prize for his single white-centred alpine auricula.

Inyetsee, a sulphur yellow variety shown by Mr. J. Douglas, was considered the premier fancy auricula; and Argus, a dark plum with a white centre alpine auricula, also shown by the same grower, was awarded the prize for the premier alpine auricula. The "James Douglas Memorial Challenge Cup" was awarded to Mr. A. S. Hampton for six beautiful blooms of alpine auriculas. Polyanthuses and primroses were exhibited by Mr. G. A. Miller, his prize varieties being Dawn, large clear blue primrose; Sunset, a deep shaded orange polyanthus; and Mme. Pompadour, a purplish-crimson primrose. Mr. Heron-Allen received a first-class certificate for an excellent grey-edged unnamed variety.

NEW AND RARE PLANTS.

AWARDS OF MERIT.

ANOPTERUS GLANDULOSUS.—This very attractive greenhouse shrub, which was introduced from Tasmania in 1823, does not seem to have ever been much cultivated. It branches freely and bears large shining leaves, much the shape of those of the Portugal laurel, though rather larger, shining, and having shallow serrations. The fairly large, round, white flowers are borne in erect terminal racemes. Shown by Lieutenant-Colonel Messel, O.B.E., Nymans, Handcross.

BERBERIS KANSUENSIS.—This is a most distinctive berberis. It was originally discovered by a Russian in western China many years ago. It is deciduous and extraordinarily vigorous, many shoots exceeding 3ft. in length every year. The leaves are up to 4ins. long and 3ins. wide, while the flowers are a bright yellow and hang in numerous short racemes. It is ascendent in growth and obviously becomes a very large shrub. Shown by Mr. E. H. M. Cox, Glendoick, Perthshire.

BOMAREA BANKSII.—These handsome South American twining liliaceous plants are rarely seen outside botanic gardens, though they have much to recommend them as climbers for the cool greenhouse and are of easy culture. The flowers are of deep orange colour on the outsides, while the tube is yellow within and freely spotted with crimson. Shown by the Cambridge Botanic Gardens.

BRACHYSEMA LATIFOLIA.—A strikingly handsome shrub, suitable for growing as a pillar plant in the cool greenhouse. The slender, graceful stems and the under sides of the small leaves are densely covered with silky hairs. The brilliant, scarlet crimson, pea-shaped flowers are borne in short clusters in the axils of the leaves. Shown by Lieutenant-Colonel Messel.

CINERARIA INTERMEDIATE PINK.—This is a highly decorative greenhouse pot plant. It is of compact yet spreading habit and bears large quantities of good sized flowers of a lovely soft pink shade. Shown by Messrs. Sutton and Sons.

CISTUS WINTONENSIS.—This is a pretty little gum cistus, furnished with grey foliage and stems and bearing relatively large, flattish round, milk white flowers which have a distinct purplish maroon zone. It appears to be a low, semi-rambling shrub suitable for the rock garden. Shown by Hillier and Sons.

HIPPEASTRUM MAGIC.—A handsome flower of large size and rich deep scarlet colour. A white band runs from the middle of each floral segment to its base. This and the two following were shown by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir George Holford, C.V.O., Westonbirt, Tetbury.

H. NEW PINK PEARL.—A very delightful flower, rather smaller than most, but of perfect rounded form and lovely pink colour.

H. THE BRIDE.—A splendid white variety of large size and with a little green in the centre of the flower.

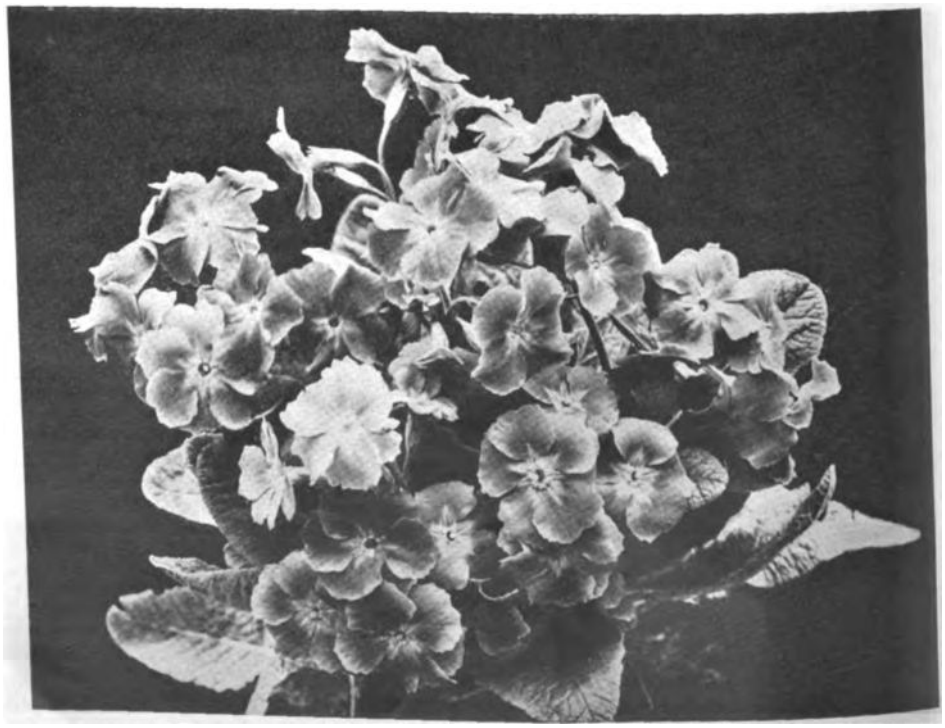
POLYANTHUS GREENWAY'S GLORY.—The flowers are large, freely produced, and of an uncommon and very attractive velvety Venetian red colour, with a yellow eye. Shown by Miss Charlotte Christy, Boyton Cross, Chelmsford.

RHODODENDRON DAME NELLIE MELBA.—A very handsome truss of perfect form and of large, round, widely opened flowers of beautiful pink shades which have two narrow rows of carmine and chocolate spots on the lower segments. The pink colour is deeper on the outsides of the flower. Shown by Mr. Lionel de Rothschild, Exbury, Hants.

RHODODENDRON LORD SWAYTHLING.—This is a beautiful hardy hybrid which flowers when the bush is quite dwarf. The large flowers are of delicate pink shades of colour which pale towards the margins and are much deeper on the outsides of the flowers. Shown by Messrs. R. W. Wallace and Co.

ORCHIDS.

CŒLOGYNE LAWRENCEANA VAR. SUPERBA.—This handsome species bears the name of Sir Trevor Lawrence, by whom it was exhibited at the meeting of the R.H.S. on March 28th, 1905, when it obtained an award of merit. This plant was introduced from Annam by Messrs. Sanders, and the same firm have now shown a much superior type, with larger flowers and with the well known characters of the labellum considerably developed. It belongs to the speciosa group, but is taller in habit, in which respect it approaches C. Micholitziana. The sepals and petals are light buff yellow, and the front lobe of the labellum cream white with a deep orange disc. The labellum bears several prominent fimbriate keels, which are brownish, as also are the side lobes. Shown by Messrs. Sanders, St. Albans. First-class certificate.



A VENETIAN RED POLYANTHUS, GREENWAY'S GLORY.

Digitized by Google

SALAD VEGETABLES IN THE GARDEN

SALAD vegetables figure largely in the imports during the course of the year, and yet there is no reason why home growers should not get more of this trade. Though, perhaps, saladings are more easily raised in early summer than in winter, spring or autumn, there is nothing particularly complicated in this business of growing salads for use all the year round. It is mainly a matter of scheming, knowing what to sow and when to sow them, and keeping up to date with those sowings.

The principal saladings are beet, chicory, corn salad, cucumbers, endive, lettuce, mustard and cress, small onions, radishes and tomatoes. All these are easily cultivated, and if a little care and common sense be exercised in putting them upon the market at the proper time, profit can be made at home that at present goes into the pockets of foreign growers.

Beetroot may be had all the year round, for roots can be stored and will usually keep well till spring-sown globe beet come into use. If young beet are required, the globe kind can be sown in a frame, the seedlings being thinned out to a few inches apart, then thinned again, and the final thinnings made use of for salad.

The value of chicory does not lie in the summer months, when cucumbers, tomatoes, radishes, etc., are abundant, but during winter, when it provides a change in the list. The process of forcing is such a simple one as to bring it within the reach of everyone who has a cellar or a shed that is properly dark, and where the temperature is reasonably equable. There are two varieties of chicory cultivated in this country, of which the witloef is the easiest to grow, and produces leaves of excellent flavour.

Corn salad, or lamb's lettuce, is mostly in request in spring, when properly dressed salads are always appreciated. Seeds can be sown at practically any period of the year, but those put in in August and September generally give the best returns.

For a very early supply of cucumbers the seed must be sown in December, and the plants grown in the greenhouse. Another sowing should be made in February and again in April, these plants being grown in a frame. In April and May the outdoor ridge varieties may also be sown — under glass — for planting outside.

Endive is mostly grown for autumn and winter use, for it stands the cold weather so much better than lettuces. Sow in August, lift the plants when ready and set them fairly close together in boxes or in a frame or on the floor of a glasshouse. The best way to blanch them is by covering to ensure darkness. Good varieties of endive are green curled and winter curled.

The first sowings of mustard and cress should be made in March in boxes about 12ins. square and 2ins. deep. The soil in the boxes must be well pressed down and the seed sown regularly over the surface. When placed in a greenhouse or frame the seed will germinate in from six to eight days, and a further supply may be sown in another box for succession. Mustard and cress can be grown all the year round if there is a little artificial heat. Two sowings of mustard should be made to one of cress, that is to say, mustard should be sown once a fortnight and cress once a month to procure a succession.

Young spring onions, as they are called, are really sown in summer or autumn, ranging from the end of July to the end of October. The Tripoli and Giant Rocca are the kinds that produce the best plants for salads.

Radishes find a readier sale in early spring and summer than at any other season. The reason why they are then sought and appreciated is to be found in the fact that samples are then more uniformly young, tender and of good quality, though there is no valid reason why the season should not be extended on the basis of successional sowings. Long radishes are generally best for deep ground and for early work, though the variety known as French Breakfast succeeds well on shallow land. For late and autumn supplies red and white turnip-rooted varieties are best, and it is desirable when grown for market to grow a preponderance of white-bulbed, which look showier and better in the bulk than an equal or greater number of red. The radish, more than any other vegetable, is ruined by slow growth. Rapid growth should therefore be aimed at, and roots of medium size are the most marketable.

Both cos and cabbage varieties of lettuce should be grown, and to keep up a supply during the summer and autumn months it is necessary to sow seed at intervals of from ten to fourteen days. For early lettuce, sowings may be made in early spring in gentle heat in frames, which will be ready to plant out at the end of April or the beginning of May. Later on, when summer sowings are made, the young plants should not be moved, as transplanting often causes them to bolt or run to seed.

Tomatoes may be cultivated successfully either in or out of doors, and though the plants are fairly productive, the limited culture cannot be induced to give very large returns. Unlike the cucumber, for instance, the tomato plant does not give successional supplies, but forms and ripens its full crop, and the work is then finished. The best tomato to cultivate is of the smooth kind, weighing, on an average, eight to the pound, as these are most in demand.

CORRESPONDENCE

NAMES OF EARLY POTATOES.

SIR,—The note which appeared in THE GARDEN of April 10th, page 227, on the confusion of the names of early potatoes by Mr. Geo. Stuart, Edinburgh, should prove to be a rather interesting subject to those who grow a few lines of "earlies" as well as to the commercial grower. To the enthusiastic potato grower it must be a somewhat depressing revelation for him to know that he may have been buying and planting the Duke of York potato under the impression that it was Midlothian Early, Victory, etc., or some other of the numerous Duke family that he fancied best. To be told that Duke of York, Victory and Midlothian Early are simply one potato masquerading under three or four different names appears to be what the Board of Agriculture has found to be the case.

To those who pinned their faith on some one of these potatoes the information will not be cheering, and is a rude reflection on their perception of characteristic points which distinguish the varieties.

It sounds like a feat of jugglery when we are told that from a pit in springtime some nurserymen and potato merchants can produce three or four varieties of potatoes with distinct names, which in autumn only contained Duke of York. If this be correct, as we assume it to be, from what Mr. Geo. Stuart says, this means of supplying the various needs of customers must prove of great convenience to trade growers. That there was a distinct difference in the characteristic points of the potatoes originating from the Duke of York variety when first coming into commerce there is no reason to doubt. Despite all the scientific findings and research work of the Board of Agriculture on the matter, one has to believe the evidence of one's own eyes and results obtained by experience of the potatoes in question. The reversion or deterioration back to the present type, which now exists among them, is without doubt greatly due to a slipshod and careless selection of seeds and also to unscrupulous growers supplying seeds of Duke of York when stocks of Victory, Midlothian Early, etc., ran short. It is owing to these reasons, in my opinion, we are now faced with such a hopeless mixing of these potatoes and, of course, not a confusion of names at all as Mr. Stuart says.

I have grown Victory ever since it came into commerce, in frames, early borders and in the open ground alongside Duke of York. The results from these experiments, I am bound to say, has been entirely in favour of Victory, the true Victory being whiter in the flesh, giving a far heavier yield of tubers and being much more appreciated on the table. These results have justified me in discarding Duke of York. The potato Victory was obtained by the late Mr. Sim of Fyvie, Aberdeenshire, from a cross between Duke of York and Fyvie Flower. This infusion of new blood resulted in a potato of superior cropping qualities and other good points which I have mentioned. True seeds of this potato are no doubt difficult to obtain now (as well as the others of Duke type), but Messrs. W. Smith and Sons, seedsmen, Aberdeen, from whom I first obtained it, and who brought it into commerce, always kept a pit which could be relied upon, and contained Victory only.—WM. GRANT, *Kincardineshire*.

RHODODENDRONS IN VARIOUS AREAS

SIR,—In your issue of March 27th, page 195, under the above heading, I was rather astonished to find no report from Argyll, where there are several very fine collections of rhododendrons. Being a "west coast amateur," quoting from Sir Herbert Maxwell's letter, page 238, I took pencil and paper to a neighbouring garden, and thought it might be of interest to your readers if I named some of the rhododendrons I found there.

Digitized by Google

Those then in flower were RR. Augustinii, polylepis, Keysii, Shilsoni, arboreum × Shilsoni, barbatum, campanulatum, quinquefolium (alba), Falconeri, irroratum, Davidsonianum, Roylei, Kæmpferi, pachytricum, impeditum and Wilson's 1330, 1205 and 1275. There were several others with no name plates. Among the general collection were RR. racemosum, longesquamatum, triflorum, sino-grande with leaves 22½in.-long, Watsoni, dahuricum, calophytum. Thomsoni, ambiguum, Aucklandii, micranthum, habotrichum, niveum, Fargesii, oleifolium, rhombicum, rubiginosum, xanthinum, Hodgsonii, Pieris Forrest 8945, sutchuenense, moupinense, maculiferum, Metternichii, decorum, neriiflorum, orbiculare, fulvum, torlonianum, chartophyllum, calophyllum, callimorphum, brachycarpum, benthamianum, auriculatum, zelanicum, oreodoxa, Dalhousiæ, dichroanthum, Kingdon Ward 3952, Farrer's 17610 and 16806, Schlippenbachii, pseudochrysanthum, Maddeni, Williamsianum, galactinum, argyrophyllum, intricatum, russatum and also many others with no names. I do not think any "west coast amateur" need have any hesitation in trying any of these, given suitable surroundings, as the foregoing have all withstood 18° of frost this winter, which is exceptionally severe for us here.—M. CAMPBELL, *Ardfern*.

THE STAKING OF PLANTS.

SIR,—I was much interested in a letter on the above subject in your issue of April 10th, page 226. I am of the opinion that the method of staking therein mentioned is not often adopted when such plants as asters and delphiniums are being dealt with, though the fact that it effectively resisted wind is proved by your correspondent's experience.

Undoubtedly much trouble with staking arises from the fact that in many cases sufficient attention is not given to making the stakes firm. When dealing with 5ft. high asters and delphiniums I consider that the "pushing in" of the stakes is not enough, they must be driven in with a mallet if they are to stand the strain of a season. Good sound hazel stakes, if driven in at an angle which leaves the tops of the stakes slightly farther apart than the bottoms, will stand a vast amount of wind and if they are placed in position before the plants have been damaged by wind then "waist-bands" can be applied as the growths lengthen and both stakes and strings will be hidden by leaves before the flowers appear.

If I am not encroaching too much on your valuable space, I should, while on this interesting topic, like to mention a method of staking which is being adopted in a neighbouring garden. Delphiniums are being dealt with and the plants are now about 18ins. high. Round each plant three stakes are placed as if the ordinary plan of staking was being followed. Each of these is driven into the ground firmly so that roughly 2½ft. of the stake remains above the surface. The three stakes in position, a piece of 2in. mesh wire netting, previously cut to agree with the circumference of the plant, is slid over the stakes and suspended at a distance of a few inches above the top of the plant by tying the wire netting at each of the three stakes.

A piece of string is passed round the stakes about a foot from the ground to ensure that all growths proceed upwards through the netting and I presume that when they are through another piece of string will be wound round the top of the stakes.

On the face of it certain advantages and also disadvantages are very apparent, but as an onlooker I feel inclined neither to commend nor condemn the method, but pass on the information as a matter of interest.—W. HOWELL, *Watford*.

THE SPRING ROSE SHOW

THE National Rose Society held its first rose show of the year at the Royal Horticultural Society's Hall on Friday last and the high quality and general all-round standard of excellence which has come to be looked for at this show was fully maintained on this occasion. The amateur exhibits were distinctly above the average, both in quality and quantity, while the nurserymen's exhibit, although good, had suffered to some extent by the recent adverse weather conditions. The attendance was large and the majority of visitors found much both to interest and instruct them in the new roses, many of which were on show for the first time, and which illustrated the constant changes which are being wrought in our national flower.

In the nurserymen's section for groups of roses, Messrs. Chaplin Bros. and Messrs. Easlea both exhibited and gained respectively first and second prizes. In the circular group of Messrs. Chaplin some fine varieties were shown, of which the brilliantly coloured Royal Scarlet was the most outstanding as a central feature. Other varieties, such as the decorative Paul's Scarlet Climber, American Pillar, Sander's White and Lady Godiva were shown with a surround of hybrid teas and hybrid pernetianas, including Ophelia, and Mme. Butterfly, all in good shape and condition.

The central feature of Messrs. Easlea's exhibit was formed by a varied group of their fine new hybrid Wichuraiana Thelma, which, although not a perpetual, has very persistent blossoms. Surrounding this were to be found many hybrid teas and pernetianas, including fine blooms of Mme. Abel Chatenay, Ophelia, Hoosier Beauty and Molly Sharman Crawford.

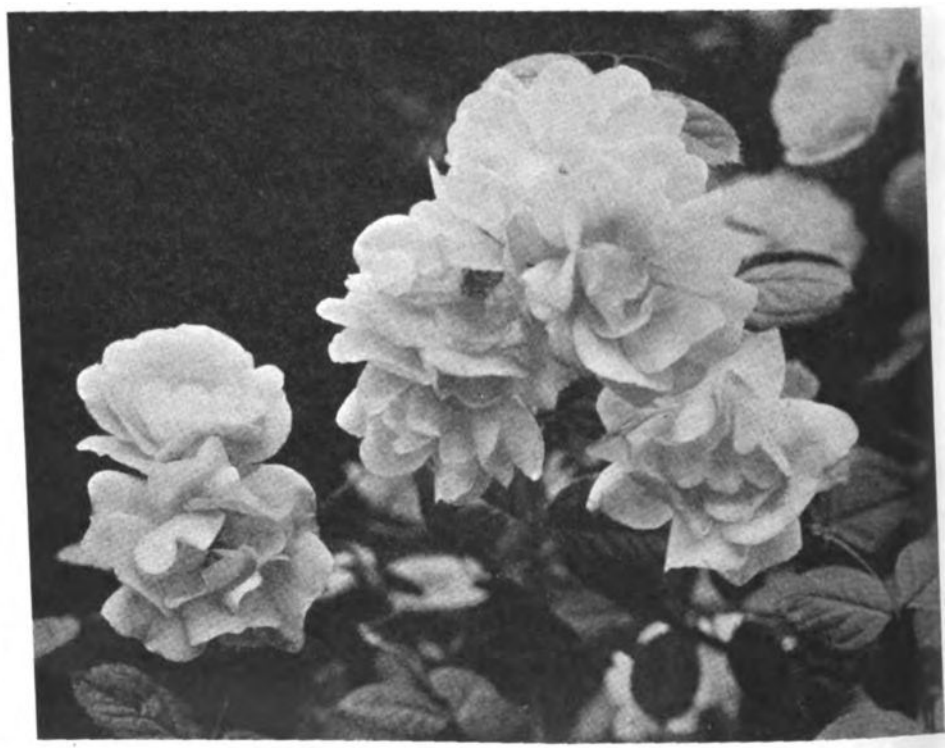
In class two, for a group of cut roses, the first prize went to Mr. Elisha Hicks, for a very attractive group. The background was composed of many climbing polyanthas, including Dorothy Dix, Coral Cluster, Austrian Yellow and Paul's Scarlet Climber, which made a brave show. Some excellent blooms of Clovelly, Mrs. Elisha Hicks, Maréchal Niel, Climbing Lady Hillingdon and Charles E. Shea, were to be seen in front of the stand.

The second and third prizes in this class were awarded to Mr. George Prince and Messrs. B. R. Cant respectively, both with well arranged collections. On the former stand the chief varieties which we noted were K. of K., Betty Uprichard and the snow white Pax, while on Messrs. Cant's a basket of the sulphur yellow Mrs. Beatty was most attractive.

The class for six pillar roses in pots was poorly represented, only one exhibit from Messrs. Chaplin Bros., which gained first prize, being on show. The varieties shown were the pink and white Dorothy Perkins, The Beacon (crimson), Blush Rambler, Coronation and Chatillon Rambler. The plants were all well grown and were from 6ft. to 7ft in height.

Groups of polyantha roses in pots were shown by the Rev. J. H. Pemberton and Messrs. Cutbush, who gained first and second prize respectively. The exhibit of the former included Edith Cavell, White Orleans, the crimson Eblouissant, Ellen Poulsen and the delicate pink Echo grouped to form a carpet, relieved by standards of Ella Poulsen and Lady Reading. Messrs. Cutbush's well arranged little group contained some striking varieties, of which the tiny buttonhole blossoms of Orange King were delightful. Although glowingly described as Orange King, the colour is more of a flesh salmon. It is a most attractive sort if it remains true to type. Chatillon Rose was another dwarf perpetual polyantha shown. It has flowers of a rose pink fading to white in the centre with a central cluster of yellow, and is very floriferous.

Classes five and six for cut blooms in exhibition roses were both well represented.



THELMA, A FINE WICHURAIANA RAMBLER, INTRODUCED BY MESSRS. EASLEA, AND WHICH RECEIVED A CERTIFICATE OF MERIT.

Digitized by Google

THE BEST WEED KILLER
LARGEST SALES -
SAFE AND EFFECTIVE
NO LEAKING TINS -
NO RETURN EMPTIES
EACH TIN A MEASURE
EASIEST TO USE -
ONLY ADD WATER -

Eureka WEED KILLER

THE Eureka Powder is no new experiment. It was "highly commended" by the Royal Agricultural Society years ago, and for many years has been used on the drives and paths at Welbeck (Duke of Portland) and on the leading estates. It is dependable and never varies in strength and is the best value. Sizes to suit all users.

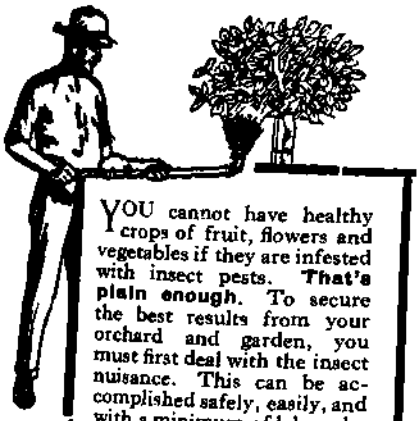
LOOK FOR REGISTERED SHIELD MARK. DON'T ACCEPT IMITATIONS.

SOLD BY AGENTS.

IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN PROCURING PLEASE WRITE—

TOMLINSON & HAYWARD LTD., LINCOLN.

"Chemistry in Garden and Greenhouse" giving particulars of Eureka Powder and other Weedkillers, Lawn Sand, Wormkiller, Sprays, etc. Free copies.



YOU cannot have healthy crops of fruit, flowers and vegetables if they are infested with insect pests. **That's plain enough.** To secure the best results from your orchard and garden, you must first deal with the insect nuisance. This can be accomplished safely, easily, and with a minimum of labour by

SPRAYING WITH

"KATAKILLA"

(Non-Poisonous)

POWDER INSECTICIDE

CERTAIN DEATH TO—

Greenfly, caterpillars, red spider, woolly aphis, and other insect pests on fruit, flowers and vegetables.

READY FOR USE WHEN MIXED WITH WATER

2/- carton (to make 10 galls. wash)
6/- carton (to make 50 galls. wash)

If unable to obtain locally, apply direct to

COOPER, McDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, Ltd.
BERKHAMSTED

WATER

raised by simply turning a handle. The wonderful Boulton Water Elevator lifts a continuous stream of water from well of any depth.

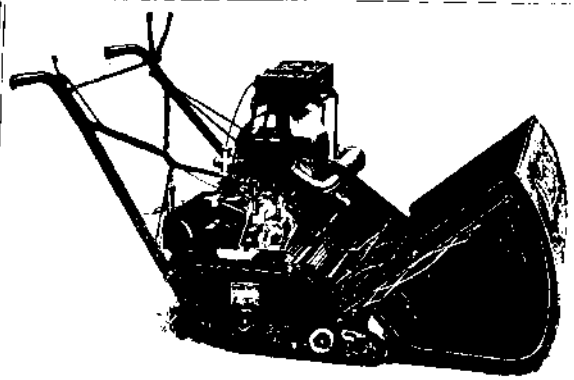
Ask for Catalogue No. 746

BOULTON & PAUL, LTD.
: : NORWICH : :

The Seaside Planting of Trees and Shrubs

By Alfred Gaut, F.R.H.S. 28 Illustrations. 5/- net. By post, 5/6.

'Country Life" Library, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.



"I cannot speak too highly of the 'Dennis' as I consider it the best Motor Lawn Mower on the Market"
says Mr. C. H. Cook, Head Gardener, Royal Gardens, Windsor Castle

THE DENNIS MOTOR LAWN MOWER

has a 4 h.p. 4-stroke engine, which is easier to start, much more silent, and can be run at a slower speed than the usual 2-stroke engine. It is fitted with differential gear, which enables it to turn in its own ground; separate clutches for the roller and cutting cylinders, so that the machine can be used as a roller only, if desired; automatic lubrication, detachable covers to driving chains, mechanical adjustment for cutter blades, and many other unique features.

Both the 30 in. and the 24in. models received the

HIGHEST POSSIBLE AWARDS

at the Royal Horticultural Society's Trials.

PRICES:

Less 5 per cent. for cash within 7 days, and delivered to any Railway Station in Great Britain.

24 inch £75
30 inch £90

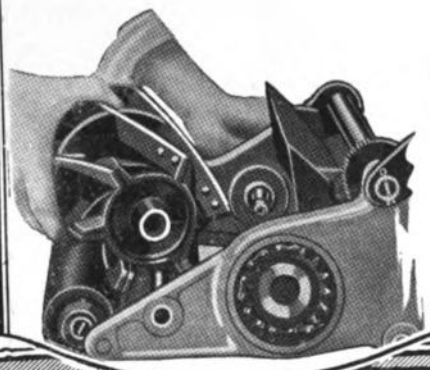
Trailer Seat for either model, £7 10s.

Write to Department "G" for Illustrated Catalogue

DENNIS BROS., LTD., GUILDFORD

Digitized by Google

By merely removing one nut, rotary cutter is released for regrinding — see illustration.



J·P SUPER

"Bristles with new features"

EXCLUSIVE patented features lift the J.P. SUPER right out of the rut of lawnmower construction. No other lawnmower offers such unique time- and trouble-saving facilities. Working parts run on ball-bearings enclosed in oil baths.

***free*—Send for descriptive booklet with proofs of advantages when we will send you name of nearest traders who stock and will give demonstration.**

From Delighted Users:

"It is the most wonderful machine of the kind I have ever come across."

"All are greatly impressed by its efficiency and simplicity of adjustment compared with any other."

A greenkeeper writes: "We call the machine the safety razor, the results are so fine."

J.P. SUPER LAWNMOWERS LTD., Meynell Rd., Leicester

AUCTION SALE OF

TOPIARY WORK

(Clipped Box and Yew),

RARE SPECIMEN CONIFERS, GARDEN FURNITURE, SUNDIALS, TUBS, &c.,

By Messrs.

PROTHEROE & MORRIS

At 67 & 68, Cheapside, London, E.C.2,

On FRIDAY, MAY 7th, 1926, at one o'clock.

Catalogues post free on application.

MANURES.—The most complete little book on the subject is "The Manual of Manures," by H. VENDELMANS, 4/5; by post, 4/9. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

A CATALOGUE of gardening books will be sent free on application to "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

For success in your Garden USE

THOMSON'S MANURES

On the market for over 50 years, they still hold first place for QUALITY and RESULTS. They are safe, sure and lasting. The direct result of many years' practical experience in gardening, they stand unrivalled at the present day for all Garden Crops.

Prices:—**VINE, PLANT AND VEGETABLE MANURE**—a Perfect Food—1 cwt., **30**/–; 56 lb., **16**/–; 28 lb., **9**/–; 14 lb., **5**/–; 7 lb., **3**/–; tins, **1/3** and **9d.** **SPECIAL TOP DRESSING MANURE**—an excellent stimulant—56 lb., **17**/–; 28 lb., **9/6**; 14 lb., **5/6**, 7 lb., **3**/–, tins, **1/3**. **Carriage paid on 28 lbs.** and up.

WRITE FOR OUR BOOKLET—POST FREE ON REQUEST.

SOLD BY NURSERYMEN AND SEEDSMEN EVERYWHERE.

Or from Sole Makers, WM. THOMSON & SONS, TWEED VINEYARDS, CLOVENFORDS, SCOTLAND.

FOR ROSE ENTHUSIASTS.

Roses, and How to Excel With Them

By R. V. GIFFARD WOOLLEY. *Illustrated.* **2/6.** *Cloth* **3/6.**

"COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

THE USE OF YOUR LOIN MUSCLES

is the factor governing the ease of operating the

PATENTED "RETRO CULTIVATORS"

Over 100 different combinations of Tools can be obtained.

THE IDEAL TOOLS FOR THE GARDEN, ETC.

Ask also for particulars of the labour-saving

"EDEN CULTIVATORS"

the new hand implements which are available at extremely low prices.

We are exhibiting the "RETRO" and "EDEN" Cultivators at the ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW, CHELSEA, May 18th to 20th.

SIMAR ROTOTILLERS (*Dept. B*),

58, Compton St., Goswell Rd., LONDON, E.C.1.

Digitized by Google

The first prize in the former class went to Messrs. B. R. Cant, who staged twenty-four excellent blooms, among which Sovereign, Mme. Butterfly, Covent Garden and Phœbe were prominent. Mr. Elisha Hicks gained the second prize with many choice flowers.

There were three entries in Class Six and Mr. A. T. Goodwin was easily first with his twelve large sized blooms of Maréchal Niel. He also gained with this exhibit the silver-gilt medal for the best rose in the Show shown by a nurserymen. The second and third prizes went to Messrs. B. R. Cant and Mr. Elisha Hicks respectively, who staged Rev. F. Page Roberts and Clovelly.

Although only a few nurserymen showed roses in baskets, the majority of specimens seen were of an excellent standard. The first and second prize baskets of blooms shown by Mr. A. T. Goodwin of Maidstone and Messrs. Alex. Dickson and Sons of Newtownards, respectively, were, indeed, fine. Mr. Goodwin had a basket of very large blooms of Maréchal Niel, and Messrs. Dickson's well arranged basket of the beautiful and fragrant Fred T. Harrison was admired by all. The latter variety is a deep crimson with long, pointed buds. The gold medal seedling rose of deep shaded orange, named Lady Margaret Stewart, was awarded a first prize. The foliage of this new variety is an attractive dark green and quite glossy. In another class for two baskets of cut blooms of two distinct varieties, Mr. A. T. Goodwin selected spotless blooms of Climbing Frau Karl Druschki and a number of well grown Marechal Niel. These gained a first prize, while Mr. Elisha Hicks' baskets of Mme. Butterfly and Mrs. Herbert Stevens received the second prize.

The table decorations arranged by the trade growers were first class. Mr. L. R. May's table was considered by the judges to be the best. A large central bowl and small vases of Mme. Butterfly and asparagus fern adorned the table. The second prize table was that of Mr. C. Tisdall, who, with the variety Roselandia, made a most attractive group. The prize bowl of Mme. Butterfly shown by Mrs. L. R. May was in perfect condition and Mr. C. A. Tisdall's exhibit in the same class was remarkably good.

The class for six new roses, put into commerce since the beginning of 1922, was disappointing, only Mr. Elisha J. Hicks exhibited and he was awarded the first prize for very moderate blooms. The three best were John Hart, deep pink; Lady Verey, soft pink; and Muriel Wilson, pale lemon.

Groups of roses arranged on a space measuring 5ft. by 3ft. were excellent. Mr. E. J. Holland, Epsom, was deservedly first, and he set up quite a delightfully arranged group of first-class blooms. Unfortunately for the visitors, these splendid blooms were not named, but the principal varieties were Mrs. Foley Hobbs, Louise Crette, Golden Emblem, Gorgeous and Coronation, while in front he had a charming vase of the rich crimson, single flowered Rosa Moyesii. Mr. H. R. Darlington, Potter's Bar, was second in this interesting class.

Mr. Holland was also triumphant in the class for twelve blooms, in not fewer than six varieties, where he had magnificent blooms of Wm. Shean, Mrs. C. Lamplough, Earl Haig, Mrs. Foley Hobbs, Gorgeous and Dean Hole. Mr. Sydney F. Jackson, Epsom was second with an exhibit of much merit. Mr. Jackson included Augustus Hartmann, Mrs. C. Lamplough and Wm. Shean, of a high standard.

The quality was not so high in the class for six blooms and the two best exhibits were placed equal firsts. Mr. John N. Hart, Potter's Bar, showed Wm. Shean, Mabel Morse and Mrs. Foley Hobbs in his exhibit, while Mr. C. H. Rigg, St. Albans, had Bessie Chaplin, Mrs. F. Dennison and Wm. Shean among his best blooms.

Two exhibits of six blooms of one variety were superb and both were of Mrs. Foley Hobbs. Mr. J. N. Hart had half a dozen in exceedingly fresh and even condition and Mr. E. J. Holland, the second-prize winner, had the consolation of winning the silver-gilt medal offered for the best bloom in the amateurs' section, with a magnificent specimen in his exhibit.

The blooms in the class open only to growers of fewer than thirty pot plants were of good quality. The best were shown by Mr. C. Chalmers, Harrow, who included Mrs. Foley Hobbs, Courtney Page, Mrs. R. D. McClure and Wm. Shean. Mr. Harold Mitchell was a good second.

Although Mr. Sydney F. Jackson was the only exhibitor of six vases of roses, any varieties, his exhibit was fully deserving of the first prize which was awarded. He showed vases of mixed varieties of great merit, and the chief were Gorgeous and J. G. Glassford.

The baskets of roses were very attractive. The best of one variety was that of lovely blooms of Mrs. Foley Hobbs, arranged by Mr. E. J. Holland, while Mr J. N. Hart was second with a very good exhibit. The basket of mixed varieties which won a first prize for Mr. H. Oppenheimer, Caterham, was very delightful and Mr. E. J. Holland was a close second.

NEW ROSES.

There were several varieties which had previously received a certificate of merit and on this occasion two were given a gold medal.

DAME EDITH HELEN.—This gorgeous hybrid tea rose received a certificate last year and on the present occasion it was shown in even greater beauty. It is a fully double flower, beautiful and shapely in all stages of growth and of first exhibition size. The flowers are composed of broad, substantial petals, rich pink in colour and recurve attractively. Added to these merits it has, even when forced, most delightful fragrance and the foliage is very good. It is recommended for the garden and for exhibition. Gold medal. Shown by Messrs. Alex. Dickson and Sons.

LADY MARGARET STEWART.—This beautiful hybrid tea rose also received a certificate last year. It is a very large flower and like the foregoing possesses size without any suspicion of coarseness. The blooms are very dull and made up of very broad petals. The general colouring is pale peach and old gold with a deeper flushing of rich pink on the outsides. It is deliciously scented and the shining, dark green leaves are definitely toothed. Gold medal. Shown by Messrs. Alex. Dickson and Sons.

MAUD E. GLADSTONE.—A fascinating polyantha variety which appears to be very free flowering. It may be described as a loosely formed, old-fashioned rose of mid-pink colouring becoming blush pink at the margins of the petals which are prettily waved. Certificate of merit. Shown by Messrs. Bees, Limited.

THELMA.—This variety was also entered for the Cory Cup which will be awarded at the end of the season. It is a rambler and, as shown, in a large pot, is vigorous and fairly free-flowering. The pollen parent is stated to have been Paul's Scarlet Climber, but the flowers are not so large or so double as in that variety. They are of blush pink colour, which is said to be a reddish-pink during the summer. Certificate of merit. Shown by Messrs. Walter Easlea and Sons.

Other new seedling roses included Ivy May, a pretty hybrid tea variety, shown by Messrs. G. Beckwith and Son, which received a certificate last year. It is a good double of medium size, with recurved petals and has long pointed buds. Saltaire, shown by Messrs. Alex. Dickson and Sons, also received a certificate last year. It is a fully double hybrid tea variety of deep crimson, velvety maroon colouring. Lady Sylvia, shown by Mr. George Prince, also did not receive further award. It is a decorative pale rose coloured hybrid tea variety with long spineless flower stems. Margaret Spaull, a very large, round, hybrid tea variety, shown by Messrs. B. R. Cant and Sons, is sweetly scented and of a yellow shade, with faint blush veining. Joan Cant, by the same raisers, is another very large fragrant hybrid tea rose. The colouring is similar to that of Souvenir de la Malmaison. Everest, a large hybrid tea variety, shown by Messrs. Walter Easlea and Sons, carries the foliage too close to the blooms to be really attractive. The paper white colour is shaded with lemon yellow.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

AT the end of March Messrs. Laxton Bros. of Bedford sent us a few specimens of their new Apple Laxton's Supurb. The apples were in surprisingly good condition, and were firm, juicy and of good flavour. This variety has been raised by crossing Wyken Pippin and Cox's Orange Pippin. It is large, with a yellow skin flushed with red, and the flesh is white, crisp and has a delicious flavour.

SOME PRACTICAL AIDS TO GARDEN EFFICIENCY

IT is about this time of the year that new and up-to-date catalogues are issued, and the little time spent in the sending for, and perusal of, these booklets is usually well worth while, inasmuch as it keeps one *au fait* with all the latest improvements and new inventions which are taking place. Great advances are constantly being made in the design and construction of tools and devices, all tending to reduce the exertion and expense of successful cultivation. The merits of various appliances are often discussed in these columns, and it would, perhaps, be more serviceable if the space at my disposal was first devoted to some of the newer things which are being offered this season. One of the most useful labour-saving devices for use in practically any kitchen garden is either a single or double wheel cultivator. By the use of detachable and interchangeable tools these machines can be used in turn for ploughing, hoeing, etc.; while for stirring the soil between rows of plants they are invaluable. There are several different types on the market, each of which has its particular points. Outstanding makes are the various "Planet Juniors," "Eden Cultivators" and "Retro Cultivators." Often one is approached for information or assistance in the matter of removing or uprooting old trees and stumps. The Australian Monkey Jack is especially designed for this purpose, and is an implement of great power and durability. It is easy in operation, quick in action,

Digitized by Google

and its construction is simplicity itself. It is made in two sizes which will lift up to six or ten tons respectively. Many will be interested to learn that they can procure, at trifling cost, an earth augur which will successfully bore holes of from 6ins. to 16ins. in diameter in any soil. This is an extremely useful tool for setting fence posts or planting small trees and shrubs. It works quickly and easily, and the blades are so arranged that they will clear themselves of the extracted soil as they bore into the ground. An ingenious contrivance, known as the Handy 2 in 1 Ladder, calls for a little attention on account of the many uses to which it can be put to in the average establishment. It consists of a ladder made in two sections joined in the centre with an automatic locking device, by means of which it can be immediately transformed from a long ladder to a step-ladder which will stand independently on its own feet. It is made in various sizes, is light in weight, and can be easily carried and stored. In its extended form it is useful for nailing wall trees, fruit picking, etc., while in its folded position it is invaluable for use in the greenhouse, conservatory or vinery. Spraying requirements are well catered for in the many excellent types of machines which are offered. The good qualities of the various machines bearing "The Four Oaks," "Martsmith" or "Vermorel Eclair" trade marks have been enumerated in this journal on previous occasions, and their general excellence is now so well known as to render further comment unnecessary.

Particulars have just reached me of a small hand sprayer, which was in use at the last Chelsea Show and which struck me at the time as being a very efficient little machine. Known as the "Con-O-Mist," it is extremely simple to operate and requires no pumping while in use. The force of the spray can be regulated by a stop-cock, and it is thus suitable for use on plants of a most delicate nature. It is made in various sizes from 3½ pints in capacity upwards. The "Eclipse Sprayer" is another type which does not require pumping when in use. It is fitted with a hose connection and a valve with strainer combined. The valve is placed into a bucket containing the spray fluid, and the plunge rod is worked in and out until spraying commences; after this no further

THE "LITTLE WONDER" HEDGE CLIPPER.

pumping is necessary, and the operator thus has both hands free to direct the spray. By varying the length of hose and making use of lance extensions, overhead spraying can be carried out from the ground with a minimum of labour.

A very useful appliance for the prevention of the dampness and discomfort caused by kneeling about on wet earth or grass is the "Kneel-on-Air" Mat. This is very neatly made to fit the knees, and is so shaped that it, practically speaking, forms a pocket or cushion of air under each knee when in use—hence its name. It is strongly made of rubber, is waterproof and washable, and is equally serviceable in either house or garden. It is also remarkably cheap.

The desire to be always in front of our neighbour is very prevalent in most of us, and the Chase Continuous Cloche Company has anticipated this by preparing portable cloche protectors for use in raising early flowers and vegetables out of doors. These cloches, which consist of glass sheets fitted into wire frames, are made in all conceivable shapes and sizes. By their use long rows of plants can be quickly brought to maturity without the slightest trouble from wind, rain or frost, and without recourse to artificial heat. In the fruit garden we shall soon begin to notice the havoc wrought by birds and wasps, but here, again, the sundriesman has anticipated trouble and a Major Walker has devised several types of tree protectors which are calculated to foil these pests. They consist principally of portable framework, of various sizes and shapes, which, when covered with fine netting, will isolate the whole tree from outside interference. For low-growing crops the netting supports and brackets made by the House and Garden Sundries Company are also extremely useful for this purpose; while the same firm is also responsible for the marketing of an ideal straining wire for rapidly securing raspberry canes, loganberries and other trees of a similar habit. The need for a practical boot scraper to be placed near the entrance to domestic apartments in order to prevent garden refuse being carried all over the house has also been dealt with. Messrs. "Spade Scrapers" have supplied a long-felt want in placing on the market both their boot scraper and their boot brush. Fashioned with a handle similar to that of a spade, these accessories remove all mud from just those parts of the boot which the ordinary scraper does not touch.

The "Little Wonder" Hedge Clipper is a machine of very recent introduction, but which will shortly become very popular in this country. By its use the trimming of hedges, etc., will become very different from the slow laborious task which it has been hitherto. The manufacturers claim that 300ft. of ordinary sized hedge can be easily clipped by one person in an hour; this includes the top and two side cuts. With very little experience a perfectly even surface is assured. The machine has been tried at the R.H.S. Gardens, Wisley, and has been granted an award of merit.

Many other useful items could be mentioned, but space will not permit, and readers would be well advised to write to such firms as Messrs. William Wood and Sons, Smith and Ellis, Thomas Gunn Limited, Richard Melhuish, Messrs. Holtshapffel and Co., etc., for their new lists if they are desirous of keeping in touch with the latest horticultural improvements.

J. A.

A ROW OF GLASS PROTECTORS IN USE.

DOBBIE'S DAHLIAS

OUR DAHLIAS have a world-wide reputation, and our collection is unsurpassed for all that is really worth growing in their respective classes.

Plants may be had from now onwards till June—the earlier for potting on, the later for planting out direct.

Place orders at once and say when required.

Any class: Collarette, Cactus, Decorative, Peony, Pompon, Show, Single, Dwarf Bedders.

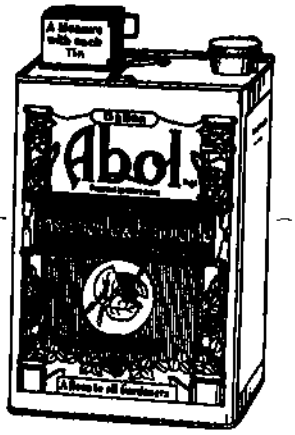
Plants from Pots: 10 for 6/3; 20 for 11/6; 30 for 17/3; 40 for 21/-; 50 for 25/-; 100 for 47/6 Cash with order.

Our Selection. Carriage Paid.

Catalogues on Application.

DOBBIE & CO., Ltd.
Royal Florists,
EDINBURGH.

Digitized by Google



Abol is

absolutely

Non-poisonous

and contains nothing that can do the slightest harm. It is altogether the safest and most certain remedy for Green Fly and other Pests and is without equal for Mildew on Roses and other Plants. Used in the Royal Gardens.

No Licence required.

½-pint, 1/4; pint, 2/2; quart, 3/4; ½-gallon, 5/3; gallon, 9/6

Of all Nurserymen, Seedsmen, Florists, Ironmongers, Chemists and Stores. Sole proprietors and manufacturers, Abol Limited, 9, Beltring, Paddock Wood, Kent.

Write for Interesting Treatise on Garden Pests—Gratis and post free.

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by **"ALPHOL"**

Sample 14 lb., 3/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Vanheat" Seeds, etc., to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

HEDGE CLIPPING made easy with the "LITTLE WONDER"

A PRACTICAL machine that will clip any variety and shape of hedge five to ten times as fast as the hand shears. It will do better work and make finer hedges with much less effort. Ten feet high hedges may be clipped right from the ground. Easily adjusted for top cutting.

Strong, durable, efficient—a perfectly made and finished labour-saving machine that saves you money every time it trims a hedge.

The "LITTLE WONDER" Hedge Clipper was tried at the Royal Horticuttural Society's Gardens and has been granted **the Award of Merit by the R.H.S.**

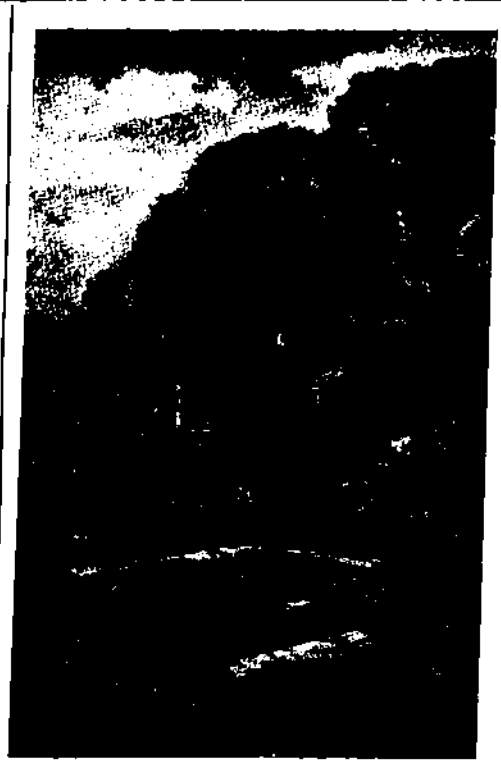
Used in the Royal Zoological Society's Gardens and Wisley Gardens.

Send for free illustrated booklet with prices.
(Free of Duty in Ireland.)

This is our Stand Number at the Chelsea Show: 102 SUNDRIES AVENUE.

JOH. HANSEN,

ASTOR HOUSE, 93, ALDWYCH, LONDON, W.C.2



TRANSPLANTING *SWEET PEAS*

BY this time, all autumn sown sweet peas—even in Scotland—should be in their permanent flowering quarters, but there are still many who have yet to transplant their spring sown plants from the pots or boxes. Although one should endeavour to plant out as early as possible, it is advisable not to transplant when the soil is in a wet and clingy condition, but to wait for a few fine days to dry the surface.

For ordinary purposes, that is, when a quantity of good blooms for home and garden decoration is required, 5ins. or 6ins. from plant to plant is ample, whether for rows or clumps. To meet the needs of exhibition culture on the "one stem" or "cordon" system, a space of 8ins. to 16ins. between each plant is advisable, varying the space according to the vigour of individual varieties. Briefly, the chief difference between "exhibition" culture and "ordinary" culture is that, in the former case, each plant is restricted to one, two or three main growths or leaders, the weaker varieties to one stem or growth, the more robust to two or three. All laterals are pinched or rubbed out when they are small; exactly the same procedure as in a tomato plant. Tendrils, too, are nipped off when quite tiny and so the whole energy of the plant is diverted to one, two or three growing points instead of, perhaps, a score if it were left to develop naturally. As may be expected, such plants with pruned and restricted growth, produce much larger flowers with longer stems than if left to their own devices to throw out a side shoot from the base of every left stalk in the natural manner. of course, there is the disadvantage of "exhibition" culture—apart from the extra labour and expense entailed—that a much smaller number of flowers are produced, even though they be of better quality.

To return to transplanting. The advice is often tendered that the roots of sweet pea seedlings should on no account be disturbed, and that the whole ball of soil surrounding them should be transferred intact. Provided the roots are not pot-bound and the potting soil is sweet, there can be no actual harm

ANTIRRHINUMS

IT'S only the fact that we grow and deliver especially good plants that we wish to advertise. The brightness, the long-flowering life, the wonderful adaptability of Antirrhinums (Snapdragons) are known to everyone. Although our plants are properly grown, transplanted, well rooted, hardened off, in all ways particularly good, as becomes a firm which reckon to do things well, the price is only

1/3 dozen. **3/6** 100.

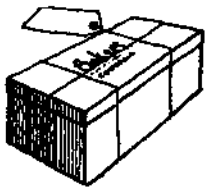
Carriage paid on orders value 5/- and over, otherwise 9d. extra.

And these are the varieties and colours

Codsall Rose, delicate pink
Cottage Maid, pink, white throat
Crimson King, rich dark crimson
Dainty, gold and terra cotta pink
Electra, salmon orange, white throat
Dazzler, orange scarlet
Firefly, scarlet
Glow, orange apricot
Melrose, bright rose
Rose Queen, rose pink self
White Queen, pure white
Yellow King, rich yellow

DELIVERED DIRECT FROM THE GROWERS, CARRIAGE PAID, IN MAY.

Order now.



Bakers

FLOWER FARM,
CODSALL.
Nr. Wolverhampton.

PROTECT your KNEES

FROM

Dampness or Discomfort

WHEN

GARDENING

BY USING THE

'KNEEL-ON-AIR' MAT

Regd. No. 458312.

SIZE 18in. by 8in.

Cellular **RUBBER** Cushion

Waterproof — Washable

Equally Useful for Housework.

PRICE 5/- EACH

Obtainable at

Harrods, Army and Navy Stores, D. H. Evans, Gamages, and Thos. Gunn Ltd., Garden Specialists, All Ironmongers and other Retailers

Or direct from Makers

JAMES LYNE HANCOCK LTD.

Rubber Manufacturers,

266, GOSWELL ROAD, LONDON, E.C.1

Digitized by Google

"ACME" WEED KILLER

Awarded Gold Medal at Anglo-American Exhibition and Bronze Medal by Royal Horticultural Society.

Has stood the test of over 30 years.

POWDER.—No. 1 Tin makes 25 gals., 3/-; No. 2, 50 gals., 6/-; carriage paid on No. 4 which makes 150 gals., 15/-

LIQUID.—1 gal. to 50 gals. of water. 1 gal., 6/-; 2 gals., 10/6; carriage paid on 5 gals., 25/-

NON-POISONOUS.—No. 1 tin makes 6 gals., 1/6 post free; No. 2, 12 gals., 2/3 post free; No. 4, 50 gals., 7/- post free.

LAWN SAND

destroys weeds and moss in grass and fertilizes the lawn. No other manure necessary.

14 lbs., 4/-; 28 lbs., 7/-; 56 lbs., 13/-; 1 cwt., 25/-. Carriage paid on 1 cwt.

WORM KILLER.—Non-poisonous

For destroying Worms in Lawns, Bowling Greens and Putting Greens.

14 lbs., 3/3; 28 lbs., 6/-; 56 lbs., 11/6; 1 cwt., 21/-. Carriage paid on 1 cwt.

Insecticides. Bone Meal and other Fertilizers.

Send for Price List.

ACME CHEMICAL Co., Ltd., TONBRIDGE, KENT.

A well-filled Garden

A well-filled garden needs to be well fed. Nitrate of Soda together with phosphates and potash give the necessary nourishment.

Write for special pamphlets, entitled, "Successful Gardens for Every Amateur," "The Manuring of Orchards and Fruit Trees," supplied gratis and post free by THE CHILEAN NITRATE COMMITTEE, Friars House, New Broad Street, London, E.C. 2.

Nitrate of Soda

FERTHRIVER (REGD.)

THE COMPLETE FERTILISER, WITH GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

	7-lb.	14-lb.	28-lb.	56-lb.	1-cwt.
Ferthriver	1/6	2/9	5/-	9/-	16/-
Bone Meal	1/6	2/9	5/-	9/-	16/-
Nitrate of Soda	1/6	3/-	6/-	11/-	21/-

Add the following extras for Carriage Paid lots. 1/- 1/9 2/- 2/6 4/-

ANALYSIS:

Ammonia	-	4 per cent.
Phosphates	-	15 ,,
Potash	-	5 ,,
Pot. Sulphate	-	5.5 ,,

3d. ½ Tin of Ferthriver *As Illustrated,* 6d. Post Free.

THE NECESSARIES CO., 25, Edward Road, Balsall Heath, BIRMINGHAM.

in following this method. However, I must say I prefer to shake off gently the old potting soil and carefully disentangle the roots (if more than one plant is in the pot) before transplanting. If given a good watering the day before planting out, the potting soil usually comes away very readily in response to a gentle kneading with the fingers. Do not knock out all the pots or boxes at once, it is better to deal with a few at a time.

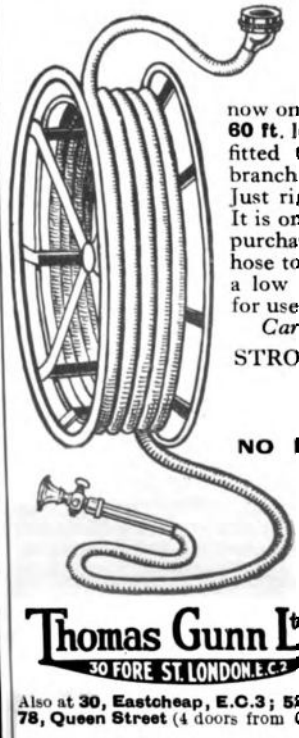
In planting, either a trowel or dibber may be used; get the roots well down and make the soil fairly firm round them. During a dry spell, a watering may be necessary immediately, but this should not be overdone and the hoe should be run round the plants the day following, to prevent the surface "caking." Until they begin flowering, watering should be avoided as far as possible and reliance placed rather on fairly frequent shallow hoeing to conserve the moisture in the soil.

Support should be given the young seedlings immediately they are transplanted.—S.

SPECIAL CUP FOR PEONIES.

MRS. EDWARD HARDING of Burnley Farm, Plainfield, New Jersey, the well known authority on garden peonies, has presented to the Royal Horticultural Society a sum of money which is to be devoted to the provision of three cups, one of which will be offered for award in each of the years 1926, 1927 and 1928, at one of the Society's fortnightly shows. The competition will be open only to amateurs, and exhibits must consist of three flowers of each of six varieties of peonies. Flora medals in silver-gilt and silver will be offered by the Society as second and third prizes respectively. This year the competition will take place on either June 1st or June 15th, according to weather conditions, and entries must reach the Secretary, R.H.S., Vincent Square, S.W.1, not later than by the first post on the previous Wednesday in either case. The decision as to the date of the competition will be made on or before May 22nd, and a card will be sent to all who have written to ask that the notification should be sent to them.

GUNN'S "Special" HOSE



The make and quality of this hose is entirely different from many of the cheaper kinds now on the market. Special **60 ft.** length, ¾ in. grey hose, fitted tap union and hose branch with rose and jet. Just right for small gardens. It is only due to an enormous purchase we can offer this hose to our customers at such a low price, complete ready for use. I.H. 53. *Carriage Paid.* **21/9**

STRONG HOSE REELS for above **4/11**

NO EXTRAS TO BUY. Fitted with Tap.

Satisfaction guaranteed or money returned.

New 80 pp. Catalogue now ready. It will be sent post free on request.

Thomas Gunn Ltd 30 FORE ST. LONDON, E.C.2

'Phone: CITY 6512 (3 lines)

Also at **30, Eastcheap, E.C.3; 52, Copthall Avenue, E.C.2; 78, Queen Street** (4 doors from Queen Victoria Street), **E.C.4**

High Grade Conservatories *and* Glasshouses

For all classes of Horticultural Work consult Boulton & Paul, and be sure of obtaining correct design, combined with first-class quality and workmanship. Expert representative sent on request to interview clients and prepare schemes.

Ask for Catalogue No. 741

GARDEN FRAMES a speciality at prices from **35/-** . . Various designs in Booklet No. 744.

See Our Stand "B," Main Avenue, Royal Horticultural Show, Chelsea, May 18 to 20.

Boulton & Paul Ltd

Telegrams BOULTON NORWICH NORWICH Telephone NORWICH 851 (5 lines)

LONDON OFFICE 135-137, QUEEN VICTORIA ST. E.C. Telegrams: Boutique, Cent, London. Telephone 4642 Cent

Digitized by Google

The Perfect Sun Blind for Glasshouses

Cannot rot or perish.
Easily fixed and removed.
Admits ample light.
Economical in wear.

FOR SPECIAL ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE

See our Exhibit at the CHELSEA SHOW.

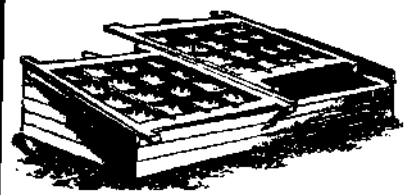
MESSENGER & CO., LTD., LOUGHBOROUGH LEICESTERSHIRE
LONDON OFFICE: 122, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

DAVID SWAIN & CO.

Horticultural Builders

Telephone: NORTH 2807.

GARDEN FRAMES ALL SIZES.
GLASSHOUSES RENOVATED.
REPAIRS AND REPAINTING. HEATING.



Two-light Garden Frame.

See our Exhibit at the CHELSEA SHOW, May 18th to May 29th.

ERECTED AT MOFFAT.

Write for LISTS and ESTIMATES.

101, SUSSEX ROAD, HOLLOWAY, LONDON, N.7

WILLMOTT
Rival Plant Stake

(Patented No. 183779).
As used in Royal Botanic Gardens London and Cambridge.
For all plants. WILL NOT ROT, WEAR OUT OR BREAK.
Sample of eight sizes,
2/- car. pd. United Kingdom.
4/- Overseas.

Closed

Open

H. J. GREENWOOD, F.R.H.S., Proprietor
BRACKNELL, Berks.

BLINDED for YOU

The War-blinded Men of St. Dunstan's (many of whom have lost a limb as well as sight) have been trained to produce the most perfect and hard-wearing

NETS AND NETTING

for Garden, Farm and Sports use. Show these gallant craftsmen that you value the work of their hands.

Moderate prices. List or special quotations on application to—

NETTING DEPT. (A) St. Dunstan's Headquarters, Inner Circle, Regent's Pk., LONDON, N.W.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

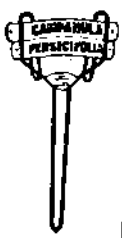
The **Helichrysa** **LABEL**

Reg. Trade Mark
Reg. Design No. 713923, Prov. Prot.

LASTING, LEGIBLE, AND LOW IN PRICE

MARK WHERE YOUR BULBS ARE DYING DOWN

The labels are embossed aluminium in galvanised wire holders. From 2/- dozen according to amount of lettering necessary.



Write for circular and full particulars to

The "HELICHRYSA" CO.
EAST STREET, COGGESHALL, ESSEX

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

The RITO Smile

GARDENERS!

Multiply your crops and grow fragrant flowers with

RITO

RITO is a humus, organic and natural soil food - a stimulant and energising medium for soil bacteria. Its use results in larger crops. Rito is suitable for garden, greenhouse and allotment.

Seedsmen, Florists, Corn Merchants, etc., sell RITO at the following prices: 1 cwt., 23/-; 28lbs., 6/3; 14lbs., 3/3; 7lbs., 1/9; and in 1/- cartons. Write to The Molassine Co., Ltd. (Dept. R52), Greenwich, for FREE literature.

RAIN

means wet feet unless your Boots* have Uppers of "Beva" WATERPROOF LEATHER

Look for the "Beva" on the looping.

AFTER 23 YEARS

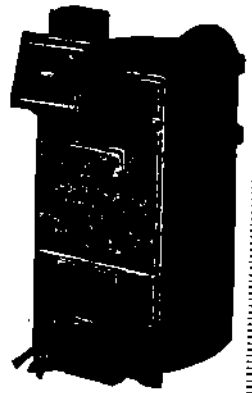
AN ELOQUENT PROOF OF UNFAILING AND USEFUL SERVICE.

"A better Greenhouse Boiler could not be than the 'Horse Shoe.' I have had it in use for 23 years, and it has answered splendidly," writes Mr. F. G. L.....47, Mt. Carmel, Derby. 23/11/1925.

"HORSE SHOE" BOILERS

CAN BE SUPPLIED FROM IMMEDIATE STOCK.

Write for particulars now.



To CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD.,
Engineers, Southwark Street, S.E.1.

Please send me Booklet E "Making the Most of Your Greenhouse," and price of complete Outfit to suit *(span-roof)(lean-to) greenhouse.....long .....wide inside, sides of *(wood)(brick).....thick.

Name.....

Address.....

*Strike out particulars not needed. Cut out and send by 1d. post.

CHAS. P. KINNELL & Co., Ltd., 65, Southwark St., LONDON, S.E.1
Wire: "Kinnell-Borch-London." Phone: Hop 362 (three lines.)

Digitized by Google

FOR ALL GLASS STRUCTURES that require Outside Shading

ELLIOTT'S 'Summer Cloud SHADING

The only genuine original and improved article.

Do not be advised to use any other.

In tins, Green or White Shade, 1/6 and 3/- each

ALSO

SAFETY FIRST FOR ANIMALS AND PEOPLE.

Non-caustic; no smell; kills the roots; superior to arsenical compounds.

TINS, **1/-** **2/-** **3/6** **6/6** **12/-**
for 4 12½ 25 50 100 galls.

Special for Parks and Recreation Grounds in Bulk.

ALSO

LETHORION
Improved Nicotine Cone
FUMIGATOR

Certain destruction to all pests in glasshouses.

No. 1, for 1,000 cubit feet	.. ..	**10d.**
No. 2, „ 1,500 „	„	**1/3**
No. 3, „ 2,500 „	„	**1/9**

Sold by all Seedsmen and Nurserymen.

CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, LONDON, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION 1912

WAKELEY'S *Celebrated* HOP MANURE
(PATENTED)

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DO YOU REALISE IT ?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only **7/-** carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

A beautiful Free Booklet giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. GENUINE ONLY IN OUR MARKED BAGS, CONTAINING GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

Cash Prices, including bags: Small (about 1 bushel), **3/-**; Large (about 4 bushels), **7/-**; 5 Large, **33/9**
10 Large, **65/-**; 20 Large, **120/-**

Carriage Paid to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company. 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE PATTISSON HORSE BOOTS

SIMPLEST STRONGEST MOST ECONOMICAL

Fig. 1—For Shod Horses.

Best English Leather or Rubber Soles.

Used for many years in the Royal and in thousands of the Principal Gardens.

Silver Medals:—Royal Horticultural Society, 1904 and 1914 Royal International Horticultural Exhibition, 1912.

HUNDREDS OF TESTIMONIALS.

Fig. 2—Welted Pattern.

ONCE TRIED ALWAYS USED

Fig. 2—No Welt Pattern

Illustrated Price Lists from the Makers:

H. PATTISSON & CO., STANMORE, MIDDLESEX

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

"NICOTICIDE"

FUMIGATING COMPOUND

DESTROYS

GREEN FLY, RED SPIDER, APHIS, MEALY BUG and all greenhouse pests.

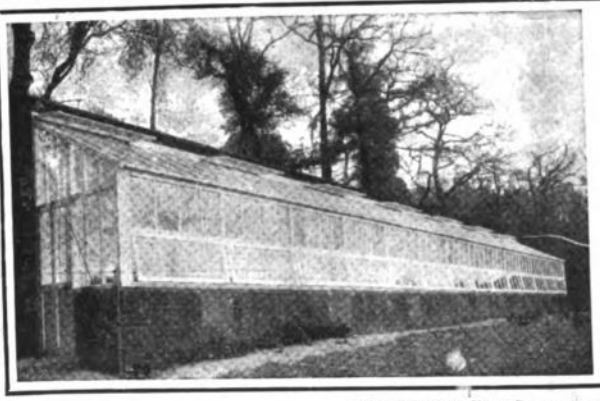
Sold in Tins for 40,000 cu. ft., **20/-**, for 20,000 cu. ft., **10/-**
„ Bottles „ 12,000 „ **6/-**, „ 8,000 „ **4/-**

OBTAINABLE FROM SEEDSMEN, ETC.

Write for booklet of "Gow's Garden Specialities."

HUNTER & GOW, LTD.,
28, Thomas Street, LIVERPOOL

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*



GREENHOUSES AND GARDEN FRAMES

I specialize in the Erection of High class Horticultural Buildings.

Garden Frames a speciality. Selected timber, well seasoned, only used.

Being a grower, I understand Glass-house requirements.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.
CATALOGUES WITH PLEASURE.

E. M. HEAP, Cottimore Nurseries, WALTON-ON-THAMES.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

By Appointment.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.,
Royal Potteries.
BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

YOUR LAWN!

TRUE PLAY *IN MANY LAWN GAMES IS IMPOSSIBLE UNLESS THE SURFACE IS CLEAR OF DAISIES AND OTHER WEEDS — THE BEST METHOD OF ERADICATION IS ~*

LAWN SAND

Velvas

applied 5 oz. per Square Yard.

MAKES VELVETY LAWNS

CARRIAGE PAID PRICES:

112 lb. Keg,	**29/6**	112 lb. Bag,	**28/6**	14 lb. Tin,	**6/-**
56 lb. „	**16/-**	56 lb. „	**14/3**	7 lb. „	**4/-**
28 lb. ..	**10/6**	28 lb. ..	**9/3**	3 lb. ..	**2/6**

Sole Manufacturers

ROBINSON BROTHERS LTD, WEST BROMWICH

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

ORCHARD GARDEN WOODLAND

Vol. XC.—No. 2842 Saturday, May 22nd, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

Barr's Seeds for May Sowing

OF FINEST STRAINS AND TESTED GROWTH

For the Flower Garden and Greenhouse

Antirrhinums, Aquilegias, Campanulas, Canterbury Bells, Calceolarias, Cinerarias, Delphiniums, Forget-me-nots, Hollyhocks, Lupins, Pansies, Primulas, Polyanthus Primroses, Sweet Williams, Stocks, Wallflowers, etc.

For the Vegetable Garden

Beans, Beet, Carrots, Peas, Spinach, Lettuce, Radish, etc.

Special List on application.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

NETTINGS

GARDEN NETS FOR FRUIT PROTECTION

Any lengths and widths. Corded all round

	per sq. yd.		per sq. yd.
NEW 1 in. sq. mesh, heavy ..	6½d.	NEW ½ in. sq. mesh, medium ..	7½d.
NEW 1 in. ,, medium ..	5½d.	REPAIRED 1 in. sq. mesh, heavy	3½d.
NEW ½ in. ,, light ..	5½d.	REPAIRED ½ in. ,, ,,	4d.

REPAIRED (not corded) 1 in. diamond mesh, 9/- per 100 sq. yards.

NEW TENNIS BOUNDARY NETS

Any lengths and widths. Corded all round. 7d. per sq. yard.

NEW TENNIS NETS

Various qualities from 16/- to 31/- each.

NETS FOR ALL PURPOSES

Samples and full particulars from the manufacturers.

JOSEPH BENTLEY, Ltd., Barrow-on-Humber, LINCS.

(Sole Proprietors of B. EDDY & SONS)

The Flower of the Season

BALL'S CALENDULA

— Brilliant Orange Double Flowers —

THE FINEST PLANT FOR CUT FLOWER OR THE BORDER

Our exhibit at CHELSEA SHOW made us many customers, and we have had numerous testimonials from all parts of the country.

SEED .. .. 1/-, 2/6, 5/- packet
PLANTS .. .. 1/6 doz.; 10/- 100

WM. ARTINDALE & SON

NETHER GREEN NURSERY :: SHEFFIELD

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

FOR THE GARDEN! FOR EXHIBITION!
FOR BEDS! FOR EVERYWHERE!

Also Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees, Alpines and Hardy Plants.

BUY HOME-GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries.

Catalogue Free on Application, and Addresses booked for Revised Catalogue in late Summer.

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.,

Garden Specialists - - SOUTHWELL, NOTTS

SPRING PLANTING

There are many shrubs and plants which may be successfully planted now.

EVERGREENS, such as Hollies, Yews, Bays, Laurels, Thuya Lobbii, Cupressus and other Shrubs.
CLIMBING PLANTS, in pots, including Climbing Roses.
HARDY PERENNIALS and ALPINE PLANTS.
HARDY CHRYSANTHEMUMS. VIOLAS.

We grow large quantities of shrubs in pots such as Cupressus, Escallonias, Veronicas, Rosemary, Choisyas, Fuchsias, etc., for planting at any season.

Catalogue and Special Spring List on application.

The BARNHAM NURSERIES, Ltd.

BARNHAM, SUSSEX.

CHEALS' DAHLIAS

UNIQUE COLLECTION
Many Striking Novelties

New Catalogue Free

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.

The Nurseries - - CRAWLEY

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
New Alpines and Perennials
Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD,
CHELSEA, S.W.
Seeds Gladioli Spiræas List on Application

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

DOWNER'S LUPINS, 12/- doz., large, mixed.
Apply for List. Also Herbaceous and Alpine Catalogue.
DOWNER, 2, Drayton Manor Nurseries, Chichester.

NEW
CHRYSANTHEMUMS

Clean healthy Plants free from rust, ophis, etc.

FOR GREENHOUSE FLOWERING: 12 New Exhibition Japanese of 1925, 20/-; 12 Exhibition Japs, including 1924 sorts, 5/-; 12 Incurved varieties, 5/-; 12 Decorative sorts, including one 1925 novelty, 5/-; 12 Decorative Single varieties, 4/-.

FOR THE GARDEN: 12 Aug.-Sept. flowering varieties, including one novelty 1925, 5/-; 12 Sept.-Oct. flowering sorts, 4/-; 12 Aug.-Sept. single varieties, 4/-.

Zonal Pelargoniums (Geraniums), from 3in. pots; 12 fine single varieties, 7/6; 12 double and semi-double varieties, 7/6; 6 Cactus Geraniums, 4/-.

Plumbago capensis (blue), 1/- each; (alba), 1/- each.

Post free for orders over 5/-; others 6d. extra.
Catalogue free on application.

J. W. COLE & SON
Westwood Nurseries - - Peterborough

GLORIOUS CARNATIONS

If you have a garden—however small—and would like to grow the **FINEST CARNATIONS** write for Catalogue and Special Offer to all "GARDEN" readers **TO-DAY.**

Allwood Bros **DEPT. 4.**

The leading Carnation Growers in the world,
HAYWARD'S HEATH, SUSSEX.

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
HULL
Weed Destroyers Fertilisers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

1926
PERPETUAL FLOWERING
CARNATIONS
Our Illustrated Catalogue will be sent free on request
C. ENGELMANN LTD.
Saffron Walden, Essex.

FERTILISERS.
LAWNS, 20/-; FRUIT TREES, VINES, 10/6; GENERAL GARDEN USE, 17/-; WORM KILLER, 10/-
Per cwt., carriage paid. Also all other fertilisers.
HY. RICHARDSON & CO., Skeldergate Bridge Works, YORK

Water Plants

My New Illustrated Catalogue contains the most complete collection ever offered. Free
PERRY'S Hardy Plant Farm, Enfield Middx.

No White-Fly live!

Above everything, there is certainty with XL ALL White-Fly Vapour. It is a proven remedy. It does its work, and the whole work, without fail. Be sure you use XL ALL. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen and florists.

XL ALL WHITE-FLY VAPOUR
G. H. RICHARDS, LTD.
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
R. 123. Monomark: BCM/XLALL.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING.—Best selected nets, small mesh only supplied. 50yds. long, 4yds. wide, 14/-; 25 x 8yds., 14/-; 100 x 2yds., 14/-; 25 x 4yds., 7/-; 25 x 2yds., 5/-. Any size to order; all sent carriage paid.—W. GOULD, Walmer Road, South Lowestoft.

THE CULTURE OF CHRYSANTHEMUM
By W. WELLS, 2/6 net; cloth, 3/6 net; by post 6d. extra.—Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

Scotch Bedding Plants

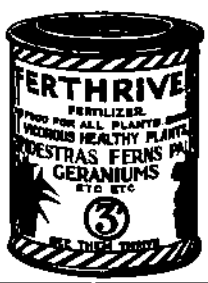
To make your GARDEN A JOY in Autumn and Summer, 1926.
STORRIE'S List now ready.
SEND FOR YOURS TO-DAY.
STORRIE & STORRIE, Glencarse, PERTHSHIRE

FERTHRIVER (REGD.)

THE COMPLETE FERTILISER, WITH GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

	7-lb.	14-lb.	28-lb.	56-lb.	1-cwt.
Ferthriver	1/6	2/9	5/-	9/-	16/-
Bone Meal	1/6	2/9	5/-	9/-	16/-
Nitrate of Soda	1/8	3/-	6/-	11/-	21/-

Add the following extras for Carriage Paid lots
1/- 1/9 2/- 2/8 4/-



ANALYSIS:

Ammonia	4 per cent.
Phosphates	15 "
Potash	8 "
Pot. Sulphate	5.6 "

3d. Tin of Ferthrive *As Illustrated,* **6d. Post Free.**

THE NECESSARIES CO., 25, Edward Road, Balsall Heath BIRMINGHAM.

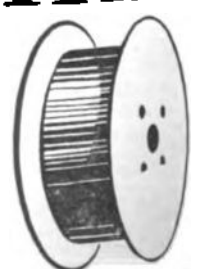
BARGAIN IN GARDEN WIRE

BRAND NEW GOVERNMENT STOCK

Rust-proof, enamel covered, strong, pliable, and most handy for training, tying, supporting, etc., and scores of other uses about house, garden and workshop

Half-mile 5/6 *DRUMS FREE*
ONE MILE 7/6 *CARRIAGE PAID*

Plenty in stock, but demand now increasing. Write to-day!



Our only address:
GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 351, Albert St., LYTHAM

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

WATERER'S GOLD MEDAL RHODODENDRONS, Azaleas, rare Hardy Shrubs, Alpine and Perennial Plants, Vegetable and Flower Seeds. Catalogues free. Bedding Catalogue now ready, containing the best in Dahlias and special offer of Gladiolus.—JOHN WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LIMITED, Bagshot, Berks; Bagshot, Surrey; and London.

HIMALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODENDRONS on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and Alpine Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write for Catalogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

WELLS' CATALOGUE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS will be sent post free on application.—W. WELLS AND CO., Merstham, Surrey.

OAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE. The original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See advert. on back page.

WM. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., Lawrence Road, South Tottenham, N.15.—Conservatories, Winter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

BIRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUNDIALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—ROBBINS, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

FENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Garden Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE BARNEY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, Surrey.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS & SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

YORK STONE PAVINGS, crazy or rectangular, rustic copings, steps roughly squared or random shaped, flat bedded wallstones, garden edging, rockery, etc.—EMANUEL JOHNSON AND SON (MIRFIELD), LIMITED, Newgate Stone Works, Mirfield, Yorkshire.

PRIOR'S COLCHESTER ROSES, Fruit Trees, Gladioli, Dahlias, Carnations, Herbaceous. Catalogue containing cheap collections free.—D. PRIOR AND SON, LIMITED, Colchester.

EDUCATED GIRL (17) desires opportunity for gaining practical experience in Flower and Fruit Culture.—Write Box 3, THE GARDEN, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

ROCK PLANTS, best varieties, inexpensive, list free.—MARION GLENDINNING, Fardrosa, Clogher, Northern Ireland.

WIRE NETTING.—From 2/5 per 50yd. roll. Cheapest House in the Kingdom. Write us for prices. Thousands of rolls stocked.

SEA GUARDS.—Small mesh, 3ft. long, two cords to each dozen. 4/3 dozen. 2/doz. Carriage Paid.

DEFY THE BIRDS.—Rotless Tanned Netting. Small mesh, as supplied by us to the Royal Gardens. In three Qualities. 50 x 1yd., 3/6, 4/-, 6/9; 2yds., 7/-, 8/-, 13/6; 3yds., 10/6, 12/-, 20/3; 4yds., 14/-, 16/-, 27/-; 25 x 1yd., 14/-, 16/-, 27/-. Any size supplied. Carriage paid. Approval. Measured mesh closed.

TENNIS BOUNDARY NETTING.—Lines top and bottom. 25 x 2yds. 16/3; 3yds., 18/3; 4yds., 25/8. Carriage paid. Approval. Standards for fixing to, also Playing Sets, Poles and all requisites supplied.

GARDEN BARROWS.—Full size. 8 spokes. Best value in the kingdom, 24/9. Painted, 28/3.

LAWN MOWERS.—Five Riveted Blades. High Wheels. Brass Bushings. Close Cutting. Highly Finished. Unequalled Value. 8in., 23/-; 10in, 24/-; 12in., 25/-; 14in., 31/-. Grass Boxes, 8/6 each. Garden Rollers, 30/-.

PEA NETTING.—Tanned, Superior Quality. 2in. mesh, 6ft. wide, 6d. yard. Carriage paid 12yds. and over. Other widths *pro rata*, prices of smaller meshes on application.—E. B. HAWTHORN, LIMITED, Dept. E, Shrewsbury.

BARR'S SEEDS FOR MAY SOWING, for Vegetable and Flower Garden, Rock Garden and Greenhouse. Finest selected strains and tested growth. Also finest quality Seed Potatoes for May planting. Special Lists Free.—BARR AND SONS, 11—13, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

OUR NEW ILLUSTATED CATALOGUE of Alpine and Herbaceous Plants, Dwarf Trees and Shrubs and Bulbs for the Rock Garden, now ready. "A Mine of Information." Post free on application.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LTD., Stevenage, Herts.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial: Notes on Primulas.—II ..	277
Native Plants in Our Gardens	278
The Dry Sunny Bank	279
Wall Shrubs	280
Notes of the Week	282–283
The Alpine Bank; A Little-grown Shrub; Rhododendron rotundifolium; A Creeper With a Curious History; A Weevil Pest of Alpine Plants; A Charming Old-fashioned Greenhouse Subject.	
Plant-collecting in Austria	284
The Rhododendron's Society's Show ..	286
Lawn Sundries	287
Correspondence	288
Pruning Philadelphus; Treatment of Cape Bulbs; The Pruning of Shrubs; Plant Nomenclature; American Exhibits at the Forthcoming Amateur Show; Floral Antiquities.	
Garden Technique	289–290
Sowing Asparagus for Next Spring Planting; Preparing Holes for Root Crops; Club in Cabbage and Gall-weevil in Turnips; Pricking Off Celery; Sweet Pea Notes; Notes on Lupins; A Fine Winter-flowering Begonia; Swainsonias; Repotting and Stopping Tree Carnations; Control of Winter Moth; Damping Off; Improving Mint..	

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL DELPHINIUMS and ROSES. Send a postcard for our catalogue.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI, Chrysanthemums, Dahlias and Border Carnations.—Our stock includes many new and meritorious varieties. List post free on application.

HEWITT & CO. LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

NEW AND RARE HARDY HEATHERS Alpine and Herbaceous Plants. Catalogues on application.—MAXWELL AND BEALE, Broadstone, Dorset.

SUTTON'S WALLFLOWERS.

The cultivation of the Wallflower was revolutionised when we introduced the wonderful orange-scarlet varieties, and we strongly recommend flower lovers to try the following:

SUTTON'S FIRE-KING (orange-scarlet), per packet, 2/6 and 1/6.

SUTTON'S ORANGE-BEDDER (vivid orange), per packet 2/6 and 1/6.

SUTTON'S PRIMROSE MONARCH (pale yellow), per packet, 1/6.

SUTTON'S GIANT VULCAN (a fine crimson variety) per packet, 2/6 and 1/6.

SUTTON & SONS, THE KING'S SEEDSMEN, READING.

DOBBIE'S PLANT CATALOGUE now ready. Free to all readers. Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.—DOBBIE AND CO., LIMITED, Edinburgh.

BATH'S SELECT SEEDS AND PLANTS.—New Illustrated Catalogue of choice Vegetable and Flower Seeds and Plants is now ready, and will be sent, post free, on application.—(Dept. E), R. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

TO LOVERS OF ROCK GARDENS.—Inexpensive Plants for Sale.—Apply NELL & SHAW, Hatfield Place, Bath.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; actual perfect fertilisers, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BRATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

GARDEN NETS.—Best tanned, small mesh: 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 25yds. by 3yds., 6/-; 25yds. by 4yds., 8/- Carr. Paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Tennis nets from 10s. Special nets for tennis boundary. Pea training nets. Lists and samples free.—G. JARRETT, Netmaker, Rye.

ROCK AND ALPINE PLANTS.—Large and varied collection. All pot grown. Packed and carriage paid Catalogue free.—M. J. PIGGOTT, Duffield, Nr. Derby.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING, small mesh: 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 40yds. by 1yd., 3/3; 40yds. by 2yds., 5/6; 40yds. by 3yds., 9/9. Measured mesh closed. Special Pea Netting supplied. Tennis Nets from 2/-. Carriage Paid. Compare our netting with others. Sports lists and samples free.—GALLOP, Net Manufacturer, Hastings.

A NAIL WRITES WEBSTER'S METAL LABELS. Can't fade or break. List 20 sizes.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

HERRING NETS, Small Mesh, to protect all kinds of fruit, approximately 80 ft. x 30 ft., 12/6 each. Smaller pieces, 6/- and 6/6, good value. Carriage paid. Cash with order.—WM. G. GRIGOR, Port Gordon Station, Banffshire.

LOOK ! TANNED GARDEN NETS.—All orders despatched same day. 25 yards by 1 yard, 2/-; 25 by 2, 4/-; 25 by 3, 6/- Odd netting for bushes, 6lbs. for 2/6. All carriage paid. Any sizes supplied. Also Tennis Boundary Nets.—MOORE & CO., Net Works, Rye.

RARE PRIMULA AND ALPINE SEEDS from large (1,500) collection, sold cheap. List free.—Rev. J. F. ANDERSON, Glen Hull, Leicester.

SCOTCH SEED POTATOES.—Per stone: Duke of York, 2/3; Witchhill, 2/6; Express, 2/2; Epicure, 1/10; Eclipse, 2/-; Abundance, 2/2; Great Scot, 2/3; Majestic, 2/4; King Edward, 1/10; Kerr's Pink, 1/10; Bishop, 2/3, etc. Shallots, Red, 8d. lb. Amateur's Guide of Vegetable and Flower Seeds, free.—TILLIE WHYTE & CO 12, Melbourne Place, Edinburgh.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING—"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

FREE
Personal Delivery
of the
ATCO
MOTOR MOWER

Free delivery, free advice upon operation, maintenance and use and a Service, Organisation maintained to ensure your continued satisfaction—these are a few advantages derived from choosing an ATCO Motor Mower. There is an ATCO for every size of Lawn.

Prices from 30 Guineas.

Ask any of its 12,500 users their opinion of the ATCO Motor Mower.

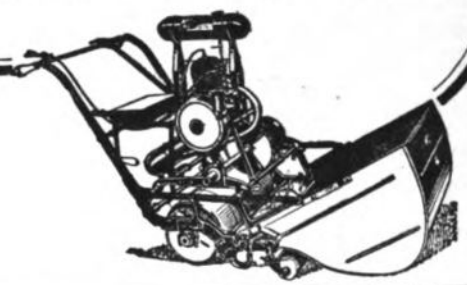
FREE DEMONSTRATION! Write for Illustrated Art Catalogue offering Demonstration on your own grass free of obligation and giving details of all ATCO Turf Culture Specialities. Invaluable in the hands of Turf owners—send for it to-day.

CHAS. H. PUGH, LIMITED,
Whitworth Works, 31, Tilton Road, Birmingham.

GREATLY REDUCED 1926 ATCO PRICES.

14 in.	*30 Guineas*	*22 in.*	*54 Guineas*
16 in.	*36 ,,*	*24 in.*	*60 ,,*
18 in.	*42 ,,*	*30 in.*	*75 ,,*

Trailer attachment with spring seat, suitable for the 24 in. and 30 in. models—6 Guineas.

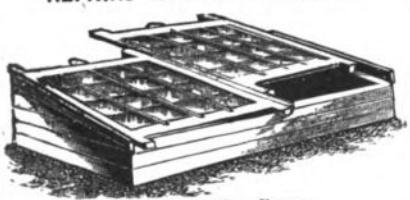


DAVID SWAIN & CO.

Horticultural Builders

Telephone: NORTH 2807.

GARDEN FRAMES ALL SIZES.
GLASSHOUSES RENOVATED.
REPAIRS AND REPAINTING. HEATING.



Two-light Garden Frame.

See our Exhibit at the CHELSEA SHOW, May 25th to May 27th.

ERECTED AT MOFFAT.

Write for LISTS and ESTIMATES.

101, SUSSEX ROAD, HOLLOWAY, LONDON, N.7

The RITO Smile

GARDENERS!

Multiply your crops and grow fragrant flowers with

RITO

RITO is a humus, organic and natural soil food: a stimulant and energising medium for soil bacteria. Its use results in larger crops. Rito is suitable for garden, greenhouse and allotment.

Seedsmen, Florists, Corn Merchants, etc., sell RITO at the following prices: 1 cwt., 23/-; 28lbs., 6/3; 14lbs., 3/3; 7lbs., 1/9; and in 1/- cartons. Write to The Molassine Co., Ltd. (Dept. R52), Greenwich, for FREE literature.

BY APPOINTMENT.

FERTILIZERS FOR THE GARDEN

The most economical general garden fertilizer proved by experience to be invaluable for

. FLOWERS . FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

to be used at the rate of 4 ozs. to the square yard is

CANARY GUANO

Price per cwt. **32/-** Carr. paid.

7-lbs. **3/6**; 14-lbs. **6/6**; 28-lbs. **10/-**; 56-lbs. **17/6**

Write for illustrated catalogue with instructions for use.

Joseph Fison & Co., Ltd. Ipswich.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

VOL. XC.—No. 2842. MAY 22, 1926

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription: Inland, 17s. 4d., Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the Genera Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2. *Offices for Advertisements:* 6-11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

NOTES ON PRIMULAS—II

LET me now describe my experience of a few individual plants. Some may be uncommon or not in commerce, but they may be of interest to some readers all the same. I shall take first of all the capitata group, with such species as capitata, pseudo-capitata, denticulata, Mooreana, sphærocephala and cashmeriana, all related and all with tight, flat heads of tubular flowers—these descriptions may appear to be exiguous, but my object is not to describe plants but the conditions under which they grow. Now in this part of the country, eastern Scotland, and elsewhere, P. denticulata and its white form alba is extremely popular in cottage gardens; indeed, I have seen a bed 12ft. by 6ft. in full sun in a cottage garden in a village near Perth absolutely smothered in its deep lilac flowers. It often happens that what is a success in a cottage garden is often not so good elsewhere, but I have never known denticulata fail as long as the soil is not too poor and not too dry. It is certainly better in cultivated ground; in fact, this is the case with all primulas other than the candelabras, if they are to be treated as perennials.

A pair which like very similar conditions are P. sikkimensis and P. secundiflora, with drooping bell-shaped flowers on a fairly long tube. The former is citron yellow and the latter a rose purple, almost a mixture between a purple plum and ruby port. Of the two I find secundiflora the more vigorous and the better doer. Once it is established it is prolific in the increase of its crowns, so I save no seed of it. I am a little doubtful of sikkimensis, for it is not such a sturdy plant nor so prolific in division. It is, however, a free seeder, and germination is excellent, though I find the seedlings liable to damping off unless pricked off when small. I am going to save seed for a year or two. They both respond particularly well to cool root conditions; otherwise ordinary treatment seems to suit them.

Probably the group that causes most heartburnings are the Muscarioides, of which the best known is P. Littoniana. This primula always creates a mild sensation at Chelsea with its tight spikes of flower, red in the bud and violet when fully out, like a miniature kniphofia in shape. Messrs. Oliver and Hunter showed a giant form last year that was a magnificent sight. This group seems to rot quicker than any other during the winter, and seed should invariably be saved. They should be treated as biennials. P. Littoniana itself has never survived after flowering with me, although two smaller species of the same group, P. deflexa and P. melanops, have; but they may be exceptions, owing to the hard cold of last winter, and I would never trust them. I am sure that with them good drainage is a necessity and I have found them succeed best when I have mixed my heavyish loam with a good proportion of peat moss litter to give it buoyancy. They are, however, all worth the little extra pains necessary for their well-being.

Another group about which really very little is known is the nivalis. Certain of them are undoubtedly very difficult, and probably Sir Isaac Bayley Balfour's theory that they are best grown in a rose-bed is correct; but three of them are not only fine plants, but prove the exception to the rule. These are chionantha, sino-plantaginea and sino-purpurea. Chionantha is one of the finest white primulas in existence and is always admired whenever seen with its milk white flowers; sino-plantaginea is always recognisable by its long pointed leaves, dark green above and very pale beneath, and deep purplish-coloured flowers. Sino-purpurea has rose-purple flowers of a good tone. The last two I find particularly resistant to rot at the crown so long as their withered foliage is removed. They increase with me. Of chionantha I have not had long enough experience, but I should say that it wants more depth of soil than most primulas and rich conditions, as long as the drainage is good. It is a luscious-looking plant, and, although it thrives, I look upon it with suspicion.

Two primulas that do extraordinarily well under quite ordinary conditions are P. Munroi, like an improved involucrata, with the same small, neat foliage and fine white flowers, large for the size of the plant; and P. Veitchii of the cortusoides section with large round rather hairy leaves and magenta flowers. Munroi certainly approves of a dampish atmosphere, but Veitchii can withstand far drier conditions and is surprisingly hardy and sturdy. I have it planted both in a fairly dry and in a fairly moist position, and the growth is about the same. I think, however, that it approves of a good depth of soil.

Last, I shall mention P. rufa, so close in appearance to P. Forrestii that I cannot tell the difference between them. On the other hand, the former is hardy with me and the latter I have killed several times. These big, rich, yellow-flowered primulas are odd in their requirements, for they grow on a big woody stem. What they like is a crack in a brick wall or rock, where they can send out tiny roots in search of water, while their woody rootstock sticks out into the air and likes to be kept dry. I have it planted at the bottom of an overhanging rock facing due south but partly shaded. Here it seems perfectly at home.

E. H. M. C.

Owing to the strike, the issues of May 8th and 15th were not published.

Digitized by Google

NATIVE PLANTS IN OUR GARDENS

BY DR. R. LLOYD PRAEGER.

NOWADAYS the vegetation of the most remote parts of the world is being brought to our doors—or to our borders and greenhouses rather—by explorers, and plants from Peru, Tibet, New Zealand and Caucasia jostle each other in our gardens. The gardening papers and the nurserymen's lists are full of the latest novelties from distant places—rhododendrons, meconopsis and whatnot—and our minds are set on all kinds of exotic treasures. We are, I think, inclined to overlook the great contributions which our own native flora has made to our gardens, and the influence which it has always exercised, and still exercises, over British horticulture. It may be of interest to consider what our gardens owe to our own plants, from forest trees down to alpines. One often notices a kind of unconscious prejudice among gardeners against native species. "Oh, that's only a wild plant" is sometimes said, as if being a native of Britain were a reproach; and I have seen a gardener's face fall when he was told that so-and-so, which he had been showing with pride, might be gathered on Snowdon or in Teesdale. This mistaken idea is not shared by the true gardener, to whom a plant's beauty and grace are the things that matter most and not the country of its origin.

To begin with the biggest things which our country yields: what would our parks and woodlands be without oak, ash, elm, beech and Scots pine? All are native with us, the first three being widely spread in the British Isles, while the last is essentially northern and the last but one essentially southern. To these we may add lime, birch and alder. Among the smaller trees some have yielded a variety of beautiful or quaint garden forms, such as red, pink or double hawthorn, double cherries, the different forms of yew, and the remarkable range of varieties yielded by the holly; while others, again, such as the arbutus and the various species of sorbus, are used as decorative trees in their natural wild form. The many native shrubs found in our gardens may likewise be divided into two groups according as they are mostly used in their natural form, or in some "improved" variety which enhances their value for garden purposes. Among the former are the spindle tree with its lovely pink and orange fruit; the shrubby cinquefoil, one of the rarest of British shrubs; the honeysuckle; the two daphnes, Mezereum and Laureola; the sea buckthorn with its silver foliage and orange berries; and the parasitic mistletoe, always an object of interest in the garden. The gorse, on the other hand, is best for the garden in its double form; the broom in its parti-coloured Andreanus variety, whose brown and gold flowers have given rise to a numerous family of other handsome garden forms. Of the many native roses, the most valuable parents have been Rosa spinosissima and R. arvensis, from which the Scotch and Ayrshire roses have been produced respectively. Our native ivy haunts the garden in half a hundred leaf forms and variegated forms; the guelder rose is mostly grown in that curious variety, the snowball tree, in which only those barren flowers are produced which normally occupy the edge of its flat panicles of bloom. The elder yields cut-leaved and golden-leaved forms well known in our gardens; and privet is valuable in its golden and silver variegated varieties.

AN OFFSPRING OF THE NATIVE GIANT BELLFLOWER.

THERE ARE FEW OF OUR NATIVE PLANTS WHICH ARE SO EFFECTIVE IN THE GARDEN AS THE FOXGLOVES.

A fair number of native plants go to enrich our herbaceous borders. Thalictrum minus and its allies, the meadow-rues, are well worth growing for their delightful foliage, though the flowers are inconspicuous. The native globe flower, Trollius europæus, is as handsome as any of its Asiatic relatives. The red campion, Lychnis diurna, in its double form is very effective. The mallow family offers us the great tree mallow, Lavatera arborea. A

Digitized by Google

well grown plant of the form with variegated leaves in a sunny corner at the back of the border forms a striking feature. The meadow cranesbill, Geranium pratense, is a very fine thing, with purple or white flowers, double or single. The black vetchling, Lathyrus niger, makes a handsome upstanding clump. Few border plants have more handsome foliage than the dropwort, Spiræa filipendula, and its red-tipped buds and creamy flowers are good also. The yarrow, Achillea Millefolium, is effective in its red-flowered form; and I must confess to a great liking for the saw-wort, Serratula tinctoria, whose neat habit, deeply cut foliage and small thistle flowers combine to give a very pleasing *ensemble*. Among the British bellflowers, all of which are pleasing, the best are the tall Campanula latifolia, the giant bellflower with tall spikes of pale blue flowers, and the dwarf clustered bellflower, C. glomerata with deep blue heads of bloom. Of the latter there are several varying forms. Two of our native primulas, the primrose and cowslip, are largely represented in gardens. The former yields beautiful and favourite double forms—white, yellow, lilac and deep crimson—and it is curious that while the typical plant is so easy in cultivation (save on a limy soil), some of its offspring, such as Pompadour and Miss Massie, are cantankerous and exacting to a degree, and a well grown group of one of them is the pride of many a gardener's heart.

THE NODDING GLOBULAR HEADS OF TROLLIUS EUROPÆUS, THE NATIVE GLOBE FLOWER.

There are plenty of lovely single forms as well as double, and also the quaint hose-in-hose varieties. Then primrose and cowslip have combined in some way not altogether clear with their ally the oxlip (P. elatior) to produce the beautiful series of crosses that are collectively known as polyanthus. The genus primula is, indeed, one of the most important native contributors to our gardens.

There are a good many other plants of border type—that is, large or rather large perennials—which are on the whole more suitable for the wild garden or the woodland. One may instance the hellebore (H. fœtidus) with its green flowers in midwinter, an excellent shade plant; the favourite columbine, lovely in the woodland; the musk mallow (Malva moschata) and a few cranesbills, such as Geranium sylvaticum and G. phæum; that old fragrant favourite the woodruff, Asperula odorata; the tall, graceful valerian (V. sambucifolia) for a damp place; the nettle-leaved bellflower, Campanula Trachelium; the ever-welcome foxglove, purple and white; some of the spurges, such as E. hiberna; and among monocotyledons the shrubby butcher's broom, Ruscus aculeatus; the three native Solomon's seals, Polygonatum verticillatum, P. multiflorum and P. officinale, all most graceful plants; and that weird plant, Paris quadrifolia.

(To be continued.)

THE DRY SUNNY BANK

THERE are many gardens in which can be found a hot, dry, sunny bank; and no doubt the owner has been put to some trouble to clothe it suitably. Imagine a slope facing due south, fairly steep, and composed of a light sandy soil. Obviously, this will not accommodate the general run of plants, and a selection must be made comprising those that will endure great heat and, possibly, drought. Those dealt with here can all be obtained from leading nurserymen, and they are, for the most part, inexpensive. Speaking broadly, they will all revel in the poorest of soils; and the hotter it is, the better they will thrive.

The bank can be greatly enhanced if a few rocks are "planted" in it; but this is *not* essential, as, indeed, we are not making a rock bank. However, even though unpretentious, it will be a thing of great beauty during the summer and autumn months.

The following plants are a few of nature's gems that will soon smother the bank: Verbena chamædrifolia (syn. chamædrioides). This trailing plant produces in profusion heads of vivid scarlet flowers from June till late September. It roots freely from the joints of the stem, and is said not to be hardy. However, it recently withstood twenty degrees of frost here in Taplow, Bucks. Many people have, no doubt, been dissuaded from growing it by its so-called "tenderness," and the plant is, in consequence, too little grown.

A GLOWING COLONY OF SEEDLING AUBRIETIAS ON A DRY SUNNY BANK.

Among the aubrietias, which are really all suitable, are Fire King (crimson), Peter Barr (purple), J. S. Baker (violet blue with a white eye) and the old Dr. Mules (deep mauve). These will all rapidly clothe a bank, and one would think that they would flower themselves to death. Year in, year out, they produce masses of brilliant colour from early April to late June.

Next, we have two convolvuluses.

Digitized by Google

The first is C. althæoides. This rapidly growing plant is sometimes too rapid, but is, nevertheless, a very beautiful plant. The grey foliage is very finely cut, and flowers of a beautiful rosy pink are produced *ad infinitum* throughout the summer. The other convolvulus is C. mauritanicus; it is like the former, in that it is a trailer, but the flowers are of a lovely blue shade and produced in masses; it is also an excellent companion to Verbena chamædrifolia.

The helianthemums (sun roses) provide us with a wealth of material from which to choose. They are all evergreen, dwarf and somewhat shrubby, and give unlimited supplies of flowers from May onwards. The different varieties catalogued by nurseries reveal the following shades: rose pink, crimson, orange, yellow, terra cotta, white, etc.: double varieties are available, but, personally, I dislike them.

The genus cistus will give us a fine selection, and the species selected here are all no taller than 3ft. C. algarvensis has rather pretty foliage, grey in colour, and the leaves are quite small. The flowers, which are plentiful, are bright yellow, with a chocolate maroon centre. C. corbariensis makes a dwarf, rounded bush, and smothers itself with white blossoms. C. villosus var. Sunset is a very showy variety with bright rose-coloured flowers. These cistuses have the distinct advantage of reaching maturity in two or three years.

One of the most suitable of plants is Mesembryanthemum falciforme. A rapid grower, it is, unfortunately, not quite hardy except in favoured situations. It produces a wealth of glowing crimson flowers in July and August.

Another real gem is Alyssum saxatile var. citrinum. This beautiful plant produces "seas" of lemon yellow flowers in May and June. The variety compactum has golden yellow flowers; and Alyssum sax. fl. pl. has miniature double golden flowers. Besides the above mentioned, the following are all very suitable:

Achillea tomentosa, 4ins., yellow.

Achillea ageratifolia, 6ins., white.

Antirrhinum Asarina, creeping, with lemon-coloured flowers.

Arabis alpina superba, 6ins. white.

Cerastium Biebersteinii, 6ins. soft grey foliage.

Cheiranthus Allionii, 9ins. orange.

Hypericum fragilis, 3ins., yellow.

Iberis sempervirens var. Snowflake, 9ins., white.

Œnothera missouriensis, a beautiful prostrate plant, with enormous yellow flowers.

Saponaria ocymoides, 9ins., pink.

Sedums in variety.

Thymus Serpyllum coccineus, 1in., crimson.

Thymus Serpyllum albus, 1in., white.

Thymus citriodorus argenteus, 12ins., variegated foliage.

Thymus lanuginosus, 2ins. grey foliage.

Zauschneria californica, 15ins. scarlet.

Tunica Saxifraga, 6 ins., pink.

The following is another list, this time of annuals, that will succeed in a hot, dry position:

Sedum cœruleum, 4ins., blue.

Dimorphotheca aurantiaca, 9ins. white-orange.

Phacelia campanularia, 3ins., blue

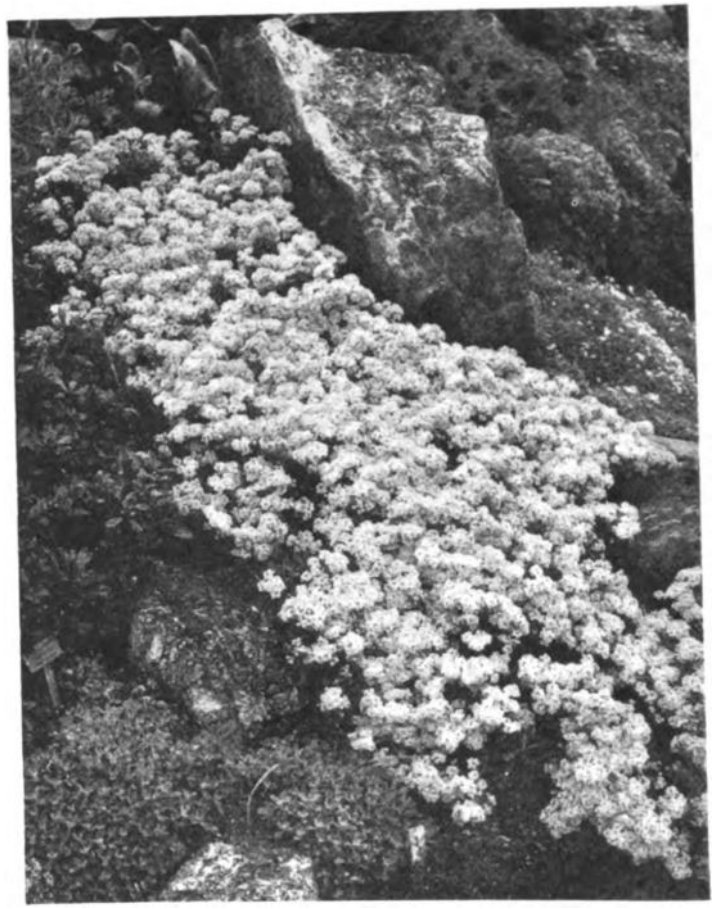
Phlox Drummondii, 12in., various.

Convolvulus tricolor, 12ins., blue.

Leptosiphon hybridus, 3ins., various.

Nasturtium and coreopsis vars.

JOHN BIRKENHEAD.



A FLOWING DRIFT OF THE FINE ROCK MADWORT, ALYSSUM SAXATILE.

SHRUBS FOR WALLS

BY W. J. BEAN.

(*Continued from page 267.*)

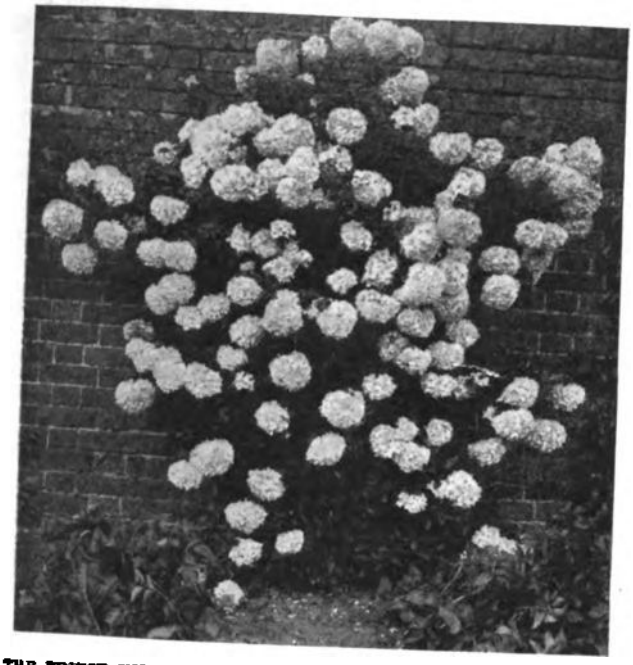
IN spininess of branch and shape of leaf, RIBES SPECIOSUM bears a resemblance to the gooseberry, but the flowers are very different and, indeed, the most beautiful of all this group of ribes. They open in April and May and are borne very profusely in pendulous clusters beneath the branches. They are rich red, tubular, ½in. long, with the equally highly-coloured stamens protruding ¾in. from the tube. This is a very attractive plant for a wall 8ft. or more high, but it is hardy enough to withstand all but the very hardest winters. An undoubtedly tender kind needing a wall is R. viburnifolium, chiefly interesting for its resinously scented leaves. It is evergreen, while speciosum is deciduous.

ROSA.—I will only concern myself here with a few of the tender hybrids and species of rose, such, that is, as need or thrive best on walls. The numerous varieties of garden origin that can be used as climbers form of themselves alone a subject for discussion.

The true Macartney rose, R. bracteata, makes a handsome wall plant, with its richly lustrous green leaves and its fragrant white flowers 3ins. or 4ins. across. Near London it is of no use trying to grow it in the open ground. It is evergreen and flowers from June until the frosts come, although never, so far as I have seen, bearing a great crop simultaneously. For a lofty, sunny wall, the lovely yellow banksian rose may be recommended for the south of England, but even in the sunniest localities it does not rival the wonderful displays seen in the south of France and in Italy. The rare and difficult hemisphærica (sulphurea), can only be grown with success on a wall, as Canon Ellacombe used to have it at Bitton, where its heavy, pendulous, very "double" flowers of a soft sulphur yellow, made a fine show every summer unless spoilt by persistent wet. A somewhat similar rose with a deeper yellow bloom, but held up more or less erect, is the "Persian Yellow," a form or hybrid of R. lutea, with double flowers. R. lævigata, known as the "Cherokee rose," but really a native of China, and a hybrid between it and R. Banksiæ called Fortuneana, are both handsome, the former with large single white flowers, the latter with double ones. The beautiful "Anemone," with large single flowers of an exquisite blush colour, is a hybrid from lævigata with some form of R. indica.

SCHIZOPHRAGMA.—S. hydrangeoides, as its name implies, bears a strong resemblance to the climbing Hydrangea petiolaris, which has, as a matter of fact, very often been grown as schizophragma. There is one clear distinction between the two genera in the bracts of the sterile flowers being usually four or five in hydrangea, but solitary (and much larger) in

Digitized by Google



THE FINEST VIBURNUM FOR A WALL, V. MACROCEPHALUM.

schizophragma. There are two species, the other being S. integrifolia, a native of China, S. hydrangeoides coming from Japan. Of the two, the Chinese one is the more ornamental, the bracts, at first cream-coloured, then white, being sometimes 3½ins. long by 2ins. wide; they hang downwards and many of them come on each flower truss. Seen when in flower, it is very striking, but it needs to attain a certain age before it blossoms freely. It requires a wall to bring out its best qualities, as does S. hydrangeoides also, although rather the hardier of the two.

TRACHELOSPERMUM.—The better of the two cultivated species of evergreen climbers is T. divaricatum, which has for many years been grown on a wall at Kew and, in some seasons, is covered with its creamy white, fragrant blossom, not unlike that of the better known T. jasminoides. This also grows healthily on a wall, but rarely flowers well; never so freely as in a cool greenhouse where it has long been grown for its fragrance. Wilson found, and I think introduced, other species, but I have not learnt that any have flowered.

VIBURNUM.—As a flowering shrub the finest viburnum for walls is V. macrocephalum. Although it is nearly hardy it never makes so fine a display in the open as on a wall. Naturally it is one of the most vigorous of its kind. Fortune, who introduced it, saw plants 20ft. high in China. The flower heads resemble those of a hydrangea, being composed entirely of sterile white flowers, each 1in. wide, the whole forming a globula truss 6ins. or more wide. It blossoms in May and June.

The now well known V. rhytidophyllum is hardy enough, but is a striking wall shrub, where I think it flowers and bears fruit more freely than it does in the open ground, and never seems to shrink into itself nor look so unhappy as it does in bitter wind or frost in an unsheltered position. The oval fruits which become red and finally black, are very handsome in the former state.

VITEX AGNUS-CASTUS.—It is curious that this shrub, introduced from southern Europe over 350 years ago, is so rarely seen. It needs a place on a wall, but this it well deserves, for its foliage is handsome and it blooms as late as September and October. The leaves are made up of five to seven radiating leaflets, each 2ins. to 6ins. long; and the flowers, which are pale violet and fragrant, come in racemes 6ins. or more long at the end of the season's shoots. It has to be pruned back every winter. It should be given a sunny spot and a space at least 10ft. square. It belongs to the verbena family and the leaves and young shoots as well as the flowers are scented. (Figured in THE GARDEN, November 11th, 1911.)

VITIS.—Most of the wild species of vitis are perfectly hardy and are well suited for pergolas or for climbing over trees. V. Coignetiæ (sent out from Waterer's nursery at Knap Hill many years ago and still often grown under the wrong name of V. Thunbergii), is one of them, but it is sometimes grown on walls for the wonderful crimson colour of its leaves in autumn, which seems to develop more richly there. The leaves of wall specimens, too, appear to grow larger and are frequently 1ft. wide, when the soil is rich. Still a wall is not really necessary for it.

It is not necessary in these days to say anything of the old V. inconstans, or Ampelopsis Veitchii, as it is so often called. Although it may be over planted in some places, it is a wonderful climber for town houses. But V. Henryana must be mentioned as being of the same type and as being especially suited for north walls, where the silvery and pink variegation of its leaflets is better developed than on a sunny one. Another of the same section of the genus is V. himalayana, a self-clinger, like the two just mentioned, whose leaves, made up of three leaflets, turn a rich red in autumn. Beautiful in a different way are V. heterophylla and its var. humulifolia, their chief attraction being the porcelain blue fruits. I have never seen this so fine as at Sion House one late summer day many years ago. Here it was growing in full sunshine in a border 1ft. to 2ft. wide, at the foot of a vinery wall, which it covered with its leaves and brilliantly coloured berries. I think its warm position and restricted root space explained its success.

The remarkable vine, V. megalophylla, which Wilson introduced from western China, we find will only keep in vigour on a wall, although it did very well on a sunny slope in the Coombe Wood Nursery, growing up and clothing a stout post 15ft. high. Its enormous, doubly pinnate leaves from 1½ft. to 2ft. long, distinguished it from all the other vines we can grow.

WISTARIA.—The common W. chinensis is a plant of remarkable adaptability. I do not know the maximum limits of the space it is capable of occupying on a wall, but I suppose 200ft. to 250ft. lengthwise is a moderate estimate. On the other hand it may, by pruning, be kept indefinitely as a shrub a few feet high, yet flower equally well under both conditions.

THE ORNAMENTAL SCHIZOPHRAGMA HYDRANGEOIDES DRAPING A HOUSE WALL.

Digitized by Google

The less common W. multijuga (whose proper name is W. floribunda macrobotrys), as well as the white and other forms of it, are not so well suited for walls and are better trained so that their racemes, often 2½ft. to over 3ft. long can hang free and untrammelled, such as on a lofty pergola or special overhead framework. When once these wistarias have reached their allotted space, the long growth they make annually should be shortened back to, say, a foot in length during the summer, and again in winter to within a few inches of the older wood. They produce their flowers from the basal buds.

The comparatively new and still rare W. venusta, as at present represented in cultivation, has white and often partially "double" flowers. It is quite a promising climber, well distinguished from the other two by its persistently downy leaves.

NOTES OF THE WEEK

AN ALPINE BANK.

A SHARP fall in the level between one piece of ground and another — how familiar a feature is this in the garden, and, alas! how seldom is its pictorial possibility recognised and the best made of the gift that Nature has placed in our hands. Far, far too often the sharply sloping bank is laid down in turf; turf that is never satisfactory, always looks stilted, and is the source of endless trouble in the continuous clipping that it entails at the busiest times in the year. If the fall is not too sudden, glorious banks of colour can be ensured during summer by the use of trailing annuals, such as verbenas or petunias, but these, after all, are only a temporary measure,

A FLORIFEROUS ROCK BANK AT THE BASE OF A WALL WHERE THE GROUND FALLS FROM ONE LEVEL TO ANOTHER.

and the ground looks very barren during the winter and spring days.

The alpine bank is the solution that gives the greatest amount of variation and interest, not only in the summer when all the garden is gay, but in winter and spring as well. In the former season a well planted bank is full of charming contrast by reason of the varied types of foliage that it contains, while in frosty periods, with every leaf outlined by a hoary margin, it becomes a veritable fairyland of wonders.

And then the spring. Long before winter has relaxed its grip the writing appears upon the alpine bank. A greening shows that draws one's attention. Odd crocuses, that have crept into the soil no one knows how, peep out their vivid gold here and there and draw us still closer to appreciate their early appearance. And then one sees that those invaluable "common" old flowers, the single white arabis and various aubrietias, are busy upon the work of bud making, the former boldly pushing forth the tips of its white petals, the latter yet but hinting at the glowing purples and soft mauves they contain. Cheek by jowl with these are silvery masses of white cerastium, effective all the year round, but never more beautiful than in early summer when smothered with their satiny white, starry flowers. Then, again, big tufts of Megasea saxifrage, leaves turned to a dull coppery red and preparing their great panicles of rose red blooms.

But let us push the clock forward a little and look at the alpine bank when in the zenith of its flower beauty. Phlox subulata in every imaginable shade of pink and mauve and snowy white is falling in cascades, aubrietias are sheets of glory, royal purple and deep pink, pale mauve and indescribable shades of blue lavender. Perennial candytufts are sheets of undefiled snow, golden alyssums are showers of gold, dwarf lavenders are preparing a feast of fragrance, while dianthi, in countless species, are budding towards perfection. All of these are simple ordinary flowers it is true, but wait until you have seen the united effect of their "commonness" before you pass your verdict. It is their very commonness that is one of their greatest virtues. For, once planted, they just go on happily for years, without attention or further care.

Would you have something a little more choice than all this? It is quite easy to accomplish. Set apart a small portion of your bank and build it up into a steep façade, with pieces of rock of moderate size. A fair amount of rock will be required, for the pieces must be wedged closely together, almost like dry walling, packing the interstices tightly with fibrous loam. The aspect must decide the nature of the plants to be grown, but here is an ideal home for any crevice-loving alpine, and many of the most difficult and choicest species can be grown to perfection. This façade should, in most cases, form but a small part of the alpine bank, and the greatest area should be occupied by those vigorous hardy long-lived "common" old plants with their far-flung masses of colour which adorn the bank for many weeks—H. W. C.

A LITTLE-GROWN SHRUB.

Bignonia capreolata.

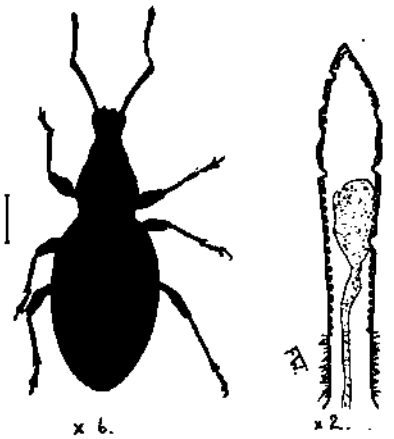
THE bignonia is a most graceful plant, and can be trained against a south or west wall. Our bignonia is a large shrub and grows against a south-west verandah and throws out long, elegant sprays with orange-red, bell-shaped flowers and heart-shaped, oblong leaves. Before knowing much about this shrub I treated it very badly, cutting it down when it should have been left alone. It seems quite hardy, but when the frost comes the leaves shrivel up, without, however, spoiling the vitality of the plant. I took various cuttings, and they strike very easily in pots of mixed earth and sand in a cold greenhouse. It is certainly well worth growing, but I have not seen it in any list, so perhaps it can only now be found in really old gardens like ours. A friend remembers seeing it grow many years ago near Honfleur in a big garden there. The bignonia is very useful for decorative purposes, having such long, graceful sprays. It seems a pity it is not more generally grown.—S. JENAM, *Plymouth*.

RHODODENDRON ROTUNDIFOLIUM.

THE pink, open, bell-shaped flowers and the peculiarly rounded, somewhat heart-shaped leaves cause this species to stand out in a marked manner among rhododendrons. Many years ago we purchased a plant from Messrs. J. Veitch and Sons, probably one of the first batch raised from seed sent home from Szechuan by Wilson. Planted in what was previously old pasture and partially shaded by tall trees and sheltered from draughts by walls, it made good growth, and both flowers and foliage were above the average size. Flowering freely, it was much admired, and became a pet plant. That, perhaps, was its undoing, as it was decided that the stock must be increased; consequently, its lower branches were layered, and when the layers were removed the cut ends attached to the parent plant remained in the mulch of rotten leaf-mould. Soon after the plant began to die back branch by branch. Did the mycelium of some wood-destroying fungus obtain a footing through the cut ends? This may possibly have been the case, and it is advisable after lifting layers to cut away the stumps cleanly and tar heavily.

Removal to a new site—carriage exercise—was tried without improvement, and lastly the remaining branches have been bent down and layered. Fortunately, we have other layers and seedlings growing on, among the latter some with foliage differing considerably from the type, probably of hybrid origin. In Cornwall some very fine specimens of this species have been recorded; there is also one or more thriving splendidly in the woods at Wakehurst Place, Sussex. Judging from the best examples known,

Digitized by Google



The Weevil Pest of Saxifrages, Otiorrhynchus rugifrons, magnified six times.

Leaf of Saxifraga Hostii attacked by adult weevil and mined by its larva.

this species would appear to like more shade and moisture than the majority of the genus. —J. COMBER, *Nymans*.

A CREEPER WITH A CURIOUS HISTORY.

IN a little unheated greenhouse a creeper with a rather curious history is flowering in a Devon village not far from Exeter. Some thirty or so years ago the seed was sent back from Australia by a lad to his mother, who, having no garden, laid it aside and it was forgotten, till it was found during a turn out about three or four years ago. The seed was sown and germinated, and in due course the plant bore a single flower. The year after there were a few more and this year the plant is covered with blossom.

It appears to be a species of stizolobium, so called from its prickly pods, and belongs to the Phaseoleæ, a branch of the pea family. It has large dark green leaves of elegant shape and panicles of the most exotic looking flowers. Each individual flower is very long and thin, reminding one at first sight of the Glory Pea (Clianthus puniceus). Of the darkest purple colour, so dark, in fact, that the flower appears to be quite black, the lower lip is decorated with a long, bright yellow blotch. It makes one wonder why Nature chose such curiously contrasting colours with whic.. to adorn this flower, whic.. has the further peculiarity of shyly hiding away behind the leaves. It has a relative in Brazil which goes by the name of mucuna and is called cow-itch by the Brazilians because the prickly pods irritate the cattle. We are at the moment waiting anxiously to see whether the creeper will set any seed this year, so that the species of stizolobium may be determined.—EDWARD CAHEN.

A WEEVIL PEST OF ALPINE PLANTS.

IT is desired to draw the attention of those interested in the cultivation of alpine plants to a weevil pest which may be called for convenience the "saxifraga weevil" by reason of the preference shown by this pes for these plants. The species, Otiorrhynchus rugifrons Gyll., is closely allied to the vine weevil (O. sulcatus F.), which is also a pest of alpines, the larvæ of both species often occurring together at the roots of the same plant. The preferred hosts are saxifrages, lewisias and primulas, although many other plants are attacked. The saxifraga weevil is really a coastal species, but is now prevalent in many inland districts and does a great amount of damage both in the larval and adult stages. An account of the life-history appears in the *Entomologist's Monthly Magazine* for December, 1925 (Vol. LXI, pages 273–276). The adult weevil is found in May and June crawling over saxifrages and other plants, on the leaves of which it feeds, choosing the edges and biting out portions, the attack resembling that of the bean weevil (Sitones lineatus L.) on broad beans and peas.

The eggs are laid singly either in the junction between leaf-stalk and stem or on the upper surface of the leaf. On hatching, the larva is a legless, rather wrinkled, curled creature which either makes its way directly to the roots or burrows into the leaf, in which it feeds, making a "blotch" mine. It is not known whether the mining habit is an established character. It feeds on the soft parenchymatous tissue between the upper and lower epidermis, eventually tunnelling down the petiole and stem through which it bites in order to reach its ultimate goal, the roots. When the larva is below ground it is possible to pull several of the rosettes away, the underground stems and main roots being partly or completely severed.

The larval stage is found in the soil for several months, usually from July to the following February, when it pupates in an earthen cell surrounding the food plant, and the adult weevil emerges in May and June.

Many species of saxifrages are chosen for oviposition, and it was found at Wisley that eight species are particularly favoured by them. Seven species belong to the Euaizoonia section, *viz.*, Saxifraga Aizoon, S. Cotyledon, S. Hostii, S. lingulata and its varietal form lantoscana, S.crustata and S. cochlearis, and one to the Robertsonia —S. cuneifolia.

Remedial measures consist of (1) hand-picking the larvæ during repanning and (2) in the case of plants growing in the open garden, the injection of carbon bisulphide in the soil. This latter operation should be performed in dry weather, preferably in July and August, care being taken that the liquid, which is highly inflammable, does not come into direct contact with the roots. A hole is made in the soil surrounding the attacked plants by means of a wooden skewer and the liquid, used at the rate of 1 oz. to the square yard, poured in, closing the hole with a stone or a piece of clay to prevent the escape of the fumes. —G. FOX WILSON, *Wisley*.

[If readers are of the opinion that any of their alpine plants are attacked we would be pleased if they would forward infected plants for the identification of the pest.—ED.]

A CHARMING OLD FASHIONED GREENHOUSE SUBJECT.

Cotyledon Gibbiflora metallica.

A FEW weeks back the Editor asked for photographs and notes of old-time plants that are seldom seen to-day. Here is one such, though the illustration is far from doing justice to the plant, which belongs to the houseleek family and the natural order of crassulaceæ. It is when in flower that our subject is most attractive, the apricot-coloured little bells or cups being really beautiful when seen against the metallic-leaved tufts of foliage which constitute the make up of the plant. And the spikes of bloom are quite freely produced as can be seen from the illustration, to which must be added the further virtue of the flowers lasting in good condition over a long period. Moreover, this plant is simple to grow and requires but a low temperature to winter it safely—say about 40 degrees to 45 degrees. These excellent points should commend this plant to all, and particularly to those whose means and conveniences for plant growing are not of the most adequate. The time of flowering may be any time between Christmas and February—the strength of the plants and the heat they may have been subjected to during the summer accounting for the variation.

Respecting its culture, the present is the time to insert as cuttings some of the tufts of leafage with a portion of stem attached in very sandy soil—standing the small pots on a shelf in the greenhouse or frame until the pieces are rooted. Very little moisture will be necessary, but a thin shade is necessary until the new plants are self-supporting. Ample drainage is imperative at all times and the addition of old mortar to the loam used for potting is beneficial. Plants can be encouraged to fill any size of pot preferred, but a 7in. will be found to be a handy size for the greenhouse.—C. TURNER.

THE ATTRACTIVE COTYLEDON GIBBIFLORA METALLICA, WITH ITS TINY APRICOT BELLS AND METALLIC GREEN LEAVES.

Digitized by Google

PLANT COLLECTING IN AUSTRIA

A NOTE ON THE GENESIS OF THE FLORA OF THE EASTERN ALPS.

BY PROFESSOR R. SCHARFETTER,
Of Graz University, Styria.

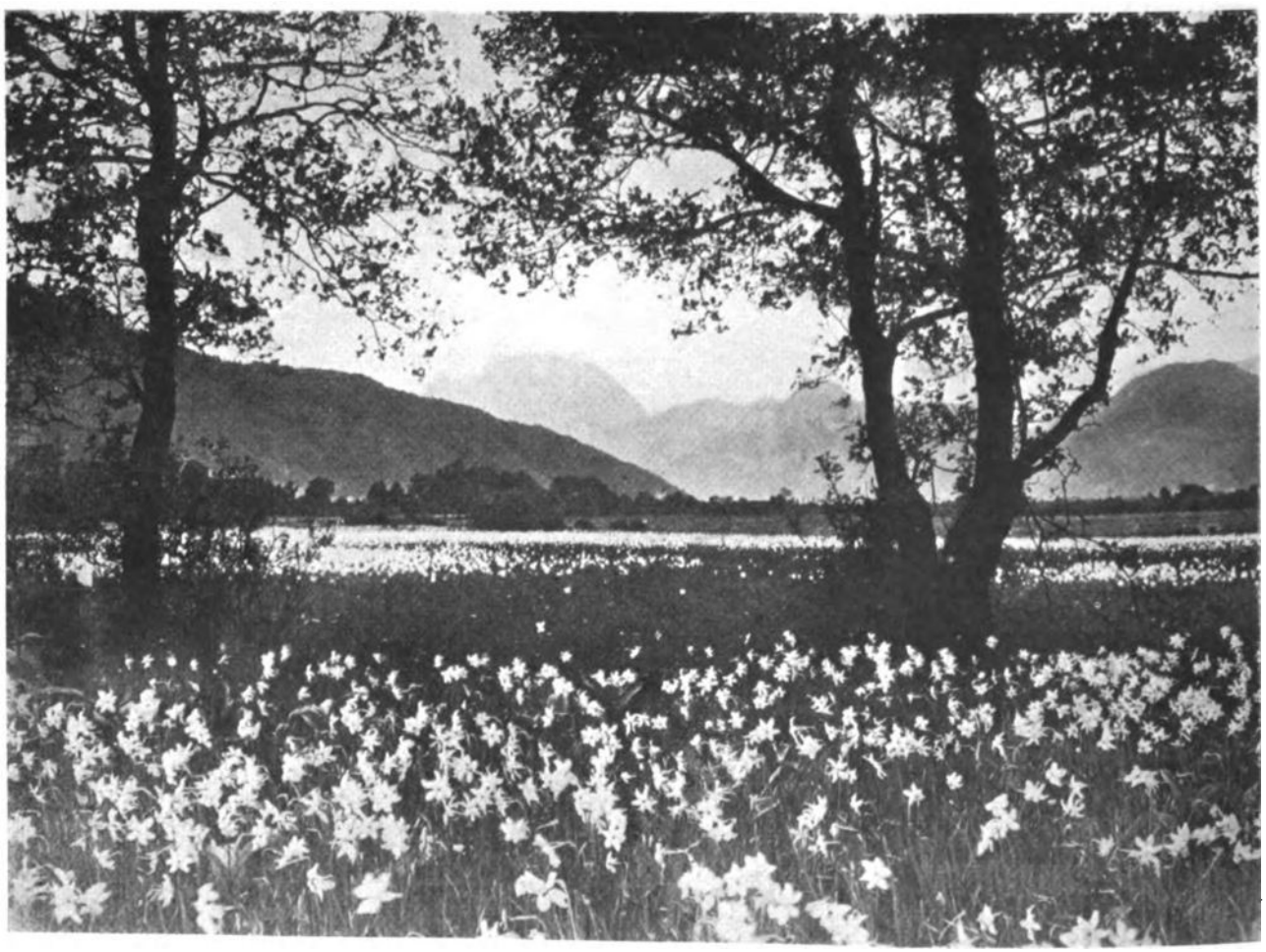
THE Alps are the barrier between three floral areas: South is the Mediterranean area, with shrubs like laurus, olea, Punica granatum, citrus, with bulbs like scilla, gladiolus, asphodelus, etc., and labiatæ and leguminosæ like cytisus, genista, rosmarinus, etc.; in the east is the extensive Hungarian plain with steppe vegetation originating in the Pontus steppe (Stipa Andropogon); and in the north is the home of the Middle European Baltic flora.

All three varieties of vegetation are to be found throughout the alpine valleys and on the lower slopes of mountains.

This is the reason why the flora of the alpine valleys is as varied and attractive as that of even higher mountains.

Following the emerald green waters of the Isonzo from the Monte Santo, near Gorizia, up-stream, Beck could observe the diminution of the Mediterranean and Illyric elements, so that these varieties are entirely lacking in the valley of Flitsch, where the most desperate fights took place in the late war.

	Mid-Europ. kinds per cent.	*Illyric kinds per cent.*	*Mediterr. kinds per cent.*	*Mid-Europ. alpine kinds per cent.*
Monte Santo	62.1	26.5	11.4	10.9
Tolmein-Schlossberg ..	71.4	14.6	4.4	9.6
Karfreit	44.3	19.8	2.8	33.0
Flitsch	71.3	12.5	—	16.2



A HOST OF WAVING NARCISSUS ANGUSTIFOLIUS IN STYRIA.

The proof of this statement is the flora of the province of Lower Austria, according to Beck v. Managetta:

Pontish flora	270 kinds ..	12 per cent.
High alpine flora	210 kinds ..	9 per cent.
Lower alpine flora	138 kinds ..	6 per cent.
Middle European flora ..	1,435 kinds ..	62 per cent.
Cultivated and foreign growth	256 kinds ..	11 per cent.
	2,309 kinds ..	100 per cent.

The two research workers, Kerner and Beck v. Managetta, who have made an exhaustive study of the invasion of eastern plants into the Danube Valley, maintain that this advance has always been going on, whereas a migration of plants in the opposite direction has never taken place.

The same applies to the southern Alps. Here, too, an immigration plant-herd ascends the alpine valleys.

You may gather in the basin of Gorizia, as the centre, the following Mediterranean plants: Adiantum Capillus-veneris, Ceterach officinalis; Asphodelus albus, Asparagus acutifolius, Quercus Ilex, Celtis australis, Galium purpureum, etc.; whereas the Illyric species, which may be found mostly up-country, are chiefly indigenous to the formerly Austrian province of Istria: Quercus lanuginosa, Ostrya carpinifolia, Prunus mahaleb, Colutea arborescens, Rhamnus saxatilis, Sesleria autumnalis, Linum tenuifolium, Ruta divaricata, Melittis Melissophyllum, Scabiosa graminifolia, Centaurea axillaris, C. rupestris, Lactuca perennis, etc.

This advancing of southern species northwards leads us to an important question—to the question, namely, of the periods of advance and the length of time involved. Beck has ascertained that a series of southern plants reappears in Carinthia, for which an immigration over the passes is utterly impossible, considering the climatic conditions of our times.

Digitized by Google

Given that the forest region was once 1,000ft. higher than to-day, which was the case in the interglacial period, when the passes were more practicable for the invasion of the Illyric species, this leads us to the supposition that a great number of Illyrian plants overstepped the limits at this time.

The original home of those remains which we find scattered over the eastern Alps was the upper Vintschgau (valley of the Etsch or Adige), near Glurns and Schlanders, with the centres of Bozen and Trient (Bolzano and Trento) for species like Ephedra distachya, Telephium Imperati, Astragalus exscapus, A. vesicarius, Dracocephalum austriacum; near Innsbrück, Stipa pennata, S. capillata, Ostya carpinifolia, Astragalus Onobrychis, Oxytropis pilosa, etc.; the Enns valley (centre Gröbming and Liezen), Narcissus angustifolius; and near Gresten and Scheibbs (centre St. Pölten, Lower Austria), Crocus neapolitanus; south of Baden, near Vienna, to the borders of the Schneeberg, Pinus nigra. One of the richest and most interesting homes for southern and eastern types is Peggau (north of Graz); there you find Moehringia Malyi, Alsine setacea, Thalictrum fœtidum, Alyssum transylvanicum, Anemone stiriaca and Geranium rotundifolium; also the Weizklamm (east of Graz), with alpine plants such as Primula auricula, Dianthus plumarius, Valeriana saxatilis, Carduus glaucus, and plants such as Philadelphus pallidus, Euonymus latifolius and Ostrya carpinifolia.

Besides the above-mentioned places of association of xerotherm (heat-loving) and alpine plants, there are many other places where they are to be found, chiefly in ravines—in the Inn Valley in the Austrian Tyrol in the Gail Valley and the Sattnitz in Carinthia, in the valley of the Etsch in the now Italian Tyrol, in the Isonzo Valley, the Save Valley near Ratschach (centre Cilli).

Chiefly in the central Alps, where the naked rock, with its varied chemical composition, is nearly bare of earth, there are the most favourable conditions for the largest number of different kinds, whereas on the contrary, humus, or turf covering, limits the varieties by giving the same living conditions to all.

Here, on the heights, which are free from humus, chiefly originate the contrast and difference between plants depending on limestone and those depending on silicates. Plants growing on lime are: Salix reticulata, Ranunculus alpestris, Papaver Sendtneri, Draba tomentosa, Arabis pumila, Soldanella minima, Achillea atrata, A. Clavennæ; plants which cannot thrive in lime are: Salix herbacea, Saponaria pumila, Saxifraga Rudolphiana, S. bryoides, Doronicum Clusii, etc. Most interesting is the statement that similar growing conditions produce parallel and closely related kinds in the silicate and limestone districts:

Plants which thrive in lime.	*Plants which do not thrive in lime.*
Gentiana acaulis	G. excisa
Achillea atrata	A. moschata
Rhododendron hirsutum	R. ferrugineum
Juncus monanthus	J. trifidus
Hutchinsia alpina	H. brevicaulis
Primula auricula	P. villosa
Ranunculus alpestris	R. crenatus
Dianthus alpinus	D. glacialis
Poa minor	P. laxa

Before continuing the history of the alpine flora, let me give a few examples of parallel forms, caused, not by the composition of the soil but by the respective height and by the climate. Vierhapper, who has made an exhaustive study of these facts, gives the following list of parallel forms of the same species, which follow each other vertically:

Lower area.	*Higher area.*
Rumex Acetosa, *L.*	R. arifolius, *All.*
Dianthus deltoides, *L.*	D. myrtinervius *Gris.*
Myosotis sylvatica (*Ehrh.*) *Hoffm.*	M. alpestris, *Schm.*
Solidago virga aurea, *L.*	S. alpestris, *Schm.*
Senecio Fuchsii, *Gml.*	S. cacaliaster, *Lam.*
Centaurea pseudophrygia, *C. A. Mey*	C. plumosa, (*Lam*) *Kern.*
Phleum pratense, *L.*	P. alpinum, *L.*
Avenastrum pratense (*L.*) *Jess. s.l.*	A. versicolor, (*Vill.*) *Fritsch.*
Trisetum flavescens, (*L.*) *R. et Sch.*	T. alpestre, (*Host*) *Beauv.*
Trifolium pratense, *L.*	T. nivale, *Sieb.*
Soldanella major, (*Neilr.*)	S. hungarica, *Simk.*

A CLUMP OF SAXIFRAGA PARADOXA AT FIFTEEN HUNDRED FEET.

Apart from the important effects of the ice age on the distribution of plants in the Alps, one must mention the exchange of plants between the extreme north (arctis) and our mountains. Driven southward by the pressure of ice from the north, arctic plants mixed with those of the Alps in the ice-free belt of central Europe. Later on, with the melting ice certain arctic plants advanced towards the Alps, while those of the Alps found their way to the north. That is the reason why the following varieties belong to both floral (arctic and alpine) regions: Ranunculus glacialis, Papaver alpinum, Cardamine alpina, Braya alpina, Alsine biflora, Dryas octopetala, Sibbaldia procumbens, Saxifraga stellaris, S. cernua, S. aizoides, Polygonum viviparum, and many juncus and carex species. Wettstein draws attention to the fact that all these arctic kinds, as is to be expected from their origin, like *wet and cold* places on the one hand, and glacier moraines on the other. No less striking is the fact that the arctic types, with few exceptions, are less conspicuous, and mostly smaller and less brightly coloured than the alpine types; for the pollination by insects plays a smaller part in the north, where insects are scarce, than in the Alps.

The Alps, then, can boast of a quite exceptionally rich flora, due to different causes. Differences of climate and rock play the most important part in giving richness to the alpine flora, compared with that of the plains. In the course of the historical development of the flora of the far north (arctic) and of the warm south and east (Mediterranean-Illyrian and Pontic), innumerable specimens of these varieties found their way to the Alps, where the varied character of the ground and the great contrasts of climate offered a home where all could survive.

WULFENIA CARINTHIACA IN ITS NATIVE HOME ABOVE PONTEBBA.

Digitized by Google

I have clearly shown where, in the Alps, the botanist may find the best places for collecting: that is, where lime and silicate meet; for example, the Inn and Drau Valleys (Innsbrück, Schladming, Villach), then the Wachau (Danube Valley between Melk and Krems), the Etsch, Isonzo and Save Valleys, on account of the invasion of neighbouring floras, and, lastly, Styria, Carinthia and Carniola, on account of the above-named tertiary relicts (centres mentioned above).

As a handbook for the determination of plants growing in the eastern Alps we recommend: Fritsch, "Excursions-flora von Oesterreich, as well as Hegi and Dunzinger, "Alpenflora."

In closing this note about alpine plants, I cannot conclude without reminding the reader that not only the beaten tracks of the Swiss Alps are worthy of being explored but that the eastern Alps furnish, indeed, a most attractive and successful hunting-ground as well as very fine scenery.

THE RHODODENDRON SOCIETY'S SHOW

CONTRARY to all expectations, the first Show of the Rhododendron Society, held at Vincent Square on Tuesday, April 27th, proved a triumphant success. No season could have been more against the success of a show of this kind, for the extraordinary warmth of February and March brought on rhododendrons perhaps more than any other flower, so much so that the original schedule had to be considerably enlarged, as many of the rhododendrons classed in the first schedule were completely over. Even the stormy weather of the previous few days had done surprisingly little damage, and it is safe to say that there has rarely, if ever, been such a colour display in a single show at Vincent Square.

Not only is the rhododendron difficult to illustrate, but it is equally difficult to describe. Those shown at Vincent Square included everything, from the tiniest dwarf to flowering branches of big tree rhododendrons, and every colour, from purest white through yellow and the whole gamut of rose reds and pinks to the pure blue lilac of Rhododendron Augustinii. The Rhododendron Society deserves every credit for its courage in holding a show devoted solely to these most magnificent of flowering shrubs, and also praise for the manner in which the Show was arranged.

The best large exhibit staged by an amateur was that of Lady Aberconway and the Hon. Harry McLaren, which gained the first prize of a challenge cup and silver-gilt medal. Possibly the most striking example of a rhododendron, to those who are unacquainted with any except hybrids, was shown on this stand. This was a bush of Rh. Williamsianum, about 2ft. in diameter, a most charming, low-growing species with bronzed young foliage and bell-shaped flowers of a soft rose colour. At the back of the stand were big clumps of Augustinii and yunnanense. Many fine hybrids were shown, among them the most noticeable were Soulking, one of Mr. Magor's raising, of a clear rose; and Alice × Aucklandi, very pale pink flushed with cream, in fine trusses of open flowers.

Mr. L. de Rothschild and Mr. A. M. Williams were bracketed equal second; the former showed chiefly hybrids of most excellent quality, among them being very fine forms of Loderi, Loder's White, and Fortunei × Thomsoni—a hybrid, by the way, that was shown on many stands, and has undoubtedly a great future in front of it, for the rose colour is generally clear and pure, and it is a good grower and perfectly hardy. Mr. A. M. Williams, on the other hand, showed mostly species, and certainly staged the best collection of the Triflorum series in the Show. This is of the greatest importance to the ordinary amateur, for of all species those centring around Triflorum, with their hardiness, quick growth and freedom of flower, will be the most likely to become every-day garden plants. The blue Augustinii and the pinkish white and blotched chartophyllum præcox were exceedingly fine. No third prize was given for the amateur exhibits, but Lady Loder and Mr. Barclay Fox were bracketed equal fourth. Lady Loder showed fine examples of the famous Leonardslee hybrids, with an enormous centre clump of the magnificent Pink Diamond, certainly the finest pink Loderi in existence; while Mr. Barclay Fox staged many of the really fine crosses which have been raised in Cornwall, such as the rich rose Cornish Cross and Penjerrick. So close were all these exhibits in point of quality that the judges must have had a hard task to decide the various points of excellence. Admiral Walker-Heneage-Vivian's exhibit, although it was not awarded a prize, was noticeable for particularly fine sprays of fragrantissimum and Falconeri.

Although the trade did not show so many species as the amateurs in their big exhibits, yet they managed to stage magnificent shows of hybrids. The one exception was Mr. Gill of Falmouth, who was awarded the challenge cup and silver-gilt medal for the best group of rhododendrons shown by a trade exhibitor, for he was able to stage not only hybrids but also numbers of species. Unfortunately, the space allotted to him was hardly large enough for the collection he had brought up from Cornwall, and consequently they were rather crowded; but on close examination an extraordinary variety of plants could be discovered. Probably the best forms which he showed were those of Augustinii, Aucklandi, Dalhousiæ, Keysii, Loder's White and orbiculare. They certainly showed excellent cultivation. Messrs. Wallace confined their fine exhibit mostly to hybrids of Messrs. Van Ness' raising. Many of them are undoubtedly exceedingly valuable garden plants of great hardiness, and yet with large trusses of fine colours. Red Emperor was certainly one of the best. This is No. 216, and is an improved Britannia, with a better shape of truss and the same pure scarlet colour. Among others were the Earl of Athlone, one of the richest reds in existence; and Mrs. A. M. Williams, a very pure rose, but, unfortunately, an

A GENERAL VIEW OF THE RHODODENDRON EXHIBITION.

Digitized by Google

exception, in that it is inclined to be tender. Messrs. Waterer, Sons and Crisp had a wonderful exhibit of their well known hardy hybrids, such as Alice and Corona. A big bush of Ragged Robin in the middle was much admired, but its rose colour is rather on the blue side for some people's taste. One of the most notable plants in the Show was their new hybrid, called Sir John Ramsden, a cross between Corona and Thomsoni. This is cream striped with rose, and is so striking that the raisers will undoubtedly have a great success with it once they are able to raise sufficient stock. Messrs. Slocock had a stand of hybrids in pots, mostly Aucklandi seedlings, but among them was a very fine Fortunei seedling of a good, but very pale, pink. Messrs Cheal also had hybrids in pots, and Messrs. Hillier young species rhododendrons of the latest sendings of Forrest and Kingdon Ward. Messrs. Veitch also staged many good hybrids.

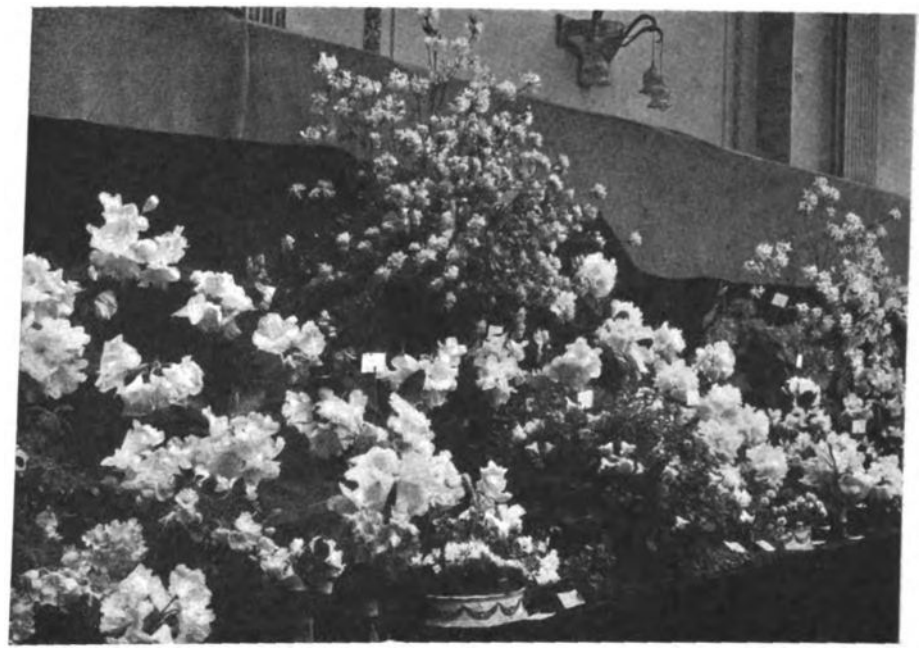
Messrs. Cuthbert were awarded a special prize for their magnificent show of Japanese azaleas. The colours were all very fine. Among them was one called Sunset, of a rose flushed with orange—an almost indescribable colour—but far ahead of all others. This is a cross between Hinodigeri and Kæmpferi.

The two great Dutch firms of raisers had small collections of their newest varieties. Those of Messrs. C. B. van Ness, although interesting and of good quality, had nothing better to show than their well known hybrids already to be found in many gardens, such as the Earl of Athlone, Britannia and Douglas McEwen. Messrs. Koster, in Mrs. Helen Koster, have a gem for those who like flowers with a big blotch. This has a very large, flat faced flower in a fine truss, the colour being white flushed with palest lilac and a big brown-crimson blotch. It is a most striking plant.

The special prize for the best plant in the Show was given to Lady Aberconway and the Hon. H. McLaren for the magnificent specimen of Rh. Williamsianum shown in their main exhibit, while the special prize for the best species was awarded to Mr. P. D. Williams for Forrest's form of Rh. decorum, a beautifully shaped flower of the softest pink.

FIRST-CLASS CERTIFICATE

RHODODENDRON HÆMATODES.—One of the finest of the brilliant red semi-dwarf species. It was introduced by Forrest in 1906. Shown by Mr. A. M. Williams, Werrington Park, Launceston.



A SECTION OF LADY ABERCONWAY'S EXHIBIT, WHICH WAS AWARDED THE CHALLENGE CUP.

AWARDS OF MERIT.

RH. ASTROCALYX.—A late introduction of Forrest's and similar to Rh. litiense, croceum and Wardii. The flowers are open campanulata, lemon yellow in colour, without markings. The leaves are dark green above and lighter below, of the shape of Thomsoni, but smaller. Shown by Mr. A. M. Williams.

RH. CROCEUM.—A fine species found by Forrest in Yunnan in 1913. The flowers and leaves are similar in shape to R. astrocalyx. The colour of the flowers is a good lemon-yellow, always with a crimson blotch at the base of the upper segment. Shown by Mr. A. M. Williams.

RH. GLADYS.—A charming cross between Rh. campylocarpum and Rh. Fortunei. The wide flowers, with wavy margins and of a fine pink, marked at the base with brownish-crimson, are freely borne on loose trusses. This is obviously a very floriferous hybrid and a valuable garden plant. Shown by Lord Swathling, Townhill Park, Southampton.

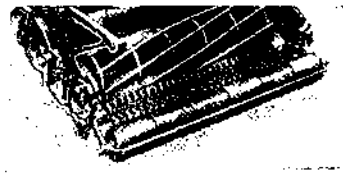
RH. MRS. A. M. WILLIAMS.—A fine garden hybrid with large flowers of a good rose, varied with a deeper shade. The buds are particularly brilliant in colouring. Shown by Messrs. R. Wallace and Co.

RH. SIR JOHN RAMSDEN.—A most distinct hybrid, with upstanding trusses of medium sized flowers of a blush pink with stripes of rose colour on the outside. It is very floriferous and will make a most valuable garden plant. Shown by Messrs. Waterer, Sons and Crisp.

LAWN SUNDRIES

THERE is, perhaps, no greater drawback to the appearance of a lawn than the overgrowing and tufty edges so often seen alongside paths and borders. The regular cutting and trimming of these is certainly a long and tedious task when performed with the old-fashioned hand shears and turf edging tool. It is now possible, however, for those of average means to obtain one of the new types of machine trimmers, the use of which will undoubtedly save much valuable time. One of the most up-to-date of these machines is that known as the "Stoakes" Edge Trimmer and Cutter. This is a combination machine which will perform the dual tasks of either trimming the grass or cutting and reshaping the edges. The cutting depth of the knives can be very easily regulated, and the whole machine is extremely simple to operate. With most of these machines a perfect edge can be obtained on any lawn, as fast as a man can walk. Another machine which is extremely useful is the "Ransome" lawn sweeper, which is rather similar in action to an ordinary mower, with the exception that it is fitted with a brush instead of a cutting cylinder.

For use on smaller lawns, an ideal cleaning tool is the "Springbok" Lawn Rake. This rake, having flexible pins,



A NEW TURF CULTIVATOR FITTED TO A LAWN MOWER.

does not catch in roots, etc., and will remove all leaves and rubbish without damaging the surface of the lawn. It is extremely useful for removing moss and dead grass without pulling up grass roots. It has the additional advantage of being very reasonable in price. The use of a spiked roller is also extremely beneficial to the surface of the turf. For ordinary hand use there is no better than the "Sarel," by means of which the largest green can be thoroughly treated in a very short time. The pointed spikes on the roller puncture the turf to a depth of about 1in. and, as the roller turns, form pear-shaped incisions under the surface which thoroughly aerate the subsoil without increasing the small hole made on the top. The "Atco" Turf Cultivator is also worthy of attention, inasmuch as it is intended for use with the famous mowing machine of the same name. It is fitted in front of the cutter of the machine and revolves at high speed when the machine is in use. By this means both mowing and aeration of the lawn are performed simultaneously. The number of makes of sprinkler is legion, and the discussion of their various merits is a subject which is, perhaps, better left to a more seasonable period. The presence of weeds on lawns is highly objectionable, and the question of how best to eliminate them

Digitized by Google

is a big one. Many people resort to the practice of introducing a killing agent to each individual plant. This is a somewhat tedious and dangerous task, inasmuch as the weed killer is usually highly poisonous and the application of it a very back-aching task. There is, however, an appliance, known as the "Success" Weed Eradicator, which simplifies this task immensely. It consists of a tube about the length of a walking-stick, which acts as the container for the killer. It is fitted at the lower end with a slender spring point, which is so arranged that, by simply stabbing the point into the heart of the plant, sufficient liquid is released to destroy it. It is simple to use, and weeds can be dealt with as one walks along. For those who prefer to uproot each individual plant, there are several types of extractors, most of which consist of a sharply pointed instrument which broadens out into a claw-shaped hook which catches round the roots as the instrument is pulled out of the ground. These can be obtained fitted on to an ordinary walking-stick, which does away with the necessity of constant stooping. For dealing with larger clumps of weeds or patches of bare turf, the "Atco" Company have devised a very ingenious tool which extracts weeds, etc., complete with roots, and can then be used for substituting fresh turf of exactly the same size into the hole made.

Particulars and illustrations of most of the various mechanical aids I have mentioned can be seen in the catalogues of regular advertisers in this journal, and the small trouble involved in sending for them is well worth while. J. W.

CORRESPONDENCE

PRUNING PHILADELPHUS.

SIR,—In your leader, issue April 24th, you refer to the pruning or rather thinning of a philadelphus plant and the remarkably fine result as regards subsequent growth and flowering. Some years ago I had charge of a large garden in which many plants, in several varieties, were extensively grown. A few grew, or rather existed, on a dry, low bank. As the bushes were so straggly I cut out many branches low down to induce a more compact growth. The new shoots came away much stronger than I anticipated and flowered very freely, indeed. Another bush had its top shoots only cut off, hedge-trimming fashion, result, more weakly shoots, flowers nil. Afterwards, the more favoured bushes were freely thinned and the results were equally gratifying, the individual flowers being larger also.—HANTS.

TREATMENT OF CAPE BULBS.

SIR,—You ask in THE GARDEN of April 24th, for your readers to give their experiences of growing tritonias, babianas, etc., out of doors. I have grown all these Cape bulbs for many years over here and found them easy. They like a light, sandy soil and a sunny exposure, but my impression is that what they want is not so much the presence of the sun, but the absence of cold. In this garden, which overlooks the sea and is swept by east winds, I am growing them—babianas and tritonias—on either side of a paved path running east and west, where they get a good deal of sun, and they are increasing so rapidly that they will have to be lifted and divided next year. In a former, more sheltered garden of mine I grew a most successful row of babianas as an edge to a border under a west wall, where they got no sunshine until after 11 a.m. They multiplied so freely that finally they edged nearly every border in the garden! Of course, except for purposes of division, they were never lifted, but left severely alone. I also raised a good many seedlings as they come up from seed as easily as gladiolus or schyzostilis.

But I sent some bulbs to my old friend, Mr. Sydney Morris of Earlham (of "Montbretia" fame), hoping that in the sandy soil of Norfolk they might flourish, but he said the first Norfolk winter killed them outright. Ixias and sparaxis also do here quite well and I have recently sent to Africa for some bulbs of their gladiolus species, "Painted Ladies," and so forth, to see whether I can do them. They are just starting to come up. The sunshine here is never as hot nor as scorching as it is in England, but we get little snow, and our severest frost [illegible] the past winter was only 4 degrees, and that was only for one night in the most exposed places. I do not think that I had any frost here, but, of course, the wind was very cold and my acacias (mimosas) suffered, although Tacsonia Jamesoni, which every one told me could not stand a winter out of doors, never turned a hair and is now covered with fresh shoots. Your paper has been such a help to me as well as being a perennial joy that I hope this little note of mine may be of some help in return. I have just received a catalogue from California mentioning a Fremontia mexicana, as well as californica, which does well here. Did you know of this orange variety? It is not in any other English or French catalogue in my possession.—EDITH F. CAREY, *Guernsey*.

THE PRUNING OF SHRUBS.

SIR,—In Mr. Grant's note on the above in the issue of THE GARDEN of April 24th I hope Mr. Grant has not misconstrued my note on the same subject on March 27th, page 194, when he quotes me as follows: "Lavatera olbia he cut back every year *previous* to it dying back," what I did write was, "We find shrubs like Malva olbia and shrubby veronicas must be pruned hard to 'save' them dying back."

In these gardens on the east coast of Essex and only four miles from the sea, Malva olbia makes a lovely shrub without any protection, but it had an unpleasant habit of one or two of the large branches dying back and thus spoiling the appearance of the specimen.

After much trouble we overcame this difficulty by pruning hard back. The same thing we find applies to Abutilon vitifolium, which, also, from some unknown reason, dies back a large branch at a time.—R. MOORE, *Thorpe Hall*.

PLANT NOMENCLATURE.

SIR,—Does not Mr. Dalrymple break the rules of plant naming in giving varietal names ("Lady Thursby," "Hew Dalrymple," etc.), to *seedlings selected to colour* from the Bartley strain, in which there are, to quote his own words (THE GARDEN, lxxxix, page 381), "*four or five*"—the italics are mine—"different pink forms. . . . I have never troubled to isolate and grow each one separately and as the bees cross the flowers of the various shades, so the seed from any one form will reproduce all or any of the various shades." As selections to colour from the Bartley strain, they should be named accordingly, *e.g.*, Primula pulverulenta, Bartley strain, rose pink.

Cannot our raisers be induced to restrict the application of names to varieties which are either propagated vegetatively from the original plant, or which breed *true* from seed. Thus, Primula pulverulenta Mrs. R. V. Berkeley, mentioned in the letter quoted above, is a variety entitled to a varietal name.—F.R.H.S.

AMERICAN EXHIBITS AT THE FORTHCOMING AMATEUR SHOW.

SIR,—As your readers are aware, the Royal Horticultural Society decided to invite amateur gardeners in the United States and on the Continent, to compete with British amateurs at the Amateur Show on June 22nd.

I have now heard from Mrs. Edward Harding, that in spite of the severe handicap of transportation, several American amateurs have accepted the invitation to exhibit at the Show, which I conveyed to them at the request of the Council. They regard "trans-Atlantic exhibiting as a compliment to their British cousins and as a sporting proposition." I am sure all gardeners wish them every success.

May I take this opportunity of appealing to British nurserymen and seedsmen to show themselves to be sportsmen and to remove the embargo which they have placed on certain firms on the Continent, who have a retail as well as a wholesale business, exhibiting at shows in Great Britain and Ireland.

The chairman of the Edinburgh International Show last year told me he had invited two Continental firms of world wide reputation to exhibit and both had replied that they were debarred by the opposition of their English wholesale customers.

Continental shows welcome foreign exhibits, and the Royal Horticultural Society is always glad to stage exhibits from overseas, a policy which is indubitably in the best interests of horticulture.—WILLIAM LAWRENCE.

FLORAL ANTIQUITIES.

SIR,—A new method of getting into touch with missing friends and tracing the whereabouts of individuals who have drifted out of sight has lately come into considerable use by means of broadcasting; and it occurs to me to ask you to send out a general enquiry through your far-reaching columns in the hope of discovering one or two old friends whose acquaintance I would like to renew.

Many years ago I had in the garden which was then mine a distinct and favourite viola named Magpie, the flower being rather loosely built, somewhat of the gracilis type, and to describe it as black and white in colour is not far from being accurate. I have sought high and low for it, but if it still survives it must be in some well hidden retreat, for my many and repeated enquiries have so far failed to discover it.

Then, again, I would much like to find one or two old favourites of my younger days among the shrubby calceolarias, for which I have also made fruitless search. Garibaldi, Mount Etna, Goldcap and Victor Emanuel were some of them. They were offered in plant lists published away back in the 'seventies (one of which I have recently seen), but I cannot find them mentioned in any lists to-day. The only hope of finding them again seems to be in a quiet retreat for aged plants in the keeping of some fragrant-hearted lover of floral antiquities who has not altogether cast off old loves for new.

THE GARDEN is an increasingly charming and helpful paper, and I feel inclined to suggest the devotion of a little space—down in one corner and always in the same position—where could be put "Wanted to Find" items such as these about which I write.—W. D.

Digitized by Google

GARDEN TECHNIQUE

VEGETABLE GARDEN.

SOWING ASPARAGUS FOR NEXT SPRING PLANTING.

THE asparagus is regarded as a very choice, valuable vegetable and it should be grown in every garden. But where the soil is clayey, cold and tenacious, it is a very difficult matter to succeed in growing really fine produce without taking extra pains. To sow the seeds directly in an unprepared bed, or in one not specially prepared is to court failure. The best plan is to make up a special bed for the reception of the seeds and to sow the latter in it forthwith. The border should be raised at least 4ins. above the normal level; the soil must be thoroughly broken up and some leaf-soil and such compost as old potting soil, sifted and mixed with it. Form drills about 2ins. deep and 1ft. apart; sow the seeds 2ins. apart in the drills and nearly fill up the latter with the sifted soil. It will not require a very large bed to contain about five hundred plants and the seeds will soon germinate in it and become very fine specimens by the end of the summer. While the young plants are making progress every effort should be made to form the permanent beds in which they are to be planted next spring. The soil should be deeply dug and the subsoil loosened and broken up as finely as possible. Various crops of vegetables may be grown during the summer and, in the autumn the asparagus beds should be formed but left in a rough state all through the winter in readiness for planting in due course.—CHRISTCHURCH.

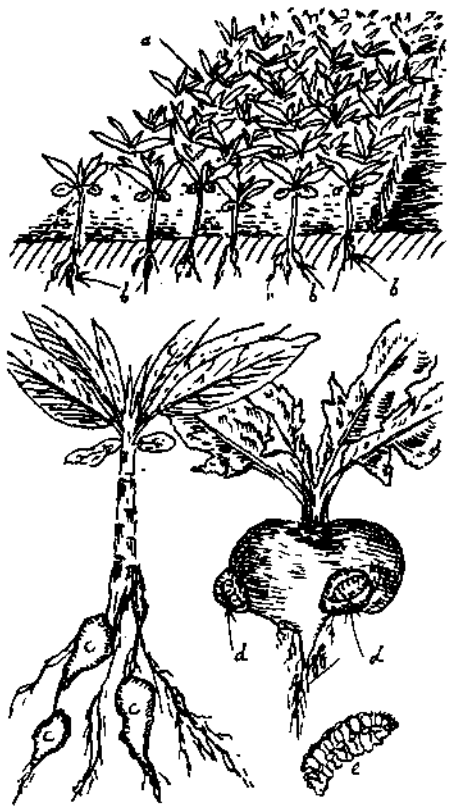
PREPARING HOLES FOR ROOT CROPS.

IT is necessary, if one wants to obtain fair-sized roots of parsnips and salsafy, to have the seeds sown now, so that the plants have sufficient time to grow and develop properly; yet the time of seed sowing is not the only item conducive to good results. In garden soils of a heavy texture root crops of the tap-rooted types grow branched—or, in the language of the garden, the roots are forked. To avoid this, and to get long straight roots, it is necessary not only to have the soil deeply dug, but to make holes anything from 12ins. to 20ins. deep with a strong dibber. These holes should be filled with old potting soil, after it has been passed through a ¼in. sieve and well mixed with a quantity of fresh wood ashes.

At the top of each hole a few seeds should be dropped, and covered with a sprinkling of soil. When the seedlings are sufficiently advanced they should be thinned out to one plant per hole. By this method of preparing the holes—which certainly takes more time than making drills—one can get good straight roots, which are more to be desired than quantities of the others.—DAVID ARMSTRONG.

CLUB IN CABBAGE. GALL-WEEVIL IN TURNIPS.

THE disease and the pest are not confined to the two kinds of plants named above. They are, however, the crops that are often seriously damaged by them. The effects of both are almost similar, but the causes are quite distinct. Dealing with club-root first, it is caused by a slime-fungus which spreads rapidly in a sour soil. The malformed roots, in bad cases, swell to a large size, often split open, decompose and soon become very offensive. Soil deficient in lime is a fruitful medium for the spread of the disease. In small gardens seeds of cabbages, cauliflowers, savoys, Brussels sprouts and winter greens generally are, year after year, sown in the same part of some nice sheltered border, with the result that the young plants are affected before they are planted out in their permanent quarters. I have seen this happen many times, the roots being mere lumps without fibre. Such plants should be burned. Overcrowded seedlings are shown at *a*, with their roots, *b*, *b*, *b*, "clubbing." Fresh soil should be selected in which to raise the seedlings and a change of plot given every year. This applies, too, to the permanent planting out. When a young plant "clubs" in the seed quarters, it soon becomes useless, as shown at *c*, *c*, *c*. The stem swells, sometimes splits, and the tops droop directly the sun shines on them. Gas-lime applied in the autumn at the rate of one bushel per square rod will do a lot of good. It cannot be obtained freely, so in its place use two bushels



of ordinary lime and in spring one peck of salt per square rod. The turnip-gall weevil causes those smooth knobs on the sides and base parts of turnips, and they also affect the roots of cabbages and greens. Gas-lime is beneficial in this case too. It should be left on the surface several weeks before it is dug into the soil. All cabbage and similar plant stumps—and their roots—should be burned, and change of crops is good. Wood-ashes and charred rubbish and soil should be freely added to the garden soil every spring; *d*, *d*, and *e* show the maggots.—GEO. GARNER.

PRICKING OFF CELERY.

THIS is a popular vegetable with most small-holders, but, unfortunately, it is not grown to such perfection in some cases as it might be. One reason for this is through neglecting it in the early stages. The plants are kept too long in a high temperature, or they are pricked off into boxes of poor soil and allowed to become stunted, and as the soil is poor they are also starved. A better plan is as follows: Spread about 3ins. of compost manure on a hard ash bottom, if possible, and upon this put about 2ins. of good loamy soil; pat it down moderately firm.

Some 6in. battens should be placed on the beds in such a manner as to carry a 6ft. light, to be put over the crop. The plants should be pricked off into these beds about 6ins. apart. Careful attention in watering and weeding should be observed, and when the plants commence to grow plenty of ventilation will be necessary.

The lights should be removed altogether as time goes on, and can be used for other purposes. Once celery has made a good start, any kind of shelter will do to protect it from cold winds. When the plants are being removed to the trenches they can be cut down to the bottom of the beds in squares, and those who adopt this method will find it a good way of preparing celery plants, as the plants do not by this method receive any check at planting time, and thus the stems grow nice and tender thereby. Celery that is checked in growing frequently grows pithy and poor and has a tendency to run to seed. The plants should be dusted at regular intervals with soot to prevent the fly from depositing its eggs in the foliage, where the larvæ play havoc by mining in the leaf.—G. BARTON.

FLOWER GARDEN

SWEET PEA NOTES.

AT this time of the year, our sweet peas—whether autumn or spring sown—should be well established in their flowering quarters. It must not be expected that they will make real headway for a week or two after transplanting, often they appear to be perfectly stationary until their roots begin to move freely. Inexperienced growers are tempted to give frequent waterings or even to apply some form of stimulant, but rarely do they need either watering or feeding from the time they are transplanted until they commence to bloom. Feeding, indeed, is unnecessary and may prove very harmful before they flower. Keep the hoe going round the plants to conserve moisture and as soon as the first flower buds appear, give a top dressing or mulch of loose horse litter or spent hops.

During the period between transplanting and the time they commence to make rapid growth, slugs are often a source of trouble and disappointment, and unless steps are taken to prevent their unwelcome attentions, serious losses—sometimes irreplaceable—are incurred. Of course, the best time to check slugs is in the late summer and autumn of the previous year. This may sound "Irish," but in a wet autumn, they multiply with extraordinary rapidity among weeds, refuse and in thickly planted borders. Keep the garden clean and free from weeds and rubbish during this period and slugs will give little bother the following spring. If only a small number of sweet peas is being grown, dusting lime or soot (not both) or finely sifted ashes, each side of the rows or all round the clumps is fairly effective, for slugs and snails do not like crossing these substances if they are dry. Apart from the lengthy method of examining the plants in the late evening or early morning in damp weather, picking off and killing all slugs one can find, another way is to lay cabbage or lettuce leaves along the rows in the evening and turn them over the next morning, destroying any slugs which may have solved the housing problem by crawling underneath for both shelter and a square meal. Potato slices and little heaps of bran also make good slug traps. Several preparations are on the market which will kill slugs if sprinkled on them (in powder or liquid form), but I have, as yet, found nothing which will destroy

Digitized by Google

slugs underneath lumps of soil and stones without injuring the plants.

In the country, where other greenstuff is plentiful, birds give little trouble, but in suburban districts, they sometimes nip out the tender and juicy growing tips. Autumn sown plants will by now be too large to attract them, but later sowings may be protected with a few strands of black cotton or twine stretched just above the plants.—C. H. A, S.

NOTES ON LUPINS.

LUPINS are easily grown and can stand a good deal of ill usage—if one might be allowed to use that phrase—at any rate I have seen fairly large plants transplanted—about the middle of May—when growth was well advanced. Certainly they did not attain to the height of established plants, but in regard to length of flower spikes, there did not seem to be any marked difference. It was observed, however, that a greater number of flowers had dropped from the spikes of the undisturbed plants, than from the plants transferred in May. It should be mentioned that these remarks on flowers dropping relate only to the white-flowered variety—Lupinus polyphyllus albus. It certainly detracts from the perfectness of the spikes, when they are bare of blooms for almost half their length, as often occurs.

Perennial lupins luxuriate in a fairly heavy soil, and one in which well rotted manure has been freely incorporated. Timely staking and tying are necessary so that the easily displaced growths and flower stems will not be broken down when high winds prevail. The old stems, too, should be cut over as soon as the flowers are past, as lupins set freely and produce large quantities of seed, which, if left to mature, will weaken the plants. The appearance of the plants is also improved when the old flower stems are removed early.—DAVID ARMSTRONG.

A FINE WINTER-FLOWERING BEGONIA.

WINTER-FLOWERING begonias have never become popular among amateurs, but there is one variety which ought to suit them better than any of the others, Begonia Ideala. This particular kind is of compact habit; it grows into a neat plant without any particular care on the part of the grower, and it seldom shows that "legginess" which is characteristic of similar plants badly grown.

This is the correct time to procure cuttings and to strike them for next winter, although cuttings may be struck at any time. A brisk bottom heat is required to propagate, and a fairly high temperature, round about 65° Fahr., is needed for their general culture. Grown on in a loamy compost enriched with some well decayed cow-manure and kept in a moist atmosphere, this variety will grow rapidly and soon make good specimen plants. Flower the plants in 6in. or 7in. pots. The flowers are of the usual Lorraine rosy red colour, of fair size, and borne in great profusion.—H. A.

THE GREENHOUSE

SWAINSONIAS.

IT is somewhat remarkable that Swainsonias are grown so rarely in greenhouses to-day, considering their comparative easy culture, their adaptability for climbing over rafters or inside walls, and to the multitudes of sprays of pea-like blossoms they yield. They are evergreen climbing plants, that once established give very little trouble, beyond occasional shortening of the shoots; may be raised either from seeds or cuttings in spring and can be finally potted in large pots, or planted in a border within the house as occasion and convenience serve. In sowing seed, a compost should be made up of fibrous loam and peat, with a good proportion of silver sand. Young plants should have their shoots pinched once or twice to admit of lateral growths, and frequent syringings, accompanied with moisture at the roots will do much towards keeping swainsonias healthy and vigorous during the summer season. Shade is essential to their well being. They will thrive in a temperature of 60 degrees (winter minimum 45 degrees, when they need to be kept on the dry side). It will be found the better plan to encourage growth the first twelve months, rather than flower buds to form. This will be appreciated in the second year when shoots are laden with flowering sprays. S. galegifolia, rose, and S. galegifolia alba, white, are both attractive. The growths are slender and twining, being amenable to training under the rafters of a shaded roof. It is to be feared, however, that, so far as the average greenhouse is concerned, swainsonias are a vanishing race.—W. F.

REPOTTING AND STOPPING TREE CARNATIONS.

CUTTINGS of these may be rooted any time during the whole year, and so repotting is work that requires attention from time to time. But the two principal stocks of plants are raised from cuttings inserted in October and in the New Year until as late as March. The first, or autumn-struck, stock supplies flowering shrubs by the early part of the following autumn, often they begin to bloom in the late summer-time; and the spring-struck plants yield blooms profusely early in the New Year. The February and March rooted cuttings should be potted singly as soon as possible, or the stems will be drawn up weakly. If kept in a greenhouse it should be only for a short time, then transferred to a cold frame, and be shifted to larger pots directly the small ones begin to fill with roots. When established in the second-sized pots, stop the plants at five or six main leaves from their base. It is chiefly owing to non-stopping until the stems are 8ins. or 9ins. high and then only removing the tips that lanky, ungainly specimens result. The side shoots should grow freely from the lowest joints—axils of leaves and stem. The earliest plants, judiciously stopped, will now possess many side shoots, approximately 6ins. long. Some of these may be stopped again. The plants should be finally potted as soon as possible. Use old mortar rubble, pounded bricks and some bone-meal in the compost. Pot firmly.—GEO. GARNER.

MISCELLANEOUS

CONTROL OF WINTER MOTH.

THERE is very real evidence that the larvæ of the winter moth (Cheimatobia brumata) will be very destructive upon bush fruit trees this season, unless they receive an effective check. As usual, apples will be the worst sufferers, but pear, plum and cherry trees carry a complement of the pest as well. No remedial measures can be applied while the trees are in bloom, but they should not be delayed one moment longer than is necessary after the flowers have fallen. I know of none but an arsenical specific which carries a principle that is fatal to the larvæ of the winter moth. It is unfortunate, perhaps, in view of the arsenic scare, but there is, of course, no possibility of permanent effect when spraying is done so early. The trees should not be sprayed with an arsenical wash if vegetables are growing beneath them. I have proved time and time again that arsenate of lead makes an effective base for the destruction of winter moth larvæ, when dissolved in water at the rate of half a pound to twelve gallons. In common with many larvæ destroyers this one poisons the food. It must, therefore, be applied to the trees in the form of a mist-like spray. A dry, dull and calm day is ideal for the purpose. In no instance should the trees be sprayed in a fresh wind, or the operation cannot prove effective. Readers who have not an intimate knowledge of entomology may welcome a description of the larvæ of the winter moth. In infancy they have greenish yellow bodies and brown heads. At maturity they are yellow and measure three-quarters of an inch in length. They are known as "measurers" in many parts of the country, because they progress in a manner similar to that of a hand spanning the distance between two points. Possessed by a voracious appetite the larvæ feed upon the leaves and blossom, reducing or entirely destroying the prospects of a remunerative fruit crop.—GEO. H. COPLEY.

DAMPING OFF.

SEEDLINGS and greenhouse plants are particularly subject to "damping off." That the chief cause of this is over-watering is well known, but it is also caused by lack of sunshine and excess of moisture in the air. So one way to avoid it in greenhouses and frames is to allow plenty of ventilation in all but the most frosty weather.

If the "damping" process has gone far it is almost hopeless to try to cure it, but if caught in time plants may be saved by dusting sulphur lightly over the affected parts, though care must be taken not to leave sufficient on to choke the stomata or breathing pores of the leaves. It is sometimes sufficient to sprinkle the sulphur on the floor and staging of the greenhouse, though if it is left on pipes that are too hot the fumes will be injurious to the plants.

As prevention is always better than cure, it is well to attend to the following points regularly, as this will go far to avoid the trouble. Both over-watering and over-feeding must be avoided, especially in cold weather, when plants cannot make use of so much manure, and it may sour the soil by standing it in too long. All plants, but especially seedlings, will greatly benefit by having the surface soil broken up frequently, as this will keep it sweet and prevent greenness on top.

Go over your plants regularly, and prick off all parts that show signs of decay, as these will mildew rapidly and spread infection, if small scissors are used, single blooms can be removed from trusses without spoiling the whole.—MICHAEL J. DEARDEN, *Swansea*.

IMPROVING MINT.

A BED of mint will last indefinitely, but after a few years it will be improved by a good overhauling, and may even need removing to a new site. This may be due to mint rust having set in, for which there is no real cure; but it is more likely to be due to such weeds as bindweed and couch grass having established themselves among the mint, and as their underground stems closely resemble those of the mint, it is almost impossible to get rid of the one without destroying the other.

If the bed is free from both rust and weeds, it will benefit by having the top cleared off, the surface soil loosened, and a good layer of leaf-mould spread over it.

When choosing the site for a new bed it is well to have it facing south or west, so that early mint can be obtained without forcing. Very deep digging is not necessary, and as the wild mint is found chiefly in the rich soil of river banks it is obvious that plenty of well rotted manure will improve the crop if added while the bed is being prepared.

The mint should be planted in rows about 10ins. apart, and 2ins. or 3ins. deep, and the roots spread well out. The most common mint is Mentha piperita, but if new plants are bought it will be found more satisfactory to obtain, if possible, the M. virides, or spear mint.—M. D.

Digitized by Google

ESTABLISHED 1804 INCORPORATED 1809

THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S

Great Spring Flower Show

IN THE

ROYAL HOSPITAL GARDENS, CHELSEA, LONDON, S.W.

ON

May 25th, 26th, and 27th, 1926

PRICES OF ADMISSION FOR NON-FELLOWS:

Tuesday, May 25th	2 p.m. to 8 p.m.	10/-
Wednesday, May 26th	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	5/-
" "	5 p.m. to 8 p.m.	2/6
Thursday, May 27th	9 a.m. to 6 p.m.	2/6

FELLOWS' TICKETS ADMIT FREE.

The ROYAL ARTILLERY BAND will play each afternoon in the Ranelagh Gardens.

For particulars of Fellowship, apply to the Secretary, R.H.S., Vincent Square, S.W.1

Have you decided to use "KATAKILLA" this year? It means better fruit, cleaner vegetables, lovely flowers.

"KATAKILLA" is the popular non-poisonous insecticide for destroying caterpillars, Green-fly and other destructive insect pests in orchard and garden. In powder form ready for mixing with water. Clean and easy to use.

Stocked everywhere in 2/- (for 10 galls. wash) and 6/- (50 galls.) Cartons

Spray with

KATAKILLA

THE UNIVERSAL INSECTICIDE

Write for Illustrated leaflet "Katakilla," post free from

COOPER, McDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, Ltd., BERKHAMSTED, Herts.

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND. SOILFUME. NICOTINE, INSECTICIDES, FUMERS, SPRAYS, AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES - THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT. CARRIAGE PAID

Only Address: TOMLINSON & HAYWARD Lᵀᵈ LINCOLN.

KILOGRUB

Exterminates *all* Garden Pests in the soil.
Your Seedsman has it.
Tins:—9d., 1/6, and 2/6.
Bags:—¼-cwt. 6/6; ½-cwt. 9/6; 1-cwt. 15/-.
Write for particulars to the manufacturers:—
JOHN PEAK & Co., Ltd., Wigan, Lancs.

KOSTERS' NEW HARDY HYBRID

RHODODENDRONS

Our new Rhododendrons will be exhibited at the next CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW at STAND No. 22, in the large tent, right opposite our last year's exhibit. AZALEAS will be shown in the garden at the Embankment entrance. Orders for the above can be placed with any nurseryman in the United Kingdom.

M. KOSTER & SONS · BOSKOOP · HOLLAND

Digitized by Google

OBITUARY

MR. SAMUEL McGREDY, J.P.

IT is with the deepest regret that we have to announce the death of Mr. S. McGredy, who passed away at his home at Portadown on Monday, April 26th, at the age of sixty-five. He had been in failing health for some time past, suffering from heart trouble.

Without doubt he was a wizard of the rose world and will be greatly missed by all lovers of our national flower. One can safely say that no single person has done more to beautify our rose gardens than the late Mr. McGredy, and it would be a fitting memorial if the N.R.S. struck a special medal to be offered at their summer shows and so keep his memory green among us.

He lived and died for the rose, and was always ready to help and give valuable advice to all those interested. The writer has known him since about 1905, when he first became known to the rose world. At all times, when visiting him at Portadown, one was always sure of a hearty reception, and to wander with him through his nursery was a real pleasure.

May the great work which he started and so loved be continued successfully by the house of McGredy. Before taking up the hybridising of roses, which he did as a hobby, I believe one is quite right in saying that he was a great lover of horses, and if my memory serves me well, he bred many well known hackneys which he used to exhibit with a good deal of success at the leading shows.

Readers will probably remember that last year's volume of THE GARDEN was dedicated to Mr. McGredy for his great and untiring work in the rose world.

MR. ISAAC McDOUGALL.

IT is with deep regret that we have to record the death of Mr. Isaac McDougall, which took place in London three weeks ago.

Mr. McDougall was formerly chairman of McDougall and Robertson, Limited, Manchester, and also of McDougall and Yalding, Limited, and subsequently became vice-chairman of Cooper, McDougall and Robertson, Limited, upon the amalgamation of these companies with Wm. Cooper and Nephews, Limited, of Berkhamsted.

Throughout his life Mr. McDougall was closely associated with horticultural interests, his companies being manufacturers of a wide range of insecticide sprays, etc., used by fruit growers, gardeners and horticulturists both in this country and abroad.

After leaving school he went to the Swanley Horticultural School, at that time a men's college, and was afterwards pupil at the farm of Mr. (now Sir Walter) Berry at Faversham.

When only nineteen years of age he started farming on his own account at Red Hill, Wateringbury, but after a few years joined his father in business at Manchester, and subsequently became chairman and managing director of McDougall Brothers, Limited, of that city.

A keen and capable business man he combined a genial and generous nature with an unbounded capacity for hard work and successful organisation. He was a model employer and enjoyed, not only the respect and esteem, but in an unusual degree the personal affection of his staff and employees.

His death at the comparatively early age of fifty-three, will be deeply regretted, not only by his family and business associates, but by an exceptionally large circle of friends in all parts of the world.

R.H.S. Chelsea Show
May 25th to 27th

Intending Visitors are particularly invited to inspect the Group of

AZALEAS
in TENT
AND ALSO THE GROUP OF
Specimen Golden Yews
OUTSIDE

EXHIBITED BY—
THE KNAP HILL NURSERY
(late ANTHONY WATERER)
WOKING, SURREY
Proprietor - - HOSEA WATERER

DOBBIE'S
SCOTCH-GROWN
DAHLIAS
FULL DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE
84 pages of these and other Plants sent on application
DOBBIE & CO., LTD.
Nurserymen .·. EDINBURGH

MANURES.
The most complete little book on the subject is "The Manual of Manures," by H. VENDELMANS, 4/5; by post, 4/9. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

ROCKRAVEN GARDEN STONE
COMPANY SUPPLY POROUS LIME-STONE ROCKS FOR ALPINE SUBJECTS; WEATHER-WORN BY THE STORMS OF CENTURIES INTO DELIGHTFUL POCKETS, LEDGES AND FISSURES, VARIED SHAPES AND SIZES
SECRETARY
LINTON-IN-CRAVEN, SKIPTON, YORKS

CIRENGOL

KILLS GREEN FLY
AND OTHER GARDEN PESTS.

READY FOR USE. All you have to do is to mix a level teaspoonful in two gallons of cold water and in a few minutes you have a supply of strong syringing liquor.

9d. per tube.

Large size 3/- (5 times the 9d. size.)

Of all Ironmongers, Seedsmen, Florists and Chemists or post free from:

THOS. CHRISTY & CO., 4-12, Old Swan Lane, London, E.C. 4.

RHODODENDRONS grow more popular every year. The only cheap up-to-date book about them is

Rhododendrons for Amateurs

BY E. H. M. COX

Illustrated.

5s. net

For full list of the new "GARDENING FOR AMATEURS" series write to the Publishers
"COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED
20, Tavistock St., London, W.C.2

NETTINGS (REDUCED PRICES)

GARDEN NETS for fruit protection. Any length or width, corded all round.

New 1in. sq. mesh, stout ..	5d.	per sq. yd.
New medium, 1 in. sq. mesh	4½d.	,, ,,
New ¾ in. stout, sq. mesh ..	5½d.	,, ,,
New ¾ in. medium, sq. mesh	4½d.	,, ,,
Best ¾ in. salmon twine ..	7d.	,, ,,
Repaired ¾in. stout sq. mesh	3d.	,, ,,
Repaired 1 in. sq. mesh ..	2½d.	,, ,,

NEW TENNIS BOUNDARY NETTING, roped around.

Heavy hand braided ..	7d.	per sq. yd.
Medium ,, ,, ..	6d.	,, ,,
Little lighter	4½d.	,, ,,
Selected repaired	3d.	,, ,,

Any length or width supplied.

NEW TENNIS NETS, regulation size, various qualities, steel and copper head lines, **30/-** to **35/-** each.

DIAMOND NETS, measured mesh closed, Selected, Repaired, small mesh, 25 yds. x 2 yds., **3s. 6d.**, or 4 yds., **7s.**, or 8 yds., **14s.** Heavy quality, about 1¼ mesh, 25 x 2 yds., **5s.**; 4 yds., **10s.**; 8 yds., **£1**, carriage paid passenger train; receipt order.

Satisfaction Guaranteed. Samples and full particulars from the Manufacturers: Mention THE GARDEN.

W. OLIVER ALLEN & SONS, Net Makers, Porthleven, Cornwall.

HILL & SMITH, Ltd.,
BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS,
Makers of
IRON FENCING, HURDLES, GATES, WIRE NETTING AND GARDEN IRONWORK

Other Products—Hay and Grain Sheds, Dutch Barns, Galvanized Corrugated Sheets and Structural Steelwork.

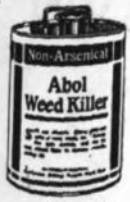
Catalogues free on mentioning this paper.

London: 200, Abbey House, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

Digitized by Google

Clean Garden Paths

Mossy and Weedy garden paths and walks can be cleared without resorting to the costly and back-aching hand method, by using Abol Non-Arsenical Weed Killer.



Abol Non-Arsenical Weed Killer, while being reliable and effective, is entirely free from arsenic and can be used where there are domestic adimals.

It is simply mixed with water. One gallon makes 26.

Of Nurserymen, Seedsmen, Ironmongers, etc. Sole proprs. and manfrs., Abol, Limited, 9, Beltring, Paddock Wood, Kent.

Pint, 1/6; quart, 2/6;
½-gall., 4/-; gall, 6/6

Write for Interesting Treatise on Garden Pests—Gratis and post free.

Abol
Non-arsenical Weed Killer

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by **"ALPHOL"**
Sample 14 lb., 3/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

FOR MAY PLANTING.

We offer for the first time our new

CISTUS WINTONENSIS

Award of Merit, R.H.S., April 20, 1926.

A unique hybrid, flowers two inches across, pearly white, with a distinct maroon zone contrasting with the golden anthers. Foliage grey.

Strong young plants .. .. **10/6** each
Specimens in larger pots .. **21/-** ,,

CISTUS HILLIER'S SILVER PINK

Award of Merit, R.H.S., June 17, 1919.

Flowers the most charming art shade of pale silvery pink, large and profusely borne. Foliage silvery grey; very hardy. **2/6** each. **27/-** doz.

COLLECTIONS OF

(*a*) **12** Cistus in **12** leading varieties, all shades of colour, including purpureus, Loretii, algarvensis, etc., for .. **21/-**
(*b*) **12** ditto, in second size plants, for **16/6**
(*c*) **6** Cistus, in **6** older varieties, for **7/6**

All the above are bushy plants in 5-inch pots.

HILLIER & SONS of WINCHESTER

DOUBLE PRIMROSES

DOUBLE primroses are not always easy plants, but with a fuller realisation of their wants there are few who need despair of growing them to perfection. The fact that they do best in the north and west, where the rainfall is greater, bears its own significance. They dislike dry, poor soils and cutting winds. They want a deep, rather rich, cool soil of medium texture but freely drained, and a little shade from the hottest sun is advisable. An occasional breaking-up and replanting in a fresh bed does much to maintain that natural vigour which in plants that have for generations been propagated only by division is apt to deteriorate. It is not less important to see that a free and healthy development of foliage takes place during early summer, and this, in some places, may mean a few good drenchings with water, followed in the case of the less robust (usually the darkest coloured forms) by some weak liquid manure.

The late spring, just when the flowers are over, is the best time for planting double primroses, as it is the most favourable for that lifting and division of old clumps to which I have referred. No difficulty attends these matters. If the weather be dry, the plants should be well watered for a few weeks, and a little shelter from the midday sun may be desirable. As a rule, these primroses are most pleasing when disposed in informal groups, due attention being paid to the associating of the colours; but a natural aversion to dotting never need mar the delight of having a single plant placed here and there in the mixed border.

Varieties in double primroses are many, the colour range being extensive, and there are notable differences in the size and form of the blossoms. To all these individually one need not refer, but among the best in colour and bloom formation are the lilac, yellow, white and velvety crimson Mme. Pompadour. Other good sorts include a deep purple, rosy lilac, crimson splashed with white, purple laced with silver or gold, a sulphur yellow, dark and light violets, crimson scarlet and amaranthe. Within the last few years one or two double blues have appeared, but I have not yet seen one of them equal to the best single blues in colour. Corymbose or

ANTIRRHINUMS

IT'S only the fact that we grow and deliver especially good plants that we wish to advertise. The brightness, the long-flowering life, the wonderful adaptability of Antirrhinums (Snapdragons) are known to everyone. Although our plants are properly grown, transplanted, well rooted, hardened off, in all ways particularly good, as becomes a firm which reckon to do things well, the price is only

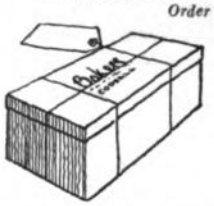
1/3 dozen. **8/6** 100.

Carriage paid on orders value 5/- and over, otherwise 9d. extra.

And these are the varieties and colours

Codsall Rose, delicate pink
Cottage Maid, pink, white throat
Crimson King, rich dark crimson
Dainty, gold and terra cotta pink
Electra, salmon orange, white throat
Dazzler, orange scarlet
Firefly, scarlet
Glow, orange apricot
Melrose, bright rose
Rose Queen, rose pink self
White Queen, pure white
Yellow King, rich yellow

DELIVERED DIRECT FROM THE GROWERS, CARRIAGE PAID, IN MAY.
Order now.



Bakers
FLOWER FARM,
CODSALL.
Nr. Wolverhampton.

GARDEN LOVERS

Write for Catalogues of
PROTHEROE & MORRIS'
· HORTICULTURAL SALES ·
WEDNESDAY
67, 68 Cheapside, London E.C.2. Phone: City 3856

W. TRESEDER, Ltd.

The Nurseries ∴ CARDIFF

DAHLIAS

Our British Empire Exhibit of Dahlias during 1924 and 1925 was considered a feature of the Horticultural Section at Wembley.

ASK FOR A CATALOGUE.

Send your Enquiries NOW for

Autumn Planting of

CHOICE DAFFODILS

BRITISH GROWN BULBS

COMPLETE CATALOGUE NOW READY, FREE ON APPLICATION

Cartwright & Goodwin Ltd.

BULB GROWERS,
CHURCHILL, KIDDERMINSTER, WORCS., ENGLAND.

Digitized by Google

THE LEADING GLASS HOUSE FUMIGANT

THOUSANDS OF TOMATO CROPS ENTIRELY SAVED
No alterations needed since first introduced.
Be satisfied with the best, it is the cheapest in the end.
Commended by the Royal Horticultural Society.

Cubic ft.	1,000	2,000	4,000	8,000	16,000	32,000	64,000
	10d.	1/3	2/-	3/6	6/-	10/6	19/-

Also in 2, 5 and 10 gall. FREE drums;

ALSO

FOWLER'S LAWN SAND
AND FERTILIZER
The Originator of Lawn Sands
Destroys all obnoxious weeds, and discolours the grass least of any. Produces a rich velvety green. 60 years' experience in lawn culture.
in tins, 1/6, 3/-, and 5/6; ¼ cwt., 8/6; ½ cwt., 16/-; 1 cwt., 30/-

ALSO

SLUGS, LEATHER-JACKETS, ONION FLY, WIRE-WORMS
SOIL FUMIGANT
AND FERTILIZER
Does two jobs perfectly in one operation.
7 lbs., 2/6; 14 lbs., 3/6; ¼ cwt., 6/-; ½ cwt., 10/6; 1 cwt., 18/-
5 cwt., 80/-. Sold by Nurserymen. Write for Leaflet—

CORRY & CO, Ltd., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

FERTILISE FREELY!

Fertilise freely or all your labours in the garden will be wasted. Plants must have Nitrogen, and the best form is Nitrate of Soda in conjunction with phosphates and potash.

Write for pamphlets, entitled, "Successful Gardens for Every Amateur," "The Manuring of Orchards and Fruit Trees," supplied gratis and post free by THE CHILEAN NITRATE COMMITTEE, Friars House, New Broad Street, London, E.C. 2.

Nitrate of Soda

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

By Appointment.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.
RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.,
Royal Potteries,
BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

polyanthus heads, which sometimes occur in the double primrose, must not be taken as an indication of impurity of strain. Such often arise, especially towards the end of the flowering season, which, with most kinds, extends from February to about the end of April.—A. T. JOHNSON.

TRADE NOTES.

THERE are some native plants which, provided with suitable conditions, may be naturalised in the wild garden or the woodland. These wild flowers are perfectly hardy, they bloom year after year without any attention, and possess a charm and beauty of their own. The Native Plant Nurseries, Rochbeare, near Exeter, Devon, specialise in wild flowers and ferns of all kinds. This firm supply at very reasonable prices, wild plants suitable for woodland, wall or rock garden, bog garden and woodland.

ONE of the most striking and richest toned of the brooms is the new hardy crimson variety known as Dorothy Walpole. This broom created quite a sensation at Chelsea Show last year. It is perfectly hardy, very free flowering, with wings of a most attractive rich crimson and standards of rosy red. It succeeds equally well in the north as in the south, and from the colour point of view alone this fine broom is worthy of a place in every garden.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

"Everyman's Book of Garden Flowers," by John Halsam (Hodder and Stoughton, price 6s. net). This is a new and revised edition of this excellent publication, in which so much practical and valuable advice is packed in such a concise and compact form. The illustrations alone, of which there are a hundred and twenty-eight, are worthy of the attention of every gardener, while the cultural directions given in every case of some two hundred and fifty border flowers are well worth following. It is a little book which all those who garden in a small way should have at their hand.

"Gardens for Town and Suburb," by V. N. Solly (Ernest Benn, Limited, London, price 15s. net).

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

Where space permits, one of the most useful adjuncts to any garden is a garden frame or small greenhouse. More interest and pleasure can be taken in one's gardening by raising one's own seedlings and carrying out in a small way the propagation of some of the inmates of the garden. Certainly much more can be learned about the intricacies of a plant through the possession of a little glass, and it is in this connection that we would draw attention to the lists of Messrs. David Swain and Co., Horticultural Builders, Sussex Road, Holloway, N.7. The various types of greenhouses and garden frames are described and illustrated and the keen amateur gardener would be well advised to look them over. He is sure to find something to his liking and in keeping with his purse.

Two interesting daffodil lists have also come to hand. These are from Messrs. Donard Nursery Co., whose list offers a wide selection of new and choice narcissi, and Messrs. Cartwright and Goodwin, which is equally wide in its range. Many of the fine varieties shown by these two firms at the recent Daffodil Show will be found in these two lists and we advise all daffodil lovers to procure and study them before the bulb order comes round for 1927.

Messrs. Jeans and Trowbridge, Alpine Nursery, West Moors, Dorset.—A select list of alpine and rock plants.

Mr. C. E. West, Higham Hill, London, E.17.—List of horticultural sundries.

By Appointment.

RANSOMES' LAWN MOWERS
"The Best in the World."

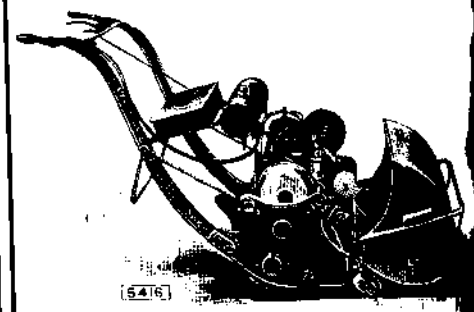
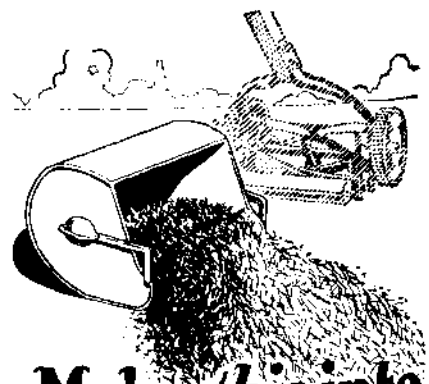


Illustration of 16in. MOTOR LAWN MOWER suitable for use on medium sized gardens and small sports grounds.

MOTOR MOWERS
Manufactured in Sizes up to 42in.
ALSO
HAND, HORSE, PONY AND DONKEY MACHINES to suit every Requirement

PROMPT DELIVERY.

Write for List No. 111 to
RANSOMES, SIMS & JEFFERIES, LTD.
ORWELL WORKS, IPSWICH.
Obtainable from all Ironmongers and Seedsmen.



Make *this* into rich Manure

Lawn mowings, weeds, leaves, etc., should never be wasted. As your garden refuse accumulates, build it into a heap, treating each fresh addition of rubbish with—

ADCO

In a few months you will have a plentiful supply of rich organic fertiliser.
1 cwt. ADCO makes from 2-3 tons of MANURE according to the class of rubbish used.

ADCO ACCELERATOR
(for lawn mowings and soft green refuse)
28 lb., 4/6 ... 56 lb., 8/- ... 1 cwt., 16/-

STANDARD ADCO
(for all other rubbish, bracken and straw)
28 lb., 6/- ... 56 lb., 11/6 ... 1 cwt., 20/-
Carriage paid to nearest Goods Station. Cash with order.
Stocked by all leading Seedsmen, Harrods Ltd., etc.

ADCO LTD., HARPENDEN HERTS.

Digitized by Google

CLAY'S LONDON FERTILIZER TRADE MARK

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then, together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices :—

Tins 10d. and 1/6

and in **Branded and Sealed Bags :**

7 lbs.	3/6	14 lbs.	6/-
28 lbs.	10/-	56 lbs.	18/-
112 lbs.	32/-		

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark.

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers, etc. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**

FOSTER & PEARSON LIMITED

Established 1841

Please write for Estimates for durable Greenhouses, Boilers, etc., to

BEESTON NOTTS

MARK SMITH, Ltd
LOUTH, LINCS.

"PERFECT"
WEED KILLER

STRONGEST
CHEAPEST & BEST

The WIZARD Plant LABEL

PATENT No. 212974

Made in Red Pottery, 2½ x 1¼ ins., with rustless wires, 12 in., 2/- doz. ; 7 in., 1/7 doz. 1¼ x 1 in., with wires 6 in., 1/6 doz. For tying on, 1/6 and 1/3 doz. Waterproof Ink, 9d. and 7½d. bot. Crow Quills, 2d. Postage extra.

Highly commended by the R.H.S. at Wisley.

E. TORKINGTON . NEW HALL . MAIDENHEAD

Established 1835.

By Appointment.

GREEN'S

World-Renowned

LAWN MOWERS

Every Lawn Mower made by Green's is the best for its work. Green's hand, horse or motor Mowers are world famous for efficiency, simplicity, easy running and excellence of design and construction. Green's Motor Mowers won the Motor Mower Trials held at Regent's Park, London, in May, 1925.

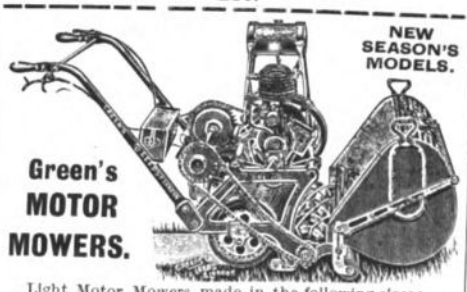
Green's 'SILENS MESSOR' MOWER.
The universal favourite. All sizes.

Also **Green's 'NEW CENTURY'** The ideal light mower. Over a million sold.

GREEN'S
GARDEN ROLLERS
TENNIS MARKERS
ETC.

NEW SEASON'S MODELS.

Green's MOTOR MOWERS.



Light Motor Mowers made in the following sizes :

16 ins.	£45	20 ins.	£62 10s.
24 ins.	£72 10s.	30 ins.	£92 10s.

Also heavier type Motor Mowers up to 42 ins.

NEW PRICE LIST No. 8 ON REQUEST.

THOMAS GREEN & SON, Ltd.
Smithfield Ironworks, LEEDS,
and New Surrey Works, Southwark Street, LONDON, S.E.1.

Who eats your peas?

In tins 10d and 1/3

"SANITAS" POWDER

SAN 247-62

Do you take the trouble to grow vegetables, plants and flowers, just for the insects to enjoy? You can be sure of better results in your garden if you keep a tin of Sanitas handy. Sprinkle a little powder in the drills when you sow, and round the tender shoots; it keeps off all insects and pests; does no harm to the plants.

THE SANITAS CO., LTD.
LIMEHOUSE, LONDON, E.

Digitized by Google

I MAINTAIN that a certain fastidiousness in the choice of a pipe tobacco is not wasted if it leads eventually to the discovery of one's ideal brand

R.F.E.

One tobacco, by reason of its qualities, has claimed the allegiance of many smokers of the 'hard-to-please' variety—

They call it

PLAYER'S NAVY CUT

For Cigarette Smokers

PLAYER'S NAVY CUT CIGARETTES

P.1260.

Reg. No. 154011.

"NICOTICIDE"

FUMIGATING COMPOUND

DESTROYS

GREEN FLY, RED SPIDER, APHIS, MEALY BUG and all greenhouse pests.

Sold in Tins for 40,000 cu. ft., **20**/-, for 20,000 cu. ft., **10**/-
" Bottles " 12,000 " **6**/-, " 8,000 " **4**/-

OBTAINABLE FROM SEEDSMEN, ETC.

Write for booklet of "Gow's Garden Specialities."

HUNTER & GOW, LTD.,
28, Thomas Street, LIVERPOOL

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION

WAKELEY'S *Celebrated* (PATENTED) **HOP MANURE**

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DO YOU REALISE IT ?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only **7**/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

A beautiful Free Booklet giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. GENUINE ONLY IN OUR MARKED BAGS, CONTAINING GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

Cash Prices, including bags: Small (about 1 bushel), **3**/- : Large (about 4 bushels), **7**/- . 5 Large, **33**/9
10 Large, **65**/- : 20 Large, **120**/-

Carriage Paid to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company, 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

BLINDED for YOU

The War-blinded Men of St. Dunstan's (many of whom have lost a limb as well as sight) have been trained to produce the most perfect and hard-wearing

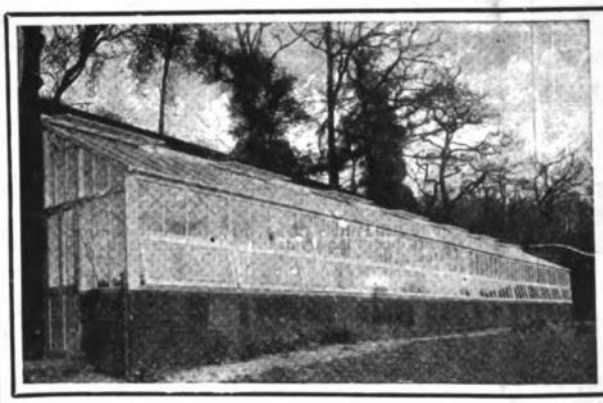
NETS AND NETTING

for Garden, Farm and Sports use. Show these gallant craftsmen that you value the work of their hands.

Moderate prices. List or special quotations on application to—

NETTING DEPT. (A) St. Dunstan's Headquarters, Inner Circle, Regent's Pk., LONDON, N.W.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing*



GREENHOUSES AND GARDEN FRAMES

I specialize in the Erection of High class Horticultural Buildings.

Garden Frames a speciality. Selected timber, well seasoned, only used.

Being a grower, I understand Glass house requirements.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.

CATALOGUES WITH PLEASURE

E. M. HEAP, Cottimore Nurseries, **WALTON-ON-THAMES.**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

A Carmona measuring Spoon in every tin

THE COMPLETENESS OF ITS COMPOSITION, AND THE HAPPY BLENDING OF ITS HIGHGRADE ORGANIC AND OTHER INGREDIENTS RENDER

Carmona *Fertilizer*

A PAR-EXCELLENT BLOOM PRODUCER

CARRIAGE PAID PRICES :—

1 lb. Tin **1/3** 2 lb. Tin **2/-**
7 lb. Tin **4/6** 112 lb. Bag **26/-**

The fullest instructions accompany each package.

Sole Manufacturers :—

ROBINSON BROTHERS LTD., WEST BROMWICH

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane London W.C.2

Digitized by Google

1926. JUN 10 1926

SPECIAL CHELSEA SHOW NUMBER

THE GARDEN

ORCHARD GARDEN WOODLAND

Vol. XC.—No. 2843 Saturday, May 29th, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

AMONG TWENTIETH CENTURY FLOWERS THERE ARE FEW WHICH CAN OFFER US SUCH A WIDE RANGE IN FORM AND BEAUTY OF COLOUR AS THE MODERN DAHLIA. THEY ARE WORTHY OF BEING GROWN IN EVERY GARDEN, BOTH LARGE AND SMALL, THROUGHOUT THE BRITISH ISLES.

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S HARDY PLANT FARMS, ENFIELD, MIDDX. — New Alpines and Perennials; Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS. NURSERIES, BEDFORD — Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR. HARDY PLANT NURSERY, MERSTHAM, SURREY — Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON, TWERTON HILL NURSERY, BATH — Begonias, Delphiniums, Gloxinias, Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS, 408, KING'S ROAD, CHELSEA, S.W. — Seeds, Gladioli, Spiræas, List on Application

R. H. BATH, LTD. THE FLORAL FARMS, WISBECH — Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD. NURSERIES, CRAWLEY — Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG, THE NURSERIES, CHISLEHURST, KENT — Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD. BARROW-ON-HUMBER, HULL — Weed Destroyers, Fertilisers, Insecticides, Nets and Sundries

THE DOWNER LUPINS

are now in full blossom. There are over two acres of them and visitors are invited to come and make their own selection of plants. The seedlings are especially fine. Apply for Catalogue:

DOWNER, 2, Drayton Manor Nurseries, CHICHESTER

NEW

CHRYSANTHEMUMS

Clean healthy Plants free from rust, aphis, etc.

FOR GREENHOUSE FLOWERING: 12 New Exhibition Japanese of 1925, 20/-; 12 Exhibition Japs, including 1924 sorts, 5/-; 12 Incurved varieties, 5/-; 12 Decorative sorts, including one 1925 novelty, 5/-; 12 Decorative Single varieties, 4/-.

FOR THE GARDEN: 12 Aug.-Sept. flowering varieties, including one novelty 1925, 5/-; 12 Sept.-Oct. flowering sorts, 4/-; 12 Aug.-Sept. single varieties, 4/-.

Zonal Pelargoniums (Geraniums), from 3in. pots: 12 fine single varieties, 7/6; 12 double and semi-double varieties, 7/6; 6 Cactus Geraniums, 4/-.

Plumbago capensis (blue), 1/- each; (alba), 1/- each.

Post free for orders over 5/-; others 6d. extra.

Catalogue free on application.

J. W. COLE & SON

Westwood Nurseries - - Peterborough

GLORIOUS CARNATIONS

If you have a garden—however small—and would like to grow the **FINEST CARNATIONS** write for Catalogue and Special Offer to all "GARDEN" readers **TO-DAY.**

Allwood Bros DEPT. 4.

The leading Carnation Growers in the world,

HAYWARD'S HEATH, SUSSEX.

1926

PERPETUAL FLOWERING CARNATIONS

Our Illustrated Catalogue will be sent free on request

C. ENGELMANN LTD.

Saffron Walden, Essex.

FERTILISERS.

LAWNS, 20/-; FRUIT TREES, VINES, 10/6; GENERAL GARDEN USE, 17/-; WORM KILLER, 10/-

Per cwt., carriage paid. Also all other fertilisers.

HY. RICHARDSON & CO., Skeldergate Bridge Works, YORK

TUBS FOR SHRUBS.

WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 100 prizes. R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. — Price List from A. PRADAL, 28, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

FERTHRIVER (REGD.)

THE COMPLETE FERTILISER, WITH GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

	7-lb.	14-lb.	28-lb.	56-lb.	1-cwt.
Ferthriver	1/6	2/9	5/-	9/-	16/-
Bone Meal	1/6	2/9	5/-	9/-	16/-
Nitrate of Soda	1/8	3/-	6/-	11/-	21/-

Add the following extras for Carriage Paid lots. 1/- 1/9 2/- 2/6 4/-

ANALYSIS:

Ammonia	4 per cent.
Phosphates	15 "
Potash	8 "
Pot. Sulphate	5.6 "

3d. Tin of Ferthriver *As Illustrated,* 6d. Post Free.

THE NECESSARIES CO., 25, Edward Road, Balsall Heath BIRMINGHAM.

XL ALL Specialities

Registered Trade Mark.

Have been the most popular Garden Requisites for the past 30 years.

XL ALL Liquid Nicotine Insecticide provides the finest solution for spraying plants and fruit trees.

XL ALL Nicotine Vaporising Fumigator either in Liquid or Cake, is still unsurpassed.

A New Introduction!

XL ALL Leaf Miner Insecticide for Marguerites, Chrysanthemums, Cinerarias, etc. An infallible remedy.

XL ALL New White Fly Vapour for use in Tomato Houses. One application kills every fly.

SUPPLIES TO BE OBTAINED FROM ALL NURSERYMEN, SEEDSMEN, FLORISTS, AND CHEMISTS.

Please ask for small Pink Price List, giving particulars of the above, and many other XL ALL Preparations.

Manufacturers:

G. H. RICHARDS LTD., 234, Borough High St., London, S.E.1

Monomark: BCM/XLALL.

CARNATIONS and ROSES :: AT CHELSEA ::

Those who could not go should write for our Catalogue of **Perpetual Carnations for bedding**, which bloom a month earlier and two months later than the old varieties. Large plants in bud supplied at 18/- doz. Now is also the time to pot on for **winter blooming** under glass. Look out for the best of all crimson clove-scented Carnations, "**Pink Season.**" "**Mauve Queen.**" and "**Lady Hindlip.**" Also for the nearly blue "**Sybil.**"

STUART LOW CO.

BUSH HILL PARK . ENFIELD . MIDDLESEX

Scotch Bedding Plants

To make your GARDEN A JOY in Autumn and Summer, 1926.

STORRIE'S List now ready.

SEND FOR YOURS TO-DAY.

STORRIE & STORRIE, Glencarse, PERTHSHIRE

DWARF BEDDING DAHLIAS

COLTNESS GEM, brilliant scarlet flowers, produced in the greatest profusion during summer and autumn; 18ins. high. Undoubtedly the best dwarf Dahlia for bedding.

DUNECHT GEM, a counterpart of the foregoing, but with yellow flowers.

Also Collarette, Cactus, Pompon, Peony and Single Dahlias, our selection of varieties.

Prices for all above: 7/- for 12; 13/- for 25; 25/- for 50, and 47/6 for 100.

All carriage paid for cash with order.

AUSTIN & McASLAN

MITCHELL STREET . . GLASGOW

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

WEBBS'

LOVELY WALLFLOWERS.

he finest strains in existence:—
"Kinver Favourite," Blood Red; "Canary Bird," Golden Yellow; "Fireball," Orange; "Eastern Queen," Terra Cotta; "Ruby Gem." Ruby Violet; "Universal," Mixed; "Cheiranthus Allioni" (Siberian Wallflower).
Each 6d. and 1/- per packet.
EBB & SONS, Ltd., The King's Seedsmen, STOURBRIDGE.

VATERER'S GOLD MEDAL RHODODEN-
RONS, Azaleas, rare Hardy Shrubs, Alpine and Perennial nts, Vegetable and Flower Seeds. Catalogues free. Bedding talogue now ready, containing the best in Dahlias.—JOHN ATERER, SONS & CRISP, LIMITED, Twyford, Berks; Bagshot, urrey; and London.

IMALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODEN-
RONS on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and lpine Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write r Catalogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

WELLS' CATALOGUE OF CHRYSANTHE-
UMS will be sent post free on application.—W. WELLS AND O., Merstham, Surrey.

AKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE.
—The original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See vert. on back page.

WM. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD.,
awrence Road, South Tottenham, N.15.—Conservatories, inter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

IRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUN-
IALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—OCKTON, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

ENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and arden Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE ANLEY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, urrey.

IVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES,
gs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality d a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection vited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS D SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

ORK STONE PAVINGS, crazy or rect-
ngular, rustic copings, steps roughly squared or random aped, flat bedded wallstones, garden edging, rockery, etc.—AMUEL JOHNSON AND SON (MIRFIELD), LIMITED, Newgate one Works, Mirfield, Yorkshire.

RIOR'S COLCHESTER ROSES, Fruit Trees,
adioli, Dahlias, Carnations, Herbaceous. Catalogue containing eap collections free.—D. PRIOR AND SON, LIMITED, Colchester.

ALPINES, ROCK PLANTS, DWARF
HRUBS AND CONIFERS, HERBACEOUS PLANTS, etc. e shall be showing at Chelsea on Table T, and hope our stomers will visit us there.—SHEPPARDS, Shawhurst Nursery, ollywood, Birmingham.

WIRE NETTING.—From 2/5 per 50yd. roll.
Cheapest House in the Kingdom. Write us for prices. Thousands of rolls stocked.

EA GUARDS.—Small mesh, 3ft. long, two
ds to each dozen. 4/3 dozen. 2 doz. Carriage Paid.

EFY THE BIRDS.—Rotless Tanned Net-
ing. Small mesh, as supplied by us to the Royal Gardens. In ree Qualities. 50 x 1yd., 3/6, 4/-, 6/9: 2yds., 7/-, 8/-, rds., 14/-, 16/-, 27/-. Any size supplied. Carriage paid. pproval. Measured mesh closed.

TENNIS BOUNDARY NETTING.—Lines top
nd bottom. 25 x 2yds. 16/3; 3yds., 18/3; 4yds., 25/3. Carriage paid. Approval. Standards for fixing to, also Playing ets. Poles and all requisites supplied.

GARDEN BARROWS.—Full size. 8 spokes.
Best value in the kingdom, 24/9. Painted, 26/3.

LAWN MOWERS.—Five Riveted Blades.
High Wheels. Brass Bushings. Close Cutting. Highly Finished. Unequalled Value. 8in., 23/-; 10in., 24/-; 12in., 25/-; 14in., 26/-. Grass Boxes, 8/6 each. Garden Rollers, 30/-.

PEA NETTING.—Tanned, Superior Quality.
3in. mesh, 6ft. wide, 6d. yard. Carriage paid 12yds. and over. Other widths pro rata, prices of smaller meshes on application. —E. B. HAWTHORN, LIMITED, Dept. E, Shrewsbury.

BARR'S SEEDS FOR JUNE SOWING.—
For VEGETABLE AND FLOWER GARDEN, ROCK GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE. Finest Selected Strains and Tested Growth. Special Lists Free.—BARR & SONS, 11, 12, and 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal
for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham

OUR NEW ILLUSTATED CATALOGUE of
Alpine and Herbaceous Plants, Dwarf Trees and Shrubs and Bulbs for the Rock Garden, now ready. "A Mine of Information." Post free on application.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LTD., Stevenage, Herts.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GAR-
DENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial: On Buying at Chelsea	291
Editorial Notes	292
Kew in Early Summer	293
The Garden Value of the Dahlia	295
The Flower Garden — *Poppy Anemones; Looking After Annuals; Bedding Out; The Corn Marigold; When the Bulbs are Over; Some Dwarf Bog Plants.*	296–298
The Great Chelsea Show	298–304
Correspondence — *Anchusa myosotidiflora; New and Better Glaaioli; The Orange Corner in the Garden; Gladioli from Kenya in a Cheshire Garden; A Winter Garden; Trophy for Plant Breeders; Daphne Genkwa; Another "Coming Flower"; Floral Nomenclature; A Dry Winter.*	305
Eelworm and Hot-Water Treatment	306
Fruit and Vegetables — *Endive; Outdoor Cucumbers; Gooseberry Pests; Broccoli; Assisting Strawberry Plants; Carrot Fly; Celery.*	306–307
The Greenhouse — *Greenhouse Plants; The Final Potting of Chrysanthemums; Better Cinerarias; Bouvardias.*	308
Miscellaneous — *Weeds on Lawns; Window Boxes; Green Fly; The Garden Frame and Hot-bed in Summer; Garden Hose.*	309
Gardening of the Week	310

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL DELPHINIUMS and ROSES. Send a postcard for our catalogue.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS —Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI, Chrysanthemums, Dahlias and Border Carnations.—Our stock includes many new and meritorious varieties. List post free on application.

HEWITT & CO. LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

SUTTON'S

WALLFLOWERS.

The cultivation of the Wallflower was revolutionised when we introduced the wonderful orange-scarlet varieties, and we strongly recommend flower lovers to try the following:
SUTTON'S FIRE-KING (orange-scarlet), per packet, 2/6 and 1/6.
SUTTON'S ORANGE-BEDDER (vivid orange), per packet 2/6 and 1/6.
SUTTON'S PRIMROSE MONARCH (pale yellow), per packet, 1/6.
SUTTON'S GIANT VULCAN (a fine crimson variety) per packet, 2/6 and 1/6.
SUTTON & SONS, THE KING'S SEEDSMEN, READING.

DOBBIE'S PLANT CATALOGUE now ready.
Free to all readers. Please mention THE GARDEN when writing. —DOBBIE AND CO., LIMITED, Edinburgh.

BATH'S SELECT SEEDS AND PLANTS.—
New Illustrated Catalogue of choice Vegetable and Flower Seeds and Plants is now ready, and will be sent, post free, on application.—(Dept. E), R. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

BARGAINS ! ! !—Ideal Wire for training
fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded, and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses, from 19s. 6d. mile (full 1,760 yards). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 355, Albert Street, Lytham.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY
HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

GARDEN NETS.—Best tanned, small mesh;
25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 25yds. by 3yds., 6/-; 25yds by 4yds., 8/- Carr. Paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Tennis nets from 10s. Special nets for tennis boundary. Pea training nets. Lists and samples free.—G. JARRETT, Netmaker, Rye.

NEW AND RARE HARDY HEATHERS
Alpine and Herbaceous Plants. Catalogues on application.—MAXWELL AND BEALE, Broadstone, Dorset.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING.—Best selected
nets, small mesh only supplied. 50yds. long, 4yds. wide, 14/-; 25 x 8yds., 14/-; 100 x 2yds., 14/-; 25 x 4yds., 7/-; 25 x 3yds., 5/-. Any size to order; all sent carriage paid.—W. GOULDBY, Walmer Road, South Lowestoft.

ROCK AND ALPINE PLANTS.—Large and
varied collection. All pot grown. Packed and carriage paid Catalogue free.—M. J. PIGGOTT, Duffield, Nr. Derby.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING, small mesh:
25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 40yds. by 1yd., 3/3; 40yds. by 2yds., 6/6; 40yds. by 3yds., 9/9. Measured mesh closed. Special Pea Netting supplied. Tennis Nets from 8/-. Carriage Paid. Compare our netting with others. Sports lists and samples free.—GALLOP, Net Manufacturer, Hastings.

A NAIL WRITES WEBSTER'S METAL
LABELS. Can't fade or break. List 20 sizes.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

HERRING NETS, Small Mesh, to protect all
kinds of fruit, approximately 80 ft. x 80 ft., 12/6 each. Smaller pieces, 5/- and 6/6, good value. Carriage paid. Cash with order. —WM. G. GRIGOR, Port Gordon Station, Banffshire.

LOOK ! TANNED GARDEN NETS.—All
orders despatched same day. 25 yards by 1 yard, 2/-; 25 by 2, 4/-; 25 by 3, 6/- Odd netting for bushes, 6lbs. for 2/6. All carriage paid. Any sizes supplied. Also Tennis Boundary Nets, —MOORE & CO., Net Works, Rye.

PUMP BARGAINS ! !—First-class brand new
Pumps for all purposes. Sacrificial prices for early clearance. Post card for illustrations.—GREEN'S ARMY STORES, Dept. 137, Lytham.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING
—"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gall in cans extra. "Pinatine," the Imperishable Putty, 32/- per ... kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, or extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices :—

Tins 10d. and 1/6

and in **Branded and Sealed Bags :**

7 lbs.	3/6	14 lbs.	6/-
28 lbs.	10/-	56 lbs.	18/-
112 lbs.	32/-		

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark.

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers, etc. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**

The **Helichrysa** **LABEL**

LASTING, LEGIBLE, AND LOW IN PRICE

Reg. Trade Mark
Reg. Design No. 713923. Prov. Prot.

MARK WHERE YOUR BULBS ARE DYING DOWN

The labels are embossed aluminium in galvanised wire holders. From **2/- dozen** according to amount of lettering necessary.

Write for circular and full particulars to

The "HELICHRYSA" CO.
EAST STREET, COGGESHALL, ESSEX

YOUR LAWN!

TRUE PLAY *IN MANY LAWN GAMES IS IMPOSSIBLE UNLESS THE SURFACE IS CLEAR OF DAISIES AND OTHER WEEDS — THE BEST METHOD OF ERADICATION IS ~*

LAWN SAND

Velvas

applied 5 oz. per Square Yard.

MAKES VELVETY LAWNS

CARRIAGE PAID PRICES :

112 lb. Keg,	29/6	112 lb. Bag,	26/6	14 lb. Tin,	6/-
56 lb. ,,	16/-	56 lb. ,,	14/3	7 lb. ,,	4/-
28 lb. ,,	10/6	28 lb.	9/3	3 lb.	2/6

Sole Manufacturers

ROBINSON BROTHERS Ltd., WEST BROMWICH

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

PERPETUAL FLOWERING CARNATIONS

We have large stocks of excellent young plants, ex 3½ in. pots—which are stopped, with several shoots.

COLLECTION 1.
12 plants in 12 choice varieties **16/-**

COLLECTION 2.
12 plants in 12 distinct varieties .. **12/6**

Special quotations for 50 or 100 plants.

Exhibiting at Chelsea Show, Tent 2, a group of Perpetual Flowering Carnations in the newest and best varieties.

General Catalogue or Novelty List free on request to—

KEITH LUXFORD & CO.
Sheering Nurseries, HARLOW, ESSEX

And at SAWBRIDGEWORTH, HERTS.

WILLMOTT
Rival Plant Stake

(Patented No. 183779).

As used in Royal Botanic Gardens London and Cambridge.
For all plants. WILL NOT ROT, WEAR OUT OR BREAK.
Sample of eight sizes,
2/- car. pd. United Kingdom.
4/- Overseas.

Closed

Open

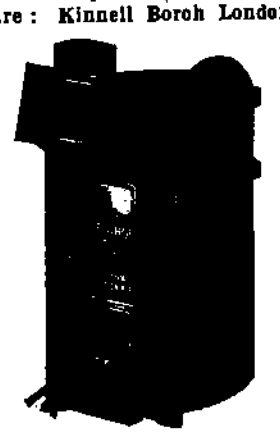
H. J. GREENWOOD, F.R.H.S., Proprietor,
BRACKNELL, Berks.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

MANURES.

The most complete little book on the subject is "The Manual of Manures," by H. VENDELMANS, 4/5; by post, 4/9. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

Phone : Hop 0362 (Three lines).
Wire : Kinnell Boroh London.



Kinnells

EFFICIENT BOILERS

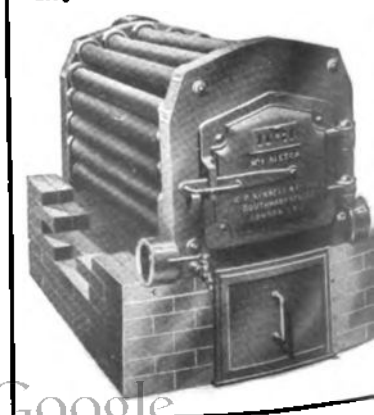
FOR QUICK DISTRIBUTION AND MAINTENANCE OF HEAT WITH ECONOMY

See our Exhibit of Heating Apparatus at the Royal Horticultural Show, MAIN AVENUE, STAND K.

INSTALLATIONS FITTED IN ANY PART OF THE COUNTRY

CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD.
65, 65a, Southwark St., London, S.E.1

Awarded Gold Medal
Royal International Exhibition, 1912.



Digitized by Google

OLIVER & HUNTER'S HARDY PLANTS
GROWN IN SCOTLAND

At Chelsea Show, on Table B, we are exhibiting a unique collection of Alpine plants, including some of Captain Kingdon Ward's latest introductions from Tibet: Primula Florindæ and other new species, Meconopsis, Dracocephalum, Omphalodes, etc. Descriptive catalogue free on request

OLIVER & HUNTER
HARDY PLANT SPECIALISTS
MONIAIVE, DUMFRIESSHIRE

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Dwarf Bedding Dahlias

Coltness Gem	Still the best dwarf scarlet, ht. 18ins. (The original stock introduced by me in 1918). Packed and post free, 2/- doz.
Bunecht Yellow	Good shade, a seedling from Coltness Gem. Same habit, slightly taller. Packed and post free, 2/- doz.
Paisley Gem	Orange scarlet, variable. First flowers are semi-double, ht. 18ins. Packed and post free, 13/6 doz.
White Gem	Free and continuous, bushy habit, ht. 15ins. Packed and post free, 13/6 doz.

Copy of Summer List sent free on request.

D. G. PURDIE, 6J, Waterloo Place, GLASGOW, C.2

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

The Flower of the Season

Ball's Calendula

— Brilliant Orange Double Flowers —
THE FINEST PLANT FOR CUT FLOWER OR THE BORDER

Our exhibit at CHELSEA SHOW made us many customers, and we have had numerous testimonials from all parts of the country.

SEED .. .. 1/-, 2/6, 5/- packet
PLANTS .. .. 1/6 doz.: 10/- 100

WM. ARTINDALE & SON
NETHER GREEN NURSERY :: SHEFFIELD

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

KNAP HILL NURSERY
(LATE ANTHONY WATERER)
WOKING, SURREY
HOSEA WATERER, *Proprietor.*

THE
AZALEAS AND RHODODENDRONS
WILL BE IN FLOWER IN ABOUT TEN DAYS.

INSPECTION INVITED.

Hours of Admittance:
TEN TO FIVE DAILY.
SUNDAYS EXCEPTED

No Cars, Dogs or Horses Admitted.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.

are showing at CHELSEA specimens of

LANDSCAPE GARDENING
New gardens designed and laid out. Old gardens remodelled and improved.

ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBS
Of which a large stock, healthy, well grown and in great variety is to be seen at Crawley.

HARDY FLOWERS AND ALPINE PLANTS
For Borders, Rock and Wild Gardens.

DAHLIAS
The unique collection grown at Crawley includes all leading varieties.

FOR CATALOGUES AND PARTICULARS APPLY TO

J. Cheal & Sons, Ltd., The Nurseries, Crawley

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

FOR THE GARDEN!
FOR BEDS!
FOR EXHIBITION!
FOR EVERYWHERE!

Also Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees, Alpines and Hardy Plants.

BUY HOME GROWN TREES.

SUPPORT BRITISH INDUSTRIES.

Catalogue Free on Application, and Addresses booked for Revised Catalogue in late Summer.

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.
Garden Specialists, SOUTHWELL, NOTTS.

BARR'S SEEDS for JUNE SOWING

OF FINEST STRAINS AND TESTED GROWTH

FOR THE FLOWER GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE
Antirrhinums, Aquilegias, Campanulas, Canterbury Bells, Calceolarias, Cinerarias, Delphiniums, Forget-me-nots, Hollyhocks, Lupins, Pansies, Primulas, Polyanthus-Primroses, Sweet Williams, Stocks, Wallflowers, etc.

FOR THE VEGETABLE GARDEN
Beans, Beet, Carrots, Peas, Spinach, Lettuce, Radish, etc.

FOR THE ROCK GARDEN
Special List of dwarf-growing Hardy Perennials, Alpines, etc., for June and July sowing in the Rock Garden.

All Lists free on application.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2

Digitized by Google

WAKELEY'S Celebrated Hop Manure

(PATENTED)

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

AS USED IN THE GARDENS OF GREAT BRITAIN

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL, ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION, 1912

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE, without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

Every ounce of Wakeley's Hop Manure is of value to the soil, supplying the necessary HUMUS in addition to the valuable plant food. Worthless rubbish is not added to make weight (as is the case of some artificial manures advertised).

Thousands do realise it, the proof of this is the constant flow of UNSOLICITED LETTERS received from time to time in praise of the wonderful results obtained at such a moderate cost (see Booklet for selection).

We are exhibiting at the ROYAL CHELSEA SHOW, kindly visit us at STAND No. 103, SUNDRIES AVENUE.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.—Genuine Only in our Marked Bags containing Guaranteed Analysis.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of post card.

CASH PRICES (including bags):

Small (about 1 bushel)	3/-
Large (about 4 bushels)	7/-
5 Large	33/9
10 Large	65/-
20 Large	120/-

Carriage paid by Pickford's or to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company; 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.

75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

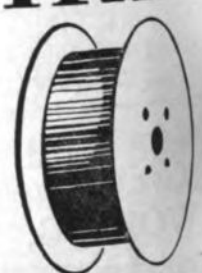
Be prepared for the rainy day, wear Boots* that have Uppers of "Beva" WATERPROOF LEATHER

*Look for the "Beva" on the looping

BARGAIN IN GARDEN WIRE

BRAND NEW GOVERNMENT STOCK

Rust-proof, enamel covered, strong, pliable, and most handy for training, tying, supporting, etc., and scores of other uses about house, garden and workshop



Half-mile 5/6 DRUMS FREE — ONE MILE 7/6 CARRIAGE PAID

Plenty in stock, but demand now increasing. Write to-day!

Our only address:

GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 351, Albert St., LYTHAM

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

OLD WORLD GARDEN ORNAMENTS

IN SOLID BATH STONE

SUNDIALS, GARDEN HOUSES, WALLING STONE, OIL JARS, ROCKERY STONE, CRAZY PAVING

ASK FOR DESIGNS & ACTUAL PHOTOS. LARGE STOCK KEPT. PHONE COMBE DOWN 8

THE HORSECOMBE QUARRIES AND STONE WORKS

(A. F. WILKES, F.R.H.S. PROPRIETOR)

COMBE DOWN, BATH.

HIGHEST AWARDS AT R.H.S. SHOWS. BEAUTIFULLY WEATHERED STONE. WIRES, WILKES, COMBE DOWN 8

BIRD BATHS, DOVE COTES, BALUSTRADING, PERGOLAS, LILY PONDS, SEATS, ETC.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

"ACME" WEED KILLER

Awarded Gold Medal at Anglo-American Exhibition and Bronze Medal by Royal Horticultural Society.

Has stood the test of over 30 years.

POWDER.—No. 1 Tin makes 25 gals., 3/-; postage 9d. No. 2, 50 gals., 6/-; postage 9d. No. 4, which makes 150 gals., 15/-.

LIQUID.—1 gal. to 50 gals. water. 1 gal., 6/-; 2 gals., 10/6; carriage paid on 5 gals., 25/-.

NON-POISONOUS.—No. 1 Tin makes 6 gals., 1/6 post free; No. 2, 12 gals., 2/3 post free; No. 4, 50 gals., 7/- post free.

LAWN SAND

Destroys weeds and moss in grass and fertilizes the lawn. No other manure necessary. 14 lbs., 4/-; 28 lbs., 7/-; 56 lbs., 12/-; 1 cwt., 25/-. Carriage paid on 1 cwt.

EXTRACT OF QUASSIA INSECTICIDE

1 gallon, 5/-; Drum, 1/6; Carriage paid on 5 gallons, 4/6 per gallon; Drum, 4/-. Pint, 2/6, post free. Drums allowed for when returned.

QUASSIA-TOBACCO INSECTICIDE

Pint, 2/6; quart, 3/9 post free. 1 gallon, 6/6; Drum, 1/6. Carriage paid on 5 gallons and upwards.

The Acme Chemical Co., Ltd.,
TONBRIDGE, KENT.

SPRING PLANTING

There are many shrubs and plants which may be successfully planted now.

EVERGREENS such as Hollies, Yews, Bays, Laurels, Thuya Lobbii, Cupressus and other Shrubs.
CLIMBING PLANTS in pots, including Climbing Roses.
HARDY PERENNIALS and ALPINE PLANTS.
HARDY CHRYSANTHEMUMS. VIOLAS.

We grow large quantities of shrubs in pots such as Cupressus, Escallonias, Veronicas, Rosemary, Choisyas, Fuchsias, etc., for planting at any season.

Catalogue and Special Spring List on application.

THE BARNHAM NURSERIES LTD. - BARNHAM, SUSSEX

Use Only Genuine High Grade Hose

FOR WEAR

Messrs. LISTER KERSHAW, LTD., the well-known Growers, of Brighouse, Yorks, say:

"We never had a Hose like this . . . 5 years in use—not the slightest sign of wear."

No. 2 "Standard" Branded, 60 ft., 3-ply, ¾ in., 47/6; ¾ in., 66/3; 1 in. 85/-

No. 4 "Kinnell" Branded, 60 ft., ¾ in., 39/9; ¾ in., 47/6; ¾ in., 54/10; 1 in., 70/9 Brass work extra.

CLEARWAY BRANCH, for quick watering with Push on Tap Union and Clips.
¾ in., 6/2; ¾ in., 8/3; ¾ in., 10/-; 1 in., 16/3

CALL AT STAND K, MAIN AVENUE, R.H.S. SHOW, CHELSEA.

CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., Ltd.
65, Southwark St., LONDON, S.E.1

39th YEAR.

MRS. PYM'S FAMOUS PLANTS

Splendid Collection of Choice Hardy Perennial, Alpine, etc., Plants for ROCK GARDENS. Can be planted now for good show this year, and improve every year. Strong plants and clumps cheap (4d. extra for orders under 3/-), post free, or carriage paid passenger train. 4/- worth gratis plants with every 20/- order. Cash with order only. Named, carefully packed, no delay. Price, per dozen; half and quarter dozen same rate. Single plants, one of each sort, 1d. each extra.

Ajuga, bronze foliage, spikes deep blue flowers, 6/-; green foliage, 4/-. **Alpine Pinks,** vivid pink, creeping, 4/-; mixed, 3/-. **Alpine Phlox,** best named, brightest pink, blue, mauve, deep pink, very charming, 7/-. **Anemone Pulsatilla,** violet and gold, 7/-. **Anthemis montana,** white, 4/-. **Arenaria,** moss-like cushions, covered with white flowers, 6/-. **Aster alpina,** large blooms, blue, purple, mauve, 6/-. **Aubrietia,** purple, 3/-. **Auricula alpinus,** 4/-. **Antirrhinums,** spring sown, transplanted, separate colours, 1/9; mixed, 1/6. **Anchusa myosotidiflora,** deep gentian blue flowers, 6/-. **Armeria alpina,** pink, 4/-. **Anemone Hepatica,** blue, 6/-. **Acæna** (New Zealand Burr), creeping, metallic bronze foliage, rare, 6/-. **Berberis,** dwarf yellow flowers, red berries, 3/-. **Caltha,** glossy foliage, fine double yellow flowers, 5/-. **(Cheiranthus,** orange, yellow, mauve, will be ready in a few weeks, 1/- doz.) **Campanula carpatica,** blue or white, 6/-. **Campanula glomerata,** rich violet blue, 7/-. **Campanula bavarica,** dwarf, tufted, with long racemes of blue flowers, 6/-. **Candytuft,** perennial, 4/-. **Catmint** (Nepeta Mussini), 4/. **Celsia** (Dwarf Verbascum), lovely colours, 4/-. **Cistus, rock,** 3/-. **Cerastium** (Snow in Summer), 3/-. **Crucianella,** dense heads, bright pink, 5/-. **Campion, rock,** crimson, 3/-. **Dianthus alpinus,** bright crimson, 4/-. **Dianthus neglectus,** charming, bright deep carmine, 5/-. **Dianthus deltoides,** bright pink, 4/-. **Dianthus, rock,** charming colours, 3/-. **Dianthus caesius** (Cheddar Pink), 2/6. **Dianthus cruentus,** blood red, 3/-. **Doronicum caucasicum,** bright yellow, 4/-. **Eryngium alpinum,** rockery Sea Holly, fine blue, rare, 6/-. **Gentiana acaulis,** rich blue, 7/-. **Gypsophila repens rosea,** creeping, 6/-. **Geum, rockery,** scarlet, 4/-. **Gypsophila glabrata,** dwarf, pink, 4/-. **Hieracium Pilosella,** bright yellow, sweetly scented, alpine, 6/-. **Hieracium aurantiacum,** bright orange red, creeping, 6/-. **Hieracium rubrum,** deep orange red, compact, 7/-. **Heuchera sanguinea splendens,** rich scarlet, 6/-. **Hyperioum** (St. John's Wort), large yellow flowers, 4/-. **Inula ensifolia,** compact, very free flowering, yellow, 6/-. **Iris pumila,** blue, purple, yellow, 5/-. **Omphalodes verna,** abundance of charming white-eyed rich blue flowers, creeping 6/-. **Periwinkle major,** large blue, trailing, 4/-. **Periwinkle violacea,** small leaves and trails, abundance of purple-blue flowers, rare, 6/-. **Phlox,** alpine, best named, brightest pink, blue, mauve, deep pink, 7/-. **Pinks,** alpine, creeping, crimson, pink and mixed, 4/-. **Potentilla,** all colours, 4/-. **Primula Red Hugh,** large, handsome, brightest scarlet flower, strong grower, 7/-. **Primula Wanda,** free flowering, beautiful rich purple, 6/-. **Primula rosea carnea,** lovely old rose, very free flowering, 6/-. **Primula japonica,** rich colours, 6/-. **Primula pulverulenta,** rich crimson, 6/-. **Primula Veitchii,** deep purple, 6/-. **Primula sikkimensis,** sweetly scented, lemon yellow, 6/-. **Primula cashmeriana,** large heads, purple, 6/-. **Papaver pilosum,** rich orange flowers, 4/-. **Primrose,** double, mauve, blue, white, 6/-. **Saponaria ocymoides,** pink, trailing, 3/-. **Sisyrinchium** (Blue Rush Lily), 4/-. **Silene Schafta,** pink, creeping, 6/-. **Silene rupestris,** creeping, red and white, 6/-. **Solomon's Seal,** 3/-. **Saxifrage,** Bath's large flowering, crimson or pink, mossy rosettes, very fine, 6/-. **Saxifrage,** House's, crimson or pink, mossy, 6/-. **Saxifrage Cotyledon,** large rosettes, silver margined leaves, long pyramidal spikes, lovely white spotted crimson flowers, very fine, 7/-. **Saxifrage Allionii,** mossy profusion, white flowers on long stems, 5/-. **Saxifrage muscoides,** mossy profusion, small pink or white flowers, very charming, 6/-. **Saxifrage cordifolia,** large clusters brilliant red flowers, large evergreen shining leaves, handsome, 7/-. **Sedums,** choice evergreen creeping varieties: **acre,** yellow; **Ewersii,** purple-red; **splendens,** rich crimson; **spurium,** pink; **rubrum,** crimson, 6/-. **Sedum spectabilis,** brilliant red, large heads, 6/-. **Sempervivums,** very unique and pretty, thrive anywhere add increase rapidly, large or small varieties, 6/-. **Thymus,** golden, creeping, 6/-. **Teucrium Chamædrys,** creeping stems with spikes of rosy purple flowers, for old walls, etc., 6/-. **Tiarella** (Dwarf Foam Flower), very pleasing, 6/-. **Veronica rupestris,** creeping blue, 7/-. **Veronica spicata erica,** creeping, pink, rare, 8/-.

Catalogue of Hardy Perennials, Rockery Plants, Greenhouse Plants, etc., free on application.

MRS. PYM, F.R.H.S.,
10, Vine House,
Woodston, Peterborough

NEW BORDER CARNATIONS

LOWE & GIBSON

Crawley Down . Sussex

Our New Border Carnations have a world wide celebrity, and during the last three years have gained the largest number of awards and certificates of excellence of any collection in the Kingdom

Amongst our introductions are the following well-known varieties:—

Dr. Stone, Caliban, Mrs. J. L. Gibson, Joan Wardale, Mary Murray, Mrs. "T. B.," Doris Trayler, Mrs. E. Charrington, Sam Griffiths, Sheila Gibson, John Stobart, etc.

See our exhibit on TABLE B, Large Tent (near the New Plants Stand)

FERTILISERS

SPECIAL SWEET PEA MANURE

The Original! **The Paramount!**

Produces perfect blooms, with superb :: colour, without coarseness ::

SPECIAL ROSE, CHRYSANTHEMUM, TOMATO, FRUIT TREE, VINE, LAWN GRASS, FLORAL

In bags: 7lbs. 3/3; 14lbs. 5/6; 28lbs. 9/9; 56lbs. 16/-; 112lbs. 26/6. Carriage paid
In tins: 1/9 and 3/- each. Post free

Also LAWN SAND, CARNATION, TONK'S ROSE, SPECIAL ONION TOP DRESSING, etc.

PRICE LIST ON APPLICATION

G. H. MACKERETH, LTD.
ULVERSTON . LANCS.

NETTINGS

GARDEN NETS
For Fruit Protection

Any lengths and widths. Corded all round.

	per sq. yd.
NEW 1 in. sq. mesh, heavy ..	6½d.
NEW 1 in. ,, medium ..	5½d.
NEW ½ in. ,, light ..	5½d.
NEW ½ in. ,, medium ..	7½d.
REPAIRED 1 in. sq. mesh, heavy ..	3½d.
REPAIRED ½ in. ,, ,, ..	4d.
REPAIRED (not corded) 1 in. diamond mesh	9/- per 100 sq. yards.

NEW TENNIS BOUNDARY NETS
Any lengths and widths. Corded all round.
7d. per sq. yard.

NEW TENNIS NETS
Various qualities, from 16/- to 31/- each.

Nets for All Purposes
Samples and full particulars from the manufacturers.

JOSEPH BENTLEY, LTD.
Barrow-on-Humber, LINCS.
(Sole Proprietors of S. EDDY & SONS)

Digitized by Google

Beautiful Garden Books

SECRETS OF MANY GARDENS
By Mrs. PHILIP MARTINEAU
17 full page illustrations. 12s. 6d. *net*

THE
HERBACEOUS GARDEN
By Mrs. PHILIP MARTINEAU
Fourth Enlarged Edition. 32 plates. 12s. 6d. *net*

ROCK GARDENS
By LEWIS MEREDITH
Third Edition. Many illustrations. 10s. 6d. *net*

The MAKING OF A GARDEN
By D. H. MOUTRAY READ
Profusely illustrated.
Cheap new edition. 7s. 6d. *net*

TREE WOUNDS AND DISEASES: *THEIR PREVENTION AND TREATMENT*
By A. D. WEBSTER
Profusely illustrated. 7s. 6d. *net*

EVOLUTION of PLANTS
by Dr. D. H. SCOTT
Fully illustrated. 2s. 6d. *net*

FOR FULL GARDEN CATALOGUE WRITE TO:
WILLIAMS & NORGATE, LTD.
14, HENRIETTA STREET, LONDON, W.C.2

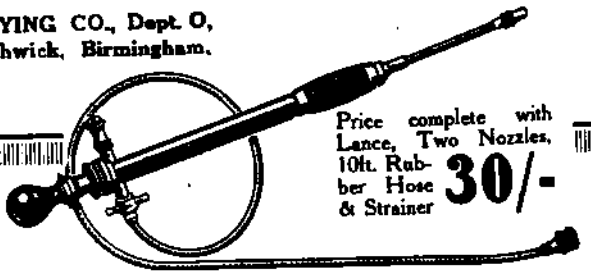
For every SPRAYING PURPOSE
USE THE
ECLIPSE
"The Sprayer of a Thousand Uses."

Keep your trees and plants clear of insect pests by regularly spraying them with insecticides — and use the ECLIPSE Sprayer for the purpose.

It is easy to handle, no pumping, no back-wash, can be used in any position and allows both hands free to control the spray. Can also be used for disinfecting, limewashing, etc.

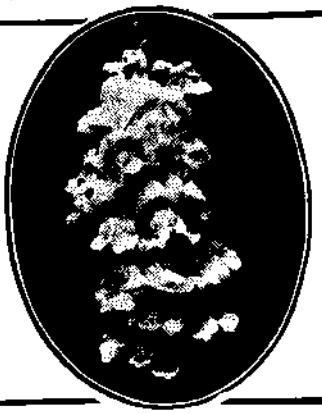
Get one from your local dealer, or write us direct for Catalogue.

ECLIPSE SPRAYING CO., Dept. O, Bearwood, Smethwick, Birmingham.



Price complete with Lance, Two Nozzles, 10ft. Rubber Hose & Strainer **30/-**

C.W.P.

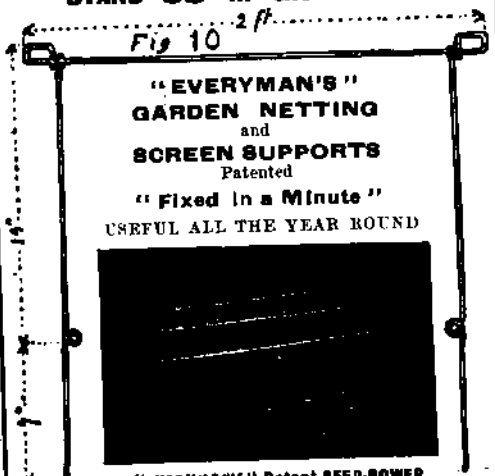


NEW AND CHOICE NAMED SEMI-DWARF, TALL AND TOM THUMB VARIETIES OF
ANTIRRHINUMS
CARNATIONS, DIANTHUS, NEMESIAS, DAHLIAS, VERBENAS, ASTERS, STOCKS, SALVIAS, PANSIES, ZINNIAS, NICOTIANAS, ETC., ETC.

Write for our 1926 List of NEW and CHOICE
SUMMER BEDDING PLANTS
Gratis and Post Free.

G. S. DANIELS & SON
Dept. G., WYMONDHAM, Norfolk

CHELSEA SHOW
STAND 85 in the Avenue



"EVERYMAN'S"
GARDEN NETTING
and
SCREEN SUPPORTS
Patented
"Fixed in a Minute"
USEFUL ALL THE YEAR ROUND

Also "EVERYMAN'S" Patent SEED-BOWER, WALL BRACKETS, WALL-CLIPS and PATENT STRAINING-WIRE for rapid and easy securing of Raspberry Canes, Loganberries, Etc.
Also

Patent "GONDOLA" HAMMOCK STAND.
Light, yet rigid; can be moved by a child.
From LEADING DEALERS, STORES, ETC. If out of Stock write:— Dept. G.
HOUSE & GARDEN SUNDRIES Co., Ltd.,
10, EASTCHEAP, LONDON, E.C.3.

George G. Whitelegg

Rock Gardens . Water Gardens . Lily Pools
Formal and Iris Gardens . Tennis Courts

Alpine Plants . Herbaceous Plants . Roses
Irises . Shrubs . Fruit Trees

SEE MY EXHIBITS AT CHELSEA SHOW

The Nurseries . Chislehurst . Kent

Digitized by Google

NEW AND RARE NARCISSI

SPECIAL EARLY OFFER for the sake of Colonial Visitors and those who like to order early

F.C.C., R.H.S., signifies First-Class Certificate, Royal Horticultural Society. A.M.—Award of Merit. The date after raiser's name indicates the year the Daffodil was put into commerce. The Letters and Figures placed before each variety denote its position according to the Classification of the R.H.S.

BARBARIC (Chapman, 1925). A very fine showy flower after the style of Brilliancy, but much larger. Long pointed perianth segments, cup orange. A long stemmed and vigorous plant. Mid season. **£2 2s. per bulb**

1b **BEERSHEBA** (Engleheart). This is a real advance in white trumpets and is built on somewhat new lines. Trumpet long and slightly funnel-shaped; segments long and slightly pointed. Stalk longer than most of the pure white Daffodils. A very distinct and beautiful show flower; growth vigorous and free. F.C.C., R.H.S., 1926. **£8 per bulb**

1c **CARMEL** (Brodie of Brodie). Perianth absolutely smooth and flat, the pure white segments overlapping with perfect evenness. The trumpet is of beautiful form, with a neatly recurved brim: colour clear yellow. A superb flower of perfect balance and show form. Good healthy grower. A.M., R.H.S., April, 1926. **£4 per bulb**

3 **FIONA MACLEOD** (Pearson, 1926). We think this is the largest and best formed Poet we have yet seen. The segments are very rounded, and of very firm texture. The whole flower measures 3¾ in. across. Stalk 18 to 20 in. long. Late. **25/- per bulb**

1a **GENERAL TOWNSHEND** (Pearson, 1924). This may best be described as a much improved Lord Roberts. A large firm flower of show quality, borne on long stalk. Plant vigorous and free, with broad foliage. Mid season. **10/6 per bulb**

4a **GERTIE MILLAR.** A giant among the Giant Leedsii. When fully expanded the whole flower is ivory white. It is a real giant, the whole flower being 6 inches across, while the frilled cup is 3 inches across. A sensational flower. **£3 per bulb**

4a **HYMETTUS** (Brodie of Brodie). A most distinct and charming flower, spreading pure white perianth of large diameter; the cup is not so long as in most Giant Leedsii, and is most attractively reflexed and frilled at the brim. When fully developed it is ivory white, margined with clear lemon. **15/- per bulb**

1c **LADY MINE** (Pearson, 1923). A very bright clear bicolor trumpet Daffodil. The flower is of good form, substance and pose, and is carried on long stalk. The habit of plant is quite remarkably vigorous and free. **15/- doz. 1/6 each**

2a **LUCINIUS.** A very fine Giant Incomp. of Dutch origin. Whole flower bright clear yellow. The perianth is of faultless form: the cup is large and rather spreading. Long stalk and good healthy habit of growth. Rather late. **12/6 per bulb**

4a] **MITYLENE** (Engleheart, 1925). A new break in this section. A grand flower, having very broad and rounded, very much overlapping segments of pure white, large wide and smooth saucer-shaped cup, of pale primrose, fading to cream. A superb show flower. A.M., Mid. Daff. Society, April 23/25. **25/- per bulb**

1c **MOIRA O'NEILL** (Engleheart). The most refined and beautiful bicolor trumpet yet offered. The large flower is perfect in shape and pose, and the plant is extremely vigorous, having leaves broader than Emperor. **30/- per bulb**

4a **MRS. R. O. BACKHOUSE** (Late Mrs. R. O. Backhouse). A quite unique flower. A Giant Leedsii of trumpet proportions. The perianth is white; the trumpet is creamy white, edged and shaded with a most distinct tinge of pink. Originally sold at £50 per bulb. **Now offered at £15**

3b **PRINCESS MIRIAM** (De Graaf, 1924). A large and beautiful flower; perianth white, flat, and perfectly formed. The cup is yellow edged orange. Very long stalk, plant vigorous and free. Very late. A really good novelty at a moderate price. **25/- per bulb**

1c **ROSARY** (Engleheart). This variety has undoubtedly Leedsii blood in it, but by measurement it goes into the bicolor trumpet section. The flower is of largest size, and of fine substance, having large white perianth, and splendid big well-expanded trumpet, rich warm cream colour, distinctly suffused with a flush of shell pink. The colour only develops on the plant; if cut in bud it does not develop. Strong plant with broad foliage, rather late. **37/6 each**

3 **STRIKING.** A very fine Poet. Flower firm and well rounded, with brilliant all-red eye. **30/- per bulb**

TENEDOS (Engleheart). Without doubt the finest Giant Leedsii yet produced. Flowers of largest size, borne on very long stalks, plant very vigorous and a quick increaser. Segments pure white, of great substance, slightly pointed. The large cup is pale lemon on opening, passing to white when fully developed. A.M., Mid. Daff. Soc., 1923. F.C.C., Mid. Daff. Soc., 1924. **£4 10s. per bulb**

1c **VESTAN** (Copeland, 1923). A huge bicolor trumpet Daffodil, but not at all coarse. Very vigorous and free. Attracted attention on our stand at Birmingham, April 19th, 1923. **3/6 per bulb**

2a **WHEEL OF FORTUNE** (Copeland, 1923). A very fine Giant Incomp. Whole flower soft luminous yellow; cup large, segments broad, well-rounded and overlapping. Plant strong and vigorous. Voted to be the best flower in the show at Mid. Daff. Exhibition, 1925. **£2 per bulb**

2b **ZILLA** (Mrs. R.O. Backhouse, 1923). A very fine new variety, flower large, segments broad and imbricated, creamy white. Cup large and rather spreading, yellow deeply edged bright orange-scarlet. A good strong grower. Much admired on our Show Stands at R.H.S. and Birmingham, 1923. **30/- per bulb**

J. R. PEARSON & SONS, Ltd., The Nurseries, Lowdham, NOTTS.

CHELSEA SHOW

See my exhibit on

TABLE Q

at the above Show

A. DAWKINS

408, KING'S ROAD, CHELSEA, S.W.10

17 years Manager, Seed and Bulb Dept., James Veitch and Sons

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

KILLS GREEN FLY

AND OTHER GARDEN PESTS.

READY FOR USE. All you have to do is to mix a level teaspoonful in two gallons of cold water and in a few minutes you have a supply of strong syringing liquor.

9d. per tube.

Large size 3/- (5 times the 9d. size.)

Of all Ironmongers, Seedsmen, Florists and Chemists or post free from:

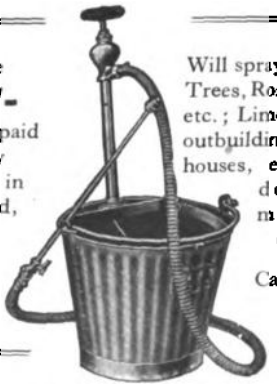
THOS. CHRISTY & CO., 4-12, Old Swan Lane, London, E.C. 4.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

A Machine which will be found invaluable in every Garden and on every Country Estate

A FOUR OAKS SPRAYING MACHINE

"Farmer-de-Luxe" Model



Price **68/-** carriage paid to any address in England, Wales, Scotland or Ireland.

Will spray your Fruit Trees, Roses, Shrubs, etc.; Limewash your outbuildings, poultry houses, etc.; wash down your motor car, etc., etc.

Can be used by a lady.

We make hunareds of models for all purposes.

Complete Catalogues of FOUR OAKS SPRAYERS free on application to the Sole Manufacturers:

THE FOUR OAKS SPRAYING MACHINE CO.
FOUR OAKS WORKS, Sutton Coldfield, BIRMINGHAM

W. C. G. LUDFORD, Proprietor.

Telegrams: "Sprayers, Four Oaks." Telephone: 305 Sutton Coldfield.

RICHARDSON'S DAFFODILS

DAFFODIL SHOW SUCCESSES.

(April 13th and 14th, London).

Gold Medal
A.M., "Seraglio"
" "White Sentinel"
8 Firsts
8 Seconds

Gold] Medal and Special Congratulations from the Council of the R.H.S., March 23rd, 1926

FIRST CLASS CERTIFICATE—
Narcissus Glorious and Beersheba

AWARDS OF MERIT—
Alroi, Fairy Circle, Mitylene, Loyalist

NEW CATALOGUES NOW READY
— FREE ON APPLICATION —

J. LIONEL RICHARDSON

Prospect Gardens, Waterford, IRELAND

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

DOBBIE'S DAHLIAS

Awarded the great CORONATION CUP of the R.H.S. in 1925

"DOBBIE'S FOR DAHLIAS" is a household expression amongst Dahlia growers. Our collection is unique, embracing COLLARETTE, CACTUS, DECORATIVE, SHOW, POMPON, PÆONY, SINGLE and DWARF BEDDING sections

Any class, our selection, 7/3 per doz.; 14/- per 25; 25/- per 50; 47/6 per 100, carriage paid, for cash with order

PLANT NOW IN THE OPEN

CATALOGUES ON APPLICATION

DOBBIE & CO., LTD.
The King's Seedsmen
EDINBURGH

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

LAXTON'S
New - Strawberries -

can be seen at their

Stand No. "M," Large Tent

CHELSEA SHOW

They were much admired by Their Majesties The King and Queen and the Duke of Connaught last year.

LAXTON BROS.,
New Plant Breeders,
BEDFORD.

MARK SMITH, Ltd.,
LOUTH, LINCS.
"PERFECT"
WEED KILLER
STRONGEST
CHEAPEST & BEST

BY APPOINTMENT.

At Chelsea Show

you are invited to call at Stand No. 95 in Lime Tree Avenue.

If those interested will leave their card, an Illustrated Catalogue of

Fertilizers for the Garden

containing instructions for use and gardening notes of interest, will be posted, free, to their homes.

Joseph Fison & Co., Ltd. Ipswich.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Established over 60 years

Hewitt

DELPHINIUMS

"We lead, follow who can."

The famous ***SOLIHULL INTRODUCTIONS*** *are undoubtedly the* ***elite of the Delphinium World,*** *and the fact that they are* ***Second to None*** *is emphasised by their* ***world-wide popularity.***

The following represent the **finest** obtainable to-day.

COQUETTE. Stately spike of violet shaded mauve. Grand and imposing. **5/-** each

JOY BELLS A lovely delphinium with unique bell-shaped pips of a rich rosy mauve. Distinctive and refined. **15/-** each

MONARCH OF WALES. The giant of them all! Huge massive spikes of fine tapering habit, 4ft. of which is bloom. Guard petals rich blue, with inner ones of reddish mauve. **8/6** each

THE BISHOP. A really refined royal purple with distinct large white eye. A glorious shade and a general favourite. Long spikes of tapering habit; wiry and strong. **25/-** each

VIOLET QUEEN. A very rich blending of violet and mauve. Strong spikes of perfect habit. **10/6** each

WEMBLEY An improvement on the popular "Millicent Blackmore" which it resembles in colour, but its spikes are much larger and more imposing. **25/-** each

Write for our lists.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED
The Nurseries, SOLIHULL, Warwickshire

Digitized by Google

VOL. XC.—No. 2843. MAY 29, 1926

ON BUYING AT CHELSEA

CHELSEA is, perhaps, the greatest collection of flowers in bloom that is seen in any part of the world. Many of those who throng the tents go only to look and not to buy, whether they have a garden or not. It is true that this is not the season at which gardeners wish to be bothered with the plant or seed order for next year. It is the time of flower and fruition; and, in any case, few of the plants or seeds can be delivered for many months to come. Still, there are certain advantages in giving definite orders at Chelsea, or, indeed, at any other show. For one thing, the prospective buyer sees so much that comparisons are possible between varieties and types of plants that in many cases cannot be seen so close together on any other occasion. Another point is that memories are short and no catalogue description, however well worded, can ever give an adequate idea of what a plant looks like. All that a catalogue can do is to jog the memory. That being the case, it is much better, if not to give a definite order, at least to take full notes, a simple operation which, by the way, I seldom see being done at Chelsea.

Some may say that there is too much to see and so the powers of human discrimination are blurred. That is certainly the case if the Show is hurriedly seen. I think that most people will agree that the best method is to walk round as quickly as the crowd will allow in order to gain a general impression, and then to return and examine your particular favourites more leisurely. People's tastes vary, which is just as well, so the nurseryman and seedsman has to cater for every conceivable fancy. We try in reporting shows to allow for variation in taste as much as possible; this is particularly the case in our Chelsea Number, for, although this Show is the Mecca of all gardeners, we realise that for every one who visits Chelsea there are ten who would like to but cannot. Probably this will be more true this year than previously, what with difficulties of transport, Whitsuntide holidays and so on. We hope that the Chelsea report will bring home to them some idea of this Chelsea Show and that the report will be varied enough to be useful to all. For them also I suggest that the plan of noting plants specially mentioned is a good one. It is obvious that only a small proportion will be mentioned, but they will be pre-eminent and will stand out above their neighbours in the eyes of the Editorial staff.

Lastly, and by no means least, if you order at Chelsea, you are sure of getting your plants later on. Nurserymen can gauge the demand for a particular plant fairly closely from the orders received at Chelsea; sometimes they may make an error and underestimate. It is better to order now than risk being told later on that the stock of a plant is sold out.

It is in this way that the question of supply and demand, that is sometimes acute in the gardening world, can be mutually arranged to everyone's satisfaction. It is as well to remember that Chelsea is a place at which to buy as well as to look.

E. H. M. C.

"The Garden" Sweet Pea Competition commences in our issue of June 5th.

£50 IN PRIZES

¶ So successful was our rose competition of 1924 that we are about to hold a competition on similar lines, in order that the gardening world may judge for itself which are the six most popular sweet peas.

¶ This competition is decided by the readers themselves, and the number of votes given to each variety determines its final position on the merit list.

¶ The first prize will be goods to the value of £30 from any advertiser in THE GARDEN. The second and third prizes will be goods to the value of £10 and £5 respectively from any advertiser in THE GARDEN. There will be twenty consolation prizes to the value of 5s. each.

¶ All that the competitor has to do is to write what are, in his opinion, the six most popular sweet peas on the coupon which will be printed in the six following issues of THE GARDEN.

¶ For further details regarding this great competition see the next issue of THE GARDEN.

AMATEUR SHOW.

Readers should keep in mind that the Amateur Show of the Royal Horticultural Society is being held as usual at Vincent Square on June 22. It was such a success last year that all amateurs should again show that they can hold their own in the cultivation of plants. Anybody who considers that he has anything out of the common either in the way of cultivation or of rarity should lose no time in writing to the secretary of the R.H.S. for a schedule of the classes. Entries close after the first post on Tuesday morning, June 15th.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

MAY 29, 1926

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.; Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.

Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2.

Offices for Advertisements: 6–11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.

Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

WORTHY PLANTS.—I.

IT is to be hoped that a series of notes on worthy plants may be of use to readers, both amateur and professional, of THE GARDEN. These plants will not only consist of new introductions and modern varieties, but also of old favourites that may have fallen into neglect. The only essential is that either the plant itself or a particular use of it is not so well known as it might be. In all cases the plants will be worthy of a far more extensive cultivation. They will also be obtainable in commerce. This is an earnest endeavour to introduce valuable plants to readers who may not have the time nor opportunity to visit as many gardens or see as many flower shows as they would like. Thalictrum dipterocarpum is a case in point. This is a plant that is strangely neglected, perhaps because it has been classed by some writers as being on the tender side. In this they are in error. Here is a meadow rue, stout and sturdy and often six feet in height, that yet keeps its elfin grace. There are few plants of its size that produce flowers of such charm; for they hang like lilac drops of dew from every branchlet. A few amateurs specialise in it and it is often seen at flower shows, yet it has somehow missed the highway to popularity. It is not a difficult plant to grow so long as it can be given a rich loam and sufficient drainage. It is suitable for many a border that is not too dry and not too hot, but its real joy is in semi-shade by the waterside.

THE majority of gardeners will agree that one of the most troublesome pests which can be found within the four walls of a garden is the innocent-looking but avaricious slug. There are few plants which do not succumb to its attacks, which are carried on with a persistence which is surprising for so small a creature. No matter in what part of the garden the plant grows, all are equally susceptible, and in many gardens throughout the country it is little short of wonderful how any plants grow at all. Various methods of trapping and killing them have been suggested from time to time in the columns of THE GARDEN and, although the respective methods have each something to recommend them and meet with a certain amount of success, yet there is often a loophole for escape. It may be interesting, therefore, to those who are ever on the look-out for something novel to try the following plan, contained in a letter which we quote from one of our readers, Mr. John H. Kittow, who writes as follows:

> When I read in your columns of slugs scaling perforated zinc walls to enjoy seedlings of Lilium rubellum and when the same undaunted pest has been found by Mr. Clarence Elliott to make a jaunt of four miles in order to make Campanula Zoysii an *hors d'œuvre* to a meal consisting largely of delphiniums and lupins, then I feel constrained to tell you of my very simple and efficient contrivance to out-manœuvre these gentry.
>
> The susceptibility of both the slug and the snail to electricity is very little realised, but it may be demonstrated by placing in the path of a crawling slug two tiny piece of dissimilar metals. When the wet body of the slug comes in contact with these metals his horns are withdrawn in a flash and he takes another route, having felt the shock of what amounts to a galvanic cell. I therefore surround my valuable plants with two concentric strips of metal—one of copper and the other of zinc—result, Campanula Allionii flourishing and Delphinium Millicent Blackmore well on the way to making her spikes perfect.

We commend the method to any of our readers, as it seems to offer a fair measure of success in the protection of plants from one of the most harmful of garden pests.

IN view of the great success which has attended the usual winter exhibitions of British applied arts and handicrafts at the Royal Horticultural Hall, Westminster, we are pleased to see that the organisers have secured the use of the hall from June 5th to June 11th, to hold a summer display, when the arts and crafts of the garden will be made a noticeable feature. Garden planning and garden architecture receive much attention to-day from the designer and artist, and there are many closely allied branches, such as colour schemes and arrangements, garden ornaments and furniture, and even the clipping of trees and shrubs, which call for the knowledge and service of the specialist in this all-important branch of gardening. It is intended that demonstrations will be held in these subjects in the garden section of the exhibition. In addition, this summer exhibition will undoubtedly pave the way for future developments in the production of those articles related to this side of gardening, and will lead generally to a higher standard being reached by those trade firms who specialise in the manufacture of such goods and we hope, as a result, to increased business. The exhibition will contain much that is of interest to all enthusiastic gardeners, who should not fail to pay a visit to see the more modern side of our almost lost mediæval crafts.

BY the kind permission of the Hon. Vicary Gibbs the gardens at Aldenham House will be open to the public during the Saturday afternoons of July, August and September (excepting Saturday, July 17th, when the Elstree Floral Fête will be held and admission on this occasion will only be by payment), and August Bank Holiday. The conditions will be those ruling in previous years, *viz.*, that no dogs will be admitted, and that children must be under the charge of an adult. It is to be hoped that all of our readers who can, will take advantage of this opportunity to visit these gardens, wherein is housed one of the finest private collections of flowers and vegetables in this country.

AMONG THE ARTICLES IN OUR NEXT ISSUE WILL BE:

EARLY-FLOWERING CHRYSANTHEMUMS, by Norman Lambert.

PRIMULAS FROM TIBET, by Captain F. Kingdon Ward.

Digitized by Google

KEW IN EARLY SUMMER

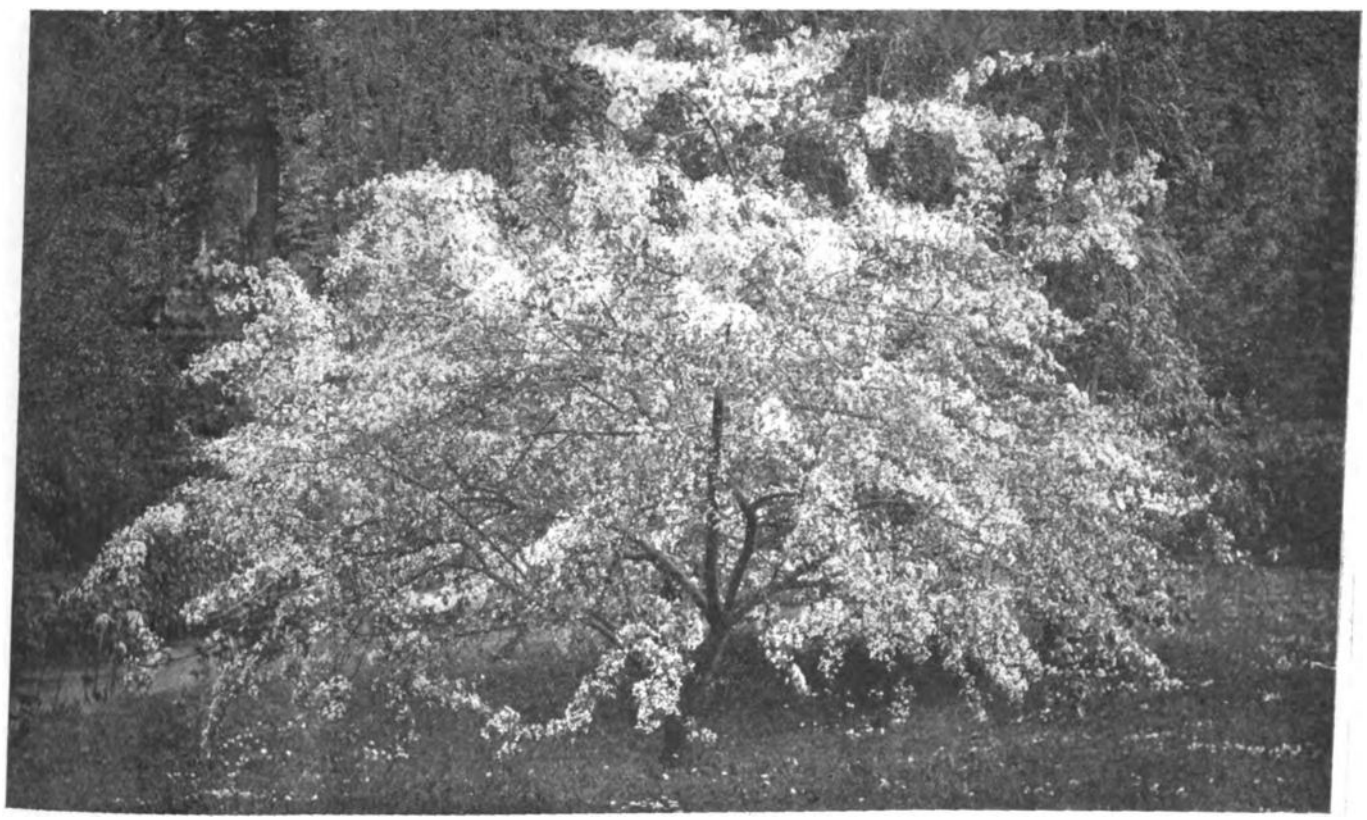
THERE is always something to instruct the garden lover at Kew, no matter what branch of the wide subject of gardening he may be interested in. It is from about the middle of April onwards through May to early June that Kew reaches the zenith of its beauty in the pleasure grounds, although this year the majority of things are about a fortnight or so before their time. This is also generally the most popular season, when visitors go to Kew in the greatest numbers.

The wild flowers in Kew Gardens are probably one of its greatest beauties and of them all there is none more charming than the bluebell of our woods. Masses of them carpet the ground beneath the trees and produce delightful effects in the Queen's Cottage grounds and in the woods on the east side of the lake through which runs the woodland walk.

In the rhododendron dell the large-leaved hybrids provide a succession of flowers for fully six months, beginning with Rh. Nobleanum in the first days of January. Throughout the month of May and during early June it is one of the most popular walks in the gardens. Limits of space prevent mention of even a small proportion of the vast number of named varieties, but because of such outstanding merit the hybrids of Griffithianum (Aucklandii) raised by the late Mr. Mangles cannot be omitted. They include Isabella Mangles, Daphne Daffarn, Dulcie Daffarn, Beauty of Littleworth, Coral Star and Liza Stillman.

THE AZALEA GARDEN.

Among the special features in the pleasure grounds at Kew few rival, and none surpasses, the azalea garden during May and early June. Originally planned as a garden for



A FINE PLANT OF PYRUS MALUS FLORIBUNDA, ONE OF THE BEST OF CRABS.

Nothing among the newer Chinese barberries equals Berberis stenophylla in flower. Planted in masses, the gracefully arching branches are covered with rich golden yellow blossoms. Its value as an evergreen flowering hedge is well seen surrounding the formal water garden. B. Darwinii is also a glorious flowering shrub, more upright in growth than the last named and with rich orange yellow blossoms.

The area surrounding King William's Temple is largely occupied by trees and shrubs belonging to the Natural Order Ericaceæ, among which the rhododendrons predominate. Several groups of Kurume azaleas, the progeny of plants raised from seeds collected by Professor Sargent, provide a feast of colour. Dwarf species, particularly valuable for the rock garden, include Rhs. impeditum, intricatum, scintillans, calostrotum, ledoides, Williamsianum, flavidum and Forrest's form of racemosum, as free-flowering subjects for beds. Rhs. yunnanense, rubiginosum, Augustinii, Davidsonianum, hippophæoides and yanthinum, are the best Chinese species.

American or ericaceous plants by Sir William Hooker in the early fifties of the last century, it was remodelled and enlarged by his son, Sir Joseph, in 1881.

The removal of the botanical collection of the Natural Order Ericaceæ to the neighbourhood of King William's Temple, left the area free for the development and extension of the beds of azaleas. Some of the best specimens of magnolias to be found at Kew add to the beauty and interest of this spot.

Words are inadequate to describe the gorgeous feast of colour and delicious fragrance, and, while the collection is kept fairly up to date by the addition of new varieties from time to time, it is the large old bushes which are such a prominent feature. Judged for delicate colouring, freedom of flowering and powerful fragrance, they would easily outpoint the newer sorts, only taking second place in the size of the individual flowers, the pointing for which should not be very high.

The surrounding trees of the azalea garden add considerably to the charm of the picture. Sprinkled among the young

Digitized by Google

tender green leaves of the oaks, hornbeams and limes are a number of copper beeches.

THE JAPANESE CHERRIES.

Early in May generally a considerable number of double and semi-double flowering Japanese cherries are conspicuous, planted in various parts of the garden. This year many of them were in full blossom in April. The largest number are planted on the lawn between the Palm House and King William's Temple. The low grass mound to which the name of "Cherry Mound" has been aptly given is now one of the beauty-spots of Kew in the flowering season.

The most beautiful of the whole collection is the variety "Kanzan" of the Japanese, the nursery name for which in this country is Hisakura (red cherry). The distinguishing features are its upright growth, rich double rosy pink blossoms, red in a bud state and young reddish brown foliage. The variety "Kirin" or James H. Veitch, does not differ much in flower from Hisakura, but the trees are readily picked out because of their spreading habit of growth. Sieboldii or Watereriana, is very free with double pale pink blossoms. Cheal's Weeping or rosea pendula, is a beautiful variety of pendulous habit with deep rose double blossoms. Serrulata albo pleno is very distinct, sending out long horizontal branches freely clothed in the season with double snow-white blossoms. Serrulata grandiflora or "Ukon," of the Japanese, has yellow tinted blossoms. Ojochin is one of the best sorts with single pale blush blossoms. Aman-o-gawa is deserving of a place in a collection because of its upright growth, like a small Lombardy poplar with apple blossom tinted flowers.

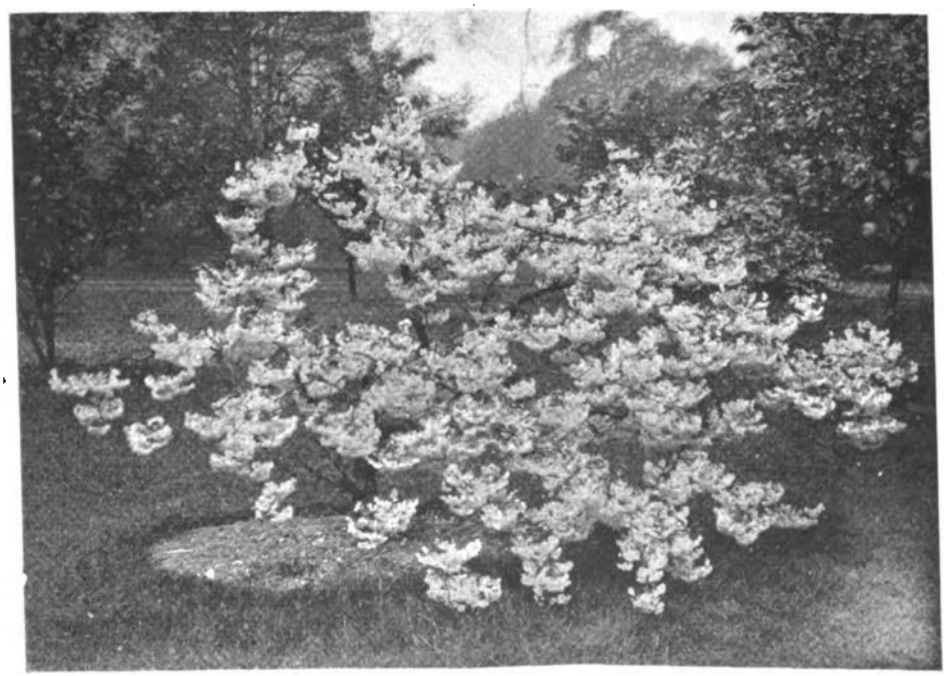
THE MALUS, OR CRABS.

As ornamental flowering trees the malus section of the pyrus family have few rivals. For grouping on rising ground, or with evergreens in the background, and as specimen lawn trees, they are very beautiful and effective.

A WELL-FLOWERED BUSH OF AZALEA MOLLIS.

Asked to name them in their order of merit, I should place P. Scheideckeri first, a hybrid between floribunda and spectabilis. The pale rose blossoms, often semi-double, are produced in profusion during the first half of May. P. floribunda, a large bush or small, wide-spreading tree, is very attractive when completely clothed with the delicate pale pink blossoms. In the variety atrosanguinea the flowers are deeper in colour, particularly in the bud state. The carmine or rosy purple blossoms of the Russian crab, P. Niedwetzkiana, are strikingly effective, in contrast with the pale pink, apple blossom tints of many crabs. Its value as a parent among the newer hybrid crabs is seen in P. purpurea (P. floribunda × P. Niedwetzkiana), a beautiful flowering tree with bronzed foliage and rich purplish rose flowers. Somewhat similar in growth and habit, P. Aldenhamensis has deeper coloured blossoms and is a fortnight later in opening. P. Arnoldiana may, perhaps, be best described as a large-flowered floribunda, a most beautiful and free-flowering crab.

P. spectabilis, rosy red in a bud state, opening to pale pink; the variety Kaido, with deep rosy pink blossoms; and Sargentii, with pure white flowers, also deserve special mention.



PRUNUS ROSEA PENDULA, A MOST GRACEFUL WEEPING CHERRY.

SERVICE FOR READERS

Though so many subjects are dealt with in each issue of THE GARDEN, it must constantly happen that readers seek information which is not immediately available. In such circumstances they should make use of our new Service Department. Through its medium each reader's own particular enquiry can be dealt with. No matter what the question is, whether advice is sought as to—

RESTOCKING A GARDEN, COLOUR SCHEMES FOR GARDENS, THE BEST PLANTS FOR CERTAIN SITUATIONS, WHERE TO OBTAIN NEW AND RARE PLANTS, INSECT PESTS, NAMING OF PLANTS, AND THE HUNDRED AND ONE OTHER DETAILS RELATING TO THE GARDEN—

there is always information available from a staff of expert contributors and consultants; *and there is no charge for this.* It is one of the additional means of Service which THE GARDEN is glad to render to its readers.

All communications should be addressed to the Service Department, THE GARDEN, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN VALUE of the DAHLIA

AS a general rule, it will be found that the most satisfactory dahlias for the flower garden proper are those of medium and dwarf habit, and it is these which come into flower earliest and may be relied upon to bloom continuously until cut by frosts. When a blaze of colour is desired, Coltness Gem is, to most of us, the dahlia of dahlias and, except for the smallest flower-beds, will rise superior to the scarlet geranium so beloved of many summer gardeners. It is of dwarf, compact habit, needs no stakes, and, if the old flower stems are removed as soon as the florets drop, Coltness Gem will flower continuously in sunshine and in rain. As a companion, the value of Lemur is not yet fully realised. It is also a dwarf, free-flowering single. The flowers are a rich velvety crimson, and at all times its dark purple foliage is valuable. Piccaninni, of similar type and colouring, is one of the dwarfest of the dwarf dahlias. Aimée Barillat is another useful dwarf single, with bronzy foliage and glowing crimson scarlet flowers. Last summer a large bed of this variety at Greenwich Park was immensely admired. Little Jenny is a very pretty dwarf single.

Among the show singles there are many with delightful shades of colour, and, while they are not generally grown for garden decoration, they make splendid displays if the superfluous foliage is pinched out. Many dahlia enthusiasts, with reason, predict a great future for the mignon dahlias, which, after all, are singles under another name. The originals were raised in France, but our growers have lately paid increased attention to them, and, among others, Messrs. J. Cheal and Sons have introduced some valuable varieties. They have wisely aimed at dwarf, compact, free-flowering varieties, and in this have succeeded. The trial of the type which is to be conducted at Wisley this summer, under garden conditions, should be of great value. Among the newer varieties there are Canary Bird, of clear yellow colour; and King Cup, of deeper tone; with H. J. Jones, of larger size; Rosebud, salmon pink, tinted with rose; Paisley Gem, deep orange red; Blanche, pure white; and Ethel, deep crimson maroon.

Of rather taller habit, but still sufficiently dwarf for bedding purposes, are the miniature peony and small decorative dahlias. Except for exhibition purposes, they may well be classed together, and, in fact, some growers do this and term them "charm" dahlias, for they are very charming flowers. The best modern types become about 3ft. to 4ft. in height, and are compact plants producing astonishing quantities of flowers over a long period. As general purpose dahlias, they are ideal, and, in addition to great garden value, they are splendid as cut flowers. Already the market grower has realised their value, and last summer and autumn large quantities were sold in florists' shops and by hawkers in the streets of London. There are many varieties in all possible shades of colour, and in no other type are there such delightful colour associations as in these charm dahlias. Pink Pearl is a splendid example of the type, and one may easily have thirty to forty flowers open at the same time on a plant. Radium, raised by Mr. J. T. West, who has paid special attention to the charm dahlias, is a perfectly formed flower of brilliant scarlet colour, shading to orange in the centre. Hon. Mildred Campbell has a little more orange in its scarlet and is clear yellow in the centre. Lord Lambourne has a splendid upright habit, and its deep red colour is edged with gold. Sweet, a charming shade of pink, is a splendid cut flower. Of the many varieties grown at Hyde Park last summer the most admired was the pink and cream Velma. Mary, maroon; Nigra, purplish crimson with dark foliage; Wessex, deep crimson; May, yellow suffused with deep pink; St. Davids, a bright crimson scarlet; and Angelina, of coppery flame colouring, are the names of only a few of the delightful varieties of this type.

The larger-flowered varieties were well displayed at Regent's Park last summer, where, in a large border, many of the best varieties made a magnificent show. The best varieties have enormous brilliantly coloured flowers, borne on long stout stems well above the foliage. Among the newer varieties are Berengaria, of dwarf habit and orange colour shaded with gold; Sheila Ward is taller and of clear yellow tipped with white; Prestige bears plenty of large flowers of old gold shading. Border Perfection is rich scarlet; while Jean is a clearer tone. Reginald Godfrey, rich crimson; and La France, pink and gold, are also very free blooming; while Menny Carlée is one of the best whites.

Many who know only the older type of cactus dahlia hesitate to grow them, fearing they may have to search among the foliage for the flowers; but in the newest varieties such fears are groundless, for the best push up their flowers well above the leaves. Edgar Jackson is a lovely flower of salmon pink shading and very free flowering; La Lorraine is of old gold colouring; Mrs. E. Lowes is the best yellow cactus dahlia for the garden; Periscope bears out its name in habit and is of rich wine red colour; Miss Eckert is a pleasant pink and white; George Duncan is a broad-petalled cactus of salmon rose colour that is very effective in the border. Scarlet Glow does not appear to become much more than 3ft. in height, and bears plenty of brilliant flowers. Snowdon and Snow Bunting are good white cactus dahlias.

THE DECORATIVE VALUE OF VARIOUS TYPES OF DAHLIAS IN ONE BED.

In the garden, the collarette and the pompon dahlias are not always so successful as the types previously mentioned. They are apt to produce rather more foliage than many like, but this may easily be overcome by occasionally pinching out the superfluous shoots. There seems to be a prejudice against relieving dahlias of excessive growths, but as we regularly practise defoliation and disbudding with other plants there is no logical reason against it with dahlias. While most types of the dahlia yield best results from young pot plants set out early in June, it will be found that the pompons produce more flowers if the old tubers are saved and planted. These old plants are sturdier and distinctly more floriferous than cuttings. As cut flowers the collarettes have considerable value. Glen Sannox is a brilliant vermilion; Tyhurst is rich crimson with white-tipped quills; Lady le Bas is crimson maroon with white and crimson quills; Kingcup is a free-flowering self yellow.

For the garden one of the best pompon dahlias is Cheal's Bedder, which is of very dwarf habit and bears plenty of perfectly formed, carmine-tipped, orange bronze flowers. Bacchus, bright crimson; Daisy, amber; Little Beeswing, yellow, broadly margined with red; Mars, bright scarlet; Nerissa, soft rose; and Nero, the darkest of all, are excellent varieties. The star dahlias, first valued largely as cut flowers, are now also of considerable value for garden display, though they are the best of all for dinner-table decorations. Brentwood Star, cream and pink; Charlwood Star, fiery orange tipped with red; Crimson Star; Rusper Star, bright crimson; Salmon Star; and Shinfield Star, flame colour shaded with rose, are among the best of the new star dahlias.

A. C. B.

Digitized by Google

THE FLOWER GARDEN

POPPY ANEMONES.

A Most Valuable Plant for Every Garden.

FEW hardy plants will so well repay the gardener for special attention as the poppy anemones. These glorious flowers are now to be secured in a range of glowing colours the like of which is not to be seen elsewhere. Now, although the poppy anemones will, if happy, grow "like weeds," it is most important, if complete success is desired, to observe one or two points. First of all, buy your roots from a good firm. Then you will make sure of getting a first-class strain and also get sun-ripened roots certain to yield the best results. It is worth while having a special bed for the poppy anemones. Anything in the way of a heavy, close soil will not suit the anemones, so that sand and gritty material should be worked into the bed where the ground is naturally cold. On the other hand, poppy anemones like a rich soil, always providing that it is well drained. The plants never do well unless they have plenty of sunshine, and it is a wise step to choose rather an open situation for the bed.

FOR BRILLIANCE OF COLOUR AND ATTRACTIVE FOLIAGE THERE ARE FEW BORDER FLOWERS MORE USEFUL THAN THE POPPY ANEMONE.

Probably not a few amateurs have been puzzled as to which way to plant the curious tuberous roots of the poppy anemones, and now and again, it is to be feared, these have been set upside down. This means that the stems have to pursue a roundabout course to reach the air, and, in many cases, they give up the attempt altogether and that particular plant dies. Examine the tubers closely and, near the centre, you will find a number of small protuberances known as crowns. These crowns are obtuse points often a shade darker than the surrounding skin. From these crowns the shoots arise, and they should always be upwards when planting is in progress.

Poppy anemones very much dislike a heavy shading of the ground even when they are not in active growth. On this account they often give poor results when in a border with other plants that extend on all sides. If well managed, a bed devoted solely to poppy anemones will be attractive for the greater part of the year. The principal flowering time is, of course, in the spring, but if the situation is fully exposed to the summer sun a second display of blossom is made in the autumn. Indeed, during a mild winter one may have poppy anemones into November. To ensure autumn flowering, let the bed dry up well in the summer. If any seed heads are forming, remove, as, if allowed to remain, they will very much weaken the tubers Keep the anemone bed quite clear of weeds and hoe lightly now and again. In such a position the tubers may be left for years and the show of flowers will astonish those who have never realised the beauty of the poppy anemones. The setting out of poppy anemones may be carried out at almost any time and there is no need to adhere to the autumn planting recommended in most garden books.

The single and semi-double poppy anemones are easily raised from seed. Excellent results follow if this is sown in the late spring or early summer. Choose a sunny position for the seed bed, mix the seeds with dry sand to separate them, and scatter broadcast on the soil which has been well raked. Cover the seed very thinly with fine soil and beat flat with a spade. It is a good plan to protect the seed-bed for about three weeks with sheets of newspaper held in place with a few sticks. Water freely if the weather is dry, and when the seedlings appear remove the paper. To encourage continued growth the bed should be kept moist all through the summer. The anemones may be left where they are or removed to other quarters in October. Many of them will flower well in the following spring.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

LOOKING AFTER ANNUALS.

An Important Operation at This Time of the Year.

AT this time of the year there is so much to do in the garden that it is essential to fix in mind the most important things that demand attention. These are critical days in the lives of the annuals, and it is well to give them special consideration. Even the hardiest subjects require some attention if the best results are to be secured. Those annuals which have been sown where they are to remain will require thinning out so that each plant may have sufficient room to develop and exhibit its true characters. Any specimens which show signs of premature flowering are best removed, as these rarely do well. Weeds should be kept down and shoots from adjacent plants that tend to overshadow the annuals should be tied or cut back. Often at this time of the year we experience a spell of hot dry weather, and the clumps may suffer badly. A constant breaking up of the surface soil round the annuals will help them to withstand the drought. If this is done, the formation of a hard crust is prevented and there are none of those cracks through which moisture from the subsoil evaporates. Generally speaking, if the hoe is freely used, hardy annuals should not need artificial watering so early in the season. Any plants that require supports should be given these without delay, as rough winds may do a great deal of damage to the tender growths. A daily removal of withered flowers, to prevent seed setting, is essential if the plants are to keep up a display.

The tender growth of the annuals will prove very attractive to slugs. One of the best methods of fighting the pest is to place a piece of orange peel near each clump. Slugs seem to prefer the white part of the rind to any green thing that grows, and the plants will escape damage. The little wood-louse (Oniscus) is often a great nuisance. These creatures will creep into any dark place during the daytime and a few pots stuffed with straw and inverted on the ground will entrap the pest to such an extent that the ground is soon cleared.—B.

BEDDING OUT.

Useful Notes on this Important Subject.

IN the southern counties lovers of summer-flowering plants will be busy planting them from the last week in May until June 10th for the general stock and June 15th for the most tender subjects. In the northern counties the work may begin the second week in June and be finished about the 25th of that month. In every case the wise gardener will duly harden off the plants. To transfer tender subjects direct to an open border from the shelter even of a broken-down frame often means a serious check. The plants should have been without frame protection for at least one week prior to their full exposure in open beds. The hardening process should be very gradual. If this has been attended to then the work of bedding-out may be pushed forward as quickly as possible so that the plants may get well established in their new quarters before the subsoil becomes very dry in case a naturally dry summer follows. If, however, the hardening of the plants is not complete by the dates named, then it will be wise to defer the planting out one week to allow the stock to become harder in partly sheltered quarters.

SOIL MANURE.—If a quantity of blossom is required, then ordinary bedding-out stock must not be grown in a very rich soil. A naturally poor one must, however, be enriched to a certain extent. Abundance of blossom cannot be produced on puny plants. There is the happy medium, and so, if the soil is really a very good one, very little manure will be required. Soil deficient in humus should be enriched with rotted manure; failing such, use hop manure, such as Wakeley's. Very heavy soils will be improved if rotted leaf-soil and burnt rubbish from the garden smother fire be mixed with them. If very fine foliage is the chief object in view, then the soil should be well manured, but not with such stimulants as sulphate of ammonia or nitrate of soda.

Digitized by Google

The rotted manure, leaf-soil, rotted refuse and cool, concentrated manures applied as advised by the vendors will do nicely and produce the finest foliage.

THE PLANTS—FROM POTS AND BOXES.—More care should be taken with the plants taken from boxes than with those from pots. Plants grown in boxes and beds—and we have thousands of them in every district—must be lifted carefully from such quarters and be replanted at once with as much soil adhering to their roots as possible. In all cases the plants should be well watered a few hours before they are planted. There will not be any difficulty in regard to pot plants if the insides of the pots were clean and dry when first used. If they were dirty, then this timely watering will be beneficial. Planting several hours after a heavy rain is always pleasant work. If, however, rain is absent and the soil almost dust-dry, thoroughly soak it the night before planting.

BEDS AGAINST WALLS.—The soil in these is always drier than in open borders, so more attention to watering such wall beds should be given. It is well to study colours where red, grey or white walls are concerned, also colours in the open borders so that harmony may prevail, or good contrasts. This is, however, too big a subject to deal with in this note.

A FEW SALIENT HINTS.—Always have distinct edgings to medium-sized and large beds and none to small beds. Dot plants are much used: be sure that they are dot plants and not a forest smothering the ground-work plants. Do not use too many colours in one bed. Self-colours are generally pleasing, also shades of blue, and avoid too much white—it may create a coldness. Do all the work well; avoid skimpiness, also overcrowding.—GEO. GARNER.

THE CORN MARIGOLD.

A Native Plant Worth Growing.

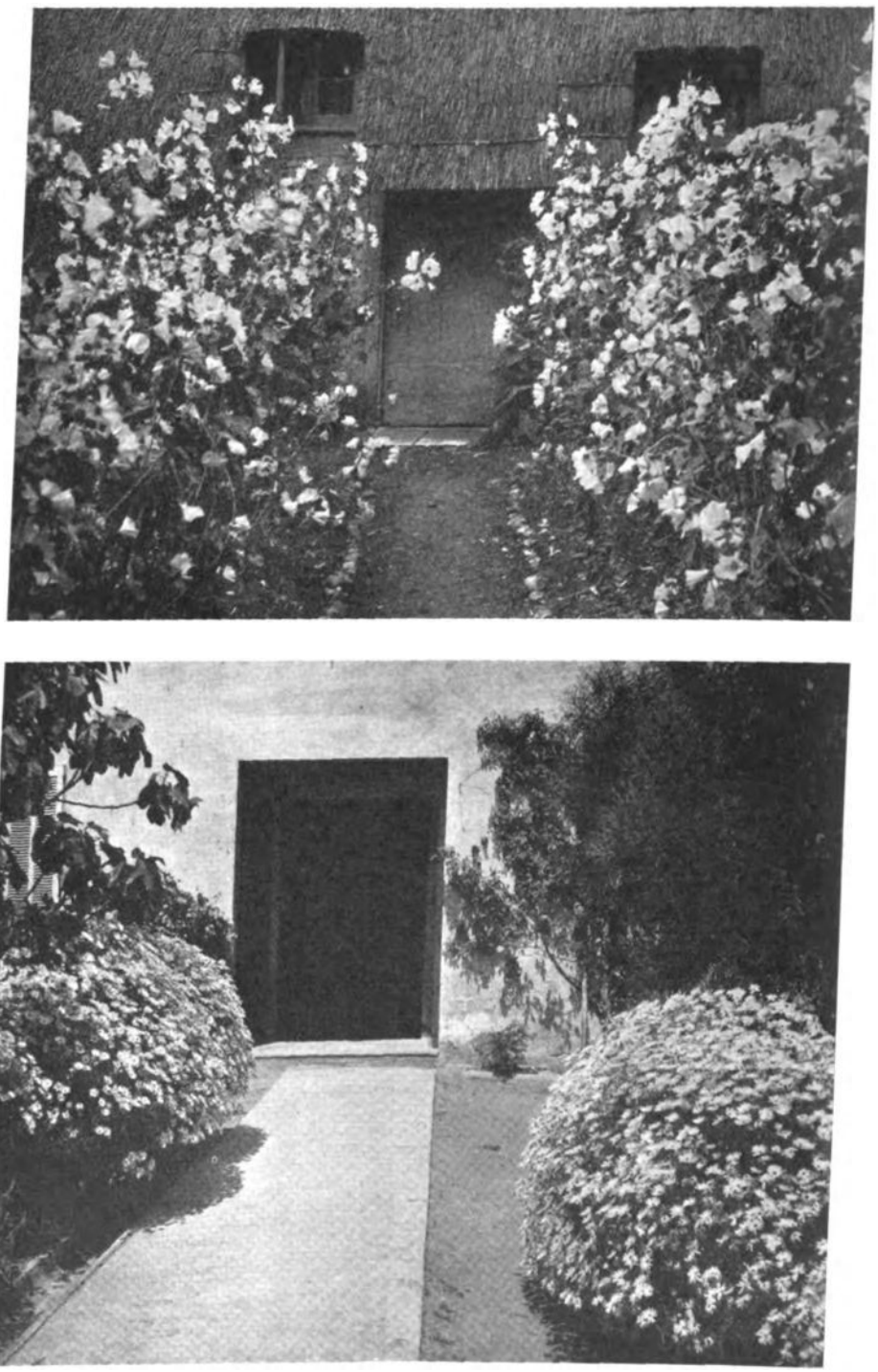
A CERTAIN number of British wildings have, in some form or another, found a place in the garden. It is interesting to call attention to yet another species which is well worth bringing into the cultivated area. This is the corn marigold (Chrysanthemum segetum), a species which, with the moon daisy (C. Leucanthemum), completes the list of native chrysanthemums. The corn marigold is a very strong-growing plant with long toothed leaves which tend to be glaucous. The flowers are like large daisies and of the most gorgeous yellow shade to be seen in the whole world of plants. Most botanical books describe the corn marigold as local, and there are certainly wide tracts of country where one might hunt in vain for a single plant. On the other hand, where it does occur it is usually very abundant, and in some parts of the south of England is regarded by the farmer as an obnoxious weed. As its name implies, the corn marigold usually grows in fields, or at least on ground where some kind of grain has been cultivated.

In a garden the corn marigold develops on very handsome lines, and it evidently thoroughly appreciates the protection it receives. It has one very remarkable characteristic, and that is the extent of its flowering period. The corn marigold is an annual with tendencies to prolong its life beyond a year. During this time it practically never ceases to produce its splendid flowers. The writer has seen the plant in bloom in every month, although it is at its best in the late summer and fall.

The corn marigold is not at all particular as to soil, providing this is well drained. It should be allotted a sunny position, and it is not a bad plan to give it a bed all to itself. Here the plants may be left undisturbed for years, and they will keep on sowing themselves and ensure the upkeep of a constant succession. To start the bed is a simple matter. Gather some of the ripe seed heads in the field, or better still, dig up young seedlings. Scatter the seed over the soil or set the young plants a few inches apart and your bed of corn marigolds is sure to be a success.

WHEN THE BULBS ARE OVER.

WITH the increasing heat of the sun the foliage of the spring-flowering bulbs begins to wither. Flower stems which are setting seed should be removed, as the process involves a serious weakening of the bulb. At all costs resist the temptation to cut away the leaves, as these are developing food material for storage in the bulb. Only when the leaves are withered, and can be pulled away without effort, should they be removed. With the exception of snowdrops, all the common spring bulbous plants may be lifted towards the end of May, and some of them are the better for it. Good results always follow the replanting of crocus bulbs—or



THE PATH TO THE DOOR IS ALWAYS IMPORTANT. WHEN PLANTING STUDY THE EFFECT AS IT WILL APPEAR TO A PERSON WALKING DOWN THE PATH TOWARDS THE HOUSE.

To those who hesitate to introduce a weed into the sacred precincts of the garden, it may be pointed out that the corn marigold is quite a safe plant to grow. Curiously enough, it does not seem to spread very much in a garden, and is certainly not more likely to appear in unexpected places than many of our well known hardy annuals.—L. B.

Digitized by Google

corms, as they are more properly called. Here the new corms are formed on the tops of the old ones, and in course of time the plants will almost force their way out of the ground. The result of this is seen in the small, poor flowers that come with the following spring.

Where, as sometimes happens, it is wished to clear a border of bulbs which are still growing and green, it is worth while digging them up and planting them in some odd corner where they can complete their development. As soon as the tops have completely died down the bulbs are dug up altogether and stored in some dry place. The Dutch growers keep their bulbs during the summer in sunny sheds, and there is no doubt that warmth and light help to ripen the bulbs and ensure fine flowers during the following season. Never, as is sometimes done, throw bulbs in a heap in some damp corner, as many of them will probably rot and those that do not will be flabby and not hard as a properly ripened bulb should be.

All the spring-flowering bulbs are worth keeping. With reasonable care narcissi and tulips will be as good the second season as they were the first. Hyacinths usually deteriorate, and after one year's growth in Britain could not be classed as first-rate bedding bulbs. If the bulbs have been well ripened, the blossoms, although somewhat smaller than the original ones, are quite good. It is not a bad plan to have the old and small hyacinth bulbs all put together in some bed where they will yield a most useful supply of cut flowers in the spring.—S.

SOME DWARF BOG PLANTS.

A Short Selection for Present Planting.

THIS is the best of all seasons for planting many of the summer-autumn bog plants, and the following are a few suggestions among the smaller ones of these which I consider of the highest merit, taking ease of culture into consideration.

Among the indispensable mimuluses, M. Whitecroft Scarlet, in glowing orange-scarlet; M. Croftonianus, so distinct in cherry crimson; and the gorgeous little Coronation, are a trio of the most brilliant. To these I would like to add the lovely M. Lewisii alba, but its winter-worthiness has not been fully tested here.

Gentiana septemfida and G. Lagodechiana having proved such splendid doers in bog, we now never grow them anywhere else but at the brink of the water. A good form of G. Pneumonanthe put into damp ground along with a few clumps of Parnassia palustris have among them patches of Wahlenbergia hederacea and Anagallis tenella. These adorable little natives go admirably in double harness, and among other lowly carpeters which come to mind are Veronica repens, with almost white flowers nestling in its deep green mats; and V. canescens, whose moss-like growth is flecked with china blue during the later summer. Mentha Requieni will make its appeal for a like purpose. Myosotis Rehsteineri is a cushiony forget-me-not, and in selecting a form of the useful M. palustris for ranging the wider areas I can recommend var. stabiana.

Pinguiculas, especially P. grandiflora and the rosy P. Reuteri, are mudland dwellers of the utmost charm, and among the bog-loving saxifrages, S. aizoides atrorubens, S. stellaris and the much bigger S. aquatica can be planted with confidence. The waxen, flesh-pink flowers of the annual Sedum villosum are as attractive as the foamy inflorescences of the beautiful S. pulchellum, which never does so well as in wet soil.

In the matchless azure of its pea-flowers, Parochetus communis is supreme among the later dwellers of the waterside, and ninepenn'orth of this delightful trailer no one can afford to be without. Spiræa digitata, Astilbe crispa and A. simplicifolia comprise a trio of the choicest of dwarfs, and to each of these astilbes some distinctive varieties have recently been added. Silene alpestris is a wet ground plant of the highest merit which is not often seen at its best in drier places.

The hybrid calceolaria John Innes is a really good plant for the warmer parts of the bog, and a similar spot should suit the brilliant Ourisia coccinea, which, if not exactly amiable in my garden, is easy and pleasant in others. Lovers of the curious will find Sarraccenia purpurea a profitable investment, these pitcher plants having blossoms and leaves of striking colour and form in addition to a taste for midges. Finally, I would put in a plea for Polygonum vaccinifolium, which can be extremely beautiful in later summer, tossing its rosy billows over some stump or boulder at the edge of the bog or waterside.—A. T. JOHNSON.

THE GREAT CHELSEA SHOW

May 25th to 27th

THE great Chelsea Show of 1926 is a triumphant success, contrary to the expectation of many prophets of woe who said that the strike and the weather in evil combination would probably make a failure of it. Their Majesties the King and Queen have again honoured the Show with their presence.

Every year the same remark is made that "This is the best Chelsea Show." This year it can be said with even more justification than usual. Each exhibit is as good as it can be—so good that the judges have had a difficult job to place them in their order of merit. The R.H.S. certainly deserve every credit for the way in which the Show has been arranged under grave difficulties. Everybody has worked hard, and it is now up to the general public to support it.

Two innovations are to be seen this year, one a special tent for pictures and paintings of gardens, the second, a very wise one, that the orchid tent is confined to orchids and other greenhouse and stove plants. One criticism has to be made, and that is that much of the canvas in the roofing of the tents is so thick and so grubby that it seriously impedes the light. Under the circumstances, it has been impossible to illustrate in a satisfactory manner all that we should have liked to have done. It is to be hoped that this is a fault that will be remedied next year, for ample lighting is an absolute necessity for showing off such magnificent colour displays, particularly in dull weather.

FORMAL GARDENS

In spite of the many difficulties with which the horticultural world has had to contend, the formal gardens are certainly one of the most attractive features of the Show. Restrictions in transport do not seem to have made any appreciable difference to the quantity of material used, for there are plants and stone in plenty. Some of the garden architects have had to modify their original plans. Still, the formal, as well as the rock gardens, reflect great credit on the various exhibitors, and they are quite up to their usual high standard of excellence.

The lay-outs are most varied in design and adaptable for reproduction in numerous sites. Some gardens are complete in themselves,

MESSRS. CARTER'S "GARDEN OF REFLECTION."

Digitized by Google

while others show a method of treatment suitable for a portion of a large garden. Among the latter type Messrs. J. Carter and Co. of Raynes Park illustrate a very effective planting of a woodland glade. This "garden of reflection," as it is called, is a blaze of colour and yet restful. The sombre conifers which surround the garden give it its woodland setting, and the waterfall which gently trickles down over mossy slabs of water-worn limestone drips into an irregularly shaped pool beneath. In the middle of the pool there is a low-lying island with a few shrubs growing on it. This and the pool are most natural in outline. The marshy ground rises fairly rapidly, and on sloping banks are planted countless crimson and pink rhododendrons. Fine specimens of both standard and bush rhododendrons are reflected in the pool below.

Messrs. Cheal and Co. of Crawley have designed an imposing formal garden on a large scale. Almost half the garden is sunk and paved with stone. In the centre of this part there is an octagonal pool surrounded by shaped beds filled with some of the best varieties of the increasingly popular Mignon dahlias. Such varieties as Etna, Albion, Grace and Coltness Gem are noticeable. Conifers and flowering shrubs form a background for the garden, and immediately in front of these are beds of soft pink herbaceous spiræas. At the other end of the garden a feast of colour is produced by beds of the many-hued azaleas, rhododendrons, standard brooms (such as Cytisus præcox alba) and the fresh green foliage of some of the acers. Quaintly clipped yews are stationed at regular intervals on each side of the paved centre path.

The garden of Messrs. Gazes of Kingston-on-Thames is most original in style, and could quite aptly be termed a "moat garden," for the rectangular central portion is almost completely surrounded by a moat. It is not easy to give a true idea of either the design or colouring of this garden. Even the stones in the cobble-stone path beside the moat vary greatly in colour, and the odd pieces of brick and bluish slate in the retaining walls make a pleasant contrast against the cascades of alpines flourishing in the wall crevices. Lupins in pinks and blues are the predominating plants of the outer borders. The terraced end of this garden and the steps leading up to it are particularly well designed, while the pillared shelter is in keeping with the whole scheme.

A well thought out and carefully constructed garden has been arranged by Messrs R. Wallace of Tunbridge Wells. The centre space is of elliptical design (a somewhat unusual treatment), sunk and paved. In the middle of this is an oval mirror pool, and near by are clumps of irises and funkias. A circular path leads one through beds of azaleas, rhododendrons and Japanese maples and then up to an artistic thatched roof summer-house. From this aspect, particularly, the beauty of the garden can be well appreciated. The shrubs are of most vivid colouring, and yet each colour is so placed that it does not clash nor strike a hard note with any other shade. Crimson rhododendrons, such as Douglas and Peter Koster, have been separated from varieties of bluish pink or mauve.

Skill and ingenuity have been used by Messrs. Bakers of Wolverhampton to erect their formal garden. A wide clipped yew hedge fashioned in festoons and pillars borders it on all four sides. A paved walk leads from one level to another, and on the higher level there is a fountain figure. A stone seat is placed in each of the two yew arbours, and at one side a garden shelter constructed entirely of Bath stone is attractively draped with Wistaria sinensis. Pink lupins and purple irises in the borders stand out well against the dull green background of yew.

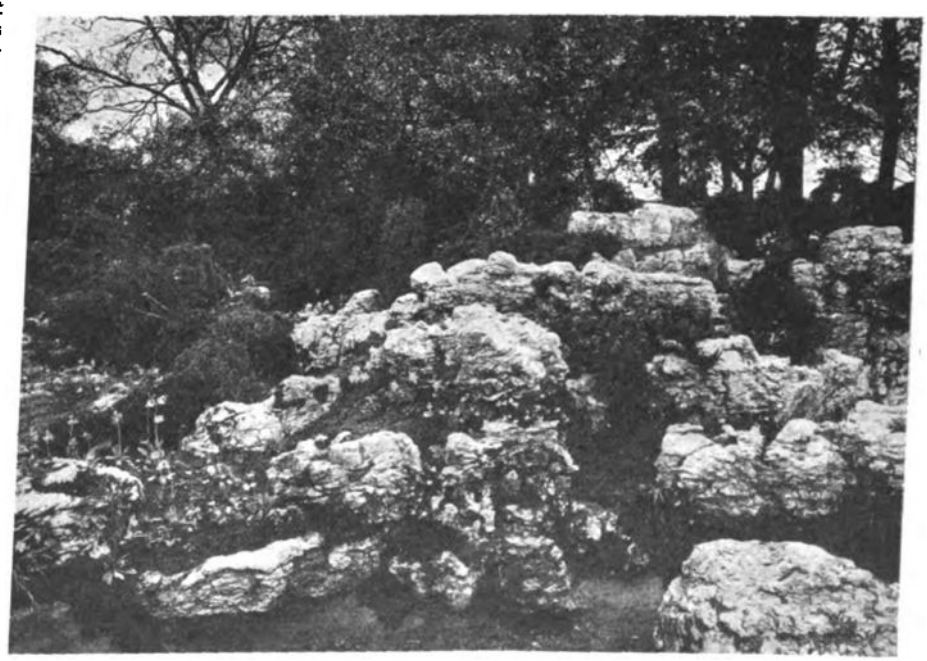
The white pillared pergolas which flank the garden of Messrs. Vernon Brothers remind one of the blue Mediterranean and its sunny gardens. The central feature is a sunk paved area with two long, narrow, rectangular pools running side by side. Fountains are playing, and the pure white lilies in the surrounding borders are gleaming in the sunlight. Pink and crimson rambler roses bedeck the pergola pillars. Paving of various styles in stone and brick is here displayed, and the top of a low dry wall is crowned with a tumbling mass of a white-flowered mossy saxifrage. The leaden figures used to ornament this attractive garden are of great beauty.

Again this year the famous grass seed specialist, Mr. Macdonald of Harpenden, has arranged a formal grass garden. It takes the form of a vivid green velvety lawn set with beds of tall grasses.

There are several gardens which could be erected just as they stand on quite a small site. Mr. Ernest Dixon's (of Putney) garden would be very suitable for any suburban garden, and it has the merit of being filled with plants which would prove attractive for a number of months during the year. Two crazy paved paths cross the garden at right angles, and at their meeting place there is a small sunk portion and a sundial. Along all sides narrow borders of hardy herbaceous plants are backed by a fence enclosure of osier hurdles.

Another small and well proportioned sunk garden has been designed by Messrs. W. Wood and Sons of Taplow. The value of square oak trellis as a fencing as well as a pergola are shown in this garden. A central oak pergola beneath which an edging of nepeta is growing leads one up to the attractive little sunk garden with its pool.

A PORTION OF THE "CLIFF" IN CAPT. SYMONDS JEUNE'S ROCK GARDEN.



A VIEW IN MESSRS. CLARENCE ELLIOTT'S ROCK GARDEN.

Digitized by Google

brightly coloured flower-beds and spacious summer-house. Rhododendrons fill the borders, and alpines nestle in the cracks of the retaining walls.

Messrs. R. Neal and Son of Wandsworth have designed a garden where rhododendrons, azaleas and irises are the chief flowering plants used. A wide paved path cuts through the middle of a lawn, and on either side long borders are planted with dark purple irises. Beds of rhododendrons in all colours divide the lawn from a sunk fountain pool around which the colour scheme is mauve and purple. The best view of this garden is from the stone seat placed on a terraced portion at the far end.

The beauty and utility of natural stone are well illustrated by the formal garden constructed by the Horsecombe Quarries and Stone Works, Combe Down, Bath. A

MR. G. G. WHITELEGG'S CHARMING STREAM GARDEN.

stone balustrade surrounds it, and the central feature is a large vase placed on a raised pedestal. Every stone seat used, each vase, bird bath and ornament is of excellent design and yet varied in outline. Pink rhododendrons fill the vases and encrusted saxifrages flourish at the base of the pedestal. The grey colouring of this Somerset stone harmonises well with flowers of every tone. Particularly attractive is the effect when used in conjunction with a special colour scheme.

Messrs. Reamsbottom's famous St. Brigid anemones are again used in a small formal garden, and give a striking splash of colour. The owner of a seaside bungalow or a week-end cottage will be interested in the garden of wattle hurdles and the garden furniture made by the Rural Industries, Limited, of Cheltenham. The shelters and chairs made by the T. and C. Associated Industries, Limited, of London will also appeal to them.

ROCK GARDENS

The art of the rock gardener at Chelsea is so successful in concealing the labour and giving an impression of rest and stability that we are apt to forget the titanic work of piling up the boulders, the anxious preparation and the careful artistry of which we enjoy the result. But the dislocation of transport, by the strike and the doubt, at one time whether the Show could be held at all, turned our attention to the extra difficulties which the builders of the rock gardens would have to face, and it seemed beyond reason to expect that their exhibits could approach the usual standard of size and excellence.

Yet here they are, not only in their old form, but actually rather finer than last year. The boulders are larger than ever, there is more individuality in the designs, and there is less of the "bedded-out" effect which has so often concealed the beauty of the general scheme.

Every visitor, however critical, will feel inclined to congratulate the exhibitors on the courage and perseverance that have triumphed over exceptional difficulties.

The garden which stands out most strongly is built by Captain B. Symons Jeune, the garden architect. It achieves the supremely difficult ideal, now almost abandoned, of the old "Alpine garden," for it is a picture—yet by no means a mere reproduction—of a piece of alpine scenery. The central point is an abrupt peak of cleft and splintered rock with one sheer and almost vertical face. It overhangs a small dark pool and is balanced by a large hummocky boulder on the farther bank. The beauty of line is so satisfying that flowers are scarcely needed to enhance it, and the garden has been wisely planted with the greatest restraint. The austerity of the peak itself only allows a few dark sedums and a Lantoscana saxifrage moulded into a vertical cleft. The foreground is occupied by a real "alpine mat" of Globularia antenaria, gentian, androsace and thyme; and the pool is bordered by Iris cristata, Primula luteola, Viola pedata and other choice plants completely appropriate to their place. On the summit of the peak (but invisible from in front) is a gay patch of high alpines, Aster alpinus, Dianthus neglectus, etc.

Another garden of character is built by Messrs. Clarence Elliott of Six Hills, Stevenage, who take the conventional theme of waterfall, stream and pool, and handle it in a very individual way. The background is a forest of dwarf conifers, not used as a foil for patches of colour, but allowed to assert their own peculiar beauty, lightened by a few clumps of the milk white Anemone sylvestris. The rocky margins of the pool are set with real alpine plants. A group of Trollius pumilus, Primula sikkimensis and P. pulverulenta make a bold and very successful colour group of pale yellows and magenta. Lilium rubellum leans out over the water of the pool, in which a little rocky island is given over to the deep violet butterwort, Pinguicula grandiflora. On one side of the garden is a grove of the dwarf columnar juniper and a magnificent clump of Aquilegia glandulosa, both of them well known specialities of the nursery. The exhibit is labelled, in a way that would have pleased Francis Bacon, by six turfy molehills.

In the garden of Messrs. Herbert Brook the stream flows quietly in a series of pools through an alpine meadow studded with boulders and the orange suns of Arnica montana. The rocky banks of the stream are quietly planted with groups of trollius and Iris sibirica, whose dark red buds stand out pleasantly against the pale yellow. A fine plant of the rare Cupressus tamariscifolius hangs its flat feathery branches over one of the pools, and masses of Saxifraga pyramidalis foam out over the source of the stream.

Messrs. Hodson of Nottingham have made a pleasant little stream and terrace garden of ripple-marked limestone whose pattern is a little monotonous, though the general effect is soft and restful. The terraces are brightly planted with mossy phloxes and geums, while Ixiolirion Pallasii provides an unusual wistaria lilac.

In Mr. G. G. Whitelegg's very large garden the stream issues from beside a mass of rock of interesting but slightly top-heavy design, and wanders across a stretch of boulder-strewn turf. The banks are planted with broad stretches of violas, Primula Mooreana and Lithospermum Heavenly Blue. On the right-hand side of the garden a moraine set in turf does not associate very naturally with the rest of the picture, but provides a background for Oxalis adenophylla, Morisia hypogæa, Mazus repens and other small plants.

Captain Crewdson-Day has a pleasant little garden with a straight stream and small round pool, the whole discreetly planted with thrift, thyme, helianthemum, etc.

Messrs. Pulham have a garden in which the stream tumbles out of a dark cavern in the centre of shelving terraces brilliantly planted with geums, azaleas and Cheiranthus Allionii which shade down to quiet, low-toned pinks in the foreground.

At one end of the series of gardens, Messrs. Gavin Jones of Letchworth have a little mountain path between an outcrop of rock and a shelving cliff, both of which are jewelled with interesting little plants. Oxalis chrysantha, a wood sorrel whose butter yellow flowers harmonise perfectly with its pale bronzy foliage; a compact form of Veronica rupestris (V. Spode Blue), with flowers of a peculiarly soft shade of china blue; Lithospermum Frœbelli, a tuft of upright rosemary leaves and croziers of pale, iridescent blue; the deeply spotted Saxifraga caterhamensis; Dianthus neglectus, and many others.

At the other end of the row, Messrs. Cutbush's garden provides a complete contrast. A stream, soberly fringed with ferns, falls into a little pool whose surroundings are planted with vivid, post-Impressionist combinations of colour. The magenta red Primula pulverulenta beneath a standard wistaria; P. Red Hugh in various shades of flame colour, against the bluish green leaves of Funkia glauca; the whole in a setting of reddish sandstone. A very interesting example of a conventionalised rock garden.

TREES AND SHRUBS

As always, trees and shrubs play a great part at Chelsea. Although this year, owing to the vagaries of the weather during the last two months, the actual blossom may not be as fine as usual, there is no doubt that the exhibits show the same quality and excellence of cultivation as formerly.

Messrs. Cuthbert are staging one of their usual fine exhibits of azaleas in a corner of

Digitized by Google

the main tent. The colours seem even finer than usual. Coccinea speciosa certainly stands out, a brilliant coppery-orange, while of paler shades Sybil, a pale orange; Irene Koster, a blush pink occidentalis, and Daviesii, a creamy-white flushed with green and yellow, are charming. This firm can certainly call themselves azalea specialists. They also show two attractive shrub borders outside, where the bright colours of azaleas are shown off by the deep bronze foliage of maples, the lilac of wistaria and the yellow of laburnum. In addition they show excellent clumps of fine flowered forced hydrangeas.

Messrs. Wallace have a fine clump of rhododendrons and azaleas as a background for their lilies and irises. Among them Helen Schiffner still stands out as one of the best whites and Corona as one of the finest of all rose shades. Another good white is Mrs. Lindsay Smith, with large flowers and a big, upstanding truss.

Messrs. Den Ouden are showing a new hybrid rhododendron, Mrs. P. den Ouden, a deep rose, that is stated to have stood 32° of frost in the U.S.A. without flinching.

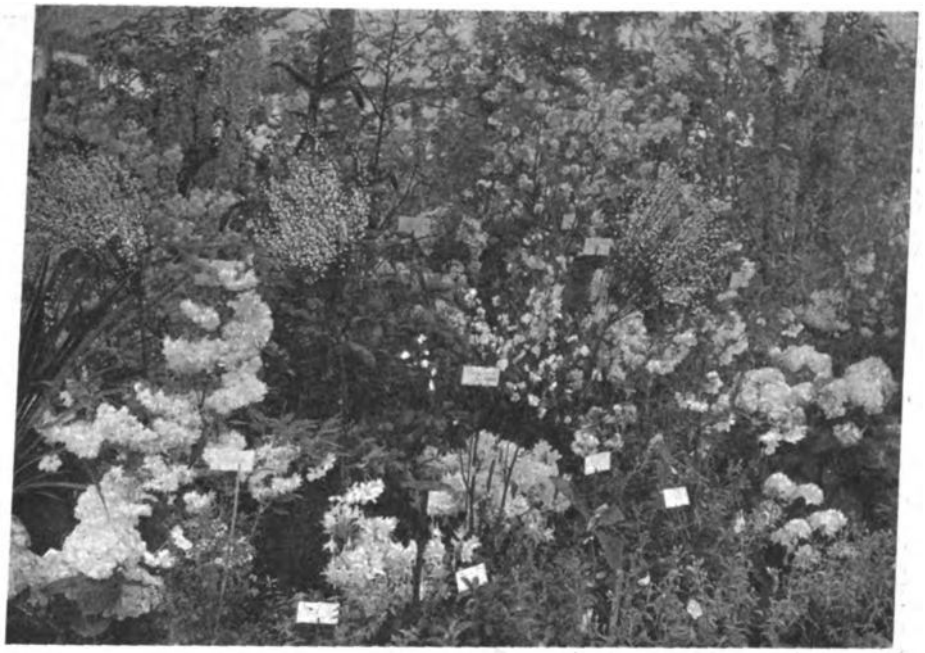
Mr. T. Lewis has a well flowered exhibit of rhododendrons and azaleas. Cynthia and Lady C. Mitford are excellent, the former deep rose, the latter a pale pink.

Mr. Reuthe, so well known for rare shrubs and rhododendrons, confines himself this year mostly to hybrids in rhododendrons—such as Doncaster, Corona and the fine loose-trussed blush white George Hardy. Among the shrubs, Enkianthus campanulatus albus is a pleasant creamy white form of this attractive shrub. Fine specimens of the ordinary form are also shown.

Messrs. Cheal show a particularly well grouped collection of rhododendrons and cytisus, along with a few hydrangeas, lilacs, maples and other ornamental shrubs. The selection is excellent and the grouping could not be bettered.

By retarding growth, Messrs. Hillier are able to stage an extraordinary collection of flowering cherries, along with other flowering shrubs. Prunus serrulata Sekiyama is most striking, with large, semi-double flowers of a good soft pink, while of the whites, P. Lannesiana Sirotæ, a large-flowered single, is excellent. Between the two in shade comes P. serrulata Ojochin, of the palest shell pink with a dark eye. If you want a yellowish tinge, look for P. Lannesiana grandiflora. Altogether this is a notable exhibit.

Along with giant eremuri Mr. J. C. Allgrove shows good specimens of maples and hybrid cytisus in pots.



SOME OF MESSRS. HILLIERS' FLOWERING CHERRIES AND OTHER ORNAMENTAL SHRUBS.

Mr. Notcutt shows standard cytisus in pots along with a few maples and azaleas. Among the brooms, Cornish Cream, is very aptly named; fulgens, a rich brownish-crimson, and the well known bicolor Andreanus, are noticeable.

Ornamental trees and shrubs are staged by the Donard Nursery Co. Ceanothus, veronicas, cytisus, maples, are all to be seen. One of the rarest of plants to flower is Grevillea thyrsifolia, deeper in tone than the ordinary G. rosmarinifolia and a finer plant. The former grows upright, whereas the latter creeps. The scarlet tubes of Embothrium coccineum are most vivid even in the dullest light.

Mr. Charles Turner shows maples, thorns, and lilacs, for the last of which, of course, he is famous. Jeanne d'Arc, a good white double, and L'Oncle Tom, an even richer L. Spath and of similar appearance, are the most conspicuous.

The Yokohama Nursery Co. stage their usual collection of dwarfed conifers and maples, along with a few Kurumi azaleas.

Messrs. Fromow again show their collection of Japanese maples, variegated and plain, in pots. As always, they show extraordinary cultivation and could hardly be bettered for quality.

By the main entrance gate is Messrs. M. Koster's show of rhododendrons and azaleas. Hugh Koster certainly stands out as a fine trussed, good crimson rhododendron, with flowers that are shapely and easily seen. Of the azaleas, Koster's brilliant red is certainly prominent as a magnificent flame colour.

Messrs. Charlton have an outside show of ornamental trees and shrubs. The cytisus are fine. A number of rare plants, unfortunately of doubtful hardiness, are included among them, the well known Billardiera longiflora, with greenish tubular flowers; the rare Australian hazel, Pomaderis opetala, and Decaisnea Fargesii, a very handsome foliaged shrub with long racemes of yellowish green flowers. This last is hardy, but liable to be cut.

One of the stands of Messrs. Waterer Sons and Crisp is filled with hybrid rhododendrons of such well known kinds as Pink Pearl, Bagshot Ruby—still one of the best crimsons—Gomer Waterer, a very pleasant blush pink with yellowish markings; Sappho, a white with purple markings on the upper segment. This firm's Mother-o'-Pearl, a newer introduction, improves every year. The truss is so excellent in shape, the colour, a soft pale pink, is so well set off with the rose stamens, that it is a most aristocratic looking plant.

Messrs. Hollamby's stand of ornamental trees is noticeable for very fine specimens of Acer palmatum atropurpureum and the cut-leaved form, dissectum purpureum. The colour in both is very good. Among many interesting conifers, they show Cryptomeria japonica alba spica, a curious form with pure white young foliage.

Messrs. W. and J. Brown show spikes of well known lilacs, such as Mme. Lemoine, that fine white double; Congo, one of the richest of the dusky red singles; and Jan van Tol, a newer variety, with large white flowers.

Messrs. Gill manage to stage an amazing amount of rhododendron flowers, considering that they come from Falmouth. Naturally, at this time they are mostly hybrids, such as the invaluable light orange yellow Azaleodendron Smithii aureum and a not unpleasant lilac-white cross between Aucklandii and ponticum. Among shrubs on their stand, pride of place must go to Olearia myrserioides

A SMALL CORNER OF MESSRS. BUNYARD'S IRISES.

Digitized by Google

with dark green foliage and a wealth of star-like white blooms with an orange centre.

Messrs. L. R. Russell, Limited have an outside stand of ornamental shrubs. For those who live in the extreme west, Metrosideros floribunda is interesting, with its bottle-brush flowers of red-purple, but it is a tender morsel. Among other plants are maples, Cytisus pallidus and the well known red Dallimorei; and the two Corokias, Cotoneaster and virgata.

Mr. H. Hemsley also has an outside stand of hybrid rhododendrons and foliage shrubs, such as Cupressus Fletcheri and Euonymus latifolius albo variegatus.

Messrs. Cutbush, Messrs. Klinkert, Messrs. Harrods and Messrs. Robt. Green all show topiary work.

IRISES

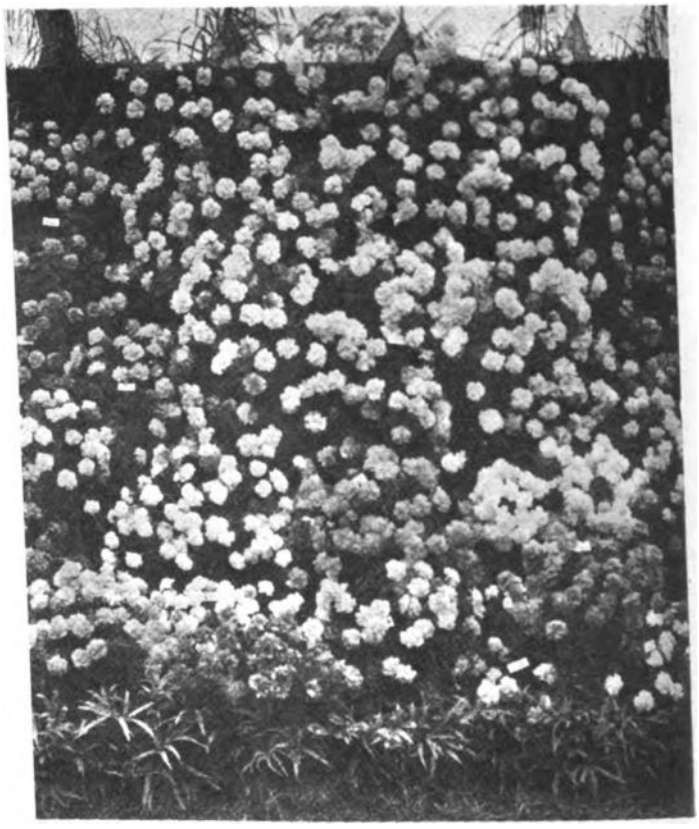
The season has been a fairly early one and that fact together with the postponement of the Show, did not augur well for a brilliant iris display, but it is here and fully up to the standard of its predecessors. The iris is not a flower which lends itself to exhibition work, especially under canvas. The lighter toned varieties lose much of their delicacy of colouring when seen under canvas.

One of the most charming and restful spots in Tent B is the iris garden of Messrs. Bunyard's. The whole arrangement is admirable and worthy of the highest praise, as it shows a keen understanding of how irises are best to be seen and appreciated. Laid out in groups, the central one diamond-shaped, and four surrounding this half octagonal, the plants are placed in slightly raised, naturally formed beds, so that they can be looked down on and the full beauty of the bed as well as of the individual varieties appreciated to the full.

Among the most notable varieties are the true free flowering and elegant Ambassadeur with its dark brown falls; Susan Bliss of delicate pink colouring; the pale mauve and sweetly scented Bullevine; and that very fine and wonderfully free-flowering variety, Souv. de Mme. Gaudichau, which is probably the best self deep violet purple iris there is. Among the red-toned irises—which are now coming into much favour, Medrano of a curious dark red, almost maroon, was conspicuous. Some of the older varieties are also present, many still without a rival in their respective colours. This is noticeably the case in the violet blue, where such old and popular varieties as Princess Beatrice still head the field. There are many others to be seen in Messrs. Bunyard's display, such as Mme. Schwartz, Paladin, Titan and Sapphire, all of fine form and habit and all well worthy of due attention by every keen iris lover.

Mr. Amos Perry does not stage as fine a display as usual, but there are many interesting varieties to be seen in his stand of general herbaceous plants. One or two very fine Ciengialti hybrids are on view, of which Ammon is one of the best, of a pale violet blue colour. Others to be seen are Silver Queen of a porcelain blue; the pale lavender Duke of York, dark toned Lord Lambourne of stately splendour, with its dark purple falls and the elegant lavender blue Mrs. Marion Cran.

From the nurseries of Messrs. De Goede Bros. in Holland there comes a pleasant little exhibit of xiphium irises in vases, with one or two striking sorts, including the bright yellow Van der Helst and Hutchenburg, most outstanding, with its bright rich golden yellow falls and standards almost white. The yellows stand out well from the pale blue and lavender tones of other varieties in the exhibit.



AN ENORMOUS CLUMP OF CARNATION LADDIE ON MESSRS. ENGELMANN'S STAND.

The Orpington Nurseries once more stage a fine display, arranged to reveal the merit and beauty of the individual sorts, rather than the effect in the mass. Quite a number of new seedlings are on view, all of fine form. Notable varieties to be seen are the handsome pale blue pallida dalmatica; the elegant Aphrodite, one of the late Mr. Dyke's introductions to the iris world, and Tenebrae, which originated in 1922 and is a handsome variety with its dark velvety purple falls. Another recent introduction on view is the June-flowering Duchess Sarah, a fine upstanding plant of good colour and habit. Many older varieties are also present, almost all mid-season flowering kinds and all are worthy of attention.

Messrs. Wallace's do not have such a fine show as is their wont. No doubt the earliness of the season accounts to some extent for it. Nevertheless, those that are on view illustrate that there are still as good irises coming from Tunbridge Wells as formerly. Some dainty varieties are laid out in a slightly raised bed to be viewed with advantage and display a fine colour harmony. One gets a rare idea of blend in colour and variation in height by looking along this miniature grove. The most outstanding of the varieties are Sweet Lavender, whose name is true to its colour; the mauve purple Florence Wills; Mrs. Valerie West, with its velvety maroon falls; and Souv. de Mme. Gaudichau, of good colour along with Kashmir White.

In Messrs. Barr's tulip exhibit a number of iris varieties are on view and the colours, the yellows and blues especially, are well blended. The Duchess of York, a fine pallida variety, is in excellent condition, while Souv. de Mme. Gaudichau and Iris filifolia are also good. The violet blue Imperator, a giant xiphium variety, shows up to advantage as a background to a few of the more dwarf yellows, including Van der Helst and Huchtenburg.

A very fine collection of seedling irises in the best of condition is staged by Mr. G. G. Whitelegg. There are close on five hundred spikes shown and each commands attention for its sterling worth. The ferns supply a pleasant touch of contrast in colour.

MESSRS. JACKMAN'S FINE EXHIBIT OF CLEMATIS.

CLEMATIS

Quite one of the features of the floral groups in the tents was the magnificent bank of clematis set out by Messrs. Jackman of Woking. The name of this firm is almost synonymous with that of clematis and one comes to look for something striking every year at Chelsea time.

Here are a few varieties to which we would draw attention, for the sake of their large, handsome blossoms, in some cases 9ins. to 10ins. across. The delicate pink Comtesse de Bouchard is probably the best of its colour, while Marie Boisselot easily takes

Digitized by Google

pride of place as the best white, with The Bride following on close behind. The best red is to be seen in the very free-flowering Mme. Edouard André, one of the parents of Crimson King, which is also on view Then there are the striking bi-coloured blossoms of the ever popular Nelly Moser and Marcel Moser, two varieties which will probably never be deposed from their position of popularity.

CARNATIONS

The carnation groups contributed not a little to the floral festival. Messrs. C. Engelmann of Saffron Walden have one of the most imposing collections of perpetual carnations exhibited for a number of years. The group contains about 8,000 perfect blooms of both new and old varieties. A magnificent pillar of Laddie occupies the centre of the stand. Near it Mrs. Hamilton Fellowes, Tarzan, Improved Ward and Mary Allwood make striking splashes of colour. Nero, a light purple pink, heavily stippled crimson, is one of their novelties, and some of the new varieties, not yet in commerce, are well worthy of a place among the leading kinds. Among the latter are Katja, a slatey grey carnation with a fine sheen; Dorcas, a velvety crimson and one of the most strongly clove scented carnations ever raised; while Palette is a variety of unique colouring, being a yellow ground carnation flaked and splashed with orange, red and pink.

For general excellence in arrangement and method of displaying carnations, Messrs. Allwood Bros. of Hayward's Heath deserve every congratulation. This firm are showing carnations of all types, including many varieties of perpetuals, border carnations, perpetual border carnations and Allwoodii. All the carnations, with the exception of the perpetual-flowering type, are growing in small beds cut in grass banks, a method of arrangement which is wholly commendable. The exhibit is in a prominent position at one end of the first tent. In the centre splendid specimens of such varieties as Master Michael Stoop, a glowing cerise; Shot Silk, an Indian chestnut; Topsy and Spectrum. On either side are the beds of carnations. In these the perpetual border carnations, Sussex Ray, Sussex Flake and Sussex Tricolour, are outstanding, while two new pink varieties, Phœbe and Elizabeth, are beautiful additions to the list of charming Allwoodii type.

A collection of perpetual carnations is exhibited by Messrs. Stuart Low and Co. of Enfield. The form, quality and size of some of the varieties shown leaves nothing to be desired. Particularly good are a number of blooms of the deep crimson Sir Philip Sassoon. Mrs. Ives Improved, Arnos Grove, Lady Hindlip, Duchess of York, Sheila Greer, and Sybil, a 1926 novelty, are representative of the collection. Another group of this same class was staged by the firm of Messrs. Keith Luxford. Iona is perhaps their best salmon pink variety; Circe, a mauve striped with pink; Nigger, a very deep crimson; and Coral Glow, a pink variety with apricot shading, is also to be seen on this stand.

Border carnations are shown by several firms. Mr. James Douglas' border carnations are known to every carnation lover. Mr. Douglas brings from Bookham a fine collection of some of the best varieties. Their size and quality are indeed of a high standard of excellence. There are many varieties included in the exhibit too numerous to mention.

Messrs. Seymour and Anderson also exhibited border carnations. Lady Shackleton, a soft pink variety, is in perfect condition; Steerforth, Paladin and Highland Mary are all very noticeable. Mr. C. H. Herbert of Birmingham is exhibiting several novelties of his particular race of pinks. Some of the new varieties are even more beautiful in colouring than older kinds.

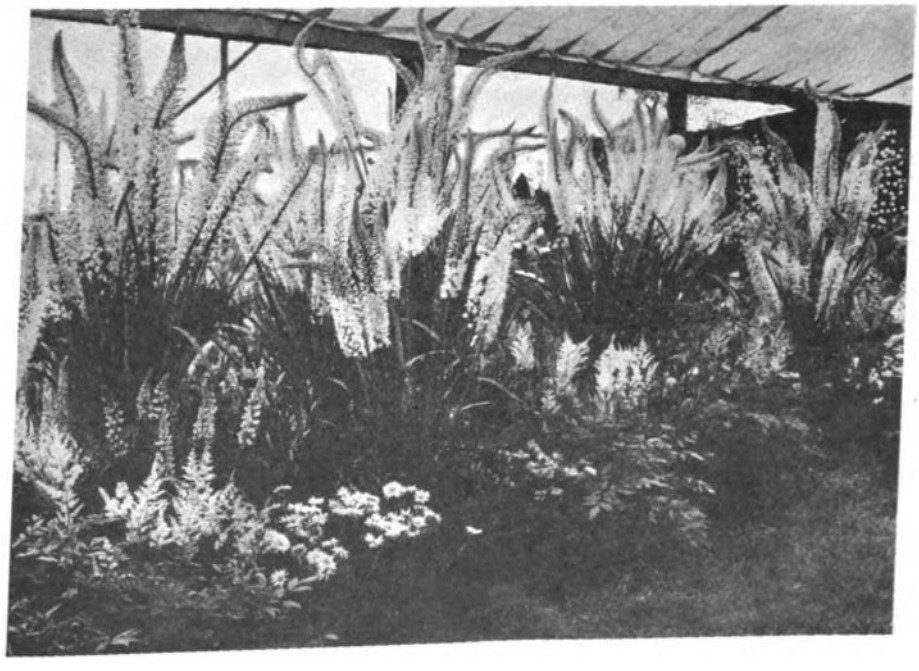
Messrs. Lowe and Gibson of Crawley staged an interesting group of border carnations. Several new varieties were noted. Mrs. Edmund Charrington, Joan Wardale and Myrtle Pettigrew, a variety of perfect form, should all become very popular. The executors of Sir William Cain have a unique exhibit which clearly shows that great skill and care in culture have been expended to produce such blooms as are seen here. Perpetual flowering carnations, perpetual malmaisons and Souvenir de la Malmaison growing in pots, are arranged in an imposing group. The malmaison Hon. Charlotte Knollys has surely never been seen in such perfection. A new perpetual-flowering carnation called Mrs. A. A. Vlasto is shown by Mr. J. C. Beck.

ROSES

The difficulties attendant on the postponement of the Show were probably felt more by the rose grower than the majority of the other exhibitors. From the show point of view timing the blooms is an all-important matter, and as the plants for Chelsea are all grown under glass, the difficulties may easily be imagined. But all the growers seem to have risen superior to the drawback, and there are many beautiful exhibits of roses to be seen in the tents.

For the most part the growers are showing the growing plants in pots, and they have arranged them with great skill and taste, making beautiful exhibits. At the Embankment end of the first large marquee Mr. Elisha Hicks has a most charming group

ROSES OF ALL TYPES ARE IN MESSRS. CUTBUSH'S GROUP.



GIGANTIC SPIKES OF EREMURI ARE SHOWN BY MESSRS. ARTINDALE.

Digitized by Google

of pot roses. Tall pillars and weeping standards of Lady Godiva, Evangeline, Minnehaha and other free-flowering varieties rise above dwarfer masses of America, Mrs. Henry Stevens, Blossom (a lovely pink variety), Margaret Horton and J. G. Glassford of the hybrid tea varieties, while the dwarf polyanthas are well represented by La Reine Elizabeth with masses of bright crimson flowers.

A similar position in the other large marquee is also admirably filled by Messrs. Chaplin Brothers, who have many splendidly grown plants of Chatillon Rambler, Excelsa, Lady Gay, Hiawatha and White Dorothy Perkins festooned with flowers. Near the front there are circular groups of La Reine Elizabeth and L'Ideal, two splendid dwarf polyanthas of bright colouring. Their hybrid tea varieties include Ophelia, Mrs. Henry Bowles, Mrs. Herbert Nash (a very dark crimson flower of delicious fragrance) and Maud (a well formed pink bloom).

A gracefully arranged group of roses with hydrangeas by Messrs. William Cutbush and Sons well fills a corner of the marquee. The roses are all of the useful, free-flowering polyantha type, and include the new Golden Salmon, of lovely colouring and great freedom. Locarno, another new variety, is of deep scarlet colour. The older varieties include La Reine Elizabeth, Mme. A. Kluis, Dorothy Perkins and Coral Cluster.

Towards the middle of the marquee Messrs. A. J. and C. Allen have an attractive group of pot roses, where they display Excelsa, Dorothy Perkins, Tausendschön, Paul's Scarlet Climber, Chatillon Rambler and Havering Rambler.

On the staging the Rev. J. H. Pemberton has a pretty little group of such free-flowering varieties as Topsie, Edith Cavell, Echo and Juliana; while the Devon Rosary Company are showing similar sorts.

Many excellent hybrid tea varieties are shown by Messrs. B. R. Cant and Sons in a large table space. The chief sorts are Sovereign, Lady Wakefield, Columbia, Padre and Rev. F. Page Roberts; while at the back they have profusely flowered plants of American Pillar, Hiawatha, Lady Godiva and Paul's Scarlet Climber.

In the front of his pretty group of roses Mr. George Prince has a small plant of the rare Rosa beridifolia Hardii, which is quite a small-growing species, bearing relatively large yellow flowers with rich crimson centres. He also shows a mass of the beautiful pink Lady Sylvia, Mme. Butterfly, Betty, Shot Silk and Coral Cluster.

Chiefly hybrid tea varieties of merit are shown by Messrs. F. Cant and Co., who have large vases of Capt. F. S. Harvey-Cant, Mrs. Henry Bowles, Comtesse de Cassagne, Chastity, Roselandia, William Kerdes and Mrs. F. S. Harvey-Cant.

Messrs. Ernest Paul and Co. have goodly vases of Golden Ophelia, Mme. Butterfly, Mrs. Henry Morse, Molly Sharman Crawford and other useful roses.

late being all the better for these plants. It is too early for the Bungei group, but the noble and bold E. robustus, the white E. himalaicus and the pink E. Elwesianus are here in all their glory. There are about eighteen large pots or vases with an average of a dozen spikes in each. The groundwork consists of lupins, spiræas, poppies, irises, and pyrethrums in great variety. An exhibit that ought to be seen by every visitor. Mr. A. Dawkins of Chelsea is represented by a small but showy group which contains a nice selection of Dutch irises, such as Blomard and

ONE OF MESSRS. HEWITT'S FAMOUS WREXHAM DELPHINIUMS.

Harkness and Sons, Bedale, Yorks, have pale blue lupins occupying a bold position at the back of their group, and a large vase of pink varieties in front. On either side can be seen the golden Trollius His Majesty, the tangerine poppies, a good batch of Viola cornuta purpurea and Viola Golden Wave, both charming rock garden subjects. Pyrethrums, Oriental poppies and heucheras complete the features of this display.

Messrs. B. Ladhams, Southampton, stage a group of hardy flowers characterised by their brilliance and variety. The double-flowered forget-me-not, Myosotis Orion, is sure to attract attention, and this remark applies to the vases of pyrethrum, verbascum and heucheras. The semi-climbing Solanum crispum can be seen, a good plant for covering old trees and buildings.

In the large and showy group so well set up by Messrs. Prichard, Christchurch, Hants, can be seen some beautiful lupins of various shades of pink, also blue and white. A few of the stately eremuri, Oriental poppies, the bright rose pink pyrethrum Hamlet, the dark P. Lady A. Harmsworth, P. Mrs. J. Linke (pink), and P. Snow White are all worthy of a place in every garden. Irises, anthericums, lilies, primulas and verbascums add their quota to an interesting display.

The lupins from Messrs. The Maytham Gardens, Rolvenden, Kent, are very effective: all are seedlings of Lupinus polyphyllus, and some will be seen again in different gardens, especially those with reddish and deep blue flowers.

A bold block of delphiniums occupies the centre of Messrs. Waterers' (of Twyford) exhibit. On each corner can be seen various lupins, the dark pink Delight being noteworthy. Grouplets of the pink Eremurus Elwesianus, the yellow Verbascum vernale, Anchusa Pride of Dover, and Lilium testaceum. Conspicuous is the pretty Verbascum densiflorum, the bold Iris magnificum, the dark I. Ambassador, and Lilium Szovitzianum together with various spiræas.

A small but choice lot of plants is staged by Mr. W. H. Walters, Colesborne Gardens, Cheltenham; the white form of Eremurus Elwesiana, and the white smilicina species being of interest. The coffin juniper is here on view also. Pæony arietiana alba, and different froms of cacti, all of value to the specialist in these subjects.

Messrs. Hewitt, Solihull, Birmingham, have staged upwards of twenty-five varieties of delphiniums, with a groundwork of ferns and a few primulas of the pulverulenta type, and acers. Among the finest varieties are Wembley, a strong grower, somewhat similar to the famous Millicent Blackmore. A lovely larkspur is Joybells, large, but graceful, the flowers of a deep rosy mauve shade. Another magnificent variety is Monarch of Wales, bright blue in colour with the inner petals reddish mauve. The Bishop is an improvement on Rev. E. Lascelles, and is sure to become a popular garden plant.

A cool and refreshing group of hardy ferns is put up by Mr. Amos Perry, Enfield, all in the rudest health. Here are also staged Eremuri, irises and strong primulas of the Red Hugh type and P. sikkimensis, not forgetting P. secundiflora, which is particularly well shown. Piptanthus nepalense, a golden yellow shrub, and Trollius Her Majesty are also represented.

In addition to flowering trees and shrubs, Messrs. Cheal of Crawley have a nice collection of herbaceous subjects. The yellow Thermopsis montana is here, together with spiræas, lupins, and a selection of primulas.

Messrs. Wilson and Agar, Crown Nurseries, Reading, have a selection of lupins, delphiniums, verbascums and irises.

The reports of other exhibits have unavoidably been held over until our next issue owing to limited space.

HARDY FLOWERS

Quite one of the best exhibits is put up by Messrs. Blackmore and Langdon, Bath. Here can be seen over two hundred spikes of finely grown delphiniums, in a variety of colours, all the stems being clothed with healthy foliage. The exquisite D. Millicent Blackmore is shown in quantity; it is pale blue and mauve, with a distinct black eye. Sir Douglas Haig is dark purple; Mrs. T. Baker, glorious sky blue; The Shah, distinct deep rosy lavender self; and George Cochrane, deep rosy purple. An excellent lot of flowers. The distinctive and noteworthy feature of Messrs. Artindale's, Sheffield, is the wonderful display of eremuri, the Show being a week

Celestial, also Gladiolus Peach Blossom and The Bride, Anemone Hollandia (a rich red flower) and various liliums.

Messrs. Storrie and Storrie, Glencarse, Scotland, have a nice selection of long-spurred aquilegias and a wonderful variety of their fine strain of polyanthus.

Mr. F. Gifford, Hornchurch, Essex, stage a pretty block of Pæony officinalis lobata. This is quite a good garden plant.

The Chalk Hill Nurseries, Reading, are represented by a fine block of Mimulus Chalk Hill Giant, Anchusa Pride of Dover and other named varieties, all similar to A. Opal. Polymonium Richardsoni, Aster alpinus, etc., can also be seen in this interesting group.

Digitized by Google

CORRESPONDENCE

ANCHUSA MYOSOTIDIFLORA.

SIR,—If your correspondent "T. W. B." wishes to grow this subject over 2ft. high instead of 1ft., and with such a mass of bloom that the foliage is almost entirely hidden, let him try it under a south wall, but in a position where it will not get too dry. It is growing all over the garden here, but succeeds nowhere so well as it does under the wall. Other plants are rubbish in comparison with this particular one.—A. H., *Ledbury*.

NEW AND BETTER GLADIOLI.

SIR,—I have been much interested in the articles of "C. H. A. S.," which have appeared in recent numbers of THE GARDEN; and as I think I can claim to have grown the spikes which illustrated the articles, I may be forgiven if I venture on a few remarks. No. 1, I think, represents Snow Glory and has the defect referred to, and for this reason I would suggest that White Glory might be tried in its place. This latter variety is not so ruffled as Snow Glory and the colouring is much the same. No. 2 is, perhaps, Mrs. John Hinkle, which was introduced with the usual flourish of trumpets, but as grown by me it did not come up to my expectations. It certainly had many flowers open at the same time, and I think that is all that could be said in its favour. Purple Glory is a good one and did well with me last year. It certainly attracted much attention when I showed it at the R.H.S. in the year after the war, and also again last year. Orange Glory is also a good flower when it does bloom, which, I am sorry to say, has not often been the case with me. It was such a disappointment that I wrote to an American correspondent for his opinions, and had a reply:

"Strange to say, your letter *re* Orange Glory came when Mr. Kunderd was here and he admitted that it was a shy bloomer, and was seriously thinking of taking it out of his catalogue."

I notice that this variety does not figure in his 1926 catalogue. "C. H. A. S." is quite right in stating it is a vigorous grower, but it does not produce flowers. If I could manage to get 50 per cent. to flower I would continue to grow it; but my average is much below 10 per cent.

By the way, should not the left-hand flower in the spike of Purple Glory be the one the writer wished to refer to?

Of those mentioned on pages 158 and 159 which I have grown, Catherine Coleman, Dr. F. E. Bennett, Mrs. F. C. Peters, W. H. Phipps and Richard Diener are, I think, the most outstanding. Majestic I grew some years ago and was much taken with the colour, but it was such a weak grower that I discarded it.—SMILAX.

THE ORANGE CORNER IN THE GARDEN.

SIR,—I should like to add the orange variety of Meconopsis cambrica to Mr. Cahen's list. It seeds itself most profusely in my garden and blooms from the end of April throughout the summer. In May it makes a brave show, combined with Cheiranthus Allionii. Some of the montbretias, also, are ideal for an orange corner, as is Geum Heldreichi.—R. G. H., *Bath*.

GLADIOLI FROM KENYA IN A CHESHIRE GARDEN.

SIR,—*A propos* of your recent number on gladioli, it may interest some of your readers to hear that in 1921-22 we brought back from Kenya some dozen bulbs of the wild gladiolus. They were turned up by the plough, on the high land, 8,700ft., and fifteen miles from the equator. Even those which have been left out each winter have flowered every year up to now. They are of the elegant light build, with the central hooded petal, and are all different shades of tomato to salmon colour.—J. A., *Cheshire*.

A WINTER GARDEN.

SIR,—May I correct "Chandlersford," on page 257. Anemone nemorosa Blue Bonnet is mentioned as being in flower while A. n. Alleni and A. n. Robinsoniana have not yet opened. The former is quite the latest to flower. A. n. Robinsoniana opens before A. n. Alleni. This latter is just past full flower and hardly a sign yet on A. n. Blue Bonnet. Possibly "Chandlersford" refers to A. n. cornubiensis, which flowers before all three.—ANEMONE.

TROPHY FOR PLANT BREEDERS.

SIR,—With reference to Mr. A. J. Macself's article under this heading in your issue of April 24th last, we have pleasure in forwarding to you an illustration of the trophy in question, which is being presented by us for progress in plant breeding at the Staffordshire and Midland Counties Show, which is being held at Burton-on-Trent on August 11th and 12th next. No doubt many of your readers will be interested to see this championship trophy.—MESSRS. ABOL, LIMITED.

THE CHALLENGE CUP
Presented by Messrs. Abol.

DAPHNE GENKWA.

SIR,—*A propos* of Mr. Bryce's note on the propagation of Daphne Genkwa. It seems a very difficult plant to grow and one seldom comes across it. Its beautiful colour ought to urge people to at least give it a trial. It is in full bloom here in a sheltered somewhat shady spot close to a big Scots pine. It has been in flower for over a month and not one of the plants seemed to mind 12 degrees of frost four weeks ago which did so much damage locally. I suppose one of the secrets of growing daphnes is to leave them alone. They don't like shifting in any shape or form.—G. H. DALRYMPLE, *Bartley, nr. Southampton*.

ANOTHER "COMING FLOWER."

SIR,—In a recent issue of THE GARDEN your Editorial referred to the gladiolus as "a coming flower," and the admirable items of letterpress and illustration which followed must have helped to concentrate attention very markedly upon it. I have hitherto only grown gladioli incidentally, but I have just planted twenty groups of choice varieties and hope to experience something of the pleasure of specialising this year.

But this is by the way. My real purpose in writing is to call attention to *another* "coming flower," also a South African—namely the lachenalia, not yet too well known nor appreciated at anything like its full value by growers who possess a frostproof structure, either a cool house or a sheltered frame; it is a plant which grows upon one with a fascination which increases with familiarity; recent developments have greatly added to its variety and beauty, and though it has lost a great advocate by the passing away of the Rev. Joseph Jacob, whose patient and persistent work upon it is widely recognised, it is fortunate that he was not working quite alone, and that there are advances still being made in the evolution of new varieties of great vigour and exquisite charm.

I hope that presently some further notes may appear, but there is one point which is very important at the moment, namely, that now the flowering season is over, and as soon as the foliage shows signs of tiring, water should be withheld, the bulbs at this stage absorbing only the retreating moisture from the foliage; the best place for the pots for some time to come is on a top shelf in full sun, where the bulbs will have a thorough baking and ripening, and they may even remain in the dry soil until the time comes for shaking out and repotting later on. No plant is more susceptible to small errors of treatment or is more joyously responsive when its simple needs are understood and observed. The point I have mentioned is especially the one to be acted upon *now*.—W. D.

FLORAL NOMENCLATURE.

SIR,—In reply to Mr. Bailey, I much appreciate his suggestions. I had a "Chaffinch," but not being a good enough flower, it was discarded and the name is waiting for the right flower to come along. Golden Oriole is here. I like the Pipes of Pan. What sort of colour would Mr. Bailey suggest for this? I admit I prefer a descriptive name, but not Crimson King and Yellow Queen and similar names. Altogether naming is a very difficult job. Recently at the Royal Horticultural Society, Mr. Herbert Chapman had a delightful narcissus, very well named Silver Salver, an attractive name and sufficiently descriptive.—G. H. DALRYMPLE.

A DRY WINTER.

SIR,—To my great astonishment while reading the leading article of one of the daily papers I found that April, 1926, was stated to be one of the wettest Aprils for some years. On looking up previous records, I find that with the exception of 1912 and 1914, it is one of the driest. Thinking it may be of interest to readers of THE GARDEN, I have compiled the enclosed chart for the month of April from 1911 to 1926.

RAINFALL FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL FROM 1911 TO 1926.

LLANDUDNO METEOROLOGICAL STATION.

Year.	*Rainfall.*
April, 1911	1.470
,, 1912	.420
,, 1913	3.260
,, 1914	.047
,, 1915	2.310
,, 1916	1.571
,, 1917	1.587
,, 1918	1.059
,, 1919	1.969
,, 1920	3.284
,, 1921	1.150
,, 1922	2.237
,, 1923	1.754
,, 1924	2.008
,, 1925	1.316
,, 1926	.812

—GEORGE HUMPHREYS (Park Superintendent), *Llandudno*.

(Owing to lack of space a large amount of correspondence has been unavoidably held over).

Digitized by Google

EELWORM AND HOT-WATER TREATMENT

FOR many years the daffodil was grown with very little trouble—provided one had a decent soil to grow it in—and its enemies were almost nil. Then all at once there was a rumour of a new disease doing much damage. I remember at one of the R.H.S. meetings talking to some growers and asking them about this new disease. They said you will soon know about it when you get it, and sure enough I did! The matter was taken up by the R.H.S. and one of their senior students was deputed thoroughly to work out the question, (1) as to what the disease was, and (2) to find a cure for it, if possible. The man chosen for the work was the late Mr. Ramsbottom, who made a most thorough investigation, and in the end found a cure. No man has done a more valuable work for horticulture, and all who knew him have a great respect for his work, and mourn his loss. Fairly early in his research Ramsbottom found that the cause of the trouble was not a fungus, but an eelworm (Tylenchus devastatrix). This creature, which is very small and can only be detected by the aid of a microscope, attacks the bulb near the neck, where the skin is most tender; it then works its way between the scales of the bulb and soon causes decay. These creatures multiply at an amazing rate, and very soon destroy a bulb.

Hot-Water Treatment.—This consists in immersing the bulbs in water at 110° F., for two hours for small bulbs, and three hours for large bulbs. Care should be taken to reckon the time from when the thermometer reaches the 110° mark, and not from when the bulbs are put into the water. The fact of putting a large number of bulbs into the sterilising tank will cause a considerable drop in the temperature of the water, which should only be raised again slowly or damage may be done. We now have very good outfits for the hot-water treatment: Hearson's for amateurs, and Barford and Perkins' for trade purposes. These have wonderful regulating arrangements which ensure a perfectly steady heat. I started "boiling," as we term it, before these things were brought out, and was content with an arrangement of a small saddle boiler, a square water tank, with a wood and wire cage to fit into tank. The cage is filled with bulbs (about 3,000 is a load), hoisted by a pulley and dropped into the tank, the water being about 110°. The temperature will drop some 10° and must be gradually again brought up to 110° by regulating the draught of the boiler. It will be found that with a simple apparatus such as described the water at the top of the tank will be many degrees hotter than that at the bottom. We overcome this difficulty by stirring the water with a stick. I do not recommend such an outfit, for it takes a lot of watching and overlooking; it would be far better now the improved boilers are on the market to invest in one. On the other hand, these things are a heavy expense for the ordinary amateur and he might well fight shy of them. I believe that, with great care and attention, the Fowler Lee bottling outfit might be used for small lots of bulbs, in fact I know it could, for I made my first effort with my wife's outfit! I would warn the intending bulb "boiler," to be very careful not to let the water get above 112°, even for a short time. Have some cold water handy and dash some in at once if the thermometer gets above 110°. It is, of course, necessary to sort the bulbs into sizes, so that those for a three-hour immersion may be done together, and those for a two-hour bath in another batch. After treatment the bulbs should be turned out into trays and sorted over, all which are very soft may be thrown away, the good bulbs should be left in the trays in the open for some days to let the wind dry them. Never put them into a closed building until they are dry, in fact, daffodil bulbs are far better if kept in an open shed, with roof to run off the rain, until they are dry; if stored in a closed building before they are dry, roots are apt to be formed, and if these are damaged by the hot water, the odds are against fresh roots being produced. The best time to treat the diseased bulbs is about middle of August; if done much earlier or later the results will not be so satisfactory.

Now a few words as to the effects of hot water on the bulb and on the flowers. If the temperature has been kept at its proper level, no harm will accrue to the majority of daffodils, but I have found certain varieties which hate the treatment. Frank Miles is one which very much objects to a hot bath; one year I treated a batch and hardly a bulb grew, but many of them grew after a year's rest. Two years ago I had a very bad bit of luck: out of all the thousands of bulbs treated, only four stocks seemed to suffer, and all these were the very choicest things, ranging in price from 25s. to £35 per bulb. However, I am glad to say that all have now recovered. In the great majority of cases "boiling" will not injure next year's bloom. I have cut hundreds of exhibition flowers from bulbs treated the previous summer. Ill effects are shown in different ways: "dud" blooms in the case of Bernardino and Gipsy Queen; poor undersized flowers on Mrs. Langtry and some others; and split trumpets in the case of trumpet daffodils—this, I think, always denotes a case of too much heat. Some few are benefited by hot-water. I have found King Alfred and two or three more early yellows bloom better after a hot bath.

It must be clearly understood that the hot-water treatment will not effect a 100 per cent. kill of eelworm; also, I think, that the "boiling" should be supplemented by digging out every unhealthy bulb seen in the beds during the growing season. The signs of eelworm in growing bulbs are: (1) retarded growth (one bulb just spearing through the soil, while the others have made some inches of growth); (2) deformed leaves and shortened or deformed flower stalks. When digging out suspected bulbs it is well to have a knife handy, and every now and again cut a bulb in two. If the section is quite white and free from any brown stain the bulb may be considered free from eelworm, but if the least sign of brown matter appears between the scales of the bulb it is pretty certain that eelworm is present and the destruction of the bulb is only a matter of time. A *very* important matter in dealing with this pest is to put the bulbs, after treatment, on to fresh soil. Experiment has proved that it takes three or four years to starve eelworm out of infected soil.

I may add that the Dutch have now nearly overcome the eelworm; in looking over many acres of daffodils in their farms last year I saw hardly any signs of the trouble. The same may be said of the more careful of our English growers, those who tackled the work in good time have now broken the back of it, but it has been a long fight.

Lowdham, Notts. J. DUNCAN PEARSON.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

ENDIVE.

LUNCHING with a friend interested in gardening, at a restaurant one hot day last summer, we were tempted to call for the "special" salad notified on the menu along with the cold viands with which we had been served. The bowl contained lettuce, cucumber, tomato, cress, and an addition which seemed to puzzle him by its white and pale green curly leaves. Turning to me he said, "What is this?"; and, leaning across the table, I whispered, "Don't you know endive?" His question struck me as being typical of so many who grow vegetables and who, for some reason hard to understand, leave out of their purview this valuable salad. Nothing is easier to grow than endive, provided seed is sown during May or early June in well dug and richly manured soil, or one in which has been worked vegetable refuse and road scrapings. Sowing in drills is the best method, thinning out to 15ins. or so apart, and blanching the plants when almost fully grown by covering with tubs, boxes or pots, to exclude the light. Endive is best served when given a sunny position, and must have abundance of water should the weather prove dry. The beginner with endive should not omit to blanch, as blanching improves its quality by taking away its bitterness and adds to its appearance also when served at table. Although it is getting late for sowing for a summer crop, opportunity can be taken to do so on south borders that are vacant, or in spare frames. The seed of Batavian varieties for winter use may also be put in during the next few weeks.—CLAREMONT.

OUTDOOR CUCUMBERS.

VERY good results can be obtained with the ridge varieties of cucumber in the open. A great deal depends upon the position chosen, and this should preferably be open to the south and sheltered by a fence or wall from the north and east. The cucumbers are best grown on hills and the preparation of these should be made ten days in advance of planting out. In each position open out a good sized hole in the ground and fill with stable manure. Then on this raise a mound formed of turfy loam and old manure in equal parts on which the plants are set. Allow about 4ft. between the hills. These preparations may seem to be elaborate, but the results justify the work. However, if the soil is naturally good, fair crops can be

Digitized by Google

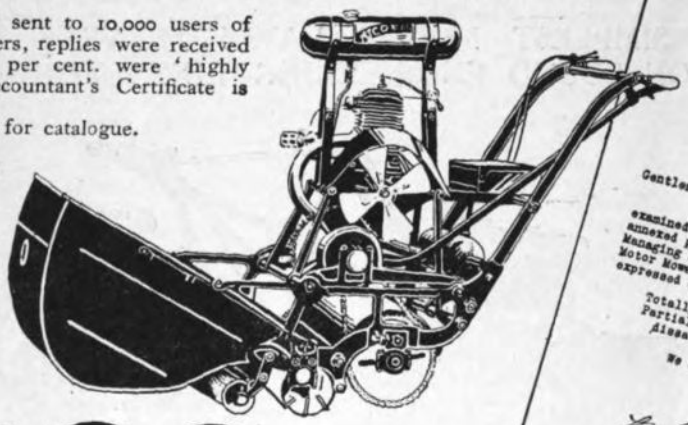
A Letter to 10,000 ATCO users

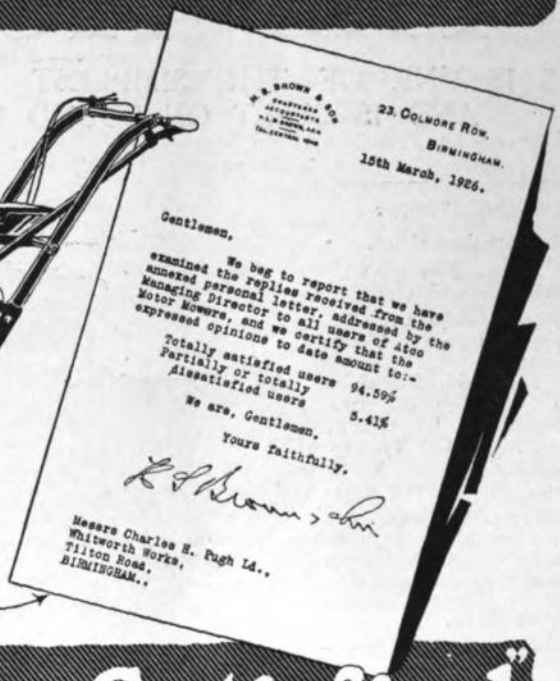
IN response to a letter sent to 10,000 users of ATCO Motor Mowers, replies were received showing that 94.59 per cent. were 'highly satisfied.' Chartered Accountant's Certificate is reproduced.
If you have a lawn send for catalogue.

Greatly Reduced Prices for 1926.

From
30 Guineas
Upwards

Chas. H. Pugh, Ltd.
Whitworth Works,
31, Tilton Road, Birmingham





ATCO *MOTOR* MOWER

Accountants Certificate

94·59% say "Highly Satisfied"

KILL those WEEDS

Hoeing and hand-picking of weeds are back-aching temper trying jobs.
Why not save time, trouble and labour by cleaning paths with

COOPER'S
WEEDICIDE
("Highly Commended" by the R.H.S.)

1 gall. (price 9/-) dilutes to **100** galls. water and is sufficient for treating **300/400** sq. yards

Pint 1/9 Quart 3/- ½ gall 5/ 2 gall 17/- 5 galls 30/6

If you prefer a non-arsenical Weedkiller, we recommend

McDOUGALL'S PERFECT SAFETY

Involves no danger of poisoning

Pint 1/6 Quart 2/6 ½ gall. 4/ 1 gall 6/6 5 gall 25/-

also C.M.R. Powder Weedkiller in 2 lb. 7 lb. and 5 lb. tins.

"as easy as it looks"

Write for Illustrated leaflet "The Weed Problem Solved" you will learn how weeds can be eradicated quickly and easily

If unable to obtain these Weedkillers locally, apply direct

Cooper, McDougall & Robertson, Ltd.,
BERKHAMSTED. 14/51

WALLACE'S
LILIES and IRISES

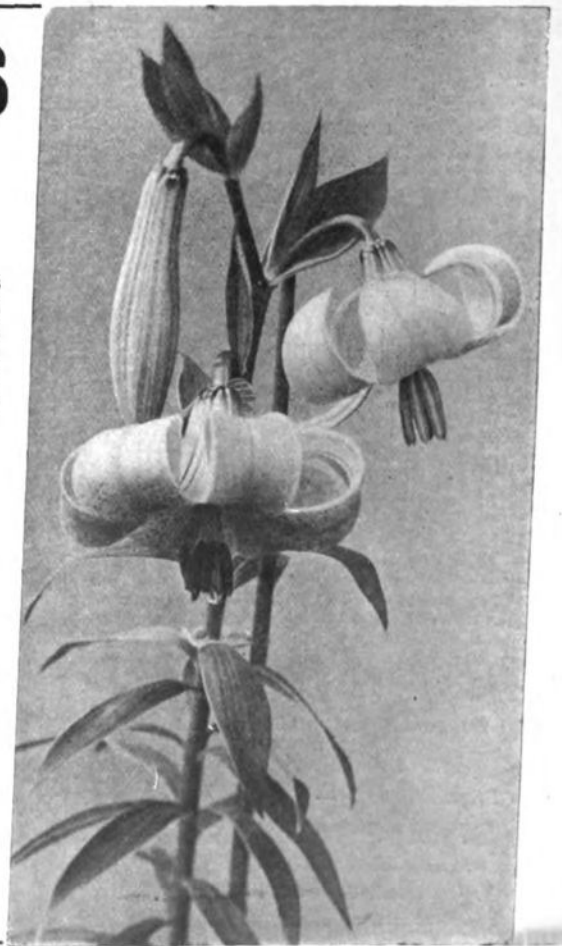
We welcome visitors to our Nurseries at all times, and especially in June, when the slopes of "The Old Gardens" will be alight with many thousand Iris spears and shafts. We are confident that Iris lovers will find our fine collection of the greatest interest.

LANDSCAPE and GARDEN ARCHITECTS

This department is under the personal supervision of Mr. R. W. WALLACE, V.M.H.

We prepare plans and designs and carry out landscape work for new grounds or for renovation of old gardens. The construction of rock work and making of water gardens are undertaken in any part of the country or on the Continent.

R. WALLACE & CO., Ltd.
The Old Gardens, TUNBRIDGE WELLS



Digitized by Google

THE AUTO-MOWER

THIS IS ONE OF THE SIMPLEST MOTOR LAWN MOWERS MANUFACTURED, AND IS BUILT ON SOUND ENGINEERING LINES THROUGHOUT.

SPECIFICATION :

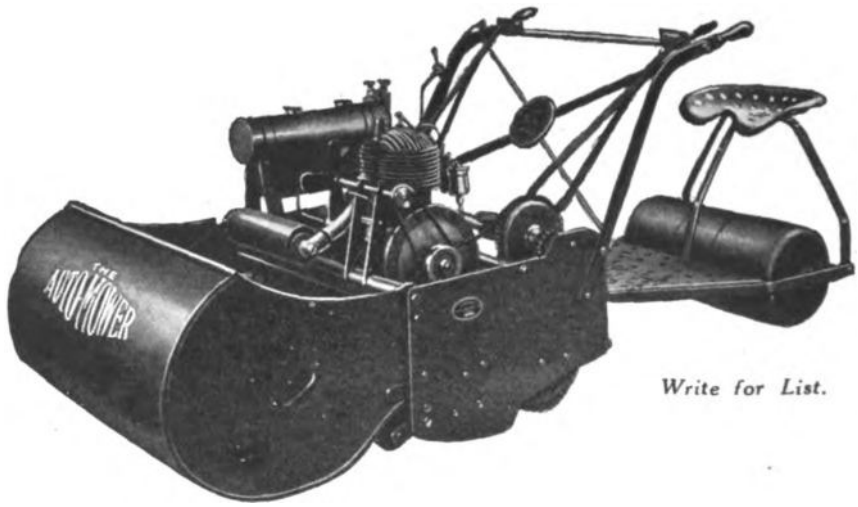
Ball Bearings throughout.

Steel Main Frame and Handles unbreakable.

Instantaneous Adjustment for depth of Cut—No Tools necessary.

24in. and 30in. Machines are fitted with two independent Clutches, also a Motor Car Type of Differential Gear which makes turning very easy.

ENGINES: All Models are fitted with a 4-stroke Engine with the exception of our 15-in. Model, which has an Engine of the 2-stroke type.



Write for List.

PRICES :

AUTO-MOWER

15in. £25 10 0 — 18in. £40 0 0

24in. £52 10 0 — 30in. £75 0 0

ROLLER SEATS EXTRA

18in. £4 10 0 — 24in. £6 0 0

30in. £7 10 0

Prices include free delivery to any Station or Town in Great Britain.

DEFERRED PAYMENTS CAN BE ARRANGED.

The Auto-Mower Engineering Co., Ltd., Norton St. Philip, near Bath.

Telegrams: AUTO-MOWERS, NORTON ST. PHILIP — *Telephone: 48 LIMPLEY STOKE.*

"KUREMIL"

(REGISTERED)

McGREDY'S FAMOUS MILDEW PREPARATION

2/6 *Per Pound.*

1 lb. makes 32 Gallons.

Guaranteed to cure and prevent mildew on Roses outdoors or under glass and other plants subject to this disease. A certain cure also for black spot. NON-POISONOUS, safe and clean to use. Will neither stain nor injure BLOOM, FOLIAGE or FRUIT.

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO PROCURE "KUREMIL" FROM YOUR LOCAL SEEDSMAN WE WILL SEND YOUR ORDER CARRIAGE PAID.

Prepared only by—

S. McGREDY & SON,

Nurserymen and Seedsmen to H.M. The King,

Dept. 5, PORTADOWN.

WALL AND WATER GARDENS. With chapters on rock gardens, heath gardens, and paved water gardens. By GERTRUDE JEKYLL. 7th edition, revised. 17/6 net; by post, 18/4.—Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2

SWEET PEAS AND HOW TO EXCEL WITH THEM By HORACE WRIGHT, 9d. net, by post 11d. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

A CATALOGUE of gardening books will be sent free on application to "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

THE DOG : MAN'S FIRMEST FRIEND.— How to choose and care for him, by A. CROXTON SMITH. A copy of this helpful booklet on the housing, breeding, feeding and care of dogs will be sent post free on receipt of 1/1 addressed to The Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

AN EVENT WHICH SHOULD NOT BE MISSED

APPLIED ARTS & HANDICRAFTS EXHIBITION

JUNE

5th-11th

ROYAL HORTICULTURAL HALL,
:: WESTMINSTER ::

Open daily from 11 a.m. till 8 p.m. *Admission 1/3 including tax.*

BEAUTY and ART APPLIED to THE GARDEN, THE HOME AND PERSONAL ADORNMENT

Digitized by Google

grown on mounds which do not rest on a manure-filled pit. At the top of each hill scoop out a hollow and here set the plants one to each hill, at the end of May. Keep flower pots handy for covering the young cucumbers until they are well established and cold nights are things of the past. As soon as the plants begin to run freely between the hills the intervening space should be mulched with long manure. Carefully turn the stems back to allow the mulch to be placed well up to the plants. It is a very good plan to train the shoots out on all sides so as to expose each fully to light and air. To keep them in position used forked sticks pegged into the soil. The pegs serve the additional purpose of keeping the stems steady, so that they are not likely to be damaged by wind.

Watering, especially in hot, dry weather, is necessary. Fill up the depression around each plant at least once a day. As soon as the cucumbers start to bear, liquid manure is essential to help in the speedy development of the fruits. It is important to gather the fruits before they become large and seedy. Indeed, twice a week is not too often to go over the plants, removing all fruits that are ready for use. Any neglect in this direction will lead to the speedy exhaustion of the plants and cropping is soon at an end.—L. B.

GOOSEBERRY PESTS.

Methods of Destroying Foliage Maggots.

THE caterpillars of the magpie moth are small, but active in late autumn. During winter they hibernate in a torpid, quiescent state about the bushes or near it, to emerge in spring and attack the buds as soon as they show a tip of green. Growing more active as the weather improves, they are very destructive in April, May and June. They attain full size in the height of summer, pupate in dark, yellow-striped cases attached to the shrubs, and emerge as moths before the summer wanes.

The sawfly, on the other hand, lays her eggs on the leaves in early summer and the maggots which hatch out later on are greyish green, spotted black. Equally destructive, but faster to develop, they pupate in summer, emerge as flies a little later and produce a second brood in the same year. The last brood pupates in the ground below the bush during winter, to emerge as parent flies in late spring. The active caterpillars can only be fought successfully in one way, that is by poisoning the leaves—their food supply. This may be done by means of hellebore powder dusted or sprayed on the bushes, or, better still, with arsenate of lead or nicotine. None of these can be applied within a month of harvesting the berries. During this "off" season the plan is to hand-pick the pests, then quite large, and to destroy them. After the crop has been removed a strong wash may be applied at once. In winter sawflies can practically be eradicated by digging lime in around the bushes or, better still, lime containing 1lb. of crude naphthalene per 14lb.—at 1lb. to 2lb. per square yard. Magpie moths succumb at the same time to a good winter wash. Growers troubled with one or both pests should try the double-barrelled cure, a poison in summer and treatment in winter—a certain means of eradication.—CLYDESDALE.

BROCCOLI.

An Important Winter Vegetable.

I AM quite sure we do not, generally, pay sufficient attention to the broccoli crops in our gardens. Usually cultivators sow a few seeds of one or two varieties and the resultant plants turn-in in a group. Then there is waste because all the produce cannot be used as it should be. First, there should be a careful selection of varieties. Cultivators have their favourites, of course, but those who have not had much experience in growing this useful winter crop will be well satisfied if they select the following: For autumn use, Michaelmas White; for winter, Snow's Winter White; for early spring, Knight's Protecting and Leamington; for latest use, Cattell's Eclipse, Ledsham's Latest of All and June King. These varieties will afford a supply from early October until mid-June, when the earliest cauliflowers become available, thus avoiding a break in the supply all through the year.

Broccoli plants do not require a very rich soil because it is unwise to attempt to grow big plants with sappy stems. If a severe frost comes, the stems just below the leaves are the first to suffer. Ground on which peas and beans have been grown is suitable for the broccoli crop. If of poor quality rotted manure will do good, but usually it is only necessary to hoe and level the surface to darken it with soot and then put in the plants.—HANTS.

ASSISTING STRAWBERRY PLANTS.

ALMOST on the eve of gathering the crop, it is within the province of the cultivator to afford help to strawberry plants in beds and thereby ensure a more bountiful result. One cannot get away from the truth that the weather is a great factor, and makes all the difference between a good and an indifferent crop. If very wet during the period when berries are swelling, accompanied by cold, fruit is neither so plentiful because of it rotting, nor are the strawberries we gather so sweet. On the other hand, if it should happen that a dry time ensues during the next few weeks, with hot sun, it becomes a question of either fighting the adverse conditions by supplying the plants with nourishment, or leaving them to take their chance, and being satisfied with a meagre return for the year's labour. Having regard to the value of this welcome fruit, it is worth while using every endeavour to do all that is possible to ensure heavy baskets. Clean straw spread near the plants between the rows will keep the berries free from grit, and in a wet season prevents their detrimental contact with the soil. Mulchings of old manure, if not already applied, should be given, if possible, without delay. In the absence of a mulch, liquid manure in a weak state can be given once or twice a week after the fruit has set and before colouring takes place; but manure water ought not to be given as a substitute for pure water, which in abnormally dry seasons should be given with no unstinting hand each evening. Those who are unable to procure animal manures for diluting with water should obtain one of the highly concentrated artificials. It is the extra that we do for plants now that tells at gathering time.—W. F.

CARROT FLY.

A Gardener's Method of Treatment

THE success of the various preventive measures adopted depends very much upon the frequency with which they are applied. Though carrot fly and onion fly are distinctly different, the remedies prescribed for the one pest are, in general, suitable for coping with the other.

The aim being to disguise the smell of the crop, or to render the surface soil of the plot or bed more or less noxious to the fly or grub, a strong-smelling preparation like paraffin, sheep dip or soot and sulphate of ammonia is generally used. Paraffin emulsion, such as is used as a winter wash for fruit trees, is perhaps less suitable for treating carrot and onion plots than a simple mixture of sand and paraffin—from 1 pint to 1 quart of paraffin mixed with a bushel of sand and applied between the rows. Give three or four applications in the course of the early part of the season—from June to September. During very hot and dry weather a weekly spraying with paraffin may be necessary. Sheep dip is not nearly so effective.

For carrots the best preventive, immediately after hoeing, thinning and weeding, is:

(1) To firm the soil in the rows with the feet, pressing it against the carrots.

(2) Spray the rows with paraffin and water.

(3) Lay wads of newspaper folded to cover the whole space between the rows, and then cover these wads with small stones or coarse sand, or a mixture of both.

(4) Saturate this paper "mulch" with paraffin at the rate of 1 pint per 20ft. to 30ft. row.

(5) Sprinkle a little paraffin over the whole plot once a week in June, and every ten days or so thereafter.

(6) Give a good soaking of water in June if the soil is very dry after the "mulch" is applied. No more watering will be required. Little or no weeding will be necessary after treatment. The carrots will take care of themselves. They will make a vigorous growth. Onions have been treated similarly with success.—J. W.

CELERY.

The Need of Continued Care.

CELERY, unlike some few other vegetables that get along very well when given a start, tests the grower in point of skill and patience from the time when seed is sown under glass to beyond the earthing-up period. At present we are concerned with its final quarters, as in June plants should be removed to trenches already prepared and manured. Single rows can be better looked after than double, although by consent of custom the latter are more often seen. In planting out, 9ins. between one set of plants and the next should be the minimum, and, if at all dry, a good soaking of water should follow the operation. Being a moisture-loving plant, celery will benefit greatly by copious supplies of water whenever the ground is dry, and stimulants from time to time will help matters. Many amateur gardeners who grow celery are prone to leave the plants alone after planting out has been done, and overlook, sometimes until too late, the ravages of the celery fly. It is little use waiting until the fly has taken possession thinking one may deal with it, as it is well-nigh impossible to stop the spread of the mischief once the fly has taken up its quarters in the leaves. The better method is to make the foliage so distasteful to it that it will not become even a tenant. One of the greatest stand-bys of the celery grower is soot, and the plants should receive a dusting twice a week from the time they are in trenches, in season and out of season, whether we feel disposed for the job or not. Soot is the market grower's friend, and the amateur will find it a preventive of the scourge if persevered with. From a long experience in the growing of this vegetable I have found that if commenced with early in the season and used liberally every week a decoction made from quassia chips and diluted with water will keep the celery fly at bay. In any circumstances, and whatever plan we may adopt, prevention is always the best. There is no cure for the pest once it has found its way between the leaves, and if steps have not previously been taken to thwart it, whole rows of otherwise healthy plants may be ruined in a very few days.—W. LINDERS LEA.

Digitized by Google

THE GREENHOUSE

GREENHOUSE PLANTS

The Importance of Proper Re-arrangement.

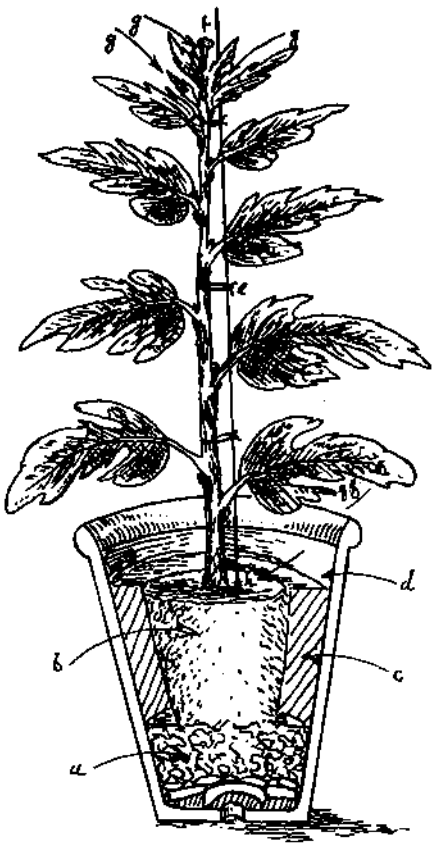
FORCED plants and those that have occupied the greenhouse during the winter and spring months, all except the permanent subjects, such as the climbers and a few kinds of pot plants, are nearly all useless for the furnishing of the structure during the summer months. It is at this season that the greenhouse gardener can, with safety, remove nearly all surplus stock to outside quarters or, at least, to cold frames. Others past future usefulness, and some of annual character, must be discarded altogether. Under the latter heading we have primulas, cinerarias, cyclamen, schizanthus, solanums, salvias and calceolarias. Of course, we must take into account those plants required for providing any new stock for next year. All such are carefully placed in cold frames and the old stems shortened so that fresh shoots will grow and provide suitable cuttings. Acacias, genistas, azaleas and similar kinds of plants should, certainly, be afforded cold frame room until about the middle or end of June. Failing a frame, provide a temporary shelter near a wall or fence. Before fresh batches of plants are arranged in the greenhouse, try to find time to clean it thoroughly, especially under the stages; and if possible, paint the top portions of shelves and stages, as the paint soon dries at this season and will preserve the wood against the constant applications of water during the summer months. Tiled, stone and cement paths often become quite green after the winter season. Where they are found to be in this condition, simply damp them and sprinkle dry lime over them freely; leave the lime on for a whole night, sprinkle more water on the following morning, then vigorously use a scrubbing brush before any lime is removed. When all is washed off it will be found that the floor looks bright and clean. To make wood paths last longer saturate them with clear water and then sprinkle on dust-dry cement. The structure will now be ready for the summer-time plants after all climbing plants in it have been cleaned and neatly, but not stiffly, tied up. Probably many readers will possess a few old zonal pelargoniums which they wish to retain. Few kinds of plants become more drawn-up during the winter-time than these, so it will be beneficial if leggy specimens are freely pruned into shape now and the prunings used as cuttings. The cut-back plants will soon grow and flower again. Young plants may need repotting, and all such should be arranged on shelves as any overcrowding will quickly spoil their shape, and this happens when such are mixed indiscriminately with older and larger specimens.

Tuberous begonias will, in themselves, furnish a greenhouse throughout the summer months, if need be; but most amateurs like to have variety. If the plants are not unduly shaded while they are small, they will do well throughout the summer, while in bloom, without undue shading if the structure is judiciously ventilated. Always arrange the plants by themselves and, to ensure as much space as possible for them on a small stage, place empty inverted flower-pots on the stage in odd places, to elevate some plants above others. This plan enables one to produce a pleasing effect, as it avoids formality.

Fuchsias are very charming plants and are suitable for all greenhouses, as hothouses can be judiciously shaded. Gesneras, gloxinias, campanulas, annuals and fine foliage plants should all have ample room; do not be tempted to overcrowd any of them. Provide a number of small ferns—Isolepis gracilis, Panicum variegatum and selaginella—in small pots to place as an edging to the groups on the stage and also to those arranged on the floor.—GEORGE GARNER.

THE FINAL POTTING OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

THIS work is not done on any given date, but it is usual to carry it out at the end of May and during the first half of June. Many plants are finally potted at the end of June and even in July. In the case of decorative varieties and those required for December and Christmas blooming, the later dates are sufficient if the young plants



have not been allowed to remain too long in the smaller pots and so become stunted. It is much better finally to pot late-flowering sorts early in June if they need the extra rooting space then, than to allow them to remain pot-bound for a month. Plants grown for exhibition would be partly ruined by such treatment; all are better for a shift to larger pots directly they need the repotting. The experienced cultivator knows quite well when such repotting should be done in the case of individual plants. Those less experienced should carefully turn out a few plants and examine the roots. The most forward ones—as regards root action—should be potted first, and so on until the whole batch of plants is dealt with. Two plants may be grown in a 10in. pot; one strong-growing plant in a 9in. pot, and one of naturally weaker growth in an 8in. The final potting of March-rooted plants should be in 7in. and 8in. pots, according to strength of variety. Compost: Fibrous loam, 2 parts; leaf-soil and old mortar rubble, 1 part; to each bushel add a 5in. potful of bonemeal, and sand if mortar rubble cannot be obtained. Pot firmly. *a*, compost; *b*, old ball of soil resting on the rough compost; *c*, general compost; *d*, space for water and surface dressing; *e*, tied to neat stake; *f*, bud causing break; *g*, *g*, *g*, side shoots to retain; *h*, stake placed in hole of former stake.—G. G.

BETTER CINERARIAS.

How Amateurs May Grow Large Plants.

IT is not really a difficult matter to grow fine specimens of cinerarias if there is a greenhouse and a garden frame available. I am now referring to the large-flowered section. One often sees plants possessing three or four leaves only and a head of blooms under average in size. It is much easier to grow bigger specimens of the star cinerarias, as, like the single-flowered chrysanthemums, the plants produce more roots, also stronger growth. Although the star-flowered cinerarias are popular, their popularity has not interfered with the demand for the large-flowered. The latter possess such beautiful flowers, large and well formed when grown from a good seed strain. Both large-flowered and star cinerarias are obtainable in a wide range of colours, including blues and purples of all shades, as well as pink and white varieties. Single large-flowered cinerarias in carmine ink are particularly attractive, while double-flowered types and a class of cross-bred varieties which are of intermediate habit between large-flowered and star cinerarias should also be tried. Seeds should be sown in April and June, then the resultant plants will bloom from autumn till May. The first batch should be the smaller of the two, as the spring-flowering plants will be the most perfect in every way. To obtain them sow seeds now. Three parts fill clean pots or pans with a mixture of old fibrous loam finely sifted, rotted leaf-soil and a small quantity of coarse sand—not any manure. Sow the seeds thinly on the newly watered surface; cover them lightly, place a square of glass on the pan and cover all with brown paper. Directly the seedlings appear gradually expose them to the full light, but not sun. Transplant in good time and pot off singly before the seedlings weaken. Repot several times, finally into 6in. and 7in. pots. Use rotted manure in these composts and summer the plants in cold frames facing north. House the plants in September and begin feeding when the flower-stem appears. Do not overcrowd the plants, nor subject them to a high temperature.—HANTS.

BOUVARDIAS.

BOUVARDIAS are such compact, attractive flowering shrubs for the greenhouse that one regrets owners of moderate sized houses do not make more use of them. Any plants that were cut back after flowering will now be furnished with young shoots which will serve as cuttings. These, if placed in a pan of peat, loam and coarse silver sand, within the warmth of a propagator or, failing that, on a shelf near the glass, will not be long in taking hold and should then be potted off in small pots, being finally transferred to 5in. pots. Their summer quarters should be on a bed of ashes in a cold frame where the sun can reach them, so as to aid in wood-ripening, an important factor in the case of bouvardias. From time to time weak liquid manure can be administered, and each plant should stand clear of its neighbour. During many weeks the lights need not be left on the frame; indeed, it will be an advantage to remove them so that the plants may get plenty of air. I fear that the popularity of chrysanthemums for indoor blooming has militated against the growing of compact, shrubby little plants like bouvardias, which bloom over a longer period and are of better service for table and window decoration—at any rate they are not cultivated to the same extent as formerly.—W. F.

Digitized by Google

REPUTATION

Is not gained without continued good service and effect. Especially is this true about a weed-killer. Eureka does kill weeds, it has the largest sale and when using it you are certain of satisfactory results, it is full strength and never varies.

Eureka WEED KILLER

From Chemists, Seedsmen, Boots, Civil Service, Harrods, etc. If any difficulty in procuring, write:—

TOMLINSON & HAYWARD, Ltd. :: LINCOLN

"Chemistry in Garden & Greenhouse," free

THE 'PATTISSON' HORSE (LAWN) BOOTS

THE NEW (PATENT) MAJESTIC REVOLVING SPRINKLER

The simplest and most efficient Sprinkler for large areas.

Made in two sizes.

No. 2 waters 500-1,000 square yards,

No. 2A, waters 1,200 square yards,

without being moved.

Illustrated Price List, with Testimonials, from the makers—

"The ONLY Economical Ones."

USED in the Royal and Thousands of the Principal Gardens, GOLF and CRICKET GROUNDS, and exclusively at the Oval (S.C.C.C.) for the past 30 years. *OVER 10,000 SETS USED IN THE U.K.*

Fig. 1 for Shod Horses.

Fig. 2. Welted Boot.

HUNDREDS OF TESTIMONIALS.

The Field says: "As good as anything that could be devised."

Mr. Wm. Hardy (Gardener to Lt.-Col. Hon. W. Guinness): "The boots supplied 17 years ago are still in use and have always been satisfactory."

SAREL'S PATENT SPIKED ROLLER.

COMM. HILLYARD, R.N., The All England Lawn Tennis Club, Wimbledon, writes: "The 'Sarel' Roller is invaluable for aerating the ground. It saves an enormous amount of labour and is most beneficial to the turf. I should be very sorry to be without such a valuable implement."

SEE OUR STAND No. 51 AT CHELSEA SHOW

H. PATTISSON & CO., STANMORE, MIDDLESEX.

J·P SUPER

"An Engineering Job"

THIS is not a fancy title of our own. It is an actual phrase used by an enthusiastic user. Incidentally it is a just description of the J.P. Super.

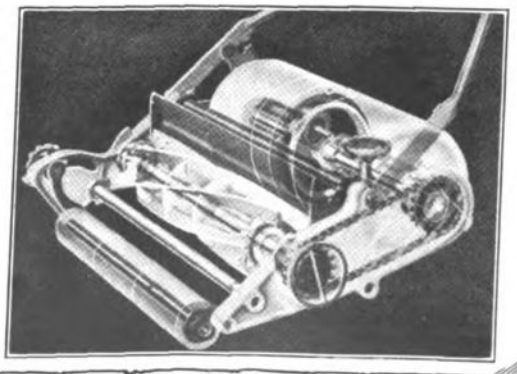
From a delighted user

A Golf Club Secretary writes:

"I would like to register my admiration of your mowers and gratitude to your firm for at last producing something so infinitely superior to the 'plumber's jobs' in mowing machines that we have had to suffer from so long."

Every section is finished with the precision characteristic of the best engineering practice. The superlatively high standard of workmanship and materials represents far greater value than cheaper mowers.

Free Exclusive patented "J.P." Super features are fully described in our free booklet. If you would know why the J.P. is so superior to the ordinary mower, write for Booklet "G," and ask for a demonstration.



J.P. SUPER LAWNMOWERS LTD., Meynell Road, Leicester.

Digitized by Google

Thomas Gunn Ltd.

30 FORE ST. LONDON. E.C.2

Also at **30, Eastcheap, E.C.3. 52, Copthall Avenue, E.C.2. 78, Queen St., E.C.4** (4 doors from Queen Victoria St.). Telephone: City 6412 (3 lines).

WRITE FOR FREE 80-PAGE CATALOGUE.

We are Exhibiting at CHELSEA SHOW. You are cordially invited to pay us a visit at STANDS 27 and 28, Sundries Avenue.

CONTINUOUS SPRAY ATOMIZERS.

Capacity 1½ pints.

8/11

Continuous action, gives either fine mist or coarse spray; effects saving of time and solution. Specially adapted for spraying under leaves. Container can be quickly detached for filling or cleaning purposes. Fitted polished lacquered brass liquid container. G.110. Price **8/11** Carriage Paid.

GRASS CUTTERS.

Inexpensive, practical easily used and specially suited for awkward places

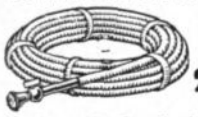
difficult to reach with a mower G. 26. 12 in. blade, 30 in. handle. **24/6** Carriage Paid.

GARDEN SYRINGE.

G. 100

Extra strong brass, with cast rose and jet, 16in. by 1¼in. **5/6** 18in. by 1¼in. **6/6** Carr. Paid.

GUNN'S SPECIAL HOSE.



60ft. with tap, **21/9**

Special 60ft. length half-inch grey hose with tap. Fitted tap union and hose branch with rose and jet. Just right for small gardens. Really good value. G.53. Carr. Paid. **21/9**

Strong Hose Reels for above, **4/11**

GARDEN SHEARS.

G.277

Light to handle. Blades all steel and retain keen edge. Fitted spring washer. 8in. blade. Superior quality. 8in. with notch **6/6**

7/6 Carriage Paid.

GRASS HOOK.

G.31

You can mow a small lawn with it and cut close to trees, hedges, fences, etc. With detachable blade. Each Carr. Paid. **2/9**

BOTTLE SPRAYER.

G.80

DOUBLE ACTION. Fits an ordinary bottle, and with the minimum of energy, produces an extremely fine mist which reaches every leaf and bud. For small gardens it is ideal. Post Paid **2/11**

Can be used with 6ft. of tube direct from a pail. Tubing **6d.** per foot.

NETTINGS (REDUCED PRICES)

GARDEN NETS for fruit protection. Any length or width, corded all round.

New 1in. sq. mesh, stout ..	**5d.**	per sq. yd.
New medium, 1 in. sq. mesh	**4½d.**	,, ,,
New ¾ in. stout, sq. mesh ..	**5½d.**	,, ,,
New ¾ in. medium, sq. mesh	**4½d.**	,, ,,
Best ½ in. salmon twine ..	**7d.**	,, ,,
Repaired ¾in. stout sq. mesh	**3d.**	,, ,,
Repaired 1 in. sq. mesh ..	**2½d.**	,, ,,

NEW TENNIS BOUNDARY NETTING, roped around.

Heavy hand braided ..	**7d.**	per sq. yd.
Medium ,, ,, ..	**6d.**	,, ,,
Little lighter	**4½d.**	,, ,,
Selected repaired	**3d.**	,, ,,

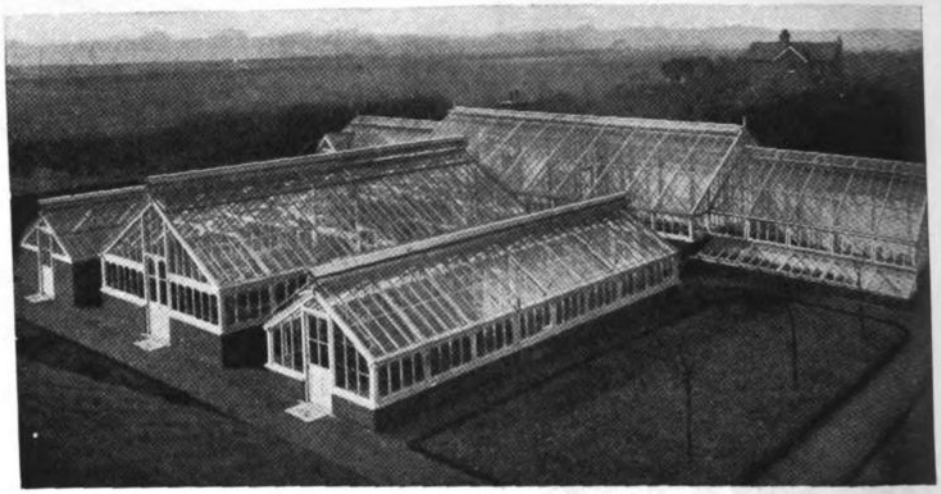
Any length or width supplied.

NEW TENNIS NETS, regulation size, various qualities, steel and copper head lines, **30**/- to **35**/- each.

DIAMOND NETS, measured mesh closed, Selected, Repaired, small mesh, 25 yds. x 2 yds., **3s. 6d.**, or 4 yds., **7s.**, or 8 yds., **14s.** Heavy quality, about 1½ mesh, 25 x 2 yds., **5s.**; 4 yds., **10s.**; 8 yds., **£1,** carriage paid passenger train; receipt order.

Satisfaction Guaranteed. Samples and full particulars from the Manufacturers: Mention THE GARDEN.

W. OLIVER ALLEN & SONS, Net Makers, Porthleven, Cornwall.



Boulton & Paul *for* Modern Glasshouses

THE above illustration shows a typical range of Boulton & Paul Glasshouses. Our Catalogue includes an extensive series of designs to choose from, but special requirements always receive careful attention.

The service of an expert staff of Designers is always at disposal of clients and we are ready to advise on any subject. A representative will be sent by appointment to consult and prepare schemes for any kind of Horticultural Work.

Ask for our free Catalogue No. 742.

Boulton & Paul Ltd

Telegrams BOULTON NORWICH **NORWICH** Telephone NORWICH 851 (5lines)

LONDON OFFICE 135-137, QUEEN VICTORIA ST. E.C.

Telegrams: Boutique, Cent London Telephone 4642 Cent

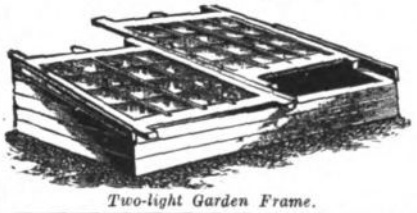
Garden Frames a speciality. Prices from 35/- Designs shown in Booklet No. 744

DAVID SWAIN & CO.

Horticultural Builders

Telephone: NORTH 2807.

GARDEN FRAMES ALL SIZES.
GLASSHOUSES RENOVATED.
REPAIRS AND REPAINTING. HEATING.



Two-light Garden Frame.

See our Exhibit at the CHELSEA SHOW, May 25th to May 27th.

ERECTED AT MOFFAT.

Write for LISTS and ESTIMATES.

101, SUSSEX ROAD, HOLLOWAY, LONDON, N.

The RITO Smile

GARDENERS!

Multiply your crops and grow fragrant flowers with

RITO

RITO is a humus, organic and natural soil food: a stimulant and energising medium for soil bacteria. Its use results in larger crops. Rito is suitable for garden, greenhouse and allotment.

Seedsmen, Florists, Corn Merchants, etc., sell RITO at the following prices: 1 cwt., 23/-; 28lbs., 6/3; 14lbs., 3/3; 7lbs., 1/9; and in 1/- cartons. Write to The Molassine Co., Ltd. (Dept. R52), Greenwich, for FREE literature.

Digitized by Google

MISCELLANEOUS

WEEDS ON LAWNS

How to Remove Them.

WHEN such weeds as daisies, dandelions, hawk weeds, plantains, etc., are to be seen on the lawn, it is proof that either bad turf was laid down or that the lawn has been neglected. An important point in connection with the management of all lawns is to keep a sharp look-out for weeds and never to allow a single one to remain. As a matter of fact, if a lawn is maintained in really good order, the growth of the grasses will be so close that the weed seedling stands a poor chance of development. However, it cannot be gainsaid that weeds will at times prove a nuisance on lawns, and steps must then be taken to eradicate them. In this connection the preparation known as lawn sand will prove most useful. This sand is thrown broadcast on the lawn in small quantities, and it has the power of destroying the large-leaved weeds without killing the grass. The operation must be repeated at intervals of a week or so until the weeds die out. If this is done in the early summer, the grass will soon extend over the bare patches where the weeds have been. Often it is worth while sowing grass seeds thickly in these positions and keeping them well watered to encourage a vigorous growth.

Where the weeds are not very numerous, these may be removed individually with an old knife. If the weeds are deeply rooted, their complete extirpation is not easy. In such cases it is well to cut away the crown of the weed, scooping out the top of the root as much as possible. Into the hollow thus formed put a pinch of salt, and there will then be no more trouble with that particular weed.—L. B.

WINDOW BOXES.

THERE is scope for a considerable display of taste in the filling of window boxes. No hard and fast rule need be followed. The main idea is to obtain a good show without overdoing it. Window boxes should not be overcrowded with plants. A few fine plants produce a better effect than a mass, and a simple arrangement of a few common flowers is far more beautiful than an elaborate mass of discordant hues. A very showy box can be had with begonias of different colours. Pelargoniums and ivy-leaved geraniums may appeal to some. Others might prefer fuchsias, calceolarias, scarlet geraniums, etc. As a set-off to a box of this kind, it could be edged with blue and white lobelia, finishing with a wreath of climbers—Tropæolum canariense or T. Lobbianum—round the sides of the window.

Window boxes look all the better if given a fresh coat of green paint. The flowers must, of course, be kept neat and trim. Withered leaves or faded blooms should be removed immediately.

Watering must be done regularly, but care must be taken not to make the soil in the boxes sodden.

A good soil to use in filling a window-box is a mixture of loam, 2 parts; river sand, 1 part; leaf-mould, peat and decayed turf, in about equal quantities to form 1 part. A little rotted manure may be added. Bone-meal and charcoal and soot are useful fertilisers. The various ingredients in the soil mixture or compost should be intimately mixed. The turf and fibrous material should be broken down, crushed and ground nearly to a powder. A sprinkling of fine sand on the top helps to prevent the surface soil from caking.

Watering is best done in the evening. A self-watering tip is to insert a cup or glass of water in the middle of the box, and to place the ends of two or three strands of wool in the water, the other ends being buried in the soil. The wool will convey the water from the vessel to the soil like a syphon, and so keep the plants moderately moist.—J. W.

GREEN FLY.

THIS fly attacks the tender tips of the shoots of roses, the young buds, the under sides of older leaves and the shoots growing from the harder stems and axils of the leaves there. Under glass the surest way to prevent attack and to destroy the aphides when found is to fumigate with Auto-shreds, sheets, or any good fumigating or vaporising compound, as sold by advertisers in THE GARDEN. It is always best to begin fumigating directly an odd fly can be seen, rather than later, when shoots are as badly infested as the one shown at *a*. Of course, in such case the end of the shoot is killed and the bloom lost. The shoot *b* is quite free, but delicate ones like it are soon spoiled. On buds, as shown at *c*, the fly

increases rapidly, soon appearing in the bud *d*, and later, unless checked, the aphides cover the young shoots that grow from the stem lower down, at *e e*. The letter *f* shows a green fly about natural size. In the open air it is best to use tobacco powder and to wash it off later with clear water, or to use a paraffin emulsion as sold ready mixed for dilution with water. Tobacco water is also good, and forcible syringing with clear water will dislodge many insects.—G. G.

THE GARDEN FRAME AND HOT-BED IN SUMMER.

IN winter and spring the garden frame is generally overcrowded with plants; but during the summer it is often allowed to remain empty—except for the weeds which soon grow in it. Unfortunately, such cases are not rare. Where there is a greenhouse or a conservatory to furnish during the winter months the garden frame will be found invaluable, as it may be used for the rearing of batches of primulas, cinerarias, cyclamen and calceolarias. The plants, being small in their early stages of growth, will not occupy much space. By autumn, when they are ready for removal to the greenhouse, it will be found that a single frameful will almost be sufficient to furnish a small greenhouse. While these kinds of plants are retained in the frame they must be fully exposed to a north, north-east or north-west light, while being shaded from direct sunshine. The frame on the mild hot-bed should contain cucumber plants. In an ordinary sized frame several dozens of cucumbers may be grown, and the only attention needed will be watering, syringing, ventilating and the stopping of the shoots; a few minutes' work each day. The lawn mowings placed to the sides of the bed will help to maintain the heat in it. If the frame is not required for the two purposes named, it may be utilised, early in July, for cuttings from the flower garden, as they strike readily in a sandy bed in a frame, cold or on a hot bed of manure.—HANTS.

GARDEN HOSE.

Hints as to its Management.

WITH the coming of summer weather the hose becomes an important part of the garden equipment. Most gardeners, even if the area of ground under cultivation is not large, should purchase a hose. Not only will a great deal of hard work be saved, but every part of the garden is rendered more productive. Probably the most durable type of hose is that in which the rubber is corrugated, for the ribbing makes the tubing resist wear to a remarkable degree. Some people are attracted by the hose with the spiral wire protection. This certainly guards the hose should anyone happen to tread on it. On the other hand, the wire tends to make the hose less flexible and not so easy to handle. Before buying the hose measure carefully how far it will be required to reach. Where there is no outside water the hose can usually be connected up with the tap over the scullery sink. It is well to have several types of nozzles so that sprays of varying degrees of fineness can be secured.

It is to be feared that many people who possess a hose find that the rubber is in a bad state after the long period of winter disuse. The rubber will probably be hard and brittle with a decided tendency to crack. Before attempting to use the hose it is an excellent plan to soak it in a tub of water for some hours. Then soak a large pad of cotton wool in glycerine and pass this along the whole length of the tubing. The hose may now be safely unrolled and there will be small risk of cracks. It may be pointed out that a garden hose will last almost indefinitely if, when out of use, it is stored in a tub of water. If this plan is not convenient, it is a good thing, before storing the hose, to rub it well with glycerine, which is most useful in keeping the rubber in good order.

A leaky hose is an abomination, and even the smallest hole should be treated without delay. A tiny crack can be sealed up in this way. Make a piece of stoutish wire red hot and then rub it well over the crack. With the melted rubber close the opening completely. Quite good results can be obtained by patching the hose in the same manner as is adopted with cycle tyres. It is important to remember that the affected part must be perfectly clean and dry, or the patch will not stick. Apply the solution to both sides of the patch to minimise the risk of curling. Place the patch on one side until the solution has started to set, and a very strong repair will be the result. Where some inches of the hose are in a very bad state the following is a good plan to adopt: Get a piece of brass tubing about 6ins. long; this must be of such a size that it will fit tightly into the hose. Now cut away the bad part altogether and link up the severed ends with the brass tube. If necessary, the hose may be bound firmly over the metal tubing with twine.—S. L. B.

Digitized by Google

GARDENING OF THE WEEK

FOR SOUTHERN GARDENS.

IN THE FLOWER GARDEN.

The time has arrived when all tender plants can safely be planted in the open ground. Pelargoniums, fuchsias, heliotrope, salvias, various annuals and the indispensable dahlia must all be set in their flowering quarters. If the beds are dry, well soak the soil with water a few hours before planting, and again after the plants are in position. May-flowering tulips can be lifted carefully, and the bulbs laid in some soil in the reserve garden until the foliage has ripened. When this happens, lift the bulbs and store them in a dry shed till October or early November. The herbaceous borders will need frequent attention, weeds must be kept down, and a certain amount of staking will be necessary. For most plants, neatly trimmed hazel or pea sticks are the most suitable, as they allow the growths to assume a more or less natural position. Watch for green fly on all roses, especially those that cover walls. Suckers ought to be removed before they make much headway.

Flowering Trees and Shrubs.—Many of these choice and showy denizens of our gardens are often allowed to grow more or less wild, and in consequence become overcrowded. At the present time a number of shrubs can be pruned, and they embrace such popular subjects as deutzias, philadelphus and lilacs. The latter should have the old flower trusses removed and one or two of the aged branches cut out if the bush is at all crowded. The shoots that have flowered are cut back to two basal buds. New growth should be encouraged in both deutzia and philadelphus, and, as a rule, there is quite a number of young shoots formed at this season. Pruning consists of cutting out the old flowering pieces to a strong, new growth, and these should be as near the base as possible. All trees and shrubs will benefit if the seed vessels are removed before they begin to tax the energies of the plants.

THE KITCHEN GARDEN.

Directly the seedlings are large enough, a start should be made in putting out all those vegetables known collectively as winter greens. For the moment vacant ground will be scarce, so the first to be planted must be the Brussels sprouts, and early cauliflowers, followed by broccoli, kales, savoys and purple sprouting. When the early potatoes are dug up, fill the space with kales, etc., until the requisite numbers are planted. Runner beans will need stakes, and peas ought to have supports before the haulm topples over. Summer spinach as it becomes unfit for the kitchen can be dug in to act as manure. Plant out ridge cucumbers and vegetable marrows. It is not advisable to cut asparagus after the first week in June unless it is exceptionally vigorous. Keep the beds free from weeds and afford liquid manure about once a fortnight, but the soil must be moist when it is applied.

AMONG THE FRUIT TREES.

Wall fruit trees must be examined periodically for insect pests, the young shoots of peaches and plums being susceptible to attacks of aphis. When these are present the trees should be thoroughly sprayed with a solution of insecticide, preferably in the evening, and washed with clean rain water the following morning. Much can be done at this season to reduce the pruning next winter, by disbudding or rubbing off a number of the young shoots. Such work should be done gradually until, finally, the growths are reduced so that the tree will be nicely furnished next year with new and fruiting wood. These remarks apply to peaches and nectarines, but plums, apricots and cherries may have their shoots pinched, excepting those required for extending the tree and filling space on the wall. Water the roots if the weather is dry, and thin fruits where crowded. Woolly aphis on apple trees should be painted with methylated spirit.

Chepstow. T. W. BRISCOE.

GREENHOUSE & CONSERVATORY.

Begonia manicata.—This fine winter-flowering begonia is very much neglected, which is surprising when one considers how beautiful and useful it is, for there are few plants that will not remain in perfect condition for over three months. Most cultivators make the mistake of keeping this begonia in too high a temperature at flowering time, when the colour is poor and washy and the display over in a few weeks. Where the night temperature does not fall below 45° Fahr., the colour is a deep pink and the display is maintained for several months. It should be propagated from cuttings towards the end of May, these rooting readily in a warm propagating case. Grown on into 6in. or 7in. pots, they make fine plants for the stages in their first year. Where large specimens are required the young plants should be grown on for a second year, repotting them into 8in. or 10in. pots. The variety aureo-maculata has blotched leaves, as the name indicates.

Winter-flowering Begonias, as represented by such fine single varieties as Optima, Mrs. Heal, Fascination, Exquisite, His Majesty and Orange King; also such double-flowered varieties as Scarlet Beauty, Sunrise, Miss Clibran, Clibran's Pink, Flambeau and Emily Clibran, should be propagated as cuttings are available. They should be secured 3ins. to 4ins., in length, and are best inserted singly in thumb pots in a light sandy compost. Placed in a warm propagating case with slight bottom heat, they quickly root, when they should be stood out on the stage well up to the roof glass. Some of the stronger growing varieties will require 6in. pots for the flowering size, while 5in. is quite large enough for the weaker growing sorts. In any case, over-potting must be avoided and careful watering practised at all times. They grow quite well in a compost that suits the ordinary tuberous-rooted begonias. Although subject to attacks of begonia mite, these can be prevented by the use of the sulphur vaporiser.

Euphorbia pulcherrima (Poinsettia), which is so popular for winter decoration in the warm greenhouse, may be propagated from now until the middle of June. The young shoots from plants that have been started into growth should be secured as cuttings when they are about 3ins. in length. Dip the cut ends in powdered charcoal to prevent excessive bleeding, and insert the cuttings singly in thumb pots and plunge in a warm propagating case. Care must be taken to prevent flagging, or else rooting will be slow and uncertain; where difficulty is experienced in rooting them from young shoots, the old stems should be cut into short lengths and used as cuttings, as they root readily. Plants raised in this way are not supposed to be so good, but I must say I have not noticed any marked difference in the ultimate result. In their younger stages they should be grown in a temperature of 60° Fahr., gradually accustoming them to cooler conditions until they will stand in a cool greenhouse, or even cold frames, the object being to keep them sturdy and short-jointed. Watering or feeding must be carefully attended to, or else the plants will soon lose their bottom leaves.

Brunfelsias are generally given stove treatment, whereas they flower freely and for a long period in an ordinary greenhouse. They can be propagated at this time by means of cuttings, which root readily in a warm propagating case. During their growing period they should be kept in a temperature of about 60° Fahr. When growth is completed they are best kept in a lower temperature and drier at the root. Generally they commence flowering during winter and early spring; but the flowering period depends largely on the temperature afforded them. For greenhouse work it is not wise to get them in flower too early, the beginning of April being soon enough. They produce their flowers over a long period, especially B. macrantha, which flowers freely in sixty-size pots. B. calycina is also excellent for pot work, as is B. eximia and B. Americana, a sweet-scented species.

Coleus thyrsoideus.—Where large specimens of this beautiful blue winter-flowering plant are required, cuttings should now be inserted in pots of light sandy soil. They root readily in a close case with slight bottom heat. Small plants for the stages can be propagated as late as August and September. For large specimens the young plants should be potted on as they require it until they are in 8in. or 10in. pots. They grow freely in any good potting compost, and during the summer months should be kept in a cool greenhouse. During autumn and winter they enjoy a temperature of 50° to 55° Fahr. This plant is by no means one of the easiest to grow successfully, and water at the root must be carefully afforded at all times.

Kew. J. COUTTS.

FOR NORTHERN GARDENS.

THE FRUIT GARDEN.

Close observation should be kept on the gooseberry and red currant plantations for the caterpillar of the gooseberry sawfly. The first small colonies may be destroyed by the application of hellebore powder. This can be used as a wet spray, and becomes more miscible if 1oz. of powder and 2oz. of flour are worked together in the form of dough, and then dissolved in 3 gallons of water. Hellebore loses its poisonous properties if exposed to the air for a time, yet it would not be wise to spray bushes from which the fruit is gathered green for cooking purposes.

From long experience I have every confidence in recommending for the purpose in view a spray of paraffin emulsion made as follows: Dissolve the required amount of soft soap—½oz. per gallon of spray—by adding successive small quantities of boiling water, stirring vigorously until a thick cream or curd is formed. To this add one wineglassful of paraffin to each gallon of water to make full strength. In the early season when leaves and shoots are tender, half the quantity of paraffin will be sufficient.

A severe attack of caterpillar is possibly best grappled with by spreading sheets of strong paper under the bushes and shaking the caterpillars on to the paper. This method may take a longer time, but is more satisfactory in the end.

A useful combination spray is formed by adding 1oz. of sulphide of potassium per 3 gallons of emulsion. This combination spray is very effective in the case of red spider on the bushes and as a preventive for use where American gooseberry mildew exists in a mild form. The above spray is most effective for use against the early attacks of aphis on "wall" trees. There is always a serious risk attached to the use of arsenate of lead as a spray in gardens in fear that some of it may be deposited on vegetables then in use.

Bedding down Strawberries should be done before the young fruits begin to weigh down the trusses. If obtainable, straw is the most suitable material for this purpose. Failing that, long grass, cut before the seed is ripe, answers well.

Black Currant bushes free from "big bug" will only require, meantime, to be constantly cultivated between the rows. Where big bud exists, continue spraying (dry) with a lime (1 part) and sulphur (2 parts) mixture.

THE FLOWER GARDEN.

While inspecting the rose beds a vigilant outlook should be kept for the rolled leaves sheltering the larvæ of the sawfly. Leaves adhering by a fine web will indicate the presence of the larvæ of various moths destructive to foliage and buds. Hand picking is the surest way of destroying these pests, owing to the difficulty of reaching them with a spray. Other pests, such as aphis and the larvæ of many sawflies and moths, which do not spin the leaves together, may be kept in check by regular spraying. For this, arsenate of lead is recommended and greatly used. I have found the home-made paraffin emulsion, liver of sulphur and soft soap mixtures most effective when applied regularly in graduated strengths. Begin with a weak solution in the early season, increasing the strength as the season advances, with consideration of the climatic conditions prevailing.

The presence of the sulphide in the mixture and its regular application is a necessity where rose rust, black spot and leaf scorch have existed the previous year, as a preventive to the recurrence of these in the present year. For mildew on roses the use of sulphide is more desirable than flowers of sulphur, as the latter is only effective in a fairly high temperature and in operation during the months preceding June and after July, the periods when mildew is most prevalent. Also, as mildew is generally worst on the under sides of the leaves, the wet spray is more likely to reach the affected parts.

Summer Bedding will occupy most of the time in the next day or two, and in preparation for it the various subjects to be used should have been well "hardened off."

When clearing out the spring bedding occupants retain, and strike in conveniently for later attention, sufficient plants to give the required stocks for cuttings of aubrietias and double arabis. Also retain first year seedlings and two year old plants of polyanthus for division and replanting.

Doune, Perthshire. W. MCCARRELL.

Digitized by Google

FRUIT TREE PROTECTORS
Against BIRDS, FROST, COLD WINDS, WASPS.
TRANSFERABLE FRUIT CAGES.
SPECIAL GARDEN NETTINGS.
NEW PORTABLE TENNIS SURROUND.
Apply for new Illustrated Booklet giving his
SYSTEM OF FRUIT CULTURE
Major C. Walker, Dept. G., Brecon, S. Wales

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

MANURES.—The most complete little book on the subject is "The Manual of Manures," by H. VENDELMANS, M.A.; by post, 4/9. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," Limited, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

The Perfect Sun Blind for Glasshouses

Cannot rot or perish.
Easily fixed and removed.
Admits ample light.
Economical in wear.

SEND FOR SPECIAL ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE

See our Exhibit at the CHELSEA SHOW.

HESSENDER & CO., LTD., LOUGHBOROUGH LEICESTERSHIRE
LONDON OFFICE: 122, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Your Garden Needs

"FERRY" BRAND

Regd. Trade Mark.

FERTILISERS.

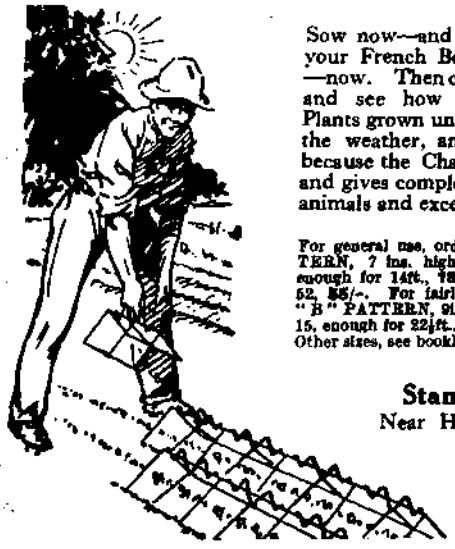
THE "FERRY" GARDEN MANURE for general garden purposes. It is suitable for Potatoes, Tomatoes, Peas, Beans, Fruit Trees, Vines, Roses, &c. Poor soils are greatly improved, and "worn-out" gardens are restored by "Ferry" Garden Manure. It feeds the soil with the essential plant foods.
14 lbs. 3/-; 28 lbs. 5/9; 56 lbs. 11/-; 1 cwt. 20/-
Carriage paid to nearest railway station for cash with order.
Write for the Orange Booklet containing gardening hints and particulars of special Manures for Roses, Sweet Peas, Carnations, Chrysanthemums, Fruit Trees, Strawberries, Potatoes, &c.

THE BRITON FERRY CHEMICAL & MANURE CO. LTD. (Dept. E), Briton Ferry, South Wales. (Est. 1868.)

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Chase Continuous Cloche

A Trap to catch the Sunbeams



Sow now—and use the Chase Continuous Cloche. Put in your French Beans, plant out your Tomatoes and Marrows—now. Then cover them with the Chase Continuous Cloche, and see how quickly they will grow big and sturdy. Plants grown under Chase Continuous Cloche thrive whatever the weather, and mature weeks earlier than in the open, because the Chase Continuous Cloche traps all the sunshine and gives complete protection against cold winds, frost, birds, animals and excessive rain.

For general use, order "A" PATTERN, 7 ins. high; box of 12 enough for 14ft., 18/-; 24, 35/-; 52, 55/-. For fairly large plants, "B" PATTERN, 9in. high; set of 15, enough for 22½ft., 35/- 50, 60/-. Other sizes, see booklet.

Free Booklet (explaining how the Chase Continuous Cloche saves labour, time and seeds, and ensures bigger, better crops) is gladly sent on request. Send a postcard *now* to Chase Continuous Cloche, Dept. 7, Chertsey, Surrey.

Stand 104 at Chelsea Show.
Near Hospital entrance, right-hand side.

Garden and Offices on Pound Pond, Stepgates, Chertsey.
Open 8 to 1, 2 to 5; Saturdays, 8 to 1

Carriage paid to nearest station in England and Wales; 1d. in the 1/- extra to stations in Scotland, Ireland, Isle of Man, Isle of Wight and Channel Islands. F.o.b. for colonial and foreign countries.

For success in your Garden USE

THOMSON'S MANURES

On the market for over 50 years, they still hold first place for QUALITY and RESULTS. They are safe, sure and lasting. The direct result of many years' practical experience in gardening, they stand unrivalled at the present day for all Garden Crops.

Prices:—**VINE, PLANT AND VEGETABLE MANURE**—a Perfect Food—1 cwt., 30/-; 56 lb., 16/-; 28 lb., 9/-; 14 lb., 5/-; 7 lb., 3/-; tins, 1/3 and 2d. **SPECIAL TOP DRESSING MANURE**—an excellent stimulant—56 lb., 17/-; 28 lb., 9/6; 14 lb., 5/6, 7 lb., 3/-, tins, 1/3. **Carriage paid on 28 lbs. and up.**

WRITE FOR OUR BOOKLET—POST FREE ON REQUEST.

SOLD BY NURSERYMEN AND SEEDSMEN EVERYWHERE.

Or from Sole Makers, WM. THOMSON & SONS, TWEED VINEYARDS, CLOVENFORDS, SCOTLAND.

THE LAWNS AT WINDSOR CASTLE ARE MOWN BY

DENNIS

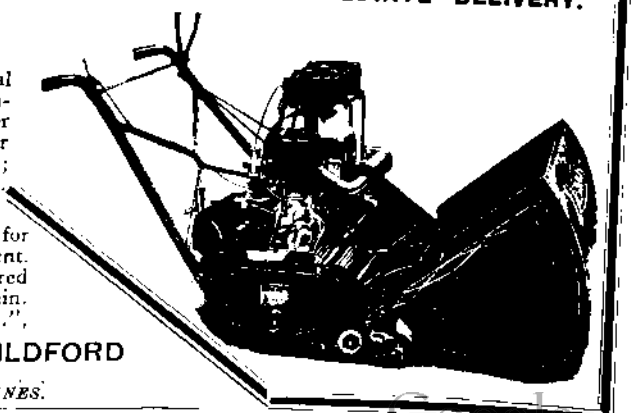
MOTOR LAWN MOWERS

CHELSEA SHOW STANDS 55—56

FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY.

A brief specification:—

4 H.P. 4-stroke engine; differential gear to rollers; forced-feed lubrication; mechanical adjustment for cutter blades; machine can be used for cutting or rolling only, as desired; detachable covers to driving chains, etc.



24in.-£75. 30in.-£90. Trailer seat for either model, £7 10 0. Less 5 per cent. for cash within seven days, and delivered to any Railway Station in Great Britain. For full particulars, write to Dept. "G.",

DENNIS BROS. LTD., GUILDFORD

Manufacturers of the Famous LORRIES, BUSES & FIRE ENGINES.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

BENTLEY'S
WEED DESTROYER

(POISON) STANDS FOR

Strength Reliability Economy

Stronger than any other. One application keeps gravel paths and drives clean for nearly two years. Commands the largest sale both at home and abroad, with a rapidly spreading popularity.

REDUCED PRICES:

Concentrated Liquid (1 to 80)—1 gal. **6/9**; 2 gals. **13/–**; 3 gals. **18/9**; 6 gals. **35/9**; 12 gals. **69/–**; 24 gals. **134/3**; 40 gals. **218/3**

Powder (1 to 25)—4 tins **9/3**; 8 tins **17/10**; 12 tins **25/6**; 20 tins **40/9**; 40 tins **78/–**

BENTLEY'S
DAISY KILLER

THE ONLY SCIENTIFIC LAWN SAND

Weeds of all kinds are quickly killed by one dressing of this unique speciality. Afterwards the finer grasses are free to develop into a dense, rich, green sward.

One pound is sufficient to dress 3 sq. yds.

1 ton **£26**; 4 cwts. **26/6** per cwt.; 1 cwt. **28/–**; 56 lbs. **15/6**; 28 lbs. **8/6** 14 lbs. **4/9**; tins **1/6** each.

Carriage paid on 15/- orders and upwards

Sole Manufacturers:

JOSEPH BENTLEY LTD.
CHEMICAL WORKS,
BARROW-ON-HUMBER :: LINCS.

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by **"ALPHOL"**
Sample 14 lb., 3/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

FOR PRESENT PLANTING

We offer for the first time our new

CISTUS WINTONENSIS

Award of Merit, R.H.S., April 20, 1926.

A unique hybrid, flowers two inches across, pearly white, with a distinct maroon zone contrasting with the golden anthers. Foliage grey.

Strong young plants .. .. **10/6** each
Specimens in larger pots .. **21/–** ,,

CISTUS HILLIER'S SILVER PINK

Award of Merit, R.H.S., June 17, 1919.

Flowers the most charming art shade of pale silvery pink, large and profusely borne. Foliage silvery grey; very hardy. **2/6** each. **27/–** doz.

COLLECTIONS OF

(*a*) **12** Cistus in **12** leading varieties, all shades of colour, including purpureus, Loretii, algarvensis, etc., for .. **21/–**
(*b*) **12** ditto, in second size plants, for **16/6**
(*c*) **6** Cistus, in **6** older varieties, for **7/6**

All the above are bushy plants in 5-inch pots.

HILLIER & SONS of WINCHESTER

ANNUAL DATURAS

AMONG easily raised annual flowers for the greenhouse and conservatory few are more interesting than the daturas, or angels' trumpets, as they are called. Of these there are a number of varieties, wonderfully varied in form, colour, etc., considering they are so nearly related.

A collection from midsummer onwards gives a succession of large, often powerfully fragrant blooms, that, from the fact that they are so seldom seen, always arouse comment and admiration. The earlier the seeds are sown, in a temperature of 50 degrees, the better, for the more advanced in growth they are, naturally, the earlier they begin to flower. A light soil should be used and the seeds covered with about half an inch of this.

Water moderately and stand the pots near the boiler, or other warm place. Germination is fairly rapid as a rule, the seedlings pushing through with purplish stems and yellow, down-turned leaves that quickly spread and unfold. Directly they have formed one true leaf beyond the seed pair, prick them off into separate pots. A very rich soil is essential, fibrous loam, two parts to one of old sifted manure being good. Grow on in a steady temperature and, before they become pot-bound, shift again into a larger size.

Some forms branch naturally, others going ahead until the first flower buds form, then branching below that. It is a mistake to stop them with a view to encouraging earlier branching, as this delays the flowering.

Five or six-inch pots are large enough for good specimens and, once these are filled with roots, the plants should be fed generously with liquid manure. D. ceratocaula is a tall grower, reaching 3ft., with pink and white flowers. This is night-flowering and the large convolvulus-like blooms expand in the evening, filling the air with an exquisite fragrance. D. cornucopiæ, the horn of plenty datura, an illustration of which accompanies this article, is really lovely.

The flowers are similar in formation to the hose-in-hose polyanthus, one flower inside another. The buds are deep purple in colour and of huge size, expanding into great pale violet tubular flowers. I have flowered it outdoors in warm summers, but it succeeds best in the greenhouse.

ANTIRRHINUMS

IT'S only the fact that we grow and deliver especially good plants that we wish to advertise. The brightness, the long-flowering life, the wonderful adaptability of Antirrhinums (Snapdragons) are known to everyone. Although our plants are properly grown, transplanted, well rooted, hardened off, in all ways particularly good, as becomes a firm which reckon to do things well, the price is only

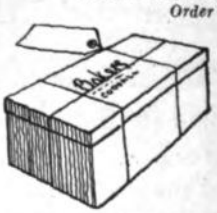
1/3 dozen. **8/6** 100.

Carriage paid on orders value 5/- and over, otherwise 9d. extra.

And these are the varieties and colours

Codsall Rose, delicate pink
Cottage Maid, pink, white throat
Crimson King, rich dark crimson
Dainty, gold and terra cotta pink
Electra, salmon orange, white throat
Dazzler, orange scarlet
Firefly, scarlet
Glow, orange apricot
Melrose, bright rose
Rose Queen, rose pink self
White Queen, pure white
Yellow King, rich yellow

DELIVERED DIRECT FROM THE GROWERS, CARRIAGE PAID.
Order now.



Bakers
FLOWER FARM,
CODSALL.
Nr. Wolverhampton.

GARDEN LOVERS

Write for Catalogues of
PROTHEROE & MORRIS'
· HORTICULTURAL SALES ·
WEDNESDAY
67, 68 Cheapside, London E.C.2. Phone: City 3856

W. TRESEDER, Ltd.
The Nurseries .·. *CARDIFF*

DAHLIAS

Our British Empire Exhibit of Dahlias during 1924 and 1925 was considered a feature of the Horticultural Section at Wembley.

ASK FOR A CATALOGUE.

Send your Enquiries NOW for
Autumn Planting of
CHOICE DAFFODILS
BRITISH GROWN BULBS
COMPLETE CATALOGUE NOW READY, FREE ON APPLICATION

Cartwright & Goodwin Ltd
BULB GROWERS,
CHURCHILL, KIDDERMINSTER,
WORCS., ENGLAND.

Digitized by Google

FOR ALL GLASS STRUCTURES that require Outside Shading

ELLIOTT'S 'Summer Cloud' SHADING

The only genuine original and improved article.

Do not be advised to use any other.

...n tins, Green or White Shade, 1/6 and 3/- each

ALSO

SAFETY FIRST FOR ANIMALS AND PEOPLE.

Non-caustic; no smell; kills the roots; superior to arsenical compounds.

TINS, 1/- 2/- 3/6 6/6 12/-
for 4 12½ 25 50 100 galls.

Special for Parks and Recreation Grounds in Bulk.

ALSO

ETHORION
Improved Nicotine Cone
FUMIGATOR

...rtain destruction to all pests in glasshouses.
No. 1, for 1,000 cubic feet .. .. 10d.
No. 2, ,, 1,500 ,, ,, ... 1/3
No. 3, ,, 2,500 ,, ,, ... 1/9

Sold by all Seedsmen and Nurserymen.

...ORRY & CO., Shad Thames, LONDON, S.E.1

FERTILISE FREELY!

Fertilise freely or all your labours in the garden will be wasted. Plants must have Nitrogen, and the best form is Nitrate of Soda in conjunction with phosphates and potash.

Write for pamphlets, entitled, "Successful Gardens for Every Amateur," "The Manuring of Orchards and Fruit Trees," supplied gratis and post free by THE CHILEAN NITRATE COMMITTEE, Friars House, New Broad Street, London, E.C. 2.

Nitrate of Soda

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

By Appointment.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

...ate quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

...ICHARD BANKEY & SON, LTD.,
Royal Potteries,
...EWELL, NOTTINGHAM

D. fastuosa, again, is a tall grower—3ft.—with immense double white flowers; it loves a strong heat in the early stages, so as to get the plants well forward.

D. Golden Queen is a fine coloured form, fully double and very free in flowering. D. Wrightii is of erect habit, and has purple

ONE OF THE ORNAMENTAL FLOWERS OF DATURA CORNUCOPIÆ.

stems and handsome bluish green leaves. The flowers, which are powerfully fragrant are as large as the foliage and very striking.

WE SPECIALIZE
IN
Gold Medal Shrubs
Gold Medal Roses
Gold Medal Daffodils

Before placing your orders, compare our prices with those of other growers for tip-top quality.

CATALOGUES FREE ON APPLICATION.

DONARD NURSERY CO.
NEWCASTLE :: CO. DOWN

Fothergill's
"CHELSEA"
Flower Press
Preserves your Specimens in their Natural Colour Rapidly and Efficiently

"Chelsea" Flower Press.

No. 1.— 5½ × 7 inches, 2/- (By post 2/2½)
,, 2.— 7 × 9 ,, 2/6 (,, 2/9½)
,, 3.—14 × 9 ,, 4/6 (,, 4/11)
,, 4.—14 ×12 ,, 6/6 (,, 7/-)

Philip & Tacey, Ltd., High St., Fulham, s.w.6

"Auto-Shreds" did it!

I just burnt them on the ground and they thoroughly fumigated my plants. The judge wanted the name of the stuff that kept my flowers so insect-free. I told him "Darlington's AUTO-SHREDS." At all seedsmen they cost
No. 1. (To fumigate 10,000 cubic feet.) For tender or ordinary plants. 6/-
No. 2. (10,000 c.f.) Ordinary plants 4/6
No. 3. (1,000 c.f.) Ordinary or tender plants .. 1/-
No. 4. (2,500 c.f.) do. 1/9

W. DARLINGTON & SONS, LTD., HACKNEY, LONDON, E.8

THORNTON BUTTERWORTH LTD

The Home Garden Books

"A valuable basis for a gardening *library*."—*Manchester Guardian.*

By MARY HAMPDEN
1. **Rose Gardening.**
2. **Town Gardening** *3s. 6d. net.*

By A. J. MACSELF
3. **Bulb Gardening**
4. **Hardy Perennials**
5. **Alpine Plants**
6. **The Horticultural Exhibitor** *3s. 6d. net.*
7. **A Real A B C of Gardening**
8. **Flowering Trees and Shrubs**
9. **Gladioli**
10. **Soils and Fertilizers**
11. **Plants from Seed**

Illustrated colour, half-tone and line. *6s. net each.*

Send for Free illustrated prospectus of this beautiful series.

15 BEDFORD ST. LONDON W.C. 2

Abol

The Standard Plant Wash

Abol Non-poisonous Insecticide is the "Best" sure-kill for Green and Black Fly, American Blight, etc. It is without an equal as a remedy for Mildew on Roses and other plants. It imparts health and vigour to the plant, and leaves the foliage beautifully clean and fresh.

Abol is perfectly safe to use on all flowers, fruits and vegetables, and will not harm the tenderest plant; has no unpleasant odour and will not damage paintwork.

Abol Non-poisonous Insecticide

Used in the Royal Gardens.

½-pt. 1/4; pt., 2/2; qt., 3/4; ½-gal., 5/3; gal., 9/6

Write for Descriptive Folders.

Of Nurserymen, Seedsmen, Florists, Ironmongers, Chemists and Stores.

In the event of any difficulty, please write direct to the Sole Proprietors and Manufacturers, Abol Limited, 9, Beltring, Paddock Wood, Kent.

Write for Guide to Garden Pests, Gratis and Post Free.

The Syringe with the Perfect Spray

Abol Patent Syringes give a perfect mist-like spray — strong, yet so fine that it does not fall at once to the ground, but hangs in the air, and so envelops the tree and bush. The spray may be varied from fine to medium, or coarse, as desired.

No. 4 (1 x 14), 16/4
No. 5 (1 x 20), 21/-
No. 6 (1¼x20), 26/-

Bend attachment for directing spray to undersides of leaves, not included, but extra, 1/6

Abol Patent Syringes

Specially recommended by the National Rose Society

DULAU & CO., LTD.

Natural History Booksellers and Publishers.

Catalogue 143 ready shortly—
HORTICULTURE, AGRICULTURE, BOTANY.

¶ Highest Prices given for books dealing with horticulture, botany, silviculture, geology, insects, etc.

¶ Large numbers of second-hand items always in stock.

The Pruning of Trees and Shrubs

Being a description of the methods practised in the Royal Botanic Gardens.

By W. DALLIMORE.

Assistant, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

Cr. 8vo. Fully Illustrated. 4/6 net. Postage extra.

"A perfect mine of information."—*Country Life.*

The Scent of Flowers and Leaves

Its purpose and relation to man.

By F. A. HAMPTON.

Cr. 8vo. 6/- net. Postage extra.

INCLUDES DIRECTIONS FOR LAYING OUT A SCENTED GARDEN AND LISTS OF SCENTED PLANTS.

"Should find a place and welcome in many bookshelves."—*Evening Standard.*

"The author is to be congratulated on the way he presents his facts."—*The Garden.*

From all Booksellers.

DULAU & CO., LTD.

34, 35, 36, MARGARET STREET
LONDON, W.1

FOR ROSE ENTHUSIASTS.

Roses, and How to Excel With Them

By R. V. GIFFARD WOOLLEY. *Illustrated.* 2/6. *Cloth* 3.6.

"COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 30, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

Ready Shortly. # BOOKS YOU NEED *Ready Shortly.*

A HANDBOOK OF FLOWERING TREES AND SHRUBS. By R. C. NOTCUTT. Edited by the late W. R. DYKES, M.A., L.-ès-L. With 24 full-page plates of remarkable photographs. 12*s.* 6*d.* net.

This volume deals with the best of the flowering trees and shrubs—such as Berberis, Buddleia, Ceanothus, Cistus and Helianthemum, Cotoneaster, Cytisus and Genista, Prunus and Flowering Cherries, Pyracantha, Pyrus and Ribes, etc. It also contains a useful chapter on trees and shrubs specially suitable for seaside planting.

PRUNING FRUIT TREES. The Lorette System of Pruning, by LOUIS LORETTE, Professor of Arboriculture. Translated from the French by the late W. R. DYKES, M.A., L.-ès-L. Fully illustrated. Demy 8vo. cloth. 7*s.* 6*d.* net.

"All gardeners will welcome Mr. Dykes' excellent translation. . . . Keen gardeners will enjoy putting these methods to the test, and they will find the illustrations very helpful."—*Gardeners' Chronicle.*

A HANDBOOK OF GARDEN IRISES. By the late W. R DYKES, M.A., L.-ès-L. Author of "The Genus Iris." With 24 full-page plates from drawings. Demy 8vo., cloth. 12*s.* 6*d.* net.

"Mr. Dykes is a supreme grower as well as classifier; and his books . . . are almost a necessity to those whose ambition it is to grow the most decorative flower that lives in a garden."—*Saturday Review.*

A HANDBOOK OF CROCUS AND COLCHICUM FOR GARDENERS. By E. A. BOWLES, M.A., V.M.H., F.L.S. With 24 full-page plates. Demy 8vo. cloth. 12*s.* 6*d.* net.

"This volume should prove of the greatest interest and assistance. It contains a great amount of information, which is treated in a lucid and captivating yet instructive style."—*The Garden.*

MARTIN HOPKINSON & CO., Ltd., 14, Henrietta Street, London, W.C.2

Digitized by Google

I BELIEVE that the man who smokes a pipe filled with a good tobacco gains a more tolerant, a calmer and happier outlook on life
—*R.F.E.*

There is one tobacco which has given unfailing satisfaction. It is still the same to day—

They call it

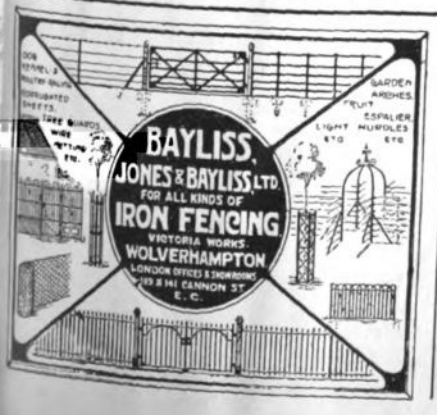
PLAYER'S

NAVY CUT

For Cigarette Smokers
PLAYER'S NAVY CUT CIGARETTES

Registered No. 154011.

P.1261.

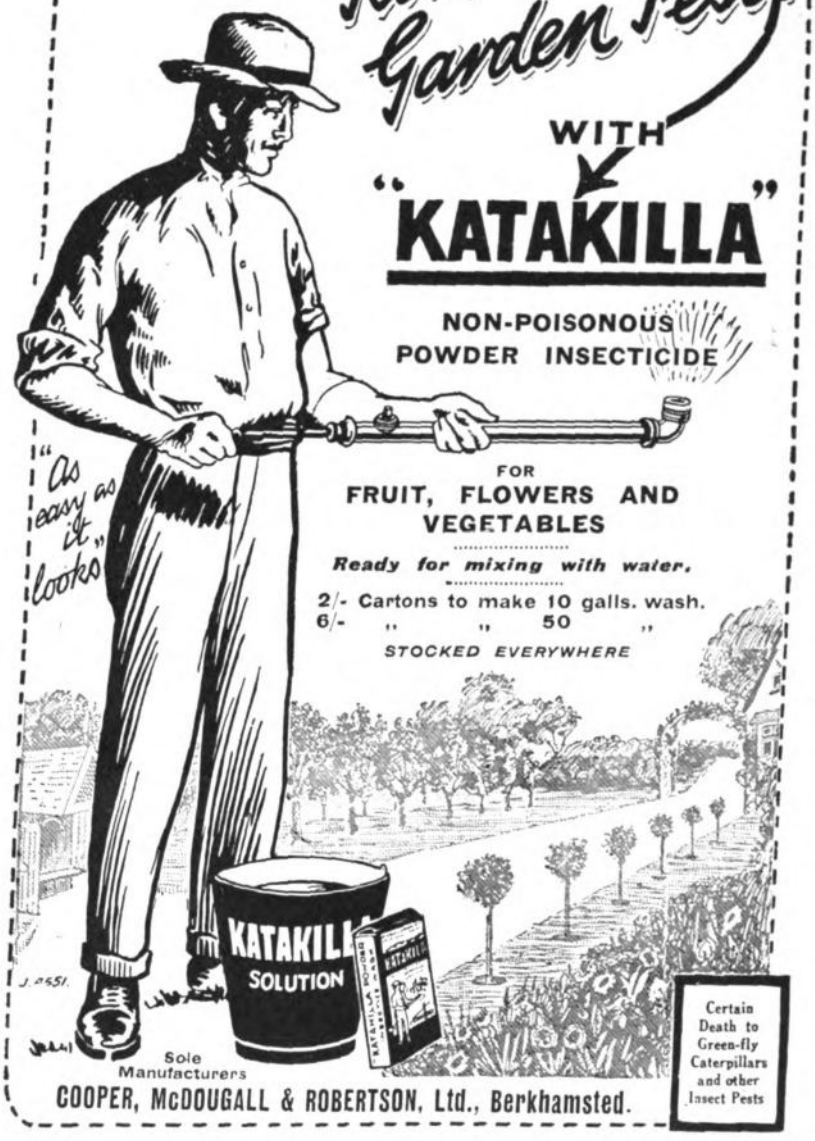


Kill those Garden Pests

WITH

"KATAKILLA"

NON-POISONOUS
POWDER INSECTICIDE



FOR
FRUIT, FLOWERS AND VEGETABLES

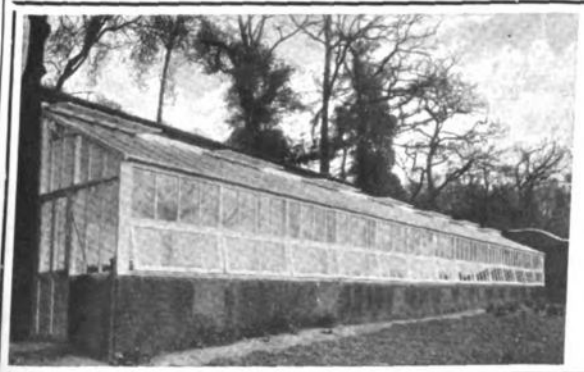
Ready for mixing with water.

2/- Cartons to make 10 galls. wash.
6/- " " 50 "

STOCKED EVERYWHERE

Certain Death to Green-fly Caterpillars and other Insect Pests

Sole Manufacturers
COOPER, McDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, Ltd., Berkhamsted.

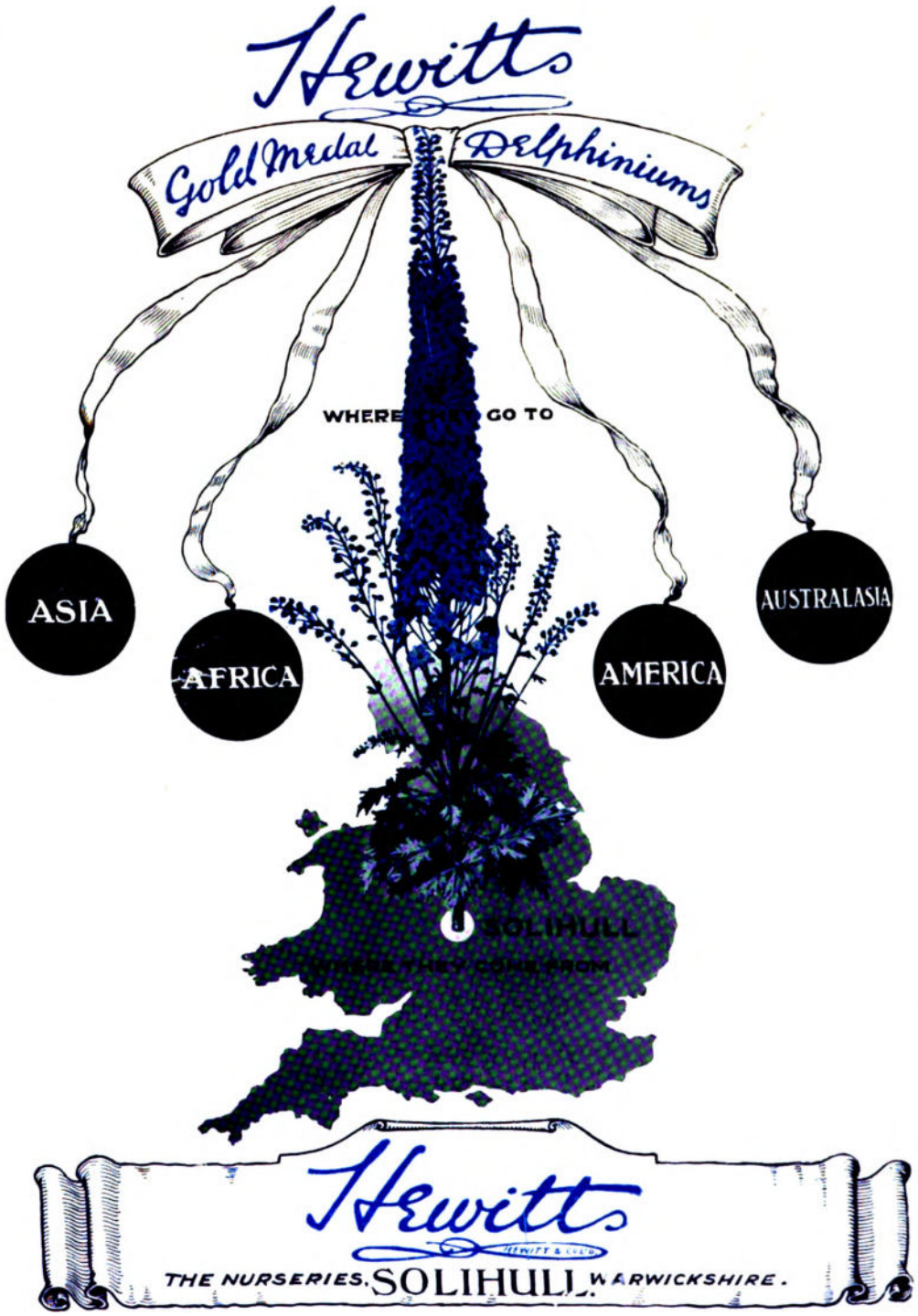


GREENHOUSES
AND
GARDEN FRAMES

I specialize in the Erection of High-class Horticultural Buildings.
Garden Frames a speciality. Selected timber, well seasoned, only used.
Being a grower, I understand Glass-house requirements.
SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.
CATALOGUES WITH PLEASURE.

E. M. HEAP, Cottimore Nurseries,
WALTON-ON-THAMES.

Digitized by Google



Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

PERIODICAL ROOM
GENERAL LIBRARY
UNIV. OF MICH.
JUN 16 1926

Vol. XC.—No. 2844 Saturday, June 5th, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

Barr's Seeds for June Sowing

OF FINEST STRAINS AND TESTED GROWTH

For the Flower Garden and Greenhouse

Antirrhinums, Aquilegias, Campanulas, Canterbury Bells, Calceolarias, Cinerarias, Delphiniums, Forget-me-nots, Hollyhocks, Lupins, Pansies, Primulas, Polyanthus-Primroses, Sweet Williams, Stocks, Wallflowers, etc.

For the Vegetable Garden

Beans, Beet, Carrots, Peas, Spinach, Lettuce, Radish, etc.

For the Rock Garden

Special List of dwarf-growing Hardy Perennials, Alpines, etc., for June and July sowing in the Rock Garden.

All Lists free on application.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

NETTINGS

GARDEN NETS FOR FRUIT PROTECTION

Any lengths and widths. Corded all round

	per sq. yd.		per sq. yd.
NEW 1 in. sq. mesh, heavy ..	6½d.	NEW ½ in. sq. mesh, medium ..	7½d.
NEW 1 in. ,, medium ..	5½d.	REPAIRED 1 in. sq. mesh, heavy	3½d.
NEW ½ in. ,, light ..	5½d.	REPAIRED ½ in. ,, ,,	4d.

REPAIRED (not corded) 1 in. diamond mesh, 9/- per 100 sq. yards.

NEW TENNIS BOUNDARY NETS

Any lengths and widths. Corded all round. 7d. per sq. yard.

NEW TENNIS NETS

Various qualities from 16/- to 31/- each.

NETS FOR ALL PURPOSES

Samples and full particulars from the manufacturers.

JOSEPH BENTLEY, Ltd., Barrow-on-Humber, LINCS.
(Sole Proprietors of B. EDDY & SONS)

The Flower of the Season

BALL'S CALENDULA

— Brilliant Orange Double Flowers —

THE FINEST PLANT FOR CUT FLOWER OR THE BORDER

Our exhibit at CHELSEA SHOW made us many customers, and we have had numerous testimonials from all parts of the country.

SEED .. .. 1/-, 2/6, 5/- packet
PLANTS .. .. 1/6 doz.: 10/- 100

WM. ARTINDALE & SON
NETHER GREEN NURSERY :: SHEFFIELD

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

FOR THE GARDEN! FOR EXHIBITION!
FOR BEDS! FOR EVERYWHERE!

Also Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees, Alpines and Hardy Plants.

BUY HOME-GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries.

Catalogue Free on Application, and Addresses booked for Revised Catalogue in late Summer.

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.,
Garden Specialists - - SOUTHWELL, NOTTS

SEND YOUR ENQUIRIES *NOW* FOR . .

Autumn Planting of

CHOICE DAFFODILS

British Grown Bulbs

COMPLETE CATALOGUE NOW READY, FREE ON APPLICATION

CARTWRIGHT & GOODWIN Ltd.
BULB GROWERS,
Churchill, Kidderminster, WORCS., ENGLAND.

CHEALS' DAHLIAS

UNIQUE COLLECTION
Many Striking Novelties

New Catalogue Free

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
The Nurseries - - CRAWLEY

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
— New Alpines and Perennials; Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
— Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
— Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
— Begonias, Delphiniums, Gloxinias, Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD,
CHELSEA, S.W.
— Seeds, Gladioli, Spiræas, List on Application

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
— Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

NEW
CHRYSANTHEMUMS

Clean healthy Plants free from rust, aphis, etc.

FOR GREENHOUSE FLOWERING: 12 New Exhibition Japanese of 1926, 20/-; 12 Exhibition Japs, including 1924 sorts, 5/-; 12 Incurved varieties, 5/-; 12 Decorative sorts, including one 1925 novelty, 5/-; 12 Decorative Single varieties, 4/-.

FOR THE GARDEN: 12 Aug.-Sept. flowering varieties, including one novelty 1925, 5/-; 12 Sept.-Oct. flowering sorts, 4/-; 12 Aug.-Sept. single varieties, 4/-.

Zonal Pelargoniums (Geraniums), from 3in. pots: 12 fine single varieties, 7/6; 12 double and semi-double varieties, 7/6; 6 Cactus Geraniums, 4/-.

Plumbago capensis (blue), 1/- each; (alba), 1/- each.

Post free for orders over 5/-; others 6d. extra.
Catalogue free on application.

J. W. COLE & SON
Westwood Nurseries - - Peterborough

GLORIOUS CARNATIONS

If you have a garden—however small—and would like to grow the **FINEST CARNATIONS** write for Catalogue and Special Offer to all "GARDEN" readers **TO-DAY.**

Allwood Bros — DEPT. 4.

The leading Carnation Growers in the world,
HAYWARD'S HEATH, SUSSEX.

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
— Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
— Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
HULL
— Weed Destroyers, Fertilisers, Insecticides, Nets and Sundries

"Auto-Shreds" did it!

I just burnt them on the ground and they thoroughly fumigated my plants. The judge wanted the name of the stuff that kept my flowers so insect-free. I told him "Darlington's AUTO-SHREDS." At all seedsmen they cost
No. 1. (To fumigate 10,000 cubic feet.) For tender or ordinary plants. 6/-
No. 2. (10,000 c.f.) Ordinary plants ... 4/6
No. 3. (1,000 c.f.) Ordinary or tender plants ... 1/-
No. 4. (2,500 c.f.) do. 1/9

W. DARLINGTON & SONS, LTD., HACKNEY, LONDON, E.8.

FERTILISERS.

LAWNS, 20/-; FRUIT TREES, VINES, 19/6; GENERAL GARDEN USE, 17/-; WORM KILLER, 19/-
Per cwt., carriage paid. Also all other fertilisers
HY. RICHARDSON & CO., Skeldergate Bridge Works, YORK

FERTHRIVER (REGD.)
THE COMPLETE FERTILISER, WITH GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

	7-lb.	14-lb.	28-lb.	56-lb.	1-cwt.
Ferthriver	1/6	2/9	5/-	9/-	16/-
Bone Meal	1/6	2/9	5/-	9/-	16/-
Nitrate of Soda	1/6	3/-	6/-	11/-	21/-

Add the following extras for Carriage Paid lots.
1/- 1/9 2/- 2/6 4/-

ANALYSIS:
Ammonia - - 4 per cent.
Phosphates - 15 ,,
Potash - - 3 ,,
Pot. Sulphate - 5.6 ,,

3d. Tin of Ferthriver
As Illustrated,
6d. Post Free.

THE NECESSARIES CO.,
25, Edward Road,
Balsall Heath BIRMINGHAM.

Internal trouble!

The burrowing, Leaf-Miner insect is an *internal* trouble—nothing but XL ALL Leaf-Miner Insecticide will reach it. Use XL ALL: an early attack with it effectually prevents serious trouble later. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen, florists and chemists.

XL ALL LEAF-MINER INSECTICIDE
G. H. RICHARDS, LTD.
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
R. 127. Monomark: BCM/XLALL.

NETTINGS (REDUCED PRICES)

GARDEN NETS for fruit protection. Any length or width, corded all round.

New 1in. sq. mesh, stout ..	5d. per sq. yd.
New medium, 1 in. sq. mesh	4½d. ,, ,,
New ¾ in. stout, sq. mesh ..	5½d. ,, ,,
New ¾ in. medium, sq. mesh	4½d. ,, ,,
Best ¾ in. salmon twine ..	7d. ,, ,,
Repaired 1in. stout sq. mesh	3d. ,, ,,
Repaired 1 in. sq. mesh ..	2½d. ,, ,,

NEW TENNIS BOUNDARY NETTING, roped around

Heavy hand braided ..	7d. per sq. yd.
Medium ,, ,, ..	6d. ,, ,,
Little lighter	4½d. ,, ,,
Selected repaired	3d. ,, ,,

Any length or width supplied.

NEW TENNIS NETS, regulation size, various qualities, steel and copper head lines, 30/- to 35/- each.
DIAMOND NETS, measured mesh closed, Selected. Repaired, small mesh, 25 yds. x 2 yds., 3s. 6d., or 4 yds., 7s. or 8 yds., 14s. Heavy quality, about 1½ mesh, 25 x 2 yds., 5s.; 4 yds., 10s.; 8 yds., £1, carriage paid passenger train; receipt order.

Satisfaction Guaranteed. Samples and full particulars from the Manufacturers: Mention THE GARDEN.

W. OLIVER ALLEN & SONS, Net Makers
Porthleven, Cornwall.

DOBBIE'S
SCOTCH-GROWN
DAHLIAS

FULL DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE
84 pages of these and other Plants sent on application

DOBBIE & CO., LTD.
Nurserymen .. EDINBURGH

ROCKRAVEN GARDEN STONE
COMPANY SUPPLY POROUS LIME STONE ROCKS for ALPINE SUBJECTS. WEATHER-WORN BY THE STORMS OF CENTURIES INTO DELIGHTFUL POCKETS, LEDGES AND FISSURES IN VARIED SHAPES AND SIZES
SECRETARY
LINTON-IN-CRAVEN, SKIPTON, YORKS

DWARF
BEDDING DAHLIAS

COLTNESS GEM, brilliant scarlet flowers produced in the greatest profusion during summer and autumn; 18ins. high. Undoubtedly the best dwarf Dahlia for bedding.

DUNECHT GEM, a counterpart of the foregoing, but with yellow flowers.

Also Collaretts, Cactus, Pompon, Peony and Single Dahlias, our selection of varieties.

Prices for all above: 7/- for 12; 13/- for 25; 25/- for 50, and 47/6 for 100.

All carriage paid for cash with order.

AUSTIN & McASLAN
MITCHELL STREET . . GLASGOW

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

WATERER'S GOLD MEDAL RHODODENDRONS, Azaleas, rare Hardy Shrubs, Alpine and Perennial Plants, Vegetable and Flower Seeds. Catalogues free. Bedding Catalogue now ready, containing the best in Dahlias.—JOHN WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LIMITED, Twyford, Berks; Bagshot, Surrey; and London.

HIMALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODENDRONS on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and Alpine Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write for Catalogue.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

WELLS' CATALOGUE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS will be sent post free on application.—W. WELLS AND CO., Merstham, Surrey.

WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE.—The original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See advert. on back page.

WM. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., Lawrence Road, South Tottenham, N.15.—Conservatories, Winter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

BIRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUNDIALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—FOSCUTT, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

FENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Garden Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE BARLEY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, Surrey.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, etc. Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and in large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS & SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

YORK STONE PAVINGS, crazy or rectangular, rustic copings, steps roughly squared or random shaped, flat bedded wallstones, garden edging, rockery, etc.—SAMUEL JOHNSON AND SON (MIRFIELD), LIMITED, Newgate Stone Works, Mirfield, Yorkshire.

PRIOR'S COLCHESTER ROSES, Fruit Trees, Sweet Peas, Dahlias, Carnations, Herbaceous. Catalogue containing many collections free.—D. PRIOR AND SON, LIMITED, Colchester.

THE CULTURE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS. By W. WELLS, 2/6 net; cloth, 3/6 net; by post 6d. extra. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

WIRE NETTING.—From 2/5 per 50yd. roll. Largest House in the Kingdom. Write us for prices. Thousands of rolls stocked.

TEA GUARDS.—Small mesh, 3ft. long, two wires to each dozen. 4/3 dozen. 2 doz. Carriage Paid.

KEEP THE BIRDS.—Rotless Tanned Nets. Small mesh, as supplied by us to the Royal Gardens. In Three Qualities. 50 x 1yd., 3/6, 4/-, 6/9: 2yds., 7/-, 8/-, 13/6; 3yds., 10/6, 12/-, 20/3; 4yds., 14/-, 16/-, 27/-; 25 x 1yd., 14/-, 16/-, 27/-. Any size supplied. Carriage paid. On approval. Measured mesh closed.

TENNIS BOUNDARY NETTING.—Lines top and bottom. 25 x 2yds. 16/3; 3yds., 18/3; 4yds., 25/3. Carriage paid. Approval. Standards for fixing to, also Playing Nets, Poles and all requisites supplied.

GARDEN BARROWS.—Full size. 8 spokes. Best value in the kingdom, 24/9. Painted, 28/3.

LAWN MOWERS.—Five Riveted Blades. Steel Wheels, Brass Bushings. Close Cutting. Highly Finished. Unequalled Value. 8in., 23/-; 10in, 24/-; 12in., 25/-; 14in., 30/-. Grass Boxes, 8/6 each. Garden Rollers, 30/-.

TEA NETTING.—Tanned, Superior Quality. 1 mesh, 60t. wide, 6d. yard. Carriage paid 12yds. and over. Other widths pro rata. Prices of smaller meshes on application. H. B. HAWKESWORTH, LIMITED, Dept. E, Shrewsbury.

BARR'S SEEDS FOR JUNE SOWING.—For VEGETABLE AND FLOWER GARDEN, ROCK GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE. Finest Selected Strains and Tested Growth. Special Lists Free.—BARR & SONS, 11, 12, and 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham

OUR NEW ILLUSTATED CATALOGUE of Alpine and Herbaceous Plants, Dwarf Trees and Shrubs and Bulbs for the Rock Garden, now ready. "A Mine of Information." Post free on application.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LTD., Stevenage, Herts.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial: Which are the Six Most Popular Sweet Peas	311
Editorial Notes: Worthy Plants II: Enkianthus campanulatus	312
Some Tibetan Primulas	313
Early-Flowering Chrysanthemums	314
Notes of the Week: Ivy-leaved Pelargoniums; Æthionemas; The Uses of Balsams; Actæa rubra and A. alba	315
More About the Chelsea Show	317–323
New and Rare Plants	322
Correspondence: A Proposed Wild Flower Protection Act; Coddling Plants; Combinations for the Herbaceous Border; Collar Rot in Asters; The Nomenclature of Dwarf Conifers; Names of Early Potatoes.	324
The Flower Garden: Supports for Herbaceous Plants; Planting Dahlias; Sweet Peas and Green Fly; Clean Roses.	325
Gardening of the Week	326
Garden Sundries at Chelsea	327
List of Awards	328

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL DELPHINIUMS and ROSES. Send a postcard for our catalogue.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI, Chrysanthemums, Dahlias and Border Carnations.—Our stock includes many new and meritorious varieties. List post free on application.

HEWITT & CO. LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

THE DOG: MAN'S FIRMEST FRIEND.—How to choose and care for him, by A. CROXTON SMITH. A copy of this helpful booklet on the housing, breeding, feeding and care of dogs will be sent post free on receipt of 11d., addressed to The Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

DOBBIE'S PLANT CATALOGUE now ready. Free to all readers. Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.—DOBBIE AND CO., LIMITED, Edinburgh.

BATH'S SELECT SEEDS AND PLANTS.—New Illustrated Catalogue of choice Vegetable and Flower Seeds and Plants is now ready, and will be sent, post free, on application.—(Dept. E), R. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

BARGAINS ! ! !—Ideal Wire for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded, and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses, from 19s. 6d. mile (full 1,760 yards). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 355, Albert Street, Lytham.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

GARDEN NETS.—Best tanned, small mesh: 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 25yds. by 3yds., 6/-; 25yds by 4yds., 8/- Carr. Paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Tennis nets from 10s. Special nets for tennis boundary. Pea training nets. Lists and samples free.—G. JARRETT, Netmaker, Rye.

NEW AND RARE HARDY HEATHERS Alpine and Herbaceous Plants. Catalogues on application.—MAXWELL AND BEALE, Broadstone, Dorset.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING.—Best selected nets, small mesh only supplied. 50yds. long, 4yds. wide, 14/-; 25 x 8yds., 14/-; 100 x 2yds., 14/-; 25 x 4yds., 7/-; 25 x 3yds., 5/-. Any size to order; all sent carriage paid.—W. GOULDBY, Walmer Road, South Lowestoft.

ROCK AND ALPINE PLANTS.—Large and varied collection. All pot grown. Packed and carriage paid Catalogue free.—M. J. PIGGOTT, Duffield, Nr. Derby.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING, small mesh: 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 40yds. by 1yd., 3/3; 40yds. by 2yds., 6/6; 40yds. by 3yds., 9/9. Measured mesh closed. Special Pea Netting supplied. Tennis Nets from 8/-. Carriage Paid. Compare our netting with others. Sports lists and samples free.—GALLOP, Net Manufacturer, Hastings.

A NAIL WRITES WEBSTER'S METAL LABELS. Can't fade or break. List 20 sizes.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

HERRING NETS, Small Mesh, to protect all kinds of fruit, approximately 80 ft. x 30 ft., 12/6 each. Smaller pieces, 5/- and 6/6, good value. Carriage paid. Cash with order.—WM. G. GRIGOR, Port Gordon Station, Banffshire.

LOOK! TANNED GARDEN NETS.—All orders despatched same day. 25 yards by 1 yard, 2/-; 25 by 2, 4/-; 25 by 3, 6/- Odd netting for bushes, 6lbs. for 2/6. All carriage paid. Any sizes supplied. Also Tennis Boundary Nets.—MOORE & CO., Net Works, Rye.

PUMP BARGAINS ! !—First-class brand new Pumps for all purposes. Sacrificial prices for early clearance. Post card for illustrations.—GREEN'S ARMY STORES, Dept. 137, Lytham.

A CATALOGUE of gardening books will be sent free on application to "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

RARE PRIMULA AND ALPINE SEEDS, from large (2,000) collection. Also seedlings and plants. Lists free.—REV. J. F. ANDERSON, Glen Hall, Leicester.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING—"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

CLAY'S LONDON FERTILIZER TRADE MARK

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices :—

Tins 10d. and 1/6

and in **Branded and Sealed Bags:**

7 lbs.	3/6	14 lbs.	6/-
28 lbs.	10/-	56 lbs.	18/-
112 lbs.	32/-		

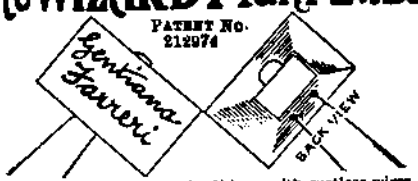
or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark.

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers, etc. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**

The WIZARD Plant LABEL

PATENT No. 212974



Made in Red Pottery, 2½ x 1½ ins., with rustless wires, 12 in., 2/- doz.: 7 in., 1/7 doz. 1½ x 1 in., with wires 6 in., 1/6 doz. For tying on, 1/6 and 1/3 doz. Waterproof Ink, 8d. and 7½d. bot. Crow Quills, 2d. Postage extra.

Highly commended by the R.H.S. at Wisley.

E. TORKINGTON . NEW HALL . MAIDENHEAD

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

FERTILISERS

SPECIAL SWEET PEA MANURE

The Original! **The Paramount!**

Produces perfect blooms, with superb :: colour, without coarseness ::

SPECIAL ROSE, CHRYSANTHEMUM, TOMATO, FRUIT TREE, VINE, LAWN GRASS, FLORAL

In bags: 7lbs. 3/3; 14lbs. 5/6; 28lbs. 9/9; 56lbs. 15/-; 112lbs. 26/6. Carriage paid
In tins: 1/9 and 3/- each. Post free

Also LAWN SAND, CARNATION, TONK'S ROSE, SPECIAL ONION TOP DRESSING, etc.

PRICE LIST ON APPLICATION

G. H. MACKERETH, LTD.
ULVERSTON . LANCS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

By Appointment

GREEN'S WORLD FAMOUS LAWN MOWERS

GARDEN ROLLERS & TENNIS MARKERS

Est. 1835

GREEN'S

"SILENS MESSOR"

The Universal Favourite.

Light running and almost noiseless. Supreme in construction. Perfect in operation.

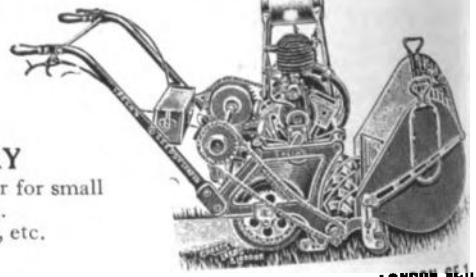
Over a Million Sold.

GREEN'S

MOTOR MOWERS

won the Highest Award at the Motor Mower trials held at Regent's Park, London, in 1925. Light Motor Mowers made in the following sizes, 16in. £45, 20in. £62 10s., 24in. £72 10s., 30in. £92 10s. Also heavier type Motor Mowers up to 42in.

Efficient. Reliable. Economical.



Also

GREEN'S NEW CENTURY

with adjustable bearings. The ideal light mower for small lawns, tennis courts, slopes and banks.
To be had of all Seedsmen, Ironmongers, etc.

New Price List No. 8, on request.

THOMAS GREEN & SON, LTD., Smithfield Ironworks, LEEDS; and New Surrey Works, Southwark St., LONDON, S.E.1.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

By Appointment

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.,
Royal Potteries,
BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE COMPLETENESS OF ITS COMPOSITION, AND THE HAPPY BLENDING OF ITS HIGHGRADE ORGANIC AND OTHER INGREDIENTS RENDER

A Carmona measuring Spoon in every tin

Carmona Fertilizer

A PAR-EXCELLENT BLOOM PRODUCER

CARRIAGE PAID PRICES :—

1 lb. Tin 1/3	2 lb. Tin 2/-
7 lb. Tin 4/6	112 lb. Bag 26/-

The fullest instructions accompany each package

Sole Manufacturers :—

ROBINSON BROTHERS LTD., WEST BROMWICH

Digitized by Google

Abol

The Standard Plant Wash

Abol Non-poisonous Insecticide is the "Best" sure-kill for Green and Black Fly, American Blight, etc. It is without an equal as a remedy for Mildew on Roses and other plants. It imparts health and vigour to the plant, and leaves the foliage beautifully clean and fresh.

Abol is perfectly safe to use on all flowers, fruits and vegetables, and will not harm the tenderest plant; has no unpleasant odour and will not damage paintwork.

Abol Non-poisonous Insecticide

Used in the Royal Gardens.

¼-pt. 1/4; pt., 2/2; qt., 3/4; ½-gal., 5/3; gal., 9/6

Write for Descriptive Folders.

Of Nurserymen, Seedsmen, Florists, Ironmongers, Chemists and Stores.

In the event of any difficulty, please write direct to the Sole Proprietors and Manufacturers, Abol Limited, 9, Beltring, Paddock Wood, Kent.

Write for Guide to Garden Pests, Gratis and Post Free.

The Syringe with the Perfect Spray

Abol Patent Syringes give a perfect mist-like spray — strong, yet so fine that it does not fall at once to the ground, but hangs in the air, and so envelops the tree and bush. The spray may be varied from fine to medium, or coarse, as desired.

No. 4 (1 x 14), 16/4
No. 5 (1 x 20), 21/-
No. 6 (1¼x20), 26/-

Bend attachment for directing spray to undersides of leaves, not included, but extra, 1/6

Abol Patent Syringes

Specially recommended by the National Rose Society

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND. SCHLUFLUME. DRESSING. INSECTICIDES, FLOWERS, SPRAYERS, AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA HANDLES—THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY. IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT, CARRIAGE PAID.

TOMLINSON & HAYWARD LTD LINCOLN

"ACME" WEED KILLER

Awarded Gold Medal at Anglo-American Exhibition and Bronze Medal by Royal Horticultural Society.

Has stood the test of over 30 years.

POWDER.—No. 1 Tin makes 25 gals., 3/-; postage 9d. No. 2, 50 gals., 5/-; postage 9d. Carriage paid on No. 4, which makes 150 gals., 15/-.

LIQUID.—1 gal. to 50 gals. water. 1 gal., 6/-; 2 gals., 10/6; carriage paid on 5 gals., 25/-.

NON-POISONOUS.—No. 1 Tin makes 6 gals., 1/6 post free; No. 2, 12 gals., 2/3 post free; No. 4, 50 gals., 7/- post free.

LAWN SAND

destroys weeds and moss in grass and fertilizes the lawn. No other manure necessary.

14 lbs., 4/-; 28 lbs., 7/-; 56 lbs., 13/-; 1 cwt., 25/-. Carriage paid on 1 cwt.

EXTRACT OF QUASSIA INSECTICIDE

1 gallon, 5/-; Drum, 1/6; Carriage paid on 5 gallons, 4/6 per gallon; Drum, 4/-. Pint, 2/6, post free. Drums allowed for when returned.

QUASSIA-TOBACCO INSECTICIDE

Pint, 2/6; quart, 3/9 post free. 1 gallon, 8/6; Drum, 1/6. Carriage paid on 5 gallons and upwards.

The Acme Chemical Co., Ltd.,
TONBRIDGE, KENT.

39th YEAR.

Mrs. PYM'S FAMOUS PLANTS

Orders over 3/- post free; under 3/- please add 4d. extra. Cash with order.

All per dozen; half and quarter dozen same rate. Named and carefully packed.

Antirrhinums, strong, transplanted, new large-flowering nanum strain, all the lovely new colours; separate, 1/9; mixed, 1/6. **Cornflowers,** Sutton's double blue, 1/6. **Heliotrope regale,** enormous heads fragrant bloom, 5/-. **Nicotiana affinis,** fragrant white tobacco, or crimson, 3/-. **Cannas,** Crozy's splendid varieties, 2 years old, 6/-. **Scabiosa japonica,** hardy perennial, large mauve, 5/-. **Sweet Scabious,** double, lovely colours, 2/6. **Canterbury Bells,** 1 year old, all colours; single, 1/9; double, 2/6. **Sweet Williams,** 1/6. **Schizanthus,** new compact, large flowering, 1/6. **Begonias,** evergreen, crimson, 4/-. **Tropæolum speciosum,** scarlet hardy climber, 6/-. **Apios** (Tuberous, rooted Wistaria), 8/-.

Beautiful Collections of Choice Hardy Perennial Rockery Plants, for planting now, assorted, 7/-.

THOUSANDS OF EXCELLENT PLANTS.

Catalogue free on application.

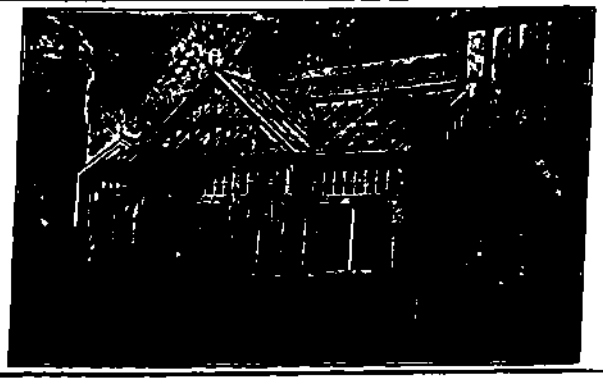
Mrs. PYM, F.R.H.S.,
10, Vine House, Woodston, Peterborough

"The Garden Beautiful"

No garden can be truly beautiful where the plants are sickly and starved. Therefore dress it well with Nitrate of Soda, in conjunction with Phosphates and Potash.

Write for special pamphlets, entitled, "Successful Gardens for Every Amateur," "The Manuring of Orchards and Fruit Trees," supplied gratis and post free by THE CHILEAN NITRATE COMMITTEE, Friars House, New Broad Street, London, E.C. 2.

Nitrate of Soda



FOSTER & PEARSON LIMITED

Established 1841

Please write for Estimates for durable Greenhouses, Boilers, etc., to

BEESTON NOTTS

Digitized by Google

The Popular Insecticide "KATAKILLA"

THE attacks of insects on the crops are recorded many times in the classics, but no preventive measures appear to have been contemplated or applied. The insects either passed over the land, devouring the vegetation, or, in a few recorded instances, were stayed by some unknown cause reported to be miraculous. These appear to be the earliest records of insect destruction; how they were effected is a matter of conjecture, but there is little doubt that much was due to one of several causes, all of which work to-day in nature's scheme to keep each variety of life in its proper proportion. These controlling factors are either climatic, *i.e.*, strong winds, extremes of temperature; insectivorous birds and insects which feed on and destroy plant pests, *e.g.*, ladybird (coccinellidæ), lacewing flies (neuroptera), ichneumon flies, etc.; and lastly, the application either accidentally or intentionally of an insecticide.

The "Katakilla" Man usually associated with the marketing of the Insecticide.

The fact that certain mineral and vegetable substances have a destructive action on insect life has been recognised for centuries, and many of the principal insecticides were known to the ancients.

To the last three generations, however, has been left the development of the application of these insecticides.

ESSENTIALS FOR AN INSECTICIDE.

In order that an insecticide may exercise its full force on insect life, it must be applied in such a form that it is brought into intimate contact with each and every insect present. It must be applied in such a proportion that each insect obtains a fatal dose, and yet the insecticide is not wasted. In liquid insecticides, and those to be used as sprays, the first of these conditions is brought about by some spreading or water-softening agent which makes the spray fluid spread evenly over the plant sprayed and also envelop the bodies of the insects. The question of quantity of insecticide to be applied can only be settled by experiment, but for economy it is essential that the dose should be limited.

Insecticides can be divided into two classes: those that kill by contact and those that kill by poisoning the insect's food and thus killing the insect. Both varieties are necessary, as many hard-bodied, leaf-eating insects are not affected by the former, whereas the soft-bodied sucking insects which live on the sap of the plants are unaffected by the latter.

The ideal insecticide should therefore possess the following qualifications:

Economical in application;

Easily miscible with water;

Harmless to plants and domestic animals;

Spread rapidly over the plants treated;

Be fatal in contact with soft-bodied insects and effective in destroying leaf-eating insects;

Finally, the insecticide must be in such a physical form that it can be sprayed on to the trees and plants with ease.

QUALITIES OF "KATAKILLA."

"Katakilla," called by its manufacturers the Perfect Insecticide, embodies these requirements. Katakilla is a non-poisonous powder, readily miscible with water to form a spray fluid which will destroy all soft-bodied insects on contact, and will prove fatal to hard-bodied leaf-eating insects, though its value against these latter insects depends on the thoroughness of the spraying. Provided it is thoroughly mixed with a little water to a consistency like cocoa before being applied to the bulk of water, Katakilla will form a good, even solution without sediment.

Katakilla contains a well balanced mixture of insecticide and spreading material in such proportions as to produce a good, wetting spray, *i.e.*, a thorough spread, with waters of average hardness, yet the quantity of insecticide present is just sufficient to destroy insects without undue expense.

Katakilla, being absolutely non-poisonous, is therefore quite harmless to man and to beast. Fruit or vegetables recently sprayed are perfectly safe for consumption within a few hours, although, of course, it is wise to rinse them first in order to wash off any slight flavour of the spray material. From a marketing point of view Katakilla surpasses all other insecticides. Being a powder, leakage is unknown.

The packages are just those required by the amateur or professional gardener. One envelope makes one bucket of wash (2½ gallons); in one small packet the amateur has sufficient for four buckets of wash which can be made up all together or individually at will. No awkward measuring or intricate calculation is required. One large carton makes 40–50 gallons of wash. "Katakilla" is hard to beat, and well merits its reputation of being the Perfect Insecticide. It is stocked by the leading seedsmen, nurserymen, ironmongers, as well as all the large London stores, in 2s. and 6s. cartons. Should difficulty be experienced in obtaining supplies, apply direct to the manufacturers, Cooper, McDougall and Robertson, Limited, Berkhamsted, Herts.

MANURES.

The most complete little book on the subject is "The Manual of Manures," by H. VENDELMANS, 4/5; by post, 4/9. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

"THE GARDEN" Sweet Pea Competition

Name.....

Address.....

.....

1 .....

2 .....

3 .....

4 .....

5 .....

6 .....

Coupon June 5th

CUT OUT AROUND LINE.

FERTILIZERS for the garden

Many of the important awards for fruit, vegetables and flowers have been won with Fisons' Fertilizers.

Illustrated Catalogue of Fertilizers for all garden crops, with full instructions, from

JOSEPH FISON & CO LTD IPSWICH

Dwarf Bedding Dahlias

Coltness Gem	Still the best dwarf scarlet, ht. 18ins. (The original stock introduced by me in 1918). Packed and post free, 9/- doz.
Dunecht Yellow	Good shade, a seedling from Coltness Gem. Same habit, slightly taller. Packed and post free, 9/- doz.
Paisley Gem	Orange-scarlet, variable. First flowers are semi-double, ht. 18ins. Packed and post free, 13/6 doz.
White Gem	Free and continuous, bushy habit, ht. 15ins. Packed and post free, 13/6 doz.

Copy of Summer List sent free on request.

D. G. PURDIE, 8J, Waterloo Place, GLASGOW, C.2

The RITO Smile

GARDENERS!

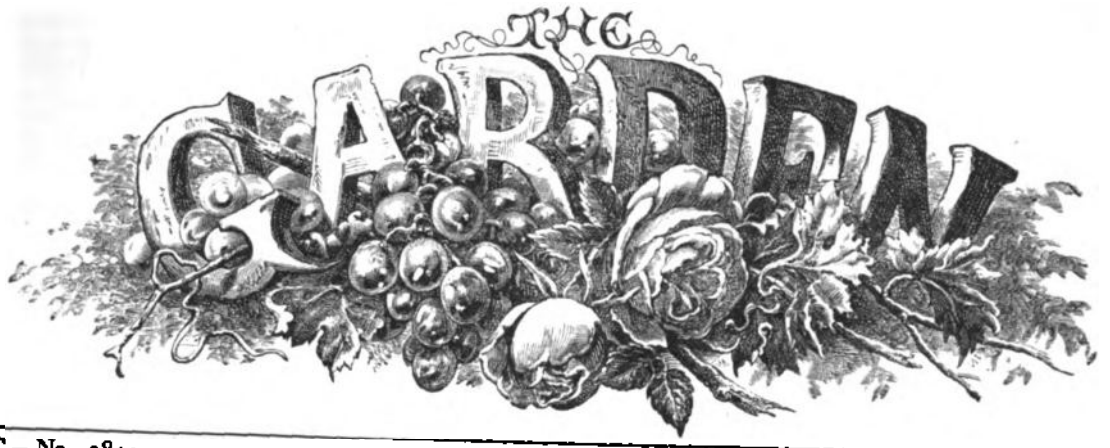
Multiply your crops and grow fragrant flowers with

RITO

RITO is a humus, organic and natural soil food: a stimulant and energising medium for soil bacteria. Its use results in larger crops. Rito is suitable for garden, greenhouse and allotment.

Seedsmen, Florists, Corn Merchants, etc., sell RITO at the following prices: 1 cwt., 23/-; 28lbs., 6/3; 14lbs., 3/3; 7lbs., 1/9; and in 1/- cartons.
Write to The Molassine Co., Ltd. (Dept. R52), Greenwich, for FREE literature.

Digitized by Google



VOL. XC.—No. 2844. JUNE 5, 1926

WHICH are the SIX MOST POPULAR SWEET PEAS?

THE sweet pea, like the rose, is everyone's flower. Like the rose, the sweet pea is being improved year by year. New tones, new flowering qualities, larger and finer flowers appear every season. So much is this the case that the number of varieties is now so large that it is difficult for the amateur to pick and choose his selection from the many magnificent kinds now on the market. He is in difficulties when the order season approaches what to buy and what to leave out. This is a serious question, for the sweet pea is a plant easily grown in a small area, and perfection is oftener attained in the ordinary garden than with almost any other plant.

£50 IN PRIZES

We are frequently asked, "Which are the six most popular, and therefore the best, sweet peas?" Like in the case of the rose, we are unable to answer; there are so many to choose from. In 1924 we held a competition in the pages of THE GARDEN, in order to find out by popular vote which are the six most popular hybrid teas. The number of entries was so large and our readers were so obviously interested that the competition was a triumphant success, and undoubtedly helped many of our readers in their selection.

We are, therefore, holding a similar competition with sweet peas, which, we are sure, will be just as popular, if not more so. The judging is entirely automatic: that is, the variety of sweet pea that gains the greatest number of votes is placed first by the readers of THE GARDEN, the next in number of votes second, and so on. This makes an attractive competition.

The reader who gauges most closely the public's taste of the six most popular sweet peas wins the first prize of THIRTY POUNDS' WORTH of goods as listed by any advertiser in the columns of THE GARDEN. Think what can be bought with £30. You may fancy a small greenhouse, or a lawn mower, or prefer a collection of plants or a set of gardening tools or some garden ornament, or, again, apparatus which will keep your plants in the best of health. Everyone has an equal chance of winning something that they will value both for and in their garden.

PRIZES.

1st PRIZE.—Goods worth **£30** from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

2nd PRIZE.—Goods worth **£10** from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

3rd PRIZE.—Goods worth **£5** from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

20 CONSOLATION PRIZES of **5s.** each from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

RULES.

¶ A list of your choice of the six most popular sweet peas to be sent in in order of preference on the coupon to be found on page vi of this week's issue of THE GARDEN. *No alternative* varieties will be allowed in the one list, but readers may send in any number of lists, provided that they are written on the special coupon to be found in this and the following five issues of THE GARDEN.

¶ Coupons must reach this office not later than Saturday, July 17th (after which date no coupons will be accepted).

¶ The popular vote will be final, and no correspondence will be entered into over this competition.

¶ Envelopes must be marked *Competition* and addressed to THE GARDEN, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

¶ The Editor will not be held responsible for letters missing in the post.

¶ The result will be announced in THE GARDEN in the issue of August 28th.

¶ The prizes are awarded to those whose list corresponds most closely to that arrived at by the popular vote.

¶ If two readers tie for the first place, the first and second prizes will be equally divided; if two for the second place, the second and third prizes will be equally divided.

¶ The Editor's decision on all points will be final.

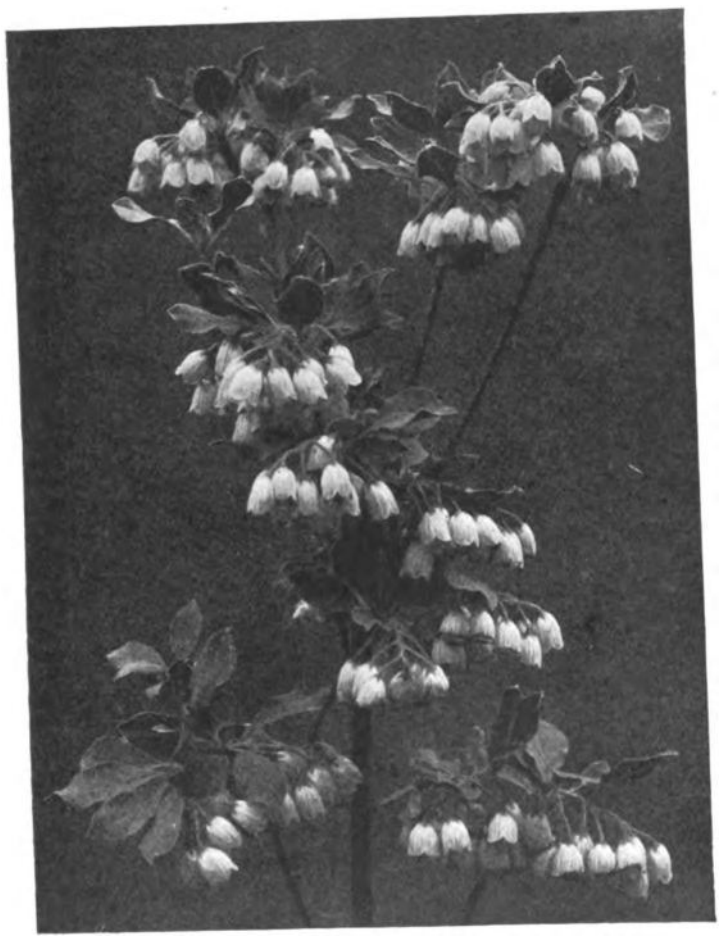
Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

JUNE 5, 1926

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.; Foreign, 17s. 4d.
Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2.
Offices for Advertisements: 6-11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

WORTHY PLANTS.—II.



ENKIANTHUS CAMPANULATUS.

THIS shrub is by no means a new plant, as it has been in cultivation in the British Isles since 1880. It has, however, been strangely neglected by the ordinary gardener. It was interesting, therefore, to see it shown on a number of stands at Chelsea, a sure sign that it is increasing in popularity. A catalogue of its merits is as follows: of quick and elegant growth, quite hardy, very pleasant when the creamy bells tinged and tipped with dull red are seen against the dull green of the leaves, very fine in autumn when the leaves turn a reddy-gold. Any soil that will grow rhododendrons or azaleas suits it and no special preparation is necessary provided that the drainage is good and the soil not too dry. It likes fairly full sun and an open exposure helps to retard its growth, for its only fault is its liability to being cut by late spring frosts. It is as well to plant it in groups not too close to plants with brilliant flowers, for it does not presume and so its charms are clouded when seen in proximity to brilliant tones. Many other species are said to exist, but there is a suspicion that they are all forms of either E. campanulatus or E. japonicus, a species with duller flowers, but of an even more brilliant colour in autumn.

NOW that Chelsea is over and done with, there is time to consider more leisurely what lessons are shown by this greatest of all Shows. First and foremost it has pointed out the fact that the popularity of gardening and horticulture is increasing steadily with measured force and not with a spurt that betokens a sudden boom and an evanescent popularity. More and more people are seen walking round the Show in order to learn, and not only to admire the beauty of the various exhibits. In fact, they are taking an interest in the cultivation as well as in the plants themselves.

Apart from the standard exhibits, that were better than ever this year—such as gardens formal and rock, alpines, herbaceous, roses, irises, clematis, orchids, tulips, fruit and vegetables—certain plants have come to the fore in surprising fashion; partly, no doubt, because the vagaries of the weather have suited them, but also because the demand is making for an increasing supply. One or two instances are easily noted. No one has ever seen such a display of Eremuri before. The gigantic, yet graceful spikes were to be seen on several stands and certainly these exhibits of a noble plant will do much to increase its popularity. Two other genera undoubtedly stand out in the same way, primulas and meconopsis. There are so many forms and varieties of the former now in cultivation that there are sufficient to gratify every taste, whether it prefers the old-fashioned polyanthus or the latest finds of Kingdon Ward or Forrest, such as the giant Florindæ and the graceful white chionantha. Unfortunately, meconopsis are bad travellers, which is perhaps one of the reasons for their unpopularity as a show plant, but that they were to be seen on a few stands proves that their popularity is increasing and that gardeners are becoming less terrified of them. Other examples could be given were there space. However, Chelsea shows that gardeners and owners of gardens are enlarging their collections by including plants that a year or two ago were grown by a few that could be named on one's fingers.

IT is pleasant to see that the special artists' tent at Chelsea has been so much appreciated and was so successful. The art of flower painting is an old one, as old as the growing of flowers itself. For the past few years it has suffered a decline which it is hoped that the innovation of a special artists' tent at Chelsea will help to remove. The paintings and drawings as shown by such artists as Miss Eva Savory, Miss Edith Fisher, Miss Nellie Blacklock, Mrs. Grace Carver and Miss Mary Elwes were excellent as works of decorative value and as impressions of the flowers depicted. It is a pity, however, that no one with something of the botanical in their artistic make-up has appeared on the scene. We lack a Redouté or an artist such as painted the illustrations for the "Flora Græcæ," "Flora Antilles," Wallich's "Plantæ Asiaticæ Rariores" and other monumental works of the past. In the case of garden design Mr. Percy S. Cane showed excellent photographs of gardens he had designed and a water-colour of a charming town garden, a restful scene of blues and greys. Other designs of note were shown by Miss Brenda Colvin.

IN our Correspondence columns will be found a letter from Colonel Cuthbert James, M.P., advocating that a law should be passed for the preservation of our wild flowers something after the manner of the Wild Birds' Protection Act. There is no doubt that some such act would go a long way in eliminating much wanton, or, at least, unnecessary damage to our wild flora. It has certainly been successful in the case of birds and there is no reason why it should not be equally so with plants. Colonel James lays particular stress on the relentless process of extirpation of the commoner flowers, whereas the loss of the rarer plants is even more serious, since their destruction is usually brought about by people who have some knowledge and should therefore know better. It is to be hoped, in any case, that the Council of the R.H.S. bestir themselves and see that this excellent suggestion of our correspondent comes to something. There is no authority that is conversant with the true state of affairs about our wild flowers and wields so much power owing to its enormous and growing membership. Meanwhile we should welcome constructive suggestions from our readers, many of whom have this matter at heart and are willing to do something towards saving our wild flora whether rare or common.

AMONG THE ARTICLES IN OUR NEXT ISSUE WILL BE:

NATIVE PLANTS IN OUR GARDENS—II, by Dr. R. Lloyd Praeger.

RED-HOT POKERS FOR THE AUTUMN GARDEN, by W. Fowkes.

Digitized by Google

SOME TIBETAN PRIMULAS

BY F. KINGDON WARD.

Many of the primulas described by the author in this article were on view in one or two exhibits at Chelsea last week, and the descriptions and history of these new introductions to our gardens may prove of interest after the plants have been seen in flower in this country.

IN addition to the Chinese and Himalayan primulas found in eastern Tibet, there are also a number of endemic species. Some of these, such as P. Florindæ, P. Waltoni and P. falcifolia, have already been dealt with. The majority, however, occur in the section Auriculata, which has few representatives in the Himalayas or in China. We found five species, the most interesting being P. pygmæorum, P. tibetica (K.W. 5739), P. glabra in two varieties (K.W. 5703), and P. Walshii (K.W. 5802), none of which occurs outside Tibet proper.

P. pygmæorum is a minute plant with a giant flower, bright rose, nestling among the spathulate leaves. It grows on grassy hummocks in moss, or on alpine grass slopes on the plateau at 14,000ft. We found it in flower in April, and did not meet with it again; but I got a little of the previous year's seed. Despite its bright, starry leaves, a welcome sight spangling the dead lawns of high Asia so early in the year, P. pygmæorum is small even for the rock garden.

P. glabra is another tiny alpine from turfy slopes on the rhododendron moorland. It grows half an inch high, with a spherical head of minute pink flowers. A variety with violet flowers grows on cliffs in the region of perpetual precipitation.

P. Walshii is not much bigger. It has rosy pink flowers which open in May, and grows on alpine turf slopes.

The best of the bunch is the little P. tibetica, a bog plant with carmine flowers, which is quite common. The alpine bogs and lower meads from 11,000 to nearly 14,000 ft. are absolutely inflamed with it throughout July. It sometimes attains a height of 6ins., and if grown in sufficient mass will be a useful addition to the bog garden, for though in cultivation, it is rare.

The Petiolaris section is well represented in the forested parts of Tibet, with four species. P. Whitei and P. irregularis are well known Sikkim plants. P. chionota (K.W. 5868) is a new species with bright yellow flowers. It grows in rocky pools and on alpine mud slides on the very wettest mountain ranges at 12,000ft. to 13,000ft., flowering towards the end of June.

Much more abundant is P. Roylei, a plant of the woodland glades with cherry red flowers. Most of the Petiolaris primulas are sylvan, and we have only one of them—P. Winteri—in cultivation, and that not happy; the reason being that we never grow our woodland primulas in woods, though our own beautiful wild primrose is sometimes—not always—permitted to remain there. We have unreasonably convinced ourselves that the only place in which to grow primulas is the rock garden. Shade may, indeed, be provided in the rock garden; but, apart from that, the conditions under trees are entirely opposed to those met with on rocks, and one need only compare the voluptuous root system of a woodland plant with the weedy spider's-web roots of a rock plant to see this. To begin with, woodland soil, both in texture and chemical properties, is quite different from rock soil, and it is *always* moist, not merely at stated intervals when the watering pot is handy.

P. Winteri and P. Roylei ought both to be grown in the wood; the latter, flowering among the bluebells in June, would make a harmonious coalition.

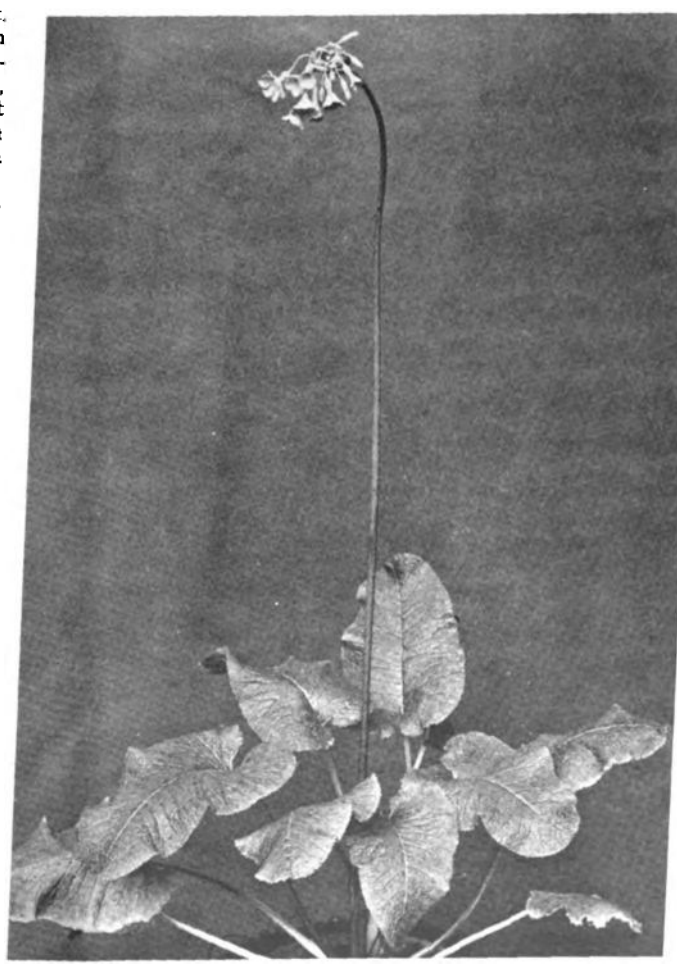
Section Geranioides, which has both Chinese and Himalayan representatives, furnished one good plant, and that a new species P. latisecta (K.W. 5819). It covers steep, loamy banks under trees, preferring heavy shade and a well drained soil. Seed was not collected till January—it flowers in June—but has germinated well, and the plant should be useful for woodland, being distinct both in flower and foliage.

Section Rotundifolia is confined to the Himalaya and Tibet, and includes rock plants from high elevations. We found two species, of which I need only mention P. Baileyana (K.W. 5985).

Now, it is a fact that, in this country, rock primulas, which generally means alpine primulas, rarely do well, the reason being that they are accustomed to sleep soundly for at least five months in the year. When the snow melts in May or June, having reserved their strength and vigour, up they come with a rush; but in England they are too apt to dissipate their strength and damage their health with several false starts. Thus they fall easy victims to late frosts and cold damp.

There is not a single popular hardy rotundifolia primula in cultivation to-day, though they are among the most charming rock primulas known. The fact is, they must be grown not only in the rock garden, but on rocks. Planted in gritty soil, where moisture cannot collect and stagnate, in the crevices of a rock wall facing south—for sun never hurts them—they would have a chance.

I mention this because P. Baileyana, now that it has germinated so freely, is a plant well worth persevering with. The curious shape of the leaves on their long flexible petioles, which allow the blade to twitch over, partly exposing the bright silver white under surface, and the neat heads of bright violet flowers are quite unusual. But a single specimen plant is not much use. What we require of our rock gardens is not a museum, but an impressionistic effect of life and colour and dainty freshness; and this is *only* to be achieved by judicious massing and blending, *not* by scattering plants like currants over a rock cake. This is where we can triumph over nature, for we can arrange and select our plants as Dame Nature would like. For instance, a



P. FLORINDÆ, THE GIANT COWSLIP PRIMULA OF THE SIKKIMENSIS GROUP.

This species was awarded a first-class certificate at Chelsea.

Digitized by Google

mass of P. Baileyana in a rocky nook, or bands of it along a wall, would produce a charming effect; but we never saw it growing so in Tibet—there was too much competition.

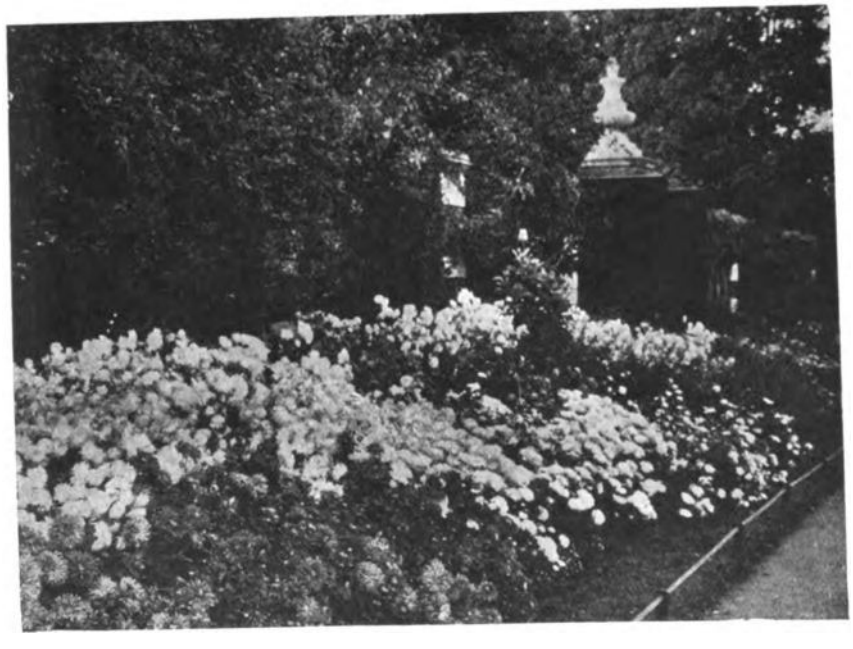
In a previous article I stated that P. chungensis was the only "Candelabra" primula met with. But if the Chinese P. serratifolia is classed as a "Candelabra," which it is at present, then the golden primula, P. Morsheadiana (K.W. 5858) must also be so classed. I only hesitate for this reason. There are two good diagnostic characters for the candelabra section, (i) Habit, (ii) Capsule. The latter is no doubt the more important, and P. serratifolia has got it, but the former it has not got, neither has P. Morsheadiana, a new species from the home of P. falcifolia. P. Morsheadiana resembles P. serratifolia in size and appearance, but its flowers are of a uniform bright butter yellow, instead of bicolor—gamboge and lemon. It grows on grassy, not to say slimy, alpine slopes in clumps, favouring more sheltered situations than the daffodil primula, and like the latter it may flower either in spring or autumn. We found some fine winter clumps flowering bravely in the snow. The capsules of these two species are very similar, which is the reason why I cannot regard P. falcifolia as a true nivalid. The golden primula is not fragrant.

Lastly there is the dainty P. Cawdoriana (K.W. 5741), a new species of the section "Soldanelloides," which contains the lovely little Himalayan P. Reidii. Two striking features of P. Cawdoriana are the massing of the few flowers on one side of the head and the length of the deeply cleft corolla tube, which often exceeds an inch. The colour is violet.

The plant was found growing in masses on shaded rocks and banks in thin, well drained hungry micaceous soils, at 13,000ft. to 14,000ft., flowering in June and July. The seeds are germinating fairly well, and its strange appearance, with the long-tailed tubes streaming off the 6in. stems, would well repay a little trouble. There is nothing like it in cultivation.

EARLY-FLOWERING CHRYSANTHEMUMS

IN common with many other popular flowers, early-flowering chrysanthemums have been much improved during recent years. A large number of the newer introductions are undoubtedly acquisitions, but many of the older favourites are still indispensable. A really good collection of the standard kinds can be obtained for a modest initial outlay, and as most of these produce cuttings very readily, a large stock can be worked up in a few years. For those who wish to keep up to date with the later introductions the cost of these is not exacting, and there are practically no losses if reasonable care is exercised.



FOR COLOUR AND BEAUTY IN THE AUTUMN BORDER EARLY-FLOWERING CHRYSANTHEMUMS ARE HARD TO BEAT.

WHEN AND HOW TO PLANT.

Now that all danger of frost is past plants can be put into their permanent quarters as soon as possible. The earlier in the month that this is done the better, as the chrysanthemum likes a long period of growth. Thorough soil preparation is essential, and sufficient animal manure should be incorporated in the soil to ensure that there is no check in the steady development of the plant during the height of summer. The cause of many failures and an indifferent display of bloom can often be attributed to careless soil preparation. In addition to animal manure it is a good plan to work into the soil a liberal quantity of bone meal. If the plants are grown on a site that has been formerly used as a potato plot, soil conditions should be admirable, and the ground should not need such a heavy dressing of manure. Choose an open situation that receives a maximum amount of sunshine if possible. Where the plants are grown solely for garden display some attention should be paid to colour arrangement. By a judicious blending of the shades many pretty colour combinations can be obtained. If a warm effect is desired, the richer colours should predominate. Vivid shades of orange, terra-cotta, crimson or scarlet, or blends of these, will give bold masses of rich colour. Whites, creams, pale yellows and blush pinks will give cooler contrasts.

Allow the plants sufficient room to develop. The exact amount of space to allow between the plants will depend upon the garden room available. It is unwise to crowd chrysanthemums among tall-growing perennials that are liable to outgrow them and take possession of light and air. Firm planting is also essential, and it is a good plan to tie the plants to canes or stakes as soon as they are put out in the border. This reduces damage from winds to a minimum, and also keeps the plants in an erect position.

THE EARLIEST VARIETIES.

As a rule the earliest varieties to bloom are the "Polly" type. Polly is one of the oldest of the standard sorts. It is a deep orange with amber shading, and usually grows to a height of 1½ft. In southern and midland districts it can be had in bloom in August in a normal season; in the north it begins to flower towards the end of that month. Crimson Polly and Golden Polly are two "sports" from the older variety, with the same characteristics as the original of the type. Abercorn Beauty, another "sport," is a rich bronze with reflexing florets, and, like all the type, is both robust and free flowering. Florrie Wilkinson is a deep yellow "sport," and is regarded by many as the best of the Polly type.

I have usually found that Saracen, one of the newer introductions, comes into bloom towards the end of August, and its large blooms are a rich shade of deep amber with darker centres. With good culture this variety can be made to flower over a long period. The same early and continuous flowering habit can be attributed to Mary Houston, one of the best varieties from Tollcross. Mr. McAlpine has had this variety in flower with the earliest kinds and also exhibited it as late as November. It is best described as an improved Goacher's Crimson.

THE MASSE FAMILY.

Here we have a strong-growing and particularly free-flowering type that seems to succeed anywhere. One finds this type in almost every town and suburban garden where chrysanthemums are a speciality. Improved Masse is a large rosy lilac with a silvery reverse, and bears large double flowers that make excellent sprays. White Masse is not quite pure white, but it is an excellent light-coloured variety for sprays. Horace Martin and Elstob Yellow are two very good yellows

Digitized by Google

of this class, and Mrs. J. Mason is a fine shade of old rose. Rabbie Burns is an old favourite, having rosy cerise flowers and a free branching habit. George Bowness is crushed strawberry and is also a favourite of the Masse type. One of the best is John McAlpine, a splendid grower and very delicate and pleasing in colour, which is rosy pink shaded with apricot and yellow. This variety gives a very large number of cuttings.

THE GOACHER'S CRIMSON TYPE.

Goacher's Crimson needs no introduction to the reader. At its best it is a very desirable standard sort, and succeeds well in most localities. Golden Goacher is a golden bronze "sport" and Bronze Goacher is a deeper bronze. Mrs. J. Fielding also belongs to this class and bears rich chestnut bronze flowers of fine form.

THE PERRIER TYPE.

Another of the free-flowering and easily grown earlies. Mme. Cassimer Perrier, creamy white tinted with pink, is found in most gardens. Cream Perrier is a creamy white sport from it, and Mrs. A. Willis, another sport, is yellow shaded with red.

OTHER GOOD STANDARD VARIETIES.

Reine des Blancs and Roi des Blancs are two excellent early white varieties. I prefer the former. Nina Blick is another very fine old variety that cannot be omitted. It usually blooms early in September. Pluie de Argent is a fine white variety for garden display. It grows to a height of about 1ft., and well grown specimens are literally a mass of bloom. Alexander McAlpine is one of the very best of the earlies either for garden or home decoration. Its flowers are of good form and the colour, a rich golden orange, is particularly pleasant in artificial light. Crimson Diana and Golden Diana are two excellent varieties for the garden, having a neat habit and a very free-flowering character. Ena Thorpe, a large flesh pink, gives good sprays for cutting, and this variety is also fine when disbudded. Harry Thorpe, deep yellow with a fawn suffusion in the centre, is also a good variety for decorative purposes. The rich shade of Dick Barnes, burgundy crimson, is very attractive, and Harvester, a light bronze, is also a favourite for home decoration. Wembley is a splendid decorative variety of intense blood red colouring.

VARIETIES FOR EXHIBITION.

Some of the later flowering kinds, which can be lifted from the open and finished under glass if desired, will give fine exhibition blooms if disbudded. These include Blanche du Poitou, Primrose Poitou, Cranfordia, Cranfordia Supreme, Soliel d'Octobre, Bronze Soliel d'Octobre, Emperor, Armorel, Anthea, La Pactole, Yellow La Pactole and Belle Mauve. Jessie McAlpine, which comes practically pure white when finished under glass, is a fine exhibition variety when disbudded. Silver Queen, warm pink with a silvery reverse, comes as large as Cranfordia when disbudded, and this is undoubtedly a notable new variety.

A SELECTION OF SINGLE CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

The later introductions in singles are far in advance of the older sorts. Mr. Woolman has worked assiduously in the evolution of a better petalled flower, and his newer kinds are stronger in habit and the blooms are capable of resisting the wet. I have grown most of his recent novelties. From many good varieties I recommend the following half-dozen as being of outstanding merit: Papyrus, deep velvety crimson; Delice, bright pink; Doreen Woolman, golden orange; Morning Star, golden amber; Orange Girl, golden orange; and Shirley Terra Cotta, bright terra cotta. All these are very beautiful colours in lamplight. Mr. Woolman tells me that his new early-flowering varieties, which include Periscope, a single yellow, are regarded as the best set he has sent out.

HOW TO FEED THE PLANTS.

For a top-dressing use eight parts of sulphate of ammonia, six parts of superphosphate of lime and one part of sulphate of potash. As a stimulant use alternately a mixture of liquid manure made from cow dung and soot water, and one part nitrate of potash, two parts phosphate of potash to half a gallon of water. Use the liquid fertilisers in showery weather if possible.

NORMAN LAMBERT.

NOTES OF THE WEEK

IVY-LEAVED PELARGONIUMS.

AMONG pelargoniums the section known as the ivy-leaved, with their straggling, pendulous nature, is of particular value, as plants which were struck, maybe, only this spring soon respond to culture as to be serviceable for use in a variety of ways. They have always been favourites for furnishing hanging baskets and window boxes, and it is generally agreed that it is better to start with young plants for such purposes, rather than attempt to press into a confined space roots of older specimens. The present is a suitable time to get them into their intended quarters. If in baskets, care should be taken to line them with moss and press the compost well down about the roots. A very plain diet is all that is needed for ivy-leaved pelargoniums, and should consist of old loam and leaf-mould, with a little sharp sand added. For window boxes they are particularly effective, as they soon drape and festoon down the sill as to make quite a common receptacle very charming, owing to the prodigality of blossoms. Vases in the garden, as well as banksides on the approach to a house, may be adorned with them. Within recent years, too, I have noticed where summer bedding is undertaken, *e.g.*, on lawns, they are becoming more largely employed; and there is this to be said in their favour, at least, that they bloom continuously for some months. Where these pelargoniums are employed for indoor decoration, it will be found that a 5in. or 6in. pot is a convenient size, and any plants in need of removal should be potted forthwith. In the case of old plants which may have occupied the same pot for a number of years, it would be to their advantage to give them a change, even at this date, either by removing them to larger pots, or planting them out of doors in beds or borders. In turning them from their present pots, some of the old, worn-out soil should be removed, and if kept within the greenhouse for a time they speedily recuperate. So dealt with, one is more likely to obtain a better show of bloom than if left for the summer in compost that has long since lost its nature. I do not think that so much use is made in covering back walls of lean-to greenhouses as formerly, but for permanency there is much to be said in favour of ivy-leaved pelargoniums, especially where they are planted out in a border within the house. They grow very rapidly and, once established, are wonderfully profuse with their flowers. In thus quartering them, it is essential that plants should have the fullest advantage of light.

The following varieties are among the best double-flowered varieties: Beauty of Castlehill, deep rose pink; Mrs. W. H. Martin, mauve; Beauty of Jersey, reddish purple; H.M. the Queen, salmon; Mme. Crousse, pale rose; Jeanne d'Arc, white, veined lilac; Scarlet Mme. Crousse.—W. LINDERS LEA.

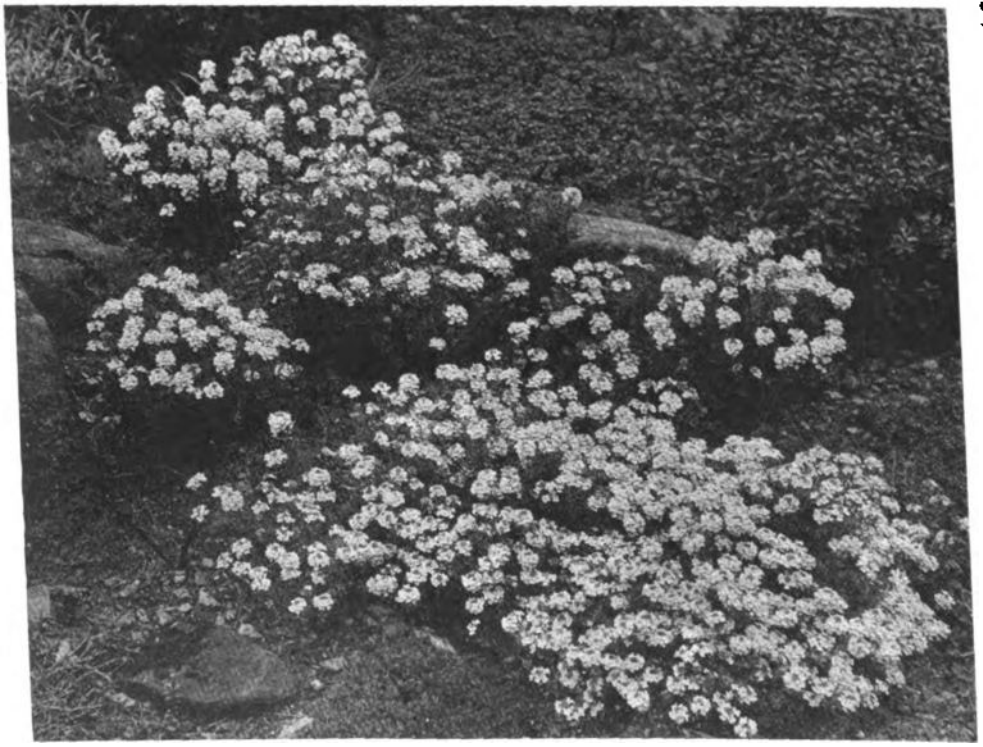
MME. CROUSSE, A FINE IVY-LEAVED PELARGONIUM.

Digitized by Google

THE ÆTHIONEMAS.

A Desirable Plant for any Rock Garden.

AMONG plants suitable for rock and wall gardening the æthionemas hold a high and prominent position, largely on account of their long flowering period, which extends from May till July. They belong to the Natural Order Cruciferæ, and some half-dozen useful species and hybrids are in cultivation. One of the best is grandiflorum with elongated racemes of handsome deep pink flowers freely produced, and perhaps rather crowded. Nevertheless, it is a beautiful plant, and the ovate oblong glaucous leaves are an additional charm. A native of Mount Lebanon, the rosy lilac Æ. cordifolium hails from Asia Minor and flowers in early summer. This species also has glaucous leaves. If afforded a somewhat dry, stony position, it is a true perennial; but if grown in rich soil and on flat ground it often dies out. An ally of the last-named plant is Æ. pulchellum, and it closely resembles that species. It has rosy purple flowers, and is rather prostrate in habit. It is a plant that ought to be in every rock garden.



ÆTHIONEMA WARLEY HYBRID, AN ADMIRABLE PLANT FOR THE ROCK GARDEN.

Two others call for special notice, *viz.*, Æ. Warley Hybrid and Æ. Warley Rose. Both are exquisite and desirable subjects, and the illustration depicts part of a fine clump of Æ. Warley Hybrid. It forms compact little bushes covered with rose-coloured flowers in May and June, and it is readily increased by cuttings during the summer months after the flowering period. An ideal companion to Warley Hybrid is Warley Rose. In the rock garden it grows freely and is compact in habit. The brilliant rose flowers are freely produced, and the late Mr. E. C. Buxton of Bettws-y-Coed considered it one of the best of all alpines. Certainly it is a decided acquisition, and it is suprising that the name does not appear more frequently in catalogues of hardy plants.

To grow the æthionemas successfully they must have ample drainage, otherwise the roots decay, the leaves fall, and the plants become unhealthy—a sure sign that the position is too damp. In most [illegible]s an ideal spot can generally be fou[illegible]nshine is essential, and when possible a sloping piece of ground or near some rock should be chosen. Here the necessary warmth and drainage will be found. The soil ought to be on the light side, and if the medium is at all heavy it can be improved by adding old mortar rubble, sand, and limestone chips. Light and rather poor soil is best for all the æthionemas. Not only will they succeed in dry warm positions on the rock garden, or sunny moraine, but also in walls. It is well known that it is advisable to insert the plants as the wall is being built, but even so it is always necessary to add others later on, and with the plants under notice they must be transferred to the chinks and joints between the stones when quite small. Another method which often proves successful is by sowing seeds.

The species can be raised from seeds sown in the spring, but those of hybrid origin and special varieties are increased by cuttings. These will readily form roots in a cold frame or hand light if inserted in sandy soil during the summer months. Here they should remain for the winter, to be transferred to their permanent stations in the spring.—T. W. B.

THE USES OF BALSAM.

A Good Bedding Plant.

ALTHOUGH balsams have always been widely grown by that section of the gardening fraternity classed as professional, they have never become really popular and are comparatively unknown among amateurs. Those who have to keep up a supply of blossom in a cool greenhouse know their value as pot plants; in the open they do exceedingly well in sunny borders when planted out fairly late in the season and well hardened off. The waxy flowers, the fleshy succulent nature of the foliage, give the plants a tropical appearance, while the colours, mostly shades of red, are of a charming brightness.

Balsams come on very quickly in the initial stages so that early sowing is not advisable as a rule. A sandy leaf-soil compost serves for the seed-pan; a genial temperature ensures speedy germination and a warm, humid atmosphere causes fast development. After that they need the usual run of treatment given to greenhouse subjects, but the compost should be a rich one containing a fair admixture of manure, hop manure or spent manure from a mushroom-bed. Six-inch or eight-inch pots are used for finishing them off. Never pot too firmly, and give the plants plenty of moisture. Feed plants coming into flower, for they respond more than many others. Though we have never grown them in composts enriched by the addition of artificials alone, we have seen first-class results in such a case, a point which may reassure amateurs who find manure difficult to obtain.

For planting out, the balsams must not be forced. Sturdy, short specimens grown in a cooler atmosphere than the pot plants are invariably best and, as balsams are tender subjects, the hardening process should be thorough. It is too dangerous to plant out before June. We in the north plant out during the second week of that month. Water may be required in the open, also and in dry, hot weather a good sprinkling overhead every evening is of the highest value.

Although the Holstii sorts are perennial, most growers raise new stock annually. The hybrids offer a very wide range of colouring. Sultani varieties are also very fine and prove to be both profuse in flowering and almost continuous. Of the true annuals, the camellia-flowered kinds are probably the finest, while the double rose-flowered sorts are sure to prove favourites. Our best bedders are the miniatures, which, though small, bear very large flowers in mixed colours.—CLYDESDALE.

ACTÆA RUBRA AND A. ALBA.

Two Attractive Baneberries.

TO those who are seeking an attractive addition to the herbaceous border, these two baneberries will prove most useful. They are pleasing in every stage of their growth. Coming through the soil in early spring, they remind one of some strong-growing fern, with a soft red tint. The foliage is light and graceful and both species have white flowers, which open in April and early May; these are in clusters at the ends of the stems. Their greatest charm lies in the berries; these are large and vivid red in A. rubra, but with A. alba they are a shiny white, each berry marked with a black spot, this striking contrast gives this plant the pet name of "Doll's Eyes" in Canada.

Visitors to these gardens never pass these interesting plants without comment. As far as my knowledge goes, they seem of easy culture providing the site is fairly moist and in half shade. The baneberries belong to the crowfoot family and reach 3ft. to 4ft. in height, being easily propagated by root division and seed. We have been most successful with the latter. When planted together these plants give a most pleasant combination.—R. MOORE.

SAXIFRAGA PELTATA.

IT is not every garden in which there is a suitable place for the great Saxifraga peltata; but where there is, it is a plant which ought not to be forgotten. In spring it sends up on long 2ft. or 3ft. stems, clad with bristly red, broad heads of big pink stars. These are followed by great notched shield-like leaves, which are about a foot across and rough surfaced, on 3ft. high stems. But to grow it to its full dimensions it must have plenty of moisture, and it is happiest and finest by the waterside, where it can send out its long, thong-like rhizomes to reach the water. Although a Californian plant, it is quite hardy and perennial, and is an excellent subject where bold effect by the water is desired.—S. ARNOTT.

Digitized by Google

MORE ABOUT THE CHELSEA SHOW

This is the second and final portion of our report on the exhibits staged at Chelsea Show, the first part of which appeared in our special number last week.

HARDY FLOWERS

(*Continued from page* 304.)

Messrs. Baker's were represented by a stately group, the bold spikes of delphiniums in leading sorts being very effective. Lupin Pink Pearl, the bronze Verbascum Cotswold Queen, the red Lilium Sappho, and Geum Orangeman were all worthy of special mention in a collection that contained many noteworthy plants for the herbaceous border.

Messrs. Bees of Liverpool had a gracefully set-up group, the centre comprised of Eremurus Elwesianus. Lilium umbellatum was good, as were also Campanula Telham Beauty, Thalictrum dipterocarpum, the bright pink Astilbe Rubin, and various irises and lilies.

The exhibit of Messrs. R. H. Bath of Wisbech contained a group of the pink Pyrethrum E. M. Robinson, a few showy gladioli, peonies and cannas. Other good pyrethrums were the bright red Comet and Mrs. B. Brown. Bowls of Scilla campanulatum in the front of the group, together with anemones, bright yellow trolliuses and irises, completed a seasonable display.

Messrs. Godfrey and Son, Exmouth, staged a group of their Campanula persicifolia Pride of Exmouth, a semi-double light blue variety that should find a place in every garden.

Especially attractive were Messrs. Downer's lupins. They are superb, the wonderful pink shades being nothing short of remarkable. A few of the best would include Goodwood, Marion Cran, Gladsome, Wanderer, Delight and Glamour, all of the pink persuasion.

Mr. J. C. Allgrove, Langley, Slough, had eremuri and peonies, with a number of shrubs. The eremurus was E. robustus magnificus, the tall stout spikes lightly arranged with bamboo foliage. A few lupins, Campanula Telham Beauty, and gerberas all helped to make a unique and delightful effect.

Messrs. Rich and Co., Bath, contributed a display in which Geum Princess Juliana, an orange variety, was noteworthy. Pyrethrums and lupins, such as the yellow P. Sunshine, were also on view.

A good selection of violas was staged by Mr. William Yandell, Maidenhead, but the cold wet season prevented the blooms being shown in tip-top condition. In spite of this, however, some fine blooms were to be seen in this exhibit, where upwards of forty varieties were staged. Moseley Perfection is a general favourite, and the showy yellow variety John Adamson is sure to become popular. Kathleen, shading to a plum colour with a creamy centre, is new; also Dunbryan, a deep mauve edge with lighter centre. The forms of V. gracilis were pleasant; also the dark V. Grundel. Good useful garden varieties are M. Mott, Royal Scot and W. H. Woodgate; these are suitable for bedding purposes also.

Mr. Clarke, Taunton, staged both bedding and exhibition violas in good condition. The blooms were clean fresh and tastefully set up. A few of the show varieties were John Adamson, Alex. Ramsay, a large dark striped viola which is new; also another fairly new one is Colin Storey, a beautiful deep rose. Kathleen, cream edged band of purple, is a favourite; also Donald McDonald, a cream with a broad band of azure blue. Useful bedding varieties embrace Bridal Morn, blue; Primrose Dame; Redbraes Yellow; and James Pilling, a blue edged white. A few pansies were shown, an apricot variety being worthy of a distinctive name.

Mr. John Forbes of Hawick had vases of violas in his collection, and the small alpine varieties, such as forms of gracilis and the pretty little Bluestone, were to be found in many exhibits of alpine and rock garden plants.

Mr. Herbert E. Longford, Abingdon, had seven circular beds of pansies, which showed a wonderful variety, both in colour and size of the blooms.

ALPINE PLANTS

The alpine plants at Chelsea were well up to the usual standard, and in spite of the difficulty caused by the postponement of the Show there was even less tendency than last year to supplement the legitimate rock garden plants by half-hardy species.

There were no very striking novelties, but there was a very pleasant appearance in force of one or two old but hitherto very rare plants, such as Viola pedata, Phyteuma comosum and Campanula Allionii. Viola pedata is distinct from the rest of the family in the carriage of its upper petals, which are laid back like the ears of a Belgian hare, giving the flower a sulky expression very different from the cheerful pertness of most pansies. It comes from damp sandy places in North America and is usually considered very difficult to grow: but a great many sturdy plants were shown by Messrs. Bowell and Skarratt, both of the lavender-coloured type and the fine variety bicolor, in which the upper petals are deep velvet purple.

Phyteuma comosum is rare in nature and very difficult to collect from the narrow rock crevices to which it is confined, but it is unexpectedly well behaved in cultivation, and deserves every encouragement for its strange beauty, which is quite unlike anything else in the rock garden. Farrer compared the flowers to a cluster of purple glass phials with the necks drawn out into slender horns. Strong clumps in full flower were shown by Messrs. Tucker of Oxford and Messrs. Prichard.

Campanula Allionii with stainless Canterbury bells seems to be coming into its own as a moraine plant; it was shown by Messrs Clarence Elliott and in the outside rock garden of Captain Symonds Jeune.

A plant that made its first appearance last year from Spain, Linaria supina nevadensis (or possibly L. melanantha) was shown by Messrs. Gavin Jones and Messrs. Bowell and Skarratt. It has the habit and about the same length of life and requirements as Linaria alpina, but the flowers vary from velvety black through chocolate to reddish brown in the seedlings which it produces very freely.

The indoor rock gardens were not quite so elaborately designed as usual; but Messrs. Wood of Ashtead made a long, showy bank, broken in the middle by a jutting piece of rock, covered with a large plant of Azalea balsaminiflora (roseiflora), almost prostrate

MR. F. WOOD'S INDOOR ALPINE GARDEN.

THE EXHIBIT OF ALPINES STAGED BY MESSRS. MAXWELL AND BEALE.

Digitized by Google

in habit and smothered with apricot pink camellia flowers. The collection included Primula secundiflora, the rare Saxifraga mutata with starry flowers of brownish yellow, Fuchsia procumbens, whose odd flowers look like extinguished fusees but are followed by more decorative berries, and Iris gracilipes.

Messrs. Gavin Jones had an interesting flat-topped mountain crowned by an old specimen of Picea obtusa nana showing up the clear pink of Saponaria ocymoides. The mountain slope was discreetly planted with Potentilla opaca, Vaccinium myrtifolium, the true Saxifraga valdensis and other rarities.

Messrs. Oliver and Hunter showed among their rare primulas a very fine albino of Campanula rhomboidalis, with frosty white bells; Viola septentrionalis; and the true Polemonium pumilum.

Against a dark background of old and twisted conifers Mr. W. E. Th. Ingwersen of Sharpthorne, Sussex, showed a collection of excellent forms of Ramond a pyrenaica, a large soft pink and a small elegant albino, both of which stand out in clear-cut delicacy of design against dark rough leaves, and a very large deeply coloured variety. Dotted about on a mossy slope were the true Saxifraga Mme. Nabiana, which is the most richly coloured of its group; a very interesting hybrid between Mme. Nabiana and S. Aizoon lutea, with cream-coloured flowers neatly spotted with crimson; the rare Aquilegia Reuteri, a dwarf and sturdy form of A. alpina; and Androsace geranifolia, with graceful heads of pink flowers whose stem turns into a creeping stolon when they fall.

Messrs. Bowell and Skarratt showed a particularly interesting collection of varieties; several of the terrestrial orchids in which the firm specialises, including the writhing green lizards of Himantoglossum hircinum; the very dwarf Dodecatheon integrifolia; Tulipa Sprengeri, in scarlet and gold; the carmine pink garlic Allium Ostrowskianum; Codonopsis ovata, whose greyish blue bells are strangely marked inside with orange and black and purple; the pearl pink Lewisa oppositifolia; and the two forms of Viola pedata.

Messrs. Tucker of Oxford showed the curious Sedum sempervivum, which looks like a pyramid of brownish red tiles carrying a spike of pink flowers; several very healthy plants of Androsace pyrenaica; Allium pedemontanum, one of the best of the garlics; and Phyteuma comosum.

Messrs. Clarence Elliott made a very charming rock garden with a grey mountain awave with the plumes of Saxifraga caterhamensis and terraces planted with Oxalis enneaphylla rosea; Mertensia primuloides, with brilliant sapphire blue forget-me-nots; the queer spurless columbine, Aquilegia calcarata, in dusky purple; the violet blue Gentiana pyrenaica; and the large milk white flowers of Ranunculus parnassifolius.

Outside the tent the new form of rock gardening introduced by the firm attracted a great deal of attention, and two stone sinks containing a miniature pinetum carpeted with thyme, a pair of kaleidoscopic pig troughs planted with purple orchis, golden Potentilla ambigua, crimson daisies, alpine pansies and veronica, a miniature alpine garden and the reproduction of an alpine lawn, were appreciated for their beauty as well as their originality.

Messrs. Wells showed, among other good plants, the rare Cyclamen balearicum, with prick-eared white flowers and the most handsomely marbled leaves of the genus.

Messrs. Scaplehorn showed Silene Hookeri which carries relatively enormous flesh pink flowers with deeply cut petals on a small neat rosette; and Tritonia aurantiaca, a remarkable South African bulb with orange trumpets which have a transparent window at the base of each petal.

Messrs. Maxwell and Beale made a little rock pool overhung by Cotoneaster thymifolia and backed with primulas in a garden containing Rosa alpina; an interesting new silver saxifrage "Esther," with flowers of old ivory; and the cherry red potentilla "Miss Willmott.

Messrs. Prichard showed Saponaria Weidmannianum, with clear pink flowers on turfy hummocks; Wahlenbergia serpyllifolia alba violacea, which, in its best form, is neatly striped with violet on palest lavender; Phyteuma comosum; Smilacina bifolia, with deep green leaves and fluffy spikes of creamy flowers—a minute and very charming woodlander.

Messrs. Reuthe included our rare native Orchis militarus; the very sombre slate blue Globularia stygia; Veronica filiformis, a delicate little bush with needly leaves and blue bird's-eye flowers; and the rare Japanese alpine Conandron ramondioides, with fleshy crinkled leaves and lavender potato flowers.

Messrs. Jeans and Trowbridge showed a very attractive form of the native Silene maritima, with flowers faintly flushed with pink; and the not very hardy Agathæa cœlestis, crowded with lavender blue cineraria flowers.

The Colesborne Gardens showed several rare and very desirable plants; a fine single white form of Pæonia arietina; Corydalis Wilsonæ, with chrome yellow flowers and grey, bronze-shaded foliage; Anemone rupicola, with large solid white flowers; and the tall greyish violet Globularia tricosanthe.

A magnificent show of new primulas and meconopsis was staged by Lady Aberconway and the Hon. H. McLaren. These were mostly collected in Sikkim and Tibet by Capt. Kingdon Ward. Among the newer species, P. Pauliana, a yellow of the geranioides section, may become a good garden plant. As shown, the growth was according to the type smaller than it should be. Probably Capt. Kingdon Ward's greatest find is P. Florindæ, a giant sikkimensis with the typical citron yellow flowers. It is so large that it ably lives up to its name of the Cowslip Primula. Among the meconopsis the new M. Baileyi, a good blue faintly flushed with purple, and M. paniculata, a fine yellow, were the most striking.

Messrs. Storrie and Storrie had a fine exhibit of polyanthus and aquilegias a very fine combination, by the way. Their strain of polyanthus is so well known that it was pleasant to see that it was better than ever. The colours were clear and attractive, particularly in the paler shades.

Among other alpines, Messrs. Oliver and Hunter showed a fine collection of primulas. They also showed P. Florindæ in even better form than those in Lady Aberconway's exhibit. They also had a dwarfer sikkimensis, P. flexilipes, of a very pale yellow, and the popular giant form of P. Littoniana.

Mr. G. H. Dalrymple again staged his well known Bartley strain of P. pulverulenta. This has the advantage of coming true from seed, as well as being a very pleasant pale pink with a deep crimson eye.

THE SERRIED RANKS OF TULIPS ON THE STAND OF MESSRS. BARR.

TULIPS

The postponement of the Chelsea Show for a week no doubt made a decided difference to the exhibits of May-flowering tulips; but still there were one or two creditable displays, while a few exhibitors staged vases of useful flowers in their miscellaneous groups.

Messrs. Barr and Sons of Taplow and London were represented by an exhibit characterised by the fine bold flowers on stout tall stems. The arrangement was also good; it consisted of three prominent groups of tulips with the intervening spaces or bays filled with various irises, while in the front of the group were anemones, muscari and Schizostylis Mrs. Hegarty, a rose pink form of the Kaffir Lily. A few strong spikes of eremuri and gladioli were also staged. However, the tulips were the principal feature, and the following were especially noteworthy: The handsome and popular Darwin Tulip Farncombe Sanders was well shown, also Mme. Krelage, Bleu Aimable, mauve shaded purple; the striking Old Times, an improvement on Amber Crown; Boadicea, rosy red flushed amber; Goldfinder, a lovely tulip of perfect form, clear scarlet with pure yellow centre; the distinct and dark Mrs. Potter Palmer; and Andromaque, a large and beautiful flower, brilliant garnet red in colour. Other varieties were on view, and collectively the display was bright and very effective, the colours being well arranged.

Messrs. Bath, Limited, Wisbech, had a few vases of tulips with their herbaceous

Digitized by Google

plants, and they included the striped and quaint Goldmine, F. Sanders, and the beautiful Parisian Yellow.

Another glorious group came from Messrs. Dobbie, Limited, Edinburgh, arranged in vases so that each variety was an exhibit in itself, and every flower could be seen to advantage. Asparagus Sprengeri was used to cover the vases, etc., and this added much to the general beauty of the display. As a whole the flowers were good, the stems strong and the foliage healthy. A few outstanding vases were Inglescombe Yellow; Pride of Haarlem, a grand variety with brilliant cochineal-carmine large flowers of exceptionally fine form; Mrs. Moon, a large canary yellow variety; Marksman, a brilliant orange scarlet slightly shaded buff, with a strong constitution; Orange King; and Gorgeous (syn. Lucifer), a handsome tulip with dark cherry scarlet flowers flushed with deep orange on the inner sides. At the end of the tulip stand was staged a batch of well grown calceolarias, with fine pouches and showing great variation in colour. The whole proved attractive to numerous visitors.

Messrs. E. Paul and Co., Cheshunt, put up several vases of bright tulips in their general group—Scarlet Perfection; Marksman; the handsome old Dutch tulip Dom Pedro; and two others in the same category, viz., Panorama, dull madder red with rosy glow; and the large Turenne, a stately flower which is purple margined with amber.

Messrs. H. G. Longford, Abingdon, Berks, skilfully arranged a circular bed on the floor, which contained a few tulips in addition to pansies, iris, spiræas and other subjects. The principal vases contained flowers of T. Ellen Willmott, Walter T. Ware, Juliet, and the yellow Alaska.

LILIES

Once more Messrs. Wallace had matters more or less their own way in the field of lilies and they spared no pains in staging one of the finest exhibits of this fine garden flower that has been seen at Chelsea in recent years. The lily garden was tastefully set out in beds, each containing something fine in the species and varieties. In the beds the chaste beauty of the lily was well seen through the informal grouping. One commenced with a bold coloured colony of Lilium umbellatum Diadem, and the graceful L. elegans alutaceum, stretching through the more handsome splendour of L. umbellatum spendidum to the tall and elegant L. croceum, with its orange blossoms spotted with brown. Beautiful as these species are, however, they must bow to the glorious LL. Brownii, regale and ongiflorum giganteum. One of the latest Japanese lilies to be introduced into this country was also to be seen. This is the dainty alpine species, L. rubellum, so characteristic with its few broadly stalked leaves and its pure rose pink fragrant flowers. The elegant Martagon section was well represented in bold groups of the dark toned dalmaticum, the lighter coloured Mrs. R. O. Backhouse and the glorious pure white album.

DAHLIAS

It is as yet early in the season for dahlias and the exhibits of this flower were few in number. The two largest stands were put up by Messrs. Carter Page and Co. and Messrs. J. Cheal and Sons. Dahlias of every type and in many colours were arranged side by side. Messrs. Carter Page's exhibit was exceedingly good when one considers that we are only now into beginning of June. The pompon and decorative varieties were in good form. Johan Mensing, a decorative dahlia of deep scarlet crimson; Pride of Berlin, a pretty pink star dahlia; Feodora, a miniature decorative; Murillo, a rosy pink decorative with a silver sheen; and Canary, a large sulphur yellow cactus-flowered variety, were a few noteworthy dahlias on this stand. Messrs. J. Cheal showed several of the popular Mignon varieties and many of their well known star dahlias. Among these were Crawley Star, Gatton Star and White Star. Arthur Hutton is a good terra-cotta decorative dahlia of large size, and Tipsy, a camellia dahlia of brilliant scarlet. Such varieties as Mrs. Bigg, Alma and Dulcie were also noted.

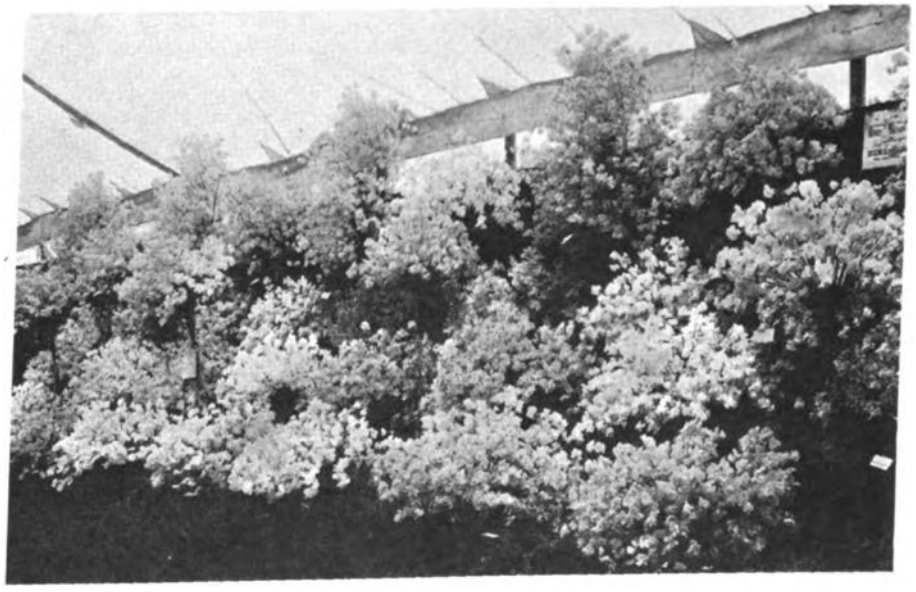
SWEET PEAS

The general high standard of the Show was fully maintained by the exhibitors of sweet peas at Chelsea last week, when these delightful, fragrant flowers were displayed in great beauty. Mr. Robert Bolton is a past master in the art of setting up graceful exhibits of sweet peas, and on the present occasion the critical visitors were of the opinion that he excelled himself. Floral decorators and public speakers have, at least, this much in common: the most successful is he who knows when to stop. This, Mr. Bolton has long since learnt, or, more probably, inasmuch as artists are born and not made, knows instinctively when the maximum effect has been obtained, and so gives delightful displays of his sweet peas.

Not only was it an artistic group, but the flowers were of supreme quality, such as one would expect at the Summer Show of the National Sweet Pea Society when the season is at its height, rather than in the spring. Magnet, as shown by Messrs. Robert Bolton and Son, was decidedly the novelty sweet pea of the Show. Structurally it has all the qualities of the highest class flower, and its glowing pink shades of colour are most charming. The large quantities that Messrs. Bolton set up show that it is a free-flowering variety, for it is an axiom in the sweet pea world that any variety which will flower freely under glass is certain to be more floriferous out of doors. "What Joy," if Mr. Bolton will forgive us, is not a pretty name and is unworthy of the excellent creamy yellow novelty which he showed so well. Picture, which was shown in several baskets, is one of the finest sweet peas extant and is of fascinating rose-flushed, flesh pink colouring. Other desirable varieties in the Bolton collection were Gold Crest, of rich orange colouring lightly tinted with salmon; Mammoth, a fiery orange scarlet flower, with rather more scarlet than orange, and of immense size; Grenadier has nearly the true scarlet of the Guardsman's tunic, and it keeps its colour well out of doors; Royal Mauve is of lovely shading; R. F. Felton, though fifteen years old, is still one of the very best lavender-coloured sweet peas.

A regal collection of sweet peas was arranged by Messrs. Dobbie and Co. next to their glowing tulips. Their sweet peas were imposing in their great quantity, as well as in the quality of the flowers and their wonderful colour value. The orange and orange scarlet varieties were especially brilliant and of these the outstanding were Wizard, Royal Sovereign and Tangerine Improved. Various shades of pink were also admirable. There were, to select from, Mary Pickford, Hebe, Miss California, Dignity, Renown and Patience, all of pink shades of colour, but all distinct and equally desirable. Jean Ireland, raised at their Marks Tey grounds some years ago, is still one of the very best picotee-edged varieties, and Constance Hinton occupies a similar position among the white sweet peas. Royal Purple, with Mrs. Tom Jones and Gleneagles of blue colouring were delightful, while their novelty Marchesa, of creamy yellow shading, and Mermaid of mauve tone, have great decorative value.

As corner pillars to their most charmingly arranged garden in the tent Messrs. Carter and Co. had many beautiful sweet peas. Mrs. A. Searles, one of the novelties, is of bright coral colour shaded with salmon.



MESSRS. BOLTON'S MAGNIFICENT DISPLAY OF SWEET PEAS, PROBABLY THE FINEST WHICH HAS EVER BEEN SEEN AT CHELSEA.

STOVE AND GREENHOUSE PLANTS

As a whole, these constituted a glorious sight, and, although the former were but sparsely represented, the latter were well shown and in great variety. It proved what a wealth of material there is to choose from for the cool greenhouse, and how a wonderful display can be secured without much fire heat, and, moreover, little difficulty will be experienced in growing them to perfection.

Digitized by Google

Few ferns were on view, but the group of stove and greenhouse varieties set up by Messrs. Ellison, West Bromwich, were well grown, clean, and exceptionally fresh in appearance. Upwards of seventy varieties, including all the popular forms, could be seen—selaginellas in various species and varieties, while here and there were fine examples of Saxifraga sarmentosa tricolor.

Messrs. Webb and Son, Stourbridge, occupied a corner space, and here they used everything to the best advantage. There were grouplets of blue and gold salpiglossis—and here we might say what an excellent pot plant this beautiful annual makes: every owner of a cool greenhouse should give it a trial; also Linaria hybrida and double scarlet clarkia. Large drifts of cineraria, which embraced the florists' varieties stellata and cactus, all of which displayed a wide range of colour. Here and there were slight depressions in the arrangement, and these were filled with calceolarias, well grown and choice strains of schizanthus, superb gloxinias, Primula obconica and Rhodanthe maculata. Other fine things were included, and the exhibit did this well known firm great credit.

Messrs. Toogoods, Southampton, were represented by a pretty group, the centre of which was occupied with a bold group of Cineraria stellata of more than average merit. Each end was filled with schizanthus, beautiful stocks, Nemesia Blue Gem and N. strumosa. Banks of blue, white and yellow iris were effective, also Calendula officinalis King Edward VII, a great improvement on the type. The orange giant mignonette deserves more than the ordinary meed of praise; it is an excellent kind, well grown, the large spikes of bloom being the envy of many who have repeatedly failed to grow this annual in pots successfully.

Among greenhouse flowers the homely geranium or pelargonium occupies a high position, and these general favourites were well shown by one or two firms. Messrs. Jarman and Co., Chard, staged exquisite blooms in their usual effective way, and among the single varieties we noted General Wolseley, clear rosy red; Bombay, somewhat similar, with a pure white eye; Edward Hockey, salmon; Sir E. Cassel, brilliant scarlet. The doubles were represented by Paul Rubens, dark red; Lave, orange scarlet; and August Rickards, bright scarlet. Several sweet-scented and oak-leaved varieties were there, with small flowers, also a pretty display of alpine violas of the gracilis type.

Messrs. R. J. Case, Taunton, in addition to large pans of the scarlet Salvia splendens Harbinger, put up vases of zonal pelargoniums, such as the bright Drummer Boy, a warm salmon red single; The Speaker, a fiery salmon semi-double; and President Baillet, a semi-double soft red. An edging of variegated nepeta contrasted with the pelargoniums, which were tastefully arranged.

Mr. F. A. Denny (gardener Mr. Thrower), Horwood House, Bucks, set up a group which contained well grown examples of Calceolaria Clibrani and Statice profusa hybrida. All were flowering profusely.

The hydrangeas have made remarkable progress during the last few years, and a few firms appear to make a speciality of these plants, especially H. J. Jones, Rycroft Nurseries, Lewisham. He staged two wonderful groups, the fine heads of blooms, in various shades of pink and blue, were the admiration of many; while the white varieties were very chaste. The arrangement was perfect. Grevillea robusta broke up the flatness of the floor group; but the huge bank at the side of the tent presented a pleasant and wonderful sight, the shades of colour being so arranged to produce a harmony agreeable to the eye.

From Studley College came a group of hydrangeas, chiefly of the white and blue persuasion. It needed a few pink varieties to liven up the general display, otherwise the plants were well grown.

An unusual and interesting group was staged by Messrs. Low of Enfield, inasmuch that it contained a large number of Australian and New Zealand hard-wooded plants. Acacias were well represented, also the bottle-brush tree, Metrosideros floribunda, the reddish brush-like inflorescence being most showy; Boronia heterophylla, well berried; pink hydrangeas, the scarlet Clerodendron fallax, a good selection of hippeastrums, some of the flowers being round and beautiful in outline; the golden Calla Elliottiana; bold scarlet antirrhinums; and other similar subjects, all welded together into one harmonious group.

Messrs. Godfrey and Son, Exmouth, Devon, had a table of dwarf schizanthus from which all the pale and worthless forms had been eliminated. The strain is characterised by the compact habit, variety and richness of colour, and the free-flowering qualities of the plants.

A decided departure from the usual run of exhibits was that staged by Messrs. L. R. Russell of Richmond. Reminiscent of bygone days, it is nevertheless pleasant to see that there is still a demand, if slight, for this type of plant, *viz.*, the occupants of the greenhouse known as the stove. Here we saw in the finest conditions such subjects as caladiums, anthuriums, richly coloured crotons, the nepenthes with their quaint pitchers, dracænas and other beautiful foliage plants. The flowering examples included Clerodendron Balfouri, large specimens of Medinella magnifica, and the showy Francisca calycina major. The usual array of palms, ferns, etc., contributed towards making this group a feature of the Show. Near-by some beautiful tree ferns were on view, all from Mr. Russell.

The collection of caladiums from Mr. H. B. Brandt (gardener, Mr. H. Cook), Nutfield, Surrey, was remarkable for the variety, colour and healthy appearance of the plants.

The Cheadle Royal Mental Hospital, Cheshire, was responsible for a group of Senecio glastinifolius, a beautiful pink cineraria-like flower, rather larger than the stellata type, while the plants shown were 2ft. to 3ft. high in 5in. and 6in. pots. It appears to be the same as Senecio multibracteatus, and ought to prove one of the most popular of greenhouse plants, while for the hybridist it may prove a useful parent.

Messrs. Blackmore and Langdon's begonias were among the finest exhibits in the Show. The plants were pictures of health, and the massive flowers perfect. Although they were large, they lost none of their beauty on that account, and it is the best lot of begonias we have seen for a long period. The Bath firm has specialised of late years in varieties suitable for baskets, and here several forms were on view. Among the large-flowered section we noted James Braid, Sir H. Willcox and Calthorp, all reds; Queen of the Belgians, Mrs. D. B. Crane and Hilda Langdon, pinks; while Albatross is a superb white.

Messrs. Watkins and Simpson, London, put up a useful lot of Schizanthus wisetonensis Excelsior strain, and the new bedding Calceolaria Albert Knight, which has yellow and bronze pouches rather larger than the usual bedding varieties.

Messrs. Sutton and Sons, Reading, on the present occasion appear to have excelled all their previous efforts, for they put up a most meritorious lot of plants. The original plot, probably square, had been converted into a veritable fairyland, with banks and bays of flowers cunningly arranged with paths intervening, so that there were surprises for the visitor at almost every angle. A few palms had been judiciously placed, and the tent poles draped and clothed with trailing begonias; while the pink Senecio multibracteatus graced a pole at one corner. The chief plants in this noteworthy and excellently arranged display were cinerarias in almost endless variety, both in colour and general habit; Calceolaria Clibrani, together with the large-flowered hybrids; exquisite streptocarpus; wonderful gloxinias characterised by their massive foliage and flowers; begonias in variety; schizanthus in all shades and habit—and we would particularly call attention to S. retusa, a pretty shade of rose, and the retusa hybrids; salpiglossis was well shown, also the John Innes strain of calceolarias. A touch of brilliance was furnished by Clerodendron fallax, which constituted a prominent group near one corner. All the above were present in large masses, and were so arranged that the whole presented an exquisite and beautiful group. Near by, the same firm had a large circular bed filled with Primula obconica, each distinct shade being given a block to itself. This group was awarded the Sherwood Cup.

Messrs. Peed, West Norwood, arranged a group having large palms at the back, the front portion being filled with bold blocks of blue hydrangeas, streptocarpus, gloxinias,

A SECTION OF MESSRS. SUTTON'S EXHIBIT OF GREENHOUSE FLOWERING PLANTS WHICH WAS AWARDED THE SHERWOOD CUP.

Digitized by Google

caladiums (for which this firm is famous), liliums, and a small patch of the pinkish Kalanchoe flammea.

Messrs. Carter of High Holborn and Raynes Park produced quite one of the leading exhibits at Chelsea, but it would probably have been improved by a path or two, so that visitors would have had an opportunity of seeing the flowers to better advantage. However, it was tastefully arranged, and the sweet peas were much admired. This exhibit was divided up into squares, bays, beds, mounds, etc., and each area was devoted to some particular plant. Thus, there were large spaces filled with cinerarias, gloxinias, begonias, statice, salpiglossis, antirrhinums and similar subjects. Altogether, it was a fine exhibit, carefully planned and arranged, and all the various strains of plants shown bore signs of careful selection and cultivation.

FRUIT & VEGETABLES

One of the most tempting displays in the Show was the magnificent collection of strawberries staged by Messrs. Laxton Brothers. All the varieties exhibited showed fruits of good size and colour and all were in the best of condition. Their variety The Duke, one of the best early strawberries yet raised, was well shown, and supported by others such as Majestic, a good cropper with fruits of fine flavour; Laxton's Prolific, another heavy cropper; and King George, which even surpasses Royal Sovereign in cropping and size of fruits.

A large and varied collection of fruit trees in pots was staged by Messrs. T. Rivers and Son. Here were to be seen peaches nectarines, plums and cherries. The most notable sorts shown in peaches were the Duchess of Cornwall and Peregrine; while John Rivers and Early Rivers were two good early nectarines. A fine plant of Cherry Guigne Annonay was also shown.

The magnificent exhibit of apples by Messrs. Bunyard attracted a great deal of attention, and not a few were greatly surprised to see the fruits in such perfect condition after almost nine months' storage. It stands as a lesson in the keeping capacity of several varieties of apples, notably Cox's Orange Pippin, Allen's Everlasting, Sir John Thorneycroft, Lane's Prince Albert, Chaplin's Pippin, Sturmer Pippin and Wagener, all of which were displayed among the seventy to eighty varieties shown in perfect colour and form.

There were several fine displays of vegetables, of which once more that of Mr. Vicary Gibbs (gardener, Mr. E. Beckett) led the field. The stand included excellent dishes of almost every vegetable it is possible to have on our table during the summer months. The variety shown and the perfect condition of each, together with the praiseworthy method of staging so characteristic of Mr. Beckett, reflected the greatest credit on the whole staff of Aldenham House gardens.

Baron Bruno Schröder also staged a meritorious group, including radishes, celery, cucumber, broccoli, tomatoes, etc., all of really high-class merit. The exhibit of Messrs. Sutton's also showed that our large seedsmen consider the vegetable side to be as important, if not more so than the floral side of their business. There were many choice kinds on view, and all showed the results of careful handling and attention.

CACTI

Several exhibits of cacti were staged, and many visitors paused to examine the quaint and varied forms of these succulents. Miss Worth of Holebeach had a most interesting collection, including a number of rare specimens, some from Mexico and others from East Africa. A few of them were in flower, and all were in excellent health. Mamillarias, such as M. chionocephala, M. molle and M. plumosa, were among the group. Echinocacti of all kinds, a few haworthias and numerous other cacti were also to be seen.

Mr. Sydney Smith of Enfield had a large number of cacti on show, the majority of which were growing in pots. A few of the smallest were cleverly arranged as cacti gardens growing in bowls. Mamillaria Schmidtii, M. rhoptha, the snake-like growths of Cereus flagelliformis, and C. serpentinus, Echeveria Desmetiana, E. farinosa and Euphorbia Caput-Commelini all added interest and variety to the group. Messrs. H. Hemsley showed a number of vigorous cacti among their group of hardy plants.

MESSRS. LAXTON'S TEMPTING DISPLAY OF STRAWBERRIES.

ORCHIDS

The Orchid Tent was so arranged that exhibits were only placed round the sides, the central part being entirely free and thus much more space for visitors was allowed than in former years. This new method met with general approval.

Messrs. Charlesworth and Co., Haywards Heath, had a remarkably fine group in which their premier strain of Odontoglossum crispum stood out prominently. A large number of odontiodas made a pleasing contrast with their many-flowered spikes of scarlet and red colours. Touches of bright yellow were seen in Odontoglossum Phillipsianum aureum and in O. Wilckeanum aureum, both home-raised hybrids. Lælio-Cattleya Fascinator rosea was the best of the section, while smaller plants of Sophronitis parentage were in the front. Several novelties were staged in odontonias, of varying rose and purple colour, which when fully grown will be very effective. The popular Oncidium papilio with its butterfly-like flowers poised on long stalks, was a continual source of attraction as also was the curious Bulbophyllum virescens, with an umbel of eight flowers.

Messrs. J. and A. McBean, Cooksbridge, had an extensive display, which, as usual, was most artistically arranged, every plant showing to advantage. The central part was composed of Cymbidium hybrids intermixed with odontiodas and light oncidiums. At various points were well flowered plants of Cattleya citrina, as well as of Lælio-Cattleya G. S. Ball, the numerous flowers of which made masses of bright orange yellow colour. Odontoglossum crispum has always been a speciality of the firm, and many beautiful varieties were again staged. Epidendrum vitellinum and Cypripedium Maudiæ came in for well deserved appreciation, as also did several distinct hybrids of Miltonia vexillaria.

Sir Jeremiah Colman, Bt., Gatton Park, Surrey, had a most interesting group of rare species and elegant hybrids. Of chief importance were the numerous varieties of Lycaste Skinneri, which were mostly staged in specimens bearing from five to seven flowers. Lycaste lanipes, with six cream-coloured flowers; and L. lucusta, of dark green colour, were also included. A beautiful rarity was seen in Vanda suavis alba, the flowers being only obscurely spotted with light yellow. An attractive plant was staged in Sarcopodium Lyonii, perhaps better known as Dendrobium acuminatum, with flowers of carmine rose. Along the front row were the pretty Vanda parviflora, Cypripedium niveum and several well flowered examples of Cypripedium Maudiæ.

Mr. H. T. Pitt, Stamford Hill, was awarded the challenge cup offered by members of the orchid trade, as well as a silver-gilt Flora medal. His group contained many interesting as well as rare species, and he also staged more cattleyas than other exhibitors. The scarce Bulbophyllum macrobulbon was well flowered, as also was Renanthera Imschootiana, with numerous flowers of red colour. In addition to Anguloa Clowesii, popularly known as the Cradle Orchid, there was a plant of the much rarer A. uniflora. The central part was made up of several plants of Microstylis Scottii, the quaint Nanodes Medusæ and the green-coloured Lycaste Locusta.

Messrs. Cowan and Co., Southgate, had many fine cypripediums in their group, mostly of the albino section, such as Maudiæ, Emerald, Curtisii Sanderæ and callosum Sanderæ. In the centre was a showy plant of Lælio-Cattleya Queen Mary, with five large flowers of mauve purple, and just at the back Selenipedium macrochilum, with its elongated petals. Odontoglossum Stanley Baldwin had six large flowers blotched with violet, and a novelty was staged in O. Southgatense (Gorizia × Georgius Rex). Among the many odontiodas mention may be made of Cordor, with a branched spike of reddish flowers, and of Jessica, with soft rose-coloured markings, also of Murillo magnifica, with a spike of twenty flowers of scarlet red.

Digitized by Google

Messrs. Sanders, St. Albans, had an extensive display in which were many plants of the charming Cattleya citrina, with pendulous flowers of citron yellow. An elegant, as well as rare, plant was staged in Ærides Houlletianum; while along the back row were well flowered examples of Thunia Brymeriana and numerous cymbidiums, mostly of the insigne section. In front were Bulbophyllum Lobbii, and its variety Colossus bearing larger flowers. Phalænopsis amabilis stood out prominently with its large white flowers of moth-like formation.

Messrs. Stuart Low and Co., Jarvis Brook, Sussex, put up a fine exhibit, comprising many cypripedium species and hybrids, and a number of odontoglossum hybrids, white and coloured forms being equally represented. Peristeria elata, commonly known as the Dove Orchid, came in for its due share of appreciation; while in other parts we noticed Cœlogyne pandurata, sometimes referred to as the Lizard Orchid, and Dendrobium atroviolaceum. This exhibit was specially good in the oncidium species, perhaps the best example was O. serratum; and there was also a many-flowered plant of the garden-raised hybrid known as O. McBeanianum (macranthum × superbiens). Cattleya Skinneri alba, with its white flowers, made a pleasant contrast to the purple-coloured ones Cattleya Tityus.

Messrs. Armstrong and Brown had an effective arrangement of cypripediums, including Gold Mohur, Lady Rowena and Curtisii, the latter bearing a dozen well developed flowers. A fine effect was produced by massing several plants of the blue-flowering Dendrobium Victoriæ Reginæ. Odontoglossum crispum xanthotes looked very pretty alongside of the heavily blotched Odontoglossum Victory; while just in front was a superb example of Cattleya Mossiæ var. Reineckiana with nine large flowers. Sarcopodium Lyonii was also well staged. Selenipedium caudatum, with its long-tailed flowers, and Cœlogyne pandurata, of greenish colour, attracted no small amount of attention.

Messrs. Black and Flory, Slough, staged numerous Miltonia hybrids of the vexillaria section; also a finely flowered example of Dendrobium Thwaitesiæ, with flowers of golden yellow. Cattleyas were the outstanding feature, and included some richly coloured varieties of C. Prince Shimadzu, as well as of a hybrid named C. Chelsea.

Messrs. Cypher and Sons, Cheltenham, had an extensive display of cypripediums, including such popular kinds as Chamberlainianum, Gowerianum and Lawrenceanum. At the back was a tall plant of the scarce Dendrobium Dalhousieanum luteum, and in front of it some well flowered examples of D. atroviolaceum. Selenipedium macrochilum came in for notice on account of its unusually long-tailed petals. Lælia purpurata, so popular in the old Temple Show days, was here in evidence, also the best of its hybrids in Lælio-Cattleya Aphrodite.

Messrs. Mansell and Hatcher, Rawdon, Yorks, had a pretty group of miltonias, including the one known as "J. Gurney Fowler," white with a dark blotch on the labellum. Cattleya Mossiæ was in fine form, and among the cypripediums were Gowerianum, Lawrenceanum and the ever popular Maudiæ.

Messrs. Sutton Brothers, Hassocks, Sussex, staged a pretty group containing the white-flowering Cattleya Dusseldorfei and Phalænopsis Rimestadiana. At one end was a large plant of Dendrobium thyrsiflorum, and at the other the pretty Epidendrum vitellinum.

Mr. Harry Dixon, Wandsworth Common, had an effective exhibit comprising many attractive odontoglossums and odontiodas. Cattleya Mossiæ and some of its hybrids made useful plants; while Fowler's variety of Cypriepdium Rossettii stood out prominently.

NEW & RARE PLANTS

FIRST-CLASS CERTIFICATE.

PRIMULA FLORINDÆ.—One of the most recent acquisitions to the genus primula. This species was collected by Captain F. Kingdon Ward in 1924 and the plants shown are the first to flower in this country. It can best be described as a giant sikkimensis of erect and columnar habit—its tall flowering stem bears a loose head of dangling citron yellow bells. The most striking feature of the plant, however, is its large foliage, entirely different from sikkimensis. The leaves vary from broadly ovate to cordate depending on how the plant has been grown, and are exceedingly handsome. It is a plant which seems to vary a great deal in response to growing conditions and may be seen entirely out of character with the type as found in Tibet. It should prove a popular garden plant when once it gets into more general cultivation. Shown by Messrs. Oliver and Hunter, Moniaive, Dumfriesshire.

CELMISIA HIERACIFOLIA.—A pleasant looking species of those large rather stolid looking daisies of New Zealand. The individual flowers are about 3ins. across and pure white with a yellow cushion centre. The ray florets are long and narrow and give, in the mass, a fine, feathery appearance, which is greatly enhanced by the handsome lanceolate, toothed foliage, with its pure white reverse. Shown by Lady Aberconway.

CARNATION HEBE.—The fine upstanding cushion blooms of a crushed strawberry colour attracted considerable attention. They were of medium size, but of perfect form and texture. The calyx was firm and held the petals well. The flowers are well carried on tall, graceful stems and the foliage was in perfect condition.

C. DORCAS.—A really first class variety whose perfectly formed blooms are of a rare shade of dark maroon, which changes with intensity and manner of lighting. The blooms are firm in texture and well set on elegant flexible stems. These two carnations were shown by Mr. C. Engelmann.

IRIS WATBRACT.—A dainty hybrid variety between I. Watsoni and I. bracteata, which has happily combined the characteristics of the two parents. The stem is only from 6ins. to 8ins. in height and bears single flowers. The colour of the flowers varies considerably, from a deep violet purple to the palest flesh colour. In the centre of the falls towards the base there is a lighter coloured patch with markings and dark veinings reminiscent of a viola. The standards are of a delicate transparent violet which shows the veining to advantage. Shown by Mr. Amos Perry.

AZALEA KNAPHILL WHITE.—The individual blossoms are borne in a loose formation so that each stands out on the plant like a glistening, transparent wide-open bell. The colour is pure snow white save for a feathery

AN ADMIRABLE ALPINE DAISY FROM NEW ZEALAND, CELMISIA HIERACIFOLIA.

AWARDS OF MERIT.

PRIMULA CAWDORIANA.—A dainty little species of the "soldanelloides" section with a tight head of a few flowers borne on long, columnar stems arising from a basal rosette of small, neatly stalked leaves. The length of the corolla tube, which is deeply cleft is one of the features of the flower as well as its colour, which is a delicate violet.

P. FLEXILIPES.—This is yet another elegant member of the valuable sikkimensis group. It is really a miniature replica of sikkimensis. The flowers dangle gracefully from their loose cluster, are sweetly scented and pale yellow in colour. The foliage is neat, but short.

CAMPANULA CRENULATA.—A splendid rock garden species of neat and graceful habit. A single deep blue open bell flower is carried at the end of each stem, which is some 6 ins. high. The foliage shows the characteristic campanula variation.

ROSCŒA CAUTLEOIDES VAR. BEESII.—There seems to be little difference between this

Digitized by Google

blotch of yellow in the rear petal. Shown by Mr. Hosea Waterer.

A. KNAPHILL PINK.—A very fine variety similar to the last in habit and floriferousness, but with blossoms of varying shades of pink, all with an orange yellow blotch. The foliage was fully out at the same time as the flowers and greatly added to the appearance of the plant. Shown by Mr. Hosea Waterer.

ROSE GOLDEN SALMON.—A very fine dwarf perpetual-flowering variety carrying deep salmon pink blossoms. The blossoms are carried loosely on the plant which appears floriferous. The foliage is good and of a pleasant shade of green. Shown by Messrs. Cutbush.

PELARGONIUM GODFREY'S MASTERPIECE.—The flowers of this variety attracted no little attention on account of their striking colour, made up of a ground of deep crushed raspberry pink overlaid with almost purple blotches on the rear petals, which provides a vivid contrast in the flower itself. The petals are waved and rather decorative. Shown by Messrs. Godfrey, Exmouth.

MELALEUCA LATERITIA.—This was one of the most striking plants of the Show. In appearance it is a shrub of the most graceful habit, with long slender, feathery branches, which bear the cylindrical spikes of rich scarlet flowers. It is not a glaring scarlet, but rather soft in tone. Shown by Rev. A. T. Boscawen.

CALLICOMA SERRATIFOLIA.—This shrub grows out of doors in Tresco Abbey Gardens, but is really an evergreen greenhouse shrub. It is most ornamental, with its tufted heads of yellow saxifrageous flowers and its lanceolate toothed rather saw-edged foliage.

BOMAREA ACUTIFOLIA VAR. PUNCTATA.—An ornamental species of this interesting South American genus of climbers. It exhibits the usual features, with its parallel-veined leaves on twisted petioles and its flowers on pendulous umbels. The flowers are of a dull shade of red with lighter throat, which is, in the funnel-shaped perianth, heavily spotted with brown. The above two plants were shown by Mr. A. A. Dorrien Smith.

AZALEA VALENCIA.—A very hot-coloured (fiery red) variety. The petals of the flower are daintily waved and the exserted stamens lend charm to the flowers. Shown by Mr. Lionel de Rothschild, Exbury.

RHODODENDRON PILGRIM.—This variety bears exceedingly large, closely set trusses of large, individual flowers, each reminiscent of a gloxinia in appearance. They are open and well set on the truss, while they are of a rich pink in colour and full of substance. The foliage is also large and decorative and acts as a fine foil to the handsome trusses. Shown by Mr. Lionel de Rothschild.

ADIANTUM EMARGINATUM.—A most attractive species with leaflets almost semi-circular and something similar to a ginkgo leaf, but, of course, on a much smaller scale. With its black wiry stems and its dull green feathery foliage it should prove a fine ornamental plant for pot work. Shown by Mr. Amos Perry.

ROSE MRS. BEATTY.—An excellent seedling variety whose large, well formed and neat blooms are of a clear Maréchal Niel yellow, with the true Niel scent more pronounced. The growth is upright and the habit good, while the foliage is particularly attractive.

ROSE CECIL.—Another attractive seedling variety, whose single blooms are both handsome and of great size. In colour it is clear, bright yellow and represents quite a new break. These two new roses were both shown by Messrs. B. R. Cant, Colchester.

IRIS WATBRACT, A DAINTY HYBRID BETWEEN I. WATSONI AND I. BRACTEATA.

CARNATION DORCAS, SHOWN BY MR. C. ENGELMANN.

ORCHIDS.

FIRST-CLASS CERTIFICATES.

CATTLEYA WOLTERSIANA VAR. REX (Queen Mary × Rajah).—An elegant cattleya with unusually large flowers of uniform rose-purple colour, the labellum of dark purple, except for a narrow rose-tinted margin. Shown by Messrs. Cowan and Co., Southgate.

ODONTOGLOSSUM CRISPUM VAR. PREMIER DISRAELI.—A remarkably fine variety of this popular species. The spike bore ten large white flowers with the petals of grand formation and prettily fimbriated at the margin, while the labellum has a few reddish markings. Shown by Mr. J. J. Bolton, Claygate, Surrey.

CATTLEYA TITRIANÆ THE DELL PARK VAR. (Tityus × Trianæ).—A super hybrid which carried a couple of immense flowers of rosy mauve colour, the labellum rich purple, crimped at the margin, the throat veined with yellow, while the inner side of the lateral lobes is bright golden yellow. Shown by Baron Bruno Schröder, The Dell Park, Englefield Green, Surrey.

AWARDS OF MERIT.

CATTLEYA DR. M. LACROZE VAR. EXCELSIS (Octave Doin × Tityus).—This fine hybrid resembles a glorified C. Mendelii. The well formed flowers have the sepals and petals of light rose, the latter with a pretty venation of lighter tint over the whole area. The labellum has the front lobe of intense ruby crimson, the margin frilled and the throat yellow. Shown by Mr. R. Paterson, Stamperland House, Cathcart, Glasgow.

BRASSO-LÆLIO-CATTLEYA CALIGULA GATTON PARK VAR. (L.-C. callistoglossa × B.-C. Cliftonii).—A very pleasing flower of fine formation and soft mauve-pink colour, which extends evenly over the sepals and petals and round the margin of the labellum. The throat has a yellowish area near the apex of the column. Shown by Sir Jeremiah Colman, Bt., Gatton Park, Surrey.

MILTONIA PRINCESS ELIZABETH VAR. SUPERBA.—This is a hybrid of M. vexillaria var. G. D. Owen, and the well known character of a dark crimson blotch belonging to it has been transmitted to the seedling, but in a much more marked degree the labellum being covered over the greater part of its area with a dark crimson blotch, extended into spotting of similar colour. Shown by Messrs. Black and Flory, Slough.

CATTLEYA PRINCE SHIMADZU VAR. SUPERBA (Tityus × Hardyana).—The spike bore a couple of flowers of excellent shape; in fact, the petals overlap one another in front of the dorsal sepal. Of rosy mauve colour, the labellum ruby crimson and the throat yellow. Shown by Mr. Robert Paterson, Cathcart, Glasgow.

MILTONIA LUCIA (vexillaria × Princess Margaret).—A young plant of considerable promise. Sepals and petals of deep crimson, the broadly formed labellum rich purple with darker veining and bearing at its base a brownish mask and yellow crest. Shown by Mr. Robert Paterson, Cathcart, Glasgow.

LÆLIO-CATTLEYA CHLORIS VAR. VIVID (L. purpurata × L.-C. Gladiator).—A distinct hybrid which bore a spike of four large flowers resembling in general style an unusually fine form of L. purpurata, but with much wider segments. The petals are tinged with purple and veined with a darker colour, while the labellum is crimson-purple with a yellowish throat. Shown by Messrs. Sanders, St. Albans.

CATTLEYA PRINCE SHIMADZU VAR. DELICATA (Tityus × Hardyana).—A beautiful hybrid which bore a couple of large flowers of light blush colour, the expansive labellum well displayed and of golden yellow colour with purple mottling on the front area, the margin being prettily crisped. Shown by Mr. H. T. Pitt, Stamford Hill, N.

ODONTONIA PITTIÆ ROSSLYN VAR. (M. Blueana × O. Harryanum).—This attractive novelty bore a well set flower with the sepals and petals of port wine colour, showing some white mottling and with a narrow white margin. The labellum developed to marked degree, of dark purple colour, and with a yellowish crest at the base. Shown by Mr. H. T. Pitt, Stamford Hill, N.

ODONTOGLOSSUM TYNTESFIELD (parentage unknown).—The spike bore six large flowers with roundly formed segments, the petals marked with lilac-rose blotching and confluent spotting, the labellum white with reddish spots. Shown by Dr. Craven Moore, Victoria Park, Manchester.

Digitized by Google

CORRESPONDENCE

A WILD FLOWER PROTECTION ACT.

SIR,—There have been many complaints in the Press on the steady disappearance of our native flora from woodlands, hedgerows and meadows, and there are but few of us who cannot testify to the ruthless denudation of spots that but a few years ago were carpeted with spring flowers.

The relentless process of extirpation continues. The primroses, the cowslips, fritillaries, orchis, field and spotted, the ophrys, the ferns, in the neighbourhood of the populous areas are being decimated.

While it is true that some local authorities extend a measure of protection by prohibiting hawkers from selling rooted wild flowers, in the main such protection is negligible or non-existent. At this time of the year, the gipsy hawker, with a basket crammed with rooted wild flowers of the species I have indicated, the flowers almost certainly "socialised" from private property, is a common object of the suburbs and the outlying districts of our large towns. The householder buys them, maybe to go into the window box, the garden or what not, where, thanks to ignorance, inattention, lack of suitable soil, the grubbing of the ubiquitous cat, too much or too little sun, the plants die and are no more seen.

This sort of thing is deplorable; and as, in my opinion, the Royal Horticultural Society, by reason of its large membership its traditions and influence, is the best qualified body to suggest the lines of legislation to arrest this uncontrolled spirit of destruction, I have therefore been in communication with the council thereon, in the hope that an Act of Parliament to give a measure of protection to wild flowers on similar lines to that giving protection to wild birds, may materialise.

It would, doubtless, be desirable to extend similar safeguards to the rarer flora that stand no small risk of extinction owing to the enthusiastic and uncontrolled competition of genuine collectors and casual nature students; but as regards this point, legislation is one thing, effective legislation another.

I trust, however, that, if and when the subject of legislation arises, you and your readers will lend a hand in making constructive suggestions that may assist in the satisfactory solution of the problem.—CUTHBERT JAMES.

CODDLING PLANTS.

SIR,—I think we all read the Editorials in THE GARDEN. Sometimes we agree and sometimes we do not. In a recent issue the point was raised of "over coddling" plants. An instance of this may be of interest to others. Some six or seven years ago we formed a bed for Bocconia cordata. It was trenched down a good 3ft., manure, etc., added, but the only response was a puny growth about 18ins. high. The bed was mulched with good manure, and still no response. After four seasons of this we decided to scrap the bocconia and plant pampas grass. The bed was again well trenched, all *visible* bocconia picked out and the pampas grass planted. Result: bocconia 5ft. high! At the present time they are still fighting it out and the bocconia is well holding its own, with growths quite three times as high as when it was "on its own."—HIRED MAN.

COMBINATIONS FOR THE HERBACEOUS BORDER.

SIR,—I always read with great interest suggestions for combinations in the herbaceous border. Some years ago a friend recommended me to plant tulips among irises, and the effect has been greatly admired. Tulips such as Erguste, Rev. Ewbank, Bleu Aimable, are beautiful among the leaves of Pallida dalmatica. It is true that bulbs cannot be lifted annually, but I find it easy to renew them about every second year.

I have been very pleased with the letters recommending Zéphirine Drouhin, which has long been an occupant of my garden, and in conjunction with Clematis integrifolia Durandi is one of the successes which I have recorded. In addition to its many charms this rose has the value of being exceedingly easy to propagate by cuttings and very rapid in growth.—HEDGERLEY.

COLLAR ROT IN ASTERS.

SIR,—I have been greatly troubled with collar rot in the aster bed. This year seed was imported and sown in boxes, duly pinched out, hardened and planted in the open border early in November. The bed had previously been dug in the autumn and well limed. The previous crop had been mixed vegetables. Out of 200 asters six did not get collar rot. The other half of the bed had seed sown in the open ground and duly thinned. Sown early in November and when grown fat and sturdy—the suitable age for collar rot—we watered them once or twice a week with Condy's Fluid, about a dessertspoonful of crystals to 2 gals. of water. One or two plants have shown signs of the trouble, but otherwise the bed is splendid. I thought this might be of use to other collar rot sufferers and hope that other cures may be suggested.—M. P., *Christchurch, N.Z.*

THE NOMENCLATURE OF DWARF CONIFERS.

SIR,—I have just read Mr. Dallimore's interesting article upon "Dwarf Conifers" in your issue of April 17th, but in his reference to my book upon "Dwarf and Slow-Growing Conifers" I think he rather overrates the difficulties in procuring these forms. Of about 450 forms described I was actually able to procure about 300, and the next time Mr. Dallimore is in Ireland he can see about 200 of them flourishing on a slope beside the rock garden in Glasnevin, and I have about 160 small specimens, some of which are not in the Glasnevin collection, in my small garden in Surrey. No doubt a certain proportion of these are unobtainable at present, but there are over 100 forms in general cultivation which should be obtainable without difficulty. There is no dearth of dwarf forms in cultivation, but until the gardening public insists upon getting what it pays for I am afraid that most nurserymen will persist with their existing pernicious system of buying cheap Continental grafts and passing them on without verification.

In a first-class alpine nursery recently I saw a bed labelled "Juniperus Sanderi." This, to start with, is a false trade name for a variety of Cupressus obtusa, but the contents of the bed was even more extraordinary. There were but three plants of this cupressus among them, the remainder being a form of Cupressus thyoides and a form of Thuya occidentalis! At Vincent Square errors in naming are far too common.

Unfortunately, the mortality among these dwarf forms has been so great at Kew in recent years that it is difficult for the gardener to check what he is getting, and it is to be hoped that in the salubrious climate of the new National Pinetum in Kent a representative collection of these forms will be found for a permanent source of comparison for nurseryman and gardener.

May I in conclusion apologise to Mr. Dallimore for calling his attention to a few slight errors in the forms he describes, for the confusion is already so great that one hesitates to suffer it to increase? The form "Rheingold" is not, for instance, a form of Cupressus Lawsoniana, but of Thuya occidentalis, and, in the last paragraph, the form "etricoides," which he assigns to Thuya orientalis, is in reality a form of T. occidentalis, the two forms of T. orientalis with juvenile foliage being vars. juniperoides and Rosedalis. Finally, I hope he will discourage the trade name of "Juniperus hibernica compressa." The fastigiate juniper is not a native of Ireland (Elwes and Henry identify it with var. Suecica (Ait)), and therefore the tiny fastigiate juniper—J. communis compressa—has no connection with Ireland. It is suggested that a nurseryman who bought a fastigiate juniper had a brain wave which convinced him that as the fastigiate yew originated in Ireland the fastigiate juniper must come from the same source! and named it accordingly.—MURRAY HORNIBROOK.

NAMES OF EARLY POTATOES.

SIR,—May I crave a little space in your valuable paper to mention a few facts concerning varieties of potatoes which are synonymous and to substantiate my note which appeared in THE GARDEN of April 10th. The Potato Synonym Committee regard two potatoes as synonymous not only when they present precisely similar morphological characteristics as regard flower, foliage, habit of growth, colour of stem, stolon formation, size, shape and colour of tuber, but also when the two varieties possess identical physiological characteristics as exhibited by identity to maturity and resistance or susceptibility to wart disease.

Victory was tested at Ormskirk in 1919 and fell to wart disease; it was identical botanically to Duke of York, and classified as that type. I do not doubt for one moment but that the late Mr. Sim of Fyvie, Aberdeenshire, raised Victory, The Duke and others from seed, but if the botanical characteristics are in every respect the same as Duke of York, then surely the older variety must have pride of place.

In regard to yield and quality, Victory, as mentioned by Mr. Grant, Kincardineshire, in THE GARDEN, May 1st, page 273, would certainly be freer from mosaic, leaf-roll and other virus diseases and would give probably a heavier yield of tubers than the older strain until contaminated. Again, yield of tubers and quality are greatly influenced by change of soil and climatic conditions. When Duke of York is grown in Aberdeenshire, it produces splendid crops of potatoes of good cooking qualities; but when grown in the south the crop is generally poor.

If we take the Board of Agriculture returns for 1924 and examine the synonym list of potatoes, we find 1,701 names of potatoes. Is each variety, or so-called variety, different? I say no, emphatically no. Take three well known commercial varieties, say, Duke of York, British Queen and Up-to-date. Duke of York has thirty-one synonyms, British Queen has no fewer than seventy-five names to its credit, while Up-to-date had been baptised one hundred and seventy-five times.

Mr. Grant mentions reversion in potatoes as being due to the slipshod and careless selection of seed and to unscrupulous growers supplying seed of Duke of York when stocks of Victory run short. I have never found reversion in potatoes. Potatoes do not revert; once we get the type fixed it remains true to its type.

Deterioration is quite a different thing. Many varieties of potatoes deteriorate, due chiefly to the tremendous amount of constitutional diseases, such as leaf-roll and mosaic; but, although those diseases appear in the variety, it does not mean that the variety has reverted.—GEO. STUART, *Edinburgh.*

Digitized by Google

THE FLOWER GARDEN

HERBACEOUS PLANT SUPPORTS.

Early Staking is Essential.

MANY subjects in the herbaceous border will require artificial support by the time this article appears in print, and the earlier this is afforded the better it will be for the future welfare of the plants. There are various plant supports on the market, but at this early stage of plant growth I strongly advocate the use of short pea sticks placed around the clumps. They effectively fulfil their mission, and afford better protection than stakes or canes. The support, like the label, is very often a necessary evil, but the more it can be kept in the background the better. Nothing looks uglier than the orthodox green painted stake towering, at this early date, much higher than the plant. It is not the use but the abuse of this article I object to. There are districts where it is essential that strong stakes should be used; for instance, where the border is exposed to strong winds, but in many cases they are placed in position too soon, and one gets weary of their ugliness. Go round all plants as soon as they require supporting, as a heavy rain can do a deal of damage at this time of the year when growth is soft, placing short pea sticks around the clumps, always inclining the tops outwards to allow full expansion to each shoot. At the same time a certain amount of thinning out may be done where large clumps exist, leaving a few strong shoots which will make a better show when in flower than indifferent growth. As the plants progress use larger pea sticks or any of the advertised plant supports, but avoid showing too much of the support by allowing a few shoots to come through the supports, securing them by means of tar twine to the outside of the sticks. By the time the plants are ready for the final staking nothing will be seen of the earlier stakes, for they will be completely hidden by the foliage. The plants will display themselves to much better advantage than if one stake per clump had been used. How often one sees such plants as Erigeron Quakeress with a single cane thrust into the centre of the clump, a piece of string around it, and looking like a sack of corn tied in the middle rather than what ought to be a beautiful clump of flowers naturally displayed. Very often staking is not attempted until the flowering stage is nearly reached, and as the plants will have sprawled about during their growing season, they resent being bunched around a central stake for their final effort and look miserable and unhappy.—F. K.

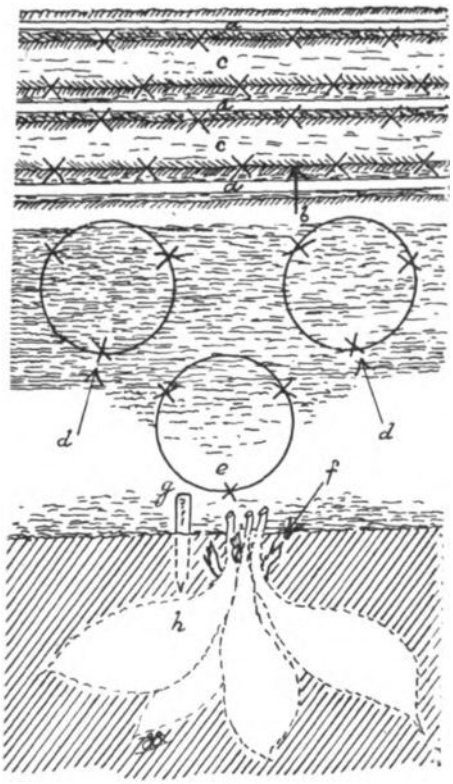
PLANTING DAHLIAS.

FOR a number of years the dahlia was not given the attention it deserved except by a few enthusiasts. Now, we seem to be, by common consent, in favour of dahlia-growing again and we have many gems to deal with. During the winter months it is as easy to store the dahlia roots as potato tubers. In spring, a little artificial heat will induce new shoots to grow which can be rooted as easily as those of the zonal pelargonium, and after the shoots are so dealt with the old tubers are still available for planting out in the borders. Of course, as frosts kill the old plants in the autumn, they will also kill the young ones in late spring. In southern counties it is, generally, safe to plant out in open borders about the second week in June, but in the north it is unwise to risk full exposure until nearer the end of the month.

In the absence of frosts excessive cold stops growth and the check delays the flowering by a fortnight or so. Some protection should be afforded at night until the last week in June unless the weather is very mild. The dahlia is a gross feeding plant and does not succeed satisfactorily in a naturally poor and unmanured soil. The manure applied should be well rotted and, if convenient, it should be mixed with the soil several weeks prior to the date of planting. In cases where this timely manuring has not been done, apply a liberal dressing now. If organic manures are not available, use half-rotted leaf-soil, also liberally.

Both young plants and old growing tubers, especially the latter, require to be planted deeply, so it is most beneficial to mix the manure with the soil about 1ft. below the surface. It should not come into direct contact with the tubers but with the new fibrous roots.

Plant according to height; those growing 3ft. high 3ft. apart, and so on. Do not



a a a Narrow path between beds b and c c; group planting is shown at d d and e—crosses represent plants; f, young shoots coming through soil; g, labels clear of plants, not driven into tubers h.

tread unduly on the soil after planting. Place three stakes to each plant and, later, a few branching sticks as required.—G. G.

SWEET PEAS AND GREEN FLY.

FROM late spring until well into the summer green fly or aphis are apt to attack sweet peas, particularly in seasons favourable to their rapid increase. Most amateur growers pay little heed to them and where sweet peas are grown naturally and left to form a thick hedge or clumps they will do little harm. But in the case of the keen exhibitor, practising the "one-stem" or "cordon" system of culture, green fly may completely upset his plans. If unchecked, the aphides cluster on the slender growing tips of the plants, poisoning them and sucking the sap juices which should normally assist in their development. The result is, at the best, stunted growth and, at the worst, a curious twisting up and crinkling of the haulm, leaves and stems produced immediately afterwards. Usually, the blooms are misshapen on short, twisted stems, and sometimes even the colour is changed. Varieties such as Mrs. Cuthbertson, Annie Ireland, Youth and, indeed, all picotees and most bicolors, assume a mottled, streaky appearance. This "running" of the colour is the result of aphis puncturing and sucking sap from the tiny flower-buds. Inexperienced growers often mistakenly imagine such plants are "rogues," or, perhaps, are afflicted with the mysterious disease called "streak," that bogey-man of the sweet pea enthusiast which apparently no one has yet succeeded in laying by the heels. Aphides, under favourable circumstances, multiply at a most extraordinary rate, but birds, thunder showers, ladybirds and cold spells of weather all do their part in keeping the hordes somewhere within bounds. The only safe method I know to eradicate them out of doors from sweet peas is to spray with a good insecticide, either home-made or one of the many excellent preparations on the market similar to the well known "Abol." Whatever insecticide is used, the directions given by the makers should be implicitly followed. To make doubly sure try it on a few plants at first and notice the effect it has, both on the aphides and the plants themselves. If the foliage "spots" or "burns" within twenty-four hours, either the preparation is too strong or otherwise unsuitable in some other way. Apply with a "mist" nozzle in the evening, paying particular attention to the growing tips and under sides of the leaves. Early the next morning syringe the plants again with pure, soft water to clean off the insecticide, which sometimes is rather sticky and liable to block up the pores of the leaves. A second application in a few days may be necessary to destroy all aphides completely. The main point is to syringe before the fly has time to do serious damage.—C. H. A. S.

CLEAN ROSES.

The Importance of Spraying.

READERS who are fortunate enough to have large open gardens find that their plants remain clean and vigorous in all normal years, but the man who is "cribbed, cabined and confined" has not the same luck. Even if aphides do not appear and continue to appear in colonies, there is always a close, dusty atmosphere which coats the foliage with a film of dust, making it appear sickly and forlorn when the weather is dry and trying. Such growers must resign themselves to the necessity for continual spraying, not frequently, but fairly regularly. Provided that the best kind of spray is used, then the bushes will remain perfectly clean, and such clean roses keep naturally vigorous thereafter. Spraying, too, keeps aphides away and other pests seldom get a chance to become virulent.

Although the day for making elaborate rose washes at home is past, I would emphasise the efficacy of plain soap solutions applied tepid. Soap of any kind may be used. Soft soap is often too caustic, however, and I pin my faith to what are called disinfectant hard soaps (like cyllin, carbolic, naptha, etc.) and the horticultural nicotine soap. The solutions made from hard soap can easily be made by boiling the soap in a little water in the copper. For spraying 2 oz. per gallon is a fair average. Two pounds of soap boiled in a gallon of water till dissolved makes a concentrate which can be used at the rate of 1 pint poured into 2 gallons of water. As indicated, I prefer using tepid water, *i.e.*, water not exceeding 90° F.—LANARKSHIRE.

Digitized by Google

GARDENING OF THE WEEK

FOR SOUTHERN GARDENS.

IN THE FLOWER GARDEN.

Wallflowers.—If not already done, seeds of these beautiful spring-flowering plants should be sown. Late sowing never produces such fine plants as those raised earlier.

Hardy Primulas.—These have been making an unusually fine show, and as the majority are best treated as biennials, it behoves the grower to save a little seed of every kind each year. Home-saved seed of hardy primulas always germinates more freely than seeds from other sources, and if sown directly it is ripe, plenty of plants will be secured. Prick them off in a shady part of the garden, and when they die down transfer them to their flowering quarters.

Climbing Plants.—Among the numerous climbers will be found the clematis, solanums, wistarias, etc., and it is advisable to train the shoots at frequent intervals before they become a hopeless mass. Where they are growing on stumps of old trees they may develop unmolested.

THE KITCHEN GARDEN.

Lettuce.—In hot dry weather it is often difficult to keep up a supply, but a good method is to transplant a reliable cabbage variety in frames (discarding the lights) placed near the water tank. A layer of rotten manure should be laid in the bottom of the frame and then a few inches of old potting soil and, after a thorough watering, the plants should be set out a few inches apart. Shade them for a week or so when the sun is bright and keep the soil moist. A pinch of seed should be sown about every ten days.

Brussels Sprouts.—The main crop should be planted in a fairly rich soil which has been deeply dug and then made firm by treading. The plants should be set out 30ins. apart and the roots must be afforded plenty of water until they take possession of the soil. Future treatment consists of a free use of the hoe and an occasional dusting of soot.

Potatoes.—Continue to hoe or lightly fork between the rows of late potatoes. Earthing-up should begin directly the haulm is sufficiently advanced and when the soil is more or less moist. Avoid making sharp ridges that would drain off the rain.

Leeks.—Some of the seedlings will be large enough to transplant either in a trench or in rows, The former is made similar to a pea trench and the plants placed in a double line about 15ins. apart. They may also be planted with a dibber. This is pushed well down into the soil, and the plants are set deeply in the hole with a little soil pressed lightly around the roots. As the plants grow the hole should be filled during the process of hoeing. Water will be needed if the soil is dry. Leeks enjoy a rich soil, but good quality roots may be had from any ordinary garden. When grown in lines they should be about 1ft. apart.

Swedes.—These are highly appreciated in many houses, and now is a good time to sow a few lines about 18ins. apart. Where turnips are not a satisfactory crop, swedes are strongly recommended, and when the seedlings are large enough they must be thinned to 9ins. The turnip fly must be watched for, and as a preventive an occasional dusting of soot should be given.

VEGETABLES UNDER GLASS.

Cucumbers.—Many plants will be in full bearing, and in consequence ought to be assisted with a light sprinkling of artificial manure or top-dressed with loam. The golden rule with special manures is a little and often, and always on the light side. Plants growing in greenhouses or frames should receive constant attention in regard to stopping, and each lateral shoot ought to be pinched at the first or second leaf beyond the fruit. A more or less moist atmosphere is needed, and on bright days the house is syringed round about 8 a.m. and again at 4 p.m., when all ventilators are closed. White fly is often troublesome, and directly this pest is seen, the house or frame must be vaporised with a fumigant especially manufactured for this particular fly. It is very effective if repeated for a time at intervals of ten days. A few seeds can be sown for a late supply of cucumbers, Everyday and Telegraph being useful varieties.

Melons.—These require much the same treatment as cucumbers up to a certain point, whether cultivated in greenhouses or frames The point is reached when the female flowers open on the lateral growths. Three to six melons are enough for one plant, and these should be started at near the same time as possible, otherwise one or two fruits will take the lead, and the remainder fail to develop. At this season the main crop of melons will be approaching the flowering stage, and it will be necessary for the grower to watch the plants. When the requisite number of female flowers are open, each one must be fertilised with the pollen from a male bloom, these being produced in quantity. During this period the atmosphere is kept on the dry side, and more air admitted. When the fruits are set and begin to swell freely, the roots are fed with weak liquid manure, soot water and artificial manure. Keep all lateral growths pinched, and if the main stem exhibits signs of decay close to the soil, apply powdered charcoal liberally and frequently until the trouble disappears. While the roots are in a state of activity keep them well supplied with water. Use the syringe freely until the ripening stage is apparent, and admit air whenever the weather is favourable for opening the ventilators.

Tomatoes.—Little difficulty should be experienced in growing a full crop of these popular fruits, and as a lad I was assured by my chief that no insect pest ever troubled tomato plants. Alas now this is not true, and that awful pest, white fly, is preventing tomatoes being grown in some private gardens, at any rate under glass. No half-hearted measures are effective, and if the greenhouses are situated in close proximity to flower or vegetable borders, the struggle is almost hopeless. I have in a large measure succeeded by frequent fumigations in the early stages of the attack, by feeding the roots with liquid manure, and applying the hose pipe daily when the weather is bright. Probably many readers of THE GARDEN could furnish details of their treatment, taking into consideration the position of the greenhouse, because white fly is found in abundance on many flowers and vegetables grown in the open ground here in Gloucestershire and Monmouthshire. It will be interesting to note if the hard winter has had any effect on this pest in the open. Tomatoes growing under glass whether in large pots or planted out must be kept moist at the roots, and the best stimulant is a manure containing a fair percentage of potash, otherwise the fruits will be deficient in colour and hard near the stalk. Remove all side growths as they appear.

PEACHES AND NECTARINES UNDER GLASS.

In these days it is questionable whether these fruits are forced to any great extent, the majority being grown more or less naturally with perhaps a little fire heat during the early stages of growth. Such trees will now be in an active state, the fruits will be swelling while the new shoots are making headway. Guard against overcropping, and where the fruits are numerous a few ought to be removed, leaving about three to 2 sq. ft. of the tree. The growths should also be reduced to prevent overcrowding, otherwise the necessary light and air will not penetrate the tree. Leave just enough new shoots to furnish fruiting wood for next year. It is essential at this period to keep the foliage free from red spider, so the syringe or hose pipe must be used with force daily, but such work should be carried out sufficiently early for the leaves to dry before sunset. Never allow the roots to become dry, and if the trees are rather stunted a sprinkling of approved fruit manure will be beneficial. Old soot scattered over the border will be an advantage, and help to promote clean healthy green foliage. Where the trees show signs of shot hole fungus, or silver leaf disease, apply Wood's Veltha Powder 30z. or 40z. to the square yard. Lightly fork in so that it reaches the roots. I have proved this remedy to be most effective, especially for trees with a yellowish sickly appearance.

Chepstow. T. W. BRISCOE.

FOR NORTHERN GARDENS.

THE KITCHEN GARDEN.

About this period falls due the planting of main-crop and late cauliflower and cabbage, broccoli, savoys and kales for late autumn and winter use. Asparagus, Favourite Kale and sprouting broccoli for use early in spring of the following year. It pays in the end to give these borecoles a well prepared and manured site to induce a free summer's growth, so necessary to the formation of a productive plant.

Allow at least 2ft. apart each way. Firm planting is essential, and water to give the plants a start in dry weather.

Leeks sown under glass for an early crop will be fit to plant out now. Draw deep drills 1ft. asunder, spacing the plants 9ins. apart in the rows. Push the dibber well down, insert the plants as deep as the base of the leaves, merely cover the roots with soil or fill the hole with water, making no attempt to firm these as one would a cabbage plant.

The subsequent hoeing of the ground and filling in of the drills will add to the length of "blanch."

Chicory.—Where this excellent succulent is appreciated for its various uses, seed may be sown now. Select ground well dug and not recently manured, sow the seed in drills 1in. apart and 1in. deep, watering the drills before sowing if the soil is dry, later thinning out the plants to 9ins. in the rows.

GENERAL WORK TO BE DONE IN THE GARDEN.

In the pressure of work consequent to the planting out of the flower and vegetable gardens, other essential jobs must be attended to for the good of the crops.

The principal of these is the staking of main-crop peas. Previous to staking, give a sprinkling of superphosphate to the young plants—about 2 oz. per yard run—and draw a little soil up to the plants on each side of the row.

Staking should be done before the young plants show any signs of falling over.

Lines of seedling peas of late varieties are less prone to attacks of birds and slugs than early varieties, but any evidence of such attacks should be countered with dustings of soot or lime.

A light dressing of nitrate of soda will help to give the plants a start and carry the plants beyond the attacks of pea weevil.

Pick the pods frequently from early varieties, as they soon lose flavour and tenderness, promote seed development and unnecessary absorption of nourishment, to the curtailment of culinary supplies.

In the absence of rain, afford copious supplies of water; but even this will avail little in such a crisis if the previous work of trenching and manuring has been skimped.

Broad beans, if showing a fair amount of blossom, may have the tips pinched out, whether black fly be in evidence or not, to concentrate all the energies of the plant in the formation of pods. Draw soil up to the plants and support the haulm by running strings on each side of the rows. Spray with paraffin emulsion for attacks of black fly.

The ground between rows of main-crop potatoes should be well broken up for the good of the plants and to facilitate the operation of "earthing up."

If only organic manure has been employed up to this period, the plants will benefit from a dressing of sulphate of potash, 2 oz. per lineal yard, applied before earthing up. Do not draw up too much soil, for if 6ins. has been found a suitable height, more will not increase the yield of tubers.

In completing the work, leave the ridges rather flat, to absorb rather than gather moisture, which might encourage the spread of disease.

Keep the cultivator going as steadily as opportunity will permit between the rows of turnips, carrots, onions and recently planted vegetables.

In dry weather this is the best means of economising the water supply. But in a drought artificial watering has to be resorted to, especially in the case of vegetables, the root system of which is undeveloped and consequently unable to supply the plant with the amount of water required, and to crops such as lettuce which have extensive and succulent leaf surface.

Doune, Perthshire. W. MCCARRELL.

Digitized by Google

GARDEN SUNDRIES AT CHELSEA

GARDEN ORNAMENTS.

THERE are many corners in the garden which can be made beautiful by adding a well chosen ornament. A sundial in the middle of a sunk garden, a piece of garden statuary at the end of a vista, or a row of stone vases along a terrace all lend character to their surroundings. Although natural stone and lead are claimed to be the best kind of materials from which such ornaments can be made, there are many types of artificial stone ornaments now on the market which, besides being far cheaper, look attractive, weather well and do not suffer from the effects of frost. The Bromsgrove Guild, Limited, were exhibiting artificial stone ornaments made from a material called "Castone." These ornaments are similar in colour and surface to Portland stone, and they are said to stand all climatic conditions. The vases made by this firm were most artistic in design.

Messrs. Sanders and Co., Messrs. Gaze, and Messrs. Pulham, all exhibited a great variety of garden ornaments, both in lead and stone. The bird-nesting boxes exhibited by Messrs. H. Moorton are scientifically constructed and recommended by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. Several small lead figures on the stand of Messrs. W. Wood were much admired.

GARDEN FURNITURE.

No garden is complete without some article of garden furniture. Provided this is of the right style to suit the particular garden, it not only adds to the beauty of its surroundings, but enables the owner to appreciate more fully the charm of his flowers and trees. Design, durability and construction should be considered when purchasing any kind of furniture. Few types have more to recommend them than those made of teak. Chairs and tables of this material last for an indefinite number of years, require no painting and always look well. The Hughes Bolckow Shipbreaking Co. make all kinds of teak wood furniture from old battleships. Excellent workmanship is put into all their products and the seats they were exhibiting at the Show, made from H.M.S. Lion were of particularly good design. Messrs. Castle's old Man o' War teak furniture, which has a wide reputation, was also on show. Benches and seats of natural stone look most attractive in an old-world garden and harmonise well with any colour scheme. They should be simple, and, preferably, made of Portland or Bath stone, such as those made by the Horsecombe Quarries. A cheaper kind of furniture which is nevertheless most satisfactory, is made from well seasoned deal and enamelled white. This needs repainting annually and an occasional scrubbing. A painted wooden seat made by the Padworth Industries has a useful flat table fixed at either end.

Portable chairs are becoming more and more popular as their variety and restfulness increase. A folding portable chair exhibited by Messrs. T. J. Syer is particularly useful, as it is made with a detachable washable seat and back. Garden chairs of all shapes and sizes, made from cane and soft pliable sea grass, were shown by The Paramount Furnishing Co., and a couch swing hammock, exhibited by Messrs. Piggot Bros., would be ideal for a loggia. One of the latest inventions was a combined dinner wagon and table shown by Messrs. Harrods, while every article of garden furniture made by the disabled soldiers at Lord Roberts' Memorial Workshops was of the best materials and showed great skill in the making.

INSECTICIDES AND FERTILISERS.

The progress of science in horticultural matters of all kinds was fully evidenced at Chelsea, especially in connection with plant foods and with sprays for combating insect and fungoid pests. New fertilisers and insecticides were on show, and one can rely on the purity and efficacy of these. A new and complete garden fertiliser which acts as a tonic for flowers, fruit and vegetables was displayed by Messrs. Price and Co. From its analysis it compares very favourably with other fertilisers on the market, and, as it is in a form which is not readily washed out of the soil, it should prove most economical in use. The advantages of a dressing of lawn sand were exhibited by Messrs. J. Fison. On this stand were two separate boxes containing weeds found in grass; one had been dressed three days previously with lawn sand, the other had received no dressing. The weeds which had received the application were quite dead. Another useful material seen on this stand was Tarbol, which is a most effective remedy for leather-jackets and worms on lawns.

In a garden where there are animals or chickens, a poisonous weed-killer cannot be used. It is for this reason that Messrs. Abol, as well as a number of other firms, are producing a weed-killer which, although it is non-arsenical, can be relied upon to kill weeds and moss on paths. When putting down at-killer, the difficulty of poisoning domestic animals again crops up. This firm is, therefore, making a new rat-killer, known as "Nomorats," which is neither poisonous to other animals nor yet a virus. The rats do not die in the holes, but come out into the open to die.

Messrs. Robinson's Multiple Slug-killer was another very useful material on show. Messrs. Adco were exhibiting quantities of garden refuse which had been converted into synthetic farmyard manure by the addition of their preparation known as Adco.

Insecticides and weedicides for every purpose, made by the well known firm of Messrs. Cooper, McDougall and Robertson, were an interesting feature in the Sundries Avenue. Messrs. Wakeley's celebrated hop manure was seen on their stand; and the beneficial effects of Key fertilisers on lawns were demonstrated by the Key Fertiliser Company. Messrs. Corry had an exhibit of insecticides of all kinds and their famous sundries, including white-fly fumigant.

LAWN MOWERS.

As usual, that portion of the main avenue devoted to lawn machines and tools aroused considerable interest among the visiting public. Messrs. Alex Shanks and Sons were responsible for a well grouped collection of practically all types of their popular lawn mowers and rollers. Both hand and power machines were shown, and the exhibit aroused much interest. At the stand of Messrs. Charles Pugh, Limited, a fine range of the well known "Atco" motor mowers in all sizes, from 14ins. to 36ins., was to be seen. Two useful appliances which were also demonstrated at this stand were the "Atco" turf Cultivator and the "Atco" turf renovating tool.

Messrs. Ransomes, Sims and Jefferies displayed a general selection of their various types of hand and power machines, together with the popular Ransomes edge trimmer, in an attractive manner.

Several of the many up-to-date features of the aptly named "J.P. Super" lawn mower were shown in a very practical manner by its manufacturers. Cut sections of the more intricate portions of the mechanism enabled the visitor to see at a glance the actual inner workings of the machine. A new feature was noticed in a motor machine of 24ins. cut which incorporates all the usual features of the "J.P." hand machine. Messrs. Thomas Green and Sons exhibited a fine collection of machines of all sizes, which included the well known side wheel type of "New Century" machine. An interesting feature on this stand was a very simple, but nevertheless effective, automatic machine for cleaning soiled tennis balls. This appliance supplies a long-felt want and should prove very popular. The well known "Dennis" motor mower was displayed in a very attractive manner by Messrs. Dennis Brothers, and the general interest which was created by this exhibit speaks very highly for the all-round excellence and popularity of the machine itself. The Godiva Engineering Company were responsible for an interesting display of various machines and appliances. At the stand of Messrs. Lloyd and Co. of Letchworth were to be found many useful items which included lawn sweepers, sprinklers, mowing machines, etc.

TOOLS AND SUNDRIES.

One of the finest exhibits in the Sundries Avenue was undoubtedly that of Messrs. Thomas Gunn, Limited, who were responsible for a really well displayed collection of many useful garden implements. These were in wide variety and included a good selection of hand and power mowing machines.

The firm of H. Pattisson were again showing their well known "Sarel" spiked lawn roller, together with the pony boots for which they have become famous. The Pattisson Graduator Distributor for the successful sowing or top-dressing of lawns was also featured.

The renowned "Acme" labels were a prominent feature on the stand of Messrs. John Pinches. Many forms of flower supports and exhibiting appliances were also successfully shown.

Major Walker displayed and demonstrated the advantages of his fruit tree protectors and transferable fruit cages, in an exceedingly practical manner.

Both the Wilkinson Sword Company and also Mr. C. A. Jardine were responsible for fine exhibits of secateurs and other keen-edged horticultural tools.

Messrs. House and Garden Sundries exhibited many useful little horticultural aids, including the "Everyman" garden netting and screen supports.

The "Rival" plant stakes were shown to advantage by Mr. H. J. Greenwood. These could be seen in practical use as supports for various flowers which were displayed in pots for this purpose.

On the stand of Messrs. Joh. Hansen much interest was evoked by practical demonstrations of the "Little Wonder" hedge cutting machine. A new motor cultivator, known as "The Bolens" and of American origin, was also on view here.

The splendid articles exhibited on the stand occupied by St. Dunstan's was typical of the efforts which are being made to provide blinded ex-Service men with work of a practical nature. Garden nets, hammocks, tennis nets and surrounds of really excellent quality were to be seen, and it is to be hoped that this exhibit received the support it deserved.

SPRAYING AND SPRINKLING APPARATUS.

Such a large number of exhibitors were displaying spraying and sprinkling apparatus of all kinds that an attempt to give a detailed account of each would be impossible in the space at our disposal, and this subject will be dealt with more fully at a later date. Many fine types of hand syringes, knapsack sprayers, pneumatic portable and wheel machines were to be seen on all sides, while the various lance and hose extensions which were to be obtained for use with most types were, generally speaking, efficient and simple. From the various improvements which were to be seen it is evident that many progressive

manufacturers are making rapid strides in the evolution of the perfect spraying machine.

Messrs. Robinson Brothers.—Comprehensive selection of all types of up-to-date spraying machinery.

Messrs. Martineau and Smith.—A fine display of all types of spraying apparatus, including many small portable pneumatic machines.

Messrs. Stonehouse Works Company.—Among many other interesting features was to be seen the new "Telesco" telescopic syringe, which can be used for many purposes.

Messrs. Abol, Limited.—Fine collection of "Abol" syringes and spraying specialities of all kinds.

Messrs. Four Oaks Company.—Well displayed selection of numerous machines for use in the garden, orchard or farm.

Messrs. Con-o-Mist.—Small pneumatic machines which are very convenient to handle were here shown to advantage.

Messrs. Holder Harriden.—Large display of all types of spraying machinery, ranging in capacity from 2 pints to 50 gallons.

Messrs. Eclipse Spraying Company.—Very practical demonstrations of the many uses to which the new "Eclipse" sprayer can be adapted were being continually given by thi progressive firm.

Messrs. Carter and Co. devoted considerable attention to demonstrations of a new sprayer, the "Ideal," which appears to very very simple and efficient in working.

The exhibit of the B.O.I.L. Company was once again the centre of considerable interest. The various methods of overhead irrigation advocated by this firm were ideally demonstrated under extremely difficult conditions.

LIST OF AWARDS

CHALLENGE CUPS.

Sherwood Memorial Cup, for the most meritorious group: To Messrs. Sutton and Sons.

"Daily Graphic" Cup, for the best rock garden: To Messrs. Pulham and Son.

Cain Cup, for the best exhibit by an amateur: To Sir Jeremiah Colman, Bt. (gardener, J. Collier).

Orchid Challenge Cup, for the best exhibit of orchids by an amateur: To Mr. H. T. Pitt.

Sutton Silver Cup, for the best amateur exhibit of vegetables: To Baron Bruno Schröder (gardener, E. J. Henderson).

Fruit and Vegetables.—Gold medal: To the Hon. Vicary Gibbs (gardener, E. Beckett). Silver-gilt Banksian medals: To Baron B. Schröder (gardener, E. J. Henderson); Messrs. Sutton and Sons. Knightian medal: To the Guild of Blind Gardeners. Silver-gilt Hogg medals: To Messrs. G. Bunyard and Co., Limited; Laxton Bros. Silver Hogg medal: To Messrs. Rivers and Sons, Limited.

Irises.—Gold medal: To Messrs. G. Bunyard and Co., Limited. Silver cup: To Messrs. the Orpington Nurseries Co. Silver-gilt Banksian medals: To Messrs. Barr and Sons; De Goede Bros. Silver Banksian medal: To Mr. G. G. Whitelegg.

Shrubs.—Silver cup: To Messrs. J. Waterer, Sons and Crisp, Limited; Hillier and Sons. Silver-gilt Flora medals: To Messrs. R. and G. Cuthbert; M. Koster and Sons; R. C. Notcutt. Silver-gilt Banksian medals: To Messrs. G. Reuthe; Donard Nursery Co.; W. Fromow and Sons; L. R. Russell, Limited; Hosea Waterer; W. Cutbush and Son; A. Charlton and Sons; R. and G. Cuthbert. Silver Flora medals: To Messrs. Hosea Waterer; Hollamby's Nurseries; J. Cheal and Sons, Limited. Silver Banksian medals: To Messrs. T. Lewis; Robert Green, Limited; John Klinkert. Flora medal: To Messrs. Hollamby's Nurseries. Banksian medals: To Messrs. M. Koster and Sons; R. Gill and Son.

Orchids (Amateur exhibits).—Silver cup: To Sir J. Colman, Bt. (gardener, J. Collier). Silver-gilt Flora medal: To Mr. H. T. Pitt.

Orchids (Trade exhibits).—Gold medals: To Messrs. Charlesworth and Co.; J. and A. McBean. Silver cups: To Messrs. Sanders; Cowan and Co. Silver-gilt Flora medals: To Messrs. Armstrong and Brown; Stuart Low and Co. Silver-gilt Banksian medals: To Messrs. Black and Flory; J. Cypher and Sons. Silver Flora medal: To Messrs. Mansell and Hatcher. Silver Banksian medal: To Messrs. Sutton Bros. Flora medal: Mr. H. Dixon.

Rock Gardens.—Gold medal: To Messrs. Pulham and Son: Silver cups: To Captain B. H. B. Symons-Jeune; Mr. G. G. Whitelegg. Silver-gilt Flora medal: To Messrs. H. Brook; Clarence Elliott, Limited; Hodsons, Limited. Flora medal: To Messrs. Gavin Jones.

Sweet Peas.—Silver cups: To Messrs. R. Bolton and Son; Dobbie and Co., Limited.

Carnations.—Silver cups: To Messrs. Allwood Bros.; C. Engelmann, Limited. Silver-gilt Banksian medal: To Sir Wm. E. Cain, Bt. (gardener, C. Moore). Silver Banksian medal: To Mr. J. Douglas. Banksian medal: To Messrs. Stuart Low and Co.

Tulips.—Silver-gilt Banksian medal: To Messrs. Dobbie and Co., Limited. Silver Flora medal: To Mr. H. G. Longford. Flora Medal: To Messrs. Barr and Sons. Banksian medal: To Messrs. E. Paul and Co.

Roses.—Gold medal: To Messrs. B. R. Cant and Sons. Silver cup: To Mr. E. J. Hicks. Silver-gilt Flora medal: Messrs. Chaplin Bros, Limited. Silver-gilt Banksian medal: To Messrs. A. J. and C. Allen; G. Prince. Silver Banksian medal: To Messrs. F. Cant and Co. Banksian medals: To Messrs. E. Paul and Co.; J. H. Pemberton.

Formal Gardens.—Gold medal: To Messrs. R. Wallace and Co., Limited. Silver cups: To Messrs. Bakers, Limited; Vernon Bros. Silver-gilt Flora medals: To Messrs. J. Carter and Co.; J. Cheal and Son, Limited; W. H. Gaze and Sons, Limited. Silver-gilt Banksian medals: To Messrs. R. Neal and Son; Wm. Wood and Son, Limited. Silver Flora medals: To Mr. E. Dixon; Mr. James McDonald.

Alpines.—Silver cup: Messrs. M. Prichard and Sons. Silver-gilt Lindley medal: To Lady Aberconway and the Hon. H. D. McLaren. Silver-gilt Flora medals: To Messrs. Oliver and Hunter; R. Tucker and Sons. Silver-gilt Banksian medals: To Messrs. Clarence Elliott; Bakers, Limited; J. Waterer, Sons and Crisp, Limited. Silver Flora medals: To Messrs. Maxwell and Beale; Bowell and Skarratt; F. G. Wood. Silver Banksian medals; To W. E. Th. Ingwersen; Carter Page and Co. Flora medals: To Messrs. R. V. Rogers; W. H. Rogers and Son, Limited; J. Cheal and Sons, Limited; H. Hemsley; Jeans and Trowbridge; Gavin Jones; G. Reuthe; W. Wells, Junr. Banksian medals: To Messrs. Central Garden Supplies; Hodsons, Limited; Miss Hopkins.

Mixed Groups.—Gold medals: To Messrs. R. Wallace and Co., Limited; Sutton and Sons. Silver cups: To Messrs. L. R. Russell, Limited; H. J. Jones; Blackmore and Langdon; G. Jackman and Son; James Carter and Co; Amos Perry. Silver-gilt Flora medals: To Messrs. Wm. Cutbush and Son; M. Prichard and Sons; Bees, Limited; Amos Perry. Silver-gilt Banksian medals: To Messrs. Stuart Low and Co.; W. Artindale and Son; Carter Page and Co.; G. R. Downer. Silver Flora medals: To Messrs. Storrie and Storrie; Blackmore and Langdon; Toogood and Sons, Limited; R. H. Bath, Limited; Bakers, Limited; W. H. Walters; J. Waterer, Sons and Crisp, Limited. Silver Banksian medals: To Mr. H. B. Brandt; Studley College; Messrs. Golfrey and Son; A. Dawkins; Watkins and Simpson, Limited; G. H. Dalrymple; J. Douglas; Wilson and Agar; Hewitt and Co.; Yokohama Nursery Co. Flora medals: To Messrs. J. Peed and Son; S. Smith; Jarman and Co.; G. A. Miller; F. Gifford; J. C. Allgrove; H. N. Ellison. Banksian medals: To Messrs. E. Webb and Sons, Limited; R. J. Case; Chalk Hill Nurseries; B. Ladhams, Limited; Reamsbottom and Co. (two); Wm. Yandell.

Scientific exhibits.—Silver-gilt Grenfell medals: To the East Malling Research Station for exhibit of fruit on different stocks. To the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, for herbarium specimens of new Chinese plants. To Dr. G. H. Rodman, for photomicrographs of plant hairs. Silver Grenfell medals: To the Rothamsted Experimental Station for illustrations of research on horticultural crops. To the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, for herbarium specimens of new Chinese plants. Grenfell medal: To the Experimental and Research Station, Cheshunt, for exhibit of greenhouse pests.

Paintings.—Silver-gilt Grenfell medal: To Miss W. M. A. Brooke, for paintings and drawings of flowers and insects. Silver Grenfell medals: To Mrs. N. Blacklock, for water-colour paintings of flowers; Mrs. Edith Fisher, for water-colour paintings of gardens; Miss E. Savory, for pictures of flowers; Miss J. N. Williams, for paintings of gardens and flowers.

In the report of the exhibits of Trees and Shrubs on show at Chelsea, we unfortunately omitted to make reference to the fine display of clipped golden yews from Knaphill Nurseries, Woking, where for so many years the late Mr. Anthony Waterer made topiary his personal hobby. This exhibit was full of interest to those who are enthusiastic formal gardeners.

REVERSION OR NETTLE-HEAD IN BLACK CURRANTS.

THIS is one of the most serious troubles met with in the cultivation of the black currant. It is a much more modern one than "big bud," but it is not by any means certain that it will not be as serious—if not more so—than the big bud. The name has been suggested by the curious appearance of the foliage. The latter name is best suited to it, because it is well known that the bushes do not actually revert to the wild type, and nettle-head is a very apt description. Hence it is not very difficult to recognise a badly affected bush, though slightly attacked branches are not easy to recognise. Another way, and perhaps a surer one, of recognising affected plants is by means of the flower buds. On reverted bushes these carry more "bloom" (due to hairs) than is found on the flower buds of healthy plants.

This is, therefore, the means generally adopted by those who are keen on keeping their stock clean. Any plants showing signs of reversion are then either destroyed or marked for removal after the crop has been gathered. A badly reverted bush will cease to bear, but it often happens that the plants go branch by branch.

Methods of control are difficult. Practically there are only two at present. One is to "rogue" every plant showing signs of attack, and the other to propagate from clean stock. If care in propagating were consistently followed up by every grower, it is possible that the trouble would at any rate be kept within bounds, especially if followed by good cultivation.

With regard to propagation, it is recommended by a high authority on the subject that propagation from healthy green cuttings, instead of the usual one by dormant shoots, will prove almost, if not entirely, successful.

In addition to these pests the black currant is subject to several others, notably aphis. The first signs of aphis attack are noticed by the bunching of the young top leaves. This usually appears in May and goes on through June if not combated. The result in such a case is sometimes serious.

The currant lettuce aphis is capable of doing a lot of damage—in some seasons much more so than in others. Like most aphides it feeds on the under sides of the leaves, where it deposits a sticky secretion. The bushes should be sprayed directly the aphis is seen, with a soft soap and nicotine wash or any efficient proprietary spray mixture. Possibly the best way is to dip the ends of the shoots into the mixture. By this means one is certain that all the pests have been immersed.

This by no means exhausts the number of pests and diseases liable to attack black currants; but the others, such as the Clear Wing moth, saw-fly and red spider, and the diseases leaf spot and rust, are not so serious.

I am afraid that the foregoing remarks give a somewhat pessimistic tone to the culture of black currants, but it is not intended to do so; rather it is meant as an appeal to growers to be careful.

A. J. Cobb.

Digitized by Google

FOR PRESENT PLANTING

We offer for the first time our new

CISTUS WINTONENSIS

Award of Merit, R.H.S., April 20, 1926.

A unique hybrid, flowers two inches across, pearly white, with a distinct maroon zone contrasting with the golden anthers. Foliage grey.

Strong young plants .. .. **10/6** each
Specimens in larger pots .. **21/-** ,,

CISTUS HILLIER'S SILVER PINK

Award of Merit, R.H.S., June 17, 1919.

Flowers the most charming art shade of pale silvery pink, large and profusely borne. Foliage silvery grey; very hardy. **2/6** each. **27/-** doz.

COLLECTIONS OF

(*a*) **12** Cistus in **12** leading varieties, all shades of colour, including purpureus, Loretii, algarvensis, etc., for .. **21/-**
(*b*) **12** ditto, in second size plants, for **16/6**
(*c*) **6** Cistus, in **6** older varieties, for **7/6**

All the above are bushy plants in 5-inch pots.

HILLIER & SONS of WINCHESTER

ROCKERY STONE

Best Westmorland Weathered Limestone for Rockeries, Rock Gardens, etc.

In any sized pieces to suit requirements. Any quantity. Large Stones a speciality.

For price and particulars, write—

WARDLEY & SONS, Slackhead, Milnthorpe

KILL those WEEDS

Hoeing and hand-picking of weeds are back-aching temper trying jobs.

Why not save time, trouble and labour by cleaning paths with

COOPER'S

WEEDICIDE

("Highly Commended" by the R.H.S.)

1 gall. (price 9/-) dilutes to **100** galls. water and is sufficient for treating **300/400** sq. yards

Pint 1/9 Quart 3/- ½ gall 5/ 1 gall 9/6 2 gall 17/- 5 gall. 36/6

If you prefer a non-arsenical Weedkiller, we recommend

McDOUGALL'S PERFECT SAFETY

Involves no danger of poisoning

Pint 1/6 Quart 2/6 ½ gall. 4/ 1 gall 8/6 5 gall. 25/-

also C.M.R. Powder Weedkiller

in 1 lb., 2 lb. and 5 lb. tins.

"As easy as it looks"

Write for Illustrated leaflet "The Weed Problem Solved" you will learn how weeds can be eradicated quickly and easily

If unable to obtain these Weedkillers locally, apply direct

Cooper, McDougall & Robertson, Ltd., BERKHAMSTED.

FEEDING & WATERING GLADIOLI

UNDOUBTEDLY gladioli like plenty of moisture. Their habit and sword-like leaves suggest a water-loving subject, yet experience teaches us that badly drained, sour or water-logged soil is a great disadvantage. It is, of course, much too late to tender advice on the preparation of the soil for gladioli, but in dealing with culture at this time of the year one must refer to this phase, for their after-treatment depends to some extent on how the ground has been prepared.

When the plants appear through the soil frequent shallow hoeings will serve to kill the weeds and conserve moisture. Watering and feeding will be unnecessary until the early summer, when the main roots become established. In parts of America, where overhead irrigation has to be resorted to, gladiolus growers sometimes cover their beds with a half-inch layer of sand, a sort of dust mulch to retain the moisture. This procedure may be unnecessary in this country, but undoubtedly in most seasons a surface mulch of loose horse litter or spent hops would give us all the advantages of a sand mulch with none of its drawbacks.

Artificial fertilisers are best avoided by the inexperienced grower, and provided the soil has been deeply dug and richly prepared, there is little need for feeding in any shape or form. A dusting of bone meal hoed in round the plants in the late spring can, however, do no harm where it is surmised the condition of the soil is rather on the poor side. Bone meal is a "safe" fertiliser, it disintegrates slowly, has no harmful effect on the soil itself, and furnishes nutriment over a prolonged period "in instalments."

Watering and feeding from the time the plants are about 15ins. high will be found very beneficial if due regard is given to soil and weather conditions. The frequency and extent of same is entirely a matter for individual judgment, so much depends on the nature of the soil and the season. It is, perhaps, unnecessary for me to add that over-feeding and over-watering are alike detrimental and extra care must be exercised when dealing with badly drained soils.

ANTIRRHINUMS

IT'S only the fact that we grow and deliver especially good plants that we wish to advertise. The brightness, the long-flowering life, the wonderful adaptability of Antirrhinums (Snapdragons) are known to everyone. Although our plants are properly grown, transplanted, well rooted, hardened off, in all ways particularly good, as becomes a firm which reckon to do things well, the price is only

1/3 dozen. **8/6** 100.

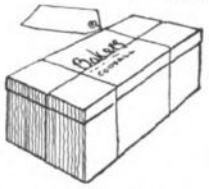
Carriage paid on orders value 5/- and over, otherwise 9d. extra.

And these are the varieties and colours

Codsall Rose, delicate pink
Cottage Maid, pink, white throat
Crimson King, rich dark crimson
Dainty, gold and terra cotta pink
Electra, salmon orange, white throat
Dazzler, orange scarlet
Firefly, scarlet
Glow, orange apricot
Melrose, bright rose
Rose Queen, rose pink self
White Queen, pure white
Yellow King, rich yellow

DELIVERED DIRECT FROM THE GROWERS. CARRIAGE PAID.

Order now.



Bakers

FLOWER FARM, CODSALL.

Nr. Wolverhampton.

CIRENGOL

KILLS GREEN FLY

AND OTHER GARDEN PESTS.

READY FOR USE. All you have to do is to mix a level teaspoonful in two gallons of cold water and in a few minutes you have a supply of strong syringing liquor.

9d. per tube.

Large size 3/- (5 times the 9d. size.)

Of all Ironmongers, Seedsmen, Florists and Chemists or post free from:

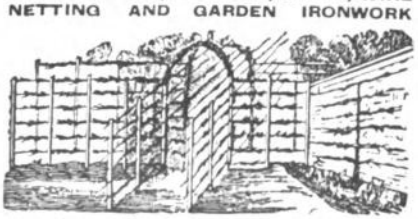
THOS. CHRISTY & CO., 4-12, Old Swan Lane, London, E.C. 4.

HILL & SMITH, Ltd.,

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS,

Makers of

IRON FENCING, HURDLES, GATES, WIRE NETTING AND GARDEN IRONWORK



Other Products—**Hay and Grain Sheds, Dutch Barns, Galvanized Corrugated Sheets and Structural Steelwork.**

Catalogues free on mentioning this paper.

London: 300, Abbey House, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1.

Digitized by Google

Beautiful Garden Books

SECRETS OF MANY GARDENS
By Mrs. PHILIP MARTINEAU
17 full page illustrations. 12s. 6d. *net*

THE
HERBACEOUS GARDEN
By Mrs. PHILIP MARTINEAU
Fourth Enlarged Edition. 32 plates. 12s. 6d. *net*

ROCK GARDENS
By LEWIS MEREDITH
Third Edition. Many illustrations. 10s. 6d. *net*

The MAKING OF A GARDEN
By D. H. MOUTRAY READ
Profusely illustrated.
Cheap new edition. 7s. 6d. *net*

TREE WOUNDS AND DISEASES: *THEIR PREVENTION AND TREATMENT*
By A. D. WEBSTER
Profusely illustrated. 7s. 6d. *net*

EVOLUTION of PLANTS
By Dr. D. H. SCOTT
Fully illustrated. 2s. 6d. *net*

FOR FULL GARDEN CATALOGUE WRITE TO:
WILLIAMS & NORGATE, LTD.
14, HENRIETTA STREET, LONDON, W.C.2

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

OLIVER & HUNTER'S
HARDY PLANTS
GROWN IN SCOTLAND

Much attention was attracted by our exhibit at Chelsea, where we had a unique collection of Alpine plants, including some of Captain Kingdon Ward's latest introductions from Tibet: Primula Florindæ and other new species, Meconopsis, Dracocephalum, Omphalodes, etc. Descriptive catalogue free on request

OLIVER & HUNTER
HARDY PLANT SPECIALISTS
MONIAIVE, DUMFRIESSHIRE

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

It is far better to give the plants a good soaking once every ten days or fortnight than to apply sparingly every three or four days. Of course, if a mulch has been spread around the gladioli, watering need not be so frequent. Do not allow the surface of the soil to become hard and "caked," but always stir the soil with the hoe the day after watering. Never apply icy cold water straight from the tap or a deep well; if a pond or ditch is not handy, let tap water stand for a day or two.

Liquid manure should be given in a very diluted form and the inexperienced would be wise to shun chemical fertilisers. That old-fashioned liquid manure made by suspending a bag of sheep manure and a little soot in a tub of water and allowing it to stand for a few days before use is quite good if well diluted.—C. H. A. S.

WORMS ON LAWNS.

GENERALLY speaking, the gardener should regard earthworms as most useful creatures. Worms continually renew the surface soil with finely divided earth brought from the subsoil and, by means of their burrows, allow the free penetration of rain and air to greater depths than would otherwise be the case. On lawns worms are unwanted because of the untidy appearance of their castings.

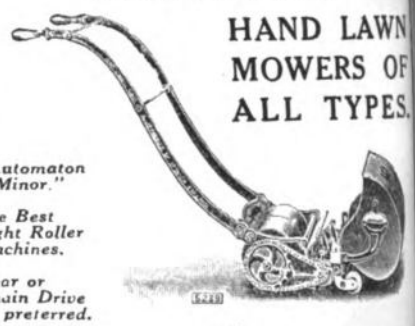
Several methods of dealing with a lawn badly infested with earthworms are to be recommended. In the evening, especially during mild damp weather, the worms will come out of their holes in large numbers in search of food, and can be collected with the help of a lantern. The watering of the lawn with some infusion will bring the worms to the surface in a more or less stupefied state. Where walnut leaves can be obtained, macerate these well in hot water, strain away the liquid and, when cold, sprinkle freely on the grass in the evening. Early in the following morning many worms can be collected. A similar effect is secured by using weak solutions of carbonate of ammonia, guano water, or clear lime water. In these cases, note that the solution should be really weak, or damage to the grass may result. Or one of the many proprietary preparations advertised in THE GARDEN, applied in accordance with maker's directions, may be used with safety and certainty.

When a lawn is thickly scattered with worm castings, choose a dry day and then use a stiff broom to pass over the heaps to break up and distribute the soil. Then use the mower, and there should be no clogging of the machinery.—S. L. B.

CATALOGUE RECEIVED.

Messrs. Clarence Elliott, Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage.—One of the best catalogues of alpine plants we have seen and one which all rock garden enthusiasts should have by their side, both for the interesting and admirable descriptions of the plants and the wide variety offered. The excellent line illustrations are the work of Mr. John Nash and are wonderfully lifelike.

By Appointment.
RANSOMES' LAWN MOWERS
"The Best in the World."



HAND LAWN MOWERS OF ALL TYPES.

"Automaton Minor."
The Best Light Roller Machines.
Gear or Chain Drive as preferred.

ALSO
MOTOR, HORSE, PONY AND DONKEY MOWERS.

PROMPT DELIVERY.

Write for List No. 111 to
RANSOMES, SIMS & JEFFERIES, LTD.
ORWELL WORKS, IPSWICH.
Sold by all Ironmongers and Seedsmen.

Make this into rich Manure

Lawn mowings, weeds, leaves, etc., should never be wasted. As your garden refuse accumulates, build it into a heap, treating each fresh addition of rubbish with—

ADCO

In a few months you will have a plentiful supply of rich organic fertiliser.
1 cwt. ADCO makes from 2-3 tons of MANURE according to the class of rubbish used.

ADCO ACCELERATOR
(for lawn mowings and soft green refuse)
28 lb., 4/6 ... 56 lb., 8/- ... 1 cwt., 15/-

STANDARD ADCO
(for all other rubbish, bracken and straw)
28 lb., 6/- ... 56 lb., 11/6 ... 1 cwt., 20/-
Carriage paid to nearest Goods Station. Cash with order.
Stocked by all leading Seedsmen, Harrods Ltd., etc.

ADCO LTD., HARPENDEN HERTS.

DAVID SWAIN & CO.
Horticultural Builders
Telephone: NORTH 2807.

GARDEN FRAMES ALL SIZES.
GLASSHOUSES RENOVATED.
REPAIRS AND REPAINTING. HEATING.

Two-light Garden Frame.

ERECTED AT MOFFAT.
Write for LISTS and ESTIMATES.
101, SUSSEX ROAD, HOLLOWAY, LONDON, N.7

Digitized by Google

THOSE ODD JOBS

Learn how to do them Yourself . .

THE HOUSE DOCTOR

By R. Randal Phillips

2/6 net.

"COUNTRY LIFE" LIBRARY,
20, *Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2*

WATER

raised by simply turning a handle. The wonderful Boulton Water Elevator lifts a continuous stream of water from well of any depth.

Ask for Catalogue No. 746

BOULTON & PAUL, LTD
: : NORWICH : :

THE LEADING GLASS HOUSE FUMIGANT

THOUSANDS OF TOMATO CROPS ENTIRELY SAVED
No alterations needed since first introduced.
satisfied with the best, it is the cheapest in the end.
Commended by the Royal Horticultural Society.

cubic ft.	1,000	2,000	4,000	8,000	16,000	32,000	64,000
	10d.	1/3	2/-	3/6	6/-	10/6	19/-

Also in 2, 5 and 10 gall. FREE drums;
ALSO

"NIQUAS"

THE INSECTICIDE.

(Non-poisonous.)

destroying Greenfly, Aphis and Caterpillars, etc., on all plants and trees.

30 years' reputation.
Many hundreds of Testimonials received.

Equal to any, if not better, and cheaper, so why not use it and save money?

	1 pt.	1 qt.	½-gall.	1 gall.	2 gall.	5 gall.	10 gall.
	1/6	2/6	4/-	7/6	15/-	25/-	45/-

RRY'S CONCENTRATED QUASSIA EXTRACT

	1 pt.	1 qt.	½-gall.	1 gall.	2 gall.	5 gall.	10 gall.
	1/3	2/-	3/6	6/6	12/6	23/-	42/-

Sold by Nurserymen and Seedsmen.
RRY & CO, Ltd., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

J·P SUPER

"We can do as much in one day with a J.P. 16 in. machine as we did with a 22 in. pony mower."

From delighted users:
"It is the most wonderful machine of the kind I have ever come across."
"All are greatly impressed by its efficiency and simplicity of adjustment compared with any other."

free

Send post card for Booklet "G" and be convinced. Your Ironmonger or Seedsman will demonstrate machine.

J.P. SUPER LAWN-MOWERS LTD.,
Meynell Rd., Leicester

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE LAWNS AT WINDSOR CASTLE ARE MOWN BY

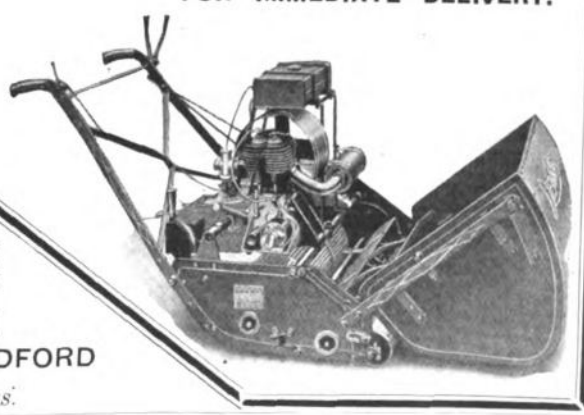
DENNIS

MOTOR LAWN MOWERS

FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY.

A brief specification:—

4 H.P. 4-stroke engine; differential gear to rollers; forced-feed lubrication; mechanical adjustment for cutter blades; machine can be used for cutting or rolling only, as desired; detachable covers to driving chains, etc.



24in.–£75. 30in.–£90. Trailer seat for either model, £7 10 0. Less 5 per cent. for cash within seven days, and delivered to any Railway Station in Great Britain. For full particulars, write to Dept. "G.",

DENNIS BROS. LTD., GUILDFORD

Manufacturers of the Famous LORRIES, BUSES & FIRE ENGINES.

OLD WORLD GARDEN ORNAMENTS

IN SOLID BATH STONE

SUNDIALS
GARDEN HOUSES
WALLING STONE
OIL JARS.
ROCKERY STONE
CRAZY PAVING

ASK FOR DESIGNS & ACTUAL PHOTOS
LARGE STOCK KEPT
PHONE COMBE DOWN 8

THE HORSECOMBE QUARRIES AND STONE WORKS
(A. F. WILKES, F.R.H.S. PROPRIETOR)
COMBE DOWN, BATH.

HIGHEST AWARDS AT R.H.S. SHOWS.
BEAUTIFULLY WEATHERED STONE
WIRES. WILKES, COMBE DOWN 8

BIRD BATHS
DOVE COTES
BALUSTRADING
PERGOLAS
LILY PONDS
SEATS, ETC

Digitized by Google

Smokers may now enjoy all the delightful flavour of the original PLAYER'S Navy Cut without the trouble of rubbing it up.

PLAYER'S
"MEDIUM"
Navy Cut

PLAYER'S NAVY CUT.
REGD No 154011.
RUBBED READY FOR SMOKING

P 1323

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION

WAKELEY'S Celebrated HOP MANURE
(PATENTED)
THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY
RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

A beautiful Free Booklet giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.

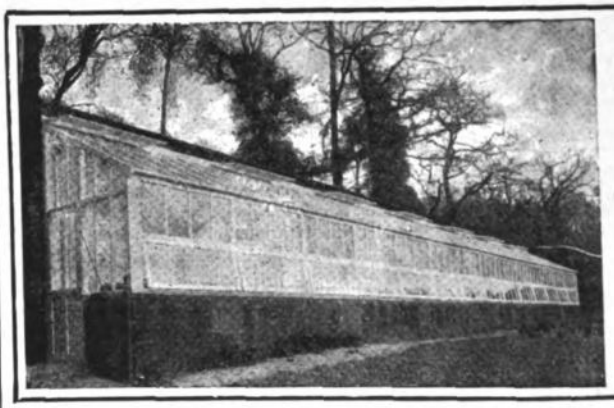
BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. GENUINE ONLY IN OUR MARKED BAGS, CONTAINING GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

Cash Prices, including bags: Small (about 1 bushel), 3/-; Large (about 4 bushels), 7/- 5 Large 33/9 10 Large, 65/-; 20 Large, 120/-

Carriage Paid to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company. 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*



GREENHOUSES AND GARDEN FRAMES

I specialize in the Erection of High-class Horticultural Buildings.

Garden Frames a speciality. Selected timber, well seasoned, only used.

Being a grower, I understand Glass-house requirements.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.
CATALOGUES WITH PLEASURE

E. M. HEAP, Cottimore Nurseries, WALTON-ON-THAMES.

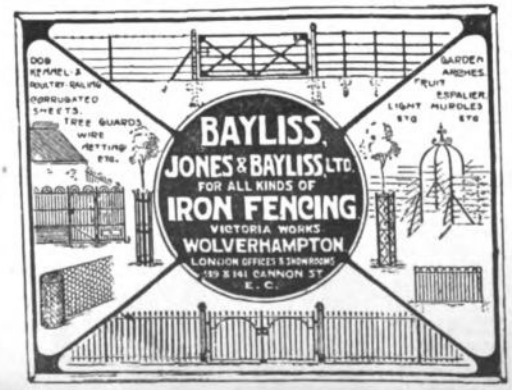
Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by "ALPHOL"
Sample 14 lb., 3/6 carr. paid

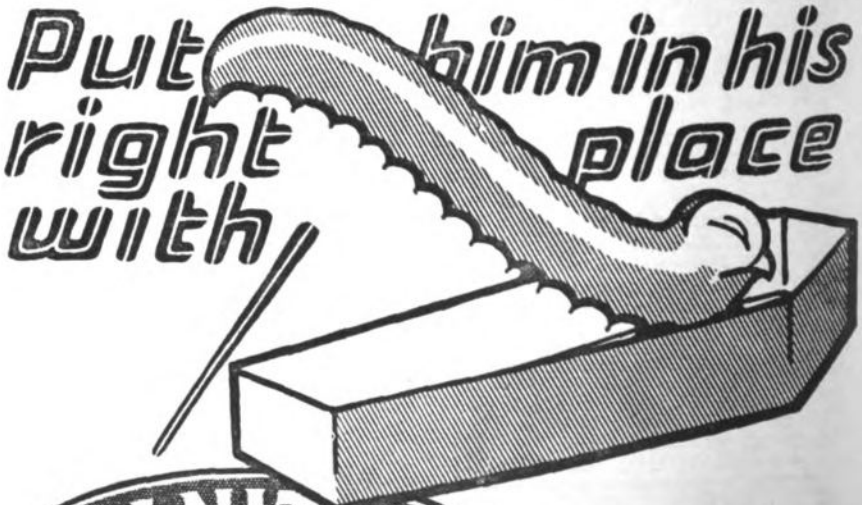
Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc. to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

GARDEN LOVERS
Write for Catalogues of
PROTHEROE & MORRIS'
· HORTICULTURAL SALES ·
WEDNESDAY
67 68 Cheapside, London E.C.2 Phone City 3856



Put him in his right place with



SANITAS POWDERS

Sanitas Powder erects an impassable barrier against worms, caterpillars, slugs and snails—but is harmless to plants and flowers. It is non-poisonous—except to pests.

THE "SANITAS" CO. LTD. LIMEHOUSE, LONDON, E.

SAN 229-60

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES LIMITED, 8-11 Southampton Street Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane London W.C.2

Digitized by Google

ERAL LIBRARY
JUN 22 1926

Vol. XC.—No. 2845 Saturday, June 12th, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

Barr's Seeds for June Sowing

OF FINEST STRAINS AND TESTED GROWTH

For the Flower Garden and Greenhouse

Antirrhinums, Aquilegias, Campanulas, Canterbury Bells, Calceolarias, Cinerarias, Delphiniums, Forget-me-nots, Hollyhocks, Lupins, Pansies, Primulas, Polyanthus-Primroses, Sweet Williams, Stocks, Wallflowers, etc.

For the Vegetable Garden

Beans, Beet, Carrots, Peas, Spinach, Lettuce, Radish, etc.

For the Rock Garden

Special List of dwarf-growing Hardy Perennials, Alpines, etc., for June and July sowing in the Rock Garden.

All Lists free on application.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

NETTINGS

GARDEN NETS FOR FRUIT PROTECTION

Any lengths and widths. Corded all round

	per sq. yd.		per sq. yd.
NEW 1 in. sq. mesh, heavy ..	6½d.	NEW ⅝ in. sq. mesh, medium ..	7½d.
NEW 1 in. „ medium ..	5½d.	REPAIRED 1 in. sq. mesh, heavy	3½d.
NEW ⅝ in. „ light ..	5½d.	REPAIRED ⅝ in. „ „	4d.

REPAIRED (not corded) 1 in. diamond mesh, **9**/- per 100 sq. yards.

NEW TENNIS BOUNDARY NETS

Any lengths and widths. Corded all round. **7**d. per sq. yard.

NEW TENNIS NETS

Various qualities from **16**/- to **31**/- each.

NETS FOR ALL PURPOSES

Samples and full particulars from the manufacturers.

JOSEPH BENTLEY, Ltd., Barrow-on-Humber, LINCS.
(Sole Proprietors of B. EDDY & SONS)

The Flower of the Season

BALL'S CALENDULA

— Brilliant Orange Double Flowers —

THE FINEST PLANT FOR CUT FLOWER OR THE BORDER

Our exhibit at CHELSEA SHOW made us many customers, and we have had numerous testimonials from all parts of the country.

SEED .. .. **1**/-, **2 6**, **5**/- packet
PLANTS .. .. **1**/**6** doz.: **10**/- 100

WM. ARTINDALE & SON
NETHER GREEN NURSERY :: SHEFFIELD

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

FOR THE GARDEN! FOR EXHIBITION!
FOR BEDS! FOR EVERYWHERE!

Also Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees, Alpines and Hardy Plants.

BUY HOME-GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries.

Catalogue Free on Application, and Addresses booked for Revised Catalogue in late Summer.

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.,
Garden Specialists - - SOUTHWELL, NOTTS

SEND YOUR ENQUIRIES *NOW* FOR . .

Autumn Planting of

CHOICE DAFFODILS

British Grown Bulbs

COMPLETE CATALOGUE NOW READY, FREE ON APPLICATION

CARTWRIGHT & GOODWIN Ltd.
BULB GROWERS,
Churchill, Kidderminster, WORCS., ENGLAND.

DWARF BEDDING DAHLIAS

COLTNESS GEM, brilliant scarlet flowers produced in the greatest profusion during summer and autumn; 18 ins. high. Undoubtedly the best dwarf Dahlia for bedding.

DUNECHT GEM, a counterpart of the foregoing, but with yellow flowers.

Also Collarette, Cactus, Pompon, Pæony and Single Dahlias, our selection of varieties.

Prices for all above:
7/- for 12; **13**/- for 25; **25**/- for 50, and **47**/**6** for 100

All carriage paid for cash with order.

AUSTIN & McASLAN
MITCHELL STREET :: :: GLASGOW

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
— New Alpines and Perennials. Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
— Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
— Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
— Begonias, Delphiniums, Gloxinias, Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD,
CHELSEA, S.W.
— Seeds, Gladioli, Spiræas, List on Application

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
— Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
— Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
— Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
HULL
— Weed Destroyers, Fertilisers, Insecticides, Nets and Sundries

ROCKRAVEN GARDEN STONE
COMPANY SUPPLY POROUS LIME-STONE ROCKS for ALPINE SUBJECTS: WEATHER-WORN BY THE STORMS OF CENTURIES INTO DELIGHTFUL POCKETS, LEDGES AND FISSURES. VARIED SHAPES AND SIZES
SECRETARY
LINTON-IN-CRAVEN, SKIPTON, YORKS

DAHLIAS.

Strong Plants from 3in. Pots.

12 Cactus varieties	6/-
12 Decorative varieties	6/-
12 Collarette varieties	6/-
12 Star—Single varieties	7/-

DWARF BEDDING DAHLIAS.

12 Coltness Gem	7/6 (56/- per 100)
12 Dunecht Yellow	7/6

CHRYSANTHEMUMS FOR THE GARDEN.

12 Fine varieties	4/-
12 Early Single varieties	4/-

ANTIRRHINUMS.

12 Nanum, mixed colours	1/6
12 Tom Thumb, mixed colours	1/6

ZONAL PELARGONIUMS.

12 Double varieties	7/6
12 Single varieties	7/6
6 Cactus varieties	4/-

Post paid for orders over 5/-, others 6d. extra.
Catalogue free on application.

J. W. COLE & SON
Westwood Nurseries - - Peterborough

CARNATIONS
for every
GARDEN & GREENHOUSE.

PERPETUAL CARNATIONS
PERPETUAL MALMAISONS.
PERPETUAL BORDER CARNATIONS.
BORDER CARNATIONS and
ALLWOOD!! (Half Pink—Half Carnation.)

For present or Autumn delivery. Fully illustrated and descriptive Catalogue sent post free on request to

The leading Carnation Raisers and Specialists in the World (Dept. 4).

Allwood Bros
HAYWARD'S HEATH.

OLIVER & HUNTER'S
HARDY PLANTS
GROWN IN SCOTLAND

Much attention was attracted by our exhibit at Chelsea, where we had a unique collection of Alpine plants, including some of Captain Kingdon Ward's latest introductions from Tibet: Primula Florindæ and other new species, Meconopsis, Dracocephalum, Omphalodes, etc. Descriptive catalogue free on request

OLIVER & HUNTER
HARDY PLANT SPECIALISTS
MONIAIVE, DUMFRIE SHIRE

FERTHRIVER (REGD.)
THE COMPLETE FERTILISER, WITH GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

	7-lb.	14-lb.	28-lb.	56-lb.	1-cwt.
Ferthriver	1/6	2/9	5/-	9/-	16/-
Bone Meal	1/6	2/9	5/-	9/-	16/-
Nitrate of Soda	1/9	3/-	6/-	11/-	21/-

Add the following extras for Carriage Paid lots.

	1/-	1/9	2/-	2/6	4/-

ANALYSIS:

Ammonia	4 per cent.
Phosphates	15 "
Potash	8 "
Pot. Sulphate	5.5 "

3d. Tin of Ferthriver
As Illustrated.
6d. Post Free.

THE NECESSARIES CO.,
25, Edward Road,
Balsall Heath BIRMINGHAM.

That bumper crop

The food behind most bumper tomato crops is XL ALL Tomato Manure. It is specially made for the job, and country-wide testimonials are proof of its success. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen and florists.

XL ALL TOMATO MANURE

G. H. RICHARDS, LTD.
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
Monomark: BCM/XLALL.

R. 139.

NETTINGS (REDUCED PRICES)

GARDEN NETS for fruit protection. Any length or width, corded all round.

New 1in. sq. mesh, stout	5d. per sq. yd.
New medium, 1 in. sq. mesh	4½d. " "
New ¾ in. stout, sq. mesh	5½d. " "
New ¾ in. medium, sq. mesh	4½d. " "
Best ¾ in. salmon twine	7d. " "
Repaired ¾in. stout sq. mesh	3d. " "
Repaired 1 in. sq. mesh	2½d. " "

NEW TENNIS BOUNDARY NETTING, roped around

Heavy hand braided	7d. per sq. yd.
Medium " "	6d. " "
Little lighter	4½d. " "
Selected repaired	3d. " "

Any length or width supplied.

NEW TENNIS NETS, regulation size, various qualities, steel and copper head lines, 30/- to 35/- each.
DIAMOND NETS, measured mesh closed, Selected. Repaired, small mesh, 25 yds. x 2 yds., 3s. 6d., or 4 yds., 7s. or 8 yds., 14s. Heavy quality, about 1½ mesh, 25 x 2 yds., 5s.; 4 yds., 10s.; 8 yds., £1, carriage paid passenger train; receipt order.

Satisfaction Guaranteed. Samples and full particulars from the Manufacturers: Mention THE GARDEN.

W. OLIVER ALLEN & SONS, Net Makers
Porthleven, Cornwall.

Dwarf Bedding Dahlias

Coltness Gem	Still the best dwarf scarlet, ht. 18ins. (The original stock introduced by me in 1918). Packed and post free, 9/- doz.
Dunecht Yellow	Good shade, a seedling from Coltness Gem. Same habit, slightly taller. Packed and post free, 9/- doz.
Paisley Gem	Orange scarlet, variable. First flowers are semi-double, ht. 18ins. Packed and post free, 13/6 doz.
White Gem	Free and continuous, bushy habit, ht. 15ins. Packed and post free, 13/6 doz.

Copy of Summer List sent free on request.

D. G. PURDIE, 6J, Waterloo Place, GLASGOW, C.2

TUBS FOR SHRUBS
WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over prizes R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. decorative. — Price List from A. Flint 26, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

PRIZE Vegetables

Vegetables grown with the help of Nitrate of Soda take the prizes at the shows. This means that it brings rapid growth, and imparts quality, crispness, tenderness, etc.

Write or pamphlets, entitled, "Successful Gardens for every Amateur," "The Manuring of Orchards and Fruit Trees," supplied gratis and post free by THE CHILEAN NITRATE COMMITTEE, *Friars House, New Broad Street, London, E.C. 2.*

Nitrate of Soda

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

ATERER'S GOLD MEDAL RHODODEN-
SONS, Azaleas, rare Hardy Shrubs, Alpine and Perennial plants, Vegetable and Flower Seeds. Catalogues free. Bedding dialogue now ready, containing the best in Dahlias and Seeds r Summer sowing.—JOHN WATERER, SONS AND CRISP, LIMITED, ryford, Berks; Bagshot, Surrey; and London.

IMALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODEN-
RONS on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and ine Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write r Catalogues.—G. REUTER, Keston, Kent.

ELLS' CATALOGUE OF CHRYSANTHE-
UMS will be sent post free on application.—W. WELLS AND , Merstham, Surrey.

AKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE.
The original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See ert. on back page.

M. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD.,
rence' Road, South Tottenham, N.15.—Conservatories, nter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

IRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUN-
IALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.— ORTON, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

ENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and rden Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE AILEY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, ry.

IVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES,
, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection ited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

ORK STONE PAVINGS, crazy or rect-gular, rustic copings, steps roughly squared or random ed, flat bedded wallstones, garden edging, rockery, etc.— UEL JOHNSON AND SON (MIRFIELD), LIMITED, Newgate he Works, Mirfield, Yorkshire.

E CULTURE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS.
W. WELLS, 2/6 net; cloth, 3/6 net; by post 6d. extra. ublished at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE" LIMITED, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

IRE NETTING.—From 2/5 per 50yd. roll-argest House in the Kingdom. Write us for prices. emands of rolls stocked.

NTS.—Army Bell, all complete, new fittings, walls. Scout, Bathing, and Garden Tents, also Marquees. te us for prices.

EEP THE BIRDS.—Rotless Tanned Net-g. Small mesh, as supplied by us to the Royal Gardens. In ree Qualities. 50 x 1yd., 3/6, 4/-, 6/9; 2yds., 7/-, 8/-, 9/6; 3yds., 10/6, 12/-, 20/3; 4yds., 14/-, 16/-, 27/-; 25 x 1yds., 14/-, 16/-, 27/-. Any size supplied. Carriage paid. approval. Measured mesh closed.

TENNIS BOUNDARY NETTING.—Lines top and bottom. 25 x 2yds., 16/3; 3yds., 18/3; 4yds., 25/3 carriage paid. Approval. Standards for fixing to, also Playing Pegs, Poles and all requisites supplied.

GARDEN BARROWS.—Full size. 8 spokes. Best value in the kingdom, 24/9. Painted, 28/3.

LAWN MOWERS.—Five Riveted Blades. Ash Wheels. Brass Bushings. Close Cutting. Highly Finished. Unequalled Value. 8in., 23/-; 10in., 24/-; 12in., 25/-; 14in., 27/-. Grass Boxes, 5/6 each. Garden Rollers, 30/-.

RABBIT NETTING.—Tanned, Superior Quality. 2in. mesh, 6ft. wide, 6d. yard. Carriage paid 12yds. and over. Other widths pro rata. Prices of smaller meshes on application. E. B. HAWTHORN, LIMITED, Dept. E, Shrewsbury.

BARR'S SEEDS FOR JUNE SOWING.—for VEGETABLE AND FLOWER GARDEN, ROCK GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE. Finest Selected Strains and Tested Growth. Special Lists Free.—BARR AND SONS, 11, 12, and 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760 yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

OUR NEW ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE of Alpine and Herbaceous Plants, Dwarf Trees and Shrubs and Bulbs for the Rock Garden, now ready. "A Mine of Information." Post free on application.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED, Stevenage, Herts.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GAR-
DENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial : A Tree Failure	329
Editorial Notes	330
Native Plants of Our Gardens	331
Red-hot Pokers for the Autumn Garden	332
Notes of the Week	334–335
Pillar Plants in the Conservatory ; The Grouping of Plants for Mutual Welfare ; Berberis Neubertii ; A Fine Mesembryanthemum ; Arum Lilies in the Open ; Spiræa filipendula.	
Roses in Retrospect	336
Pot-pourri and Sweet Bags	338
Correspondence	338–339
The Hybrid Musk Roses ; Plant Nomenclature ; Feijoa Sellowiana as a Fruiting Shrub ; Anchusa myosotidiflora ; Thalictrum dipterocarpum ; The Fifty Best Rock Plants ; An Edging Plant ; Prunus Pissardii.	
Garden Technique	340–341
Violas ; Top-dressing of Liliums ; Cutting Back Pyrethrums ; Polyanthus from Seed ; Birds and Soft Fruits ; Thinning Apples ; Bush Fruits and Stimulants ; Planting Brussels Sprouts ; Vegetable Marrows.	
Gardening of the Week	342

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL DELPHINIUMS and ROSES. Send a postcard for our catalogue.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLI, Chrysanthemums, Dahlias and Border Carnations.—Our Stock includes many new and meritorious varieties. List post free on application.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

THE DOG : MAN'S FIRMEST FRIEND.—How to choose and care for him, by A. CROXTON SMITH. A copy of this helpful booklet on the housing, breeding, feeding and care of dogs will be sent post free on receipt of 11d., addressed to The Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

DOBBIE'S PLANT CATALOGUE now ready. Free to all readers. Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.—DOBBIE AND CO., LIMITED, Edinburgh.

BATH'S SELECT SEEDS AND PLANTS.—New Illustrated Catalogue of choice Vegetable and Flower Seeds and Plants is now ready, and will be sent, post free, on application.—(Dept. E), R. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

BARGAINS ! ! !—Ideal Wire for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded, and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses, from 19/6 mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 355, Albert Street, Lytham.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

GARDEN NETS.—Best tanned, small mesh; 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 25yds. by 3yds., 6/-; 25yds. by 4yds., 8/-. Carr. Paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Tennis nets from 10/-. Special nets for tennis boundary. Pea training nets. Lists and samples free.—G. JARRETT, Netmaker, Rye.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING.—Best selected nets, small mesh only supplied. 50yds. long, 4yds. wide, 14/-; 25 x 8yds., 14/-; 100 x 2yds., 14/-; 25 x 4yds., 7/-; 25 x 3yds., 5/-. Any size to order; all sent carriage paid.—W. GOULDEY, Walmer Road, South Lowestoft.

ROCK AND ALPINE PLANTS.—Large and varied collection. All pot grown. Packed and carriage paid. Catalogue free.—M. J. PIGGOTT, Dunfield, Nr. Derby.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING, small mesh: 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 40yds. by 1yd., 3/3; 40yds. by 2yds., 6/6; 40yds. by 3yds., 9/9. Measured mesh closed. Special Pea Netting supplied. Tennis Nets from 8/-. Carriage Paid. Compare our netting with others. Sports lists and samples free.—GALLOP, Net Manufacturer, Hastings.

A NAIL WRITES WEBSTER'S METAL LABELS. Can't fade or break. List 20 sizes.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

HERRING NETS, Small Mesh, to protect all kinds of fruit, approximately 80ft x 30ft., 12/6 each. Smaller pieces, 5/- and 6/6, good value. Carriage paid. Cash with order.—WM. G. GRIGOR, Port Gordon Station, Banffshire.

LOOK ! TANNED GARDEN NETS.—All orders dispatched same day. 25yds. by 1yd, 2/-; 25 by 2, 4/-; 25 by 3, 6/-. Odd netting for bushes, 6lbs. for 2/6. All carriage paid. Any sizes supplied. Also Tennis Boundary Nets.—MOORE AND CO., Net Works, Rye.

NATIVE PLANTS FOR YOUR GARDEN.—Write for list of "Wild Garden" and other plants.—NATIVE PLANT NURSERIES, Rockbeare, Exeter.

CISTUS (ROCK ROSE).—Strong young plants from 5/- per dozen.—NATIVE PLANT NURSERIES, Rockbeare, Exeter.

A CATALOGUE of gardening books will be sent free on application to "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING—"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free: 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

Sutton's Seeds

FOR SUMMER SOWING.

AQUILEGIA.—Sutton's Selected Long-spurred Hybrids.
CANTERBURY BELLS.—Sutton's Cup and Saucer.
COREOPSIS grandiflora.—Sutton's Selected
DELPHINIUM.—Sutton's Seedling Belladonna.
POPPY (perennial).—Sutton's Orientale Hybrids.
PANSY.—Sutton's Perfection.
WALLFLOWER.—Sutton's Superb Mixed.

Full particulars of the Finest VEGETABLE and FLOWER SEEDS for SUMMER SOWING on application.

THE SHERWOOD CUP

FOR THE MOST MERITORIOUS EXHIBIT, AWARDED AT THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S GREAT CHELSEA SHOW, 1926, TO

MESSRS. SUTTON & SONS

FOR A MAGNIFICENT GROUP OF FLOWERS FROM SEED.

SUTTON & SONS,
The King's Seedsmen,
READING

"THE GARDEN" Sweet Pea Competition

Name.....
Address.....
.....
1.....
2.....
3.....
4.....
5.....
6.....

Coupon June 12th

OUT OUT AROUND LINE.

WILLMOTT
Rival Plant Stake
(Patented No. 183779).
As used in Royal Botanic Gardens London and Cambridge.
For all plants. WILL NOT ROT, WEAR OUT OR BREAK.
Sample of eight sizes,
2/- car. pd. United Kingdom.
4/- Overseas.

H. J. GREENWOOD, F.R.H.S., Proprietor,
BRAOKNELL, Berks.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Beautiful Garden Books

SECRETS OF MANY GARDENS
By Mrs. PHILIP MARTINEAU
17 full page illustrations. 12s. 6d. *net*

THE HERBACEOUS GARDEN
By Mrs. PHILIP MARTINEAU
Fourth Enlarged Edition. 32 plates. 12s. 6d. *net*

ROCK GARDENS
By LEWIS MEREDITH
Third Edition. Many illustrations. 10s. 6d. *net*

The MAKING OF A GARDEN
By D. H. MOUTRAY READ
Profusely illustrated.
Cheap new edition. 7s. 6d. *net*

TREE WOUNDS AND DISEASES: THEIR PREVENTION AND TREATMENT
By A. D. WEBSTER
Profusely illustrated. 7s. 6d. *net*

EVOLUTION of PLANTS
by Dr. D. H. SCOTT
Fully illustrated. 2s. 6d. *net*

FOR FULL GARDEN CATALOGUE WRITE TO:
WILLIAMS & NORGATE, LTD.
14, HENRIETTA STREET, LONDON, W.C 2

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing*

YOUR GARDEN NEEDS
KILOGRUB

Its fumes are instantly fatal to all insect pests in the soil, but harmless to plants. Really effective because it works underground.
Tins: 9d., 1/6 and 2/6
Bags: ¼ cwt. 6/6, ½ cwt. 9/6, 1 cwt. 15/-
From your seedsmen or from
JOHN PEAK & CO. LTD. WIGAN. Lancs

WATER
raised by simply turning a handle. The wonderful Boulton Water Elevator lifts a continuous stream of water from well of any depth.
Ask for Catalogue No. 746
BOULTON & PAUL, LTD.
: : NORWICH : :

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

J·P SUPER

From an ex-Captain of the M.C.C. and County Football XI.:—
"For two years I have been using your machine on my tennis courts, your J.P. Super can give any other lawn mower thirty yards start in a hundred, and a beating."

From a Colonel:—
"I swear by your Lawn Mower, whereas I used to swear at my old fashioned one."

From a Gardener:—
"All are greatly impressed by its efficiency and simplicity of adjustment compared with any other."

J.P. SUPER LAWN-MOWERS LTD.,
Meynell Rd., Leicester

free
Send post card for Booklet "G" and be convinced. Your Ironmonger or Seedsman will demonstrate machine.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

VOL. XC.—No. 2845. JUNE 12, 1926

A TREE FAILURE

MANY of our trees are foreigners. New introductions pour in from abroad: some survive and in time are planted generally; they are successes and are good to look upon; others disappear in a few years, either because they are tender and so unsuitable, or because they are unappreciated. The common Monkey Puzzle, Araucaria imbricata, is a lamentable failure; and yet, why should this be? It is hardy—so hardy that I have seen two fine trees in a wind-swept garden on the coast near Stonehaven, where the furious wind had battered down every other tree within sight. The monkey puzzles were untouched, standing bolt upright in an easterly exposure, far more healthy than many in more sheltered positions, and clothed to the foot. It is a good grower; the biggest specimen that existed at Dropmore in 1871 was 51ft. high, 5ft. 10ins. round at 3ft. from the ground, and the spread of the branches was 28ft. At one time it was exceedingly popular, so much so that seedlings were sold at £10 10s. each, a gigantic sum, even more than the Wellingtonia fetched in the heyday of its boom. It is handsome, in a curious fashion, in leaf and certainly so in cone, which is blue-black and in size and shape like a coconut—it has the added attraction of bursting, when ripe, with a crack and falling in pieces, though it does not often cone in this country. And yet, with all these facts in its favour, it is a failure as a tree. It does not please or satisfy our tastes.

It was first found in Chile by Menzies in 1780, who succeeded in bringing back one or two plants alive. It created a stir then, and much more so when Lobb, travelling for Veitch imported a large quantity of seed in 1844. Then the craze began, and it became a universally popular tree. Many thousands must have been distributed between 1845 and 1890. Now, I suppose, it is the most despised tree that we have. I have never heard a good word said about it in this country. This sudden change from like—if it ever was admired—to dislike is odd. It must be a fine plant in Chile, as travellers have remarked on the grandeur of the forests and the grace of foliage in the mass, foliage that appears unsympathetic and gawky when seen on solitary specimens. Ordinary illustrations were poor in the middle of last century. Gardeners may not have realised that they were buying a plant that was difficult to place as an individual. They may have heard rumours of the existence of these enormous Araucaria forests and imagined that, as with the Wellingtonia, it made a fine ornamental tree. It may be that most of the buyers of seedlings followed each other like sheep and, having bought a pig in a poke for several guineas, were thrifty enough not to destroy it. It must be remembered that exotic conifers at that date were grown as specimen plants and not in plantations. Another reason for the unsuitable positions in which it was planted was undoubtedly the fact that its popularity so nearly coincided with that of the Wellingtonia, which undoubtedly was regarded by our grandfathers as a magnificent tree for specimen planting. They thought that a conifer of such an extraordinary appearance as the monkey puzzle would be equally suitable.

Whatever the reasons for this failure may be, one rarely sees a monkey puzzle that looks at home. Once, and once only, have I seen a group of five that was happily placed. Then they were planted in an irregular clump in a sloping field closely cropped by sheep and rabbits, with no other tree in the field, and backed by a rocky hill planted with beech and spruce and plane. I must say that they looked extraordinarily well in the autumn, blue-black against a hillside that shone with the russets and yellows of dying foliage. I have never heard of any plantation of any size in this country: perhaps it exists. If so, it is probably a wonderful sight. One of its great faults as a solitary tree is the existence of dead and scrubby lower branches. This probably does not occur when it is planted in mass formation. In any case, here is an odd instance of a stranger that has lost its personality in its wanderings so far from home. We have no place to give it, either in our woods or in our gardens. It gives us little or no pleasure to see it, and it must lead a lonely existence on its own. Perhaps there is something that is lacking in us, as we are so unsympathetic towards it: perhaps the younger generation dislike it as they recall that it was part and parcel of an extremely artificial period of gardening—a period which has now been swept aside. It is true that a few plants have sufficient character and beauty to have conquered this feeling of distaste, but the Araucaria is not among them. The feeling that it gives is one of a stately but sulky indifference. Theoretically, it is a wonderful sight, that should cause a thrill: actually, it is a dismal failure.

E. H. M. C.

OUR SWEET PEA COMPETITION

£50

IN PRIZES

(See page 330)

IF YOU LIKE "THE GARDEN," REMEMBER TO TELL YOUR FRIENDS ABOUT IT.

Digitized by Google

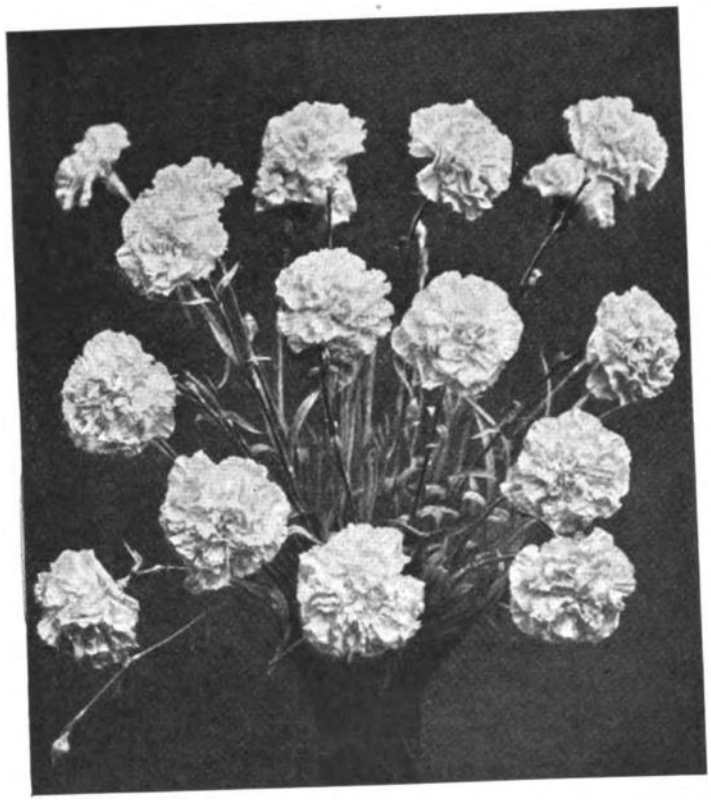
THE GARDEN

JUNE 12, 1926

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.; Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.

Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2.
Offices for Advertisements: 6-11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

WORTHY PLANTS.—III.



CARNATION LADDIE.

SO popular is the perpetual-flowering carnation that it is probably supreme at the present time as a cut flower. Undoubtedly it has improved out of all recognition in the past few years. Varieties come and varieties disappear from cultivation as improvements are made; yet it is difficult to pick and choose what is the best when so many that are first-class are now on the market. One that certainly stands out is Laddie, for here is an ideal general-purpose carnation. The large flower is of good shape; it is a free bloomer and of excellent constitution; while the colour, a pale salmon pink, is so pure and so refined that it will go with anything. It is certainly one of the most popular of all market varieties, and it is to be seen in every florist's window. Yet, oddly enough, it is not so popular among amateur growers as it should be. Perhaps this is because familiarity breeds contempt, a fallacy when dealing with flowers. We strongly advise all carnation lovers who do not yet grow Laddie to buy a stock at once.

AT a recent meeting of the Gladiolus Committee, held at Chelsea, it was decided to form a Gladiolus Society as soon as possible. Arrangements are already being set on foot with this end in view. The membership fee is 5s. per annum and we understand that the Committee intend issuing an annual year book, the first one of which will be published shortly. This action on the part of a few enthusiasts deserves every encouragement and we hope that all lovers of the gladiolus will see their way to become members and assist this newcomer to the list of horticultural societies to become as flourishing and as important as its more mature neighbours devoted to the carnation, the iris, the rose, the daffodil and the sweet pea. There is certainly a great future for the gladiolus as a garden plant and once the Society gets under way it will undoubtedly prove of the greatest help to all amateurs who are taking up the growing of the flower. We wish it all success.

IT would appear that many amateur gardeners are under the impression that the Royal Horticultural Society's Amateur Show, which is to be held at Vincent Square on the 22nd next is only open to Fellows of the Society. We have been asked to state that this is not so: that all amateurs are cordially invited to exhibit, and that there are no entrance fees. Schedules may be obtained from the Secretary, R.H.S., Vincent Square, Westminster. It is to be hoped that all amateurs who can, will endeavour to stage an exhibit and so make the Show the success it ought to be.

A PAMPHLET has just come to hand consisting of a list of the publications of the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University and writings of its staff since its inception in 1873. It is a remarkable monument to the activities of the energetic and capable staff of one of the greatest of the world's arboretums, evolved principally owing to the genius of its founder, Charles Sprague Sargent, ably assisted by E. H. Wilson, Alfred Rehder and others. No one will question the work that has been accomplished by this small band in adding to our knowledge of the ligneous flora, principally of the Temperate zones and particularly of North America and the Far East; but how large and important their labours have been cannot be realised without a glance through the comprehensive list of books, papers and publications that have been published by the Arboretum or written by its staff.

FOR the benefit of new readers we give the rules and list of prizes for THE GARDEN Sweet Pea Competition, which opened in our last issue.

RULES.

1.—A list of your choice of the six most popular sweet peas to be sent in in order of preference on the coupon to be found on page iv of this week's issue of THE GARDEN. *No alternative* varieties will be allowed in the one list, but readers may send in any number of lists, provided that they are written on the special coupon to be found in this and the following four issues of THE GARDEN.

2.—Coupons must reach this office not later than Saturday, July 17th (after which date no coupons will be accepted).

3.—The popular vote will be final, and no correspondence will be entered into over this competition.

4.—Envelopes must be marked *Competition* and addressed to THE GARDEN, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

5.—The Editor will not be held responsible for letters missing in the post.

6.—The result will be announced in THE GARDEN in the issue of August 28th.

7.—The prizes are awarded to those whose lists correspond most closely to that arrived at by the popular vote.

8.—If two readers tie for the first place, the first and second prizes will be equally divided; if two for the second place, the second and third prizes will be equally divided.

9.—The Editor's decision on all points will be final.

PRIZES.

1ST PRIZE.—Goods worth **£30** from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

2ND PRIZE.—Goods worth **£10** from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

3RD PRIZE.—Goods worth **£5** from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

20 CONSOLATION PRIZES of **5s.** each from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

AMONG THE ARTICLES IN OUR NEXT ISSUE WILL BE:

A LITTLE PINK AND GREY GARDEN, by Edward Cahen.

THE VALUE OF FOLIAGE—I, by John Hill.

SOME PRIMULAS OF THE WESTERN ALPS, by Henry Correvon.

Digitized by Google

NATIVE PLANTS of OUR GARDENS—II

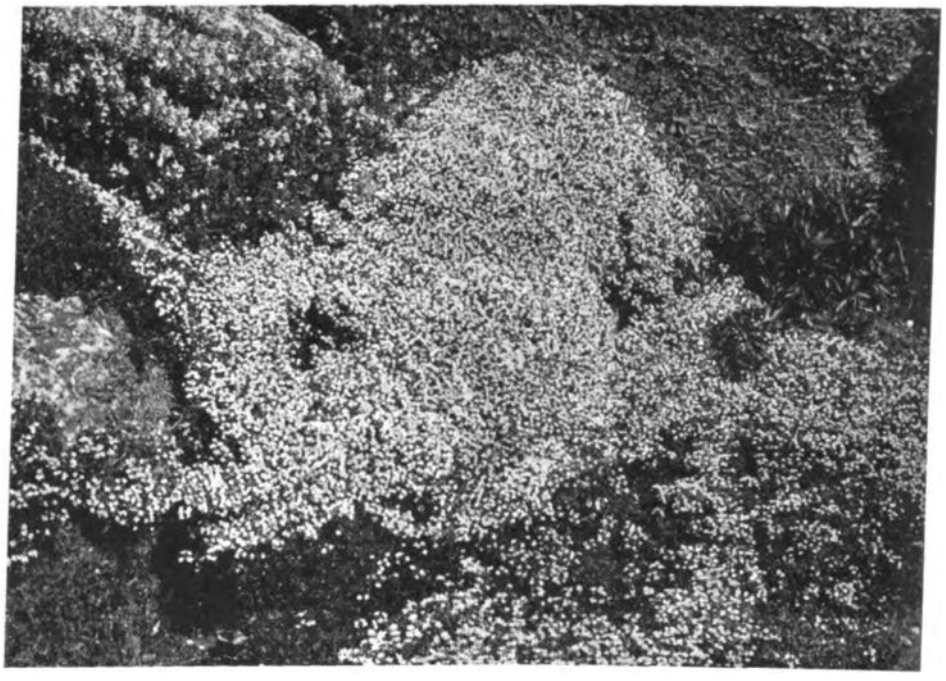
BY DR. R. LLOYD PRAEGER.

IT is when we come to plants suitable for the rock garden that the native flora comes especially to our assistance, for many of the very best rock plants grow wild in Britain, as well as a large number of others that are welcome. Let us take first a few of the most valuable. The beautiful pasque flower, Anemone Pulsatilla, native on chalk downs and limestone pastures, is a lovely object in early spring. Give it a sunny spot and a deep, dry root run and it grows freely. Of the familiar and favourite wood anemone (A. nemorosa) there are blue, reddish and double varieties which are of exquisite beauty. The cushion pink, Silene acaulis, found on many of our mountains, makes fine dense mats of fresh green starred with dainty pink flowers; but it never blossoms with us so profusely as it does in high northern regions. Dryas octopetala, the mountain avens, another plant of northern climes and high mountains, widely though locally spread in our islands, is quite one of the loveliest and most characteristic of rock plants, whether in flower or fruit, and under the ordinary rock garden conditions of thorough drainage it grows freely. Not so showy, but full of charm, is the alpine lady's mantle, Alchemilla alpina, with its dainty silky leaves and small green flowers. As its name implies, it also is a plant of our mountains.

Several of our native saxifrages rank among the best of rock plants, for instance, S. oppositifolia, though so far as I am aware most of the large-flowered forms which are so especially gorgeous in early spring come from the Alps and other Continental mountains. Of that excellent plant the London pride (S. umbrosa) the large coarse form which fills so many waste corners in gardens is the Pyrenean variety of the plant. Many of the native forms, from the west of Ireland, have none of this coarseness of growth, and make in the rock garden elegant small tufts, with a considerable variety of leaf form, due in some cases to crossing with that other Irish saxifrage, S. Geum. S. aizoides is a not infrequent inhabitant of our mountains; but the striking blood red variety, the best for the rock garden, so frequent in Norway and the Alps, does not, so far as I am aware, deck any of our own mountain streams. The rose-root, Sedum roseum, which is rather common on British mountains, is an excellent rock garden subject, of neat growth and striking form. A very different plant, as slender and fairy-like as the last is massive, is the twin-flower, Linnæa borealis, which grows in Scotch pine woods. Give it half-shade and peat, and it runs freely about, with graceful opposite-leaved shoots and delicate drooping flowers borne in pairs on short, erect stalks. More dainty still is the ivy-leaved bellflower, Wahlenbergia hederacea, native in the western parts of the British Isles, a real fairy plant, indescribably dainty and delicate, with little campanula leaves and pale blue, open campanula flowers on thread-like stems. It needs moisture and shade. Another dainty thing of northern woods is the chickweed wintergreen, Trientalis europæa, which looks delightful running about under taller things in dry peat—a slender little thing with numerous stems bearing each a whorl of leaves and a single starry white blossom. Then one of the best of all, the gentians—that lovely and often heart-breaking genus of mountain plants—is a native of the north of England and the west of Ireland. This is G. verna, the spring gentian, a good clump of which is one of the rock gardener's proudest posessions. Another north of England rarity, found in thickets on limestone, is the lovely lady's slipper, Cypripedium Calceolus, the most striking of British orchids. It is not difficult in a choice pocket of the rock garden in light, well drained, limy soil. One might ramble on in this way for another page, but it is necessary to pass to other groups. To show that the list of British plants which contribute to our rock gardens is not nearly exhausted we may simply present a number of others in list form:

Thalictrum alpinum
Meconopsis cambrica
Helianthemum canum
vulgare
Dianthus deltoides
cæsius
Lychnis alpina
Arenaria ciliata
Sedum rupestre
Cornus suecica
Antennaria dioica
Phyteuma orbiculare
Campanula rotundifolia
Vaccinium Vitis-Idæa
Arctostaphylos Uva-ursi
alpina
Armeria maritima
Geranium sanguineum
Genista tinctoria
Astragalus alpinus
Hippocrepis comosa
Saxifraga granulata,
hypnoides and allies
Sedum Telephium
album
Vinca minor
Thymus Serpyllum and allies
Betula nana
Salix reticulata,
herbacea,
Arbuscula
Sisyrinchium angustifolium
Maianthemum bifolium.

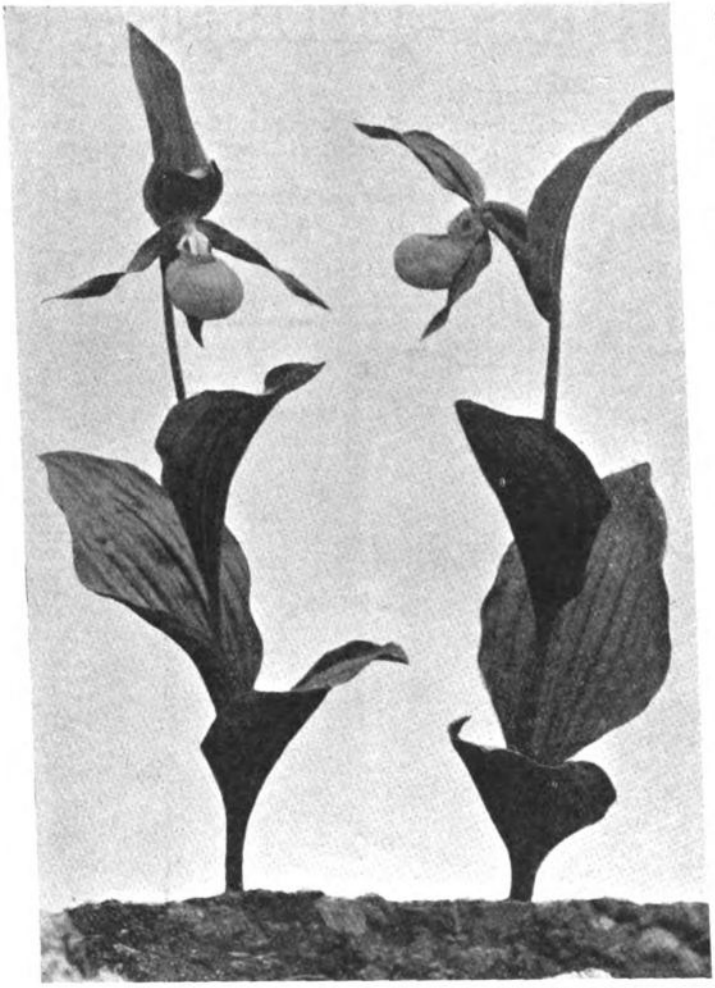
Allied for garden purposes to the rock plants are several other groups. Almost all our Ericaceæ need dryish peat, and they are almost the only British plants which do—peat bed conditions, not bog garden conditions. Almost all are worth growing, some for their beauty in the wild form, while others yield colour or other varieties preferable in the garden. Such are the ling, Calluna vulgaris, and the group of the heaths—Ericas cinerea, Tetralix, vagans, ciliaris, mediterranea and Mackaii; Andromeda polifolia; the lovely Irish Daboëcia polifolia; the rare Scottish Bryanthus cœruleus and Azalea procumbens, the last being matched in difficulty of cultivation by the graceful pyrolas.



THYMUS SERPYLLUM, AN ATTRACTIVE NATIVE FOR THE ROCK GARDEN.

The bog garden does not receive many denizens from among our native plants, but two delightful primulas, P. farinosa and the better P. scotica, are best so treated. We have also the beautiful grass of Parnassus, the tiny cranberry and some interesting orchids, such as O. maculata and O. latifolia and their allies, and the marsh helleborine, Epipactis palustris. Those who love, and will take trouble over, tiny plants will rejoice in our native insect-eating species belonging to drosera (sundew) and pinguicula (butterwort), particularly the splendid P. grandiflora. For these plants I recommend

Digitized by Google



CYPRIPEDIUM CALCEOLUS, THE FINEST OF OUR NATIVE ORCHIDS.

THE LATE-FLOWERING ORANGE SCARLET KNIPHOFIA CAULESCENS.

a pan of mixed peat and sphagnum on a sunny windowsill, the pan being kept always wet by being set in a dish with an inch of water.

On the other hand, Great Britain, being a country with a sufficiency of rain in all its parts, its flora does not yield many plants which in the garden need exceptionally dry treatment. Of the few which are worthy of cultivation the sea cudweed, Diotis candidissima, with its remarkably woolly stems, leaves and flower-heads, and the sea holly, Eryngium maritimum, are the only ones which are in any way particular. Both need all the sun and exposure we can give them, and a deep gravelly root run to correspond with the open beaches on which they naturally grow. Diotis is one of our rarest British plants. Other plants of gravelly habitats which are worthy of a place, such as the horned poppy (Glaucium luteum), sea wormwood (Artemisia maritima) and oyster plant (Mertensia maritima) are not particular, though they need a dry, sunny place to show their beauty.

For the water garden our own country yields the white and yellow water lilies, and that curious plant Limnanthemum peltatum, which looks so like a little water lily, but is really close to the gentians. Then the water violet, Hottonia palustris, with its whorls of pale lilac flowers, is pleasing for a pond, and we may add the curious water soldier, Stratiotes aloides, like a submerged aloe with three-petalled white blossoms. For the edge of the pond the best natives are the flowering rush, Butomus umbellatus, and the arrow-head, Sagittaria sagittifolia, with its striking leaves.

British bulbs are not many in number, but they include a daffodil, a snowdrop, two snowflakes, a gladiolus, a tulip, a grape hyacinth and a few others—not to mention a number of garlics. The most striking of British bulbous plants is the snake's head, Fritillaria Meleagris, deservedly common in gardens, for it is easy and highly ornamental, with its strange, hanging, chessboard flowers.

Lastly, a word must be said for our native ferns. Many of them are as elegant as any of their race—the noble royal fern, the graceful oak fern, buck fern and mountain bladder fern, the stiff prickly holly fern, and the tufted parsley fern, which many people find not too easy to grow. For limy chinks in the rock garden we have quite a lot of pretty spleenworts and the brown-backed scale fern. The sea spleenwort does best in a cool house, where it is joined by the lovely maidenhair; and, lastly, we have the delicate Killarney fern and the two tiny filmy ferns, which need all the moisture and shade we can give them.

RED HOT POKERS FOR THE AUTUMN GARDEN

AMONG the outstanding flowers in the autumn garden are the kniphofias, known also as tritomas and torch lilies, and to thousands of folk as red-hot pokers. Some of these distinct and brilliant flowering perennials come to us, it is true, even while summer lingers, but the majority of this large and interesting family are later visitors, and give of their best in the early autumn.

It would be misleading to say of kniphofias, without any qualification, that they are very easy to cultivate and present no difficulties to the grower, when one remembers that last winter, particularly on cold, heavy soils, there were many losses, not because of frost entirely, but also on account of snow and continued rain finding ingress to the crowns and causing them to decay. By making due provision one can, however, guard against failures in the winter to a great extent by affording temporary shelter to the plants from the worst weather. One method is to tie the long leaves up to a central stake in the autumn and place a mulch of cinders round the roots, or partly envelop the plants in straw or bracken. Those who tidy their garden late in the year to the point of neatness by cutting down some of the plants that have ceased to flower, should, at any rate in the case of kniphofias, make an exception, and defer removing withered foliage until towards spring, as it acts as a foil against frost. Kniphofias resemble other plants in the garden—peonies and gypsophilas for example—in that when once they have become established

Digitized by Google

and are doing well they ought not to be disturbed. Bearing this in mind, it is obvious that a suitable position should be found for them in the first instance, as they will go for years without the necessity for removal arising. A sunny quarter is best for them, and ordinary garden soil will answer, provided one is prepared to give them a mulch of rotted manure every season, about June —cow manure for preference. Planting may take place in March or April, at which time they may be divided; but division of kniphofias should not be undertaken unless the clumps have become very large—indeed, they will go for five or six years, and sometimes longer, without signs of deterioration. One important point in the planting of kniphofias ought not to be forgotten: it is the question of drainage. This should be ample, and is best secured by placing small pieces of brick, 2ft. or so below the surface, as one would do in planting alstrœmerias. This, the orthodox method of growing these flowering plants with their wonderful spikes of colour may, perhaps, be dispensed with where the soil is sandy and well drained.

A BLAZE OF GLOWING RED-HOT POKERS BESIDE THE POOL.

Kniphofias are so varied that one can select sorts ranging from comparative dwarfs—not more than 2ft. in height—to the giants of nearly 7ft. Some of them, too, are possessed of colours so intense that distance, if not lending enchantment, at least softens their tones so as to make them even more attractive. Particularly is this to be noted when they are planted near to conifers or on the margins of shrubberies with intervening space of lawns that only serve to heighten their beauty in the time of flowering. One needs but few kniphofias in a garden of modest dimensions, as they improve as the years go on, and every season adds to the number of the spikes. Often in mild autumns one may have their torches of flame into October, and it may be said of them also that they lighten up the most sombre corner. While kniphofias are best known and possibly more highly appreciated because of their height—as to merit the designation "imposing"—it is worth remembering that the dwarf sorts have their own peculiar charm and make capital tenants for certain positions in the rock garden. Incidentally, it may be mentioned that, although for many years we have prized the taller sorts for borders, we do not forget that they constitute a very great attraction, when opportunity offers, for planting in proximity to a pool or ornamental water, but not near enough for them to feel ill effects of stagnation at the roots caused by excessive moisture.

In some parts of the country kniphofias are favourites in cottage gardens, and grow to a large size, confirming the opinion that they will go for quite a long time before needing removal. Cottage gardeners are often conservative in regard to the plants and shrubs about their homes and doors. They do not care to meddle with them, looking upon them like old friends, as being part and parcel of the place. One frequently finds this exemplified in huge clumps of lupins, trolliuses, hemerocallises, also in bushes of lavender and kerria; in "lad's love" in borders beside the door, and, not least, in the sweet briar near the garden gate. The plants mentioned are typical of those to be found in widely different districts of rural England, from the Cumberland fells to the Cotswolds, in the hamlets of the Derbyshire dales and the villages skirting the seaboard of Mendip. About many of these cottage homes I have, time and again, noticed the gardens where kniphofias are grown. Perhaps it has been on some late autumn day when the setting sun has cast a spell over the garden, and the tall spikes, towering above other things, have appeared lit up with flames as of fire—veritable studies in scarlet and vermilion, yellow and coral, orange and crimson, almost compelling one to stay and admire them. In this large family there are many sorts, beautiful and striking, but we confess to a fondness for the older and best known forms, of which a brief list is given. All are good garden plants and worthy of a corner in one's own garden.

THE MASSIVE SPIRES OF KNIPHOFIA CORALLINA.

K. Uvaria.—4ft.; August-October; coral red and yellow.

K. caulescens. — 4ft; September-October; orange scarlet.

K. Burchelli.—4ft.; July-September; scarlet, tipped green, flower stems spotted black. Very showy.

K. nobilis.—6–8ft.; July-August; rich scarlet.

K. pumila.—2ft.; June-July; orange scarlet.

K. Macowani. — 18ins.; July-August; deep orange scarlet.

K. Goldelse. — 18ins.; June-July; yellow.

K. corallina.—2ft.; July-August; coral scarlet.

K. Lemon Queen.—4–5ft.; August-October; lemon yellow.

W. LINDERS LEA.

Digitized by Google

NOTES OF THE WEEK

PILLAR PLANTS IN THE CONSERVATORY.

PILLAR plants, to be effective, need not be those of true climbing habit, though the latter include some of our most beautiful subjects and should be used judiciously. I say judiciously, because it is very important that the structures are not overcrowded. There are other kinds of plants in the conservatory and these, too, must be considered. Such plants as myrtles may be trained to pillars and prove to be very charming in that position; but, though they are evergreen, the necessary constant clipping prevents any flowering. It is also important that the size of the structure be duly considered, especially the height. To introduce naturally large-growing kinds of plants into a small house is wrong. For example, the acacias would look really charming clothing pillars in a large structure, but quite out of place in a small one, if it is the intention of the owner that the plant shall develop. Acacias are not true climbing plants, but they are splendid pillar subjects in lofty houses. Acacia Riceana, A. longifolia and A. pubescens are very suitable.

Bignonias, too, are only suitable for the largest structures, and they present a very fine appearance in such. In the warm conservatory of medium to large size Bougainvillea glabra and B. speciosa are very effective. The most exposed and sunniest pillars are the best on which to train the plants. Cobæa scandens and its variegated form will soon fill a large house, but as the plants bear severe pruning they are suitable for clothing tall pillars. Habrothamnus elegans is, also, a big-house plant. Its large green leaves form massive pillars from floor to roof-glass. The passifloras are all suitable; but Tacsonia Van Volxemi is of outstanding beauty when trained to a pillar and also allowed to spread to the wires under the roof-glass. Heliotropes and Jasminum grandiflorum, also J. azoricum, are all attractive pillar subjects; it is so easy to enjoy the scent to the full when passing by.

For smaller houses—and they may find a place in large ones—the following kinds are charming: Hoya carnosa; Lapageria alba and L. rosea; ivy-leaved pelargoniums; Plumbago capensis; Rhynchospermum jasminoides, evergreen, fragrant flowers; Solanum jasminoides; sollyas, these are fine twining plants; tecomas; thunbergias; tuberous-rooted tropæolums; and the canary creeper, the last named for a small, cold structure.

Practically all the pillar plants are now growing freely, and it is an easy matter so to train each specimen that it will occupy the position allotted without being too stiffly trained. Tying in and cutting out old useless branches is work that needs weekly attention. Then there is the cleaning of the foliage, the watering, top-dressing and feeding. As growth is now free, some nourishment will be needed, and its immediate effect can be noted with a view to future guidance.

Cleanliness is absolutely essential to the good health and appearance of the plants. Such subjects as lapagerias, possessing smooth leaves, may be sponged. Leaves with a rough surface must not be sponged. All stems should be kept clear of scale and, if aphides appear, fumigate to get rid of them.—HANTS.

THE GROUPING OF PLANTS FOR MUTUAL WELFARE.

IF it is true that to every plant its neatest neighbour is an actual or potential enemy, it is equally true that rivalry for place and power may be, and often is, distinctly beneficial to the individuals concerned, as witness the glorious healthiness of an alpine meadow. The struggle for existence certainly perpetuates the fittest, but the comparatively weak may prove a friendly aid to the strong, and the latter can often be a tender nurse to the feeble, the prevailing note being one of perfect amity.

ARMERIAS AND WILD WOODRUFF IN CONJUNCTION.

AUBRIETIAS, ARMERIAS AND ARENARIA MONTANA GO WELL TOGETHER.

The running together of rock plants may be unorthodox. Gardeners who are disciplinarians may strictly forbid such transgressions. But, within limits, I am "all out" for this close association, because experience convinces me that so many plants are healthier when rubbing shoulders with neighbours, and healthy plants are happy and naturally beautiful.

Why certain, if not most, plants delight in this mutual intercourse is not always clear. We know that a well covered ground is kept cool and uniformly damp, thus preserving surface roots from injury. We know that a large number of subjects which would otherwise be tossed about or frost-bitten derive anchorage and shelter from congenial companions, that others are sun-screened by taller ones, and then there is, doubtless, much in root association. In this last I often think there is a deal that is still to be discovered—quite apart from partial parasitism, which may be anything but harmful—and there is surely something, some temperamental element in plant life, to account for the misery which some subjects endure from isolation and their remarkable recovery when comforted by the sympathetic touch of agreeable company.

Gentiana verna is often a disappointment, and a companion plant is generally recommended as a panacea for its troubles. But this is only one of many alpines found growing in turf or in masses which are undoubtedly better for close association. Dryas octopetala, Linnæa borealis, the dwarf heaths and their nearer kindred, Arenaria montana, many lithospermums, silenes and alpine phloxes, all enjoy being one of a crowd, and it is not difficult to select plants whose colours and habits of growth will blend amicably one with another.

To be more definite, our finest masses of Daphne Cneorum have growing among them Linum narbonense. The latter is very robust, its partner undoubtedly enjoys the light sun-screen which rises above it when its flowers are past, and we get the lovely masses of blue right into late summer. L. perenne is equally valuable in the same way among the many alpines which dislike too hot a sun and selected forms of the common harebell—often self-sown—we use for a like purpose. That dainty plant, Sedum pruinatum, is never so happy as when threading its way among prostrate thymes. Arenaria montana grandiflora swarms over the white-flowered, golden-leaved lesser periwinkle, but this cheerful early bloomer has the field to itself before the sandwort is in full spring growth. Some old roots of Gentiana acaulis which always flower well have prostrate thymes and Campanula pusilla for company, the latter delighting to weave its way in a root-run kept firm and cool by the former, and it breaks into flower when the gentian is over.

Any number of such examples might be given, but I must confine myself to one more. The ivy which covers many of the banks and slopes of this garden is not only instrumental in holding in place a gravelly, trickling, dry soil, but its thatch of green renders the latter cool enough to grow many things which would otherwise be a failure. This ivy—believed by not a few to be poisonous to plant life, a parasite and what not!—serves as a cooling mulch, as well as a trap for fallen leaves, which it converts into humus, and in it we have happy, colonies of snowdrops, daffodils, scillas, anthericums, some of the easier lilies, aquilegias, lysimachias, lily of the valley and lots of other subjects, not to mention shrubs, which undoubtedly owe much of their well being to the co-operation of their carpeting friend, which, if sometimes a little too willing, is actually one of our most efficient, and certainly most ornamental, labour-savers. —A. T. JOHNSON.

Digitized by Google

BERBERIS NEUBERTII

THERE are many species and hybrids to the genus berberis which have deservedly achieved popularity for their value as decorative garden plants. Berberis Neubertii is not one of this number, but stands almost alone as a plant devoid of the beauty of flower and fruit which others possess. It is, however, a plant of no little scientific interest. It was raised some seventy-five years ago in an Alsatian nursery as the result of a cross between Berberis (Mahonia) Aquifolium and B. vulgaris. In habit it resembles the former. A close examination of the foliage reveals great variability, and on one twig may be found leaves of several distinct forms. Those at the base of a young shoot are usually large and composed of three or more leaflets with finely toothed margins. Higher up the shoot the leaves tend to become smaller, thicker and more coarsely toothed, those at the top resembling holly leaves. When these fall, there spring from their axils tufts of thin, finely toothed simple leaves not unlike those of the common barberry.

The similarity of some of the leaves to those of the holly has caused this plant to be known as B. ilicifolia, but the species of that name is a much finer and, unfortunately, much rarer, evergreen shrub bearing very beautiful orange-yellow flowers.—N. K. G.

THE VARIED FOLIAGE OF BERBERIS NEUBERTII.

A FINE MESEMBRYANTHEMUM.

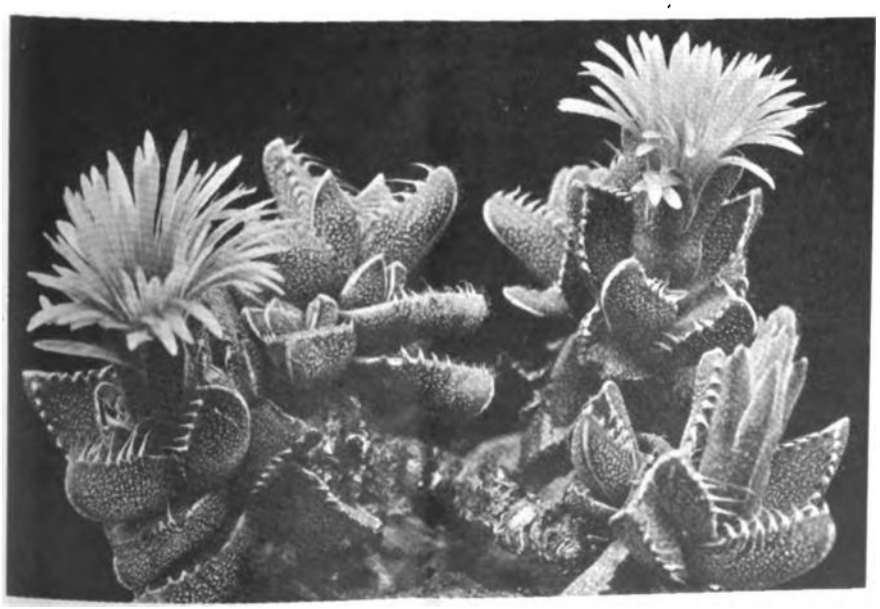
A VERY handsome mesembryanthemum which is of the easiest culture is M. tigrinum. This species, which is very nearly hardy at any rate in the south of England, is best grown in a pot or in a sheltered situation in a rock garden. In the latter position it might be an advantage to give a little protection with dry fern during cold weather. M. tigrinum flowers freely during the summer if it can be fully exposed to sunshine. The flowers are large and of a very pretty lemon colour. Even when the plant is not in flower it is very attractive on account of the silver-green colour of its leaves. These are adorned with what appear to be formidable spines, but, as a matter of fact, the processes are quite soft and incapable of hurting anyone. This, like most of the mesembryanthemums, can be propagated easily by inserting pieces pulled off with a heel and laid on damp sand in the sun under a glass. The soil for this mesembryanthemum should be a mixture of loam, sand and leaf-mould, to which it is an advantage to add a little lime rubbish.—S. L. B.

ARUM LILIES IN THE OPEN.

How to Establish Them in the Water Garden.

IT is rather surprising that more people do not grow the beautiful Calla lily (Richardia æthiopica) out of doors. Anywhere in the south of England, and even elsewhere, if the position is not too exposed, the Calla lily may be regarded as a hardy aquatic. Quite good results are also secured by growing this plant in a cool moist border which is well sheltered from the north and east. Well grown outdoor clumps of the Calla lily are so handsome that it is worth while making special efforts to secure the happiness of the plant. Without doubt the best results are secured by treating the Calla lily as an aquatic. A suitable position is found in a pool where there is a depth of from 18ins. to 2ft. of water. Here the roots will be quite secure from any frost which we are at all likely to experience in this country. Planting is carried out during the summer in this way. Fill some old and rather large baskets with soil and, in this, insert the roots. Pack the soil in tightly and, on the surface, add some heavy stones to keep the earth from washing away. Then plunge into the water, and in course of time the baskets rot and the Calla lilies become completely established.

The vigour of growth when Calla lilies are treated in this way is surprising. The writer is familiar with some plants that have been growing in an outdoor pool for many years, and these have grown and increased amazingly. In themselves the handsome leaves produce a very fine effect, while, when the plants are in flower, the appearance is still further enhanced. Calla lilies increase quite freely from self-sown seedlings, and, in addition, they extend laterally from the old roots on all sides. During a sharp frost the plants will be cut right down to the water's edge, but this does not harm them in the least. Directly the mild weather returns the shoots come up again as strongly as ever. In fact, it has been noted that when the plants die right down below the surface they usually produce a far finer display of flowers than if they have remained in a more or less active state of growth for most of the winter season. In very mild localities the Calla lilies will flower out of doors about April or May. In other situations the blossoms come along in June. As has been indicated, it is well to allow a certain number of the flowers to set seed and to permit these to fall into the water. This will ensure a supply of vigorous young seedlings, which, in course of time, will develop into flowering plants.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.



THE LARGE LEMON COLOURED FLOWERS OF M. TIGRINUM MADE THE MORE EFFECTIVE WITH ITS SILVERY GREEN LEAVES.

SPIRÆA FILIPENDULA.

A Fine Border Plant for Cutting.

IMPROVED varieties of our common wild flowers are not unworthy of a place in the garden, and of these we mention two spiræas, the double filipendula and double ulmaria. The former sends up a slender stem from a lowly rosette of leaves, the flowers being very full and delightful. The latter, which prefers a wet corner, is almost 3ft. in height, and a large dense bunch of white flowers 6ins. in diameter is produced on each stem. While both look quite well in the border, we always find them in favour for cut blossom; the flowers seem to prove attractive to everyone, and they look well in a vase. S. ulmaria, the queen of the meadow, is just a trifle too heavily perfumed for most, but otherwise it is all right. Both can be grown in a mixed herbaceous border and require no special care or attention.—LANARKSHIRE.

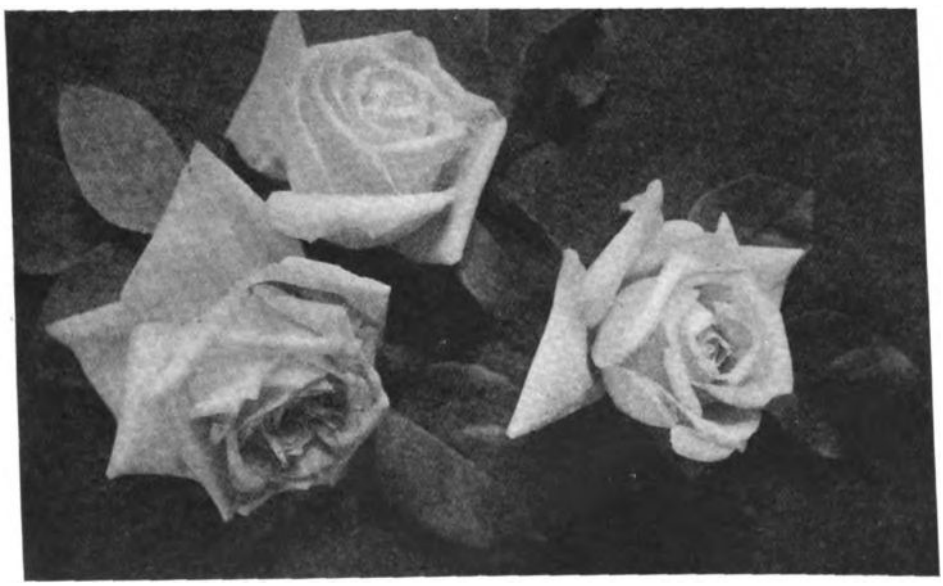
Digitized by Google

ROSES IN RETROSPECT

THE riotous beauty of the rose displays shown at Chelsea this year must recall to many of us memories of roses of by-gone days that have now passed into oblivion, and while the memory of Chelsea still lingers fresh in our mind, it is pleasant and helpful to put into perspective and review those familiar roses of the past which secured their measure of popularity. Of those who grew and loved them, the stalwart rosarians of Victorian days, with rare exceptions, have passed into the Great Unknown. Fortunately, some are still with us, and of those, few can speak with more knowledge of "our grandmothers' roses" than our good friend Mr. J. H. Pemberton.

Most of us, therefore, can only compare the roses of to-day with those of the last forty years by references to the rose literature current at that time, as adjuncts to our own fleeting memories, and for this purpose the Rosarians' Year Book serves as a useful reminder.

Harking back in decade periods, we find in the little annual of 1886 the most popular roses then were the fleshy white Captain Christy (one of the oldest hybrid teas), the bright red Marie Baumann, or the dark red Louis van Houtte.



STILL ONE OF OUR FINEST ROSES, MARECHAL NIEL.

All these have now almost passed out of existence, chiefly by reason of their weak growth and frail constitution.

It is of interest to note that in 1886 a new rose, Mrs. John Laing, was being written about, though it had not then leapt into the popularity accorded later.

Single roses, too, were not of the decorative and perpetual-flowering varieties as we know them to-day, but belonged more properly to what we class as species roses.

The next period of ten years culminated in 1896. That year might be described as Her Majesty year, and the heavy blooms of varieties such as this were not only fashionable throughout that period, but were regarded as nearly perfection. This, in spite of the fact that this variety, as an example, had many more faults than we in these more enlightened days should consider a popular rose ought to have. It was a shy bloomer, with never a bloom in the autumn, notoriously subject to mildew, and fragrance was almost unknown.

In these days Lord Penzance was hybridising a new race of single roses—Penzance briars—beautiful when in their bright summer blooms, but with one crop of flowers only; although their pretty autumn effect when crowded with bright red hips gave them a decorative quality which should be mentioned to their credit.

Of climbers the most popular then were William Allen Richardson and Crimson Rambler—the latter only recently arrived, while Grüss an Teplitz was the favourite garden variety. Tea roses were also still going strong, though their doom as regards popularity was imminent.

The year 1916 found Frau Karl Druschki and Dean Hole pre-eminent as exhibition roses, the former ever popular to-day as the best pure white all round rose, but, alas! scentless; and the latter practically useless as a garden variety, and consequently now almost discarded.

Blush Rambler and Hiawatha had come to fame as climbers. Both of these have made a good claim for their continued use in future. Garden roses by now had come to the front—supplanting both the heavy exhibition type and the colour-lacking teas, and we find Mme. Edouard Herriot and Lady Hillingdon all in vogue, and both are still with us and likely to remain, even though they have been improved upon.

We come then to 1926, to find the exhibition roses relegated to second place in the N.R.S. Schedule, presumably by the dictates of popularity, but whether the same high standard of rose cultivation will be maintained in future is, perhaps, questionable, and time alone will vindicate this.

The "garden rose" may then be considered to-day to be reigning supreme, and of such the present number of good varieties is almost countless, for so many are really good garden roses.

Mr. William Paul's fine book, "The Rose Garden," contains as a frontispiece a beautiful coloured illustration of Maréchal Niel—still one of our finest roses if one can only succeed in growing it, but the so-called ideal rose of those good old days required to be either globular, cupped, compact, or expanded, so far as shape for judging was concerned, whereas the successful exhibitor to-day seeks for a good point—shape—and would consider a rose as over if it showed its centre.

In view of our more recent acquisitions, it is perhaps questionable whether the late Dean Hole would reiterate to-day the memorable words in his book about roses: "If I were miserably sentenced for the rest of my life to possess but a single rose tree, I should desire to be supplied on leaving the dock with a strong plant of Gloire de Dijon." Would he not to-day have substituted General McArthur or Betty Uprichard?

The law of the survival of the fittest may farther be illustrated by a few selections from the gold medal awards of the N.R.S.—1883, Her Majesty, a heavy exhibition rose now rarely grown or shown. 1885, Mrs. John Laing, popular as a town rose. Not profuse, but still an old favourite which few of us have the heart to discard. 1889, Souvenir de S. A. Prince, a tea rose with a meteoric and brilliant career, only really popular with the little band of enthusiastic tea rose exhibitors. 1892, Mrs. W. J. Grant, beautiful, but too thin, whereby it did not secure confidence. 1893, Turner's Crimson Rambler, striking a new line of popularity, which however has since been quite eclipsed by something better. 1904, Mrs. O. G. Orpen, the precursor of the single decorative roses, followed by, in 1905, Irish Elegance, which up to quite recently was always the most favoured rose chosen for the ladies' dinner table classes. It still finds a place in most gardens as the big 6ft. high bushes provide an unfailing source of supply to the housewife for house decoration blooms.

The following years marked the gradual fall of the exhibition bloom, and the corresponding rise of the free blooming garden variety, culminating in 1921 with Betty Uprichard, at present considered the most popular garden variety.

By way of an interesting comparison, let us consider three typical roses, ancient and modern, which are still grown, namely, Mrs. John Laing, produced by Bennett in 1887, Mme. Abel Chatenay, produced by Pernet-Ducher in 1895, and Betty Uprichard produced by Alex. Dickson and Sons in 1922.

The blooms of Mrs. Laing nearly always come good in shape, in fact it was a by-word among exhibitors that the blooms were fewer but better than those of most varieties.

Digitized by Google

The blooms are of semi-globular shape, and of bright colour. Plants have few imperfections, are not very liable to disease, and the light foliage is unique, harmonising with the pink blooms. Scent is excellent.

In Mme. Abel Chatenay we have to contend with a consistently difficult grower. Owing to its habit of throwing out one strong shoot, the plant gets lopsided. The long stems, however, are always effective, and the full blooms, which rot before they fall to pieces, are as beautiful as the pointed bloom. It is fragrant, but not strongly scented.

Betty Uprichard seems to combine all the points of a perfect garden rose, with one solitary qualification—that it is not profuse enough, though perhaps we are getting unjustly critical in our search for the perfect all round rose. Still, if we admit the soft impeachment of greed as regards the number of blooms, we must also concede the fact that every bloom is a perfect one. Curiously there seems little scent in the blooms when on the plants, but it is strong enough when they are cut and taken into my lady's boudoir.

At present it can be considered about the most satisfactory all round rose, a good grower, well shaped plants and blooms and good scent, all of which points are confirmed by the R.H.S. bestowing on it about the first of its highest awards after testing it in the Wisley Gardens.

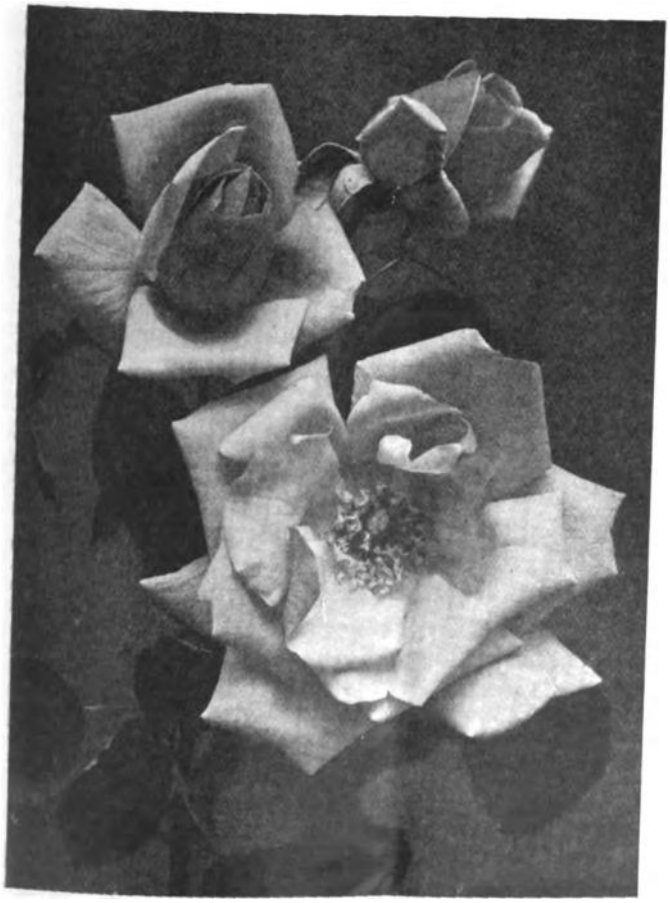
Our American cousins, always most thorough in their methods of judging roses, have divided their "pointing" up very systematically as follows:

(A) Individual qualities. (1) Novelty; (2) Colour; (3) Fragrance; (4) Lasting qualities.

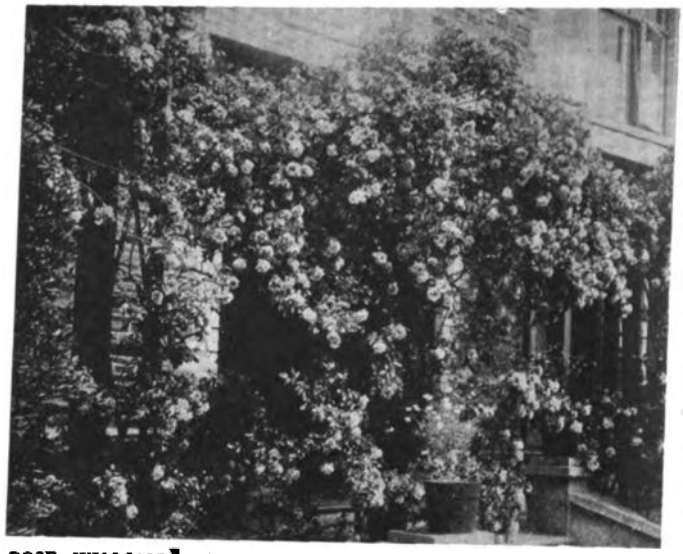
(B) The blooms. (1) Shape; (2) Substance; (3) Petalage; (4) Size.

(C) The Plant. (1) Continuity of bloom and number produced; (2) Hardiness; (3) Foliage; (4) Growth (vigour, uniformity, etc.); (5) Length of stem.

Putting our three typical plants to these stringent tests, we should find Mrs. Laing not scoring heavily in colour and continuity of bloom. Mme. Chatenay would fail in growth of plant and fragrance, while Betty Uprichard's only weakness would, perhaps, be in the lesser number of blooms produced—otherwise she would be almost perfect.



BETTY UPRICHARD SEEMS TO COMBINE ALL THE POINTS OF A PERFECT ROSE.



ROSE WILLIAM ALLEN RICHARDSON, A POPULAR CLIMBER IN THE 'NINETIES.

These three typical roses were selected as being really good roses, well tried and well known, and the writer ventures to predict that in another decade Betty Uprichard will be more popular than it is to-day. Mme. Abel Chatenay will be dropped owing to its faulty growth, while Mrs. Laing will still continue to be grown "for auld lang syne," even though its popularity may have declined.

In recent years there has been a growing agitation against the new scentless roses put on the market, and various efforts have been made with the object of trying to stimulate growers to produce new roses with at least as much scent as the old-fashioned varieties. For many years Messrs. Clay, the renowned fertiliser firm, have offered a cup for competition at the R.H.S. for the best new rose with the old fashioned rose scent, and now the British rose world is agog with the offer of the *Daily Mail* to put up a £250 cup for the best new scented rose.

To a great extent, scent has been far too much ignored by raisers in their efforts to produce new roses of good size and good shape—large blooms, in fact, which were all in vogue when exhibition roses in boxes were the rage.

Fragrance never had the slightest consideration, and this is borne out by the scant references to scent in the rose publications of the 'nineties. As quite a natural consequence, a reaction has come about because too many scentless roses were being produced and were receiving the highest awards. One has only to visit a rose show to watch the disappointment of visitors who, when inspecting boxes of roses, finishing up with a sniff, and passing along to the next exhibit, look back with a dissatisfied remark of "No Smell." Exhibitors and officials of rose shows will have observed this little performance repeated again and again, but now, with the encouragement that is being given by such special and valuable awards as Clays' and the *Daily Mail*, greater attention must be given to fragrance by raisers of new roses.

With the greater prominence given to fragrance, the huge scentless roses are passing away in favour of sweet-scented decoratives, and more attention is given to varieties that will continue to give blooms right up to the approach of winter.

Single roses, which were almost despised a few years ago are now becoming popular on account of their decorative qualities, as witness Dainty Bess, the gold medal rose of last year's Summer Show—the daintiest single flowering rose that has been introduced for many years, and sweet scented withal.

So closes a brief rose retrospect, which is, perhaps, more truly a rose rumination set agoing by a visit to the last great Chelsea Show, but your ruminant is only too well aware that to those who love them, all roses are beautiful—old or new, single or double, fragrant or scentless, wild or domesticated.

Oxted. HERBERT L. WETTERN.

Digitized by Google

POT-POURRI and SWEET-BAGS

"OF THEIR SWEET DEATHS ARE SWEETEST ODOURS MADE."

WHEN what we now know as pot-pourri first appeared in recipe-books—which was not until far on in the nineteenth century—it was under the plain, sensible English name of sweet-pot or sweet-jar, and a good many years elapsed before this was superseded by the unpleasant French one which means, of course, nothing more nor less than "rotten-pot." The oldest directions for the making of a sweet-pot which I have come across, so far, is dated 1790, and the ingredients include roses, orange blossoms, clove gilliflowers (which we call pinks), marjoram, mint, thyme, rosemary, bay and myrtle. These were to be roughly chopped and the finely cut rind of two lemons and half an ounce of pounded cloves allowed to every 2lb. of flowers and leaves. The mixture was to be placed in alternate layers with bay-salt in a big china jar with a tight-fitting lid, and the whole well pressed down. It will be noted that only one kind of spice is given in this recipe, but in others of much the same age mace and cinnamon are added, as well as storax, musk, gum benzoin, civet, ambergris and orris-root. Such potently scented things, however, tend to spoil the natural fragrance of the flowers, and if any pot-pourri maker of to-day is tempted to introduce them she should do so with a sparing hand.

In a recipe written about 1797, the list of flowers includes, besides those named in the one already quoted, fraxinella, violets, syringa, lavender, basil and mignonette, but this last seems an item of doubtful value, as it is anything but sweet-smelling when dead or dying. It might be omitted with advantage, and balm, bergamot, white jasmine and the flowers and leaves (both deliciously fragrant) of the Canadian allspice (Calycanthus floridus) added.

It is obvious that when many different sorts of flowers are used the pot-pourri must, of necessity, be made in instalments. There are two ways of doing this. In the first, which is perhaps the best, the flowers—they must be cut on a dry day and when just fully opened—are chopped up directly they are picked and packed in the jar with the salt and spices, each kind of flower being added as its season comes round and the whole stirred together when the jar is quite full. According to the second method the flowers and leaves are dried on sheets of paper in an airy, but not very sunny, place, and when all are ready, mixed with the salt, etc.; but a good deal of the scent is lost in this mode of preparation. A simple pot-pourri, although one which soon loses its perfume, can be made by blending the flowers and herbs when thoroughly dry, with the spices, but omitting the bay-salt and adding an orange that has been thickly stuck with cloves and slowly dried. Such an orange, by the way, was the original pomander, but the name, in course of time, became transferred to the case—often a gorgeous thing of pierced gold or silver and jewelled or enamelled—which held a ball of scented paste of which the basis was generally rose petals pounded with musk, ambergris, camphor and civet, and moistened with rose-water or blended with wax and, according to some of the ancient recipes, with such strange things as "coales of willowe" and the "maste of a sweete Apple-tree."

The contents of a modern scent sachet usually consist of either lavender alone or cotton-wool sprinkled with one of the strong, coarse perfumes that modern chemists have learnt—unfortunately—to extract from coal "residuals"; but the filling of the sweet-bag of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries was a far less simple matter. Lavender was certainly used, but invariably in combination with other flowers and herbs and, in most instances, with spices, aromatic gums and citron and lemon peel as well. Cypress and walnut leaves, mellilot and woodruff were sometimes included in the list of ingredients, although few, I fancy, will now be found to agree with Culpepper that mellilot is "well-smelling," for to most people its odour when fresh is positively objectionable. It improves, however, as it dries. Woodruff, which smells like a hay-field on a hot day, was not only put into sweet-bags, but, tied with little faggots, was laid among blankets and woollen garments to keep moths away.

In "The Golden Cabinet," the second edition of which was published in Dublin in 1773, there are a number of fascinating recipes for sweet-bags, the majority being obviously much older than the date of the fat little calf-bound volume. Some are far too lengthy to quote here (one, which the anonymous compiler says will "retain its strength for 20 years," contains no fewer than nineteen ingredients), but here are a couple of the shorter ones:

A SWEET POWDER FOR A SILK BAG.

Take Florentine orris, spikenard, sweet marjoram dried, geranium moschatum of each 4 ounces; damask roses, cypress, lavender-flowers of each 3 ounces; benjamin, lignum Rhodium of each an ounce. Mix them.

A SWEET POWDER TO LAY AMONG CLOATHS.

Take Damask roses dried 1lb.; musk half-a-drachm, violet-leaves 3 ounces, mix them and put them in a Bag.

In all the old recipes for sweet-jars and bags, scented face-washes, perfume-cakes, pomander pastes and the like in which roses play a part, it is always stipulated that they must be damask, often "true" or "right" damask roses. What were these? In one seventeenth century recipe, "red and damask" and in another "red and white damask" roses are mentioned; perhaps the latter was the striped York and Lancaster, although as we know it to-day it is not remarkable for scent! According to Culpepper, "red Roses are under Jupiter, Damask under Venus and White under the Moon" but this piece of astrological information does not help us much towards their identification!

Many—I am afraid most—modern roses are so lacking in fragrance as to be quite useless for pot-pourri or sweet-bags; but Tuscany, La France, Souvenir de Malmaison, Maiden's Blush and the old Moss Rose that was introduced as long ago as 1596, are still with us, and their fragrance cannot be surpassed. Of newer roses, Hugh Dickson is one of sweetest.

There is in "Doctor" Salmon's—I am afraid he had no legitimate right to the title—"Family Dictionary," published in 1696, a wonderful recipe for "Keeping Roses Whole." The flowers were to be dipped in the well beaten white of eggs, "strewn with searced sugar, put up in luted pots and set in a cool place on sand or gravel, then with a fillip of your finger you may strike off the coat and you will have your Flower fresh and faire."

R. E. HEAD.

CORRESPONDENCE

THE HYBRID MUSK ROSES.

SIR,—The varieties classified in many catalogues under the above heading are a very valuable addition to our autumn flowering rose. They are shrub-like in growth and although they will make fine pillar roses, one cannot look upon them as perpetual-flowering climbers or ramblers, which rosarians have long been trying to obtain.

I am very doubtful whether the term hybrid musk is justified. Mr. Pemberton in an article in the Rose Annual for 1926, seems to imply that he has produced a new race, for he says on page 77, "I'll try to breed a race of roses that will give autumn-flowering clusters to carry on the blooming where the ramblers left off and this race of roses has since been known as Hybrid Musks."

Now, in my opinion, the honour for introducing the originals of the group should be awarded to Herr Lambert of Trier, Germany. In 1904 Herr Lambert sent out a variety named Trier which is now catalogued as a hybrid musk. Prior to this, the same raiser had given us Perpetual Thalia, and subsequently Schiller, Heine, Hauff, Adrian Riverchon, etc., all of which were introduced prior to 1913. Mr. Pemberton's first introduction was Danae introduced in 1913, and unless Mr. Pemberton contradicts me I have an idea Danae sprang from Trier.

Now the true old musk hybrids were undoubtedly descendants of Rosa Moschata. Varieties such as River's Musk, Eliza Nerry, Princesse de Nassau, Pissardii, etc., and were autumn flowering, but I question whether any are now in existence, although I believe I saw a bush of River's Musk at Wisley last year.

If my surmise is true that Danae sprang from Trier, then it cannot strictly be termed a hybrid musk, for Trier was produced from Aglaia × Mrs. Sharman Crawford. Aglaia was raised from Rosa multiflora × Rêve d'Or. Can it be that the old noisette Rêve d'Or has bestowed upon its offspring the perpetual flowering habit of the noisette rose, if so, the correct term would be hybrid noisette for the group.

I have no desire to decry the many beautiful productions of Mr. Pemberton, for I cherish them very much. Moonlight, Pax, Clytemnestra, etc., are very lovely and I can well recommend them. I have had these roses make huge bushes planted in isolated positions, and very picturesque they are in the garden or shrubbery.

It would, however, be interesting to learn, if the true old musk roses have produced by crossing any of these varieties, so that we

Digitized by Google

may know if the term hybrid musk is correct. Personally, I am not a stickler for terms regarding various groups. I would call them all "Hybrid Roses," as in fact they are, and likely to become even more so as cross fertilising goes on. Sufficient for me is to obtain the glorious perpetual flowering shrub roses that make our gardens gay in autumn.—WALTER EASLEA.

PLANT NOMENCLATURE.

SIR,—Regarding "F.R.H.S.'s" remarks on page 288, I do not think I have altogether broken the rules, as I propagate all the forms of my pink Primula pulverulenta vegetatively as well as from seed, and I am sure that seed would come true if the plants were isolated and under control, but from a commercial point of view this has never seemed necessary and the various shades of pink appear more effective in mass than when kept separate, hence my allowing the bumble bees to do as they like.—G. H. DALRYMPLE.

FEIJOA SELLOWIANA AS A FRUITING SHRUB.

SIR,—Twice recently I have seen notice in THE GARDEN of Feijoa Sellowiana, and each time it is mentioned as a shrub pure and simple. Out here it is grown primarily as a fruiting plant, and I have been wondering if it is possible to fruit it in England. We regard the feijoa as being every bit as hardy as an apricot or a fig. The flowers come in May, and the fruit matures in October or November—a rather long time perhaps. But it is well worth taking pains over—that is, if one owns a good variety. The seedlings vary much, and one often meets with people out here who say they are unable to get any fruit. So the English climate may not be to blame, but unsuitable varieties.

One curious feature of the feijoa is that the flower petals are quite sweet and edible. In fact, they are recommended for salads. The mocking-birds are especially fond of these petals; I have often been scared for my crop, but they do no harm. Perhaps the birds, flapping among the branches and pulling at the petals, serve to shake the pollen about.

The fruit needs thinning if one is to get it as big as a turkey egg. Most of the fruit made into jam is no larger than a walnut, and the inside only is scooped out. The feijoa seems to be immune to every insect pest.—O. T. BRYANT, *Fillmore, California.*

ANCHUSA MYOSOTIDIFLORA.

SIR,—I was interested to see that "A. H." recommended a south wall for Anchusa myosotidiflora. In this garden it seeds like a weed and comes up in a variety of positions. But nowhere is it finer than in a damp border backed by bushes and on heavy clay. It is a mass of blue, individual heads measuring well over 2ft.—E. M. L., *Leeds.*

THALICTRUM DIPTEROCARPUM.

SIR,—I am delighted to see that a little space is being devoted to "Worthy Plants," and to see that the beautiful T. dipterocarpum has been mentioned under this heading. Here, to my mind is one of the best perennials ever introduced and last year in various parts of South Wales it was splendidly shown by Messrs. Treseder of Cardiff. At our own village show it caused quite a lot of interest. It is one of Veitch's of Chelsea introductions from China, and it grew in their Langley nursery 5ft. and 6ft. high, yet it was graceful in habit, while the branched spikes of lilac-mauve flowers were a sight to behold. Since Veitch's have finished no firm appears to possess the foresight to show it in tip-top condition, but here is a plant of the first water for August and September exhibition. There can be no question of its hardiness or perennial character. For eight years I have had a few plants which flower annually, and now they are pushing up some stout spikes for the ninth year in succession. No doubt a deep rich loam is ideal, but good plants can be obtained in any ordinary flower border. My own plants are examples of the latter. T. dipterocarpum is easily raised from seed sown now and they will germinate either in the open or in pans of light soil placed in a cold frame. If kept growing many of them would flower next year. Another fine thalictrum is T. Delavayi, but, alas! this is now rarely seen. Why is it?—T. W. BRISCOE, *Chepstow.*

THE FIFTY BEST ROCK PLANTS.

The Beauty of Onosma.

SIR,—In the list of the fifty best rock plants chosen by Dr. Lloyd Praeger for "the rock gardener who likes the best, is willing to give time and take trouble with difficult things, has enterprise and an eye for *daintiness* as well as showiness, and is not disheartened by occasional funerals," will be found the name onosma. It occurs in the two lists, though it is not the same species in both of them. Onosma is an interesting plant for several reasons. First of all its name which, being interpreted, comes from two Greek words *onos*, an ass, and *osme*, smell, and was given to it, so we are told, because scent of the flowers was supposed to be grateful to that animal. Then there is the tubular shape of the flowers like those of the heaths and our native confrey to which it is obviously related. It is, moreover, very graceful in its habit of growth, forming nice neat little tufts from which the flower stems spring. These bend over at their ends and it is here that the flowers are collected in pretty pendent bunches like keys on a ring. There are several species in cultivation, most of which come from southern Europe, though one or two hail from farther afield, the Himalaya and Persia. The particular species one generally sees in rock gardens is called echioides or sometimes tauricum, the latter name giving a clue to the locality whence it is derived. This species has been in cultivation in this country since 1683 and has been given the very suitable name of Golden Drop, from the form and colour of its flowers, which have the additional attraction of being almond scented.

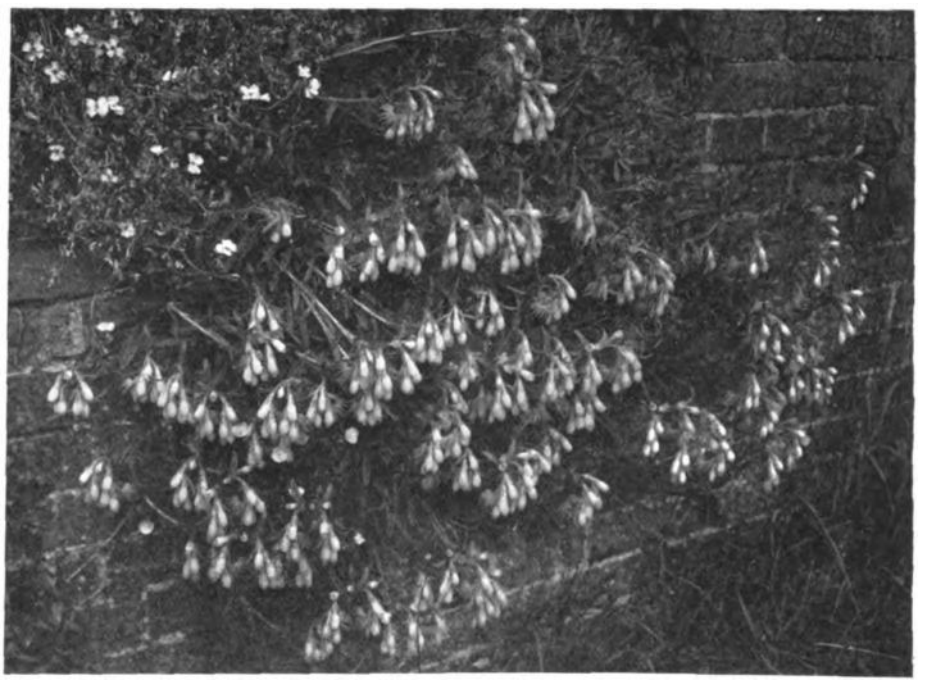
The whole plant is very hairy and the leaves are of a greyish green, forming just the right setting for the golden flowers.

Blooming in June when many of the early spring rock plants are past their best, onosma is a welcome addition to the rock garden. It is not a very fussy plant, but coming from sunny Greece it requires a good sunny position on the rockery to make it feel at home. It also has a rather pronounced aversion to excessive moisture and for this reason it is as well to plant it where an overhanging rock can keep the moisture off without shading it from the sun. In such a position its pendent golden drops show off to the very best advantage.—EDWARD CAHEN.

AN EDGING PLANT.

SIR,—Some years ago we used an edging plant which we used to call "Abyssinian nettle," of which there were two varieties, silver and green and golden, the latter the more effective. It had a small nettle-like leaf, and made nice compact clumps. I believe it had a tiny mauve nettle flower, but think this used to be picked off to keep the foliage a better colour.

I have not seen this plant used lately, and wonder if any of your readers could give me the proper name. I do not find anything like it in my books.—H. JOSEPHINE MEDLEY.



THE BEAUTY OF ONOSMA TAURICUM CAN BEST BE APPRECIATED WHEN THE PLANT IS GROWN AGAINST A WALL.

PRUNUS PISSARDII.

SIR,—I enclose a branch of Prunus Pissardii, with fruit. The whole bush—a large one, 15ft. in height, with a trunk 1ft. in diameter—is similarly laden and I should be glad to know if any of your readers have had a similar experience. I have never previously seen more than a few berries on this shrub.—A. GLADSTONE, *Freshwater, Isle of Wight.*

[The branch sent in was as completely laden as we have ever seen in any cherry. P. Pissardii so far has not been noted for its fruiting qualities; no doubt this is largely a matter of age.—ED.]

Digitized by Google

GARDEN TECHNIQUE

FLOWER GARDEN

TOP-DRESSING OF LILIUMS.

THERE are several ways of doing this work and the operator should first have a clear idea of why it requires doing, and the nature of the material to employ. Leaf-mould, peat, farmyard manure and loam are all very good for this purpose. Liliums which only have underground roots will seldom require more than a slight covering round the stems of such material as rough leaves, peat or lumpy loam, whereas those which send out roots above ground as well as below, require something more substantial in the way of plant food. Well decayed farmyard manure is best, which may be mixed with rough leaves or peat. Do not make the mistake of applying a lot of material which will run together and prevent the air from reaching the roots of the plant. It is far better to put a little round the plants at intervals rather than sufficient to last the season at one operation. Lilium candidum (the Madonna lily), L. Chalcedonicum (scarlet Turk's cap lily), L. croceum, L. tigrinum and L. testaceum, are benefited by a top-dressing of rough leaves, peat or loam, while L. auratum and others appreciate some good rotten manure mixed with lumpy loam. If due attention be paid to this important point of cultivation many liliums which otherwise could only be planted in damp situations will make a brave show in the border even if they be exposed to the sun, so that position becomes a secondary consideration. I well remember seeing and admiring a bed of the beautiful Nankeen lily (L. testaceum) flowering profusely in a round bed situated in the centre of a garden. Here the owner had afforded protection to the roots by judicious top-dressings—F. K.

VIOLAS.

Topical Cultural Notes.

IT has become proverbial to say of some plants, that they flower themselves to death if you only let them. Violas are a typical case, and it, therefore, behoves all who have them under cultivation to do all that is possible for them during their season of blooming. Some of them are at the zenith of their beauty; young plants more particularly, which are possessed of greater stamina than old clumps, but both will continue to respond freely if one can give them daily attention. This involves the cutting off of all dead and dying blossoms, and preventing seed pods forming; in watering them freely at night during a hot dry period, and in conserving the strength of the plants by applying mulchings about the roots. This may be in the form of old, rotted manure, or leaf-mould. Sometimes, too, where many plants are grown, it pays to give them a forced rest by denuding them of every bud for a week or two. They will respond afterwards with greater vigour as if grateful for freedom from production of blossoms. It is an experiment that anyone can make, and I have never found it to fail.—CLAREMONT.

CUTTING BACK PYRETHRUMS, DELPHINIUMS, ETC.

OLD plants, after they have flowered, are, in the majority of our gardens, cut back with a view to tidiness of border. But cutting back plants after they have borne their first harvest of flowers should be work well done, and with a view to a second crop of flowers as well in the interests of tidiness of border. Thus two purposes are served. The second batch of flowers, like that of roses, is often composed of very neat, highly coloured, refined blossoms; they are splendid for cutting and placing in vases, while in the borders they prevent a blank. In the case of delphiniums the cut-back plants afford us a fine display of blue which is often lacking late, or even early, in the summer.

The pyrethrums are now, in June, at their best in most gardens and, although they continue to yield odd flowers for a long time, a better and fuller succession can be obtained by judicious pinching or cutting back. If an autumn display is required, cutting back will afford the best results. Before making use of the knife, closely observe the foliage near the base of each plant and preserve as much of it as possible, cutting away the old flower-stems and the more seared inside leaves. The retained main leaves will add strength to the resultant new growth, including the flower-stems. Practically the same course should be taken in dealing with delphinium plants. Do not cut any of the old stems down to the ground level but several inches above it. Gather up the retained outer leaves carefully, remove any very loose soil from the surface close to each clump, and have in readiness some good loam and rotted manure to replace it forthwith. Failing manure, give a thorough soaking with manure water.—HANTS.

PROPAGATION OF PERENNIALS.

Raising Herbaceous Plants from Seeds and Cuttings.

THIS is a very interesting occupation, which may be carried out in some form or other practically at all times of the year. The stock of plants may be increased successfully by means of seeds, cuttings or division of existing clumps. In many instances seed cannot be relied upon to produce plants of the same colour as the parent, but many people deem that an advantage, as being more interesting. Broadly speaking, all seeds of perennials may be sown in May, and will flower in their season during the following year or two. Michaelmas daisies, phloxes, Chrysanthemum maximum, delphiniums, gaillardias—to name but a few—will all flower the same year if sown early in heat. It may be taken as a general rule that all boxes or pans used for seed raising should contain a lighter mixture of soil than the plants require when finally planted out. Boxes and pans should be made up with a level soil surface, and should be given a good soaking before any seed is sown. Use, if possible, fresh loam and clean sand, as it is unfair to blame the seed if failure occurs through attempting to raise seedlings in old potting soil which is probably sour and has a certain amount of artificial manure in its composition. Cold frames are better than greenhouse shelves at this time of the year for seed raising, but they should be situated where they will receive a fair share of sunshine. If the latter should prove too strong, it is an easy matter to shade. The little seedlings will require transplanting as soon as they are large enough to handle. Generally speaking, avoid a position in full sun for this operation; one which is slightly shaded is to be preferred, as the plants will require less care in the way of watering, and will go ahead better. In many cases it is an advantage to have the plants in their permanent position in the border by autumn. The amateur will find it a difficult matter to find cuttings on many classes of herbaceous perennials during the summer months, but still there are plenty of dwarf plants employed in rock gardens and the edges of herbaceous borders which yield suitable growths for cuttings. In most cases cuttings taken of double arabis, aubrietia, Phlox subulata, the trailing veronicas and such-like plants root readily if placed around the edge of a pot. Use a broad-ended dibber and see that the base of the cutting rests on the soil, which should be of a sandy nature. Plunge the pots up to the rim in fine ashes, well water the cuttings and keep the frames closed, taking care to shade, if necessary. When rooted, admit air gradually and discard shade.

Division can be carried out in spring or autumn. Phloxes, Michaelmas daisies, delphiniums, aconitums and others are best divided about every third year. Do not attempt to chop the clump into chunks with a spade, but use a garden fork. The result will be much better, as fewer roots will be damaged. Plant the outer portion of the clump, discarding the original centre, which will be worn out. I think this mode of cultivation is fairly well understood by the majority of gardeners, therefore little need be said on the subject.—CUMBERLAND.

POLYANTHUS FROM SEED.

POLYANTHUS seed germinates readily if sown as soon as ripe. Unless a particular colour is required, an abundance of seed may be collected from the finest plants in the beds, but if we desire a colour scheme and must have plants true to colour, it is better to obtain seed from a reliable seedsman and be reasonably sure of good results. I consider it sound practice to sow the seed in boxes or pans of prepared soil, covering the seed with fine sandy soil and place in a cold frame. Always give the soil in boxes or pans a good watering before sowing. Cover the box with a piece of glass and shade with paper until the seedlings appear. When the seedlings are up, remove the glass and the shade will only be required to prevent the sun scorching the tiny plants. If the soil in the box should appear dry, give a good watering, choosing, if possible, a sunny day so that the foliage will get dry as quickly as possible, as damp foliage often causes "damping off." For a short time a little shade may be necessary during the day if bright, sunny weather be experienced or if the frame be fully exposed to the sun. Carefully harden off the seedlings, admitting a little air daily, increasing the amount until the lights may be left off day and night. When the seedlings are large enough to handle, a piece of ground should be selected which is partially shaded and the seedlings transplanted about 6ins. apart. Dust round about the plants some old soot; it may keep off an occasional slug, and at any rate will stimulate the plant. They may require attention during the summer, but nothing more than a drink of water and the hoe run through the rows. There are some districts where plants raised from a summer sowing do not make good plants the following year. A good plan is to sow during February in boxes or pans, placing same in a warm greenhouse. This will give the plants a much longer season of growth, although the seed may not germinate as quickly. Always endeavour to prick off a certain number of the smaller seedlings, as they very often prove to be of finer colour than the more robust ones, the latter at times being rather coarse in flower. The object of this note is to remind garden lovers that the time for seed sowing is at hand.—F. C. KING.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

BIRDS AND SOFT FRUIT.

WHEN the soft fruits are ripening, care should be taken to protect them against the attacks of birds. Blackbirds and thrushes are particularly prone to sample strawberries,

Digitized by Google

currants, raspberries and cherries. Sparrows will attack almost anything and are often the cause of much damage to ripe gooseberries. Netting is, of course, an effective way of keeping the marauders at a distance, and, failing proper nets, old window curtains are by no means to be despised. Even if the curtains do not cover the whole of the bush, they will often frighten the birds so that they remain at a respectful distance. A very good protection for strawberry beds is the running of lengths of cotton between short stakes over the plants. All birds are desperately afraid of cotton, and, after one attempt to get at the fruit, will not come again. Strips of material that flutter about in the wind may also be used with good effect on bushes and small trees. If these are blue in colour so much the better. For some reason which has not been explained, all birds are distrustful of anything blue, and even bits of blue paper are useful if cloth cannot be obtained. In more than one garden with which the writer is familiar, the soft fruits have been saved by the simple plan of supplying the birds with water. There is no doubt that blackbirds and thrushes peck at the fruits because they are thirsty. Always the greatest amount of damage is done in dry weather. Large saucers of water placed about the garden will draw the attention of the birds away from the fruit. In fact, the birds seem to prefer to take a drink when they can get it. This does not apply to sparrows, for these mischievous birds will attack anything and everything, apparently with the desire of doing as much damage as they possibly can.—S. L. B.

THINNING APPLES.

This will help the Formation of First-class Fruit and Prevent Overbearing.

SOON we shall be busy thinning the fruits of apple trees. Some of our varieties did not bloom so freely as last year, and a few, such as Cox's Orange Pippin and Allington Pippin, will not require any thinning, for the fruits are already quite thin enough.

However, every tree which sets a good crop is always thinned here, and from past results it certainly does pay to spend a little time on this very necessary operation. I know that it seems wasteful to go over a tree which has set a large crop and pull off two-thirds of the fruitlets. The result of this thinning is that we get very few third grade fruits, a few second grade and a very large proportion of firsts.

We commence thinning the fruits as soon as they have started to swell, so that we are sure the fruits we leave have set properly. With our trees, which are well spurred, we find we have enough fruits on each tree if only one fruit is left on each spur. Of course, this operation is not a rule of thumb job, but one which must be done carefully and thoughtfully. To obtain a full crop it may be necessary to leave two fruits on some spurs, while in other cases it would be better to take every fruit away from a few spurs.

As for the manner of removing the fruits, we simply pull off those not required, at the same time removing a leaf or two if it seems likely that the leaves will shade the fruit too much. This latter is a point well worth noting by those who appreciate colour in apples and admire those highly polished American apples which are to be seen in our shops. We can get colour in our apples in most seasons, as witness the fruit exhibited by English growers at the Imperial Fruit Show.

I was once thinning some trees of Cox's Orange Pippin which had set an enormous number of fruits. I pulled off so many fruits that I got alarmed merely as a result of looking at what I had pulled off rather than at what I had left. Eventually I left more than I should, not more than the trees could carry, but more than they could bring to perfection, with the result that we had to market a lot of second grade stuff.

Stirling Castle, usually the most regular of croppers, was another variety which was not sufficiently thinned. We had a huge crop of first-class fruit, but the trees are exhausted and are taking a rest this year.

We hear a great deal about biennial bearing of apples, and various remedies are put forward from time to time. In my opinion, proper thinning of the fruit will go a long way towards making trees annual instead of biennial bearers.—N. D. H., *Warwickshire*.

BUSH FRUITS AND STIMULANTS.

ANTICIPATIONS aroused by promises of good crops on currants, gooseberries and raspberries, are sometimes doomed to disappointment on the approach of dry weather, when fruit suddenly ceases to swell and drops off, if steps are not taken to avert it. Not infrequently, it is the last efforts before gathering crops which determines the extent of the reward. If the hoe was used between the trees in spring and subsequently, the rough soil will to an extent prevent evaporation, and it can now be followed up by mulchings of any old manure available, leaves, or spent hops; indeed, almost any rotted vegetable matter that will help to conserve moisture. Especially does this apply to raspberries, the roots of which lie near the surface, and, sooner almost than any other fruit are the first to feel drought. Just now, too, much may be done for bush fruit trees by feeding them with liquid manure made from cow or sheep dung, if procurable, but in no case ought liquid manures to be given in dry weather until after the trees have had a good soaking of clear water.

A thorough drenching with water at night if the ground is very dry will do a deal in preventing fruit dropping, and nothing appreciates moisture more than raspberry canes. House slops, diluted, and soap suds, should not be poured down drains, but used among the fruit trees.—CLAREMONT.

PLANTING BRUSSELS SPROUTS.

TO produce erect plants of this vegetable, covered with tight, compact buttons, planting in firm, rich ground and a long season of growth are necessary. Planting out should take place during June. Lift the young plants carefully from the nursery bed with as large a ball of soil as possible, and plant them at once in firm ground, placing them 2ft. apart in the rows and 3ft. between each row. If the ground is at all soft, make it firm by treading before planting is carried out. When the plants are established, feed them at regular, but not too frequent, intervals by means of a light dose of nitrate of soda or a complete fertiliser.

VEGETABLE MARROWS.

YOUNG plants of vegetable marrows should be hardened off for several days, and then planted in their permanent quarters. A cold frame over an old hot-bed, or a prepared bed in the open, is a suitable position.

VEGETABLE MARROWS GROWING IN A RAISED BED IN THE OPEN.

The compost in a frame should be light and rich, and the plants should be at least 4ft. apart. In the open, marrows can be grown on raised heaps or in sunken beds. The latter is in some ways the better method, as the soil does not dry out during excessively hot weather. In either case the bed should be about 2ft. deep, the bottom consisting of a mixture of rotted manure, decaying vegetable rubbish and leaf soil, and the top of fine, fairly rich soil. For the first week or so after planting, protection from late frosts, strong sunlight and cold, cutting winds will be necessary. Slugs are liable to damage the young plants, and so should be guarded against by sprinkling sifted ashes round each plant, dusting with soot or sanitas powder. Watering should be attended to regularly and, when a number of the flowers have set, an occasional application of liquid manure is most helpful. The main stem should be pinched out when about a yard of growth has been made, and only four or five lateral growths should be allowed to develop, but these must never be pinched.

Digitized by Google

GARDENING OF THE WEEK

FOR SOUTHERN GARDENS.

THE FLOWER GARDEN.

In some gardens a quantity of such plants as double arabis, aubrietia and forget-me-not, are required for beds and borders, also as a groundwork to tulips and other bulbous plants. Now is a suitable time to propagate such subjects, and if the arabis and aubrietia have been slightly cut back after flowering, there will be plenty of young shoots suitable for cuttings. These will root readily in a cold frame or hand light if set in sandy soil. The myosotis can be raised from seeds sown during the next week or two. The small flowered rock garden and border candytufts, such as Iberis sempervirens, can also be increased by cuttings with arabis. Polyanthus are indispensable spring flowers, and it is at this season that a sure foundation is laid for next year's display. The seedlings are set out in lines 1ft. apart, for preference in a partially shaded spot, and kept free from weeds by occasional hoeing. Old plants can be divided into single crowns and treated the same as seedlings.

Double Daisies, white and coloured forms of Bellis perennis, are excellent for spring bedding and now is the best time to increase the stock by division. Sweet peas as they reach the flowering stage should be afforded a mulch of manure between the rows, and the roots fed with liquid manure or a special sweet pea fertiliser. Do not allow seed pods to form, or the plants will soon lose vigour and cease blooming.

THE FRUIT GARDEN.

Morello Cherries.—These useful fruit trees need somewhat different treatment from the sweet varieties, and from now onwards they must have attention in thinning and tying the shoots in in accordance with the requirements of the tree. Sufficient young growths are retained to carry a crop next year, the surplus shoots being carefully pulled out at their base, and care ought to be taken to avoid overcrowding. No stopping is needed, and if the growths are tied in position more light and air will reach the fruit. Specimens producing heavy crops will benefit by an application of liquid manure diluted to the colour of straw, say once a fortnight, until the fruits begin to colour. A mulching of manure is also recommended. Keep the trees free from aphis while the fruit is still green.

Gooseberries.—If choice fruits are desired for dessert in August, the crop must be reduced, and, fortunately, the green fruits can be used for preserving. A mulch of partially decayed manure will help to produce fine fruits, especially if water is given during a dry period. Cordon and standard trained trees will need attention at this season. All side growths are pinched back to four or five leaves, and all basal shoots, viz., at the ground level, are removed. The main shoots are allowed to extend, these being tied to the wall or other supports. With the selection of suitable varieties, and planting cordon trained trees in different positions, the supply of ripe fruit is extended over several weeks. Moreover they are more easily protected from birds.

THE KITCHEN GARDEN.

The early sown leeks will be ready for transferring to their final quarters, and unless exhibition roots are required, there is no need to make elaborate preparation for this crop. The lines should be 15ins. apart and the plants about a foot. Holes 12ins. or so in depth can be made with an ordinary crowbar, and the plants just dropped in. Subsequent hoeing will eventually fill the holes as the plants develop.

Celery trenches should be prepared and a liberal quantity of manure placed at the bottom, as celery is a gross feeder. A space of 4ft. is allowed between the trenches and 9ins. between the plants. Plenty of water is needed if the weather is dry, and if the maggot appears in the leaves, spray with a solution of quassia extract. The white variety of celery is planted out first, followed by the pink and red kinds.

Chepstow. T. W. BRISCOE.

FOR NORTHERN GARDENS.

THE KITCHEN GARDEN.

The main batch of celery will now be fit to plant out. To delay this beyond a reasonable limit is courting failure in the initial stages because of its proneness to "bolt" if given a check through lack of moisture or other mismanagement.

Lift the plants with a good ball of soil attached, remove all side shoots and decayed leaves, plant carefully and firmly, watering in as the work proceeds. Afford shelter and shade until the plants become established by placing a few spruce branches over the trenches. Good culture at every stage of growth is necessary, with abundance of moisture and liquid manure.

Repeated dustings of soot or spraying with paraffin emulsion will prevent the celery fly from depositing her eggs on the leaves. If celery leaf rust has been troublesome in previous years, spray early with Bordeaux mixture or liver of sulphur.

Celeriac in its early stages requires much the same treatment as celery, but later the culture is quite different. Choose a soil light and rich and put out the plants on the level 18ins. apart each way. Plant as shallow as possible, removing all lateral shoots to prevent division of the stem. Later cultivation consists in keeping the ground clean and frequently removing the soil from around the bulb, watering if needful to ensure them attaining a good size.

Lettuce and other salads should be sown frequently. Before planting the celery the top of the ridges will provide space for transplanting of lettuce and sowing of seeds for successional crops of these. At this season lettuce will probably do best if sown where they are to mature.

Sow turnips for late supplies, choosing varieties of the Stone or Golden Ball type.

To provide salading in the autumn when lettuce are not so plentiful make a first sowing of endive. Use the broad and curled leaved varieties, both useful in different ways, sowing the former in drills 15ins. apart, and the latter, not so robust in growth, 12ins., thinning to 12ins. and 9ins. in the rows. Transplant some of the thinnings, as these, coming in a week or two later, will make a succession.

For the above reasons, and as affording variety, sow corn salad now and later. Ordinary soil and open aspect will suit meantime. Thin out seedlings 3ins. to 4ins. apart and the lines 6ins. to 8ins. asunder.

Asparagus beds still bearing should be kept free from weeds and have weekly dressings of nitrate of soda, 2 oz. per square yard, or applications of liquid manure, to supplement the chemicals, superphosphate and kainit, applied in March. Support the green growth with pea sticks to prevent damage by wind.

Early cabbages and cauliflowers are benefited by having some soil drawn up to the stems. This gives support to and induces or encourages the plant to form new roots, so helpful if enfeebled by the attention of the larvæ of the cabbage fly in the early period of growth. Liquid manure will be appreciated if given on this and later occasions.

Cultivate between the drills of late potatoes and earth up as required. As this crop is the one usually attacked by the potato blight disease, the possibilities of preventive spraying with Bordeaux mixture are worth consideration.

Under normal conditions the crops may now be left to take care of themselves to some extent, and while this may lessen the gardener's anxieties, yet his activities must not cease.

GENERAL WORK IN THE GARDEN.

In the period involved by bedding out and planting the kitchen garden the amenities of the gardens and grounds will have been partly neglected.

Drives, avenues and walks will require the edges clipped and brushed up, assuming that the weed-killer applied in May has been effective. Gravel walks should be raked and rolled to renew their freshness.

Boundary grounds also should be attended to. Cut rough herbage which forms a shelter and host for numerous fungoids and insect pests. Nettles, if cut regularly for a number of years at certain times, will disappear. Colonies of dandelion, docks, etc., are cheaply got from this source, but expensive to get rid of.

Doune, Perthshire. W. MCCARRELL.

CUCUMBERS IN FRAMES.

A week in advance of putting out young cucumber plants make up a bed of strawy manure, augmented with leaves and lawn mowings if necessary. Consolidate the bed as the work proceeds. Make the bed a foot wider than the size of the frame and use the fermenting material at the rate of two cartloads for every frame light.

Place a barrowload of good compost, consisting of loam with leaf-mould and sand added to ensure porosity in each light and close up the frame. When the heat is steady, averaging 60° at night, the plants can be put out with safety. Give a little shading, gradually reducing this as the plants gain in strength. Syringe the plants and sides of the frame frequently with water at the same temperature as the frame.

Give water only when required, and then in sufficient quantity to soak the growing medium thoroughly, and as soon as the plants have made three rough leaves pinch out the points.

When the shoots accruing from the first stopping have made four rough leaves pinch out the points of these. This will be enough stopping until a show of fruit is seen, spreading out the shoots to cover the space, afterwards pinching the fruit-bearing shoots at two leaves beyond the fruit, thinning out superfluous growths.

Red spider and thrips are the worst of all pests the cucumber grower has to contend with. Avoid a too low temperature with draughts, such conditions being responsible for the appearance of mildew. Should such appear, remove badly infested leaves and dust with flowers of sulphur.

CUCUMBERS IN THE GREENHOUSE.

The cultivation of cucumbers in greenhouses differs only in detail from that of growing them in frames.

Withhold a portion of the material used in making up the bed in frames. Place it over slates or a grating situated just above the hot-water pipes in the house selected for growing the cucumbers. To begin with, place a bushel or so of good compost under each light or in a continuous ridge along the bed. To warm up the soil turn on the heat and let the temperature run up fairly high for a day or so, and then put out the young plants.

Support the young plant with a stake until it reaches the first wire. The plants should be allowed to reach the topmost wires before pinching out the tips. Train out the side shoots to the lower wires as they appear, stopping them one or two leaves beyond the fruit. By this time it may be found that, by judicious management of airing and shutting up, fire-heat may be dispensed with except in very cold and wet spells.

MELONS.

To grow melons in frames the hot-bed should be formed as described for cucumbers. Use, if possible, a three-light frame to secure a more constant and regular heat. Melons differ from cucumbers in requiring more light and air, a heavier soil, less water and a higher temperature.

Make up a ridge of loamy soil with old lime rubble and wood-ashes added. And when the heat of the frame shows about 65° to 70°, put out the young plants, one to each light. Shade the plants a little until growth is active, ventilate the frames when 80° is registered during the day, water carefully and syringe frequently in sunny weather.

The melon plants from the March sowing will be swelling their fruits, and should have all unnecessary growth cut away.

Give top-dressings of good loam as a rooting medium for the thick white roots showing on the top of the bed, making this firm as before with a rammer. Feed with liquid manure, ringing the changes with artificials. Close down the ventilators early in the afternoon, syringing and damping down frequently, maintaining a night temperature of 65° to 70°.

The young plants from the sowing made early in April should now be planted out from the 5in. pots to their permanent quarters in the melon-bed. Fill up the bed with fermenting material, stamping it firmly to discount shrinkage later. The compost should be placed in small mounds about 2ft. to 3ft. apart on the bed and left for a day or so to acquire the same temperature as the house. Allow one plant to each mound, ramming the soil firmly when planting, and stake the plants until the first wire is reached.

M. C.

Digitized by Google

PROTECT your KNEES

FROM

Dampness or Discomfort

WHEN

GARDENING

BY USING THE

'KNEEL-ON-AIR' MAT

Regd. No. 466312.

SIZE 18in. by 8in.

Cellular **RUBBER** Cushion

Waterproof — Washable

Equally Useful for Housework.

PRICE 5/- EACH

Obtainable at

Harrods, Army and Navy Stores, D. H. Evans, Gamages, and Thos. Gunn Ltd., Garden Specialists, All Ironmongers and other Retailers

Or direct from Makers

JAMES LYNE HANCOCK LTD.

Rubber Manufacturers,

266, GOSWELL ROAD, LONDON, E.C.1

GARDEN SPRAYING

For Every Spraying Purpose——use the

ECLIPSE

"The Sprayer of a Thousand Uses."

TREE SPRAYING

Keep your trees and plants clear of insect pests by regularly spraying them with insecticide — and use the ECLIPSE Sprayer for the purpose.

It is easy to handle, no pumping, no back-wash, can be used in any position and allows both hands free to control the spray. Can also be used for disinfecting, limewashing, etc.

Get one from your local dealer, or write us direct for Catalogue.

ECLIPSE SPRAYING CO., Dept. O, Bearwood, Smethwick, Birmingham.

Price complete with Lance, Two Nozzles, 10ft. Rubber Hose & Strainer **30/-**

C.W.P.

MARK SMITH, Ltd.,

LOUTH, LINCS.

"PERFECT"

WEED KILLER

STRONGEST CHEAPEST & BEST

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by **"ALPHOL"**

Sample 14 lb., 3/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

Have you decided to use "KATAKILLA" this year? It means better fruit, cleaner vegetables, lovely flowers.

"KATAKILLA" is the popular non-poisonous insecticide for destroying caterpillars, Green-fly and other destructive insect pests in orchard and garden. In powder form ready for mixing with water. Clean and easy to use.

Stocked everywhere in 2/- (for 10 galls. wash) and 6/- (50 galls.) Cartons

Spray with

KATAKILLA

THE UNIVERSAL INSECTICIDE

Write for Illustrated leaflet "Katakilla," post free from

COOPER, McDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, Ltd.,

BERKHAMSTED, Herts.

For success in your Garden USE

THOMSON'S MANURES

On the market for over 50 years, they still hold first place for QUALITY and RESULTS. They are safe, sure and lasting. The direct result of many years' practical experience in gardening, they stand unrivalled at the present day for all Garden Crops.

Prices:—**VINE, PLANT AND VEGETABLE MANURE**—a Perfect Food—1 cwt., 30/-; 56 lb., 16/-; 28 lb., 9/-; 14 lb., 5/-; 7 lb., 3/-; tins, 1/3 and 2d. **SPECIAL TOP DRESSING MANURE**—an excellent stimulant—56 lb., 17/-; 28 lb., 9/6; 14 lb., 5/6, 7 lb., 3/-, tins, 1/3. Carriage paid on 28 lbs. and up.

☞ WRITE FOR OUR BOOKLET—POST FREE ON REQUEST.

SOLD BY NURSERYMEN AND SEEDSMEN EVERYWHERE.

Or from Sole Makers, WM. THOMSON & SONS, TWEED VINEYARDS, CLOVENFORDS, SCOTLAND.

The RITO Smile

GARDENERS!

Multiply your crops and grow fragrant flowers with

RITO

RITO is a humus, organic and natural soil food: a stimulant and energising medium for soil bacteria. Its use results in larger crops. Rito is suitable for garden, greenhouse and allotment.

Seedsmen, Florists, Corn Merchants, etc., sell RITO at the following prices: 1 cwt., 23/-; 28lbs., 6/3; 14lbs., 3/3; 7lbs., 1/9; and in 1/- cartons. Write to The Molassine Co., Ltd. (Dept. R52), Greenwich, for FREE literature.

Digitized by Google

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

FINAL POTTING OF TREE CARNATIONS.

CUTTINGS rooted late last year and also during the past spring will be in good condition for the final potting now if the young plants have received proper treatment in the meantime. Plants that were stopped low down—and not merely topped—will now possess from three to six strong side shoots, according to individual strength. Now, the final potting does not mean shifting the plants to very large pots, especially those plants resultant from late-rooted cuttings. Pots measuring 6ins. across should be the largest used for such. Many cultivators flower their plants in 5in. pots, but high feeding is necessary and, generally, skilled treatment, and as my hints are for the benefit of those who have not had much experience the 6in. pot will afford the best results. The pots should be very clean, both inside and outside, and quite dry when used. For drainage, a lot of crocks are not necessary; use a few only and place them well. One large hollow crock and a few smaller ones will answer nicely. I like one hollow crock and broken bricks for the draining of my pots—old bricks with mortar adhering to them.

The compost is important, but it need not be elaborate or made up of many ingredients. Fibrous loam, in which the grass roots are dead, should form the chief ingredient. The more fibrous it is the better, and it should be pulled into small pieces, otherwise the fine mortar rubble and the bone flour will not be evenly mixed with the loam. Very coarse, dry sand may be used in place of the mortar rubble, but the latter is much the better. A small proportion of fresh leaf-soil will improve a heavy soil compost. Firm potting is essential, but the necessary ramming must be on the new and not on the old, which contains the roots. Space should be left for watering and feeding with artificial and liquid manures, but not for any top-dressing, as this is not needed. All necessary stakes should be put into the new soil at the time of the final potting, then there will not be any interference with the roots later on, as would be the case if the work of staking was unduly delayed. After the potting is finished the plants should be placed again in a cold frame, freely ventilated night and day, and be left there until the end of June. During July and August the best position for the plants is one on a bed of ashes in a quite open quarter outside.—G. G.

MOISTURE CONSERVATION versus WATERING.

EXCEPTING in the case of certain newly planted subjects, such as evergreens, we have long ago abandoned watering as a regular garden practice, and this in dealing with a sharply-drained light soil. As an alternative our principle consists of conserving the natural moisture by checking evaporation. In this there is, of course, nothing new. It is a principle (involving, by the way, less labour and securing better results), that has always been practised by some, yet it is one which is seldom adopted or understood as fully as it might be by the average amateur.

Deep cultivation, including a thorough loosening of the subsoil, is, in the first place, a factor of superlative importance in making the way free for that upward moisture flow which is ever present in the driest of soils. Then comes the arresting of that moisture at or near the surface and this may be accomplished in various ways to suit different phases of gardening. First there is the mulch, usually supplied in spring, and consisting of half-rotted farm manure or decayed vegetable compost, peat, spent hops, sphagnum, seaweed, peat moss litter and the like. The last mentioned, finely granulated and well weathered, is the finest moisture absorbent and retainer I know and it is one of the most durable of all organic substances.

Nature adopts the humus mulch referred to as a moisture retainer, but she attains the same end generally by her carpeting, or sward, of living herbage. This we can often imitate, as on rock garden slopes and ledges, in heather gardens and other places, by keeping the surface well covered. There is a vast number of plants which delight to grow in close association one with another, thus forming a sort of natural turf like an alpine lawn which very effectually checks that evaporation which must rob the roots of most plants isolated on a sun-beaten ledge.—A. T. J.

HINTS ON RHUBARB CULTURE.

WHEN the rhubarb crop is ending it is to be feared that many growers tend to neglect the clumps. Of course, the present is a very busy time and there is much urgent work to do in other directions, but, if a good crop is to be assured next season, serious attention must be given to the rhubarb bed. Generally speaking as soon as the gooseberries come in there is not much demand for rhubarb, but there is always a temptation to pull away the stalks as long as they remain. This is a great mistake for it weakens the crowns and, if persisted in, the crop next year will be poor. The leaves are necessary to carry on the work of the plant and a fair proportion should be left to develop and die off naturally to feed the crowns next yaer. Of course, in the case of newly established beds, it is not advisable to pull any of the leaves or stalks and, even in the second year, care should be taken to leave a liberal amount of leafage to complete the natural growth of the plants. It is not until the third year that a rhubarb bed can really be said to be in full cropping, and, even then, as has been indicated, the pulling must not be too close.

At the end of the pulling season treat the rhubarb plants well. On the bed, weeds are sure to grow apace and these must be kept down or the final stages in the growth of the plant will be seriously hampered. Liquid manure is good for a rhubarb bed at any time, but, most of all, is it of service after pulling has ceased.

When a little time is available this may be usefully employed in loosening the soil of the rhubarb bed. This will help to keep the moisture in the ground and be of great service to the rhubarb, which naturally thrives in rather damp situations. In long spells of dry weather a thorough soaking of water may be given the bed with advantage.

Every rhubarb bed should have an annual top-dressing of manure, preferably given during the late autumn or winter. Even with this aid the production of the bed begins to decline in five years as a rule. The new plants are secured by dividing the root-stocks of the old crowns in the autumn. —BOURNEMOUTH.

"ACME" WEED KILLER

Awarded Gold Medal at Anglo-American Exhibition and Bronze Medal by Royal Horticultural Society.

Has stood the test of over 20 years.

POWDER.—No. 1 Tin makes 25 gals., 3/-; postage 9d. No. 2, 50 gals., 6/-; postage 9d. Carriage paid on No. 4, which makes 150 gals., 15/-.

LIQUID.—1 gal. to 50 gals. water. 1 gal., 6/-; 2 gals., 10/6; carriage paid on 5 gals., 25/-.

NON-POISONOUS.—No. 1 Tin makes 6 gals., 1/6 post free; No. 2, 12 gals., 2/3 post free; No. 4, 50 gals., 7/- post free.

LAWN SAND

destroys weeds and moss in grass and fertilizes the lawn. No other manure necessary.

14 lbs., 4/-; 28 lbs., 7/-; 56 lbs., 13/-; 1 cwt., 25/-. Carriage paid on 1 cwt.

EXTRACT OF QUASSIA INSECTICIDE

1 gallon, 5/-; Drum, 1/6; Carriage paid on 5 gallons, 4/6 per gallon; Drum, 4/-. Pint, 2/6, post free. Drums allowed for when returned.

QUASSIA-TOBACCO INSECTICIDE

Pint, 2/6; quart, 3/9 post free. 1 gallon, 8/6; Drum, 1/6. Carriage paid on 5 gallons and upwards.

The Acme Chemical Co., Ltd.,
TONBRIDGE, KENT.

THE LAWNS AT WINDSOR CASTLE ARE MOWN BY

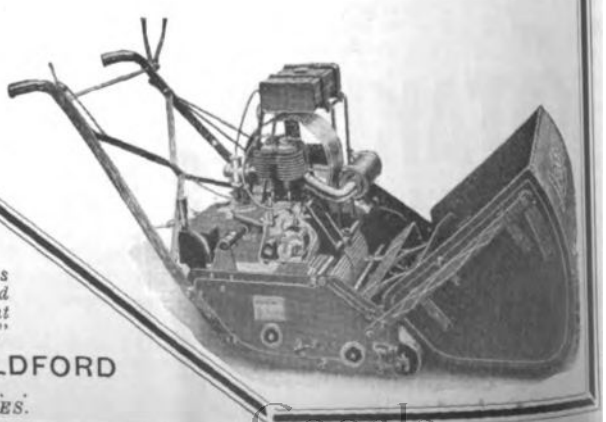
DENNIS

MOTOR LAWN MOWERS.

FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY.

A brief specification:—

4 H.P. 4-stroke engine; differential gear to rollers; forced-feed lubrication; mechanical adjustment for cutter blades; machine can be used for cutting or rolling only, as desired; detachable covers to driving chains, etc.



24 in., £75. 30 in., £90.

Trailer seat for either model, £7 10 0. Less 5 per cent. for cash within seven days, and delivered to any Railway station in Great Britain. For particulars, write Dept. "G,"

DENNIS BROS. LTD., GUILDFORD

Manufacturers of the Famous LORRIES, BUSES & FIRE ENGINES.

Digitized by Google

FOR PRESENT PLANTING

We offer for the first time our new

CISTUS WINTONENSIS

Award of Merit, R.H.S., April 20, 1926.

A unique hybrid, flowers two inches across, pearly white, with a distinct maroon zone contrasting with the golden anthers. Foliage grey.

Strong young plants .. .. **10/6** each
Specimens in larger pots .. **21/-** ,,

CISTUS HILLIER'S SILVER PINK

Award of Merit, R.H.S., June 17, 1919.

Flowers the most charming art shade of pale silvery pink, large and profusely borne. Foliage silvery grey; very hardy. **2/6** each. **27/-** doz.

COLLECTIONS OF

(*a*) **12** Cistus in **12** leading varieties, all shades of colour, including purpureus, Loretii, algarvensis, etc., for .. **21/-**
(*b*) **12** ditto, in second size plants, for **16/6**
(*c*) **6** Cistus, in **6** older varieties, for **7/6**

All the above are bushy plants in 5-inch pots.

HILLIER & SONS of WINCHESTER

ROCKERY STONE

Best Westmorland Weathered Limestone for Rockeries, Rock Gardens, etc.

In any sized pieces to suit requirements. Any quantity. Large Stones a speciality.

For price and particulars, write—

WARDLEY & SONS, Slackhead, Milnthorpe

The Helichrysa **LABEL**

Reg. Trade Mark
Reg. Design No. 713923. Prov. Prot.

LASTING, LEGIBLE, AND LOW IN PRICE

MARK WHERE YOUR BULBS ARE DYING DOWN

The labels are embossed aluminium on galvanised wire holders. From dozen according to amount of lettering necessary.

Write for circular and full particulars to

The "HELICHRYSA" CO.
EAST STREET, COGGESHALL, ESSEX

Water cannot penetrate.

For comfort & safety see that Your Boots* have Uppers of "Beva" "WATERPROOF LEATHER

*Look for the "Beva" on the looping.

SHRUBS FOR THE GREENHOUSE

NOTES ON SUMMER QUARTERS.

THE owner of a greenhouse need not be without flowers and fresh foliage for a great part of the year if he possesses a good collection of flowering shrubs. Only sufficient artificial heat is needed to exclude frost and any excessive damp. This being so, readers will at once realise that many kinds require quite cool treatment, preferably in cold pits or in the open air during the summer months. A great many plants are ruined because they are retained in the glass structure all through the hot days of summer. The attention given should be timely. For instance, rhododendrons and azaleas that have flowered under glass—of course, several weeks earlier than they would in the open air—must be allowed to remain in the structures while they are making new growth, or recovering from being shifted to larger pots. It is also advisable to be very careful about placing the plants in the open too soon for the same reason.

The greenhouse acacias and the genistas flower several weeks later than the azaleas and rhododendrons, and so these must be retained in the structure a little longer. Their position should be a lightly shaded one and the floor and stage near the plants kept moist, to prevent, to some extent, the spread of red spider. In their case it will not be necessary to keep the plants under glass when the flowers have faded; remove them early in the summer to cool quarters outside.

The winter-flowering epacris should be placed in a cold frame facing north during the summer months. Heaths must be kept cool and shaded, whether in the greenhouse or the cold pit, after flowering. The plumbago and bougainvillea, treated as shrubs, should be retained in the greenhouse if judiciously ventilated, where they will thrive in full sunshine. If we class the bouvardia as a warm greenhouse shrub—and it is, undoubtedly—then give the plants frame treatment all summer without undue coddling.– G.G.

ANTIRRHINUMS

IT'S only the fact that we grow and deliver especially good plants that we wish to advertise. The brightness, the long-flowering life, the wonderful adaptability of Antirrhinums (Snapdragons) are known to everyone. Although our plants are properly grown, transplanted, well rooted, hardened off, in all ways particularly good, as becomes a firm which reckon to do things well, the price is only

1/3 dozen. **8/6** 100.

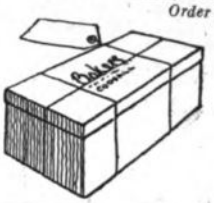
Carriage paid on orders value 5/- and over, otherwise 9d. extra.

And these are the varieties and colours

Codsall Rose, delicate pink
Cottage Maid, pink, white throat
Crimson King, rich dark crimson
Dainty, gold and terra cotta pink
Electra, salmon orange, white throat
Dazzler, orange scarlet
Firefly, scarlet
Glow, orange apricot
Melrose, bright rose
Rose Queen, rose pink self
White Queen, pure white
Yellow King, rich yellow

DELIVERED DIRECT FROM THE GROWERS, CARRIAGE PAID.

Order now.



Bakers
FLOWER FARM,
CODSALL.
Nr. Wolverhampton.

BENTLEY'S WEED DESTROYER

(POISON) STANDS FOR

Strength Reliability Economy

Stronger than any other. One application keeps gravel paths and drives clean for nearly two years. Commands the largest sale both at home and abroad, with a rapidly spreading popularity.

REDUCED PRICES:

Concentrated Liquid (1 to 80)—1 gal. **6/9**; 2 gals. **13/-**; 3 gals. **18/9**; 6 gals. **35/9**; 12 gals. **69/-**; 24gals. **134 3**; 40gals. **218 3**

Powder (1 to 25)—4 tins **9 3**; 8 tins **17/10**; 12 tins **25 6**; 20 tins **40 9**; 40 tins **78/-**

BENTLEY'S QUASSIA EXTRACT

Compound Liquid (Non-poisonous)

Infallibly destroys Aphis in all its forms. It may be used anywhere and everywhere with absolute safety, and is the most economical of all Insecticides.

One gal. makes from 80 to 100 gals. of wash.

5 gals. **8/6** per gal.; 1 gall. **8/9**; ½ gal. **5/-**; 1 qt. **3/-**; 1 pt. **1/9**

Carriage paid on 15/- orders and upwards.

Sole Manufacturers:

JOSEPH BENTLEY LTD.
CHEMICAL WORKS,
BARROW-ON-HUMBER :: LINCS.

Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.

Digitized by Google

A
LOVELY GARDEN

will never be yours if the soil in which your flowers have to grow is poor or impoverished.

FERRY BRAND

(Regd. Trade Mark)

GARDEN MANURE

gives back to the soil not only potash, nitrogen, and phosphates, but the whole of the plant elements taken therefrom. Use it for all Flowers, Fruit Trees, Potatoes, Tomatoes, Beans, Cabbages, Vines, &c., at the rate of 2 to 3 ozs. per square yard.

14 lbs., 3/- - 28 lbs., 5/9
56 lbs., 11/- - 1 cwt., 20/-

Carriage paid to the nearest Railway Station for cash with order.

Write for the Orange Booklet containing useful gardening hints.

THE BRITON FERRY CHEMICAL & MANURE CO., LTD., (Dept. E), Briton Ferry, South Wales. (Est. 1886).

PROPAGATING GREENHOUSE PLANTS.

IF the greenhouse is to be kept gay all the year round, fresh batches of cuttings of many kinds must be rooted from time to time. Numerous kinds may be propagated in the autumn, but I think the best time for carrying out the work is spring and early summer, and amateur cultivators should not have much difficulty in successfully rooting cuttings. The best general compost for the latter is one made as follows: Fibrous loam, passed through a ½in. mesh sieve, 2 parts; old leaf-soil, also sifted, 1 part; and very coarse dry sand, 1 part. For the benefit of purely hard-wooded kinds, the loam and the leaf-soil should be used in equal quantities. Three-inch and five-inch pots are the most suitable sizes, and a cold frame placed on a stage facing east, west or north; or a slight hot-bed in a frame in the garden will be found best, both under the greenhouse roof or outside, for successful propagation. Cuttings of hard-wooded subjects should be of young wood with a tiny heel of harder wood attached, and the latter should be severed with a sharp knife. Cuttings of soft wooded plants should also be selected from young branches and mostly be severed just beyond the harder, or last year's, growth. Some kinds are persistent in producing flower buds and stems, and so all of these must be removed directly they are large enough to handle. Water will be needed oftener than in the autumn, but over-watering must be avoided. Judicious shading will be very beneficial.—HANTS.

The Perfect Sun Blind for Glasshouses

Cannot rot or perish.
Easily fixed and removed.
Admits ample light.
Economical in wear.

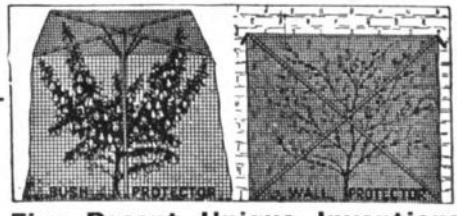
SEND FOR SPECIAL ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE

MESSENGER & CO., LTD., LOUGHBOROUGH LEICESTERSHIRE
LONDON OFFICE: 122, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND, SOILFUME, NICOTINE, INSECTICIDES, FUMERS, SPRAYS, AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES—THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT, CARRIAGE PAID.

Only Address: TOMLINSON & HAYWARD Ltd LINCOLN



Five Recent Unique Inventions

TRANSFERABLE FRUIT CAGE.
Protects two crops in one season.
ADJUSTABLE WALL TREE PROTECTOR.
Proof against 14° frost, birds, cold winds, wasps.
BUSH TREE PROTECTOR.
For trees up to 8ft. in height.
REMOVABLE TENNIS SURROUND.
Stands up as if in cement, and pulled up with one hand.
FROST PROOF NETTING.
Absorbs the moisture in the atmosphere, and retains the warm air radiating from the wall around tree.
Apply for Illustrated Booklet giving prices and his
SYSTEM OF FRUIT CULTURE.
Major C. Walker, Dept. G., Brecon, South Wales

High Grade
Conservatories
and
Glasshouses

For all classes of Horticultural Work consult Boulton & Paul, and be sure of obtaining correct design, combined with first-class quality and workmanship. Expert representative sent on request to interview clients and prepare schemes.

Ask for Catalogue No. 741

GARDEN FRAMES a speciality at prices from 35/- . . Various designs in Booklet No. 744.

We are specialists in the installation of Heating Apparatus. Our experts are always ready to give advice and prepare schemes.

Boulton & Paul Ltd
Telegrams BOULTON NORWICH NORWICH Telephone NORWICH 85 (5 lines)
LONDON OFFICE: 135-137, QUEEN VICTORIA ST. E.C.
Telegrams: Boutique, Cent London Telephone 4642 Cent.

GARDEN LOVERS
Write for Catalogues of
PROTHEROE & MORRIS'
• HORTICULTURAL SALES •
WEDNESDAY
67, 68 Cheapside, London E.C.2. Phone: City 3856

THE PATTISSON HORSE BOOTS

SIMPLEST
STRONGEST
MOST ECONOMICAL

Fig. 2—Welted Pattern.

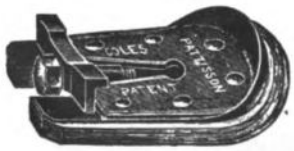


Fig. 1—For Shod Horses.
Best English Leather or Rubber Soles.
Used for many years in the Royal and in thousands of the Principal Gardens.
Silver Medals:—Royal Horticultural Society, 1904 and 1914
Royal International Horticultural Exhibition, 1912.
HUNDREDS OF TESTIMONIALS.

ONCE TRIED
ALWAYS USED

Fig. 2—No Welt Pattern

Illustrated Price Lists from the Makers:
H. PATTISSON & CO., STANMORE, MIDDLESEX

Digitized by Google

THE LEADING GLASS HOUSE FUMIGANT

CORRY'S WHITE FLY DEATH

THOUSANDS OF TOMATO CROPS ENTIRELY SAVED
No alterations needed since first introduced.
Satisfied with the best, it is the cheapest in the end.
Commended by the Royal Horticultural Society.

Cubic ft.	1,000	2,000	4,000	8,000	16,000	32,000	64,000
	10d.	1/3	2/-	3/6	6/-	10/6	19/-

Also in 2, 5 and 10 gall. FREE drums:

ALSO

"NIQUAS"

THE INSECTICIDE.

(Non-poisonous.)

For destroying Greenfly, Aphis and Caterpillars, etc., on all plants and trees.

30 years' reputation.

Many hundreds of Testimonials received.

Equal to any, if not better, and cheaper, so why not use it and save money?

	1 pt.	1 qt.	½-gall.	1 gall.	2 gall.	5 gall.	10 gall.
	1/6	2/6	4/-	7/6	15/-	25/-	45/-

CORRY'S CONCENTRATED QUASSIA EXTRACT

	1 pt.	1 qt.	½-gall.	1 gall.	2 gall.	5 gall.	10 gall.
	1/3	2/-	3/6	6/6	12/6	23/-	42/-

Sold by Nurserymen and Seedsmen.

CORRY & CO, Ltd., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

By Appointment

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD., *Royal Potteries,* BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

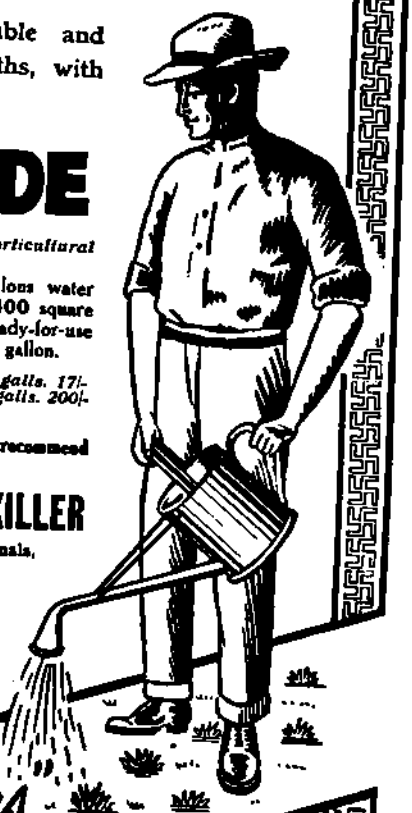
Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

KILL those WEEDS

Hoeing and hand-picking of weeds are back-aching, temper-trying jobs.

Why not save time, trouble and labour by cleaning the paths, with

COOPER'S WEEDICIDE



("Highly Commended" by the Royal Horticultural Society.)

1 gallon (price 9/-) dilutes to **100** gallons water and is sufficient for treating **300** to **400** square yards of surface. The cost of the ready-for-use mixture is, therefore about 1d. per gallon.

Pint 1/9 Quart 3/- ½ gall. 5/- 2 galls. 17/-
5 galls. 36/6. 20 galls. 105/- 40 galls. 200/-

If you prefer a non-arsenical preparation, we recommend

McDOUGALL'S

PERFECT SAFETY WEEDKILLER

Involves no danger to domestic animals, poultry, game, etc.

Pint 1/6 Quart 2/6 ½ gall. 4/-
1 gall. 6/6 5 galls. 25/-

POWDER WEEDKILLER. (Arsenical) in 1 lb., 2 lb and 8 lb tins.

Write for our illustrated leaflet "The Weed Problem Solved," and you will learn how weeds can be eradicated quickly and easily.

"as easy as it looks"

If unable to obtain these Weedkillers locally, please write to

Cooper, McDougall & Robertson, BERKHAMSTED, Herts Ltd.

J 465.

CLAY'S LONDON FERTILIZER TRADE MARK

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then, together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices:—

Tins 10d. and 1/6

and in **Branded and Sealed Bags:**

7 lbs.	3/6	14 lbs.	6/-
28 lbs.	10/-	56 lbs.	18/-
112 lbs.	32/-		

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark.

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers, etc. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**

Digitized by Google

PLAYER'S "Medium" Navy Cut Tobacco (Rubbed Ready for Smoking) is identical in quality with PLAYER'S Plug Navy Cut, but it is put up in a form which saves the Smoker trouble in preparation.

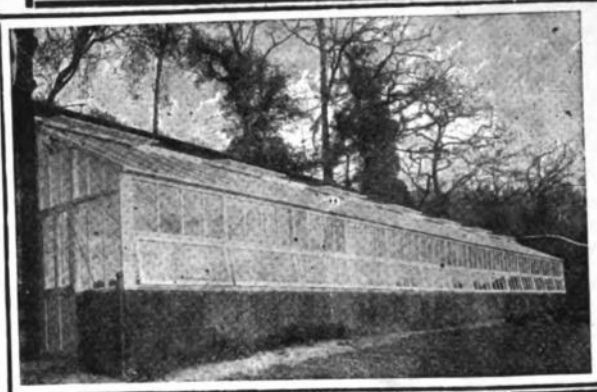
PLAYER'S
"MEDIUM"
Navy Cut

PLAYER'S NAVY CUT
REGD No 154011
RUBBED READY FOR SMOKING
P1315

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION

WAKELEY'S Celebrated (PATENTED) HOP MANURE
THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DO YOU REALISE IT ?
A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.
A beautiful Free Booklet giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.
BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. GENUINE ONLY IN OUR MARKED BAGS, CONTAINING GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.
Cash Prices, including bags: Small (about 1 bushel), 3/- ; Large (about 4 bushels), 7/- ; 5 Large, 33/9
10 Large, 65/- ; 20 Large, 120/-
Carriage Paid to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company. 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.
WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1



GREENHOUSES AND GARDEN FRAMES

I specialize in the Erection of High-class Horticultural Buildings.
Garden Frames a speciality. Selected timber, well seasoned, only used.
Being a grower, I understand Glass-house requirements.
SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.
CATALOGUES WITH PLEASURE

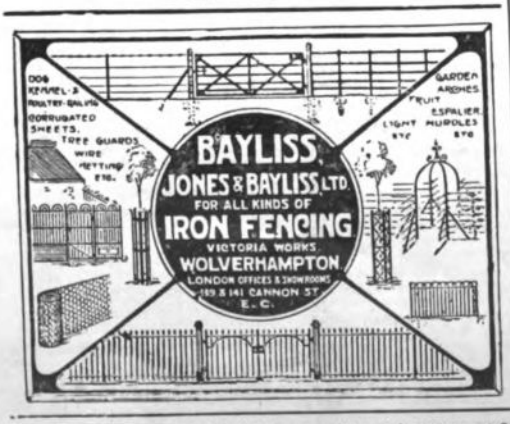
E. M. HEAP, Cottimore Nurseries, WALTON-ON-THAMES.

AFTER 23 YEARS
AN ELOQUENT PROOF OF UNFAILING AND USEFUL SERVICE.
"A better Greenhouse Boiler could not be than the 'Horse Shoe.' I have had it in use for 23 years, and it has answered splendidly," writes Mr. F. G. L.....47, Mt. Carmel, Derby. 23/11/1925.

"HORSE SHOE" BOILERS
CAN BE SUPPLIED FROM IMMEDIATE STOCK.
Write for particulars now

To CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD., Engineers, Southwark Street, S.E.1.
Please send me Booklet E "Making the Most of Your Greenhouse," and price of complete Outfit to suit *(span-roof) (lean-to) greenhouse.....long .....wide inside, sides of *(wood) (brick).....thick
Name.....
Address.....
*Strike out particulars not needed. Cut out and send by ½d. post.

CHAS. P. KINNELL & Co., Ltd., 65, Southwark St., LONDON, S.E.1
Wire: "Kinnell-Boroh-London." Phone: Hop 362 (three lines.)



YOUR LAWN!
TRUE PLAY IN MANY LAWN GAMES IS IMPOSSIBLE UNLESS THE SURFACE IS CLEAR OF DAISIES AND OTHER WEEDS — THE BEST METHOD OF ERADICATION IS —
LAWN SAND
Velvas
applied 5 oz. per Square Yard.
MAKES VELVETY LAWNS

CARRIAGE PAID PRICES:

112 lb. Keg,	28/6	112 lb. Bag,	28/6	14 lb. Tin,	6/-
56 lb. "	16/-	56 lb. "	14/3	7 lb. "	4/-
28 lb. "	10/6	28 lb. "	9/3	3 lb. "	2/6

Sole Manufacturers
ROBINSON BROTHERS LTD. WEST BROMWICH

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

JUN 28 1926

Vol. XC.—No. 2846 Saturday. June 19th, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

Barr's Seeds for June Sowing

OF FINEST STRAINS AND TESTED GROWTH

For the Flower Garden and Greenhouse

Antirrhinums, Aquilegias, Campanulas, Canterbury Bells, Calceolarias, Cinerarias, Delphiniums, Forget-me-nots, Hollyhocks, Lupins, Pansies, Primulas, Polyanthus-Primroses, Sweet Williams, Stocks, Wallflowers, etc.

For the Vegetable Garden

Beans, Beet, Carrots, Peas, Spinach, Lettuce, Radish, etc.

For the Rock Garden

Special List of dwarf-growing Hardy Perennials, Alpines, etc., for June and July sowing in the Rock Garden.

All Lists free on application.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

NETTINGS.

GARDEN NETS FOR FRUIT PROTECTION

Any lengths and widths. Corded all round

	per sq. yd.		per sq. yd.
NEW 1 in. sq. mesh, heavy ..	6½d.	NEW ½ in. sq. mesh, medium ..	7½d.
NEW 1 in. ,, medium ..	5½d.	REPAIRED 1 in. sq. mesh, heavy	3½d.
NEW ½ in. ,, light ..	5½d.	REPAIRED ½ in. ,, ,,	4d.

REPAIRED (not corded) 1 in. diamond mesh, 9/- per 100 sq. yards.

NEW TENNIS BOUNDARY NETS

Any lengths and widths. Corded all round. 7d. per sq. yard.

NEW TENNIS NETS

Various qualities from 16/- to 31/- each.

NETS FOR ALL PURPOSES

Samples and full particulars from the manufacturers.

JOSEPH BENTLEY, Ltd., Barrow-on-Humber, LINCS.
(Sole Proprietors of B. EDDY & SONS)

The Flower of the Season

BALL'S CALENDULA

— Brilliant Orange Double Flowers —

THE FINEST PLANT FOR CUT FLOWER OR THE BORDER

Our exhibit at CHELSEA SHOW made us many customers, and we have had numerous testimonials from all parts of the country.

SEED .. .. 1/-, 2/6, 5/- packet
PLANTS .. .. 1/6 doz. 10/- 100

WM. ARTINDALE & SON
NETHER GREEN NURSERY :: SHEFFIELD

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

FOR THE GARDEN! FOR EXHIBITION!
FOR BEDS! FOR EVERYWHERE!

Also Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees, Alpines and Hardy Plants.

BUY HOME-GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries.

Catalogue Free on Application, and Addresses booked for Revised Catalogue in late Summer.

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.,
Garden Specialists - - SOUTHWELL, NOTTS

All Prices Reduced *All Prices Reduced*

SMITH'S
"PERFECT"
WEED KILLER
POWDER

Also in Liquid—All Sized Drums.
First Weed Killer ever offered and first ever since.

SMITH'S "PERFECT" NON-POISONOUS LIQUID AND POWDER

Best Value. Most Reliable. Full Satisfaction Guaranteed. Prices and Particulars of—

MARK SMITH, LTD., LOUTH, LINCOLNSHIRE

DAHLIAS.

STRONG PLANTS FROM 3in. POTS.

12 Cactus varieties - - 6/- 12 Collarette varieties - 6/-
12 Decorative varieties - 6/- 12 Star—Single varieties 7/-

DWARF BEDDING DAHLIAS.

12 Coltness Gem. 7/6 (56 - per 100) 12 Dunecht Yellow 7/6

CHRYSANTHEMUMS FOR THE GARDEN.

12 Fine varieties - - 4/- 12 Early Single varieties 4/-

ANTIRRHINUMS.

12 Nanum, mixed colours 1/6 12 Tom Thumb, mixed colours - - - 1/6

ZONAL PELARGONIUMS.

12 Double varieties - 7/6 12 Single varieties - 7/6
6 Cactus varieties - - - 4/-

Post paid for orders over 5/-, others 6d. extra. Catalogue free on application.

J. W. COLE & SON (Westwood Nurseries) PETERBOROUGH

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
— New Alpines and Perennials. Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
— Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
— Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
— Begonias, Delphiniums, Gloxinias, Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD,
CHELSEA, S.W.
— Seeds, Gladioli, Spiræas, List on Application

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
— Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
— Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
— Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
HULL
— Weed Destroyers, Fertilisers, Insecticides, Nets and Sundries

KILLS GREEN FLY
AND OTHER GARDEN PESTS.

READY FOR USE. All you have to do is to mix a level teaspoonful in two gallons of cold water and in a few minutes you have a supply of strong syringing liquor.

9d. per tube.

Large size 3/- (5 times the 9d. size.)

Of all Ironmongers, Seedsmen, Florists and Chemists or post free from:

THOS. CHRISTY & CO., 4-12, Old Swan Lane, London, E.C.4.

SITUATION VACANT.

WANTED HEAD WORKING GARDENER
FOR CASTLE HOWARD. The Kitchen Garden is ten acres in extent, with good dwelling house and fine range of glass. Capable, energetic man needed who can manage a market garden successfully.—Apply CHARLES LUCKHURST, Estate Office, Castle Howard, York, giving particulars of experience, wage required and sending (copies only) three testimonials.

A clean vapour

Even if efficient, fumigation that leaves the house stuffy for days is a nuisance. An hour or so's ventilation cleans away all trace of XL ALL Fumigating Compound—as certainly as its fumes clean away every pest. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen, florists and chemists.

XL ALL FUMIGATING COMPOUND

G. H. RICHARDS, LTD.
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
Monomark: BOM/XLALL.
B. 141.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

NETTINGS (REDUCED PRICES)

GARDEN NETS for fruit protection. Any length or width, corded all round.

New 1in. sq. mesh, stout ..	5d. per sq. yd.
New medium, 1 in. sq. mesh	4½d. " "
New ½ in. stout, sq. mesh ..	5½d. " "
New ½ in. medium, sq. mesh	4½d. " "
Best ½ in. salmon twine ..	7d. " "
Repaired 1in. stout sq. mesh	3d. " "
Repaired 1 in. sq. mesh ..	2½d. " "

NEW TENNIS BOUNDARY NETTING, roped all round.

Heavy hand braided ..	7d. per sq. yd.
Medium " " ..	6d. " "
Little lighter " ..	4½d. " "
Selected repaired ..	3d. " "

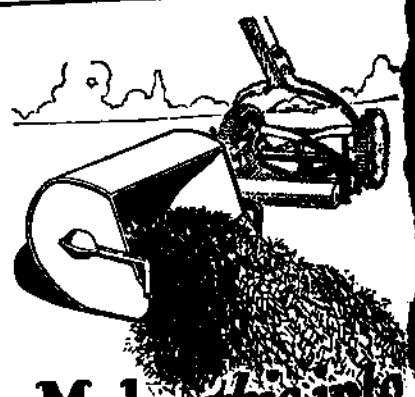
Any length or width supplied.

NEW TENNIS NETS, regulation size, various qualities, steel and copper head lines, 30/- to 35/- each.

DIAMOND NETS, measured mesh closed, Selected Repaired, small mesh, 25 yds. x 2 yds., 3s. 6d., or 4 yds., 7s. 6d., or 8 yds., 14s. Heavy quality, about 1½ mesh, 25 x 2 yds., 5s.; 4 yds., 10s.; 8 yds., £1, carriage paid per train; receipt order.

Satisfaction Guaranteed. Samples and full particulars from the Manufacturers: Mention THE GARDEN.

W. OLIVER ALLEN & SONS, Net Makers
Porthleven, Cornwall.



Make this into rich Manure

Lawn mowings, weeds, leaves, etc., should never be wasted. As your garden refuse accumulates, build it into a heap, treating each fresh addition of rubbish with—

ADCO

In a few months you will have a plentiful supply of rich organic fertiliser.
1 cwt. ADCO makes from 2-3 tons of MANURE according to the class of rubbish used.

ADCO ACCELERATOR
(for lawn mowings and soft green refuse)
28 lb., 4/6 ... 56 lb., 8/- ... 1 cwt., 15/-

STANDARD ADCO
(for all other rubbish, bracken and straw)
28 lb., 6/- ... 56 lb., 11/6 ... 1 cwt., 20/-
Carriage paid to nearest Goods Station. Cash with order.

Stocked by all leading Seedsmen, Harrods Ltd., etc.

ADCO LTD., HARPENDEN, HERTS.

THE NEW COMPLETE LIST *of* GARDEN BOOKS - published by "Country Life" *is* NOW READY

FREE ON APPLICATION TO THE PUBLISHERS
20, TAVISTOCK ST., COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2

CARNATIONS

for every
GARDEN & GREENHOUSE.

PERPETUAL CARNATIONS
PERPETUAL MALMAISONS.
PERPETUAL BORDER CARNATIONS.
BORDER CARNATIONS and
ALLWOODII (Half Pink—Half Carnation.)

For present or Autumn delivery. Fully illustrated and descriptive Catalogue sent post free on request to

The leading Carnation Raisers and Specialists in the World (Dept. 4).

Allwood Bros
HAYWARD'S HEATH.

FERTHRIVER (REGD.)

THE COMPLETE FERTILISER, WITH GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

	7-lb.	14-lb.	28-lb.	56-lb.	1-cwt.
Ferthriver	1/6	2/9	5/-	9/-	16/-
Bone Meal	1/6	2/9	5/-	9/-	16/-
Nitrate of Soda	1/8	3/-	6/-	11/-	21/-

Add the following extras for Carriage Paid lots.
1/- 1/9 2/- 2/8 4/-

ANALYSIS:

Ammonia -	4 per cent.
Phosphates	15 "
Potash - -	3 "
Pot. Sulphate -	5.6 "

3d. Tin of Ferthriver
As Illustrated,
6d. Post Free.

THE NECESSARIES CO.,
25, Edward Road,
Balsall Heath, BIRMINGHAM.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

Send for

WEBBS' SPECIAL LIST OF FLOWER SEEDS—including Aquilegia, Cheiranthus, Wall-flowers, Calceolarias, Cinerarias, Schizanthus, etc.—and Vegetable Seeds, for Summer Sowing. Post free on request.—WEBB AND SONS, LIMITED, The King's Seedsmen, Stourbridge.

WATERER'S GOLD MEDAL RHODODENDRONS, Azaleas, rare Hardy Shrubs, Alpine and Perennial Plants, Vegetable and Flower Seeds. Catalogues free. Bedding Plants now ready, containing the best in Dahlias and Seeds for Summer sowing.—JOHN WATERER, SONS AND CRISP, LIMITED, Bagshot and Bracknell, Berks; Bagshot, Surrey; and London.

HIMALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODENDRONS on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and Alpine Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write for Catalogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

WELLS' CATALOGUE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS will be sent post free on application.—W. WELLS AND CO., Merstham, Surrey.

OAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE.—The original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See advert. on back page.

W. M. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., Lawrence Road, South Tottenham, N.15.—Conservatories, Winter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

BIRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUNDIALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—GORDONS, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

FENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Garden Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE ASHLEY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, Surrey.

GROWERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Standards, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

NAIL WRITES WEBSTER'S LABELS write on metal, can't fade or break. 20 sizes to hang or stand.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

CASCADE WONDER NOZZLES spread or syringe, dirt don't choke, no taking off, not mislaid, fit any can. Post free.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

WIRE NETTING.—From 2/5 per 50yd. roll. Largest House in the Kingdom. Write us for prices for thousands of rolls stocked.

TENTS.—Army Bell, all complete, new fittings, 9 ft. walls. Scout, Bathing, and Garden Tents, also Marquees. Write us for prices.

DEFY THE BIRDS.—Rotless Tanned Nets, small mesh, as supplied by us to the Royal Gardens. In two Qualities 50 x 1yd., 3/6, 4/-, 6/9; 2yds., 7/-, 8/-, 3yds., 10/6, 12/-, 20/3; 4yds., 14/-, 16/-, 27/-; 25 x 1, 14-, 16/-, 27/-. Any size supplied. Carriage paid. Approval. Measured mesh closed.

TENNIS BOUNDARY NETTING.—Lines top and bottom. 25 x 2yds., 16/3; 3yds., 18/3; 4yds., 25/3 Carriage paid. Approval. Standards for fixing to, also Playing Posts and all requisites supplied.

GARDEN BARROWS.—Full size. 8 spokes. Best value in the kingdom, 24/9. Painted, 28/3.

LAWN MOWERS.—Five Riveted Blades. Rubber Wheels. Brass Bushings. Close Cutting. Highly Finished. Unequalled Value. 8in., 23/-; 10in., 24/-; 12in., 25/-; 14in., 27/6. Grass Boxes, 8/6 each. Garden Rollers, 30/-.

RABBIT NETTING.—Tanned, Superior Quality. 2in. mesh, 6ft. wide, 6d. yard. Carriage paid 12yds. and over. Other widths *pro rata*, prices of smaller meshes on application. E. B. HAWTHORN, LIMITED, Dept. E, Shrewsbury.

BARR'S SEEDS FOR JUNE SOWING.—For VEGETABLE AND FLOWER GARDEN, ROCK GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE. Finest Selected Strains and Tested Growth. Special Lists Free.—BARR AND SONS, 11, 12, and 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760 yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

FLAME FLOWER. (Tropæolum speciosum). Extra strong established pot plants of this loveliest of scarlet flowered perennial climbers ready for planting any time now 1/- each, 6 for 5/-, 12 for 10/-, carriage paid for cash with order.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED, Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
Editorial : Tidy Trees and Shrubs	343
Editorial Notes	344
A Little Pink and Grey Garden	345
The Value of Foliage.—I	346
Some Primulas of the Western Alps	347
Guidance for Exhibitors	348
Notes on Daffodils	349
Notes of the Week	350-352
An Alpine Wallflower ; Hardy Tamarisks ; The Scarborough Lily ; Flowering Hawthorns ; Some Hardy Lady's Slippers ; Gentiana verna ; The Right Way to Cut Flowers ; A Selection of Vincas ; Autumn Tints in May.	
Correspondence	353-354
Darwin and May-flowering Tulips ; Gooseberry Pests ; The Cultivation of Cinerarias ; Gardening in Vancouver's Island , Cape Bulbs in the Open ; Plant Nomenclature.	
Garden Technique	354-357
Saxifraga Elizabethæ ; Layering Border Carnations ; Violas ; Zonal Pelargoniums ; Treatment of Seedling Primulas ; Tomato Plants Under Glass ; Care of Fruit in the Cold House ; Potato Crops ; Sprouting Broccoli ; Sow More Spinach ; The Weed Problem ; Spraying ; Hedge Trimming and Management ; The Value of Hoeing ; Repairing a Watering Pot ; Stone Ornaments and Furniture ; The Carbolineum Washes.	
Gardening of the Week	358

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL DELPHINIUMS and ROSES. Send a postcard for our catalogue.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S CHOICE DAFFODILS AND TULIPS and other Bulbs. Bulb catalogue will be ready in July and will be sent free on application.—"Order early and Plant early" to avoid disappointment.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

DOBBIE'S PLANT CATALOGUE now ready. Free to all readers. Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.—DOBBIE AND CO., LIMITED, Edinburgh.

BARGAINS ! ! !—Ideal Wire for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded, and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses, from 19/6 mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 355, Albert Street, Lytham.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BRATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

GARDEN NETS.—Best tanned, small mesh; 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 25yds. by 3yds., 6/-; 25yds. by 4yds., 8/-. Carr. Paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Tennis nets from 10/-. Special nets for tennis boundary. Pea training nets. Lists and samples free.—G. JARRETT, Netmaker, Rye.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING.—Best selected nets, small mesh only supplied. 50yds. long, 4yds. wide, 14/-; 25 x 8yds., 14/-; 100 x 2yds., 14/-; 25 x 4yds., 7/-; 25 x 3yds., 5/-. Any size to order; all sent carriage paid.—W. GOULDEY, Walmer Road, South Lowestoft.

ROCK AND ALPINE PLANTS.—Large and varied collection. All pot grown. Packed and carriage paid. Catalogue free.—M. J. PIGGOTT, Duffield, Nr. Derby.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING, small mesh: 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 40yds. by 1yd., 3/3; 40yds. by 2yds., 6/6; 40yds. by 3yds., 9/9. Measured mesh closed. Special Pea Netting supplied. Tennis Nets from 8/-. Carriage Paid. Compare our netting with others. Sports lists and samples free.—GALLOP, Net Manufacturer, Hastings.

HERRING NETS, Small Mesh, to protect all kinds of fruit, approximately 80ft x 30ft., 12/6 each. Smaller pieces, 5/- and 6/6, good value. Carriage paid. Cash with order.—WM. G. GRIGOR, Port Gordon Station, Banffshire.

LOOK ! TANNED GARDEN NETS.—All orders dispatched same day. 25yds. by 1yd, 2/-; 25 by 2, 4/-; 25 by 3, 6/-. Odd netting for bushes, 6lbs. for 2/6. All carriage paid. Any sizes supplied. Also Tennis Boundary Nets.—MOORE AND CO., Net Works, Rye.

NATIVE PLANTS FOR YOUR GARDEN.—Write for list of "Wild Garden" and other plants.—NATIVE PLANT NURSERIES, Rockbeare, Exeter.

CISTUS (ROCK ROSE).—Strong young plants from 5/- per dozen.—NATIVE PLANT NURSERIES, Rockbeare, Exeter.

A CATALOGUE of gardening books will be sent free on application to "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

RARE PRIMULA AND ALPINE SEEDS from large (2,000) collection. Also seedlings and plants. Lists free.—REV. J. F. ANDERSON, Glen Hall, Leicester.

SINKS FOR ROCK GARDENS.—A large quantity of Glazed Earthenware Sinks in various sizes is available for disposal, suitable for use in Rock Gardens, etc.—Apply ROADS AND COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER, Evelyn House, Salisbury.

LEEK PLANTS.—Strong plants of our famous Giant Musselburgh now ready, 1/9 per 100, c.w.o., free by post, low quotations for large quantities. Price lists free.—DICKSONS, 20, Charlotte Square, Edinburgh.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING—"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

J·P SUPER

From an ex-Captain of the M.C.C. and County Football XI. :—
"For two years I have been using your machine on my tennis courts, your J.P. Super can give any other lawn mower thirty yards start in a hundred, and a beating."

From a Colonel :—
"I swear by your Lawn Mower, whereas I used to swear at my old fashioned one."

From a Gardener :—
"All are greatly impressed by its efficiency and simplicity of adjustment compared with any other."

J.P. SUPER LAWN-MOWERS LTD.,
Meynell Rd., Leicester

free
Send post card for Booklet "G" and be convinced. Your Ironmonger or Seedsman will demonstrate machine.

"THE GARDEN" Sweet Pea Competition

Name.....

Address.....

.....

1 .....

2 .....

3 .....

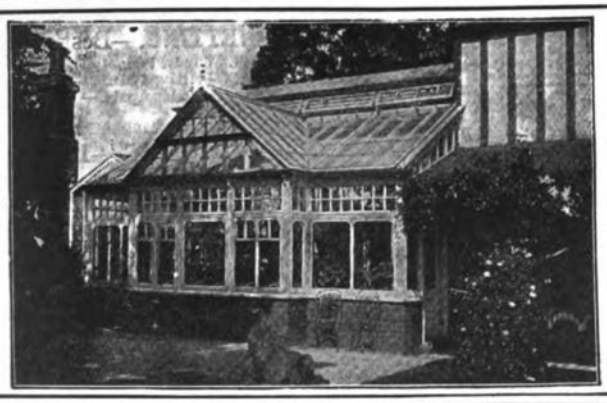
4 .....

5 .....

6 .....

Coupon June 19th

CUT OUT AROUND LINE.



FOSTER & PEARSON LIMITED

Established 1841

Please write for Estimates for durable Greenhouses, Boilers, etc., to

BEESTON NOTTS

BY APPOINTMENT

FERTILIZERS for the garden

Better, bigger crops will more than repay the cost of Fertilizers.
Illustrated Catalogue of Fertilizers for all garden crops, with full instructions, from

JOSEPH FISON & CO LTD IPSWICH

THE LEADING GLASS HOUSE FUMIGANT

THOUSANDS OF TOMATO CROPS ENTIRELY SAVED
No alterations needed since first introduced.
Be satisfied with the best, it is the cheapest in the end.
Commended by the Royal Horticultural Society.

Cubic ft.	1,000	2,000	4,000	8,000	16,000	32,000	64,000
	10d.	**1/3**	**2/-**	**3/6**	**6/-**	**10/6**	**19/-**

Also in 2, 5 and 10 gall. FREE drums;
ALSO

"NIQUAS"

THE INSECTICIDE.

(Non-poisonous.)

For destroying Greenfly, Aphis and Caterpillars etc., on all plants and trees.

30 years' reputation.
Many hundreds of Testimonials received.

Equal to any, if not better, and cheaper, so why not use it and save money?

½-pt.	1 pt.	1 qt.	½-gall.	1 gall.	2 gall.	5 gall.	10 gall.
1/-	**1/6**	**2/6**	**4/-**	**7/6**	**15/-**	**25/-**	**45/-**

CORRY'S CONCENTRATED QUASSIA EXTRACT

½-pt.	1 pt.	1 qt.	½-gall.	1 gall.	2 gall.	5 gall.	10 gall.
9d.	**1/3**	**2/-**	**3/6**	**6/6**	**12/6**	**23/-**	**42/-**

Sold by Nurserymen and Seedsmen.

CORRY & CO, Ltd., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

"ACME" WEED KILLER

Awarded Gold Medal at Anglo-American Exhibition and Bronze Medal by Royal Horticultural Society.
Has stood the test of over 30 years.

POWDER.—No. 1 Tin makes 25 gals., **3/-**; postage 9d. No. 2, 50 gals., **6/-**; postage 9d. Carriage paid on No. 4, which makes 150 gals., **15/-**.

LIQUID.—1 gal. to 50 gals. water. 1 gal., **6/-**; 2 gals., **10/6**; carriage paid on 5 gals., **25/-**.

NON-POISONOUS.—No. 1 Tin makes 6 gals., **1/6** post free; No. 2, 12 gals., **2/3** post free; No. 4, 50 gals., **7/-** post free.

LAWN SAND

destroys weeds and moss in grass and fertilizes the lawn. No other manure necessary.
14 lbs., **4/-**; 28 lbs., **7/-**; 56 lbs., **13/-**; 1 cwt., **25/-**. Carriage paid on 1 cwt.

EXTRACT OF QUASSIA INSECTICIDE

1 gallon, **5/-**; Drum, **1/6**; Carriage paid on 5 gallons, **4/6** per gallon; Drum, **4/-**. Pint, **2/6**, post free. Drums allowed for when returned.

QUASSIA-TOBACCO INSECTICIDE

Pint, **2/6**; quart, **3/9** post free. 1 gallon, **8/6**; Drum, **1/6**. Carriage paid on 5 gallons and upwards.

The Acme Chemical Co., Ltd.,
TONBRIDGE, KENT.

By Appointment.

RANSOMES' LAWN MOWERS

"The Best in the World."

HAND LAWN MOWERS OF ALL TYPES.

"Automaton Minor."
The Best Light Roller Machines.
Gear or Chain Drive as preferred.

ALSO

MOTOR, HORSE, PONY AND DONKEY MOWERS.

PROMPT DELIVERY.

Write for List No. 111 to
RANSOMES, SIMS & JEFFERIES, LTD.
ORWELL WORKS, IPSWICH.

Sold by all Ironmongers and Seedsmen.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

VOL. XC.—No. 2846. JUNE 19, 1926

TIDY TREES AND SHRUBS

A READER has written to the Service Department of THE GARDEN asking if clipping and grooming trees and shrubs is justified. Frankly, I have been unable to give him a satisfactory answer. I suppose it is largely a matter of taste; whether you prefer tidiness and neatness to natural growth. Of course, it can be carried to extremes, like everything else in gardens. One famous gardener invariably carries a pair of secateurs with him and snips here and snips there as he goes around his garden. The consequence is that his shrubs look wonderfully spruce and well kept, but rather too well barbered to my way of thinking. At the other extreme is the man who has a horror of cutting anything and who imagines that if he leaves a plant alone it will grow in exactly the same shape as it does in a wild state. His love of the natural is over-developed, since he forgets that a plant in cultivation may, of its own accord, grow in a very different fashion from its wild relative. This applies to every class of plant whether it be alpine, herbaceous or shrub.

It must be remembered that clipping and grooming differs entirely from pruning and thinning. The latter is often necessary in order to get the best results, in the same way as a rose or carnation is disbudded; the former is a method of making a plant conform to "civilised" gardening. Oddly enough, the grooming of a hedge is often slackly carried out; for here is a way of growing trees and shrubs in a purely artificial manner that must look artificial if it is to be successful. Nothing looks better than a well trimmed holly or yew hedge, and nothing looks more slovenly when neglected. Incidentally, training a hedge is not so easy as many people imagine, if it is to remain clothed to its base. One reason is that the top growth is spared too much so as to give immediate height. Hedges are better clothed if the shears are used regularly and rigorously and enlargement is allowed to be slow.

It is undoubtedly true that plants in gardens often vary from their wild form. They have more room in which to grow, better soil and better light, so the case of the man who leaves everything severely alone falls to the ground. Just one instance of this: there is a birch that comes from Korea called Betula Schmidtii, which Mr. Wilson describes as a tree up to 60ft. having a short stout trunk. Now every plant that I have seen in this country has this short trunk so accentuated that it grows in bush form branched to the ground. True, most of them are small as yet, but it is undoubtedly growing as a bush in this country. As few people have any use for bush birches in this country, owing to the large amount of room they take up, here is obviously a case for trimming the lower branches and definitely clipping it in order to give it some height. An example of the opposite can also be given. Most of the dwarf rhododendrons in the wilds form carpets often under 12ins. in height. Here, owing to cultivation and different climatic conditions, they often grow to bushes 3ft. in height and straggly at that, a totally unnatural condition. In this case I maintain that one is perfectly justified in clipping them and pinching them to a more reasonable size. I do this frequently with young plants, with the consequence that they break at the side instead of aping their tree relatives, with a bushier and happier growth.

What should happen is that each plant should be judged on its individual merits. If any rules could be given they might run something like this, though doubtless many will disagree with me:

1.—Evergreens can be trimmed with greater chance of neatness than deciduous without spoiling their natural appearance.

2.—The smaller and neater the leaf the more of a shape can be given to the tree or shrub.

3.—The larger the leaf the more must it be left to its own devices.

4.—No shrubs with whippy or arching branches can be trimmed.

5.—Before any trimming is attempted, find out if the flowers come on the new or the old wood—a very important consideration where any cutting is attempted.

6.—The same applies to trees and shrubs that produce their flowers at the tips of the branches.

It is certainly the case that an occasional trim up will save overcrowding and plants growing into each other, a most annoying thing when they are too big to transplant with safety. On the other hand, inconsiderate and careless barbering will not only remove many potential flowering shoots, but will also form plants in too symmetrical and shapely fashion. They will all look too much alike in shape, and uniformity is tiresome.

E. H. M. C.

OUR SWEET PEA COMPETITION

£50

IN PRIZES

(See page vi.)

IF YOU LIKE "THE GARDEN," REMEMBER TO TELL YOUR FRIENDS ABOUT IT.

Digitized by Google

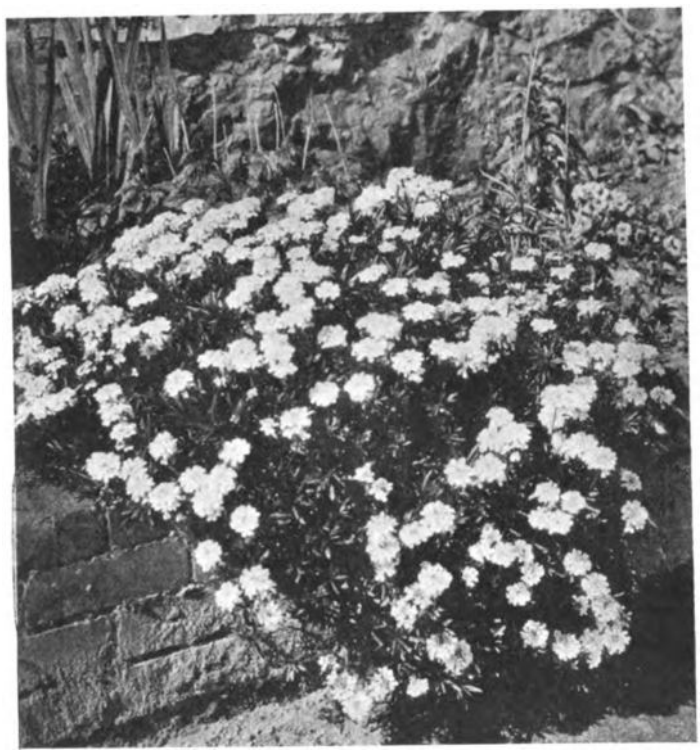
THE GARDEN

JUNE 19, 1926

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.; Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.

Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2.
Offices for Advertisements: 6-11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

WORTHY PLANTS.—IV



IBERIS SEMPERVIRENS.

IT may seem to many a little strange that Iberis sempervirens should be raised to the exalted position in this column as a worthy plant. It is true, it may be considered common by the majority of enthusiastic gardeners; but is it so widely grown in the gardens of this country as it deserves? It can certainly be found scattered here and there in gardens; but in the smaller suburban gardens which are springing up round our large industrial areas it is absent, or nearly so. It is on this account, therefore, that we desire to draw attention to its merits. The iberids as a whole contain a number of fine garden plants, of which this species and corriæfolia are the two most outstanding. If given a situation which is dry, sunny and well drained, in light soil, it thrives for years without further trouble. Flowering commences, generally, in late spring and continues spasmodically throughout the summer, while the plants seed themselves copiously, and in addition, the stems, if broken off from the parent clump, root readily where conditions are suitable. There are many garden forms of this species, known under various names, such as Little Gem, Snow Queen and various others, and all form neat-growing clumps wreathed in a sheet of white blossom during the summer, which is made all the more dazzling when viewed in full sun. It soon makes a spreading and rather flattish bushy growth of a couple of yards or even more across and rarely more than 9ins. high. The foliage is of a rather dark-toned green, and is almost completely hidden from view when the heads of white flowers appear. It is a plant which should find a place in every garden, with its rich and sumptuous beauty. Still another point in its favour is the fact that it is most accommodating. It can be used for general effect as an attractive edging to a bedding scheme, or to a path or steps; while in the rock garden and rock wall it is unsurpassed for sprawling over vantage points such as corner rocks or sunny corners, which gain in beauty and appearance both in summer and winter.

WITHIN recent years many of the gardens in this country have been enriched to some considerable extent by representatives of the New Zealand flora, in alpines, trees and shrubs. Among the trees there is one genus which would seem to have drawn to it many enthusiasts, namely, the nothofagus, or the Southern Hemisphere Beech. Of the New Zealand representatives there are probably three, N. Menziesii, N. cliffortioides and N. fusca in cultivation in this country. The two former are fairly widely distributed and have attained a medium height, while the latter, as yet, is only beyond the nursery stage. All three, however, seem to take kindly to conditions in our gardens, although none is over hardy. It may be interesting, therefore, to those who are taking up the cultivation of these trees to hear of a recent publication which has reached our hands from Dr. L. Cockayne, who has, by the way, contributed articles on the New Zealand flora to THE GARDEN on several occasions. This work, a monograph on the New Zealand Beech Forests is written by Dr. Cockayne and was undertaken by him at the request of the New Zealand State Forest Service. So far, only Part I has been published, which deals primarily with the ecology of the forests and the classification of the Southern Beeches. Growers of nothofagus in this country will find plenty in the pages which is interesting and helpful. Much of the work, however, is principally concerned with forestry, since the beech is one of the chief timber trees of New Zealand and a thorough knowledge and understanding of its nature, habits and requirements are necessary before anything like accurate methods can be practised with an ultimate view to successful commercial exploitation.

AFTER a brief description of the beech forests, Dr. Cockayne puts forward a suggested classification of the species, together with descriptions, and a key which all gardeners who are interested in the genus, as well as foresters, will find of great assistance in identification. The species which he considers valid are the following five: N. Menziesii, N. fusca, N. truncata, N. Solandri and N. cliffortioides. Others which may previously have held specific rank, such as N. Blairii, he considers as hybrids, of which, apparently, there are many existing between the five species. The recognition of species is, on the whole, easy, as each has definite characteristics of which the most pronounced is the leaf character. A detailed account is given of each species, together with figures and illustrations and also descriptions of many hybrid forms. Some interesting observations are made on seedling and juvenile hybrids, when one interesting fact emerges: The short twigs which are so frequently put out from the naked trunks of many of our trees are really reversion shoots and indicate the leaf form of the young sapling when it was that height. This fact would seem to make the recognition of juvenile hybrids a matter of at least some certainty. Section III deals chiefly with the distribution in New Zealand of the various species and some consideration is given to the probable origin of the genus, which is principally of botanical interest. On the whole it is an interesting work and gardeners who are keen on these tall, symmetrical and handsome trees, which are now beginning to grace our gardens, would be well advised to give it a little study, as it will make the growing of the plants all the more interesting once something of their history is known.

THE Royal Horticultural Society intends to carry out a trial of freesias in its gardens at Wisley during the coming season, and it is desired that all those who are interested raisers should send corms to the Director. Five corms of each variety should be sent in order to reach the Director, R.H.S. Gardens, Wisley, Ripley, Surrey, on or before July 15th, 1926. The necessary entry forms can be obtained on application to him at Wisley.

AMONG THE ARTICLES IN OUR NEXT ISSUE WILL BE:

THE VALUE OF FOLIAGE—II, by John Hill.

A NOTE ON LUPINS.

Digitized by Google

A LITTLE PINK AND GREY GARDEN

How one can be made by the selection and combination of flowers whose colours harmonise.

THE paved path leading to the pink and grey garden has been given a little twist, like an elongated "S" to give it a certain air of antiquity. The silver thyme edging encroaches on the stones, and close to it a border of small pink daisies is planted, the kind called "Dresden China," a name so descriptive of their delicate charm. Two almond trees guard the entrance to the garden, and each spring these are covered with a wealth of pink blossom. A little grey gate leads into the garden through a bower of clematis with pale pink flowers (C. montana rubens).

Running through the centre of the garden there is a long pergola of pink climbing roses and ramblers, such as the American Pillar rose and Dorothy Perkins. Beneath, edging the beds on either hand, is a ribbon of pink thrift, with its fine tussocks of grey-green leaves. Behind this the real old-fashioned pink displays its silver foliage throughout the year and in due course its pretty pink flowers add fragrance to the walk.

Behind the low edging plants the pink flowers are arranged in bold masses with every here and there a plant of more imposing dimensions to break up the even appearance of the beds.

A few tulip bulbs are introduced among the other plants, such varieties as Cottage Maid for early flowering and the old favourite Clara Butt among the tall May-flowering Darwins. A few pink hyacinths might also be planted at intervals, but they are rather stiff for an informal little garden like this.

Here are pink stocks with pleasant grey foliage, and snapdragons of the palest pink intermingled with those of darker rose. Then there are clarkias set off by the grey foliage of Veronica incana, a sprinkling of Shirley poppies, and sweet williams filling some of the smaller spaces towards the front. Godetias of every shade of pink add their colour to the middle of the borders, also mallows and their cousins, the lavateras, and cosmeas, which are rapidly becoming great favourites among gardeners. Great clumps of pink border carnations

ARTEMISIAS AND SNAPDRAGONS MAKE AN EFFECTIVE COMBINATION.

A PLEASANT ASSOCIATION OF NEPETA AND ANTIRRHINUMS.

with their grey leaves to set the flowers off to the best advantage add their perfume to the air. Pentstemons of pale coral pink and those of rather darker shades are mixed with French lavender to form a contrast. Later on the lovely verbenas and the stiff, artificial looking zinnias are to be found in the beds. Rather taller the lovely long-spurred columbines of every combination of pink with other delicate colours rise from their beautiful grey-green leaves. Farther back the pink lupins are planted alternately with lavender which, however, is frequently renewed so as to prevent it becoming too woody and straggly. Then there are the annual larkspurs, both the single ones and the double stock-flowered kind. This latter has a very fine rose colour. The perennial phloxes take their place rather far back and form great masses of different shades of pink. Lilium speciosum rising from a carpet of catmint (Nepeta Mussini), opens its graceful bells, which show off well against the grey foliage of the catmint and blend with the mauve flowers of this little plant. Pink Canterbury bells planted near the lupins are ready to take their place when the lupins are over. For late summer and autumn we have the chrysanthemums, Japanese anemones and gladioli, such as the Prince of Wales or Maiden's Blush for a primulinus variety. Earlier, the small pink gladiolus with the very becoming name of Blushing Bride has flowered and passed. Right at the back of the beds the stately pink hollyhocks are to be found, both the double and the single kinds.

Among the plants of more imposing dimensions placed here and there in the borders are the newer pink peonies, with their great flowers nodding in the sun, a great improvement on the old purplish-red peony of years gone by, which has now been banished from the gardens of connoisseurs. In the early spring there is a plant or two of the bleeding heart (Dielytra spectabilis), an old cottage favourite, which has on this account acquired many a quaint name, often quite local in character. It is known as Our Lady's Necklace or Locket, Dutchman's Breeches, and in Devon it is sometimes called the Pocket Lily. A few old-fashioned pink cabbage roses, with their fragrance, a moss rose or two and a bush of sweet

Digitized by Google

briar, add an old world charm to the little pink garden. In a moist corner of the garden the pink spiræa unfurls its plumes; we must no longer call this spiræa, however, it is to be known as astilbe in future. Close by there is a pink broom, the grey green of its feathery leaves looks well all the year through, but when the pink flowers are there it is entrancing.

Dotted about the borders are little circles of sweet peas, each one different. Four of the best are Elegance, Picture, Annie Ireland and Countess Spencer.

At the end of the little pink and grey garden there is a low grey stone wall, over which all manner of small plants are allowed to grow, the pink flowers of one mingling with the grey foliage of another. Behind these smaller plants a row of dwarf polyantha roses bounds the garden.

Of the smaller plants let us see what is here. Pink sun roses, rock roses with grey leaves and pale pink flowers, soapwort (Saponaria ocymoides), a pink waterfall, next to which the grey-leaved Cerastium tomentosum is planted.

Then there are several members of the pink family, a beautiful little geranium (G. Traversii), with pink flowers and silver leaves; it hails from New Zealand. Oxalis rosea, which only opens its flowers if the sun shines. A dwarf evening primrose (Œnothera rosea), with large pink flowers and the pink heucheras, with which are planted the mountain cudweed (Antennaria dioica), it has pink flowers and lovely woolly leaves like those of the eidelweiss. Lastly, a few of the better pink mossy saxifrages are tucked in at the edge of the stones.

If the pink and grey garden were only a little bigger we might have hedged it around with flowering shrubs and trees, such as rhododendrons, weigelas, flowering currants, may and peach trees. What a number there are if space permitted to mention them all.

EDWARD CAHEN.

THE VALUE OF FOLIAGE—I

THAT the flowers in a garden are of great importance cannot be denied; but what of foliage—is not this of rather greater importance, serving as it does as foil or background to very many of the flowers? Further, foliage is at certain seasons almost our only source of beauty. In the general planting schemes of to-day every attention is paid to the arrangement of colour in flowers; but how often is the same degree of care applied in regard to foliage?

For the purpose of my articles I have divided certain trees and shrubs into definite groups; but as all, to my mind, claim equal attention, it becomes difficult to know where to start; but to many, variegation springs to mind. It certainly plays an important part in foliage schemes, and here again I will divide variegation into evergreen and deciduous sub-sections. Taking evergreens, ilex, I think, should come first. This family embraces some of the hardiest and most attractive evergreens we have; in fact, the large number of golden and silver varieties makes it more than difficult to select, say, only half a dozen varieties. One of the sturdiest and most brilliantly coloured is Ilex Aquifolium Golden King. This is closely followed by a rather finer-leaved variety, I. A. mediopicta aurea, known in nurseries as Golden Milkmaid. A holly rather out of the ordinary is I. A. ferox aurea, or the "Golden Hedgehog Holly," its foliage being more or less covered with spines. A good and first-class ilex of silvery hue is the beautiful Silver Queen, I. A. argentea regina. There are several weeping forms, and good trees of these are one of the greatest ornaments to a garden, especially when laden with masses of brilliant berries. I consider the best variegated weeping forms of Ilex Aquifolium to be Perry's Weeping, I. A. argentea marginata pendula, and the Golden Weeping Holly, I. A. aurea pendula. I will not mention more ilexes in this sub-section, but I may say that a host of beautiful varieties are easily obtainable.

Another very hardy subject is Taxus. Here again there are several outstanding varieties with elegant, but neat, golden and silver foliage, and, like the ilex, they adapt themselves to almost any position, graceful specimens for the lawn, even for hedges—in fact, the uses to which they can be put are of the widest scope. Taxus baccata contains the best varieties: they are the "Irish yew." T. b. fastigiata aurea and T. b. fastigiata argentea; T. b. elegantissima and T. b. alba variegata, the best golden and silver forms of the English yew. All the above are particularly bright and attractive.

For those who can grow peat-loving subjects there are two plants, both extremely beautiful but seldom seen growing to perfection; nevertheless, both, in good soil, are excellent growers. They are the variegated forms of Andromeda japonica and Rhododendron ponticum. Where there is room for many beautiful things the ligustrums should not be overlooked, as there are a few very brightly variegated, not least among them being our old friend, L. ovalifolium aureum; this, when kept nicely trimmed, makes a splendid pyramid of several feet in height. Other good forms are L. lucidum tricolor, L. l. aureo-variegatum and L. sinense foliis aureis variegatis. A beautiful and most useful little subject for groundwork for edgings or to beds or shrubberies is Hypericum Moserianum tricolor. Another of dwarf growth—*i.e.*, up to 3ft. or 4ft.—is Skimmia japonica variegata.

THE BEAUTIFUL FOLIAGE OF ILEX AQUIFOLIUM MEDIO-PICTA AUREA, THE "GOLDEN MILKMAID."

There is just one aucuba I must mention, and I consider it quite the best of a beautiful group It is A. crotonensis. It has magnificent foliage most brilliantly variegated and is well worth a place in the cold conservatory.

I will conclude my evergreens by mentioning just a few of the brightest, easiest grown and most easily obtainable conifers, as they in themselves form a very important colour group. Some of the cheaper forms—which, by the way, are quite good things—make excellent hedges or windbreaks. Taxus I have already recommended; but first in importance comes the cupressus, and of the cupressus, Lawson's Cypress. This species contains a wide range of beautiful and graceful growing trees. All are quite hardy and will grow in any good garden

Digitized by Google

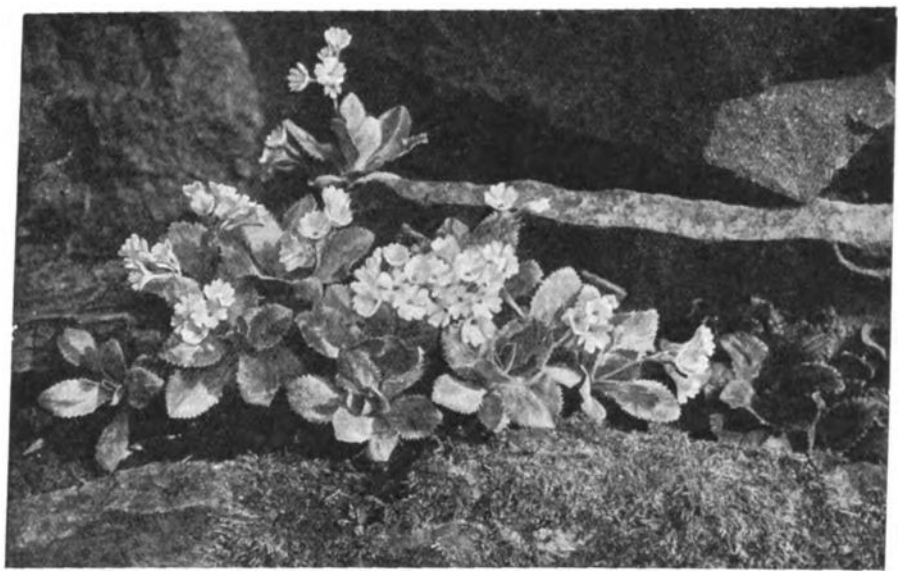
soil, but the golden forms are not too happy on chalky loams. I consider the finest variegated forms of Cupressus Lawsoniana to be C. L. Westermannii, gracilis aurea, alba-variegata, aurea-variegata and lutea; two other good golden varieties are Stewartii and Hillieri, both of which also belong to Lawson's group. Cupressus obtusa (retinospora of gardens) gives us some most brilliant things, as C. o. gracilis aurea, C. o. aurea and C. o. tetragona aurea. Cupressus pisifera also adds its quota in giving us C. p. filifera aurea, a beautiful subject for a specimen tree, with long golden thong-like shoots which, in the young stages, are quite pendulous, and C. p. plumosa aurea.

There are many golden and silver forms among abies, junipers, etc., many of which are of exceptional beauty and, moreover, quite easy to grow, and when grown in conjunction with other evergreens and deciduous subjects cannot fail to enhance the beauty of the shrubbery. JOHN HILL.

SOME PRIMULAS OF THE WESTERN ALPS

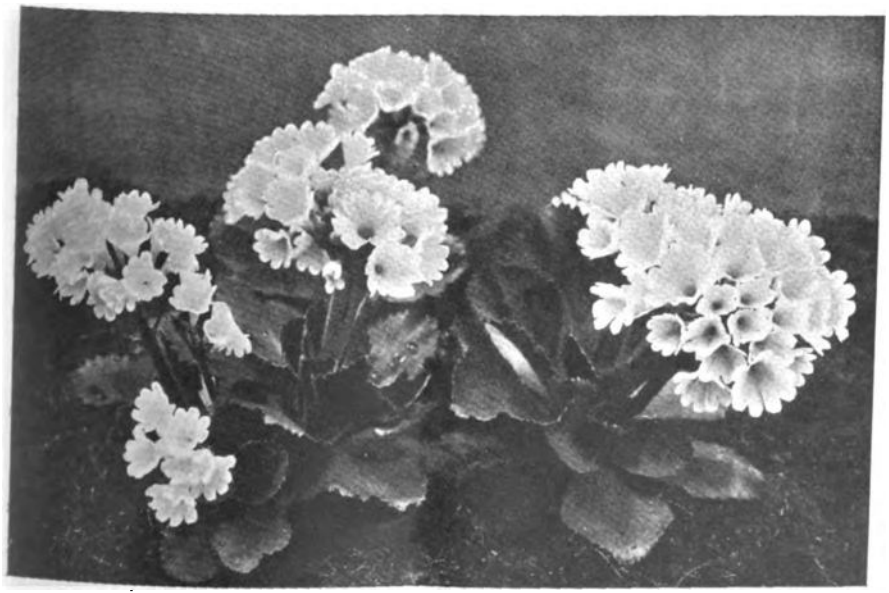
THERE is a confusion about Primula viscosa because two very different kinds of primulas bear that name. The Index Kewensis gives the viscosa of Allionii as correct, while in horticulture we call it latifolia or graveolens. In gardens the P. hirsuta of Allionii is called viscosa. Both plants are quite different from each other. The first one, P. viscosa (All.) has long glutinous, yellowish green leaves. The stem of the plant is thick and sometimes 8ins. to 10ins. long; the flowers are narrow and trumpet shaped, of a vinous violet lilac. It belongs to the central and western Alps and to the Pyrenees, always growing in the northern fissures or at the base of the granitic rocks in good deep leaf-mould.

P. hirsuta (All.) is a variable and polymorphic plant growing only on north faces or shady granitic walls of the Alps and the Pyrenees. It is one of the first to flower in the spring and, here at least, at Floraire, we have it just after P. marginata in early March. In catalogues this primula is known by the name of viscosa. This must be rectified if we are to have a correct nomenclature in our gardens. It is a dwarf plant, not exceeding 2ins. to 4ins., with broad, dentate, short and viscid leaves. The flowers vary from the brightest carmine to pure white. In some parts of the Alps, where the granitic rocks are adjoining lime or slate, the plant crosses easily with P. auricula, which is the calcareous primula *par excellence*. And there, it is possible to find in half an hour many of the forms which have been published under different names by some botanists.



ONE OF THE MARVELS OF EARLY SPRING, P. MARGINATA AS A CREVICE PLANT.

P. marginata, one of the marvels of early spring, adorns the cliffs in the Maritime Alps and in the western Alps as far as Mont Genèvre. It is the first to bloom in our gardens and from the month of February till end of March, or even April, it produces its pleasant lavender lilac flowers, slightly powdered with white. They form a large head on a stem of 3ins. to 10ins. long and the leaves are themselves a delicate feature, being thick and grey, very elegantly toothed and framed with a silver or golden meal. The whole is borne on a woody trunk, often very long (I have seen in the upper part of the Gorges du Cians, some measuring more than 1ft.), which gives the plant an aspect of a little shrub. Hence the name of "Primevère en arbre" it bears in France. The plant is one of the easiest to grow and seeds abundantly here. It only wants a fissure in the rockery or in a shady wall. It is variable both in colour of flower and in shape of leaf.



P. HIRSUTA WHICH FAVOURS SHADY GRANITE WALLS.

P. pedemontana is another beauty of the granitic rocks of the western alps, which is not common. It belongs to the Cottian and Grayan Alps, from the Col du Mont-Genèvre to the Val d'Aosta, including the Cenis. It is distinct from the viscosa group by its dark green and reddish, oval pointed shining leaves, surrounded with brown hairs; the flowers are of a rich carmine pink, with a clear white eye, borne on a scape of 3ins. to 5ins., thick and brownish. It flowers in April-May and wants a shady wall or the north-east side of a rockery.

P. cottia is the eastern form of P. villosa, a plant peculiar to the Austrian Alps. This is covered with a darker fur and has deep pink flowers. The P. cottia, from the Cottian alps at the north-east side of the Monte-Viso, differs from villosa by its shorter and smaller leaves, its shorter stem and larger flowers. The plant always grows on shady granitic rocks or walls. I once found a pure white form which I have lost. It is one of the

Digitized by Google

best of the hirsuta group and one of the earliest to bloom.

P. Allionii, from the high calcareous walls of the Roya Valley, is one of the gems of the alpine flora. I cannot describe the sight of the cliffs between San Dalmazzo and Fontan in the months of February-March when they are made brilliant by the pink carpet of these stemless primroses. They form dense cushions of small, round and greyish leaves which are often quite covered and veiled by the flowers. The plant is confined to the upper Roya Valley, but is very abundant on the highest, inaccessible cliffs.

It is easy to cultivate in our limestone at Floraire and grows equally well in granite. It only requires a half shady situation and a perpendicular position.

HENRY CORREVON.

GUIDANCE FOR EXHIBITORS

An article for the amateur who intends exhibiting at forthcoming summer shows.

A VERY ambitious title has been selected for a comparatively small set of notes, which probably will fail to live up to their heading, yet prove of some use to the would-be exhibitor.

Firstly, let me explain that it would be a sheer impossibility to deal with the whole ins and outs of the subject other than in a comprehensive volume.

These notes will mainly deal with vegetable showing, a form of competition in which the amateur has been taking increasing interest during the past ten to twenty years, so that, now, the classes which cater for this side of horticulture at shows rank among the most important.

When plants are growing away merrily, then comes the need for the most watchful care, for weeds prove harmful unless kept well under control; insect and similar pests, unless tackled at the onset and ruthlessly fought and destroyed, will soon work havoc among the specimens; and, above all, the soil requires to be kept constantly stirred with the Dutch hoe around the growing plants, so that the surface is well broken and aerated, and thus maintained in fine tilth and of moisture-retaining capacity. Mention of moisture brings one to another prime essential, water, a necessity to plants that is too frequently wrongly applied. A daily sprinkling may easily do more harm than good, and though it is beneficial to some plants at the end of a hot, dry day, yet, if this is the only system of application, one may well expect to see one's produce not making the progress desired, for it must be remembered that it is deep at the roots where plants require their main supply of liquid, to which depth the sprinkles will not reach, and, therefore, a thorough drenching at reasonable intervals will do the good that the light applications fail to render. Mulching in periods of drought is an effective aid in this water feeding, and in conjunction with watering it must be remembered that a feed with liquid manure water is of great benefit to many subjects for attaining good show specimens and table produce, and the judicious use of artificial fertilisers of reliable character, will also help on the good work, and repay the careful cultivator in the long run.

Having arrived at the point when, by unspared labour and watchful care, the produce has been attained that will do its grower credit on the show table, there yet remains much to carry out to make the best success of the efforts. It does not do nowadays just to dig up one's produce and dump it in the exhibition tent, as was too frequently the case not so many years ago, for now the competitions are too keenly contested. The skilled grower raises his product carefully and prepares it thoroughly, so that his items are not only excellent products, tastefully staged, but also items of interest and beauty in the show tent. When the specimens are got together for the selected day, then the primest and best balanced set to form a dish is chosen. Root vegetables are carefully washed free from dirt, useless roots carefully trimmed off, tops likewise attended to, and damaged leaves removed. The same care is exercised with regard to stem and leaf products, so that all the items forming a dish are as alike as the proverbial "peas in a pod."

All classes of exhibits should be as fresh as ever it is possible when staging them, and carefully matched specimens selected, remembering that it is the medium sized specimens that catch the judges' good opinion rather than the undersized, or the over-large ones. Material with "bloom" as its natural attribute should have this carefully preserved, and as examples we would recall the culinary pea, the grape, and the apple, for this is one of the points that counts with the judges. Flowers should be as long-stalked as possible, and everything free from blemish and undamaged. This latter is a factor that should be borne in mind where it is necessary to pack exhibits for conveyance to the show tent, for many a good exhibit has been spoiled by careless packing and handling.

Now a few special hints on the actual staging, especially to the novice. The old legal phrase "Time is the essence of the contract," especially applies to this operation, and the longer you can allow yourself for the work, the better, for hurried staging is often the cause of an exhibitor's failure. He perhaps, through this fault, puts up too few specimens in his dishes, or drops a prime specimen of flower, fruit or vegetable, damages it, and has not another to replace it, and so his exhibit is at a discount from the beginning of the show. Time is especially necessary when setting up a group, for when it is done and a survey of it is taken, the competitor perchance realises that it would be more effective to change the position of some of the dishes, with marked effect, and lack of time does not permit of carrying this out. Talking of groups brings up another point of showcraft, for an experienced hand will always have a reserve dish or two, for substitution purposes, should his first choice appear unsuitable when staged, or should he find himself hopelessly outclassed with any particular item by a fellow competitor.

One very important point to remember is to study most carefully the schedule under which one is showing, to get the exact meaning of all the rules governing the show, and to make sure that one has exactly what is called for, especially with regard to the number of specimens to be shown. In connection with this, emphasis should be laid upon the very familiar advice in schedules to the effect that "All exhibits should be carefully labelled" and the explanation that this will be called into play should competition be very close.

These notes may well prove helpful to the tyro, and all that need now be added is a final caution, that from the start of the ground preparation right up to the moment when the exhibitor turns his back on his exhibit when the clearing bell rings for him to leave the tent for the judges to set about their task, care and watchfulness are really the factors that form the royal road to success. Do not forget also that some have to be disappointed in stern competition, and if reverses do befall, let them be the incentive for renewed and greater efforts, until success is attained. E. BECKETT.

SERVICE FOR READERS

Though so many subjects are dealt with in each issue of THE GARDEN, it must constantly happen that readers seek information which is not immediately available. In such circumstances they should make use of our Service Department. Through its medium each reader's own particular enquiry can be dealt with. No matter what the question is, whether advice is sought as to—

RESTOCKING A GARDEN, COLOUR SCHEMES FOR GARDENS, THE BEST PLANTS FOR CERTAIN SITUATIONS, WHERE TO OBTAIN NEW AND RARE PLANTS, INSECT PESTS, NAMING OF PLANTS, AND THE HUNDRED AND ONE OTHER DETAILS RELATING TO THE GARDEN—

there is always information available from a staff of expert contributors and consultants; *and there is no charge for this.* It is one of the additional means of Service which THE GARDEN is glad to render to its readers.

Also, there is the further convenience which the Service Department affords of supplying readers with data about anything that is advertised in the pages of the paper. Thus, on receipt of an enquiry, particulars will be sent of, say, half a dozen things about which the reader seeks information. The only stipulation is that a stamped addressed envelope shall be sent with the enquiry.

All communications should be addressed to the Service Department, THE GARDEN, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

NOTES ON DAFFODILS

THE daffodil season of 1926 has been the earliest and one of the very best in my experience, and the show held in the Royal Horticultural Society's Hall at Vincent Square, Westminster, on April 13th and 14th was a very fine one indeed, though it was evident that some of the flowers were getting slightly past their best.

Never before have I seen the hall occupied by exhibits of daffodils only, as was the case on this occasion. There must have been an immense number of blooms shown, as the display was most imposing. At the same time, there was plenty of floor space left so that visitors were able to see everything comfortably.

The largest and grandest trade groups were probably those put up by Mr. J. L. Richardson of Waterford; the Donard Nursery Company, Newcastle, County Down; Messrs. J. R. Pearson and Sons of Nottingham; and Messrs. Barr and Sons; while Messrs. R. H. Bath, The Welsh Bulb Fields, Mr. J. W. Barr, Messrs. Cartwright and Goodwin and myself contributed exhibits of varying importance; and Messrs. Seymour Cobbley, Limited, put up a striking exhibit of large masses of several varieties in market bunches.

The very large exhibits, staged, as they were, in the form of high, steep banks, when viewed more or less endwise presented an effect of almost bewildering beauty; the graceful pose of the flowers on their stems and the beautiful lines of their profiles were more apparent than when looked at from the front; while all the wonderfully exquisite and varied tints of yellow, varying from deep, pure and intense golds to softest primrose, vivid lemons, clear and cool lemons; white, pure and silvery, with entrancing touches of green, ivory, warm cream, even buff tints, and here and there a suggestion of peachy pink, with many points of vivid illumination provided by the orange and almost scarlet and crimson crowns of many incomparabilis and Barrii varieties, all displayed with that living and youthful freshness peculiar to the daffodil, made a most charming harmony of spring loveliness.

It is difficult to select flowers for special comment from exhibits so numerous and extensive, but the following are a few that seemed to stand out. In Mr. J. L. Richardson's group I noted Master Robert, a particularly fine large golden trumpet of much substance and good texture with a handsomely recurved brim to the trumpet; it is evidently a plant of immense vigour, as the stems were very tall and strong, and some foliage shown was literally as large as that of flag irises. Eskimo, also shown in this group, is a very shapely white trumpet of much substance and outstanding purity. Mytilene, which was also shown by a number of other exhibitors, came in for universal admiration; it was a large Leedsii of distinct and charming form and very high quality, having broad and smooth rounded pure white perianth and shallow saucer-shaped pale primrose crown of great substance, the stems are tall and strong, and it makes an ideal show flower as well as a superb garden plant. Silver Salver stood out as one of the most attractive things in this group; a small crowned Leedsii of the utmost refinement, pure snow white throughout both perianth and the flat crown, with just a touch of cool green in the centre of the eye.

The Welsh Bulb Fields, Limited, showed several flowers of charming and novel colouring, some of these were under numbers. B.98 looked as though it might be half-way between a Leedsii and a trumpet, a lemonade coloured flower with a paler halo at the base of the perianth; while B 112 suggested a triandrus Leedsii hybrid in form, but its vivid clear lemon colour left one guessing as to the parentage. Twinkle is a small Barrii with curious buff-coloured perianth and red eye; and Marvel is a big incomparabilis with starry ivory perianth and spreading crimson crown.

Mr. J. W. Barr's group contained examples of several charming and interesting species; among these the dainty and slender small golden single sweet Jonquil, which, though by no means rare, is seldom seen nowadays; and the much more uncommon and very delightful citron and ivory Tazetta Glandore. He also showed Milk and Honey, a very attractive white and pale lemon double; and King's Pirate, a very handsome Barrii with white perianth and a crimson rim to its crown.

Messrs. R. H. Bath, Limited, showed fine flowers of the beautiful new white trumpet Gaza, a flower with very broad, smooth, shovel-shaped segments, and a slender, not over-long trumpet; and Golden Goblet, a new Jonquil Ajax hybrid of which Mr. Leak has the highest opinion. He tells me it is extraordinarily robust and free blooming, and lasts an almost incredible time, which one can understand from its exceptional substance. It is practically of Ajax form, with beautifully flanged crown, intense self-golden colour, and smooth solid texture, while the flowers are borne on splendid tall strong stems. One of the most beautiful flowers on this stand was Naesam, a Leedsii of great refinement and lovely quality having broad beautifully clean-cut, sharp-pointed, pure white segments and well balanced faint lemon crown.

THE PINK-CROWNED LEEDSII MRS. R. O. BACKHOUSE

The Donard Nursery Company had a wonderful exhibit of superbly grown flowers; among these, Spanish Flag, an incomparabilis variety with white perianth and a very striking wide, almost flat, orange and gold crown, was a centre of interest to market growers. Vintage, also in this group, is a small white trumpet of exquisite texture and quality; while there were several bunches of an altogether lovely little hybrid Leedsii appropriately named Fairy Snow.

Messrs. Pearson's magnificent group contained many notable flowers; probably that which first caught one's attention was a goodly bunch of the Leedsii Mrs. R. O. Backhouse, whose long crown is soft, almost salmon pink; another enormous Leedsii was named Gertie Millar; this had a very large, broad, white perianth and an immense crown almost too large and wide for good balance, attractively tinged with lemon at the edge. There were several bunches of Moonshine, a large white triandrus Ajax hybrid with three flowers on the stem; and a very fine poeticus with rounded snow white perianth and solid brilliant red eye was named Striking; while Carmel, a bicolor trumpet of highest quality and geometrical symmetry, was an ideal show flower.

In Messrs. Barr and Sons' imposing exhibit the pink-crowned Leedsii Mrs. R. O. Backhouse was again in evidence; there were also several blooms of the supremely beautiful Beersheba, which is undoubtedly the finest white trumpet yet seen. I also noted General Pershing, a beautiful rich dark golden Jonquil hybrid; while another neatly built, attractive Jonquil hybrid was named Aurelia.

GUY WILSON.

(*To be continued.*)

Digitized by Google

NOTES OF THE WEEK

AN ALPINE WALLFLOWER.

A USEFUL wallflower is the dwarf alpine species, Cheiranthus alpinus, which I always grow as an edging for bulbs and early summer bedding. The plants grow in compact shape to a height of 4ins. or 5ins. The buds look very pretty embedded in the heart of the leaves, then these open to a lemon yellow and form a fine bright edging to the border. Seed is freely set as a rule, but care must be taken or natural hybridisation takes place with other wallflowers near, and the result is a scraggy individual, not by any means so useful and attractive. The plants are perennial, but the best plan is to raise fresh stock from seed annually. The plants also do well in the rock garden.—H. A.

HARDY TAMARISKS.

HARDY species and varieties of the tamarisk are not too plentiful, but those that are "hardy" are much more hardy than is generally realised. Erroneously supposed to succeed only in a sandy soil along the sea coast, they are found to develop quite successfully and to give every satisfaction inland, and that, too, in all kinds of soil, light and heavy. They are, it must be admitted, best in a dry, porous root medium; but soil need scarcely be considered, nor need exposure give cause for worry. Fast growers, as a rule, they can be cut back in March or April—this being all the attention which they require.

Having been so emphatic in the statement of general usefulness, I confine my hardy tamarisks to three species. Commonest of these is T. gallica, a popular type with feathery foliage reminding one of the conifers. The flowers are white or pink, in waving plumes, and they are highly decorative. T. æstivalis is equally vigorous in growth; the flowers in this case, produced a month later than the former, are a distinct red and produced with great profusion. T. odessana is equally free as regards flowers, but these burst forth early in the summer; it is not so large as the others, and is, therefore, distinctly suited to the small garden. The flowers are a rosy pink and very pretty.—LANARKSHIRE.

THE SCARBOROUGH LILY.

FEW plants are more widely grown than the Scarborough lily (Vallota purpurea), and yet a great many people are not entirely successful with this beautiful flower. Frequently the production of blooms is far below that which ought to be the case, and young bulbs are slow to come to maturity. Everyone who wishes to succeed with the Scarborough lily should pay attention to a few special points. Let the soil be composed of good fibrous loam, leaf-mould and sand in equal parts. The bulbs should always be placed some inches below the level of the surface soil and, before filling in, it is well to surround them completely with sand. Press the mould firmly round the bulb, as this makes a strong root growth and has a tendency to force its way upwards. The best time for planting a fresh stock is in June or July, when the roots of the bulbs are most active and before the flower stems have been sent up. Vallotas dislike frequent removals, and the finest displays of blossoms are always from those bulbs which have been undisturbed for a long while. A top-dressing of fresh soil with occasional soakings of weak manure during the growing season will prove beneficial. In the winter the plants should be allowed to dry off to a considerable extent, and, at all times, the maximum amount of sunshine is essential for the free production of flowers. By careful attention the Scarborough lily may be induced to flower with much greater freedom than is often the case. The bulbs produce offsets freely, and these should be removed with a stick to avoid disturbing the main roots.

In mild districts the outdoor culture of the vallota is worth adopting. At the foot of a south wall the plant will really thrive better than when grown in pots under glass.—S. L. B.

THE POPULAR TAMARIX GALLICA WITH ITS SWEEPING FEATHERY FOLIAGE.

FLOWERING HAWTHORNS.

THE hawthorn, or may, has been at all times a feature of the English landscapes in early summer, and at a very early date in the history of horticulture varieties of enhanced beauty found a place in gardens and shrubberies. All kinds are slow in growth but they are worthy of a greater popularity than they at present have; nurseries, curiously enough, possess fairly good stocks, and standards or pyramids of the finest description can be had.

Few think of growing the ordinary white or pink singles, but the double white and the double red are, indeed, gorgeous things in May and June, when they deck themselves along every branch with profuse blossom. Not the least attractive feature of them all is the heavy fragrance, which can be sensed at quite a distance from the tree; too powerful for a room, it has a cloak of superstition around it, but no one denies its richness when "scenting the evening gale." Other hawthorns of great merit can be had. Crataegus coccinea plena Paul's Double Scarlet, is a beauty, with large foliage and highly ornamental fruits. C. Crus-galli, the Cock's Spur, has also large flowers and bright orange red fruits; as the name implies, it is formidably armed with thorns, and it makes a good hedge bush. Of others, we might mention here CC. Douglasii, with shiny leaves and purple red fruits; Carrieri, with glossy, deep green foliage, large rose-coloured flowers and scarlet fruits as large as cherries. The Glastonbury thorn is quite a rare shrub, grown on account of the legend; flowering early in May, it occasionally takes the notion to bloom much earlier hence its Latin name, præcox. Though some writers class many others, like CC. Pyracantha and Lalandei, under the generic name hawthorn, we, in this district, exclude them according to some unwritten law, and confine the term to those mentioned above; indeed, a few would keep the name entirely for C. Oxyacantha and its varieties. Without entering into discussion, I simply laud the merits of the sorts I have enumerated above. All will grow in any garden soil; even town atmosphere has no material ill effect on them; they are unrivalled during May for profusion of bloom and sweetness of perfume, and the slowness of their growth may often be a strong point in their favour.—CLYDESDALE.

SOME HARDY LADY'S SLIPPERS.

AMONG the hardy orchids that can be grown outdoors the true cypripediums or Lady's Slippers are doubtless the most attractive. In the central European flora we know of only one species, C. Calceolus, while in eastern Asia and North America there are quite a number of beautiful species. The showiest of the American ones is C. reginæ, better known in the gardens as C. spectabile,

Digitized by Google

THE QUEEN OF LADY'S SLIPPERS, C. REGINÆ.

of which our illustration presents a fine flowering group in a garden in Bavaria. It deserves both its names, being really the queen of all the species that are in cultivation at the present time. From the note of Mr. Gurney Wilson in last year's volume of THE GARDEN, I learnt that it has been discovered, too, on the borders of China and Tibet. This is, indeed, a very strange fact, of great geographical significance. I have met with it a few times during my stay in the United States, and I recognise that it grows under about the same natural conditions as C. Calceolus, in mixed deciduous woods in rather shady places, but not in really wet positions. When the plant has found the right place in the garden it ought to remain undisturbed for years. This is the case with all Lady's Slippers. Sometimes it is rather difficult to start them, but once established they last a long time and usually flower every year.

Of the other species belonging to the same natural group as C. reginæ, C. californicum is sometimes seen in European gardens. Its flowers are rather small, but appear from six to twelve at the same time in the axils of the upper leaves. The sepals and petals are yellowish green, and the lip is whitish, while in C. reginæ the whole flower is white or the lip more or less pinkish purple. Whether or not C. guttatum, which is widely spread from central Russia to Alaska and British Columbia, can still be seen somewhere in our gardens, I do not know. So far as I remember, I saw it before the war in the then famous nursery of Regel and Kesselring at Leningrad, and in the Botanic Garden at Jena, Germany, where the late curator had one of the best collections of hardy orchids.

At the same place I also saw C. cordigerum, which is shown in the accompanying picture. I am, however, not quite sure if this plant represents the true species from the western Himalayas. The flowers are greenish with a white lip. It belongs to the same group as C. Calceolus. There are several other species in our gardens that are closely related to it. Of them, C. pubescens, from eastern North America, is rather similar, but the flowers have a pale citrine labellum and somewhat more brownish sepals and petals. It is sometimes regarded as a form of C. parviflorum with smaller flowers of which the lip is of a brighter yellow and flattened from above to below, not laterally. Another well known species from north-western America, placed in the same group with C. Calceolus, is C. montanum. It has brownish purple flowers with a fine white labellum. The narrow petals are much twisted and hang down.

A still rather rare species is the Japanese C. speciosum, of which the flowers are almost white, but the lip is more or less tinged with rose. It is a very charming plant.

One of the most distinct species, rather unlike our true Lady's Slippers, is C. californicum, which I have seen in a Dutch nursery, but unfortunately without flowers. It has two large ascending leaves, from the centre of which the scape rises, bearing several rather small flowers, of which the spreading petals and sepals are quite alike and of a brownish colour, while the short labellum is greenish. The flowers are said to be fragrant. —CAMILLO SCHNEIDER.

GENTIANA VERNA.

IN a deeply interesting and valuable paper by Mr. Clarence Elliott, which appears in the latest issue of the "Journal" of the Royal Horticultural Society (Vol. LI, Part 1) that experienced cultivator speaks of "Some Alpines I Have Kept Alive," and in the course of his remarks discusses Gentiana verna, and justly emphasises the necessity of roots. And here it is, I think, that so many plants of G. verna, which have fairly good roots to begin with, eventually fail. In nature it appears to thrive best where it grows among other subjects, where it threads its roots among the other plants, and, while the roots may be partially above the ground, they are kept moist by the herbage among which the gentian grows. I know many who have struggled and struggled in vain to retain this lovely plant in their gardens. One day in visiting a beautiful garden, now, alas! a wilderness, through changing hands, I was struck with the health and floriferousness of a good clump of G. verna. On discussing it with the owners it was pointed out to me that the plants were "mulched" with fine gravel, which kept the roots cool. In common with a few friends, who had had unsatisfactory results, I adopted this method and found it most valuable. The fine gravel appeared to be more satisfactory than the ordinary "mulch" of soil, which is generally so beneficial to other alpines. On examination I found that a number of the roots, which were very near to the surface, and were sometimes exposed with unsatisfactory specimens, appeared to be delighting in the gravel just above the surface of the soil itself. This is not given as an adverse criticism of Mr. Elliott's views, but rather as confirming what he says regarding roots.—DUMFRIES.

THE RIGHT WAY TO CUT FLOWERS.

MANY garden flowers, if cut in the right way, will last much longer than is usually the case. Different blossoms, however, call for different treatment. Here are a few points which are worth bearing in mind.

Sweet peas, for instance, should always be cut in the early morning with the dew on them. They will then be found to last longer and keep their colour much better than if gathered after some hours' exposure to the hot sun. By far the best way with roses is to cut the buds in the evening. Select those which are in an advanced state and show signs of being likely to expand on the morrow. Such flowers as iris, peonies and practically all kinds of lily should be cut just when the buds have started to open. All these, if gathered when fully expanded, have a very short life in water. Pick gladioli in the later

CYPRIPEDIUM CORDIGERUM WITH GREENISH FLOWERS.

Digitized by Google

afternoon, choosing stalks on which only one or two flowers have opened. Make a slanting cut and use a sharp knife. In passing, it may be mentioned that clean cuts, free from ragged edges, should be made whenever flowers are being gathered. In the case of gladioli, it is a good plan to let the spikes remain out of water in the sun for ten minutes or so. This is known to florists as the "softening" process; afterwards they are likely to stand well in water.

Often, dahlias prove a disappointment as cut flowers. These will keep a long time if, after cutting, the stems are stripped bare at the bottom and these are then put in an inch or so of extremely hot water. Remove the flowers to a dark corner or closet, and let the water get quite cold. Then arrange in the vases as desired. Shirley poppies are usually classed as among those flowers which cannot be used for table decoration. This is not true if the flowers are treated in the proper way. Gather the poppies early in the morning, as soon as they are open. Then hold the ends of the stems in a gas or candle flame until they are quite charred. Now put in the vases and the blossoms will stand surprisingly well.

Flowers of special interest for the morning and evening meals are convolvuli and evening primroses. Go out early and cut buds of the morning glories which are just showing a little colour. Then arrange these in vases on the breakfast table, and they will open in a most interesting way before the eyes of the family. The same kind of plan may be followed in the late afternoon with the evening primroses. Here, again, it is easy to detect those buds which will open by the little strip of yellow that can be seen. These buds will expand as the dusk falls and provide a demonstration of the exact way in which a flower opens.

When heavy rain threatens it is often desirable to gather flowers before they are actually needed in order to save them from damage. In such cases place the blossoms in jars of water and stand in a cool dark place. If the flowers have to be kept rather long and the weather is hot, cover them with damp tissue paper, which will help to preserve them. Never sprinkle water over flowers, as this is very likely to make spots on the petals. Never pick flowers and then put them straight away into the vases, as in a sunny room many of them will wilt. It is always better to give them a spell in some cool, shady place. If sending flowers by post, allow an interval of some hours between cutting and packing. Flowers cut and put at once into a box will certainly arrive in a very bad condition. It is really a good plan to cut the flowers overnight and then despatch as early as possible in the morning.

One curious point which many flower lovers may have noticed is that certain blossoms do not seem to settle down well with other kinds. Without attempting to prove that flowers have positive likes and dislikes, it is an undoubted fact that, in some cases, they do affect one another. For instance, sweet peas and roses are always best kept separate, and it is a bad plan to put these in close proximity even for a few hours. Mignonette is another plant that has an unwholesome effect on any other flowers with which it may come in contact.

Generally speaking, sufficient care is not exercised when cutting flowers to avoid the removal of buds that will come on at a later date. Often, in the desire to get a long stalk a number of immature buds are taken away, and this kind of thing should be avoided as far as possible if a continuous display of bloom is desired.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

A SELECTION OF VINCAS.

MUCH as I can sometimes admire its virtues as a ground cover for rough, sunless places, I have suffered so grievously from allowing Vinca major to take a mean advantage of my indiscretions that it must be excluded from this selection of periwinkles.

V. minor can be ruthless, too, but, confining the stronger growers, like the dark green, narrow leaved double blue, to woodland retreats, hospitality must always be accorded some of the many other cheerful little spring bloomers of this variable fraternity. The singles are, I think, the prettiest and in these my fancy leans to the pure white, the pale and dark blues with silvered or golden foliage and good forms of the type. The latter, however, varies very considerably even in its native haunts. One finds, for example, plants with well rounded flowers, the corolla lobes being blunt, while others have the latter so sharply pointed to one side and starred that they suggest a whirling fan. Blooms of this description on some plants gathered in Switzerland are a rich violet and 1¼ins. across. Another first rate periwinkle, not too vigorous, is V. minor Bowles' Variety. This has still larger blossoms than the last mentioned, with broad, blunt segments in a soft cat-mint purple, which is very delightful in subdued light. One estimable virtue possessed by all the lesser periwinkles is their long flowering season (February to July), and another is their willingness to thrive in almost any soil in sun or shade. But, like all others of their kind, they take time to become established.

V. difformis (acutiloba) is apparently a southern form of V. major. But even in its native habitat it is rarely so rampant as the latter and it is always a more refined plant. Further, being a little tender, it can be used almost anywhere without much fear of its spreading unduly. This periwinkle also differs from V. major in that it is a winter bloomer, coming into flower in November and continuing during mild weather until May. The flowers, borne on stately growths a foot or so in height, are rather smaller than those of the common periwinkle, the corolla lobes are sharply pointed and starred and the colour a very pale starch blue to pure white. In some of my plants growing in shade the blooms are a pure snowy white in autumn and winter, but those of spring are infused with the thin wash of blue. In large areas of V. difformis seen in flower last March in southern France, I found no variation from that delicate icy blue whiteness, but there are pale lilac and grey white forms common to other Mediterranean localities. If a little tender, V. difformis will stand 20 degrees of frost, but, being a winter bloomer, it is well to give it a place with some shelter, such as a partly overhanging tree. It will prosper in any light, cool soil.

V. herbacea has struck out a line for itself, it being a herbaceous species, dying back to the base in autumn. This is really a choice rock plant, delighting to weave a network of its long, slender trailers and narrow leaves over any fairly sunny slope and this it adorns with an abundance of pretty violet stars from spring well into summer. As the stems of V. herbacea root at the tips, like those of other vincas, increase is a simple matter.—A. T. JOHNSON.

VINCA DIFFORMIS IN A WOODLAND RETREAT.

AUTUMN TINTS IN MAY.

RHODODENDRON kamtschaticum, a native of north-east Asia, is, to lovers of the genus, a very interesting plant. In appearance it is dwarf and shrubby, about 6ins. to 8ins. high, and may be described as forming dense tufts from which it increases in size by underground suckers. Being deciduous and starting very early into leaf, it is at a disadvantage in having the young leaves and shoots badly cut back by late frosts. Except for this, it is very hardy, and stands the effects of a cold and rigorous climate.

The flowers are of a rosy crimson colour and, unlike the other species of rhododendron, this one produces its blooms on the current year's growths, which rise an inch or two above the dense pale green foliage. For its successful cultivation, a mixture of leaf-soil, peat and sand is necessary; but it is advisable to add some broken sandstone and sphagnum to keep the whole open and moist, thereby encouraging sucker growth. A damp situation with partial shade will also be in its favour, as, from observation, it grows much better in a wet season.

It has been cultivated in the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, for many years with success. Also, it may be of interest to note that, so early this year, the foliage has taken on a vivid red autumn tint, making the flowers difficult to locate among the dense coloured leaves. This is due, no doubt, to frost, and may prove a disadvantage to the plants later in the season. Nevertheless, a group at present (May 20th) of this hardy little shrub is very attractive and decorative among the rocks in the rock garden.—A. McC.

Digitized by Google

CORRESPONDENCE

DARWIN AND MAY-FLOWERING TULIPS.

SIR,—I look upon these with increasing admiration as each season comes round, and now consider them indispensable in a garden of any pretensions at all. For house and garden decoration at this time of year there are no other subjects comparable with them. But why will people with small gardens, who purchase a few dozen, persist in spreading them over the whole area. One here and two there, instead of grouping and producing a colour effect which is arresting and pleasing to everyone. The well known combination of Clara Butt over forget-me-nots, one never tires of seeing, there is something indescribably beautiful in the soft tone of pink over blue. By contrast a bed of Farncombe Sanders or Europe over an undergrowth of Munstead polyanthus is very effective. The dark and very noble King Harold lends itself particularly well to this kind of association.

In many small gardens, I know one has to be content with groups in mixed borders; in this case I have found a group of columbines on one side and delphiniums or lupins on the other, to be an excellent foil for the tulips, the foliage being fresh and green and just at the right stage for a setting for the glorious colours of the Darwins.

To those who, like myself, are limited for space, however, I would say, plant not fewer than twenty or twenty-five in a clump—if fifty, so much the better.

I have tried various kinds of foliage with tulips for home decoration. The well matured foliage of the columbine is quite pleasing, but I have found nothing so good as our old friend Solomon's seal. Used sparingly and cut in a fresh state with tulips just opening, the effect is most pleasing and flowers and foliage will last a fortnight with good treatment.

The lovely Baron de la Tonnaye cut at the opening stage, is particularly good indoors, and—but they are all beautiful. Make notes now for next year.—HENRY JENKINS.

GOOSEBERRY PESTS.

SIR,—In a recent issue of THE GARDEN you dealt, under the above heading, with several of the worst insects that infest that fruit; but there is one pest, if it can be so termed, that is far worse to deal with, and which is rapidly spreading in this district—this is American mildew. Perhaps some of your readers will be able to give their advice or their experience with the various sprays that are used to prevent or check this disease. From my own experience, I think there is practically no cure for it, and the best remedy is to burn the bush as soon as it is noticed; but I would very much like the experience of others and their advice on the following questions:

(1) After digging up and burning the present stock, how long before it should be planted in the same spot again?

(2) Is it possible to spread the disease with tools or one's clothing to other plantations, or does it spread like potato blight?

I have a large quantity, and am anxious to learn what is best to prevent it.—W. H., *Ottery St. Mary*.

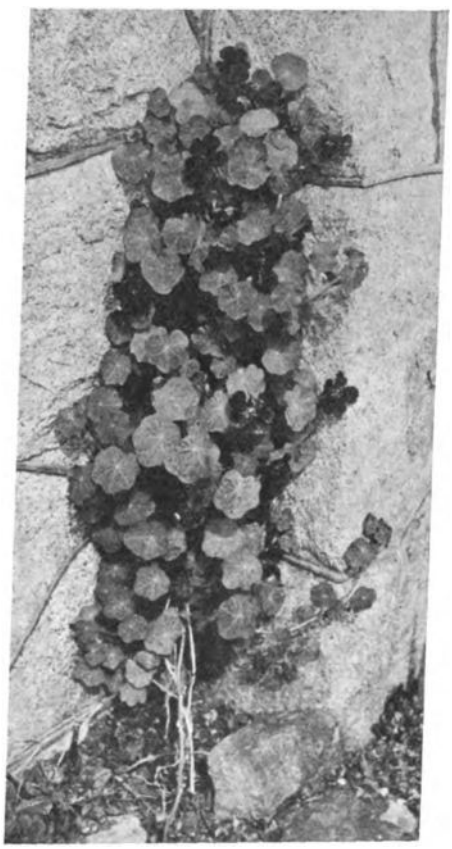
THE CULTIVATION OF CINERARIAS.

SIR,—Having regard to your interesting notes on the growing of cinerarias, in a recent issue, I thought it might possibly interest some of your amateur readers whose time and space are limited and who, perhaps, have difficulty in getting really good potting soil, to know that I have grown quite fine cineraria plants by simply pricking off the seedlings into boxes, placing them in a cold frame, when ready for the next move planting them out in an open space in the kitchen garden (allowing plenty of room for growth), lifting them before there is fear of frost, and potting them into the pots in which they are to flower, placing them in the cold frame prior to removal to the greenhouse.

A self-sown seedling taught me to try this plan, and I have thought the plants much better and less addicted to green fly. They are no further trouble once they are planted out, requiring no more attention or watering than other plants.—H. MEDLEY, *Scarborough*.

GARDENING IN VANCOUVER'S ISLAND.

SIR,—Should you have space in your valuable paper, perhaps the publication of these notes will give some idea to those of your readers who have not been there of the gardening conditions in the area about Victoria, Vancouver's Island. Last winter having been exceptionally mild, many flowers bloomed continuously out of doors, and many ordinarily tender plants survived outside and are now in a second flowering season.



A WELL-FLOWERED CLIMBING NASTURTIUM IN VANCOUVER'S ISLAND.

In my garden, Geum Heldreichi kept opening a few blooms through December and January. Then after a short rest it began again, and is now a mass of orange. Violas, pansies, marigolds, Geranium Robertianum, Gentiana acaulis and many others, including stray roses, brightened the dark winter months. Iris pumila and hybrids are now over, and most of the so-called "June iris" are now in full bloom (this is April 20th). Iris tenax is a mass of bloom, having started at the beginning of the month. There will be no iris flowers in June this year, as they will be all over before that.

Linum narbonnense and Romneya Coulteri have acted as evergreens. Any gladiolus corms left in the ground last autumn have come through and now have shoots from 6ins. to 12ins. high. Japanese wistaria, white and pink Clematis montana and several species of cytisus are in full bloom now; but I think the most wonderful thing of all, the first instance I know of here, has been the survival in the open ground, in an angle of a wall in my garden, of a plant of the climbing nasturtium, ordinarily due to perish at the first suspicion of autumn frost. This plant flowered last year, grew all winter, was in full bloom the first week in April, and has continued so up to the present. I am enclosing a photograph of the plant, which is about 3ft. high, with a head of foliage and bloom over 12ins. across. Near by there are a number of salpiglossis plants which, after flowering last autumn, are now throwing out numbers of strong flowering shoots.

Plants of the "marguerite" Chrysanthemum frutescens planted out last summer in a neighbour's garden have bloomed all winter, and in my own garden plants of Trachelium cœruleum have lived over and are now growing well, while in the next garden to mine several plants of Gazania splendens have grown all winter and will soon be in bloom.

In the rockery I have a plant of Ramondia serbica which has been in full flower for a week, with R. Nathalie beside it throwing up flower-stems. Such things as Phlox subulata, Iberis gibraltarica and sempervirens, Silenes Hookeri and glauca, Saponaria ocymoides, Æthionemas Warleyense and pulchellum, many aquilegias, Daphne Cneorum, the beautiful shrubby Pentstemons Menziesii and Scouleri, with the fine white form of the last and a host of other things, are in full glory, with Gentiana acaulis and G. verna about over and Cypripedium montanum just showing buds. One could write of many things more, but I fear I have already gone beyond my limit. We have a wonderful climate for gardening here, and the mildness of the past winter has permitted all outdoor plants to strengthen most wonderfully.—WALTER B. ANDERSON, *Victoria, B.C.*

CAPE BULBS IN THE OPEN.

SIR,—In response to your query in THE GARDEN of April 24th, as to the hardiness of these in the open, perhaps my small experiences with them may be of some use. We had 12 to 14 degrees of frost and snow and icy winds, yet freesias have been in bloom since the second week in April—as early as those under glass, but no heat. Some three years ago I scattered the small corms about, and they bloom every year. Hypoxis villosa, Crinums Powelli and capensis, and another Transvaal crinum, not yet flowered, have come through without harm, also tritonias. Gladiolus tristis is now in flower. GG. primulinus (in damp), Saundersi and dracocephalum do well in the open in the Wight. I should say that a "hot rocky bank," with leaf soil (or sand-bedded), would grow these bulbs admirably, especially if sheltered by shrubs from the early eastern sun. Lachenalias, some, are almost hardy here. Clianthus on the house wall in bloom second week of April and the first flowers of Rosa Hugonis also, and R. Banksia this week, and the flower panicle of Cordyline australis is showing its white buds.—C. M. B., *Isle of Wight*.

PLANT NOMENCLATURE.

SIR,—I am glad that Mr. Dalrymple likes my suggestion of "Pipes of Pan" as a suitable name for a new freesia, and in reply to his query as to the most suitable colour, I would suggest primrose as appropriate; but, indeed, I think the name might be given

Digitized by Google

to any variety of pale or delicate colour. As Mr. Dalrymple says, naming is undoubtedly a very difficult job, but at the same time it is interesting, and I often think it merits more care and attention than many raisers appear to give it. Some flowers, of course, lend themselves to attractive names more readily than others, and though I have no experience with freesias, I should think that they offer a very promising field for originality.—CECIL M. BAILEY.

SIR,—In discussing the above subject, I note that Mr. G. H. Dalrymple considers Narcissus Silver Salver to be aptly named. This is one of the Brodie of Brodie's seedlings, and he sent it to me under a number, asking me to give it a name. Its beautiful silvery white, almost flat crown suggested the name Silver Salver, but it is difficult to please everybody, and I remember the late Mr. Jacob complaining to me that it savoured too much of sherry and sandwiches! In any case, I have found that careful and thoughtful naming of a flower is well worth while; and it may but need not, be a matter of surprise to learn that a fitly named plant is a better commercial proposition than an ill-named one.—F. HERBERT CHAPMAN.

GARDEN TECHNIQUE

THE FLOWER GARDEN

SAXIFRAGA ELIZABETHÆ.

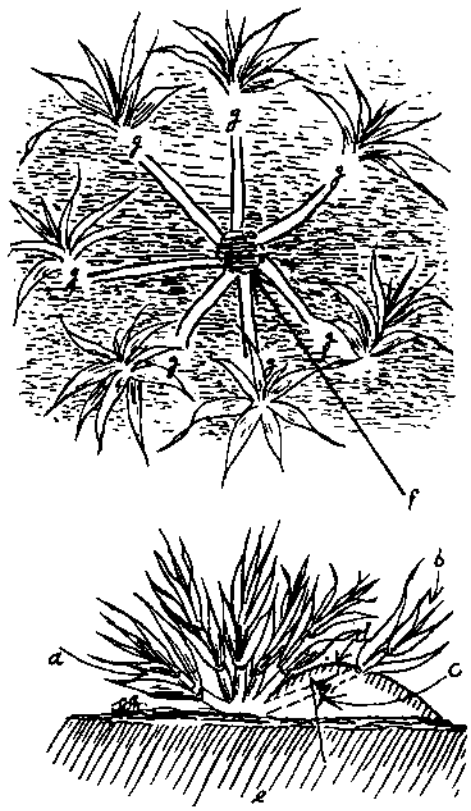
WE have now such a wealth of lovely Kabschia or cushion saxifrages that it seems an unthankful task to single out any one of them and to say that it should be grown wherever these charming flowers find a congenial home. Yet, without intending to decry any of the other dear charmers, one may, with advantage, say a word in favour of Saxifraga Elizabethæ, said to have been chosen to bear the name of Carmen Sylva of Rumania. It is one of the bonny hybrids now becoming so numerous in its class.

Its parents are S. Burseriana and S. sancta. From the former it has derived its free-flowering and from the latter its colour, a kind of sulphur yellow, but perhaps a little warmer in tone than that tint would suggest. The flowers are also larger than those of S. sancta, which in some places is exceedingly shy. It forms a cushion-like mass of deep green, spiny foliage, and, set on this in early spring are the numerous bright flowers. It is easy to cultivate, and the writer has grown it in poor, hard soil on an elevated part of the rock garden, as well as in better soil lower down, the one in sun and the other in partial shade. In both cases the plants were quite happy.

It can be increased by cuttings or careful division, but many succeed by simply tearing large plants in pieces and replanting them. As old plants occasionally become bare in the centre, the last method may be adopted with these. Plants in or just out of pots may be purchased and planted at any time. I prefer these to plants from the open ground, which may be planted after the flowering time in the course of summer or in autumn. —S. ARNOTT.

LAYERING BORDER CARNATIONS.

ALL plants that are to be layered in July should be prepared in good time. The preparation consists in the clearing away of all dead basal "grass" found on the side shoots now growing freely and which will be selected for layering, also, all foreign matter found under, or near to the side shoots. All necessary pegs required should be prepared, whether these are made of wire, wood or the stems of bracken fern where the latter is very plentiful. The compost, too, should be mixed so that everything will be at hand when the day comes for the actual layering to be done. Carnations will root readily in well rotted leaf-mould, but, if the soil used is naturally light, then be sparing with the leaf-mould. Builders' mortar rubble, if obtainable, may be used in preference to sand; but in every case it is beneficial if a small quantity of coarse sand is placed under, and on, the cut portion of the stem which is buried in the prepared compost. At *a*, a side shoot is shown before it is denuded of any basal leaves; *b* shows one properly prepared and pegged down as shown at *c*. There should be a 2in. covering of soil above the stem, shown at *d*. The pegs used ought to be long enough to penetrate into the border soil *e*, then they will hold and prevent the growing stem lifting the layered side shoot. At *f* the old plant is represented, with the side shoots, *g*, neatly layered all round it, though, of course, they will be close up to the parent plant. The surface of the border soil should be lightly forked up directly the



work of layering is finished, and care taken that the layers are not disturbed. Apply water directly the carnations are layered; use a fine rose on the can and keep the soil—the new compost—consistently moist until new roots are plentiful. Try to get the layering done as early as the conditions of the plants will admit; then it will be possible to plant out, or pot, early in the autumn—a great advantage.—G. G.

VIOLAS.

Notes on Varieties.

FOR a lengthy display of beautiful blooms one can hardly find a better class of plant than violas, or tufted pansies as they are sometimes called. One has only to grow a few plants to find how well they fill the finest beds or borders with brilliant colours, from the month of May onwards.

It is true that plants are in flower before the month stated, but in May the blooms are more numerous and certainly they are better coloured. From the first week of May onwards the following varieties have been blooming profusely:

George Woodgate, a beautiful Wedgwood blue; Maggie Mott, soft mauve, both young and old plants of this last-named variety growing in a long straight line near the box-wood edging are very effective. The old plants being somewhat bushy are better furnished with flowers, but the young eight months old plants have produced large individual blooms.

Bute Yellow is a splendid kind and gives a brightness of tone on the hardy plant borders. Young plants of Parson's White—not really a large-flowered kind—are also adorned with blooms. Marchioness is a creamy white variety of many years' standing. Shoots of this kind were dibbled into the ordinary garden soil on a sheltered south border at the end of August and left without any protection throughout the winter. The cuttings rooted splendidly and were fine healthy plants when set out a few weeks ago. Saughton Blue is a pretty viola, although the flowers are somewhat small. It appears to be grown under several names. For a royal purple, Dunattor Waters should suit most tastes; while Fred Williams produces large blooms of a royal blue tone.

Mrs. Manison has peculiarly shaded flowers of a very dark velvety crimson, with some petals streaked with white. This magnificent variety should flower well later. —DAVID ARMSTRONG.

THE GREENHOUSE

ZONAL PELARGONIUMS.

Their Preparation for Winter.

WILL the zonal pelargonium ever be regarded seriously in the light of a plant for blooming in a temperate greenhouse during the winter months by amateurs, or will they continue to look upon it solely as a somewhat old-fashioned plant for summer beauty indoors? It is curious that, while many take trouble in preparing other things to make the greenhouse gay in the dull season—as, for example, chrysanthemums, primulas, cyclamens—few amateur gardeners consider it necessary to ensure so commonplace a subject as the "geranium" any preparation at all, appearing to think that all one needs to do is to place them in a warm temperature as November approaches, notwithstanding the fact that they have given of their best in summer! When it is remembered that there are few plants so easy to grow, give so wide range of colour and, kept in a healthy condition, are seldom troubled with enemies, it seems strange that so few gardeners are enthusiastic about a feast of beauty which these pelargoniums will provide, if only they are grown on with that object.

It is within the realm of possibility that this note may meet the eyes of some who have zonals struck from cuttings, either last autumn or this spring, and, if this is so, I would suggest their setting apart a number of those plants with a view to special preparation. There is no time more favourable to commence the work than now, and, presuming the plants are in 60-sized pots, I recommend that they be removed into 6in. pots. If some of the zonals are extra vigorous, one may even use pots slightly larger, although for all practical purposes, 6in. pots are ample. The composition of the material in which the plants are to be grown is one which should be given special consideration. Nothing is better than good friable turf, which has stood a few months, leaf-mould (or spent hops will do equally as well), partly decayed cow manure, and sharp silver sand. Pots should

Digitized by Google

be clean, and firmness in the matter of potting is desirable. In this compost, zonals will quickly establish themselves, and until they do, it will help them if for a few weeks they can be quartered in a cold frame having a south aspect. It is in the nature of a zonal at this time of the year to be continually sending up flower buds, which must immediately be pinched off, and no exception to this rule ought to be permitted, however "fat" and promising such buds may be. Briefly, it is the holding up or conserving the energies of the plants from now until October that will ensure vigorous flower spikes at a time of the year when they are doubly precious.

One may continue to keep plants in frames with lights off, but it is preferable to follow the plan of dealing with chrysanthemums, and locate them on a bed of ashes out in the open, where sun and air may do their part towards ripening the wood. Zonals should not be allowed to want for water, and it will be beneficial to give them weak stimulants occasionally, when it is known the roots have reached the sides of the pots; until that time clear water only should be administered. Those who have been accustomed to grow plants in pots only under glass will be surprised what outdoor treatment in the manner described does for them, as by the middle of September, when it is time to bring them indoors, they will be found to be robust, and on introduction to warmth, buds soon appear. I use the word warmth advisedly, as, with a temperature of 50° Fahr. minimum, one can rest assured that the plants will bloom for many weeks; indeed, it is only a matter of arrangement to have zonals in bloom throughout the year; but, as we have said, they are never more appreciated than when their glowing petals open in November and onwards. While singles offer the grower a wide choice, he will be wise to include some of the semi-doubles also, of which that old and well tried variety, F. V. Raspail, is worthy of culture for winter. —W. LINDERS LEA.

TREATMENT OF SEEDLING PRIMULAS.

PRIMULAS, delightful flowers for furnishing our greenhouses during the winter and spring months, thrive best in a cool temperature and moist atmosphere. Position, during the summer months, is a very important factor in their management. If it is one that affords protection from the direct rays of the sun and, at the same time, admits plenty of light—preferably a northern light—it will be an ideal one. Detached frames may be placed with their lights facing due north; in such, the plants, placed on a thick bed of ashes,, will thrive if other matters are carefully attended to. Night air is good for these plants, so ample ventilation should be the rule, with the degree of moisture immediately around their roots always consistent. This means that watering should be carefully attended to, and clear water only used during the whole of the summer. The roots of the plants are fibrous and easily damaged, so in the potting compost do not include any strong manures. Fibrous loam and sweet leaf-soil in equal proportions, with a free sprinkling of old crushed lime rubble and a small proportion of well rotted manure, will form an ideal compost. Do not press down the soil too firmly. Seedlings, forming succession batches, should first be transplanted near the sides of pans or 6in. pots thoroughly drained. In this position they generally succeed well. Then the first potting, singly, into small pots should take place, and subsequent repottings until the plants are shifted to their flowering ones, which should be, for general purposes, 6ins. across.—HANTS.

TOMATO PLANTS UNDER GLASS.

THE sketch shows a tomato plant of the main batch as now growing under glass in amateurs' glass structures. Either where a little artificial heat was used to start the plants well or where the plants were grown on without any artificial heat but simply that obtained by husbanding the sun heat as much as possible consistent with the due admission of air.

Hundreds of amateur cultivators will possess batches of plants in the stage of growth shown, and from this stage onwards a great deal depends upon detail treatment if heavy crops of fruits are to be obtained. At *a*, *a*, a top-dressing of really good loam and rotted manure, mixed, will do a lot of good. The cultivator should examine the

soil and the condition of the roots. If there are numbers of the latter showing white on the surface, whether the plants are grown in pots or borders, apply a top-dressing in a lumpy, not fine condition. It does not matter if the new soil buries the lower part of the stem of the plant, as new roots will soon grow from it and permeate the soil. A second top-dressing would be beneficial, especially if food in a liquid form is difficult to obtain. At the stage when two trusses of fruit have formed and are swelling, shown at *b*, the first application of food should be given, whether in liquid form or as a dry dressing; and, of course, this feeding should be continued until the last truss of fruit is maturing. At the stage shown in the sketch tomato plants require very liberal supplies of clear water, and liquid food may be given at alternate waterings. When the fruits, shown at *c*, are well developed, the most forward ones at the bottom will be changing to the ripening stage, and very soon the plant will be relieved at the base, this enabling it to mature those higher up all the better. Stopping the plants is a very important point. In order that one may reap the heaviest crop the plants must not be allowed to grow to waste—to continue to bear fruits that will not ripen. Very late-raised plants should be stopped at the point *d*, while early-raised ones may be stopped at *e*; then every tomato retained, respectively, will ripen. The stopping at *e* may take place in July, and the one on late plants at *d* in August.—GEO. GARNER.

CARE OF FRUIT IN THE COLD HOUSE.

AS the climate in this country cannot always be relied upon to be quite favourable for fruit growing in the open-air, we find that many thousands of trees are grown under glass, in houses not artificially heated. The protection afforded by the glass is sufficient to ward off light spring frosts, and the husbanded heat ensures early-ripened fruits of peaches, nectarines, cherries, plums, and some choice sorts of apples and pears. But, at this season, there is always some risk to trees growing under glass. The management must be good. These cold structures should be carefully and consistently ventilated to prevent an undue growth of sub-lateral shoots, the spread of insect pests and to encourage the thorough ripening of the fruits and the shoots and buds that are to yield next year's crops. To concentrate the strength of each tree on this year's crop and the main wood, all sub-laterals must be removed while very small, or overcrowding would soon occur. All fruits should, at this time, be exposed to the light and sun as much as possible, Watering and feeding are two essentials. Be sure that the border soil is consistently moist; then pay attention to feeding, using artificials and liquid manure. Syringe freely to prevent red spider; fumigate to destroy aphides, and, for the latter purpose, have the foliage dry and the floor damp.—CHRISTCHURCH.

THE VEGETABLE GARDEN.

POTATO CROPS.

The Importance of Earthing.

POTATOES generally do well in new ground, that is, ground that has not been cropped by potatoes before or, at least, for many years. One reason for their succeeding so well is because such soils are thoroughly worked before the tubers are planted; it is, also, mellow soil. We should, at this stage, continue to stir up and break lumps of soil between the rows; it is commonly called hoeing potatoes and this is done, mainly, to kill young weeds. But, as stated above, all lumps should be broken up as well as weeds; potatoes like a fine soil to grow in. In a short time it will not be possible to hoe between the rows except in the centre on account of young tubers forming in the ridges. Then there is the earthing-up work to be done. It is rarely wise to neglect the timely earthing-up and it can never be neglected without detriment to the crop except, perhaps, in really light, sandy soils. The runners on which the young tubers grow permeate the soil where there is most moisture and that will be, before earthing up is done, about 6ins. away from the stems. If the work is unduly delayed, many young tubers are cut off when the soil is disturbed and drawn up to the plants. Immediately the soil is ridged the young runners begin to permeate the centre of that ridge where there is most moisture. From this stage onwards the progress of the new tubers is rapid simply because they are placed in a suitable medium. But if the earthing is put off too long the new tubers remain partly exposed or too near to the surface and do not attain normal size. Where the soil is stiff the ridge should be sharp to throw off heavy rains; where it is light, the ridge should be, approximately 4ins. across.—G.

Digitized by Google

SPROUTING BROCCOLI.

AMPLE proof that the broccoli has fought its way successfully into favour is found in the extensive list of varieties now on the market. Among others, sprouting kinds are mentioned; these, at their present-day standard, are of high merit and prove among the most profitable vegetables to grow.

Best of all is the Early White Sprouting. Sown in succession from early in March until June, they are capable of furnishing a continuous supply of curds from autumn until well into the winter, the late crops depending very much on the weather. The curds of well grown specimens are large, firm and of the best quality; and, then, each plant produces a very large total crop. Almost equally good is the Purple Early. This variety loses in colour, but is otherwise as good as the white; it is, again, superior to, but not so hardy as, the ordinary Purple, the curds being firm, compact and of fine flavour. The ordinary Purple is among the hardiest of winter greens, passing almost unaffected through severe weather in an apparently dormant stage, it grows whenever the weather improves, and so furnishes a welcome supply through the early months of the year,

Lastly, we may mention the newer Perennial White. With care and good feeding, this variety goes on in bearing for four or five years and yields from four to eight large and good curds annually, in addition furnishing a varying quantity of small but useful curds. It is at its best, however, during the first two or three years, and so new stock ought to be raised regularly, and older, less useful plants discarded.

Two points we may mention in growing such broccoli—plant firmly and allow plenty of space.—LANARKSHIRE.

SOW MORE SPINACH.

SUMMER spinach is such a quick-maturing crop and so easy to grow if seed is sown in well matured ground that arrangements should be made for a sowing every three weeks. It is wasteful and useless to do so thickly, as it is imperative that plants have room for development. Spinach loves moisture, and benefits if rotted farmyard or horse dung is incorporated with the soil and the hoe is kept frequently employed between the rows. A time of drought invariably is followed by plants running to seed. When this occurs they should be dug in and another sowing made. The average gardener, however, appears to be content with one or two sowings at the most, and one sometimes notices rows of plants which have gone to seed allowed to remain, whereas if they are turned in and more seed sown, another crop soon follows. The importance of treating spinach as individual plants, and less like mustard and cress, is not generally appreciated; but a minimum of 9ins. apart after the final thinning should be aimed at. Broadcast sowing appeals to some, but plants in drills are more easily dealt with. During a hot dry spell watering should be done frequently, and it is well to remember that spinach is quite satisfactory if sown between peas and other crops that give a partial shade. Victoria is still one of the best round-seeded varieties for sowing now.—W. F.

MISCELLANEOUS

THE WEED PROBLEM.

ALTHOUGH weeds are so troublesome to the gardener, the lusty growth of the wildings is not a wholly bad sign. If land will grow the weeds well it is certain that it will be capable of supporting useful crops of one kind or another. Weeds enter the garden in many ways. Birds will carry a few of the seeds, the wind will be responsible for still more, while, it is safe to presume that many are brought with manure and other material. It is a safe rule never to neglect to deal with weed growth, as, in warm damp weather, the plants grow apace. This is especially true in the case of the annuals, such as chickweed, groundsel, shepherd's purse, etc. Always attack the plants before they have a chance to set seed, and in this way prevent trouble in the future. On open patches of soil one can get at the weeds with a hoe and this method is useful from the cultivation standpoint. Weeds cannot be hoed directly from rows of other plants, and here they must be hand-pulled. It is best to deal with the weeds during a dry spell, as they then wither quickly. The annual weeds can be safely buried in a trench that is 2ft. or 3ft. deep and then covered with soil, or they may be burned. Do not stack up the weeds in a heap and leave them, for it is quite likely that the plants may succeed in developing and ripening seed, even under such unfavourable conditions.

The biennial and perennial weeds, such as dandelions, docks, thistles, couch grass, etc., are not so easy to get rid of. Here a good deal of care is needed to ensure eradication. As hoeing is not of much use, the ground should be dug, when possible, to the depth of quite a foot, and every little piece of root should be picked out. This may seem a tedious business, but it is the only way to clear the land. These weeds should never be buried, as they are extremely tenacious of life. The only way to deal with them is to place them on one side to dry and then burn them. Naturally, the ash which is derived from the burning of weeds represents the minerals which have been taken from the soil by the plants, such as potash, phosphorus, lime, magnesia, sulphur, etc., and it may profitably be returned to the land again.

Throughout the summer keep a sharp look-out for individual weeds which may start growth in some odd corner. These are often the source from which large numbers of plants will develop at a later date. An effective way of dealing with a big dock, or any similar plant, is on the following lines: Cut away the top of the plant, scooping out the upper part of the root in a hollow. Into this place salt or a little "Acme" weed-killer in powder form, and no further trouble will be experienced with that plant. Quite a number of weeds can be quickly treated in this way, and the bother of digging them up is avoided.

Weeds on paths are often the cause of a great deal of trouble. The old-fashioned plan of getting out the weeds with a knife is tedious and not by any means a sure cure. Salt sprinkled on a path certainly kills the weeds, but it often tends to make the ground damper, so that ultimately the growth of weeds is more vigorous than ever. By far the best plan is to use one of the excellent weed-killers now on the market. In using these weed-killers, take great care to follow the directions given, as it is essential that the solution should be applied at the proper strength. It should be pointed out that most of the common weed-killers are poisonous, and must, therefore, be handled with care and kept out of the way of children and animals. An exception is found in McDougall's "Perfect Safety," which is quite free from any dangerous properties. Weed-killers are best distributed on paths by means of a can with a spreading rose. It is only necessary just to cover the surface of the ground with the liquid. Remember that the weed destroyers do not possess discriminating powers and the liquid must be kept from plants which happen to border the paths. It is not a bad plan to protect the edging, whatever it may be, with a plank on either side while the weed-killer is actually being applied. While using the weed-killers wear gloves and do not allow the liquid to get on to clothes or boots. Never allow poultry to run over a treated path until three or four days have elapsed. As well, pet animals like cats and dogs, should be kept away from the paths for a similar period.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

SPRAYING.

An Important Summer Operation.

NOT only is it necessary to bring to a speedy cessation the ravages of plant and shrub pests, but every effort ought to be made to ensure that the foliage, the lungs of the plant, is kept clean and free from dust or other adhesive material. Most summer insecticides, therefore, have a cleansing effect, and their use is a guarantee of health and vigour in the subject treated. Spraying during summer is a strong step towards good results, but it must never be overlooked that the best time to use a spray fluid is when attack first becomes apparent, or when the trees look sickly. As with most things, prevention is better than cure, so the man with a small confined garden finds it advisable to make a point of spraying early, indeed, even before parasites become noticeable. Spraying costs little and gains much.

Spray in the evenings and during dry weather. Employ a syringe which enables the fluid to be applied from above and below, and, as a rule, spray with a fine mist so as to coat the leaves above and below with a thin film of the liquid. Apply the fluid twice preferably, or, better still, thrice, at a few days' interval, and dilute the concentrate with water slightly warm: this point is seldom mentioned, but it is found that water at 80° Fahr. to 90° Fahr. is twice as effective as cold water.

In the absence of pests, or, at least, if the pest is only aphis, apply soapy water containing 2 oz. of soap or near that per gallon. Naphtha, disinfectant or nicotine soaps are best. If hard soap is used, boil first in a little water until dissolved. If the parasites have reached a stage of intensive and extensive destruction, use nicotine or arsenate or lead, of a compound of equal efficiency. Nicotine and arsenate are poisons, however, and they should not be used within one month of harvesting fruit.

In the past, growers did not take kindly to the making up of elaborate washes; but the necessity for that has passed. For a small sum, concentrates may be purchased, and all that is necessary is to dilute these with water. In the measuring out of water, if the capacity of a can is not known, remember that a gallon of water weighs 10lb.; a little over or a little under the measurement is not a serious matter. With everything favourable, then, there is no reason why one should not spray and every reason why one should. —H. A.

HEDGE TRIMMING AND MANAGEMENT.

FEW things show the effects of neglect more than the hedge, and it is essential that pruning and clipping should be carried out at the right time. In most cases, clipping should be done after the summer shoots make their appearance—that is, from the end of June to the middle of July. If the shears or knife are used too soon, a second treatment at the close of the summer may be needed. Hedges of holly and yew are best clipped early in September. When dealing with hedges formed of privet, hawthorn, yew or hornbeam, where the leaves are comparatively small, a pair of ordinary hand shears will be found to be the best. For laurel, viburnum and, in fact, all large-leaved subjects, shears must not be employed, as these will cause too great mutilation of the leaves. Here careful pruning with the knife is required. In shaping any hedge it is most important to cut so that the outline is roughly that of a pyramid, that is, wide at the bottom and narrowing towards the top. If, as so often happens, the lower

Digitized by Google

part of the hedge is cut closely back, the result is a thin growth, and quite often large gaps appear. A hedge that is properly grown and trimmed ought to be as effective a barrier as a fence.

The treatment of young hedges calls for special comment. Thorns should be cut nearly to the ground the first year, and all kinds of recently set hedges will be all the better for a severe pruning which will encourage a thick growth at the lower part. As the years pass the pruning should be less severe, and the hedge can be kept in good condition by an annual trimming. It should be remembered that young hedges are much helped by keeping the soil open round the roots, with a hoe or a fork, and weeds should be cleared away as soon as these put in an appearance.—L. B.

THE VALUE OF HOEING.

SOME people do not as yet appreciate the value of hoeing in the garden, in relation to drought. Mentioning the use of the hoe a while ago, I was surprised to find that it was still looked upon by many people simply as a weed destroyer. The value of the hoe in creating a surface mulch of loose soil can scarcely be over-estimated. Water which rises in firm soil passes from particle to particle until it reaches the surface and evaporates. If the surface soil be loosened, then the water cannot rise in it, because the soil particles are not close enough together to attract the water upwards.

Of course, the loose soil mulch which we leave dries out very quickly, but that is of small account so long as the soil below is kept moist. Now, that raises another question. How deeply should we hoe? One finds various depths advocated, but experiments have shown that, in England, 2ins. gives the best results. As to whether the Dutch hoe or draw hoe should be used is a matter of conditions. Where possible, I always use the Dutch hoe, as it leaves a better tilth and there is no need to walk over the soil one has loosened; but, of course, on hard and heavy soil the draw hoe is easier to manipulate, especially if a rather heavy one is chosen. As a matter of fact, where the soil has got somewhat baked, I have sometimes found it necessary to use a stock hoe (variously known as Canterbury hoe, tomahawk or double hoe) to make any impression.

As an illustration of the value of hoeing, I would just like to give one example: In a certain place in the Midlands, two allotments, side by side, were sown with carrots on the same evening, seed from the same packet being used. One plot was continually hoed throughout the summer, while the other was only hoed occasionally to keep down weeds. Very little difference was noticeable until drought set in, when the unhoed—or, rather, occasionally hoed—plot began to suffer. The other, regularly hoed, plot did suffer, of course, but not to the same extent. In fact, the carrots managed to struggle through the drought, and then, when rain did come, of course they soon grew away, with the result that a crop was obtained, while those on the other plot were beyond redemption before rain came. Finally, if dry weather does set in, keep the hoe going—it is far cheaper than water.—N. D. H.

REPAIRING A WATERING POT.

QUITE a good repair may be effected in a watering pot that has one or more holes in the bottom in this way. Fit a piece of sacking which is a trifle larger all round than the inside of the can. Now make up a little cement with water until it is the consistency of batter. Stand the can on a level surface and pour in the cement solution until the sacking is covered with a thin layer. Keep the can in the same position until the cement has set, and it is then ready for use. The cement adds very little to the weight of the can, and it often gives a new lease of life to a watering pot that otherwise would have to be discarded altogether.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

STONE ORNAMENTS AND FURNITURE.

A GARDEN, however well designed and tastefully planted, seems to be incomplete without garden ornaments and furniture of some kind. These should be in keeping not only with the style of the garden but with the character of the house also. They add in no small degree interest, beauty and comfort to any garden. Furniture or ornaments of fantastic design should, above all, be avoided; simplicity and proportion must be carefully studied if the garden is, as a whole, to be restful and pleasing to the eye. Few can go wrong if they select ornaments and furniture made of natural stone. These

ORNAMENTS AND FURNITURE OF BATH STONE.

are suitable for practically all types of gardens. The colouring of natural stone blends well with any colour scheme, and for durability stone of this kind heads the list. There are many substitutes for natural stone on the market, but, of course, the latter comes first and foremost.

Semicircular stone seats, large vases, a dove-cote or a sundial can all be used in the same garden: in fact, a small formal garden constructed practically of stone and enclosed by a balustrade is most effective. Specimen plants of hydrangeas, fuchsias and rhododendrons are shown off to their very best advantage when grown in large tubs made of stone, and either square or round in shape.

From many points of view Bath stone is one of the best for this kind of work. Its colour, surface and lasting qualities are superior to other types, and furniture of simple and artistic design made of this stone is a great asset to the garden. The seats and ornaments of Bath stone which are constructed by the Horsecombe Quarries and Stone Works, in the neighbourhood of Bath itself, are of excellent design, and so varied that they are suitable for every size of garden. They make quaintly designed dove-cotes, pedestals, vases, benches and seats, which even in themselves are attractive, and when placed in a garden they will be a source of pleasure for years to come, lending beauty to their surroundings.

THE CARBOLINEUM WASHES.

FROM general results obtained in many parts of the country, and from the reports and remarks of authorities, it appears safe and even desirable to recommend the use of carbolineum washes for fruit trees.

The claims made for the washes are—and they have been substantiated in many cases—that they kill the eggs of many insect pests in addition to cleansing trees of the green vegetable growths on the bark.

The first result I saw from their use was conclusive in one respect—that it is dangerous to apply them after the buds have begun to show the least sign of growth; in the case under review practically every bud showing growth was either crippled or killed.

The second conclusion I reached was that the claim advanced as an insect egg destroyer was more than partly correct. Eggs of the apple sucker, aphis and caterpillar failed to produce any living organism, but eggs of the capsid bug appeared to retain their vitality unimpaired. Since this result three years ago, many other trials have been carried out, not only with the original preparation, which was a foreign one, but also with several British preparations. Most of the results support my earlier conclusions.

So far, then, we are safe in recommending a carbolineum wash in preference to a caustic soda one, because caustic soda, if it destroys any insect eggs at all, the number destroyed is negligible, and the carbolineum washes are just as effective in their cleansing the trees of vegetable growths.

All this in favour of the new washes, but a question arises which has not yet been satisfactorily answered—the effect of yearly applications. It is stated that annual applications are likely to cause much irritation to the bark of the trees, causing a softness which becomes susceptible to the ingress of fungoid spores.

Finally, then, the course to follow at present is to use a carbolineum wash in preference to a caustic soda one, but not to apply yearly applications until more conclusive evidence is obtained regarding the effect on the bark of trees.

There are several of the washes on the market and any of the well known firms supplying insecticide will be able to execute your order.—H. C. ELSDON.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

"Lime in Agriculture," by Frank Ewart Conis (Chapman and Hall, 3s. 6d. net). A handbook for practical farmers, students and others.

"Every Man His Own Gardener," by John Halsham. (Hodder and Stoughton, 6s. net.) A new and revised edition of this helpful contribution to gardening literature. It is packed full of information on all gardening topics, and all amateur gardeners will find it both interesting and instructive.

"Goldfish Culture for Amateurs," by A. E. Hodge and Arthur Derham. (H. F. and G. Witherby, 5s. net.) An interesting account of how to breed and rear goldfish in aquaria and ponds.

"Key to the Families of the Dicotyledons" taken from The Families of Flowering Plants, by J. Hutchinson. (Messrs. Macmillan and Co., price 2s.) A valuable handbook for all botanical students and scientific horticulturists.

Digitized by Google

GARDENING OF THE WEEK

FOR SOUTHERN GARDENS.

AMONG THE VEGETABLES.

The last sowing of beet should be made, and the earlier crops thinned to a few inches apart unless it is the turnip rooted variety, when little or no thinning is needed beyond the removal of the largest roots for the kitchen, as required. Carrots can also be thinned, and if the crop is a poor one, a further sowing of a stump-rooted variety may be made. A late sowing often escapes the carrot fly, and, moreover, young tender roots are always appreciated. Coleworts are not grown so much as their merits deserve, and if seeds are sown now plants will be ready for the kitchen about October, while another sowing made a few weeks hence will furnish a supply for the winter. Dwarf beans are making headway, but, unfortunately, they are often overcrowded, a foot apart is none too great. They will quickly cover this space, and produce a fine crop. If seeds of asparagus were sown some weeks ago, the seedlings will be sufficiently advanced for thinning to 3ins. or 4ins. in the lines. Any blank spaces can be filled by the thinnings if they are carefully lifted with a small hand fork. This crop should be encouraged by frequent hoeing, then the young plants will be ready for their permanent quarters next spring. Tomatoes outside should have all their side growths removed, kept tied up to the wall or stakes, and the main or principal leaves left intact. The mutilation of these ought not to be practised.

HERBACEOUS BORDERS.

These require almost constant attention, the hoe must be used frequently, plants past their best cut down or made tidy, and others afforded stakes before they are beaten to the ground by wind or heavy rain. Asters and Michaelmas daisies are so valuable in the autumn, that they deserve special attention, and although not a strict advocate for single stems, certainly each clump should be reduced to six or seven growths. Chrysanthemums ought also to be given support early before the shoots are injured. Annuals sown in borders are usually too thick and if good specimens are needed each plant must be allowed ample space for development. It is best to perform the operation of thinning at short intervals until the plants are strong, otherwise slugs may finish off those that are left.

FRUIT TREES ON WALLS

On both plums and peaches green and black fly appear to be on the increase, and in some gardens the young shoots are injured by these pests. Syringe or spray with quassia extract, and see that the curled leaves are thoroughly wetted. If we experience a dry, hot spell of weather it will be advisable to give water liberally. Newly planted trees must be watched for dryness at the root and if late planting was practised, the trees ought not to produce any fruit this season. This year many peach trees are overburdened with fruit and I have found few amateurs who will reduce the number so that good quality fruit is obtained. Much of the fruit should have been removed before this date, but many trees are still overcrowded, and in consequence they should be gradually reduced until they are about 6ins. apart.

RASPBERRIES.

In two gardens recently I saw beds of raspberries which were planted last winter, and an effort was being made to secure a crop of fruit this summer. Now this is asking too much, and any canes in a similar condition should be cut down to within a few inches of the ground. The object is to secure strong young canes during the present growing period, and these will produce a good crop in 1927. Established plantations are pushing up a quantity of new growths, and these must be reduced to about six of the best on each root, or stool.

Chepstow. T. W. BRISCOE.

FOR NORTHERN GARDENS.

THE FLOWER GARDEN.

In the lull following the bustle of "bedding out," and other essential garden work in a particularly busy period the requirements of the spring bedding can now have attention. To obtain good bushy plants of wallflower that will transplant readily and winter well, the seedlings should be pricked off when they are 2ins. to 3ins. high. For this purpose choose a well prepared, but rather poor piece of ground, made firm by treading, if necessary. Form beds 4ft. wide which will accommodate five lines of plants and the seedlings 6ins. apart in the rows. Cheiranthus Allionii, Erysimum Golden Gem, sweet williams, etc., will be entirely suited with this method of treatment. Less space may be allowed between the plants if room is restricted. If the operation is done in hot, dry weather, watering and shade will be essential until growth starts.

The stock plants of arabis fl. pl., aubrietia, polyanthus, daisies, can now be separated into useful sized pieces and replanted. A more satisfactory method, by which better plants are produced, is to propagate the arabis and aubrietia from cuttings which should be about 4ins. long, dibbled in 2ins. or 3ins. apart in frames containing light sandy soil. Water, shade, and keep lights closed until rooted, afterwards giving full exposure. In this district I find that cuttings of Alyssum saxatile compactum winter better than seedling plants.

It is good practice to raise a number of polyanthus from seed each year, as constant reproduction by vegetative means results in deterioration of vitality and loss in size of flower. Seedlings of these will be of sufficient size to admit of pricking off into frames in a light mixture, principally leaf mould. Afford protection in the earlier stages by using the lights, subsequently hardening off and transplanting to nursery rows to attain a suitable size for autumn planting.

THE FRUIT GARDEN.

The summer pruning of red currant and gooseberry bushes is a practice worthy of attention for many obvious reasons. The method is well known, consisting of pinching side shoots at the fourth or fifth leaf, and in tipping the leaders of currants as well. Where American gooseberry mildew is prevalent the leaders of these may be tipped with some profit in mitigating the infestation.

Summer pruning concentrates the vigour of the bush in the formation of basal fruit buds. It allows a freer circulation of air, light, and sun to penetrate the bushes with all their beneficial influences in ripening wood and fruit.

A great deal of good accrues from thinning out the young growths of raspberries, leaving approximately the number of these required to form the following year's fruiting canes. Gooseberries are now a suitable size for bottling purposes. If pulling is delayed the skin becomes tough and unpalatable when cooked.

Tie in the young wood of peach trees on walls out of doors, pinching surplus shoots overlooked in disbudding. Wall trees should be closely watched for aphis and sprayed if needful. As their situation does not always permit of these having a full supply of water by rainfall, and much of it too often abstracted from the borders by plants growing too near them. It is essential for the successful cultivation of wall trees that the water supply should be adequate. In the case of those carrying heavy crops, it will pay to thin out the fruits and assist the swelling of the remainder by giving liquid manure and occasional applications of lime in solution in the stoning period of cherries, plums and peaches.

SHRUBS.

It is a matter of grave reflection how we gardeners are so consistently inconsistent; albeit there are exceptions. We vigorously denude our buddleias, ceanothus, wistaria, etc., by pruning back to within a bud or two of the old wood each winter. This induces the plants to produce strong young wood, which gives the finer flowers the following autumn.

All of us know quite well that the flowered shoots of Philadelphus coronarius, Deutzia crenata fl. pl. and others should be cut out when the bloom is over, and that weigela, kerrias, etc., are greatly improved by having the worn out flowering shoots thinned out. While some of the quick-growing spiræas, like Douglasii, Anthony Waterer, which flower on the current year's wood, should have the old wood cut back and the young growth thinned out in spring to encourage strong branches on which the best inflorescences are borne.

Others, like arguta, Thunbergi, which flower in early summer, require thinning after flowering. While species such as ariæfolia and prunifolia—if my specimens are correctly named—are greatly improved by having the old flowering shoots and dead wood cut out. Lilacs should have the centres of the plants kept open and suckers from the rootstocks cut away, while the removal of the old flower heads is beneficial.

Doune, Perthshire. W. MCCARRELL.

GREENHOUSE & CONSERVATORY.

Humea elegans.—Where an early batch of large plants is required a sowing of seed should be made in a cool house some time this month—making the main sowing about the middle of August in a cool greenhouse. The young plants should be potted on as they require it until they are in 5in. and 3in. pots, the larger size for the earlier sowing, in which sizes they should be wintered. Humeas are generally considered to be difficult to grow successfully, but provided they are grown cool and carefully watered, no difficulty should be experienced in their younger stage, although great care is required in repotting and subsequent watering when they are transferred to their flowering pots. They should always be repotted before they become potbound.

Gilia coronopifolia.—A sowing of this beautiful biennial should now be made in a cool greenhouse. When large enough to handle, prick off the seedlings into pans, or 48-sized pots, afterwards transferring them to thumb pots. Well grown plants should be potted on into large 60-sized pots, in which they should pass the winter. In their younger stages a light, well drained compost is essential. Like many other Californian plants they are apt to prove troublesome during our dull and sunless winters, and should be given a position well up to the roof glass in a light, airy greenhouse, giving no more water at the root than is necessary to keep them from suffering.

Mignonette and Other Annuals.—Well grown plants of this sweet-scented annual are always acceptable, and a supply should be kept up for the greenhouse more or less all the year round, except during the summer, when it is in flower outdoors. If a sowing is made in a cool house or cold frame at this time, the resulting plants should prove useful during late summer and autumn. It is the usual practice to sow the seed directly into the flowering pots, usually 5in. in size, under the mistaken idea that mignonette cannot be successfully transplanted. Young seedlings can, however, be just as easily transplanted as most other annual plants, indeed, it has the advantage of inducing them to develop shoots from the base of the plants. The young seedlings should be pricked off, three or four into thumb pots, afterwards potting them on until they are in 6in. pots, in which fine specimens should be grown. The compost should consist of a good mellow loam, with the addition of some dried cow manure or sheep droppings and enough sand or, better still, as lime is essential, some old mortar rubble. If this is not available, a dusting of lime should be added to the potting compost. Very firm potting is essential, also careful watering and perfectly cool treatment. Many other annuals may be sown at this time for giving a display in the conservatory during late summer and autumn. They include such general favourites as schizanthus, Lobelia tenuior, Statice Suworowi and Collinsia bicolor. Some of the annual chrysanthemums, as represented by C. carinatum, Morning and Evening Star, are very useful, in fact, all the annuals that are usually used for pot work may be successfully used for this purpose. It is essential that they should be grown perfectly cool and with as little shade as possible.

Hydrangeas which are so popular to-day in many new varieties, should now be propagated as cuttings are available. They root readily in a close case, emitting roots freely from every part of the stem; as they do, it is not necessary to secure nodal cuttings. Cuttings are best inserted singly in small pots; when rooted, stand them out on the stage, well up to the roof glass. In a few days they may be transferred to 5in. pots. When established in them they may be transferred to cold frames in which they can be wintered. By propagating successional batches of cuttings, a supply of flowering plants may be kept up over a long period. Where it is desired to produce blue flowers—and they are always popular—a preparation for this purpose can be obtained from garden sundriesmen. For producing blue flowers the pink-flowered varieties must be used and lime should not be part of the potting compost.

J. COUTTS.

Digitized by Google

Banish White Fly

Snow Fly on Tomatoes and Cucumbers can easily and safely be eradicated by means of Abol White Fly Compound. No apparatus is needed. Simply pour the Compound down the centre path of the House at the rate of 2½ fluid ozs. to 1,000 cubic feet of space.

Sold in round tins as under. When reckoning quantity required allow ¼ pint for each 2,000 cubic feet.

Size.	Price.	Postage.
¼ pint	1/-	4d.
½ pint	1/9	6d.
Pint	3/-	9d.
Quart	5/-	9d.
¼ gallon	8/-	1/3
Gallon	15/-	2/6

Of all Nurserymen, Seedsmen, Florists, Ironmongers, Chemists and Stores.

Abol, Limited,
9, Beltring, Paddock Wood, Kent.

Write for Descriptive Folders.

Abol White Fly Compound

THE

SPLENDID PROSPECTS

of your orchard are in peril from the attacks of insect pests.

To secure clean, sound fruit, spraying is imperative. Fruit growers have proved by experience that

COOPER'S

SUMMER SPRAY FLUID

answers the requirements of an efficient insecticide. 1 gallon makes 100 gallons of spray.

½ pint, 2/- ½ gallon, 9/-
1 pint, 3/6 1 gallon, 14/-
1 quart, 5/6 2 gallons, 26/-
5 gallons, 62/6

Of all Agents.

COOPER, McDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, LTD.
BERKHAMSTED.

CYTISUS SCOPARIUS.

SOME NOTABLE VARIETIES.

WITHOUT overlooking the large and ever-increasing number of beautiful brooms, which owe their origin for the most part to C. s. var. Andreanus, the object of this note is to allude to the best of the various self-coloured forms of the "Bonnie Broom," which come nearest the type.

C. scoparius, as we all know it, is still the finest hardy yellow broom of anything like its stature. One of the most valuable members of its clan in its own colour is the late-flowering form raised some years ago at the famous Newry Nurseries, the home of so many excellent varieties. This late broom is exceptionally vigorous in habit, but the very large yellow flowers, borne in the greatest abundance, do not appear until July or August. They are thus especially welcome at a season when so many shrubs are past flowering, and it is worthy of note that seed (preferably gathered from the last to bloom), almost invariably comes true. I have had specimens of these late brooms 8ft. high with stems 5ins. through near the base. The long, weeping branches, are singularly elegant, a darker green and very much more leafy than those of the average type.

There is a double-flowered form of C. scoparius, which is by no means a travesty upon the charm of the type, and a variety with its leaves and stems variegated with pale yellow. The latter, if seldom seen, can be recommended to those who go in for variegated shrubs and it is one that blends very pleasingly with pale blue and silvery subjects. Then there is C. s. var. pendulus (C. grandiflorus), which is a remarkably distinctive form, notable for its prostrate habit and unusually large blooms. Gardeners whose taste leans towards standard brooms will find this variety an excellent weeping subject when grafted on laburnum, but I like it best hanging over a bold rock, bank or old wall.

S. s. var. sulphureus (pallidus), the "Moonlight Broom," is an exceedingly choice shrub. It is dwarfer, stouter and bushier than the type and the large blooms, which are yielded in the greatest profusion, are a glossy, creamy ivory, approaching nankeen. Sulphur coloured they certainly are not, but the name

ANTIRRHINUMS

IT'S only the fact that we grow and deliver especially good plants that we wish to advertise. The brightness, the long-flowering life, the wonderful adaptability of Antirrhinums (Snapdragons) are known to everyone. Although our plants are properly grown, transplanted, well rooted, hardened off, in all ways particularly good, as becomes a firm which reckon to do things well, the price is only

1/3 dozen. **8/6** 100.

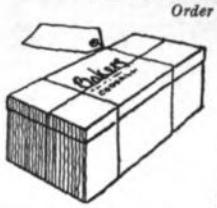
Carriage paid on orders value 5/- and over, otherwise 9d. extra.

And these are the varieties and colours

Codsall Rose, delicate pink
Cottage Maid, pink, white throat
Crimson King, rich dark crimson
Dainty, gold and terra cotta pink
Electra, salmon orange, white throat
Dazzler, orange scarlet
Firefly, scarlet
Glow, orange apricot
Melrose, bright rose
Rose Queen, rose pink self
White Queen, pure white
Yellow King, rich yellow

DELIVERED DIRECT FROM THE GROWERS, CARRIAGE PAID.

Order now.



Bakers
FLOWER FARM,
CODSALL.
Nr. Wolverhampton.

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by **"ALPHOL"**
Sample 14 lb., 5/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

HEDGE CLIPPING made easy with the "LITTLE WONDER"

A PRACTICAL machine that will clip any variety and shape of hedge five to ten times as fast as the hand shears. It will do better work and make finer hedges with much less effort. Ten feet high hedges may be clipped right from the ground. Easily adjusted for top cutting.

Strong, durable, efficient—a perfectly made and finished labour-saving machine that saves you money every time it trims a hedge.

The "LITTLE WONDER" Hedge Clipper has been used at the Royal Horticultural Society's Gardens at Wisley, and has been granted

THE AWARD OF MERIT BY THE R.H.S.

Used in the Royal Zoological Society's Gardens.

Send for free illustrated booklet with prices. (Free of Duty in Ireland.)

JOH. HANSEN,
ASTOR HOUSE, 93, ALDWYCH, LONDON, W.C.2

Digitized by Google

The Amateur Series

RHODODENDRONS FOR AMATEURS

By E. H. M. COX. *Editor of* THE GARDEN. Demy 8vo. Illustrated. 5s. net.

BULBS FOR AMATEURS

By the Rev. JOSEPH JACOB. Demy 8vo. Illustrated. 5s. net.

SHRUBS FOR AMATEURS

By W. J. BEAN. *Curator of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.* Demy 8vo. Illustrated. 5s. net.

ORNAMENTAL TREES FOR AMATEURS

By W. J. BEAN. Demy 8vo. Illustrated. 5s. net.

HERBACEOUS BORDERS FOR AMATEURS

By R. V. GIFFARD WOOLLEY. Demy 8vo. Illustrated. 5s. net.

A combined Prospectus will be sent on application.

"Country Life," Ltd., 20, Tavistock St., Covent Garden, London, W.C.2

WOLVERHAMPTON FLORAL FETE

July 13th, 14th & 15th, 1926.

£1,000 IN PRIZES.

Entries close 5th July. Schedules on application to the Secretary.

"Moonlight" is a particularly happy one. This very lovely broom always attracts attention, but it is never quite so enchanting as when in conjunction with smoky or lavender blues. Associated in open woodland with a good form of Ceanothus thyrsiflorus, or with a background of wild hyacinths in grass, it makes a most delightful effect.—A. T. J.

SWEET PEA COMPETITION

£50 IN PRIZES

RULES.

A list of your choice of the six most popular sweet peas to be sent in in order of preference on the coupon to be found on page IV of this week's issue of THE GARDEN. *No alternative* varieties will be allowed in the one list, but readers may send in any number of lists, provided that they are written on the special coupon to be found in this and the following three issues of THE GARDEN.

Coupons must reach this office not later than Saturday, July 17th (after which date no coupons will be accepted).

The popular vote will be final, and no correspondence will be entered into over this competition.

Envelopes must be marked *Competition* and addressed to THE GARDEN, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

The Editor will not be held responsible for letters missing in the post.

The result will be announced in THE GARDEN in the issue of August 28th.

The prizes are awarded to those whose list corresponds most closely to that arrived at by the popular vote.

If two readers tie for the first place, the first and second prizes will be equally divided; if two for the second place, the second and third prizes will be equally divided.

The Editor's decision on all points will be final.

PRIZES.

1ST PRIZE.—Goods worth **£30** from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

2ND PRIZE.—Goods worth **£10** from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

3RD PRIZE.—Goods worth **£5** from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

20 CONSOLATION PRIZES of **5s.** each from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

A GROWING HABIT

and a very sensible one is to give your friend, especially a friend overseas, a year's subscription to one of the best weekly periodicals.

It means fifty-two kind remembrances of you, and fifty-two remembrances of England.

There is no paper so representative of England and none so welcome abroad as

COUNTRY LIFE

80/- *a year abroad.* 60/- *to Canada*

20, TAVISTOCK ST., COVENT GARDEN, LONDON W.C.2

WHY is "HOMES and GARDENS" such a Great Success?

BECAUSE it shows greater House Comfort & Convenience —with less Labour and Expense.

Send to-day for a Free specimen Copy of this helpful and beautifully Illustrated Magazine to 20, Tavistock St., Covent Garden, W.C.2

REPUTATION

Is not gained without continued good service and effect. Especially is this true about a weed-killer. Eureka does kill weeds, it has the largest sale and when using it you are certain of satisfactory results, it is full strength and never varies.

Eureka WEED KILLER

From Chemists, Seedsmen, Boots, Civil Service, Harrods, etc. If any difficulty in procuring, write:—

TOMLINSON & HAYWARD, Ltd. :: LINCOLN

"Chemistry in Garden & Greenhouse," free

Digitized by Google

BY APPOINTMENT

MOTOR MOWERS Speciality all Sizes.

GREEN'S WORLD FAMOUS LAWN MOWERS

HAND and HORSE MOWERS

GARDEN ROLLERS & TENNIS MARKERS

liable. Efficient. Economical.

GREEN'S LIGHT MOTOR MOWERS

Light tor Mowers ade in the lowing sizes: ins. £45 Ins. £62 10s. Ins. £72 10s. Ins. £92 10s. so heavier type tor Mowers up to 42 ins.

16, 20, 24, and 30 in. (fitted with kick starter)

Supreme in Construction

Perfect in Operation

NEW SEASON'S PRICE LIST No. 8 FREE ON REQUEST.

GREEN'S NEW "CENTURY" LAWN MOWER.

The Ideal Light Mower.

Over a Million Sold.

GREEN'S "SILENS MESSOR" LAWN MOWER

The Universal Favourite.

GREEN'S Lawn Mowers

Obtainable from all Ironmongers.

THOMAS GREEN & SON, Ltd., Smithfield Ironworks, Leeds, and New Surrey Works, Southwark Street, London, S.E.1. (Est. 1835

The WIZARD Plant LABEL

PATENT No 212974

Made in Red Pottery, 2¼ x 1¼ ins., with rustless wires. 12 in., 2/- doz.; 7 in., 1/7 doz. 1¼ x 1 in., with wires 6 in., 1/6 doz. For tying on, 1/6 and 1/3 doz. Waterproof Ink, 9d. and 7½d. bot. Crow Quills, 2d. Postage extra.

Highly commended by the R.H.S. at Wisley.

STORKINGTON . NEW HALL . MAIDENHEAD

By Appointment

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD., *Royal Potteries,* BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

"The Garden Beautiful"

No garden can be truly beautiful where the plants are sickly and starved. Therefore dress it well with Nitrate of Soda, in conjunction with Phosphates and Potash.

Write for special pamphlets, entitled, "Successful Gardens for Every Amateur," "The Manuring of Orchards and Fruit Trees," supplied gratis and post free by THE CHILEAN NITRATE COMMITTEE, Friars House, New Broad Street, London, E.C. 2.

Nitrate of Soda

MANURES.

The most complete little book on the subject is "The Manual of Manures," by H. VENDELMANS, 4/5; by post, 4/9. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

ROCKRAVEN GARDEN STONE

COMPANY SUPPLY POROUS LIME-STONE ROCKS FOR ALPINE SUBJECTS: WEATHER-WORN BY THE STORMS OF CENTURIES INTO DELIGHTFUL POCKETS, LEDGES AND FISSURES. VARIED SHAPES AND SIZES

APPLY SECRETARY LINTON-IN-CRAVEN, SKIPTON, YORKS

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND. SOILFUME. NICOTINE. INSECTICIDES. FUMERS. SPRAYS AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES - THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY. IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT, CARRIAGE PAID.

Only Address: TOMLINSON & HAYWARD Ltd LINCOLN.

HILL & SMITH, Ltd.,

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS,

Makers of

IRON FENCING, HURDLES, GATES, WIRE NETTING AND GARDEN IRONWORK

Other Products—Hay and Grain Sheds, Dutch Barns, Galvanized Corrugated Sheets and Structural Steelwork.

Catalogues free on mentioning this paper.

London: 300, Abbey House, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

CLAY'S LONDON FERTILIZER TRADE MARK

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with CLAY'S FERTILIZER and then together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices:—

Tins 10d. and 1/6

and in Branded and Sealed Bags:

7 lbs.	3/6	14 lbs.	6/-
28 lbs.	10/-	56 lbs.	18/-
112 lbs.	32/-		

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark.

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers, etc. STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15

Digitized by Google

Smokers may now enjoy all the delightful flavour of the original PLAYER'S Navy Cut without the trouble of rubbing it up.

PLAYER'S
"MEDIUM"
Navy Cut

PLAYER'S NAVY CUT. REGD No 154011

RUBBED READY FOR SMOKING

P 1313

YOUR GARDEN NEEDS
KILOGRUB
Its fumes are instantly fatal to all insect pests in the soil, but harmless to plants. Really effective because it works underground.
Tins: 9d., 1/6 and 2/6
Bags: ¼ cwt. 6/6, ½ cwt. 9/6, 1 cwt. 15/-
From your seedsmen or from
JOHN PEAK & CO. LTD. WIGAN. Lancs.

GARDEN LOVERS
Write for Catalogues of
PROTHEROE & MORRIS'
· HORTICULTURAL SALES ·
WEDNESDAY
67 68 Cheapside, London E.C.2. Phone City 3856

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION
WAKELEY'S Celebrated (PATENTED) HOP MANURE
THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE
DO YOU REALISE IT?
A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.
A beautiful Free Booklet giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.
BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. GENUINE ONLY IN OUR MARKED BAGS, CONTAINING GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.
Cash Prices, including bags: Small (about 1 bushel), 3/-; Large (about 4 bushels), 7/-; 5 Large, 33/9
10 Large, 65/-; 20 Large, 120/-
Carriage Paid to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company. 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.
WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

Even Birds

—to say nothing of slugs, snails, worms, and other soil-pests, shun crops protected with

SANITAS POWDER

Sprinkle on soil, dust on seeds, dust over trenches, put into drills. The saving is enormous. There is no poison in it. Get a 1/3 Tin to-day, or write to us for bulk quotations.
THE "SANITAS" CO. LTD.
LIMEHOUSE, LONDON, E.

San 84—89a

A Carmona measuring Spoon in every tin

THE COMPLETENESS OF ITS COMPOSITION AND THE HAPPY BLENDING OF ITS HIGHGRADE ORGANIC AND OTHER INGREDIENTS RENDER

Carmona Fertilizer

A PAR-EXCELLENT BLOOM PRODUCER

CARRIAGE PAID PRICES:—
1 lb. Tin 1/3 2 lb. Tin 2/-
7 lb. Tin 4/6 112 lb. Bag 26/-
The fullest instructions accompany each package.

Sole Manufacturers:—
ROBINSON BROTHERS LTD., WEST BROMWICH

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11 Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS 56 & 57, Drury Lane London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

Vol. XC.—No. 2847 Saturday, June 26th, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

PERMISSION TO PHOTOGRAPH IN READING ROOM GENERAL LIBRARY BRITISH MUSEUM

Barr's Seeds for June Sowing

OF PEDIGREE STRAINS AND TESTED GROWTH

For the Flower Garden and Greenhouse

Antirrhinums, Aquilegias, Campanulas, Canterbury Bells, Calceolarias, Cinerarias, Delphiniums, Forget-me-nots, Hollyhocks, Lupins, Pansies, Primulas, Polyanthus-Primroses, Sweet Williams, Stocks, Wallflowers, etc.

For the Vegetable Garden

Beans, Beet, Carrots, Peas, Spinach, Lettuce, Radish, etc.

For the Rock Garden

Special List of dwarf-growing Hardy Perennials, Alpines etc., for June and July sowing in the Rock Garden.

All Lists free on application.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

NETTINGS

GARDEN NETS FOR FRUIT PROTECTION

Any lengths and widths. Corded all round

	per sq. yd.		per sq. yd.
NEW 1 in. sq. mesh, heavy	6½d.	NEW ½ in. sq. mesh, medium ..	7½d.
NEW 1 in. ,, medium ..	6½d.	REPAIRED 1 in. sq. mesh, heavy	3½d.
NEW ½ in. ,, light ..	5½d.	REPAIRED ½ in. ,, ,,	4d.

REPAIRED (not corded) 1 in. diamond mesh, 9/- per 100 sq. yards.

NEW TENNIS BOUNDARY NETS

Any lengths and widths. Corded all round. 7½d. per sq. yard.

NEW TENNIS NETS

Various qualities from 16/- to 31/- each.

NETS FOR ALL PURPOSES

Samples and full particulars from the manufacturers.

JOSEPH BENTLEY, Ltd., Barrow-on-Humber, LINCS.
(Sole Proprietors of B. EDDY & SONS)

The Flower of the Season

BALL'S CALENDULA

— Brilliant Orange Double Flowers —

THE FINEST PLANT FOR CUT FLOWER OR THE BORDER

Our exhibit at CHELSEA SHOW made us many customers, and we have had numerous testimonials from all parts of the country.

SEED .. .. 1/-, 2/6, 5/- packet
PLANTS .. .. 1/6 doz.: 10/- 100

WM. ARTINDALE & SON
NETHER GREEN NURSERY :: SHEFFIELD

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

FOR THE GARDEN! FOR EXHIBITION!
FOR BEDS! FOR EVERYWHERE!

Also Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees, Alpines and Hardy Plants.

BUY HOME-GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries.

Catalogue Free on Application, and Addresses booked for Revised Catalogue in late Summer.

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.,
Garden Specialists - - SOUTHWELL, NOTTS

All Prices Reduced *All Prices Reduced*

SMITH'S

"PERFECT" WEED KILLER

—POWDER—

Also in Liquid—All Sized Drums.
First Weed Killer ever offered and first ever since.

SMITH'S "PERFECT" NON-POISONOUS LIQUID AND POWDER

Best Value. Most Reliable. Full Satisfaction Guaranteed. Prices and Particulars of—

MARK SMITH, LTD., LOUTH, LINCOLNSHIRE

NETTINGS (*Reduced Prices*)

GARDEN NETS for fruit protection. Any length or width, corded all round

	Per sq. yd.		Per sq. yd.
New 1in. sq. mesh, stout ..	5d.	Best 1in salmon twine	7d.
New medium, 1in. sq. mesh ..	4½d.	Repaired 1in. stout, sq. mesh ..	3d.
New ½in. stout, sq. mesh ..	5½d.	Repaired 1in. sq. mesh	2½d.
New ½in. medium, sq. mesh ..	4½d.		

NEW TENNIS BOUNDARY NETTING, roped around.

	Per sq. yd.		Per sq. yd.
Heavy hand braided	7d.	Little lighter	4½d.
Medium hand braided	6d.	Selected repaired	3d.

Any length or width supplied.

NEW TENNIS NETS, regulation size, various qualities, steel and copper head lines, 30 - to 35 - each.

DIAMOND NETS, measured mesh closed. Selected, Repaired, small mesh. 25yds. x 2yds., 3s. 6d., or 4yds., 7s., or 8yds., 14s. Heavy quality, about 1½in. mesh, 25yds. x 2yds., 5s.; 4yds., 10s.; 8yds., £1, carriage paid passenger train: receipt order.

Satisfaction Guaranteed. Samples and full particulars from the Manufacturers: Mention THE GARDEN

W. OLIVER ALLEN & SONS,
Net Makers, PORTHLEVEN, CORNWALL

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
— New Alpines and Perennials. Complete Collection.

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
— Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
— Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
— Begonias, Delphiniums, Gloxinias, Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD,
CHELSEA, S.W.
— Seeds, Gladioli, Spiræas. List on Application

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
— Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
— Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
— Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
HULL
— Weed Destroyers, Fertilisers, Insecticides, Nets and Sundries

TUBS FOR SHRUBS. WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 100 prizes. R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. — Price List from A. PRADAL, 28, Goodge Street, London W.1.

ROCKRAVEN GARDEN STONE
COMPANY SUPPLY POROUS LIME-STONE ROCKS for ALPINE SUBJECTS: WEATHER-WORN BY THE STORMS OF CENTURIES INTO DELIGHTFUL POCKETS, LEDGES AND FISSURES. VARIED SHAPES AND SIZES
SECRETARY
LINTON-IN-CRAVEN, SKIPTON, YORKS

Water cannot penetrate.
For comfort & safety see that Your Boots have Uppers of "Beva" WATERPROOF LEATHER

Look for the "Beva" on the looping.

FERTHRIVER (REGD.)
THE COMPLETE FERTILISER, WITH GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

GIVES RESULTS

7-lb.	14-lb.	28-lb.	56-lb.	1-cwt.
2/3	4/-	6/-	10/-	16/-

Carriage Paid.

ANALYSIS:

Ammonia	4 per cent.
Phosphates	15 "
Potash	3 "
Pot. Sulphate	5.6 "

3d. Tin of Ferthriver *As Illustrated*, 8d. Post Free.

THE NECESSARIES CO., 25, Edward Road, Balsall Heath BIRMINGHAM.

Why grow white-fly?

White-fly can be killed. They can be killed easily—and swiftly—and certainly. Use XL ALL White-fly Vapour, the proven remedy. It still maintains supreme prestige. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen and florists.

XL ALL WHITE-FLY VAPOUR

G. H. RICHARDS, LTD.
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
B. 143. Monumark: BCM/XLALL.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing*

WILLMOTT
Rival Plant Stake
(Patented No. 183779).
As used in Royal Botanic Gardens London and Cambridge.
For all plants. WILL NOT ROT, WEAR OUT OR BREAK.
Sample of eight sizes.
2/- carr. pd. United Kingdom.
4/- Overseas.
Closed
H. J. GREENWOOD, F.R.H.S., Proprietor, BRACKNELL, Berks.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

WATER
raised by simply turning a handle. The wonderful Boulton Water Elevator lifts a continuous stream of water from well of any depth.
Ask for Catalogue No. 746
BOULTON & PAUL, LTD.
: : NORWICH : :

The Perfect Sun Blind for Glasshouses

Cannot rot or perish.
Easily fixed and removed.
Admits ample light.
Economical in wear.

SEND FOR SPECIAL ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE

MESSENGER & CO., LTD., LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE
LONDON OFFICE: 122, VICTORIA ST., S.W.

CARNATIONS
for every
GARDEN & GREENHOUSE.

PERPETUAL CARNATIONS
PERPETUAL MALMAISONS.
PERPETUAL BORDER CARNATIONS.
BORDER CARNATIONS and
ALLWOODII (Half Pink—Half Carnation.)

For present or Autumn delivery. Fully illustrated and descriptive Catalogue sent post free on request to

The leading Carnation Raisers and Specialists in the World (Dept. 4).

Allwood Bros
HAYWARD'S HEATH.

THE PATTISSON HORSE BOOTS

SIMPLEST
STRONGEST
MOST ECONOMICAL

ONCE TRIED ALWAYS USED

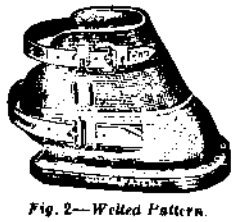


Fig. 2—Welted Pattern.

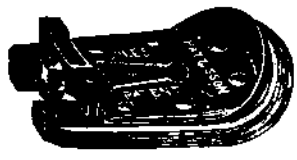


Fig. 1—For Shod Horses.
Best English Leather or Rubber Soles.
Used for many years in the Royal and in thousands of the Principal Gardens.
Silver Medals: Royal Horticultural Society, 1904 and 1914
Royal International Horticultural Exhibition, 1912.
HUNDREDS OF TESTIMONIALS.

Fig. 2—No Welt Pattern

Illustrated Price Lists from the Makers:
H. PATTISSON & CO., STANMORE, MIDDLESEX

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

Send for
EBBS' SPECIAL LIST OF FLOWER IDS, including Aquilegia, Canterbury Bell, Cheiranthus. phinium, Pansy, Wall-flowers, Calceolarias, Cinerarias, lanthus, etc., and Vegetable Seeds for Summer sowing. t free on request.—WEBB AND SONS, LIMITED, The King's dmen, Stourbridge.

ATERER'S GOLD MEDAL RHODODEN- ONS, Azaleas, rare Hardy Shrubs, Alpine and Perennial nts, Vegetable and Flower Seeds. Catalogues free. Bedding alogue now ready, containing the best in Dahlias and Seeds Summer sowing.—JOHN WATERER, SONS AND CRISP, LIMITED, yford, Berks; Bagshot, Surrey; and London.

IMALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODEN- TONS on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and ine Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write Catalogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

ELLS' CATALOGUE OF CHRYSANTHE- MS will be sent post free on application.—W. WELLS AND Merstham, Surrey.

AKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE. The original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See vert. on back page.

M. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., rence Road, South Tottenham, N.15. — Conservatories, nter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

IRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUN- ALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.— ORTON, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

ENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and rden Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request. — THE ASLEY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, rrey.

IVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, s, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality d a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection vited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS D SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

NAIL WRITES WEBSTER'S LABELS new metal, can't fade or break. 20 sizes to hang or stand.— BSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

ASCADE WONDER NOZZLES spread or ur, dirt don't choke, no taking off, not mislaid, fit any can. 3 free.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

VIRE NETTING.—From 2/5 per 50yd. roll. ispect House in the Kingdom. Write us for prices housands of rolls stocked.

ENTS.—Army Bell, all complete, new fittings, ep walls. Scout, Bathing, and Garden Tents, also Marquees. rite us for prices.

EFY THE BIRDS.—Rotless Tanned Net- ng. Small mesh, as supplied by us to the Royal Gardens. In ree Qualities 50 x 1yd, 3/6, 4/-, 6/9; 2yds., 7/-, 8/-, 3/6; 3yds., 10/6, 12/-, 20/3; 4yds., 14/-, 16/-, 27/-; 25 x yds., 14/-, 16/-, 27/-. Any size supplied. Carriage paid. pproval. Measured mesh closed.

ENNIS BOUNDARY NETTING.—Lines top nd bottom. 25 x 2yds., 16/3; 3yds., 18/3; 4yds., 25/3 arriage paid. Approval. Standards for fixing to, also Playing ets, Poles and all requisites supplied.

GARDEN BARROWS.—Full size. 8 spokes. best value in the kingdom, 24/9. Painted, 28/3.

LAWN MOWERS.—Five Riveted Blades. High Wheels. Brass Bushings. Close Cutting. Highly Finished. Unequalled Value. 8in., 23/-; 10in., 24/-; 12in., 25/-; 14in., 36/-. Grass Boxes, 8/6 each. Garden Rollers, 30/-.

PEA NETTING.—Tanned, Superior Quality. 3in. mesh, 6ft. wide, 6d. yard. Carriage paid 12yds. and over. Other widths *pro rata*, prices of smaller meshes on application. —E. B. HAWTHORN, LIMITED, Dept. E, Shrewsbury.

BARR'S SEEDS FOR JUNE SOWING.—for VEGETABLE AND FLOWER GARDEN, ROCK GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE. Finest Selected Strains and Tested Growth. Special Lists Free.—BARR AND SONS, 11, 12, and 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal or training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760 yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

FLAME FLOWER. (Tropæolum speciosum). Extra strong established pot plants of this loveliest of scarlet flowered perennial climbers ready for planting any time now 1/- each, 6 for 5/-, 12 for 10/-, carriage paid for cash with order. —CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED, Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage. Herts.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GAR- DENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial : British Apples	359
Editorial Notes	360
The Value of Foliage—II	361
The Improvement of Lupins	362
Notes on Daffodils	363
Notes of the Week — *Rock Cresses ; Hardy Tradescantias ; Alyssum spinosum ; The Oleander ; Clematis Armandi, Libertia formosa ; Rhododendron Edgeworthii as a Pillar Plant ; The Chilian Wood Sorrel.*	364–365
Correspondence — *A Tree Failure ; Arum Lilies in the Open ; Pot-Pourri ; An Edging Plant ; The Rattlesnake Plantain ; Olearia stellulata.*	366
R.H.S. Fortnightly Show	367
Fungicides for Summer Use	368
The Flower Garden — *Staking Gladioli ; Columbines ; Budding Roses ; Training and Feeding Roses ; Cheiranthus Allionii ; Ranunculus acris plenus.*	369
Gardening of the Week	370

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL DELPHINIUMS and ROSES. Send a postcard for our catalogue.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S CHOICE DAFFODILS AND TULIPS and other Bulbs. Bulb catalogue will be ready in July and will be sent free on application.—"Order early and Plant early" to avoid disappointment.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

PUMP BARGAINS ! !—First-class brand new Pumps for all purposes. Sacrificial prices for early clearance. Post card for illustrations.—GREEN'S ARMY STORES, Dept. 137, Lytham.

A CATALOGUE of gardening books will be sent free on application to "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

DOBBIE'S PLANT CATALOGUE now ready. Free to all readers. Please mention THE GARDEN when writing. —DOBBIE AND CO., LIMITED, Edinburgh.

BARGAINS ! ! !—Ideal Wire for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded, and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses, from 19/6 mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 355, Albert Street, Lytham.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BRATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

GARDEN NETS.—Best tanned, small mesh; 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 25yds. by 3yds., 6/-; 25yds. by 4yds., 8/-. Carr. Paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Tennis nets from 10/-. Special nets for tennis boundary. Pea training nets. Lists and samples free.—G. JARRETT, Netmaker, Rye.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING.—Best selected nets, small mesh only supplied. 50yds. long, 4yds. wide, 14/-; 25 x 8yds., 14/-; 100 x 2yds., 14/-; 25 x 4yds., 7/-; 25 x 3yds., 5/-. Any size to order; all sent carriage paid.—W. GOULDBY, Walmer Road, South Lowestoft.

ROCK AND ALPINE PLANTS.—Large and varied collection. All pot grown. Packed and carriage paid. Catalogue free.—M. J. PIGGOTT, Duffield, Nr. Derby.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING, small mesh: 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 40yds. by 1yd., 3/3; 40yds. by 2yds., 6/6; 40yds. by 3yds., 9/9. Measured mesh closed. Special Pea Netting supplied. Tennis Nets from 8/-. Carriage Paid. Compare our netting with others. Sports lists and samples free.—GALLOP, Net Manufacturer, Hastings.

HERRING NETS, Small Mesh, to protect all kinds of fruit, approximately 80ft x 30ft., 12/6 each. Smaller pieces, 5/- and 6/6, good value. Carriage paid. Cash with order.—WM. G. GRIGOR, Port Gordon Station, Banffshire.

LOOK ! TANNED GARDEN NETS.—All orders dispatched same day. 25yds. by 1yd, 2/-; 25 by 2, 4/-; 25 by 3, 6/-. Odd netting for bushes, 6lbs. for 2/6. All carriage paid. Any sizes supplied. Also Tennis Boundary Nets.—MOORE AND CO., Net Works, Rye.

LAXTON'S STRAWBERRIES.—New List Containing Novelties for 1926. Prolific, Rearguard, Robust, Also The Duke, Royal Sovereign and all the old Favourites. Plants in small pots for forcing.—LAXTON BROTHERS, Nurseries, Bedford.

PUPILS given general nursery instruction. —Particulars, H. HOPKINS, Waterford Nurseries, Lymington, Hants.

MECONOPSIS INTEGRIFOLIA M. WAL- LICHI, 10/6 per doz. to clear. Primula sikkemensis, P. pulverulenta, P. Beesiana, P. Bulleyana, P. Moorcrofti, P. crispata, in flower, to clear at 10/6 per doz. Strong two year old plants. Carriage extra.—WM. HUNT, Primula Grower, 4, Northcote Street, Edinburgh.

THE NATIVE PLANT NURSERIES, Rockbeare, Exeter, do *not*, as some kind persons have thought well to suggest (to others), rely for their supplies upon plants taken from roadsides or common lands. List free.

TREE LUPINS for the grass and Wild Garden. Strong seedlings, mixed colours, 3/- per doz., Post free. —THE NATIVE PLANT NURSERIES, Rockbeare, Exeter.

LEEK PLANTS.—Strong plants of our famous Giant Musselburgh now ready, 1/9 per 100, c.w.o., free by post. Low quotations for large quantities. Price lists free.— DICKSONS, 20, Charlotte Square, Edinburgh.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carr. extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

J·P SUPER

From an ex-Captain of the M.C.C. and County Football XI.:—
"For two years I have been using your machine on my tennis courts, your J.P. Super can give any other lawn mower thirty yards start in a hundred, and a beating."

From a Colonel:—
"I swear by your Lawn Mower, whereas I used to swear at my old fashioned one."

From a Gardener:—
"All are greatly impressed by its efficiency and simplicity of adjustment compared with any other."

J.P. SUPER LAWN-MOWERS LTD., Meynell Rd., Leicester

free
Send post card for Booklet "G" and be convinced. Your Ironmonger or Seedsman will demonstrate machine.

For success in your Garden USE

THOMSON'S MANURES

On the market for over 50 years, they still hold first place for QUALITY and RESULTS. They are safe, sure and lasting. The direct result of many years' practical experience in gardening, they stand unrivalled at the present day for all Garden Crops.

Prices:—**VINE, PLANT AND VEGETABLE MANURE**—a Perfect Food—1 cwt., 30/-; 56 lb., 16/-; 28 lb., 9/-; 14 lb., 5/-; 7 lb., 3/-; tins, 1/3 and 9d. **SPECIAL TOP DRESSING MANURE**—an excellent stimulant—56 lb., 17/-; 28 lb., 9/6; 14 lb., 5/6, 7 lb., 3/-, tins, 1/3. **Carriage paid on 28 lbs. and up.**

WRITE FOR OUR BOOKLET—POST FREE ON REQUEST.

SOLD BY NURSERYMEN AND SEEDSMEN EVERYWHERE.

Or from Sole Makers, WM. THOMSON & SONS, TWEED VINEYARDS, CLOVENFORDS, SCOTLAND.

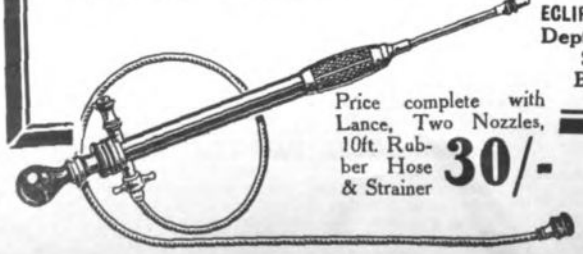
SPRAYING MEANS SAVING

Keep your trees and plants clear of insect pests by regularly spraying them with insecticide — and

***use the* ECLIPSE** *"The Sprayer of a thousand uses."*

for the purpose. It is light, easy to handle, no pumping, no back-wash, can be used in any position and allows both hands free to control the spray. Can also be used for disinfecting, limewashing, etc.

Obtainable through any agent. Write for Booklet "War on Disease."



ECLIPSE SPRAYING CO.
Dept. O, Bearwood, Smethwick, Birmingham.

Price complete with Lance, Two Nozzles, 10ft. Rubber Hose & Strainer **30/-**

TREE SPRAYING

GARDEN SPRAYING

C.W.P.

"THE GARDEN" Sweet Pea Competition

Name.....

Address.....

.....

1 .....

2 .....

3 .....

4 .....

5 .....

6 .....

Coupon June 26th

CUT OUT AROUND LINE.

YOUR GARDEN NEEDS KILOGRUB

Its fumes are instantly fatal to all insect pests in the soil, but harmless to plants. Really effective because it works underground.

Tins: 9d., 1/6 and 2/6
Bags: ¼ cwt. 6/6, ½ cwt. 8/6, 1 cwt. 15/-

From your seedsmen or from
JOHN PEAK & CO., LTD. WIGAN, Lancs.

FERTILIZERS for the garden

Better, bigger crops will more than repay the cost of Fertilizers.
Illustrated Catalogue of Fertilizers for all garden crops, with full instructions, free

JOSEPH FISON & CO. LTD. IPSWICH

"ACME" WEED KILLER

Awarded Gold Medal at Anglo-American Exhibition and Bronze Medal by Royal Horticultural Society.
Has stood the test of over 30 years.

POWDER.—No. 1 Tin makes 25 gals., 3/-; postage 9d. No. 2, 50 gals., 6/-; postage 9d. Carriage paid on No. 4, which makes 150 gals., 15/-.

LIQUID.—1 gal. to 50 gals. water. 1 gal., 6/-; 2 gals., 10/6; carriage paid on 5 gals., 25/-.

NON-POISONOUS.—No. 1 Tin makes 6 gals., 1/6 post free; No. 2, 12 gals., 2/3 post free; No. 4, 50 gals., 7/- post free.

LAWN SAND

destroys weeds and moss in grass and fertilizes the lawn. No other manure necessary.

14 lbs., 4/-; 28 lbs., 7/-; 56 lbs., 13/-; 1 cwt., 25/-. Carriage paid on 1 cwt.

EXTRACT OF QUASSIA INSECTICIDE

1 gallon, 5/-; Drum, 1/6; Carriage paid on 5 gallons, 4/6 per gallon; Drum, 4/-. Pint, 2/6, post free. Drums allowed for when returned.

QUASSIA-TOBACCO INSECTICIDE

Pint, 2/6; quart, 3/9 post free. 1 gallon, 8/6; Drum, 1/6. Carriage paid on 5 gallons and upwards.

The Acme Chemical Co., Ltd., TONBRIDGE, KENT.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

VOL. XC.—No. 2847. JUNE 26, 1926

BRITISH APPLES

THE publication of the fruit section of the report of the Imperial Economic Committee on Marketing and Preparing for Market of Foodstuffs Produced in the Overseas Parts of the Empire—to give it its full title—should be of great interest not only to consumers but also to growers in this country. Particularly important is the section devoted to apples, for here is a fruit that grows excellently well in this country and is most popular. Although the Report deals primarily with fruit-growing in the British Empire, and so the suggestions to be found therein are as much for the colonial as for the home grower, yet the statistics given show that the home producer falls lamentably behind his colonial and foreign competitors.

The consumption of apples per head in the United Kingdom has risen from 14.7lb. in 1913 to 22.8lb. in 1924, an increase of about 30 per cent; yet, whereas before the war three-quarters of our apples were grown on British soil, now the proportion is only slightly over half. The Report proves that the United States dominates the United Kingdom apple market. Owing to the fact that the average consumption in the United States is 240 apples per head per annum, more than double our consumption, the United States home apple trade is in a flourishing condition. In order to keep the price for home consumption steady, they throw practically the entire surplus on the export market. So important is this point that an increase of only 8 per cent. in production results in an increase of 150 per cent. in the quantity exported. A large proportion of this comes to the British Isles.

OUR SWEET PEA COMPETITION

£50

IN PRIZES

(See page vi.)

Everyone will agree that the home producer, particularly of dessert apples, has a hard fight against organised and skilful overseas competition. On the other hand, many will say that the home producer has not made the most of his opportunities, that he is conservative to the point of stupidity. Let us try to put the pros and cons of home production in a simple form. The excuses of the home grower are:

(1) A climate so variable that a paying crop is never a certainty.
(2) Intensive competition from imported apples.
(3) Lack of capital.
(4) The small proportion that he gets of the ultimate price paid by the consumer. Two examples are given in the Report of Canadian apples. In one the net return to the producer on British Columbia boxed apples was 6 per cent. of the price paid by the consumer in the United Kingdom. In the other the return on Nova Scotia barrel apples was 10½ per cent. A proportion of this goes in freight and insurance, but the small percentage of profit is alarming.
(5) The spread between the wholesale and retail prices in this country. Examples are given in the Report of investigations made in London on January 19th and 20th, 1926. British Columbia boxed apples, 124 per cent.; Nova Scotia barrel apples, averaging 120 per cent. Probably the percentage is the same in the case of home-grown fruit. Even allowing for wastage and damage this is an enormous retail profit.
(6) The extraordinary variation in wholesale prices according whether there is a glut or a short crop.

Where the home grower falls short is:

(1) Lack of organisation in the way of co-operative selling and so on.
(2) The cultivation of unprofitable varieties. The Report states that South Australia alone shipped fifty-six varieties in 1924. The number of varieties grown commercially in this country is probably greater.
(3) Lack of advertisement, absence of show cards, and so on.
(4) Most important of all, the lack of grading or of attractive packing or any other inducement for the consumer to buy British apples.

Coals of fire will probably be heaped on my head, but I will be frank and say that I rarely buy home-grown dessert apples. I cannot afford these attractive baskets of perfect home-produced fruit as selected by a West End fruiterer, and in most cases the local crop is exposed for sale in dirty baskets or barrels, the small mixed with the large, the good with the bad. They are unattractive to look at and are rarely in perfect condition. Other trades have found that food attractively wrapped commands a large sale, so why not in the apple trade? It is said that an improvement in grading and packing is under way; if so, it is not yet noticeable.

This, of course, presupposes the fact that private growers are also to blame, which is the case. The truth is that not enough trouble is taken over apple cultivation. Amateurs consider that they should have some apple trees, so an orchard is planted, often with little regard to situation and still less to the varieties that are chosen. Once a little pruning and an occasional spraying are finished they consider that work is over for the year, and the apples are left to take care of themselves. If home-grown fruit is to compete with imported, more pains must be taken, not only to intensify its cultivation, but also to make it more attractive to the consumer.

E. H. M. C.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

JUNE 26, 1926

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.; Foreign, 17s. 4d.
Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2.
Offices for Advertisements: 6–11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

WORTHY PLANTS.—V

PÆONIA OFFICINALIS LOBATA.

SO much is heard nowadays of the glories of the newer peonies that it is only fair to name the old, though somewhat uncommon, Pæonia officinalis lobata as a worthy plant. For delicacy and grace it is the superior of most modern peonies. The colour is wonderful and difficult to describe; perhaps it could be called a mixture between a flaming orange-scarlet and a deep tomato-red. The flowers are not large, rarely exceeding 3ins. in diameter, but are of perfect shape. The flower stems attain a height of about 18ins. It is an easy plant to grow and often flowers the first season after planting. This peony was introduced to England from the Royal Gardens at Paris in 1821.

THE Council of the Royal Horticultural Society, at their meeting on Tuesday, June 15th, appointed Lieutenant-Colonel F. R. Durham, C.B.E., M.C., to be secretary of the Society. The President, Lord Lambourne, took the opportunity of expressing the unanimous appreciation felt by the Council of the services rendered to the Society by the assistant secretary, Mr. A. Simmonds, since the death of the late secretary, Mr. W. R. Dykes. Lieutenant-Colonel Frank R. Durham, C.B.E., M.C., M.Inst.C.E., is fifty-four years old and was educated at Rugby and at University College, London. After leaving college he was engaged in engineering, and in 1914 joined the Army as a private and was gradually promoted to the rank of major, receiving the following decorations: O.B.E., M.C. and Chevalier Legion d'Honneur. In 1919 he was appointed Director of Works of the Imperial War Graves Commission, the appointment terminating on December 31st, 1925. For services rendered to the Commission he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant-colonel and received the C.B.E. Colonel Durham has always been interested in horticulture; he has collected a number of new plants and has published papers in the Journal of the Society. He comes of a distinguished family, which includes Dr. H. E. Durham, the authority on cider and perry apples; Miss F. H. Durham, C.B.E., Chief Woman Inspector of the Ministry of Labour; and Miss M. E. Durham, the well known traveller and writer on Balkan matters.

IN 1920 Miss L. Jones-Bateman of Cae Glass, Abergele, presented to the Royal Horticultural Society a valuable silver-gilt replica of the Warwick Vase to be used for the encouragement of fruit production. It was decided to offer it triennially for researches in the growing of hardy fruits, figs, grapes and peaches in the open or under glass, and it is therefore available for award in 1926. Candidates should submit accounts of their work to the R.H.S. by October 31st. The work dealt with must have been carried out in the United Kingdom mainly during the past five years. The cup will be held for three years by the successful candidate, who must give a bond for its safe return, and when the cup is relinquished the holder will receive a commemorative gold medal. The holder will be eligible to compete on the next or any succeeding occasion. The assessors will be three, two appointed by the Royal Horticultural Society and one by the National Farmers' Union, and they will report to the Council of the Royal Horticultural Society upon the originality and comparative potential value to the fruit-growing industry of the work of the candidates. The Council of the Royal Horticultural Society will award or withhold the cup at its discretion.

MANY of our readers are finding that bud dropping of sweet peas is particularly prevalent this year. In order to re-assure them that this is only a temporary complaint that will pass as soon as weather conditions alter for the better, we print a letter sent to us by one of the best known growers of sweet peas. "What is bud-dropping? It is certainly not a disease and may best be described as a complaint—by no means serious—usually caused by unfavourable weather conditions. The buds fail to develop, and drop off before they open, sometimes every bud and in others, a few only, leaving one or two blooms on the stems where there would normally have been three or four. More often than not, it occurs when the plants are otherwise looking the very picture of health, and is altogether aggravating to the grower. The wet and cold spells experienced this summer, following an exceptionally warm, late spring, have made bud-dropping more prevalent than in an average season. There is no need for alarm, for the annoying symptoms will quickly pass with more favourable weather conditions. Only once or twice in my experience have I heard of plants dropping their buds throughout the entire season. Autumn sown plants, sown rather thickly in their flowering positions seem, for some reason, more susceptible than transplanted plants, whether autumn or spring sown, and the first half of their flowering period is a much more likely time than the latter half."

"THERE are several conditions which, separately or combined, may cause bud-dropping. First and most frequent are wet and cold spells; then badly drained soil, lack of sunshine, over watering or over feeding, and occasionally, unfirm soil. The remedy is to give, wherever possible, opposite conditions to those which were the cause. Weather conditions are beyond control, but the grower can cease watering and feeding for a time, until the plants right themselves. Soil with a tendency to bad drainage may be (at least in part), corrected in the winter when trenching, by throwing anything that will act as drainage into the bottom—stones, crocks, sticks, garden refuse or anything porous. On a heavy clay subsoil, it is wise to trench all over the entire plot and not in strips, which sometimes act as catch-pits, retaining the surface water in their bottoms. Then again, it is wise when sowing or planting to choose a part of the garden unshaded by trees or buildings, and so secure all the light possible. Unfirm soil has an obvious remedy. In concluding, it may be stated that the same conditions which cause bud-dropping, sometimes, in a milder degree, will tend to produce long, thin stems, out of proportion to the size of the flowers; irregular placing of the blooms on the stem; and dull, washed-out looking colours. This applies more to cordon-grown plants than to those grown naturally."

Digitized by Google

THE VALUE OF FOLIAGE—II

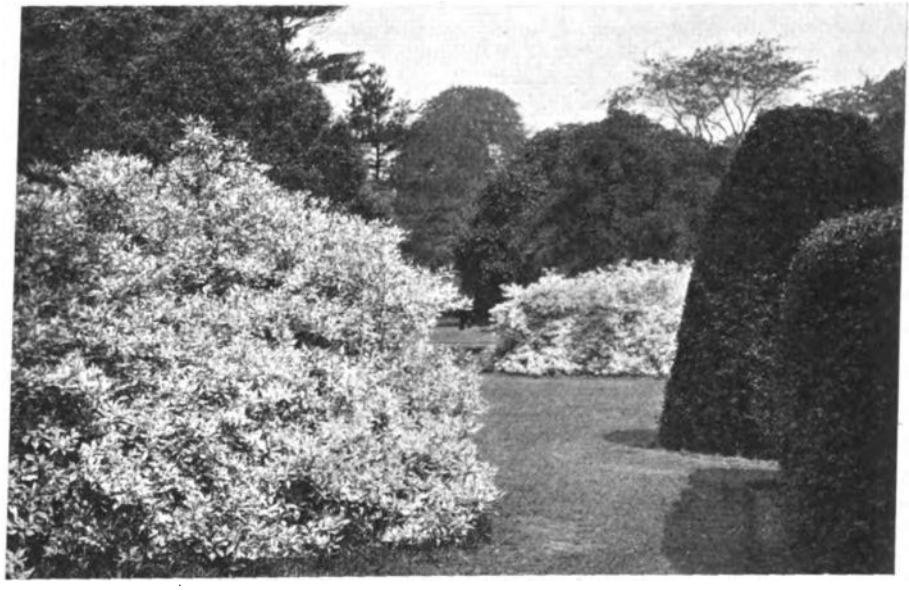
IN this article I intend to enumerate a few choice deciduous trees and shrubs bearing foliage other than green or grey.

Two very fine variegated trees which do well almost anywhere and which attain to a large size are Liriodendron tulipiferum variegata, with its large saddle-shaped leaves broadly margined with gold and the variegated form of the sweet chestnut, Castanea sativa variegata; both will make fine specimens to stand singly or will associate well with other plants in the general shrubbery or woodland. Where a bright golden effect is desired one cannot do better than plant the best forms of sambucus *e.g.*, S. racemosa serratifolius fol. aurea, with its rich golden fern-like foliage. This variety bears scarlet fruits. Another fine form is S. canadensis aurea, with bright golden foliage not so finely cut, but with very large heads of flower; there are, in addition, some good silver forms. To give height to a large group of the golden elders, standard trees of Laburnum aureum and Robinia pseudacacia aurea, both elegant and hardy trees, should be planted here and there among them, and when established, such a group could not fail to be bright and pleasing.

Other good foliage plants, some with remarkably large and beautifully coloured leaves, are to be found among the Chinese aralias. They make fine groups on lawns, in beds or among other subjects in shrubberies and are most effective. The best are A. chinensis albo marginata and A. c. aureo marginata. The large silver and golden leaves (bipinnate) will reach a yard in length, a smaller plant and perhaps not quite so hardy, but nevertheless most charmingly variegated with bright golden foliage is Acanthopanax spinosus variegata.

The cornus family alone would supply a good many persons with as many golden and silvery variegated leaved subjects as they could plant, but we do not want to overdo it with them, so I will just touch upon a few outstanding varieties. The cornus also provides us with fine winter effects as some have brilliant bark, either red or yellow and many bear showy berries.

The cornelian cherry, C. Mas, numbers among its varieties two beautiful variegated forms, one silver, the other golden, and both cover themselves with golden bloom in early spring. The red dogwood C. sanguinea, also has two variegated forms,



THE VALUE OF CONTRASTING FOLIAGE IN THE GARDEN IS SHOWN BY THIS GROUP OF GOLDEN CORNUS AND DARK HOLLIES.

silver and gold. This form is most useful, as it succeeds on dry ground, but does not mind moisture, thereby suiting it for up hill or down dale. It is a most accommodating plant and always bright, even in winter. A fit companion (though *not* variegated), is C. s. flaviramea, a golden-barked variety. C. Spæthii is another good golden variety and, like C. sanguinea, will grow just where one decides to plant it; all that it requires is plenty of room, for it is a good spreading plant.

A first rate tree, with both golden bark and leaves, is Fraxinus excelsior aurea. It never fails to attract, standing out as it does among the green of other trees, it is always bright and I think it assumes a still brighter sheen after midsummer. Philadelphus gives us good variegation in its varieties P. coronarius aureum and P. c. argentea variegata. These make desirable shrubs for the mixed shrubbery and will easily reach 10ft. The golden hop tree, Ptelea trifoliata aurea, is a good golden-hued foliage tree, making a medium-sized tree with spreading head. It puts on its brightest tints in early autumn. A very upright plant of pure gold is Ulmus montana fastigiata aurea. A golden variety of the Exeter elm is known in nurseries under the name of U. Dampieri aurea. It cannot be described as fast growing, for an elm, but given time it will make a perfect spire of pure gold. There is a golden poplar, but it makes a much more spreading tree; it is quite good where it can get plenty of room; it is Populus canadensis aurea.

A pretty little plant, suitable for the fronts of shrubberies or on the rockery, is Ribes alpinum aureum. The dwarf golden-leaved flowering currant. This must not be confused with Ribes aureum, which is a strong grower with *yellow flowers*, but green foliage.

Another good hardy subject which does well wherever one plants it is Syringa Emodi variegata. This bears large

THE ORDINARY FORM OF ARALIA CHINENSIS.

Digitized by Google

foliage of good substance, broadly margined with gold. Its flowers are rather small for a lilac, but this is more than counterbalanced by the rich foliage, which retains its colour till quite the end of the season.

Two deciduous varieties of viburnum, both decidedly ornamental and very choice are V. lantana pulverulenta whose foliage is heavily bordered with silver and gold. The other, still more remarkable, is V. l. versicolor, which, I must confess, is hard to describe. In spring the young leaves are clear yellow, gradually, as summer comes, turning to a duller and deeper golden hue, while in autumn we get a real mixture of colour on the same plant, green, crimson, orange-red, bright yellow and pure shades of orange, most truly named "versicolour." Both are hardy and will flourish even on chalk.

Weigela amabilis aurea marginata is a good thing for borders, always bright and just as free flowering as the type; it makes a much more compact bush than does the type, therefore can be planted in rather more confined quarters. There is another form, W. rosea variegata, the leaves in this plant being bordered with silver, tinged rose, a very pleasing combination. A variegated deciduous conifer offers itself under the name of Ginkgo biloba variegata, but this I am afraid is not easily obtainable.

The foregoing examples will, I think, serve to show that if we care to look around we shall find there are indeed very many beautiful things among the deciduous variegated forms of many genera of hardy trees and shrubs, and properly placed, either as single specimens or in large groups in the foreground of large or distant dark foliaged woods, or intermixed with evergreen subjects in the shrubberies, they cannot fail to add to the beauty and general interest of any garden wherever situated, as some are as hardy as the British oak or elm.

JOHN HILL.

THE IMPROVEMENT OF LUPINS

THE GARDEN VALUE OF POLYPHYLLUS HYBRIDS.

MODERN lupins are well worthy of the attention of every flower-lover. In the summer months one cannot attend a flower exhibition of any importance and not find them staged, or pick up a horticultural journal during the planting season which does not contain advertisements of them. Even though some who are unfamiliar with present-day kinds may consider lupins somewhat commonplace perennials, they certainly deserve all that has been written in their praise, and we have heard quite a lot about them of late. Their range of colouring is not now confined to blues, harsh pinks and whites. Of course, their value for garden decoration has long been realised, but there has been—in the past—a tendency to plant them among the miscellaneous "hardies" and—perhaps rightly—no enthusiasm or even special interest shown. Credit is due to a few plant hybridists who have recognised the possibilities of the lupin and greatly improved it during recent years.

A FINE MODERN POLYPHYLLUS HYBRID.

One of the most beautiful floral spectacles I have seen this season was a large bed—it must have been fully 30ft. to 40ft. square—of lupin seedlings just over a year old. They were a mixture of specially selected plants from Regal lupins (Harkness) and Downer's hybrids, in my opinion the two finest strains of hybrid lupins in commerce. Many times have I seen hybrid lupins before, both growing and exhibited, but in the mass they presented a wonderful picture, calculated to live in the memory for a long while. In spite of the large number of colours and shades (no two plants seemed identical), the effect, taken as a whole, was entirely charming. In height these hybrids vary slightly, but there is just the same stately spike as in the older kinds with the enhanced ornamental value conferred by a much wider colour range. How can one describe the diversity of their colourings? There are, of course, all shades of blues, all of them clean and bright; pinks, from a delicate porcelain tint to deepest rose; pure whites; pale buff to deep amber, with every conceivable intermediate tone. Light lemon to deepest yellow, fawns, charming salmony-biscuits, and quite a number of bicolours with keel and wings one colour and standard another. In the latter one finds pink combined with rose; blue with white; lavender, mauve and shades in between with yellow; buff with deep apricot; pink with yellow; yellow with blue; and many other delightful combinations, surprising to those acquainted only with the older polyphyllus varieties. Some of the flowers have three or more distinct shades in their "make-up," while in a few instances spikes are noticed in which the blooms, when first open, are decidedly different in colour from the older flowers on the same spike. For example, a yellowish standard will change as the flower gets older to deep rose. I must say these did not impress me so favourably as those in which the colour or colours remained constant. The good qualities of the old-time lupins have not been lost in these comparatively new hybrids. There is the same hardiness, the same ease of culture and adaptability to almost any soil and situation, and an even greater freedom of flowering, together with the lengthy flowering period given by the lateral spikes which "carry on" long after the main flower-spike has gone. They have no fads and fancies, and are little troubled with pests or diseases of any kind. One can propagate them by cuttings or division of clumps (when it is essential to preserve a particular colour or named variety) or by seeds. The better named varieties are, of course, the cream, the result of careful selection and comparison, but to those growers who are not particular as to colour, the most inexpensive method is to sow seeds of a good strain. The large bed to which I have referred contained hundreds of plants, all grown from seeds, yet one would hesitate before eliminating any one plant as displeasing to the eye.

Their cultural treatment is simplicity itself. In the first place, the seed may be sown at any time between February and August. Spring sowings should be made in shallow boxes indoors, and plants from these will flower the following autumn, although they will not be at their best until the next season. After March they may be sown out of doors in a prepared seed-bed, transplanting them later, when large enough, to their flowering quarters. Although by no means particular subjects, yet lupins will readily respond to good treatment, such as deep

Digitized by Google

digging or trenching and the liberal incorporation of manure when preparing their flowering site. They will be found effective planted singly in the mixed border, but to enjoy them to the full it is advisable to devote a bed or, better still, a long border entirely to them. Their main sphere of usefulness may be in beautifying the garden, but their value for indoor decoration must not be overlooked. Small vases are, of course, almost useless (unless small lateral spikes are used), but arrange them in large vases or ornamental baskets and they will be found most effective. C. H. A. S.

NOTES ON DAFFODILS

(*Continued from page* 349.)

THE most interesting flowers, however, were probably among those shown in the competitive classes. The following four or five stood out as about the best blooms in the Show: Two perfectly glorious blooms of the superb pure white trumpet Beersheba were shown in the single bloom class, one from County Dublin, Ireland, and the other grown by myself; they must have measured fully 5ins. in diameter, and were carried on tall strong stems, the magnificent perianths were beautifully regular and overlapping and standing perfectly flat at right angles to the slender graceful trumpets; this flower is easily supreme among all white trumpets yet seen, and has worthily gained the highest award, not only from the R.H.S. Narcissus Committee, but from the Midland Daffodil Society. The flower that gained first in the class for single blooms of yellow trumpets was a wonderful bloom of Brimstone, shown by Mr. W. B. Cranfield, of perfectly beautiful form with gracefully set perianth of ample breadth, and smooth, beautifully flanged, evenly serrated trumpet; the flower has great substance and beautiful texture, but its great beauty lies in its unique and wonderful, clear, luminous self sulphur-lemon colour. No. 401 (subsequently named Jack Horner), shown by Mr. J. L. Richardson, also in the single bloom class, was, perhaps, the finest bicolor trumpet I have ever seen; an immense flower of superb quality with great broad, flat, white perianth of rich smooth texture, and perfectly balanced soft yellow trumpet slightly flanged and fringed at the mouth. Mr. P. D. Williams showed a magnificent and quite distinct incomparabilis called Folly; this had broad, milk white perianth which slightly reflexed, the petals in-curving at their edges after the style of Poeticus recurvus, and a bowl-shaped crown of clear orange scarlet whose colour, Mr. Williams told me, was really sun-resisting, which is a notable achievement. Comrade, shown by Mr. W. Welshman of Wisbech, a small or medium-sized Leedsii of quite perfect form and quality, was regarded by some as the flower of the Show; the perianth is very round and regular, of marble-like smoothness and substance, pure white with a hint of greenness at the base and an ivory cup.

Taking a more general survey of all the various classes, the following flowers were outstanding. No. 749 shown by Mr. P. D. Williams, a large incomparabilis of refined quality with clear bright lemon perianth and clear orange scarlet, goblet-shaped crown; also No. 146, a big white triandrus Leedsii of unusual size for this type. Carminowe, a large flower close to if not pure poeticus, with snow white perianth and solid crimson eye. Menadue, round overlapping white perianth and small white crown with the daintiest pale pink rim; and Bismarck, a bicolor trumpet of exceptional refinement, with much overlapping white perianth of very fine quality standing at right angles to the clear yellow trumpet, which is rather narrow, not over-long, and neatly reflexed; the foregoing all came from Mr. Williams, who, though quite at the end of his season, succeeded in winning some of the principal classes. A distinct and very attractive new bicolor, named Suda, raised by the Brodie of Brodie, was shown by Mr. J. L. Richardson and myself; this had white perianth, while the trumpet was a most beautiful tone of pale amber pink. Mr. Richardson also showed two magnificent Barrii varieties named respectively Therapia and Seraglio. They were of similar type, both having large flowers with broad, smooth, yellow perianth and shallow crowns edged with a striking band of scarlet. No. 11 T 127, from the same exhibitor, is one of the best bicolor incomparabilis I have seen, perfectly symmetrical in form and of smoothest texture and much substance, with pure white perianth and sharply contrasted rich yellow crown. Quartz, a flower raised by the Brodie of Brodie and shown by myself came in for much admiration; this is a white trumpet of great substance and really superb quality; and Nissa, from the same raiser,

THE FINE WHITE TRUMPET, QUARTZ.

is a bicolor incomparabilis of perfect show quality with rounded smooth white perianth of great substance and bright clear lemon crown. Among Mr. Cranfield's flowers I noted Kukri, a tall and smooth rich self yellow incomparabilis that had a suggestion of dark saffron colour; and Epaulier, rather short-stemmed and drooping, but a most distinct and striking flower with somewhat reflexing bright yellow perianth and large, long, bright orange-scarlet crown. In a group of twelve varieties of trumpets which won first prize I showed two very fine flowers raised by the Brodie of Brodie; one of these, Halfa, a pale bicolor trumpet bred from Queen of the West × White Emperor—a large flower carried on a tall strong stem with broad, perfectly flat and smooth perianth of White Emperor type, and slender soft yellow trumpet which has a beautifully reflexed and serrated brim; the other, Valetta, which gained an award of merit, is a pure white trumpet of great substance and waxy texture, the well expanded perianth standing at right angles to the trumpet, which is most gracefully and smoothly flanged.

Mr. F. H. Chapman, who always has something interesting to show, had several charmingly coloured seedlings, one of which, No. 8/9/12, had white perianth, the cup being cream with a band of coral surmounted by a distinct frill of cream, this again faintly tipped with coral—this was very charming; while No. 2/9/12 had white perianth with a delicate coral-coloured crown. Mr. Chapman told me that Crimson Braid was the pollen parent of these flowers, and added that this variety has given him many seedlings of great merit. He gained an award of merit for Samaria; this variety, raised by the Brodie of Brodie, is a very late-flowering, small-crowned Leedsii of good size, with very broad, perfectly circular, overlapping perianth of great substance and most wonderful smoothness and almost flat crinkled crown, milk white throughout.

Mr. W. F. M. Copeland of Shirley, Southampton, contributed an interesting group of seedlings, among which I noticed No. 1129, a very pleasing flower not unlike Mitylene, but with a rather flatter crown; and No. 1287, a round lemonade-coloured Leedsii. There were also examples of Mary Copeland, which is probably still the best double.

Among seedlings shown by Mr. E. T. England of Exeter, I was much interested in a beautiful white trumpet of well balanced form with fine broad smooth perianth. He told me that this was bred from Lady Margaret Boscawen × White Knight. What a wonderful parent White Knight is! GUY WILSON.

Digitized By Google

NOTES OF THE WEEK

ROCK CRESSES.

ALTHOUGH the ordinary Arabis albida is a useful plant in many ways and produces a perfect billow of white flowers early in the year, most growers recognise the superiority of the double-flowered kind for general use. Growing into a compact clump, plants look well the whole year, although the variegated single and double kinds are better in that respect, the foliage being prettily marbled in each case. All are the easiest of easy plants to grow; shoots nipped off with finger and thumb, and dibbled in, grow readily. A. procurrens is another white, not unlike the former kinds; the variegated variety in this case is very low-growing but a fine thing for creeping over rockwork. A. lucida variegata may be considered of much the same nature, the golden leaves growing into delightful compact rosettes. Dwarfer still and equally fine otherwise are the whites, AA. pumila and Sturii, small plants of which spread rapidly and cover the ground completely with a carpet of little leaves. Not all the rock cresses are white, however. A pretty little pink thing is A. aubrietioides, a neat, compact grower; A. rosea is a deeper pink, almost red, and is longer and more loose-growing; A. Billardieri is an improvement on rosea, while AA. androsacea and Sundermanni are the two lowliest, with red blossoms.—LANARKSHIRE.

HARDY TRADESCANTIAS.

SPIDERWORTS or hardy tradescantias will grow in any reasonable garden soil and flower profusely from early summer until late autumn. They are not at all gorgeous and showy blooms; they are distinct from all others and quite pretty, nevertheless, and will thrive in shade or in full sunshine. Lately we have tried some in a somewhat difficult corner of the rock garden; they have done quite well there where many other things failed.

The commonest tradescantia in the border is the species virginica, or one or other of the many varieties which are now sold. The type is blue with a suggestion of purple in it; there is a pretty violet kind, a rose red and a white, the latter being decidedly pretty. A double white and a double blue are also acquisitions, the former having quite full flowers and the latter being a delightful violet blue. Of other species, pilosa and congesta are very good, the rosy purple flowers of the latter being particularly striking. J. C. Weguelin is one of the newest; the azure-blue flowers are of large size and need an aspect in sunshine to bring out their full glory.—H. A.

ALYSSUM SPINOSUM.

THE thorny alyssum is comparatively uncommon in gardens; of course it is not so useful nor is it so attractive as the more common species and varieties of this dwarf genus, but it is a fine perennial for the rock garden, attractive and effective in a quiet way. It is rather low-growing and trailing in nature, but in a suitable sunny and dry spot it grows freely and forms a fine billow of foliage which is clothed in June and July with small white flowers. After flowering it is covered with stiff spines, hence the name. The foliage is silvery white and effective in appearance.—CLYDESDALE.

A DECORATIVE ROUNDED HUMMOCK OF ALYSSUM SPINOSUM.

TRITONIA PRINCE OF ORANGE.

CHARMING by day and glorious by night are the glowing flowers of this tritonia, I hardly think anyone will ever give up cultivating this plant if once they have had it. Its great beauty lies in its chaste colour, which is described as "glowing orange scarlet."

For an April and May display under glass T. Prince of Orange is *par excellence*. In colour alone the plants stand unique at this period of the year, while the flowers are most useful in a cut state—clean flower stems from 8ins. to 10ins. long being easily obtained without destroying the foliage of the plants. From four to six flowers are borne by each primary stem; four being the usual number fully expanded at one time—three being in perfect condition, while the fourth is fading; the top buds are the last to expand. When fully opened each flower measures almost 3ins. across, but most of the flower stems branch into two when 5ins. or 6ins. high, and thereby we get a greater number of flowers per corm. These secondary stems, as we might call them, attain to near the same height as the others, but never have so many flowers as the somewhat stronger primary stems.

Tritonia corms are flattish-shaped and a little less than an inch in diameter. While the plants are in full flower young corms are being formed; even at this date—end of April—these tiny growths, each slightly larger than a sweet pea seed—are clasping close the sides of the flowering corms.

Each plant has five grass-like leaves, the first pair are decidedly arched and much broader than those situated higher up the stem, which attains about 9ins. in length. The cultivation of tritonias is similar to freesias, that is, the corms, seven or eight in number, are set ½in. deep in 5in. pots, which have been well crocked and filled with a fresh mixture of loam, leaf-mould and sand.

The pots should be well watered then set in a cool glasshouse or frame, but introduced to an intermediate temperature in the winter. Not until the plants are well into growth should the corms receive much water, an occasional spray when the weather is fine is much better for the plants than keeping the soil over-damp. As soon as the growths get tall enough, each should be neatly staked and tied.

After flowering, continue to care for the plants, but gradually withhold water until the foliage withers, when the pots should be placed on their sides in a sunny position, so that the corms will be thoroughly rested and ripened. Afterwards they should be taken from the soil and when selected and sized are ready once more for repotting in September.—DAVID ARMSTRONG.

THE OLEANDER.

A Most Attractive Greenhouse Shrub.

THIS plant (Nerium Oleander), which is a native of southern Europe is quite happy in a cool greenhouse or conservatory and may even be placed in the open during the summer. A well grown oleander should produce its flowers over a season which lasts from June to October and, even when not in bloom, the elegant evergreen foliage makes the shrub attractive. It may be well to point out that the oleander is one of the most poisonous plants known and care should be taken to see that children do not eat the leaves. Oleanders are really easy to grow and yet it is a fact that many people fail to make the bush produce flowers freely. This is because the blossoms are only produced on mature and thoroughly ripened shoots. To secure these the plant must be fully exposed to sun and air throughout its period of growth, which is in the spring and early summer. Another point worth noting is that after the flowering season, oleanders should be given a rest for a month or two, by withholding water completely. On all other occasions these plants should be allowed plenty of moisture. At the end of the rest period cut the plants back; in the case of large bushes, hard pruning is desirable or these will become straggly and produce a poor show of blossom.

Frequent repotting is not to be advised for oleanders, but when a plant becomes very pot-bound, this step may be necessary. Then use a compost of loam and decayed manure in equal parts, carrying out the change in the spring.

Digitized by Google

The propagation of oleanders is readily carried out by means of matured leading shoots, inserted in single pots and placed in a close, warm frame. Another way is to root the cuttings in bottles of water and afterwards pot carefully in soil.

There are, of course, numerous varieties of Nerium Oleander, several of which are very distinctive. These have flowers in both the double and single forms and range in colour through varying shades of deep pink, light pink, saffron to pure white.—S. LEONARD BASTIN, *Bournemouth*.

CLEMATIS ARMANDI.

One of the Finest of Evergreen Wall Plants.

THIS is a most attractive species from central and western China and is worthy of more extensive cultivation, being very beautiful both in blossom and foliage. It is an evergreen climbing shrub of considerable vigour—when happily established it often attains a height of from 20ft. to 30ft.—being clothed with large trifoliate leaves, each leaflet ovate-lanceolate in shape, rather sharply pointed and of a deep glossy green. The flowers, which commence to open early in April, are borne in clusters of three or more on slender stalks rising from the axils of the leaves in considerable profusion. The individual flowers are about 2ins. in diameter and are composed of six or eight sepals which, upon opening, are creamy-white in colour, later changing to palest pink. It was introduced to this country by Mr. E. H. Wilson in 1900 and has proved itself to be moderately hardy, though to be seen at its best in any but the mildest districts it should be given the protection of a wall, which consideration it will amply justify.—A. G. FORSYTH.

LIBERTIA FORMOSA.

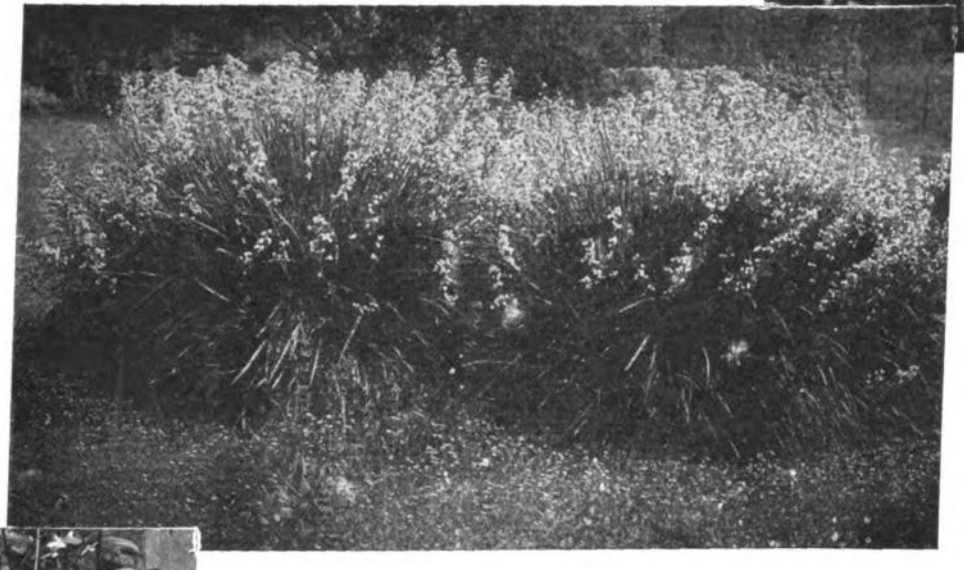
A Valuable Relative of the Iris.

THE libertias are beautiful plants of the iris order and are attractive throughout the year owing to the colour of their leaves, which are as green in the depth of winter as are those of the holly.

It is during May and June, however, that these interesting and free-growing plants reveal their greatest charm, for during that time sheaves of handsome flower spikes arise from the tufts of leaves to a height of 3ft. to 4ft., each carrying great numbers of snowy white flowers of considerable refinement and delightful for cutting.

Libertia formosa is a native of Chili and loves a warm sandy soil, which, in my opinion, is of greater importance than shelter, and healthy plants may be increased by division of their roots in autumn to any extent. It is perfectly hardy in most districts and is a rapid grower.

L. ixioides from New Zealand is also a pleasing and graceful plant with narrower leaves and small white blossoms. This plant is quite hardy in this part of east Sussex, but does not provide such a feast of beauty as the Chilian species here shown.—E. MARKHAM.



THE STRIKING FLOWER WANDS OF LIBERTIA FORMOSA THICKLY STUDDED WITH WHITE BLOSSOMS.

A DECORATIVE PILLAR PLANT.

A HANDSOME EVERGREEN CLIMBER.

RHODODENDRON EDGEWORTHII AS A PILLAR PLANT.

IN the conservatory or greenhouse it is often necessary to clothe a pillar with some climbing plant that is beautiful the whole year through, and if that pillar be in a cool and shady place, then no better plant can be found than Rhododendron Edgeworthii.

The beauty of the plant does not lie only in the large white to rose, sweetly scented, flowers, but also in the leaves. These are a very deep, glossy green, with deep veining, which causes a bright and pleasant play of light on the foliage.

Another feature of the plant is the tawny and ferruginous tomentum which is noticeable on the stems, as well as on the under surface of the leaves.

Although it is not perhaps so quick growing as the usual type of pillar plant, it is nevertheless well worth its place. It should be grown in a cool, moist atmosphere and in a shady part of the house, and if given good treatment will flower in the early part of May. Even when the flowers are over it will fulfil its purpose of clothing and beautifying what would be an otherwise unsightly and uninteresting greenhouse pillar.—S. F. OVENDEN.

THE CHILIAN WOOD SORREL.

A Choice Plant for a Sunny Position.

OXALIS ADENOPHYLLA, the Chilian wood sorrel, is again covered with flowers, which, when expanded in the sun, practically hide the lovely silvery foliage. Unlike its Falkland Isles and Patagonian sister, O. enneaphylla, it is a real sun lover, and to persuade it to flower well it ought to have one of the sunniest places in the garden. It appears churlish to speak of "persuading" it to flower, for, if given sun, it requires no further inducement to give us an unstinted bloom and to cover itself with its exquisite large pink blossoms. Some call the exact tint lilac-pink, but it is a warm pink, which gives a good plant such brilliant colouring in the sun that it shows a long way off as a glowing patch of colour. I have here a good plant growing on the level, between stones and with a little sand in the loam, and nothing could look healthier and happier. It has stood three winters unharmed by sleet, hail, rain, frost, snow, and all the other discomforts of this winter climate of ours, and

Digitized by Google

that without any overhead protection. It appears to like the sandstone with which it was surrounded and, with a piece of the same in the centre of the plant, now covered by the foliage, it is a picture of high charm, either when it only gives us its silvery foliage, or with its unopened flowers so carefully furled or, best of all, when it is glowing with these flowers, which open after the sun has rested for a little upon them. This year it began early in May and will bloom for a considerable time to come. I may add that O. adenophylla needs ample drainage.—S. ARNOTT, *Dumfries.*

CORRESPONDENCE

A TREE FAILURE.

SIR,—I was, indeed, surprised to read in your editorial remarks in THE GARDEN of June 12th that Araucaria imbricata must be considered "a dismal failure." To my mind, such criticism seems a little unjustified. It is true that it is not widely grown, perhaps, as you suggest, on account of its rather stiff and formal appearance, but on the other hand, I have seen many handsome specimens which lent considerable charm to their surroundings. I enclose a photograph of what, I think, is a fine clump of these stately trees growing in the policies of an estate in Scotland which is famed for its conifers, which well illustrates the fact that it keeps its lower branches intact when growing in a suitable position. In fact, there are few trees which present such a well groomed appearance. One of the striking characteristics of the tree is the graceful curvature of its bushy, tail-like branches, which in the mass present the most artistic of foliage traceries. It may be "a stranger which has lost its personality in its wanderings so far from home," but if it is, it is due to our lack of appreciation of its requirements. It is an exotic conifer which certainly deserves more widespread recognition in our woods and gardens and I hope that by your remarks you may have stimulated interest in an almost forgotten tree of our childhood.—OBSERVER.

THE FINE ARAUCARIA AVENUE AT BENMORE, ARGYLESHIRE.

SIR,—May I crave space for defence of the tree which is so ruthlessly dismissed as "a lamentable failure" in the Editorial on page 329? I submit that it has incurred this censure only from having been planted so often in the wrong environment. The genus araucaria represents an archaic form of vegetation. Like the cycads and the gingko (the latter having never yet been found growing wild), it is a survival from a very remote geological past. Its fossil remains have been recognised in the Jurassic rocks, which were laid down before the chalk and greensand. Small wonder, therefore, that the Monkey Puzzle should often appear harshly out of keeping with an English landscape, especially when stunted and blackened in a smoky atmosphere; but he would be, indeed, a fastidious critic who should withhold admiration from the stately avenues of araucaria at Bicton in Devonshire and Castle Kennedy in Wigtownshire. The group of araucaria at Beaufort in Essex is most impressive, as may be seen in the photograph given on Plate 20 in Elwes and Henry's "Trees of Great Britain and Ireland." The tallest of these in 1904 was 74ft. high. When the big tree at Dropmore died and was felled in 1905, it was 78½ft. high and 6ft. in girth under the bark.

It is not the Monkey Puzzle's fault that, as remarked in the article referred to, it does not often ripen seed in this country. It never fails to do so when it is given a chance; but, being, with very rare exceptions, dioecious (male and female flowers on separate trees), it can only bear fertile cones when grown in company of its kind. Moreover, the female cones take two years to ripen, the scales opening in the second year to receive the pollen, wind-borne from the male catkins. The seeds, 1in. to 1½ins. long, are excellent when cooked like chestnuts, which they resemble in flavour. Twenty years ago, happening to be at Castle Kennedy on the morrow of an August gale, I found the great avenue of araucaria thickly strewn with these seeds. I caused a bagful to be collected; we ate about half of them, and the rest were sown and I planted 1,250 of the progeny on a hilltop, where they form a landmark.—HERBERT MAXWELL, *Monreith, Wigtonshire.*

ARUM LILIES IN THE OPEN.

SIR,—Mr. Bastin's note on the above in THE GARDEN for June 12th should encourage others to plant these beautiful lilies by the waterside in the open. We have had them planted here outside in the water garden for years and frost has never spoilt them. After seeing them growing thus, one never appreciates them in pots again.

I remember years ago having to repot large batches of these lilies. We used to throw the surplus away, when they could easily have been planted in the pleasing way Mr. Bastin recommends, had one then realised how hardy they prove to be in the south.—R. MOORE, *Essex.*

POT-POURRI.

SIR,—Mrs. R. E. Head in an article on "Pot Pourri," in THE GARDEN of June 12th, differs from Culpeppers' opinion that melilot is "well smelling." I agree that the smell is generally rather offensive, but I once found a white melilot, growing near a private railway siding, which was delightfully and richly scented. Are there two varieties of Melilotus alba?—L. G. P.

AN EDGING PLANT.

SIR,—In the Correspondence columns of THE GARDEN for June 12th (page 339) there is a letter from H. Josephine Medley regarding one of the dead nettles and I consider the one referred to is Lamium maculatum aureum, of which I still have a few plants. The silver and green one sometimes sports from the golden one with me, but I discard it.—A. T. BROWN, *Surrey.*

THE RATTLESNAKE PLANTAIN (EPIPACTUS PUBESCENS).

SIR,—This charming little epipactis is worthy of a place in every garden where one has difficulty in covering ground under trees, especially coniferous ones. It has most beautiful evergreen ovate leaves, all growing from the base. These are of a dark bluish green, prominently marked with white veins, from which it receives its common name of "Rattlesnake Plantain."

It flowers in June and July, small white flowers curiously hooded in shape, on stems from 9ins. to 1ft. in height. It is a native of Canada, where it grows in woods in large quantities—a sight once seen not easily forgotten. It will thrive in dry places as well as moist ones, which is a great advantage.—ESSEX.

OLEARIA STELLULATA.

SIR,—This evergreen shrub from New Zealand has done exceedingly well this year and is still a mass of white flowers. It appears to be hardier than many gardeners suppose. With us the bush is 4ft. high. It withstood fifteen degrees of frost in Edinburgh, and has been in flower since early April.

I believe O. stellulata would be a good flowering shrub to grow high on the rock garden, in full sun, but sheltered from cold winds. It can be propagated from cuttings taken off in the month of September and placed in a cold frame. In spring the young plants should be lifted and potted up into 3in. pots, as the cuttings are very apt to make one long root if left too long in the frame and are thus difficult to transplant. The plants should be grown in pots for a season and planted out the following spring.—GEORGE STUART, *Edinburgh.*

Digitized by Google

HERBACEOUS FLOWERS AT VINCENT SQUARE

THE Horticultural Hall at Vincent Square, Westminster, contained the finest flower garden in England on the occasion of the fortnightly meeting of the Royal Horticultural Society on June 15th and 16th last.

Delphiniums were magnificent. Just inside the entrance, Messrs. Blackmore and Langdon had an especially good group. Their spikes were exceedingly tall and stately and the individual flowers were perfectly disposed on the stems. Their very best varieties were Edward Bromet, which is an improved Rev. E. Lascelles, Queen of Bath, Azure (blue), Mrs. Townley Parker, (clear Cambridge blue), Phyllis (a lovely silvery lavender) and R. A. Pilkington (rich violet edged with dark blue). Messrs. Kelway and Son, Messrs. R. H. Bath, Limited, and Mr. T. Bones also showed fine spikes of delphiniums. Mr. T. Bones had some of his good seedlings and we admired Blue Darling, Blue Bird and Luxor, of smoky blue shading.

An imposing group of delphiniums was arranged by Mr. H. J. Jones on a large floor space, where he set out tall spikes of the best varieties, including Major Pat Beckett, King of the Delphiniums, Glory, oan and Edmondson.

With their delphiniums Messrs. Kelway and Son had handsome herbaceous peonies, of which Dorothy Daniels (soft pink), Philip H. Miller (deep pink) and Anzac (rich ruby), of the single varieties were very handsome. The white Empress of India, Kelway's Queen, of blush shades, and Rose of Silver, of the doubles, were also desirable. In Messrs. Bath's collection the double varieties Baroness Schroeder and Albatross were especially good.

The peony competition for the silver cup offered by Mrs. Edward Harding was a little disappointing. Mr. W. B. Cranfield won the cup, and he included four good vases of Mons. C. Leveque, a large double blush, and Gloriosa, a fine crimson single.

Lupins were extensively displayed by Mr. G. R. Downer, and his L. polyphyllus varieties are very delightful and pleasantly fragrant, while he had many of bright attractive colours. Mr. Charles Elliott showed many spikes of his good strain.

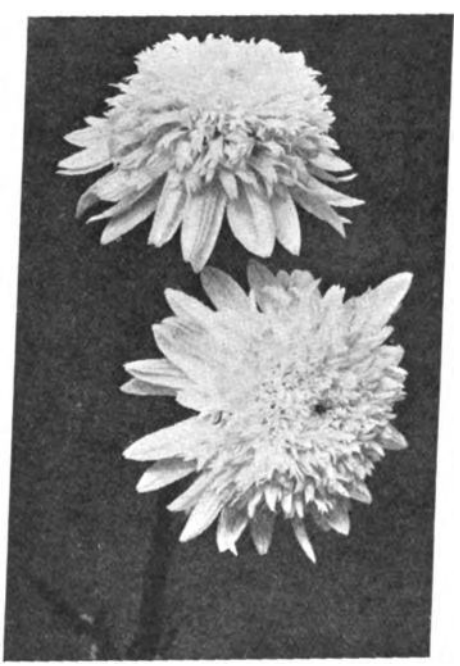
There were many examples of the valuable tall bearded irises of which the largest collection was that arranged in the centre of the hall by the Orpington Nurseries Company, where they grouped Flaming Sword of rich yellow and bronze shades. Sindj Khat, Zulu, Loreley and Sir Michael were also striking varieties. In another attractively arranged exhibit Messrs. Barr and Sons included Prosper Laugier, Lord of June, Montezuma, Juniata and Standardbearer among many other tall irises. They also had I. Xiphium varieties with various herbaceous flowers. The irises shown by Messrs. Waterer, Sons and Crisp included Ambassadeur, Prospero, Rhein Nixe and Memory; while Mr. Amos Perry added to his irises such valuable plants as Brodiæa coccinea Aster Farreri, Primula sikkimensis and alliums. An attractive group of the best June irises, delphiniums and peonies was arranged by Messrs. Bunyard and Co.

Several desirable varieties of Campanula persicifolia were massed by Messrs. B. Ladhams, Limited, which displayed their decorative value well. They also exhibited erigerons, heucheras and showy gaillardias.

Sir Oscar Warburg sent from his gardens at Boidier, Headley, Ascot, a unique collection of cistuses, which included nearly all the species, varieties and hybrids in cultivation, as well as various allied plants.

The gold medal collection of sweet peas so well arranged by Messrs. Dobbie and Co., augurs well for the success of the National Sweet Pea Society's Show at Cheltenham at the end of the month. It was a superb group and included their new Gleneagles, Ruby, Hawlmark Salmon Pink, Magnet, of beautiful pink shades; the picotee-edged Youth, Mary Pickford, of lovely cream pink colouring; and the bright pink Patience.

It is, with most growers, the betwixt and between season with roses, but the Rev. J. H Pemberton was able to show a good collection, chiefly of his musk-scented varieties. Carnations of great beauty were shown, as usual, by Mr. C. Engelmann, Messrs. Allwood Brothers and Messrs. Stuart Low and Co.; while Messrs. W. J. Godfrey and Son had another splendid collection of the show and fancy pelargoniums we admired at Chelsea; and Messrs. L. R. Russell,



PYRETHRUM VICTORIA.

Limited, set up an admirable collection of their stove plants.

There were several collections of orchids sent by Sir George Holford and four or five of the principal trade growers.

The alpines were rather overborne and outshone by the border plants, but Messrs. Clarence Elliott received a very well deserved award of merit for a superb pan of Phyteuma comosum. The firm also showed a new violet garlic, as yet unnamed, from Tibet (a very commendable little plant), besides the older Allium narcissiflorum, with drooping waxen bells, the colour of raspberry ice, and Viola elatior, a charming little dog violet from North America, white flushed with lavender.

Messrs. Waterer showed Convolvulus Cneorum, whose silver leaves and pearl-pink flowers are altogether desirable, but, coming from very hot, dry places in southern Europe, do not always survive our winters; Moltkia petræa, from the same part of the world, which is more resistant and makes hummocks of intense blue in a dry wall and the lilac pink Viola bosnaica, which should be everybody's plant.

Messrs. Maxwell and Beale showed Potentilla argyrophylla, with silver leaves and flowers of darkest mahogany red, perhaps a trifle small for the size of the plant; Geum Borisii, a splendid natural hybrid from the mountains of Bulgaria, and Geranium lancastriense, with large pink flowers delicately veined with red, which must be about the best rock garden plant that has come out of our native flora.

Messrs. Reuthe showed the very distinguished white form of Dianthus alpinus, Phyteuma comosum and Allium narcissiflorum.

Messrs. F. G. Wood showed Sedum pilosum, whose domes of pure pink flowers are unusually charming in a race whose flowers are so often dull or dowdy, and a pure white flowered form of Mimulus Lewisii.

Messrs. Rogers of Southampton showed Aster subcœruleus, with long narrow ray-florets of pale violet, drooping from an orange centre; Potentilla Tonguei, apricot blotched with crimson, dwarf and very neat; several plants of Armeria cæspitosa hardly as big as their flower heads and Campanula pulla, with its well known nodding flowers of deep violet.

NEW AND RARE PLANTS

ALLIUM SCHUBERTII.—Wide, spreading heads of this ornamental species were shown. It appears to be robust and tall growing and the flowers are of a dull purple colour. Award of merit to Mr. Amos Perry.

CALCEOLARIA JOHN COUTTS.—This is a splendid cross between the fairly hardy C. integrifolia and the more tender C. cana, and we should expect it to be valuable for summer bedding as well as for conservatory decoration. In general habit it favours the hardier parent, but in addition to its free habit it has derived sufficient of the grey tomentum from C. cana to make the foliage an attractive grey hue. From C. cana it also has pleasant fragrance. The flowers are a little longer and flatter in the pouch than those of C. integrifolia and are of a softer yellow colour. It is very free flowering. Award of merit to the Director, Royal Gardens, Kew.

DELPHINIUM VIOLET ROBINSON.—This stately variety bears the largest individual flowers of any delphinium we are acquainted with and it is very distinct in its rounded buds. The well disposed flowers are of a very dark blue colour with white centres. Award of merit to Messrs. Blackmore and Langdon.

DIGITALIS FERRUGINEA ROSEA.—In appearance this is much more like Chelone barbata than a foxglove. It has been raised from seed taken from D. ferruginea. The graceful spikes are from 2ft. to 3ft. in height and well furnished with relatively long-stemmed, tubular flowers, an inch or so long, of rose blush colour with yellowish interiors. The broadly lanceolate, glabrous leaves are similar to those of D. ferruginea. Award of merit to Messrs. B. Ladhams, Limited.

DIGITALIS LUTZ HYBRID.—This is a true foxglove in general habit and appearance. A tall, well disposed spike of pale salmon-coloured flowers was shown. Award of merit to Sir William Lawrence, Bt.

GYPSOPHILA BRISTOL FAIRY.—This, we believe, is an American seedling. It is a perennial and is a glorified form of the now well known double G. paniculata; the flowers are quite double its size. It produces a robust, widely spread panicle. Award of merit to Mr. W. Wells, Junr.

IRIS FRANCES GRACEFUL.—A pretty little iris, apparently of I. Delavayi type. The falls are of a bright velvety blue colour, lightened with golden lines at the base. Award of merit to Mr. G. Yeld.

PHYTEUMA COMOSUM.—This is of uncommon appearance, making a rounded little

Digitized by Google

plant of compact habit. The green, deeply toothed leaves are somewhat holly-like in appearance. The dwarf heads of flowers are of a dull, semi-transparent purplish colour, much swollen at the base of the tubes and the filaments are very prominent. It is a good plant for wall fissures on the rock garden. Award of merit to Mr. Clarence Elliott.

PRIMULA MICRODONTA APICOLA.—This is another of the many primroses collected by Captain Kingdon Ward. The pendulous umbels of flowers, which are carried on a slender stalk, are mealy. They are nearly as large as those of the common primrose, but are cupped and of deep violet-blue colour with primrose yellow centres. The flattish, glabrous leaves are similar in size and shape to those of our native plant. Award of merit to Lady Aberconway.

PYRETHRUM VICTORIA.—A very desirable double white variety of large size and very good form. Award of merit to Mr. Hubert Robinson.

RHODODENDRON NORMAN SHAW.—A very handsome, large flowered truss, much like a deep pink R. discolor, which has prettily waved margins to the flowers. Award of merit to Mr. Lionel de Rothschild.

SAXIFRAGA PRIMULAIZE SALMON.—There does not seem to be any accepted authority for the specific name, but it is an uncommon saxifrage of congested, tufted habit and bearing plenty of sturdy spikes of flowers which, with the stems, are of a reddish salmon colour. Award of merit to Messrs. M. Prichard and Son.

ORCHIDS.

ODONTONIA NUBIA.—This beautiful hybrid is the result of crossing Miltonia Charlesworthii with Odontoglossum Doreen, and well exemplifies the influence which Miltonias of the vexillaria section have over the odontoglossums. The young plant bore a couple of large flowers prettily marked with purplish crimson dots and confluent spotting, the labellum being the chief attraction on account of its broad development. Staged by Messrs. Charlesworth and Co., Haywards Heath. Award of merit.

DENDROBIUM PURPUREUM VAR. ALBUM.—An interesting species with stout pseudobulbs, which, in the leafless state, bear dense clusters of small flowers, each about three-quarters of an inch long and cylindrical in formation. Normally the flowers are bright purple, but in the variety album they are white tipped with green. In 1894 Sir Trevor Lawrence showed a white-flowered variety under the name of D. purpureum candidum, to which a botanical certificate was then given. A similar award was made to the present example, shown by Messrs. Sanders, and which probably came from the Moluccas.

FUNGICIDES FOR SUMMER USE

IN regard to treatment of fungoid diseases, nothing, at the moment, is more urgent than the necessity to spray potatoes *as a preventive measure* against attacks of the potato disease (Phytophthora infestans). Note the remark that spraying is to be reckoned as a "preventive" measure, not as a cure, for in common with the majority of plant diseases, it is practically impossible to effect a complete cure when once the filaments of the fungus have secured their foothold in the cellular tissues of the potato haulm; the one safe means of mastering the disease being to prevent the spores getting a start.

Rest assured, spores are abundant, and will be wafted about in the breeze from garden to garden and field to field during the last few days of June and the greater part of the month of July. Myriads of these spores, fortunately for us, come to anchor in situations and upon objects where they are doomed to perish without performing their destructive purpose, but it is all too certain that a proportion will alight on the young foliage and stems of growing potatoes, and here, they will simply await favourable atmospheric conditions—which are a combination of sun heat and moisture—to germinate and penetrate the inner substance of the leaves where the spreading parasite is out of reach of spraying chemicals and able to work its havoc, first on the leaves, then down through the stems and roots and finally into the tubers.

Copper sulphate is the chemical which has the power to dry up the spores of Phytophthora infestans, but as it is too strong to use by itself on soft, growing foliage, it is necessary to mix a certain proportion of lime with the copper the effect of which is to reduce the strength of the latter to an extent which renders it safe to use, while still retaining sufficient power to destroy the fungus spores.

The first essential is accurate balance between the copper sulphate and the lime, the mixture at its usable strength being generally known as Bordeaux mixture. Various proprietary brands of the preparation are put up in jars of convenient size for private garden use, and safety lies in making use of these ready-made mixtures rather than in endeavouring to mix one's own, a tedious, messy and somewhat risky business.

A really good spraying machine is the next requirement. It should be fitted with a fairly long lance having a double nozzle, so constructed that it can be turned upwards for spraying under the foliage, and downwards for spraying the upper surface, it being very necessary that every particle of both under and upper surface of leaves shall be completely covered with the spray.

In southern and warm districts about June 25th is not too early to commence spraying potatoes, and by the end of the first week in July, even northern growers should have their potatoes sprayed, otherwise there is a risk that when the labour is expended it may be too late to arrest the development of the first spores.

A point of vital importance is that just at this season potato haulm is growing very rapidly and in about a fortnight's time sufficient new growth at the extremity of every stem will have been made to throw the plants again into danger of infection. A second spraying, therefore, becomes necessary and on occasions when potato disease is rampant in a district it is sometimes well worth while spraying even a third time, quite at the end of July.

Many cases could be quoted of potatoes having been sprayed once only, and taking the disease after.

The phrase "it is well worth while," has been used advisedly. I wish it were possible to have shown every reader of THE GARDEN two experimental batches of my own last season. Both lots of seed from the same stock, planted in the same garden, treated identically except for the one point, that one batch was sprayed twice and the other left unsprayed. The sprayed crop was abundant, of fine quality and sound as could be wished; the unsprayed was fully 30 per cent. below weight of the other, and from the time they were lifted the tubers went rapidly from bad to worse, fully half the crop being rendered absolutely unusable long before Christmas. The sight of the collapse of so promising a crop of potatoes would, methinks, have convinced the most sceptical that spraying is, indeed, worth while.

July is the month during which roses should either be dusted with a dry sulphur spray or with sulphide of potassium liquid as a deterrent to mildew in its various forms. The liquid may discolour open blooms, but it is advisable to cut these previous to spraying, rather than to postpone the onslaught against mildew. Sulphide of potassium was dealt with in a previous article and the reminder is all that is now necessary.

Hollyhock rust is less virulent now that hollyhocks are more generally raised from seed, producing stock of more robust constitution than was the case when hollyhock fanciers persistently propagated their choice exhibition varieties from cuttings. Nevertheless, we are by no means free from the disfiguring fungus that spoils the handsome foliage of this stately flower. Here, again, moist, warm weather is favourable to the start and development of the fungus, and whenever such conditions prevail or when the very first sign of orange yellow spots about the size of pin heads is noticeable, antidotes should be used without delay. Bordeaux mixture may be effectively used, so long as the blossoms are not open, but one of the best cures or preventives of hollyhock disease is the rust cure, sold by Messrs. Vert and Son, Saffron Walden, the well known hollyhock specialists, who are the present day holders of the original and incomparable Chater's strain.

It is comforting to owners of small gardens and to amateurs who have but limited time to devote to such work as spraying, that several of the best known non-poisonous sprays possess fungicidal as well as insecticidal properties. Thus, where one has green fly, caterpillar and frog fly to deal with, as well as the commoner leaf diseases, a combined spray may be found extremely useful. Many excellent spray fluids are advertised in these columns from time to time, and any specialities bearing such names as Messrs. Abol, Limited, XL ALL (G. H. Richards, Limited), Robinson Brothers, Limited, Stonehouse Works Co., Cooper McDougall and Robertson, Tomlinson and Hayward, Limited, and Murphy and Sons, Limited, can be relied upon to give efficient service. L. I. ATKIS.

Digitized by Google

THE FLOWER GARDEN

STAKING GLADIOLI.

IT will be necessary to stake gladioli unless the beds or rows are sheltered. Even so, some of the very vigorous-growing varieties are liable to become top-heavy when in bloom, and to break or flop over, particularly when their heads become weighted by rain. The primulinus hybrids are not as heavy in their flower spikes and do not present such a wide petal surface to the force of the wind; therefore, staking is not of such great importance as with the large-flowering varieties. Those with whom the smaller and daintier primulinus are first favourites will recognise this point in their favour, for, apart from the extra trouble staking involves, the less one sees of stakes in one's flower beds the better, from a decorative point of view. There is, of course, no difficulty in staking each individual plant. A thin, but strong, stick or cane pushed into the soil near the corm and on the opposite side to which the flowers will face, a couple of raffia ties, one just underneath the bottom floret and another about 4ins. or 5ins. from the top, makes all secure. When growing them in rows, it is a simple matter to drive in a stake at each end of the row (one or more in between if the distance is considerable), then pass strands of string on each side of the row, fastening them to the stakes. As a further precaution, each spike may be tied to the string if thought necessary.—C H. A. S.

COLUMBINES.

Now is the Time to Sow.

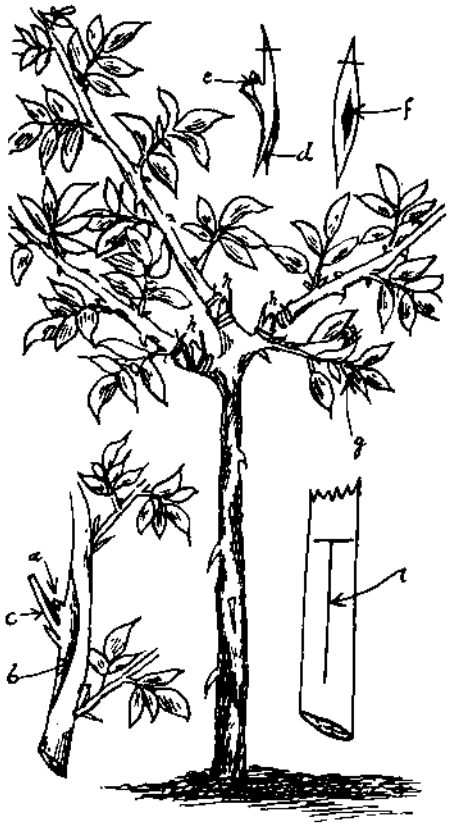
ALTHOUGH columbines remain at a high standard of excellence and purity for many years, growers realise that the utmost satisfaction can best be obtained by making a point of raising new stock every second year, or even every year. Seedlings are easily grown; many raise them in a frame; others, again, sow them in the open and get excellent results; while not a few discard orthodox methods and simply scatter the seed broadcast in any odd corner.

No one can gainsay the beauty of the long-spurred kinds. Although these are sold according to the dominant colour, yet I always like this flower best in a good mixed selection, for the colours harmonise and blend so delightfully. One bed of Langley hybrids is particularly fine, but the "ordinary" border is only a shade less excellent. I might mention, however, the superbs kinds, orange red and yellow, as well as Mrs. Nicholls, a rich blue, all being choice varieties of definite colouring. Growers should not wholly give their favour to the long-spurs. Even the old-fashioned blues and browns have their place in a semi-wild or wild border; and the dwarf alpina is really a pretty thing for a rock garden. A. glandulosa may also prove all right, though we ourselves have to grow it in pots.—LANARKSHIRE.

BUDDING ROSES.

THIS is a most interesting occupation, especially where the workman can have time to do the work thoroughly. Of course, the actual cutting of the bud and its insertion in the stock must be done quickly. Buds are formed in the axils of the leaves—between the leaf and the stem or branch of the tree. A very sharp knife is absolutely essential to success; the bark must be raised from the hard wood beneath it—only the bark should be cut through when the operator makes the incision for the reception of the bud. If the knife is not a real budding knife, then use a sharp-pointed piece of hard wood, such as that of the oak, for separating the bark from the wood: do not use the blade of the knife. If possible, do the budding during showery weather, on dull days or in the evening.

If branches containing the precious buds are brought from some considerable distance, then it is wise to have them wrapped in damp moss—not grass—and placed in an old tin box in preference to a wooden one. On receiving them immerse the branches in a pail or cistern of water, and allow them to remain in it quite one hour before taking off the buds. Even at home it is wise to place the ends of the cut shoots in a pail of water. The stocks to be budded and the trees from which the buds are to be taken should be thoroughly watered the night before the work is to be done. At this season of the year the wood is beginning to harden, so it will be



necessary to remove, with great care, the small piece of hard wood found immediately below the bud and the bark surrounding it.

The bud should be prepared first, then the hole in the bark into which it is to be placed and made secure. All the leaves should, first, be stripped from the branch, leaving only about 1in. to 2ins. of the leaf-stalk. The bud is shown at *a*, and it must be severed from the branch shield-form, as shown at *b*, retaining the stump of the leaf-stalk *c*. Then the two cuts should be made in the bark T-shaped, and large enough to contain the bark and the bud. If the top of the shield-like piece of bark is cut off, as shown by the cross lines, the bud will fit exactly into the T-shaped hole in the bark and allow the latter to be closed over it, making the bud quite secure. A few strands of worsted yarn or similar material should be used to keep the bark firm on the inserted bud. The yarn will collect and retain moisture during the night, and this proves beneficial to the bud. Just before the bud is inserted, the piece of hard wood, *d*, should be removed without injury to the base of the bud, *e*. The hard wood, when removed, leaves a small hole, shown at *f*. Insert the buds close to the stock and cut off such leaves or small shoots shown at *g*. The bud is shown at *h*, and the form of the T-shaped cut at *i*.—GEORGE GARNER.

TRAINING AND FEEDING ROSES.

AMATEURS are apt to spoil their roses from a lack of judicious thinning out of the excess of wood. The shoots should be carefully thinned, that is, all weak and blind shoots should be removed. Where two shoots start from one bud, one should be cut off. This thinning of shoots is best done at different periods. If too much is removed at one time, root action may receive a check. Hybrids require a good deal of thinning as a rule. Teas hardly need so much trimming. Climbing roses should be neatly trained, and any excess of wood thinned out when doing so. All roses should be kept clean and free from insect pests, so that the foliage and flowers may not be destroyed. A good spray consists of 2 oz. of soft soap dissolved in a gallon of water. Apply with a fine syringe or sprayer. Shoots or twigs may, where possible, be dipped in the wash.

Roses respond to doses of liquid manure. Before applying it, however, it is best to give the roots a good soaking with water. Frequent waterings with weak liquid manure are more effective than one or two doses of a strong manure. Poultry manure soaked in a tub of water may be used. Guano at the rate of an ounce per gallon of water is quite strong enough. Soot water is a splendid fertiliser for roses, but it must not be applied either too strong or too often.

In hot, dry weather a mulching of litter or grass mowings may be spread over the roots of roses. It is well to give a good soaking with water before applying the mulch. If the soil is caked on the surface, it must be broken and stirred with hoe or fork. To allow the water to sink to the roots the soil may be loosened with a fork by simply thrusting it into the ground and moving the handle backward and forward. Do not lift the soil.—J. W.

CHEIRANTHUS ALLIONII.

IT may not be known to everyone, even to those who have grown this Siberian wallflower, that old plants (or at least plants that have flowered), produce fertile seed abundantly. When the plants are left in their stations the seed will ripen, drop to the ground and eventually germinate. The seedlings will appear in hundreds in between and around the bases of the dried and withered stems of the old plants.

It may be interesting to state that early in February of this year, our seedlings—in the open—were only in the cotyledon stage. However, they were well sheltered and protected by the old plants which supported many dried stems and empty seed cases. At the end of May the young plants were 4ins. high and showing their green flower-buds.

In September of last year it was noticed that the orange and red flowers of Montbretia crocosmæflora blended beautifully with the charming orange blooms of this wallflower.

It will be seen from the freedom with which Cheiranthus Allionii multiplies that the cultivation is not a difficult matter, and that plants grow and flourish with very little attention. Those who have not yet grown this wonderful wallflower should sow seed now in the open border, and when the seedlings are sufficiently grown, set them out a few inches apart, so that robust plants will be obtained. These plants should flower in May and June the following year.—DAVID ARMSTRONG.

Digitized by Google

RANUNCULUS ACRIS PLENUS.

THIS plant, though old, is seldom seen in gardens. Perhaps it has been neglected, although it is stated in one catalogue to grow anywhere. Yet this graceful plant, with its rich yellow flowers borne on long, slender stems, is exceedingly pretty on a herbaceous border. It flowers in June and July at a time when, if we exclude the hemerocallis, yellow colour in the border is rather scarce.

The stems are from 2ft. to 3ft. high, strong, yet slender and sparsely foliaged. This is where the beauty lies, for the plant can be set nearer the front of the border, where another plant of the same height with more leafage would be entirely out of place. The Yellow Bachelors' Button is seen to marked effect when towering above the beautiful white pinks, as we had it several years ago.—D. A.

GARDENING OF THE WEEK

FOR SOUTHERN GARDENS.

THE KITCHEN GARDEN.

At this season we can look round and behold the results of our labours in the spring, but the keen gardener will not be idle, the hoe will be in constant use, and no weed must be allowed to produce seeds, otherwise there will be a crop of seedlings later on when the sun has lost some of its power. Parsley seeds can be sown now for a winter supply, and a sheltered position should be chosen, so that a box frame can be placed over the plants with a view to protecting them from winter frosts and snow. Endive may also be sown where this salad is needed for autumn and winter. As an opportunity occurs all kinds of kales, broccoli, cauliflower, savoys and cabbage must be planted, and the ground occupied by early peas, broad beans and potatoes can be filled with these vegetables as it becomes available. Aphis is very troublesome this year, and if the seedlings are infested with these pests, it will be advisable to dip them in a solution of weak quassia extract before planting. Thus treated, it is seldom that there is any more trouble. Another pest is a maggot which enters the stem of the plant, and a small hole is visible near the surface of the soil. If this is present, the roots and stems should be drawn through a mixture of clay and water, the former reduced to the consistency of thick paint.

Black fly is on some of the broad beans, and as this pest only thrives on the young leaves, the tops of the plants must be removed. A spraying of weak quassia extract will prove beneficial if carried out in the evening.

THE FLOWER GARDEN.

Garden Pinks.—This is a wonderful showy family of the genus dianthus, and this year, as always, they have been producing a grand display on the rock garden and in the borders. In time, however, the plants get old, and the quality of the blooms inferior, but, fortunately, this is easily remedied by propagation. Soon after the flowers are over a quantity of young shoots suitable for cuttings will be available, and these will readily form roots in a cold frame or hand-light, providing there is plenty of sharp sand in the soil. They will also root in a cool, shaded position outside. The growths are gently pulled off from the old plant, the ends neatly trimmed, and a few of the lower leaves removed.

OTHER FLOWER GARDEN NOTES.

At this season it is a good idea to set aside a cold frame for propagating purposes, which should contain a few inches of sandy soil. It would be ready for cuttings of various rock garden subjects as they become available.

The various forms of Phlox subulata are indispensable for the borders and rock garden, and the warm salmon rose variety Vivid should be in every garden. A stock of any variety can soon be obtained by taking cuttings after the flowering season. They will form roots in the frame described above.

Border Carnations will need supports, and coiled wire stakes are useful, no tying being required. If ordinary sticks are employed, they should be light and painted green. A certain amount of disbudding is desirable, and if the weather is dry give the roots moisture or the growths will be weak when the time arrives for layering operations.

Bulbs in Grass.—The foliage is nearly ripe, and now the grass can be mown to make the whole tidy. This will also enable the bulbs to become ripened.

THE FRUIT GARDEN.

Red and White Currants.—These will soon complete their season's growth, and summer pruning may be resorted to, so that the bu[illegible] will receive plenty of sunlight and the fruits benefit. The side growths are reduced to the fourth leaf from their base, but the leaders or main shoots are allowed to extend for another three weeks. If the trees are infested with aphis, care should be taken to cleanse them thoroughly before the fruit ripens. It is usual to employ a non-poisonous insecticide at this period. It is a good plan to grow a few examples on a north or east wall. They succeed well as cordons or fan shape, and where such is the case they should be pruned in a similar manner to bushes. Nets should be got ready and the trees covered before the fruits show signs of colouring, otherwise birds will soon strip the branches. Black currants, gooseberries, etc., will all need some protection from birds.

FRUIT UNDER GLASS.

Strawberries for Pots.—Wherever greenhouses exist strawberries in pots are a profitable crop, because ripe fruits can be secured in April and May without very much forcing, while the flavour is also good. To be a success, however, healthy, strong runners are essential, and the first runner from a young healthy stock must be secured. The new plants should be layered as early as possible, filling pots 3ins. in diameter with rich fibrous loam and then fixing the runner with a wooden or wire peg. Remove other growths from this particular shoot so that all the parent plant's energy is devoted to the young plants in the pots. If the pots are plunged in the soil, less labour will be needed in keeping the roots moist. As a rule runners are obtained from one year plants not bearing fruit, and with this object in view a small plantation should be made this season. The following year these plants produce a crop of excellent fruits.

Melons.—If autumn-fruiting melons are required, a sowing of seeds should be made at once, and directly the seedlings are large enough they should be transferred to their final quarters. The rooting medium consists of fibrous loam, which is made fairly firm before planting. Never allow the roots to become dry, or mildew will appear. Flowers of sulphur ought to be sprinkled on the affected parts when it is first seen.

THE VINERY.

In some vineries the grapes will begin to show signs of ripening, and directly the berries commence to colour a little different treatment is needed. Whenever the weather is bright and dry more ventilation is allowed, and both top and bottom ventilators can be used. An inch or so of ventilation throughout the night will prevent the berries cracking and improve the flavour. Give the border a thorough soaking of water, and no more will be needed until the crop is cleared.

In many gardens, however, where only one vinery exists and economy is practised in relation to coal, the berries will be swelling freely and perhaps just passed their stoning period. Here the roots will be active, and in consequence can be fed with an artificial manure, such as Thomson's or Le Fruitier. Soot water and liquid manure from the farmyard diluted to the colour of straw can also be applied with advantage until the ripening stage is approached. Feed the roots about once each week, and see that the border is moist before giving a stimulant. The atmosphere is kept fairly moist by sprinkling water on the floors, etc., twice daily, and if soot water is used for this purpose occasionally before closing the house for the night it will help to maintain the foliage in a healthy condition. Ventilation will need attention, and the ventilators should be opened a little before the temperature rises to any great extent, thereby preventing the foliage being scorched. When closing the vinery in the afternoon a note must be made of the sun and not the clock, and some days it will not be safe to shut up before 5 or 5.30 p.m. The position of the vinery ought also to be considered. As a rule the house is damped down and the ventilators closed sufficiently early for the temperature to rise from 10° to 20° before sundown. All lateral growths are pinched as they appear, and a watch must be kept for mealy bug or the bunches will be spoilt. Methylated spirit placed on this pest with a small camel-hair brush is most effective.

Chepstow. T. W. BRISCOE.

FOR NORTHERN GARDENS.

THE ROCK GARDEN.

Since the finishing off of the spring planting, work in the rock garden has mainly consisted in keeping it free from weeds, removing spent flowers and dead leaves. The advent of July ushers in a time of interesting and speculative operations on the matter of plant propagation. Three ways of increase are possible, two of which give plants similar to those we start with. The other, because of the probability of "something new," introduces the element of chance with its pleasant anticipations. To increase the plants already in our possession the easiest and quickest method is by division. This amounts to lifting the plant, dividing it into two or more portions with roots attached and replanting them at once with every hope of success, providing a suitable time is chosen. A few of the kinds that may be increased after this method are the campanulas, saxifrages, sedums, sempervivums, etc., most of which have a tufted habit. The following do well from cuttings: Aubrietia, alpine phlox, dianthus, helianthemums, cistus, veronicas and Lithospermum prostratum. The cuttings from aubrietia, alpine phlox, etc., are taken about 4ins. long and prepared in the ordinary way, while others which have firm woody shoots are best pulled like garden pinks, removing a few of the lower leaves without further trimming. This work may be done as the plants go out of bloom, from mid-July to late September. The necessary materials are well drained pans, soil of a light gritty nature—two parts loam, one each of rough sand and leaf-mould—and a suitable frame. This latter filled three parts with sifted ashes in which to plunge the pots and help to maintain an equal degree of moisture. Seeds of alpines are best sown when harvested. If kept in packets the skin hardens and germination is delayed. The compost for seed sowing should be the same as for cuttings, with the addition of crushed mortar rubble, sandstone or bricks. Fill the required number of well drained pans, coarse portions to the bottom and fine compost on top, and water with boiling water to destroy vegetable and insect life. Allow the pans to drain and cool, then sow the seed, covering with light soil or sand to a depth varying according to the size of the seed. Some very small seeds are not covered at all.

THE ROSE GARDEN.

In average seasons July is the month of roses, and exhibitors will be busy selecting cutting and showing their roses. For the ordinary grower of roses work will be mainly routine. Feeding should be discontinued towards the end of the month. The second growth is usually stronger than the first, the stimulus of applied feeding may have an adverse effect in promoting growth that would fail to ripen properly.

Mildew is likely to be troublesome at this period. As wet spraying is prohibited, dry sulphur powder from a distributor over upper and under surfaces of leaf or a little rubbed on the spot with thumb and finger will check it. The same agency will be disastrous to colonies of aphides on the points of the shoots. Remembering that the tender basal growths of the climbers are the flowering shoots of branches of the following year, these should be attended to by slinging them out of harm's way with a piece of soft string or raffia.

Suckers among growing roses are offensive apart from their parasitic tendencies. They should be pulled out in their entirety if possible as pieces left will grow afresh.

The picking of spent blooms should be done regularly for the sake of tidiness and as a relief to the plant. Hoeing the beds should not be neglected and watering must be done if the weather is very dry.

Doune, Perthshire. W. MCCARRELL.

Digitized by Google

ANTIRRHINUMS

IT'S only the fact that we grow and deliver especially good plants that we wish to advertise. The brightness, the long-flowering life, the wonderful adaptability of Antirrhinums (Snapdragons) are known to everyone. Although our plants are properly grown, transplanted, well rooted, hardened off, in all ways particularly good, as becomes a firm which reckon to do things well, the price is only

1/3 dozen. 8/6 100.

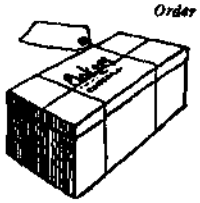
Carriage paid on orders value 5/- and over, otherwise 9d. extra.

And these are the varieties and colours

Cadsall Rose, delicate pink	**Dazzler,** orange scarlet
Cottage Maid, pink, white throat	**Firefly,** scarlet
Crimson King, rich dark crimson	**Glow,** orange apricot
Dainty, gold and terra cotta pink	**Nefrose,** bright rose
Electra, salmon orange, white throat	**Rose Queen,** rose pink self
	White Queen, pure white
	Yellow King, rich yellow

DELIVERED DIRECT FROM THE GROWERS, CARRIAGE PAID.

Order now.



Bakers

FLOWER FARM,
CODSALL.
Nr. Wolverhampton.

KATAKILLA

The Popular Insecticide

IS

NON - POISONOUS

Harmless to human beings and domestic animals.

Deadly to Aphis and Caterpillars on Fruit, Flowers and Vegetables.

In Powder form, ready for mixing with water. Clean and easy to use.

2/- Cartons (for 10 gallons)
6/- Cartons (to make 50 gallons.)

Of all Agents.

Write for illustrated leaflet "Katakilla," gratis and post free, from

COOPER, McDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, LTD.
BERKHAMSTED.

GARDEN TECHNIQUE

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

FRUIT TREES.

Hints on Summer Pruning.

THE summer pruning of fruit trees is a matter to which all growers should pay attention. Of course, the business must be undertaken with care, for the reckless cutting away of all the green twigs will do harm. At the same time, if this summer growth is allowed to develop unchecked, damage will also result. The correct method of pruning an apple tree in summer will be somewhat on these lines. Divide the process into two parts, dealing first with the strongest portion of the tree, usually the top, and with the weaker half two or three weeks later. It is a good plan not to start the pruning too early, as the tree benefits by having the large amount of leafage, for a time, at any rate. Round about the latter part of June and the beginning of July will, in most cases, be about the right time. Established pear trees that have settled down into regular bearing rarely produce much in the way of superfluous growth. Such pruning as is attempted should be concerned with letting the light into the various parts of the tree and generally controlling the balance of growth as a whole. When there is any gross attempt at growth, this should be stopped before it has a chance to rob the more useful adjoining branches. In the case of plums, summer pruning will begin when the shoots are an inch or so long, by thinning the clusters, removing the weakly shoots altogether which cannot be of any use to the tree. This work may be repeated during the summer, as needful, and right up to the end of the growing season the trees will require attention.—L. B.

SUMMER TREATMENT OF CORDON PEARS.

CORDON pear trees may be grown in large numbers in quite small gardens. It is not necessary to have walls on which to train them, as really fine specimens may be grown in the open borders trained to wires, of course, or supported by neat, strong stakes. The cordon system of trained pear trees enables a cultivator to grow many varieties in a small space. This being so, it follows that the character of growth will be varied too, and the treatment must be suitable for each. To refer in detail to sorts would mean a lengthy article, so I can only give a general guiding hint here. It is past early summer and new shoots are approaching full strength. Some will be much stronger than others. It is very essential that we summer prune cordon trees. This work should be done between the third week in July and the middle of August. Very strong-growing varieties, such as Pitmaston Duchess, should not be pruned as hard back as the less robust-growing ones, such, for instance, as Durondeau. The current year's shoots of the latter may be pruned back to five buds from the base; the strong sorts should be pruned back to six and seven buds. In cases where the growths of any variety are extra strong partly break off the shoots and allow them to hang for ten days or so before cutting them clear. This is to avoid a big check to growth. Do not feed the trees for about three weeks at this time, but the surface mulches may be renewed, if necessary.

Manure should be applied to young trees very sparingly and feeding should be avoided except in cases where the soil is very poor. But in every instance the surface mulch will be beneficial, especially to young and recently planted trees, as the mulch keeps the soil in a consistent state of moisture. The present is a good time to note trees that would be benefited by root-pruning in due course, and all such should be marked. As the wind has most power on trees when in full leaf, the necessary supports and ties should be examined and made good where deficient.—G. G.

CLIMBING FRENCH BEANS.

Why They Should be Grown.

IT is somewhat singular that among a hundred who grow dwarf French beans every year, scarcely one is to be found who sows climbing French beans. Canadian Wonder as a dwarf is universally popular, and, for the reason that it comes in early is valued, but for heavy croppers I have not found them to excel Early Bountiful, The Admiral or Tender and True. If these are sown in richly manured ground and given not less than a minimum space apart of 9ins., one can expect to gather many baskets of the climbing French sorts crop for a longer period. I find that if they are given the support of dwarf pea sticks—say hazel sticks about 4ft. in height, one can almost ensure a greater output than from the orthodox dwarf French beans—good as they admittedly are.—CLAREMONT.

GLOBE ARTICHOKES.

THIS herbaceous perennial vegetable is not grown extensively in small gardens because the plants occupy much space, and, in many large gardens too little space is devoted to it. Frequently, one finds plants growing in very poor soil, too; they will grow in almost any kind of soil, but mere growth is not sufficient; there must be very strong, luxuriant foliage with the globe stems high above it, then the scales forming these globes will be large and very succulent, not, as is often the case, small and dry, almost woody. Old plants are bound to lose strength, however well fed, so it is advisable to raise stock every two years to maintain a strong plantation, not necessarily replacing all the old plants every two years, but the weakest of them. When this is done some of the old soil should be taken out and wheeled to another part of the vegetable garden, new loam and rotted manure being liberally used to replace it. Towards the end of April sow some seeds in drills in a prepared bed of soil. The drills should be 18ins. apart, the seeds dropped thinly and the resultant plants thinned to 15ins. asunder. The plants will fill the space by the end of the year and be available for planting out next April. Permanently planted artichokes should be richly top-dressed and well fed during the summer months.—HANTS.

POTATO FOLIAGE DISEASES.

THE potato, our most important vegetable, is in rather a precarious position at the present time. I hasten to state that there is no need for immediate alarm, but growers realise that the outlook for this crop is not by any means as "rosy" as it ought to be. Every man who raises potatoes should realise that a diseased plant generally implies small tubers; small tubers are often selected for seed and seeds carry the diseases. My advice, therefore, is to watch a crop and dig up at once a diseased plant, burning the haulm, and using or burning the tubers at the root. Not one disease can be cured by spraying, though spraying may prevent the spreading of trouble, and so I emphatically state that only by conscientious energy on the part of every grower can the ravages of disease and the deterioration of varieties be prevented.

Digitized by Google

Below are briefly enumerated ten diseases easily identified this month or next. Worst of all is the first and, as everyone knows, Bordeaux mixture should be employed against it in June or July in order to prevent it doing serious damage.

Disease, or Blight.—Brown patches on leaves, peculiar curling, leaves and stems turn black, strong smell of decaying foliage.

Collar Rot.—Plants look sickly, stems covered with a grey mould.

Sleepy Disease.—Plants wilt, droop and slowly die.

Bacteriosis.—Leaves wilt and shrivel, the tissue turns brown, dark lines on haulm right down to the roots; brown marks inside stem when it is cut.

Leaf Blotch.—Leaves develop brown blotches, then they turn black and die.

Leaf Curl.—Leaves curl up, turn yellow, stems wilt, lower leaves attacked first.

Leaf Spot.—Greenish yellow spots running together, with violet mould underneath; often mistaken for disease, or blight. The spots may become brown.

Black Leg.—The leaves wilt and turn yellow, then die. Underground stems badly stained at first, but this soon extends up the stem, which finally becomes black and rotten.

Mosaic.—A peculiar marbling of the foliage with faint yellow blotches, seen better when the leaf is held up to the light; no great loss of vigour apparent, but the tubers are small.

Wilding.—This may not be a disease, but simply reversion of the plant to a wild state; growth is often abnormally vigorous, but the tubers are usually small and poor.

I urge readers once again to "rogue" their plots several times during the season, so that the crop harvested in autumn may be clean and pure. Knowing these ten diseases and remembering that there are at least as many diseases which are not apparent in the foliage, everyone will now realise how much the future of the potato depends on concerted action.—CLYDESDALE.

MISCELLANEOUS

MILDEW.

How to Keep it in Check.

AS most people know, mildew is a popular name applied to a number of microscopic fungi which cover the leaves of plants, on which they are parasitic, with a meal-like powder. As far as the open air is concerned, mildew is most prone to appear on roses, although, in one form or another, it may attack other plants. The condition which favours the development of mildew is a moisture-laden atmosphere, especially if the temperature is high. Such a state is very likely to occur in the early part of the season, and at such times the grower should keep a sharp look-out for the first signs of the trouble. Examine the foliage of roses repeatedly, and never delay treatment. There is no better cure for mildew than dusting the leaves with flowers of sulphur. The sulphur, brought into contact with the spores of the fungus, does its work well and at once checks the spread of the disease. The sulphur is best applied through a special blower and, as a rule, several applications are needed. Deal with all the affected areas and, in severe cases, it is sometimes needful to remove some of the foliage altogether; this should always be burned at once. Mildew is such a serious pest that it is worth while taking preventive measures. A very good solution, which protects the plants, is prepared by dissolving 1 oz. of liver of sulphur in 2½ gallons of water. This should be sprayed on to the foliage as early in the summer as possible, and the process may be repeated at intervals. Even after this step has been taken, mildew may appear in close, thundery weather, and one should always be ready to attack the spots with flowers of sulphur, in the manner described.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

WINDOW PLANTS.

The Need of Care in Summer.

IF regularly watered and the foliage kept clean and free from insect pests, etc., window plants will look their best and grow vigorously. Cleanliness is, indeed, the main point, and even in a smoky district, window plants may be kept in splendid trim if they are frequently sponged or syringed. The free use of the sponge and the watering pot with a fine rose on it afford the best means of keeping plants clean. As the weather becomes warmer and the sun stronger, watering will require to be done more frequently. Any neglect in the regular performance of this little duty will soon tell.

Plants that are difficult to water may be stood in a pail of water for a while. It is always advantageous to moisten the soil thoroughly now and again, but no plants should be kept constantly sodden, nor allowed to stand in stagnant water. If the fine rootlets of plants in pots do not get sufficient moisture they soon wither up. This may not be reflected in the foliage just at once, but it will assuredly tell against the appearance of the plant before long. Plants are perceptibly freshened if a few pieces of charcoal are put into the water used for watering. A little soot is good for darkening the foliage of many house plants.—J. W.

SWEET PEA COMPETITION

£50 IN PRIZES

RULES.

A list of your choice of the six most popular sweet peas to be sent in in order of preference on the coupon to be found on page IV of this week's issue of THE GARDEN. *No alternative* varieties will be allowed in the one list, but readers may send in any number of lists, provided that they are written on the special coupon to be found in this and the following issues of THE GARDEN.

Coupons must reach this office not later than Saturday, July 17th (after which date no coupons will be accepted).

The popular vote will be final, and no correspondence will be entered into over this competition.

Envelopes must be marked *Competition* and addressed to THE GARDEN, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

The Editor will not be held responsible for letters missing in the post.

The result will be announced in THE GARDEN in the issue of August 28th.

The prizes are awarded to those whose list corresponds most closely to that arrived at by the popular vote.

If two readers tie for the first place, the first and second prizes will be equally divided; if two for the second place, the second and third prizes will be equally divided.

The Editor's decision on all points will be final.

PRIZES.

1ST PRIZE.—Goods worth **£30** from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

2ND PRIZE.—Goods worth **£10** from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

3RD PRIZE.—Goods worth **£5** from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

20 CONSOLATION PRIZES of **5s.** each from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

Red Spider, Thrips, Black and Green Fly, Mildew, Rust and all Fungoid and Insect Pests are killed with one application of the

FERRY BRAND (Reyd. Trade Mk)

INSECTICIDE (Non-Poisonous)

Here is the opinion of a user:

"Kingsclere, Newbury.

"I am writing to testify to the good quality of your Insecticide.

"I had the Black Fly very badly on a crop of Broad Beans, but one single application cleared the plants of every trace of Fly and now are quite clean and healthy and have a good crop of Beans on them. I would recommend anyone to use it, also your Antiseptic.—A. C."

PRICES: 1 qt. 2/9 ½ gall. 4/3 1 gall. 7/6 2 galls. 14/- 3 galls. 20/- 5 galls. 33/-

All prices carriage paid to the nearest Railway Station for cash with order.

The BRITON FERRY CHEMICAL & MANURE Co., Ltd. (Dept. E), Briton Ferry, S. Wales. (Est. 1886).

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by "ALPHOL" Sample 14 lb., 3/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

WHY is "HOMES and GARDENS" such a Great Success?

BECAUSE it shows greater House Comfort & Convenience —with less Labour and Expense.

Send to-day for a Free specimen Copy of this helpful and beautifully Illustrated Magazine to 20, Tavistock St., Covent Garden, W.C.2

"The Garden Beautiful"

No garden can be truly beautiful where the plants are sickly and starved. Therefore dress it well with Nitrate of Soda, in conjunction with Phosphates and Potash.

Write for special pamphlets, entitled, "Successful Gardens for Every Amateur," "The Manuring of Orchards and Fruit Trees," supplied gratis and post free by THE CHILEAN NITRATE COMMITTEE, Friars House, New Broad Street, London, E.C. 2.

Nitrate of Soda

Digitized by Google

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices :—

Tins 10d. and 1/6

and in Branded and Sealed Bags:

7 lbs.	3/6	14 lbs.	6/-
28 lbs.	10/-	56 lbs.	18/-
112 lbs.	32/-		

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark.

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers, etc. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**

THE LEADING GLASS HOUSE FUMIGANT

THOUSANDS OF TOMATO CROPS ENTIRELY SAVED
No alterations needed since first introduced.
Unbuffered with the best, it is the cheapest in the end.
Commended by the Royal Horticultural Society.

Cubic ft.	1,000	2,000	4,000	8,000	16,000	32,000	64,000
	10d.	1/3	2/-	3/6	6/-	10/6	19/-

Also in 2, 5 and 10 gall. FREE drums:

ALSO

"NIQUAS"

THE INSECTICIDE.

(Non-poisonous.)

destroying Greenfly, Aphis and Caterpillars etc., on all plants and trees.

30 years' reputation.
Many hundreds of Testimonials received.

Equal to any, if not better, and cheaper, so why not use it and save money?

1 pt.	1 qt.	½-gall.	1 gall.	2 gall.	5 gall.	10 gall.
1/6	2/6	4/-	7/6	15/-	25/-	45/-

CORRY'S CONCENTRATED QUASSIA EXTRACT

1 pt.	1 qt.	½-gall.	1 gall.	2 gall.	5 gall.	10 gall.
1/3	2/-	3/6	6/6	12/6	23/-	42/-

Sold by Nurserymen and Seedsmen.

CORRY & CO., Ltd., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

By Appointment

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

Any quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD., *Royal Potteries,* BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

KILL those WEEDS

Hoeing and hand-picking of weeds are back-aching, temper-trying jobs.

Why not save time, trouble and labour by cleaning the paths, with

COOPER'S WEEDICIDE

("Highly Commended" by the Royal Horticultural Society.)

1 gallon (price 9/-) dilutes to 100 gallons water and is sufficient for treating 300 to 400 square yards of surface. The cost of the ready-for-use mixture is, therefore about 1d. per gallon.

Pint 1/9 Quart 3/- ¼ gall. 5/- 2 galls. 17/-
5 galls. 36/6. 20 galls. 105/- 40 galls. 200/-

If you prefer a non-arsenical preparation, we recommend

McDOUGALL'S

PERFECT SAFETY WEEDKILLER

Involves no danger to domestic animals, poultry, game, etc.

Pint 1/6 Quart 2/6 ¼ gall. 4/-
1 gall. 6/6 5 galls. 25/-

POWDER WEEDKILLER. (Arsenical) in 1 lb., 2 lb and 8 lb tins

Write for our illustrated leaflet "The Weed Problem Solved," and you will learn how weeds can be eradicated quickly and easily.

"as easy as it looks"

If unable to obtain these Weedkillers locally, please write to

Cooper, McDougall & Robertson, BERKHAMSTED, Herts Ltd.

Digitized by Google

BENTLEY'S
WEED DESTROYER

(POISON) STANDS FOR

Strength Reliability Economy

Stronger than any other. One application keeps gravel paths and drives clean for nearly two years. Commands the largest sale both at home and abroad, with a rapidly spreading popularity.

REDUCED PRICES:

Concentrated Liquid (1 to 80)—1 gal. **6/9**; 2 gals. **13/–**; 3 gals. **18/9**; 6 gals. **35/9**; 12 gals. **69/–**; 24gals. **134 3**; 40gals. **218 3**

Powder (1 to 25)—4 tins **9 3**; 8 tins **17/10**; 12 tins **25 6**; 20 tins **40/9**; 40 tins **78/–**

BENTLEY'S
QUASSIA EXTRACT

Compound Liquid **(Non-poisonous)**

Infallibly destroys Aphis in all its forms. It may be used anywhere and everywhere with absolute safety, and is the most economical of all Insecticides.

One gal. makes from 80 to 100 gals. of wash.

5 gals. **8/6** per gal.; 1 gall. **8/9**; ½ gal. **5/–**; 1 qt. **3/–**; 1 pt. **1/9**

Carriage paid on 15/– orders and upwards.

Sole Manufacturers:

JOSEPH BENTLEY LTD.

CHEMICAL WORKS,

BARROW-ON-HUMBER :: LINCS.

The **Helichrysa** **LABEL**

LASTING, LEGIBLE, AND LOW IN PRICE

R^g. Trade Mark
Reg Design No. 713923. Prov. Prot.

MARK WHERE YOUR BULBS ARE DYING DOWN

The labels are embossed aluminium in galvanised wire holders. From **2/- dozen** according to amount of lettering necessary.

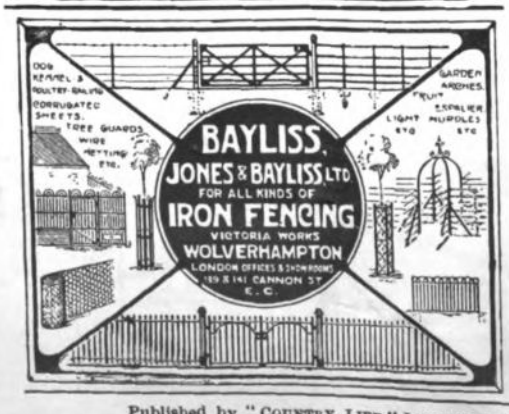
Write for circular and full particulars to

The "HELICHRYSA" CO.
EAST STREET, COGGESHALL, ESSEX

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" Lawn Sand, Soil Fume Nicotine, Insecticides, Fumers, Sprays and other Chemicals and Sundries. See List. Please ask your agent for the Eureka Articles – They are always satisfactory. If any difficulty in obtaining, we send direct, carriage paid.

Only Address TOMLINSON & HAYWARD L^td LINCOLN



WAKELEY'S *Celebrated* **HOP MANURE**

(PATENTED)

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only **7/-** carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE, without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

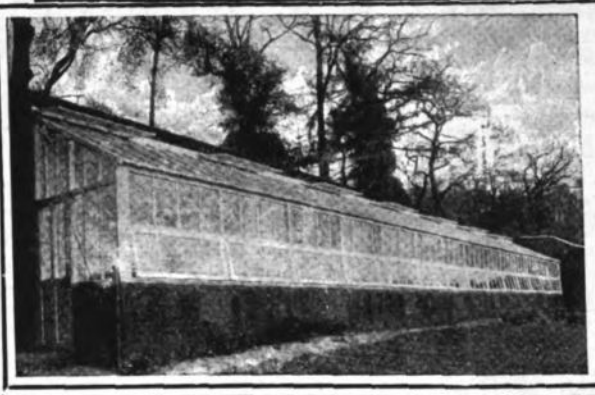
A beautiful Free Booklet giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. GENUINE ONLY IN OUR MARKED BAGS, CONTAINING GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

Cash Prices, including bags: Small (about 1 bushel), **3/-**; Large (about 4 bushels), **7/-**; 5 Large **33/9**
10 Large, **65/-**; 20 Large, **120/-**

Carriage Paid to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company. 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1



GREENHOUSES AND GARDEN FRAME

I specialize in the Erection of High class Horticultural Buildings.

Garden Frames a speciality. Select timber, well seasoned, only used.

Being a grower, I understand Glass house requirements.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.
CATALOGUES WITH PLEASURE

E. M. HEAP, Cottimore Nurseries
WALTON-ON-THAMES.

AFTER 23 YEARS—

AN ELOQUENT PROOF OF UNFAILING AND USEFUL SERVICE.

"A better Greenhouse Boiler could not be than the 'Horse Shoe.' I have had it in use for 23 years, and it has answered splendidly," writes Mr. F. G. L.....47, Mt. Carmel, Derby. 23/11/1925.

"HORSE SHOE" BOILERS

CAN BE SUPPLIED FROM IMMEDIATE STOCK.

Write for particulars now.

To CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD.,
Engineers, Southwark Street, S.E.1.

Please send me Booklet E "Making the Most of Your Greenhouse," and price of complete Outfit to suit *(span-roof) (lean-to) greenhouse.....long .....wide inside, sides of *(wood) brick).....thick.

Name.....

Address.....

*Strike out particulars not needed. Cut out and send by ½d. post.

CHAS. P. KINNELL & Co., Ltd., 65, Southwark St., LONDON, S.E.1
Wire: "Kinnell-Boroh-London." **Phone: Hop 362 (three lines.)**

YOUR LAWN!

TRUE PLAY *IN MANY LAWN GAMES IS IMPOSSIBLE UNLESS THE SURFACE IS CLEAR OF DAISIES AND OTHER WEEDS— THE BEST METHOD OF ERADICATION IS~*

LAWN SAND

Velvas

applied at 4 oz. per Square Yard.

MAKES VELVETY LAWNS

CARRIAGE PAID PRICES:

112 lb. Keg,	29/-	112 lb. Bag,	28/6	14 lb. Tin,	6/-
56 lb. "	16/-	56 lb. "	14/3	7 lb. "	4/-
28 lb. "	10/6	28 lb. "	9/3	3 lb. "	2/6

Sole Manufacturers

ROBINSON BROTHERS L^td, WEST BROMWICH

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS 56 & 57, Drury Lane London W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

JUL 13 1926
PERIODICAL ROOM GENERAL LIBRARY UNIV. OF MICH.

THE

GARDEN

ORCHARD GARDEN WOODLAND

Vol. XC.—No. 2848 Saturday, July 3rd, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

Barr's Seeds for July Sowing

OF FINEST STRAINS AND TESTED GROWTH

For the Flower Garden.

Antirrhinums, Aquilegias, Campanulas, Delphiniums, Forget-me-nots, Gaillardias, Geums, Hollyhocks, Lupins, Pansies, Papavers, Polyanthus-Primroses, Sweet Williams, Stocks, Violas, etc.

For the Vegetable Garden

Beet, Cabbage, Carrots, Cress, Mustard, Onions, Peas, Parsley Turnips, Radish, etc.

For the Rock Garden

Special List of dwarf-growing Hardy Perennials, Alpines, etc., for July sowing in the Rock Garden

All Lists free on application.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

NETTINGS

GARDEN NETS FOR FRUIT PROTECTION

Any lengths and widths. Corded all round

	per sq. yd.		per sq. yd.
NEW 1 in. sq. mesh, heavy	6½d.	NEW ⅝ in. sq. mesh, medium	7½d.
NEW 1 in. ,, medium	5½d.	REPAIRED 1 in. sq. mesh, heavy	3½d.
NEW ⅝ in. ,, light	5½d.	REPAIRED ⅝ in. ,, ,,	4d.

REPAIRED (not corded) 1 in. diamond mesh, 9/- per 100 sq. yards.

NEW TENNIS BOUNDARY NETS

Any lengths and widths. Corded all round. 7d. per sq. yard.

NEW TENNIS NETS

Various qualities from 16/- to 31/- each.

NETS FOR ALL PURPOSES

Samples and full particulars from the manufacturers.

JOSEPH BENTLEY, Ltd., Barrow-on-Humber, LINCS.

(Sole Proprietors of B. EDDY & SONS)

The Flower of the Season

BALL'S CALENDULA

— Brilliant Orange Double Flowers —

THE FINEST PLANT FOR CUT FLOWER OR THE BORDER

Our exhibit at CHELSEA SHOW m many customers, and we have had numerous testimonials from all parts of the country.

SEED PLANTS .. .. 1/-, 2/6, 5/- et .. .. 1/6 doz.: 10/ 50

WM. ARTINDALE & SON

NETHER GREEN NURSERY :: SHEFFIELD

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

FOR THE GARDEN! FOR EXHIBITION!

FOR BEDS! FOR EVERYWHERE!

Also Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees, Alpines and Hardy Plants.

BUY HOME-GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries.

Catalogue Free on Application, and Addresses booked for Revised Catalogue in late Summer.

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.,

Garden Specialists - - SOUTHWELL, NOTTS

All Prices Reduced *All Prices Reduced*

SMITH'S

"PERFECT" WEED KILLER

POWDER

Also in Liquid—All Sized Drums.

First Weed Killer ever offered and first ever since.

SMITH'S "PERFECT" NON-POISONOUS LIQUID AND POWDER

Best Value. Most Reliable. Full Satisfaction Guaranteed. Prices and Particulars of—

MARK SMITH, LTD., LOUTH, LINCOLNSHIRE

NETTINGS (*Reduced Prices*)

GARDEN NETS for fruit protection. Any length or width, corded all round

	Per sq. yd.		Per sq. yd.
New 1in. sq. mesh, stout	5d.	Best ½in. salmon twine	7d.
New medium, 1in. sq. mesh	4½d.	Repaired ⅝in. stout, sq. mesh	3d.
New ⅝in. stout, sq. mesh	5½d.	Repaired 1in. sq. mesh	2½d.
New ⅝in. medium, sq. mesh	4½d.		

NEW TENNIS BOUNDARY NETTING, roped around.

	Per sq. yd.		Per sq. yd.
Heavy hand braided	7d.	Little lighter	4½d.
Medium hand braided	6d.	Selected repaired	3d.

Any length or width supplied.

NEW TENNIS NETS, regulation size, various qualities, steel and copper head lines, 30 - to 35 - each.

DIAMOND NETS, measured mesh closed, Selected, Repaired, small mesh, 25yds. x 2yds., 3s. 6d., or 4yds., 7s., or 8yds., 14s. Heavy quality, about 1½in. mesh, 25yds. x 2yds., 5s.; 4yds., 10s.; 8yds., £1, carriage paid passenger train; receipt order.

Satisfaction Guaranteed. Samples and full particulars from the Manufacturers: Mention THE GARDEN.

W. OLIVER ALLEN & SONS,

Net Makers, PORTHLEVEN, CORNWALL.

Digitized by Google

'THE GARDEN' CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S HARDY PLANT FARMS ENFIELD, MIDDX. — New Alpines and Perennials. Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS. NURSERIES BEDFORD — Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR. HARDY PLANT NURSERY MERSTHAM, SURREY — Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON TWERTON HILL NURSERY BATH — Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS 408, KING'S ROAD, CHELSEA, S.W. — Seeds Gladioli Spiræas List on Application

R. H. BATH, LTD. THE FLORAL FARMS WISBECH — Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD. NURSERIES CRAWLEY — Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG THE NURSERIES CHISLEHURST, KENT — Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD. BARROW-ON-HUMBER HULL — Weed Destroyers Fertilisers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

ROCKRAVEN GARDEN STONE

COMPANY SUPPLY POROUS LIME-STONE ROCKS FOR ALPINE SUBJECTS: WEATHER-WORN BY THE STORMS OF CENTURIES INTO DELIGHTFUL POCKETS, LEDGES AND FISSURES. VARIED SHAPES AND SIZES

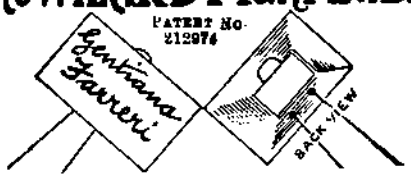
SECRETARY LINTON-IN-CRAVEN, SKIPTON, YORKS

MANURES.

The most complete little book on the subject is "The Manual of Manures," by H. VENDELMANS, 4/5; by post, 4/9. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

The WIZARD Plant LABEL

PATENT No. 212974



Made in Red Pottery, 2½ x 1¼ ins., with rustless wires. 12 in., 3/- doz.; 7 in., 1/7 doz. 1½ x 1 in., with wires 6 in., 1/6 doz. For tying on, 1/6 and 1/3 doz. Waterproof Ink, 9d. and 7½d. bot. Crow Quills, 2d. Postage extra

Highly commended by the R.H.S. at Wisley.

E. TORKINGTON . NEW HALL . MAIDENHEAD

CARNATIONS

for every

GARDEN & GREENHOUSE.

PERPETUAL CARNATIONS
PERPETUAL MALMAISONS.
PERPETUAL BORDER CARNATIONS,
BORDER CARNATIONS and
ALLWOODII (Half Pink—Half Carnation.)

For present or Autumn delivery. Fully illustrated and descriptive Catalogue sent post free on request to

Allwood Bros

The leading Carnation Raisers and Specialists in the World (Dept. 4).

HAYWARD'S HEATH.

"ACME" WEED KILLER

Awarded Gold Medal at Anglo-American Exhibition and Bronze Medal by Royal Horticultural Society.

Has stood the test of over 30 years.

POWDER, LIQUID AND NON-POISONOUS.

LAWN SAND

destroys Weeds and Moss in Grass.

EXTRACT OF QUASSIA INSECTICIDE

QUASSIA-TOBACCO INSECTICIDE

Write for Price List.

The Acme Chemical Co., Ltd.,
TONBRIDGE, KENT.

FERTHRIVER (REGD.)

THE COMPLETE FERTILISER, WITH GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

GIVES RESULTS

7-lb.	14-lb.	28-lb.	56-lb	1-cwt.
2/3	4/-	6/-	10/-	16/-

Carriage Paid.

ANALYSIS:	
Ammonia -	4 per cent.
Phosphates	15 "
Potash -	8 "
Pot. Sulphate	5.8 "

3d. Tin of Ferthriver *As Illustrated.* 6d. Post Free.

THE NECESSARIES CO.,
25, Edward Road,
Balsall Heath, BIRMINGHAM.

Kill summer pests

There is one certain way of eliminating fly and summer pests—XL ALL Nicotine Liquid Insecticide. It is the clean, simple way, too. Use XL ALL. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen, florists and chemists.

XL ALL NICOTINE LIQUID INSECTICIDE

G. H. RICHARDS, LTD.
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
Monomark: BCM/XLALL.
B. 135

Please mention THE GARDEN when writing

"The Garden Beautiful"

No garden can be truly beautiful where the plants are sickly and starved. Therefore dress it well with Nitrate of Soda, in conjunction with Phosphates and Potash.

Write for special pamphlets, entitled, "Successful Gardens for Every Amateur," "The Measuring of Orchards and Fruit Trees," supplied gratis and post free by THE CHILEAN NITRATE COMMITTEE, Priors House, New Broad Street, London, E.C. 2.

Nitrate of Soda

SITUATION WANTED.

EXPERIENCED LADY GARDENER wants temporary work for July and August.—BOX 4, THE GARDEN, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, London, W.C.2.

A Book for all Fruit Growers

SUMMER PRUNING

The Lorette System of Pruning.

By LOUIS LORETTE (Late Professor of Arboriculture). Translated from the French by the late W. R. DYKES, M.A., L-ès-L., the late Secretary, Royal Horticultural Society.

Illustrated with many full page illustrations and smaller blocks. Demy 8vo. Cloth. 7s. 6d. net.

"For some thirty years M. Lorette has been growing fruit on a system of pruning revolutionary in character and on its own ground producing astonishing results . . . the principle of the method is the formation of short fruiting spurs close to the main limbs of the tree by an exact routine of summer pruning with the knife . . . the many photographs in the book prove what a prodigious wealth of bloom and weight of fruit can be produced by the method."—

Times Literary Supplement.

MARTIN HOPKINSON & CO., LIMITED
14, HENRIETTA ST., LONDON, W.C.2

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

WATERER'S GOLD MEDAL RHODODENDRONS, Azaleas, Rare Hardy Shrubs, Alpine and Perennial Plants, Bulbs, Vegetable and Flower Seeds, for Summer Sowing. JOHN WATERER, SONS AND CRISP, LIMITED, Twyford, Berks; Ascot, Surrey; and London.

HIMALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODENDRONS on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and Alpine Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write for Catalogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

WELLS' CATALOGUE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS will be sent post free on application.—W. WELLS AND CO., Merstham, Surrey.

OAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE. The original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See advert. on back page.

W. M. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., Lawrence Road, South Tottenham, N.15. — Conservatories, Winter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

BIRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUNDRIALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—WOOSTOS, 90, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

FENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Garden Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request. — THE CRANLEY UXBRIDGE WOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, Surrey.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

FRUIT.—Exceptional opportunity to buy cheap. Well-known varieties offered for transplanting early autumn; owner going abroad. 400 three and two year old Apples, 6,500 Black Currants, 1,700 Red Currants, 2,500 Gooseberries.—ROBB, Liphook.

NAIL WRITES WEBSTER'S LABELS on new metal, can't fade or break. 20 sizes to hang or stand.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

CASCADE WONDER NOZZLES spread or scatter, dirt don't choke, no taking off, not mislaid, fit any can. Sample free.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

WIRE NETTING.—From 2/5 per 50yd. roll. Largest House in the Kingdom. Write us for prices. Thousands of rolls stocked.

TENTS.—Army Bell, all complete, new fittings, Ridge Poles, Pegs, Mallets, Guy Ropes, Extra Strong Walls. Scout, Bathing, and Garden Tents, also Marquees. Write us for prices.

DEFY THE BIRDS.—Rotless Tanned Netting. Small mesh, as supplied by us to the Royal Gardens. In three Qualities 50 x 1yd., 3/6, 4/-, 6/9; 2yds., 7/-, 8/-, 13/6; 3yds., 10/6, 12/-, 20/3; 4yds., 14/-, 16/-, 27/-; 25 x 1yds., 14/-, 16/-, 27/-. Any size supplied. Carriage paid. Approval. Measured mesh closed.

TENNIS BOUNDARY NETTING.—Lines top and bottom, 25 x 2yds., 16/3; 3yds., 18/3; 4yds., 25/3 carriage paid. Approval. Standards for fixing to, also Playing Nets, Poles and all requisites supplied.

GARDEN BARROWS.—Full size. 8 spokes. Best value in the kingdom, 24/9. Painted, 28/3.

LAWN MOWERS.—Five Riveted Blades. High Wheels, Brass Bushings. Close Cutting. Highly Finished. Unequalled Value. 8in., 23/-; 10in., 24/-; 12in., 25/-; 14in., 6/-. Grass Boxes, 8/6 each. Garden Rollers, 30/-.

TEA NETTING.—Tanned, Superior Quality. 2in. mesh, 6ft. wide, 6d. yard. Carriage paid 12yds. and over. Other widths pro rata, prices of smaller meshes on application. —J. R. HAWKESLEY, LIMITED, Dept. E, Shrewsbury.

BARR'S SEEDS FOR JULY SOWING.—HARDY PERENNIALS and ALPINES for the FLOWER and ROCK GARDEN and the most suitable VEGETABLE SEEDS for Summer Sowing. Finest Selected Strains and Tested Growth. Special Lists Free.—BARR & SONS, 11, 12 and 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760 yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 800 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

FLAME FLOWER. (Tropæolum speciosum). Extra strong established pot plants of this loveliest of scarlet flowered perennial climbers ready for planting any time now 1/- each, 6 for 5/-, 12 for 10/-, carriage paid for cash with order. —CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED, Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Dean Hole and His Roses	371
Editorial Notes	372
A Plea for the Hardy Geranium	373
Notes of the Week	374–375
The Graceful Phœnician Verbascum; Some Shrubby Spiræas; Some Interesting Cacti; Yellow Foxgloves; Rubus australis.	
The Value of Foliage—III	376
The Spiney Elm—A New Introduction	377
Correspondence	378
An Interesting Cactus; A Tree Failure; Sweet Pea "Blindness"; Feijoa Sellowiana; Hardy Tamarisks.	
The Amateur Show	379
The Flower Garden	380–381
Ixias; Sow Cyclamen Seeds Now; Moss Roses; Brompton Stocks; Pruning Clematises; The Lawn; Green Herbage; Two Garden Pests.	
Gardening of the Week	382

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL DELPHINIUMS and ROSES. Send a postcard for our catalogue.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S CHOICE DAFFODILS AND TULIPS and other Bulbs. Bulb catalogue will be ready in July and will be sent free on application.—"Order early and Plant early" to avoid disappointment.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame). 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

PUMP BARGAINS ! !—First-class brand new Pumps for all purposes. Sacrificial prices for early clearance. Post card for illustrations.—GREEN'S ARMY STORES, Dept. 137, Lytham.

GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS — CHOICE TULIPS, &c. List on application.—THE WELSH BULB FIELDS St. Asaph.

THE CULTURE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS. By W. WELLS. 2/6 net; cloth, 3/6 net; by post 6d. extra. —Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE" LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

A CATALOGUE of gardening books will be sent free on application to "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

DOBBIE'S PLANT CATALOGUE now ready. Free to all readers. Please mention THE GARDEN when writing. —DOBBIE AND CO., LIMITED, Edinburgh.

BARGAINS ! ! !—Ideal Wire for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded, and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses, from 19/6 mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 355, Albert Street, Lytham.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

GARDEN NETS.—Best tanned, small mesh; 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 25yds. by 3yds., 6/-; 25yds. by 4yds., 8/-. Carr. Paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Tennis nets from 10/-. Special nets for tennis boundary. Pea training nets. Lists and samples free.—G. JARRETT, Netmaker, Rye.

ROCK AND ALPINE PLANTS.—Large and varied collection. All pot grown. Packed and carriage paid. Catalogue free.—M. J. PIGGOTT, Duffield, Nr. Derby.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING, small mesh: 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 40yds. by 1yd., 8/3; 40yds. by 2yds., 6/6; 40yds. by 3yds., 9/9. Measured mesh closed. Special Pea Netting supplied. Tennis Nets from 8/-. Carriage Paid. Compare our netting with others. Sports lists and samples free.—GALLOP, Net Manufacturer, Hastings.

HERRING NETS, Small Mesh, to protect all kinds of fruit, approximately 30ft x 30ft., 12/6 each. Smaller pieces, 5/- and 6/6, good value. Carriage paid. Cash with order.—WM. G. GRIGOR, Port Gordon Station, Banffshire.

LOOK ! TANNED GARDEN NETS.—All orders dispatched same day. 25yds. by 1yd, 2/-; 25 by 2, 4/-; 25 by 3, 6/-. Odd netting for bushes, 6lbs. for 2/6. All carriage paid. Any sizes supplied. Also Tennis Boundary Nets.—MOORE AND CO., Net Works, Rye.

LAXTON'S STRAWBERRIES.—New List Containing Novelties for 1926. Prolific, Rearguard, Robust. Also The Duke, Royal Sovereign and all the old Favourites. Plants in small pots for forcing.—LAXTON BROTHERS, Nurseries, Bedford.

PUPILS given general nursery instruction. —Particulars, H. HOPKINS, Waterford Nurseries, Lymington, Hants.

MECONOPSIS INTEGRIFOLIA M. WALLICHI, 10/6 per doz. to clear. Primula sikkemensis, P. pulverulenta, P. Beesiana, P. Bulleyana, P. Mooreana, P. crispata, in flower, to clear at 10/6 per doz. Strong two year old plants. Carriage extra.—WM. HUNT, Primula Grower, 4, Northcote Street, Edinburgh.

THE NATIVE PLANT NURSERIES, Rockbeare, Exeter, do *not*, as some kind persons have thought well to suggest (to others), rely for their supplies upon plants taken from roadsides or common lands. List free.

TREE LUPINS for the grass and Wild Garden. Strong seedlings, mixed colours, 3/- per doz. Post free. —THE NATIVE PLANT NURSERIES, Rockbeare, Exeter.

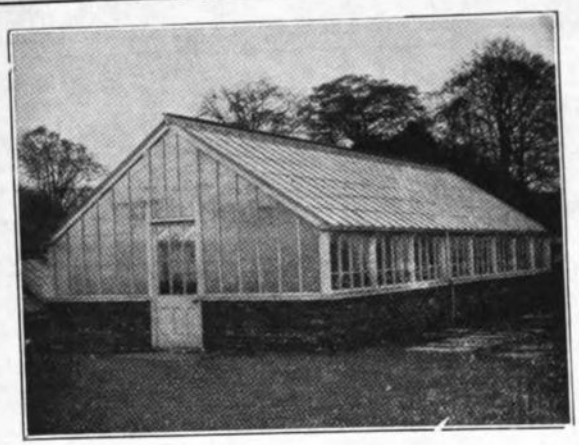
LEEK PLANTS.—Strong plants of our famous Giant Musselburgh now ready, 1/9 per 100, c.w.o., free by post, low quotations for large quantities. Price lists free.—DICKSONS, 20, Charlotte Square, Edinburgh.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING, best selected small mesh, 25 yards by 2 yards, 4s., or 4 yards 8s., or 8 yards 16s., carriage paid. Cheaper kinds supplied. Tennis Nets and Standards. Lists free.—STRAWBERRY NETTING CO. Offices: 5, Suffolk Terrace, Lowestoft.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

BOULTON & PAUL for MODERN Glasshouses



Boulton & Paul Conservatories and Greenhouses can be seen all over the British Isles, and after very many years' wear they still bear that mark of quality, design and craftsmanship associated with all their products. Let Boulton & Paul undertake your Horticultural work, and you will be sure of right design and workmanship.

The service of an expert staff of Designers is always at disposal of clients, and we are ready to advise on any subject. A representative will be sent by appointment to consult and prepare schemes for any kind of Horticultural Work. . . . . .

Ask for our free Catalogue No. 742.

Boulton & Paul Ltd

Telegrams: BOULTON NORWICH **NORWICH** Telephone NORWICH 851 (5 lines)

LONDON OFFICE: 135-137, QUEEN VICTORIA ST. E.C.

Telegrams: Boutique Cent London Telephone 4642 Cent

Garden Frames a speciality. Prices from 35/- Designs shown in Booklet No. 744.

"THE GARDEN" Sweet Pea Competition

Name .....

Address .....

.....

1 .....

2 .....

3 .....

4 .....

5 .....

6 .....

Coupon July 3rd

OUT OUT AROUND LINE.

FERTILIZERS for the garden

Better, bigger crops will more than repay the cost of Fertilizers.

Illustrated Catalogue of Fertilisers for all garden crops, with full instructions, from

JOSEPH FISON & CO LTD IPSWICH

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" Lawn Sand, Soilfume, Nicotine, Insecticides, Fumers, Sprays and other Chemicals and Sundries. See List. Please ask your agent for the Eureka Articles – They are always satisfactory. If any difficulty in obtaining, we send direct, carriage paid.

Only Address: TOMLINSON & HAYWARD L.td LINCOLN.

YOUR GARDEN NEEDS KILOGRUB

Its fumes are instantly fatal to all insect pests in the soil, but harmless to plants. Really effective because it works underground.

Tins: 9d., 1/6 and 2/6
Bags: ¼ cwt. 6/6, ½ cwt. 9/6, 1 cwt. 15/-

From your seedsmen or from

JOHN PEAK & CO. LTD. WIGAN. Lancs.

GREEN'S WORLD FAMOUS LAWN MOWERS

By Appointment

GARDEN ROLLERS & TENNIS MARKERS

Green's 'NEW CENTURY' Lawn Mower

Established 1835

Green's 'SILENS MESSOR' Lawn Mower

Green's 'NEW CENTURY'

Fitted with adjustable bearings, is an ideal light machine for mowing small lawns, tennis courts, slopes and banks.

Green's 'SILENS MESSOR'

Is a very light running machine, practically noiseless, and gives a fine even surface. Reversible cylinder has eight cutters adjustable to any cut.

May be obtained from any Ironmonger or Seedsman in the United Kingdom.

OVER A MILLION SOLD.

See List for Horse Mowers and Motor Mowers.

NEW PRICE LIST No. 8 ON REQUEST.

THOMAS GREEN & SON, LTD.

Smithfield Ironworks, Leeds, and New Surrey Works, Southwark Street, London, S.E.1

Make this into rich Manure

Lawn mowings, weeds, leaves, etc., should never be wasted. As your garden refuse accumulates, build it into a heap, treating each fresh addition of rubbish with—

ADCO

In a few months you will have a plentiful supply of rich organic fertiliser.

1 cwt. ADCO makes from 2-3 tons of MANURE according to the class of rubbish used.

ADCO ACCELERATOR

(for lawn mowings and soft green refuse)

28 lb., 4/6 ... 56 lb., 8/- ... 1 cwt., 15/-

STANDARD ADCO

(for all other rubbish, bracken and straw)

28 lb., 6/- ... 56 lb., 11/6 ... 1 cwt., 20/-

Carriage paid to nearest Goods Station. Cash with order.

Stocked by all leading Seedsmen, Harrods Ltd., etc.

ADCO LTD., HARPENDEN HERTS.

Digitized by Google

VOL. XC.—No. 2848. JULY 3, 1926

DEAN HOLE AND HIS ROSES

BY countless thousands of folk who have only a slight interest in gardening, the rose maintains her long earned reputation as the Queen of Flowers, and to them she represents the highest ideal of beauty to be found in an English garden. To others who cultivate her she exerts an irresistible attraction, so that to-day, more than ever before, the number is legion whose gardens are enhanced with roses. This is a great year with growers everywhere, being the Jubilee of the National Rose Society, many of whose members, scattered throughout the kingdom, will doubtless do homage by attending the exhibition. Looking back over the years one is amazed at the rapid increase in membership of the Society, and, in this month when most of us gather our first blooms, we cannot help thinking of the great debt we owe to those pioneers whose skill and patience evolved the varieties, some of which are with us yet and enjoy a measure of popularity. One recalls some of the well known names of growers in the rose world, who, as long as roses bloom, will ever be held in respect—William Paul, the introducer of Carmine Pillar; Turner, of Crimson Rambler fame; George Mount of Canterbury; and old Ben Cant of Colchester—to mention but a few. Many of the clergy in the early years of the society evinced special interest in roses; they encouraged their cultivation, some with their writings, like the Rev. H. B. Biron. The National owed its inception largely to the Rev. H. H. D'Ombrain, who became its first secretary and for its first president it was fortunate in its choice of the Rev. S. Reynolds Hole, who, first at Caunton and afterwards as Dean of Rochester, grew to perfection the flower he loved so well. Every rose-grower who has read his "Book About Roses" knows well the axiom which he laid down and put into practice: "He who would have beautiful roses in his garden, must have beautiful roses in his heart. He must love them well and always."

OUR SWEET PEA COMPETITION

£50

IN PRIZES

(See page vi.)

These lines are as applicable to the grower of roses to-day as when they were first penned. I remember him, first as Canon Hole of Caunton, where, in his beautiful garden, he startled some of the orthodox growers of teas who treated them tenderly and cultivated them in pots under glass, by demonstrating that they were not the delicate race as so many regarded them, and produced from outdoor bushes blossoms that were the admiration of all who saw them. It may be said that, as a result of that experiment, and from that period, the old idea that "tea roses are par eminence the roses for culture under glass, and form a touchstone of the rosarian's skill" as one writer of the day described them, fell to the ground, for the outdoor cultivation of the varieties of the Canon's time received considerable impetus. Some of them will be remembered —Mme. Falcot, Belle Lyonnaise, Devoniensis, Mme. Bérard, Souvenir d'un Ami, Rubens, Catherine Mermet among them.

Dean Hole had a winning personality, and was a great favourite with working-men gardeners in and around Nottingham; in fact, he took as much interest in roses blooming in allotment gardens as he did when looking at the superb pans of cut blooms at the Temple Show.

I do not remember anyone who had the gift of creating enthusiasm more than he had. In the early days of his residence at Caunton he acted as judge on occasions at shows in the county. To have a chat with Dean Hole about roses was an education. To be in his company was a delight, and to no body of men was he more welcome than garden holders.

Dean Hole was thorough; he was not merely a summer gardener, but tended his rose trees in equally careful fashion in the late autumn, when some of them needed slight protection or special attention. He lived at a time when roses were few in comparison to the number we have to-day, when such varieties as Gloire de Dijon, Jules Margottin, Général Jacqueminot, Charles Lefèbvre, Alfred Colomb and Duke of Edinburgh were looked upon as the best. One wonders what the Dean would have said to the work of present-day raisers like the late Mr. McGredy, who gave us glorious varieties such as Golden Emblem, Mrs. Henry Morse, Una Wallace, Mrs. Charles Lamplough and those equally glorious singles as represented by Mrs. Oakley Fisher, Isobel and Irish Fireflame. Or what would he have thought about the work of others, the creators of Betty Uprichard and Ophelia; of Hugh Dickson, whose J. G. Glassford has been honoured in several directions; and of the charming introductions of Alex. Dickson and Sons? Dean Hole was a frequent visitor to exhibitions where roses were shown, and it is largely due to him that many commenced rose cultivation. As he was the first amateur rosarian to grow teas out of doors, it was not long before others followed his example, which until that time had been in the hands of the comparative few who owned glasshouses. Had it not been for the Dean persisting in his efforts to grow teas under hardier and more natural conditions than those which obtained in his day, it is obvious that we should not be in possession of the large family of hybrid teas in this, the jubilee year. He laid the foundation, so to speak, of a more glorious race than he ever knew or dreamed of. He was in love with the old Gloire de Dijon—so much so, that he tells us facetiously, in that oft-quoted paragraph in his book, "if ever for some heinous crime I were miserably sentenced for the rest of my life to possess but a single rose tree, I should desire to be supplied on leaving the dock with a strong plant of Gloire de Dijon."

W. LINDERS LEA.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

JULY 3, 1926

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.; Foreign, 17s. 4d.
Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2.
Offices for Advertisements: 6-11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

WORTHY PLANTS.—VI

RAMONDIA PYRENAICA.

AMONG the many beautiful alpines which are to be had for the decoration of the rock garden, there is none more worthy of a place than the dainty Ramondia pyrenaica. As Farrer remarks, it is a noble species and very old in cultivation. There is no other alpine exactly like it with its rough, hairy rosettes of leaves which fit tightly into vertical rock crevices and its graceful lilac blue flowers with their dash of gold in the eye, borne three or four together on the stems. There are numerous colour forms, but the type as found on the slopes of Gavarnie in the Pyrenees is by far the best. It is not a difficult doer, and is especially suited to rocky faces with an aspect of north to east, so that it gains a certain amount of necessary shade. It is easily propagated either by division of existing clumps or, more readily, from seed.

THERE is little doubt that the second show for amateurs held under the auspices of the Royal Horticultural Society at Vincent Square on June 22nd showed a decided improvement on the inaugural one of last year. Everywhere in the hall there was evidence that the amateur exhibitor was trying in a small way to emulate what is to be seen every fortnight at the trade shows, but at the same time there did not seem to be a whole-hearted attempt made to stage really first-class exhibits except in a few cases. In many smaller provincial amateur shows the standard is higher, so that, in a way, there is still considerable room for improvement. It was unfortunate also that the exhibits had not been better arranged. Some corners were crowded, others were bare, and the resulting chequered appearance did not make for harmony in walking round. These Amateur Shows would seem to indicate that there is need of some system of educational propaganda to teach the amateur how to arrange and show his produce to the best advantage. There is no doubt that the material is there to [illegible], and that there is no reason why the Amateur Show of future years should not at least be as good, if not better, than the shows which we are accustomed to view at Vincent Square. A supposed feature of this year's Show was to have been the exhibit of peonies by several amateurs from America. These were, frankly, a failure. We have come to regard American gardens as the home of the peony and probably expected a higher standard than is reached with this flower in our own gardens, but certainly this was not the case, to judge from the exhibits. Naturally, the difficulties of transport and the long journey must be taken into consideration, which would account for the number of blooms being still in the bud state. What was surprising was that a few flowers, such as the blooms of Mme. Crousse, were in perfect condition and others, which presumably travelled at the same time, were over and still more were in bud. The American amateurs deserve every praise for their enterprise, and we may look forward next year to more successful exhibits once some experience in transport has been gained. Nevertheless, it would seem that the British amateur can hold his own with his American cousin even when comparison was limited to the best blooms.

NOW that the holiday season is at hand and all plant lovers who have the opportunity are scampering across to the Alps, a word of warning should be given regarding the actual collecting of alpines. Much needless destruction of plant life is caused by careless digging and by the use of makeshift tools and packing equipment. Always make a thorough job of lifting a plant. Cut clean with a sharp trowel, the longer the better, and do not hack away and so destroy the surrounding plants and often the roots of the plant you are lifting. Always try to lift a larger ball of soil than is absolutely necessary. Once in the hand this can be pared down without damaging the roots. Always pack the plants as tightly as possible, so that the roots do not suffer from undue exposure to the air. Care should also be taken not to collect plants that are either of extreme rarity or which are difficult to grow at home. Do not bring home large clumps of Eritrichium nanum unless you are an experienced gardener. It is better to leave it growing on the Alps than have it die in your garden. The losses, particularly among the tinier and rarer morsels, are severe once they are removed from their native homes. The lifting of wild plants is not so easy as many imagine, and to be successful requires neatness of fingers and considerable patience. They are worth care and patience and will thrive the better in your gardens for kindly treatment during the process of removal.

A MEETING of the Iris Society of England was held at the Grosvenor Hotel on Wednesday evening, June 16th. A motion supported by Sir William Lawrence, Bt., Mr. G. P. Baker, Mr. George Yeld and others that a Dykes Memorial Fund should be instituted by the Society for the purpose of commemorating the great work carried out by Mr. Dykes on behalf of the genus iris met with unanimous approval. A medal was suggested, but the details were left for further discussion at the next meeting. Mrs. Dykes was elected a life honorary member as a small but genuine expression of the gratitude of the Society towards one whose name would rank with that of Sir Michael Foster as having had the most potent influence on the cultivation of the genus in his generation; whose knowledge of it was unfathomable, and whose enthusiasm was unbounded. Certain points regarding the method of conducting the iris trials now taking place at Wisley were then discussed. It was resolved that, in addition to the periodical inspection made by the joint committee of the R.H.S. and Iris Society, a general meeting of the society should be arranged to take place at Wisley during the flowering season. Several members who had recently visited the trial grounds reported that very successful growth had been made, and that the varieties on trial were looking exceptionally well. It was also resolved to endeavour to arrange an iris show during the first week in June, 1927, to be held at Vincent Square. In his concluding remarks the president impressed on the meeting that, despite the growth made by the Society since its inception, it was necessary to increase its membership considerably if it is to keep its place as a progressive combination, active in the advancement of the genus to which the Society is devoted.

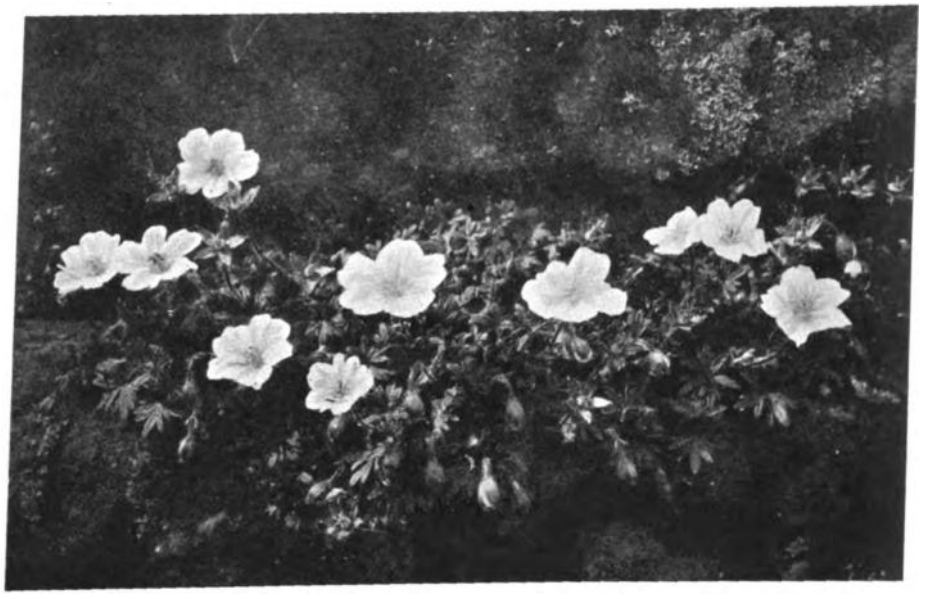
Digitized by Google

A PLEA FOR THE HARDY GERANIUM

IN making a brief appeal for a more general recognition of the hardy geraniums, I am moved by the fact that there is no other race of herbaceous plants which, viewed from all points, have given me as much pleasure and satisfaction as these cranesbills. At one time they were doubtless more popular than they are to-day. But they had no place in the "turgid mosaics" of Victorian and later days and went out. Some have come back again, a few have become almost lost to cultivation, others are lingering in out-of-the-way places. But now that we are realising the great charm of the mixed border, the woodland and wild garden, and exercising more natural and rational methods of using ornamental shrubs, these hardy geraniums are justified in demanding our fullest consideration, since for all those and other phases of modern gardening they are admirable subjects.

One of the most commendable attributes of these cranesbills is their amiable and contented dispositions. With few exceptions all are sound and hearty perennials. They will thrive in any average loam and, though naturally sunlovers, most of them do very well in shade. Tree-drip they do not resent and they are practically pestproof. As for attention, they rarely ask for anything beyond lifting, dividing and replanting every three years or so and many do not need even that. The majority of them set seed freely, and increase is easily carried out by open ground sowing during summer.

THE ELEGANT GERANIUM ARMENUM.



THE DAINTY LITTLE GERANIUM SANGUINEUM LANCASTRIENSE.

THE BUSHY GROWTH OF THE RASPBERRY-PINK GERANIUM ENDRESSI.

As border subjects the taller species and their varieties, such as G. pratense, G. ibericum and G. armenum are singularly elegant in habit, they need no staking and their colours range from white to pale and deep blue, purple and crimson. Between these and dainty little G. sanguineum lancastriense we have a wide range of species in infinite gradations of stature, while their colours afford such diversities as the lovely, clear harebell-blue of G. grandiflorum, the blood-red of G. sanguineum and those of the allied G. nepalense and G. nodosum, the raspberry-pink of G. Endressi, the wild-rose tint of G. asphodelioides, the satiny-white of G. striatum, the gloomy plum-purple of G. phæum and the incomparable nemophila-blue of G. Wallichianum var. E. C. Buxton. All these, and there are many more, can be relied on to flower abundantly each recurring year and the blooming season extends without cessation from May to October. Some of the taller cranesbills bear double flowers which are by no means unbecoming and the family contains several hybrids of outstanding merit. One of the best of these is G. hybridum Russell Prichard, whose silvery foliage, inherited from G. Traversii, one of its parents, proves such a telling background for its vivid blood-crimson flowers. This is an amazingly prolific bloomer, usually being a mass of colour without a break from midsummer to late autumn. Another hybrid of which I am very fond, one that naturalises freely even in grass and flowers all the season, is a cross between G. striatum and G. Endressi, the blooms being large and a soft flesh-pink. G. striatum hybridises so willingly that I am hoping it will one day contract an alliance with the "Mourning Widow," G. phæum, and between them present me with a mulatto.

A. T. J.

Digitized by Google

NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE GRACEFUL PHŒNICIAN VERBASCUM.

An Admirable Subject for Present Sowing.

IT is always a mystery why certain plants that are most accommodating and decorative should be neglected and never seem to enjoy anything approaching popular favour. Verbascum phœnicum is one of those plants, and yet there is no more hardy, useful and decorative subject. It is rarely seen in gardens, and few seem to appreciate its worth. If you throw a few seeds down upon any piece of waste soil and leave them to take care of themselves, you may confidently expect to find, next bedding-out season, a crop of well grown plants ready for bed or border, where they will give at least three months of continuous flowering. In fact, these verbascums grow like weeds, without having the slightest suspicion of a weedy nature.

I do not advocate such rough-and-ready treatment, however, rather should the seeds be sown in good soil, after the manner of wallflowers—say, across the kitchen garden—and thereafter given the usual treatment in the shape of transplanting and cultivating in order to obtain the largest possible plants.

The time to sow seeds depends upon the period of flowering desired. The plants are really perennial, but rarely give satisfaction after the first flowering season, and they should, therefore, be treated as biennials or annuals. If required to bloom early in the spring, the seeds should be sown in May and June; seeds sown during July and August may prove just as early flowering, but plants from these sowings usually flower during the summer.

Seeds sown at this time of the year will produce plants that commence blooming in May and well into June. They may be relied upon to take the place of spring bulbs, and with some of the more dainty flowers, like the forget-me-nots, pansies, etc., help to form an effective scheme of spring bedding. The seeds germinate quickly, and should be sown very thinly, for the tuft of leaves lies quite flat upon the ground and covers a fair area. The seedlings should be well thinned, but the plants may be transplanted with advantage, similar to the treatment accorded to other biennials.

When transferred to bed or border, either in autumn or spring, the plants begin to throw up a spike not unlike some species of veronica, which ultimately reaches a foot in height when the first flowers begin to open. These vary in size from that of a sixpence to a shilling, and are closely packed on the stem. The individual blossoms are saucer-shaped, and vary in colour from pure white, through the several shades of cream, flesh, pink, magenta, to a deep violet. As the first flowers die, after lasting two or three days, they are replaced by others higher up the stem, and this continues as the stem grows higher. Thus a very long flowering period is assured.

As pot plants, these verbascums are very accommodating and decorative. Seeds may be sown in small pots, and the plants shifted and grown on in the usual way. A fair-sized and somewhat deep pot should be selected for the final shift, because the large roots will require more than ordinary space for development.—H. A. DAY.

THE PHŒNICIAN VERBASCUM IS A USEFUL GARDEN PLANT.

THE FREE-FLOWERING SPIRÆA HENRYI.

SOME SHRUBBY SPIRÆAS.

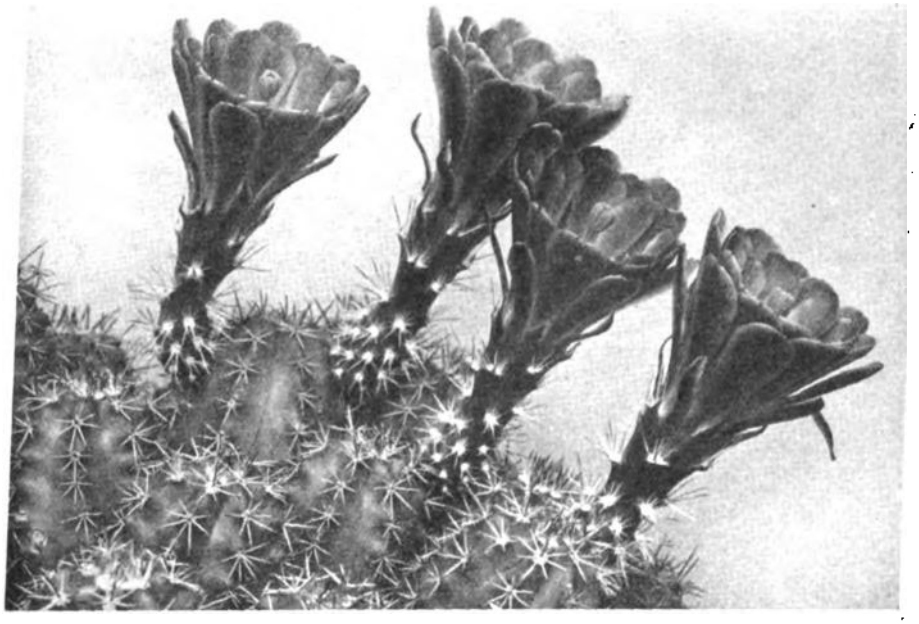
AMONG shrubs which flower from midsummer onwards there are several spiræas of the highest merit. Notable among these are the members of the ash-leaved section. Here S. arborea, the Anak of the race, and differing but little from S. Lindleyana, is supreme in elegance as well as in stature. In rich, moist soil this superb species will make a vast bush 20ft. in height, every whiplike branch gracefully drooping with its large pinnate leaves and foamy panicles of white blossom. The latter, as well as the beautiful leaves, are often 18ins. long, and the flowering season extends from the end of June to mid-September. S. Lindleyana is hardly less imposing, and, perhaps, a more suitable species for many, on account of its somewhat smaller size; but in this case, as with most other spiræas, robust growth is largely a matter of feeding and moisture. S. Aitchisoni is another excellent ash-leaved species of still more moderate dimensions, bearing in August white flower panicles often as large as those of the foregoing. This is a much superior shrub to the allied S. sorbifolia which sometimes bears its label.

The well known S. japonica in its various forms, including the white (S. callosa alba) and var. Bumalda Anthony Waterer, whose crimson-carmine corymbs we do not, perhaps, appreciate at their full worth since too much familiarity is apt to breed contempt, are always reliable and showy little shrubs, giving masses of colour when most things are going off. No less can be said of the splendid S. Menziesii var. triumphans, which is, I think, the best of the willow-leaved section and an admirable waterside plant where there is ample space. S. discolor has, with me, had to give way to better kinds, its main drawback being the ephemeral nature of its flowers. Its place is now occupied by S. Veitchii, an excellent species of graceful habit bearing its ivory white flowers in corymbs nearly 3ins. across at midsummer. S. Henryi also stands out as a species of superlative merit. Like the last-mentioned, it grows about 8–9ft., the large but narrow leaves and purple-brown bark are distinct and handsome, making a fine setting for the conspicuous white flower clusters which crowd the wide-spread branches from mid-June onwards. Both S. Veitchii and S. Henryi, the former being a comparatively new introduction, should be much more frequently seen in our gardens, which latter are too often wanting in the more out-of-the-way subjects, especially among the later-flowering shrubs. Perhaps the suggestions here offered will help to encourage development in that direction. At any rate, I can promise anyone who has a fairly rich soil which does not get too dry the fullest satisfaction from the above-named spiræas.—A. T. J.

Digitized by Google

SOME INTERESTING CACTI.

AMONG the numerous plants of the New World the cacti probably form the most interesting group for the amateur. On the Continent they are at present most popular plants. In the hands of the skilful and patient amateur they grow more quickly than one generally is wont to believe. Many, if not all of them are of a peculiar beauty at all times of the year. The genus echinocereus contains some very handsome flowering species. Among them E. polyacanthus ranks very high, and is of the greatest ornamental value when covered with its large, almost blood-red flowers. It is often named Cereus polyacanthus. As a whole, the species of Echinocereus are not so easy to cultivate, as, for instance, Cereus flagelliformis, the well known rat-tail cactus, or most of the phyllocactus hybrids. What echinocereus need most is enough sun during the winter and a lot of fresh air at all times of the year. It is by no means easy for the amateur to establish these conditions. They want a rather heavy soil with a good deal of loam to which has been added a certain amount of leaf-mould, sharp sand and pounded brick or, better, pounded limestone. During summer they can be placed in a sheltered position outside, where they get the full sun and air but no draughts Two other fine species of echinocereus are E. Rœmeri with large almost scarlet flowers and E. enneacanthus with flowers of a straw yellow colour. Of E. polyacanthus there are several forms, differing from each other in the colour of the flowers and of the spines. These are sometimes whitish or reddish grey, sometimes reddish brown.—CAMILLO SCHNEIDER.



THE BLOOD-RED FLOWERS OF ECHINCCEREUS POLYACANTHUS.

YELLOW FOXGLOVES.

IN course of time, in all probability, we shall have yellow foxgloves equal in stature and grandeur of flower to the magnificent varieties of the common one, D. purpurea, but it must be confessed that, interesting as they are, the yellow foxgloves we now have are far short of their popular sister flowers. Yet, apart from their distinctness, most of them present some points which commend them to many folks. This is evident from the fact that they are offered in catalogues.

Were there not a demand for these flowers the nurserymen would cease to grow them for sale. In all probability the improvement in these yellow foxgloves will come from hybridising them with D. purpurea, although it is quite likely that the continual raising of seedlings, the selection of the best, and sowing seeds from these again, will lead to the production of finer flowers of more commanding habit of growth. Some of them are under the disability of being biennials, like D. purpurea, but there are two or three which are true perennials. Beginning with the biennials, we have D. ferruginea, rather dull-looking, it is true, but pretty in its quiet way. It has light yellow flowers which are veined with purple. This can be raised from seeds and grown in ordinary garden loam, where it will attain the height of 3½ft. or 4ft. A pretty new hybrid of the above has been raised and is offered in seeds under the name of D. Isabellina. It is about 3ft. high and has yellow flowers, which, however, are of rather a dull hue. D. lutea is one of the best of these yellow biennials. It is about three feet high, and has brighter blooms than the above. Several good perennials are also offered and seeds of D. ambigua and D. ochroleuca may sometimes be had. D. ambigua, although somewhat dull in its yellow colouring, is interesting and quietly pretty when examined. It is about 3ft. high. D. lævigata, which grows to about 3ft. has distinct flowers of bronzy yellow, brightened by a white lip. D. Lutz hybrid is reputed to have flowers of a pleasing salmony tint, but I have not seen this flower. D. ochroleuca, which is sometimes grown under the name of D. grandiflora, about 3ft. high, is of a pale yellow, and, when compared with D. purpurea, the alternative name of grandiflora is distinctly misleading. It may be added that, occasionally, pretty self-hybridised plants with yellowish flowers have appeared in gardens.—S. ARNOTT.

RUBUS AUSTRALIS.

ALTHOUGH on the whole this plant must be considered tender in many parts of Great Britain, it is, nevertheless, an interesting subject, and one that always attracts the attention of visitors, while, moreover, it is quite distinct from the various rubi seen in this country. At Castleford, Chepstow, where the photograph was taken, it is grown in an exposed position on the side of the rock garden, where it has long since outgrown its station, and being a unique plant it has been allowed to develop in its own sweet way. It has been described as a lofty climber, and had it been planted at the base of an old tree or other support, it would undoubtedly have attained a height of 20ft. or more. The leaves are small and very few in number, and usually reduced to prickly midribs. The slender stems are armed with small hooked prickles, and the small, fragrant flowers are yellowish or whitish in colour. R. australis is a native of New Zealand, and is known as the lawyer vine. This winter we experienced 18° to 20° of frost on three or four occasions, but the plant came through safely, as the photograph, which was taken in February, clearly shows. In the winter of 1916 and 1917, when I was enjoying the brilliant sunshine of the East, the plants suffered badly from frosts.—T. W. BRISCOE.

A LARGE PLANT OF THE CURIOUS RUBUS AUSTRALIS.

Digitized by Google

THE VALUE OF FOLIAGE—III

GREY foliage: just what this *should* cover is hard to say. Grey, as applied to plants, is such an elastic term, so I feel I shall still be within my province by describing plants of silvery, glaucous, blue (as applied to conifers) and, in fact, some whose foliage is white or silvery only on the under side.

The uses of lavender are far too well known to need any recommendation, but I must just mention them. The conifers offer such a wide assortment with the so-called blue foliage, many of which, planted in suitable positions, make specimens such as no other race of plants can do. A good abies for such work is A. concolor, a good and robust tree and described as "blue," an improvement on this form is A. concolor violacea, which is more glaucous blue. Picea supplies some good colour in P. pungens Kosteriana and P. Moerheimi. Which is the finest of the two I must leave those who see them to decide for themselves, as each claims equal merit. It is certain that for colour they cannot be beaten. Two hemlock firs I must mention are Tsuga Pattoniana glauca and T. Douglasii glauca elegans; both are exceedingly beautiful and most graceful trees, and in spring, when the sunlight strikes them, they are charming. Another tree which glows with silver-grey under such conditions is Cedrus atlantica glauca.

The cypress, or cupressus, supplies some exceptionally good forms, one of the finest being C. lusitanica glauca pendula. This I consider the most graceful and best coloured tree for an isolated specimen, the young pendulous shoots, being quite silvery, give it an appearance few trees can equal. Moreover, it is a quick grower and good doer. C. cashmeriana is, indeed, beautiful and of splendid colour, but, unfortunately, it will not grow everywhere. It does not like wind or too much moisture during the winter months; where elevated positions in sheltered spots can be found, it is worth trying. To those who cannot grow cashmeriana, I would recommend C. Fletcherii. This is of a beautiful colour, makes a handsome tree and is not nearly such a slow grower as we have been led to believe, my experience being that, when established, it will grow a foot in each year. It is quite hardy and does well on chalk. Another and taller grower, described as blue or glaucous blue, is C. Triomphe de Boskoop. As this variety remains well furnished quite to the ground, it makes an excellent hedge, but care must be taken not to overcrowd the plants; they must be planted at the very least 4ft. apart. For early effect it therefore becomes necessary to plant trees of 3ft. to 4ft. in height. The juniper gives us a particularly good thing in J. pachyphlacea and its variety conspicua, but I am sorry to say it is not particularly hardy. It objects to cutting winds, but where it can be grown it makes a splendid bit of colour.

Of other silvery-leaved shrubs and trees there are many which prove quite hardy under good conditions, but not otherwise. Teucrium fruticans, a beautiful white-stemmed plant with foliage, that is green above, and white beneath, in dry winter quarters or on exposed hillsides is quite hardy; winter wet at its root is fatal. Perowskia atriplicifolia is another silvery-stemmed and foliaged plant; this also likes a well drained soil, but is quite hardy. It should be cut down to ground level each year in early April. When covered with its long spikes of lavender flowers in August it is indeed beautiful. The senecios are good evergreen plants bearing grey or green foliage. S. Greyii is quite the whitest of all, but they are fortunate who can obtain the true plant, as in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred S. laxifolius does duty for S. Greyii. Many gardeners and some nurserymen declare that the two names belong to the same plant, *i.e.*, S. laxifolius; but I can assure my readers that those who have actually seen S. Greyii do not say so. It is a plant to covet; but, after all, S. laxifolius is a really good plant, with greyish green foliage, and in summer it gives us sheets of golden, daisy-like flowers. It likes dry winter conditions, but plenty of moisture in summer. S. compacta and S. Monroi are two rather smaller-growing varieties, both with very pretty undulated and dentated foliage, compacta silvery beneath, Monroi decidedly buff colour, both showing their under colouring round the edges of their foliage, thereby giving it a most pleasing effect. S. elæagnifolius is a fast-growing tree and will stand the roughest gales around the coasts; it is very ornamental as a specimen, especially where planted on high ground, so that when breezes blow it shows the very

THE DISTINCT GREY FOLIAGE OF SENECIO LAXIFOLIUS.

THE SILVERY FOLIAGED ARTEMISIAS ARE EXCELLENT FOR THE ALPINE GARDEN.

Digitized by Google

white under sides of its beautiful foliage, which above is brightest green. It also makes excellent hedges or windbreaks. S. elæagnifolius is better known under the name of Olearia Traversii. A large-growing tree suitable for park or woodland, with large silvery leaves some inches in length, is Sorbus majesticus, single plants of this growing in woods or shrubbery catch the eye, even at long distances. Another beautiful tree which makes a fine weeping standard is Pyrus salicifolia pendula, which, as its name implies, carries willow-like foliage of a beautiful shade of silvery grey. The Himalayan whitebeam, Pyrus Vestita, is one of the very finest silver-leaved trees in existence and will do well on practically any soil, including chalky or very limy soils. Some of the buddleias are extra good as regards their wonderful grey foliage. The best, taking into account its beautiful flowers, is B. Colvillei. Better foliage, but poorer flowers, is found on B. Forrestii and B. Farreri. A buddleia bearing both white flowers and foliage is B. Fallowiana. Another which makes a great show is B. nivea. The young stems and leaves, which are very large, are quite white. Berberis dictophylla is a glaucous stemmed and foliaged variety. A good grower, reaching 4ft., it is deciduous. Some good silver-foliaged plants are found among the artemisias, atriplex, rubus (thibetica), yuccas, olearias, cotoneasters, elæagnus, hippopbæa, etc.

As a last item, even if we grow it indoors, I must mention Leucodendron argenteum, the silver-leaf tree of Table Mountain. There are still very many other grey-foliaged plants, but those enumerated will, I think, be sufficient to show that, if one wished, it would be possible to create a glorious garden of such subjects. I can imagine such a garden of shrubs, with here and there spikes of tall delphiniums towering above the dwarf plants of Senecio laxifolia. JOHN HILL.

THE SPINEY ELM, A NEW INTRODUCTION

BY E. H. WILSON.
Arnold Arboretum.

THE SPINEY ELM IN ITS NATIVE HOME.

THE ALMOST BLACK AND DEEPLY FISSURED BARK.

A COMPARATIVELY new tree introduction is the spiney elm (Hemiptelea Davidii), a native of Korea, southern Manchuria and north-eastern China south to the Chekiang province and west to the neighbourhood of Nanking. It is very often met with in hedgerows and waste places as a dense bush or low tree and, indeed, of itself often makes a formidable hedge. Under proper conditions it is a tree of fair size, often 50ft. tall with a trunk 6ft. or more in girth, and a crown of irregular shape composed of thick branches and many thin branchlets all more or less armed with stout spiney secondary branchlets. Its most striking feature, however, is the almost black and deeply fissured bark. For this ornamental character alone it is worth a place in park and garden. In central and southern Korea in particular this tree is common and often forms small groves such as the illustration depicts.

The tree has been given three generic names and for some unknown reason the botanists in Great Britain seem unwilling to admit its distinctive merits. The latest Kew Hand-list of Trees and Shrubs refers it to Zelkova, but it is readily distinguished from all members of that genus by the character of its bark, by its spinescent branchlets and by its fruit, which is a stalked, winged, ovate, samaroid-nutlet. The fruit is really intermediate between that of Zelkova and that of the elm. The bark is more akin to that of certain elms, but these trees never have spiney branchlets, and their fruit is a thin, flattened samara. That the spiney elm represents a genus distinct from others of its family no one who has knowledge of the adult tree or has seen it growing wild can for one moment question.

This tree has been growing in the Arnold Arboretum since 1904 and has never suffered winter injury. It should be at home in the coldest parts of the British Isles. Under the name of Zelkova Davidiana, Bean, in his book, says that it is a "promising tree and grows freely," and Mr. Gibbs in his article speaks highly of it from its behaviour at Aldenham House.

Digitized by Google

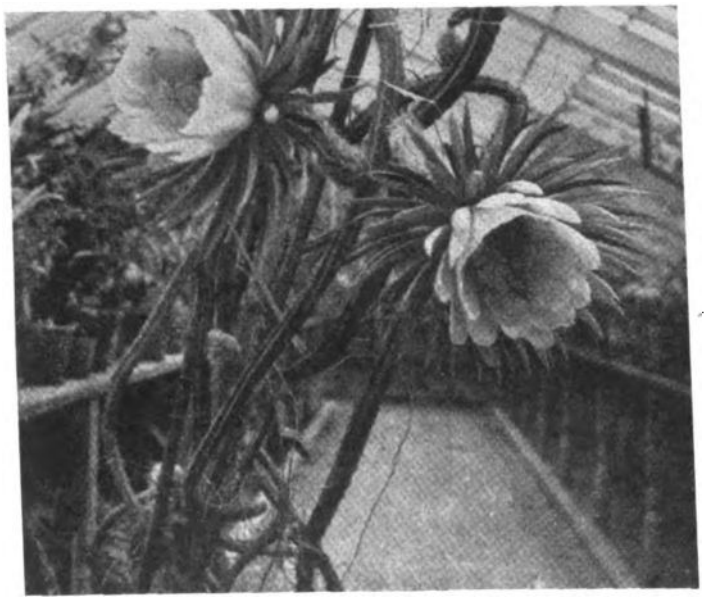
CORRESPONDENCE

AN INTERESTING CACTUS.

SIR,—Cereus grandiflorus, or "the night-flowering cactus," is a member of that extensive family the cactaceæ and a native of the West Indies.

The flowers continue for about six hours in full bloom. They begin to open between seven and eight o'clock in the evening and are at the height of their beauty by midnight. Towards morning, between three and four o'clock, they fade, although if the morning be dull, they will remain open until about six o'clock. There is hardly any flower of greater beauty with so short an existence.

The calyx of the flower when open is nearly 1ft. in diameter, the inside being of a yellow colour, somewhat resembling the rays of a bright star; the outside is of a dark brown colour. Having pure white petals the flower is most attractive in appearance; the vast number of recurved stamens in the centre of the flower add to its beauty. Still further to enhance its charm the flower possesses a strong sweet fragrance, which fills the house wherein the plant grows and even the adjoining houses, too.



THE NIGHT-FLOWERING CACTUS.

Plants grown in 10in. pots with the stems trained on stakes, make unique specimens for house decoration in the evening, especially when placed against a dark background, which greatly assists the flower or flowers to be seen to the fullest advantage by guests after dinner. —H. BRUINS-JICH.

A TREE FAILURE.

SIR,—Your Editorial in THE GARDEN of June 12th under the above heading prompts me to write a few words respecting the famous avenue of these trees at Bicton, East Devon, now owned by Lord Clinton. There are twenty-five on either side of the carriage drive before entering the deer park leading to the mansion. This avenue is 500yds. in length, the individual trees growing opposite each other, 63ft. apart and 54ft. apart in the rows, comprising many noble specimens bordering on 60ft. in height, the best being well feathered to the ground, or they were in 1913. Several of these trees in 1906 at 4ft. from the ground measured 7ft. 6ins. up to 9ft. in circumference. Practically each year towards autumn quantities of good seed fall to the ground, and there is, or was, one tree that bore male and female cones which proved a novelty to tree lovers. Veitch's "Manual of Coniferæ," published in 1900, illustrates this avenue from the eastern lodge, which could not fail to interest you, Mr. Editor, as it is certainly the finest collection of these interesting trees in this country. There is a short avenue at Poltimore Park, near Exeter, with very healthy trees. These are more sheltered than the Bicton ones, but I doubt if that has much to do with the growth of the tree or maintenance of the lower branches. The subsoil is more likely to cause these to turn brown and die off. It may be added that seeds germinate freely if sown in very sandy soil as soon as ripe.—J. MAYNE.

SWEET PEA "BLINDNESS."

SIR,—Can some reader, or readers of THE GARDEN, tell us through the medium of the Correspondence columns, what is the cause of "blindness" in sweet peas? Although several theories have been advanced, the one generally accepted is that a very small insect (one has not heard it actually named), destroys the tiny growing point of the plant at a fairly early stage of the latter's development. I can well imagine some readers thinking, "What is blindness?" Every exhibitor knows—many perhaps wish they did not. What happens is this: the growing tip or point ceases to make further progress, usually when the plants are between 2½ft. and 3½ft. high. Of course, this is of very little consequence to all who do not practise the "cordon" or "single-stem" system of culture, for the lateral growths "carry on" in an unpruned plant, and unless the grower is very observant, blindness may never be noticed. In the case of the exhibitor, it is much more serious. He has restricted his plants each to one or two cordons or main growths only, pinching out every lateral as it appeared at the leaf axils. If he does not notice the blindness in time to leave a lateral, it will be a case of no more flowers as far as that particular plant is concerned. Even if a lateral is left to take the place of the leader, it will not bear good quality flowers for at least three weeks, and may possibly object to taking its leader's place and wilt, after growing for a little while. It will be readily seen that, to the exhibitor growing a limited number of plants, the loss of bloom occasioned by even 10 per cent. of them going blind might well frustrate his plans. Apart from this, it is exceedingly disappointing after the care, labour and expense involved in producing flowers which would be considered first class by modern standards.

The observations I have made and verified in connection with "blindness" during the past few years are not conclusive by any means, but may throw some light on the problem. If we could only determine the cause, there would be a fair chance of finding a remedy. In the first place, a few varieties (all of them vigorous growers), seem particularly susceptible to blindness, although it will occur in greater or less degree in almost any variety. This seems to me to dispose of the insect theory, for why should an insect single out particular varieties for its unwelcome attentions year after year? Then, again, in some seasons the trouble is very much more pronounced than in others, and although I have not definitely proved any connection between its appearance and the prevailing weather conditions, a wet and cold early summer seems to herald an unusual prevalence. Plants which have never been "pinched" when young to encourage basal side growths and in which the original seed growth has been taken up the canes, are more prone to blindness than "pinched" plants of the same variety, although one cannot assert that "pinched" plants are entirely immune. As far as I am aware, soil conditions have no effect either way, nor have cultural methods other than "pinching," for only a few days ago I noticed several cordon grown plants of a variety going blind, and on inspecting plants of the same variety in another part, grown naturally without restriction, saw that they also showed about the same percentage.

In summing up, one may add that the only precautions an exhibitor may take is to "pinch" his plants when in their seed boxes or pots and so make quite certain that no seed growth is trained up, and later, to watch his plants carefully when removing laterals so that a lateral may be left to take the leader's place if it should go blind.

Is blindness a perfectly natural condition which we must accept as hereditary and therefore inevitable in some varieties, or is there some outside cause which may be controlled? As I have already remarked, it need not worry the ordinary grower, but there are many exhibitors who would like to know how to minimise it in some other way than by ceasing to grow the particular varieties which experience teaches them are the most susceptible.—C. H. A. S.

FEIJOA SELLOWIANA.

SIR,—In reply to the enquiry from O. T. Bryant *re* Feijoa Sellowiana, there is a plant here growing against a wall, planted in 1911, now 7ft. 6ins. high, 13ft. across, which flowers very freely every year and a few years ago had nearly 100 fruits, which attained the size of a small pear and remained till November frost destroyed them. Last year we had two small fruits on it.

We have also a small specimen growing in the open, which also flowers very freely during July. I consider the Feijoa is one of the choicest flowering shrubs for July, either grown against a wall or as a specimen in the open.—W. F. HAMILTON, *Lymington Hants.*

SIR,—Referring to the letter in THE GARDEN of June 12th *re* Feijoa Sellowiana, I think it worth mentioning that this shrub fruited with me a few years ago and I actually ate one of the fruits. It had a pleasant flavour, but was not properly ripe.—H. G. HAWKER, *South Devon.*

HARDY TAMARISKS.

SIR,—I recognise the illustration on page 350 of the issue for June 19 as representing the old tamarisk growing at the top of my rock garden, and think I ought to point it is not, as stated, Tamarix gallica, but T. tetrandra. Also, that the photograph was taken in the end of May, when the tree was in full bloom and before it had developed its "sweeping feathery foliage."

As Mr. Bean points out in his invaluable book: "Among cultivated tamarisks it is

Digitized by Google

distinct in flowering early from the old wood. . . . A shrub of great beauty and grace."

To my mind it is the best, as it is also the hardiest of the genus. Its bright pink flowers, produced in May and early June, before the green leaves are sufficiently developed to compete with them, provide one of the most beautiful pictures of the year. Anyone who planted T. gallica expecting to get the effect shown in the illustration would be sadly disappointed.—E. A. BOWLES.

[We regret this error. Unfortunately, we took this T. tetrandra as being that of Bunge, which is given as a synonym of T. gallica. —ED.]

THE AMATEUR SHOW

THERE were many groups of cut flowers staged, and in several of the classes competition was exceptionally keen. There was nothing particularly outstanding among the hardy flowers except one or two of the seedling delphiniums, but sweet peas and carnations we thought were above the average.

The sweet peas certainly formed the most attractive feature in the Show, with their prominent position and their kaleidoscopic colourings, and the high standard reached by the majority of the competitors augurs well for the National Sweet Pea Society's Show at Cheltenham this week. There seems little doubt that the sweet pea is the amateur's flower, if one judges from the numbers shown. All the leading varieties were on view, including many recent novelties, and the rich colouring and fragrance obtained indicate that the amateur has become almost as proficient as the professional in their culture. The method of staging and the general arrangement were well carried out in every case; and the high quality deserved every praise.

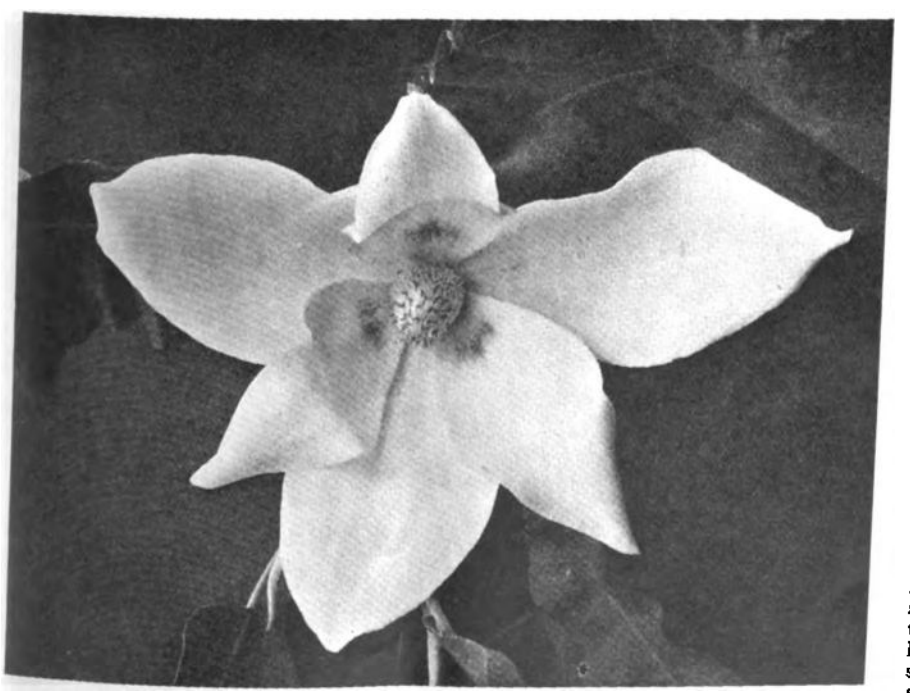
Among the delphiniums, competition was also keen, and the first prize went to Mr. Watkins Samuel of Wrexham fame for his excellent collection. The flowers of Jenny Jones which he staged were fully 2½–3ins. across and of blue overlaid violet tone, which is exceedingly attractive. It is an elegant variety and should prove effective in the garden borders. Another fine group was arranged by Mr. E. H. Blakesley, Redhill Common. It was, perhaps, a little unfortunate that the spikes of the delphiniums were placed so close together, as there was little chance of picking out the striking characteristics of the many attractive seedlings.

The herbaceous flowers, on the whole, were below the standard which could be justly expected at this time of the year. There was a distinct lack of taste shown in the arrangement of the groups, and a greater variety of subjects might have been included in the individual groups. Reference has already been made to the exhibits of peonies by American amateurs, on another page, and to the fact that they were disappointing. The classes for violas and pansies were well represented and many fine blooms were to be seen, the majority being well displayed.

Although not present in large quantities, the carnations were particularly good for this time of year, and the first prize exhibit of Sir Randolph Baker for six vases of border carnations reached a high standard of excellence. The varieties which were shown were all good sorts and included Laddie, of good size and colouring; Tarzan, Saffron, Maine Yellow, White Pearl and Topsy. The flowers were of good shape and well carried, and their size was remarkable for the lateness of the season. The other exhibits in the carnation classes were all good, and the exhibitors deserve credit for the general all-round level of excellence and the tasteful way the varieties were staged.

The roses, although given a prominent place in the schedule, were not a prominent feature. One or two good exhibits, notably Mr. Herbert Wettern's of Oxted, who gained two first prizes, were to be seen; but the others contained blooms which obviously had suffered severely from the inclemencies of the present season. Probably the reason for the lack of exhibits in the rose classes is the fact of the forthcoming show of the National Rose Society at Regent's Park on July 2nd and 3rd.

MR. CORY'S INTERESTING EXHIBIT OF SUCCULENTS.



THE BLOOM OF MAGNOLIA MACROPHYLLA, PROBABLY THE MOST STRIKING FLOWER IN THE SHOW.

The groups of twelve flowering shrubs prove what can be done in the way of flower during June. Colonel Stephenson Clark won the first prize in this group. The colour scheme was excellent, with the flame-coloured Rhododendron Griersonianum, the pale lilac form of Abutilon vitifolium, the dull crimson of Leptospermum Nicholsi, the snow white of Styrax Hemsleyanum and the greenish white of Chionanthus virginica. These are all magnificent shrubs worthy of being grown in any garden. On Mr. Rothschild's exhibit, that won second prize, the most noticeable plant was Cornus Kousa. The third prize was given to Sir William Lawrence, whose finest plant was undoubtedly a splendid bloom of the American Magnolia macrophylla, yellowish white faintly painted with purple at the base. The flower is about 10ins. in diameter, while the leaves are 14ins. in length. Mr. Cory staged a large exhibit of flowering shrubs, not for competition, including the very rare Fuchsia corymbiflora alba, the cream Syringa japonica, Pterostyrax hispida; Mr. Cory also showed a magnificent collection of cacti and cotyledons. The size and health of the plants were extraordinary. The hedgehog cactus, Echinocactus Grusoni, formed a spiny barrel almost a foot high; while the Old Man cactus, Cereus senilis, must have topped 2ft. Mr. H. G. Harrison also staged a good exhibit of cactaceæ including an interesting pan of seedling cacti.

One of the finest exhibits in the Show was that of Colonel Messel, who deserves every credit, together with his gardener,

Digitized by Google

Mr. Comber. A fine collection of candelabra and sikkimensis primulas was shown, including many of those of Mr. Kingdon Ward; while among the shrubs Magnolia Watsoni, Leptospermums Chapmanni and Nicholsi and Pterostyrax corymbosum.

A particularly showy group was the extensive assemblage of orchids and ornamental plants shown by Sir Jeremiah Colman, Bt., Gatton Park, Surrey. Along the back were well flowered examples of Sobralia hybrids, Epidendrum gattonense and the elegant Dendrobium Gatton Sunray. Lower down were fine plants of Cypripedium Maudiæ, distinct varieties of Cattleya Mendelii, and several blotched forms of Miltonia vexillaria. Along the front were arranged Cirrhopetalum picturatum, with an umbel of flowers, the curious Masdevallia velifera, and the charming Sarcochilus Cecilia.

Mr. H. T. Pitt, Rosslyn, Stamford Hill, staged a very fine group of orchids, in which Miltonia hybrids stood out prominently. Maxillaria tenuifolia and Odontonia Magali Sander were both very well grown, as also was Cattleya Mossiæ Reineckiana. Cypripedium glaucophyllum and C. Curtisii Sanderæ came in for appreciation, and among the odontoglossums the best were cordatum and the excellent var. Prince of Orange.

In the class for a dozen orchids, Mr. J. J. Bolton, Claygate, Surrey, was placed first with plants of high standard and all in fine condition. They included two unusually fine varieties of Odontoglossum crispum, O. Purple Crown, O. Doreen var. D. A. Cowan, with a spike of eight roundly formed flowers having rose-purple spotting.

Mr. H. T. Pitt, Stamford Hill, came second with a more varied selection, including Cœlogyne Burfordensis, with a spike of thirteen yellowish green flowers, Miltonia phalænopsis, with thirty flowers, Odontioda Brewii, with a couple of spikes, and Miltonia Wm. Pitt var. Kings Crown, with flowers of a pleasing rose-purple colour. In the centre was a dark variety of Epidendrum prismato-carpum.

Sir Jeremiah Colman, Bt., had several showy plants in his exhibit of a dozen orchids and although given third place, this group was, in many ways, equal to others in the class. Dendrobium Gatton Sunray and a well flowered Thunia gattonensis, were very attractive, and so was Cypripedium Lawrenceanum Hyeanum, with five large flowers.

For six orchids, Mr. E. R. Ashton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells, was placed first, this amateur showing Dendrobium atroviolaceum, Miltonia Lyoth, with pleasing flowers of rose colour, Lælio-Cattleya Princeps, of rich purple in the lip and flushed with similar colour on the petals, and a very fine example of Promenæa citrina.

Mr. A. M. Gentle, St. Albans, came second with Odontioda Bradshawiæ, a well flowered plant of Maxillaria tenuifolia, Cypripedium beilatulum and Lycaste aromatica, the latter with eight flowers.

The only exhibitor in the class for a single orchid was Mr. F. M. Vokes, Sholing, Southampton, who staged a pretty Lælio-Cattleya, doubtless a hybrid of L. purpurata.

THE FLOWER GARDEN

IXIAS.

A Bulb that Should be More Often Seen.

AMONG the many graceful bulbous plants which have come to us from South Africa there are few more attractive than the ixias. All the species make admirable subjects for the greenhouse, but they will be found to succeed equally well on a warm border almost anywhere in the south of England. In all cases it is essential that the soil should be light in character, and out of doors the bulbs should be planted rather deeply (5ins. or 6ins. below the surface), and may well be protected during the winter from heavy rains by dead fern or similar material. When planting ixia bulbs it is most important that these should be set very firmly, as they have a tendency to start upwards as soon as rooting begins. In a greenhouse ixias will flower in the early part of the summer; out in the open border they will naturally be somewhat later. Until the flower-spikes actually appear it is much better that ixias should be kept on the dry side, and many cases of partial failure are due to the fact that the bulbs are continually in over-damp soil.

It is most interesting to raise ixias from seed. These are best sown in pans of sandy soil, and almost any time between the spring and fall is suitable. Keep the pans in a cool frame and allow the little plants to remain as they are for a year. Then pot up the small bulbs or plant them out. Ixias from seed usually flower about the third year from sowing, and many surprisingly beautiful varieties will appear. A much quicker method is increase by means of offsets, of which considerable numbers are usually produced. These may be secured after the parent bulbs have ripened off and they flower well in the following year. Whether ixias are grown in pots or in the open, it is needful to see that the foliage ripens off naturally so that the bulbs may receive their proper store of nutriment. If, for any reason, the bulbs have to be lifted while the leaves are still green, put them in some place where the foliage will die slowly and not wither up in a few hours. When the leaves have gone the bulbs may

IXIAS FOR A SUNNY BORDER.

be stored in a dry place until the autumn. Quite good results are secured by letting the ixia bulbs stay in the soil, providing they are kept dry during their resting period.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

SOW CYCLAMEN SEEDS NOW.

OPINION varies considerably regarding the correct or rather the best time of year to sow seeds of greenhouse cyclamens, and probably there is no better way of coming to a decision than that of judging by results. In our own case we prefer the end of June or early in July; by sowing at that time the seedlings can be had of fair size before the winter comes, and they seem to us to pass the winter better under these conditions. Having done so, they are then able to grow into strong and robust plants which flower profusely. Cyclamens are always slow to grow when they are in the seedling stage, but they can be encouraged by loosening the surface of the soil slightly with a label, this aerating and freshening up the compost. Sow very thinly to obviate too early a necessity for transplanting and place in pots or in another pan when they throw up their second leaf. Sown just now they come into flower the second winter, *i.e.*, eighteen months after. Only seed of best quality is worth sowing.—LANARKSHIRE.

MOSS ROSES.

I WONDER why these are not more generally grown in our gardens, for they are among the most fragrant of the summer roses, and groups of them growing near some of the main paths of the garden would be very charming. They are not difficult to grow where the soil is deeply dug and made fairly rich with well rotted manure. The plants are easily increased by layering, but plants, once established, will live and flourish for many years. The Old Moss, delicate rose and very fragrant; and Blanch Moreau, white and very free, are two sorts that should be grown, the plants being grouped in distinct colours.—GEORGE GARNER.

BROMPTON STOCKS.

How to Raise Young Plants.

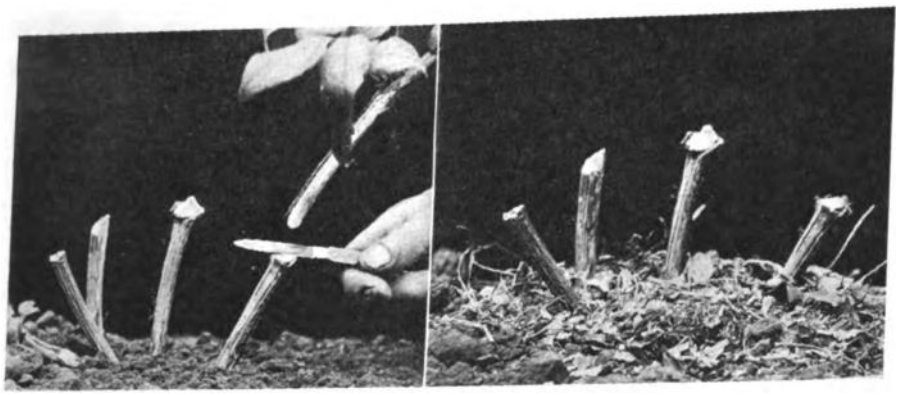
THESE stocks are extremely valuable for furnishing the greenhouse or conservatory in late winter and the spring months, and also the flower borders in spring before the ten-week stocks bloom outside. The seeds should be sown very thinly early in August, or in the northern counties about the middle of July. Sift the soil through a half-inch mesh sieve; this will form the bulk. Then sift some through a 1in. mesh sieve and add one peck of the latter to two pecks of the former. Well mix the more lumpy with the finer portion and add a 6in. potful of old lime rubble to every peck of the combined parts. Place some rotted leaves or manure in the bottom of a 6in. deep box, then fill up with the compost; level it, make moderately firm, then water. Sow the seeds thinly, cover lightly with fine soil, but do not water. Place the box in a light position, but shaded from the sun. Transplant the resultant seedlings while they are very small, taking care of the round seed-leaved ones—as these generally bear double flowers—and pot separately at the next shift. Those intended for the open borders may be transplanted there in October. For the final potting of those that are to be flowered under glass turfy loam should form the bulk of the compost. Place one plant in a 6in. pot, two in 8in. and so on.—G.

PRUNING CLEMATISES.

A Useful Warning.

THERE is apt to be a good deal of misconception as to the treatment of clematises after they have done flowering each season, especially among those who are growing the clematis for the first time upon a new house or in a newly acquired garden; and the time for action is not now far away in the case of certain species. There are many sections into which

Digitized by Google



C. JACKMANNI MAY BE CUT DOWN EACH SPRING TO WITHIN 12IN. OF THE GROUND.

A MULCH OF LEAVES IS MOST BENEFICIAL AFTER PRUNING.

clematises may be grouped, but they may be placed into two categories for practical purposes—the early-flowering, those that bloom from May onwards, and the late-flowering, giving flowers in late summer and autumn.

Early-flowering clematises include the patens and Florida groups, the former blooming in early spring and being much used for greenhouse work in pots, and the latter during the summer months. Everyone knows the decorative Clematis montana, which is capable of thickly covering almost any site with a mass of starry white blossoms in May. This plant, for example, should be pruned just after it has completely gone out of flower—July may be cited as a suitable time; but it is a question to be answered by the owner of the plant as to whether it shall receive pruning or not in the generally accepted meaning. If a covering mass is wanted, there is no necessity to touch the tree; but in all cases it pays to remove all shoots and weak or straggling growths that serve no useful purpose, exhausted wood, dead twiggy growth, etc.

Useful specimens of Clematis montana may be obtained by allowing the main stems to find their way over the whole surface of the object to be covered, and then having the shoots that have borne flowers removed each year to allow room for the new shoots that come in abundance all over the main stem. This may also be said of most of the spring-blooming clematises, those of less vigorous growth being treated chiefly to prevent overcrowding and decay. Pruning may be left to early spring, but the same year offers better advantages.

The summer-flowering clematises—especially those that produce double blossoms—require a very small amount of pruning, chiefly in the way of removing weak growths in the autumn and the shortening of the main shoots in the early spring.

There is exactly the opposite in the case of the late summer and autumn flowering clematises. These belong mostly to the Lanuginosæ and Jackmanni types; the latter being the most popular and in evidence in the majority of gardens.

The Lanuginosæ require the old wood and all weak growths to be entirely removed, and the new shoots tied into place. This should be done in February. These clematises must not be pruned before early spring.

The same may apply to the Jackmanni clematises, with a recommendation to give a severe pruning, cutting the stems down each year to within a foot of the ground. Here again, however, this procedure depends upon the area to be covered. It will be found that severe pruning will induce most vigorous growth and prolific flowering; therefore, as the bare stems are no particular ornament during the season they are out of flower, it is just as well to prune hard and secure vigorous growth, which will probably cover the desired amount of space.

While the manner and extent of pruning may well be left to the tastes and desires of the grower, in order to suit his circumstances, these notes will be of use to afford warning not to attempt to prune until the correct season. It is a very easy matter to prune clematises in the autumn, when a desire may be felt to make all tidy for the winter, especially where the house frontage is concerned. Except in the case of the early-flowering clematises—which, after all, may not require attention to any great extent—the rigid rule should be: leave the plants alone until springtime, when pruning and trimming may advantageously be performed up to the end of March.—H. D.

THE LAWN.

Preparing Ground for Grass Seeds.

THERE are two months in the year in which grass seeds are sown mostly — in April and August respectively. More are sown in the former than in the latter month, but there are, frequently, good reasons for not sowing in the spring, and equally good ones for sowing in the early part of autumn. It is better to sow in well prepared ground in August than in uncleaned soil in the spring. There should not be much difficulty experienced in getting the soil clean and in first-class condition just before the month of August.

If the soil is fairly clean—that is, free from the long roots of coarse weeds, it is not any advantage to dig up the ground deeply. Surface preparation only is needed, provided the surface is level; it may be undulating, but it must not be irregular on the surface. Tennis and similar grounds must, of course, be level.

Soil containing the roots of coarse weeds must be deeply dug, the roots of the latter extracted whole, as far as possible, and big stones and all foreign matter, too. It does not matter much if the soil is rather wet while this work is being done; but while the final levelling is being carried out the soil should be dry. Treading firms it better than rolling. Having raked the soil, mark out the surface in square yards to facilitate even distribution of seeds. Rake the soil evenly first. When ordering the seeds, always tell the seedsman what the character of the soil is.—HANTS.

GREEN HERBAGE.

Various Plants for Lawns and Slopes.

THE success of a lawn depends to some extent upon the character of the soil, as well as that of the herbage or turf. Grassy slopes are sometimes more difficult to keep in good condition during a dry season, especially if the soil is light and sandy and the slope or embankment faces the midday sun. Often we see the herbage by mid-July or August turn quite brown and unsightly. Watering is of little use, if the soil is of a character incapable of retaining moisture. We have seen wild white clover sometimes succeed in clothing the surface with green, when lawn grass has failed. But camomile and common yarrow are even better adapted to facing a slope with a carpet of green. These plants can be mown like grass. They spring from the root when cut, and send up a close mat of fresh shoots. Care must, however, be taken not to mow too closely. This circumstance also applies to dry lawns as well as to dry slopes, or sunny banks, for if the herbage is cut too close to the root, it will fail to collect its full quota of dew. In summer such herbage lives mostly on dew. The common yarrow (Achillea millefolium) and camomile (Anthemis nobilis) will thrive on soils where other herbage fails; but there is another plant that might be used to improve lawns—not, however, on dry soils, but rather on those that are damp and sour. I refer to the weed sometimes known as "spergula." Its botanical name is Sagina procumbens. The true spergula is hardly so well adapted to the purpose of improving a patchy lawn, though it is, indeed, a more elegant plant. It does not produce such a close sole of herbage as the plant indicated, which may be found in flower-pots, in little tufts, and in many waste places. In a heap of old potting soil it is often to be found. If it is required in quantity, it can be grown in a bed, well dressed with soil thrown out from flower-pots. To improve the lawn it may be dibbled into the ground during showery weather, after mowing. It does best when planted in April. Roll the turf immediately afterwards. Should drought set in, the lawn may be watered. That will help the sagina to take root and spread.—J. W.

TWO GARDEN PESTS.

Wireworms and Leather Jackets.

WIREWORMS are the larvæ of the click beetle. When fully grown they average about an inch in length, possess a yellowish to brown body, three pairs of legs in front and a protuberance on the hindermost section of their body. They feed on all roots, tubers rhizomes and fleshy growths in the soil, near the surface in summer but deeper in winter; they pass three or four years as larvæ and finally become parent beetles themselves. The pests are always most virulent in fresh soil and in turf, but they are found in most gardens. Among growing crops they can be dealt with only with difficulty. Soot, artificial manure and mild fumigants hoed in are deterrents and plant stimulants at the same time, but the really effective way to deal with them is by trapping with pieces of potato. In autumn, winter and spring carbon bisulphide is excellent but expensive; while lime, 1 stone mixed with 1lb. crude naphthalene, is almost equally good and certainly much more economical—use 1lb. per square yard.

The leather jacket, that tough, dark green, leathery fellow, 1in. long and plump, is found at the roots of plants always quite close to the surface. Indeed, he works a great deal on the surface, and many of our wrongly maligned birds account for numbers of these pests. I have found the best cure is to use artificial manure of some kind and a poison at the same time; the artificial manure induces migration and encourages a change of diet. The poison may be Paris green or something similar. I recommend powdered Paris green at the rate of a teaspoonful to a pound of ordinary bran. This mixture is a powerful poison which rapidly reduces their numbers and, incidentally, kills all the slugs which are on the prowl at the same time.—LANARKSHIRE.

Digitized by Google

GARDENING OF THE WEEK

FOR SOUTHERN GARDENS.

THE KITCHEN GARDEN.

Of late years considerable attention has been paid to the sowing of vegetable seeds in July, particularly during the early part of the month, and the practice has much to commend it. The supply of green peas can be extended by sowing now early maturing varieties, such as Gradus, Early Giant, etc.; also dwarf beans may be sown, preferably in a position where they can be protected from slight frosts in the autumn. If cabbages are needed about October, seeds are sown thinly in lines 15ins. apart, the seedlings being thinned to a foot, and not transplanted as is the usual method. Cauliflowers may be treated in the same way. Where the crops of beetroot and carrots are poor, the opportunity should now be taken to make up for lost time, selecting a turnip-rooted variety of the former, and a short-horn form of the latter. New potatoes are always appreciated, and old tubers of Sharpe's Express planted now will furnish a supply in October. If onions are needed for salads, a few lines of A1 should be sown, also kohl-rabi, a vegetable that finds little favour in this country. Continue to sow lettuce, both cos and cabbage varieties, spinach, mustard, cress and turnip.

THE FLOWER GARDEN.

Bedding Plants.—In some gardens plants of a sub-tropical nature are used for bedding purposes, and to be effective they must be fair examples when put out. They embrace eucalyptus, Grevillea robusta, Aralia Sieboldii and others, and they can be raised from seeds sown now. Directly cuttings of the bedding pelargonium Paul Crampel are available a start should be made to work up the stock for next season. Early struck plants pass safely through the winter: late cuttings are liable to damp off. Many of the popular gladioli will be pushing up their flower spikes, and they should be made secure to neat stakes, otherwise many of them will be spoilt. This remark applies to Galtonia canadensis, watsonia and alstroemeria, although the latter, if afforded a somewhat sheltered spot, rarely needs support beyond a few twiggy shoots here and there among the growths. The hardy cyclamen is a charming plant, and there are numerous species and varieties in commerce. The present month is a good time to make colonies near the base of large trees, along drives, and in the semi-wild garden. Established plantations should be top-dressed with leaf-mould or old potting soil. May-flowering tulips lifted a few weeks ago are dried off in their temporary bed, and now they should be taken up, placed thinly in boxes and stored in a dry shed. When an opportunity occurs, clean and grade them, and then they will be ready for planting in October or November.

OUTDOOR FRUIT.

Strawberries.—These seldom fail to produce a crop of fruit, but if quality is desired the bed should be renewed every third year; the best plan being to plant a few fresh lines each season and discard the corresponding number in the old bed. Directly the fruit is gathered, remove all runners, weeds and dead leaves, and give the ground a good hoeing. Plants that have ceased to be profitable should be grubbed up, and the ground prepared for some other crop. In the meantime, a fresh part of the garden should be got ready for the new plantation by deep digging or trenching, and at the same time incorporate a liberal quantity of partly decayed manure. The runners should be planted in August in lines 18ins. apart, and a space of 15ins. allowed between the plants.

American Blight.—In spite of winter spraying this pest is most persistent in several gardens, especially on the apple trees. If time can possibly be found, the affected parts should be painted over with an ordinary sash tool dipped in methylated spirit or ordinary paraffin.

Plums.—There appears to be a fairly good crop of plums in some areas, and where the fruits have set thickly a large number should be removed at intervals. Trees producing large crops should be fed with liquid manure or a recognised fruit fertiliser. Pinch back the side growths to the third or fourth leaf, to assist in the formation of fruit spurs, the leading shoots are allowed to develop, also other growths needed for extension.

If green or black fly appears, spray at once with a solution of quassia extract. Soft or rain water ought always to be used.

Chepstow. T. W. BRISCOE.

FOR NORTHERN GARDENS.

FRUIT UNDER GLASS.

Melons.—When the young plants in frames have made a couple of rough leaves pinch out the points. The resultant side shoots pinch at the fifth leaf, and this pinching will suffice until a good show of fruit is visible. Choose the best atmospheric conditions possible for pollination. When the fruit begins to swell select the finest to constitute the crop, gradually removing the others. Stop the shoots one leaf beyond the fruit and by timely pinching avoid unnecessary growth. The plants to produce ripe fruits by the end of September and early October from a June sowing are usually planted much closer than earlier batches. Put out the plants about 8ins. to 1ft. apart, and by this system overgrowth is restricted, the trellis quickly covered and an even "set" is earlier obtained. Retain the most promising fruits on each plant, suppressing all others.

Tomatoes.—In Scotland the game is not worth the candle, but the chance of pulling a dish of tomatoes at Christmas might appeal to some. Sow the variety Winter Beauty now. Grow in the cool to procure sturdy plants in 10in. pots. Maintain an even temperature of 60°, using fire-heat when needful, suppress all side growths, while watering and feeding are carefully attended to. Main crop tomatoes in bearing will require plenty of water and liquid manure. In the latter ring the changes from organic to inorganic by dissolving ½oz. each of nitrate of potash and phosphate of potash in one gallon of water. Assist the plants to set fruit by gently tapping the stems at midday when the flowers are open. Severe defoliation is to be deprecated, but overreaching foliage impeding the light may be removed when fruits are ripening. If white fly is a nuisance, fumigate frequently with "Cyanogas." Use this slightly less than the purveyors' directions to begin with. A little experience will teach the amounts required for efficacy.

Grapes.—The bunches in the early Hamburgh house will soon be fit to cut. Promote ripening conditions by discontinuing "damping down," full ventilation on suitable days, leaving a "chink of air" on the top ventilators all night. Have sufficient heat in pipes to ensure a night temperature of 60°. Muscat grapes are still growing freely, and the borders will need watering and feeding regularly. The houses should be "damped down" frequently in hot weather, kept an even night temperature of 65° to 70°, and ventilated early in the mornings to avoid scalding. If red spider or thrips appears, dust with flowers of sulphur or sponge the leaves with a nicotine wash. By experience and observation I am convinced that mildew is the pest most to be feared in houses planted with young vines. It appears in the form of a greyish white powder, and the leaves fail to develop properly, with short internodes on the canes. For vines attacked present remedies to apply are sulphur rubbed on the leaves and canes or spraying with liver of sulphur. Keep the atmosphere less moist and regulate the ventilation to avoid draughts.

Peaches and Nectarines.—The temperature of the houses should increase with the swelling of the fruits and at the last swelling may rise to 65° with free ventilation. Routine work requires that the trees do not suffer from lack of water at the roots, this being fatal to success. Afford mulchings of old dung to encourage fibrous root action over the surface and to supply nourishment to the trees. Syringe at intervals, being guided by external atmospheric conditions, to keep insect pests in check as well as to promote growth. The quantity of fruit a tree will carry is best left to the judgment of the man on the spot. But overcropping, with its consequent strain on and exhaustion of the tree and other incidental troubles, should be guarded against.

Figs.—In these houses the concern of the moment is the ripening of the second crop. Promote this by all the known means, removing shoots that shade others to allow maturation of the wood. As the third crop is rarely procurable, it is not worth while forcing the trees to effect its production.

Doune, Perthshire. W. MCCARRELL.

CONSERVATORY AND GREENHOUSE.

Calceolarias.—Seed of the herbaceous varieties should be sown towards the end of the month in a cool greenhouse. The seed pans should be watered several hours previous to sowing, and the fine seeds evenly sown on the surface and covered with just a sprinkling of sand. Cover the pans with a piece of glass and shade until germination takes place. When fit to handle the seedlings should be pricked off into pans of light rich compost, placing them in small pots when large enough, afterwards potting them on as required. Grow them under cool, moist atmospheric conditions. They are very subject to attacks of green fly, which must be prevented by frequent light fumigations. Calceolarias belonging to the sub-shrubby section—which includes C. Burbidgei, C. Clibrani, C. integrifolia, C. Allardii and C. violacea—should be propagated by means of cuttings, which will root in a close case in a cool house. C. Burbidgei when flowered in 6in. pots is very useful for furnishing the stages, while grown in large pots it makes fine large specimens for the beds. C. violacea belongs to a small section with helmet-shaped flowers, and is hardy outdoors—when planted against a wall—in the west; in the colder parts of the country it makes pretty plants for the conservatory, and is seen at its best when planted out in a well drained bed or border in a cool house. The beautiful race of garden hybrids which have resulted from crossing the large herbaceous varieties with C. cana, a small-flowered species from Chile with purplish-violet coloured flowers which are violet-scented, are very beautiful, and it is surprising that this charming set of hybrids is not more generally grown, as they are easily raised from seed or cuttings and succeed under the same cool conditions as are afforded other calceolarias.

Cestrums are very useful for covering pillars or back walls in the conservatory, the sorts generally seen are C. elegans and C. Newellii; but the distinct C. aurantiacum is deserving of more general cultivation, for, although it is equally good for clothing pillars or wall spaces, it may also be successfully grown as a pot plant. They may be successfully rooted at any time, but the present is a good time to raise fresh stock by means of cuttings, which root readily in a close case. Cestrums grow freely when planted out and require little attention beyond keeping the growth regulated and thinned out. They are rather dirty plants, being subject to attacks of mealy bug, green and white fly, all of which must be guarded against.

Salpiglossis.—This annual, with its many beautiful varieties, is very useful for conservatory decoration. It is, however, by no means an easy plant to grow successfully. This is especially true in the neighbourhood of London, where it suffers from the effects of frequent fogs. When grown in pots this plant takes longer than most annuals to reach the flowering stage; if required to flower during May of next year, seed should be sown from the middle to end of July in a cool greenhouse. The young seedlings should be pricked off into pans or boxes, afterwards transferring them to small pots, potting them on as they require it. For wintering they should be well established in large sixties or 48-sized pots. This plant requires careful watering at any time, but special care in this respect must be observed during the winter months, when they should be given a position well up to the roof glass in a warm, airy greenhouse. Early in the New Year they should be ready for a shift into 6in. flowering pots.

Kalanchoe flammea.—This beautiful plant may be propagated by means of cuttings at this time, as they are of a succulent character. It is not necessary to place them in a case, as they root readily when stood on a bench or shelf in a warm greenhouse. It can also be raised from seed, which is best sown during early spring. Plants raised from cuttings at this time should flower next year. They should be grown in a warm, airy greenhouse. Like most plants of this character, good drainage is important, and although Kalanchoe flammea grows in any good potting compost, it is an advantage if some old mortar rubble, or old broken bricks, can be added to the potting compost. Also, water at the root should be carefully afforded during the winter.

Kew. J. COUTTS.

Digitized by Google

The safest time to plant
PYRETHRUMS

IF you want pyrethrums to do well—and every garden-owning lover of flowers must—move the plants in late July or early August—the safest time of the year.

If you need fresh plants, either send for our catalogue and choose for yourself or, here and now, order the low priced collection of twelve excellent varieties offered below, for 7/6 carriage paid, for delivery in July or August:—

	Carminetta ..	Deep carmine rose.
	Fairy	Cherry red with white ring.
	General French ..	Deep rich scarlet.
	George Wallace ..	Rich crimson.
	Grandiflorum ..	Rose pink.
	King of Spain ..	Crimson rose.
d	Madame Meunier	Pale flesh pink.
	Miss Hawley ..	Pale pink.
d	Mont Blanc ..	Pure white.
	Oxeye	Deep rose.
	Standard	Bright rose.
d	Queen Mary ..	Pink shaded salmon.

d—Denotes double.

One plant each of the 12 varieties, 7/6 post paid.

Have you seen our Hardy Plant Catalogue? It is better than most.

Bakers
FLOWER FARM
CODSALL
Near Wolverhampton

KATAKILLA

The Popular Insecticide
IS
NON - POISONOUS

Harmless to human beings and domestic animals.

Deadly to Aphis and Caterpillars on Fruit, Flowers and Vegetables.

In Powder form, ready for mixing with water. Clean and easy to use.

2/- Cartons (for 10 gallons) 6/- Cartons (to make 50 gallons.)

Of all Agents.

Write for illustrated leaflet "Katakilla," gratis and post free, from

COOPER, McDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, LTD.
BERKHAMSTED.

GARDEN TECHNIQUE

THE GREENHOUSE

SUMMER TREATMENT OF PEACHES AND NECTARINES.

IT frequently happens that peach and nectarine trees are well looked after during the midsummer months while the fruits are ripening, and are afterwards much neglected. These notes are not for the instruction of expert growers, but for those cultivators who have not had much experience in their management.

Now, with regard to the feeding of the trees—I am referring to those grown under glass—while the fruits are stoning, a period of twenty-one days, the specimens do not swell perceptibly, and manures, especially those kinds that are very stimulating in their action, should not be applied. It is much the safest plan to apply clear water only.

Then, directly the fruits are seen to be swelling, feed liberally, not with strong doses, but weak ones, and every alternate day. Continue the syringing up to the stage when the first fruit begins to soften on one side for ripening, then be content to damp the floor and paths only. Less feeding is necessary now, but clear water must be applied regularly.

While the fruits are swelling, syringe the trees twice every day; ventilate in the morning, early, and close the house, when the trees are syringed in the afternoon, early or late, according to the weather. The close, moist atmosphere is beneficial as regards the health of the tree and the swelling of the fruits. The shoots will continue to grow, but not as rapidly as previously. Avoid any overcrowding, stop those shoots that would cause overcrowding, as shown at *a* in the sketch, and any sub-shoots that grow from points *b*, *b* remove altogether; the buds lower down, at *c*, will remain dormant, as they should. Exposure of all fruits to full sunshine should be the rule at an early stage. Leaves, such as shown at *d*, should be under wires or fruits, then the sun's rays, *e*, will shine directly on the fruit, *f*, and the latter will be coloured dark crimson almost all over.—GEO. GARNER.

CURRENT TREATMENT OF POT CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

THE pots used at the final potting of these plants will soon be quite full of roots if the plants are healthy. Late in the month the first crown buds will be seen in the points of the shoots. If the varieties are naturally late-flowering ones, these early buds must be "taken"—that is they must be retained and all side shoots rubbed off. Some cultivators wait until the buds are thus secured before they begin to feed the plants. But feeding may be beneficial at an earlier date. It will be if the pots are getting filled with roots. Weak liquid manure, clear soot water and concentrated fertilisers used according to the directions, will strengthen the plants prior to bud formation, and after the buds are secured the feeding can be increased in strength a little. All main stems should be tied to strong, neat stakes, so placed that the maximum amount of air will reach the leaves and stems alike. Side shoots should be removed, also any weeds in the pots. Avoid any overcrowding of plants. Keep the foliage clean; use tobacco powder in the evening to eradicate aphides, and syringe it off the next morning. Sprinkle soot on the ground near by, to keep away the leaf-miner fly.—CHRISTCHURCH.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

LAYERING STRAWBERRIES.

A Seasonable Reminder.

QUITE the best way of increasing strawberry plants is by means of the runners, which are usually produced in great abundance. Great care should be taken to avoid runners from those plants which are known to be barren, as the unfruitful tendency is sure to be handed on. Generally speaking, it is best to concentrate on the first plants produced by the runners. Now and again, if the second plant appears to be very strong, this may be worth securing, but subsequent plants are not worth bothering about. Of course, the runners are entirely supported by the parent plants until the new plants on the trailing stems are able to get a roothold. This they will do readily if they are resting on ground that is suitably moist and not too hard. Where a sufficient number of pots are not available the layering may be carried out straight on to the natural ground. Direct the growth of the runners well away from the parent plant to the space in between the rows. Loosen the soil and, if it is dry, water thoroughly; just when the roots are beginning to appear from the plants borne on the runners place under each some light leafy mould. At this time pinch back the runner from the far end so as to throw the vigour of growth into the new plant. A light pegging down is helpful to keep the runner from straggling about. When the rooting is complete the rooted specimen may be lifted with a ball of earth after cutting the runner free.

On the whole, better results are secured by layering in pots. Pots of 3in. size should be used, and these are filled with light soil. Each pot is plunged to half its depth in the ground, and it is necessary to see that the soil it contains is kept moist should the weather happen to be dry. In

Digitized by Google

layering strawberries two points should always be kept well in mind. Choose only those runners which are vigorous in growth and never cut the new plant from its parent until roots are being freely produced. If a severance is attempted too early the little plant will receive a severe set-back, which is evidenced by drooping leaves, some of which may die away altogether.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

TRADE NOTES.

IF a garden is to look clean and tidy, the paths and the walks must be clean and free from weeds and moss, and at this time of the year, when a hundred and one little odd jobs have to be attended to, it is no easy task to weed these paths. It is tedious and occupies valuable time. A most convenient and thoroughly effective method of destroying these weeds lies in the application of Eureka Weed Killer. At the same time as one cleans up the paths and walks it is advisable to give the lawn a dressing of Eureka Lawn Sand, which revivifies the starved grass and stimulates fresh growth in bare patches, while it greatly helps in the destruction of many surface weeds, such as daisies and buttercups.

SWEET PEA COMPETITION
£50 IN PRIZES

RULES.

A list of your choice of the six most popular sweet peas to be sent in in order of preference on the coupon to be found on page IV of this week's issue of THE GARDEN. *No alternative* varieties will be allowed in the one list, but readers may send in any number of lists, provided that they are written on the special coupon to be found in this and the following issues of THE GARDEN.

Coupons must reach this office not later than Saturday, July 17th (after which date no coupons will be accepted).

The popular vote will be final, and no correspondence will be entered into over this competition.

Envelopes must be marked *Competition* and addressed to THE GARDEN, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

The Editor will not be held responsible for letters missing in the post.

The result will be announced in THE GARDEN in the issue of August 28th.

The prizes are awarded to those whose list corresponds most closely to that arrived at by the popular vote.

If two readers tie for the first place, the first and second prizes will be equally divided; if two for the second place, the second and third prizes will be equally divided.

The Editor's decision on all points will be final.

PRIZES.

1ST PRIZE.—Goods worth **£30** from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

2ND PRIZE.—Goods worth **£10** from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

3RD PRIZE.—Goods worth **£5** from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

20 CONSOLATION PRIZES of **5s.** each from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

AUTUMN FLOWERIN
CROCUS & COLCHICUM

For planting in JULY and AUGUST to ensure flowers for the present Year.

		Doz.	100.	
Crocus	**medius.**—One of the most handsome of Autumn-flowering Croci, flowers of a rich violet colour with rich orange stigmata	6/-	40-	
,,	**ochroleucus.** Creamy white with orange base	2/6	15-	
,,	**Salzmanni erectophyllus.** — Rich lilac purple	2/6	15-	
,,	**speciosus.** Rich blue flowers with orange red anthers	2/6	15-	
,,	**speciosus Aitchisonii.** A most beautiful form, its handsome lavender flowers often 5ins. across, are produced as freely as in the type	4/-	25/-	
,,	**zonatus.** Rosy lilac, very beautiful, one of the freest flowering of all	1/6 / 2/-	7/6 / 10-	
Colchicums (Meadow Saffrons)				
,,	**autumnale album plenum.** Large double white tuberose - like flowers, each 2/6	27/-	—	
,,	**Bornmulleri.** Immense flowers of lilac rose with white centres	4/6	30/-	
,,	**giganteum.** Very vigorous, bearing numbers of large expanded flowers of soft rose shaded to white	4/-	25/-	
,,	**speciosum.** — Tulip - like flowers of a rosy crimson colour, a very handsome plant	5/-	35/-	
,,	**speciosum album.** Large tulip-like flowers of ivory white. Each 1/6.	16/-	—	

Complete list of Crocus species and Colchicums will be sent on application.

T. SMITH
Daisy Hill Nursery, NEWR

An interesting new feature at the National Rose Society's Show, Botanic Gardens, Regent's Park.

WRITE FOR PARTICULARS AND NAME OF NEAREST SUPPLIER TO:—

Condrup Ltd

78, FORE ST., LONDON, E.C.2

50% Time and Liquid Saved
with a

"CON-O-MIST" SPRAYER

No Constant Pumping!

SOLID COPPER BODY

3½ pints size - - - - - **25/-**

KNAPSACK SPRAYERS also supplied for Lime Washing, etc.

No pumping required whilst Spraying!

Gives a mist-like spray.

Capacity in Pints				*each*
Full 3½	..	Working 2⅝	..	**25/-**
,, 5½	..	,, 3½	..	**30/-**
,, 7	..	,, 5	..	**40/-**
,, 12	..	,, 9¾	..	**50/-**

One Pumping will last a day.

CLAY'S LONDON FERTILIZER TRADE MARK

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices :—

Tins 10d. and 1/6

and in Branded and Sealed Bags :

7 lbs.	3/6	14 lbs.	6/-
28 lbs.	10/-	56 lbs.	18/-
112 lbs.	32/-		

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark.

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers, etc. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**

LEADING GLASS HOUSE FUMIGANT

CORRY'S WHITE FLY DEATH

THOUSANDS OF TOMATO CROPS ENTIRELY SAVED
No alternations needed since first introduced.
Satisfied with the best, it is the cheapest in the end.
Commended by the Royal Horticultural Society.

	1,000 c.ft.	2,000 c.ft.	4,000 c.ft.	8,000 c.ft.	16,000 c.ft.	32,000 c.ft.	64,000 c.ft.
	10d.	1/3	2/-	3/6	6/-	10/6	19/-

Also in 2, 5 and 10 gall. FREE drums:

ALSO

"NIQUAS"

THE INSECTICIDE.

(Non-poisonous.)

destroying Greenfly, Aphis and Caterpillars etc., on all plants and trees.

30 years' reputation.
Many hundreds of Testimonials received.

Equal to any, if not better, and cheaper, so why not use it and save money?

1 pt.	1 qt.	½-gall.	1 gall.	2 gall.	5 gall.	10 gall.
1/6	2/6	4/-	7/6	15/-	28/-	45/-

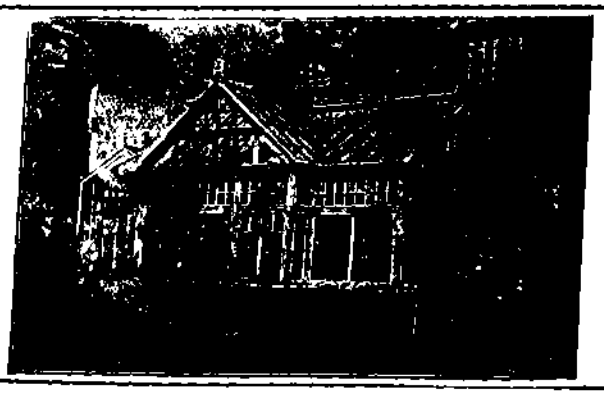
CORRY'S CONCENTRATED QUASSIA EXTRACT

1 pt.	1 qt.	½-gall.	1 gall.	2 gall.	5 gall.	10 gall.
1/3	2/-	3/6	6/6	12/6	23/-	42/-

Sold by Nurserymen and Seedsmen.

CORRY & CO., Ltd., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*



FOSTER & PEARSON LIMITED

Established 1841

Please write for Estimates for durable Greenhouses, Boilers, etc., to

BEESTON NOTTS

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by **"ALPHOL"**

Sample 14 lb., 5/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps Lawn Improvers "Veribest" Seeds, etc. to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

The Seaside Planting of Trees and Shrubs

By Alfred Gaut, F.R.H.S. 28 Illustrations. 5/- net. By post, 5/6.

"Country Life" Library, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

By Appointment

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

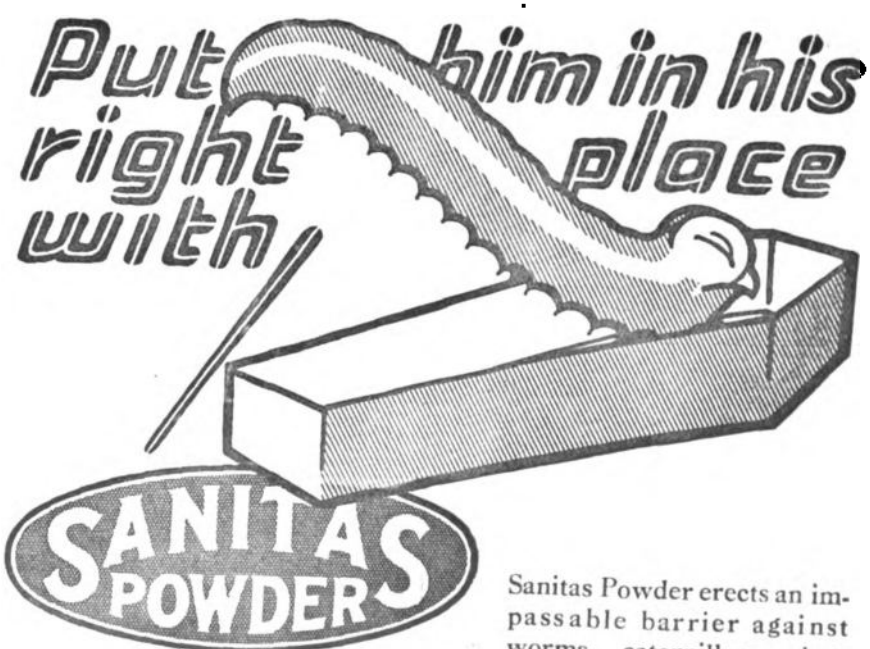
No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.,
Royal Potteries,
BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Put him in his right place with



Sanitas Powder erects an impassable barrier against worms, caterpillars, slugs and snails—but is harmless to plants and flowers. It is non-poisonous—except to pests.

THE "SANITAS" CO. LTD. LIMEHOUSE, LONDON, E.

Digitized by Google

"All ready to put into your pipe—*that's handy!*"

PLAYER'S "Medium" Navy Cut Tobacco (Rubbed Ready for Smoking) comes as a great convenience to those Smokers who prefer their tobacco "rubbed up" before filling the pouch.

PLAYER'S
"MEDIUM"
Navy Cut

PLAYER'S NAVY CUT. REG? Nº 134011.

RUBBED READY FOR SMOKING

P 1316

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION

WAKELEY'S *Celebrated* HOP MANURE
(PATENTED)

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 5 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

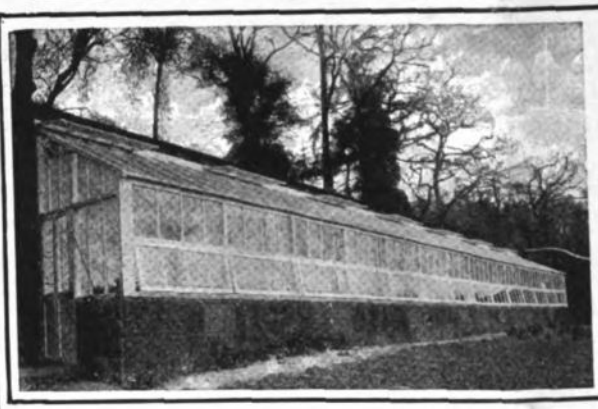
A beautiful Free Booklet giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.

☞ **BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. GENUINE ONLY IN OUR MARKED BAGS, CONTAINING GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.** ☜

Cash Prices, including bags: Small (about 1 bushel), 3/- ; Large (about 4 bushels), 7/- ; 5 Large, 33/9
10 Large, 65/- ; 20 Large, 120/-

Carriage Paid to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company. 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1



GREENHOUSES AND GARDEN FRAMES

I specialize in the Erection of High-class Horticultural Buildings.

Garden Frames a speciality. Selected timber, well seasoned, only used.

Being a grower, I understand Glass-house requirements.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.

CATALOGUES WITH PLEASURE

E. M. HEAP, Cottimore Nurseries, **WALTON-ON-THAMES.**

CIRENGOL

KILLS GREEN FLY
AND OTHER GARDEN PESTS.

READY FOR USE. All you have to do is to mix a level teaspoonful in two gallons of cold water and in a few minutes you have a supply of strong syringing liquor.

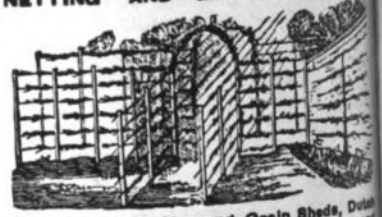
9d. per tube.

Large size 3/- (5 times the 9d. size.)

Of all Ironmongers, Seedsmen, Florists and Chemists or post free from:

THOS. CHRISTY & CO., 4-12, Old Swan Lane, London, E.C. 4.

HILL & SMITH, Ltd.,
BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS,
Makers of
IRON FENCING, HURDLES, GATES, WIRE NETTING AND GARDEN IRONWORK



Other Products—Hay and Grain Sheds, Dutch Barns, Galvanized Corrugated Sheets and Structural Steelwork.

Catalogues free on mentioning this paper.

London: 300, Abbey House, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

WHY is "HOMES and GARDENS" such a Great Success?

BECAUSE it shows greater House Comfort & Convenience —with less Labour and Expense.

Send to-day for a Free specimen Copy of this helpful and beautifully Illustrated Magazine to 20, Tavistock St., Covent Garden, W.C.2

THE COMPLETENESS OF ITS COMPOSITION AND THE HAPPY BLENDING OF ITS HIGHGRADE ORGANIC AND OTHER INGREDIENTS RENDER

Carmona
Fertilizer

A Carmona measuring Spoon in every tin

A PAR-EXCELLENT BLOOM PRODUCER

CARRIAGE PAID PRICES:—

1 lb. Tin 1/3	2 lb. Tin 2/-
7 lb. Tin 4/6	112 lb. Bag 26/-

The fullest instructions accompany each package.

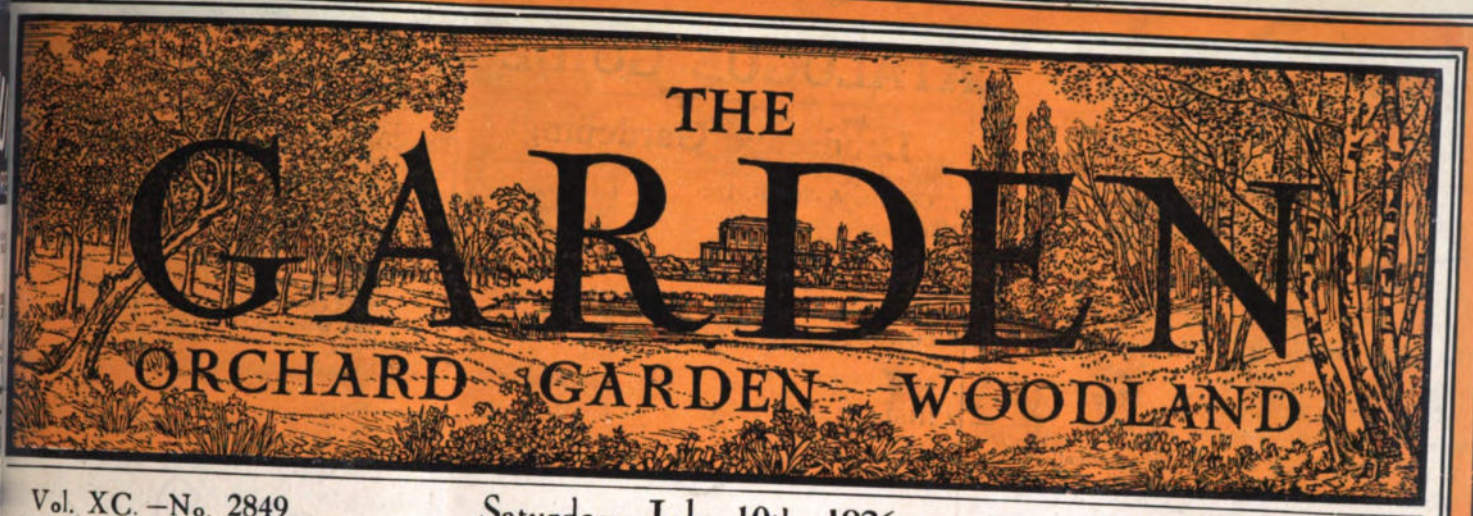
Sole Manufacturers:—

ROBINSON BROTHERS LTD., WEST BROMWICH

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS 56 & 57, Drury Lane London, W.C.2

Digitized by Google

GENERAL LIBRARY
UNIV. OF MICH.
JUL 17 1926



Vol. XC.—No. 2849 Saturday, July 10th, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

Barr's Seeds for July Sowing

OF FINEST STRAINS AND TESTED GROWTH

For the Flower Garden.

Antirrhinums, Aquilegias, Campanulas, Delphiniums, Forget-me-nots, Gaillardias, Geums, Hollyhocks, Lupins, Pansies, Papavers, Polyanthus-Primroses, Sweet Williams, Stocks, Violas, etc.

For the Vegetable Garden

Beet, Cabbage, Carrots, Cress, Mustard, Onions, Peas, Parsley, Turnips, Radish, etc.

For the Rock Garden

Special List of dwarf-growing Hardy Perennials, Alpines, etc., for July sowing in the Rock Garden.

All Lists free on application.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

NETTINGS

GARDEN NETS FOR FRUIT PROTECTION

Any lengths and widths. Corded all round

	per sq. yd.		per sq. yd.
NEW 1 in. sq. mesh, heavy	6½d.	NEW ⅞ in. sq. mesh, medium	7½d.
NEW 1 in. " medium	5½d.	REPAIRED 1 in. sq. mesh, heavy	3½d.
NEW ⅞ in. " light	5½d.	REPAIRED ⅞ in. " "	4d.

REPAIRED (not corded) 1 in. diamond mesh, 9/- per 100 sq. yards.

NEW TENNIS BOUNDARY NETS

Any lengths and widths. Corded all round. 7d. per sq. yard.

NEW TENNIS NETS

Various qualities from 16/- to 31/- each.

NETS FOR ALL PURPOSES

Samples and full particulars from the manufacturers.

JOSEPH BENTLEY, Ltd., Barrow-on-Humber, LINCS.
(Sole Proprietors of B. EDDY & SONS)

"ACME" WEED KILLER

Awarded Gold Medal at Anglo-American Exhibition and Bronze Medal by Royal Horticultural Society.

Has stood the test of over 30 years.

POWDER, LIQUID AND NON-POISONOUS.

LAWN SAND destroys Weeds and Moss in Grass.

Extract of Quassia Insecticide

Quassia - Tobacco Insecticide

Write for Price List.

The ACME CHEMICAL CO. Ltd.
TONBRIDGE, KENT

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

FOR THE GARDEN! FOR EXHIBITION!
FOR BEDS! FOR EVERYWHERE!

Also Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees, Alpines and Hardy Plants.

BUY HOME-GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries.

Catalogue Free on Application, and Addresses booked for Revised Catalogue in late Summer.

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.,
Garden Specialists - - SOUTHWELL, NOTTS

All Prices Reduced *All Prices Reduced*

SMITH'S

"PERFECT" WEED KILLER

POWDER

Also in Liquid—All Sized Drums.
First Weed Killer ever offered and first ever since.

SMITH'S "PERFECT" NON-POISONOUS LIQUID AND POWDER

Best Value. Most Reliable. Full Satisfaction Guaranteed. Prices and Particulars of—

MARK SMITH, LTD., LOUTH, LINCOLNSHIRE

NETTINGS

Carefully selected whole nets. ¾-inch diamond mesh.

25 yds.	13 yds.	...	...	...	...	£1 17 6	3 nets for	£5 10 0
50 yds.	13 yds.	...	...	...	...	£3 15 0	3 nets for	£11 2 0
75 yds.	13 yds.	...	...	...	...	£5 12 6	3 nets for	£16 15 0
100 yds.	13 yds.	...	...	...	...	£7 10 0	3 nets for	£22 5 0

Stock sizes, 50 by 4 yds., 25 by 8 yds., 100 by 2 yds., 25/- piece.

The above are a splendid lot of small-mesh nets which are used in the pilchard fishery on this coast, and we can assure our customers they are the best nets obtainable.

New, stout, 1-in. square mesh nets, bound with cords, 5d. per square yard, medium 1¼in., 4½d., selected repaired ¾-in., 3d.; 1-in., 2½d. square yard.

NEW TENNIS BOUNDARY NETTING.

Steam tarred, square mesh, bound with cords.

	Per sq. yd.		Per sq. yd.
Heavy	7d.	Little lighter	4½d.
Medium	6½d.	Selected repaired	3d.

All goods carriage paid, passenger train, receipt order.

Samples and particulars from the Manufacturers:

W. OLIVER ALLEN & SONS,
Net Makers, PORTHLEVEN, CORNWALL.

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
New Alpines and Perennials
Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD,
CHELSEA, S.W.
Perennial and Rock Plants Seed. List on Application

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
HULL
Weed Destroyers, Fertilisers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

TUBS FOR SHRUBS.
WIRE BOUND, PATENT. Over 100 prizes. R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. — Price List from A. PRADAL, 26, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

WILLMOTT
Rival Plant Stake
(Patented No. 183779).
As used in Royal Botanic Gardens London and Cambridge.
For all plants. WILL NOT ROT, WEAR OUT OR BREAK.
Sample of eight sizes,
2/- car. pd. United Kingdom.
4/- Overseas.
Closed

Open
H. J. **GREENWOOD**, F.R.H.S., Proprietor,
BRACKNELL, Berks.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

WATER

raised by simply turning a handle. The wonderful Boulton Water Elevator lifts a continuous stream of water from well of any depth.

Ask for Catalogue No. 746

BOULTON & PAUL, LTD.
: : NORWICH : :

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

WANTED!

Garden Carnations

Specimen Blooms of any popular Hardy Carnation in your district, whether from your own Garden or not. These are wanted for Hybridising work, but they must be old and popular hardy varieties.

WRITE :—

ALLWOOD BROS.
Wivelsfield Nurseries, Hayward's Heath

PRICE'S
COMPLETE GARDEN FERTILISER

Promotes strong, healthy plants.

If stored in a dry place will keep any length of time.

Sold in 7-lb. containers - - **2s. 6d.**
Also supplied in 1-cwt. and ½-cwt. bags.

PRICE'S PATENT CANDLE COMPANY LIMITED, BATTERSEA, LONDON, S.W.11.

SITUATION WANTED.

EXPERIENCED LADY GARDENER wants temporary work for July and August.—Box 4, THE GARDEN, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, London, W.C.2.

FERTHRIVER (REGD.)
THE COMPLETE FERTILISER, WITH GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

GIVES RESULTS

7-lb.	14-lb.	28-lb.	56-lb.	1-cwt.
2/3	4/-	6/-	10/-	16/-

Carriage Paid.

ANALYSIS:

Ammonia -	4 per cent.
Phosphates	15 "
Potash - -	8 "
Pot. Sulphate -	5.4 "

3d. Tin of Ferthriver *As Illustrated.*
6d. Post Free.

THE NECESSARIES CO.,
25, Edward Road,
Balsall Heath BIRMINGHAM.

Killed or stunned

A cloud of soapy vapour that does no more than stupefy the insects is of little value. Use XL ALL Nicotine Liquid Insecticide. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen and florists.

XL ALL NICOTINE LIQUID INSECTICIDE
G. H. RICHARDS, LTD.
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
R. 161. Monomark: BCM/XLALL

THE "SPADE" BOOT CLEANERS

Every good housewife should install a pair of these. They will keep her carpets clean and put garden in its proper place.

Scraper, **10/3**; Brush, **25/6**; or the pair for **35/-** carr. paid.

From your own Bootmaker, Gunmaker or Ironmonger, or direct with illustrated particulars from

"SPADE SCRAPERS" (Dept. G), **Wappenham, Towcester.**

Gardening Boots

must be waterproof. See that your Boots have Uppers of "Beva" WATERPROOF LEATHER

"Look for the "Beva" on the looping

"THE GARDEN" Sweet Pea Competition

Name .....

Address .....

.....

1 .....

2 .....

3 .....

4 .....

5 .....

6 .....

OUT OUT AROU

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

ATERER'S GOLD MEDAL RHODODEN-
—SONS, Azaleas, Rare Hardy Shrubs, Alpine and Perennial nts, Bulbs, Roses and Fruit Trees, Vegetable and Flower eds, for Summer Sowing.—JOHN WATERER, SONS AND CRISP, ITED, Twyford, Berks; Bagshot, Surrey; and London.

IMALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODEN-
RONS on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and pine Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write r Catalogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

WELLS' CATALOGUE OF CHRYSANTHE-
UMS will be sent post free on application.—W. WELLS AND A, Merstham, Surrey.

AKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE.
The original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See vert. on back page.

M. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD.,
rrace Road, South Tottenham, N.15. — Conservatories, ter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

IRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUN-
IALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—BOSTON, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

ENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and den Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE HURLEY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, rrey.

IVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality d a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection rited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS & SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

NAIL WRITES WEBSTER'S LABELS new metal, can't fade or break. 20 sizes to hang or stand.—BSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

ASCADE WONDER NOZZLES spread or ar, dirt don't choke, no taking off, not mislaid, fit any can. free.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

HE CULTURE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS. W. WELLS, 2/6 net; cloth, 3/6 net; by post 6d. extra. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE" LIMITED, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

CATALOGUE of gardening books will sent free on application to "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

IRE NETTING.—From 2/5 per 50yd. roll. apest House in the Kingdom. Write us for prices. ousands of rolls stocked.

NTS.—Army Bell, all complete, new fittings, p walls. Scout, Bathing, and Garden Tents, also Marquees. rite us for prices.

EFY THE BIRDS.—Rotless Tanned Net- ng Small mesh as supplied by us to the Royal Gardens. Three sizes. Greatly reduced. 50 x 1yd., 3/3, 5/9, 5/9; 2yds., 6/6, 6, 22/6, 34/6; 25 x 8yds., 13/-, 15/-, 23/-. Any size supplied. riage paid. Approval. Measured mesh closed.

ENNIS BOUNDARY NETTING.—Lines top t bottom. 25 x 2yds., 16/8; 3yds., 18/3; 4yds., 25/3 rriage paid. Approval. Standards for fixing to, also Playing ts, Poles and all requisites supplied.

AWN MOWERS.—Five Riveted Blades. gh Wheels. Brass Bushings. Close Cutting. Highly Finished. equalled Value. 8in., 20/6; 10in., 21/6; 12in., 22/6; 14in., Grass Boxes, 8/6 each. Garden Rollers, 30/-.

AMBOO CANES.—Strong, 3ft., 3/5; 4ft., 5ft., 10/11; 6ft., 14/6 per hundred. Carriage paid.—E. B. TYRRELL, LIMITED, Dept. K, Shrewsbury.

BARR'S SEEDS FOR JULY SOWING.—HARDY PERENNIALS and ALPINES for the FLOWER and ROCK GARDEN and the most suitable VEGETABLE SEEDS for Summer Sowing. Finest Selected Strains and Tested Growth. Special Lists Free.—BARR & SONS, 11, 12 and 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760 yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

FLAME FLOWER. (Tropæolum speciosum). Extra strong established pot plants of this loveliest of scarlet flowered perennial climbers ready for planting any time now 1/- each, 6 for 5/-, 12 for 10/, carriage paid for cash with order.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED, Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GAR-DENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial : Ivy on Trees	383
The Summer Rose Show	384
Regelio-Cyclus Irises	385
Irises for the Beginner	386
Notes of the Week	388–389
Kalmias ; Anthuriums ; Old Roses ; Codonopsis nepalensis ; Artemisia camphorata.	
Grow More Irises	389
Correspondence	392
Some Odd Ideas ; Sweet Peas and Lime Twigs ; Monomarks in the Garden ; Lilium Szovitsianum ; Potato Disease ; Arums in the Open ; An Iris Street Border.	
Delphiniums at Vincent Square	393
Up-to-date Spraying Machines	394
Flowers in Garden and Greenhouse	394–396
Cinerarias ; Pelargoniums after Flowering ; Lifting and Storing Bulbs ; The Hydrangea ; Verbenas ; Dianthus neglectus ; White Foxgloves ; Fuchsias —Bud Dropping.	
More about the Summer Rose Show ..	396
Garden Technique	398–399
Summer Pruning of Apples and Pears ; Mushroom Beds for Autumn Crops ; Raising Late Crops of Dwarf Beans and Peas ; Pests of Brassicas ; Cardoons and Celeriac ; Gathering Herbs ; The Tops of Walls ; Woodlice ; Methods of Seed Labelling ; Insecticides.	

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL DELPHINIUMS and ROSES. Send a postcard for our catalogue.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S CHOICE DAFFODILS AND TULIPS and other Bulbs. Bulb catalogue will be ready in July and will be sent free on application.—"Order early and Plant early" to avoid disappointment.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

DOBBIE'S PLANT CATALOGUE now ready. Free to all readers. Please mention THE GARDEN when writing. —DOBBIE AND CO., LIMITED, Edinburgh.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

GARDEN NETS.—Best tanned, small mesh; 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 25yds. by 3yds., 6/-; 25yds. by 4yds., 8/-. Carr. Paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Tennis nets from 10/-. Special nets for tennis boundary. Pea training nets. Lists and samples free.—G. JARRETT, Netmaker, Rye.

ROCK AND ALPINE PLANTS.—Large and varied collection. All pot grown. Packed and carriage paid. Catalogue free.—M. J. PIGGOTT, Duffield, Nr. Derby.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING, small mesh: 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds. 4/-; 40yds. by 1yd., 3/3; 40yds. by 2yds., 6.6; 40yds., by 3yds., 9/9. Measured mesh closed. Special Pea Netting supplied. Tennis Nets from 8/-. Carriage Paid. Compare our netting with others. Sports lists and samples free.—GALLOP, Net Manufacturer, Hastings.

PUMP BARGAINS ! !—First-class brand new Pumps for all purposes. Sacrificial prices for early clearance. Post card for illustrations.—GREEN'S ARMY STORES, Dept. 137, Lytham.

GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS — CHOICE TULIPS, &c. List on application.—THE WELSH BULB FIELDS, St. Asaph.

HERRING NETS, Small Mesh, to protect all kinds of fruit, approximately 80ft x 30ft., 12/6 each. Smaller pieces, 5/- and 6/6, good value. Carriage paid. Cash with order.—WM. G. GRIGOR, Port Gordon Station, Banffshire.

LOOK ! TANNED GARDEN NETS.—All orders dispatched same day. 25yds. by 1yd, 2/-; 25 by 2, 4/-; 25 by 3, 6/-. Odd netting for bushes, 6lbs. for 2/6. All carriage paid. Any sizes supplied. Also Tennis Boundary Nets.—MOORE AND CO., Net Works, Rye.

LAXTON'S STRAWBERRIES.—New List Containing Novelties for 1926. Prolific, Rearguard, Robust. Also The Duke, Royal Sovereign and all the old Favourites. Plants in small pots for forcing.—LAXTON BROTHERS, Nurseries, Bedford.

PUPILS given general nursery instruction. —Particulars, H. HOPKINS, Waterford Nurseries, Lymington, Hants.

RARE PRIMULA AND ALPINE SEEDS from large (2,000) collection. Also seedlings and plants. Lists free.—REV. J. F. ANDERSON, Glen Hall, Leicester.

MECONOPSIS INTEGRIFOLIA M. WAL-LICHI, 10/6 per doz. to clear. Primula sikkemensis, P. pulverulenta, P. Beesiana, P. Bulleyana, P. Mooreana, P. crispata, in flower, to clear at 10/6 per doz. Strong two year old plants. Carriage extra.—WM. HUNT, Primula Grower, 4, Northcote Street, Edinburgh.

LEEK PLANTS.—Strong plants of our famous Giant Musselburgh now ready, 1/9 per 100, c.w.o., free by post, low quotations for large quantities. Price lists free.—DICKSONS, 20, Charlotte Square, Edinburgh.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING, best selected small mesh, 25 yards by 2 yards, 4s., or 4 yards 8s., or 8 yards 16s., carriage paid. Cheaper kinds supplied. Tennis Nets and Standards. Lists free.—STRAWBERRY NETTING CO. Offices: 5, Suffolk Terrace, Lowestoft.

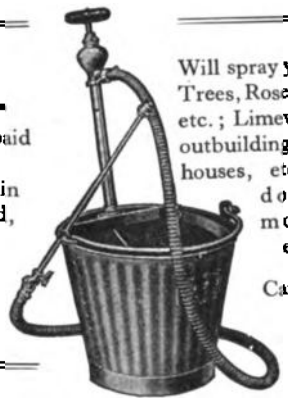
GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARBON AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

A Machine which will be found invaluable in every Garden and on every Country Estate

A FOUR OAKS SPRAYING MACHINE

"Farmer-de-Luxe" Model



Price **68/-** carriage paid to any address in England, Wales, Scotland or Ireland.

Will spray your Fruit Trees, Roses, Shrubs, etc.; Limewash your outbuildings, poultry houses, etc.; wash down your motor car, etc., etc.

Can be used by a lady.

We make hunareds of models for all purposes.

Complete Catalogues of FOUR OAKS SPRAYERS free on application to the Sole Manufacturers:

THE FOUR OAKS SPRAYING MACHINE CO.
FOUR OAKS WORKS, Sutton Coldfield, BIRMINGHAM
W. C. G. LUDFORD, Proprietor.

Telegrams: "Sprayers, Four Oaks." Telephone: 305 Sutton Coldfield.

CHOICE BEARDED FLAG IRIS

We hold an up-to-date collection of all the choicest varieties, specially selected for the strength of stem, size of flower, and choice colouring, including such varieties as LORD OF JUNE, PROSPERO LAUGIER, ASIA, KING OF IRIS, NEPTUNE, Etc., Etc.

Write for Special List of Iris, post free upon application.

ALSO SPECIALISTS IN

ROCK AND WATER GARDENS

WRITE FOR PARTICULARS OF TERMS, ETC., FREE ON APPLICATION.

KENT & BRYDON *Seed Merchants and Nurserymen* DARLINGTON

THE PATTISSON HORSE BOOTS

SIMPLEST
STRONGEST
MOST ECONOMICAL

ONCE TRIED
ALWAYS USED

Fig. 1—For Shod Horses.
Best English Leather or Rubber Soles.
Used for many years in the Royal and in thousands of the Principal Gardens.
Silver Medals:—Royal Horticultural Society, 1904 and 1911
Royal International Horticultural Exhibition, 1912.
HUNDREDS OF TESTIMONIALS.

Fig. 2—Welted Pattern.

Fig. 2—No Welt Pattern

Illustrated Price Lists from the Makers:

H. PATTISSON & CO., STANMORE, MIDDLESEX

BENTLEY'S WEED DESTROYER

(POISON) STANDS FOR

Strength Reliability Economy

Stronger than any other. One application keeps gravel paths and drives clean for nearly two years. Commands the largest sale both at home and abroad, with a rapidly spreading popularity.

REDUCED PRICES:

Concentrated Liquid (1 to 80)—1 gal. **8/9**; 2 gals. **13/-**; 3 gals. **18/9**; 6 gals. **35/9**; 12 gals. **69/-**; 24gals. **134/3**; 40gals. **215/3**

Powder (1 to 25)—4 tins **9/3**; 8 tins **17/10**; 12 tins **25/6**; 20 tins **40/9**; 40 tins **78/-**

BENTLEY'S QUASSIA EXTRACT

Compound Liquid **(Non-poisonous)**

Infallibly destroys Aphis in all its forms. It may be used anywhere and everywhere with absolute safety, and is the most economical of all Insecticides.

One gal. makes from 80 to 160 gals. of wash.

5 gals. **8/6** per gal.; 1 gall. **8/9**; ½ gal. **5/-**; 1 qt. **3/-**; 1 pt. **1/9**

Carriage paid on 15/- orders and upwards.

Sole Manufacturers:

JOSEPH BENTLEY LTD.
CHEMICAL WORKS,
BARROW-ON-HUMBER :: LINCS.

The Seaside Planting of Trees and Shrubs

By Alfred Gaut, F.R.H.S. 28 Illustrations. 5/- net. By post, 5/6.

"Country Life" Library, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

The Perfect Sun Blind for Glasshouses

Cannot rot or perish.
Easily fixed and removed.
Admits ample light.
Economical in wear.

SEND FOR SPECIAL ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE

MESSENGER & CO., LTD., LOUGHBOROUGH LEICESTERSHIRE
LONDON OFFICE: 122, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED

by "ALPHOL"

Sample 14 lb., 5/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

By Appointment

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.,
Royal Potteries,
BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

Digitized by Google

IRIS DUKE OF YORK.

PERRY'S NEW IRISES

Special offer of June-flowering varieties now ready, free

One of the most complete collections in existence.

HARDY PLANT FARM, Enfield, MIDDX.

AUTUMN FLOWERING CROCUS & COLCHICUMS

For planting in JULY and AUGUST to ensure flowers for the present Year.

		Doz.	100.	1,000.
Crocus	**medius.**—One of the most handsome of Autumn-flowering Croci, flowers of a rich violet colour with rich orange stigmata	6/-	40/-	—
"	**ochroleucus.** Creamy white with orange base	2/6	15/-	—
"	**Salzmanni erectophyllus.** — Rich lilac purple	2/6	15/-	—
"	**speciosus.** Rich blue flowers with orange red anthers	2/6	15/-	—
"	**speciosus Aitchisonii.** A most beautiful form, its handsome lavender flowers often 5ins. across, are produced as freely as in the type	4/-	25/-	—
"	**zonatus.** Rosy lilac, very beautiful, one of the freest flowering of all	1/6 2/-	7/6 10/-	70/- 90/-
Colchicums	(Meadow Saffrons)			
"	**autumnale album plenum.** Large double white tuberose-like flowers, each 2/6	27/-	—	—
"	**Bornmullerii.** Immense flowers of lilac rose with white centres	4/6	30/-	—
"	**giganteum.** Very vigorous, bearing numbers of large expanded flowers of soft rose shaded to white	4/-	25/-	—
"	**speciosum.** — Tulip-like flowers of a rosy crimson colour, a very handsome plant	5/-	35/-	—
"	**speciosum album.** Large tulip-like flowers of ivory white. Each 1/6.	16/-	—	—

Complete list of Crocus species and Colchicums will be sent on application.

T. SMITH,
Daisy Hill Nursery, NEWRY

FOR ROSE ENTHUSIASTS.

Roses, and How to Excel With Them

By R. V. GIFFARD WOOLLEY. *Illustrated.* 2/6. *Cloth* 3/6.
"COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

THE GLORY OF JUNE

The Tall Bearded Irises

make a brave show of colour in the garden at a time when flowers for cutting are not too plentiful. These should be planted now to get well established plants to bloom next season.

Our stocks are strong and healthy and we have a wide range of beautiful varieties.

¤ ¤ ¤

WRITE FOR PARTICULARS AND PRICES.

¤ ¤ ¤

LOWE & GIBSON CRAWLEY DOWN SUSSEX

Digitized by Google

GEO. BUNYARD & Co., Ltd., MAIDSTONE

IRIS SPECIALISTS

IRISES FOR—

BORDERS and BANKS,
MOIST SITUATIONS,
ROCK GARDENS, &c.
Rare Varieties for Pot and
Frame Culture :: ::

DESIGNS FOR IRIS GARDENS
PREPARED AND EXECUTED.

NOTE.—The Germanica or Flag Irises have now finished flowering and may be safely transplanted. Write for LIST.

WALLACE'S
Gold Medal
IRISES

have for over thirty years been grown in the leading gardens of England. Well-known in France and America, they are finding their way still farther afield.

Here are six of the most popular and best varieties :—

SOUV. DE MME. GAUDICHAU.—Magnificent huge velvety purple 3/6
ISOLINE.—An exquisite blend of auburn, sepia, rose and gold - - 1/-
AFTERGLOW. — Soft smoky grey shading to yellow - - - 3/6
ROSEWAY.—Deep reddish pink 3/6
CAMELOT.—Creamy white, edged with pale violet - - - - 2/6
TREMANDRA.—Heliotrope blue and royal purple - - - - 2/6

One of each for **15/-**
Three „ „ **40/-**

CARRIAGE PAID.

R. WALLACE & CO., LTD.
The Old Gardens, TUNBRIDGE WELLS

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND, SOILFUME, NICOTINE, INSECTICIDES, FUMERS, SPRAYS AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES—THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY. IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT. CARRIAGE PAID.

Only Address TOMLINSON & HAYWARD LTD LINCOLN

YOUR GARDEN NEEDS KILOGRUB

Its fumes are instantly fatal to all insect pests in the soil, but harmless to plants. Really effective because it works underground.

Tins: 9d., 1/6 and 2/6
Bags: ¼ cwt. 6/6, ½ cwt. 9/6, 1 cwt. 15/-

From your seedsman or from

JOHN PEAK & CO. LTD. WIGAN, Lancs.

Barr's Flag Irises for Flower Borders, Shrubberies, and for Naturalising

AWARDED GOLD MEDAL AT THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S GREAT IRIS CONFERENCE.

TALL BEARDED FLAG IRISES.

The Iris is the "Orchid" of the flower garden, its blossoms being the most rich and varied in colour of all hardy plants. It should be extensively planted in flower and shrubbery borders and wild gardens. When established, the plants yield a great quantity of bloom.

BARR'S COLLECTIONS OF TALL FLAG IRISES (May and June Flowering)

3 each of 100 beautiful named varieties	£10 10s.
3 „ 50 „ „ „	£5 5s.
3 „ 25 „ „ „	£2 15s.
3 „ 12 „ „ „	24/- & 36/-
3 „ 6 „ „ „	12/- & 18/-

SELECTIONS FOR EXTENSIVE PLANTINGS
1,000 in 50 superb named varieties from all sections, £25, £35, and £45

	Per 100. s. d.	Per doz. s. d.
MIXTURES OF TALL BEARDED IRISES (without names)		
Mixture of many fine sorts, from all sections	30 0	4 0
Mixed May-flowering varieties, chiefly purple and violet shades	35 0	5 0
Mixed Pilcata and Amœna varieties, in shades of white and blue ..	40 0	5 6
Mixed Neglecta and Pallida varieties, blue, mauve, and violet shades ..	40 0	5 6
Mixed Squalens, beautiful shades of blue, mauve, purple, rose, etc., shot more or less with gold or bronze	45 0	6 0
Mixed Variegata varieties, in shades of yellow and gold	50 0	7 0

BARR'S COLLECTIONS OF DWARF BEARDED CRIMEAN IRISES.
(Flowering during March, April and May).

These beautiful Irises flower from March to May (before the Tall Flag Irises) and are therefore specially valuable in maintaining a succession of bloom from early spring. Being of dwarf growth they are suitable for planting in front of the taller growing Flag Irises. They are also valuable as permanent edgings to flower borders and are charming subjects in the rock garden and for old walls.

3 each of 25 beautiful named varieties	35/- & 45/-
3 „ 12 „ „ „	15/- & 21/-
3 „ 6 „ „ „	7/6 & 10/6

Mixed Dwarf Crimean Irises (without names), 35/- per 100 5/- per doz.

FOR FULL DESCRIPTIONS, SEE BARR'S HARDY PLANT CATALOGUE (FREE).

For the best Bulbous Irises, including Early Giant Xiphium, Spanish, English, and many beautiful species, see Barr's Autumn Bulb Catalogue, free on application.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2
AND THE NURSERIES, TAPLOW, BUCKS.

Digitized by Google

VOL. XC.—No. 2849. JULY 10, 1926

IVY ON TREES

I HAVE been much struck lately by the enormous number of trees throughout the country that are covered by ivy. Is it increasing or have I noticed it more during the past year, once my attention has been drawn to its prevalence? Wherever you go, whether in the garden, the woods or the roadside, it is astonishing to note the number of trees through whose branches it twists and twines. I shall give one instance out of dozens that I have noted: the road from Cambridge to London by way of Bishop s Stortford and Epping is lined for miles with magnificent elms. There is hardly a tree whose trunk is not clothed with this pest. Mr. Bean says in his "Trees and Shrubs" that he thinks that no damage is done to the tree as long as the ivy is confined to the trunk and main branches and has not reached the leaf shoots. That may be; but how are you to prevent it from reaching the tips of the branches? Once ivy has got its grip on a tree I maintain that it will invariably smother it in time. It may take many years, but sooner or later it will snuff out the tree's life.

Where I really join issue with Mr. Bean is over his statement that that an ivy-laden tree is one of the most beautiful objects of a winter landscape. That I flatly disagree with. Surely there can be nothing more lovely than a fine clean bole of a tree standing up in the winter light with its canopy of delicate tracery above it? Why go and ruin the clean-cut lines with a shapeless smother of green leaves just because they are evergreen? Ivy has its uses as a good evergreen climber. Nothing is more suitable in a churchyard or to clothe the walls of some ugly building; but ivy is far too common. Its rampaging precocity has slipped under our noses unnoticed, with the consequence that for every ugly spot it hides there are ten where its continued existence is an eyesore. It is far too widespread, and should be kept in check. On the question of ivy as wall clothing everyone has their own personal opinion. The only thing is that owners of houses should make up their minds once and for all whether they like it or not, for the removal of old ivy from a wall is a costly process owing to the amount of pointing that has to be done on the wall surface afterwards.

I have kept a few notes on the trees on which I have found it most prevalent. It is probably more of a pest on the elm than on any other tree, and I should go so far as to say that in some parts of the country 40 per cent. of all elms have ivy on their trunks. It has no objection to all prunus and pyrus and seems to be particularly partial to thorns of all kinds. Sycamores it will also attack, but I cannot remember ever having seen it on a horse chestnut or on an ash, and certainly not on an oak or ilex or beech. Conifers it seems to have a rooted objection to, with the exception of larch and Scots pine, which I have occasionally seen slightly clothed though never smothered. Readers may be able to supplement this short list and tell us if it is the nature of the bark to which the ivy objects. The forms that appear to be most vigorous on trees are the common Hedera Helix and its varieties deltoidea, ovata and sagittæfolia. Unfortunately, I have no data as to the speed with which it will smother or clothe a tree. I have known it to climb up a sycamore trunk 12ft. in one year while in a young state; but, probably, once the ivy has a solid trunk of its own the growth will be slower.

The only way to kill ivy on a tree is to cut through every stem and to keep on cutting every year. It is a slow process, for the roots are long lived, but this consistent cutting weakens them in time and in about four years the ivy will be dead. It is as well to examine the base of the tree carefully to see whether any shoots have been overlooked, for they will go in odd directions once the main stem has been cut. It is hopeless to try to pull down ivy when green. It will take at least a year to wither sufficiently to come away when you give the main stem a good pull.

In my opinion ivy has no place on our trees. It savours too much of a parasitic growth that squeezes and sucks the life out of its host. Of course, it is no parasite, but it looks out of place. Many will no doubt disagree with this wholesale condemnation, but I hope that they will use their eyes and see to what an extent ivy has invaded our woodland and our trees and will do something to keep it in check.

E. H. M. C.

OUR SWEET PEA COMPETITION

£50

IN PRIZES

(See page viii)

Owing to the fact that for some districts this competition opened too early, we are putting off the closing date to July 31st, with extra coupons in the issues of July 17th and 24th.

IF YOU LIKE "THE GARDEN," REMEMBER TO TELL YOUR FRIENDS ABOUT IT.

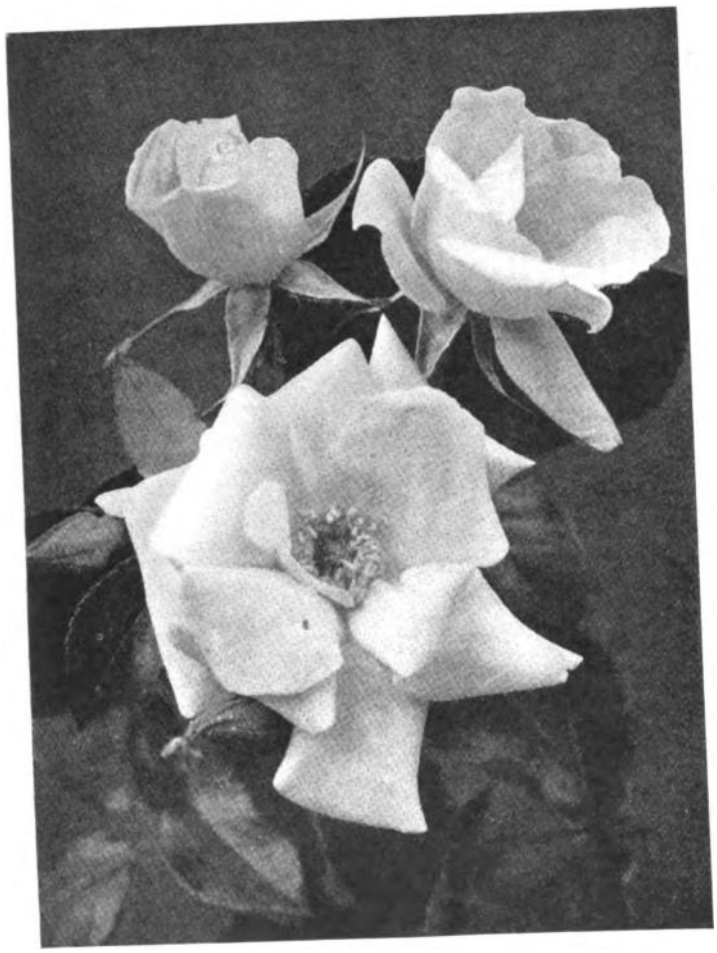
Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

JULY 10, 1926

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.; Foreign, 17s. 4d.
Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2.
Offices for Advertisements: 6-11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

THE SUMMER ROSE SHOW



ROSE BILLY BOY, A NEW CANARY YELLOW HYBRID TEA.

THE culminating peak in the calendar of the rose enthusiast was reached on Friday and Saturday last, on the occasion of the great annual Rose Show held under the auspices of the National Rose Society at Regent's Park. This is the Jubilee year of the Society and records an event of considerable importance in the annals of the horticultural world. This exhibition, held in an ideal setting, increases in popularity year by year, and serves as an indication of the high esteem in which our national flower is held. This year Her Majesty graced the Show with her presence and showed considerable interest in several of the exhibits. Once again, Mr. Courtney Page, the secretary, and his able committee of assistants deserve congratulation on the excellence of the arrangements. It is largely that fact, combined with the attraction of the rose itself, which has greatly added to the prestige of this Show and helped to add considerably to the ever-increasing membership of the Society.

On this occasion the majority of the roses in the exhibits were scarcely up to the high level which is generally attained. The unfavourable weather conditions experienced during the few weeks prior to the Show, no doubt, were largely responsible for the poor appearance of many of the roses, to which the heat of the tents in which they were staged added considerably. The string of novelties, which are one of the features of the Show and always attract the most attention, was as long as ever. Perhaps, as with the groups, the standard was below the ordinary, but, nevertheless, many fine things were to be seen. The shades of many of the new varieties were rather striking and out of the ordinary, suggesting a new break in modern rose production. Several of the novelties were selected to appear at the Autumn Show for competition in the Clay Challenge Cup.

Every year the general exhibits of flowers in season are on the increase, and on this occasion many fine delphiniums, sweet peas, carnations and other general herbaceous flowers were on view. The many exhibits of sundries were also of interest, including displays of garden furniture suitable for inclusion in the rose garden. The products of the various fungicide and insecticide firms made a special appeal to the rose grower, and from an educational standpoint it is most necessary that these exhibits should be visited. It is only by care and attention in the clean, healthy cultivation of the rose that the high-class blooms, as seen at Regent's Park, can be attained by the majority of amateur rose enthusiasts.

The arrangement of decorative roses is an art in itself, an art in which individual taste can play an important part, and yet the table decorations seen at the Show, although of a high standard, did not show much diversity in style. There was too much similarity in arrangement and one wishes that exhibitors would sometimes use other varieties than such popular roses as Mme. Butterfly. In the ladies' artistic classes one of the most successful of all exhibitors was Mrs. Courtney Page. Irish Elegance and Irish Fireflame made a pleasant combination and were gracefully used by Mrs. Colston Hale to decorate a table and were considered by the judges as worthy of first prize. An attractive second prize table was staged by Mrs. Oakley Fisher.

In the amateur section for the Champion Trophy, several fine groups of roses were staged, and among them the collection of roses put up by Dr. R. C. Turnbull received the Edward Mawley Memorial Medal for the most meritorious exhibit in certain amateur classes. This group contained many perfect roses, including beautiful blooms of Lady Inchiquin, Betty Uprichard and Padre. Mr. J. N. Hart also had a good collection of roses, which were not only of good quality, but well arranged. In a group of cut roses Mr. H. R. Darlington showed some of the finest roses seen in any of the amateur classes.

The baskets of roses and those shown in exhibition were, in the majority of cases, not up to their usual standard of excellence. Some of the blooms were not in good condition, either blemished or past their best. One of the exceptions was the exhibit of Mr. G. Marriott, who showed two baskets of particularly good blooms of Lady Pirrie and Betty Uprichard and, in another class, baskets of Mrs. Henry Bowles and Mabel Morse.

The Mattock Cup was won by Mr. A. C. Turner for vases of twelve distinct varieties. This collection deserves special mention, as the condition of the flowers and foliage and shape of the blooms were excellent. A few of the most outstanding varieties were Princess Mary, Padre and Betty Uprichard. Mr. A. L. F. Cook won the Holyroyd Cup for six distinct varieties arranged in vases. In this class competition was particularly keen and there was little to choose between the various exhibits. Mr. R. H. Ling showed a number of shapely blooms, the good depth of colour was noticeable in the varieties Betty Uprichard and K. of K. Dorothy Page Roberts was, perhaps, one of the best roses shown by Mr. V. E. Cribb in his prize group. It was encouraging to see the interest taken in rose growing by amateurs whose gardens lie within ten miles of Charing Cross. Many of the blooms were quite up to the standard of the roses grown in pure country air.

Mr. F. H. Fieldgate won the Edward Mawley Challenge Cup for a box of twenty-four varieties. This year the Lamplough Challenge Cup went to Mr. N. E. Moore, whose roses were of good texture. The old favourite, Dean Hole, was shown by the Rev. F. R. Burnside. Mr. G. Daubeney's box of twelve exhibition roses included a perfect specimen of Mrs. C. Lamplough, and this rose was awarded a medal for the best bloom. There were a number of entries for the Bert Cant Memorial Cup, and competition was keen. Although Mr. G. A. Freestone gained the highest award, the box of roses shown by Mr. E. Holroyd and grown in Finchley were worthy of special mention. In the latter case the varieties selected were varied and the quality of the blooms excellent.

Digitized by Google

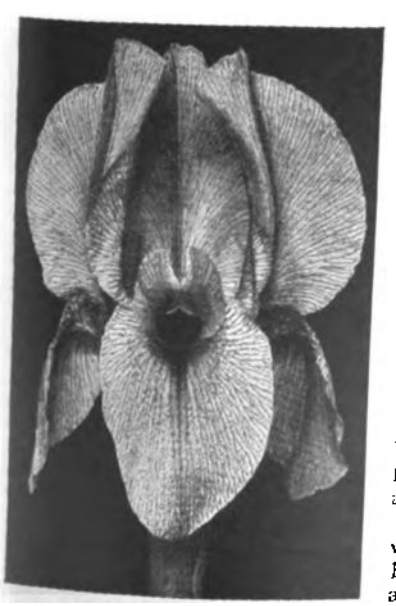
REGELIO-CYCLUS IRISES

IN recent years the germanica or flag irises have been a prominent feature at our spring flower shows. This section of the bearded iris has responded in a truly remarkable way to the efforts of the plant breeder and has won for itself a well deserved place as a thoroughly hardy and easily grown plant, which, given lime and a reasonably dry and sunny position, will thrive in almost any soil. It is only natural that they should have received the praise they merit in the horticultural Press, but their glory has somewhat eclipsed other sections which are deserving of more attention.

REGELIO-CYCLUS IRISES.
Showing part of a bed which has not been disturbed for four years.

The Regelio-cyclus irises are a case in point, and certainly deserve to be more generally grown. While conscious of the general abuse of adjectives which appears to be unavoidable in attempting horticultural descriptions, I do not hesitate to say that the colours and curious veining of the Regelio-cyclus irises would be correctly described by the use of such adjectives as "amazing," "extraordinary," "weird," yet "beautiful." They have, however, been described by authorities as "difficult to grow," and it is probably for this reason that amateurs hesitate to make the attempt. One would hardly say that dahlias were difficult to grow, but having successfully cultivated the regelio-cyclus irises for some years, I do not consider them more difficult or troublesome to grow than the dahlia. Those who attempt, and succeed in growing, a plant considered "difficult" are amply rewarded by results.

Before dealing with the question of cultivation, it may be interesting to consider the origin of these beautiful irises.



REGELIO-CYCLUS IRIS OSIRIS.

The Regelio-cyclus irises, as their name implies, are a hybrid group produced by crossing the Regelia iris and the Oncocyclus iris.

A typical example of an Oncocyclus iris is I. Susiana (The Mourning Iris), which bears one magnificent, if somewhat sombre flower. These irises are natives of Asia Minor, Syria and West Persia. Imported rhizomes planted in suitable positions can be well flowered the first season, but generally fail to flower again and gradually die away.

The Regelia irises, which are found in Russian Turkestan, are a small and closely allied group, bearing two and often three flowers on a stem, and are less exacting as to soil and climate. Typical examples of this section are the well known I. Stolonifera and I. Korolkowi.

To the late Sir Michael Foster in this country, and to Mr. van Tubergen in Holland, we owe the first hybrids between these two groups, which are known as Regelio-cyclus. These wonderful hybrids carry from the Oncocyclus the characters of size and marvellous colour combination, and from the Regelias the habit of bearing two or three flowers on a stem, and easier cultivation in this climate.

The origin of these two groups indicates the kind of position which the hybrids would require—namely, a dry and sunny position, the hotter the better. Such a position is often available on the south side of a house. Here it is usually very dry on account of the aspect, radiation from the wall, overhanging eaves, and drainage which the foundations provide; moreover, it is often difficult to get other plants to succeed in such positions, but here we have an ideal spot for the Regelio-cyclus irises.

Failing this, the south side of a hedge is often suitable. Having decided on the site, look to the drainage and if necessary, remove about 18ins. of soil and put in about 4ins. of broken brick and mortar rubble. Before replacing the soil, mix with it a good proportion of sharp sand and mortar rubble, but if mortar rubber is not obtainable, lime or broken chalk will serve the purpose. The irises should be planted about the second week in October, 8ins. apart and for a first attempt, quite a small bed will suffice. If the soil is very poor, a light dressing of cow manure may be applied in March.

Growth commences in November and the plants come into flower April-May. During this time, they do not object to the winter rains, but as soon as they have finished flowering they require to be dry and receive as much sun heat as possible. This is the critical period, for if the plants are not thoroughly ripened they will not flower and their constitution will suffer. This, then, is why they are described as "difficult to grow"; but, fortunately, this may be easily overcome by a little common sense. In a hot summer, the plants may be safely left in their

REGELIA IRIS KOROLKOWI.

Digitized by Google

positions. If, however, the summer is dull and wet, they will require to be either protected by means of lights, which will keep off the rain and concentrate the sun heat—or if lights are considered unsightly, the plants should be lifted about the middle of July, put into open trays, partly covered with sand and placed in full sun on a greenhouse shelf or in a frame, where they may be well baked until October, when they can be replanted.

As soon as the plants begin to grow, keep a sharp look-out for slugs and snails, which are very fond of the young shoots. Any usual method of dealing with these pests may be adopted, but it is important that it be carried out systematically as early damage will greatly weaken the plants.

The only disease which is likely to give trouble is the fungus Heterosporium gracile, which causes rusty spots on the leaves. I have tried a large number of suitable preparations for this, but without success. However, as the fungus usually appears late in the season it does not seem seriously to damage the plants.

I. SUSIANA, A TYPICAL EXAMPLE OF AN ONCOCYCLUS IRIS.

The Regelio-cyclus irises are splendid as cut flowers and I have found the following varieties most satisfactory: Artemis, Isis, Osiris, Beatrix, Hecate and Charon, which I place last because, although its fine brown flowers are most distinct and attractive, as a plant it is one of the most difficult to grow. I will not attempt a description of these varieties as it is beyond my power.

I would mention that the position and soil suggested is also ideal for the Regelia irises and a few I. Hoogiana should certainly be included, as this is one of the most beautiful of all irises, being a pure azure blue.

I trust that these few notes may induce more amateurs to grow these wonderful irises and for those who are unable to afford named varieties, I would suggest mixed varieties, which are quite inexpensive.

G. N. BUNYARD.

IRISES FOR THE BEGINNER

THE following short note is not meant for the *élite*, but for the beginner who has just taken up, or is thinking of taking up, the cultivation of this charming and beautiful class of plants, which in recent years have become increasingly popular. In this large genus there are a number of species which are admittedly difficult of cultivation, due very largely to climatic conditions. I. tingitana and the Oncocyclus group may be given as instances; but the beginner need not worry about this, for there is ample choice of strong-growing and free-flowering irises for the tyro to start with.

Irises may be expected to flourish in almost any good garden soil; in fact, so accommodating are many of the German flag irises that they are often abused, being planted in situations and under conditions that are almost certain to lead to failure, for even this robust class must not be expected to be a success if they are planted in dark, sunless positions, or if the rhizomes are overgrown with dwarf carpeting plants as one sometimes sees.

As the large bearded flag iris, represented by various groups generally known as germanica, variegata, pallida, aphylla and squalens, are the most easily grown, they form the section with which the beginner should make a start. The ideal soil for this class of iris is a good, well drained medium loam. On the other hand, they may be expected to, and do, flourish on a wide range of soils, varying from heavy clay to light gravelly soils; the former, if necessary, can be improved by drainage and the addition of gritty material, and the latter by good loam and well decayed manure. The ideal position should be open and sunny, although many of the strong-growing varieties flourish in small enclosed gardens; in this respect they have the inestimable merit of being good town garden plants, the common purple German iris being specially useful for small town gardens.

The ground should be well worked, digging in some well decayed manure. A dressing of bone-meal, at the rate of 6 oz. to 8 oz. per square yard, and also of lime should be given; this latter is very essential in town gardens, the soil of which is usually acid from atmospheric deposits. Basic slag, at the rate of 6 oz. to 8 oz. per square yard, is very useful and may, to a certain extent, take the place of the lime. The slag is generally applied during November; but, as a matter of fact, it may be used at any time while the beds or borders are being cultivated. In dealing with the planting or replanting of this section of irises, there is considerable difference of opinion. As a matter of fact, there is a wide period over which they may be more or less successfully planted; but there is no doubt that the ideal time for planting or replanting is just when they have finished flowering; they have thus ample time to make plenty of new roots before winter, and there is a much better chance of getting a good show of flower the first season.

On the other hand, if circumstances do not permit of planting soon after flowering, it may successfully be done during autumn or even spring. When planting, care must be taken not to plant too deeply, for naturally rhizomes run on the surface; thus they get full exposure to sun and air, which is so essential for free flowering. The bearded flag irises may, roughly, be divided into three groups: Group 1, Iris pumila, or dwarf bearded iris, which usually flowers during April. Group 2, which may be

Digitized by Google

called intermediate irises, and generally result from crosses between I. pumila and the later flowering I. germanica, and may be regarded as May-flowering. Group 3 includes the tall June-flowering bearded irises; they embrace the sections known as pallida, variegata, squalens, neglecta, amœna, etc., but they are so intermixed by hybridising that it is somewhat difficult to separate them, and this is no place to enter into the vexed question of classification.

All the larger-growing flag irises may be grown in the herbaceous border, taking care that they do not get overgrown with strong-growing plants. Where a large collection is grown, a special iris garden may be devoted to their cultivation, either in beds or, better still, in a more informal manner, perhaps the best effects being obtained if they can be planted in the vicinity of water.

Iris sibirica (of which there are several fine varieties) is very free flowering, and specially suitable for massing by the waterside or in moist situations; although it can be grown successfully in beds, especially if it can be watered during dry spells.

The following are all fine varieties, *viz.*, maxima, George Wallace, Kingfisher Blue, orientalis, orientalis Emperor, Snow Queen and Perry's Blue. While the large flag irises should be broken up and replanted every third or fourth year, I. sibirica is best left undisturbed to make large clumps, keeping them going with mulches of well decayed manure.

Turning now to the bulbous irises that should appeal to the amateur, we have the many beautiful varieties of the Spanish iris, I. xiphium, and the later-flowering English iris, I. xiphioides. These are specially useful for furnishing a supply of cut flowers, and for planting in masses in beds and borders. Their successful cultivation presents no difficulty, as, generally, they succeed in any good garden soil, especially if it is warm and well drained. A large bed of mixed Spanish irises underplanted with mixed violas in blue, white and yellow, makes a very charming combination. Both English and Spanish irises may be planted from the end of August to October, or even later.

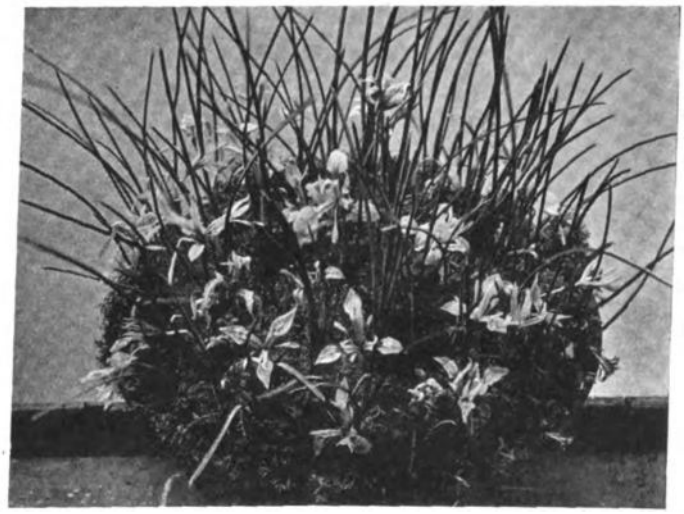
There is now a race of so-called Dutch irises which may be described as a large-flowered, early strain of Spanish irises. They flower about a fortnight earlier, which is a distinct advantage where ground has to be cleared for summer flowering plants.

There are quite a number of species of iris with tuberous-roots or bulbs; they include such charming species as I. alata, Danfordiæ, Histrio, histrioides major, orchioides, persica, reticulata and its varieties, sindjarensis and Vartani. While some of them are suitable for the rock garden, they flower so early that their flowers often get spoiled. An ideal situation for them is in a narrow border at the foot of a warm plant house wall. They are, however, ideal for growing in pots and pans for the cold greenhouse, bringing them on for this purpose in a cold frame. Grown in this way, they may be enjoyed in comfort. They are, also, ideal subjects for the small unheated greenhouse, or, even if one has only a cold frame, they may be removed to the dwelling-house when they are in flower. They flower from January to April, and should be planted in the open, or in pots and pans, from August to October. Just one more iris that everyone should grow, *viz.*, unguicularis, syn. stylosa. Its deliciously scented flowers are ideal for picking; they should be pulled out, not cut, when in bud, and opened indoors. They should be grown in warm, well drained borders at the foot of a wall. They must be grown in poor, gritty soil, or else they will produce too much foliage and will not flower freely. They have a long flowering season, usually commencing during November and going on until March.

Weather conditions determining the quantity of flowers produced at any particular time, as a few degrees of frost injure the flowers, it is wise to provide some means of protection, a canvas blind being very suitable. In the colder parts of the country this iris should be worth the shelter of a cold frame. There are several varieties, including a white one, of this iris. One often hears complaints that I. stylosa is difficult to transplant, but there should be no difficulty if it is done during March or April after it have finished flowering; at least, such has been my experience, and I used to have to maintain a large stock for a supply of cut flowers. As already indicated, this note is for the beginner, and I hope that, in a small way, it may prove helpful for those who are taking up the cultivation of this beautiful class of plants.

J. COUTTS.

IRIS SINDJARENSIS, FLOWERS LAVENDER AND PURPLE.



IRIS VARTANI ONE OF THE EARLIEST TO BLOOM.

SERVICE FOR READERS

Though so many subjects are dealt with in each issue of THE GARDEN, it must constantly happen that readers seek information which is not immediately available. In such circumstances they should make use of our Service Department. Through its medium each reader's own particular enquiry can be dealt with. No matter what the question is, whether advice is sought as to—

RESTOCKING A GARDEN, COLOUR SCHEMES FOR GARDENS, THE BEST PLANTS FOR CERTAIN SITUATIONS, WHERE TO OBTAIN NEW AND RARE PLANTS, INSECT PESTS, NAMING OF PLANTS, AND THE HUNDRED AND ONE OTHER DETAILS RELATING TO THE GARDEN—

there is always information available from a staff of expert contributors and consultants; *and there is no charge for this.* It is one of the additional means of Service which THE GARDEN is glad to render to its readers.

Also, there is the further convenience which the Service Department affords of supplying readers with data about anything that is advertised in the pages of the paper. Thus, on receipt of an enquiry, particulars will be sent of, say, half a dozen things about which the reader seeks information. The only stipulation is that a stamped addressed envelope shall be sent with the enquiry.

All communications should be addressed to the Service Department, THE GARDEN, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

NOTES OF THE WEEK

KALMIAS.

THESE American shrubs are a select little company. All of them bear the hall-mark of quality and refinement, and though most of them have been known to our gardens for over two centuries, none has ever become common. And this is singularly odd, for all in general cultivation are quite hardy, they are easily satisfied in any soil that will grow a rhododendron, they are remarkably beautiful in foliage and flower, long-lived and practically pest-proof.

K. latifolia is the largest and perhaps the best for average use. Though not a fast grower it will eventually make a handsome bush 8ft. high and as much through. The glossy evergreen foliage is always attractive, and the bold heads of blossom, 4–6ins. across, are ruby red in the bud, the flowers expanding in various shades from blush to deep rose. Individually, the waxen corollas are shaped like a shallow five-angled bowl, and this formation, together with the curious catapult arrangement of the stamens, is characteristic of the race.

If K. latifolia deserves to head the list, K. glauca runs it very close. But this is a rock garden subject or one for a place at the margin of the bog. But, lover of moisture that it is, K. glauca will be happy in any cool soil, and there, every April, its 18ins. of slender upright growths, with their narrow dark green leaves, will be crested with clusters of cheery rose pink flowers. There is no daintier or more comely shrublet in the spring garden than this.

K. angustifolia is a species one can never be quite sure about, owing to its extraordinary variability, ranging from tiny bushes of 6ins. or so to others of 4ft. It is generally later (June-July) in opening its trusses of rosy blossoms, and does not, to my mind, make such a pleasing bush as either of the foregoing. Still, some of the named forms of this species are very delightful little shrubs.

Though classed as peat plants, the kalmias will, as I have suggested, do in any well drained, lime-free loam with the addition of some leaf-mould. A spring mulch of half-rotted leaves, fine peat moss litter or other retentive material, is very beneficial where the soil is liable to dry out in summer. Really old cow manure is also an excellent thing for kalmias in light land.—A. T. J.

ANTHURIUMS.

Useful and Ornamental Greenhouse Plants.

AMONG the well known foliage plants of our hothouses the following two species of Anthurium are frequently met with in our glasshouses and sometimes even in our living-rooms. When flowering they are of great beauty on account of the large, intensely coloured spathes. Of A. Scherzerianum, which is a native of Central America, have been raised numerous garden forms of which the spathe is variously shaped and coloured. One of the commonest has a dark red spathe, and the yellow coiled spadix contrasts strikingly with it. There are also white, rose-coloured and parti-coloured forms, and others with an orange or salmon rose spathe. These beautiful inflorescences last a long time. One can keep flowering plants in the living-room for more than two months. The curled spadices of A. Scherzerianum give the plant a curious aspect.

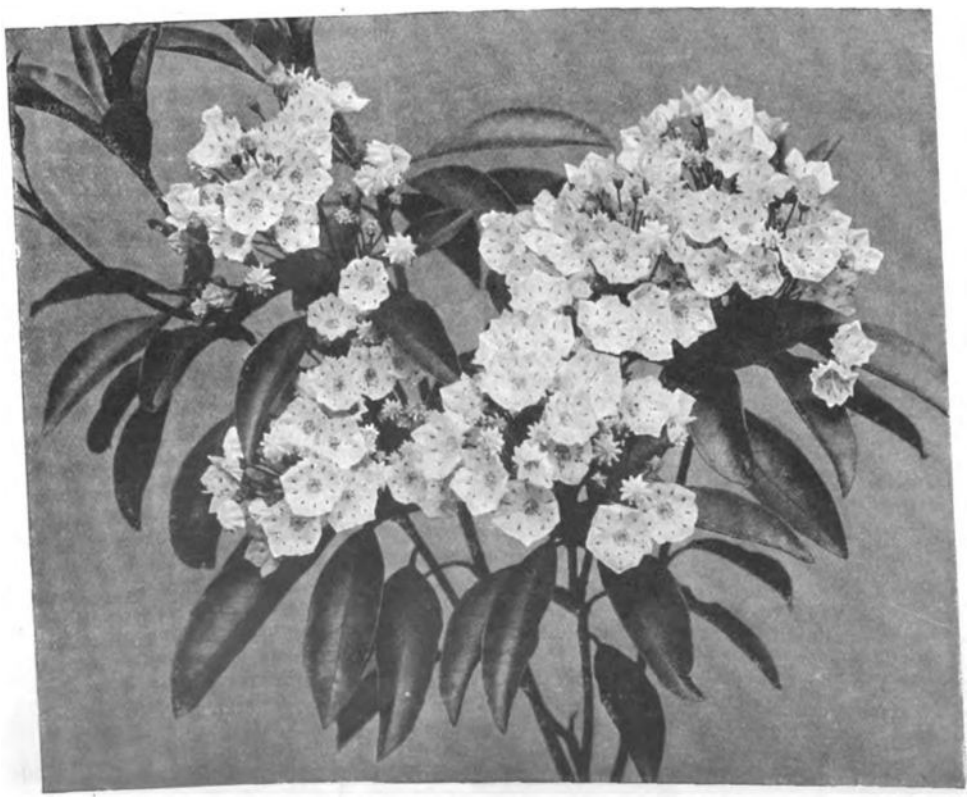
Of the other species, A. Andreanum, which comes from Columbia, the flowering parts look somewhat different. The spathe has a distinctly cordate base, and the spadix is very straight, with more prominently marked white tips to the stigmas. There are several fine varieties, too, of great ornamental value.

Healthy, well grown plants of both species have fine deep green foliage. In A. Scherzerianum the oblong-lanceolate leaves stand upright; while they are drooping and broadly ovate with a deeply cordate base in A. Andreanum. When large plants are covered with numerous flower-stalks bearing the intensely coloured spathes, few foliage plants of the glasshouse make such a striking display.

Neither species is very pretentious as to its cultural requirements. They are best planted in flat rather than deep pots in a mixture of rough fibrous loam and peat with

ANTHURIUM ANDREANUM FROM COLUMBIA.

a little sand, charcoal and also sphagnum. Good drainage is essential. One must be careful not to hurt the roots when transplanting. Well rooted plants need plenty of water during the growing season. The temperature should not fall below 45 to 50 degrees during the winter. The foliage is best in a shaded position.—CAMILLO SCHNEIDER.



THE BEST OF THE KALMIAS, K. LATIFOLIA.

OLD ROSES.

THE favourite roses of to-day are comparative youths in the history of horticulture, most having been introduced during the last fifty years.

One of the earliest in cultivation is the Old Moss rose, a type rarely seen in gardens to-day. The old varieties of this rose were invariably grown on their own roots, the bushes being left practically unpruned and little care given them. They do not make pretty bushes as they are straggly and untidy; but, left alone, they bloom profusely and bear a wealth of beautifully mossed flowers, possessing the most delightful fragrance.

Nor is the cabbage or Provence rose in favour to-day; indeed, it is only to be found in cottage and old country gardens, as a rule, where it may have been growing for a century or more. It has all the faults of the former type—if we may call them faults—but it atones for them all at the end of May, when its branches are covered with the real old-fashioned full roses of charming fragrance; one cabbage rose in a small garden floods it with perfume. The white variety of this old rose is very pretty in bud, these being nicely mossed and dainty.

Rivalling, and perhaps outclassing, the former in some respects is the damask rose, which crowns itself with flowers all through summer, blossom which has a powerful, penetrating, but admirable scent. The York and Lancaster has much the same habit and is almost equally floriferous; its flowers are of a striking nature, consisting of a slightly tinted white, splashed deeply and prominently with crimson. Suggesting the union of England's two great parties after the Wars of the Roses, it has nothing whatever to do with that historically.

Digitized by Google

These old roses are among the easiest to grow. Almost invariably on their own roots, they are found to grow rather slowly; they strike readily from cuttings, however, but do not transplant too well, because the tough strong roots are almost fibreless.

The full flowers of these sorts are all sweetly scented and, in a well established bush, they are borne with astounding profusion. No rose garden of any pretensions can be considered complete without a few of these—the ancestors of many present-day kinds.

Readers should note that there are new varieties of the above. We have only a few of them, but all have their merit and we cannot dispense with one. The old sorts will never be ousted by their modernised friends, for no real gardener can overlook the charm of those roses which our forefathers loved.—CLYDESDALE.

CODONOPSIS NEPALENSIS.

GARDENERS may be classified into two main groups, those who care only for flowers in the mass and those who interest themselves in each individual flower. To this latter class, the museum gardeners or plant curio collectors, Codonopsis nepalensis will exert an irresistible attraction. They will feel compelled to add this new bell to those they already possess in their belfry, for codonopsis is a member of the campanula family. It is not at all a showy plant, being rather a pale, washed-out sort of a blue, but it is prettily veined and hangs very gracefully from a long, beautifully curved stalk. One looks down upon the outside of the bell, which is very broad and exquisitely shaped. But now carefully raise the bell and peep inside. In the centre is the clapper, pure white, divided into three and slightly hairy; it rises from a small pentagon of the darkest purple outlined with yellow excepting only at the five points where the white stamens are attached to the middle of the sides of the pentagon. When the flower first opens, these stamens are pressed closely against the pistil, and it is only later that they swing out and arrange themselves around the inside of the bell. This is very beautifully adorned with two parallel stencilled rings of claret colour. Truly a museum piece. The bud, calyx and leaves are of a soft downy appearance and greyish green. The buds at first resemble a Japanese lantern until they begin to open, when the pale blue flutings of the folded bell can be seen emerging like a moth from the chrysalis. It likes a place in partial shade in a warm corner.—EDWARD CAHEN.

ARTEMISIA CAMPHORATA.

THE wormwoods present us with a goodly number of useful plants, with silvery or greyish foliage. One very little known, yet particularly pleasing, and even more aromatic than the majority of the artemisias is A. camphorata. The aroma is hardly what we associate with the term "camphorata," but it is powerful and pleasing to most folks. This is a neat little shrub with silvery-grey foliage, deeply cut on a sub-shrubby plant, which, with the writer, never reached more than about 18ins. in height and was a long time in attaining even that. It appears to be perfectly hardy, as he had it growing on a most exposed rock garden where it received every wind which blew. In poor, hard soil it gave every satisfaction, although, as is the wont of most wormwoods, its flowers were of no account. A. camphorata is a native of the rocks of Castille.—S. ARNOTT.

GROW MORE IRISES

In this article the author, a well known authority, describes varieties of bearded irises for the average garden. These can be planted immediately.

THE improvement of the June-flowering bearded iris in recent years has been so pronounced and there has been of late such a rush of new introductions, that it may be worth while drawing attention to some medium priced varieties that are worth extended planting; though it must be borne in mind that there are many others of equal value.

To start off with a first-class iris in every respect, the French raised Souvenir de Mme. Gaudichau (I wish it had a shorter name), almost a deep purple self of fine shape and quality. This is a good all-round variety, and few can beat it. Then we have Lord of June, a lighter purple bicolor with enormous flowers, heavily scented; Ballerine, very large, a pale self mauve, also very fragrant; Lady Foster, perfectly proportioned of similar colouring, turning to deeper shades; Harmony, almost a dark purple self, smaller than the preceding being bred from Cengialti; if we add Goldcrest and Viola we have two varieties with neat-shaped self blooms and free flowering, with many spikes to a clump.

In red purple shades, Oporto is tall and well named, much liked by that great flower lover, the late Rev. J. Jacob. Edouard Michel, Caprice and Opera, are all of similar colouring, the last named being particularly good. Now let me think of some lighter shades of mixed colouring—blends, as they are sometimes called.

SOUVENIR DE MME. GAUDICHAU IS A FIRST-CLASS VARIETY.

Tall growing is Afterglow, a fine plant of clouded yellow and buff tone. Princess Victoria Louise has primrose yellow standards and purple falls, with lighter edge; perhaps old, but still very good. Quaker Lady, smaller flowers, but a quaint combination of quiet tones, which in Eldorado are more strongly defined, are also favourites. In strong colour contrasts we find Flaming Sword, a finer Iris King, though the latter is by no means to be despised, and Romany, a cheerful study in rich chestnut brown and pinky bronze. While of similar tones we have Prosper Laugier and Colonel Candelot, the latter, perhaps small, but fine in colour. Before we leave the dull shades we must not forget Ambassadeur, a magnificent study in bronze and brown, and Alcaza, not so good, but very free and tall. In mauve pink shades, Queen Elinor is very free and pretty with dark contrasting falls; Georgia, early, almost a self; Mrs. Alan Gray, old, but indispensable, possibly more widely grown than any other Shelford raised iris. Rosalind, pale pink, tall and very free, has more spikes to a clump than most.

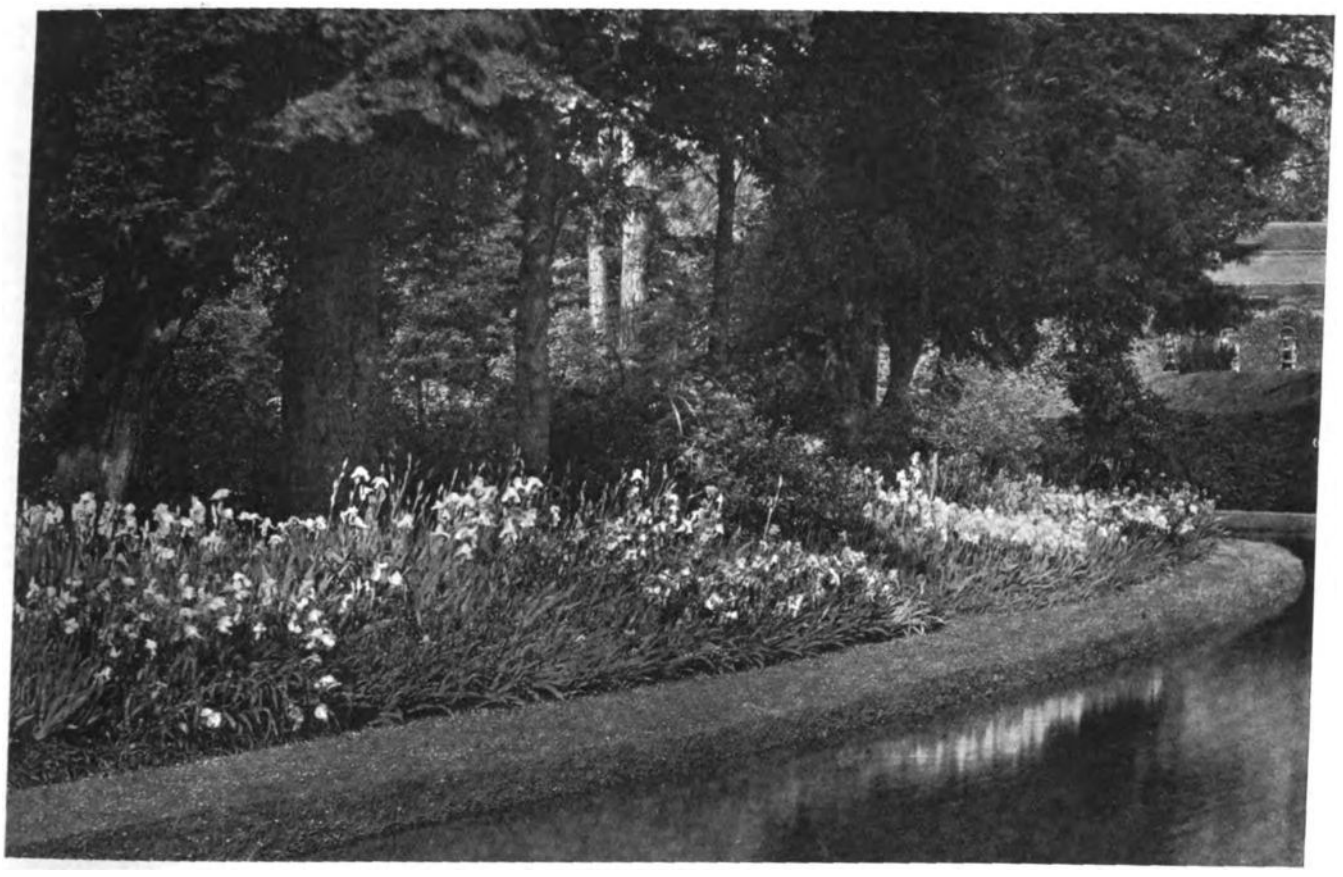
In whites edged with blue, Ma Mie is good, as are also Fairy, Dimity (of later growth and more lined than edged) and Camelot. Princess Osra is possibly the best here, the marking being most distinct. This section is good for table decoration when their delightful markings can be seen and valued.

In yellow selfs we still have to rely on Aurea and

Digitized by Google

THE BEAUTY OF THE BEARDED IRIS IS WELL SHOWN BY THIS ILLUSTRATION OF LADY FOSTER, AN IRIS OF PERFECT PROPORTION AND OF A DELICATE SHADE OF PALE MAUVE.

Digitized by Google



IRISES BY THE WATERSIDE

IRISES IN THE BORDER

Digitized by Google

Mrs. Neubronner, though there are hosts of new yellows coming along, especially Shekinah, a grand yellow self of free habit. It will soon be coming down in price and is a plant for every garden. I find I have already named over thirty varieties. I could easily name as many more, but within the limits of a short note one must draw the line. It would be interesting to write of some of the latest novelties, and there are a number, but time and space forbid. R. W. W.

CORRESPONDENCE

SOME ODD IDEAS.

SIR,—As soon as the rose bushes begin to show their first tender leaves, an amateur grower of my acquaintance syringes them regularly with hot water; sufficiently hot for him just to bear his hand in it. He does this for a fortnight or three weeks, beds and bushes steaming copiously during the operation. He saw it first practised in a large garden in Fife, and does it himself every year, the theory being that it encourages growth, shortening the period of very tender foliage and discourages the green fly to the point of extinction. This is done, it must be remembered, in East Scotland, when a day of scorching sun is often followed by a nipping night of east wind bringing a clinging mantle of soaking mist. It seems a Spartan treatment, but is quite successful, for I was given a bunch of "out size" roses one day last year; whether they represented the survival of the fittest or not, I was not informed. I have been told that a gorse branch stuck into a rose bush is an effectual preventive of a caterpillar attack. I have no personal knowledge of this, but give it as a piece of garden belief or superstition, of which there is quite a floating capital. For instance, there is the "lucky hand," which I am credited with possessing. It means a combination of Paul's planting and Apollo's watering. What one plants is fairly certain to grow. I was told the other day of a man who can plant most things, but not alyssums of any kind. He has to get his wife to do that. If the annual alyssums are to be pricked out the lady must do it, or the whole consignment dies incontinently. There are a good many things "outwith" our philosophy.—E. M. J.

SWEET PEAS AND LIME TWIGS.

SIR,—Can you or any of your readers give me any reason why sweet peas will not take hold of lime tree twigs? I cut some of these early in the season, and although laid away to dry, when I commenced staking I found there was quite a lot of sap remaining in them. As a matter of fact, some of them are actually sprouting. The sweet pea plants absolutely refuse to catch hold. You may twist the plants round them, but they simply unwind and come right away. It would be really interesting to know if any of your readers have experienced anything similar. The only case in which they have attempted to cling is where the twig is actually dead.—WEALDSTONE.

MONOMARKS IN THE GARDEN.

SIR,—In the garden both the amateur and professional gardener are busy at this time of year. In the case of the former there is a perpetual interchange of tools and implements between neighbours. Sometimes implements so borrowed are not returned, and there thus begins a regrettable feud which mars the harmony of the neighbourhood. How easily this unpleasantness and friction could be avoided if a monomark were adopted and branded on every spade, fork, hoe, roller and mowing machine. If a certain person has B.M./S.T.U. as a monomark, then it is sure that a spade branded with that sign is his property, for there are no two monomarks alike. There could not be any argument about it and the local harmony would be undisturbed.

Firms which supply gardening accessories, seeds, etc., will also find that there are advantages in possessing a monomark with which to stamp their goods. In this case the prefix will be B.C.M. and not B.M. On garden tools unsuitable for inscribing the maker's name and address the monomark provides an adequate and efficient substitute, for it is name and address in one. A satisfied purchaser of a monomarked article who wishes to repeat the order has but to address his letter to the letters of the monomark, adding London, W.C.1, when the communication will be immediately forwarded and a reply should be received in two or three days.—JOHN FOSTER FRASER.

LILIUM SZOVITSIANUM.

SIR,—I think the enclosed photograph might interest your readers. It shows a plant of Lilium Szovitsianum growing in grass, where it has been undisturbed for the last five years. This year it is bearing sixteen

LILIUM SZOVITSIANUM GROWING IN GRASS.

flowers and is the best plant of this species in these gardens.—ANNIE BROOKER, *Aberuchill Gardens, Perthshire.*

THE POTATO DISEASE (PHYTOPHTHORA INFESTANS).

SIR,—News comes from Ireland that the dreaded potato disease has appeared in certain of the western counties. All growers should be on the look out for this trouble, especially in a season which promises to be cool and rainy. As is well known the potato disease is due to the attacks of a parasitic fungus known as Phytophthora infestans.

One feature of the potato disease is the suddenness of the attack. After a spell of damp weather there appear on the leaflets, or at times on the stalks, dark patches usually more or less rounded. These spread rapidly and eventually become black. As time goes on the patches become rotten towards the centre and finally the foliage may become riddled with holes. These diseased areas are but the outward sign of the actual fungus which is growing within the tissues of the plant. The whitish mould to be seen chiefly on the borders of the patches is simply the vegetative system of the fungus responsible for the development of the spores by means of which the fungus is propagated. These spores secure a wide distribution and the disease rapidly spreads to other plants.

Certain measures to prevent, or at any rate lessen the chances of potato crops being attacked by phytophthora may be taken. These include the securing of "seed" which is quite free from the disease and the selection of resistant varieties. Close planting is also likely to increase the risk of an attack as hardly any of the fungoid pests flourish where there is plenty of light and air. With standing crops these considerations do not arise, and the most important thing is to know what to do when the first signs of the disease are noticed. Everything depends on prompt action and, if this is taken, the trouble can be largely controlled. Without a doubt the most effective means of dealing with the potato disease is to spray the crop either with Burgundy or Bordeaux mixture. These solutions can be secured from firms who specialise in such things and it is not worth while preparing the mixtures for oneself. Follow the directions carefully and apply through a nozzle that will give a fine misty spray. If possible carry out the spraying during a dry spell in the early morning hours. The mixture will then stand a chance of drying on the leaves, where it will remain for some while even if rain follows. Two or three applications of either of the mixtures should be made during the growing season at suitable intervals. Even if there are not actual signs of phytophthora, spraying may be adopted as a preventive measure. There is a tendency among up-to-date potato growers to introduce spraying as a regular feature, and this is all to the good.—S. LEONARD BASTIN, *Bournemouth.*

ARUMS IN THE OPEN.

SIR,—With reference to the notes on growing arums in the open, I may mention that for several years we have grown the yellow arum (Richardia Elliottiana) in clumps in the border here, hardening off the plants and putting them out about the end of May. They do not flower as freely as one could desire, but they make very large corms, and exclamations of surprise from visitors lead me to suppose that it is unusual for the beautiful golden yellow spathes of this plant to be seen among other things in the outdoor garden.—F. HERBERT CHAPMAN, *Rye.*

AN IRIS STREET-BORDER.

SIR,—At Hartlepool, on the coast of Durham, the purple irises have made a wonderful show this year. Four years ago an untidy stretch of grass on one side of a street was enclosed by low wind shelters and thickly planted with irises. Over 100yds. long and varying from 2yds. to 5yds. wide, they have certainly been one of the attractions of this old seaport during May and June.—S. ROBSON.

Digitized by Google

DELPHINIUMS AT VINCENT SQUARE

THE visitor, entering the R.H.S. Hall on June 29th might well have imagined he was walking into a National Show of Delphiniums, with a few other flowers of different character brought in for the purpose of "setting" and giving emphasis to their massive and stately build and to their extraordinary range of shades.

The display on this occasion was outstanding in the history of an increasingly popular and magnificent flower. Mr. H. J. Jones, Lewisham, always a past-master in the art of staging, had a vast stretch of wall space against which he built up sheaves and baskets. Many of Mr. Jones's varieties were of Continental origin, and quite a good seedling of the exhibitor's own was named Mrs. Dykes, a beautiful Cambridge blue with a decided pink tinge in its centre.

Messrs. Bees, Limited, staged a group which fully justified the task of bringing a heavy load all the way from Sealands on the borders of Wales. The famous Watkin Samuel strain was to the fore. Jenny Jones and Purple Splendour, practically of the same style and colour—blue plum background with rosy magenta centre—were very conspicuous; and quite as good in totally different style was the almost self-coloured Hawarden Castle, the colour of which is a sound pink-mauve. Welsh Boy, Sunshine and Happy Thoughts were good things.

From these magnificent groups we pass to that of Messrs. Blackmore and Langdon, Bath, who, despite the steady increase in the number of specialists, still hold their own with the delphiniums as well as begonias. Mrs. Foster Cunliffe, Lady Edith, Phyllis and Howard H. Crane will please those who seek the pink as more novel than the blue in this family. but Blue Princess, Turquoise and Mrs. Paul Nelke, were sky blue.

Somewhat severe in erect regularity but full of wonderful quality and cultural skill were Messrs. Hewitt's, who also had a number of the Watkin Samuel tribe in their collection. Rose Marie is of richest plum and almost crimson-purple shades, Ruffled Beauty and Coquette were other pleasing varieties.

A smaller but still meritorious group was staged by Mr. T. Carlyle, Blue Queen, Coquette, Evelyn M. Cole and Fair Lady played a prominent part in the display, and Mrs. Thos. Carlyle, which has been frequently commended, was again well represented by closely built spikes.

Even in the exhibits which featured rock and border plants of general character, delphiniums were much used as backgrounds; but Messrs. Waterer, Sons and Crisp also made good use of their fine yellow lupin, "Sunshine," and another quaint bicolor variety named Chocolate Soldier. Campanula Bilardii Miranda, with nodding white bells, the lavender mauve Viola Lady Crisp and Genista dalmatica were among the miniature treasures of this group.

Messrs. Tucker showed Hypericum orientale, which carries its butter yellow flowers on erect stems, and Campanula excisa, a rarity whose pale blue flowers are curiously pierced.

Messrs. Maxwell and Beale showed the flaming scarlet Verbena chamædryoides, which is very reasonably hardy seeing that it comes from so near the equator; Viola bosniaca, the pinkest of the wild pansies, and the strange, dark, dusty crimson of Erica cinerea coccinea against the white form of a type.

Messrs. B. Ladhams, Limited, Southampton, always show something of uncommon interest, and Hemerocallis B. Ladhams, a flower of good size and clear golden colour; the old Glaucium flavum tricolor, and Campanula latifolia alba, were among the plants noted.

In the far corner of the Hall, Messrs. Maurice Prichard and Sons had a very charming group of choice perennials. Iris Kæmpferi were in fine form, but the plant which compelled lingering gaze was Poterium tenuifolium album. Here is a plant with the grace of the reeds and grasses, the freedom of the knotweeds and the uncommon appearance of the catkin-bearing hazels.

Chalk Hill Nurseries, Limited, Reading. made a cheery display of their double-flowered Shirley poppies. Both in colour and form this strain is a great stride forward upon the original double Shirleys and for cutting they are far superior to the singles.

Mr. W. Wells, Junr., had a number of interesting subjects on his stand, but the new double Gypsophila Bristol Fairy rather overwhelmed its companions and commandeered the limelight. It is a good enough plant to stand on its own and will be a plant for every garden.

Messrs. Barr and Sons provided a distinct break away by concentrating on English irises, which were extremely well grown and attractively staged. Almonea, Cattleya, Blue Giant and Mont Blanc were a few really good and distinct varieties and as one turned from the irises, a pleasing note was struck by the uncommon ruby-flowered Watsonia angustifolia, and a few spikes of choice eremuri, the amber yellow of E. Bungeii being pleasant.

The end of June is very late for rhododendrons and it is not surprising that an exhibit of single trusses, embracing a range of pink and red shades, all in first-class form, attracted the general visitor as well as the experts. The exhibitor was Mr. C. Slocock, Woking, and the flowers represent a new race of discolor hybrids which will have a wide field of utility.

Messrs. Paul of Waltham Cross and the Rev. J. H. Pemberton, Havering Atte Bower, were exhibitors of roses. Lady Inchiquin, Lady Roundhay and Courage were bright colours on Messrs. Paul's stand, but Mrs. Tresham Gilbey was of a colour which seemed to have blended into one shade the best tints of the apricot and the flush of the peach. The other exhibit was ablaze with a mass of Padre, The Adjutant and Ruth, the last named being richer and brighter than Independence Day.

The Allwood exhibit was, on this occasion, somewhat different from the usual, for border carnations were a prominent feature. The Bookham selfs were very fine, the Salmon, Rose, White and Crimson being of pure clean colour as well as shapely form.

Another cooling exhibit was the oblong water pool in which Mr. Amos Perry displayed a choice selection of nymphæas, a very narrow petalled white named Temple Sur Lot and another sharply pointed flower of rich carmine named Attraction; the familiar, but very fine James Brydon and the delicate Sulphuretta were a few distinctive gems in the collection. Along the margins and at the ends moisture-loving ferns, hemerocallis, liliums and armerias were tastefully grouped.

MESSRS. PERRY'S EXHIBIT OF WATER-LOVING PLANTS.

NEW & RARE PLANTS.

AWARDS OF MERIT.

HYDRANGEA MRS. H. J. JONES.—A fine novelty of French origin. The habit of the plant is compact and vigorous and the large flower trusses are deep pink in colour. Shown by Mr. H. J. Jones, Ryecroft Nurseries, Lewisham.

ARCTOTIS BREVISCAPA.—An attractive half-hardy Cape plant. The vivid orange daisy-like flowers, with their dark centres, are about 2ins. in width, and are borne on stems of 8-10ins. in height. A fine plant for a sunny bank. Shown by Mr. T. Hay, Hyde Park.

DELPHINIUM LADY EDITH.—A semi-double variety with massive spikes of soft mauve and blue flowers with black centres. The habit of the variety is free and the colour good. Shown by Messrs. Blackmore and Langdon, Bath.

PONTEDERIA CRASSIPES (VAR. LANCEOLATA).—An interesting and handsome water-loving plant which bears lance-shaped leaves in tufts on stems of about 4ft. in height. The small soft lilac flowers are borne in loose spikes of 3ins. in length. Shown by Mr. Amos Perry, Enfield.

ONONIS FRUTICOSA.—A compact, low-growing leguminous shrubby plant of about 1ft. high. The flowers, with rose coloured standards and wings of palest pink, are borne in great profusion. Shown by University Botanic Gardens, Cambridge.

WALLFLOWERS.—Benary's strain of annual double. A new strain of wallflowers obtained by crossing single blooming annual wallflowers with double flowering biennial varieties. Shown by Mr. E. Benary, Erfurt.

RHODODENDRON DIAPREPES.—Large white flowers are borne in loose trusses. A valuable late-flowering species Shown by Mr. Lionel de Rothschild, Exbury, Hampshire.

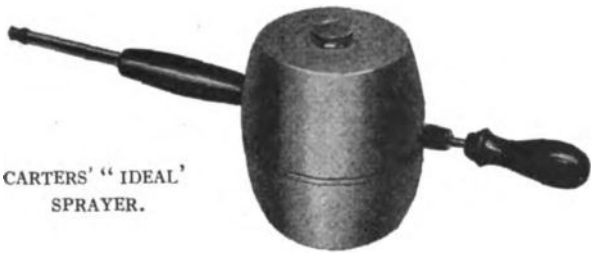
Digitized by Google

UP-TO-DATE SPRAYING MACHINES

ONE of the most noticeable features at recent important shows has been the large amount of space devoted to the exhibition of modern spraying apparatus. If spraying is to be effective it must be thoroughly carried out, and reliable apparatus is therefore a necessity.

Perhaps the three most important qualifications to be looked for when selecting a suitable machine are: (1) a machine soundly constructed of acid-proof metal, and yet convenient to handle and simple to operate; (2) a sufficiency of power to ensure a forceful delivery of a misty spray and uniformity in spread; (3) filling arrangements must be convenient, and a type of nozzle must be fitted which will reduce choking and stoppages to a minimum. There are a large number of machines made to-day for dealing successfully with all classes of work, from the smallest garden or greenhouse to the largest orchard and plantation, and most of these machines will conform to the above specifications.

A machine of comparatively recent introduction which will be found very convenient for general use in a small establishment is Carters' "Ideal." It is made in 2-pint and 3-pint sizes and is in the form of a small hand syringe which passes through a copper container tank. Three types of spray can be obtained: a cloudy, mist-like spray, a long mist spray carrying to a height of 25ft., or a long, thin, forceful jet covering a distance of 30ft. The regulation is extremely simple, the longer sprays being obtained by the removal of a small nut from the nozzle; while the strength of the actual delivery is governed by the force used in pumping. The "Ideal" sprayer is also supplied in knapsack form, of 2½ gallon capacity. There are many types of small pneumatic machines on the market, such as the "Martsmith," "Vermorel," "Streetley," "Con-o Mist," etc., any of which will be found extremely serviceable in either small or large establishments. Most of these are self-contained units which can be obtained in various sizes. The spray is governed by compressed air, which is pumped into the cylinder before use, and it can usually be turned on or off at will by simply pressing a small valve lever. As no pumping is necessary when actually spraying, the obvious advantage of having both hands free to direct the spray will readily be seen. The majority of these machines are reasonable in initial cost and most of the small sizes can be easily manipulated by a lady.



CARTERS' "IDEAL" SPRAYER.

Another modern machine which will commend itself to many is the "Eclipse," which is adaptable to practically any and every class of spraying work. The sprayer itself is fitted with a hose connection with a valve and strainer combined. The valve is simply placed into a bucket or other container of the spray fluid, the plunger rod is drawn in and out until spraying commences, and no further pumping is required until all the liquid is exhausted, both hands therefore being free to direct the spray. Each machine is supplied with 10ft. of hose, but the manufacturers claim that successful operations can be carried out with hose up to 200ft. long.

Another very useful model which has recently been put on the market is known as the Stonehouse "Teleco" Syringe. As its name implies this syringe can be extended by means of telescopic joints up to 4ft. in length, so that anyone of average height can readily spray foliage, etc., at a height of 10ft., without having recourse to extra lances or ladders. It is fitted with hose pipe and suction valve, and is worked in the same way as an ordinary garden syringe. Its total weight is only 3½lbs.

The "Weeford Pattern" is a pneumatic knapsack sprayer of an entirely new type which has many good points to commend it. It has a capacity of 4 gallons, and weighs only 19lb. It fills from the bottom, and the liquid is pumped in through a hose. It is fitted with a special gauge which indicates when the necessary pressure is reached. It only requires to be charged with air once a day, and an even pressure is maintained until all liquid is discharged. This machine, in common with most others manufactured by the Four Oaks Company, can be obtained fitted with a special unchokable nozzle. The special feature about the unchokable nozzle is that it is manufactured with a spring which comes into operation if there should be any stoppage and at once clears any obstruction in the orifice of the nozzle. It is especially recommended for use with very thick or gritty washes.

The Martsmith Company are responsible for a very excellent 10-gallon pneumatic machine, known as the "Martsmith" Wheeling Type Sprayer. The container is fitted on an iron frame with handles and a single wheel in front, on the same lines as an ordinary gardener's barrow. It is especially convenient for use along narrow paths in large greenhouses or between growing rows of bush fruit. All the pumping is done before spraying commences, and once the machine is wheeled into position both hands are free for working. It is supplied with a 5ft. brass lance and is eminently suitable for work on tall bushes and trees.

Most of the machines I have mentioned are free from intricate attachments and devices, and the very necessary operation of careful cleansing after use is thus reduced to a task of a simple nature. It is a task, however, which should never be omitted, especially after any caustic washes or strong acids have been used.

A. J. C.

FLOWERS IN GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE

CINERARIAS.

Off-Shoots versus Seedlings.

THE number of gardeners who propagate cinerarias from off-shoots secured from old plants to-day, is negligible and for this once popular method one has to go back to the early days of the Victorian era to find it in force. It was the general practice at that period to take the off-shoots, or cuttings from specially good sorts, pot them separately in small pots of sandy soil, and plunge them in slight bottom heat to aid rooting. In those days, varieties of repute were known by name, and the plan adopted in perpetuating them was considered the most reliable and the only one to ensure the strain of any particular sort being kept. The raising of cinerarias from seed was not unknown, but it was not generally adopted until a later period, because seed could not be quite depended upon. In a word, "like did not produce like." Seed was not "fixed" as we understand it to-day. But growers of cinerarias in earlier years had their difficulties with shoot-raised plants, mainly because these lacked stamina, which caused them to die off prematurely, and not infrequently were peculiarly liable to attacks of green fly. Only during the early part of this year, I saw a batch of cinerarias raised in the manner described, but the grower did not appear to be quite satisfied with them and admitted that although the sowing of seed and subsequent pricking out of seedlings entailed more labour, results were better, as they possessed more vitality and from the first were immune from disease, which was not always so in the case of off-shoots. Coolness in the culture of cinerarias is vital and if they are bloomed in a house with very little heat, they are not the troublesome plants some believe them to be. One thing is quite certain, that so far as superb varieties of cinerarias go, no one has any need to resort to any other way of raising plants, than from seed, as to-day we possess a wealth in varieties and colours, for which, in a great measure, we are indebted to the very painstaking work of the early hybridisers.—CLAREMONT.

PELARGONIUMS AFTER FLOWERING.

REGAL and show pelargoniums make the greenhouse or conservatory very gay during the late spring months. The plants remain in excellent condition for a number of years if they are carefully treated. When in active growth and nearing the flowering stage the foliage must be kept free from aphides. After the flowering period the plants should be vigorously syringed with clear water and placed outside on a bed of ashes. Water should be gradually withheld from the soil and after this natural drying off, which takes about six weeks, the time has come to prune the shoots, cutting back the branches almost as severely as one would a hybrid perpetual rose bush. The necessary cuttings

Digitized by Google

are taken at an earlier stage. After the pruning is finished the pots should be placed on their sides for several weeks. In August the plants should be placed in a cold frame, be watered once then syringed twice daily until the new shoots are 1in. long. If the frame is kept closed the new shoots soon grow. Repot, reducing the old ball of soil; use smaller pots to allow of potting on and admit air freely to the frame. Turfy loam, two-thirds; leaf-soil, one-third. To each bushel add a 5in. potful of bonemeal. This compost will answer for subsequent repottings.—HANTS.

LIFTING AND STORING BULBS FROM BORDERS.

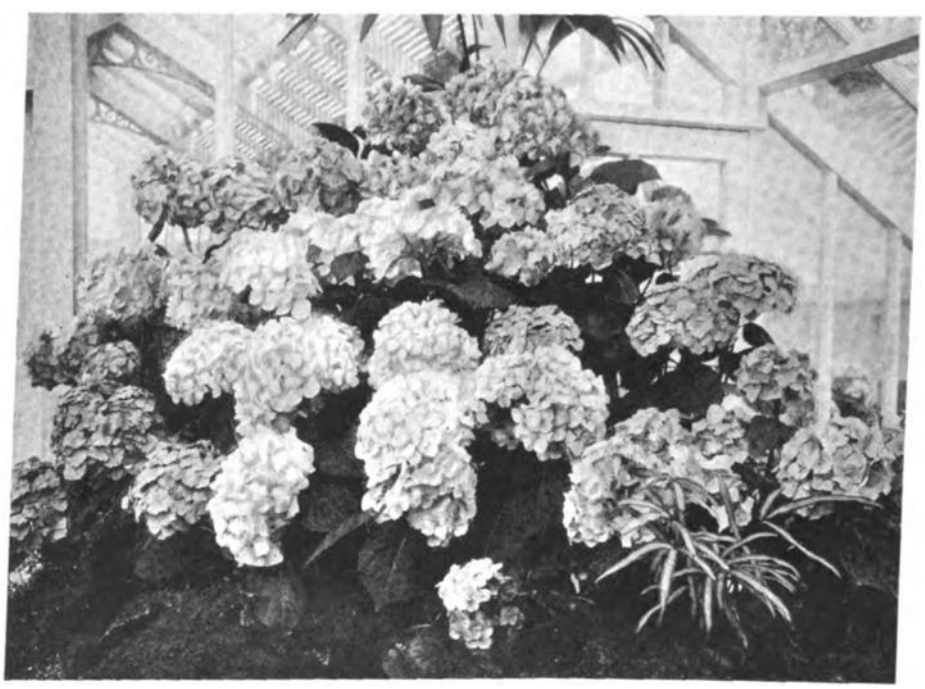
WHERE it is convenient to leave bulbs in the soil until they have matured their foliage naturally, the cultivator gains a great deal. He will possess sound bulbs which will grow again very freely when the time comes to replant them.

Although the leaves are brown and ripe, most of the stalks of such still adhere to the bulbs so there must not be any forcible pulling away of the dried-up leaves and stems. Lift all carefully without separating the leaf-stalks from the bulbs except those that may be quite ripe and fall away naturally directly they are disturbed. Have a few shallow boxes near the bed, also some new labels to replace any that are damaged. In this way the correct names will be preserved and this will prove most helpful when the time comes for re-planting. Take out the roots as well as the bulbs without breaking off more than can be helped and lay all carefully in the shallow boxes. Place the latter in a dry, cool shed, preferably one open at the front and facing north or north-east. Some cultivators lay the bulbs in a dry border to finish ripening; this is bad for them as they generally start growth in such positions prematurely. Then, when they are disturbed for the replanting a check is given. When the bulbs are dried sufficiently without being shrivelled, and all the leaf-stalks readily drop away, store them in a dry, cool cupboard or room in readiness for the re-planting.—G. G.

THE HYDRANGEA.

How to Obtain the Best Results.

THE hydrangea to-day can claim a prominent place in horticulture, both for its beauty, the length of time the blooms last and also for ease of cultivation. As we have looked during the past few years at the massive blooms with their exquisite colourings which have been staged at the Chelsea Show, we have been filled with admiration and our thoughts have gone back to the once prevailing colour, or should we say mixture, of pink and white and in many cases no more than a dirty white of the old hybrangeas of a few years ago. One can but realise the strides that have been made in bringing about the present charming variety of colour. The cultivation of the hydrangea is not a very difficult thing and a good selection can be made from the varieties listed in the catalogues of firms who specialise in these flowers. Young plants can be procured during June and July in 3in. pots and these should be grown in a frame, keeping them fairly close. Water with care and syringe them on bright days giving the plants a light shading from the direct rays of the sun. When the plants are well rooted, repot them into 5in. pots, using a compost of one part peat, two parts leaf soil, one part of good loam and a good sprinkling of coarse sand. It is not advisable to ram the soil in the pots too hard, but pressing the compost with the fingers will be found quite sufficient. The plants should be returned to the frame again and treated as previously until they are seen to be rooting into the new potting medium, when they should be taken from the frame and stood in the open air on a bed of ashes in full sunlight to ensure the thorough ripening of the wood. This is a most important factor in obtaining good flower buds. Where the pots are seen to be getting full of roots, the plants should be given a good feeding with diluted cow manure water, once or twice a week on an average, until, from the first week to the middle of October, when they should be removed to a cool house. The plants should be kept on the dry side during the winter months. About February a batch of plants should be introduced to a warmer house and when growth is active again, more water will be required. As the plants come into flower a shading from the sun will preserve their colour and prolong the flowering period. Rooted cuttings if well grown will produce one fine bloom in about two months. When the bloom is fading it should be cut off and the plant will then throw out other shoots which will make a nice bushy plant the next season. Undoubtedly the blue hydrangea is the most attractive and many are anxious to know how to obtain this pleasing shade. In some cases this is obtained naturally by the large quantity of iron in the soil in which they are grown. In other cases very good results are obtained by watering the plants with a concoction of 1 oz. alum to each gallon of water. However, the surest and safest plan is to procure the special blueing powder now on sale by any reliable firm and treat the plants according to the directions given with the powder. By this method individual plants can be treated, which will be most susceptible to the treatment described and consequently the best results obtained.—P. E. C.



HYDRANGEAS ARE EXCELLENT POT PLANTS FOR THE COOL GREENHOUSE.

VERBENAS.

Old Florists' Methods versus Modern Culture.

CONSIDERING their all-round capabilities, it is not easy to understand why verbenas are not as popular as they were years ago in the time of the old florists, who, recognising their worth, used them for bedding, for culture in pots and for window boxes and baskets. When we sow a packet of seed in the warmth of the greenhouse in February or March we cherish no suspicion of failure to germinate, because we have become accustomed to raising plants in this way. We cannot realise that there was once a time when our predecessors prepared their plants in a different manner. Layering shoots from bedded out plants was a favourite method of keeping a stock and it was carried out much in the same way as we do in regard to strawberry runners to-day and usually took place late in August or early September. The plan was to choose promising shoots and peg them down in pots of sandy soil, near a joint, making a slight incision under the joint, and when rooted, sever from the parent plant and place the pots in a cold frame. It was almost useless to attempt to take up old plants after they had been in the open ground, as they did not shift well and invariably died off. Propagation from cuttings was also a favourite method of perpetuating verbenas and these cuttings were procured as early as possible at the end of the summer and rooted in a frame. Such plants formed stock for further cuttings to be propagated in heat in spring. Winter treatment consisted in keeping the young plants on a shelf near the glass, either in a pit, or greenhouse slightly heated to ward off frost and damp. The latter was an enemy which the florists had to contend with, and not infrequently, in January, losses would be experienced unless great care was exercised in not exciting plants with over-much heat, in keeping the surface of the soil stirred, and so banishing damp. Silver sand, old loam and charcoal, together with a little leaf mould used to be a favourite compost. In taking cuttings, special emphasis was laid on preventing the leaves from flagging and this is why they were inserted in pots or pans in which plenty of sand predominated, and were kept quite near to the glass until roots had formed. While the cuttings were fresh, they had a greater chance of rooting, but if once allowed to flag, or the compost became dry, failure invariably followed.

We, in these days, have no occasion to go to all this trouble as, like any other half hardy annual, one may get a collection of splendid varieties from a mixed packet of seed, which, if sown in slight heat in spring, will produce plants that will grace the garden in July and until early autumn.—W. F.

Digitized by Google

WHITE FOXGLOVES.

AT the time of writing, one of the prettiest bits in my garden is a section of an irregular-shaped border where white foxgloves are in full bloom. They are not, perhaps, quite so tall as in some previous years, but it seems to me that their white is purer than usual, and, combined with delphiniums in many shades of blue, backed by the glorious scarlet crimson of Rosa Moyesii, with groups of mixed Spanish irises in front, they are very good to look upon. The foxgloves seed themselves freely, but care is taken that the seed is properly dispersed by shaking some of the ripened pods over the special area in which they are wanted to grow. Seedlings will transplant, but they make finer plants if not moved, and seem less liable to be exterminated by slugs. Besides their allotted place in the border, the foxgloves this year have appeared in others distinctly less suitable, but with happy results. A group is in full flower against a wall at the back of a little rock garden—the last situation which one would have chosen for them; but the effect of the towering snowy spikes rising above the glowing sheets of Oxalis rosea, Geranium grandiflorum, Veronica repens and many-coloured helianthemums is quite beautiful.

I may add that, to keep the strain pure, it is essential to pull up every plant of the digitalis that shows the slightest streak or spot of crimson in its white bells, else the seedlings will gradually revert to the wild type.—R. E. H.

MORE ABOUT THE SUMMER ROSE SHOW

EXHIBITION ROSES.

The long rows of specimen exhibitiion roses in show boxes made a good general effect and attracted large numbers of visitors, but on close inspection it was seen that the general quality was not equal to the average of former years. Too many of the blooms were of the "butterfly" nature. The exhibitors must have experienced considerable difficulty in selecting their show blooms. Timing the blooms so that each shall be as near perfection as possible when the judges make their inspection is always a very troublesome matter and requires considerable knowledge of the vagaries of the different varieties. Added to this the exhibits have this year had to contend with the effects of the great heat of the few days prior to the Show which caused the blooms to develop too quickly so that many, especially those grown on light soils, lacked substance, and although they were perfect in the bud state become "open-eyed" when mature. But although such blooms were present, they were in the minority. Occasionally in the stands a bloom which, when gathered, promised to be the best bloom of its class was found on development to have a double centre.

The Championship for Exhibition Roses, which carries with it the China Trophy, silver-gilt medal and money prize, was won by Messrs. F. Cant and Co. with an even and very fresh collection of forty-eight distinct varieties, as Admiration, Bessie Chaplin, Dean Hole, Mrs. Henry Balfour, Mrs. J. Laing, Mrs. Amy Hammond, Mrs. Henry Bowles, Courage, Lord Allenby and Frau Karl Druschki. Messrs. D. Prior and Son, who were a good second in this premier class for exhibition roses, staged very good specimens of Lady Inchiquin, Coronation, Ruth, Bessie Chaplin and Lord Allenby. Messrs. George Longley and Sons were third.

The John Hart Memorial Cup, offered for twenty-four distinct varieties, was won by Mr. Elisha J. Hicks with a well balanced collection. His chief varieties were Earl Haig, Fragrance, Molly Sharman Crawford, Arthur Cook and J. N. Hart. Mr. W. Slinger included in his second prize collection Gorgeous, Courtney Page, Mrs. C. Lamplough and Lemon Pillar of very good quality.

The tea roses were of good size generally, but the exhibits were a trifle uneven and included a few weather-stained blooms. Messrs. George Longley and Sons won the D'Ombrain Cup with a collection which included good specimens of Lady Plymouth, Medea, Mrs. Foley Hobbs and Molly Sharman Crawford. Mr. Henry Drew was a close second in this class, and his best blooms were Auguste Comte, Mrs. Foley Hobbs, Mrs. H. Stevens and Mme. L. Costantine.

The exhibits of twelve blooms of new roses distributed since January 1st, 1922, were of better quality and the competition also was keener. Mr. George Prince won the challenge cup with an admirable collection which included shapely blooms of William Kordes, Mabel Turner, Lord Charlewood, F. J. Harrison and Mabel Morse. In his second prize collection Mr. H. Mattock had very good blooms of Maud Cumming, Lord Allenby, Mabel Morse, Admiration and Betty Hulton.

The class for twelve blooms of any one variety distributed since January 1st, 1922, was also well above the average of previous years, and here the first prize was won by Messrs. F. Cant and Co. with a dozen excellent specimens of the rich crimson variety Courage. Mr. Elisha J. Hicks won the second prize with blooms of Lady Inchiquin of glowing colour.

A PRIZE-WINNING BASKET OF MME. BUTTERFLY.

NURSERYMEN S CLASSES.

The large representative groups of roses which were again shown on separate tables along the centre of the large tent, made a gorgeous spectacle, and, although there was a similarity in the method of arrangement in the chief prize-winning groups, the variations of some of the others successfully prevented any monotony.

The Championship Trophy was won by Messrs. Alex. Dickson and Sons with a superb group. They had perfect pillars of Betty Uprichard, Irish Elegance and K. of K. with a generous centre of Barbara Robinson surrounded by massed stands of François Juranville, Mrs. Henry Morse, Sunstar, Maud Cumming and other valuable roses. The finish of this champion group was equal to the high quality of the blooms. The second prize group of Mr. Elisha J. Hicks had corner pillars of Mabel Morse, Mrs. H. Stevens, Clovelly and Betty Uprichard, with rather shorter pillars of Mrs. E. Shea, Lady Inchiquin, Mrs. Elisha Hicks and other lovely varieties. Messrs. B. R. Cant and Co., the third prize winners, had a very graceful arrangement of baskets on stands at the corners of their group, and also included many good blooms. Messrs. H. Harkness and Co. also departed from the general style of arrangement in having pretty hanging baskets at the corners.

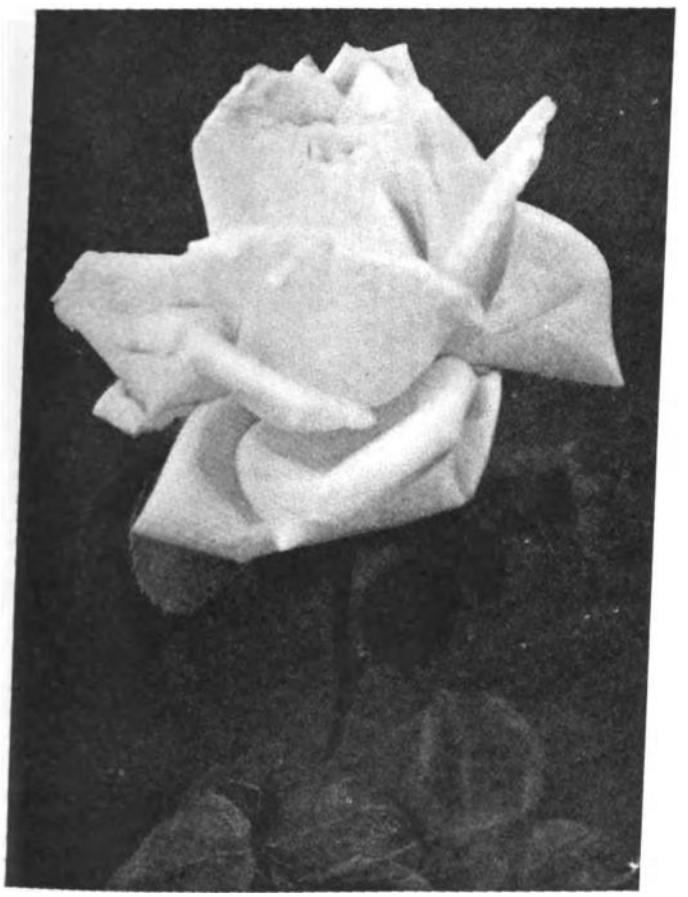
Although there were fewer competitors in the second group class, which provides a table 6ft. square, the half-dozen competitors had very attractive displays. The de Eschofet Cup was won by Mr. J. Mattock, who had fine pillars of Mrs. Tresham Gilbey, Mrs. Oakley Fisher, Mabel Morse and Betty Uprichard. In this first prize group there were good stands of Red Letter Day and Golden Emblem. A more graceful method was adopted by Mr. George Prince, the second prize winner, who had linked pillars at the corners. His centre of Paul's Scarlet Climber, surrounded by Betty Uprichard, Silver Moon, Etoile de Hollande and similar sorts in quantity, was very effective. The third prize was won by Messrs. T. English and Son, who had pillars of Mrs. Henry Bowles, Columbia and Independence

Digitized by Google

Day, rising above other good varieties. In this class Messrs. Morse Brothers and Mr. Walter Easlea had pretty groups.

The A. C. Turner Cup Competition is always popular with visitors, as it enables them to see vases of twenty-four very decorative roses set out separately. The cup was won by Messrs. A. Warner and Son, who had beautiful vases of Red Star, Mrs. H. Stevens, Covent Garden, Lady Hillingdon and similar good garden roses. The Lane's shown by Mr. George Birch; and Messrs. D. Prior and Son were second with very good blooms of Snow Queen. The lovely Louise Criner, shown by Mr. H. Mattock, was the best basket of H.T. varieties; and Nellie Parker, shown by Messrs. Jarman and Co., was the second best. Showing a fine basket of Mme. Jules Gravereaux, Messrs. D. Prior and Son were awarded the first prize for a basket of any tea or noisette rose. The Brayfort Challenge Cup, offered for a basket by the large dark shining foliage. The flowers have a slight fragrance. It is a variety which ought to prove popular with all rose lovers. Certificate of merit. Shown by Messrs. G. Beckwith and Sons.

A LINCOLN SEEDLING (UNNAMED).—The flowers of this free and vigorous hybrid tea semi-double variety were of a most brilliant and striking colour, a shade of scarlet tinged with orange and gold at the base of the petals. The petals were of good substance, and the



THE IVORY WHITE EVEREST.

THE DEEP VELVETY CRIMSON BLOOMS OF LADY HELEN MAGLONA

Nurseries Company were second, and they included lovely vases of K. of K., Mrs. A. Tate, Lady Roundhay and Golden Emblem.

Although the baskets of roses were not quite so numerous as usual, the quality was fully equal to that of former years. There were only two exhibits of seven baskets of decorative varieties. The first prize was won by Mr. H. Mattock, with gorgeous baskets of Mrs. H. Morse, Louise Criner, Benedict, Sequin, Mrs. A. Bowles, Mabel Morse. Messrs. Chaplin Brothers, who were second, included Betty Uprichard, Mrs. H. Morse and Mrs. Tresham Gilbey. The three baskets of similar roses were also of high quality, and Messrs. A. Warner and Son were decidedly first with splendid blooms of Hortulanus Budde, Lady Roundhay and the fragrant white Marcia Stanhope. Mr. Henry Drew included in his second prize exhibit Mrs. H. Morse and Mrs. H. Bowles. In the class for three baskets of polyantha varieties, Messrs. Morse Brothers won chief honours with profusely flowered sprays of Alice Morse, Rodhatte and Ellen Poulsen. Messrs. D. Prior and Son showed Else Poulsen in good form in their second prize baskets.

The exhibition roses in baskets were set out on the opposite side of the tent. The best basket of any one H.P. variety was splendid flowers of Candeur Lyonnaise, of fourteen blooms of any variety of H.P., H.T., tea or noisette rose put into commerce since January 1st, 1920, was won by Mr. "Sandy" Dickson, with gorgeous blooms; while Messrs. Chaplin Brothers were second with Mabel Morse.

NEW ROSES.

AWARDS OF MERIT.

LADY HELEN MAGLONA.—A vigorous hybrid tea variety suitable for either garden or exhibition purposes. It is very decorative and exceedingly free-flowering. In colour the flowers are a rich, deep, velvety crimson, and are medium in size and of good shape, showing a long pointed bud with small neat overlapping petals. Gold medal. Shown by Messrs. A. Dickson and Sons. It was requested that this rose should again be shown at the Autumn Show, for competition for the Clay Challenge Cup.

BILLY BOY.—An excellent semi-double hybrid tea of bushy growth. It is also a perpetual flowerer. The blooms are of good shape and form, both in bud (which is long-pointed) and when full open. The open flower is especially attractive with its clustered petals and its inner crown of stamens with red filaments. The colour is a good rich canary yellow, which is shown off to advantage foliage, also good, considerably enhanced the appearance of the blooms, which are fragrant. As a good all-round garden rose it should attract many admirers, as it should provide the most decorative effects when massed in a bed. Certificate of merit. Raised by M. Pernet Ducher and shown by Messrs. George Beckwith.

BEDFORD CRIMSON.—A very fine, vigorous and free-flowering hybrid tea variety, carrying deep velvety crimson blooms which are very fragrant. The foliage is of a rich green, and attractive. Certificate of merit. Shown by Messrs. Laxton Brothers.

EVEREST.—A very fine exhibition variety, carrying large snow white blooms with an ivory sheen. They keep a good shape, even when fully expanded, and are slightly perfumed. The blooms are well poised on the stems, and the pure beauty of the flowers is shown up well by the dark foliage. Certificate of merit. Shown by Messrs. W. Easlea and Sons.

PRINCESS ELIZABETH OF GREECE.—This fine hybrid tea variety is of an uncommon colour, and probably on that account received an award, as the blooms themselves were not particularly shapely. The colour is a shade of red orange which is particularly bright and attractive. The foliage is also decorative. Certificate of merit. Shown by Messrs. Chaplin Brothers.

Digitized by Google

GARDEN TECHNIQUE

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

THE SUMMER PRUNING OF APPLES AND PEARS.

A Most Important Operation for the Fruit Grower.

MANY different ideas regarding the method of pruning to give the best results have been tested; but the best system, with bush and trained trees, is undoubtedly the spur-pruning system coupled with summer pruning. Of course there are exceptions to every rule, and Irish Peach stands out as a good example of an apple which is not amenable to spur pruning. However, this point can be discussed more fully in the winter.

At present we are concerned with summer pruning only. Of course, only those trees which have been spur pruned in winter will be systematically summer pruned. The time to perform this operation varies from year to year, but it is usually done in July or early August. The point to bear in mind is that, if done too early, the pruned shoots will recommence growth. This, of course, we want to avoid, and one must watch the trees and commence the pruning as soon as growth appears to have stopped. Naturally, it is undesirable to delay the operation longer than is absolutely necessary, as some of the benefits of the pruning will be lost and, owing to the rush of the fruit-picking season, the job will often have to be left..

Now for the objects of summer pruning. In the first place, the most obvious benefit is in allowing more light and air to reach the fruit resulting in better colour and more thorough ripening of the wood. Another very important object is that it checks the laterals and diverts more sap to the leaders, making these stronger and, at the same time, tends to plump up the remaining buds on the shortened lateral, thus encouraging the formation of fruit buds.

This last statement is, I know, a debatable one, as it is sometimes said that fruit buds form much earlier in the year, and summer pruning cannot have much effect. Even if this is so, surely the extra supply of sap will help the formation of the embryo flowers. However, I cannot altogether agree with the theory that all fruit buds are formed earlier than July. That many are formed in May and June I grant, but I fail to see how this theory accounts for flowers appearing on the upper half of last year's growth.

First of all, which shoots are to be pruned? Leaders must always be left full length, and any shoots which may possibly be required as temporary leaders should be left. All the others may be shortened to about six leaves. Taking the shoots back to three leaves has been tried, but it usually results in secondary growth. I notice that some gardeners still break the shoots and leave them hanging—to my mind, a bad practice, as it partly defeats the object of summer pruning, *i.e.*, the admission of plenty of light.

In most places cordon trees are summer pruned, but bushes are often neglected in this respect, which I consider a great pity, as summer pruning does help to produce more and better fruit.—P.

MUSHROOM BEDS FOR AUTUMN CROPS.

THE present is a very good time for making all necessary preparations for growing autumn crops of mushrooms. The following is a useful guide for any amateur cultivator to follow who wishes to have mushrooms available, approximately, on a given date. It takes about three weeks to collect the horse manure, prepare it for making up into beds and to become fit for receiving the lumps of spawn. From the date of spawning to that of the growth of the first mushrooms, about six weeks. A good bed, well managed, will yield mushrooms remuneratively for two months, and sparsely for a further three weeks. Ideal conditions under which mushrooms are grown are the following. A cool, dry, dark shed facing north, or nearly so; a moist atmosphere during the whole time, an even temperature and absence of cold draughts. During the winter mushrooms may be grown in beds under greenhouse stages; they may be sown in early autumn, but the mushrooms would be spoiled, most likely, by maggots then. So the cool shed is the best place to prepare now for the autumn supply.

Horse manure is the best material to use, either alone or with tree leaves. If it is used alone, do not take out all the short straw; if used with tree leaves, remove the straw. Spread out the manure daily, as collected, in a cool, dry shed. Add to it every day and turn the material over at the same time. When sufficient has been collected heap it for one night, the next day open out the material and so get rid of the rank gases. A bed 8ft. long, 4ft. wide and 16ins. deep when well firmed, is a suitable size for a single bed. The spawn should be inserted when the temperature of the bed is approximately 85 degrees on the downward grade. Then put on 1in. of good, fresh loam, make it very firm and cover the bed with a thick layer of clean, dry straw.—G. G.

RAISING LATE CROPS OF DWARF BEANS AND PEAS.

EARLY French beans and early peas are always much appreciated; there is rarely any stringiness in the former nor hard seeds in the latter. In the case of late crops, when the right varieties are grown, similar good qualities obtain. It would not answer our purpose if we sowed a late pea, such as Ne Plus Ultra, for instance. An early variety should be sown, such as Earliest of All, American Wonder, Chelsea Gem, Little Marvel, Hundredfold and, for a reliable dwarf marrowfat, Laxton's Progress. Of dwarf French or kidney beans, Earliest of All, Selected Canadian Wonder and Feltham Prolific may be grown. The soil for the French beans should be rather rich, and for the peas of medium richness. An old, mellow garden soil will not require the addition of much animal manure; but a poor stony soil will, as in the case of peas it is necessary to get haulm first by enriching the poor soil and then filling the pods by feeding with superphosphate of lime at the rate of 2 oz. per yard run of row, keeping the stimulant from touching the stems and leaves. Sow the seeds at least 4ins. apart in a flat-bottomed shallow trench. Stick early and keep the sticks well apart at the top to allow sun and air to ripen and well fill the pods.

Sow the bean seeds 9ins. apart in single lines 18ins. asunder, and mulch the rich soil with rotted manure when the first flowers form. Soon after this stage a weak application of nitrate of soda—1 oz. to 3 gallons of water—will not only hasten the growth of the pods but render them more tender and better flavoured.—CHRISTCHURCH.

PESTS OF BRASSICAS.

FROM the seedling to the maturing stage nearly all plants of the brassica family are subjected to attacks by pests that soon destroy the crops if the latter are neglected. In dry weather, when cold east winds prevail, young cabbage, cauliflower and savoy plants are soon attacked by aphis, commonly called cabbage green fly; the latter are rarely quite green, being of a slatey-grey colour. They first appear in the small central leaves—the tenderest—and suck the juices; then the leaves curl up and enclose the flies, which quite destroy the leaf and, in turn, others. These pests also do much harm to plants in a more advanced stage of growth, especially during spells of dry weather. If they are allowed to infest the plants wholesale, massing themselves in the inner leaves of the hearts, the latter will soon be quite spoiled. In all cases the simplest remedy is syringing violently with cold water in which a small quantity of common salt has been dissolved. Tobacco infusion and lime water also do much good. Quassia chips boiled for five to ten minutes in an old saucepan with a lump of soft soap added may afterwards be diluted freely and the liquid syringed on. Early attention is essential to success; prevent the aphis gaining a firm hold upon any plants.

Caterpillars of the white cabbage butterfly are about as destructive as the green aphis. Against these caterpillars there are not any remedies more effective than "Katakilla." It is a powder insecticide wash and, of course, non-poisonous. It is also a good remedy for aphis, psylla, capsid bug, etc.

Maggots of the gall weevil soon destroy plants of both summer and winter greens if they are allowed to become numerous. Their presence in the roots causes decay very often, and always a stunted growth. The galls or swellings they make are similar to those caused by "club." All old stumps and roots should be burned. Change of plot and gas lime at the rate of 6 oz. per square yard, applied eight weeks prior to cropping, will clear the soil of these destructive weevils.—HANTS.

CARDOONS AND CELERIAC.

BOTH these vegetables need attention now. If the cardoons were raised under glass, it is time to transplant the seedlings outside, but if the seed was sown in the open in trenches, all that is necessary is to thin out the seedlings to 20ins. apart. Cardoons should be grown in trenches similar to celery trenches, and during the growing season plenty of water should be given. By September blanching of cardoons should be started. This is done by tying brown paper collars round each plant, wrapping round with hay ropes and then earthing up gradually. Blanching takes about six weeks. Celeriac seedlings should be planted out 9ins. apart on level, well-dug ground, and grown on until late autumn like turnips. Any lateral growths which form should be carefully removed. Protection should then be given during the winter by covering up the plants with soil.

MISCELLANEOUS

GATHERING HERBS: TREATMENT OF BEDS.

HERBS should be gathered when the plants are in full flower or just coming to that stage, as then their full strength will be secured. About mid-day on a sunny day is the best time for cutting the herbs that are to be dried and stored in due course. If gathered while wet, even if they are afterwards very carefully dried, there is always a risk of mustiness about the leaves and stalks, and this should not be. Nearly all kinds of herbs should be stored in a dry state, but the following should be attended to with the greatest care, namely, sage, mint, thyme, lemon thyme, balm, borage, horehound, hyssop, lavender, pot marjoram, pennyroyal, rue, rosemary and wormwood. Cut off the stems fairly low down so as to preserve as many leaves as possible, lay out the cut herbs

Digitized by Google

unbunched on paper, in a cool, dry, airy shed; turn over the thin layers several times and when rather dry, bunch all, making small bunches; tie each one tightly by the extreme ends and suspend them from the roof in a dry shed or in a cupboard. If against wood or brick walls, place sheets of paper behind them and over them if suspended from the roof; this is to keep them free from dust and other foreign matter.

The surface of the soil of the borders should be freed from weeds and then lightly forked up. Do not apply manure now, but a nice layer of well rotted leaf-soil and leave all neat and clean for the winter.—CHRISTCHURCH.

THE TOPS OF WALLS.

HOWEVER pleasing a suburban garden may be, there is usually one point that is overlooked: this is the bare top of the surrounding brick wall, which is either surmounted by a barricade of unsightly broken glass or merely left as a promenade for cats.

There are several ways of beautifying the top of an ugly wall, and this is the best time of the year to set about it, so that things may be well settled by the spring. As cats always have to be contended with in towns it is well to fix two boards to the sides of the wall, rising about 2ins. above the top, and to cover the upper edges of these with broken glass; this will be just as effective as a whole wall full, and will be hidden when the top of the wall is planted.

A quantity of fairly thick sods should now be cut to the required size, and placed turf side downwards along the top between the boards, which will hold them in place. After they have had time to settle, any shallow-rooted plant may be set, but by far the best for this situation are arabis and aubrietia; these will spread with great rapidity, and will soon cover the top and begin to fall down the sides of the wall.

Crocus corms may be planted as soon as the sods have settled, and will bloom the following spring. Wallflowers and the various stonecrops will also do well, and need little attention beyond frequent watering during dry weather, as they have little depth of soil. If small ferns are planted they will need an extra supply of water.

If you are fortunate enough to have a stone instead of a brick wall, with large rough stones on the top, much can be done by filling all the crevices with soil and planting small alpines. This method has the advantage of looking less artificial than any other. Another method is to fix narrow window-boxes on brackets on the inside of the wall on a level with the top; but they always look clumsy, and have a habit of falling unless very strongly fixed.

All woodwork used should either be painted green or covered with bark, to make it look as natural as possible. The two most important points to remember are to use only plants that require comparatively little root room and to supply plenty of water throughout the summer.—M. J. D.

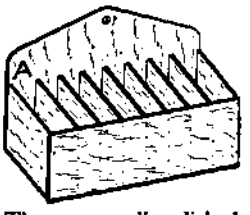
WOODLICE.

MUCH of the damage commonly attributed to slugs is really caused by that worst of all garden pests, the woodlouse (Oniscus). These little creatures, which, as distant relatives of the crabs and lobsters, are not insects at all, are familiar to most people by their greyish colour and curious habit of rolling themselves into a ball when at all alarmed. Strictly speaking the woodlice belong to the great army of nature's scavengers, in that they feed on all kinds of decaying vegetable matter. Unhappily oniscus does not content itself with a diet of this kind and is only too ready to turn its attention to almost anything that grows, especially if this happens to be something tender and juicy. Woodlice are terrible pests in greenhouse and frame, but they are often equally troublesome in the open border. Where any plants have been mysteriously attacked, always suspect woodlice. These creatures are largely night feeders and, during the day they remain in hiding. Turn over any leaves or stones that happen to be about, or search between the stems of herbaceous plants, and here you will find the little creatures.

Fortunately, this habit of hiding on the part of woodlice makes them easy to capture. A few pieces of slate placed on the soil and examined during the daytime will yield numbers of the pest which may be collected and destroyed. A better way is to set one or more traps, arranged in this manner. In a small flower pot put a cold boiled potato. Cover the potato lightly with moss. Sink the pot to the rim in the soil and examine each morning. It will be found that the woodlice gather in hundreds in the pot not only to secure the shelter provided by the moss, but also to feast on the potato, of which they are particularly fond. A few traps of this nature will go a long way towards exterminating the oniscus or at least reduce its numbers to reasonable proportions.—S. LEONARD BASTIN, *Bournemouth*.

METHODS OF SEED LABELLING.

THE importance of carefully labelling seed-beds should not be overlooked, since, when quite a number and variety of seeds are sown, it is an easy matter to sow one kind twice if reliance is placed on one's memory. A common method is to fix the empty seed packet on a stick pushed into the ground at the head of the seed-bed. This has a great disadvantage, since rain and wind will soon destroy the packet and render the indicator useless. The following is quite a good method of labelling seed-beds: First of all a number of wooden indicators are made.



These are well polished with sandpaper and then given two coats of white enamel. Now, using black enamel, print letters on the face of the indicators. In conjunction with the indicators a chart is prepared in the garden notebook. For instance, two beds of seeds may be sown, beginning with the letter A. Print A on one indicator and A1 on the second indicator. The full name of the seed indicated by A is entered on the notebook chart with the letter A in the left-hand corner, and likewise the letter A1. The indicator marked A is fixed in the ground at the head of the seed-bed, corresponding to the name of the seed marked A on the chart, the same method being employed with A1, A2, etc. Corresponding letters are used on other indicators for seeds beginning with letters B, C, D, etc. By adopting this method of labelling a proper record of seeds sown may be kept. The indicators will stand any weather, and when not required are easily cleaned and packed away. The writer finds three-ply wood very suitable, which is readily cut to shape by means of a small saw. In connection with the indicators, the box illustrated may be used, in which packets of seeds are kept. The box is made from three-ply wood, and letters are printed above each division into which are placed packet seeds, the names of which begin with the particular letter. The box is fixed in any convenient position, from which the seeds may be taken when required. This method of labelling and keeping packet seeds in order will give pleasing results and is well worth trying.—W. J. SAUNDERS.

INSECTICIDES.

ONE of the most aggravating results of the stagnation of growth which was subject of general complaint throughout the month of May is that aphis, lice and sucking insects in variety obtained a stronger foothold upon the tender shoots of plants than they are able to do when spring growth is very rapid; and, in the natural order of things, any insect pest which gets a good start proves extremely difficult to dislodge from its stronghold. It is imperative, however, that industry, skilfully applied, shall gain the mastery over the enemies of plant life—and promptitude is just now of vital importance for a combination of reasons.

Insecticides for summer use are plentiful in number and varied in character, but some discretion is necessary in selecting something suitable to the particular conditions of individual cases.

Nicotine is unquestionably a powerful and efficacious insecticide, and in the flower garden during the greater part of summer the nicotine washes prepared by well known firms of high standing are among commodities which may well be considered indispensable. Anything in the nicotine line which bears the name of G. H. Richards, Corry, Matthew Campbell, or Abol Limited, may be depended upon for quality, and the quality of nicotine rests in its power of poisoning in a way of its own. An insect, whether fly or caterpillar, when coated with nicotine becomes paralysed, and unless it manages to get clear of the fluid and its fumes it is bound to die. By mixing the nicotine with a soapy and moderately sticky substance it is made first to spread over an extended area of leaf and stem, and over the entire body of any insect with which it comes in contact, and to adhere closely to either, thereby making doubly sure of fatal effect. It must be obvious from these remarks that a good nicotine spray is unsuitable for use on ripening soft fruits, such as currants, gooseberries or raspberries. It is safe, however, to use nicotine on hard fruits in July, which will not be eaten before September or October, because by that time the poison will have evaporated, but it is very essential that thought shall be given to undercrops, for any such vegetables as cauliflowers, spinach or French beans, also salads, parsley, herbs, mint, etc., which are inadvertently saturated with nicotine spray are liable to cause considerable discomfort, if nothing worse, to any person who may eat of those crops. For kitchen garden use in July or August it is, therefore, prudent to choose a non-poisonous wash, and, fortunately, there are preparations which are harmless to human beings but which possess considerable insecticidal power either as direct destroyers or as discouragers, the latter term indicating that their presence on a plant discourages moths, butterflies, chafers and other breeding females from depositing their eggs upon such a plant. Quassia forms an important ingredient in some of these preventive sprays, and petroleum or paraffin emulsions are also very useful. Both are usually mixed with soft soap or some preparation of a saponaceous character. Let me, however, utter a word of caution regarding the frequently recommended idea of mixing ordinary paraffin or lamp oil with soapsuds. It is extremely difficult to mix effectually such oil in a manner that ensures safety, and with the various proprietary insecticides which are skilfully prepared and put up in convenient canisters to meet the requirements of gardens of all sizes there is little occasion to run the slightest risk of damaging any plants with uncertain home-made mixtures.

Harmless, but very effective insecticides are the well known Abol, Katakilla, Kilzall, Cirengol and the quassia-tobacco insecticides advertised in the columns of THE GARDEN.—L. I. ATRIS.

Digitized by Google

SWEET PEAS AT CHELTENHAM

IT would be difficult to find a more beautiful place for a flower show than the Montpellier Gardens at Cheltenham, where the National Sweet Pea Society held its annual show on the invitation of the Cheltenham Chamber of Commerce on June 30th and July 1st last. The Sweet Pea Show was associated with the annual floral fête of the Spa, and the combined entries were so numerous that 800ft. run of tents were required to contain the exhibits.

As ever, the chief spectacular effect was made by the large trade groups in competition for the City of Bath and the Eastbourne Challenge Cups. Rather more space is allowed for the latter, while in the former competition the flowers included in it must have been grown without shading of any kind. This debars the inclusion of a few varieties principally of orange and scarlet colouring which "burn" when exposed to the full glare of the sun. The need for this restriction is not likely to continue for very long, inasmuch as many of the newer varieties of the shades of colour above named are much more sunproof, and as the annual trials of the Society are grown absolutely in the open, no variety, be it ever so beautiful, is likely to obtain the Society's coveted award unless it be quite sunproof.

At this time of the year all the flowers were grown out of doors—the season of sweet peas grown under glass has been and gone. The Eastbourne Cup was won by Messrs. Sutton and Sons with a magnificent group of exceptionally high quality. Perhaps the outstanding feature of this collection was the intense colouring of such brilliant varieties as Magnet, Royal Scot, Charming and Coraline, while George Shawyer, Powerscourt and Sutton's new white Avalanche were also of very high quality. A large gold medal was awarded to Messrs. Dobbie and Co. for another magnificent collection, and this included Bellford (a new pale cream-coloured variety with an occasional blush flushing), Geneagles (another of their good novelties), Patience, Constance Hinton, Wizard and Britannia. Messrs. Ireland and Hitchcock won a gold medal with an artistically arranged group. Three hanging baskets, which were placed midway in the group, contained splendid spikes of Magnet, Powerscourt and a fine orange-coloured seedling. They also showed Orion of lovely colouring, Lady Keeble (large flowers of salmon-fawn shades), Mauve Prince, Matchless, Powerscourt and their beautiful lavender Lord Lascelles, which received an award of merit two years ago. A silver medal was awarded to Messrs. James Carter and Co. for a tasteful collection of the pink Annie Bowness, which is so effective in the garden, King Mauve, R. F. Felton, 2 LO, Charming, Hebe and others.

Groups of sweet peas were even more numerous in the City of Bath Cup competition. This cup also was won by Messrs. Sutton and Sons, but not so easily as in the former case. They had a very fascinating arrangement of pillars and baskets rising above stands of massed spikes. The chief varieties were Magnet, Hawlmark Pink, Doris Usher, Matchless, Peggie Coraline and Charming. Messrs. Dobbie and Co. were again awarded a large gold medal for an imposing collection of excellent spikes. Their arrangement was very graceful. The principal varieties were Picture, Warrior, Camellia, Elegance, Renown, Magnet and Charming. Mr. J. Stevenson won a gold medal with a fine collection, among which were Magnet, Coraline, Charming, Ivory Picture, Wembley, Purple Perfection and Diana. Messrs. E. W. King and Co. also had an admirable collection, and they included their new varieties Jack Hobbs, Derby Day and Gladys, with Pimpernel, Constance Hinton and the purple Olympia. Silver medals were awarded to Mr. W. J. Unwin, Messrs. W. T. Payne and Son and Messrs. E. Abbott and Sons.

In the chief open classes the principal prizewinners were Sir Randolf Baker, Bt., Ranston Blandford, whose prizes included the Sutton Cup for the eighth successive year and five first prizes in the colour classes. Mr. F. W. Franks, Loampits, Tonbridge, was an exceedingly successful exhibitor. His magnificent exhibit of twelve distinct varieties won the first prize in the *Daily Mail* class, was selected as the best exhibit in all the amateurs' classes, and included the best vase in the Show. He was also a successful exhibitor in the colour classes and had the first prize exhibit of British raised novelties, where he included Coraline, Royal Purple, Fair Lady and Wild Rose of great beauty. In the seedlings classes the best three novelties were Royal Mauve, Delight and Rosy Morn, while the best vase of any one novelty was that of Mrs. A. Searles, which may be considered the outstanding new sweet pea introduced this year. It was raised and shown by Mr. H. J. Damerum.

The champion novice of the year was Mr. N. S. Stacey of Ilfracombe, who won the chief silver medal in the division.

Miss Gwendoline Zelley, won both first prizes in the dinner-table decoration classes with very tasteful arrangements, and Miss Russell won the first prize in the class for a decorated occasional table.

George G. Whitelegg

Specialist in Construction and Planting of
IRIS GARDENS

Write for Catalogue and Terms for Plans.

All the latest varieties are in stock and thousands of new un-named crosses.
Descriptions of these on application

The Nurseries . Chislehurst . Kent

CLAY'S LONDON FERTILIZER TRADE MARK

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with CLAY'S FERTILIZER and then, together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices:—

Tins 10d. and 1/6
and in Branded and Sealed Bags:
7 lbs. - 3/6 14 lbs. - 6/-
28 lbs. - 10/- 56 lbs. - 19/-
112 lbs. - 32/-

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark.

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers, etc. STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15

Digitized by Google

IRIS

of the June-flowering family

THEY are worth thinking of ahead—ordering early and planting at the best time, in July or early August. Put in then, the plants get their toes in before the winter comes. Take steps to order them **now.** Either buy the low-priced collection of excellent varieties offered below for **7/6** the twelve plants or send for our catalogue and make your own selection.

June-flowering Iris:—

Alcazar	Lavender blue and violet.
Archeveque	Reddish violet and deep violet.
Caprice	Reddish mauve and deep rosy red.
Dawn	Sulphur yellow, veined bronze.
Her Majesty	Pale rose and deep red.
Lohengrin	Cattleya mauve.
Mdm. Chereau	White, frilled azure blue.
Mrs. H. Darwin	White, faintly marked violet.
Mrs. Neubronner	Golden yellow.
Oriflamme	Pure blue and blue purple.
Prosper Laugier	Bronzy cinnamon and velvety crimson.
Rhein Nixe	White and violet purple.

One plant each of the 12 varieties, **7/6** post paid.

Have you seen our Hardy Plant Catalogue? It is better than most.

Bakers
FLOWER FARM
CODSALL
Near Wolverhampton

KILL those WEEDS!

Nothing is more wearisome and unsatisfactory than Hoeing and Hand-picking weeds. Why not save your time, your back, your temper by letting

COOPER'S

WEEDICIDE

do the job for you.

1 Gall. (price 9/-) dilutes to 100 Galls. water and is sufficient to treat 300/400 square yards.

Pint 1/9 Quart 3/- ½ gall. 5/- 2 galls. 17/- 5 galls. 36/6.

OF ALL AGENTS.

Write for leaflet "The Weed Problem Solved." Gratis and post free from—

Cooper, McDougall & Robertson, Ltd.,
BERKHAMSTED,

1469

GARDENING OF THE WEEK

FOR SOUTHERN GARDENS.

THE HARDY FRUIT GARDEN.

So far as can be ascertained at present, the apple crop is a poor one, and it will only be in isolated instances where thinning of the fruits will be needed. Moreover, the trees suffered badly from attacks of aphis, especially in gardens surrounded by forest trees and woodlands. In such gardens now is a good time to mark specimens for removal next winter, because it is at this season that the lack of light and air is apparent, rather than when the trees are denuded of their leaves.

Pears have set fairly well on established trees, particularly those afforded the protection of a wall, and unless a portion are removed, the fruits will lack size. The fruits will also benefit by the pruning or shortening back of the young shoots to the fourth or fifth leaf. Such work should be done gradually, otherwise it would have a prejudicial effect. It is a useful rule to start pruning at the top part of the tree, and leave the lower half, where growth is not so rampant, for a few weeks hence. These remarks apply to wall-trained and cordon trees, but a little summer pruning will be needed, also, for bush and pyramidal trained trees, often seen growing in the kitchen garden. Specimens making little growth will not require any summer pruning. Other examples will be extremely vigorous, and here pruning will be necessary, but it is advisable to label a few of them for root pruning directly the leaves have fallen. It is often the only method whereby fruitfulness can be restored.

Morello Cherries are colouring and nets must be provided to prevent birds taking the fruits. Before fixing them, however, the young shoots should be tied in, at the same time exposing the fruit as much as possible.

THE FLOWER GARDEN.

Much has been written concerning the genus iris, but not enough has been said about the I. Kæmpferi section. They are among the most beautiful of plants suitable for growing on the margins of streams and pools. It is not generally known that they can be readily raised from seeds, if sown soon after it is ripe. A few of the best flowers should be marked for this purpose. Sweet peas will need close attention, and if the weather proves dry the roots will require a thorough watering. When the soil is moist a weekly application of weak liquid manure from the cowsheds will be beneficial. If this is not available, a light dressing of an approved fertiliser may be sprinkled on either side of the row and watered in. Remove all faded flowers and seed vessels directly they appear and any growths that need it should be tied to the sticks. Many keen rose growers secure a few briars from the hedgerows during the winter months with the object of budding them in due season. Such work can be done when the sap is flowing freely and this is usually in July. When the bark will rise easily from the wood and the buds will part readily from the trees or bushes it is intended to increase, there will be little difficulty in securing a successful union. Keep everything moist during the operation and tie up with raffia before the air has a chance to dry up the bud.

THE ROCK GARDEN.

A fine early-flowering subject is Primula Wanda, a hybrid of P. Juliæ, and now is a suitable time to divide and replant in a good, loamy soil. A slightly moist position is best, and where it is partially shaded. Other primulas which have been flowering recently should have their old spikes removed, unless seed is required, and the plants can be top-dressed with leaf-mould and a little sand.

THE KITCHEN GARDEN.

With the exception of May Queen, the potato crop is looking well and the earlies are producing fine crops. If disease appears among the latter, they should be lifted and the haulm destroyed by burning. The later or main crop should be sprayed with Bordeaux Mixture. It is time the late crop of celery was planted out, and the early row can be partially earthed up. Before doing so remove all weeds and decaying foliage and tie each plant with raffia to prevent soil entering the centre. If the soil is at all dry, give the trench a thorough watering the day previous to earthing up. Herbs in some instances will soon be in flower and ready for cutting and drying. Dry them gradually in a cool, shady spot and later on tie in bunches and suspend in a dry, airy place until needed. Gradual drying is essential, otherwise much of their flavour will be lost.

Chepstow. T. W. BRISCOE.

FOR NORTHERN GARDENS.

Spring Cabbages.—There are differences of opinion as to when the seed of these should be sown. As a strong plant is a necessity before winter, to obtain such in this locality it has been my practice for years to sow about this date, preferring to risk an advanced growth—which can be retarded by partially lifting and retreading the plants later—than have them too small to winter safely. The selection of suitable kinds is also as important as the date of sowing and the choice of adaptable kinds is limited. Three varieties I have used for years are Harbinger, Sutton's April and Flower of Spring. Make the ground firm, sow in drills sufficiently wide apart to admit of hoeing between, and water the drills before sowing if the soil is dry. Also make a small sowing of onions for spring use as an insurance against the later ordinary sowing being retarded in growth through the inclemency of weather during August and September.

Leeks for the winter supply are now fit to plant out in rich soil. Mark off drills 1ft. apart and 3ins. deep, dropping the plants in holes about 8ins. deep, filling these holes with water, if needful. The combined depth of drill and hole will furnish a suitable length of blanch, which can be increased by lightly earthing up the plants in autumn. The "smalls," if planted later in ground cleared from a previous crop and liberally fed throughout the autumn, will provide a good succession of useful plants for spring supply.

Spinach.—Sow now for autumn and winter pulling, using the prickly seeded long standing variety. Sowing the seed in groups of four to six seeds 8ins. apart economises seed and facilitates thinning.

Lettuce and other salads may yet be sown with every prospect of reaching maturity out of doors.

Onions now beginning to form bulbs will appreciate a little stimulant. Nitrogenous manures require to be used with caution or a grass leaf growth will be formed at the expense of the bulb or soft bulbs that will not keep will be produced. Better results are obtained by applying ½oz. of phosphate of potash or 1oz. superphosphate per gallon of water. Greyish patches appearing on foliage presage an attack of mildew which should be prepared for by dusting with lime or spraying with liver of sulphur. Continue preventive measures to checkmate egg-laying by onion fly.

Carrots, too, are not yet beyond an attack by a late brood of maggots, therefore the measures to ward it off should not be relaxed. Continue to cultivate between the lines as long as may be done without injury to the foliage.

Peas of late varieties should be kept as cool as possible in dry weather. Give water in time and in liberal quantities, conserving this by hoeing or applying a mulch. Mildew usually follows a spell of drought, especially in light soils, for the which spray with liver of sulphur.

Broad Beans should be adequately supported in the lines by running strings on stakes on either side of the row. Pinch out the tips of the plants when there is a good show of blossom, as well to get rid of any black fly there may be as to hasten the formation of pods.

Celery will benefit by plentiful supplies of water. As the plants grow remove all side shoots, protect the leaves from the fly by light dustings of soot or lime. Spray early and frequently with Bordeaux mixture as a preventive of celery leaf blight. Complete the earthing up of late potatoes, leaving the ridges sharp to throw off late summer and early autumn rainfall—which brings disease—on to the lower slopes. Spray with Bordeaux mixture for leaf blight.

Doune, Perthshire. W. MCCARRELL.

Digitized by Google

PENTSTEMON DAVIDSONII.

AMONG the few shrubby pentstemons which we have in cultivation in our rock gardens a high position is taken by that named Pentstemon Davidsonii. It is a truly charming plant 2ins. or 3ins. high, with pretty glaucous green leaves and striking little flowers of a brilliant red. I am not disposed to acquiesce in the diatribe launched at the colour of the flowers by a high authority, who tells us, *inter alia*, that what he calls "aniline-red-mauve" flowers are terrible to look upon in full sun; I fancy that most folks will agree with me that this is an exaggeration. It is not difficult to cultivate on a level part of the rock garden in peat, sand and loam and in a sunny place. It is one of the many plants which call for top-dressing in spring and autumn.—S. A.

TRADE NOTES.

THE new form of lime dressing known as "Ferry"-Phos-lime is, indeed, an excellent one. It is a natural combination of phosphates and lime, containing 45 per cent. carbonate of lime and 35 per cent. of phosphates. It is well known that lime is essential for the maintenance of soil fertility, and this material not only supplies lime to the soil in the best possible form, *i.e.*, in a very fine state of division, but it also adds a liberal dose of phosphates, one of the all-important plant foods. "Ferry"-Phos-lime is non-caustic and is suitable for all kinds of crops and types of soil. It is a product of The Briton Ferry Chemical and Manure Co., Limited, Briton Ferry, South Wales.

SWEET PEA COMPETITION
£50 IN PRIZES

RULES.

A list of your choice of the six most popular sweet peas to be sent in in order of preference on the coupon to be found on page ii of this week's issue of THE GARDEN. *No alternative* varieties will be allowed in the one list, but readers may send in any number of lists, provided that they are written on the special coupon to be found in this and the following issues of THE GARDEN.

Coupons must reach this office not later than Saturday, July 31st (after which date no coupons will be accepted).

The popular vote will be final, and no correspondence will be entered into over this competition.

Envelopes must be marked *Competition* and addressed to THE GARDEN, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

The Editor will not be held responsible for letters missing in the post.

The result will be announced in THE GARDEN in the issue of August 28th.

The prizes are awarded to those whose list corresponds most closely to that arrived at by the popular vote.

If two readers tie for the first place, the first and second prizes will be equally divided; if two for the second place, the second and third prizes will be equally divided.

The Editor's decision on all points will be final.

PRIZES.

1ST PRIZE.—Goods worth £30 from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

2ND PRIZE.—Goods worth £10 from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

3RD PRIZE.—Goods worth £5 from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

20 CONSOLATION PRIZES of 5s. each from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

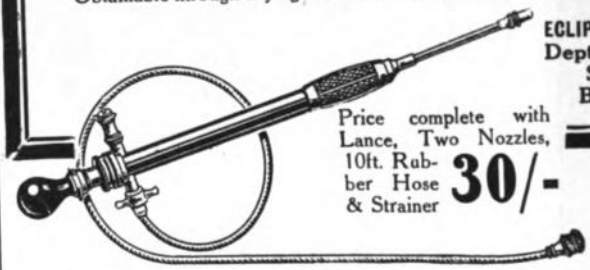
SPRAYING MEANS SAVING

Keep your trees and plants clear of insect pests by regularly spraying them with insecticide — and

use the **ECLIPSE** *"The Sprayer of a thousand uses."*

for the purpose. It is light, easy to handle, no pumping, no back-wash, can be used in any position and allows both hands free to control the spray. Can also be used for disinfecting, limewashing, etc.

Obtainable through any agent. Write for Booklet "War on Disease."



ECLIPSE SPRAYING CO.
Dept. O, Bearwood, Smethwick, Birmingham.

Price complete with Lance, Two Nozzles, 10ft. Rubber Hose & Strainer **30/-**

C.W.P.

For success in your Garden USE

THOMSON'S MANURES

On the market for over 50 years, they still hold first place for QUALITY and RESULTS. They are safe, sure and lasting. The direct result of many years' practical experience in gardening, they stand unrivalled at the present day for all Garden Crops.

Prices:—**VINE, PLANT AND VEGETABLE MANURE**—a Perfect Food—1 cwt., **30/-**; 56 lb., **16/-**; 28 lb., **9/-**; 14 lb., **5/-**; 7 lb., **3/-**; tins, **1/3** and **9d.** **SPECIAL TOP DRESSING MANURE**—an excellent stimulant—56 lb., **17/-**; 28 lb., **9/6**; 14 lb., **5/6**, 7 lb., **3/-**, tins, **1/3**. **Carriage paid on 28 lbs.** and up.

WRITE FOR OUR BOOKLET—POST FREE ON REQUEST.

SOLD BY NURSERYMEN AND SEEDSMEN EVERYWHERE.

Or from Sole Makers, WM. THOMSON & SONS, TWEED VINEYARDS, CLOVENFORDS, SCOTLAND.

THE LEADING GLASS HOUSE FUMIGANT

THOUSANDS OF TOMATO CROPS ENTIRELY SAVED
No alterations needed since first introduced.
Be satisfied with the best, it is the cheapest in the end.
Commended by the Royal Horticultural Society.

Cubic ft.	1,000	2,000	4,000	8,000	16,000	32,000	64,000
	10d.	1/3	2/-	3/6	6/-	10/6	19/-

Also in 2, 5 and 10 gall. FREE drums;
ALSO

"NIQUAS"
THE INSECTICIDE.

(Non-poisonous.)

For destroying Greenfly, Aphis and Caterpillars etc., on all plants and trees.

30 years' reputation.
Many hundreds of Testimonials received.

Equal to any, if not better, and cheaper, so why not use it and save money?

½-pt.	1 pt.	1 qt.	½-gall.	1 gall.	2 gall.	5 gall.	10 gall.
1/-	1/6	2/6	4/-	7/6	15/-	25/-	45/-

CORRY'S CONCENTRATED QUASSIA EXTRACT

½-pt.	1 pt.	1 qt.	½-gall.	1 gall.	2 gall.	5 gall.	10 gall.
9d.	1/3	2/-	3/6	6/6	12/6	23/-	42/-

Sold by Nurserymen and Seedsmen.

CORRY & CO, Ltd., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

Red Spider, Thrips, Black and Green Fly, Mildew, Rust and all Fungoid and Insect Pests are killed with one application of the

INSECTICIDE (Non-Poisonous)

Here is the opinion of a user:
"Kingsclere, Newbury.

"I am writing to testify to the good quality of your Insecticide.

"I had the Black Fly very badly on a crop of Broad Beans, but one single application cleared the plants of every trace of Fly and now are quite clean and healthy and have a good crop of Beans on them. I would recommend anyone to use it, also your Antiseptic.—A. C."

PRICES: 1 qt. 2/9 | ½ gall. 4/3 | 1 gall. 7/6 | 2 galls. 14/- | 5 galls. 20/- | 5 galls. 35/-

All prices carriage paid to the nearest Railway Station for cash with order.

The BRITON FERRY CHEMICAL & MANURE Co., Ltd. (Dept E), Briton Ferry, S. Wales. (Est. 1886).

Digitized by Google

ANTHONY C. VAN DER SCHOOT, LTD.,

Hillegom, Holland. ESTABLISHED 1830.

Fine coloured and fully descriptive catalogue of Bulbs for Autumn-planting, such as Hyacinths, Tulips, Narcissus, Iris, etc., as well as Perennials and Roses free on application.

CARRIAGE PAID. *NO CHARGE FOR PACKING.*

Registered Trade Mark

LARGEST BULB AND PERENNIAL FARMS IN HOLLAND.

BET PEAS AND HOW TO EXCEL
H THEM By HORACE WRIGHT, 9d. net, by post 11d.
ublished at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20,
ane Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

Established 1835

By Appointment.

GREEN'S

World-Renowned

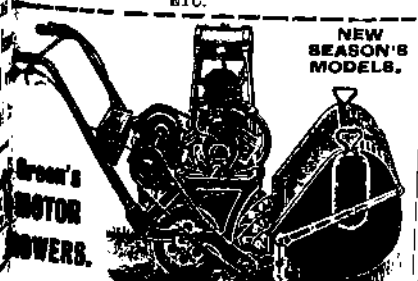
AWN MOWERS

very Lawn Mower made by Green's is the best for its work. Green's hand, horse motor Mowers are world famous for efficiency, simplicity, easy running and excellence of design and construction. Green's Motor Mowers won the Motor Mower Trials held at Regent's Park, London, in May, 1925.

Green's ILENS MESSOR' MOWER. The universal favourite. All sizes.

Also **Green's 'NEW CEN-TURY'** The ideal light mower. Over a million sold.

GREEN'S
GARDEN ROLLERS
TENNIS MARKERS
ETC.



NEW SEASON'S MODELS.

Green's MOTOR MOWERS.

Light Motor Mowers made in the following sizes:
16 ins. - - £45 20 ins. - - £62 10s.
24 ins. - - £72 10s. 30 ins - - £92 10s.
Also heavier type Motor Mowers up to 42 ins.

NEW PRICE LIST No. 8 ON REQUEST.

THOMAS GREEN & SON, Ltd.
Leithfield Ironworks, LEEDS,
and New Surrey Works, Southwark Street, LONDON, S.E.1.

BY APPOINTMENT *TO H.M. THE KING*

KATAKILLA

The Popular Insecticide.

NON-POISONOUS

Harmless to Human Beings and Domestic Animals.

DEADLY TO APHIS & CATERPILLARS
ON
FRUIT, FLOWERS & VEGETABLES.

In Powder form, ready for mixing with water. Clean and easy to use.

2/- cartons (to make 10 gallons), 6/- cartons (to make 50 gallons wash).

OF ALL AGENTS

Write for illustrated Folder "KATAKILLA," gratis and post free, from—

COOPER, McDOUGALL & ROBERTSON,
BERKHAMSTED, HERTS. LTD.

Digitized by Google

"All ready to put into your pipe—*that's handy!*"

PLAYER'S "Medium" Navy Cut Tobacco (Rubbed Ready for Smoking) comes as a great convenience to those Smokers who prefer their tobacco "rubbed up" before filling the pouch.

PLAYER'S
"MEDIUM"
Navy Cut

PLAYER'S NAVY CUT. REGD No 154011.

RUBBED READY FOR SMOKING

P 1316

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION

WAKELEY'S *Celebrated* HOP MANURE
(PATENTED)
THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

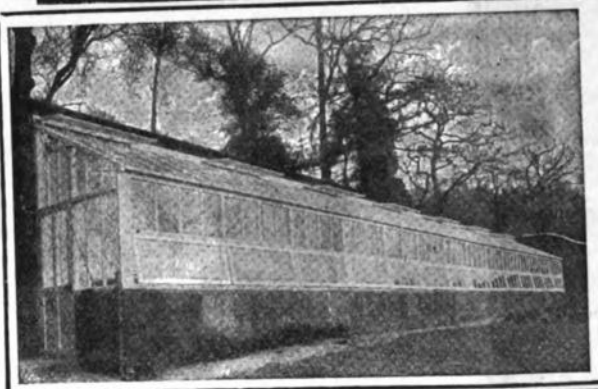
A beautiful Free Booklet giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. GENUINE ONLY IN OUR MARKED BAGS, CONTAINING GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

Cash Prices, including bags: Small (about 1 bushel), 3/- : Large (about 4 bushels), 7/- ; 5 Large, 33/9
10 Large, 65/- : 20 Large, 120.-

Carriage Paid to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company. 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1



GREENHOUSES AND GARDEN FRAMES

I specialize in the Erection of High-class Horticultural Buildings.
Garden Frames a speciality. Selected timber, well seasoned, only used.
Being a grower, I understand Glass-house requirements.
SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.
CATALOGUES WITH PLEASURE

E. M. HEAP, Cottimore Nurseries, WALTON-ON-THAMES.

AFTER 23 YEARS—

AN ELOQUENT PROOF OF UNFAILING AND USEFUL SERVICE.

"A better Greenhouse Boiler could not be than the 'Horse Shoe.' I have had it in use for 23 years, and it has answered splendidly." writes Mr. F. G. L.....47. Mt. Carmel, Derby. 23/11/1925.

"HORSE SHOE" BOILERS

CAN BE SUPPLIED FROM IMMEDIATE STOCK.

Write for particulars now.

To CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD.,
Engineers, Southwark Street, S.E.1.

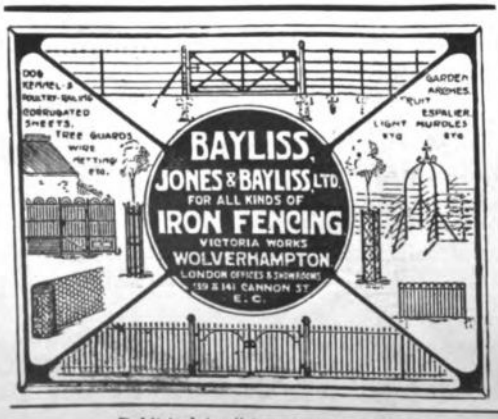
Please send me Booklet E "Making the Most of Your Greenhouse," and price of complete Outfit to suit *(span-roof) (lean-to) greenhouse.....long .....wide inside, sides of *(wood) (brick).....thick.

Name.....

Address.....

*Strike out particulars not needed. Cut out and send by 1d. post.

CHAS. P. KINNELL & Co., Ltd., 65, Southwark St., LONDON, S.E.1.
Wire: "Kinnell-Boroh-London." Phone: Hop 362 (three lines.)



YOUR LAWN!

TRUE PLAY *IN MANY LAWN GAMES IS IMPOSSIBLE UNLESS THE SURFACE IS CLEAR OF DAISIES AND OTHER WEEDS — THE BEST METHOD OF ERADICATION IS ~*

LAWN SAND

Velvas

applied 5 oz. per Square Yard.

MAKES VELVETY LAWNS

CARRIAGE PAID PRICES.

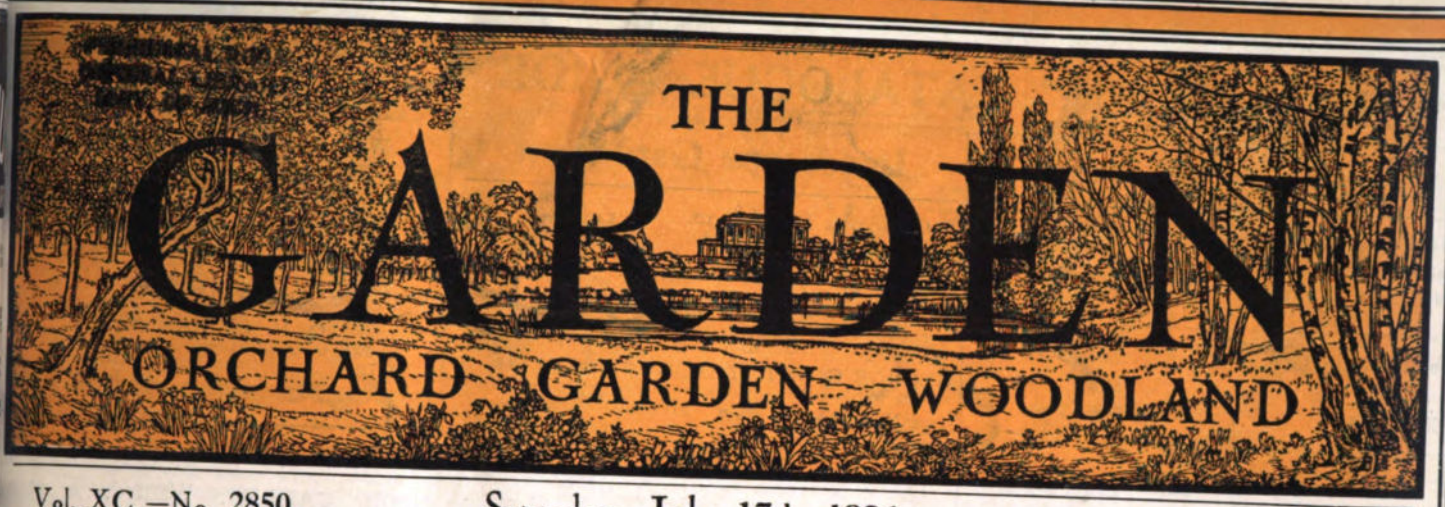
112 lb. Keg,	29/6	112 lb. Bag,	28/6	14 lb. Tin,	6/-
56 lb. "	16/-	56 lb. "	14/3	7 lb. "	4/-
28 lb "	10/6	28 lb. "	9/3	3 lb. "	2/6

Sole Manufacturers
ROBINSON BROTHERS Ltd, WEST BROMWICH

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

JUL 27 1926



THE GARDEN

ORCHARD GARDEN WOODLAND

Vol. XC.—No. 2850 Saturday, July 17th, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

Barr's Seeds for July Sowing

OF FINEST STRAINS AND TESTED GROWTH

For the Flower Garden.

Antirrhinums, Aquilegias, Campanulas, Delphiniums, Forget-me-nots, Gaillardias, Geums, Hollyhocks, Lupins, Pansies, Papavers, Polyanthus-Primroses, Sweet Williams, Stocks, Violas, etc.

For the Vegetable Garden

Beet, Cabbage, Carrots, Cress, Mustard, Onions, Peas, Parsley Turnips, Radish, etc.

For the Rock Garden

Special List of dwarf-growing Hardy Perennials, Alpines etc., for July sowing in the Rock Garden.

All Lists free on application.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

NETTINGS

GARDEN NETS FOR FRUIT PROTECTION

Any lengths and widths. Corded all round

	per sq. yd.		per sq. yd.
NEW 1 in. sq. mesh, heavy ..	6½d.	NEW ⅝ in. sq. mesh, medium ..	7½d.
NEW 1 in. " medium ..	5½d.	REPAIRED 1 in. sq. mesh, heavy	3½d.
NEW ¾ in. " light ..	5½d.	REPAIRED ¾ in. " "	4d.

REPAIRED (not corded) 1 in. diamond mesh, **9/-** per 100 sq. yards.

NEW TENNIS BOUNDARY NETS

Any lengths and widths. Corded all round. **7d.** per sq. yard.

NEW TENNIS NETS

Various qualities from **16/-** to **31/-** each.

NETS FOR ALL PURPOSES

Samples and full particulars from the manufacturers.

JOSEPH BENTLEY, Ltd., Barrow-on-Humber, LINCS.

(Sole Proprietors of B. EDDY & SONS)

"ACME" WEED KILLER

Awarded Gold Medal at Anglo-American Exhibition and Bronze Medal by Royal Horticultural Society.

Has stood the test of over 30 years.

POWDER, LIQUID AND NON-POISONOUS.

LAWN SAND destroys Weeds and Moss in Grass.

Extract of Quassia Insecticide

Quassia - Tobacco Insecticide

Write for Price List.

The ACME CHEMICAL CO. Ltd.

TONBRIDGE, KENT

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

FOR THE GARDEN! FOR EXHIBITION!

FOR BEDS! FOR EVERYWHERE!

Also Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees, Alpines and Hardy Plants.

BUY HOME-GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries.

Catalogue Free on Application, and Addresses booked for Revised Catalogue in late Summer.

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.,

Garden Specialists - - SOUTHWELL, NOTTS

All Prices Reduced *All Prices Reduced*

SMITH'S

"PERFECT" WEED KILLER

POWDER

Also in Liquid—All Sized Drums.

First Weed Killer ever offered and first ever since.

SMITH'S "PERFECT" NON-POISONOUS LIQUID AND POWDER

Best Value. Most Reliable. Full Satisfaction Guaranteed. Prices and Particulars of—

MARK SMITH, LTD., LOUTH, LINCOLNSHIRE

NETTINGS

Carefully selected whole nets. ¾-inch diamond mesh.

25 yds.	13 yds.	£1 17 6	3 nets for	£5 10 0
50 yds.	13 yds.	£3 15 0	3 nets for	£11 2 0
75 yds.	13 yds.	£5 12 6	3 nets for	£16 15 0
100 yds.	13 yds.	£7 10 0	3 nets for	£22 5 0

Stock sizes, 50 by 4 yds., 25 by 8 yds., 100 by 2 yds., **25/-** piece.

The above are a splendid lot of small-mesh nets which are used in the pilchard fishery on this coast, and we can assure our customers they are the best nets obtainable.

New, stout, 1-in. square mesh nets, bound with cords, **5d.** per square yard, medium ¾in., **4½d.**, selected repaired ¾-in., **3d.**; 1-in., **2½d.** square yard.

NEW TENNIS BOUNDARY NETTING.

Steam tarred, square mesh, bound with cords.

	Per sq. yd.		Per sq. yd.
Heavy	7d.	Little lighter	4½d.
Medium	6½d.	Selected repaired	3d.

All goods carriage paid, passenger train, receipt order.

Samples and particulars from the Manufacturers:

W. OLIVER ALLEN & SONS,

Net Makers, PORTHLEVEN, CORNWALL.

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
— New Alpines and Perennials. Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
— Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
— Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
— Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD,
CHELSEA, S.W.
— Perennial and Rock Plants Seed. List on Application

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
— Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

H. PRINS
BULB AND PLANT GROWERS
WISBECH, CAMBS.
— Bulb list free on application

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
— Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
— Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
HULL
— Weed Destroyers Fertilisers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

Grateful White-fly!

White-fly, we hope, are grateful for your tomatoes. We suggest XL ALL White-fly Vapour as the surest interruption to their feast. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen and florists.

XL ALL WHITE-FLY VAPOUR

G. H. RICHARDS, LTD.
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
R. 157. Monomark: BCM/XLALL.

SITUATION WANTED.

ROCK GARDEN.—Wanted, a man experience (married), with practical knowledge of Rock their propagation, planting and display, to take charge of a rock garden of considerable size. Good Write, stating experience and wages required, to Box GARDEN, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W

"THE GARDEN" Sweet Pea Competition

Name.....

Address.....

.....

1 .....
2 .....
3 .....
4 .....
5 .....
6 .....

Coupon July 17th

OUT OUT AROUND LINE.

PRICE'S COMPLETE GARDEN FERTILISER

Promotes strong, healthy plants.

If stored in a dry place will keep any length of time.

Sold in 7-lb. containers - - **2s. 6d.**
Also supplied in 1-cwt. and ½-cwt. bags.

PRICE'S PATENT CANDLE COMPANY LIMITED, BATTERSEA, LONDON, S.W.11.

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND, SCULPINE, NICOTINE, INSECTICIDES, FUNGICIDES, SPRAYS AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES—THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY. IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT, CARRIAGE PAID.

Only Address: TOMLINSON & HAYWARD LTD. LINCOLN

MANURES.

The most complete little book on the subject is "The Manual of Manures," by H. VENDLEMANS, 4/5; by post, 4/9. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.

THE GLORY OF JUNE

THE TALL BEARDED IRISES make a brave show of colour in the garden at a time when flowers for cutting are not too plentiful. These should be planted now to get well-established plants to bloom next season. Our stocks are strong and healthy and we have a wide range of beautiful varieties.

WRITE FOR PARTICULARS AND PRICES.

LOWE & GIBSON - - Crawley Down, SUSSEX

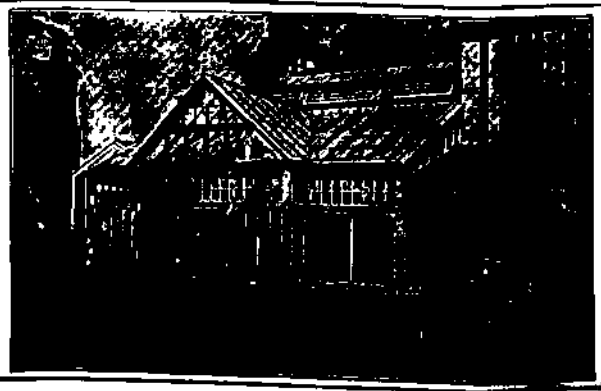
The WIZARD Plant LABEL

PATENT No 212974

Made in Red Pottery, 2¼ x 1½ ins., with rustless wires. 12 in., 2/- doz.; 7 in., 1/7 doz. 1½ x 1 in., with wires 6 in., 1/4 doz. For tying on, 1/6 and 1/3 doz. Waterproof Ink, 9d. and 7½d. bot. Crow Quills, 2d. Postage extra.

Highly commended by the R.H.S. at Wisley.

E. TORKINGTON . NEW HALL . MAIDENHEAD



FOSTER & PEARSON LIMITED

Established 1841

Please write for Estimates for durable Greenhouses, Boilers, etc., to

BEESTON NOTTS

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

Britain's Great Cabbage.

WEBB'S EMPEROR CABBAGE.
The earliest, best and most popular Spring Cabbage in cultivation, 4d., 6d. and 1/- per packet, 1/9 per ounce. "Your Emperor Cabbage has again proved worthy of the name you give it, 'Britain's Great Cabbage.' I should like to go one better and describe it as 'The World's Best Cabbage,' as year after year it proves highly satisfactory with me as with others to whom I supply plants. I put in the Seed the third week in July, 1925, and was cutting splendid Cabbage April 18th. I did not have one bolt, and for quality and early productiveness it has surpassed all others."—F. DALE, Esq., Leamington Spa.
WEBB & SONS, LTD., THE KING'S SEEDSMEN, STOURBRIDGE

WATERER'S GOLD MEDAL RHODODENDRONS, Azaleas, Rare Hardy Shrubs, Alpine and Perennial Plants, Bulbs, Roses and Fruit Trees, Vegetable and Flower Seeds, for Summer Sowing.—JOHN WATERER, SONS AND CRISP, LIMITED, Twyford, Berks; Bagshot, Surrey; and London.

HIMALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODENDRONS on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and Alpine Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write for Catalogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

WELLS' CATALOGUE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS will be sent post free on application.—W. WELLS AND CO., Merstham, Surrey.

WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE.—The original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See advert. on back page.

WM. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., Lawrence Road, South Tottenham, N.15. — Conservatories, Winter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

BIRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUNDIALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—MOORTON, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

FENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Garden Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request. — THE STANLEY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, Surrey.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

A NAIL WRITES WEBSTER'S LABELS of new metal, can't fade or break. 20 sizes to hang or stand.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

CASCADE WONDER NOZZLES spread or pour, dirt don't choke, no taking off, not mislaid, fit any can. 2/9 free.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

WIRE NETTING.—From 2/5 per 50yd. roll. Cheapest House in the Kingdom. Write us for prices. Thousands of rolls stocked.

TENTS.—Army Bell, all complete, new fittings, deep walls. Scout, Bathing, and Garden Tents, also Marquees. Write us for prices.

DEFY THE BIRDS.—Rotless Tanned Netting. Small mesh as supplied by us to the Royal Gardens. Three Qualities. Greatly reduced. 50 x 1yd., 3/3, 3/9, 5/9; 2yds., 6/6, 7/6, 11/6; 3yds., 9/9, 11/3, 17/3; 4 yds., 13/-, 15/-, 23/-; 6yds., 19/6, 22/6, 34/6; 25 x 8yds., 13/-, 15/-, 23/- Any size supplied. Carriage paid. Approval. Measured mesh closed.

TENNIS BOUNDARY NETTING.—Lines top and bottom. 25 x 2yds., 16/3; 3yds., 18/3; 4yds., 25/3 Carriage paid. Approval. Standards for fixing to, also Playing Nets, Poles and all requisites supplied.

LAWN MOWERS.—Five Riveted Blades. High Wheels. Brass Bushings. Close Cutting. Highly Finished. Unequalled Value. 8in., 20/6; 10in., 21/6; 12in., 22/6; 14in., 24/-. Grass Boxes, 8/6 each. Garden Rollers, 30/-.

BAMBOO CANES.—Strong, 3ft., 3/5; 4ft., 5/9; 5ft., 10/11; 6ft., 14/6 per hundred. Carriage paid.—E. B. HAWTHORN, LIMITED, Dept. E, Shrewsbury.

BARR'S SEEDS FOR JULY SOWING.—HARDY PERENNIALS and ALPINES for the FLOWER and ROCK GARDEN and the most suitable VEGETABLE SEEDS for Summer Sowing. Finest Selected Strains and Tested Growth. Special Lists Free.—BARR & SONS, 11, 12 and 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760 yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

FLAME FLOWER. (Tropæolum speciosum). Extra strong established pot plants of this loveliest of scarlet flowered perennial climbers ready for planting any time now 1/- each, 6 for 5/-, 12 for 10/, carriage paid for cash with order.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED, Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial : Efficiency in the Garden ..	401
Climbing Hybrid Tea Roses Worth Growing	402
Some Old-fashioned Plants—I	403
Cactus Flowers	404
Some Useful Iris Hybrids	405
Notes of the Week	406–408
Arisarum proboscideum ; A Curious Form of Cryptomeria japonica ; Abies grandis ; Viola gracilis major ; Lilium Martagon dalmaticum Cataniæ ; Day Lilies ; For the Old Wall ; Dianthus neglectus ; The Erodiums ; Glyptostrobus heterophyllus.	
Correspondence	408–409
Verbascum phœniceum ; Senecio glastinifolius ; The Packing of Plants ; Dean Hole and his Roses ; Anopterus glandulosus ; Berberis chitria.	
The Flower Garden	409–410
Sweet Peas ; Campanula persicifolia ; Roses, Propagation by Cuttings ; Fuchsias—Bud-dropping ; Arum Lilies.	
Fruit and Vegetables	411
Morello Cherries ; Raspberries ; Turnips ; Summer Salads ; The Epicure Potato in Scotland.	
Gardening of the Week	412
Horticulture at the Royal Show	414

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL DELPHINIUMS and ROSES. Send a postcard for our catalogue.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S CHOICE DAFFODILS AND TULIPS and other Bulbs. Bulb catalogue will be ready in July and will be sent free on application.—"Order early and Plant early" to avoid disappointment.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

THE DOG : MAN'S FIRMEST FRIEND.—How to choose and care for him, by A. CROXTON SMITH. A copy of this helpful booklet on the housing, breeding, feeding and care of dogs will be sent post free on receipt of 11d., addressed to The Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

DOBBIE'S PLANT CATALOGUE now ready. Free to all readers. Please mention THE GARDEN when writing —DOBBIE AND CO., LIMITED, Edinburgh.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

GARDEN NETS.—Best tanned, small mesh; 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 25yds. by 3yds., 6/-; 25yds. by 4yds., 8/-. Carr. Paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Tennis nets from 10/-. Special nets for tennis boundary. Pea training nets. Lists and samples free.—G. JARRETT, Netmaker, Rye.

ROCK AND ALPINE PLANTS.—Large and varied collection. All pot grown. Packed and carriage paid. Catalogue free.—M. J. PIGGOTT, Duffield, Nr. Derby.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING, small mesh: 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds. 4/-; 40yds. by 1yd., 3/3; 40yds. by 2yds., 6.6; 40yds. by 3yds., 9/9. Measured mesh closed. Special Pea Netting supplied. Tennis Nets from 8/-. Carriage Paid. Compare our netting with others. Sports lists and samples free.—GALLOP, Net Manufacturer, Hastings.

GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS — CHOICE TULIPS, &c. List on application.—THE WELSH BULB FIELDS, St. Asaph.

HERRING NETS, Small Mesh, to protect all kinds of fruit, approximately 80ft x 30ft., 12/6 each. Smaller pieces, 5/- and 6/6, good value. Carriage paid. Cash with order.—WM. G. GRIGOR, Port Gordon Station, Banffshire.

LOOK ! TANNED GARDEN NETS.—All orders dispatched same day. 25yds. by 1yd, 2/-; 25 by 2, 4/-; 25 by 3, 6/-. Odd netting for bushes, 6lbs. for 2/6. All carriage paid. Any sizes supplied. Also Tennis Boundary Nets.—MOORE AND CO., Net Works, Rye.

LAXTON'S STRAWBERRIES.—New List Containing Novelties for 1926. Prolific, Rearguard, Robust. Also The Duke, Royal Sovereign and all the old Favourites. Plants in small pots for forcing.—LAXTON BROTHERS, Nurseries, Bedford.

PUPILS given general nursery instruction.—Particulars, H. HOPKINS, Waterford Nurseries, Lymington, Hants.

RARE PRIMULA AND ALPINE SEEDS from large (2,000) collection. Also seedlings and plants. Lists free.—REV. J. F. ANDERSON, Glen Hall, Leicester.

THE CULTURE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS. By W. WELLS, 2/6 net; cloth, 3/6 net; by post 6d. extra. —Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE" LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

A CATALOGUE of gardening books will be sent free on application to "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

LEEK PLANTS.—Strong plants of our famous Giant Musselburgh now ready, 1/9 per 100, c.w.o., free by post, low quotations for large quantities. Price lists free.—DICKSONS, 20, Charlotte Square, Edinburgh.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING, best selected small mesh, 25 yards by 2 yards, 4s., or 4 yards 8s., or 8 yards 16s., carriage paid. Cheaper kinds supplied. Tennis Nets and Standards. Lists free.—STRAWBERRY NETTING CO. Offices: 5, Suffolk Terrace, Lowestoft.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

GEO. BUNYARD & Co., Ltd., MAIDSTONE

IRIS SPECIALISTS

IRISES FOR—
BORDERS and BANKS,
MOIST SITUATIONS,
ROCK GARDENS, &c.
Rare Varieties for Pot and Frame Culture. List Free.

GOLD MEDALS
Chelsea - - 1926
R.H.S. - - 1924
Chelsea - - 1922
and many other Awards

Established 1796.

DESIGNS FOR IRIS GARDENS PREPARED AND EXECUTED.

NOTE.—The Germanica or Flag Irises have now finished flowering and may be safely transplanted. Write for LIST.

AUTUMN FLOWERING CROCUS & COLCHICUMS

For planting in JULY and AUGUST to ensure flowers for the present Year.

	Doz.	100.	1,000.
Crocus medius.—One of the most handsome of Autumn-flowering Croci, flowers of a rich violet colour with rich orange stigmata	6/-	40/-	–
" **ochroleucus.** Creamy white with orange base	2/6	15/-	–
" **Salzmanni erectophyllus.** — Rich lilac purple	2/6	15/-	–
" **speciosus.** Rich blue flowers with orange red anthers ..	2/6	15/-	–
" **speciosus Aitchisonii.** A most beautiful form, its handsome lavender flowers often 5ins. across, are produced as freely as in the type	4/-	25/-	–
" **zonatus.** Rosy lilac, very beautiful, one of the freest flowering of all	1/6 2/-	7/6 10/-	70/- 90/-
Colchicums (Meadow Saffrons)			
" **autumnale album plenum.** Large double white tuberose - like flowers, each 2/6	27/-	–	–
" **Bornmulleri.** Immense flowers of lilac rose with white centres	4/6	30/-	–
" **giganteum.** Very vigorous, bearing numbers of large expanded flowers of soft rose shaded to white ..	4/-	25/-	–
" **speciosum.** — Tulip - like flowers of a rosy crimson colour, a very handsome plant	5/-	35/-	–
" **speciosum album.** Large tulip-like flowers of ivory white. Each 1/6. ..	15/-	–	–

Complete list of Crocus species and Colchicums will be sent on application.

T. SMITH,
Daisy Hill Nursery, NEWRY

The Seaside Planting of Trees and Shrubs

By Alfred Gaut, F.R.H.S. 28 Illustrations. 5/- net. By post, 5/6.

"Country Life" Library, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

FERTILIZERS for the garden

Better, bigger crops will more than repay the cost of Fertilizers.
Illustrated Catalogue of Fertilizers for all garden crops, with full instructions, from

JOSEPH FISON & Co. LTD
IPSWICH

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by "ALPHOL"
Sample 14 lb., 3/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Verifeed" Seeds, etc., to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

Make this into rich Manure

Lawn mowings, weeds, leaves, etc., should never be wasted. As your garden refuse accumulates, build it into a heap, treating each fresh addition of rubbish with—

ADCO

In a few months you will have a plentiful supply of rich organic fertiliser.
1 cwt. ADCO makes from 2-3 tons of MANURE according to the class of rubbish used.

ADCO ACCELERATOR
(for lawn mowings and soft green refuse)
28 lb., 4/6 ... 56 lb., 8/- ... 1 cwt., 15/-

STANDARD ADCO
(for all other rubbish, bracken and straw)
28 lb., 6/- ... 56 lb., 11/6 ... 1 cwt., 20/-
Carriage paid to nearest Goods Station. Cash with order.
Stocked by all leading Seedsmen, Harrods Ltd., etc.

ADCO LTD., HARPENDEN HERTS.

PERRY'S NEW IRISES

Special offer of June-flowering varieties now ready, free.

One of the most complete collections in existence.

HARDY PLANT FARM, Enfield, MIDDX.

VOL. XC.—No. 2850. JULY 17, 1926

EFFICIENCY IN THE GARDEN

MANY of our readers will probably have noticed how much importance we place in the technique of gardening; that is to the many technical methods that have to be understood if plants of the highest quality are to be grown. It may seem that I am constantly drawing attention in these editorial notes to the necessity of understanding the requirements of plants and of paying great attention to their correct cultivation if they are to give of their best. It may be said that life is too short for any individual to learn the intricacies of the correct cultivation of a host of plants; but that is not ture. Once proved to be successful the lesson is there and does not have to be learned another year. Also, in most cases modern methods are a saving of labour, not an increase. On the other hand, it must not be expected that everything can be learnt in a day.

In the course of the year many gardens are seen, new and old. The old for the moment we can leave alone, for those who work in them have probably learned from experience the limit to which they can go. It is to some points about new gardens that I wish to draw attention. The owner of a new garden, or a garden in the making, or a garden only planned on paper, often flies too high to begin with. A plan may look well on paper, but I have noticed that it is only too often designed before the preferences of the owner in the way of plants are formed. He may like flowers in a general sense but have no decided views in which direction his tastes lie, whether rock garden, shrubs, bulbs, herbaceous or annual border. He sees the plan, expresses satisfaction and the work is commenced. Often it exists only as an architectural shape, and imagination will not carry him far enough to see it as a finished entity three years hence. The immediate surroundings of the house should, of course, be settled once and for all, but I do suggest, where preferences are still undecided, that a portion of the area of the garden, however small, should be left until a definite line of gardening is settled on. It saves much trouble in the future. I have noticed with dismay the haste with which a new garden is finished on many occasions. The preparatory work, so very important, is skimped, and plants are shoved in, often in a haphazard fashion. Everything is carried out in a hurry, to give an immediate result. This does not make for efficiency. It is often doubtful if the area gardened is not too large for the labour at the owner's disposal. Plants will fail and their failure will be laid to the plant, not to lack of preparation and cultivation. It is much better to ignore the immediate effect and see that a portion is properly dug and manured and planted. Take a herbaceous border, for instance; thorough preparation and a due regard for the quality of the plants therein means that it will not need much attention for three years. In the meantime other portions can be thoroughly dealt with, and so, in time, a garden will be formed that is not only well made and properly planted, but also fits in with the owner's personal likes and predilections. Successful alteration is one of the most difficult of all garden tasks, and all alterations should be avoided as much as possible.

The magnificent exhibits that are staged by the trade throughout the country, and particularly at the fortnightly shows at Vincent Square, perhaps set such a standard, not only of excellence of variety but also of cultivation, that it is difficult for the amateur to attempt to reach such heights. It may be said with truth that it is hopeless for the ordinary gardener to try to compete with specialists, but this high standard is necessary, if only to show what can be done. It is the fact that it is almost unapproachable to the amateur, who may try to grow dozens of plants in a small area, that it is constantly egging him on to greater effort. Certain neighbourhoods and soils suit different plants, and it is always as well to find out what succeeds in your neighbourhood before your garden is completed. If you have a sufficient groundwork of well suited plants to make your garden a pleasant place, then you can start off experimenting if you like, but not before. But whatever you do, do not skimp your cultivation. Much can be done with the greatest weed with care, and the converse is equally true: the finest variety may be a hopeless failure if it is maltreated. E. H. M. C.

OUR SWEET PEA COMPETITION: £50 IN PRIZES

Owing to the fact that for some districts this competition opened too early, we are putting off the closing date to July 31st.

(See page 414).

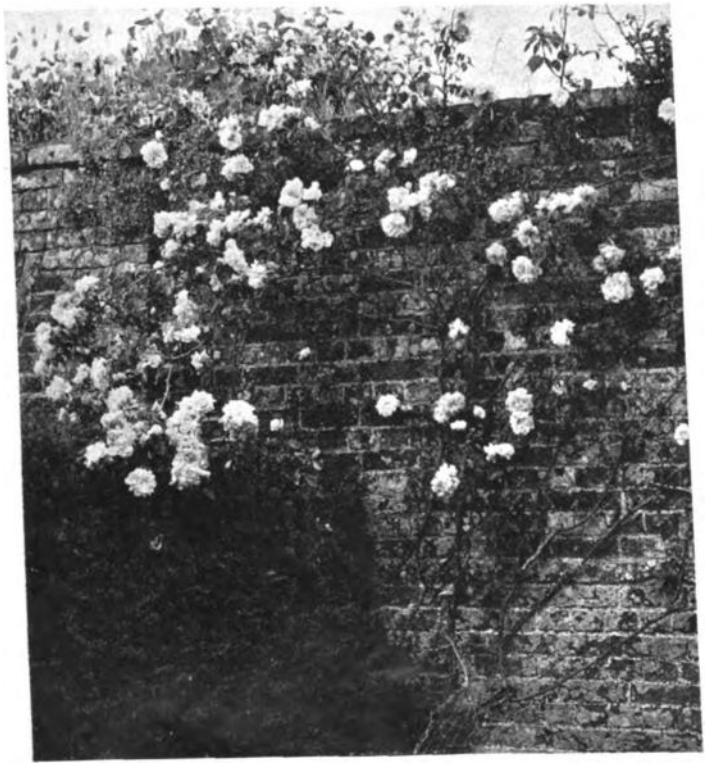
Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

JULY 17, 1926

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.; Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2.
Offices for Advertisements: 6–11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

CLIMBING HYBRID TEA ROSES WORTH GROWING



WALL ROSES.

THE mystery is still unravelled as to why roses and other flowers should produce "sports"; for these climbing forms of various roses are but "sports" from the original variety. Doubtless, if the cause were known, we should have climbing sports of most of our popular roses, for no one can discount their value in the modern rose garden.

But why is it that we have a comparatively new variety like Sunstar giving a climbing sport a year after its introduction, and in an old variety like Mme. Abel Chatenay we had to wait over twenty years before a climbing sport appeared?

The rose is, perhaps, more inclined to sportiveness than any other flower, and our collection contains many valuable additions by this means. For instance, Mme. Butterfly from Ophelia, Lady Roberts from Anna Olivier, W. E. Wallace from Gorgeous, and probably Wm. F. Dreer from Los Angeles, or *vice versa*, for I have had Wm. F. Dreer appearing on a plant of Los Angeles and also Los Angeles on Wm. F. Dreer.

I am glad to find the general public are becoming more inclined to plant these climbing hybrid teas, and when they are properly handled their value will be fully appreciated. Grown as pillars they are most successful, and, in a way, they lend a dignity to the rose garden. Standard roses, when well developed, make a glorious show, but some object to the bare stem of the standard rose, whereas with a pillar rose we may have blossom from base to summit.

I strongly advise little or no pruning of climbing hybrid teas the first season after planting. A rambler rose may be cut back hard the first season with advantage, but not so the climbing hybrid tea. If hard pruned some of the kinds are liable to revert to the dwarf form; but if left unpruned, in course of time strong basal growths will often appear the first year, and then the next year one or more of the original growths may be cut away and the basal growths take their place.

Some rosarians have complained of the shy flowering propensity of the climbing hybrid teas. I would ask for the exercise of patience. We do not expect a fruit tree to bear fruit the first year, and even the second year we do not look for much. The fact is, we need to encourage lateral growths on the long upright shoots. These laterals are pruned fairly hard the second year, and usually flowers will appear. But in some varieties it is from the sub-laterals—that is, laterals springing from the first laterals—that we obtain the best blossoms.

If we are growing these climbing hybrid teas as pillars—which is, perhaps, the best method, although they do well on walls—we may find them inclined to become lanky—that is, new growths do not come from the base, but about 2ft. or 3ft. from the ground. To check this, it is a good plan to form a tripod and twine the growths in a serpentine fashion around this. I have even seen them trained as we do an espalier fruit tree.

If a plant has become tall and gawky, take it down from the upright and twine it around three or more stakes, and it will soon yield young growths lower down.

Many of these climbing hybrid teas make splendid standards and, although not so graceful as the wichuraiana for weeping standards, yet they make nice spreading informal heads which are a relief to the somewhat rigid ordinary standard.

There are now nearly fifty varieties of these climbing hybrid teas and pernetiana roses. I need not allude to the older varieties, for they are so well known; but there are a few recent sports that cannot fail to be much sought after, and I will name a few of the best:

CLIMBING LOS ANGELES.—A true climbing form of this grand rose. Last season, under glass, I had growths 15ft. long.

CLIMBING GENERAL MCARTHUR gives us a brilliant red that will be very useful. This also has the true climbing habit.

CLIMBING MRS. HERBERT STEVENS will be largely planted and will supersede for outdoors the old climbing Niphetos.

CLIMBING SUNSTAR should be valuable, although I would not plant it against a wall, as it would be too evanescent.

CLIMBING GOLDEN OPHELIA will provide a fine golden colour, hitherto rather deficient in this group.

CLIMBING HOOSIER BEAUTY should be a real acquisition. We all know the glorious colour of the dwarf form. Its spreading growth does not make it a good bedder, but a fine pillar of this would provide a brilliant effect in the garden.

CLIMBING DEAN HOLE should be good, especially as a wall rose; also

CLIMBING MRS. EDWARD MAWLEY.—Exhibitors should find this latter useful. Where one possesses an old variety of little value on a south wall, I would advise budding it on nice young growths with Climbing Mrs. Edward Mawley. If all the growths of the old variety were cut away the following autumn save those that were budded, we should have a fine big plant the next summer.

CLIMBING MME. E. HERRIOT makes a grand flaming pillar, although it is less vigorous than some.

CLIMBING LYON ROSE should be a fine wall variety.

CLIMBING MME. BUTTERFLY may prove good, but we have already Climbing Ophelia, so it hardly seems to be wanted.

CLIMBING MRS. AARON WARD is fine, and its lovely orange buds will make it welcome.

CLIMBING LAURENT CARLE and

CLIMBING JONKHEER J. L. MOCK will be useful, for we all know how valuable these old fragrant roses are, although lately they have somewhat dropped out of favour.

CLIMBING WILLOWMERE may also be valuable.

If someone would now come along and give us a Climbing Golden Emblem, we should be well supplied with these beautiful climbing roses.

Although not grouped as climbing roses in the ordinary sense, there are a few others that may well be utilised for pillars, and these are Alan Chandler, Souvenir de Charles Denoyel, Miss Marion Manifold, Sunny South and Black Boy, all excellent and quite recent introductions.

WALTER EASLEA.

Digitized by Google

SOME OLD-FASHIONED PLANTS

IN dealing with a few of those old-time plants which were known and loved for generations in English gardens, but which have now for the most part fallen on evil days, I shall confine my references to those of special garden merit. Our affections for many a plant may be kept warm merely by sentiment, or long association, but there is a fair number of the old-timers which have, in addition, a more substantial claim upon us. These are things we cannot afford to lose. In spite of the inrush of novelties, their places have never been filled quite as they filled them. If some of them are all but extinct, there remain many which, though seldom seen in our modern gardens, are still obtainable in the trade, and that in itself is, I think, eloquent testimony as to their value.

Every now and then one or other of these old-world plants enjoys a revival, and this is heartening; it gives one hope for the fate of others. Take sweet rocket, for example. Hesperis matronalis fl. pl. has been known to us for nearly 400 years. Not long ago it was difficult to get a decent plant anywhere of this fragrant, stock-like plant. But it has recently shown signs of coming into its own to the extent of being used as a bedder in at least one northern municipal garden! H. matronalis fl. pl. will not do in my light hot soil as it does in some places, but it is always worth trying, especially the dwarf, compact Scotch strain.

Francoa ramosa, the maiden's wreath, and F. sonchifolia are rare in gardens, but both are hardy enough for all but the bleakest localities, as cottagers of years ago knew full well. In a very dry, poor soil they have flourished for many years with me, and last winter, which killed off most things in any way tender, left them unharmed. The 3ft. spikes of white, or rosy pink, are distinctly elegant; they are good for cutting, and are on show in August when so many border plants are going off, especially where the soil is thin and hot.

Another splendid plant that has suffered in public esteem from the supposition that it is too tender for outdoors is Lobelia Tupa, which came to us as Tupa Fuelli 100 years ago. "Never heard of it," is the remark of most people when they see its great pyramid of red-ribbed, foxglove leafage towering to a height of 6ft and terminating in bold spires of crimson-scarlet flowers. But this excellent subject is quite reliable under average conditions in a free soil, and, being strictly herbaceous, it is always possible to cover the crown with a mound of ashes

THE SWEET ROCKET, IN CULTIVATION FOR 400 YEARS, IS NOW IN FAVOUR AGAIN.

VIOLA CORNUTA SHOULD NOT BE NEGLECTED.

should any doubt exist. With similar treatment, Melianthus major, the honey plant, will make a ready response. Coming from the Cape two centuries ago, this handsome thing was at one time much more commonly seen in gardens and it is well worth reviving both as a flowering border and foliage plant. Its glaucous foliage, rising to 6ft., is, I think, much more attractive than that of Bocconia cordata when used for similar purposes, and M. major does not become a weed, as the latter is liable to do. Sown early enough, the honey plant will go up to 4ft. in its first season, and may thus be treated as an annual.

There is a quaint old-time flavour about the tradescantias, or spiderworts, which is always attractive, but it is a long time since I have seen any but those of the virginica set, and some of these, the double ones for example, seem now to be rare. With their extraordinarily wide range of vivid colours and the fresh green of their grassy leaves these plants make a delightful group in some partly shaded corner and they often look remarkably well in woodland with native ferns and other natural herbage.

Once a popular border plant, that charming relation of the spiderworts, Commelina cœlestis, is now scarcely ever seen. It is not so hardy as the tradescantias, but it is quite amenable to the sort of treatment we give to dahlias, and that a plant of such an exquisite blue should be so seldom grown is to our loss rather than to our credit. With a winter covering of ashes, this excellent subject should prove absolutely hardy and satisfactory with almost anyone. Under similar culture, Mirabilis Jalapa, the old Marvel of Peru, was once a popular plant in English gardens, but it is many a long year since I have seen it prospering in this country. Yet the extraordinary diversity in the colours of its flowers is always interesting, and I can just remember once having seen a large bed of the dwarfer M. multiflora making a brave old-fashioned display with its bright crimson flowers. All the above, and there are others of a like kind, were at one period in general cultivation, according to an ancient book before me, but for some unaccountable

Digitized by Google

reason they have been allowed to lapse, while their erstwhile companions, alstrœmerias and dahlias, have held their ground.

There is not a little evidence to show that Viola cornuta is not so generally grown as once it was. You may see it here and there, especially the plum-purple variety, G. Wermig—the least beautiful, in my opinion—but the old, old lavender blues, dark and light, the pure white, all with very much larger flowers than the above, seem to be slipping away from us as they did once before. That this should be fills one with amazement, for V. cornuta is one of the finest plants of its race that have ever come to our shores since it left its Pyrenean home 150 odd years ago. Very robust, possessing a wonderful constitution, extremely bountiful with its large blooms (often 1½ins. across) on their stiff, upright stalks, a plant that will flower abundantly and continually from May to September without any attention and in almost any soil, in sun or shade, even under woodland trees and in the grimiest of town gardens, V. cornuta is too precious a possession to pass over. And when one considers that, in spite of the fact that it is such an admirable rock garden subject, V. cornuta was more generally cultivated before the present rage for rock gardening began, the matter assumes a still more surprising aspect. V. cornuta may not be a better thing than V. gracilis or any other later popular introduction—comparisons are peculiarly odious in such matters—but V. cornuta stands alone on its own merits, fearing no rival, since it has none. It is hardly likely to slip out of our grasp, for it is much too useful in hybridising, as the multitudes of rock garden and other violas bear testimony. At the same time, it is up to us to have a care lest, in chasing the shadow, we lose our sense of proportion in regard to the substance.

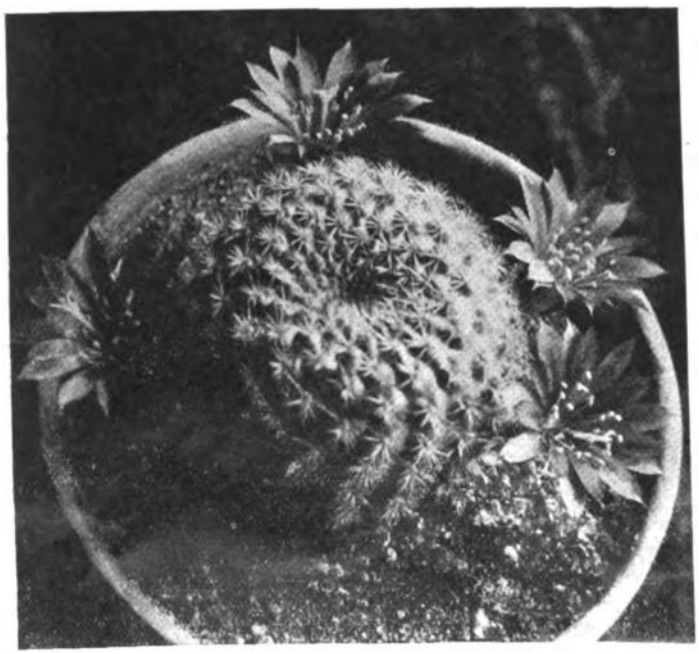
A. T. JOHNSON.

(To be continued.)

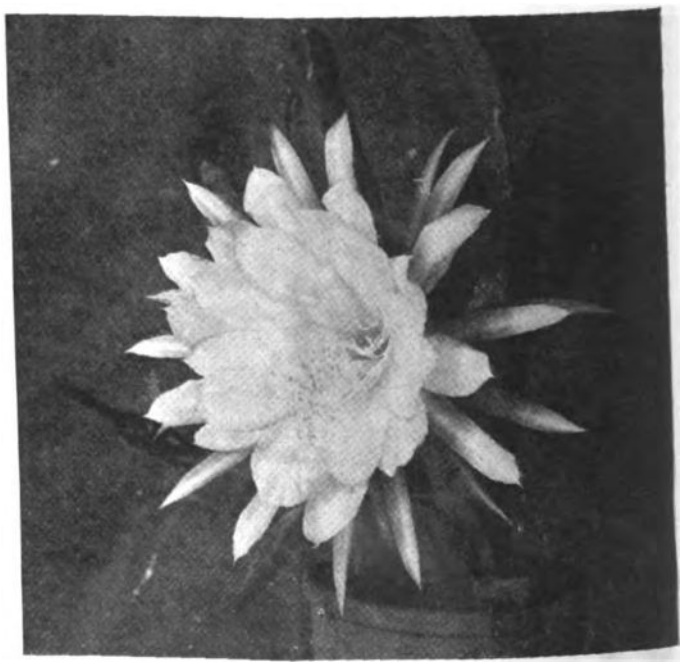
CACTUS FLOWERS

THOSE amateurs who wish to decorate their cool greenhouse with striking blossoms and of a kind not often seen might well indulge in the cultivation of flowering cacti. But it would certainly require a very large greenhouse to grow all the species of cacti flowers.

Cereus grandiflorus is one of the first of the wonderful night-flowering section of cacti, among which are undoubtedly found some of the most magnificent blossoms in existence. This species bears huge shining white blooms, often a foot in diameter, the beauty of which is enhanced by the masses of long golden stamens; these flowers also have an exceedingly sweet perfume. They usually open some time before midnight and last until morning, after which they quickly fade—so the enthusiast has to sit up late to see his pet in bloom. If, however, the flowers are cut just before opening and placed in water, they will last for several days. Once, when some of these beautiful flowers were due to open, invitations were issued to gardening friends to witness an opening of these great flowers in a greenhouse at night.



THE SCARLET FLOWERS OF ECHINOCACTUS MINUSCULUS.



PHYLLOCACTUS BLANDUM BEARS LARGE WHITE BLOOMS.

The neat little Echinocactus minusculus, shown in the illustration, bears a series of charming scarlet flowers, and is easily cultivated. There are some two hundred species of Echinocactus.

The beautiful white flower in the other illustration is a Phyllocactus blandum. Phyllocacti are, perhaps, more in evidence in greenhouses and conservatories than any other kind of cacti, for these plants are quite easy to cultivate and will produce their magnificent flowers regularly each year. At the end of June, when the flowering period is over, the plants may be placed out of doors under a south wall in the full sun, water being given occasionally in very dry weather. In the autumn, not later than the end of September, they should be returned to the greenhouse and kept as dry as possible, only being watered occasionally to prevent shrivelling. This open-air treatment is very beneficial and helps the plants to recuperate in readiness for the development of the following season's flowers. Plenty of water must be given when they are blooming. The flowers of Phyllocactus Tettani, are a rich crimson shot with violet.

All these were grown by an amateur in an ordinary cool greenhouse. Pots about 5ins. across the top and filled with a compost of two parts fibrous loam and one of coarse sand being the most suitable. But first fill one-third of the pot with drainage material, such as crushed brick. About half an inch of sand alone should complete the filling on top of the compost.

When first planting cuttings of these cacti flowers, see that they are dry, for if a cutting is planted immediately it is liable to rot. New pots should be soaked in water and dried off before being used. Very little watering should be done except during the summer months.

Slugs, by the way, are rather partial to phyllocacti, so one needs to see that these pests do not leave unsightly holes and mangled remains.

D. H. MATHESON.

Digitized by Google

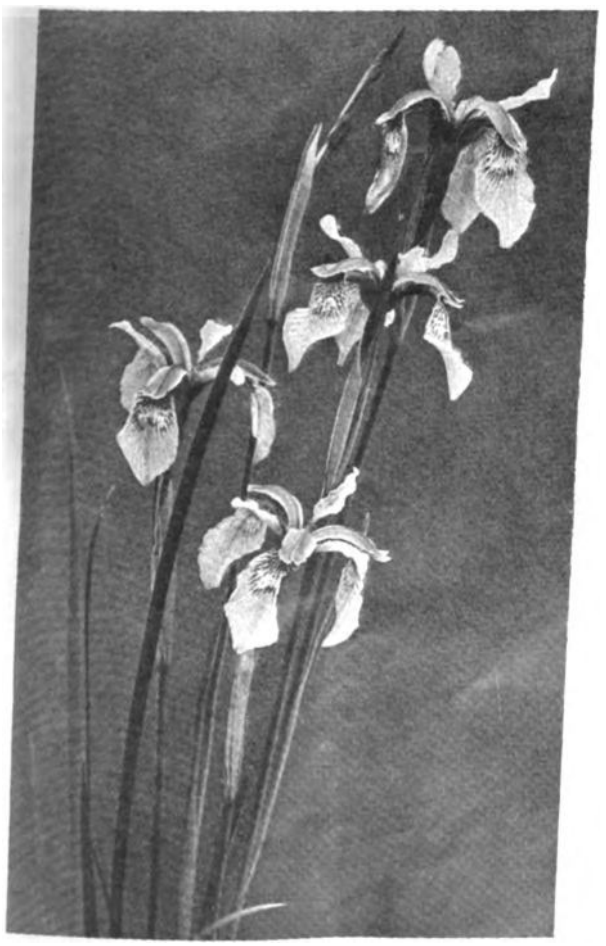
SOME USEFUL IRIS HYBRIDS

THE entanglement in the nomenclature of irises is so great that it would occupy more space than the Editor would permit to give anything like a concise account of the varieties now in cultivation. Moreover, it will probably be of greater interest to readers if I confine myself to those hybrids of the Chinese, Japanese and American forms. Many of these recently introduced hybrids certainly present several interesting features. The general habit is all that can be desired. With their neat grassy foliage, stout flower-stems and well balanced flowers they lend themselves to garden decoration and are valuable as cut flowers for the house. In the garden borders or fringing the waterside or bog garden, they are most ornamental, and if planted along with other rock and alpine plants the dwarfer-growing kinds are extremely effective on the rockery. They give pleasure and delight wherever grown to all who see them. The advice generally given as to use of lime in the cultivation of the bearded irises (I. barbata) is not recommended for the beardless species and varieties, and must be avoided. All the following hybrids are of easy cultivation and quite hardy, and may be successfully grown in any good ordinary light sandy loam in a fairly moist situation and in a position where they have the full benefit of the sun. When established they may remain undisturbed for several years.

Seed may be sown any time during the autumn in well crocked pots or pans in a light sandy and friable loam, the pots plunged in a cold frame or in an open situation until the spring, with an equable moisture, but never water-logged. When the young plants are large enough—from 4ins. to 6ins. high—they may be planted in their permanent quarters, and many may be expected to flower within the year.

I. CHRYSOFOR (chrysographes × Forrestii).—It is almost impossible to over-estimate the value of this as a decorative border plant. The graceful, upright, grass-like foliage, and numerous stout flower scapes from 12ins. to 18ins. h go, crowded with large, handsome flowers in various shades of bright golden yellow and blue, canary and blue, white and blue, to purple, provide a most glorious effect during May and June.

IRIS TEWAT, WITH PURPLE TO INDIGO BLUE FLOWERS.



IRIS DELFOR, A CLEAR DRESDEN CHINA BLUE WITH YELLOW MARKINGS.

I. CHRYSOWEGII (chrysographes × Hartwegii).—The distinctive glaucous, grass-like foliage is effective, and enhanced by the wonderfully free-flowering upright stems with abundance of rich royal purple flowers on scapes from 24ins. to 30ins. tall; late June.

I. BULLEYGRAPHES (Bulleyana × chrysographes).—A hybrid that ought to be included in all collections on account of the intensity of its colour, its bold green grass-like foliage and free-flowering qualities. The handsome violet-purple flowers are borne on erect stems, with a conspicuous golden blotch on the falls. May and June; 24ins.

I. DELFOR (Delavayi × Forrestii).—A most distinct and beautiful hybrid. The flowers are a clear Dresden china blue, with bold yellow markings on the falls; 24ins.

I. DOUBRACT (Douglasiana × bracteata).—An interesting hybrid of the Californian species. The graceful, evergreen, grass-like olive-green foliage is decorative well into the winter. The large open flowers are a pretty shade of soft canary yellow, and the falls are heavily stained rose; 12ins. May and June.

I. TEBRACT (tenax × bracteata).—Most profuse flowering, and may with advantage be planted on the rockery. The plants do not exceed 12ins. high, with grass-like foliage and pretty soft yellow flowers, falls varying from soft azure blue to soft rose. May and June.

I. TEWAT (tenax × Watsoniana).—A very pretty intermediate hybrid between two Californian species. The flowers vary in colour from purple to indigo blue; 15ins. high.

I. LONGSIB (longipetala × sibirica), with tall, erect stems, 2½ft. to 3ft. high, is well adapted for the bog or waterside, having abundance of glaucous grass-like foliage and pale blue flowers. May and June.

WM. LOGAN.

Digitized by Google

NOTES OF THE WEEK

A CURIOUS FORM OF CRYPTOMERIA JAPONICA.

LAST year, on a visit to Boskoop, I saw in the nursery of Mr. C. B. van Nes a strange variety of the Japanese cryptomeria. I knew of several curious forms of this species—for instance, var. araucarioides with slender pendulous branches and short thick falcate leaves resembling those of the Chile pine, Araucaria imbricata; but never had I seen such a monstrous variety, aptly called by Mr. van Nes var. monstrosa. Not all the branches, of course, are transformed in the manner shown in the illustration; but some of the upper branches assume very strange shapes.

This variety can possibly be propagated by grafting. If it should form low compact bushes it would be of great interest for rock gardens. In such places we occasionally find a variety called nana, a densely branched form, with stunted branches and rather long spreading leaves. Var. compacta, too, is a dwarf form, its shorter leaves of a bluish green hue.

The variety elegans has also a dwarf form. The typical elegans represents a readily growing form which has permanently retained the state of the juvenile plant, like the so-called retinospora state of chamæcyparis and several thuyas. This cryptomeria forms dense shrubs or low trees with spreading branches and more or less pendent branchlets. The leaves are softer, narrower and longer than in the type, and somewhat reflexed at the tip. They assume a reddish bronze colour in the autumn and winter, which makes them rather conspicuous. Its form nana is seldom seen, and likes a warm sheltered corner in the rock garden.—CAMILLO SCHNEIDER.

A CURIOUS FORM OF CRYPTOMERIA JAPONICA.

ARISARUM PROBOSCIDEUM.

An Interesting Rock Plant.

ONE of the most singular plants of the garden is Arisarum proboscideum, an aroid of which it may be said with confidence that it is unique in a race noted more for their singularity than for their bright colouring. It is a sister plant of the better known Arisarum europæum, but is exceedingly distinct in appearance. It has been called an eccentric-looking plant, and so it is. It is a dwarf subject which always excites the interest of the visitor to the rock garden, although his attention has usually to be called to this arisarum. It forms masses of small, glossy, arrow-shaped leaves among which appear little, brown, cord-like "tails" and sometimes the broader portion of the flowers. These are a combination of chocolate brown and white, and the hood is lengthened to form the little tail which is easily visible. The latter probably serves the purpose of attracting some insect for fertilising the flowers. Very quaint indeed is this little plant, and it is one of the most interesting, although, also, one of the least showy of the plants of the rock garden.

It grows in walls in Liguria and may be grown in almost any place on rockwork, and it is said that it will even thrive well in a bog, but I have not proved this. It is perfectly hardy.—S. ARNOTT.

THE GIANT FIR.

Abies grandis.

AMONG the many fine species of abies, the so-called great silver fir or giant fir of north-western America seems to be the most rapid grower, not only in its native state but also in Great Britain and in several places of the Continent. The finest specimen I saw years ago in the famous arboretum of the forest school at Les Barres in France. It measured almost 100ft. in height. In the rich bottom lands of the valleys of its native country it is said by Britton to attain a maximum height of 300ft. The specimen illustrated has reached a height of 65ft. in twenty years. It may have been five years old when it was planted. I have never heard before of a fir growing so quickly. It does not grow well in the eastern parts of North America, but, according to Bean, thrives exceedingly well in the moister parts of the British Isles. In cultivation it is sometimes mistaken for another silver fir from Oregon and California, known as A. lasiocarpa in gardens, but apparently representing a good species most closely allied to the Colorado fir, A. concolor. Its correct name is A. Lowiana. It has a similar habit and nearly the same flat, comb-like arrangement of needles as A. grandis, but the latter species has no stomatic lines on the upper surface of the needles. In consequence, the colour of this side of the leaves is dark shining green, while of A. Lowiana the colour is more or less greyish green. The habit of A. grandis is more strictly pyramidal, at least in a plant of over thirty years of age, while younger plants look much alike. Both firs are sometimes recommended for forestry purposes, but, so far as I know, the wood is of no great value.—C. S.

ABIES GRANDIS, SIXTY-FIVE FEET HIGH AND TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OLD.

VIOLA GRACILIS MAJOR.

THIS is a hybrid of V. gracilis, and possesses the good points of the type. It has the same neat, compact growth, but the flowers are larger and somewhat brighter looking. What is particularly welcome, however, is the fact that its flowering period is so much longer than the type.

Plants of mine have been flowering in the greatest profusion ever since the early days of spring and despite the constant rain and wind, have, until quite recently, looked very spic and span with their wiry flower stalks set up well above the foliage. Planted as a groundwork to Inglescombe Yellow tulips they have made a very effective display.—H. H. C.

LILIUM MARTAGON DALMATICUM CATANIÆ.

THE writer has cultivated Lilium Martagon dalmaticum, but, unfortunately, lost it in one of his removals to other homes. He has not yet replaced it, but some years ago became the possessor of the form of that fine lily which is called Cataniæ or (according to Mr. Grove) Cattaneæ, which is a little lighter in colour, though almost approaching the black brown of L. M. dalmaticum. Mr. H. J. Elwes and others have considered that L. M. dalmaticum is a distinct species from L. Martagon, and growing L. Martagon, L. M. album and L. M. dalmaticum Cataniæ in the same garden, one feels strongly inclined to support the view of Mr. Elwes. The feature which is said to distinguish dalmaticum and its form from the other Martagons is the presence of a mass of white hairs on the unopened buds of the two former. This is quite visible on comparison, but, in addition, and from a purely gardening point of view, both dalmaticum and Cataniæ are much more vigorous plants, and grow taller and show some differences quite noticeable to the gardener. Among these is the distance between the whorls of leaves, caused by the greater length of the stem. Cataniæ is quite a noble plant, growing, in some places, almost 8ft. high, though it is less here. It is certainly not a showy plant—no one could expect a flower of its colour to be this—but it is a truly handsome plant with its bold, erect habit, its vigorous foliage and its deep brown flowers. It appears to be of easy cultivation and does not seem to require the partial shade which is so beneficial to L. Martagon and L. M. album. It is growing here in full sun.—DUMFRIES.

Digitized by Google

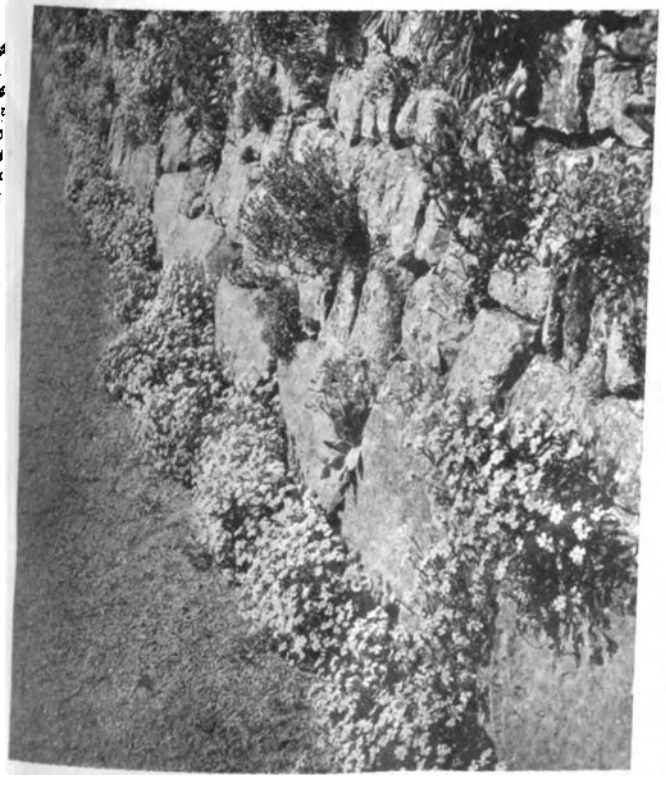
DAY LILIES.

Noble Plants for the Border and Waterside.

IN the hemerocallis we have one of the most prolific blooming of hardy plants that grace the garden with flowers during summer and on into early autumn, and though individual blossoms are of a fugitive character, it makes up for any deficiency in this regard by its daily output. It is contemporary with the flowering of that other plant, so lavish with its blossoms, the helianthemum (sun rose), and renews its beauty day by day in the opening of the new expanding buds. The day lily revels in the sunny quarter of the garden, and does well if planted in soil moderately light with which rotted manure has been incorporated, and also benefits very much by a mulch of old manure just prior to the season of flowering. Loving moisture, it is obvious that if the roots are planted in a sunny position, mulchings of manure will contribute to a prolonging of flowers in a dry period. Very attractive are the day lilies when quartered beside a water course, where the roots can feel the advantage of moisture, in company with irises, spiræas and other water-loving plants. The coolness of a partly shaded border in the garden will also be found a convenience for growing these very charming plants, and it follows that one may have later results. It is perhaps not always appreciated that the hemerocallis gives us flowers noted for their fragrance, as well as variety in colour, and that if they are cut when in a partially open state they will last a day or two in water. H. Dumortieri (orange yellow), H. fulva (copper) and H. flava (yellow) are well known varieties that contribute a deal of beauty in the hardy flower border.—CLAREMONT.

FOR THE OLD WALL.

ONE of the simplest ways of treating an old stone wall is to sow Virginian stock (malcomia) in the crevices. A good plan is to mix the seed with soil and press this into any of the cracks. The little plants sow themselves freely and successive growths of the annual are assured.—S. LEONARD BASTIN *Bournemouth.*



A CHARMING WAY OF TREATING AN OLD STONE WALL IS TO SOW VIRGINIAN STOCK IN THE CREVICES.

DIANTHUS NEGLECTUS.

OF the many species of dianthus or pinks we have in our gardens there is at least one which generally gives abundant satisfaction and unbounded delight when in flower. This is Dianthus neglectus, which, in nature, as in cultivation, varies considerably, so that it is wise to be at some trouble to secure a really good form, although there is hardly one which will not give pleasure. But the best type, not raised from seeds as a rule, is a gem of the first water indeed. It forms a close tuft of grassy foliage, and only an inch or two above this are numbers of delightfully bright flowers of cherry rose, with a blue eye and a reverse of nankin or buff. Seedlings are frequently less compact and often lack the nankin reverse, which is one of the distinguishing features of the best forms of D. neglectus. Very often the inferior forms also bear several blooms on a stalk, while the best plants have usually a solitary flower, but rarely produce two on a stem. In cultivation D. neglectus is not difficult. It is what may be termed a "modified" lime-hater. It does not refuse to grow on calcareous soil, but it is less happy there. It can be grown quite satisfactorily in a border, its stature being only such as to make it suitable for the front row. It is even better on the rock garden on a level spot, while it will thrive well in a moraine, although it is even dwarfer there than in richer soil. It flowers in June and, if happy and the season is suitable, it may also bloom again in autumn. It likes sun. In nature it grows among other dwarf plants or in grass on the higher parts of the Alps; but with us it thrives best alone. Where Dianthus neglectus is happy it will spread into a mat a foot or more across.

DIANTHUS NEGLECTUS IS ONE OF THE MOST SATISFACTORY OF ALL PINKS.

Propagation is effected by cuttings and seeds, but, as already suggested, seedlings vary much, and a good form ought to be increased by cuttings alone.—S. ARNOTT.

THE ERODIUMS.

ONE of the most useful, varied and enchanting of genera for the rock garden is that of erodium. There are quite a number of species, and all are very pretty and fascinating. They are all alike in that they appreciate a warm, sunny position; as to soil, they are not in the least fastidious.

One of the choicest is E. corsicum. This little alpine is but 2½ins. in height, and, although rare, it is not at all difficult to grow. The plant makes a dense cushion-like mass of greyish green foliage. The flowers, which are produced quite freely, are of a rich pink colour and exceedingly dainty. The flowering period is from June to August.

An excellent companion to E. corsicum is E. chamædryoides (syn. Reichardi). This charming little plant is, if anything, even more tiny than the first, being only 2ins. high. The leaves are small, nearly round, and bright green; and the fairy-like flowers are white veined rose. As a matter of fact, although this entrancing little alpine will succeed in a sunny situation, it really requires half-shade. One of the prettiest erodiums is E. Kolbiana. This plant has very effective fern-like foliage and is 6ins. in height The flowers, which are produced freely, are borne in clusters on wiry stems, and are rosy mauve with a dark purple blotch on two of the five petals, the whole being prettily marked with deep rose veins. Altogether E. Kolbiana is a very desirable plant for the rock garden.

E. armenum is very distinct, because of its foliage, the leaves of which are dark green, deeply serrated and somewhat "curly," giving the plant the appearance of a dwarf curly kale. The flowers are white, veined rose, and, as in the previous variety, borne in clusters on 6in. stems.

Digitized by Google

There are many more erodiums well worth growing, but reference must be made here to E. guttatum. Despite its rather ugly name, this particular heron's-bill is very dainty. In habit it is practically identical with E. Kolbiana, but the flowers are white, veined rose, with two dark blotches; this combination somewhat resembles a most beautiful miniature fancy pelargonium.—JOHN BIRKENTALL.

GLYPTOSTROBUS HETEROPHYLLUS.

The Swamp Cypress of China.

ON March 16th Professor A. Henry read a paper before the Royal Irish Academy on this interesting tree. It is a near relative of the well known swamp cypress of the south-eastern United States, Taxodium distichum, but is, and always has been, a rare plant in cultivation in this country. One reason for this is that it has never been introduced in any quantity; another is that it is too tender to be grown out of doors in any but the mildest parts of our islands. According to Professor Henry, it has, like the maidenhair tree, died out in a wild state and is now only known in China as a cultivated tree in two restricted localities around Canton and Foochow. The Chinese peasants plant it on the north side of their villages to bring luck, also in the rice fields in the belief that it increases the crop. Like the maidenhair tree, too, it is the survivor of an ancient type of vegetation which, at an earlier stage of the earth's history, was widely spread over the northern hemisphere. Professor Henry notes that fossil remains have been discovered in northern Europe, Asia and America, and that fossilised twigs and leaves have been found in the Eocene beds in the Isle of Mull. As seen in the Chinese rice fields it resembles the taxodium in producing woody upgrowths from the roots (commonly called "knees"), which stand out of the ground 1ft. to 2ft. high. The purpose served by these "knees" has been considered doubtful, but Professor Henry observes that they enable the roots to breathe when inundated. They are produced in considerable quantity by the famous example of taxodium growing on the banks of the lake at Sion, but, judging by a tree growing in the lily pond at Kew, the species seems very well able to succeed without them. Before the lily pond was made, about thirty years ago, this tree was growing at the bottom of a dry hollow; when this was filled with water the base of the trunk became suddenly immersed to a depth of about 3ft. Although it has been uninterruptedly in this condition for thirty years, it has grown well and been in perfect health all the time, yet no "knees" are visible.

Young trees of the glyptostrobus are very similar to those of the taxodium in the foliage. The leaves are rather longer, but are arranged in the same two opposite rows, being brought into this position by a twisting of the base of the very short stalks. As the plants get older the leaves are set in three rows; finally, in the adult and cone-bearing state, they become reduced to closely imbricated scales.

As a cultivated plant the glyptostrobus is chiefly to be valued for the beautiful autumn tints of its dying foliage. This turns a soft, rich red and, grown under glass as it is at Kew, persists on the shoots in this, colour for six or eight weeks. Out of doors no doubt, with wind and rain to contend against, its season of beauty would be shorter.

Professor Henry, who has been interested in this tree for a long time, managed to obtain seed of it from China. From this, young plants have been raised, so the species will not be quite so rare as hitherto.—W. J. B.

CORRESPONDENCE

VERBASCUM PHŒNICEUM.

SIR,—In his note upon this desirable mullein, Mr. Day (page 374), surprises me by saying that it "rarely gives satisfaction after the first flowering season," and recommends that it be treated as an annual or biennial. This is completely at variance with our experience here, where many plants with flowers varying from deep purple to pink and white, have been established for a number of years and never fail to send up fine spikes of bloom. I have just now measured a flowering stem on a plant which is certainly ten years old, probably more, and find it stands 4ft. 5ins. high. The soil in which our plants flourish as true perennials is sharp, gravelly loam, free from lime.—HERBERT MAXWELL, *Monreith*.

SENECIO GLASTINIFOLIUS.

SIR.—In the report on the Chelsea Show published in THE GARDEN on June 5th, favourable comment is made regarding this plant as shown by one of the exhibitors.

Although infrequently seen in gardens, it was introduced from South Africa as long ago as 1826 under the name of S. lilacinus. It is sometimes cultivated and shown under the name of S. multibracteatus. This latter plant is, however, really a distinct species, being introduced from South Africa in 1872. S. multibracteatus is an annual and does not appear to be in cultivation.

Senecio glastinifolius is an exceedingly elegant plant, bearing a profusion of pretty pink cineraria-like flowers on rather long wiry stems. It may be raised from seeds or cuttings, the latter method being preferable.

The cuttings may be inserted in pans of sandy soil in August or September and placed in a propagating case until rooted, when they may be transferred to cooler quarters. As soon as sufficient roots have formed they will require potting singly into small sixties, using a rather light compost and making moderately firm. About a week after this potting the tops should be pinched out to induce a bushy growth. During the winter they should be kept on a shelf near the glass in a house with a minimum temperature of 40° to 45° Fahr.

With the advent of the New Year growth will commence again and the shoots will require pinching when about 4ins. long, and the plants transferring to 4in. pots.

The plants should be grown in a cool, light position, and in early March repotted into 6in. pots, this time using a fairly rich compost. Keep the plants neatly staked and tied, and when the pots are full of roots, feeding with weak manure water, soot water and a little Clay's Fertiliser occasionally will prove beneficial, and an abundant display of bloom will result towards the end of May.

Good plants for flowering in 4in. and 5in. pots are obtained from cuttings inserted in January and February and treated in a similar manner to the autumn-struck material.

After flowering, the flower stems should be cut off and the larger plants top-dressed and those in smaller pots potted on and grown on in cold frames. By this means a second show of bloom is obtained in early August. In addition to being of easy cultivation and exceedingly useful for conservatory and house decoration, the flowers last well in water and are useful for table work.

It may also be successfully used for bedding out during the summer months.—T. H. EVERETT.

THE PACKING OF PLANTS.

SIR,—Your invitation for contributions likely to be of interest to THE GARDEN readers is my excuse for this short note.

Local horticulturists look to England for horticultural treasures. The writer imports quite a large number of plants, bulbs, etc., from England, also from France, Holland, America and Australia, and at various times forwards quite a lot of small native shrubs to friends in England.

Now I find the most desirable things procurable from England are difficult to land in New Zealand in anything like a satisfactory condition. Plants sent from Australia to New Zealand, from America to New Zealand and from Holland arrived here in a perfect condition; but, we are sorry to say, quite a number of the plants and bulbs from England have arrived in a state of pulp.

With the cool storage for the carriage of plants at the disposal of shippers, I think there should be no difficulty. The plants should reach us in perfect condition. Plants that have come through as ordinary cargo from Holland have reached us in perfect order, due, possibly, to the fact that the butcher in charge of these plants occasionally gave them a good watering.

Some pinks we received by the last mail from England were packed in an ordinary box without due regard to ventilation and were forwarded per parcel post; needless to say, they reached us as dry as dust, and absolutely useless. If bulbous plants are intended to be forwarded, we suggest that they be selected, and examined and certified by the horticultural inspectors as being free from disease (full certificates must accompany each parcel), and then packed in small cardboard boxes that are well ventilated; the plants should be surrounded with buck wheat husk or charcoal, and posted so as to connect with the Vancouver or San Francisco mail. If plants such as carnations, pinks, delphiniums, asters, etc., are sent forward, we respectfully suggest well established plants in at least 4in. pots to be planted in a layer of sphagnum moss and surrounded with sphagnum moss to within ½in. of the top of the pots, and a batten placed over the top of the pots so that there is no fear of them being upset in transit. If these are placed in the cool chamber of one of the steamers that trade regularly with New Zealand, and are carried at a temperature of 45°, they will reach their destination in good condition, provided that the plants have a free current of air passing overhead. A number of those who ship plants from England seem to forget that it is necessary for plants to breathe; they pack them in an airtight box and poison the plants with their own oxygen, and, consequently, plants invariably arrive in a useless condition. We must congratulate some of the English horticulturists who are now forwarding their various novelties to New Zealand so that there is a prospect of them reaching their destination in a reasonably good condition. We particularly ask those who intend catering for the colonial trade to take special care of this branch of industry, that is, the successful packing and despatching of rare plants and bulbs. The most important (to the writer's way of thinking) is that all bulbs and plants should be lifted and despatched at the commencement of their dormant season: that is, narcissi, tulips, etc., as soon as the foliage dies back; delphiniums, asters, carnations, pinks, etc., as soon after flowering as possible, so that the change will not be noticeable, and then

Digitized by Google

place them in cool storage, when they will go into their natural resting period without the slightest inconvenience.—E. OSWALD REILLY, *Dunedin, New Zealand.*

DEAN HOLE AND HIS ROSES.

SIR,—Two writers on roses, recently, Mr. Linders Lea and Mr. Wettern, have both quoted Dean Hole's paragraph giving Gloire de Dijon as his last choice, but the Dean chose another favourite in his later years. There was a very interesting article from his pen in *Country Life* many years ago, headed, "Where are the Friends of My Youth?" and dealing with old roses that were clearly replaced by better new ones of similar colour and he finished by saying, if compelled to choose one rose and one only, he would bury his face in a full blown bloom of La France.—J. P., *Cheltenham.*

ANOPTERUS GLANDULOSUS.

SIR,—It is stated in a recent issue of THE GARDEN that this beautiful plant has never been much cultivated. While that may apply to the present generation of gardeners, I believe I am correct in saying that it was at one time grown as a market plant. That is going back to the days when really interesting collections of cool greenhouse plants were common in most good gardens, including as they did many beautiful plants from Australia, as well as heaths and bulbous plants from South Africa.

This plant only requires a cool greenhouse during all stages of its cultivation, and is easily propagated by means of cuttings of the half-ripened shoots, inserted in pots of sandy loam or sand and peat, standing the pots under a bell-glass in a cool greenhouse.

If grown in pots it requires ample root room, and plenty of water at the root. It is probably seen at its best when planted out in a cool greenhouse. It is hardy outdoors in Cornwall, and should succeed outdoors in other favoured parts of the country.

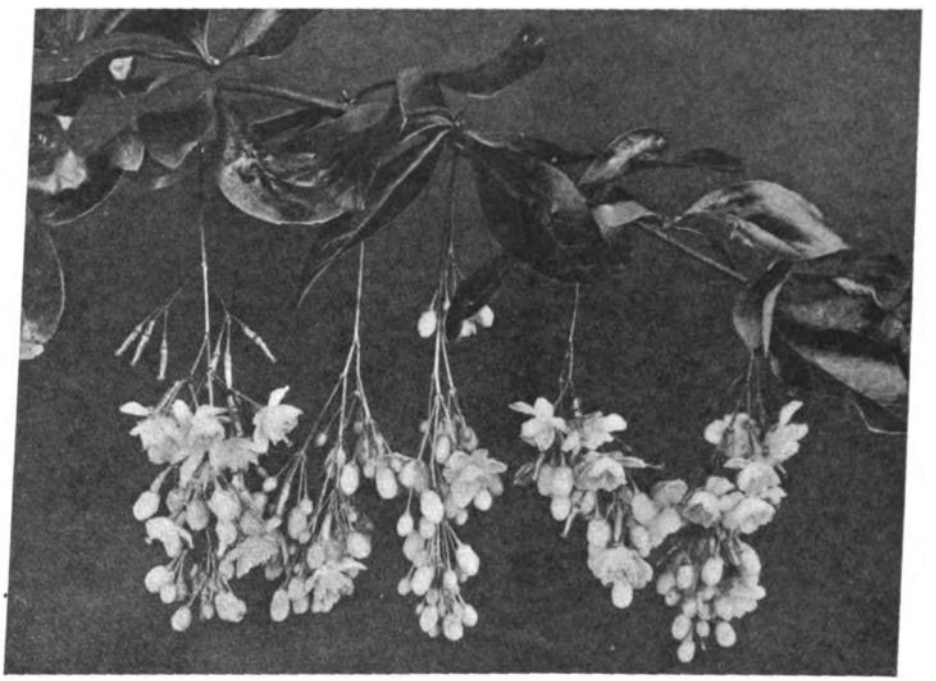
Platytheca galioides, known at one time as Tetratheca, also as Tremandra verticillata, is another beautiful plant which is practically unknown to present-day gardeners, and yet this plant was at one time grown for market. It is a native of south-west Australia, and was introduced in 1845. It is a very graceful, slender-growing, cool greenhouse plant, which in its season bears in great profusion its beautiful blue flowers. It succeeds best in a compost of sandy peat, and is propagated by means of cuttings inserted in pots of fine sandy peat and stood under a bell-glass in a cool house.

In its young stages it requires frequent pinching to induce a bushy habit. After flowering, the long slender shoots should be cut back. Careful watering is essential at all times.—J. COUTTS.

BERBERIS CHITRIA.

SIR,—In his very interesting article on some species of berberis, which appeared in THE GARDEN of May 1st last, Dr. Schneider recalls having seen a particularly fine specimen of Berberis chitria at Wisley. The plant in question is again flowering, although less profusely than on that occasion and I am sending a photograph of a single spray which conveys some idea of its beauty. This plant fruits freely, but the berries are small and of a rather dull red colour. Few of them contain fertile seeds.

The figure to which Dr. Schneider refers (Bot. Reg. t. 729, 1823), depicts a plant with coarsely toothed leaves. With the exception of the strongest young growths, the Wisley plant bears much more finely toothed leaves and the smaller ones are frequently entire. Dr. Schneider also speaks of this as a deciduous species. Here it is sub-evergreen, many of the leaves remaining on the shoots throughout the second season.—N. K. GOULD, *Wisley.*



A FLOWERING SPRAY OF BERBERIS CHITRIA.

THE FLOWER GARDEN

SWEET PEAS.

Prolonging Their Flowering Period.

FEW, if any, other flowers are capable of furnishing such a vast quantity of blooms in the summer and autumn as sweet peas, yet a little care is necessary in order to extend the period during which really good spikes may be cut. Given almost any conditions, our sweet peas will provide a generous supply of blooms, but under favourable circumstances upwards of 400 spikes are possible from a single plant. How may we achieve quality as well as quantity and maintain size of flower and a good length of stem throughout the season and not just at the outset.

Quantity is assured by the simple method of regularly removing all flowers and allowing no seed pods to form. The normal function of the plant is to produce seed, and as soon as pods have formed its mission is accomplished. So long as this is frustrated, and provided our sweet peas have not been planted too closely, they will continue to grow vigorously and produce flowers until the weather, or other conditions, call a halt.

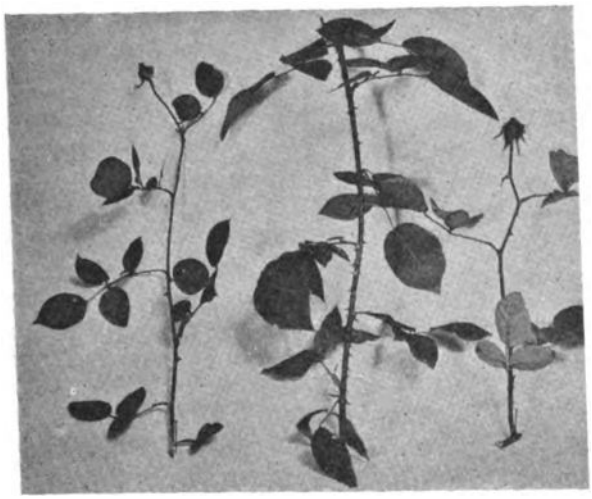
Good quality blooms are not quite as easily attained. One must assume in the first place that the soil has been deeply and liberally prepared, for this is essential. Plants which have been moved from pots or boxes, especially spring-sown ones, are liable to come into flower when they are quite small. This gives the root system no chance to develop properly. All flower-buds should be nipped out until the plants are about 3ft. high; early blooms may be very desirable, but it is better to disbud than jeopardise the future of the plants. In a normal season there is no necessity to commence watering before July. During dry weather the moisture in the soil may be conserved either by frequent shallow hoeings or by a surface mulch of decayed manure, spent hops, peat litter or horse or cow manure mixed with leaf-mould spread round the plants about the second or third week in June. Any mulch will do provided it is of a loose, porous nature which will permit the free circulation of air. Mulching is always beneficial except on heavy soil during a wet summer. It is wise to defer watering until the plants really need it, and the grower must be guided by soil and weather conditions in this respect. A good soaking once every week is better than a sprinkling every day, and the former will be found sufficient except on light soils during a dry period, when intervals of two days between each application will not be too close. On the other hand, in cold weather, especially on heavy soils or on ground with a tendency to become waterlogged, frequent waterings may do a great deal of harm and result in a spell of bud-dropping. On no account use icy-cold water straight from a tap or well; if soft water is not available in sufficient quantity, take the chill off by allowing it to stand for a day or two in the open.

With respect to feeding, the main source of nutriment should be provided the previous autumn during the preparation of the soil by incorporating plenty of animal manure and, if possible, a fair dressing of bone meal and wood ashes. Fertilisers applied during the flowering period should be regarded as stimulants purely and simply, and should be soluble, quick-acting and easily assimilated. Inexperienced growers should be careful not to give over-doses of chemical fertilisers. A safe stimulant is the old-fashioned liquid manure made by immersing a bag of cow or sheep manure and soot in a tub of water, letting it stand for a few days and then diluting the resultant fluid at the rate of one part to four with soft water when applying it. Feeding once a week

Digitized by Google

will be ample after mid-July, with an occasional watering in between times during very dry weather. By way of a change in diet one may use artificial fertilisers now and again. There are several good compound manures on the market, specially made up to meet the particular needs of sweet peas. The makers' directions should be strictly followed.

Should the flower-stems shorten considerably as the season advances in spite of watering, the only remedy likely to be effective is to take off all flowers and flower-buds and feed the plants.—C. H. A. S.



ROSE CUTTINGS PREPARED FOR INSERTION.

ROSE CUTTINGS LAID OUT IN AN OPEN TRENCH.

CAMPANULA PERSICIFOLIA.

I HAVE been very pleased this season with plants of several of the newer varieties of Campanula persicifolia. The plants were put in during the spring of 1925 and have been left undisturbed. All the varieties tried represent a very considerable advance on the type, not only with regard to the colour, but also with regard to the general appearance and growth of the plants. The various tones of colour range from pale blue to bluish violet, as well as pure white.

The individual plants have grown away very strongly and in each case have put forth a number of stately spikes some 4ft. or so in height, bearing their pretty bell-shaped flowers in the greatest profusion. The separate varieties are very effective when massed.

The plants will do well in shady or semi-shady positions. They are no trouble in their culture and are easily propagated by division. In fact, where the soil is rich, division after the third season may be in the best interests of the flower display.

A few of the finest varieties are: Everest, a tall growing sort bearing flowers of a light blue colour and producing a number of lateral spikes; Fleur de Niege, a very fine variety with double flowers of the purest white; Monarch, another double-flowered sort with large blooms of mauve blue colour; Queen of June, a variety of branching habit bearing flowers of a china blue tone in the greatest profusion; Telham Beauty, a very excellent kind of somewhat dwarfer habit than any of the foregoing and bearing very large bells of pale blue colour.—HOWARD H. CRANE.

ROSES.

Propagation by Cuttings. A VERY satisfactory way of propagating roses is by means of cuttings. If reasonable care is taken a large percentage of the shoots will root and rapidly develop. By far the best time to carry out this plan is in the latter half of July. Choose a somewhat shaded border and let the soil be well dug; finish by raking the surface finely. Select the cuttings from half-ripened wood, and these may be 4ins. or 5ins. long. If they can be pulled away from the stem with what gardeners know as a "heel," so much the better. Expose the cuttings as little as possible to the sun and air, and, if they have to be gathered some time in advance of setting, keep them protected with damp moss. It is best to remove all the lower leaves, and when the cutting does not possess a "heel" make a clean slanting cut with a knife just below the bottom bud.

Open up a trench in the ground of sufficient depth to leave the leafy part of the cuttings well clear of the soil. Let the side of the trench farthest from you be almost upright, and trench, against this side, rest the cuttings about 4ins. apart. When the row is filled put the soil against the cuttings, fill in the trench, and then tread with the foot. It is very important to see that the soil is firmly pressed round each cutting, as roses never root well if they are loosely set. Examine the cuttings now and again and remove any withered leaves. During a dry spell water must be given freely. In about six weeks some of the cuttings will have rooted, and, when there are definite signs of growth, the plants can be removed to other positions.

This plan yields excellent results in the case of all the hardy and vigorous roses. Roses that are more delicate in constitution give the best results if the cuttings are inserted in a slight hot-bed. A bed that has been used for propagating bedding or other stock in the spring answers the purpose admirably. Here, again, it is an advantage to have the cuttings with a "heel." The frame must be kept rather close and shaded. If the soil is fairly retentive of moisture, little in the way of water will be needed. Remove all decaying foliage and also any of the cuttings that show definite signs of going wrong. Where it can be obtained, coco-fibre refuse, in a partial state of decomposition, is an excellent medium for the rooting of cuttings in a frame or in pots. This retains just the right degree of moisture which will keep the cuttings going without any further watering. As soon as the cuttings have made an inch or so of root growth they should be allowed to develop under more airy conditions.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

FUCHSIAS—BUD-DROPPING.

IT is somewhat irritating to find that fuchsias which have promised well, suddenly drop their buds when one expected flowers to open. This may be traced to various causes, either a too stuffy atmosphere and great lack of ventilation, over-watering, over-dryness, or a need for repotting. Unfortunately the damage is often done before one can rectify matters, and the buds cease to swell and drop off. The commonest cause of failure is through lack of air and this is sometimes noticed with plants in living-rooms, brought in from the greenhouse, or those placed in a sitting-room window. Air is needful for fuchsias, along with cool conditions. Old plants that for years possibly may have been in the same pots are more liable to collapse than younger, because of the soil having become used up to a great extent and the roots matted and congested. One can do little when such a state of things exists beyond careful watering, administering weak stimulants, and carefully shading the plants after the bud stage has been reached, and, above all, in admitting air, both by day and night. With no plant is it more desirable to strike the happy medium in the matter of water than the fuchsia, and one of the secrets of cultivating them successfully is to keep moving the plants on until the desired size of pot is reached. It has become the fashion to limit fuchsias to pots of moderate size, because of their adaptability for table and window decoration, and seldom to-day do we meet with the 6ft. specimens that used to be exhibited thirty and more years ago.—W. LINDERS. LEA.

ARUM LILIES.

THE arum lily is an indispensable plant in every garden where there is a greenhouse or conservatory. Well managed plants will yield flowers from late in August to Eastertime. One strong plant, established in a 6in. pot will bear four flowers in the period named; occasionally, a single plant bears five blooms, but the average yield is three flowers. During the growing stage the plants are, generally, well looked after, but, unfortunately, they are often neglected when the flowering stage is past. It is a very accommodating plant, answering to dry treatment from June to August, or to that which keeps them growing practically all the year round.

The inexperienced amateur should retain the plants in their flowering pots, gradually withholding water and so allowing the foliage to die down as it will by mid-July. About the middle of August the pots should be placed in an upright position and the soil watered. In a very short time new growth will begin and at this stage it is beneficial to re-pot the plants. To do this, turn them out, practically remove all soil from the roots, also any side shoots and re-pot in a similar sized pot, using good

Digitized by Google

fibrous loam and a small proportion of leaf-soil. The small shoots pot up into small pots separately. Apply water, keep the plants outside on a bed of ashes for several weeks, then transfer them to a cold frame and later, in late September, to the greenhouse.

Where large batches of plants are grown, it is advisable to retain some in their flowering pots, but gradually dried off, to top-dress only and place in a warm structure in August to ensure blooms early. The other batch treat as first advised in this note, and the remainder plant out in the open borders in the vegetable garden, watering and feeding them throughout the summer. These plants are lifted, divided and re-potted about the third week in August. The arum lily must not be subjected to frosts nor to very cold weather while growth is active, else the plants will be rendered practically useless.—HANTS.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

MORELLO CHERRIES.

Tying-in Summer Growths.

IN many districts morello cherries on walls are this year bearing good crops and making considerable wood growth. It must be remembered that morello cherries bear their fruit on the previous summer's growth, so that the new wood should not be summer pruned in the same way as the shoots of the apple. The chief object during the summer months is to retain suitably placed new growths for tying in during the winter, and to cut clean out young growths which are unwanted. No spurring should be done. The new wood which is left should be tied back loosely to the trellis, and then in the winter some of the old wood is cut out, and in its place these young growths are trained in symmetrically in a fan-shaped fashion. During dry weather an occasional thorough soaking of water should be given to morello cherries, as the ground at the base of a wall is liable to become very dry.

RASPBERRIES.

How to Obtain this Fruit in the Autumn.

FEW fruits are more welcome in the autumn than raspberries, and it is rather surprising that more growers do not try to secure an autumn crop. Of course, there are definite autumn-bearing varieties of raspberry, but practically all the kinds in cultivation have a tendency towards the production of a second crop, and, in most cases, the canes will give a good response in this direction if encouraged to do so. The chances of getting the autumn fruit are much enhanced if the raspberries are growing on a warm, dry site where the soil is on the light side, but deep, and generally in good condition.

Here is the way to proceed in order to induce autumn-bearing on the part of raspberries. After the summer crop is cleared, select a number of the stoutest canes and cut these back to about half their height. At the same time, a reasonable thinning out of the young canes should be carried out. This is good for the plants as a whole, and it also allows free access of light and air to those canes which have been set aside for second cropping. Almost at once the shortened canes start a vigorous growth from the sides. The appearance of leafy shoots is rapidly followed by the production of flower buds. At this stage a top-dressing of manure will prove highly beneficial, especially if the late summer is hot and dry. This top-dressing may be lightly forked in, but the soil should never be stirred to any depth, otherwise there is a risk that many of the surface roots will be destroyed. Where it is not convenient to apply the top-dressings, applications of liquid manure will prove highly beneficial. Even plain water is not to be despised, although during rainy spells this will, naturally, not be needed. The autumn raspberries set well and, as a rule, are quite as fine, and sometimes larger, than those produced in the summer. Even if the crop as a whole is not heavy, it is often spread over a long time. A good deal, of course, depends on the weather; but in a favourable season the writer has gathered dishes of autumn raspberries, from canes that had already borne a summer crop, up to the first week in November.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

TURNIPS.

How to Secure Late Supplies.

BY sowing certain varieties of turnips at frequent intervals from now until the middle of August a supply of this vegetable can be maintained until the end of the year. It is a common fault to sow turnip seed too thickly and to sow too much at once. Small sowings are far more profitable. Sow the seed drills about 12ins. apart, and as soon as the seedlings are large enough thin out to 4ins. to 6ins. apart, if possible choosing showery weather for the latter operation. Hoe between the rows frequently, as this keeps down weeds and encourages the plants to make good growth. Snowball is one of the best varieties for late supplies, while Red Globe is another good variety which is somewhat hardier than the former and takes a little longer to mature. Veitch's Red Globe is also suitable for this purpose.

SUMMER SALADS.

DURING the hot, dry months of summer it is essential that a shady, cool, north border be chosen for the site in which to grow salads. An exposed, hot situation will not produce quick and tender growth; lettuces in such a position are coarse and rank, and form no heart, while radishes are pithy and run to top growth. The ground should be moist and fairly rich, and, if possible, a site should be selected which has been well manured during the early part of the year. Sow the seed very sparsely, thin early and do not transplant. Transplanting at this time of the year checks growth and in the case of lettuces causes the roots to bleed and ultimately the plants to "bolt." If the ground be very dry, water the drills thoroughly before sowing, but after that give no water until the seedlings are through the ground.

THE EPICURE POTATO IN SCOTLAND.

EPICURE is by no means an ideal potato. Its appearance is rather poor, the quality is not of very high merit and, in most other points, it is inclined to be weak. For early maturity, however, and for reliability in the early part of the year it is without real rival; the crop is a fairly large one as a rule in all parts.

Earliest crops are raised in sandy loams round the coast; inland, in heavy soils, but well worked, it crops even better, but growth is slower and maturity delayed. This year the first supplies reached Glasgow shortly after mid-May; on June 1st they were retailing quite freely everywhere in the Glasgow district at 3s. a stone, and in July they will be universal at little more than the price of old potatoes.

Moderate dressings of natural manure (farm manure and seaweed on coastal farms) with fair additions of stimulating artificial fertilisers rich in potash and ammonia seem to give best results. This potato is a first favourite until August.—CLYDESDALE.

IRIS

of the June-flowering family

THEY are worth thinking of ahead—ordering early and planting at the best time, in July or early August. Put in then, the plants get their toes in before the winter comes. Take steps to order them **now.** Either buy the low-priced collection of excellent varieties offered below for **7/6** the twelve plants or send for our catalogue and make your own selection.

June-flowering Iris:—

Alcazar	Lavender blue and violet.
Archeveque	Reddish violet and deep violet.
Caprice	Reddish mauve and deep rosy red.
Dawn	Sulphur yellow, veined bronze.
Her Majesty	Pale rose and deep red.
Lohengrin	Cattleya mauve.
Mdm. Chereau	White, frilled azure blue.
Mrs. H. Darwin	White, faintly marked violet.
Mrs. Neubronner	Golden yellow.
Oriflamme	Pure blue and blue purple.
Prosper Laugier	Bronzy cinnamon and velvety crimson.
Rhein Nixe	White and violet purple.

One plant each of the 12 varieties, **7/6** post paid.

Have you seen our Hardy Plant Catalogue? It is better than most.

Bakers

FLOWER FARM

CODSALL

Near Wolverhampton

SAFETY FIRST

THE fruit grower knows scientific spraying will protect his fruit trees from the ravages of sucking insects. He knows, too, that failure to get rid of them means gambling on the prospects of securing crops of clean, sound fruit.

TAKE NO RISKS.

Spray your trees now with

COOPER'S

Summer Spray Fluid

The fluid is fatal to all sucking insects and, used in accordance with directions, will cause no damage to foliage or fruit.

½-pint	2/-	½-gallon	9/-
1 pint	3.6	1 gallon	14/-
Quart	5.6	2 gallons	26/-

1 gallon makes 100 gallons of spray.

Of all Agents.

COOPER, McDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, LTD.

BERKHAMSTED, HERTS.

GARDENING OF THE WEEK

FOR SOUTHERN GARDENS.

THE FLOWER GARDEN.

Border Carnations.—To keep up a healthy stock of carnations, it is necessary to raise a number of fresh plants each year, and with named and special varieties layering of the growths must be resorted to. Such work is carried out directly the flowering period is over. When layering, first remove 2ins. or 3ins. of the top soil around the base of the plant and replace it with gritty compost. Partly sever the young shoots, and peg them down in the fresh soil where they will soon form roots.

Heucheras.—These constitute a small group of showy plants for the border, or certain parts of the rock garden. Having finished flowering, the plants can be lifted, pulled to pieces, and the single growths set out in a cold frame or partly shaded border. Here they make fine examples for next year.

Geums.—No lover of flowers can afford to be without the beautiful double geums, such as the red Mrs. Bradshaw, the golden yellow Lady Stratheden and Orange King. Seeds can now be sown in the open ground, choosing a moist, partially shaded spot. Prick out the seedlings when large enough a few inches apart, and transfer them to their flowering quarters in the spring.

Lilium candidum.—The Madonna lily is a beautiful old-world border subject and is very effective in bold clumps. In time they become overcrowded, and when such is the case they must be lifted, divided and replanted immediately after flowering. Deep planting is not advised, and the bulbs should be 4ins. or 6ins. apart. Bulbs offered in winter and spring take much longer to become established.

THE ROCK GARDEN.

About this time we prepare a cold frame for propagating a large number of plants for the rock garden. It is set on a hard bottom, then place about 6ins. of rough material for drainage, over which is laid another 6ins. of sifted peat, loam and leaf-mould with a thin layer of sharp sand on top. Give a good watering, and everything will be ready for the cuttings.

A variety of subjects can be increased by means of cuttings, and these should be made from half-ripened shoots. Little shade or ventilation is needed where it is possible to spray the cuttings with rain-water three or four times daily. Under such conditions they will readily form roots, when more air can be gradually admitted. If it is not possible to maintain such humidity, a little extra shade will be needed. A large number of shrubs can also be increased by cuttings, either in the open ground or on a mild hot-bed.

THE HARDY FRUIT GARDEN.

The summer pruning of apple trees can begin during the next few days, starting with any that may be growing against walls, and then follow on with pyramids and bushes. Standards need not be pruned unless there are a few shoots growing freely, at the expense of other growths. Opinions differ in regard to summer pruning, but by cutting away some of the shoots more light and air are admitted to the fruit and tree; and if five or six leaves are allowed to remain at the base of each growth there is little likelihood of the basal buds becoming unduly active. The ripening of the wood is also assisted.

Care must be taken of the new growths of loganberries and all the blackberry tribe where they are trained to poles, fences, trellises and other supports. The shoots should be tied up out of harm's way; at the same time, do not cover the fruit. It is a temporary measure until the fruit is gathered and the old fruiting canes removed.

THE KITCHEN GARDEN.

Spring Cabbages are a very important crop, and if this failed we should be rather short of vegetables about April and May. Two or three sowings are, therefore, advised: the first now, the third at the middle of August, and the second a fortnight hence. Ellam's Early, April and Imperial are a trio of useful and reliable varieties. Sow in lines 1ft. apart, and if the ground is dry well water the drills a few hours before sowing. Another sowing of turnips should be made, also lettuce, endive and spinach beet to stand the winter. Directly early peas and broad beans are finished they must be removed, and after cleaning the ground of surface weeds it can be filled with winter greens, etc. A few lines of wallflowers may also be put out; they will make strong plants for the beds in the autumn. Continue with the hoe, and afford water to early cauliflowers and celery if the weather proves dry. Early potatoes may be lifted and stored.

FRUIT UNDER GLASS.

Peaches and Nectarines.—The trees in the earlier houses will have been relieved of their crops, and now a little pruning can be done so that the remaining wood will be fully exposed to the light. Remove as much of the old fruiting wood as possible, but it should be borne in mind that the final pruning, and distribution of young shoots over the wires, will take place after the leaves have fallen. In the meantime, cleanse the trees of red spider and scale insects if they are present; the former is eradicated by hard syringing, first with an insecticide and afterwards daily with clear water; the latter is usually found on the older wood and, in consequence, a stronger solution of insecticide can be employed. This is best applied with a fairly stiff sash tool. A nicotine insecticide is very reliable, if used according to the instructions. Admit all the air possible both day and night, and see that the roots are kept moist. To this end a light mulch of manure can be given: it will keep the surface damp, the roots active, and, moreover, prevent cracks appearing in the border. Trees must never be neglected after the fruit is gathered, otherwise bud-dropping and other evils will present themselves next season.

In the houses that were started into growth about March, the fruits have now passed the stoning period and commenced their final swelling. Keep the border just moist and afford liquid manure or a light dressing of fertiliser, the latter being washed in with clear water. A mulch of partly decayed manure will also be beneficial, except for trees making a lot of luxuriant growth, which need no manurial assistance. During bright weather and until the fruit begins to colour, the trees should be syringed twice daily, *viz.*, early in the morning—say about 8 a.m.—and again in the afternoon. On dull mornings omit the spraying, and the later one must be done sufficiently early for the fruit to dry before sunset. If water is allowed to remain on the fruit throughout the night, the skin of the fruits will sometimes crack, while the flavour will deteriorate. Early ventilation is advised, before the temperature rises to 70° or 80° Fahr., and an inch or so can be left on throughout the night. A few early varieties are occasionally grown in pots, and when the fruit is picked the trees are removed to a sheltered spot outside, plunging the receptacles to their rims. Syringe the foliage daily, and pay special attention to watering, to prevent dryness at the root.

Cucumbers.—These need frequent attention, and it is advisable to examine the plants twice each week, whether they are growing in frames or a low greenhouse. Pinch the growths after the second leaf, and prevent overcrowding by removing shoots that have ceased to bear fruit. Keep the roots well supplied with water, or the fruits will be bitter to the taste. Mildew is often a source of anxiety to the amateur; if this is very bad, remove the leaves most affected, and apply flowers of sulphur through a small bellows or distributor to the remainder of the plant.

Tomatoes.—Plants growing under glass are fruiting freely, and plenty of ventilation will be needed; in fact, the top ventilators can be left open both day and night. Top-dress the roots with fibrous loam, and where this is not possible they should be fed with liquid manure and soot water, about twice each week. All side growths are removed, the main stem made secure to stakes, and the bunches of fruit fully exposed to the light by cutting away an occasional leaf where necessary; otherwise, no foliage is taken off. White fly is often troublesome, and the only remedy is to use one of the special fumigants.

Chepstow. T. W. BRISCOE.

FOR NORTHERN GARDENS.

THE KITCHEN GARDEN.

Shallots.—Lift these when the foliage changes colour, and spread them out or hang them up in the sun to ripen. A section of close-meshed wire netting suspended on four stakes suits admirably. The better they are dried and ripened the longer and better will they keep. If maturation be delayed by inclement weather, remove the soil around the clumps, to expose the bulbs and hasten ripening.

Early Potatoes for seed should be lifted before being ripe, exposed to the light until they become green, afterwards storing in a semi-obscure place. It is claimed that immature seed are more productive than fully ripened ones. Early lifting allows the ground to be efficiently prepared and the succeeding crop planted sooner. These crops are at the discretion of the cultivator, and may be small cabbages of colewort type for late cutting, or a successional batch of leeks, etc. But in a general way the early potato crop is followed by the new plantation of strawberries.

Spinach.—Make a sowing of perpetual spinach or spinach beet as an accessory to the winter spinach, the supplies of which, through a hard winter, may fall short of the demand. When ready for picking, remove the leaves, whether wanted or not, to promote a continuous growth.

Onions.—Towards the end of the month make a final sowing of onions. Prick off the thinnings from the earlier sowing 1ft. to 15ins. apart, according to variety used. Leave a crop to mature on the seed bed, as such gives the earliest and choicest supplies when properly blanched.

Asparagus will now be making good growth, and as broken stems mean loss of service of top growths in maturing heads for the following year, protection against this loss should be given in exposed situations. Dust with slaked lime or spray with warm water against asparagus beetle.

THE FRUIT GARDEN.

The most important task is the summer pruning of plum trees on walls. For appearance sake this is often done too early, and the trees make a secondary growth which is all against the main principles underlying the work. Other benefits derived from the operation is the exposure of the fruit to the light, the riddance of many aphis not easily reached by a spray. A spraying of paraffin emulsion will complete this care after pruning is finished.

WORK IN THE FLOWER GARDEN.

Herein, the principal items, apart from maintaining cleanliness, hoeing, and watering if needful, is that of ensuring efficient support for the tall-growing subjects. Specimen plants, such as fuchsias, etc., are permanently staked when planted. The tall varieties of antirrhinums, at least, should have a stake supporting the main shoot. In my own case I like to make sure now, rather than be sorry afterwards, and give the intermediate a short stake as well.

Pentstemons grown under the best principles for bedding out are pinched in their early days. The numerous side shoots are now best supported by introducing short twiggy spruce branches, the remains of spent brooms, throughout the bed. Larkspurs, marigolds, etc., when growing well, reach a goodly height and are more self-supporting than other things equally as tall. Yet security of tenure is assured by tying to a short, stout stake. In such an important matter as staking, we may be excused if we reiterate how essential it is to support the plants without making the work obvious.

Sweet Peas growing as single or double cordons to supply cut flowers with useful long and stout stems will need frequent attention as to pinching out side growths and tying the points of the leaders. As the blooms are not for exhibition purposes an elaborate "scheme of feeding" is not necessary. Nevertheless, moderate applications of potassic and phosphatic manures will benefit stem growth and improve the quality of the flowers.

Border Carnations.—To allow of the layers being properly rooted and planted out before winter sets in, proceed with the layering forthwith. The usual method of procedure is to prick the soil lightly around the plant, push it aside and substitute a mixture of leaf-mould and sand. Denude the layers of a few bottom leaves, make an incision on the underside and upwards through a couple of joints, and peg down the layer into the fresh soil, seeing to it that the "tongue" is kept open. Use wire pegs or—quite as good—pegs formed from the joints of bracken fern. Return the original soil and the work is less likely to be disturbed by birds or "drying out" in hot weather.

Doune, Perthshire. W. MCCARRELL.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

WASPS.

AS the summer advances wasps are likely to become an increasing trouble to the fruit grower. When these insects are abundant they are likely to do a great deal of damage to pears, plums and, in fact, any sweet and comparatively soft fruits. Wasps are not contented with making an attack on a few fruits and they often damage dozens; unfortunately, they seem to have great discerning powers in picking out those fruits which are the finest on the tree. To protect the fruit it is an excellent plan to set traps formed in this way. Half-fill wide-mouthed bottles with sugared beer or a mixture of treacle and water. Tie string round the bottles so that these can be suspended from the tree bearing the ripening fruit. Once the wasps get inside the bottles very few of them will be able to make good their escape.

Of course, a more certain way of fighting the wasp trouble is to find and destroy the nest. A little observation of the course which the insects follow will give some indication of where the nest is likely to be. Wasps form their nests in dry banks, usually round the lower part of a hedge. Mark the spot with a stick so that the position can easily be located again. A wasps' nest can only safely be tackled after dark or, at least, in the evening, and many plans have been suggested. The following simple method can be strongly recommended: Half fill a wine bottle with turpentine. Then, when the time comes, invert the bottle, without a cork, into the hole leading into the nest. Plaster damp soil round the neck of the bottle to prevent the escape of the fumes. Next morning the nest may be dug out and burned. It will be found that the turpentine and fumes arising from it will have killed many of the wasps and stupefied the rest so that no risk is involved in digging it out.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

INSECTICIDES.

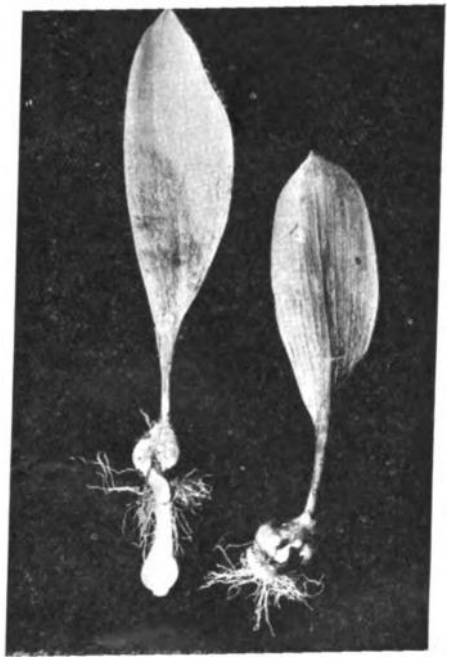
SUMMER warfare against insects brings into play a certain number of powder preparations as well as liquid sprays. Under some circumstances it is inconvenient to spray plants. The petals of some flowers, liliums, for instance, may be either stained or rendered transparent by liquids containing chemicals, and in the case of plants in window boxes, the glass of windows is not improved in appearance by being bespattered with spray fluids. The old-fashioned tobacco powder, pyrethrum and hellebore powders are capable of doing good service without causing any of the troubles that may arise through sprays being distributed beyond the desirable limits. Various brands of tobacco powder are on the market, made by Messrs. Corry and Co., Hunter and Gow, G. H. Richards and other firms, and some blends of tobacco and pyrethrum are also put up, and are very effective against aphis, small caterpillars, slugs, etc., success being largely dependent upon the fineness of the powder and upon the efficiency of the bellows or distributor.

Alum, soda and potash in powdered form enter into the composition of some of the most powerful slug and snail destroyers. The destruction of slugs baffles many garden owners, and it may be explained that an almost invariable rule is that two applications of powder sprays within twenty-four hours are necessary to ensure complete success.

Some soil fumigants are only safe to use on vacant land, but even these may be used in summertime on vegetable plots between the lifting of early potatoes and re-cropping with winter greens, etc. A good deal may also be done with such preparations as Kilogrub, Vaporite and Abol soil pest destroyers, by making holes with a dibber at intervals of a couple of feet and as far as convenient from the roots of plants or vegetables, dropping a small teaspoonful of powder in each and immediately covering with soil.—L. I. ATRIS.

PROPAGATION OF TULIP BY SCALE LEAF.

AS everyone knows, this is an easy way to propagate the tulip, and a successful method compared with raising the plants from seed. I have been interested for some time in the movement of bulbs, and how the movement is done. Every bulb seems to have a method peculiar to itself. In the case of the tulip the downward travel takes place by the throwing of the newly made bulb down to a depth which depends on the strength of the scale used, or the amount of food material which it contains. The illustration shows



YOUNG BULBS FROM THE TULIP SCALE.

two tulip scales of equal size. The one on the right was pressed down into a sand frame to a depth of 3ins.; while the other was placed on the surface with the top of the scale above the level of the sand. Both scales, however, were in close proximity to one another. The right-hand scale shows the young bulb being formed on the side in the ordinary way, whereas the left-hand scale shows the young bulb being thrown down into the sand, where it would ultimately reach its own depth.—L. B. STEWART, *Edinburgh*.

Red Spider, Thrips, Black and Green Fly, Mildew, Rust and all Fungoid and Insect Pests are killed with one application of the

FERRY BRAND (Regd.) Trade Mk.

INSECTICIDE (Non-Poisonous)

Here is the opinion of a user; "Kingsclere, Newbury.

"I am writing to testify to the good quality of your Insecticide.

"I had the Black Fly very badly on a crop of Broad Beans, but one single application cleared the plants of every trace of Fly and now are quite clean and healthy and have a good crop of Beans on them. I would recommend anyone to use it, also your Antiseptic.—A. C."

PRICES: 1 qt. 2/6 ½ gall. 4/3 1 gall. 7/6
2 galls. 14/- 5 galls. 32/- 5 galls. 35/-

All prices carriage paid to the nearest Railway Station for cash with order.

The BRITON FERRY CHEMICAL & MANURE Co., Ltd. (Dept E), Briton Ferry, S. Wales. (Est. 1886).

HOSEPIPE BARGAINS

Braided Moulded Hose (no seam to leak), ½-in. bore, **5d.**; ⅝-in., **6d.**; ¾-in., **7d.** per foot.

Corrugated Non-kink,
½-in., **6½d.**; ⅝-in., **7½d.**; ¾-in., **8½d.** per foot.

Brass Fittings Free and Carriage Paid on 60 feet or more, passenger train.

GREEN'S, Department 156, LYTHAM.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

GARDEN WIRE OFFER!

Brand New Government Stock.

Rust proof enamel covered, strong, pliable, and most handy for training sweet peas, tomatoes, tying, supporting nets, etc., and scores of other uses about the house, garden and workshop.

Half mile, **4/6** One mile, **8/6**

Drums Free and Carriage Paid.

Plenty in stock, but demand now increasing.
Send postcard for free samples of five other kinds.
Write to-day and save.

GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 371, Albert St., Lytham

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

SWEET PEAS AND HOW TO EXCEL
WITH THEM By HORACE WRIGHT, 9d. net, by post 11d. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

SELECTED DUTCH BULBS

JOHN B. VANDERSCHOOT,

***The Old Established Bulb Farms,* HILLEGOM, HOLLAND**

ESTABLISHED 1850.

Own extensive Bulb Farms (comprising over 400 acres) of Hyacinths, Tulips, Narcissi and Daffodils, Crocuses, Irises, &c.

Richly illustrated descriptive Catalogue free on application.

Digitized by Google

HORTICULTURE AT THE ROYAL SHOW

YEAR by year, so it seems to the interested onlooker, the horticultural interest in agricultural shows increases, and so far as the Royal Show is concerned, it may certainly be said that if the horticultural features had been isolated they would of their own accord have made a show equal in extent, variety and unquestionably of quality, to the best of the provincial shows which are, in their way, big events in the gardening world.

It is not so very many years ago since the only horticulture one expected to find at the "Royal" was a few samples of vegetables and these were chiefly for field culture rather than the garden.

Of this year's display we can say nothing better than that it is fully up to the "Royal" standard and this notwithstanding the fact that sufficient entries and applications for space were received too late for acceptance to have filled another huge marquee. Messrs. Sutton and Sons did much to add to the beauty of the show ground. Outside the Royal Pavilion their bedding scheme of blue and yellow was both tastefully and excellently carried out, and their large plot laid out as a model flower and vegetable garden was the envy of all.

During their stay of several hours on the show ground, Their Majesties made a complete tour of the flower tents, evinced the keenest delight and interest in the exhibits, chatted with practically every exhibitor and highly pleased the visitors by their charming manner toward one and all.

It must be candidly admitted that in view of the liberality of the prizes offered by the Society, the entries in the competitive classes were few in number. This, we are aware, was largely due to the aforementioned late intimations of the wish to exhibit, but in a few cases, at any rate, the result was that an element of luck attended the winners of prizes ranging in value (first prizes), from £6 up to £45.

The schedule opened with a group of miscellaneous plants in or out of bloom, and Messrs. Jas. Cypher and Sons, Cheltenham, were easily first of the two entries. Their group was in the characteristic "Cypher" style, with gorgeous crotons, choice summer-flowering cypripediums and the graceful white sprays of Francoa ramosa.

Messrs. Blackmore and Langdon faced no competition for a group of tuberous begonias, but so magnificent were their flowers, many of the plants carrying six or eight monster and perfectly modelled blooms, that in the severest test the result would have been as safe.

Only three entries were forthcoming in the big group of hardy perennials, but they were three magnificent exhibits. Messrs. Maurice Prichard and Sons, Christchurch, worthily received first prize. They had some remarkably fine kniphofias, which were a tower of strength to their exhibit, but grace and elegance was secured by judicious disposition of the airy and cool-looking astilbes and Poterium tenuifolium album. Messrs. W. Artindale and Son had some wonderful eremuri in their second prize exhibit. One variety named Sir Arthur Hazlerigg, is of deep rich old gold with an oversheen of greenish amber, giving the flower an irresistible charm. Delphiniums and lupins were outstanding features of Messrs. Harkness and Son's exhibit. Among the former, John Laye Harkness is of striking distinction, but its characteristic strength and beautiful columnar form have been imparted to several seedlings of which it is parent.

Mr. T. Carlile was first of two good entries for a representation of a border of growing herbaceous plants. Delphiniums were a principal item, but masses of astilbes, potentillas, armerias, the best of the herbaceous salvias, erigerons and veronicas were tastefully foiled by drifts of silver-leaved artemisias, thymes and the choice little Veronica incana. Messrs. Artindale's second prize group contained much that was good, and there was, in both exhibits, considerable improvement in the interpretation of the representation of a border, which has at previous shows been, generally speaking, disappointing to those who originated the class in the hope of seeing something more natural.

Sweet peas ranked among the best of classes so far as entries were concerned, but the first prize exhibit of Robert Bolton and Son was, metaphorically speaking, head and shoulders above the rest, good, indeed, though every exhibit was. Mr. Bolton is a past-master at the dual art of growing and showing, and he had all his novelties of this season, as well as such varieties as Gold Crest, Mammoth and Wembley, in excellent form. The second prize exhibit staged by Mr. J. Stevenson, Wimborne, contained a number of the exhibitor's own varieties, one named La France being particularly attractive. Messrs. E. W. King and Co. were third in this strong class of some half dozen entries.

In roses again, competition was very keen and while Messrs. Waterer, Sons and Crisp, Limited, unquestionably scored on quality of bloom throughout they were much too heavy in arrangement to please many critics. Messrs. Elisha Hicks obviously suffered through the deluge of rain which throughout the district immediately preceded cutting time, but their skill at staging brought them up to a very close second place.

In a tent by themselves, Messrs. R. Wallace and Co. made a beautiful informal water garden with choice nymphæas and appropriate reeds, etc., surrounded by natural groups of moisture-loving irises, spiræas and astilbes, with bamboos and colonies of Lilium regale.

Messrs. Waterer, Sons and Crisp, Limited, made a very fine water and iris garden, which would have been infinitely more imposing had it not been cramped for space. The Iris Kæmpferi were really fine, both in variety, development and arrangement, and a specially bright and good form of Spiræa palmata occupied a prominent and correct position on a mound beside the watercourse.

Another elaborate piece of work was carried out across the opposite end of the tent by the new firm, Messrs. Wilson and Agar, Reading. A rushing torrent of water splashing down between massive rugged rocks into a meandering stream afforded the environment for ferns, spiræas, ranunculus, mimulus, etc., the drier portions of the rock-work being well planted with familiar rock plants and dwarf shrubs.

Smaller, but full of interest, was the rock garden of Messrs. Maxwell and Beale, who contrived to find suitable positions for their well known ericas, for potentillas, a few late-flowering primulas and other plants of colour and merit. The weak spot in the exhibit was the background, which lacked a few appropriate shrubs or tall plants.

Hardy flowers were abundantly shown, the distant firm of Messrs. John Forbes, Limited, Hawick, Scotland, bringing a fine collection of pentstemons, phloxes, pansies and assorted herbaceous flowers, which, despite their long journey, were staged in capital condition and showed far less sign of suffering from bad weather than some of the near at home exhibits. The famous scabious from Messrs. Isaac House and Son, Westbury-on-Trym, were shown in a new and attractive manner, flesh pink heucheras, astilbes, statice and armerias being used as garnishing to great advantage.

Messrs. Dobbie and Co. made a bold display of sweet peas, which embraced big masses of the delightful lavender blue variety, Gleneagles, and the strongly coloured Royal Scot, as well as Miss California, Hebe, Majestic and others of popular favour.

Messrs. Sutton and Sons' end of the tent group was impressive in its extent as also superb in its quality. One scarcely needs mention a variety for it seemed that the finest in every colour group was here shown and the deep orange and scarlet shades were free from sunburn or weather stain. Magnet was among the very finest, but Avalanche, King Mauve and Tom Sykes were all good.

Mr. E. Gallagher, Chalk Hill Nurseries, Reading, put up a good array of border flowers, among which the uncommon white form of Aconitum Napellus, a large and bright form of Alstrœmeria chilensis and the still brighter A. aurantiaca were noticeable.

Messrs. Bakers had grand delphiniums, embracing some of the largest and most serviceable varieties for garden and exhibition. Messrs. Harkness and Sons put up a group of lupins in which the bronze, orange and apricot shades were finely represented and there were also mauves of restful and artistic shades. Messrs. G. Gibson and Co. made great use of poppies, verbascums, delphiniums, lupins and a host of other seasonable flowers.

SWEET PEA COMPETITION

£50 IN PRIZES

RULES.

A list of your choice of the six most popular sweet peas to be sent in in order of preference on the coupon to be found on page ii of this week's issue of THE GARDEN. *No alternative* varieties will be allowed in the one list, but readers may send in any number of lists, provided that they are written on the special coupon to be found in this and the following issues of THE GARDEN.

Coupons must reach this office not later than Saturday, July 31st (after which date no coupons will be accepted).

The popular vote will be final, and no correspondence will be entered into over this competition.

Envelopes must be marked *Competition* and addressed to THE GARDEN, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

The Editor will not be held responsible for letters missing in the post.

The result will be announced in THE GARDEN in the issue of August 28th.

The prizes are awarded to those whose list corresponds most closely to that arrived at by the popular vote.

If two readers tie for the first place, the first and second prizes will be equally divided; if two for the second place, the second and third prizes will be equally divided.

The Editor's decision on all points will be final.

PRIZES.

1ST PRIZE.—Goods worth £20 from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

2ND PRIZE.—Goods worth £10 from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

3RD PRIZE.—Goods worth £5 from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

20 CONSOLATION PRIZES of 5s. each from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

Digitized by Google

THE LEADING GLASS HOUSE FUMIGANT

CORRY'S WHITE FLY DEATH

THOUSANDS OF TOMATO CROPS ENTIRELY SAVED
No alterations needed since first introduced.
Satisfied with the best, it is the cheapest in the end.
Commended by the Royal Horticultural Society.

Cubic ft.	1,000	2,000	4,000	8,000	16,000	32,000	64,000
	10d.	1/3	2/-	3/6	6/-	10/6	19/-

Also in 2, 5 and 10 gall. FREE drums;
ALSO

"NIQUAS"
THE INSECTICIDE.
(Non-poisonous.)

destroying Greenfly, Aphis and Caterpillars etc., on all plants and trees.
30 years' reputation.
Many hundreds of Testimonials received.
Equal to any, if not better, and cheaper, so why not use it and save money?

1 pt.	1 qt.	½-gall.	1 gall.	2 gall.	5 gall.	10 gall.
1/6	2/6	4/-	7/6	15/-	25/-	45/-

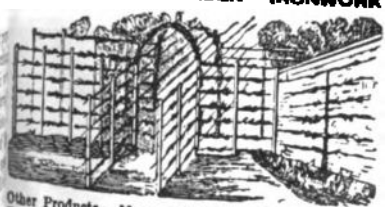
CORRY'S CONCENTRATED QUASSIA EXTRACT

1 pt.	1 qt.	½-gall.	1 gall.	2 gall.	5 gall.	10 gall.
1/3	2/-	3/6	6/6	12/6	23/-	42/-

Sold by Nurserymen and Seedsmen.
CORRY & CO., Ltd., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.

HILL & SMITH, Ltd.,
BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS,
Makers of
IRON FENCING, HURDLES, GATES, WIRE NETTING AND GARDEN IRONWORK



Other Products—Hay and Grain Sheds, Dutch Barns, Galvanized Corrugated Sheets and Structural Steelwork.
Catalogues free on mentioning this paper.
London: 300, Abbey House, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

By Appointment

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

Any quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.
RICHARD BANKES & SON, LTD.,
Royal Potteries,
BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.

BOULTON & PAUL
for
MODERN
Glasshouses

Boulton & Paul Conservatories and Greenhouses can be seen all over the British Isles, and after very many years' wear they still bear that mark of quality, design and craftsmanship associated with all their products. Let Boulton & Paul undertake your Horticultural work, and you will be sure of right design and workmanship.

The service of an expert staff of Designers is always at disposal of clients, and we are ready to advise on any subject. A representative will be sent by appointment to consult and prepare schemes for any kind of Horticultural Work and Heating Apparatus.

Ask for our free Catalogue No. 742.

Boulton & Paul Ltd
Telegrams: BOULTON NORWICH
NORWICH
Telephone NORWICH 851 (5 lines)
LONDON OFFICE: 135-137, QUEEN VICTORIA ST. E.C.
Telegrams: Boutique, Cent London Telephone 4642 Cent

Garden Frames a speciality. Prices from 35/- Designs shown in Booklet No. 744.

CIRENGOL

KILLS GREEN FLY
AND OTHER GARDEN PESTS.

READY FOR USE. All you have to do is to mix a level teaspoonful in two gallons of cold water and in a few minutes you have a supply of strong syringing liquor.

9d. per tube.

Large size 3/- (5 times the 9d. size.)

Of all Ironmongers, Seedsmen, Florists and Chemists or post free from:

THOS. CHRISTY & CO., 4-12, Old Swan Lane, London, E.C. 4.

FERTHRIVER (REGD.)
THE COMPLETE FERTILISER, WITH GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

GIVES RESULTS

7-lb.	14-lb.	28-lb.	56-lb.	1-cwt.
2/3	4/-	6/-	10/-	16/-

Carriage Paid.

ANALYSIS:

Ammonia -	4 per cent.
Phosphates	15 "
Potash - -	2 "
Pot. Sulphate -	5.6 "

3d. Tin of Ferthriver As Illustrated, 6d. Post Free.

THE NECESSARIES CO., 25, Edward Road, Balsall Heath BIRMINGHAM.

GREENHOUSES AND GARDEN FRAMES

I specialize in the Erection of High-class Horticultural Buildings.
Garden Frames a speciality. Selected timber, well seasoned, only used.
Being a grower, I understand Glass-house requirements.
SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.
CATALOGUES WITH PLEASURE.

E. M. HEAP, Cottimore Nurseries, WALTON-ON-THAMES.

Digitized by Google

"All ready to put into your pipe—*that's handy!*"

PLAYER'S "Medium" Navy Cut Tobacco (Rubbed Ready for Smoking) comes as a great convenience to those Smokers who prefer their tobacco "rubbed up" before filling the pouch.

PLAYER'S
"MEDIUM"
Navy Cut

PLAYER'S NAVY CUT. REGD No 134011.

RUBBED READY FOR SMOKING

P 1316

WHY is "HOMES and GARDENS" such a Great Success?

BECAUSE it shows greater House Comfort & Convenience —with less Labour and Expense.

Send to-day for a Free specimen Copy of this helpful and beautifully Illustrated Magazine to 20, Tavistock St., Covent Garden, W.C.2

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION

WAKELEY'S *Celebrated* HOP MANURE
(PATENTED)
THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY
RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

A beautiful Free Booklet giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. GENUINE ONLY IN OUR MARKED BAGS, CONTAINING GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

Cash Prices, including bags: Small (about 1 bushel), 3/-: Large (about 4 bushels), 7/-; 5 Large 33/9
10 Large, 65/-: 20 Large, 120/-

Carriage Paid to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company. 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

Even Birds

—to say nothing of slugs, snails, worms, and other soil-pests, shun crops protected with

SANITAS POWDER

Sprinkle on soil, dust on seeds, dust over trenches, put into drills. The saving is enormous. There is no poison in it. Get a 1/3 Tin to-day, or write to us for bulk quotations.

THE "SANITAS" CO. LTD.
LIMEHOUSE, LONDON, E.

San 84—89a

THE COMPLETENESS OF ITS COMPOSITION AND THE HAPPY BLENDING OF ITS HIGHGRADE ORGANIC AND OTHER INGREDIENTS RENDER

A Carmona measuring Spoon in every tin

Carmona Fertilizer

A PAR-EXCELLENT BLOOM PRODUCER

CARRIAGE PAID PRICES:—
1 lb. Tin 1/3 2 lb. Tin 2/-
7 lb. Tin 4/6 112 lb. Bag 26/-
The fullest instructions accompany each package.

Sole Manufacturers:—
ROBINSON BROTHERS LTD., WEST BROMWICH

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS 56 & 57, Drury Lane London W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

AUG 2 1926

THE GARDEN

ORCHARD · GARDEN · WOODLAND

Vol. XC.—No. 2851 Saturday, July 24th, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

Barr's Seeds for July Sowing

OF FINEST STRAINS AND TESTED GROWTH

For the Flower Garden.

Antirrhinums, Aquilegias, Campanulas, Delphiniums, Forget-me-nots, Gaillardias, Geums, Hollyhocks, Lupins, Pansies, Papavers, Polyanthus-Primroses, Sweet Williams, Stocks, Violas, etc.

For the Vegetable Garden

Beet, Cabbage, Carrots, Cress, Mustard, Onions, Peas, Parsley, Turnips, Radish, etc.

For the Rock Garden

Special List of dwarf-growing Hardy Perennials, Alpines, etc., for July sowing in the Rock Garden

All Lists free on application.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

GARDEN WIRE OFFER!

BRAND NEW GOVERNMENT STOCK . . .

Rust proof enamel covered, strong, pliable, and most handy for training sweet peas, tomatoes, tying, supporting nets, etc., and scores of other uses about the house, garden and workshop.

Half mile, **4s. 6d.** - One mile, **6s. 6d.**

Drums Free and Carriage Paid.

PLENTY IN STOCK, BUT DEMAND NOW INCREASING.

Send postcard for free samples of five other kinds. Write to-day and save.

GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES,
371, Albert Street, LYTHAM.

"ACME" WEED KILLER

Awarded Gold Medal at Anglo-American Exhibition and Bronze Medal by Royal Horticultural Society.

Has stood the test of over 30 years.

POWDER, LIQUID AND NON-POISONOUS.

LAWN SAND destroys Weeds and Moss in Grass.

Extract of Quassia Insecticide

Quassia - Tobacco Insecticide

Write for Price List.

The ACME CHEMICAL CO. Ltd.
TONBRIDGE, KENT

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

FOR THE GARDEN! FOR EXHIBITION!
FOR BEDS! FOR EVERYWHERE!

Also Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees, Alpines and Hardy Plants.

BUY HOME-GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries.

Catalogue Free on Application, and Addresses booked for Revised Catalogue in late Summer.

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.,
Garden Specialists - - SOUTHWELL, NOTTS

All Prices Reduced *All Prices Reduced*

SMITH'S "PERFECT" WEED KILLER

POWDER

Also in Liquid—All Sized Drums.

First Weed Killer ever offered and first ever since.

SMITH'S "PERFECT" NON-POISONOUS LIQUID AND POWDER

Best Value. Most Reliable. Full Satisfaction Guaranteed. Prices and Particulars of—

MARK SMITH, LTD., LOUTH, LINCOLNSHIRE

PRICE'S COMPLETE GARDEN FERTILISER

PROMOTES STRONG, HEALTHY PLANTS.

If stored in a dry place will keep any length of time.

Sold in 7-lb containers - **2s. 6d.**

Also supplied in 1-cwt. and ½-cwt. bags.

Price's Patent Candle Company Limited,
Battersea, London, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
New Alpines and Perennials. Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD,
CHELSEA, S.W.
Perennial and Rock Plants Seed. List on Application

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

H. PRINS
BULB AND PLANT GROWERS
WISBECH, CAMBS.
Bulb list free on application

TUBS FOR SHRUBS.
WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 100 prizes. R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. Price List from A. PRADAL, 26, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World

By Appointment

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.
RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.,
Royal Potteries,
BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show. 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
HULL
Weed Destroyers Fertilisers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

Hosepipe Bargains

Braided Moulded Hose (no seam to leak), ½-in. bore, **5d.**; ⅝-in., **6d.**; ¾-in., **7d.** per foot.

Corrugated Non-kink, ½-in., **6½d.**; ⅝-in., **7½d.**; ¾-in., **8½d.** per foot.

Brass Fittings Free and Carriage Paid on 60 feet or more, passenger train.

GREEN'S, Department 156, LYTHAM.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

WILLMOTT
Rival Plant Stake
(Patented No. 183779).
As used in Royal Botanic Gardens London and Cambridge.
For all plants. WILL NOT ROT. WEAR OUT OR BREAK.
Sample of eight sizes,
2/- car. pd. United Kingdom.
4/- Overseas.
H. J. GREENWOOD, F.R.H.S., Proprietor,
BRACKNELL, Berks.

Closed — Open

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

"THE GARDEN"
Sweet Pea Competition

Name .....

Address .....

.....

1 .....

2 .....

3 .....

4 .....

5 .....

6 .....

Coupon July 24th

CUT OUT AROUND LINE.

Better fumigation!

The clearing of indoor pests is neither as easy, nor as certain, as it might be—unless XL ALL Fumigating Compound is used. For sound results use XL ALL. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen, florists and chemists.

XL ALL FUMIGATING COMPOUND

G. H. RICHARDS LTD.,
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
R. 149. Monomark: BCM/XLALL.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

SITUATIONS VACANT.

ROCK GARDEN.—Wanted, a man experience (married), with practical knowledge of Rock their propagation, planting and display, to take charge of a rock garden of considerable size. Good Write, stating experience and wages required, to Box GARDEN, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.

WANTED, in Birmingham District, Gardener, good all-round experience. Cottage provided by letter, stating qualifications, wages and references 7, c/o THE GARDEN, 8-11, Southampton St., Strand,

ECLIPSE
TRIUMPH SPRAYER

—the world's BEST bucket Sprayer at less cost!

It is cheaper in upkeep, easy to use, has a throw of 25 feet, can be oiled and washers replaced in a few minutes—and can be used for spraying, cleaning, disinfecting and limewashing.

Don't be put off with an obsolete and cumbersome machine—insist upon having an "ECLIPSE," the modern time and labour saving Sprayer without an equal.

Order from your local agent or write direct to the sole makers. Illustrated List on request.

ECLIPSE SPRAYING CO.,
Dept. O. Bearwood, Smethwick, Birm.

PRICE, complete with 6 ft. 2-ply hose, 2 ft. lance and nozzle, single lug jet and strainer,

£2-7-6

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

Britain's Great Cabbage.

WEBB'S EMPEROR CABBAGE.
e earliest, best and most popular Spring Cabbage in cultiva-on. 4d., 6d. and 1/- per packet, 1/9 per ounce. "Your mperor Cabbage has again proved worthy of the name you ve it, 'Britain's Great Cabbage.' I should like to go one ter and describe it as 'The World's Best Cabbage,' as year ter year it proves highly satisfactory with me as with others whom I supply plants. I put in the Seed the third week July, 1925, and was cutting splendid Cabbage April 18th. did not have one bolt, and for quality and early productive-ss it has surpassed all others."—F. DALE, Esq., Leamington e.
EBB & SONS, LTD., THE KING'S SEEDSMEN, STOURBRIDGE

/ATERER'S FOR THE BEST IN BULBS forcing, bedding, naturalising, etc. Our new illustrated talogue is now ready, post free.
WATERER'S roses and fruit trees, strawberry plants in pots d open runners, including all those varieties really worth rwing. New catalogue now ready, post free.
WATERER'S alpine and perennial plants. Gold medal Rhodo-endrons, Azaleas and hardy shrubs. Catalogues ready shortly.
N WATERER, SONS AND CRISP, LIMITED, The Nurseries, ytford, Berks.

IMALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODEN- ONS on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and ine Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write Catalogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

/ELLS' CATALOGUE OF CHRYSANTHE- UMS will be sent post free on application.—W. WELLS AND Merstham, Surrey.

'AKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE. The original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See vert. on back page.

M. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., rrance Road, South Tottenham, N.16. — Conservatories, ater Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

RDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUN- ILS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.— ORTON, 80, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

NCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and den Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request. — THE BURY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, ey.

NAIL WRITES WEBSTER'S LABELS ow metal, can't fade or break. 20 sizes to hang or stand.— STER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

SCADE WONDER NOZZLES spread or t, dirt don't choke, no taking off, not mislaid, fit any can. free.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

RE NETTING.—From 2/5 per 50yd. roll. xpest House in the Kingdom. Write us for prices. sands of rolls stocked.

NTS.—Army Bell. All complete, new ups, deep walls, 60/- and 70/- Scout Tents, 13/8. ent, 50/-. Bathing, 33/-. Also Marquees. Write us for es.

RDEN HOSE.—Superior quality, 50ft.

	1-ply.	2-ply.	3-ply.
⅝in.	15/-	24/6	29/3
¾in.	24/6	29/3	35/2

Carriage paid. Approval.

ENNIS BOUNDARY NETTING.—Lines top bottom, 25 x 2yds., 16/3; 3yds., 18/3; 4yds., 25/3 rage paid. Approval. Standards for fixing to, also Playing s. Poles and all requisites supplied.

WN MOWERS.—Five Riveted Blades. h Wheels. Brass Bushings. Close Cutting. Highly Finished. qualled Value. 8in., 20/6; 10in., 21/6; 12in., 22/6; 14in., Grass Boxes, 8/6 each. Garden Rollers, 30/-.

MBOO CANES.—Strong, 3ft., 3/5; 4ft., 5/-, 10/11; 6ft., 14/6 per hundred. Carriage paid.—E. B. THORNS, LIMITED, Dept. E, Shrewsbury.

BARR'S SEEDS FOR JULY SOWING.—HARDY PERENNIALS and ALPINES for the FLOWER and ROCK GARDEN and the most suitable VEGETABLE SEEDS for Summer Sowing. Finest Selected Strains and Tested Growth. Special Lists Free.—BARR & SONS, 11, 12 and 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760 yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 800 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

FLAME FLOWER. (Tropæolum speciosum). Extra strong established pot plants of this loveliest of scarlet flowered perennial climbers ready for planting any time now 1/- each, 6 for 5/-, 12 for 10/-, carriage paid for cash with order. —CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED, Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial	415
Some Old-Fashioned Plants	416
Notes of the Week	417–418
Sisyrinchiums ; Sanguisorba canadensis ; The Missouri Evening Primrose ; Verbena chamædrifolia ; A Fine Hybrid Horse Chestnut ; Azalea Roseæflora ; Hybrid Lupins.	
North Borders in Summer	418
The Lachenalia	419
Some Wild Roses in Cultivation	420
Correspondence	423–424
Ivy on Trees ; Arum Lilies in the Open ; Iris Dominion ; Tomato Plants Under Glass ; Gooseberry Pests.	
Flower Garden and Greenhouse	423–424
Francoa ramosa ; Berried Solanums ; Hard-Wooded Plants in Pots ; Management and Ripening of Late Grapes ; Rose Culture ; The Culture of Bearded Irises.	
Mid-Summer at Vincent Square	424
The Carnation Show	425
Fruit and Vegetables	425–426
Retarding Currants ; Vegetable Garden ; Forcing Chicory, Salsafy and Scorzoneras ; Onions Sown in Autumn.	
Miscellaneous Notes	426
Flower Pot Stand ; Liquid Manures.	
Gardening of the Week	428

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL DELPHINIUMS and ROSES. Send a postcard for our catalogue.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S CHOICE DAFFODILS AND TULIPS and other Bulbs. Bulb catalogue will be ready in July and will be sent free on application.—"Order early and Plant early" to avoid disappointment.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

THE DOG : MAN'S FIRMEST FRIEND.—How to choose and care for him, by A. CROXTON SMITH. A copy of this helpful booklet on the housing, breeding, feeding and care of dogs will be sent post free on receipt of 11d., addressed to The Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

DOBBIE'S PLANT CATALOGUE now ready. Free to all readers. Please mention THE GARDEN when writing. —DOBBIE AND CO., LIMITED, Edinburgh.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

GARDEN NETS.—Best tanned, small mesh; 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 25yds. by 3yds., 6/-; 25yds. by 4yds., 8/-. Carr. Paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Tennis nets from 10/-. Special nets for tennis boundary. Pea training nets. Lists and samples free.—G. JARRETT, Netmaker, Rye.

ROCK AND ALPINE PLANTS.—Large and varied collection. All pot grown. Packed and carriage paid. Catalogue free.—M. J. PIGGOTT, Duffield, Nr. Derby.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING, small mesh: 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds. 4/-; 40yds. by 1yd., 3/3; 40yds. by 2yds., 6.6; 40yds. by 3yds., 9/9. Measured mesh closed. Special Pea Netting supplied. Tennis Nets from 8/-. Carriage Paid. Compare our netting with others. Sports lists and samples free.—GALLOP, Net Manufacturer, Hastings

GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS — CHOICE TULIPS, &c. List on application.—THE WELSH BULB FIELDS, St. Asaph.

LOOK ! TANNED GARDEN NETS.—All orders dispatched same day. 25yds. by 1yd, 2/-; 25 by 2, 4/-; 25 by 3, 6/-. Odd netting for bushes, 5lbs. for 2/6. All carriage paid. Any sizes supplied. Also Tennis Boundary Nets.—MOORE AND CO., Net Works, Rye.

LAXTON'S STRAWBERRIES.—New List Containing Novelties for 1926. Prolific, Rearguard, Robust. Also The Duke, Royal Sovereign and all the old Favourites. Plants in small pots for forcing.—LAXTON BROTHERS, Nurseries, Bedford.

PUPILS given general nursery instruction. —Particulars, H. HOPKINS, Waterford Nurseries, Lymington, Hants.

RARE PRIMULA AND ALPINE SEEDS from large (2,000) collection. Also seedlings and plants. Lists free.—REV. J. F. ANDERSON, Glen Hall, Leicester.

THE CULTURE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS. By W. WELLS, 2/6 net; cloth, 3/6 net; by post 6d. extra. —Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE" LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

A CATALOGUE of gardening books will be sent free on application to "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

CUTTINGS BLUE HYDRANGEAS, Mixed Rhododendrons, Cholayas, 1/9 doz., post free. THORNLEY Greystone, Ilfracombe.

WANTED.—Lilium excelsum (Nankeen Lily). All sizes.—GORDON EDWARDS, Bellevue, Washington, U.S.A.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty. 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

SUTTON'S CABBAGES

The best varieties for Spring cutting are:

Sutton's Harbinger	per packet	- 1s. and 1s. 6d.
Sutton's April	,, ,,	- 1s. and 1s. 6d.
Sutton's Flower of Spring	,, ,,	- 1s.

"We had 20,000 of your Harbinger Cabbage this year, and they were the best lot we have ever grown. They were all in the market before anyone else in this district thought of cutting, and made a good price."—Messrs. Riddell Bros., Bungalow.

SUTTON & SONS,

The King's Seedsmen, READING.

WALLACE'S Gold Medal IRISES

have for over thirty years been grown in the leading gardens of England. Well-known in France and America, they are finding their way still farther afield.

Here are six of the most popular and best varieties:—

SOUV. DE MME. GAUDICHAU.—Magnificent huge velvety purple 3/6

ISOLINE.—An exquisite blend of auburn, sepia, rose and gold - - 1/-

AFTERGLOW. — Soft smoky grey shading to yellow - - - 3/6

ROSEWAY.—Deep reddish pink 3/6

CAMELOT.—Creamy white, edged with pale violet - - - - 2/6

TREMANDRA.—Heliotrope blue and royal purple - - - - 2/6

One of each for **15/-**
Three ,, ,, **40/-**

CARRIAGE PAID.

R. WALLACE & CO., LTD.
The Old Gardens, TUNBRIDGE WELLS

AUTUMN FLOWERING CROCUS & COLCHICUMS

For planting in JULY and AUGUST to ensure flowers for the present Year.

	Doz.	100.	1,000.
Crocus medius.—One of the most handsome of Autumn-flowering Croci, flowers of a rich violet colour with rich orange stigmata	6/-	40/-	—
,, **ochroleucus.** Creamy white with orange base	2/6	15/-	—
,, **Salzmanni erectophyllus.** — Rich lilac purple	2/6	15/-	—
,, **speciosus.** Rich blue flowers with orange red anthers ..	2/6	15/-	—
,, **speciosus Aitchisonii.** A most beautiful form, its handsome lavender flowers often 5ins. across, are produced as freely as in the type	4/-	25/-	—
,, **zonatus.** Rosy lilac, very beautiful, one of the freest flowering of all	1/6 2/-	7/6 10/-	70/- 90/-
Colchicums (Meadow Saffrons)			
,, **autumnale album plenum.** Large double white tuberose - like flowers, each 2/6	27/-	—	—
,, **Bornmullerii.** Immense flowers of lilac rose with white centres	4/6	30/-	—
,, **giganteum.** Very vigorous, bearing numbers of large expanded flowers of soft rose shaded to white ..	4/-	25/-	—
,, **speciosum.** — Tulip - like flowers of a rosy crimson colour, a very handsome plant	5/-	35/-	—
,, **speciosum album.** Large tulip-like flowers of ivory white. Each 1/6. ..	16/-	—	—

Complete list of Crocus species and Colchicums will be sent on application.

T. SMITH,

Daisy Hill Nursery, NEWRY

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

WATER

raised by simply turning a handle. The wonderful Boulton Water Elevator lifts a continuous stream of water from well of any depth.

Ask for Catalogue No. 746

BOULTON & PAUL, LTD.
: : NORWICH : :

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by "ALPHOL"

Sample 14 lb., 5/6 carr. [illegible]

Write for particulars of this and other reliable [illegible] Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Verlhost" Seeds, etc. [illegible]

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

SELECTED DUTCH BULBS

JOHN B. VANDERSCHOOT,

The Old Established Bulb Farms, HILLEGOM, HOLLAND

ESTABLISHED 1830.

Own extensive Bulb Farms (comprising over 400 acres) of Hyacinths, Tulips, Narcissi and Daffodils, Crocuses, Irises, &c.

Richly illustrated descriptive Catalogue free on application.

For success in your Garden USE

THOMSON'S MANURES

On the market for over 50 years, they still hold first place for QUALITY and RESULTS. They are safe, sure and lasting. The direct result of many years' practical experience in gardening, they stand unrivalled at the present day for all Garden Crops.

Prices:—**VINE, PLANT AND VEGETABLE MANURE**—a Perfect Food—1 cwt., **30/-**; 56 lb., **16/-**; 28 lb., **9/-**; 14 lb., **5/-**; 7 lb., **3/-**; tins, **1/3** and **9d.** **SPECIAL TOP DRESSING MANURE**—an excellent stimulant—56 lb., **17/-**; 28 lb., **9/6**; 14 lb., **5/6**, 7 lb., **3/-**, tins, **1/3**. **Carriage paid on 28 lbs. and up.**

WRITE FOR OUR BOOKLET—POST FREE ON REQUEST.

SOLD BY NURSERYMEN AND SEEDSMEN EVERYWHERE.

Or from Sole Makers, WM. THOMSON & SONS, TWEED VINEYARDS, CLOVENFORDS, SCOTLAND.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

VOL. XC.—No. 2851. JULY 24, 1926

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.; Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2. *Offices for Advertisements:* 6–11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

WE would remind our readers that this is the last week of our *Sweet Pea Competition* and that all coupons must arrive at this office not later than Saturday, July 30th. From the number of coupons already sent in, it is obvious that this competition has proved extremely interesting to our readers. The entries so far exceed our most sanguine expectations. The results will be published, as originally stated, in the issue of THE GARDEN, of August 28th.

THE flower chosen for this week's plant is Iris Kæmpferi. This iris, so much beloved by the Japanese, has reached a pitch of excellence in Japan such as is only obtained by centuries of cultivation. Mr. Dykes stated that even now the process is unknown by which the Japanese have evolved the great variety of shades and forms from the wild plant. This six-petalled iris is noted for its clematis-like flowers, in which the standards are much shorter than the falls. Few of the named Japanese varieties are in cultivation in this country, but unnamed seedlings are quite commonly met with. They require a somewhat different treatment from other irises. First and foremost, they will not stand lime. They should be kept as dry in winter as possible and be well manured at the same time, then heavily watered whenever they begin to show signs of growth. All lovers of the iris should include a few Iris Kæmpferi in their collection, provided that their soil is lime free.

CHARMING FORMS OF THE JAPANESE IRIS KÆMPFERI.

FROM the number of readers who have written to me regarding ivy on trees, it is obvious that this is a subject in which many gardeners are keenly interested. Almost without exception the writers agree that the growth of ivy on trees causes damage. What is interesting is the fact that the list of trees that are smothered by ivy is vastly increased. Ash, oak, Douglas firs and many others are noted as being badly attacked: in fact, the only tree that appears to be more or less immune is the beech, which is not surprising, although one reader has noticed ivy struggling to make headway even on an old beech tree. One point upon which I asked for information, that has not been forthcoming, is whether there is any noticeable increase in the past twenty-five years of the presence of ivy on trees. I should say that there are distinct signs of increase; but this is a fact that is difficult to prove. Perhaps some reader can produce definite evidence. I did not touch on the subject of ground ivy; but from the letters that have been sent to the Service Department it is obvious that this is also becoming a scourge. Can anyone suggest a preventive or curative measure, other than cutting and trenching, that is permanent? E. H. M. C.

The Last Week of Our Sweet Pea Competition: £50 in Prizes

(*See page* 427).

Digitized by Google

SOME OLD-FASHIONED PLANTS

JUST as Viola cornuta, to which I alluded in my last article, has been rather elbowed aside by more modern introductions, so has Dianthus superbus suffered "the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune." Once petted and admired, the delight of rich and poor, this good old pink, which made its *début* in 1596, is now hardly ever seen. Yet its large flowers, very deeply fringed and in the most intriguing shades of soft rose and lavender, or white, and deliciously fragrant are singularly lovely. D. superbus will, moreover, flourish perennially in soils too cold and stiff for most of its clan, and it is easily raised from seed.

Dianthus plumarius, introduced from Southern Europe 300 years ago, is rare in our gardens, but naturalised on old walls in a few districts. Now and then one comes across a named form of this species in a nurseryman's list, this consoling us with the fact that we have not altogether forgotten "the father of all the pinks." But I am not banking on sentiment in expressing the view that D. plumarius is deserving of a better fate than we are giving it; I am not presuming to argue that if it was one of the "best half-dozen" pinks in the far-off days when a rock garden was called a "lapidium," it should still hold a foremost place. But I do hold that D. plumarius, on its own intrinsic merits, is well worth a wall or rocky chink because it is beautiful in flower and foliage, deliciously scented and extremely robust, yet of neat and pleasing habit. Equally true would all this be of the true D. cæsius, which is now uncommon.

Double primroses are essentially old-fashioned flowers, the cherished favourites of generations that have passed. If some of these have gone, perhaps never to return, there has arisen a fresh interest in the race which has been instrumental in rescuing many of the best from a threatened extinction. And this applies also to the coloured singles, the older polyanthuses, so quaint and homely, the butter-yellows with their deeply overlapping petals, waved, scalloped and notched, and many of the auricula section that flourished in cottage gardens years ago. But there is scope for a much wider cultivation of these dear old things which, rationally treated, are not nearly so miffy as they are often believed to be.

The cottager's plot seems the reservation we have to thank for preserving for us another antique in the shape of Scilla peruviana, which appeared from south Europe in 1607. This hearty old species, with its deep green, yucca-like leaves and enormous heads of violet flowers nearly 6ins. across, never fails to solicit enquiries as to its identity, for it is now undoubtedly uncommon in most places. There is also a beautiful white variety and a pale blue, if not others, but one seldom sees them offered in our catalogues. All seem perfectly hardy in any light border soil and a few things of the kind are more showy in a buxom, old-fashioned way.

Lychnis viscaria splendens fl. pl. appears to be coming in once again, its fierce crimson undiminished by a period of comparative inaction. But the single splendens, from which this gorgeous and useful plant presumably originated, has apparently all but vanished. This is a matter for regret, for it was a noble plant, and the peculiar virulence of its colour, as well as that of the double one, has its uses and need never offend the most sensitive if associated with, let us say, the blue of Linum narbonense.

THE OLD-FASHIONED DOUBLE LYCHNIS, L. VISCARIA SPLENDENS.

Lychnis Flos-jovis has only just survived its two hundred years, but, given suitable company, this old-time cottager's favourite and the still less common L. diurna fl. pl. still possess qualities sufficiently meritorious to justify their claims to a more generous recognition.

If Betonica grandiflora superba cannot disclaim the possession of the offending blue in the crimson-purple of its flowers, the colour of the latter is so gentle, it harmonises so well with the handsome foliage, especially in partly shaded places, that it is one of the old perennials I should not like to be without. With it I might bracket another labiate, Melittis Melissophyllum, which seems to be as rare in our gardens as it is in the wild. Yet there is a curious charm about its big, pure white, crimson-lipped, hooded blossoms, and it has a long season and an amiable, contented disposition—all qualities which should command for it a more sympathetic public and ensure it a place in our gardens.

A FINE OLD PLANT, SCILLA PERUVIANA.

Also among the balms of physic and fragrance are the monardias, or bergamots. With the exception of one or two varieties of M. didyma—and even they are not so generally planted these days as once they were—most of these old-world plants have practically disappeared, and a similar tale might be told of the sages.

Again, one may look over many gardens and not see that brave old plant, Morina longifolia. Though a native of Nepaul, it is perfectly hardy, its large and prickly, acanthoid foliage is singularly handsome, and when, from June onwards to autumn, this leafage serves as a sort of pedestal for the towering green columns strung with the nodding white and rose-pink flowers, the effect is imposing enough to warrant this plant's inclusion among the best of our border legacies.

A. T. JOHNSON.

(To be continued.)

Digitized by Google

NOTES OF THE WEEK

SISYRINCHIUMS.

IT it is rather less than a year ago that I saw a sisyrinchium for the first time, and had not a notion what it could be. Leaves like an iris, to which family it obviously belonged, inconspicuous pale creamy yellow half-faded flowers, it was Sisyrinchium striatum; I was quite prepared to agree with Robinson that "only one species is worth growing, namely, S. grandiflorum." Its ugly name, too, was quite enough to put me off. This, by the way, means "pig's snout," from the delight these animals take in grubbing up the roots. The sisyrinchiums, however, are quite an interesting group, existing in many different species to suit all tastes. Some big plants for the mixed border, such as S. striatum, referred to above, others quite small, 6ins. to 1ft. high and very suitable for the rockery. Fibrous-rooted, like Iris sibirica—to which they bear a family likeness with their grass-like foliage—examples of these are S. anceps, with numerous pale blue flowers like little six-pointed stars, and S. Bermudiana, which also has blue flowers, with the additional attraction of a yellow eye. They are late risers and go early to bed, so one needs to catch them at the right moment to see them at their full beauty. S. grandiflorum, singled out by Robinson as the only one worth troubling about, has rich purple pendent blossoms more like a campanula than an iris.

One of them is to be found growing wild in Ireland, near Kerry and Galway. This is S. angustifolium, and is known locally by the delightful name of "Blue-eyed Grass," from its small blue flowers and grassy foliage. Though nearly all the sisyrinchiums are natives of North America there appears, according to Bentham and Hooker, to be "no ground to suppose that it can have been introduced by human agency."—EDWARD CAHEN.

SANGUISORBA CANADENSIS.

The Great Burnet.

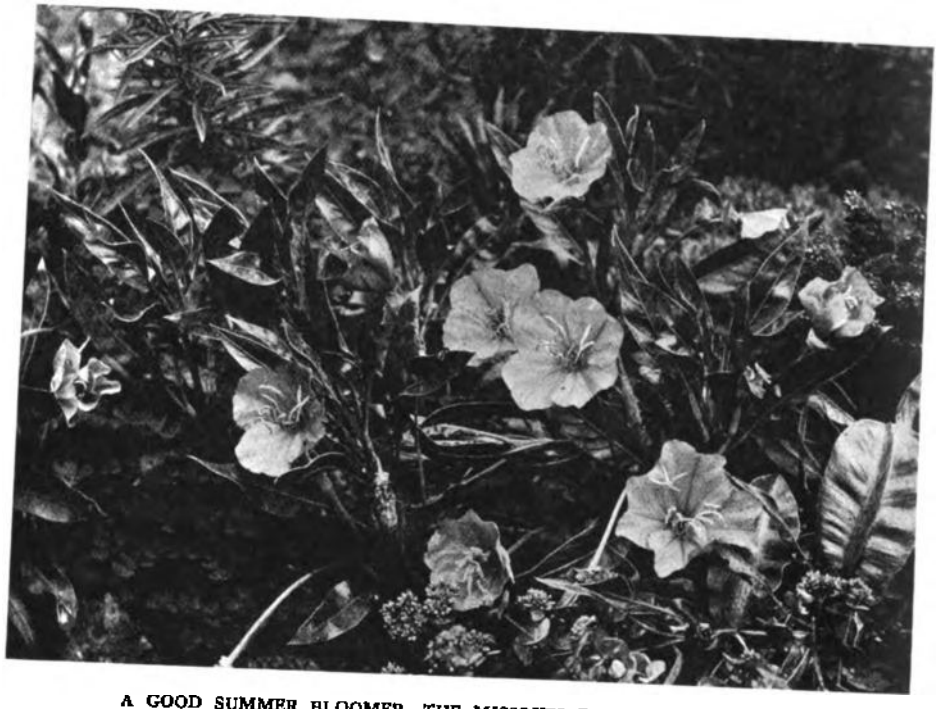
ONE of the most effective bog-loving plants in bloom here at the present time is the Great Burnet. Its handsome foliage of odd pinnate leaves are about 1½ft. long, in dense masses. Towering above these are quantities of white flowers, carried on terminal spikes about 6ins. long, the stems of which are from 3ft. to 4ft. high. I know of no plant that responds better to good cultivation than the Great Burnet.

Planted in deep soil by the waterside, with a liberal top-dressing of decayed manure in early spring, it will prove an attraction the whole summer and early autumn.

It is easily propagated from seed sown in the autumn or by root division in early spring; the latter should be carefully done, as the root stock is very thick and does not lend itself to this propagation as most herbaceous plants do. The Great Burnet should be planted 4ft. apart all round to allow for their proper and luxuriant development.—R. MOORE, *Thorpe Hall.*

THE MISSOURI EVENING PRIMROSE.

WE too seldom see the trailing œnotheras, or evening primroses, and even the easiest of all, Œ. missouriensis, or macrocarpa, is rarely met with nowadays, although it is quite a good plant for the rock garden or the front of the border. It is of true prostrate habit with good-sized leaves and large soft yellow flowers. It is much more easily cultivated than its ally, Œ. speciosa, although not so choice in the eyes of the *cognoscenti* as the latter. Yet it looks exceedingly well hanging over a stone in the rock garden or trailing over the rockwork edging of a herbaceous border. It only rises a few inches in height. The Missouri evening primrose can be purchased in pots and planted out at any time, but a cheap way of raising a stock of plants is by sowing seeds under glass in spring, or in fine sandy soil outdoors in early summer. It is a true summer bloomer, but continues to bloom for a considerable time.—S. ARNOTT.



A GOOD SUMMER BLOOMER, THE MISSOURI EVENING PRIMROSE.

VERBENA CHAMÆDRIFOLIA.

THERE are few subjects on the rock garden at the present time to compare with Verbena chamædrifolia for brilliance of colour. The intense scarlet flowers are assembled a dozen or more at the end of a stem varying from 3ins. to 6ins. in length, and are produced freely over a considerable period. In habit the plant is a trailer, and as roots arise from many of the nodes, a ready means of increase is provided. Furthermore, plants which are cut back in the autumn will throw out strong young growths in the ensuing spring, which are very suitable for cuttings. It requires a light soil and a sunny position.

In many quarters doubts are entertained respecting the hardiness of this plant, but I have been noting a number that have withstood a series of severe frosts during

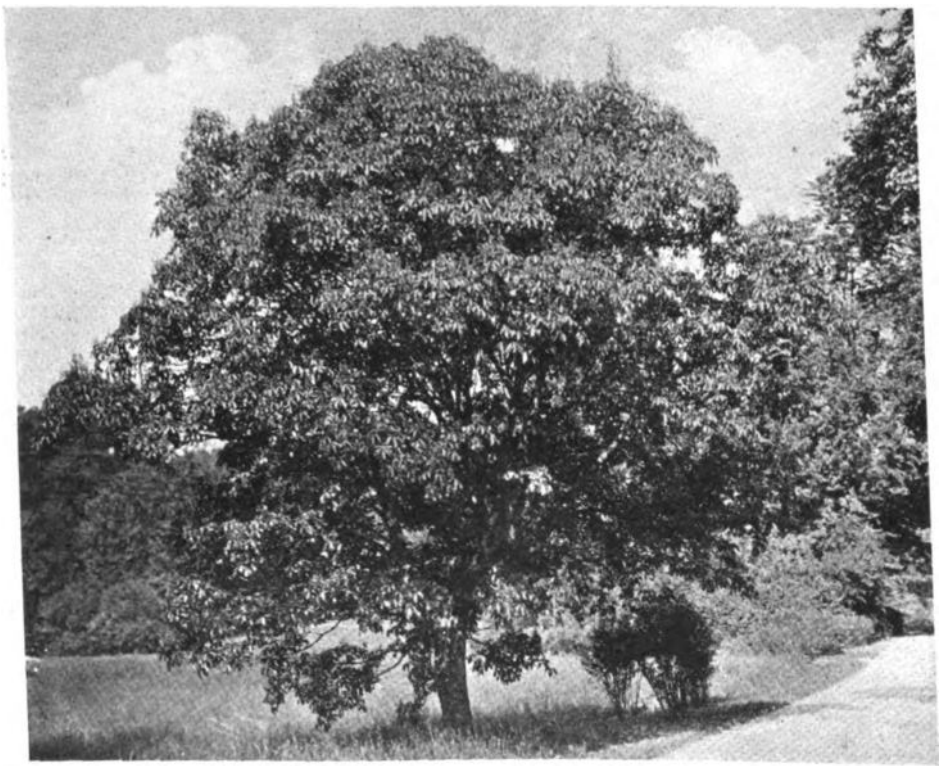
THE BRILLIANT SCARLET FLOWERS OF VERBENA CHAMÆDRIFOLIA.

Digitized by Google

the past winter, and the result would indicate that the plant is perfectly adapted to this climate. On no occasion was the least protection afforded, and although the thermometer fell as low as 12° Fahr., none of the plants succumbed. Possibly, however, some of your more northern readers may treat this verbena with greater suspicion.—W. HOWELL.

A FINE HYBRID HORSE CHESTNUT.

WHEN I visited an Austrian park not far from Vienna years ago I found a fine specimen of horse chestnut which was named by the head-gardener Æsculus Pavia. I was at once surprised by the size of the tree, because the true red horse chestnut even at its best in its native home scarcely exceeds 20ft. in height. But at the first sight of the tree I could hardly distinguish from the true species. After a close examination I came to the conclusion that it is one of several hybrids between the red and the sweet, or yellow, horse chestnut,



A FINE HYBRID HORSE CHESTNUT.

known as Æ. octandra or Æ. flava. This is closely allied to Æ. Pavia, but is the largest of its genus in the New World, occasionally attaining a height of about 120ft., according to Britton. The hybrid forms between these two species are now called Æ. hybrida, and are often met with in our parks under the name of Æ. Pavia, which is a rare plant on the Continent as well as apparently in Great Britain.

Another fine hybrid of this genus seems to be Æ. Bushii. It was found in the State of Alabama, and when I first received tried specimens from the Arnold Arboretum I regarded it as a hybrid between Æ. discolor and Æ. glabra. The last is the well known Ohio buckeye, while Æ. discolor is a small species very similar to Æ. Pavia, but with the leaves densely pubescent beneath. When I, later, saw a good specimen of Æ. Bushii at the Arnold Arboretum, my first impression proved to be correct. I never met this fine hybrid in a European garden. It is hardy at the Arnold Arboretum, and therefore ought to resist our winters in the warmer parts of central Europe.—CAMILLO SCHNEIDER.

AZALEA ROSÆFLORA.

GENERALLY sold under the above name, this delightful little shrub is really a variety of Azalea indica, but it is much hardier than the varieties of A. indica usually met with and I know of many gardens in the north where it has stood unscathed during the most severe winters of more than a decade. The writer has grown it for many years and it is always a favourite with him, although there are a good many who prefer single to double flowers—as the writer generally does—but A. rosæflora is such a delightful little shrub and its double flowers are so pleasing, that it is hard to do without it in the garden.

I saw somewhere the other day that it was only a few inches in height, but I have had it 18ins. high and of corresponding diameter. It has several branches, thinly clad with little bronzy leaves and numerous flowers, produced over a long season, from May onwards, of a good rose or salmon red. These flowers open almost like those of a rose, but eventually assume the appearance of some of the double varieties of A. indica as seen so often under glass. It is classed as a "peat loving" shrub, but it thrives quite well in ordinary loam, or loam, leaf-soil and sand.

According to some, it loves partial shade, but I have grown it quite successfully in different aspects, from full sun to shade. It does not like drought, however, and in a dry situation, where it received much sun, I found it advisable to give it occasional drenchings of water, applied at the roots and not over the foliage. A. rosæflora is an excellent subject for the rock garden and its outstanding beauty and distinct character render it of high value there, while it may also be well grown in the front of the shrubbery.—S. ARNOTT.

HYBRID LUPINS.

IT is delightful to notice what is being done by selectors and hybridists for our old border favourites! Later to receive specialised attention than some kinds, the lupin is now coming into its own, and already there are dozens of varieties available, not all first-class, it may be confessed, but most of them very fine. One of the earliest hybrids was raised by crossing the popular polyphyllus with arboreus, the tree lupin. Since that yellow variety was put on the market there are many others available, in a wide range of colours—selfs, bicolors and tricolors; most kinds, also, possess more or less of the sweet fragrance of the tree lupin, and all flower with the delightful profusion of polyphyllus.

The older yellow Somerset gives way now to the better variety Sunshine. Primrose Queen is another fine yellow sort. Among the reds one can have such a gorgeous kind as Delight (Downer's), a distinct red, much deeper and better than the fine pinks which were all the rage fifteen years ago. Fairy I consider to be one of the best pinks, but pinks of good quality are still easily raised from seed. May Princess is a blue, with purple shading through it. Fascination, a rosy purple, shaded with lavender. Mayflower has a light sky blue colour in prominence; Admiration, a blue and white bicolor; Wargrave Beauty, a purple, shaded red; Dresden China, a peculiar blend of three or four colours, white, bluish-grey, mauve and yellow; Aimée, a bicolor, yellow and reddish brown; Pink Tunic, a soft rose red; and Poilu, a fine blue from the Continent.

These and other fine varieties can be had, but, of course, plants are a trifle expensive, and many will turn, in these hard times to the raising of plants from seed. Seed should be sown at once and the seedlings planted out in the open, 6ins. apart, as soon as they can be handled.—CLYDESDALE.

NORTH BORDERS IN SUMMER:

SOME ADVANTAGES.

HOW often one hears of comparisons made in respect to the progress and growth of plants on south and north borders, much to the disadvantage of the latter? Most of us, I think, watch for the earliest signs of life in the promise of spring flowers under the shelter of south walls, and give little thought to bulbs and plants in colder positions that come with their buds and blossoms, not many weeks later!

May I make a confession here of a lesson I learnt last spring about the blooming of wallflowers? When removing my plants to their final quarters in November, precedence was given to the warmest available space the garden afforded and afterwards it was found that there were some good sturdy plants of Sutton's Fire King and Orange Bedder left. These were planted out on a north border, with very little faith, let it be admitted, because, somehow, we had become prejudiced of anything above ground being planted there for spring blooming. In the severe weather of January, those plants were frost bound and covered with snow, presenting a very forlorn appearance and it was not expected that any of them would survive the ordeal. It was a pleasant surprise, therefore, to find when milder weather came, how quickly they recovered, and when in the late days of April the plants on south positions began to bloom, those on the north border followed in about a week or ten days later. To the astonishment of most folks who saw them, there were only a few losses. As in the springtime, so it is in these summer days, we

Digitized by Google

find the earliest results on the south borders, and we do not always appreciate the cooler position. We speak of "that cold north border" as something to be put up with and forget that in a time of drought, when the water-pot is frequently in our hands, that a few yards away there are similar plants grateful for the partial shade which falls upon them, which enables the flowers to unfold gradually and to develop to a greater degree of perfection. I have in mind one such border where delphiniums, phloxes, campanulas, lythrums, asters and veronicas, among other things, are grown. They are always later in blooming than the same kind of plants in what many are pleased to call "more favourable situations," but one remembers after all, that they prolong the display and on this account one is thankful that, in the garden, both sunshine and shadow fall.

Just at this time some of us have growing on for providing beauty under glass in a few months hence, plants of primulas, cinerarias, solanums, cyclamens in pots, to name a few. These are in cold frames, being kept cooler still by standing them on beds of ashes; the lights are off most of the time and if ever we were inclined to congratulate ourselves that the frames are placed in a north aspect, we do so now. We may be taking full advantage of the sun's power in the frames under the south wall, wherein are cucumbers or melons, but we cannot forget that the coolest side of the garden is good for plants that, when summer days are gone, will reveal their petals under glass and will be finer because of gradual development.

Nor can we shut our eyes to the fact that on north borders quite a number of annuals sown in May, have a longer—and let it be said—a more prosperous career during parching, hot days than some which were sown in sunnier quarters; I allude to Virginia stock, Shirley poppies, nicotianas and larkspurs. Seldom is it that admittedly cold positions are selected for planting roses, preference being given to sunny aspects—yet, I have a distinct recollection of an old rose—a favourite with many even now, being planted as a climber on a north wall, because in a south position, its orange buff blooms bleached very quickly in the sun—William Allen Richardson, to wit. Years ago, I knew an old man whose sole delight in his garden was a long border of calceolarias, which he propagated and wintered in a cold frame and then in May, planted them out on a cool north border. They were always a success and he attributed it to the fact that only in the morning did the sun reach them, and they enjoyed coolness for the rest of the day. I think there is a deal to be said for his theory. CLAREMONT.

THE LACHENALIA

A USEFUL SOUTH AFRICAN BULB.

THE several references which have lately appeared in THE GARDEN have evidently created an appreciable amount of interest in these beautiful South African bulbous plants, and as the present time is just about the right period for potting up, a few detailed notes may be useful, especially to any who may be making a first attempt at their cultivation. Just a few points of special treatment are worth noting, though in most respects they are very accommodating and easily managed subjects. Early planting, at about the end of July or very soon after, is most desirable, thereby allowing a long period of growth and subsequent ripening of the bulbs; good, sweet compost and perfect drainage

LACHENALIA NELSONI, AN OLD FAVOURITE.

A VIGOROUS ORANGE-YELLOW SELF.

Digitized by Google

are very important; a good compost is equal parts of mellow fibrous loam, leaf mould and peat, with a generous helping of coarse sand. The bulbs are small, about the size of a filbert nut, so a six-inch pot will accommodate half a dozen quite comfortably, and a dozen of one variety in a 9in. pan makes a fine show. It is well to be somewhat careful about the watering. Enough, but not too much, during growth and flowering; and then, when the blooms are over, the bulbs can be gradually left to absorb the retreating moisture from the foliage, the pots being placed on a top shelf where the sun can give them a good baking. If so desired the bulbs can remain in the dust-dry soil until the time comes round to shake them out and plant them again. They are cold-house plants, but actual frost during the growing period is distressing to them. Thirty-five degrees seems to be about as low a temperature as they cheerfully accept, and the air should be kept as buoyant as safe ventilation can make it, avoiding stagnant damp as much as possible.

If one knows lachenalias at all it is probable that Nelsoni, tricolor and luteola are typical of varieties most familiar, but these are now left far behind by some of the newer beauties which originated among the Whitewell seedlings—raised in the first place by the late Rev. Joseph Jacob, and further developed by one or two enthusiasts who are following up his work. Some distinct varieties have been established, but several of them are not yet in sufficient quantities to be offered for general distribution. In the meanwhile, such fine types as Siam, a rich yellow self; Monte Carlo (A. M.), a much improved tricolor; Rutland, a strongly marked quadricolour; Pegu, pale yellow, with green points and red lips; Goldfinch, an improved Brightness; Leiden, an orange yellow self, are all sure to please and make up a grand half dozen to go on with. Or a mixed assortment of Whitewell seedlings is quite a good proposition, and is sure to yield some interesting results.

Perhaps special attention should be called to an old variety which has been grown for many years under the name of pendula, if only because it is the one above all others which can be had in bloom at Christmas, or even in November, if desired. It is a solid red, slightly tipped with green and gives a welcome splash of colour at a time when flowers in the cold house are few; it is not scarce and is well worth a place in one's collection, there being nothing yet to take its place in point of colour and in earliness of blooming.

As decorative plants for the home, either in pots or as cut flowers, lachenalias are very effective and lasting and invariably attract attention by their novelty and unfamiliar beauty. We like to think, however, that they are rapidly becoming less novel and less unfamiliar. W. DAVENPORT.

SOME WILD ROSES IN CULTIVATION

THE order rosaceæ claims a very large percentage of the most beautifull woody plants, the typical genus of which may well be termed the queen of flowering shrubs. Although—

THE FRAGRANT AND VIGOROUS ROSA HELENÆ.

in continuance of flowering, size and, in many species, fragrance of bloom—the wild roses do not equal the garden hybrids, they have many advantageous qualities to their credit.

Generally speaking, the species are stronger in constitution than the hybrids, and thus less susceptible to pests and fungoid diseases. It would be difficult to imagine a more beautiful picture than a flowering group of R. Moyesii or R. Hugonis in the wild garden, where, with the exception of removing such weeds as one may deem unsightly, no time is given to cultivation.

Taller growing kinds as the two previously named, and such species as R. septipoda, R. Willmottiæ or R. macrophylla, may be grown as single specimens on the lawn or in similar conspicuous positions.

The rampant climbing species, as R. longicuspis, R. moschata and R. Souleiana, could be planted for screening purposes; the latter forms a dense, impenetrable mass of long intertwining branches.

The well known Japanese rose, R. Wichuraiana, although now eclipsed by its numerous progeny, is the most useful species for covering banks, etc. The compact, bush-like species are quite in keeping when planted in the shrubbery, to which, when in flower and fruit, they add colour and are attractive throughout the year.

There are few genera which more readily cross-fertilise, so that, without the seed is saved from solitary individuals, this means cannot be relied upon for propagation. While it is possible to root all the species from cuttings, many are difficult to reproduce in this way. This is especially true of the better Chinese species.

R. Banksiæ, a climbing plant from China, has long been grown in this country. It is a beautiful rose, but is, unfortunately, too tender, except for the more favoured, milder localities of this country. The flowers are either white or yellow, and of each there is a double form.

Two remarkably distinct species of first-rate merit are R. bracteata and R. lævigata; both have large white flowers, but neither is suitable for any but the warmer counties. The golden yellow anthers of R. bracteata resemble those of Eucryphia pinnatifolia.

R. Davidii forms an erect shrub 6ft. to 8ft. high, producing about eight flowers in a somewhat corymbose inflorescence, rose shading to a pale pink towards the centre of the flower. In autumn these are followed by clusters of conspicuous red fruits. The variety elongata differs from the type in its fewer flowers and more elongated fruits.

As one of the parents of the well known "hybrid perpetuals," R. damascena has made its name. Although a plant long cultivated, its origin is veiled in obscurity. The fragrant blush white or red flowers are borne in large clusters.

Another of Mr. E. H. Wilson's introductions is R. Helenæ, a tall, strong, rampant grower, producing numerous fragrant white flowers in terminal corymbose inflorescences.

While, in so varied and beautiful a genus, it is not possible to term any individual species the best, one would not be very wide of the mark in classing R. Hugonis as one of the six most charming hardy wild roses now in cultivation. It forms a compact vigorous shrub, with

Digitized by Google

gracefully arching branches. The feathery fern-like foliage is a good setting for the continuous clusters of clear soft yellow flowers. When leafless, the slender brown branches and thin spines are distinctive.

The "Austrian Briar," R. lutea, is a remarkably pleasing species, thriving well in the full sun in a comparatively dry border. It stands foremost of the long-introduced hardy shrubby species, forming a dense rounded bush of about 4ft. high. The solitary golden yellow flowers are profusely borne, but very seldom produce fruit. Equally charming in character and more unique in colour is the variety punicea, commonly known as the "Austrian Copper" briar. The flower is similar in form to the type, but the colouring is a coppery orange-red.

There are few species showing such divergences as R. macrophylla. Plants of this name were introduced early in the last century, since which during the last twenty-five years, there have been several forms introduced from China. It is a strong-growing, erect bush, attaining about 8ft. or 10ft. high. The flowers vary from a vivid lilac pink to deep blush red about 2ins. to 3ins. across. The pendent clusters of large elongated fruits crowned with long striking sepals, rival in attractiveness the hips of R. Moyesii.

A rampant-growing species, R. longicuspis, from China, has been confused with the European R. sempervirens. In gardens it may occasionally be seen bearing the name of R. Sino-Wilsoni, and sometimes that of R. lucens. The outstanding characteristic of this white flowered scandent bush is the dark, almost blackish-red colouring of the stout young shoots and the long, persistent, glossy green leaves.

Although closely rivalled by R. Hugonis, R. macrophylla and others, the most popular species is, undoubtedly, R. Moyesii. Not only for its glorious display of large rich crimson flowers in May, but equally so for the magnificence of its autumnal splendour. R. Moyesii is an erect-branched shrub, about 8ft. or 10ft. high and rather over half as much through. The flowers are usually evenly disposed, either singly or in pairs, each blossom being about 2½ins. to 3ins. across. The attractive orange-scarlet fruits are about 2ins. long and of an elongated pear-shaped form. No less beautiful is the variety R. Moyesii rosea, with its rose pink flowers. This variety may be rarely seen in gardens labelled R. Fargesii, under which name it has been sent out by one or two Continental nurserymen.

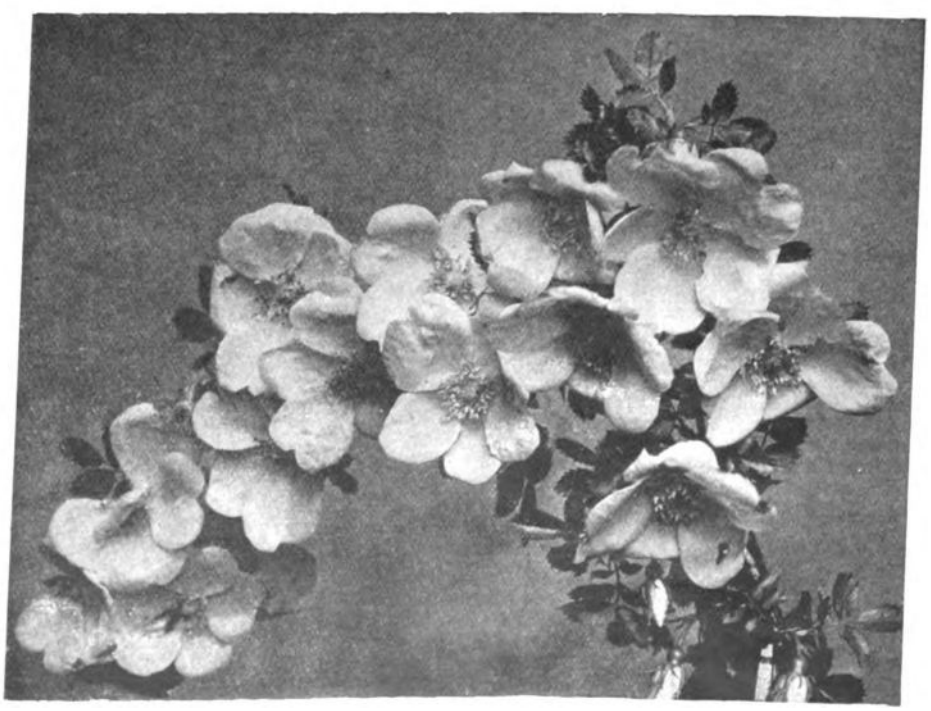
Mention must be made of the dominating parent of the now extensive class known as polyantha roses—R. multiflora, a native of China, Korea and Japan, distinct on account of its floriferous nature. The small white flowers are borne in large much-branched panicles.

R. nitida, from eastern North America, is a compact dwarf bush, rarely more than 2ft. high, studded with bright rose-coloured flowers. An attractive quality of this useful dwarf under-shrub is the colour assumed by its foliage in autumn.

Although R. omeiensis is a variable species it cannot be confused with any other except R. sericea, and is easily recognisable at first sight. This Chinese rose makes a dense bush 6ft. to 10ft. high. In its typical form its distinctive characteristics are its small solitary white flowers, with only four petals, rarely five, the unique parti-coloured bright red and

THE LARGE WHITE FLOWERS OF THE FINE R. BRACTEATA.

ROSA HUGONIS IS A UNIVERSAL FAVOURITE.



THE WELL NAMED AUSTRIAN COPPER BRIAR.

Digitized by Google

orange of the pear-shaped fruits, with their fleshy fruit stalks, and the densely set spines on the branches. The variety R. omeiensis atrosanguinea has fruits of a uni-coloured deep crimson; while the variety pterocantha is conspicuous by its wide flattened spines, which may best be observed when the bright sunlight penetrates these red translucent structures.

Perhaps the most beautiful European wild rose is R. rubrifolia. Unlike most of the members of this genus, it is the foliage rather than the flowers which gives attractiveness to this species. The reddish coloured leaves are overlaid with a glaucescent bloom, forming an outstanding background, in the spring and early summer to the rose-coloured flowers, and in early autumn to the bright red hips.

R. rugosa is one of the commonest species in cultivation and an early introduction from China. It is a strong-growing plant, flourishing in almost any soil. It does not often attain a greater height than 4ft. or 5ft., producing either solitarily or in clusters large bright magenta fragrant flowers.

As previously stated, a plant which may easily be confused with R. omeiensis is R. sericea, with which it has several characters in common. The latter-named plant is native of northern India and the Himalaya, and differs mainly in the fewer leaflets, thinner fruit stalks and in the flower being cream-coloured rather than white.

R. setipoda is another striking member of the rich Chinese flora, which in habit of growth may be likened to R. Moyesii or R. macrophylla. The flowers of R. setipoda are bright pink, becoming pale and almost white towards the centre. Each flower is about 2ins. to 2½ins. across, produced on long slender peduncles in a many-flowered corymbose inflorescence. The fruits are but little less in length than those of R. Moyesii, but narrower, of a polished scarlet surface.

The Siberian variety altaica of the Scotch briar, R. spinosissima, far supersedes the type in its large creamy white flowers, which are about 3ins. in diameter. The large flattened, almost globose fruits become nearly jet black when ripe. Like the type, this geographical variety forms a dense bush, throwing up many stems from the ground and seldom attaining a greater height than 4½ft.

Unique in its elegance is the Chinese rose R. Willmottiæ, becoming a dense bush about 8ft. high; its much-branched, slender, somewhat pendulous stems and dainty foliage are alike glaucescent. The usually solitary flowers are an uncommon shade of lilac pink, followed by orange red fruits about ½in. long, conspicuous by the absence of sepals. H. G. HILLIER.

CORRESPONDENCE

IVY ON TREES.

SIR,—In his Editorial about "Ivy on Trees" in THE GARDEN for July 10th, "E. H. M. C." states that he "cannot remember ever having seen it on a horse-chestnut or on an ash, and certainly not on an oak or ilex." In this district it is quite common on both the ash and oak and I know of several large ash trees and also small oaks nearly or quite killed by it. To-day I saw it growing on an ilex.—W. A. SHOOLBRED, *Chepstow*.

SIR,—I am surprised to see in his Editorial on "Ivy on Trees," "E. H. M. C." says that he has not seen it on ash. Here, sixteen miles from Bath, we have comparatively few elms, but many ash, and the ivy grows on them freely and also on beech.—WALDEGRAVE, *Bath, Somerset*.

SIR,—While cordially endorsing the view expressed by the Editor (page 383), upon the mischievous prevalence of ivy on our forest trees, I do not understand his observation that it does not climb upon oak, ash or horse-chestnut. Here in the west these trees have to be relieved of ivy as regularly as any others. Beech does not offer it ready hospitality because that tree fills the upper soil so densely with its own roots, but even beech requires attention sometimes. No doubt our atmosphere, moister in the west than in the midlands and on the east coast, is favourable to the growth of ivy, which will not flourish in the United States, owing, probably, to the severe winter cold.—HERBERT MAXWELL, *Monreith*.

ARUM LILIES IN THE OPEN.

SIR,—Referring to the correspondence in your issue of June 12th and 26th, I enclose an illustration of these lilies which have been growing in the open by the side of a stream in my garden for the last twenty years. They are, as Mr. Bastin observes, cut down by the early winter frosts, but come up again in the spring and flower freely from the middle of June onwards. This may interest a few readers of your very interesting paper

ARUMS BY THE SIDE OF A STREAM.

and assist in stimulating the culture of these beautiful flowers.—ALFRED POPE, *Winchester*.

IRIS DOMINION.

SIR,—It would be interesting to know whether this wonderful iris has failed to keep up its great reputation in this country, as several people tell me it is disappointing. I planted a small rhizome eighteen months ago in my garden on the Island of Capri (Italy) without any special attention. Last year it made foliage, great blue-grey leaves over 2ft. 6ins. high, and this spring it flowered. One stem thicker than my little finger bore five blooms larger than any iris in my collection and of a texture like the deepest purple velvet, the only drawback being that this peculiar texture has a tendency to spot with rain (next year it will have a special umbrella!). It is clear that the limestone soil of Capri *and* the sun are what it requires, otherwise why is it not in the place of honour in every English garden, especially as the foliage retains all its decorative beauty for several weeks? I have never tried it here.—(Lady) ALGERNON GORDON LENNOX, *Drumnow*.

TOMATO PLANTS UNDER GLASS.

SIR,—On page 355 of THE GARDEN, June 19th, a sketch by Mr. Geo. Garner shows a tomato plant of the main batch as now growing in an amateur's glass structure. If a tomato plant is examined it will be found that the flower trusses are produced on one side of the plant only. They are certainly extra-axillary, but they are not produced haphazard nor are the trusses alternated with the leaves as shown by Mr. Garner. After the first truss appears the plant produces its remaining trusses after every third leaf. Occasionally one finds a plant missing a truss and when it does we have to count six leaves before getting the next one.

If growers plant their tomatoes when the first flowers are showing, then the plants should be planted so that the flowers and fruits are given the maximum sunlight.—GEO. STUART, *Edinburgh*.

GOOSEBERRY PESTS.

SIR,—In THE GARDEN, June 19th, page 353, "W. H." asks readers to give their experiences with the various sprays used to check American mildew on gooseberry bushes. I have been carrying out experiments for a number of years with a view to finding out a cheap and effective fungicide and am glad to say that washing soda wash keeps the disease in check and allows one to pick a clean crop of fruit.

One may not be able to cure bushes after they are contaminated. Spraying after the disease is found on bushes is like locking the stable door after the horse is stolen. Prevention is better than cure. Commence the control of the fungus disease by pruning carefully during winter and then spray the bushes in February with a good caustic wash, such as 1lb. caustic soda in five gallons water. In May and June bushes should be sprayed, before the disease appears, with washing soda, made up in the following manner. Dissolve 1lb. washing soda in half a gallon of boiling water, stirring in 2 oz. of soft soap and dilute by adding three and half gallons of cold water.

The wash must be applied with plenty of force and in the form of a fine mist, taking care to spray the under sides of the bushes.

Another good fungicide is lime-sulphur, but unfortunately certain varieties are defoliated when this wash is used. The varieties I have found defoliated by using lime-sulphur are: Broom Girl, Early Sulphur, Gee Wing, Leveller and Lord Elcho.

In regard to "W. H.'s" questions: (1) It would be quite safe to plant gooseberry bushes on the same ground after the discarded bushes were uprooted and burnt; still it would be better to crop the ground for a year with vegetables to give the soil a rest. In answer to question (2) It is possible to spread the disease on one's clothing. Winds, rain, insects, etc., also carry infection from one plantation to another. The disease spreads with greatest rapidity during warm, damp weather. American mildew and potato blight can both be spread by the mycelium and also by spores.—G. S.

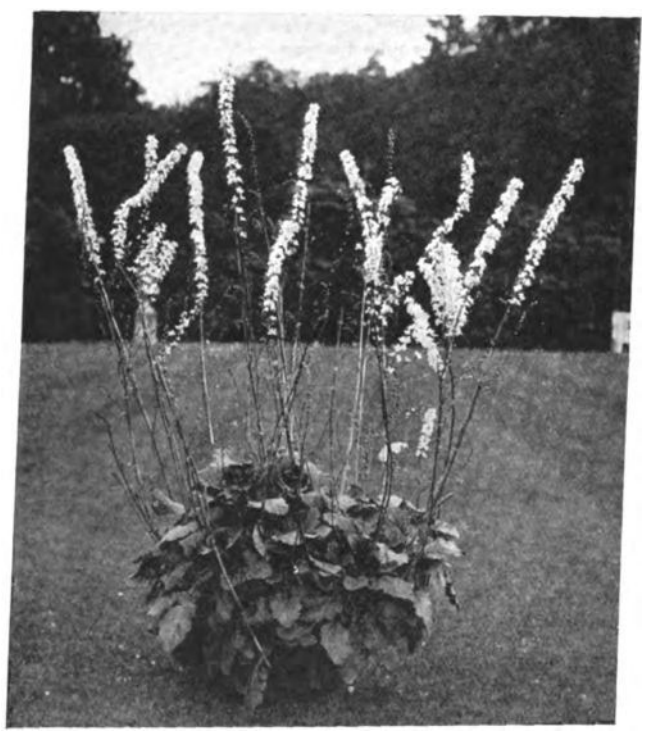
Digitized by Google

FLOWER GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE

FRANCOA RAMOSA.

The Maiden's Wreath.

THIS plant, wonderfully profuse, with its flowers borne on long, curving, slender stems, is very serviceable for a greenhouse which is kept but moderately warm in winter, or, as is so often to be seen, it makes a capital subject for a sunny window. Needing only a plain compost—loam, leaf-mould and sand—it can be grown to perfection by anyone taking it in hand. Plants, too, are soon raised from seed sown in the warmth of the greenhouse in spring, and by the following year will have reached their blooming stage. Francoas receive a deal of attention as window plants, and one may often see them with leaves clustering over the sides of the pots, with their long trailing sprays of white flowers. Less frequently does one meet with F. appendiculata, with reddish crimson flowers. Plants are often allowed to go for years without being re-potted, and begin to show this by inferior blossoms. One notices this in cottage windows where francoas and vallotas often are grown together. Young plants of francoas bloom the best, and in these circumstances it is well to renew them occasionally and dispense with those that are worn out. One may have them in bloom during the winter in the greenhouse, provided plants have been prevented flowering in summer.—W. F.



THE MAIDEN'S WREATH, FRANCOA RAMOSA.

BERRIED SOLANUMS.

SOLANUM CAPSICASTRUM forms a strikingly beautiful plant in the autumn, when well grown and bearing large, richly coloured berries. I have frequently seen straggly, bare-stemmed specimens with a few badly coloured berries at the end of the summer season. I do not know of a plant that can be grown with deeper green leaves than this solanum when properly treated, and the following is the kind of treatment I recommend: In May, young plants, whether raised from seeds or cuttings, will be ready for potting in 4½in. pots, and their best position will be one in a frame facing due south. They must be kept safe from frost, but not subjected to a high temperature nor to a moist atmosphere at the same time. Cold frame treatment until June 15th, open-air treatment until August 25th, then cold frame again until early in October, prior to placing the plants in the greenhouse or conservatory. The compost should be moderately rich: fibrous loam, leaf-soil, rotted manure, a small quantity of soot and also bone-meal. The plants are formed into fine well shaped bushes by timely stopping—the pinching away of the tips of the most forward shoots from time to time until early in August. At an early date flowers will develop on strong plants, and syringings on fine afternoons will help to set them. While the plants are growing in rows on beds of ashes, they should be fed almost daily after they possess plenty of roots in the final pots. Clear soot water is very beneficial.—G. G.

HARD-WOODED PLANTS IN POTS.

Summer Neglect.

THE failure to bloom in the greenhouse in spring certain hard-wooded plants like camellias, azaleas, epacrises, heaths, boronias—peat lovers—and also deutzias, of which the old D. gracilis is still popular, together with that sweetly scented yellow shrub, Genista (Cytisus) fragrans, may be traced to the treatment meted out to them immediately they have ceased to bloom or during the summer months. The professional gardener is fully alive to the importance of no change being made in the treatment of any of them, so far as keeping them indoors is concerned, until after the new growth, upon which depends the following season's bloom, has been completed, but the amateur does not always appreciate this and, possibly requiring room in the house for other plants coming along, transfers his azaleas, etc., into cold frames, and this change being effected in May, a most trying month owing to variations of temperature, it is not surprising that the plants suffer a check from which it takes time to recover. Or, if it is not in spring when a removal is made, one now and again finds that when plants are placed in frames, or out of doors in the open, they are allowed to become so dry as to ruin chances of bud formation. The amateur gardener is liable to overlook that peat is a very close and retentive medium, and in watering his plants does so in a very parsimonious manner instead of giving them a thorough soaking, which is the only way for moisture to percolate the tightly bound roots. This is a point worth bearing in mind at the present time, and erring on the side of liberality in watering in a dry time is all to the good.—W. LINDERS LEA.

MANAGEMENT AND RIPENING OF LATE GRAPES.

NATURALLY late-ripening varieties of grapes require very careful attention from the time when the new shoots begin to grow until the berries are perfected. Even expert cultivators guard the crops, and the vines bearing them, with some anxiety, lest any mishap may occur; so the amateur cultivator can be excused for exhibiting anxiety regarding the crop's welfare. The varieties generally grown are Black Alicante, Muscat of Alexandria, Gros Colmar and Lady Downes. One very helpful point is the starting of the vines in good time in the early part of the year. The young shoots should be growing by the middle of March, then the resultant grapes should be fully matured by the end of October. Of course, the black grapes should be coloured by the second week in that month, being coloured quite black, however, does not mean that the grapes are perfectly ripe then.

In July, towards the end of the month, the berries of all late grapes will be in various stages of "stoning": that is, the stones or pips in them will be hardening. During this stage, which lasts about twenty-one days, only clear water should be applied, not any stimulant. Directly the stones are hardened the flesh of the berry becomes soft and swells considerably, and feeding will again be beneficial.

A few weeks later the black varieties will begin to colour and the white ones to turn to a golden amber, a colour so much desired by growers. Feeding should be continued during this stage of development until the colouring process is complete, then use clear water only and maintain a rather drier atmosphere. But up to the start of the colouring stage plenty of atmospheric moisture is necessary in hot weather, and a closed vinery during the night-time. While the berries are ripening, maintain the drier atmosphere in reason—and do not entirely close up the top ventilators. Fire heat, if only a little, will be very beneficial.—GEO. GARNER.

ROSE CULTURE.

Treatment of Plants Growing in the Greenhouse.

IF plants in pots are grown, as well as some in the borders, the season of flowering may be a prolonged one; indeed, some expert cultivators are able to cut roses nearly nine months out of the twelve. The amateur with a limited experience may not be able to do so, but if he possesses a suitable glass structure he can have rose blooms available from April 1st to the end of October—seven months. Plants growing in pots should be placed outside now as soon as possible if they are still under glass. Plunge the pots to their rims in ashes or sand or in leaf-soil, and several times each week vigorously syringe the branches with clear water. It is very important that the roots are not allowed to become quite dry. Carefully remove all weeds and loose soil from the surface of the pots, practically baring the top roots. Have in readiness a sufficient quantity of fibrous loam to afford a good top-dressing forthwith. Use the loam alone and not with any rotted manure, as the latter becomes too dry in the summer. But before applying the lumpy loam soak it in liquid manure for twelve hours.

Mildew will do considerable harm unless checked. As a remedy use "Abol" or "Medela." Syringe vigorously to destroy green fly, first using tobacco powder on the shoots of choice sorts. Directly any flowers have faded remove them from the plants, and during July cut off the ends of some of the strongest shoots—about one-third their length—a second crop of flowers will be borne on the resultant shoots in early autumn. Usually new shoots bear blooms in six weeks' time. The strong-growing hybrid teas are the best to be so treated.—HANTS.

Digitized by Google

THE CULTURE OF BEARDED IRISES.

THOSE fellow readers of THE GARDEN who have grown the old German Irises for years and been uniformly successful with them although they have never spared a thought as to their culture, will doubtless smile at my title. It is, of course, true that in certain rather light, clean soils these plants will flower freely and the blossoms will be little out of character, even though the only attention they receive is lifting and dividing when they become excessively overcrowded.

Not everyone, however, has such natural soil, nor will the possessor of such find it of much avail should his plants unhappily become infected with rhizome-rot. To obtain the best results with these irises, particularly as regards size of flower, the soil should not be over-light; it should, on account of the "rot" danger, contain a fair percentage of lime, but it should *not* contain any appreciable content of humus. Burnt earth, particularly if rather on the heavy side before burning, suits them admirably and may be used freely. Drainage should be free, the site where they are planted open to sun and air, and the root-stocks should at no time be buried to more than half their depth.

There seems no doubt that varieties which are shy to flower—and some of the newer ones are rather shy—flower best when planted in full sun and left to establish themselves for a year or so, but there is wide scope for systematic investigation as to the comparative requirements of the different sections. Personal experience would suggest that the squalens and variegata sections are more weatherproof than the stately pallidas and trojanas, for instance. The former appear to withstand with greater equanimity—if the word may be pardoned—summer heat and winter wet.

The same remark will apply with equal force to planting times. It is by no means clear which is, in fact, the best planting season—indeed, there are considerable differences of opinion on the question—but may not the fact be, after all, that different sections and, since so much inter-crossing has taken place, different varieties, even though somewhat similar in appearance, transplant best at separate seasons? Such an investigation might not be of much practical value, since the average gardener would scarcely care to plant half a dozen sorts of iris at different seasons, but it would be interesting none the less.

MIDSUMMER AT VINCENT SQUARE

THE season of shows will soon reach its height. All over the country floral fêtes, both large and small, are being well supported by the trade as well as by the amateur exhibitor. In spite of this multitude of shows, the variety of exhibits and standard of excellence at the fortnightly meeting of the Royal Horticultural Society last week was quite up to its usual level. Some of the growers had to stage large groups of flowers on the same day at shows elsewhere, and yet they found enough material to do every show justice. Rose specialists particularly have had many demands upon their stock. Several growers of the national flower had large and imposing exhibits in the hall. Upon the stand set up by Messrs. Alex. Dickson were innumerable varieties arranged in large baskets. Each variety was in fine condition, and only such sorts which are especially useful for garden decoration had been selected. Lady Worthington Evans, Betty Uprichard and Richard E. West are a few examples. This firm deserves the congratulations of the horticultural world, for again this year the Clay Cup, presented to the raiser of a rose with the true rose scent, was won by them. Dame Edith Helen is the name of the variety. It is a rose with not only fragrance to recommend it, but beauty of colour and form, excellent substance and a remarkable lasting quality as a cut flower.

Single roses were a feature on the stand of Messrs. Chaplin Brothers. Among them Mermaid, a beautiful hybrid of Rosa bracteata, was outstanding. It is a large-flowered sulphur yellow rose with conspicuous amber-coloured stamens and glossy green foliage. Innocence was yet another attractive single variety shown by this firm. Mr. H. J. Pemberton was exhibiting several of his famous musk roses, such as Pax and The Adjutant. Messrs. Laxton Brothers had a group of their delightful new rose Bedford Crimson which filled the surrounding air with its fragrance. Dainty Bess, the charming coral pink single rose, was shown by its introducer, Mr. W. E. Archer. Hybrid tea roses of all kinds were exhibited by Messrs. F. Cant and Co.

Herbaceous flowers were, perhaps, one of the largest classes of plant to be seen at the show. Mr. B. Ladhams' stand included a number of plants of real value for the herbaceous border—coreopsis, campanulas, heleniums and a number of other flowers which combine robustness of constitution and long blooming season, as well as beauty, were exhibited by this grower. Bedding Queen, a fine new perennial coreopsis, is undoubtedly a great acquisition. Kniphofias and herbaceous phloxes were much in evidence among hardy flowers exhibited by Messrs. M. Prichard and Sons. The crimson red feathery spikes of Astilbe Granat, Chrysanthemum Mayfield Giant with its immense white blooms, the Oriental poppy J. Mason, and Potentilla Hopwoodiana were also to be seen. Messrs. G. Reuthe had a varied and interesting collection of hardy plants, and among them were Ononis natrix, Catananche cœrulea, Stuartia pseudo-camellia and Plagianthus Lyallii.

Romneya Coulteri, with its large papery-white blooms, was exhibited by Messrs. Waterer and Co. The free-flowering Œnothera Fraseri, Galega officinalis Hartlandii Her Majesty and Genista ætnensis, the Etna broom, were also included in this group. A number of spiræas, several ceanothus and veronicas were shown by Mr. R. C. Notcutt; Spiræa Menziesii triumphans, S. virginiana, Ceanothus Marie Simon, Potentilla Farreri and Rhus Cotinus atropurpurea, a dwarf form of the Venetian sumach, were among the plants noted. Iris Kæmpferi Purple Patch, as shown by Messrs. R. H. Rogers and Son, made a brilliant mass of colour and blended well with the violet blue tones of Eryngium Violetta.

An oblong lily pool, in which floated nymphæas of every hue, surrounded by moisture-loving plants of all kinds, formed the interesting and attractive exhibit of Mr. Amos Perry. Attraction, Masaniello and Moorei were a few of the largest and finest water lilies. Senecio Veitchianus, with its tall spikes of yellow flowers; Pistia stratiotes, the water lettuce; and Jasione perennis were planted in clumps by the waterside.

A magnificent group of sweet peas was put up by Messrs. Dobbie and Co. Their principal varieties were Warrior, Mrs. T. Jones, Miss California, Grenadier and two novelties, Gleneagles, a beautiful lavender blue, and Magnet, a rich cream pink. Hydrangeas in blue and pink of many tones were shown by Mr. H. J. Jones; the colouring as well as the habit of the plants was exceedingly fine. Such hydrangeas as Mrs. H. J. Jones, La Marne and Blue Prince, which were on show, are a wonderful improvement on the old varieties.

There were several good exhibits of carnations, and particularly fine were some of the border carnations of Mr. J. Douglas, and the Allwoodii pinks of Messrs. Allwood Brothers. Mr. C. Engelmann staged a selection of the best perpetual carnations; Messrs. Allwood Brothers had perpetuals and border carnations; Mr. C. Herbert showed several of his novelties, the most attractive being Mrs. Giffard Woolley and Fire King. Both bedding and exhibition violas were shown by Mr. W. Yandell. A very interesting group of uncommon vegetables came from the gardens of Sir William Lawrence and Messrs. L. R. Russell and Mr. F. G. Wood both showed shrubs and alpines.

Messrs. Sanders, St. Albans, staged a very interesting orchid group comprising no fewer than eighteen different genera. Cypripedium niveum was effectively staged in batches, while in the centre was a grand specimen of Dendrobium thyrsiflorum with a dozen many-flowered spikes. At one end was the showy Brasso-Cattleya Miranda, apricot yellow with a reddish lip, and at the other end Brassavola Digbyana, from which it had been derived. Species were represented by Cattleya superba, Epidendrum elatum, E. macrochilum, and the pretty Broughtonia sanguinea; while oncidiums were staged in oblongatum, pulvinatum and Harrisianum.

Messrs. Cowan and Co., Southgate, staged a pretty group of various species and hybrids. Along the front were several examples of the scarlet-flowering Cochlioda Noezliana, and farther back some of the odontiodas which have been obtained by crossing it with the odontoglossums. A richly coloured hybrid was staged in Lælio-Cattleya Minos, and a natural hybrid in Oncidium Gardneri, the prevailing colour being chrome yellow, marked with red-brown. Cypripediums were best seen in St. Albans, crimson red; and Maudiæ magnificum; while the centre was occupied by Cattleya Warscewiczii var. F. M. Beyrodt, a showy flower, white, with a bright purple lip.

Messrs. Charlesworth and Co., Hayward's Heath, exhibited a select group of Odontoglossum crispum hybrids, among them being O. ardentissimum xanthotes, with bright yellow spotting; and O. Tagus, a singular result in which the sepals and petals are blotched with a much lighter colour than the labellum. Cattleya Mendelii alba bore four white flowers, and Odontoglossum cordatum aureum a spike of yellow flowers with markings of a deeper tint.

NEW & RARE PLANTS

AWARDS OF MERIT.

HEMEROCALLIS MARGARET PERRY.—A showy looking day lily of about 4ft. in height. The flowers are deep orange, shaded with bronze in the throat and lighter on the reverse. Shown by Mr. Amos Perry, Enfield.

CARNATION EARL BEATTY.—A deep velvety crimson border variety. Its chief merit lies in its sweet old clove scent. Shown by Mr. W. E. McCracken, Long Eaton.

NYMPHÆA AMABILIS.—A large-flowered water lily of a delicate flesh pink shading to rose and deep red in the centre. The stamens are most conspicuous and clear yellow in colour. Shown by Mr. Lionel de Rothschild, Exbury, Hants.

NYMPHÆA ATTRACTION. — A beautiful variety with immense blooms of deep crimson streaked with white. The clusters of orange red stamens and golden anthers give a striking appearance to the flowers. Shown by Mr. Lionel de Rothschild, Exbury, Hants.

Digitized by Google

ROSE FRANK READER.—A deep cream hybrid tea variety of good substance. The tea-scented blooms are well shaped, the foliage is a dark glossy green. Shown by Messrs. D. Prior and Son, Colchester.

ROSE JACK HOBBS.—A very free-flowering hybrid polyantha with semi-double flowers of bright cherry red. The petals are prettily crinkled and the foliage is light green in colour. Shown by Messrs. D. Prior and Son, Colchester.

CAMPANULA DONALD THURSTON.—This tall, handsome bellflower bears large open pure lilac flowers measuring about 2ins. across. The blooms are well placed and the habit of the plant is good. Shown by Mr. F. L. Thurston, Farncombe Gardens, Broadway, Worcester.

TRITONIA LYALINA.—A beautiful member of this family with glowing orange salmon cup-shaped flowers closely set on slender arching stems. This tritonia was raised by Miss Willmott over twenty years ago at the same time as T. Prince of Orange. Shown by Mr. E. A. Bowles, Myddelton House, Waltham Cross.

DEUTZIA TAIWANENSIS.—Numerous graceful racemes of whitish flowers tinged with mauve are borne by the slender branches of this ornamental shrub. The petals are pointed and the golden yellow stamens conspicuous. Shown by Mr. G. Loder, Wakehurst Place, Ardingly Place, Sussex.

HEBRIA ROSEA ELEGANS.—A tender low creeping plant which forms a thick carpet, roots being formed at the joints. The specimen exhibited was well established in a pan and bore a number of solitary bright red flowers on stems of not more than 1in. in length. The flowers are dainty and delicate in texture, while the tiny oval leaves are thick and glossy green. Shown by Mr. J. Preston Warren, Hayes, Kent.

ABELIA SCHUMANNII.—A small, tender, deciduous shrub with a graceful habit of growth. The funnel-shaped flowers are pinkish and tinged with yellow in the throat. The leaves are opposite, small, ovate and light green in colour. Shown by Mr. J. Preston, Warren, Hayes, Kent.

ORCHIDS.

LÆLIO-CATTLEYA LUCRETIA VAR. MILLY (L.-C. luminosa aurea × C. Maggie Raphael alva).—The former parent is noted for its clear yellow sepals and petals, while in the latter parent the segments are pure white. In the resulting hybrid the sepals and petals are clear lemon yellow, while the labellum is intense purple with a crimson tinge, the extreme margin being rose-tinted and the edge undulated. From Messrs Black and Flory, Slough. Award of merit.

LÆLIO-CATTLEYA APHRODITE, BROADLANDS VARIETY.—A well grown specimen with three spikes and a total of eleven large flowers of rose tint, the petals flushed with purple along the midrib, and the labellum purplish crimson. The parents are C. Mendelii and L. purpurata. Cultural commendation. From Mr. E. R. Ashton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

A CARNATION SHOW

THE National Carnation and Picotee Society (Southern Section) held the first of their two annual shows in the hall of the Royal Horticultural Society on Tuesday, July 13th. Owing to the excessive heat the flowers, exhibitors and visitors alike had a trying time of it; nevertheless, it was a good Show. In the class for eighteen selfs, Mr. Douglas of Bookham was in good form and gained first place, followed closely by Messrs. Lowe and Gibson and Messrs. Seymour and Anderson in the order named. Outstanding flowers in these groups were Mrs. Peter Vlasto, a new pure white; Bookham Scarlet, Mary Murray, Joan Wardale, Deliciosa and Mrs. Horace Dee.

In yellow ground fancies, Mr. Douglas again led, Messrs. Seymour and Anderson capturing second place, with Messrs. Lowe and Gibson third. Some of the old favourites are still conspicuous among the yellow grounds, *viz.*, Linkman, the two Shackletons (Lieutenant and Lady) and Pasquin.

The white ground fancies contain many of the grandest border carnations in cultivation, and the honours here went to Mr. Douglas, Messrs. Seymour and Anderson, Messrs. Lowe and Gibson and Mr. Morton. Flowers specially noted were Mrs. J. Fairlie, Flora McIvor, John Stobart and A. St. Clair Amos.

In the special class for cloves, Mr. Douglas was first, Messrs. Lowe and Gibson second, and Messrs. Seymour and Anderson third. The best blooms were King of Cloves and Steerforth.

Fancy carnations always appeal to the public by reason of their wonderful contrasts and blends of colour. Here Messrs. Lowe and Gibson were first and Messrs. Seymour and Anderson second, and the conspicuous specimens were Myrtle Pettigrew, Sam Griffiths and Cleopatra.

The amateurs put up many exhibits of really high standard, and in Division II Miss Shiffner of Lewes again demonstrated her position as one of the best cultivators in the country. In twelve classes in which she exhibited she collected no fewer than ten firsts, a remarkable record considering the competition she had to face from experienced and clever growers. Among her blooms was the premier white ground fancy of the whole Show—Mrs. E. Charrington. Mrs. Hambro of Kidbrook Park, Forest Row, Mr. Charrington, Mr. Fairlie and Mr. Keen, all of whose names are familiar, took the other leading places.

In Division III Mr. Hart and Mr. Palmer were the most successful entrants; and in Division IV, Mr. E. G. Lowe, Mr. S. H. Gregg and Captain Wilkinson came off best.

The seedlings attracted a lot of attention, as usual, but some of the flowers were past their best. Mr. Murray of Worcester Park was conspicuous, as usual, winning all the three prizes. First position went to a lovely new creation in pink and grey, christened Ida Gray, which gained an award of merit; Christine Prior, very fine blooms, but just past their best, being second. The latter is an enormous white ground fancy with immense shell-like petals of purest white lightly marked silver lavender grey. This gained a first-class certificate.

Mr. Douglas got three certificates for Flora McIvor, Mrs. Peter Vlasto and Flamingo, the last appearing to be a very large "Queen Eleanor" type.

The largest carnation show of the year will take place on Wednesday, July 21st, at The Carpenters' Hall in the City, and all who take an interest in carnations of the hardy border type should on no account miss the opportunity of seeing the collection staged there. The show will be opened by the Lady Mayoress and continues till 6 p.m. Admission 1s.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

RETARDING CURRANTS.

ANY plans which will prolong the season of the typical summer fruits are worth considering. In the ordinary way red and white currants begin to ripen from the end of June onwards. There is no special reason for being in a hurry to gather the whole of the crop, providing this is not required for immediate use. White currants will hang for two months after ripening and the red will remain in good condition for even longer. In fact, fruit allowed to remain is sweeter and generally of better flavour than that which is gathered as soon as colouring up takes place. Bushes in open positions where there is a full amount of sunshine are best protected in some way to make sure that shrivelling does not take place. Practically any kind of material may be employed for covering. Matting is the most suitable, but even old lace curtains, if these are fairly thick, are not to be despised. The time to cover in the bushes is when the fruit is about three-parts ripe. Arrange the material so that there is no chance that wasps or birds can get at the fruit. All the covers should be removed about once a week, a dry day being chosen for the purpose. This is quite essential, as in damp spells there is always a risk that, through lack of ventilation, mildew may appear. When uncovered go over the bushes very carefully, taking away any withered foliage or fruit that shows signs of decay. In this way the season of ripe red and white currants may be prolonged well into the autumn without any deterioration in the quality of the fruit.

Black currants are not quite so easy to retard although, even here, a decided lengthening of the season may be secured without risk. Cover the bushes with material when the fruit is about half ripe. Leave the bushes uncovered for a few hours on a dry day each week and remove all decaying foliage and fruits. Close watching is desirable, for when once the currants start to drop it is a sign that gathering cannot safely be deferred any longer.—S. LEONARD BASTIN, *Bournemouth.*

VEGETABLE GARDEN.

Treatment of Vacant Ground.

IT is only in exceptional cases where it is desirable to leave ground in the vegetable garden uncropped, *e.g.*, when it is necessary to clean a weedy plot of ground thoroughly. This can only be dealt with by excluding all kinds of crops for a time, and there is no better time than the late summer or early part of autumn. Where readers now possess plots of very weedy ground—I am referring to coarse and deep-rooted kinds—they should at once trench the soil, extracting the weeds and well loosening the subsoil, while leaving the top portion in a rough, lumpy state. In the case of clayey ground it is advisable to leave the soil in this state throughout the winter. There will not be any difficulty experienced in working heavy soils, so treated, during the ensuing spring and summer, as the exposure to frosts, air and rains will have pulverised and sweetened it so much.

Vacant ground soon becomes infested; either weeds or insects, or both, take possession and are detrimental to crops. Surface weeds are soon destroyed. In one hour's time the weeds on a big plot can be hoed, and if the day is sunny they die before sunset. If there are insects present, well soot and lime the ground; put on the former first and the latter a few weeks afterwards. The burning of dried weeds and haulm on the soil does the latter good and destroys pests wholesale.

If the ground is sweet and clean, crop it forthwith. Early-maturing turnips, radishes, lettuces and endive may be raised before the cold weather comes.

Then there are the spring cabbages and the autumn-raised onions to be considered. The seed-bed of the first named will not occupy much space, but the plot to be occupied by the young transplanted plants must be prepared. The same remark applies to the onion quarter, only in this case the resultant plants may be thinned out and some of the thinnings transplanted to enlarge the bed. In both cases the soil must be cleaned

Digitized by Google

and dug. Meanwhile the young plants will be growing to the transplanting stage and young weeds will be growing on the newly prepared plots. It is a simple matter to hoe and destroy these seedling weeds prior to the planting-out of the onions and cabbages some time towards the end of September; then these particular plots will remain clean throughout the winter months.

If the soil is poor, apply rotted manure in liberal quantities; dig it in, break up the lower soil thoroughly, mix lime with the top portion at the rate of 1 peck per square rod. In due course, break up the top lumps while they are dry, and also firm the ground by beating it with a garden fork, not a spade. If the soil is rich enough, add the lime only, but at the rate of 2 pecks per square rod. If the soil is clayey, do not firm it; if very light or sandy, tread it moderately while dry and do the planting when it is dry too.

Every plot not cropped should be trenched or ridged to admit air and rain, and not left with a hard unbroken surface.—G. G.

FORCING CHICORY, SALSAFY AND SCORZONERAS.

WHEN green vegetables are scarce during the winter months it is a great satisfaction to be able to rely upon forced roots. Chicory, well grown, is a delicacy. The seeds can be sown from June to July, and the summer cultivation should result in fine, strong roots for winter use. Heat from a hot-bed or pipes spoils the flavour, though it forces the growth splendidly. Fortunately, there are plenty of sheds, cellars and other suitable places wherein we can induce an early growth, and that in a confined space. When the roots are lifted, cut off the tops above the crowns and pack them in finely sifted soil in pots, boxes or in odd corners. Apply water once, then keep the structure darkened and frost excluded. Leave the crowns level with the soil. Do not apply water again unless the young growths droop. If a small portion of the hard crown is cut off with the forced leaves, the head retains its compactness and then it resembles the heart of a well blanched cos lettuce. Salsafy should be stored in sand in any cool, dry shed, or in a dry place outside and covered with boards. Any roots not cooked in the winter should be planted out—if all are lifted and stored—to yield young stems which may be cut and used in the same way as asparagus. Scorzonera should be used to supplement parsnips, lifted as required and cooked in the same way as carrots.—HANTS.

ONIONS SOWN IN AUTUMN.

IT is rather difficult to state when onions ought to be sown in autumn, but, at any rate, we in Scotland like to do so in late July. Earlier sowing has a danger—the chance that the plants, too far forward by winter, receive a severe check and then run to seed. In the midlands, then, early August ought to be soon enough and in the south sowings will probably be best towards the end of that month.

Although there are specific varieties for successful autumn sowings like Giant Rocca, Large Tripoli, Lemon Rocca, White Leviathan and others, the tendency among growers is to prefer the "home" varieties. One of the best is Ailsa Craig, a selected variety being chosen. The plants are perfectly hardy, very few run to seed, and they can be transplanted at any suitable date. Cranston's Excelsior is also in the first class, a good cropper and a popular variety. Among others which we know to be good are Brown Globe, a very fine maincrop onion for kitchen use; Perfection, a good grower of choice mild flavour; and another good one for the pot, Sutton's Long Keeping.—LANARKSHIRE.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

FLOWER POT STAND.

AS a general rule many medium and small plant pots are found scattered about the greenhouse, and if at any time these require to be moved, it necessitates a great deal of trouble. By employing two or three stands (Fig. 1), which are portable, the pots are kept together and they may be moved bodily at will. A useful size stand is that constructed to details given in Fig. 2. The ends are of wood and if possible, in one piece. If pieces have to be joined in order to make up the width, this can easily be done by fixing them together with narrow cross battens. The length of the shelves should be about 3ft. 6ins. Holes are cut in the bottom shelf of such diameter that the larger pots will rest in for about two-thirds of their length. The middle and top shelves are supplied with holes to receive small pots. The holes are best cut by means of a small keyhole saw. The end supports should not be less

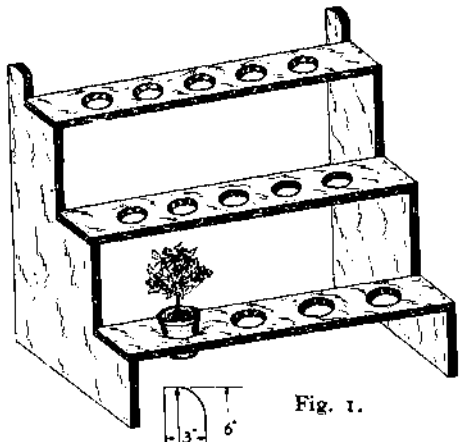


Fig. 1.

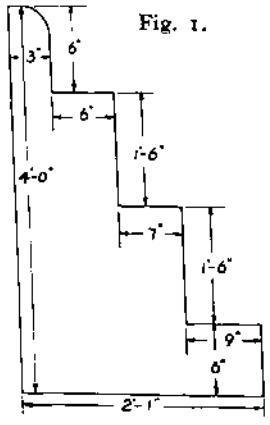


Fig. 2.

than ¾in. thick, and a suitable thickness for the shelves is ¼in. The shelves are fixed in the steps of the end supports by means of screws.

When put together, the whole is well polished with sandpaper and a nice appearance may be obtained by coating with green or white enamel.—W. J. SAUNDERS.

LIQUID MANURES.

AS the time for making use of liquid manures is now at hand, a few hints on the best forms to employ may be useful. First of all, full attention should be paid to the use of liquids prepared from animal manures and soot. Fresh horse dung, fresh cow dung or fresh sheep manure are all suitable for the stronger-growing flowers and vegetables, one peck of the manure giving good results if used in conjunction with a quarter of a peck of soot and thirty to forty gallons of water.

The soot and manure are put into separate coarse bags in the usual way, and these suspended in a barrel of the water. In the case of cow manure, being full as it very often is with insect pests, it should first of all be drenched into the barrel with boiling water to kill the creatures.

As a rule this liquid is rather strong to use as a plant food to start with. It is, therefore, customary to dilute it until it is the colour of weak tea or pale ale, and to apply this in the first instance to subjects which have been previously well watered if the soil is not already in a moist condition, taking care to keep it off the foliage.

In districts where animal manures are difficult to get or cost an unduly large sum, liquid manures can and should be made out of artificials. Superphosphate of lime, sulphate of ammonia, nitrate of soda, nitrate of lime and dissolved bones, which last resembles superphosphate in composition, can all be employed at the rate of an ounce to the gallon of water, but while those containing nitrates or ammonia should only be used where it is desired to increase leaf production, *e.g.*, the cabbage crop, saladings, etc., the phosphatic forms should be largely employed where it is desired to hasten on the development of the crop, *i.e.*, to make garden peas come into bearing sooner than they otherwise would. Soluble potassic fertilisers, of which the principal one is sulphate of potash, can also be used at the rate of an ounce to the gallon of water. Their function is to increase the quality of crops, and only occasional applications, as a rule, can be afforded.

Attention may well be called to a comparatively new group of chemicals employable as liquid manures, namely, those used as intensifiers. The most important of these at the present moment is green copperas or ferrous sulphate, which intensifies the colour of flowers and foliage alike in a most marked manner. In large quantities it is an active plant poison and, therefore, must be cautiously employed. Up to the present used alone it gives good results if applied at the rate of a quarter of an ounce per gallon of soft water. E. T. E.

ROSES AT DUNGLASS.

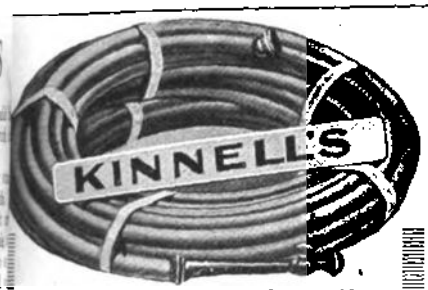
IDEAL weather conditions favoured the outing of the Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society to Dunglass on July 10th. Quite a large number of the members of the society availed themselves of the opportunity of visiting this Berwickshire garden, which is situated on the East Coast.

Here the air is free from dust and smoke, and the soil is rich and red, and as a garden it is noted for its roses. These enticed everyone to cluster round the many beds which are set out on the well kept grass, each bed filled with one variety.

Mr. Notman, the able head-gardener, informed me that this rose garden was made six years ago and contains 2,500 plants. In a long border were such varieties as Colonel Fitzgerald, Columbia, Donald Macdonald Dorothy Page Roberts, General McArthur, K. of K., Lady Hillingdon, Mme. Edouard Herriot, Mme. Jules Bouche, Margaret Dickson Hamill, Mrs. Wemyss Quin, Ophelia and Red Letter Day. The roses in the beds were Lady Ashtown, Lady Pirrie, Mme. Edouard Herriot, Mme. Jules Bouche, Margaret Dickson Hamill, Mrs. Frank Usher, Mrs. David McKee and W. J. Grant. Mme. Edouard Herriot was exceptionally beautiful, the colour of the blooms—for the plants were all *en masse*—was as good as I have ever seen.

Many pillar roses are also grown at Dunglass, including such kinds as Crimson Rambler Dorothy Dennison, Emily Gray, Excelsa, himalaica, Paul's Scarlet Climber and Shower of Gold. Nor have the old china roses been forgotten, as Laurette Messimy, Mme. Eugène Resal, Old Blush and the charmingly

Digitized by Google



Use Only Genuine High Grade Hose

FOR WEAR

"The No. 4 Hose I had from you 3 years ago appears to be in perfect condition, although neglected so much and left out exposed to all weathers.—Dr. D——, Fisheries Experimental Station, Conway. 14/6/26.

No. 4. "Kinnell" Branded, 60 ft. (fittings extra). ½ in., 39/9; ⅝ in., 47/6; ¾ in., 54/10; 1 in., 70/9. Also highest grade Long Length Hose. List E118 and Samples Free.

CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD.
65, 65a, Southwark St. London, S.E.1
Phone: Hop 0362. Wire: Kinnell-Boroh, London

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND, SOILFUME, NICOTINE, INSECTICIDES, FUMERS, SPRAYS, AND OTHER CHEMICALS ON SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES - THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY. IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT, CARRIAGE PAID.

TOMLINSON & HAYWARD LTD LINCOLN

THOSE ODD JOBS

Learn how to do them Yourself . .

THE HOUSE DOCTOR

By R. Randal Phillips

2/6 net.

"COUNTRY LIFE" LIBRARY,
20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2

toned Comtesse du Cayla have all found a home.

The roses were particularly clean, well budded and in perfect health. No doubt the numerous buds which were only partly unfolded on many of the varieties (on July 10) are now, in this tropical heat, making a wonderful display of colour. D. ARMSTRONG.

GARDENERS' ORPHAN FUND.

THE annual festival dinner of the Royal Gardeners' Orphan Fund, held in London on Wednesday last, reminded one of the very excellent work which this Society has been carrying on with the aid of voluntary contributions only, for thirty-nine years. During that period the orphans of many gardeners have been maintained, educated and then trained in some occupation to give them a good start in life. At the present time there are over eighty children dependent on the fund, and to cover the allowances for these children about £1,100 is needed annually.

In a brief but inspiring speech the Chairman, Mr. G. J. Nicholls, pointed out, among other things, that gardeners, by their thought and care, contribute very largely to the interest and beauty of our home surroundings. One should also realise that gardeners' incomes do not permit of their making adequate provision for those they leave behind them, and it is the duty of all who have gained so much in their lives by the contemplation of the restful charm of our English gardens to support, in whatever way they can, this most deserving cause. All lovers of the beautiful whether in plants or flowers, will feel that such a fund has an imperative claim upon their generosity, and an important point is that this cause is one in which a consideration of the very high record of attainment of those who have been helped gives the assurance that it is money thoroughly well expended. Mr. Edward Sherwood (hon. treasurer) gave a number of instances of the great appreciation which has been felt by those who have received benefit, and asked that all willing to contribute should kindly send their donations to the secretary, Mr. A. C. Bartlett, 19, Bedford Chambers, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

SWEET PEA COMPETITION

£50 IN PRIZES

RULES.

A list of your choice of the six most popular sweet peas to be sent in in order of preference on the coupon to be found on page ii of this week's issue of THE GARDEN. *No alternative* varieties will be allowed in the one list, but readers may send in any number of lists, provided that they are written on the special coupon to be found in this and the previous seven issues of THE GARDEN.

Coupons must reach this office not later than Saturday, July 31st (after which date no coupons will be accepted).

The popular vote will be final, and no correspondence will be entered into over this competition.

Envelopes must be marked *Competition* and addressed to THE GARDEN, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

The Editor will not be held responsible for letters missing in the post.

The result will be announced in THE GARDEN in the issue of August 28th.

The prizes are awarded to those whose list corresponds most closely to that arrived at by the popular vote.

If two readers tie for the first place, the first and second prizes will be equally divided; if two for the second place, the second and third prizes will be equally divided.

The Editor's decision on all points will be final.

PRIZES.

1ST PRIZE.—Goods worth £30 from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

2ND PRIZE.—Goods worth £10 from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

3RD PRIZE.—Goods worth £5 from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

20 CONSOLATION PRIZES of 5s. each from any advertiser in the pages of THE GARDEN.

"The fairest flowers of the season are our carnations."—SHAKESPEARE.

CARNATIONS

FOR EVERY GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE

- By Montagu C. Allwood. -

With a Foreword by Lord Lambourne,
- - President of the R.H.S. - -

224 pages. *79 illustrations.*

Just Published - 12s. 6d. net.

For a detailed prospectus of this new and standard book, write to the Publicity Manager, Book Dept., COUNTRY LIFE, 20, Tavistock St., W.C.

Digitized by Google

IRIS

of the June-flowering family

THEY are worth thinking of ahead—ordering early and planting at the best time, in July or early August. Put in then, the plants get their toes in before the winter comes. Take steps to order them **now.** Either buy the low-priced collection of excellent varieties offered below for **7/6** the twelve plants or send for our catalogue and make your own selection.

June-flowering Iris:—

Alcazar	Lavender blue and violet.
Archeveque ..	Reddish violet and deep violet.
Caprice	Reddish mauve and deep rosy red.
Dawn	Sulphur yellow, veined bronze.
Her Majesty ..	Pale rose and deep red.
Lohengrin ..	Cattleya mauve.
Mdm. Chereau ..	White, frilled azure blue.
Mrs. H. Darwin ..	White, faintly marked violet.
Mrs. Neubronner	Golden yellow.
Orifiamme ..	Pure blue and blue purple.
Prosper Laugier ..	Bronzy cinnamon and velvety crimson.
Rhein Nixe ..	White and violet purple.

One plant each of the 12 varieties, **7/6** post paid.

Have you seen our Hardy Plant Catalogue? It is better than most.

Bakers

FLOWER FARM
CODSALL
Near Wolverhampton

WHITE FLY

THE most effective way to stop the devastating activity of the White Fly is to fumigate the greenhouse and hothouse thoroughly with

COOPER'S
White Fly Fumigant

It is non-poisonous, non-inflammable, and quite easy to use.

Simply pour the measured quantity evenly over the floor, close up the house completely, and —your White Fly problem is solved.

¼-pint .. 1/9 Quart .. 5/-
Pint .. 3/- ¼-gallon .. 8/-

Of all Agents.

COOPER, McDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, LTD.
BERKHAMSTED, HERTS.

GARDENING OF THE WEEK

FOR SOUTHERN GARDENS.

THE KITCHEN GARDEN.

Spinach.—In many gardens spinach is an important vegetable and with care and attention it may be picked for the kitchen throughout the year. To keep up the supply in winter a good breadth must be sown at intervals of a fortnight from now till the end of August. Select the prickly or winter variety and sow in lines 1ft. apart. A liberal sprinkling of old soot will be found beneficial and a watch must be kept for slugs. Do not forget a row or two of spinach beet; it is more robust than the above and often proves a useful substitute for the winter variety.

Ridge Cucumbers must not suffer from drought but even in dry weather care must be taken to prevent over-watering.

Shallots will now be ready for lifting and after being exposed to the sun to ripen them, they should be stored in a dry, airy shed. Garlic may be given similar treatment. If the crop of parsley is poor there is still time to make a sowing for winter use.

Cauliflowers will need watching or caterpillars will destroy their appearance and value for the table. Any that are "turning in" may have the leaves tied up over their heads. Other cauliflower plants need plenty of water during a dry spell of weather.

Mushrooms.—Horse droppings can be collected and when a sufficient quantity has been got together a bed may be made up for mushrooms. Spawning should take place when the temperature of the bed is 80° F. All kinds of salads may be sown, and here water will be necessary if the ground is dry.

Winter Onions must be lifted directly the bulbs are ready, otherwise they will commence another period of growth, which will spoil the crop. Lay them out on a hard gravel path or similar spot, the root end of the bulb being fully exposed to the sun. When thoroughly ripened store in a dry, airy place.

Lift first and second early potatoes as they become fit, and finish the planting out of all kinds of winter greens.

THE ROSE GARDEN.

Continue to remove the old blooms and see that no suckers are allowed to develop at the base of the bushes; while weeds must also be kept in check by frequent hoeing. Young growths on the rambler and climbing section must be tied up occasionally and a watch kept for green fly and mildew. A solution of insecticide will destroy the former and one ounce of liver of sulphur (potassium sulphide) dissolved in three gallons of water will prove effective with the latter, but the plants should be sprayed each week if possible. Liquid manure will benefit the trees if applied the colour of weak tea and at the rate of one gallon per plant, but it ought always to be given when the soil is moist. Once each week will be sufficient.

Failing farmyard liquid manure, a fertiliser can be applied while the plants are developing their second growth. Both Clay's and Canary Guano are good and may be sprinkled over the beds during showery weather at the rate of about two ounces to the square yard.

THE FLOWER GARDEN.

The plants in the herbaceous border must be tied up neatly where needed and such subjects as varieties of Phlox decussata will require water if the weather is dry, while a mulch of manure, or grass from the lawn mower, will be beneficial. Early-flowering chrysanthemums can be transferred to the border to produce a display later on, and they will transplant readily from the reserve garden if cut round with a spade a week or so before removal.

Dahlias will need supports. Earwigs, if allowed to remain, will injure many of the flowers. They are easily trapped, however, by placing an inverted 3in. pot filled with hay on the top of each stake. Examine them every morning.

Flower Beds must be kept tidy by the removal of dead leaves and faded flowers, and such subjects as verbenas, ivy-leaved pelargoniums and Phlox Drummondii, may be pegged down so that the whole of the bed is covered.

Iceland Poppies.—These delightful plants are worthy of wider cultivation and as they do not easily transplant, the seeds should be sown where the plants are intended to bloom. Seeds sown now will furnish a display next year. The alpine poppy (Papaver alpinum), is useful and effective for the rock garden.

Chepstow. T. W. BRISCOE.

FOR NORTHERN GARDENS.

THE FRUIT GARDEN.

Strawberries.—If intended to fruit next year rooted members of these simply cannot be planted too early after this date. If planted late they have no time to establish themselves before winter and many are lost. Well cultivated soil from which the early potatoes have been cleared, if dug over and liberally manured will suit. Select strong, healthy runners from fruitful parents. The distances in planting will be regulated by the vigour of the varieties and the nature of the soil. On a medium to heavy soil King George is an excellent early variety, a little earlier, but not possessing the constitutional powers of Royal Sovereign. The varieties Laxtonian and Bountiful are main-crop varieties of good merit, with Elton Prince for very late cropping. A good average distance in planting is 2ft. between the rows and the plants 12ins. to 18ins. apart in the rows. As soon as the pots used in layering runners for forcing purposes are full of roots repot into 6in. pots. Stand the pots on a bed of coal ashes where the crowns can be well ripened and watering conveniently attended to. Buds from the sides to be removed, as one crown only is desirable.

THE KITCHEN GARDEN.

Other items needing attention in the time not devoted to fruit pulling are the thinning of late-sown turnips and pricking off lettuce, supporting and feeding stem vegetables with liquid manure; the close pulling of kidney and broad beans, possibly peas, when of a proper size; and the swelling of seeds in a few neglected pods causes a cessation of growth.

We are too often careless in the matter of pulling rhubarb. Avoid late pulling, as the crowns beneath the soil depend for their strength on the leaves. Liquid manure from the byre draining will assist greatly in the formation of these crowns.

THE HERBACEOUS BORDER.

In the interest of the plants and to maintain the appearance of the borders the spent blooms of summer-flowering plants should be removed. Also see to it that other tall-growing subjects are efficiently supported.

There is yet time to propagate such edging plants as pinks and iberis of the evergreen types. Cuttings root freely in sandy soil with the frame kept close until roots appear. Occasional dewings overhead will hasten the process. To increase the stock of Heuchera sanguinea and its varieties other than by division, side pieces taken off and treated as above form a ready means. This also applies in the case of lychnis of the double-flowered sorts.

Climbers past flowering should be relieved of spent flower trusses and the growth to provide the following year's flowers secured beyond damage by winds. Others coming into flower should have the main shoots tied out to fill the allotted space. In all cases thin out unsatisfactory growth to prevent overcrowding. As plants in such situations generally suffer from want of water, give this in quantity when required, with liquid manure as an auxiliary.

Weed Killer on Walks and Drives.—It may have been that owing to the unsuitable weather or other causes this operation was prohibited in the recognised time for doing this work. In my own experience of several years good results have followed its application now, under favourable weather conditions, the parts operated on remaining free from weeds for a full year.

Doune, Perthshire. W. MCCARRELL.

THE Director of the Gardens of the Royal Horticultural Society desires us to point out that the trials of nerines and lachenalias started there last season are being continued this. Any grower desiring to add varieties to these trials should send three bulbs of each to reach him by August 15th, 1926, addressed to the Director, R.H.S. Gardens, Wisley, Ripley, Surrey. The necessary entry forms can be obtained on application to him.

Digitized by Google

CLAY'S LONDON FERTILIZER TRADE MARK

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then, together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices :—

Tins 10d. and 1/6

and in **Branded and Sealed Bags :**

7 lbs.	3/6	14 lbs.	6/-
28 lbs.	10/-	56 lbs.	18 -
112 lbs.	32/-		

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark.

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers, etc. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**

The Perfect Sun Blind for Glasshouses

Cannot rot or perish.
Easily fixed and removed.
Admits ample light.
Economical in wear.

SEND FOR SPECIAL ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE

ESSENGER & CO., LTD., LOUGHBOROUGH LEICESTERSHIRE
LONDON OFFICE: 122, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

E LEADING GLASS HOUSE FUMIGANT

THOUSANDS OF TOMATO CROPS ENTIRELY SAVED
No alterations needed since first introduced.
Satisfied with the best, it is the cheapest in the end.
Commended by the Royal Horticultural Society.

c.ft.	1,000	2,000	4,000	8,000	16,000	32,000	64,000
	10d.	1/3	2/-	3 6	6/-	10/6	19/-

Also in 2, 5 and 10 gall. **FREE** drums;
ALSO

"NIQUAS"

THE INSECTICIDE.

(Non-poisonous.)

destroying Greenfly, Aphis and Caterpillars etc., on all plants and trees.

30 years' reputation.
Many hundreds of Testimonials received.

Equal to any, if not better, and cheaper, so why not use it and save money ?

pt.	qt.	½-gall.	1 gall.	2 gall.	5 gall.	10 gall.
1/6	2/6	4/-	7/6	15/-	25/-	45/-

RRY'S CONCENTRATED QUASSIA EXTRACT

pt	qt.	½-gall.	1 gall.	2 gall.	5 gall.	10 gall.
1/3	2/-	3/6	6/6	12/6	23/-	42/-

Sold by Nurserymen and Seedsmen.

RRY & CO. Ltd., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

BY APPOINTMENT *TO H.M. THE KING*

KILL THOSE WEEDS

Nothing is more wearisome and unsatisfactory than hoeing and hand-picking weeds. Why not save your time, your back and your temper by letting

COOPER'S

WEEDICIDE

Do the Work for YOU

("Highly Commended" by the Royal Horticultural Society of Great Britain after practical tests.)

One gallon dilutes to 100 gallons of water and is sufficient for treating 300 to 400 square yards. The cost of the ready-for-use mixture is, therefore, about 1d. per gallon.

Pint tins -	1/9	2 gallon drum	17 -
Quart ,, -	3/-	5 ,, ,,	36/6
½ gallon drum	5/-	20 gallon cask	105/-
1 ,, ,,	9/-	40 ,, ,,	200/-

OF ALL AGENTS

Write for illustrated leaflet, "The Weed Problem Solved," gratis and post free from

COOPER, McDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, Ltd.
BERKHAMSTED, HERTS.

Digitized by Google

BENTLEY'S
WEED DESTROYER

(POISON) STANDS FOR

Strength Reliability Economy

Stronger than any other. One application keeps gravel paths and drives clean for nearly two years. Commands the largest sale both at home and abroad, with a rapidly spreading popularity.

REDUCED PRICES:

Concentrated Liquid (1 to 80)—1 gal. **6/9**; 2 gals. **13/–**; 3 gals. **18/9**; 6 gals. **35 9**; 12 gals. **69/–**; 24gals. **134 3**; 40gals. **218/3**

Powder (1 to 25)—4 tins **9/3**; 8 tins **17/10**; 12 tins **25/6**; 20 tins **40/9**; 40 tins **78/–**

BENTLEY'S
QUASSIA EXTRACT

Compound Liquid (Non-poisonous)

Infallibly destroys Aphis in all its forms. It may be used anywhere and everywhere with absolute safety, and is the most economical of all Insecticides.

One gal. makes from 80 to 100 gals. of wash.

5 gals. **8/6** per gal.; 1 gall. **8/9**; ½ gal. **5/–**; 1 qt. **3/–**; 1 pt. **1/9**

Carriage paid on 15/– orders and upwards.

Sole Manufacturers:

JOSEPH BENTLEY LTD.
CHEMICAL WORKS,
BARROW-ON-HUMBER :: LINCS.

Make the Most of your Greenhouse

and install a SILVER MEDAL

HORSE SHOE BOILER—

which ensures a steady heat for a succession of thriving Plants and Flowers, with minimum trouble and little fuel.

Booklet E and reduced prices post free.

C. P. KINNELL & Co. Ltd.,
SOUTHWARK STREET,
LONDON, S.E.1.

Used in the R.H.S. Gardens

Gardening Boots

must be waterproof. See that your Boots* have Uppers of "Beva" WATERPROOF LEATHER

*Look for the "Beva" on the looping.

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION

WAKELEY'S Celebrated (PATENTED) HOP MANURE

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only **7/-** carriage paid to your door (if within 5 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

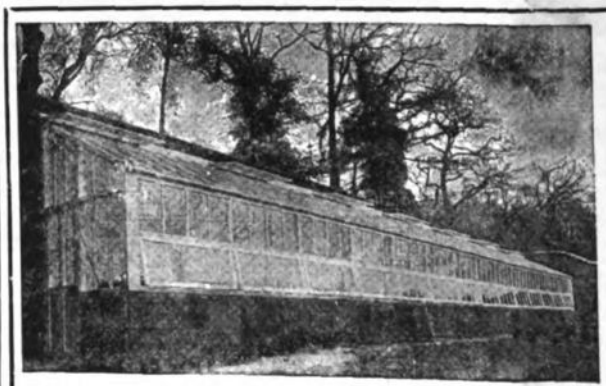
A beautiful Free Booklet giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. GENUINE ONLY IN OUR MARKED BAGS, CONTAINING GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

Cash Prices, including bags: Small (about 1 bushel), **3/-**; Large (about 4 bushels) **7/-**; 5 Large, 33/9
10 Large, **65/-**; 20 Large, **120/-**

Carriage Paid to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company. 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain 2/- per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1



GREENHOUSES AND GARDEN FRAMES

I specialize in the Erection of High-class Horticultural Buildings.

Garden Frames a speciality. Selected timber, well seasoned, only used.

Being a grower, I understand Glass-house requirements.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.
CATALOGUES WITH PLEASURE.

E. M. HEAP, Cottimore Nurseries,
WALTON-ON-THAMES.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE PATTISSON HORSE BOOTS

SIMPLEST
STRONGEST
MOST ECONOMICAL

ONCE TRIED
ALWAYS USED

Fig. 1—For Shod Horses.
Best English Leather or Rubber Soles.

Fig. 2—Welted Pattern.

Fig. 2—No Welt Pattern

Used for many years in the Royal and in thousands of the Principal Gardens.

Silver Medals:—Royal Horticultural Society, 1904 and 1914
Royal International Horticultural Exhibition, 1912.
HUNDREDS OF TESTIMONIALS.

Illustrated Price Lists from the Makers:

H. PATTISSON & CO., STANMORE, MIDDLESEX

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

YOUR LAWN!

TRUE PLAY IN MANY LAWN GAMES IS IMPOSSIBLE UNLESS THE SURFACE IS CLEAR OF DAISIES AND OTHER WEEDS — THE BEST METHOD OF ERADICATION IS ~

LAWN SAND

Velvas

applied 5 oz. per Square Yard.

MAKES VELVETY LAWNS

CARRIAGE PAID PRICES:

112 lb. Keg,	29/6	112 lb. Bag,	26/6	14 lb. Tin,	6/-
56 lb. ,,	16/-	56 lb. ,,	14/3	7 lb. ,,	4/-
28 lb ,,	10/6	28 lb. ,,	9/3	3 lb ,,	2/6

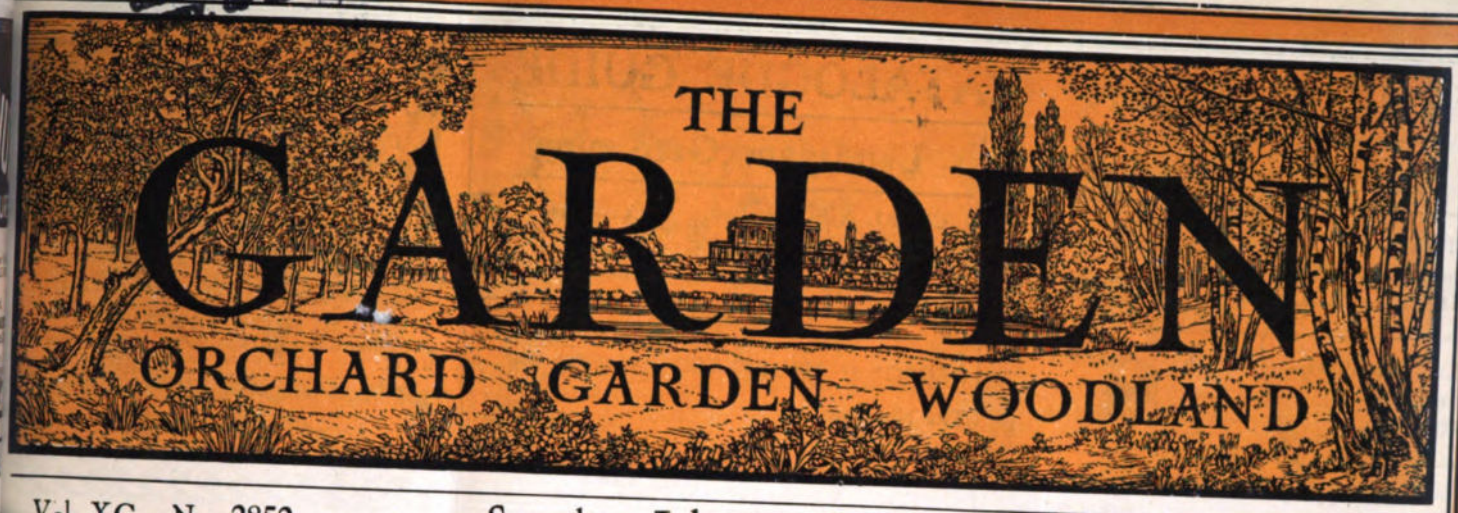
Sole Manufacturers
ROBINSON BROTHERS LTD, WEST BROMWICH

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS 56 & 57, Drury Lane London W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

AUG 11 1926



Vol. XC.—No. 2852 Saturday, July 31st, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

BARR'S CROCUS SPECIES

FOR PRESENT PLANTING.

BARR'S AUTUMN-FLOWERING CROCUS

3 each of 18 beautiful varieties 30/-
3 ,, 12 ,, ,, ... 12/6 & 21/-
Mixed Autumn-flowering Crocus per 100, 17/6; per doz. 2/6

WINTER AND SPRING-FLOWERING CROCUS

3 each of 8 varieties Winter-flowering Crocus 18/6
3 ,, 12 ,, Spring-flowering ,, ... 18/6
Mixed Winter and Spring-flowering Crocus per 100, 12/6; per doz. 1/9

BARR'S COLCHICUMS

6 each of 8 beautiful varieties 27/6
3 ,, 8 ,, ,, ... 14/-
Mixed Colchicums for naturalising, etc. per 100, 25/-; per doz. 3/6

List of Crocus Species, etc., and Bulbs for early forcing, free on application.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

GARDEN WIRE OFFER!

BRAND NEW GOVERNMENT STOCK . . .

Rust proof enamel covered, strong, pliable, and most handy for training sweet peas, tomatoes, tying, supporting nets, etc., and scores of other uses about the house, garden and workshop.
Half mile, **4s. 6d.** - One mile, **6s. 6d.**
Drums Free and Carriage Paid.

PLENTY IN STOCK, BUT DEMAND NOW INCREASING.
Send postcard for free samples of five other kinds. Write to-day and save.

GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES,
371, Albert Street, LYTHAM.

GENTIANA SINO-ORNATA

PLANT NOW for Flowers from September onwards.

REALLY STRONG PLANTS FROM POTS WITH FIRM ROOT BALLS. AT LEAST FIVE FLOWERING SHOOTS EACH.

10/6 per dozen. Carriage Paid

W. E. Th. INGWERSEN,
Birch Farm - Sharpthorne - East Grinstead.
SEND FOR MY CATALOGUE.

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

FOR THE GARDEN! FOR EXHIBITION!
FOR BEDS! FOR EVERYWHERE!

Also Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees, Alpines and Hardy Plants.

BUY HOME-GROWN TREES.
Support British Industries.

Catalogue Free on Application, and Addresses booked for Revised Catalogue in late Summer.

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.,
Garden Specialists - - SOUTHWELL, NOTTS

HOSEPIPE BARGAINS

BRAIDED MOULDED HOSE (no seam to leak),
½-in. bore, **5d.** ⅝-in., **6d.** ¾-in., **7d.** per foot.
- - CORRUGATED NON-KINK - -
½-in., **6½d.** ⅝-in., **7½d.** ¾-in., **8½d.** per foot.

Brass Fittings Free and Carriage Paid on 60 feet or more, passenger train.

GREEN'S,
Department 156, - - **LYTHAM.**

PRICE'S COMPLETE GARDEN FERTILISER

PROMOTES STRONG, HEALTHY PLANTS.

If stored in a dry place will keep any length of time.

Sold in 7-lb containers - **2s. 6d.**
Also supplied in 1-cwt. and ½-cwt. bags.

Price's Patent Candle Company Limited,
Battersea, London, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
— New Alpines and Perennials. Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
— Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
— Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
— Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD,
CHELSEA, S.W.
— Perennial and Rock Plants Seed. List on Application

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
— Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

H. PRINS
BULB AND PLANT GROWERS
WISBECH, CAMBS.
— Bulb list free on application

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND. SOIL FUME. NICOTINE, INSECTICIDES, FUNGERS, SPRAYS AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES—THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY. IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT. CARRIAGE PAID.

ONLY MAKERS... TOMLINSON & HAYWARD LTD LINCOLN

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
— Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
— Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
HULL
— Weed Destroyers Fertilisers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

ROCKERY STONE
Best Westmorland Weathered Limestone for Rockeries, Rock Gardens, etc.
In any sized pieces to suit requirements.
Any quantity. Large Stones a speciality.
For price and particulars, write—
J. WARDLEY & SONS, Blackhead, Milnthorpe

No oxygen—no pests!
By destroying the insect's power of assimilating oxygen, XL ALL makes sure—no garden insect can live. Clean to use—safe to plants. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen, florists or chemists.
XL ALL NICOTINE LIQUID INSECTICIDE
G. H. RICHARDS LTD.,
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
B. 167. Monomark: BCM/XLALL.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

A GROWING HABIT

and a very sensible one is to give your friend, especially a friend overseas, a year's subscription to one of the best weekly periodicals.

It means fifty-two kind remembrances of you, and fifty-two remembrances of England.

There is no paper so representative of England and none so welcome abroad as

COUNTRY LIFE

80/- *a year abroad.* 60/- *to Canada*

20, TAVISTOCK ST.,
COVENT GARDEN, LONDON
W.C 2

BLOM FOR BULBS

HYACINTHS for December and Christmas Flowering
. . . ready for despatch NOW . .

Apply for Catalogue to Messrs. J. C. WHITNEY & Co., Eldon Street House, Eldon Street, London, E.C.
or to WALTER BLOM & SON, LTD. (late of Overveen), Hillegom, Holland.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

Britain's Great Cabbage.

BB'S EMPEROR CABBAGE. arliest, best and most popular Spring Cabbage in cultiva- 4d., 6d. and 1/- per packet, 1/9 per ounce. "Your or Cabbage has again proved worthy of the name you , 'Britain's Great Cabbage.' I should like to go one and describe it as 'The World's Best Cabbage,' as year it proves highly satisfactory with me as with others om I supply plants. I put in the Seed the third week y, 1925, and was cutting splendid Cabbage April 18th. not have one bolt, and for quality and early productive- has surpassed all others."—F. DALE, Esq., Leamington

S & SONS, LTD., THE KING'S SEEDSMEN, STOURBRIDGE

TERER'S for the best in bulbs for forcing, g, naturalising, etc. Colchicums and Autumn-flowering es. Our new illustrated catalogue is now ready, post WATERER'S Roses and Fruit Trees, Strawberry Plants , and open ground runners, including all those varieties worth growing. New catalogue now ready, post free. ERER'S Alpine and Perennial Plants. Gold Medal ndrons, Azaleas and Hardy Shrubs. Catalogues ready y.—JOHN WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LIMITED, The ries. Twyford, Berks.

IALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODEN- s on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write talogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

LLS' CATALOGUE OF CHRYSANTHE- s will be sent post free on application.—W. WELLS AND Merstham, Surrey.

KELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE. original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See t. on back page.

L. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., nce Road, South Tottenham, N.15. — Conservatories, r Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

IDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUN- S, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.— TON, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

NCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and n Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request. — THE EY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, y.

LL AND WATER GARDENS. With ten on rock gardens, heath gardens, and paved water s. By GERTRUDE JEKYLL. 7th edition, revised. 17/6 by post, 18/4.—Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY ," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C2

RE NETTING.—From 2/5 per 50yd. roll. post House in the Kingdom. Write us for prices. ands of rolls stocked.

NTS. — Army Bell. All complete, new gs, deep walls, 60/- and 70/-. Scout Tents, 13/8. len, 50/-. Bathing, 33/-. Also Marquees. Write us for s.

RDEN HOSE.—Superior quality, 6oft.

	1-ply.	2-ply.	3-ply.
ins.			
in.	15/-	24/6	29/3
in.	24/6	29/3	35/2

Carriage paid. Approval.

NNIS BOUNDARY NETTING.—Lines top bottom, 25 x 2yds., 16/3; 3yds., 18/3; 4yds., 25/3 age paid. Approval. Standards for fixing to, also Playing Poles and all requisites supplied.

WN MOWERS.—Five Riveted Blades. h Wheels. Brass Bushings. Close Cutting. Highly Finished. qualled Value. 8in., 20/6; 10in., 21/6; 12in., 22/6; 14in., Grass Boxes, 8/6 each. Garden Rollers, 30/-.

MBOO CANES.—Strong, 3ft., 3/5; 4ft., 5ft., 10/11; 6ft., 14/6 per hundred. Carriage paid.—E. B. YBORN, LIMITED, Dept. E, Shrewsbury.

BARR'S AUTUMN-FLOWERING BULBS.—COLCHICUMS, CROCUS SPECIES, NERINES, WHITE ROMAN and EXTRA EARLY HYACINTHS, LACHENALIAS, etc. List on application.—BARR & SONS, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760 yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 800 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

FLAME FLOWER. (Tropæolum speciosum). Extra strong established pot plants of this loveliest of scarlet flowered perennial climbers ready for planting any time now 1/- each, 6 for 5/-, 12 for 10/-, carriage paid for cash with order. —CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED, Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage. Herts.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial: Our Native Plants	429
The Daffodil Season of 1926	430
Pterocaryas or Wing-Nuts	431
Notes of the Week	432, 433
Iris unguicularias; A Late-flowering Nerine; Muscari azureum; Garden Produce; Some Choice Scabiouses; Fritillaria Elwesii; Leptospermums.	
The Season of Flower Shows	434
A Selection of Gentians	434
Correspondence	436
The Protection of Wild Flowers; The Tops of Walls; A Sky Blue Poppy; Ivy on Trees; Lilium Martagon var. dalmaticum; Names of Early Potatoes.	
Nurseries of the British Isles—I ..	437
The Flower Garden and Greenhouse	438, 439
Pelargoniums; Potting Early-flowering Bulbs; Tomatoes; Sweet Lavender; Lachenalias.	
Fruit and Vegetables	439, 440
Silver Leaf Disease; Blanching Celery; Winter Lettuce; Potato Leaf-roll and Mosiac	
Carnations at the Carpenters' Hall ..	440
Gardening of the Week	442

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL DELPHINIUMS and ROSES. Send a postcard for our catalogue.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S CHOICE DAFFODILS AND TULIPS and other Bulbs. Bulb catalogue will be ready in July and will be sent free on application.—"Order early and Plant early" to avoid disappointment.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

THE DOG: MAN'S FIRMEST FRIEND.—How to choose and care for him, by A. CROXTON SMITH. A copy of this helpful booklet on the housing, breeding, feeding and care of dogs will be sent post free on receipt of 11d., addressed to The Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

DOBBIE'S PLANT CATALOGUE now ready. Free to all readers. Please mention THE GARDEN when writing. —DOBBIE AND CO., LIMITED, Edinburgh.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

GARDEN NETS.—Best tanned, small mesh; 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 25yds. by 3yds., 6/-; 25yds. by 4yds., 8/-. Carr. Paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Tennis nets from 10/-. Special nets for tennis boundary. Pea training nets. Lists and samples free.—G. JARRETT, Netmaker, Rye.

ROCK AND ALPINE PLANTS.—Large and varied collection. All pot grown. Packed and carriage paid. Catalogue free.—M. J. PIGGOTT, Duffield, Nr. Derby.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING, small mesh: 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds. 4/-; 40yds. by 1yd., 3/8; 40yds. by 2yds., 6.6; 40yds. by 3yds., 9/9. Measured mesh closed. Special Pea Netting supplied. Tennis Nets from 8/-. Carriage Paid. Compare our netting with others. Sports lists and samples free.—GALLOP, Net Manufacturer, Hastings.

GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS — CHOICE TULIPS, &c. List on application.—THE WELSH BULB FIELDS, St. Asaph.

LOOK! TANNED GARDEN NETS.—All orders dispatched same day. 25yds. by 1yd, 2/-; 25 by 2, 4/-; 25 by 3, 6/-. Odd netting for bushes, 6lbs. for 2/6. All carriage paid. Any sizes supplied. Also Tennis Boundary Nets.—MOORE AND CO., Net Works, Rye.

LAXTON'S STRAWBERRIES.—New List Containing Novelties for 1926. Prolific, Rearguard, Robust. Also The Duke, Royal Sovereign and all the old Favourites. Plants in small pots for forcing.—LAXTON BROTHERS, Nurseries, Bedford.

PUPILS given general nursery instruction. —Particulars, H. HOPKINS, Waterford Nurseries, Lymington, Hants.

THE CULTURE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS. By W. WELLS, 2/6 net; cloth, 3/6 net; by post 6d. extra. —Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE" LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

A CATALOGUE of gardening books will be sent free on application to "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

SWEET PEAS AND HOW TO EXCEL WITH THEM. By HORACE WRIGHT, 9d. net, by post 11d. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

PLANT PESTS AND PARASITES.—A useful booklet on garden troubles by HORACE J. WRIGHT is to be obtained from the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED. 20, Tavistock Street, W.C.2; 11d. post free.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

ESTABLISHED 1804. INCORPORATED 1809.

The Royal Horticultural Society's Amateur Vegetable Show

VINCENT SQUARE, S.W.1.

—— 7th SEPTEMBER, 1926. ——

38 Classes. OPEN TO ALL AMATEURS. No Entrance Fees.

SUBSTANTIAL PRIZES AND CUPS.

For Schedules, apply to THE SECRETARY, R.H.S., Vincent Square, London, S.W.1.

Make this into rich Manure

Lawn mowings, weeds, leaves, etc., should never be wasted. As your garden refuse accumulates, build it into a heap, treating each fresh addition of rubbish with—

ADCO

In a few months you will have a plentiful supply of rich organic fertiliser.
1 cwt. ADCO makes from 2-3 tons of MANURE according to the class of rubbish used.

ADCO ACCELERATOR
(for lawn mowings and soft green refuse)
28 lb., 4/6 ... 56 lb., 8/- ... 1 cwt., 15/-

STANDARD ADCO
(for all other rubbish, bracken and straw)
28 lb., 6/- ... 56 lb., 11/6 ... 1 cwt., 20/-
Carriage paid to nearest Goods Station. Cash with order.
Stocked by all leading Seedsmen, Harrods Ltd., etc.

ADCO LTD., HARPENDEN HERTS.

By Appointment

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.,
Royal Potteries,
BULWELL. NOTTINGHAM

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

CHEAPER IN PRICE — STRENGTH INCREASED

For Peaches, Cucumbers, Carnations, Vines, &c.
Kills Red Spiders as effectively as Corry's White Fly Death kills White Fly. *Non-poisonous.*
Wonderful reports received from some of the largest users and growers in Great Britain and the Channel Islands.

1/6	2/6	4/6	9/-	15/-	27/-	63/-	120/-
½-pt.	1 pt.	1 qt.	½-gal.	1 gal.	2 gals.	5 gals.	10 gals.

Sold by Nurserymen, Seedsmen and Florists.

CORRY'S SAFE AND SURE WASP NEST DESTROYER
Non-Poisonous, yet more effective than Cyanide.

2	6	20	40 Nests
7d.	1/4	3/6	6/6

From Seedsmen and Chemists

CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by "ALPHOL" Sample 14 lb., 5/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

PROFIT or PLEASURE?

Is your Garden a source of profit to you, or a place of delight? In either case you need

FERRY BRAND
Regd. Trade Mk.

SPECIAL FERTILISERS

—for heavier crops and lovelier flowers

"FERRY" PLANT FERTILISER. A quick-acting soluble manure for plants in active growth. It is suitable for flowers, fruits, or vegetables. If used occasionally during the growing season it will improve the size, colour, and quality of the flowers, fruits, and vegetables you grow.

PRICES: 7 lbs., 2/6; 14 lbs., 4/6; 28 lbs., 8/-; 56 lbs., 15/-; 1 cwt., 27/-

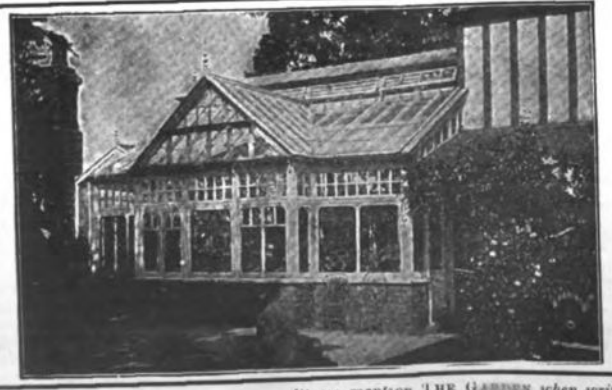
Carriage paid to nearest Rly. Stn. for cash with order.

Write for the Orange Booklet containing valuable garden hints.

THE BRITON FERRY CHEMICAL & MANURE CO., LTD. (Dept. E.), Briton Ferry, South Wales. (Established 1886)

THE GARDEN DOCTOR; Plants in Health and Disease, by F. J. CHITTENDEN, V.M.H., freely illustrated, 7/6 net, by post 8/-. A prospectus of this practical book will be sent post free on application to The Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

GARDEN DESIGN is best dealt with in "Planning and Planting of Little Gardens," by G. DILLISTONE, 6/-; by post, 6/6. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.



FOSTER & PEARSON LIMITED

Established 1841

Please write for Estimates for durable Greenhouses, Boilers, etc., to

BEESTON NOTTS

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

VOL. XC.—No. 2852. JULY 31, 1926

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.; Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2. *Offices for Advertisements:* 6–11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

OUR NATIVE PLANTS

IN our Correspondence page of this issue will be found a further letter from Colonel Cuthbert James regarding the diminution of our native flora. In this he makes the suggestion that enthusiasts in our native flora should try to re-establish our rarer plants as far as circumstances permit. This could be accomplished by a society which would help to replenish depleted areas to the best of its ability. There is a great deal to be said for this suggestion. Oddly enough, by this mail I received a letter from Dr. Cockayne in New Zealand, enclosing a cutting from *The Dominion* that describes a proposed open-air museum for plants native to New Zealand. This, of course, is not a new idea, although so far it has come to nothing in this country. What is particularly appropriate at the present moment is Dr. Cockayne's summing up of the uses of an open-air museum. He says: "The main features of the open-air museum are: (1) A well grown collection of, as far as possible, all the species of the New Zealand flora from the North Cape to the south of Stewart Island." (A far greater vegetative gap, by the way, than exists in the British Isles.) "(2) Representations on a fairly large scale of the leading plant associations of the land as they existed in primeval New Zealand. (3) The horticultural use that can be made of the plants most suitable for that purpose. (4) The restoration of the present forest to what it was. Thus the scheme is four-sided, and concerns the flora, the vegetation, the horticultural use of New Zealand plants, and the restoration of the forest."

This seems to cover the work of an open-air museum perfectly, so much so that it is worthy of the attention of all who are interested in our native flora. That something must be done is obvious to all. The difficulty lies in knowing how best to do it. Have readers any suggestions?

E. H. M. C.

PORTION OF A FINE CLUMP OF DRYAS OCTOPETALA.

DRYAS OCTOPETALA is one of the dwarf shrubs of the rock garden that might be far more often seen. In fact, it is always a surprise to those who have it and love it why their neighbours do not also grow it in their gardens. Perhaps it is because Dryas octopetala is found on the Scottish hills, and native plants are all supposedly miffy in gardens. Here, however, we have an exception, for this dryas is easily grown. It is a carpeting shrub with little oak-like foliage and large creamy white flowers. It will succeed in any good soil and should have nearly full exposure. If the soil is too heavy it is all the better for a portion of sharp sand and gravel chips to open it up. There it will spread and flower throughout June and July and sometimes into August, with no attention other than an occasional top-dressing of fine leaf-mould. Try Dryas octopetala.

IN this week's issue is the first of a series of illustrated articles on Nursery Gardens of the British Isles. The excellent habit of gardeners visiting nurseries is increasing rapidly. By this means they can judge the individual merits of species and varieties of whatever they happen to be interested in. They can also realise better the specialities of the various firms and see for themselves under what conditions and in what soils plants flourish to the best advantage. It is realised that many gardeners are unable, owing to distance, to visit all the nurseries that they would like to, and it is in order to give them some idea of the ground that firms cover that these articles are written.

Digitized by Google

THE DAFFODIL SEASON OF 1926

LET us try to recall some of the peculiarities of the past season and revive our memories of the beautiful things brought to our notice, some for the first time, may be, others, though no longer regarded as novelties, but still in the forefront as varieties of sterling value. Firstly, then, as to the season. With us in the Midlands it was about the earliest I can remember, and one of the longest, as the last part was just as cold and dull as the fore part was sunny and warm. I cut quite a good little lot from the open for the R.H.S. meeting on March 23rd, which is extremely early for this district, and there were still fresh flowers of the late poets left on May 3rd. Some of the earliest were two cyclamineus seedlings, February Gold and March Sunshine, nice little things for rock gardens; Brilliancy, the yellow Barrii with red edged cup; The Star, a well formed yellow incomp.; Le Printemps and Waterloo, very early yellow trumpets—cousins, but quite distinct; and Alice Knights, a very early white trumpet. There must have been more, but memory fails me.

The following are all of moderate value, and all are particularly good in pots:

Trumpets.—Phantasy, a pale bicolor which comes quite white under glass, a most lovely flower, carried on long stalks. General Townsend, a much improved Lord Roberts. Florence Pearson, a pale bicolor of large size, very fine in pots. Van Waveren's Giant, a huge flower, somewhat in the style of Emperor. King Alfred, one that takes a lot of beating, a lovely golden yellow of perfect proportions. Le Printemps, a very early yellow, the great attraction in this flower is the fine open trumpet, with beautifully reflexed and serrated brim. Thorkel, a giant in the way of Emperor. Mrs. R. Sydenham, an exquisite white trumpet, better in pots than when grown in the open. White Knight, another beautiful white. Refined Gold, a rather small flower of a uniform luminous golden yellow, a great flower to last. Wm. de Graaff, now very well known, but still ranks high on account of its perfectly formed flowers, which come quite white under glass. W. P. Milner, a very small sulphur coloured flower, passing to white, a lovely little thing for bowls (in fibre), pots or shallow pans.

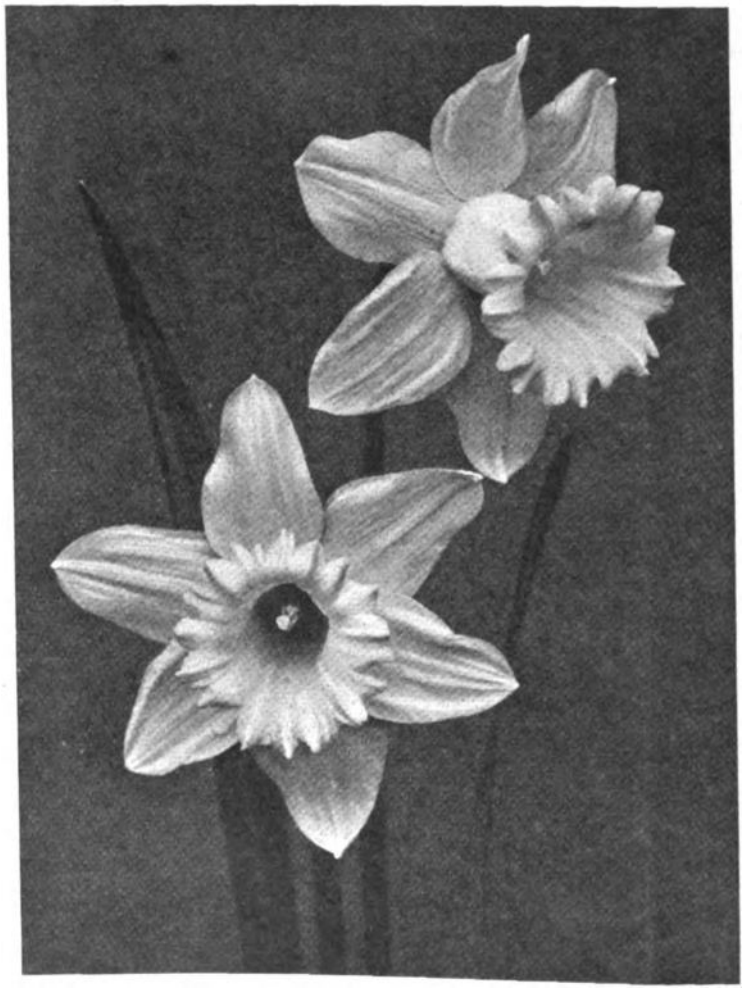
Giant Leedsii.—Empire, a grand flower of large size, very free—I counted fourteen flowers on one bulb one season. Vega, a graceful flower and very prolific. Hon. Mrs. J. L. Francklin, a flower of perfect form and balance and very lasting. Capella, a neat little flower, in form like a small trumpet daffodil. Louise L. Linton, under glass the cup of this variety often comes with a beautiful tint of apricot.

Incomps.—Bernardino, white perianth and large cup, more or less stained with orange, a lovely flower, but at times rather disappointing, as there is very little colour in the cup—the colour in red-cupped daffodils always comes better in dull weather. Kivasind, a giant in this section, the segments, which are long and narrow are rather reflexed, giving great character to the bloom. Pedestal, quite an exhibition flower, the perianth and cup being both of very regular form. Whitewell, a very good late thing, but not easy to flower well inside. Marshlight, a much improved Lucifer, the cup of a very brilliant red. Lucifer, a great favourite, with white segments, and orange red cup, very lasting, though it looks rather frail. Sunrise, a very bright flower with bright orange cup, some of the colour spreads to the white perianth, giving a very distinct effect.

Barrii.—Brilliancy, a very early flower, with bright yellow perianth, and cup edged with brilliant red, a very showy flower and a good laster if cut young. Firebrand, a small flower, but it has a very deep red cup.

Doubles.—Personally I am not fond of doubles, but some of the more modern ones, raised by Mr. Engleheart and Mr. Copeland, are vast improvements upon the old things, such as Sulphur and Orange Phœnix, which all had very poor stalks, unable to support the heavy blooms. The modern breed all have really good stalks, which will withstand even rough winds. Argent is one of these newer varieties; it is not fully double, but is a very decorative flower. The Pearl, is a very soft and pale yellow, very pretty.

Small Leedsii.—This section is not one of the best for pot work, but Fairy Queen and Evangeline are both dainty and pretty. The jonquil Odorus rugulosus is a lovely bit of golden yellow; it has narrow, rush-like leaves and there are often two or three flowers on a stalk. A very lasting flower.



KING ALFRED, ONE OF THE FINEST OF ALL DAFFODILS.

FINE FLOWERS FROM THE OPEN.

Fortune, the new giant incomp., a really wonderful flower, large size, perfect shape. The perianth is rich yellow and the large cup is deeply stained orange. Very early, a strong grower and rapid increaser, but at present rather prohibitive in price. King Alfred, too well known to need description. Potentate, a huge clear yellow trumpet daffodil better for the garden than as a cut flower, very strong grower. The Don, one of the best of the bicolor trumpets, a very regular flower. Beersheba, the finest of all white trumpets. Tenedos, a giant in the Leedsii section, very distinct, and a great doer. Lucinius, a fine giant incomp., a very good exhibition variety. Hymettus and Mitylene, two giant Leedsii of great beauty and very distinct. Rosary, a white trumpet with a distinct shade of pink in the trumpet. Louis Mountbatten, a white trumpet of enormous size and very long stalk. Gertie Miller, a giant among the giant Leedsii, the flower is some 6ins. across and the cup 3ins., not a coarse flower, but inclining to be a bit over-big.

Poets.—Striking, a well formed pure white perianth and eye of brightest red. Jno. Masefield, a very beautiful poet with well rounded perianth and very large red eye. Rupert Brooke, a well formed flower with bright eye, the great feature of this variety is its great vigour; it is one of the very strongest growers

Digitized by Google

and produces a great crop of bloom. Snow King, one of the very largest of the newer poets, long stalked and late flowering.

Bulwark, a very fine all-yellow trumpet daffodil. Crœsus, a choice incomp. with orange cup. Moira O'Neill, one of the very best bicolor trumpets, a fine show flower. Golden Pedestal, one of the best giant incomps yet sent out. Jubilant, another fine giant incomp. White Nile, a very attractive giant Leedsii. Feu de Joie, one of the best of the new doubles. Firetail, the best of the red-eyed Barrii. Glorious, a beautiful poetaz, pure white perianth and brilliant orange cup. Zillah, a large incomp., white perianth and large yellow cup, deeply edged with red, very late flowering. Mary Copeland, perhaps the finest double in existence. Sanctity, a very beautiful all white giant Leedsii. Tresserve, a very fine all-yellow trumpet daffodil. Hera, a delicate beauty of the Leedsii section, in size half way between the small flowers and the giants; a beautiful well balanced flower on long stem, late. Lady Mine, this is a very clean looking bicolor trumpet, it was picked out by the late Rev. Jacob at one of the Midland daffodil shows and he found a name for it.

The above list does not half exhaust the good things displayed at the April meetings at Vincent Square this season, but will, I think, be enough for most amateurs to study. J. D. PEARSON.

PTEROCARYAS OR WING-NUTS

BY E. H. WILSON.
Arnold Arboretum.

NEVER in history were gardens so rich in hardy plant material as in the present, and among this wealth are not a few trees of more than passing value. Compared with shrubs, trees are slow in setting forth their real qualities, and, in an age so impatient as this, they are apt to get thrust aside and lost sight of. Owners of such trees are often in need of more information about them, and photographs showing their adult appearance would foster interest and dispel the fog of obscurity which so often enshrouds new trees.

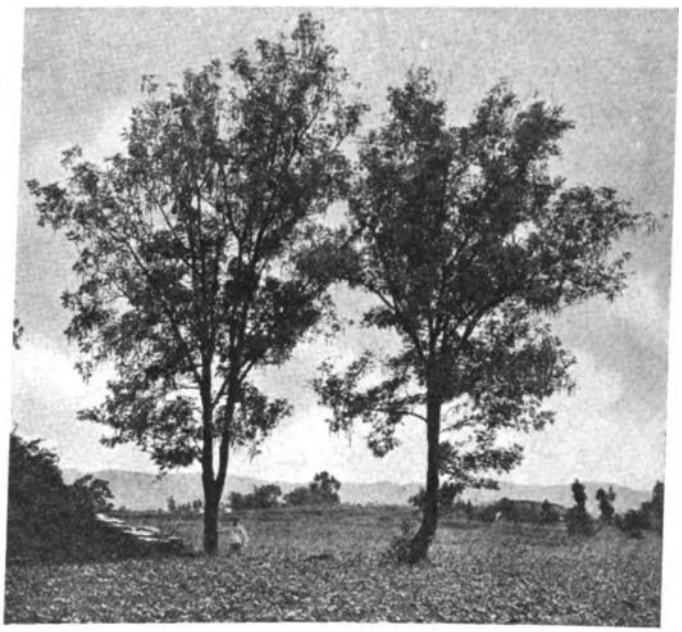
Among the several excellent articles in the last Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society is one on Pterocaryas and Zelkovas, by the Hon. Vicary Gibbs, of more than usual interest to tree lovers. What is grown at Aldenham House could and should be grown in many other gardens in Great Britain and Ireland. As a supplement to Mr. Gibbs' valuable observations and deductions, it is thought that a few notes, accompanied by illustrations of certain of these trees in adult conditions, would be acceptable to readers of THE GARDEN.

Of the pterocaryas mentioned by Mr. Gibbs four can be grown in the Arnold Arboretum, but only two of these are properly hardy. The Japanese P. rhoifolia is the only species really hardy here. This is a fine tree which occurs scattered through the forests of Japan as far north as Hokkaido, flourishing in cool, rich woodland soils. In general appearance this pterocarya resembles Juglans Sieboldiana, often found growing in associationship. It has grey, fairly smooth bark, and a rather broad crown of thick horizontally disposed branches. Trees from 60ft. to 75ft. high are the rule, each with a clean trunk from 6ft. to 8ft. in girth. The leaves are from 8ins. to 12ins. long and from 4ins. to 6ins. wide. The wood is of some value in Japan, being light, straight-grained, soft and white. In the Nikko region large and handsome specimens may be seen, but nowhere did I find it to be a common tree.

Throughout the temperate parts of China, and particularly the valley of the Yangtsze River, there is no more common tree than Pterocarya stenoptera, or Liu-shu. Especially partial to river banks, it is the first tree to spring up on alluvial flats and islands in the rivers. At its best the Liu-shu is a tree 90ft. tall with a trunk 20ft. in girth clothed with fissured grey bark, and an irregular crown of spreading branches. It suckers freely and often forms thickets. With its ash-like foliage and long pendent racemose fruits, it is a commanding tree in the landscape. In Shanghai, where it is called the Chinese ash, it is much used as a street tree, and, growing rapidly and standing pruning well, it has proved very serviceable. The wood is brittle and of no value except as fuel. I had hoped, from seeds collected at its altitudinal limits, to secure a type hardy in the Arnold Arboretum, but in this have been disappointed. It just exists with us, and so, too, does the Caucasian pterocarya.

The natural hybrid between these two species (P. Rehderiana) is, however, perfectly hardy, and we boast a fine grove of this tree. It was raised here from seeds received from Segrez Arboretum in 1879. The trees are now 55ft. tall, divided from the ground into a nest of trunks, the largest 6ft. in girth, and the crowns are wide-spreading. They sucker

PTEROCARYA RHOIFOLIA ON RIGHT, CERCIDIPHYLLUM JAPONICUM ON LEFT.



PTEROCARYA STENOPTERA, SIXTY FEET TALL, IN FULL FRUIT.

Digitized by Google

freely, and if left alone would soon form a copse. This hybrid is intermediate in size of fruit and leaf, but far hardier than either of its parents. With us it is happy in moist situations on the edge of oak woods.

The two other pterocaryas introduced from China by me (P. hupehensis and P. Paliurus) are both partial to the sides of forest and woodland streams. There is no apparent reason why they should not grow freely under cultivation, and they ought to be hardier than the low-level P. stenoptera. Both are fine trees and the circular flattened fruits of P. Paliurus, each often 3ins. across, strung one below another in string-like hanging racemes, are very remarkable. It is a disappointment to me that we have failed with these trees in the Arnold Arboretum.

NOTES OF THE WEEK

IRIS UNGUICULARIS.

ONE if not *the* most lovely of winter-flowering plants is the Algerian iris unguicularis, or I. stylosa, a name by which it is still known in many gardens. It begins to push up a few blooms towards the end of October, and during December and January quite a crop can be gathered. The illustration was taken by Mr. M. Moulton, O.B.E., on January 12th in the interesting gardens of Mr. D. C. Lysaght, St. Pierre, Chepstow, Mon. It is one of several fine clumps, growing in the spacious kitchen garden. There are several varieties of I. unguicularis, the typical plant bearing

IRIS UNGUICULARIS TAKEN IN A MONMOUTHSHIRE GARDEN IN JANUARY.

light lavender blue flowers, while the form known as alba is white, though a poor thing when compared with the type. Other good varieties are Elizabethæ and angustifolia, and the excellent form illustrated is probably near the latter.

All the varieties of this beautiful iris enjoy a hot position, and probably the best place is at the base of a south wall. A sandy loam is a good rooting medium, and care should be taken to see that the roots do not suffer from drought during the growing season. It ought to be borne in mind that plants growing at the base of a wall facing south often become dry, while other plants in the open are fairly moist.

Regarding the treatment of this fine iris, there is a diversity of opinion, and many advocate that once planted they should be left undisturbed for years, but I am inclined to believe that the plants should be lifted every fourth year. The roots are divided and the pieces replanted about a foot apart. Starved, overcrowded plants do not produce such fine quality flowers as those afforded more generous treatment.

Spring is often quoted as the best time to plant new beds or lift and divide existing clumps, but I do not entirely agree with this view. I have tried March and April and September, and from results obtained have a strong bias in favour of the latter month. Early in September new roots are made, and they quickly take possession of the warm soil at that season. With April planting there is the risk of a dry month following, and a certain amount of watering would be necessary, but, given a showery April and a dripping, warm May, no doubt there is a lot to be said in favour of spring planting.

Although a winter-blooming subject, the open flowers are easily injured by frosts, so it is a profitable plan to pick them when in bud, as they will fully develop in a warm room or greenhouse.—T. W. B.

A LATE-FLOWERING NERINE.

ONE has only to inspect a few greenhouses at the end of the year to see that there is little or no colour about. In a few weeks time we shall have the early bulbs with us, such as hyacinths. But it is in December that we need something to fill the gap. Everyone knows the great usefulness of nerines in September, October and November; they throw their dazzling flower spikes in these dreary months. There is one, however, that flowers right through December—one may even have it in flower for Christmas. This particular nerine is N. Manselli. I saw a group of this fine bulb last winter in the glass-houses of a leading grower. Several were in full flower and some were still in bud. The one in bud was in full bloom for some time after Christmas. Nerine Manselli is a handsome, tall and robust variety. *It flowers when in full leaf*—a great acquisition. The flowers are of a rich rosy cerise, and the inflorescence is borne on the end of a tall stem, perhaps 18ins. high. The culture is extremely simple, and in all ways N. Manselli is treated exactly as the earlier flowering varieties.—J. BIRKENTALL.

MUSCARI AZUREUM.

THIS little hyacinth, which closely resembles a grape hyacinth, differing mainly in the mouths of the flowers not being closed, is very precious to those of us who spend our winters and early springs at home and who welcome with joy the earliest flowers of the year. This year snowdrops were a little late, and this azure hyacinth came into flower soon after the earliest of these, and was in bloom by mid-February. It usually accompanies the snowdrop and the snowflake as we enter into the days of March. It is a native of Asia Minor, and has been in cultivation in this country for a number of years, but is not at all plentiful in gardens, although now comparatively cheap. Were it available in quantity, it would be charming in the grass, associated with snowdrops, with the symmetrical cones of azure blue flowers mingling with the chaste drooping bells of the "early herald of the infant year." But in smaller quantity it is a welcome denizen of the front of the border or seen in clumps in the rock garden. It is a little surprising to the writer to find that a high authority speaks of it as often injured by frosts in the open air. I have grown it in south of Scotland gardens for upwards of twenty years, and have never known it injured by frost in all that time. It has 4in. to 6in. long strap-shaped leaves and dense conical spikes of azure blue flowers rising above the leaves. It thrives well in a gritty loam, but is not fastidious, as I have it at present in flower in a rather stiff loam. The variety amphibolis, which is not easily obtained true to name, is about 6ins. high and has paler blue flowers, about fifty in a spike. Two other varieties, giganteus and robustus, do not appear to be at present in commerce. I can find no record of a white variety, but it is quite probable that such is in existence. Plant in early autumn about 2ins. deep.—S. ARNOTT.

GARDEN PRODUCE.

How to Pack for a Journey.

GARDEN produce for despatch by road or rail should be gathered in the morning—say, between 6 a.m. and 8 a.m. Fruit must, of course, be gathered dry, but vegetables are always more crisp when they are gathered before the dew rises.

Vegetables will be in better condition at the end of their journey, if packed among some freshly-cut grass, moist with dew. It is astonishing how many vegetables, etc., find their way to market in anything but a fresh condition. With a little care it would be quite easy to obtain a supply of vegetables in a fresh and crisp condition.

If vegetables are being forwarded by road or rail, they should be gathered as indicated and packed into hampers or baskets among freshly-cut grass or dew-wet cabbage leaves, etc. Packing material should always be cool and damp. It should be of sufficient quantity to prevent the vegetables moving about. If properly packed, the consignment should reach its destination in a fresh and crisp state.

Digitized by Google

Flowers travel very well packed into tin boxes. They should be picked in the early morning before the dew is off. Roses, etc., if cut during a hot, sunny day, soon wilt and fade. It is always a good plan to stand the flowers for a little in water before packing. Tie them up into bunches with a bit of oiled paper round their stems. Do not crush too many flowers into one box, but see that they are made firm at the stems with the packing material rammed hard at the bottom of the box. If packed thus, the tops will be free and loose, and yet securely held so as to prevent damage to the fine blooms during transit. Wet moss is one of the finest materials for the packing of flowers.—JOHN WIGHT, *Balthangie, Turriff, Aberdeen.*

SOME CHOICE SCABIOUS.

FEW would question the placing of Scabiosa caucasica at the head of the list of all the "pincushion flowers." It is an easy first not only among its own kind, but some have gone so far as to give it a premier position over all border perennials. However that may be, its large, broadly frilled heads of pale blue, lavender, violet, heliotrope, white and other shades are remarkably beautiful. Moreover, they appear quite early in spring and a succession is maintained practically throughout the season. In the poor, stony soil of my garden this lovely scabious is quite permanent, and all it gets is an occasional sprinkling of finely crushed mortar. S. caucasica undoubtedly dislikes being moved. It is best raised from seed, and I find it likes to be planted just when growth is commencing in spring.

S. graminifolia is a rock garden species of much merit, hailing from the more southerly Alps. It makes cushiony mats of long, grassy leaves, pale green and silvery, and over these to a height of some 10ins. are borne all summer the rosy lavender blossoms which seem to blend so harmoniously with the glimmer of the silky foliage. S. Pterocephala is the more familiar trailing plant, making close masses of foliage which might belong to some silvered Dryas octopetala, and upon which the big pink pincushions squat throughout the later summer. Both of these ask for a really dry, sunny ledge, preferably with lime. Winter wet is their chief trouble, but they generally survive this, even here in the humid west. Like conditions will suit S. Webbiana, which adorns its tidy little cushions of crinkly, silvery foliage with creamy yellow flowers in the comparatively dull days of August.

A native species which deserves to be better known and which is well worth a place in the rock garden (especially in those localities where it is rare) is S. Columbaria. This is a limestone plant with pale green, dentated leaves and comparatively broad, radiate flower-heads of a soft lavender.—A. T. J., *N. Wales.*

THE FINE SCABIOSA CAUCASICA.

FRITILLARIA ELWESII.

MOST of the dim-coloured fritillaries suggest putrefaction too successfully in scent and colour to be very eagerly sought after for the flower garden, but F. Elwesii, although it belongs frankly to this class, has the charm of unusual colour and design to recommend it.

The inner segments are deep, chocolate-purple and the outer ones are of the same colour, but with a broad band of clear apple green down the centre, so that the general effect of the flower is a bold design of broad stripes in black and green, very different from the usual chequered pattern of the genus,

FRITILLARIA ELWESII OF CURIOUS COLORATION.

which here appears only in the dirty waxen yellow of the interior of the bell.

The plant was introduced into cultivation by the late Mr. Elwes, who found it in mountain woods in Caria, but it was figured in the Botanical Magazine in 1875 (No. 6321), under the name F. acmopetala.

The plant shown in the illustration was collected (out of flower) from the upper, grassy slopes of Mount Tsukali in Northern Albania; it seems quite happy and hardy here in rather heavy soil and full sun.—F. A. HAMPTON, *Chesham Bois.*

LEPTOSPERMUMS.

Good Shrubs for Light Soils.

ONE cannot help thinking that when they are given further trial and become better known the South Sea myrtles will enjoy a wide popularity. Their tenderness, or assumed tenderness, now undoubtedly stands in the way of their progress, but when I say that specimens of various kinds, and standing right in the open, were unharmed by 20° of frost last winter, and that for considerable periods, I think one can safely say that they are fairly trustworthy. But there seems no doubt that a light soil is essential, and these are shrubs which delight in an open, breezy situation. For sea-coast gardens they ought to be admirable subjects.

LEPTOSPERMUM SCOPARIUM CHAPMANNII.

The average height of these New Zealand and Australian shrubs is probably about 8ft., but they grow rapidly and in favoured places will reach three times that stature. They are upright and close in habit, the slender branches being densely furnished with a small heathy foliage, which is generally suffused with a bronzy tint in the white varieties, while that of the crimson is a rich plum purple. The flowers, about the size of those of hawthorn, to which they bear a general resemblance, are produced in extraordinary abundance, the whole of the older branches often being heavily clustered with bloom. Seed is set freely, and this germinates quite easily, but to ensure fidelity to type propagation should be carried out by cuttings, these striking readily in a cold frame in August.

While I do not presume to unravel the mysteries of the nomenclature of this genus, L. scoparium appears to be the same thing as L. bullatum, and it has pure white flowers with a dark purple eye. In L. s. Boscaweni the blooms are similar, but for the crimson flush which infuses the petals and the rather more bronzy foliage. Between the two ruby crimson forms, L. s. Nicholli and L. s. Chapmanii, I cannot discern a great deal of difference. Both are remarkably beautiful at any season, but when their plum-coloured foliage is almost smothered by a profusion of the brilliantly coloured flowers they can hold their own with anything in the garden of early summer. In all of these and allied varieties the flowering season often extends for fully six weeks.

Commencing to bloom earlier and lasting longer is the Australian species, L. lævigatum. This I have found quite as hardy as the others, and though its white, purple-centred flowers are a good deal smaller, they appear in such multitudes on the besom-like twigs that the effect is decidedly charming. Another species growing here is L. stellulata, said to be a Tasmanian. Though as yet only 2–3ft. high, it has flowered freely, the blooms being white, about one-third of an inch across and centred with bright green. This has broader and larger leaves than any other leptospermum mentioned, so that this foliage, which is a vivid glossy green, is a very distinctive feature of this little bush.—WALES.

Digitized by Google

THE SEASON OF FLOWER SHOWS

FROM midsummer onwards, for several weeks, almost every town and village will be having its flower show, the most important of these exhibitions being that held at Shrewsbury in August, which is run in connection with a musical and amusement fête of gigantic proportions and attracts both the aristocracy and democracy, who flock to Salopia's capital in tens of thousands once a year for the purpose of feasting their eyes in admiration on a group of plants or a collection of fruit, or of watching the horse-leaping contests or the feats of some of the world's renowned acrobats and jugglers.

Town shows and country shows, of course, occupy a somewhat different plane. Shrewsbury, for instance, excites professional rivalry in floral exotics, and the greatest in the land send collections of fruit, vegetables and flowers for competition. The country show, on the other hand, is for the most part content with a development of the old-time simplicities; it exhibits very few departures from what may be described as the natural state of things, but somehow or other the annual flower show seems to be an essential part of village life.

Actually, the more winning and rural a place is, the more industrious, thrifty, and contented its inhabitants, the greater need is there of an annual show to demonstrate to the outside world what its folk are capable of producing within the narrow compass of their own pales or at the allotment after regular hours of labour.

Sometimes amateur gardeners who have excellent material for exhibition fail to win prizes, being unable to appreciate that the manner in which they have set out their produce is at fault. A study of the way in which the exhibits of professional gardeners are displayed will serve to help them rectify their mistakes. Good method of display is important; it may influence the award of prizes in favour of an exhibit which is rivalled by another of even merit but of indifferent arrangement. An exhibitor will be surprised at the effect he secures when he sets out, say, vegetables on a board covered with black velvet which shows the specimens to excellent advantage. Many who are anxious to compete in the table decoration classes at flower shows are debarred from doing so simply because they have no idea what flowers to use.

Roses, sweet peas (with gypsophila) or Shirley poppies can be employed in very successful arrangements. A point to bear in mind with regard to roses is to choose those of one colour only and to avoid using too many blooms. Crystal glass vases and bowls make the most satisfactory setting. The best time to cut the flowers is the early morning, before the sun has dried the dew, and to plunge them immediately up to the very top of the stems in water, keeping them in a cool, shady place. When packing flowers for travelling to a show it is best to put them with their stalks all pointing in one direction. In the case of pot plants, not an insect or particle of dust should be allowed to remain, and to this end syringing, sponging and placing them outside in gentle showers are the chief means to be adopted. An inch of soil carefully removed from the surface of the pots and replaced with nice potted manure is an excellent way of promoting the vigour of the plants. Soot water will also be found a good stimulant, not only deepening the tints of the foliage, but brightening the colour of the flowers. The plants should be thoroughly watered on the night previous to the show, and again in the morning before they are taken from home, and when placed on the exhibition stage the pots must be quite clean.

R. D.

A SELECTION OF GENTIANS

THESE notes are the result of personal observation on gentians growing in my garden. I have treated species individually instead of in groups.

GENTIANA ACAULIS.—This species forms a dense carpet of compact tufts of glossy green leaves, from which rise large tubular deep blue flowers. It is, however, very uncertain in cultivation; in some places it will grow and flower freely without the least trouble: in others, no amount of care will make it flower. I tried for two or three years to grow this gentian in my garden on the east coast, but, while it grew fairly well, it refused to flower. I, therefore, lifted the whole clumps in early spring when growth had started and divided these up into small pieces, potted them up and kept them in a cold frame for six weeks. I then planted them in my garden in Perthshire, and the following year nearly every plant flowered. They were planted behind a stone edging to a shrubbery, and now form a border about 18ins. wide, being one mass of bloom in early June. They are growing in the natural soil. This is rather stony—which keeps it well drained—but has no limestone or gravel, which is usually recommended, mixed with the soil. I find it requires to be planted fairly deep and as firmly as possible. The stone edging helps to keep the roots cool during the summer. This species seeds very freely, but, as it takes from three to four years to make good flowering plants from seed, I find it much quicker to propagate it by division.

G. ALPINA.—Is very nearly akin to G. acaulis, but the flowers are smaller and shorter in the stem. It requires the same treatment as G. acaulis.

G. ARETHUSÆ.—This is another of the late-flowering species, and a very pretty plant. The leaves are in whorls of five, the stems forming a denser mass than either G. Farreri or G. sino-ornata. The flowering stems are 6ins. to 8ins. long. The flowers, each poising singly at the end of the whorled foliaged stems that spring from the crown, are fully 1½ins. long, and the six-lobed corolla is ¾in. wide, the blue trumpets lined darker on the outside are a deeper shade of blue than G. Farreri. The flowering stems die back in the winter, as in G. Farreri, and do not root at the nodes like G. sino-ornata. The young growth of this species is more like a sedum than a gentian. I find this gentian also seeds freely.

G. ASCLEPIADEA, known as the willow gentian, is a tall-growing species, reaching nearly 3ft., and flowering in August. It is a native of the Alps, but is rather variable grown from seed, the colour in some flowers being much better than in others. This species has dark oval pointed leaves, and bears numerous large deep blue flowers on willow-like spikes. There is a white form which is rather handsome. It grows well in any cool garden soil and sets a very large quantity of seed, and I find seedlings coming up in great quantity in its vicinity in soil that has not been dug. It makes a pretty plant to naturalise in thin woodlands, where it sows itself.

G. CRINITA (fringed gentian) is a native of North America and somewhat like G. detonsa. It is a biennial, growing 1ft. to 2ft. high, flowering in September. Its blue fringed flowers are produced on long peduncles from the axils of the leaves. The corolla has four lobes and sets seed freely.

G. CRUCIATA is a native of the Alps and is very easy and vigorous in any sunny garden soil. It is one of the prettiest of the large-leaved species, with clustered heads of four-lobed little dark blue flowers (flowering in August), on leafy stems about 9ins. high. It is also a free seeder, and makes good flowering plants in three years from sowing the seed.

G. DETONSA.—This rather attractive species—a native of northern Kashmir—at 9,000ft. to 15,000ft. altitude—is, unfortunately, monocarpic, and in consequence it is necessary to sow seed annually to keep up a succession of flowering plants. It grows from 15ins. to 24ins. high and is of a loose habit, producing its flowers on long peduncles 3ins. to 8ins. long from the axils of the leaves. The flowers are four-lobed, fimbriate, an inch or more in diameter, and dark blue in colour. It sets seed very freely, and no difficulty should be experienced in growing this species. It likes a moist sunny position, and flowers during August.

G. FARRERI.—We are indebted to the late Reginald Farrer for introducing this lovely gentian to gardens in this country. The seed was collected by him on the Ardjeri Alps in 1914. From this seed plants were raised in the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, and flowered in 1916. Coming from an altitude of over 10,000ft. it is quite hardy in this country. The wonderful sheen of the blue of the petals and folds above

Digitized by Google

the white throat is its outstanding flower feature, and the recurving of the corolla shows off the colour to advantage. It begins to flower in late August and continues till cut down by frost. I do not find this species has rooting stolons as in G. sino-ornata, and with me it does not form new axillary rosettes at the nodes. It therefore does not increase nearly so quickly as G. sino-ornata. The flowering shoots are from 6ins. to 9ins. long, some of them having as many as six flowers on a stem, the one at the apex opening first.

to put away till the spring. If this seed is sown at the end of February the following year, it germinates very quickly. The seed is very fine and should be sown thinly on the surface of the seed pot and should germinate in ten to fourteen days. When large enough to handle, they should be pricked out into boxes and kept in heat till about the end of April, when they are placed in a cold frame to harden off.

I plant them in their permanent position about the end of July, and before the winter they have made good

flowers in August, is an easy grower, and sets large quantities of seed, like the other varieties of this species.

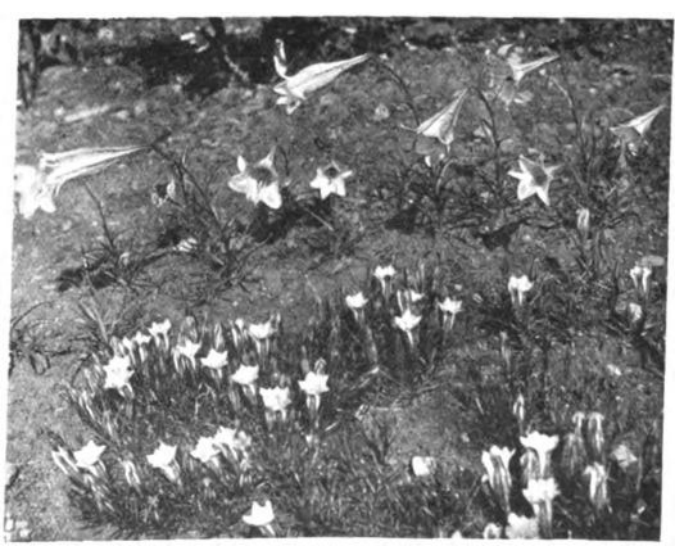
G. FRŒLICHII forms small clumps of two or three crowns of narrow grooved leaves, not unlike the growth of Dianthus alpinus, and flowers on stems about 2ins. high, carrying a flower of pale blue colour, fading to yellow at the base, spotted at the throat. This species flowers in August, and thrives with me in a rather damp soil in full sun.

G. KURROO VAR. BRIVIDENS is a native of the western Himalayas, growing

THE BLUE TRUMPETS OF THE LATE FLOWERING G. ARETHUSÆ.

THE EASY GROWN G. LAGODECHIANA.

G. CRUCIATA IS ONE OF THE BEST LARGE-LEAVED SPECIES.



HEALTHY PLANTS OF THE MAGNIFICENT G. FARRERI.

This gentian ripens a large quantity of seed, which it does very quickly after the flowers fade; but to secure it careful watching is required, as after the flower begins to fade the pistil lengthens and protrudes through the faded flower, the mouth of the capsule gapes open and the seed is apt to fall out before you discover it. I find it a good plan to open the faded flowers and, if the seed capsules are beginning to turn a brown colour, to cut them off, and if left in the sun for a day or two the seeds ripen and dry, ready

growth, most of them flowering, the following September.

G. Farreri with me is the first of the late-flowering gentians to start into growth in the spring, and is perfectly hardy. I have seen it come through 10 to 15 degrees of frost, after it had made young growth of about 2ins., without the least harm to the plants.

G. FREYNIANA is, I believe, another form of G. septemfida, making tufts of shoots clad in pairs of dark glossy leaves of about 6ins. high, with two or three brilliant bells of bright blue. It

at 5,000ft. to 8,000ft. The delicate azure blue of the limbs of the corolla, sprinkled in the throat of the tube with pearly white, makes a notable feature. My plants of this species are only two years old and therefore have not flowered, but I hope to see them flower next season.

G. LAGODECHIANA is a dwarf form of G. septemfida, but the flowers are of a deeper blue, and it has a distinctly prostrate habit. Both of these varieties grow well in any good garden soil.

A. HARLEY.

(To be continued).

Digitized by Google

CORRESPONDENCE

THE PROTECTION OF WILD FLOWERS.

SIR,—Since writing to you some weeks ago on the urgent necessity of wild flower preservation, I have received a number of communications, both oral and written, on the desirability of prompt and effective measures.

There appears to be a general concensus of opinion that the depredations of gipsy hawkers, if not speedily checked, are liable to convert the countryside into a sort of wilderness, where the common primrose even may be counted a rarity.

Simple legislation making it an offence to sell the rooted plants of wild flowers—putting, if you will, the onus of proof on the vendor to show that the plants offered for sale were cultivated plants and not the wild article—should be easy to pass and simple to enforce.

There still remains the problem of the rarer flora. Here, legislation would appear to be ineffective. A rare bird, seen in a named district, has a poor expectation of life. A *soi-disant* "collector," or "sportsman," can generally be found to blow it up with his gun. With a rare plant the odds are even worse.

Only the other day it was brought to my notice that an enthusiastic school teacher was caught trespassing with uprooted specimens of an extremely rare local plant that she had "collected" on the ground that none of her pupils had ever seen the plant or its root! The only measures of protection that seem to be at all practicable consist, in my opinion, is the formation of a society calling themselves "Friends of the Flowers," "Flower Wardens" or some similar and suitable title. The objects of its members would primarily be to preserve rare flowers in their respective localities from destruction, to keep their habitat secret save for the governing body of the society, who would, if invited to do so, give such advice as was available for the cultivation and propagation of these rare species under garden conditions in the locality — in the hope that some gardening enthusiast, possessing what the Irishman describes as "the green thumb," might be successful in cultivating a stock, whereupon some of the casualities might be replaced. It is a truism that most of the rare species are difficult, if they were not they would probably be common. At the same time, the difficulties are not insuperable, and where A, B and C fail, D sometimes comes along with a different method and succeeds. It might be worth trying.—CUTHBERT JAMES, *House of Commons*.

THE TOPS OF WALLS.

SIR,—I was much interested in reading the note on this subject by "M. J. D.," page 399, issue July 10th. There are, as your correspondent says, many ways of beautifying a wall. An old structure lends itself to such treatment better than a new one. I would neither use wood nor any glass on a wall that is to be furnished with plants, as the latter soon overgrow the glass at the edges and then it becomes a danger and a nuisance to everyone that attends to the plants. It is much better to fix half and three-quarter length bricks, or stones in the case of stone-built walls, so that nearly two-thirds project from the sides, leaving a space for the soil.

It is nearly forty years since I saw the top of an old wall so treated and planted. I saw again the wall recently and was much surprised at the great success of many of the original plants on it. Some of them were specimens 3ft. across and nearly as high. There was scarcely any soil around the roots, which had a firm general grip upon the wall. Rock roses and several kinds of flowering shrubs were a mass of lovely blossom. The plants were never watered, nor did they require it after being once established. Of course, there is a good representative collection of plants on the wall in question, including sedums and saxifrages. The two last named and similar kinds seem more in place on quite new brick walls at first. Pinks, Dianthus plumarius annulatus hybrids, cistuses, Nepeta Mussini, Cerastium pennsylvanicum, Saxifraga umbrosa, thyme, Silene acaulis, Erinus alpinus, campanulas, veronicas, with the sedums and saxifrages, will soon furnish the top of a wall, new or old, if firmly fixed in a little good fibrous-holding soil at first.—GEORGE GARNER.

A SKY BLUE POPPY.

SIR,—I enclose an illustration of Meconopsis Baileyi, Ward's No. 5784, which is in flower just now in my garden in Perthshire. The plants were raised from seed last year and planted out last June, and the first flowers opened about a month ago. It has the same habit of growth as Meconopsis grandis,

A SKY-BLUE POPPY.

and, to all appearance, is going to be a perennial. The flowers have four petals, sky blue and golden stamens. The flower stalks are about 30ins. high, bearing from four to five flowers on each stem. These plants are growing in a shady position facing north, in front of rhododendrons.—A. HARLEY, *Kirkcaldy*.

IVY ON TREES.

SIR,—Referring to the correspondence on this subject, last summer an old man was employed four half-days a week cutting it from oak and ash trees in a coppice of a hundred acres. It took him the whole summer.

The following list of trees attacked, with some remarks as to its growth upon them, may be of interest:

Oak.—Grows freely on it. Has a large hold on mature trees where it has not been checked. Has reached the flowering stage upon them.

Lime.—Thick on the trunk of mature tree, had not spread to branches or flowered. Not noticeable on many lime trees.

Beech.—Growing thinly to about 20ft. on mature tree. Beech seems almost immune from attack.

Ash.—Thick on some young trees of about twenty-five years' growth. Was spreading to branches of mature tree when it was cut.

Willow.—Grows freely to flowering stage upon it, covering trunk and branches.

Poplar and *Alder*.—Same as willow.

Silver Birch.—Fairly thick on trunk. Not so frequently attacked.

Horse Chestnut.—Thick, though not to flowering stage, on trunk and branches of mature tree.

Holly.—Grows very freely on mature and young bushes where it has not been checked.

Sycamore.—Fairly thick, not to flowering stage.

Scots Fir.—Thick on mature trees. Isolated specimens.

Spruce.—Has killed several in the corner of an ornamental plantation and seems to attack them readily where they are growing among other trees.

Lawsoniana.—Thick, almost smothering them.

Yew.—Thinly covering old tree to the top.

Cedar.—Had made a start on several and been checked.

Larch.—Was getting a good hold on outer rows of young trees in a plantation some thirty years old. Has been kept in check.

Douglas.—Thin. Has been kept in check.

Stone Pine and *Weymouth Pine*.—These were isolated specimens. The ivy had attacked them and been checked.

This list is chiefly compiled from observations made in an old shrubbery where the ivy is thick on the ground and where it had not been touched, except here and there to prevent it overcoming young trees.

In mixed plantations it seems to attack conifers readily. Where they are planted alone or are the predominating trees, it does not penetrate very far. Naturally, it is most troublesome in the outer rows of all plantations. It has a liking for the water, and poplars, alders and willows growing along a brook are almost smothered with it.—(Mrs.) E. L. MASON, *Cressage, Shropshire*.

[The number of letters received on "Ivy on Trees" is so great that we regret that we are only able to publish a very small selection.—ED.]

LILIUM MARTAGON VAR. DALMATICUM.

SIR,—Mr. Arnott will be interested to know that, long before his death, Mr. Elwes had been convinced that the lily called dalmaticum could not be kept distinct from L. Martagon. In 1908 I raised hundreds of plants from seed of a particularly fine form of L. dalmaticum at Colesborne, and not more than a handful were like the parent.

Every sowing of seed of L. Martagon is pretty sure to produce some plants of L. dalmaticum, and as, in my experience, the latter does not breed true from seed, it can hardly be entitled to specific rank.—A. GROVE.

NAMES OF EARLY POTATOES.

SIR,—If you can kindly grant me the space, I should very much like to express to Mr. Geo. Stuart, Edinburgh, my great appreciation of, and belated thanks for, the valuable information in THE GARDEN of June 5th, page 324. It is most interesting to know all the points of similarity which distinguish potatoes of a type, such as their flower, foliage, habit of growth, colour of stem, colour of tubers, identity of ripening, etc. I was also pleased to note that he agreed with me, that Victory would in all probability give a heavier yield of tubers than Duke of York. Their other points of similarity I am not in the least concerned about. That Victory is a heavier cropper is the point

Digitized by Google

I wish to establish, and so of far more vital importance and utility than the resemblance of flowers and stems, etc.

Knowing as we do the family ties of Victory and Duke, it should go without saying that they must have many points in common. Mr. Stuart, despite his admission that Victory would be superior to Duke as a cropper until it became contaminated (whenever that might happen), says that Duke of York should get pride of place. I should like to ask why? Is it a matter of sentiment owing to the antiquity of the Duke? To keep on growing a potato that has deteriorated must be a waste of soil when an improved variety can take its place.

The main facts of the case are that all the Duke family and many other fine early potatoes failed to pass the tests for wart disease at Ormskirk in 1919. Mr. Stuart also admits that the Duke and Victory type are particularly suitable for cultivation in the northern part of Scotland. This being the case, why did the Board of Agriculture include Aberdeenshire, Kincardineshire and other northern counties in their restriction order for growing the potatoes in question owing to the prevalence of wart disease on areas under a quarter of an acre? This order imposed a great hardship on the "plotter" and those with a small garden, as, so far, they have not been able to give us a substitute to replace Duke or Victory for earliness. My reason for thinking the above-mentioned counties should not have been included in the order for wart disease is the fact that, except in one or two cases, wart disease is quite unknown in these parts.—W. GRANT, *Grathes*.

NURSERIES OF THE BRITISH ISLES.—I

THE OLD GARDENS AT TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

THE firm of Messrs. R. Wallace and Co., Limited, needs no introduction to readers of THE GARDEN, by reason of their long established fame as iris and lily growers.

The present business at Tunbridge Wells, carried on under the auspices of Mr. R. W. Wallace, has its roots as far back as the 'seventies, when his father, the late Dr. Alexander Wallace, of Colchester, began to take an interest in various aspects of horticulture, generally connected with Japanese plants, and more especially with the rearing of lilies. In these early days many new and rare bulbous plants were handled from various parts of the world and a business was started under the title of "The New Plant and Bulb Company." The collecting and growing of orchids was included, also the importing of large tree ferns from New Zealand, and considerable attention was given to the growing of novelties and varieties of the period. It was in this way that the present owner, Mr. R. W. Wallace, was brought into touch in his early days with many interesting plants. In the 'eighties lilies were imported more and more from all parts of the world and their more intensive culture embarked upon, so that amateurs can well understand that Mr. Wallace can lay claim to considerable experience with the many and varied representatives of this fine garden genus. As with the lily, so with the iris, Mr. Wallace has become a grower of repute and the nurseries house what is probably one of the finest collections of June-flowering irises in the country.

THE RHODODENDRON GLADE AT MESSRS. WALLACE'S NURSERIES.

The late Dr. Wallace retired from business towards the end of the 'eighties and for a few years the business was allowed to lapse until Mr. R. W. Wallace returned, in 1894, to resume an active interest after a period of commercial training. Gradually the business grew, the next step being the acquirement of fresh land at Colchester to cope with the increasing demand for alpine and herbaceous plants and the extending popularity of rock and water gardens, laid out according to design. Visitors to the nursery at Colchester will probably remember that a portion of the nursery was laid out as an attractive water garden.

So matters progressed, until the war intervened, when, in common with other nurseries, business slackened off. It was during the latter part of the war, when Mr. Wallace chanced to visit Tunbridge Wells for the first time, that the decisive step to move from Colchester to their present home was taken. His interest was so aroused in certain plants that were being sold at Messrs. Russell's nurseries, formerly Thomas Cripps and Son, and in the general surroundings, that the new site was acquired and the business moved bodily (no easy task) some years ago. Here, amid the most pleasant surroundings, with the inheritance of many fine specimen rhododendrons, seen in the accompanying illustration, and other fine trees and shrubs as a background, the owner decided to add still a further string to his bow and took up the raising and cultivation of flowering shrubs and trees

A PORTION OF THE IRIS GROUND WITH LORD OF JUNE IN THE FOREGROUND.

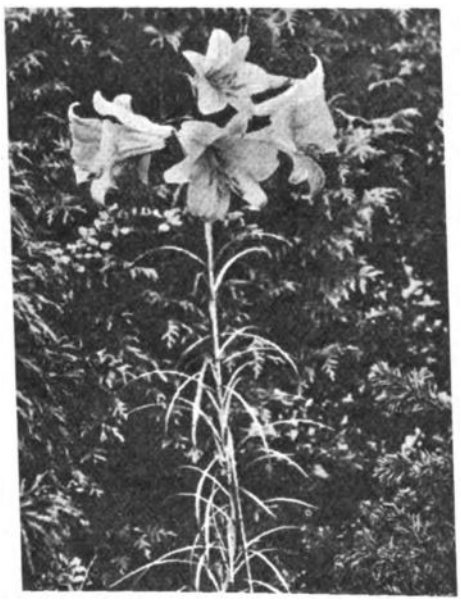
Digitized by Google

in general and more particularly rhododendrons and azaleas, until now he has become known as a specialist.

In recent years, still another aspect of gardening has come to occupy a large place in the activities of the firm and of Mr. Wallace himself. This is the landscape garden department, of which he is in charge. He is especially interested in the development of the natural garden, either in the woodland or with rock and water. Their exhibits at Chelsea and at other horticultural exhibitions stand as testimony to the high standard of excellence which they have attained in this branch.

June is probably the best month to visit the Old Gardens, when the irises and rhododendrons are at their zenith. These, together with the herbaceous flowers, provide a perfect display of colour which well indicate to the amateur grower what he might have in his own garden by the inclusion of a few well chosen flowers and shrubs. The Gardens, extending over some sixteen acres, have a perfect situation on slightly sloping ground, facing north-east and overlook the quaint village of Tunbridge Wells nestling in the hollow. A representative collection of herbaceous flowers is to be seen and this is greatly enhanced by the collections of irises and lilies. The tree and shrub collection is a large one and is entirely apart from the rhododendrons, which extend on either side of the main drive through the nursery. There are to be found some excellent old hybrids, some 15ft. to 20ft. high, full of vigour and bloom, sheltering at their base an extensive collection of species, all of which seem to take kindly to conditions at Tunbridge and are showing remarkable growth this season.

Among the trees and shrubs the specialist gardener will find much to interest him and doubtless will be attracted by the very fine Japanese maples which are on show. The owner has every reason to be proud of the plants, as they are excellent in every way—well habited and of good colour. Abutilon vitifolium was a perfect picture on our visit, with its avalanches of pure white flowers, and it looked even better growing as a bush than, as is usual, on a wall. A number of fine conifers are also included and provide pleasant patches of glaucous



LILIUM REGALE IN THE OPEN

silvery green foliage, which is most pleasant against the bronzy shades of the Japanese maples. Pittosporums thrive exceedingly well and the variegated foliage of P. Silver Queen, related to P. Mayii, with its black wiry stems, looks charming against a dark green background. There are many fine enkianthus, with the rarity cernuus rubens leading the field, and so on one could go with examples.

The irises are at their best towards the end of May and June, and we suggest that all amateurs who can find the time should pay a visit to see them in bloom. They stand waving gently in the breeze on the brow of the hill overlooking the rhododendrons, and it may strike one as anomalous to see these two plants doing so well in the same soil—one a lime lover, and the other a lime hater. There are many fine species and varieties to be seen. All the leading sorts are on view, growing side by side, and the amateur will find these beds not only interesting, but also instructive, since they form an ideal way of comparing one variety with another. The characteristic points of each individual sort can be examined and weighed in the balance against others of similar habit and almost identical colouring. The seedling beds were full of interesting novelties and many of these, no doubt, will find their way to the exhibition stand in the near future.

Lilies can be seen in various points in the nursery, all doing extraordinarily well. One plant of Henryi we noticed had reached some 6ft. and had not stopped adding to its stature, while L. regale was a statue of elegance and refinement against a dark background. The keen amateur will see on his visit the cultural points which make for success in the growing of certain species, such as the necessity for a groundwork of shrubs—for example, azaleas—to protect the bulbs and the tiny stems from frost when young. It is such hints as these which the visitor can pick up from a walk round a nursery, as well as acquiring a more intimate knowledge of the actual plants.

THE FLOWER GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE

PELARGONIUMS.

Some Useful Hints.

PELARGONIUMS may be put in in various ways. They may be dibbled into a border fully exposed to the sun, and before the approach of frost taken up and potted or boxed. Or they may be rooted into pots or boxes at once. The boxes may be any size most convenient, but should be about 4ins. deep.

A few pot sherds, or pebbles, and a layer of well made manure, or rotted leaves, should be put in the bottom of each box. If suitable manure is not available, some good turfy loam may be used instead. Fill the boxes with a good potting soil, or a fine mixture of garden soil and fine river sand. The soil should be made firm, and after the cuttings are inserted it should be well watered. Then stand the box on a bed of ashes in a sunny place.

In exposed situations it may be as well to put the boxes in a frame or turf pit. Protection from heavy rain should be given, but otherwise the plants would be all the better to get as much air as possible.

When taking cuttings, it is as well to avoid disfiguring the bedding plants. Those overgrowing the edges of bed or border may be dealt with for the first batch of cuttings.

Tricolour geraniums and similar varieties may have first attention. Zonal and other strong growing subjects may be treated later on. By taking the cuttings early they can be got in a forward condition, and well rooted before the cold weather of the autumn sets in. In northern and cold districts cuttings thus taken have a better chance of being wintered with safety than when left late into the season.—JOHN WIGHT, *Balthangie, Turriff, Aberdeen.*

POTTING EARLY-FLOWERING BULBS.

THE first or early batches of flowers from bulbs can be obtained without the aid of glass in the form of greenhouse or conservatory, or even a garden frame. The amateur cultivator may raise good plants and flower them in his glass entrance porch or dwelling-room window. The early flowers are always much appreciated and, of course, they are finest when "finished" in a greenhouse.

Roman and French hyacinths, paper white narcissus and Duc Van Thol tulips are the first to be dealt with. The spikes and individual bells of the French hyacinths are larger than those of the Roman, but the latter is very chaste, highly scented and easy to grow if suitable compost can be procured. But for all of these bulbs it is well to provide a good quantity of sweet leaf-soil about three parts rotted. I have grown large numbers of bulbs in almost pure leaf-soil without the addition of any loam. But it will be more satisfactory for the amateur cultivator to use the following compost: Loam and leaf-soil in equal proportions, with sand added at the rate of a 6in. potful to every peck. More sand should be used under and on each bulb.

The bulbs may be grown in flower pots, pans or boxes. When it is intended to disturb the growing bulbs and transfer them to ornamental vases or to tubs in which there are ferns growing, the potting compost should be passed through a three-quarter inch mesh sieve to facilitate the removal of the bulbs in due course. The pots or pans must be very clean and dry inside when they are crocked and filled with the compost. The latter should be moderately dry, too, and the bulbs pressed firmly into it, leaving the tops just above the surface. If many flowers of narcissi are required in one pot, some bulbs may be placed near the bottom and some in the soil at the top in the usual way. All will grow and flower at the same time. Directly the bulbs are potted settle them in the soil by applying water through a rosed watering-can, then place the pots level on a bed of ashes, cover each pot or pan with an empty inverted pot, or box with an empty one and finally bury all under clean sand or old ashes. The young growths will be clean and not

Digitized by Google

malformed. On removal from the ashes place them in a cold frame and very gradually expose the new growths to air and light. Judicious feeding when the flower-spikes first show will be beneficial.—GEO. GARNER.

TOMATOES.

The Importance of Top-dressing.

OPINIONS may differ as to the wisdom of incorporating manure with the soil at the time of shifting tomatoes to their final quarters, but generally it is agreed that when plants begin to set their fruit some help in the direction of food is needful. Experience has proved that pieces of fibrous turf broken up along with rotted manure spread over the surface as the roots begin to come through give the plants an impetus. Those who grow tomatoes for the first time sometimes start feeding before flowers have formed, with the result that a deal of unnecessary wood is made at the expense of fruit. Stimulants can be given as soon as the first truss has set, and these may be continued during the remainder of the season. Sheep droppings, cow manure, if obtainable, ought to be diluted with water. Failing these, Clay's Fertilizer or some other proved concentrated manure will be found to hasten the crop. Tomatoes like a change of food, but under no circumstances ought stimulants to be applied before ordinary water has been given, or in a strong state with the idea of getting fruit to ripen up quickly, as it often ends by plants becoming surfeited and collapsing. Cold water from service pipes should not be used until the chill has been taken off. There is one point which arises out of top-dressing tomatoes to which it is sometimes needful to call special attention; it is the temptation to lop off some of the large leaves, especially in houses where plants are close together. It is a mistake to do so, and nearly always results in bleeding and prevents swelling of fruit. The better way is to tie the leaves back until such time as they begin to yellow, when they can be pinched off.—CLAREMONT.

SWEET LAVENDER.

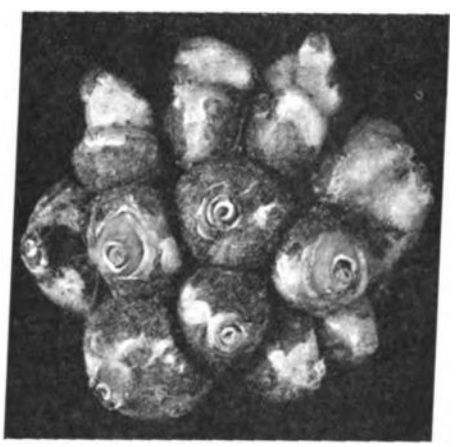
LAVENDER has always been one of the Englishman's favourite "herbs," and there are few gardens which do not boast at least a few plants; in some it is grown in quantity, and during July the lavender hedge or border is one of the delights of the garden.

Lavender is invariably grown from cuttings, and these are best taken in August or September. After the flowers have been removed, the shrubs ought to be clipped into a neat and tidy shape; this, at the same time, ensures a sufficiency of cuttings when they are needed six weeks to two months later. Cuttings consist of shoots broken off with a heel; practically every one will root if firmly planted in sandy soil. If they are from 6ins. to 12ins. when taken, they will soon grow into large bushes. Smaller cuttings taken in the orthodox method by cutting below a leaf joint can be rooted more readily in a frame. Rooted cuttings may be planted out in spring or in autumn, whichever date is more suitable. Growers who wish to plant a lavender hedge often plant the cuttings directly where they are to grow in a V-shaped trench containing some sand. Plant such cuttings 9ins. apart, but thin out to double that distance at the end of the second or third year.

As for all other garden plants, the land in which lavender has to be grown should be well tilled beforehand and enriched by the addition of a moderate dressing of manure. In hot, fiery soils an annual mulch of short manure may be spread round the bushes, or a little may be dug in near them.

The flowers of lavender are collected when they are just open, the stalks tied into little bunches and the bunches set up or tied up to dry, not in full sunshine. Later on the individual blooms are stripped from the stalks and they can be utilised in many ways. Needless to say, the commonest plan is to sew them as they are into little bags which are placed in drawers and cupboards amid clothes and linen, scenting everything with that subtle perfume which we all know.

In certain districts the distillation of lavender is carried out on a grand scale, an almost colourless oil with full perfume being obtained. The oil is used to make lavender water and other mixtures, which cannot very well be made up without apparatus in the home. A useful home preparation is lavender vinegar, which has long figured as a home remedy in fainting and in cases of fatigue. It is best made in the following way: Lavender flowers are loosely filled into a quart bottle and a pint of white vinegar added. This is allowed to stand in a warm corner for a week or two, occasionally being shaken up. It is then emptied into a jug, the bottle cleaned out and again filled with flowers; a piece of cotton-wool is then placed loosely in a funnel and the contents of the jug poured through that into the bottle again; only the vinegar passes through, of course, and the infusing for ten days is repeated. After the second or third time the vinegar becomes heavily charged with the perfume and is ready for use. A little is poured on cotton-wool and daubed on the forehead and the wrists.—CLYDESDALE.



A CLUMP OF LACHENALIA BULBS.
Natural Size.

LACHENALIAS.

IT will soon be time to think about potting up the bulbs of lachenalias if best results are to be secured. One of the reasons for the poorly furnished bloom spikes which all too frequently represent this beautiful South African plant is that the order for the bulbs is left to be included in that for hyacinths and narcissi in the autumn, whereas they stand apart in their requirements in this one respect, and to plant them in September or October gives them no chance of doing their very best. Experience seems to suggest the last week of July as about the ideal time for getting the bulbs into their pots or pans. The extra weeks appear to be beneficial in two respects: they add an appreciable number of bells to the spikes of blooms and they tend to a greater increase in the bulbs themselves. The accompanying illustration is "life size" of a really well grown specimen of one of the Whitewell seedlings, and shows very definitely the result of early planting. It was potted up in July last as a single bulb, and with some thousands of others was grown in a cold house without any artificial heat whatever. For present planting the cluster will, of course, be separated, and will give at least a dozen bulbs which will produce good spikes of bloom, and if planted together in, say, a 9in. pan, or singly, or in twos or threes in pots, they should give a good account of themselves in January or February next, when flowers in the cold house or in the frost-proof frame are especially welcome.—W. DAVENPORT.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

SILVER LEAF DISEASE.

NOT only does silver leaf disease attack the plum, but, in orchards, it is now found infesting apples, cherries, apricots, peaches, currants and gooseberries, and occasional reports come in of it being found on trees commonly grown near such gardens. Certain varieties of these fruits are more susceptible to attack than others; and, while none can yet be said to be immune, other varieties show decided resistance to attack. Victoria plum is one of the most susceptible; Czar is a hot second. Newton Wonder in apples seems highly susceptible and, almost equal to it, Early Victoria. Less susceptible are Grenadier, Blenheim Orange, Lord Grosvenor, Bramley's Seedling and Lord Suffield. Among the plums, Early Rivers, Yellow Pershore and the Greengage are highly resistant; while less resistant, but not highly susceptible, are Pond's Seedling, Belle de Louvain and Monarch. Science has advanced very slowly in the investigation of this disease; while it has been firmly established that the fungus, Stereum purpureum, can produce the disease called silver leaf, some doubt still exists as to whether Stereum purpureum is always the cause, and, again, whether infection can only be caused by spores of the fungus which are produced after the disease has killed its host is not yet certain. Growers who have not experienced the disease must learn to identify it; it generally appears on a single branch only, at first, the leaves, practically normal in size, having an unmistakable silver sheen. When the branch is cut it shows abnormal brown markings internally. Later on it spreads and the infested branches gradually die back. It rarely happens that an old tree is totally infested at once; a young tree may be, however. The fungus only produces spores on dead wood; more or less flat plates, at first purple in colour, appear as fungus growths, from ¼in. to 1inches in diameter. As they lose their colour, spores are shed plentifully during the spring, and these spread the disease broadcast. This disease, everyone should note, is notifiable all over the country. There is no known cure for it, but infected branches should always be cut well back and heavy dressings of artificial or liquid manure given to stimulate growth. Plums, however, seldom recover; other trees may. Prunings must on no account be left about, or the fungus will fructify and spread the disease everywhere. Also, when the disease is known to be in the orchard or near it, avoid wounds or paint them with tar.

BLANCHING CELERY.

THE collar method of blanching celery has been popularised by the amateur who cannot and will not spend the time required in making an ideal celery trench. The old plan is still quite common, nevertheless, but we are inclined to think that, apart from cheapness and amount of attention, it has little to recommend it. To be successful

Digitized by Google

with collars they should be in position early and always such that they may be raised or replaced by taller ones at the proper time. Good collars naturally tend to increase the amount of blanch by causing the plants to grow tall. These collars consist of tiles, cardboard, waterproof paper, waxcloth, netting filled with moss and so on. They may be prepared beforehand in some cases or tied round the plants. They should be loose and open at the top at first; later on the top may be plugged with moss. Our own plan is to have prepared collars of waterproof, stiff paper made beforehand; the leaves are then grasped in a bunch, a roll of paper wrapped round them and the collars slipped on over all. The work is quickly done and the collars last many years.—LANARKSHIRE.

WINTER LETTUCE.

IN many districts the culture of winter lettuce in the open is in the nature of a lottery, and cannot be depended upon, but in other, sheltered localities it is a useful crop. In any case, it is worth the attempt out of doors, provided one can give the plants rough protection in severe and snowy weather by covering with a trellis over which straw or pea haulm is distributed. But the value of winter lettuce is such as to warrant additional trouble being taken with it and the setting aside of a frame for reception of plants. For outdoor growing seed ought to be got in in August, but for frames one may, if need be, defer sowing until the following month. Seed should be sown in the open ground in August, and the plants very carefully lifted and deposited in the bed when ready. The soil should be light and rich, that from old potting material and contents of a spent mushroom bed answering very well. Sutton's Winter White and Black-seeded Bath among cos, and All the Year Round and Hammersmith Hardy Green in the cabbage section are varieties that have proved their worth.

Overcrowding in frames should be avoided, and ventilation must be given very freely; indeed, there are few days in the winter when the lights ought not to be raised for the admission of air.—W. F.

POTATO LEAF-ROLL AND MOSAIC.

THOSE who grow potatoes and wish to save seed for next season's planting should have them carefully examined at the present time, and all plants showing signs of leaf-roll and mosaic removed and thus prevent healthy plants from being contaminated.

To the inexperienced cultivator, a few hints as to how those diseases appear on the plants at this season of the year and how they can be controlled may be of help.

Taking leaf-roll first—no variety of potato is immune from this disease. Seed saved from a crop of healthy Great Scot plants grown alongside unhealthy British Queen will show signs of the disease the following season, the disease being carried from plant to plant by green fly and other insect pests. Leaf-roll disease, as the name implies, cause the leaflets to roll upwards and inwards from the edge to the midrib, giving the plants a rolled-up and stunted appearance. The plants turn quickly brown and ripen prematurely.

If seed is saved from plants affected with leaf-roll the crop will be small the following season, causing considerable loss and disappointment to the grower.

Potatoes which are infested with mosaic disease show a mottled appearance—dark green and yellow patches all over the leaves. They are also much crinkled, and smaller than on healthy plants. If we take a leaf from a plant and look at it against a sheet of white paper or hold it up against a bright light, the mottling will be made more visible.

Like leaf-roll, mosaiced plants produce a poor crop, and it would be to the advantage of all growers if a little time was spent at this season of the year in "rogueing" out all those diseased plants and prevent healthy stocks from being contaminated.—GEORGE STUART.

CARNATIONS AT THE CARPENTERS' HALL

ON Wednesday, July 21st, the National Carnation and Picotee Society held, in the Carpenters' Hall, Throgmorton Avenue, the second of their two exhibitions. The fine old hall made a beautiful setting for the many-hued array of border carnations, and it was encouraging to see the interest taken, especially by some of the busy City men, in the cultivation and exhibiting of these hardy flowers. This Society, which is now nearing its Jubilee year and is increasing its membership annually, is to be congratulated on the excellence of the many blooms exhibited by its members.

In Division I the blooms in the trade groups were of a high quality. It could be clearly seen from Messrs. Lowe and Gibson's first prize group that such points as symmetry of outline, strength of stem and calyx, well shaped and horizontally placed guard petals, as well as colour and scent, had been carefully considered when raising and breeding the border carnations exhibited. The varieties Mrs. E. Charrington, Mrs. A. Brotherstone, Centurion and Dr. Stone were wellnigh perfect. Mr. H. Woolman also staged a fine trade exhibit. Particularly good in size and substance were his blooms of Viceroy, Peace Treaty, Mrs. Murray and Flamingo, the new striking apricot variety which is heavily marked and edged with scarlet. Other trade groups were set up by Messrs. Torrance and Hopkins, Messrs. Seymour and Anderson, and Mr. H. Crowhurst, the grower who showed only blooms which had been cut from the open border.

The Cartwright Challenge Cup, which is awarded for the highest aggregate number of points in certain of the open classes, was won by Mr. H. Woolman. His blooms of the glowing pink variety Cockatoo in the selfs, Sam Griffiths in the fancies, Bookham Scarlet among the red varieties, were all in good form. In this section Mrs. O. Hambro, an amateur grower, won two firsts; and Messrs. Lowe and Gibson three firsts. The yellow self, Eldorado, shown by the latter firm, attracted attention. Messrs. Torrance and Hopkins were also successful entrants in several of the open classes; their blooms of Loyalty were carried on strong self-supporting stems.

Miss Shiffner was the most successful exhibitor in the second division, winning again this year the Martin Smith Memorial Cup. Miss Shiffner's sweetly scented blooms of Salmon Clove, as well as Loyalty and Jean Douglas, were excellent in shape, colour and form. Mr. J. Smith had several prize flowers, including the pure white Albion.

The Edward Charrington Challenge Cup for an amateur winning the highest number of points in Division III has not changed hands, for Mr. H. A. Knapton won it again this year. His best blooms were the yellow ground fancies Linkman and Paladin, the white ground fancies Jessie Murray and Mrs. E. Charrington. Mr. R. H. Hickson in Division IV had several prize blooms, all taken from plants which had been grown and flowered in the open border. Several interesting seedling border carnations were on show, one being a white ground fancy, shown by Mrs. C. P. R. Garner.

BOOK REVIEW

CARNATIONS FOR EVERY GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE.

THIS excellent book ("Carnations for Every Garden and Greenhouse," by Montagu C. Allwood. "Country Life," Ltd., London. Price 12s. 6d.), which runs to nineteen chapters, written by one who has been a life-long lover and successful cultivator of this beautiful class of plants, is, as one would expect, full of practical information on all phases of carnation cultivation, not only for the amateur, but the commercial grower. There are chapters devoted to the various classes of carnations, as well as the border pinks, including the newer and now well known Dianthus Allwoodii.

There are excellent chapters on propagation, soils and composts, as well as the various operations of potting, stopping, watering, etc.; in short, the many operations connected with the successful cultivation of the various sections, from the propagation of the young plants to the finished article, is dealt with in detail and in such a manner that the veriest beginner should have no difficulty in grasping all the details of their successful cultivation. It is almost needless to say the commercial side is dealt with in an equally efficient manner.

There are also excellent chapters dealing with the food for and the manuring of carnations. This is deserving of special attention, for the author, rightly, stresses the importance of using the right manures and calls attention to the damage that may be caused by the use of wrong manures. This is a matter that not only the amateur but many professional cultivators might well lay to heart.

Diseases and insect pests and their control have each got a chapter. In dealing with soil sterilisation by steam, the author states that several potatoes should be placed on the top of the soil, and when they are cooked the soil is sufficiently sterilised. This is not very helpful to anyone who knows little about the costly operation of steam sterilisation. We suggest that it would have been more helpful if the temperature and the necessary time for the operation had been given and, of course, the use of a suitable thermometer advised.

The various types of houses for carnation growing, also the value of the carnation for decorative purposes, both from the private and commercial standpoint, is dealt with in detail. The book opens with a chapter on the history of the various classes or sections of the carnation as we know them to-day. In dealing with the perpetual-flowering carnation it is stated that it is the production of several centuries of hybridisation and culture from Dianthus chinensis, the Indian or China pink. So far as we know this is the first time that Dianthus chinensis, an annual species introduced in 1713, has been claimed as the progenitor of the perpetual-flowering carnation, and we feel sure it would have been a matter of general interest to carnation grower and horticulturists in general if the author had stated the source of this information. The origin—so far as it is known—of this class in France is dealt with, also the first attempts in Britain to improve this class, as well as the work in detail of the American raisers that did so much to improve this section and make it the important class it is to-day.

This book has a good index and is profusely illustrated with no fewer than seventy-nine beautifully produced illustrations representing all the phases of carnation culture, thus adding much to the value of the text. J. C.

Digitized by Google

IRIS

of the June-flowering family

THEY are worth thinking of ahead—ordering early and planting at the best time, in July or early August. Put in then, the plants get their toes in before the winter comes. Take steps to order them **now.** Either buy the low-priced collection of excellent varieties offered below for **7/6** the twelve plants or send for our catalogue and make your own selection.

June-flowering Iris:—

Alcazar	Lavender blue and violet.
Archeveque ..	Reddish violet and deep violet.
Caprice	Reddish mauve and deep rosy red.
Dawn	Sulphur yellow, veined bronze.
Her Majesty ..	Pale rose and deep red.
Lohengrin ..	Cattleya mauve.
Mdm. Chereau ..	White, frilled azure blue.
Mrs. H. Darwin ..	White, faintly marked violet.
Mrs. Neubronner	Golden yellow.
Oriflamme ..	Pure blue and blue purple.
Prosper Laugier ..	Bronzy cinnamon and velvety crimson.
Rhein Nixe ..	White and violet purple.

One plant each of the 12 varieties, **7/6** post paid.

Have you seen our Hardy Plant Catalogue? It is better than most.

Bakers

FLOWER FARM

CODSALL

Near Wolverhampton

McDOUGALL'S Perfect Safety WEEDKILLER

(Non-Arsenical)

TO those who prefer to use a non-arsenical preparation for weeding paths and drives we strongly recommend this weedkiller, which although deadly to all rank growth avoids any risk of poisoning domestic animals, poultry, &c.

Pint tins ..	1/6
Quart ..	2/6
½-gal.	4/-
1 gal. drums ..	6/6
5 gal.	25/-

1 *pint Weedkiller to* 3 *gallons water.*

OF ALL AGENTS

Write for illustrated leaflet. Post free from

COOPER, McDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, LTD. - - BERKHAMSTED, HERTS

Perfectly Safe

NEW ROSES AT VINCENT SQUARE

THE National Rose Society was somewhat unfortunate in the date for the show of new seedlings and roses of recent introduction. The third week in July caught many growers with their plants betwixt and between, the first crop of blooms being over and the second crop not yet to hand. Besides this, the Eastern Counties, where many of the exhibition roses are grown, had experienced two storms within a week of the show. Normally, the date—though, perhaps, a trifle late—would have permitted a large show. As things happened the show was somewhat disappointing, except as regards the attendance, which was very large.

Largely in view of the fact that the Society was offering the *Daily Mail* Cup, to be won outright, for the "best new scented seedling rose," the general public was keenly interested in the fragrance of the roses. We mention straight away that the gold cup was not awarded, as the judges could not agree that there was, among the twenty-one, a rose exceptionally fragrant. It would seem that the judges were not of one mind as regards the particular perfume they sought, and if this were so it was inevitable that no award should be made. To us the sweetest scented rose was No. 22, a bright crimson H.T., shown by Messrs. Bees, Limited. The buds are of globular shape and the fully open flowers are flat and shapeless. While we realise that the conditions of the competition require only that the rose should be new and scented, we preferred No. 30, a shapely H.T., shown by Messrs. G. Longley and Son, which was deliciously fragrant and of good conical shape. The colour was much that of the old favourite, Souvenir de la Malmaison Rose, No. 12, a blush pink musk rose, shown by the Rev. J. H. Pemberton, was very fragrant and a good example of its class.

There were many other new seedling roses, but, on the whole, they were rather a poor lot. The following received awards:

LADY WORTHINGTON EVANS.—This should be a very showy garden rose and also useful for exhibition in the classes for decorative roses. It has globular buds and opens to a flat shape. It is velvety scarlet in colour, with a light flushing of maroon at the base of the petals. The young foliage is purplish, and it appears to be a free-flowering variety. Gold medal to Messrs. Alex. Dickson and Sons.

ADELE CROFTON.—This variety was also entered for the *Daily Mail* Cup. It has pointed buds which open to a flattish shape, and the golden yellow colour is slightly flushed with peach. It is pleasantly perfumed. Certificate of merit to Messrs. A. Dickson and Sons.

CHARMING PRINCESS.—This is an uncommon rose. In shape it approximates to what some growers term "cactus," and so has no form. The outer halves of the old gold coloured petals are heavily stippled with scarlet. Certificate of merit to Mr. Thomas Hancock.

CHERRY.—A medium-sized H.T. rose of no particular form, rose cerise in colour, with a pale gold reverse. Certificate of merit to Messrs. S. McGredy and Son.

Although it did not receive an award, J. C. Thornton, shown by Messrs. Bees, Limited, appears to be a desirable garden rose. It is free flowering, of medium size, and of bright crimson colour.

The class for a group of cut roses arranged on a table was well filled and made a good display. The first prize was awarded to Mr. Elisha J. Hicks for a stiff and formal arrangement of very good blooms. His chief varieties were Betty Uprichard, Mme. Butterfly, Mrs. H. Stevens, Ophelia, Hoosier Beauty, Christine and Mabel Morse. Messrs. S. McGredy and Sons were awarded the second prize for a more artistic display, but their blooms were a little weather-stained. Their baskets of Mabel Morse, Betty Uprichard, Mrs. Barraclough and Emma Wright were very delightful. Messrs. Alex. Dickson and Sons were third; and the Rev. J. H. Pemberton was fourth in this large class.

The small groups were arranged on a wall space, and Messrs. R. Harkness and Co. were first with a graceful display of Los Angeles, Mme. Butterfly, K. of K., Betty Uprichard and similar roses. Messrs. D. Prior and Son were second, and they had good stands of Betty Uprichard, Lady Inchiquin, Mrs. Henry Bowles and Etoile de Hollande. Messrs. A. Warner and Son were third.

There was only one exhibit of twelve distinct varieties of exhibition roses on show boards, and the first prize was awarded to Messrs. D. Prior and Son for blooms so much over-dressed that all character was lost. Their chief varieties were Mrs. C. Lamplough, Capt. Kilbee Stuart, J. G. Glassford and Martha Drew.

WITH the greatest regret we announce the death of one of the grand old men of roses, the Rev. J. H. Pemberton of Havering, Essex. As a rose grower he was known the world over.

NEW CARNATIONS

AS DESCRIBED BY RAISERS

MRS. A. A. VLASTO.—Registered by Mr. J. C. Beck, The Nurseries, Henley-on-Thames. Seedling; rosy purple on white ground; size 3ins; fragrance similar to old clove; habit and stem almost as strong as malmaison stems, 24–30in., self-supporting. In habit and constitution unique.

ROSE DU BARRY.—Registered by Mr. J. C. Beck, The Nurseries, Henley-on-Thames. Seedling; Rose du Barry pink, shading to silvery pink; size 3½ins.; fragrance moderately strong; stem strong and good length; excellent constitution.

CANADIAN PINK.—Registered by Messrs. Allwood Brothers, Wivelsfield, Hayward's Heath. Mid-salmon; size 3½ins.; mild fragrance, long stem and free growth.

COTTAGE MAID OF WIVELSFIELD.—Registered by Messrs. Allwood Brothers, Wivelsfield, Hayward's Heath. Seedling × seedling. Ivory white overshadowed with rouge pink; size 3½ins.; strong fragrance; improved white; wonderful habit.

DOWNS BEAUTY.—Registered by Messrs. Allwood Brothers, Wivelsfield, Hayward's Heath. A seedling × Triumph. Bright crimson similar to the old Una Pike; size 3½ins.; fragrance very rich and strong; habit and stem similar to Triumph.

DEREK.—Registered by Lady Mond, D.B.E., Melchet Court, Romsey. Seedling. Red; size 3½–4ins.; fair fragrance; habit and stem very good; seldom splits calyx.

LADY WILLINGDON.—Registered by Lady Mond, D.B.E., Melchet Court, Romsey. Seedling. Violet Mond × seedling. Mauve striped cerise; size 3½–4ins. across; fragrance good; habit and stem very good; very free bloomer; never splits calyx.

MELCHET BEAUTY.—Registered by Lady Mond, D.B.E., Melchet Court, Romsey. Seedling. Mauve striped cerise; size 3½ins.; fragrance very good; habit and stem very good; very free and never splits calyx.

MILADY.—Registered by Mr. Ernest W. Bishop, Elmhurst, St. Leonards Road, Windsor. Seedling. Near Enchantress.

CHARLES PIERLOT.—Registered by Mr. E. Martin Smith, Codicote Lodge, Welwyn. Seedling. Apricot; 5ins.; slight fragrance; habit and stem good; French type.

MARGARET.—Registered by Mr. A. J. Pointing, Appleton Nursery, Bulpham, Essex. Ward × Triumph. Purple crimson; size 4½–5ins.; slight fragrance; habit and stem rather weak for the bloom; calyx splits.

(To be continued.)

Digitized by Google

GARDENING OF THE WEEK

FOR SOUTHERN GARDENS.

THE FRUIT GARDEN.

Where the runners of strawberry plants were layered in 3in. pots as advised in a previous issue, the runners will be filling the receptacles with roots, and in consequence must be kept well supplied with water. In a week or so the runners are severed from the parent plants and new beds are made. Make the soil firm about the roots and keep them moist by watering occasionally if the weather proves dry. A portion of the pot runners are set aside for pot work and forcing, and these are plunged in ashes for a short period until they have quite recovered. The main bed outside should be an open site, but for an early supply of ripe fruits a few lines on a south border is advised. Bear in mind that the average life of a strawberry plant is three years; after that time they cease to be a paying proposition.

Fig trees are growing freely, and the growths will need thinning, leaving just enough to cover thinly the allotted space. Expose fruits to full sunshine.

At this season keep the hoe going between the fruit bushes, and trees on walls must not be allowed to suffer from drought. Light waterings are futile, it is much better to afford a good soaking and then mulch the roots with manure. Wall trees will benefit by a daily spraying from the hose pipe or garden engine when the weather is fine until the fruits begin to ripen. Summer pruning of fruit trees should be completed.

AMONG THE VEGETABLES.

A winter supply of lettuce is needed in many gardens, and if cold frames are available this is possible, providing the weather is not too severe. A good sowing of both cos and cabbage varieties should be made now, and further fortnightly sowings till the middle of September. For winter work All the Year Round, a cabbage variety, and Hicks' Hardy Cos are useful; while for an early spring supply Black-seeded Bath Cos is best. Corn salad is a good substitute for lettuce, and it may be sown now.

Jerusalem artichokes have attained a fair height, and at this season some of the plants are often injured by wind. To prevent this the tops can be cut off about 4ft. from the ground level. Globe artichokes should be top-dressed with old potting soil or manure.

Brussels sprouts planted out early have made considerable headway, and rough winds will play havoc among them unless each plant is given a stout stake and so made secure. Prevent any weeds from ripening seeds, this will tend to keep the garden clean in autumn when hoeing is often useless.

THE FLOWER GARDEN.

The ericas or hardy heaths constitute a charming race of peat-loving plants, and now is a good time to propagate any particular form from cuttings. Half-ripened lateral growths are chosen, and then inserted firmly in sandy peat soil. They will root under a bell-glass or in a cold frame. Care is needed in the preparation of the cuttings. Any of the tiny leaves to be removed must be trimmed off with a sharp knife. Rosemary and the different varieties of lavender are propagated at this season by pulling off small side pieces of the old plants and setting them out in lines on any piece of vacant ground. Wallflowers are well advanced, and ought to be transferred to the reserve garden, planting them 1ft. apart. When established remove the centre of each plant, no more pinching being required. Other seedlings from May sowings, such as sweet williams, Canterbury bells and Cheiranthus Allionii, may be treated likewise. To prolong the flowering of violas remove the seed pods, and continue to propagate choice varieties by means of basal shoots until the requisite quantity is obtained.

Seed Gathering.—A host of plants ripen their seeds in this country, and it behoves the grower to collect a little seed each year whereby a nice batch of plants can be raised. This applies especially to rare and choice specimens and others which germinate freely directly the seeds are ripe, an example being all the hardy primulas. Always save seeds from plants of the best habit and those that show even the slightest improvement on the type. These remarks apply more particularly to herbaceous and rock garden subjects. Seeds of many are not often procurable.

Chepstow. T. W. BRISCOE.

FOR NORTHERN GARDENS.

WORK IN THE GARDEN.

In cold, late localities, the first week in August is none too early to sow a second lot of cabbage, cauliflower and brussels sprouts seeds. For the seed bed make a choice of a sheltered spot on an open sunny border to have hardy plants from free exposure. On germination, prick off a supply into a frame that can have the lights put on in extreme cold weather. If given some form of protection those remaining in the seed bed may survive the winter and will be found useful to plant for succession crops.

Autumn-Sown Onions.—The time for sowing these is important, and local knowledge will be the best guide. It is good to have the plants well forward before winter sets in, but not so far as to be in danger of injury from frost. Sow the Tripoli varieties or White Lisbon in quantities for early spring use, and selected types for transplanting in spring to mature the following summer. In late districts where these fail to ripen properly from spring sowings or where onion mould is troublesome, this method may prove advantageous, choosing a dry site for the seed bed.

Parsley, with the protection of an improvised shelter, will usually survive the winter, yet there has been occasions when a sowing made now in a cold frame served a useful purpose.

Spring Cabbages.—Considering how little is the time involved, and the practical advantages gained from the operation, it is worth while to prick these off into nursery lines previous to permanent planting. A light soil adaptable to a free root-run, not over rich and made firm before planting, will meet the occasion.

Corn Salad is probably less valued than its merits as a quick-growing salad for spring use deserve to be. Make a first sowing this month in drills 6ins. apart, thinning to 6ins. in the rows. Ordinary soil will grow it if the situation is open and dry. The crop is gathered the same as spinach.

Endeavour to complete the summer pruning by pinching side growths of apple and pear trees, especially those forms which require training and regulating to space, *i.e.*, bushes, pyramids and espaliers.

Hedges.—In that period towards the end of the fruit season—after all rough grass has been cut over, arrears made up in edging and cleaning walks and just before the essential autumn trenching—clipping hedges should be carried out. If this is done any earlier there is a secondary growth which necessitates a further application of the shears. Then the summer growths have not become too hard through the process of ripening. It is recommended that we prune yew hedges in late spring and laurels in early summer, but it is usually found that these periods are sufficient unto themselves concerning work to be done. It is possible to treat them *en bloc* and have quite good hedges. Commencing with box, yew, privet and holly, the wounds will be sufficiently healed over before frost occurs. Later buck and thorn are stiff enough for using the hedge knife on parts out of the reach of shears.

Doune, Perthshire. W. MCCARRELL.

CONSERVATORY AND GREENHOUSE.

Dimorphotheca Ecklonis.—This South African composite is deserving of more general cultivation for greenhouse and conservatory decoration. It is easily raised from seed or cuttings, and plants raised by this means during the spring should make fine specimens for next year. It is not, however, too late to make a start at the present time, for plants raised at this time, either from seed or cuttings, will make excellent flowering plants for next summer. This plant grows freely in any good potting compost, and only requires cool greenhouse treatment during all stages of its cultivation. To produce well furnished, bushy plants, it is necessary to pinch the young plants several times.

Vallota purpurea.—Dry bulbs of this beautiful plant are usually offered about this time. It is surprising how seldom one sees this plant in good condition in gardens. On the other hand, how many fine specimens are common in cottage windows.

This plant, when established, seems to resent disturbance, and it is very unwise to disturb healthy specimens, as they are frequently difficult to establish again; this, no doubt, is due to overwatering before they have made a quantity of new roots; this, I may say, is a common cause of failure with many newly potted bulbous plants. Starting at this time with dry bulbs, they may be potted singly in small pots, or several bulbs may be placed in larger sized pots. The pots should be well drained, otherwise this plant succeeds in any good potting compost. After potting, stand the pots in a cool greenhouse or cold frame, and afford water at the root very carefully until they have made some growth and plenty of new roots. This plant is really evergreen, and must not at any time be completely dried off, although during the winter months it should be kept drier at the root.

Fuchsias.—Well grown specimens are always very useful for conservatory decoration, but in many gardens it is not easy to find space for storing them during the winter. In any case, it is not really necessary to keep old specimens, as fine plants at least 8ft. in height can be grown in less than twelve months. For this purpose the required number of stock plants should now be partially cut back, and placed in a house where a temperature of 50° to 60° Fahr. can be maintained. Young growth is soon produced, and should be secured for cuttings during September. When rooted the young plants should be potted off singly in small pots. Subsequent details consist in potting them on as they require it, and keeping them growing steadily on right through the winter.

If tall pyramid specimens are required, the leading shoot should not be stopped at any time, but should be kept trained up to a neat stake, as lateral shoots develop they should be pinched frequently to form a good foundation; this pinching should be continued up to about six weeks before they are required to flower.

Fuchsias, especially the stronger-growing varieties, are excellent for planting out in the conservatory and training up pillars and over rafters; while varieties that are naturally of a drooping habit are fine for filling hanging baskets.

Cyclamen raised from seed sown last August should now be ready for placing in their flowering pots, which should be 5ins. or 6ins. in size, according to the strength of the plants. The compost should consist of 3 parts good loam and 1 part of leaf-soil and sand, or, better still, some old mortar rubble; while a 5in. potful of bone-meal may be added to every bushel of soil. After potting they are best stood in cold frames, as later on the lights can be removed during the night, as the plants greatly benefit from the dews at night.

Kew. J. COUTTS.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

Messrs. Barr and Sons, 11, King Street, Covent Garden, London. A list of autumn and winter flowering bulbs for early planting. Early hyacinths, narcissi and freesias for forcing, colchicums, hardy cyclamen and comprehensive lists of nerine hybrids and crocus species are all included.

Messrs. Stewart and Co., 13, South St. Andrew Street, Edinburgh. A catalogue for bulbs and bulbous plants for forcing and bedding. Amaryllis, ranunculus, anemones and crinums are listed, as well as narcissi, tulips, hyacinths, etc.

Messrs. T. Smith, Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry. A complete list of bulbous and tuberous-rooted plants.

FOREIGN.

Messrs. C. G. Van Tubergen, Jun., Zwanenburg Nurseries, Haarlem, Holland. A catalogue for bulbous plants, tuberous-rooted plants, herbaceous perennials and certain uncommon bulbs.

The Yokohama Nursery Company, Limited, Yokohama, Japan. A descriptive and illustrated catalogue of lilies, Japanese trees and shrubs, ferns, bog plants, conifer seeds, orchids, etc.

Messrs. Ant. Roozen and Son, Overveen, Haarlem, Holland. A catalogue of choice Dutch and Cape bulbs.

Digitized by Google

BARROW
MP SET
AIR VESSEL,
ON PIPE,
ER

A boon to Gardeners.

AND SHORT LENGTH OF DELIVERY HOSE, BRASS SPRAY, ROSE AND TAP.

10 galls.	15 galls.	20 galls.	30 galls.
98/-	107/9	118/-	131/6

XL WING PUMPS.

We have sold thousands of these and they always prove satisfactory.

½	¾	1	1¼in.
16/-	20/6	24/6	29/6

List E118 *post free.*

D. P. KINNELL & CO., Ltd.,
Engineers,
65a, Southwark Street, London, S.E.1.
'Phone: Hop 0362 (three lines).

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

YCLAMEN SEED
(NOW is the time to Sow)

Our new Scented, also the gorgeous nearly scarlet Cherry Ripe, Salmon King, Pink Pearl, raised by us, supplied separately in eight colours, at 2/6 per packet, or Mixed. Also fine strains of Streptocarpus and Primulas.

2/6 per packet.

MT LOW CO., Bush Hill Park, ENFIELD

GREENHOUSES
AND
GARDEN FRAMES

I specialize in the Erection of High-class Horticultural Buildings.

Garden Frames a speciality. Selected timber, well seasoned, only used.

Being a grower, I understand Glass-house requirements.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.
CATALOGUES WITH PLEASURE.

E. M. HEAP, Cottimore Nurseries, WALTON-ON-THAMES.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

HILL & SMITH, Ltd.,
BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS,
Makers of
IRON FENCING, HURDLES, GATES, WIRE NETTING AND GARDEN IRONWORK

Other Products—Hay and Grain Sheds, Dutch Barns, Galvanized Corrugated Sheets and Structural Steelwork.

Catalogues free on mentioning this paper.

London: 300, Abbey House, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

The WIZARD Plant LABEL

PATENT NO. 212674

Made in Red Pottery, 2½ x 1¼ ins., with rustless wires, 12 in., 3/- doz.; 7 in., 1/7 doz. 1½ x 1 in., with wires 8 in., 1/6 doz. For tying on, 1/6 and 1/3 doz. Waterproof Ink, 6d. and 7½d. bot. Crow Quills, 2d. Postage extra.

Highly commended by the R.H.S. at Wisley.

E. TORKINGTON . NEW HALL . MAIDENHEAD

KING'S ACRE STRAWBERRIES

New List of the Best Varieties, with helpful Cultural instructions, including all other useful Berries.

A most useful List, post free on application

KING'S ACRE NURSERIES, Ltd., Hereford

"The fairest flowers of the season are our carnations."—SHAKESPEARE.

CARNATIONS

FOR EVERY GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE

By Montagu C. Allwood.

With a Foreword by Lord Lambourne, President of the R.H.S.

224 *pages.* 79 *illustrations.*

Just Published - 12s. 6d. net.

For a detailed prospectus of this new and standard book, write to the Publicity Manager, Book Department, "COUNTRY LIFE," 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2

Digitized by Google

"All ready to put into your pipe—*that's handy!*"

PLAYER'S "Medium" Navy Cut Tobacco (Rubbed Ready for Smoking) comes as a great convenience to those Smokers who prefer their tobacco "rubbed up" before filling the pouch.

PLAYER'S
"MEDIUM"
Navy Cut

PLAYER'S NAVY CUT. REGD No 134011.
RUBBED READY FOR SMOKING

P 1316

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION 1913

WAKELEY'S *Celebrated* HOP MANURE
(PATENTED)
THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY
RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DO YOU REALISE IT?
A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 15 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

A beautiful Free Booklet giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. GENUINE ONLY IN OUR MARKED BAGS, CONTAINING GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.
Cash Prices, including bags: Small (about 1 bushel), 3/- : Large (about 4 bushels), 7/- : 5 Large 33/9
10 Large, 65/- : 20 Large, 120/-

Carriage Paid to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company. 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Put him in his right place with

SANITAS POWDER

Sanitas Powder erects an impassable barrier against worms, caterpillars, slugs and snails—but is harmless to plants and flowers. It is non-poisonous—except to pests.

THE "SANITAS" CO. LTD. LIMEHOUSE, LONDON, E.
SAN 228-26

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE COMPLETENESS OF ITS COMPOSITION AND THE HAPPY BLENDING OF ITS HIGHGRADE ORGANIC AND OTHER INGREDIENTS RENDER

A Carmona measuring Spoon in every tin

Carmona Fertilizer

A PAR-EXCELLENT BLOOM PRODUCER

CARRIAGE PAID PRICES:—
1 lb. Tin 1/3 2 lb. Tin 2/-
7 lb. Tin 4/6 112 lb. Bag 26/-
The fullest instructions accompany each package.

Sole Manufacturers:—
ROBINSON BROTHERS LTD., WEST BROMWICH

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

WHY is "HOMES and GARDENS" such a Great Success?

BECAUSE it shows greater House Comfort & Convenience —with less Labour and Expense.

Send to-day for a Free specimen Copy of this helpful and beautifully Illustrated Magazine to 20, Tavistock St., Covent Garden, W.C.2

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-14, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

AUG 18

Vol. XC.—No. 2853 Saturday, August 7th, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

BARR'S CROCUS SPECIES

FOR PRESENT PLANTING.

BARR'S AUTUMN-FLOWERING CROCUS

3 each of 18 beautiful varieties 30/-
3 ,, 12 ,, ,, ... 12/6 & 21/-
Mixed Autumn-flowering Crocus per 100, 17/6; per doz. 2/6

WINTER AND SPRING-FLOWERING CROCUS

3 each of 8 varieties Winter-flowering Crocus 18/6
3 ,, 12 ,, Spring-flowering ,, ... 18/6
Mixed Winter and Spring-flowering Crocus per 100, 12/6; per doz. 1/9

BARR'S COLCHICUMS

6 each of 8 beautiful varieties 27/6
3 ,, 8 ,, ,, ... 14/-
Mixed Colchicums for naturalising, etc. per 100, 25/-; per doz. 3/6

List of Crocus Species, etc., and Bulbs for early forcing, free on application.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

SEND YOUR ENQUIRIES *NOW* FOR . . .

Autumn Planting of

CHOICE DAFFODILS

British Grown Bulbs

COMPLETE CATALOGUE NOW READY, FREE ON APPLICATION

CARTWRIGHT & GOODWIN Ltd.

BULB GROWERS,

Churchill, Kidderminster, WORCS., ENGLAND

GENTIANA SINO-ORNATA

PLANT NOW for Flowers from September onwards

REALLY STRONG PLANTS FROM POTS WITH FIRM ROOT BALLS. AT LEAST FIVE FLOWERING SHOOTS EACH.

10/6 per dozen. Carriage Paid

W. E. Th. INGWERSEN,

Birch Farm - Sharpthorne - East Grinstead.

SEND FOR MY CATALOGUE.

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

FOR THE GARDEN! FOR EXHIBITION!
FOR BEDS! FOR EVERYWHERE!

Also Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees, Alpines and Hardy Plants.

BUY HOME-GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries.

Catalogue Free on Application, and Addresses booked for Revised Catalogue in late Summer.

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.,

Garden Specialists - - SOUTHWELL, NOTTS

CYCLAMEN SEED

(NOW is the time to Sow)

Our new Scented, also the gorgeous nearly scarlet Cherry Ripe, Salmon King, Pink Pearl, raised by us, supplied separately in eight colours, at **2/6** per packet, or Mixed. Also fine strains of Streptocarpus and Primulas.

2/6 *per packet.*

STUART LOW CO.

BUSH HILL PARK - - ENFIELD

ROCKERY STONE

BEST WESTMORLAND WEATHERED LIMESTONE FOR ROCKERIES. ROCK GARDENS, ETC.

In any sized pieces to suit requirements. Any quantity. Large Stones a speciality.

For price and particulars write—

J. WARDLEY & SONS,

Slackhead - - MILNTHORPE

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
— New Alpines and Perennials. Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
— Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
— Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
— Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD,
CHELSEA, S.W.
— Perennial and Rock Plants Seed. List on Application

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
— Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

H. PRINS
BULB AND PLANT GROWERS
WISBECH, CAMBS.
— Bulb list free on application

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
— Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
— Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
HULL
— Weed Destroyers Fertilisers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

TUBS FOR SHRUBS. WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 100 prizes. R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. — Price List from A. PRADAL, 26, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

SITUATION VACANT.

WANTED, Head Gardener for private grounds in Hants; 6 to 8 men kept. Good knowledge, all branches, and good organiser essential. State age, wages and if married or single.—Box 2, THE GARDEN, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, London, W.C.2.

KING'S ACRE STRAWBERRIES

New List of the Best Varieties, with helpful Cultural instructions, including all other useful Berries.

A most useful List, post free on application.

KING'S ACRE NURSERIES, Ltd., Hereford

Mildew and Insect

A spray with the unique XL ALL Mildew Wash kills both mildew and insects too. It is a chemically sound remedy that will not fail. Use XL ALL. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen, florists and chemists.

XL ALL MILDEW WASH

G. H. RICHARDS LTD.,
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
R. 169. Monomark: BCM/XLALL.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

SOMETHING NEW AND GOOD

TO BE SOWN - NOW -

Cyclamen "SCARLET KING." A real acquisition. Colour of the Holly berry; neat habit and very early blooming THE plant for Xmas. SEEDS, 2/6 and 5/- per packet.

Cyclamen "BATH BEAUTY." A giant salmon pink, bearing enormous flowers, quite equal to our "Giant White" in size. A lovely colour with beautifully marked foliage. Habit extra good. .. .. SEEDS, 2/6 and 5/- per packet.

OTHER GOOD SORTS

BRILLIANT, rosy carmine. FAIRY QUEEN, frilled white. GIANT WHITE, unequalled. GIANT CRIMSON, extra fine. GRANDIFLORA, white, crimson base. MRS. BUCKSTON, frilled salmon. SALMON SCARLET. SALMON KING. - - SCENTED, white, crimson base.

All the above at 1/6 and 2/6 per packet each sort.

FINEST MIXED .. 1/6 and 2/6 per packet.

Blackmore & Langdon, Bat

BLOM FOR BULBS

HYACINTHS for December and Christmas Flowering . . . . ready for despatch NOW . . .

Apply for Catalogue to Messrs. J. C. WHITNEY & Co., Eldon Street House, Eldon Street, London, E.C.
or to WALTER BLOM & SON, LTD. (late of Overveen), Hillegom, Holland.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

ATERER'S for the best in Bulbs for forcing, ing, naturalising: Colchicums, Autumn-flowering Crocus, New illustrated catalogue now ready, post free.

TERER'S Roses, Fruit Trees, and Strawberry Plants in and open ground runners, including all the varieties really h growing. New illustrated catalogue now ready, post free.

TERER'S Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Flowering and Evergreen bs, also Hedge-making Shrubs and Screening Trees. New rated catalogue, post free.

TERER'S Herbaceous and Alpine Plants. New catalogue y shortly.

are cordially invited to inspect our Nurseries at Twyford, s, and Bagshot, Surrey.—JOHN WATERER, SONS & CRISP, . The Nurseries, Twyford, Berks.

MALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODEN- ONS on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and e Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write Catalogues.—C. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

ELLIS' CATALOGUE OF CHRYSANTHE- MS will be sent post free on application.—W. WELLS AND Merstham, Surrey.

AKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE. he original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See art. on back page.

M. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., rrance Road, South Tottenham, N.15. — Conservatories, ter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

RDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUN- ALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.— OSTON, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

ENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and den Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request. — THE AMLEY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, rey.

ALL AND WATER GARDENS. With apters on rock gardens, heath gardens, and paved water dens. By GERTRUDE JEKYLL. 7th edition, revised. 17/6 ; by post, 18/4.—Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY E," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C2

EMENTS' DUTCH BULBS. est Quality at Moderate Prices. Descriptive Catalogue taining over 700 Named Varieties, including various Novel- s, also Cultural Directions, sent post free. Please mention per. — V. D. CLEMENTS & Co., 12, Stockton Gardens, tenham, London, N.17.

LASS HOUSES.—Portion free for cost of ting down and removal, including making good walls and ound; others for sale cheap.—CLEAVES, LTD., Lombard Road, tterseas, S.W.11.

IRE NETTING.—From 2/5 per 50yd. roll. eapest House in the Kingdom. Write us for prices. ousands of rolls stocked.

ENTS. — Army Bell. All complete, new dings, deep walls, 60/- and 70/-. Scout Tents, 13/8. rden, 50/-. Bathing, 33/-. Also Marquees. Write us for ices.

ARDEN HOSE.—Superior quality, 60ft.

ngths.	1-ply.	2-ply.	3-ply.
in.	15/-	24/6	29/3
in.	24/6	29/3	35/2

Carriage paid. Approval.

AWN MOWERS.—Five Riveted Blades. igh Wheels. Brass Bushings. Close Cutting. Highly Finished. Sequalled Value. 8in., 20/6; 10in., 21/6; 12in., 22/6; 14in., 1/-. Grass Boxes, 8/6 each. Garden Rollers, 30/-.

AMBOO CANES.—Strong, 3ft., 3/11; 4ft., 9; 5ft., 10/11; 6ft., 14/6 per hundred. Carriage paid.—E. B. AWYBORN, LIMITED, Dept. E, Shrewsbury.

BARR'S AUTUMN-FLOWERING BULBS.—COLCHICUMS, CROCUS SPECIES, NERINES, WHITE ROMAN and EXTRA EARLY HYACINTHS, LACHENALIAS, etc. List on application.—BARR & SONS, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx and perpetual habit. They flourish in the coldest parts of Britain. Extract, *The Times*: "Mr. Douglas is the leading raiser of this flower. His wonderful strain of new cloves is superb." Plant list now ready. —J. DOUGLAS, Gt. Bookham.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760 yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial: Gardening Without a Garden	443
Some Old-fashioned Plants	444
Cyclamen for the Greenhouse	445
Notes of the Week	446–447
Starworts; Œnothera cæspitosa; Autumn Crocuses; Tritomas; White Rock Roses.	
Notes on Alpine Cuttings	448
A Selection of Gentians	448
Correspondence	450
Tomato Plants Under Glass; A Fern-leaved Beech; Iris Dominion; Yellow Foxgloves; Ivy on Trees; Lilium M. dalmaticum Catanæ; An Enquiry.	
Fruit and Flowers at Westminster	451
Fruit and Vegetables	452
Mildewed Fruits; Onions; A Useful Green Food; Making the Marrows Keep On.	
Flower Garden and Greenhouse	452–454
Freesias; Summer Bedding Plants; Taking Chrysanthemums Buds; Violets; Mid-Season Duties.	
Obituaries: Mr. Fred Vert; the Rev. J. H. Pemberton	454

HEWITT'S GOLD MEDAL DELPHINIUMS and ROSES. Send a postcard for our catalogue.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S CHOICE DAFFODILS AND TULIPS and other Bulbs. Bulb catalogue will be ready in July and will be sent free on application.—"Order early and Plant early" to avoid disappointment.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

FLAME FLOWER. (Tropæolum speciosum). Extra strong established pot plants of this loveliest of scarlet flowered perennial climbers ready for planting any time now 1/- each, 6 for 5/-, 12 for 10/-, carriage paid for cash with order. —CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED, Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

HAVE YOU BOUGHT "The Pruning of Trees and Shrubs," by W. Dallimore, Assistant at Kew? Fully illustrated. 4s. 6d. net; post free, 4s. 9d. From all Booksellers or direct from the Publishers, DULAU & Co., LTD., 34, Margaret Street, London, W.1.

DOBBIES' FAMOUS BULBS, SCOTCH ROSES and SWEET PEAS for Autumn Sowing. Catalogues free on mentioning THE GARDEN.—DOBBIE & Co., LTD., Edinburgh.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

GARDEN NETS.—Best tanned, small mesh; 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 25yds. by 3yds., 6/-; 25yds. by 4yds., 8/-. Carr. Paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Tennis nets from 10/-. Special nets for tennis boundary. Pea training nets. Lists and samples free.—G. JARRETT, Netmaker, Rye.

ROCK AND ALPINE PLANTS.—Large and varied collection. All pot grown. Packed and carriage paid. Catalogue free.—M. J. PIGGOTT, Duffield, Nr. Derby.

GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS — CHOICE TULIPS, &c. List on application.—THE WELSH BULB FIELDS, St. Asaph.

LOOK! TANNED GARDEN NETS.—All orders dispatched same day. 25yds. by 1yd, 2/-; 25 by 2, 4/-; 25 by 3, 6/-. Odd netting for bushes, 6lbs. for 2/6. All carriage paid. Any sizes supplied. Also Tennis Boundary Nets.—MOORE AND CO., Net Works, Rye.

THE CULTURE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS. By W. WELLS, 2/6 net; cloth, 3/6 net; by post 6d. extra. —Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE" LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

A CATALOGUE of gardening books will be sent free on application to "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

SWEET PEAS AND HOW TO EXCEL WITH THEM. By HORACE WRIGHT, 9d. net, by post 11d. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

PLANT PESTS AND PARASITES.—A useful booklet on garden troubles by HORACE J. WRIGHT is to be obtained from the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, W.C.2; 11d. post free.

COLOURED FREESIAS.—My New Price List is now ready and contains several new varieties. Sent on application. — G. H. DALRYMPLE, The Nurseries, Bartley Southampton.

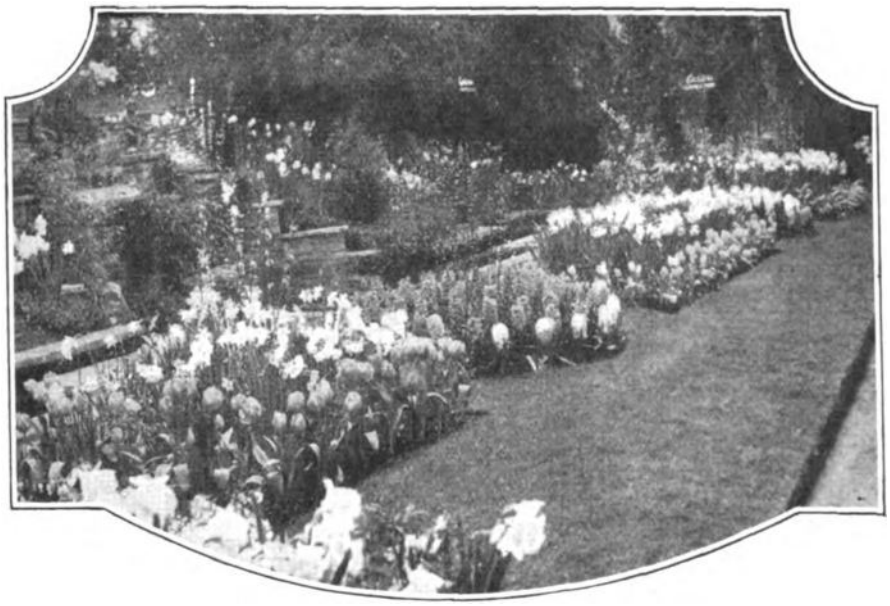
THE DOG: MAN'S FIRMEST FRIEND.— How to choose and care for him, by A. CROXTON SMITH. A copy of this helpful booklet on the housing, breeding, feeding and care of dogs will be sent post free on receipt of 11d., addressed to The Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

SEEDSMEN BY APPOINTMENT

CARTERS FORCING BULBS



Carters Picked Bulbs for Early Forcing and Planting for Christmas and Easter Flowers. Carters Royal Parks Bedding Hyacinths, Tulips and Narcissus. The new Catalogue contains particulars of Autumn Renovation of Lawns, etc.

WRITE FOR ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE

Carters TESTED SEEDS

Bulb Growers and Grass Specialists

RAYNES PARK, LONDON S.W.20

LATEST AWARDS—Gold Medal, Bournemouth; Gold Medal, Croydon; Gold Medal, Reading; Gold Medal, Hanley.

NEW AND RARE NARCISSI

SPECIAL EARLY OFFER for the sake of Colonial Visitors and those who like to order early

F.C.C., R.H.S., signifies First-Class Certificate, Royal Horticultural Society. A.M.—Award of Merit. The date after raiser's name indicates the year the Daffodil was put into commerce. The Letters and Figures placed before each variety denote its position according to the Classification of the R.H.S.

BARBARIC (Chapman, 1925). A very fine showy flower after the style of Brilliancy, but much larger. Long pointed perianth segments, cup orange. A long stemmed and vigorous plant. Mid season. **£2 2s. per bulb**

1b **BEERSHEBA** (Engleheart). This is a real advance in white trumpets and is built on somewhat new lines. Trumpet long and slightly funnel-shaped; segments long and slightly pointed. Stalk longer than most of the pure white Daffodils. A very distinct and beautiful show flower; growth vigorous and free. F.C.C. R.H.S., 1926. **£8 per bulb**

1c **CARMEL** (Brodie of Brodie). Perianth absolutely smooth and flat, the pure white segments overlapping with perfect evenness. The trumpet is of beautiful form, with a neatly recurved brim; colour clear yellow. A superb flower of perfect balance and show form. Good healthy grower. A.M., R.H.S., April, 1926. **£4 per bulb**

9 **FIONA MACLEOD** (Pearson, 1926). We think this is the largest and best formed Poet we have yet seen. The segments are very rounded, and of very firm texture. The whole flower measures 3½ in. across. Stalk 18 to 20 in. long. Late. **25/- per bulb**

1a **GENERAL TOWNSHEND** (Pearson, 1924). This may best be described as a much improved Lord Roberts. A large firm flower of show quality, borne on long stalk. Plant vigorous and free, with broad foliage. Mid season. **10/6 per bulb**

4a **GERTIE MILLAR.** A giant among the Giant Leedsii. When fully expanded the whole flower is ivory white. It is a real giant, the whole flower being 6 inches across, while the frilled cup is 3 inches across. A sensational flower. **£3 per bulb**

4a **HYMETTUS** (Brodie of Brodie). A most distinct and charming flower, spreading pure white perianth of large diameter; the cup is not so long as in most Giant Leedsii, and is most attractively reflexed and frilled at the brim. When fully developed it is ivory white, margined with clear lemon. **15/- per bulb**

1c **LADY MINE** (Pearson, 1923). A very bright clear bicolor trumpet Daffodil. The flower is of good form, substance and pose, and is carried on long stalk. The habit of plant is quite remarkably vigorous and free. **15/- doz. 1/6 each**

2a **LUCINIUS.** A very fine Giant Incomp. of Dutch origin. Whole flower bright clear yellow. The perianth is of faultless form; the cup is large and rather spreading. Long stalk and good healthy habit of growth. Rather late. **12/6 per bulb**

4a **MITYLENE** (Engleheart, 1925). A new break in this section. A grand flower having very broad and rounded, very much overlapping segments of pure white large wide and smooth saucer-shaped cup, of pale primrose, fading to cream. superb show flower. A.M., Mid. Daff. Society, April 23/25. **25/- per bulb**

1c **MOIRA O'NEILL** (Engleheart). The most refined and beautiful bicolor trumpet yet offered. The large flower is perfect in shape and pose, and the plant is extremely vigorous, having leaves broader than Emperor. **30/- per bulb**

4a **MRS. R. O. BACKHOUSE** (Late Mrs. R. O. Backhouse). A quite unique flower. A Giant Leedsii of trumpet proportions. The perianth is white; the trumpet is creamy white, edged and shaded with a most distinct tinge of pink. Originally sold at £50 per bulb. **Now offered at £15**

3b **PRINCESS MIRIAM** (De Graaf, 1924). A large and beautiful flower; perianth white, flat and perfectly formed. The cup is yellow edged orange. Very long stalk, plant vigorous and free. Very late. A really good novelty at a moderate price. **25/- per bulb**

1c **ROSARY** (Engleheart). This variety has undoubtedly Leedsii blood in it, but by measurement it goes into the bicolor trumpet section. The flower is of largest size, and of fine substance, having large white perianth, and splendid big wide expanded trumpet, rich warm cream colour, distinctly suffused with a flush of shell pink. The colour only develops on the plant; if cut in bud it does not develop. Strong plant with broad foliage, rather late. **37/6 each**

9 **STRIKING.** A very fine Poet. Flower firm and well rounded, with brilliant all-red eye. **30/- per bulb**

TENEDOS (Engleheart). Without doubt the finest Giant Leedsii yet produced. Flowers of largest size, borne on very long stalks, plant very vigorous and a quick increaser. Segments pure white, of great substance, slightly pointed. The large cup is pale lemon on opening, passing to white when fully developed. A.M. Mid. Daff. Soc., 1923. F.C.C., Mid. Daff. Soc., 1924. **£4 10s. per bulb**

1c **VESTAN** (Copeland, 1923). A huge bicolor trumpet Daffodil, but not at all coarse. Very vigorous and free. Attracted attention on our stand at Birmingham, April 19th, 1923. **5/6 per bulb**

2a **WHEEL OF FORTUNE** (Copeland, 1923). A very fine Giant Incomp. Whole flower soft luminous yellow; cup large, segments broad, well-rounded and overlapping. Plant strong and vigorous. Voted to be the best flower in the show at Mid. Daff. Exhibition, 1925. **£2 per bulb**

2b **ZILLA** (Mrs. R.O. Backhouse, 1923). A very fine new variety, flower large, segments broad and imbricated, creamy white. Cup large and rather spreading, yellow deeply edged bright orange-scarlet. A good strong grower. Much admired on our Show Stands at R.H.S. and Birmingham, 1923. **30/- per bulb**

J. R. PEARSON & SONS, LTD., The Nurseries, Lowdham, NOTTS.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

VOL. XC.—No. 2853. AUGUST 7, 1926

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.; Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2. *Offices for Advertisements:* 6-11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

GARDENING WITHOUT A GARDEN

LIVING in London I find that I can no longer do without a garden in the city. Unfortunately, I have not even a cat run in which to grow plants; on the other hand, I have a flat roof, ample in size for a frame—or two frames, in fact. After pondering over what is going to inhabit those frames, I have decided on cacti and an odd succulent or two and alpines in pots. The former are no trouble at all. For a year past I have had a dozen or so in pots on a windowsill, where they have been watered now and again when I happen to remember their existence. They have never been touched or repotted or fed. One or two have condescended to flower, including a haworthia, while several are rapidly overgrowing their pots. They are *the* plants for London, since it is impossible to kill them. If I go away and leave them for a fortnight, they are there safe and sound when I return. Dirty and sooty they may get, but dirt does not seem to harm them. This collection will, therefore, be increased. But their cultivation is so simple that I am going to fly after larger game, alpines in pots. To those who garden in the country this may seem an easy task; but here are some of the difficulties: absence over week-ends when they are left alone; too much sun and too much shade, for it is impossible to dash out on the roof at odd moments of sunshine to shade or uncover them; the difficulties of ventilation, particularly in the autumn when fog is about and the air is as acid as can be; dirt accumulating on the foliage and acid deposit on the soil, for it is almost impossible to keep them off unless the frame is airtight, which, of course, is an impossibility. Still, with all these difficulties, I am going to make an attempt, and it may not fail. Where I am in doubt is what plants to start with, as space is limited. There are certain obvious starters that cry out to be attempted, such as Irises persica, reticulata and histrioides, Saxifrages Burseriana and Irvingi, Campanulas carpatica and Portenschlagiana, some of the crocuses and, perhaps, a lewisia or two. But after that I am stuck. Could any reader who has grown alpines in pots successfully under town conditions make any suggestions? I have to bear in mind the absence of two or three days at a time when they will more or less have to take their chance. I have one or two ideas for combating the other difficulties, but I am saying nothing about them until they are tried out. Am I too optimistic if I think that with a certain amount of grooming and attention alpines should prove satisfactory subjects for a frame on a London roof? Perhaps others may succeed admirably, though I have not heard of the attempt being made to grow them successfully year in and year out.

E. H. M. C.

THE FRAGRANT ROSE ZEPHIRINE DROUHIN.

FOR this week's plant we suggest the old rose Zéphirine Drouhin, which has much in its favour and few faults. It has every merit as a good useful garden rose. It has a long flowering period, and, indeed, improves as the season advances, while the deep rose-coloured blooms do not turn purple. Best of all, it has the sweetest of perfumes. Although this old French rose is admirable for pillar purposes, it is seen to best advantage as a free-growing hedge, for it requires little or no pruning and year after year its graceful arching sprays will be covered with bloom. One other advantage: it has few prickles, and so is a good rose for cutting; in fact, it is an excellent all-rounder.

Digitized by Google

SOME OLD-FASHIONED PLANTS—III

TO deal with the many old florists' flowers of outstanding merit now rare is beyond the scope of these short articles. But there is a wide and intensely interesting sphere of work in connection with the reviving of these as well as other erstwhile favourites, and a profitable one withal, for I believe people of to-day are keener in regard to these half-forgotten relics than ever they were, and this in spite of the fascination of the novelty. And, after all, if we collect old china, rare prints and books and the like, why not plants? For my part I would rather have a good plant of Dianthus Cæsar's Mantle, one or two of the very precious and lovely forms of Primula pubescens alba (nivalis) or P. marginata Linda Pope, than, let us say, a musty volume of "Tristram Shandy."

But I must pass on and put in a plea for a fuller recognition of the old English columbine, Aquilegia vulgaris. For the large-flowered deep blue and pure white forms of this stately plant I have a regard so profound that I can scarcely contemplate without prejudice the ranks of long-spurred usurpers which have done so much to extirpate their distinguished predecessors. Such wallflowers as Harpur Crewe, with its little bunchy orange flowers on long tapering spikes, is still worth a front seat anywhere, and there is, or was, a good double red and one of a very rich, soft yellow, called, I think, Golden Drop, both of which have a claim upon us. Another worthy crucifer at one time more common is the Bladder Pod, Vesicaria utriculata, which makes so lavish a display of yellow throughout the spring. Then there is our old friend Honesty, Lunaria biennis, which, if it does not arouse much excitement, has given us a pure white form of very ancient origin which is a first-rate subject for such shady, drippy places as are disdained by most plants. Yet another excellent biennial is the tall, large-flowered evening primrose. There may be any quantity of Œnothera biennis about, but how often does one see a well grown group of var. grandiflora (Lamarckiana) placed against some shadowy background? Baptisia australis, with a rare loveliness in its sky blue flowers, is now seldom met with. I always associate it with the Cretan mullein (Celsia cretica) and the Blue Cupidone (Catananche cœrulea), for all three strove together, with Sweet Cecily, a fragrant cedronella (probably C. cana) and other aromatic old herbs in a garden I knew long ago.

No garden which opens its hospitable gates to old-fashioned flowers can fail to be other than generous to the hardy geraniums

THE FIERY CRANESBILL, GERANIUM SANGUINEUM.

which, to do them justice, would need a page or two of print. Our own G. pratense in its many forms; the fiery G. sanguineum G. ibericum and G. gymnocaulon, their large flowers a rich violet-purple; the splendid G. armenum, whose vivid crimson is veined with jet; the sweet-scented G. macrorrhizum of our old gardens of fragrant herbs; the excellent G. grandiflorum, with its big twin bells of clear blue, are but a few of the priceless old cranesbills which have been handed down to us and which are now not nearly appreciated at their full worth. Why this is so it is difficult to guess, for these and other geraniums are among the handsomest of border and woodland perennials. They are unquestionably hardy, easy under almost any conditions, ask but little attention, and rarely fail to bloom abundantly.

The symphytums, or comfreys, may be among the Ishmaels of herbaceous perennials, and some, perhaps, deserve no better fate; but there are others which are too good to be overlooked. S. caucasicum, still to be found in cottage gardens, with its twin racemes of clear Cambridge blue pendants, is an excellent subject for the woodland or growing between shrubs. For me it has merit enough for a mixed border containing many plants, not half as attractive and easy, listed at four times its price; and it has got for companions the ruby crimson S. bohemicum and a choice form of S. officinalis of moderate size and with pure white flowers. These bloom continuously from the end of April until the later summer, and in the same border is a very old friend that does not often greet us these days, Ranunculus aconitifolius fl. pl, Fair Maids of France or Bachelor's Buttons. The smug little white blooms of this hearty old perennial always create interest, and the single-flowered type is more beautiful, if less quaint. Even so, there is many a garden of to-day in which R. aconitifolius is rarer than it was in the days of Tudor England, and I readily forgive Farrer for pouring his opprobrium upon the double-flowered form, since he makes amends for this by waxing enthusiastic over the single.

A few years ago the polemoniums looked like vanishing from our borders, but a few have come back again and some of the more recent developments indicate what excellent material we have in these modest, homely old herbs, and they should encourage us to hunt up and restore some of the many delightful species and varieties which were by no means such strangers in the gardens of a generation or two ago as they are to-day. And so I might proceed to the anthericums and trilliums, to liatris and cimicifuga, the hellebores and spurges and others,

OLD ENGLISH COLUMBINES AT THE EDGE OF A WOOD.

Digitized by Google

many of which are languishing in the "desert air" of remote gardens awaiting the hour when the fickle pendulum of public fancy may swing their way and bring them once more the recognition they so richly deserve. We now have nurseries of native plants, our specialists in novelties are like green fly for multitude. Why not a line in genuine antiques? A. T. J.

CYCLAMEN FOR THE GREENHOUSE

CYCLAMEN in many beautiful varieties are more or less indispensable for decorative work, not only for furnishing the conservatory and greenhouse but also for decorative purposes in the dwelling-house, for which purpose they are admirably suited either as pot plants or in the cut state for table decoration. As pot plants they are ideal for room decoration, as they will produce their flowers for many weeks—indeed, for several months in a cool room where they can have plenty of light and air.

There is a vast difference between the wild type of C. persicum, with its small beautifully poised flowers, and the giants of the present day with their wide range of beautiful colours; but beautiful as the present-day race is, there is a great danger that with increased size of flower much of the charm and elegance of the wild type will be lost. Like the Chinese primula, the greenhouse cyclamen has never been crossed with any other species, and the many beautiful and strange forms which we possess and enjoy to-day are due entirely to many years of careful selection, and if seed is procured from a reliable source each variety may be expected to come true; although variations may be expected and welcomed, as they may lead to improved varieties.

The colours range from pure white, as seen in Giant White and White Butterfly, through varying shades of pink to cherry red and crimson, also rose and salmon. Among named varieties Firefly, Vulcan, Pink Pearl and Fringed Pink Pearl may be mentioned, also the crested variety Eileen Low. There are now varieties with salmon and salmon-scarlet flowers, like Bath Beauty and Salmon King, while the silver-leaved salmon is worth growing for its foliage alone. In this respect a large batch of cyclamen provides a wide range of beautiful leaf markings, which adds considerably to their decorative value. In addition to the crested varieties, which have a raised crest on the centre of each petal, there are now a great variety with frilled or fringed petals. These are generally known as Papilio varieties. Although they find many admirers, they lack the form and charm of the smooth-petalled varieties. They are all, of course, extremely interesting as showing the wide range of colour and form that has been evolved.

Although the cultural requirements of the cyclamen are, or appear to be, fairly simple, it is not everyone who can grow them successfully. The reason for this appears obscure. Possibly local conditions may have something to do with success or failure. About the middle of August is the best time to sow the seed, but one must be guided by local conditions. Here at Kew, where winter light is at a minimum, the young plants make so little progress during the winter that it is an advantage to sow during July. On the other hand, I have sown seed at the beginning of January and had excellent flowering plants the following November, but for general purposes the middle of August may be regarded as the best time for seed sowing.

It is very important that the seed be fresh, for at the best cyclamen seed is irregular in germinating. Thus, old seed may take so long to germinate that one's plans may be seriously upset. The seed is best sown in pans in a compost consisting of one-half good mellow loam and one-half well decayed leaf-soil and sand. The seeds may be dibbled in singly or arranged evenly on the surface of the compost, afterwards covering them to about their own depth with a portion of the compost, to which a little more sand may be added. The seed may be germinated in a cool greenhouse, but it is an advantage if pans can be placed in a little bottom heat. As they germinate and are fit to handle the seedlings should be carefully lifted and pricked off into well drained pans in similar compost to that in which they were sown, taking care not to bury them too deeply. When large enough they should be placed in thumb pots, in which they should be wintered, or they may be wintered in the pans, potting them off singly early in the New Year. During the winter they should have a position on a shelf well up to the roof glass

THE BEAUTY OF THE GREENHOUSE CYCLAMEN IS ADMIRABLY SHOWN BY THIS GROUP OF WELL GROWN PLANTS.

Digitized by Google

in a house where a moist atmosphere and a temperature of about 60° can be maintained. Early in the New Year they should be ready for a shift into larger pots, using at this stage a compost with a little more loam. For the final potting little or no leaf-soil should be used, unless the loam is very heavy, and some old mortar rubble may with advantage take the place of sand, as I consider lime is of prime importance in the successful cultivation of cyclamen. A dusting of soot and 5in. potful of bone-meal should be added to every bushel of compost. As the season advances the plants should gradually be accustomed to perfectly cool conditions. From the beginning of July until August the plants, according to their condition, should be ready for their final potting, pots 5ins. in size being suitable. A cool, moist atmosphere must be maintained. A cold frame is ideal for them, especially when only small quantities are grown. They should be shaded during the hottest part of the day, while during the night, when conditions are favourable, the lights may be removed altogether, as they benefit from the dews at night. About the middle of September they should be brought into a light, airy pit or greenhouse. When they have well filled their pots with roots they should be fed with diluted farmyard manure, guano or some other approved fertiliser.

Thrips are sometimes present, usually being caused by wrong cultural conditions, such as a dry atmosphere. If they prove troublesome a nicotine fumigant must be used. Cyclamen are also subject to attacks of begonia mite. This, however, can be prevented by the use of the sulphur vaporiser. Vine weevils, too, sometimes prove troublesome, their larvæ finding a home under the corms, where they eat the roots, the first sign of their presence being the collapse of the plant. To combat this pest some means must be taken to trap and destroy the weevils.

Cyclamen flowers should never be cut, but should be pulled out, as the cut ends are apt to cause decay in the young flower-buds. The hard ends of the flower-stalks should be cut off and the flowers without delay be stood in water, as they are—especially the giant types—somewhat difficult to revive if allowed to flag. If they have to be sent away, they should be stood in water for an hour or so before they are packed up. Wrapped in tissue paper and packed tightly, they should travel perfectly. Space forbids me saying anything about growing-on old plants, but this is not much practised at present, as most cultivators find that young plants serve their purpose best. J. C.

NOTES OF THE WEEK

STARWORTS.

Points About Disbudding.

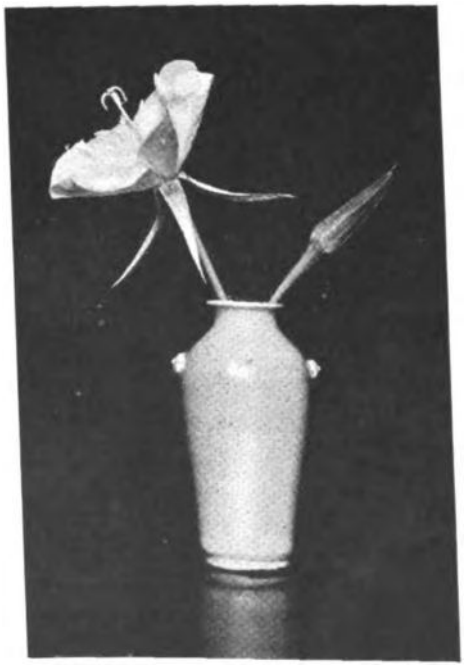
WHEN in a garden last autumn, I noticed among a group of starworts sprays of blossoms that were larger than others. They had been disbudded, and the many flowers had been sacrificed for the few. I did not make any comment, but the thought struck me that in these magnificent garden flowers that bring such a wealth of colour in the waning of the year, there was not the slightest need to interfere with them, or retard their output in any way. Size of flower in starworts is no criterion of enhanced beauty. We do not add one iota to the attractiveness by producing individual blossoms as large as a florin; on the contrary, we miss much loveliness in the garden and in the home, where they are carried for table decoration. It seems to me that the less we attempt to follow the abnormal the better. Who desires to emulate the grower of chrysanthemums in this respect? We have single chrysanthemums which, taken on the crown bud, or disbudded on the terminals, will give us size, if such is desired; but for Michaelmas daisies let us have all the joy and pleasure they are capable of bringing as they open in huge sheaves of blossoms!—W. F.

ŒNOTHERA CÆSPITOSA.

THIS dwarf white evening primrose is a fairly well known plant, yet it is not seen very often in gardens, perhaps because its habits are rather inconvenient; for it is a great wanderer, often dying out where it was originally planted and reappearing in half a dozen places several yards away. But as the finest of our hardy, night-flowering plants it is well worth a little patience.

The rough green buds prepare to open an hour or two before sunset, when the pleated white petals begin to bulge out between the sepals, and if they are picked and brought into the house at this stage their flowering may be watched during dinner. The sepals, under the pressure of the swelling petals, suddenly spring apart and, bending downwards, about as fast as the minute hands of a clock, allow the petals to unfold into a great white chalice, some 4½ins. across, tinted pale green at the throat and enclosing a green style and five delicately designed stamens looped about with ropes of sticky yellow pollen. All through the night the flower pours out a strong, sweet scent, rather like that of Magnolia grandiflora, but a trifle heavier, till about eight o'clock next morning, when the petals begin to flush with rose, which deepens to bright pink as they fade limply an hour or two later.

The plant flowers freely and, after a hot day, two or three of the large white blossoms may



A BLOOM OF ŒNOTHERA CÆSPITOSA.

usually be seen floating in the twilight over each clump of rough leaves. They are carried on a corolla tube about 5ins. long and the moth that can reach their nectar must have a very lengthy proboscis.

Œnothera cæspitosa is sometimes known as Œ. eximia or as Œ. marginata, and under the last name was figured in the Botanical Magazine in 1870 (No. 5828), a few years after its introduction to general cultivation from the Californian Rockies, where it had been discovered in 1842 by Mr. Nuttall.

It prefers a loose, stony soil in full sun and, as might be expected from its place of origin, it is not very patient of cold, wet winters, so that it is well, except when it has a perfectly congenial situation, to pot up a few of its runners in the late summer and keep them in a frame till the following spring.—F. A. HAMPTON, *Chesham Bois.*

AUTUMN CROCUSES.

THERE are many pitfalls to be found among the popular names of plants, and a very good illustration of this is to be found in the so-called autumn crocus. By this term the average person means a plant which is not a crocus at all, in spite of the superficial resemblance. The autumn crocus should more properly be known as the meadow saffron; that is if one wishes to avoid the use of its scientific name, Colchicum autumnale. Mostly one finds the meadow saffron in old-fashioned gardens, where its rosy purple flowers, produced before the leaves appear, are to be seen in September and October. The colchicum is one of the most accommodating plants for one can buy the bulbs in the late summer and plant them in any well drained sunny position, feeling sure that, in a few weeks, the blossoms will be out. There are many interesting varieties of C. autumnale, showing a wide range of colour from deep purple to pure white. There are, as well, some handsome double forms, all of which are very showy. Other species of colchicum include C. Parkinsoni and C. speciosum, the latter having flowers nearly 12ins. in height. This plant, which hails from the Caucasus, produces broad and handsome foliage in the spring. The individual flowers of the colchicums do not last long, but each bulb is capable of bearing a large number, so that the display of bloom is protracted. For those in search of a novelty, it may be pointed out that C. autumnale will flower without soil or water if the bulbs are placed, just as they are received, in a sunny window. All the colchicums are valuable for the rock garden in that they give a display of bright blossoms just at the time of year when these are most needed.

One cannot well write on this subject without drawing attention to the fact that there are real crocuses that flower in the fall. These are worth more attention than is usually bestowed on them. One of the best known is C. nudiflorus, which is a native of the north of Spain. This species, which has become naturalised in certain parts of the midland counties, bears bluish purple flowers in September and October. Another autumn-flowering crocus is C. cancellatus, with blooms varying from white to pale bluish purple. This species starts flowering in October and, in a mild winter, will continue in

Digitized by Google

bloom until December. Another very fine species is C. iridiflorus, with brilliant purple flowers which are very distinct on account of the purple stigma. Another fine free crocus is C. speciosus, with purple blooms suffused with darker veins. C. zonatus is also worth growing, with its lilac flowers, which are a bright golden yellow at the base. Practically all these species of autumn-flowering crocuses are of extremely easy culture and, when once established, will increase to a considerable extent. In fact, some of them require watching, as they tend to spread in a garden more than may be desirable.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

TRITOMAS.

DURING recent years gardeners have begun to realise the value of the tritomas or kniphofias, as they are sometimes called. The flame flower, to give the plant its old-fashioned name, is one of the noblest and most brilliant of the autumn flowers. New species and varieties have been introduced since the common flame flower (T. aloides) was brought to England from the Cape in 1707. Most of these are worth growing, and all succeed under very similar conditions. Probably the original flame flower in its many forms is still the best for ordinary purposes. The plant is very accommodating and will grow in almost any kind of soil or situation, providing the latter is not too heavily shaded. Tritomas are happy in the open border, or in the shrubbery or wild garden, where a certain amount of sunshine can find its way between the bushes. Growers of the flame flower should plan to extend the flowering period. Usually the plants are at their best in September and October, and then, if steps are not taken, the display comes to an end. Now, tritomas, although they will make a brave show even under rather poor conditions, appreciate good living. There is no plant in the garden that will respond more readily to the enrichment of the soil. Just about the time when the clumps are coming into their first flowering, loosen the soil well round the plants with a fork. Then give a heavy top-dressing of rich soil or, better still, well rotted manure. If the weather is hot and dry, soak well with water at least once a day. As the flower spikes fade remove them, cutting the stems at the base. From the heart of the plant there will arise many more flower spikes, which will maintain a wonderful succession of gorgeous flowers. with the coming of rough fall weather it is worth while staking the flower stems, as these are rather brittle and may be snapped off by a gust of wind. Of course, a good deal depends on the season, but in a normal one, without severe frost, there is no reason why the tritomas should not remain in flower until December.—S. L. B.

WHITE ROCK ROSES.

A Few of the Best.

IF Cistus cyprius can claim to be one of the hardiest of the taller rock roses, I always think that C. ladaniferus, one of its parents, is a choicer and more delightful shrub. The former, bearing its white, crimson-blotched flowers in bunches, often blooms so profusely that the effect is marred by being somewhat overdone. But in C. ladaniferus the flowers, yielded singly at the leaf axils, are more moderately disposed, and the upward sweep of the elegant branches, with their narrower leaves of a paler, more grassy green, make an exceedingly attractive setting. The pure white form of this species, known as var. immaculatus, has unblotched blossoms, but in every other respect it is similar to the type. These blooms are exceedingly lovely, and often measure 5ins. across, while the petals, as shown in the illustration, have that crinkly, tissue-papery appearance which emphasises their delicacy and refinement.

Allied to the beautiful C. Loreti, a species which must always be included in the "best half-dozen" white rock roses, is C. recognitus. Mr. W. J. Bean describes this variety as having "unspotted flowers," but the only specimens of that name I have been able to get from nurserymen who specialise in this genus have the coloured flash of C. Loreti. This, however, is not nearly so distinct, being a mere pencilling of vivid carmine outside the basal yellow stain, which latter, by the way, is remarkably golden and a striking accompaniment to the orange anthers. Like C. Loreti, these specimens of C. recognitus carry their large blooms throughout the day and often to next morning. It has a more upright habit and grows taller than the type.

THE PURE WHITE FLOWERS OF CISTUS LADANIFERUS IMMACULATUS.

C. obtusifolius (of the lists) is a useful white rock rose, for it will thrive in quite shady woodland places. Its dark green leaves are wavy at the margins and the white yellow-eyed flowers, which are yielded so abundantly from early June to August, are very effective against the sombre green of the foliage. This is probably a hybrid, and apparently allied to C. corbariensis, itself a natural hybrid. Both are extremely hardy and make compact bushes of about 3ft., but, like most cistuses, they are not long lived and require replacing every few years. This is easily done by plants raised from cuttings in August and put in round about any specimens which show signs of failing. In this way one may avoid gaps.

Of the two tallest rock roses C. populifolius and C. laurifolius, I prefer the latter, which is hardier, larger in the flower and generally more effective. Still, both are well worth a place on open woodland banks or similar situations, and the latter will often produce quantities of self-sown seedlings.

The new C. wintonensis deserves mention here, for it is the only grey-leaved rock rose to bear white, crimson-blotched blossoms. This interesting and pretty little bush is believed to be a hybrid between a cistus and a helianthemum. It is certainly very distinct, not only in the features alluded to, but in the crimson stain which tips the opening buds and which remains as a thin line of colour at the extremity of each expanded petal. All lovers of this beautiful race will agree that this new-comer thoroughly deserves the award of merit bestowed upon it at Vincent Square, where it made its *début* last spring.—A. T. JOHNSON.

THE POPULAR CISTUS RECOGNITUS.

Digitized by Google

NOTES ON ALPINE CUTTINGS

ROCK garden enthusiasts have yet time to see about increasing their stocks from cuttings, and the following notes may be of some help.

The first consideration is, of course, the frame, and this should be situated so that it gets the sun for the greater part of the day. Where the number of cuttings is not great a two-light frame will be found very suitable. This should be partitioned off so that one half of the frame is reserved for the rooting of the cuttings when they are potted. The section in which the pots of cuttings will be plunged may be filled with sand to within 6ins. of the light, and in the other section of the frame a layer of cinders may be provided to allow a free drainage.

There are several points regarding the cuttings themselves which, though seemingly of little importance, have a definite effect on the results. The first I would mention is the importance of selecting the strongest growths only. It is far better to go to a dozen plants and take one cutting from each than to attempt to take the whole batch from one plant. It must also be borne in mind that long cuttings are not necessarily the best; in fact, the alpine enthusiast is obliged to cultivate the knack of handling short growths.

The pots in which the cuttings are to be inserted must be clean, and after being supplied with an efficient drainage should be filled with a very porous compost. I prefer to use pure sand as the rooting medium, but when this medium is employed it is very important that the cuttings be transferred as soon as possible after they have made roots. Having inserted the cuttings, give them a thorough good watering in, and then plunge the pots to the brim in the bed of sand in the cutting frame. It will be found that these pots of cuttings will not require watering very often before rooting commences, though an occasional spray throughout the day will produce an ideal growing atmosphere. (Use water which is not absolutely cold.) At no time must the sand in which the pots are plunged be allowed to become dust-dry. Other treatment consists of providing slight ventilation on warm days, throwing a shade over the light during sunny periods and (a duty that is too often neglected) removing any rotting leaves.

I consider the rearing of cuttings one of the most interesting duties of a rock gardener, and I certainly think that his interest will be increased if he keeps an account of his results in what I choose to name a "Cutting Book." This is an ordinary indexed notebook, and the entries can be made in a very simple yet concise form, as for example:

Date.	No. of Cuttings.	Plant Name	Date of Potting.	Rooted.
1-7-26	20	Arenaria montana.	5-8-26	19

By keeping such a record it will at all times be possible to determine how long one may expect a cutting to be in rooting and, what is perhaps more important, it will provide useful data respecting the behaviour of different species when treated as cuttings.

W. HOWELL.

A SELECTION OF GENTIANS

(*Continued from page* 435.)

A SPECIES which is a native of Siberia, and first flowered in this country in 1905 is G. Lawrencei. Of the autumn-flowering species of gentians, I find this is not such a robust grower as G. sino-ornata or G. Farreri, and does not increase nearly so quickly, being a more slender plant with thinner stolons and much narrower leaves. The flowers are about 1¾ins. long, funnel-shaped, throat striped pale blue and white. The flowers are very sensitive to atmospheric conditions, and open only in bright sunshine and a warm dry atmosphere.

G. LUTEA.—This is a native of Europe and Asia Minor, and is among the strongest-growing gentian species, attaining 3ft. to 4ft. in height, with leathery leaves of a light green colour. It flowers in midsummer in a very free manner, and when in full bloom is rather a conspicuous object in a border, its size tending to exclude it from the rock garden. The yellow flowers are produced in whorled clusters up the stem among the foliage. The roots of this species are used in medicine. It sets seed very freely, but it takes from three to four years from sowing the seed to make strong flowering plants.

G. PANNONICA.—This is a European species growing nearly 2ft. high. The flowers in whorls are reddish purple on a stout stem, with the lobes of the corolla almost reflexed. Among the gentians, this species is rather outstanding on account of the colour of its flowers, and it is well worth including among any collection of the species. It grows well in good loamy soil, in a sunny position.

G. PROLATA.—This gentian is a native of Bhutan, growing at an altitude of 14,000ft., and flowered at Edinburgh Botanic Garden in 1917 from seed taken from Cooper's Bhutan specimens. It flowers at the same time as G. Farreri.

THE EASILY-GROWN GENTIANA SEPTEMFIDA.

The flowers are about 1½ins. long and are five-lobed, purple striate outside on a yellowish ground, having five bands, one along the middle of each petal, bands marked by three purple equidistant lines; lobes and folds blue. The flowers are produced at the end of the shoots, which are 3ins. to 4ins. long, prostrate, but do not root at the nodes as in G. sino-ornata. This species, with me, seeds freely and has the same habit of excreting its seed capsule from the corolla as G. Farreri and G. sino-ornata.

G. PURDOMI.—This Asiatic gentian, named after the late Mr. Purdom, makes close-lying rosettes of narrow glossy leaves, from which radiate trailing prostrate stems, each carrying about a dozen upturned flowers, violet blue, and freckled with tiny white spots. It grows well under the same conditions as other Asiatic gentians.

G. PYRENAICA, as the name indicates, is a native of the Pyrenees, and has much the same habit as G. verna and flowers at the same time in June. It requires the same treatment. The flowers emerge from a longish calyx in a star of bright violet.

G. SEPTEMFIDA.—No gentian is more easily grown than this species. It is a native of the Caucasus up to 9,000ft. It blooms in August, bearing flowers in clusters on stems about 9ins. high, of a clear soft blue, with the lobes of the corolla cut and jagged and fringy. This species sets a large quantity of seed, which germinates freely and makes good flowering plants within three years.

G. SIKKIMENSIS is a native of north-western Yunnan and the Himalayas, growing on the open pasture lands on the eastern flank of the Tali Range at an altitude of 10,000ft. to 11,000ft. This species is a creeping plant, growing 2ins. to 3ins. high, with narrow leaves clothing

Digitized by Google

the stems, on the apex of which the clusters of flowers appear. The corolla is nearly 1in. long, yellowish white, exterior darker. It is a good grower, forms rather compact tufts in damp soil in full sun, and flowers in September. With me it is a very healthy plant and spreads quickly, but has not flowered yet.

G. SINO-ORNATA.—This is a native of Yunnan, discovered by G. Forrest in 1904 at an altitude of 14,000ft. to 15,000ft. It flowered at the Royal Botanic Gardens in 1912 and received an award of merit at the R.H.S. when exhibited in October, 1915. This species has thick roots, producing many spreading rooting stolons from a primary central rosette, and forms new axillary rosettes at the rooting nodes. The flowers are about the same size as G. Farreri, but are of a rich royal blue, in contrast to the methyl blue of that species. The flowers show all the sensitiveness to light and moisture of most gentians, only expanding fully in bright sun and a dry atmosphere. G. sino-ornata is a late flowerer, starting to flower towards the end of September, and continuing until the winter sends the plant to rest. It is the freest in growth of any of the late-flowering gentians: a small plant from a cutting will increase to a patch a foot in diameter within a year. Although this gentian can be increased by cuttings in the autumn, I find it does best by division in the early spring, when it has made a growth of about 1in. Lifting a plant then and shaking it out, you get dozens of small plants, which, if planted about 6ins. apart, form a solid mass by the autumn. Three years ago I planted a bed 30ft. long by 7ft. wide. This bed is now a solid mass, and about the middle of October it is a wonderful sight, being one solid mass of blue, so free-flowering that you can scarcely see the foliage of the plants. Owing to this gentian flowering so late, it sets very little seed, probably owing to the scarcity of bees to fertilise the flowers. Last autumn I lifted some plants and placed them in a cold greenhouse, and when the flowers opened during a bright day I hand-fertilised them and thereby secured some few capsules of good seed. This seed was sown in the spring, and the seedlings have made good growth after planting out, so that I am looking forward to having them bloom next year, to see if the seedlings will vary in colour and size, as do those of G. Farreri. I find G. Farreri and G. sino-ornata grow and flower exceedingly well in my garden in Perthshire. The garden is at about 700ft. altitude, at the foot of the Ochil Hills, and gets a good deal of moisture in the summer and usually plenty of snow and frost during the winter. They prefer a low position, not perched up on a rock garden, and soil that will grow rhododendrons and azaleas seems to suit them. They will stand full sun if the soil does not get too dry during the summer. I find they rather like a little manure—at least, some clumps growing behind a stone edging in a border in which roses and delphiniums, etc., are planted and which gets manure during the winter, increased very quickly; and where the climate is drier and the sun stronger, such as in the south of England, I believe a position well dug with plenty of manure would help them to grow better.

G. sino-ornata and G. Farreri are very sensitive to changes of temperature. During the day in bright sunshine the flowers are full open; but if the temperature is low and clouds obscure the sun, they immediately close up; whereas if the atmosphere is dry and warm, the flowers are not affected in the same way, and I have seen, in early October, these full open after sunset, when the weather was dry and warm.

G. VEITCHIORUM.—This gentian was introduced into this country by seed collected by E. H. Wilson in western Szechuan, and may be distinguished from the other late-flowering gentians by its habit and foliage. It is a stiffer, more compact grower; the leaves are ovate and blunt at the apex. This plant, with me, is not so free a grower as the others, and does not increase nearly so quickly. The flowers are not quite so large as those of G. sino-ornata, and are a deep purple blue. It comes into flower in September, but is not such a free bloomer as the other late-flowering varieties.

G. VERNA.—This species, with me, thrives on a sunny slope in a well drained stony soil. Collected plants have not done so well here as those raised from seed. The latter make good flowering plants within three years of sowing. This lovely gentian forms compact tufts about 1½ins. high, from which flowers of azure blue spring on stems about 3ins. high. Although a native, it is not so easy to keep well grown, as most of the other species, and is much benefited by a top-dressing of loam and leaf soil after flowering.

A. HARLEY.

GENTIANA VERNA SUCCEEDS ON A SUNNY WELL DRAINED SLOPE.

G. SINO-ORNATA IS THE BEST OF THE LATE-FLOWERING GROUP

Digitized by Google

CORRESPONDENCE

TOMATO PLANTS UNDER GLASS.

SIR,—In reply to Mr. Geo. Stuart, Edinburgh, page 422, issue July 24th, respecting tomatoes, I wish to say that the sketches were taken from my plants—the variety Ailsa Craig, many plants of which have fruited between each main leaf and zig-zag on the stem, not all on one side. After reading Mr. Stuart's note I again examined the plants and found them as stated. Sutton's Best of All and Dobbie's Orange Sunrise are, as stated by Mr. Stuart, with a few exceptions, where trusses are two leaves apart. Most are on one side of the stem, many zig-zag on the stem.—GEO. GARNER.

A FERN-LEAVED BEECH.

SIR,—The tree in the illustration is a fern-leaved beech, and is the finest known up here. It would be interesting to know if it is a record. The dimensions are as follows: The spread of boughs 186ft. circumference, 77½ft. diameter; circumference of trunk 3ft. above ground, 13ft. The tree, as will be seen, is of good habit.—W. E. SARGINSON, *Windermere*.

IRIS DOMINION.

SIR,—In reply to the note from Lady Algernon Gordon Lennox in THE GARDEN of July 24th, I do not think it can be said that this iris has failed to keep up its great reputation. There are many gardens in which it has flowered well, and these as far apart as Bexley, Kent, in Mr. G. P. Baker's garden, and in Mr. Cuthbertson's garden near Edinburgh, in which, I understand, it is magnificent. It is, however, an iris with preferences, and there are instances of people who have never been able to get it to flower really successfully. Nor is this condition of affairs confined to England, as, in America, whereas Mr. Bonnewitz speaks highly of it as it flowers with him in Ohio, Mr. Wister of Germanstown, Philadelphia, Pa., says he can do very little with it.

Iris Dominion is all that Lady Lennox says of it, and more. I do not think the wonderful velvety texture and rich colour of its broad falls have been superseded, but it was the first of a new race and has certain faults that have been eliminated in its successors. For one thing, the standards are short, dumpy and ill-defined. It has a habit of turning its buds inwards towards the stem that gives it a huddled appearance. In most of its descendants these faults are non-existent. In the limestone soil of sunny Capri all this wonderful race should do well. Any flower with so rich colour and smooth texture is likely to "spot" with rain succeeded by bright sunshine. The reason it has never been more popular is probably because it has been so much in demand for breeding purposes that its price has remained rather high. I strongly advise Lady Gordon Lennox to try some of the following, both in Capri and England, and am certain she will not be disappointed. All are children of Dominion. 1, Bruno; 2, Mrs. Valerie West; 3, Duke of Bedford; 4, Pendragon; 5, Romola; 6, Glamour; 7, Majestic; 8, Moa; 9, Titan; 10, Tenebræ; 11, Cardinal; 12, Swazi. Most of these have all the good characteristics of Dominion without its faults. Some of them attain a height of 3½ft. and throw up six or eight spikes per plant when established, each having several massive flowers open at once. Dominion as a parent is still one of the most valuable irises we have, and if it only bears one perfect flower per year, is worth its place in the garden.—GEO. DILLISTONE.

YELLOW FOXGLOVES.

SIR,—In his article on "Yellow Foxgloves" in THE GARDEN of July 3rd, page 375, S. Arnott says "Digitalis lutea is one of the best of these yellow biennials. It is about 3ft. high and has brighter blooms than the above." Digitalis lutea (*Linné*) is not a biennial but a very persistent perennial with the smallest blossoms of the genus of a poor pale lemon yellow, and is of the type of plant called "interesting," but neither showy nor beautiful. Its usual height in the wild state is 1ft. to 1½ft., and it is a common sub-alpine plant. D. grandiflora (*Allioni*) is the same plant as D. ambigua (*Linné*) and is not nearly so common in the wild state. There is a coloured plate of both D. lutea and D. grandiflora in H. S. Thompson's "Sub-Alpine Plants" facing page 228.—R. J. S., *Tyrone*.

A FINE FERN-LEAVED BEECH.

IVY ON TREES.

SIR,—You do well to call attention to the prevalence of ivy on trees, which seems to be on the increase. Is it that timber is of no value nowadays or that trees of themselves have no beauty in the landscape that owners are so neglectful of their needs? Or is it just the slipshod way so common to our country which neglects the good things we have and imports some inferior substitute? Here the ivy is commonest on the oak because the oak is our commonest tree, and while our cabinet-makers and builders cannot obtain English oak timber with the length of plank and freedom from knots required, they have to import oak from Japan of inferior durability but infinitely better growth. The ivy on an oak tree just outside our grounds has a trunk 6ins. in diameter. Several other fine oaks and ash, too, quite near are smothered almost to the tips with ivy. In my experience, the spruce fir suffers soonest from the grip of ivy, growth being quickly arrested, and as the ivy does not take long to reach the tip the tree is soon killed. Several such trees are to be seen in this neighbourhood. I can find it on most kinds of trees with the exception of the beech, and I notice the growth of the ivy is lightest on those trees which give a heavy shade.—H. C. W., *Surrey*.

LILIUM M. DALMATICUM CATANEÆ.

SIR,—This has proved one of the most illusive lilies I have sought. I have never been quite sure of the plant until lately. Dr. Wallace in his "Notes on Lilies" gives it—on the authority of Visiana—as a variety of Martagon, and then goes on to say that L. Martagon dalmaticum, Malay, is a similar form, or the same. He describes Cataneæ as having flowers of a dark purplish claret colour; dots nearly obsolete. Mr. Groves, on the contrary, speaks of Cataneæ as having flowers that take a lighter colour. He also says that both forms have a mass of white hairs on the unopened buds. Even this feature is not constant, for the first stock of dalmaticum I grew did not show these hairs.

There are three well marked forms of the white Martagon lily: the Dutch white, with the whitest flowers of all; the Lake District white, which has a slight blush tint and with ticks and spots on the back of the flowers; and the creamy white album superbum.

Many years ago I raised a batch of seed from this last. The result was a remarkable variety. The great bulk were just the type Martagon, varying a good deal in the shade and amount of spots. The rest ran all shades from the type to the darkest dalmaticum colour. Some had stripes of this dark mahogany colour down the centre of each petal, others had dark flowers but with light spots of colour in the centre of each petal, some were dark wine colour with the usual spots visible on examination, while others were of the best dark shade. I do not know which of these various forms should be called Cataneæ and really feel the name should be dropped altogether. Dalmaticum was introduced about forty years ago by Max Leichtlin of Baden from Montenegro. Perhaps Cataneæ—a seedling form from it or a neighbour of it—was sent over by the same grower. Anyhow, I think that the very dark forms should be sold as dalmaticum and the various intermediate shades should be grown as mixed or as simply dark forms of Martagon. The wine-coloured *could* be retained as Cataneæ.

It may interest fanciers to know that I have one small bulb which turned up in an importation from Germany which has pure white flowers but with the typical dense spotting in the centre, reminding one of Lilium Farreri. Unfortunately, it will take years before it can be shared round.—JOHN STORMONTH, *Kirkbride, Cumberland*.

AN ENQUIRY.

SIR,—I grow a number of Darwin and cottage tulips for market, which are taken up and divided every second year. About half of these "break," while others in a herbaceous border, which are seldom moved or picked, practically remain true. Is this the general experience of market growers, and can you suggest any remedy?—T. M. C.

Digitized by Google

FRUIT AND FLOWERS AT WESTMINSTER

THE exhibits were varied and the attendance small at the fortnightly meeting of the R.H.S., held on July 27th and, although gooseberries should have been the main feature of the Show, there were only three exhibits of this fruit. Many fine herbaceous phloxes were to be seen, gladioli and hardy perennials were also well represented, but on the whole the solitary exhibits, such as those of aquatics, scented pelargoniums and annuals were the most interesting.

An excellent collection of gooseberries and currants was put up by the fruit specialists Messrs. J. C. Allgrove. Dishes of fruit and also bushes growing in pots were shown, and from an exhibit of this kind the cropping powers as well as the size and quality of the fruit can be judged. The gooseberries Leveller and Langley Gage and the red currant La Constante were bearing very heavy crops of good-sized fruit.

Mr. F. C. Stoop showed over thirty varieties of gooseberries, and his dishes of the varieties Ironmonger, Warrington and Colossal were in perfect condition. Gooseberries were also shown by Mr. H. Hemsley.

At one end of the hall the massed group of scented pelargoniums exhibited by the Hon. Vicary Gibbs and raised by Mr. Edwin Beckett was a really fine collection, and showed great skill in cultivation. There were varieties, such as Lady Plymouth, with light-coloured foliage, others with variegated foliage, while some had dark green and finely divided leaves.

Mr. Amos Perry's collection of aquatics was both interesting and unique. True water-loving plants as well as numerous uncommon bog plants were exhibited, and among them were parrot's feather (Myriophyllum proserpinacoides), an excellent plant for an aquarium; the attractive floating water hyacinth, Eichornea crassipes major; Thalia dealbata, with its massive palm-like foliage; and the true bulrush, Scirpus lacustris.

A large and well arranged group of vegetables was staged by Messrs. Barr and Sons. Fine specimens of the carrot Barr's New Intermediate, the dwarf bean Barr's Excelsior and a number of herbs were included.

Good strain and good cultivation are two essential features to be considered when growing annuals. Messrs. C. S. Daniels and Son's exhibit of annuals bore evidence of both these features, and their robust, large and brightly coloured flowers could in no way be compared with the straggly, indifferent annuals which one frequently sees. Their godetias and larkspurs were particularly fine, and the varieties of godetia named Duchess of Albany and Double Rose perhaps the best.

Herbaceous phloxes as shown by Mr. H. J. Jones made an imposing group. Modern phlox varieties are vivid and striking in colouring, and many of the finest have been raised by Mr. Jones himself. A few of the outstanding varieties in his group were Mrs. Askew, beautiful salmon pink; Mrs. G. A. Agnew, soft salmon-cerise; September Glow, brilliant red; Mrs. Rutgers, rosy lilac; Mia Ruys, pure white; and Eugene Danzanvilliers, light mauve.

The fact that the gladiolus is one of the finest of all flowers for house decoration was ably demonstrated by Messrs. Kelway and Son, who staged numerous vases filled with massive spikes of this increasingly popular flower. The grace, elegance and brilliancy of colouring, particularly of Messrs. Kelway's Langprim hybrids, could not fail to be appreciated. Lady Joan Verney, Mrs. Swainson, Rev. J. Stubbs of the hybrid gladioli, together with Palestine and J. W. Kelway, both large-flowered varieties, were outstanding.

Messrs. Hewitt's gladioli and perennial phlox were in fine form. The glowing orange-scarlet large-flowered gladioli Rubini and the primulinus hybrid Lætitia were two of the best varieties. Mr. H. Hemsley showed a number of his new sidalceas in various shades of rosy crimson. These are the results of many years of plant breeding. Another grower who exhibited plants of his own raising was Mr. Isaac House. New perennial scabious in shades of blue, mauve and lavender were exhibited by him.

One of the most useful of yellow-flowered hardy perennials, Coreopsis auriculata superba was shown by Messrs. B. Latham. Lavatera Olbia rosea was also conspicuous on this stand.

Carnations, chiefly of the perpetual type, were exhibited by three firms—Messrs. Allwood Brothers, Messrs. C. Engelmann and Messrs. Stuart Low and Co. Red Laddie, shown by Messrs. C. Engelmann, was exceptionally fine in colour and form.

Roses came from Messrs. D. Prior, who had good blooms of Little Joe, C. E. Van Rossem and Allan Chandler.

Hardy plants, alpines and shrubs were exhibited by several of the leading firms. Messrs. Tucker and Sons had a patch of the quaint Campanula Zoysii in their miniature rock garden. Meconopsis cambrica aurantica shown by them was flowering well, and Campanula pseudo-Raineri was covered with its saucer-like blooms of clear blue. Mr. F. G. Wood, among his group of hardy perennials, had a few plants which in the wild garden make a splendid show; for instance, there was Lythrum virgatum roseum and Liatris spicata. Lilies, pentstemons and summer-blooming plants for the rockery, such as the vivid Verbena chamædryoides, Campanula Stansfieldii and Gentiana Freyniana were shown by Mr. M. Prichard. Ryburgh hybrid double poppies and herbaceous plants came from the Chalk Hill Nurseries.

Several interesting shrubs, all flowering well, were shown by Messrs. R. Veitch and Son. Desfontainea spinosa, Feijoa Sellowiana, Lagerstrœmia indica, Eugenia apiculata, and fine specimens of Lonicera Hildebrandti and Eucryphia pinnatifolia were among them. Messrs. G. Reuthe staged a miscellaneous collection of shrubs and hardy plants. Spiræa Bumalda and Passiflora cœrulea were noted. Messrs. L. R. Russell had several fine plants of Erythrina Crista-galli, the coral tree, and Sollya heterophylla, the dainty Australian bluebell creeper.

NEW AND RARE PLANTS.

AWARDS OF MERIT.

ALLIUM DESCENDENS.—A tall, striking-looking species which bears on wiry stems terminal umbels of deep purple flowers forming a tightly packed globular head. Shown by Mr. R. C. Notcutt, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

CEANOTHUS HENRI DEFOSSE.—A floriferous and attractive variety of this ornamental shrub. The trusses of deep indigo blue flowers are darker in colour than any other form of the type. Shown by Messrs. R. Veitch and Son, Exeter.

CRINUM CONCINNUM.—A large Peruvian species of this bulbous plant which is flowering for the first time in England. On a thick and fleshy stem of about 2ft. in height is borne a loosely arranged umbel of twelve to eighteen flowers, some fully open, others in bud. Each petal is from 4ins. to 6ins. in length, white in colour, banded with crimson down the centre and faintly flushed with the same colour. The broad sword-shaped leaves are almost 2½ft. long. Shown by Major Albert Pam, Broxbourne.

ESCALLONIA IVEYI.—Clusters of white flowers tinged with flesh pink at the base are borne by this evergreen shrub. The foliage is neat, dark green and glossy. This shrub appears to be a strong grower and very robust. Shown by Messrs. R. Veitch and Son, Exeter.

PHYGELIUS CAPENSIS VAR. COCCINEA.—A small, showy, tender shrub from the Cape of Good Hope. The pendent tubular flowers are a glowing orange scarlet, and the lance-shaped leaves are small and dark green. Shown by Mr. Clarence Elliott, Stevenage.

PHLOX ROYAL PURPLE.—A phlox of distinct colouring, being a dark violet blue with a deeper eye. The trusses are large and much branched. Each pip is of medium size. Shown by the Hon. Vicary Gibbs, Elstree.

SCABIOSA ANTHEMIFOLIA ROSEA T. HAY'S VAR.—A perennial species of the pincushion flower with large, well formed flowers of rosy mauve on stems of 2ft. in length. Shown by Mr. Isaac House, Westbury, Bristol.

ORCHIDS.

SOPHRO - LÆLIO - CATTLEYA PRUDENCE (S.-L. Læta × C. Fabia).—So far as coloration is concerned, this hybrid probably excels all others in its section. The spike bore three flowers of moderate size of purplish rose colour, but with a rich over-tint of ruby crimson, the labellum having a deep crimson zone round the margin, while the throat is effectively veined with dull gold. Exhibited by Lieut.-Colonel Sir George Holford, K.C.V.O., Westonbirt, Tetbury, Glos. Award of merit.

ODONTIODA ESME (Oda. Manora × Oda. Red Cross).—A charming novelty with a spike of eight neatly formed flowers of bright reddish rose colour. From Messrs. Charlesworth and Co., Hayward's Heath, Sussex. Award of merit.

VANDA HERZIANA (cœrulea × suavis).—An interesting hybrid in which the flower is of an obscure rose tint, but with bright bluish markings derived from the former parent. It does not appear to be so free growing as V. suavis. Shown by Messrs. Charlesworth and Co., Hayward's Heath. Preliminary commendation.

ODONTOGLOSSUM CLEOPATRA VAR. MEMORIA LIONEL CRAWSHAY.—This plant was a fine example of successful cultivation, the branched inflorescence having no fewer than fifty-three buds and flowers. Staged by Messrs. Sutton Brothers, Hassocks. Cultural commendation.

CŒLOGYNE SANDERIANA.—A well grown specimen with nearly a hundred flowers was staged by Mr. H. T. Pitt, Rosslyn, Stamford Hill, and received cultural commendation. The species was introduced from the Sunda Isles, and the flowers are white, with some yellow on the lip.

Mr. H. T. Pitt, Rosslyn, Stamford Hill, staged a very interesting group, and a really fine one for the period of the year. Cattleya Warscewiczii was represented by the pretty variety known as Mrs. E. Ashworth, and by another variety called F. M. Beyrodt, which has pure white flowers except for some bright purple on the lip. Maxillaria venusta, with four flowers, and Dendrobium Dalhousieanum were both attractive, while others that caused attention were Angræcum Scottianum and Odontonia Olivia with yellow flowers marked with brown. Cypripedium Enchantress with yellowish green flowers stood out prominently, as also did C. St. Alban, of dark crimson-red. Silver-gilt Banksian medal.

Digitized by Google

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

MILDEWED FRUIT.

Strawberry Diseases.

IN strawberry fields nothing is more characteristic than mildewed plants which can be spotted from quite a long distance by means of the peculiar turning back of the leaves so as to expose the under surface. The attack is always serious, but most serious in new plantations, for growth and development are considerably affected; sometimes, too, the fruit is affected and rendered unsaleable. Leaf-spot is always more prevalent in dry, porous and fiery loams. Close examination of the leaves reveals dark red spots; equally observable on both sides of the leaf, these enlarge, and the centre becomes a greyish white colour, the spot then appearing like an "eye." By upsetting the feeding system of the plant, this disease is a bad enemy to successful cropping. A third disease, often misnamed mildew, affects the fruits mostly, covering them with a grey mould and inducing early rotting. This mould, a species of botrytis, is invariably worse in warm and damp or wet seasons, and varieties bearing weak stems and heavy crops always suffer most; contact with wet soil or wet straw encourages the disease. So far it has proved a very difficult matter to eradicate any of these diseases. Lime-sulphur, 1 in 50, if repeated at 10 days' intervals, is fairly effective, but the impossibility of spraying thoroughly such low-growing plants as strawberries negatives much of the work. Dusting with a mixture of ground lime and sulphur is fairly effective early in the season, but, of course, impossible when fruits appear. The plan we favour most—a drastic one—is best of all: the plants are cleared of all bedding material, then the leaves are clipped off and left as they fall. After they have dried for a few days the bedding material, also dried, or some hay or straw is laid thinly over the bed and the whole set on fire. Supervision to see that all parts receive this fire treatment equally is required and at the finish all straws left are brushed up lightly with a broom and burned. If this treatment is carried out just now the plants come up fresh and green by the autumn and entirely free from any of the diseases. Growers should be particularly careful in regard to new runners.—LANARKSHIRE.

ONIONS.

Lifting and Storing.

AUGUST is the harvest month with the grower of onions, as it is the time for lifting the bulbs. In the first or second week, according to the progress they have made, he will give the necessary twist to the necks of the finest specimens, about which he may have had misgivings earlier in the season, but which, with feeding and hoeing, have helped on a bumper crop. I always feel more satisfied when I have gathered in the onion crop than almost any other. Perhaps it is because they have demanded unremitting care and attention from the day I sowed seed in boxes in the house on what seems now to be a far-off January day, and all through the weeks after planting in beds, weeding and hoeing, with feeding and watering, seemed to monopolise so much time.

One hardly needs to be reminded that, in turning the heads inwards and in raising the roots with a fork, it is only to aid the quicker ripening, preparatory to lifting the bulbs on that fine day which is so needful for the work, but which has sometimes to be undertaken under less favourable conditions. Nor is it necessary to say more than that, when the bulbs are taken from the bed, they should be carefully handled so as to avoid bruising them, storing them finally in a cool dry place in single layers, which is calculated to keep them in the best condition for the longest period.—CLAREMONT.

A USEFUL GREEN FOOD.

Corn Salad for Winter.

CORN salad, or lamb's lettuce is of greatest value in winter and spring, when other green things are scarce. It is very hardy, and may often be found growing wild in cornfields and under hedgerows.

A good sowing may be made at this time, in rows 6ins. apart, and the seedlings thinned to half that distance in the rows. A warm sheltered border is best for them, a porous light soil, and the plants will be active at any spell of suitable weather throughout the winter. Although the leaves may be cooked, we find them figuring most often in green salads. A very fine salad is known as *salade de mâche*, a French concoction (corn salad is better known in France than in this country). The plants are pulled up, the roots cut off and the leaves well washed in water; to a pound of the leaves a little sliced beetroot is added and a little celery or cooked celeriac in chips. These are mixed thoroughly together, seasoned with salt and pepper, and a dressing, consisting of equal parts of oil and vinegar, a tablespoonful of each, added.—LANARKSHIRE.

MAKING THE MARROWS KEEP ON.

IF, as sometimes happens towards the end of the summer, the weather becomes wet and cool, the effect on the marrows is almost immediate. Like all the gourd tribe, marrows are the children of the sun and, without the warm rays, they find difficulty in setting and developing their fruit. In cold rainy weather many a young marrow which has started well will turn yellow and finally rot away altogether. This is nearly always due to one thing which it pays the grower to bear in mind. In hot dry weather the withered flower at the end of the marrow shrivels up and drops away very quickly. If there is much damp about there is a tendency on the part of the flower to hang on. Owing to the cool weather the young marrow is not growing quickly enough to push the dead bloom out of the way. As a result the moist petals of the flower become the starting point of mould growths, and these fungi rapidly infect the marrow itself. The end of this is that everything goes wrong and the marrow never lasts long enough to grow to any decent size.

The remedy for this trouble is to watch the young marrows. A day or two after the fruit has set, pull the dead flower gently. Do not use any force, but, as soon as the bloom can be easily pulled away, remove it altogether. Many marrows may be saved by following this simple plan.

Of course, the late summer may be hot and dry, and then the marrow plants may flag simply owing to lack of water. Here liberal soakings will help very much to keep things going. Unless there is any special reason, resist the temptation to leave some large marrows on the vines just to see how big they will get. Plants that are occupied in maturing fruit in this way will cease producing new marrows, which, after all, will be the most useful. Another good tip at this time of the year is to pinch away the ends of the shoots, which often grow with great vigour and waste energy that is much better employed in filling out the growing marrows.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

FLOWER GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE

FREESIAS.

THAT the Royal Horticultural Society is holding a trial of freesias is, I think, a sign of the times. I hope a real good collection of varieties will be sent, old and new, and the inferior as well as the best, so that they can be compared and the former discarded in favour of the latter, and so reduce the number of named sorts to those that are really worth growing. Like a horse, it costs no more to keep a good one than a bad one; so with freesias, it costs no more to grow the best than it does to grow the worst. And they are grown so very easily—even a cold frame, which can be covered to exclude frost, can grow them. Some of my best flowers are grown in frames, planted out in the soil; a single 3in. pipe runs through the whole length, 80ft., and is only used in very cold weather, and then I turn on heat as much to prevent the pipes freezing as to protect the freesias.

They get no water from start to finish, there being sufficient moisture soaking in to keep the rooting area moist enough. Anyone with a good frame or a small greenhouse can grow them. I do not think that their decorative value is as fully realised and appreciated as it should be: they are such good flowers for cutting, many varieties have fine long stems, as stiff and strong as wire; and they last so well in water. The dwarfer sorts should be grown as pot plants, and, of course, they will last longer still. Early potting is best—that is, as early in August as you can get them; and, judging from my own results, the ripening is much later this year, owing to lack of sunshine during May and June. Anyhow, pot them in August if you can, or, at any rate, in September. I never keep any after October 1st. Last season I had to grow the stock of a new variety for the owner and it was not potted or planted until November. The pot plants were a bit later than some August-potted plants, but they were all shown at the R.H.S. in April, in first-class condition.

As to compost, I personally use a light sandy loam, an extra liberal lot of coarse sand, and extra well crocked pots, which ensures quick drainage. A little bone-meal is used in the compost, and other manure, in the form of liquid cow-manure, is used later, when the roots require and can use it.

A noted freesia grower—alas! no longer with us—used to use much leaf-mould: it appeared to be quite 75 per cent. of the compost, and even more. Personally, I never use it at all and, judging by my results of flower and corm for 1926, it seems quite unnecessary to use it.

Six corms to a 5-inch pot (48 size) is what I advise, and ten to a size larger. I prefer to put more in a pot rather than less, and results justify this.

As soon as the corms are potted, I place all pots in the freesia house, giving full air and keeping them as cool as is possible at this season. By so doing you can keep the watering under control. Placed in the open, you can control the water-can but not the rain, and the pots may get too much of the latter. A cold frame will do, giving plenty of air, and on no account covering the pots with ashes, fibre, etc. This only tends to produce weak growth at the start.

Water sparingly, but give enough to start and maintain root action, otherwise growth may not start at all.

I prefer to feed the plants when they are forward enough to require it, and not to use manure, other than bone-meal, in the compost. I always think so much of the nutriment gets

Digitized by Google

washed out with watering long before the roots get to it or require it.

Stake the plants before they get too tall, not because they are weak-stemmed, but because when they reach a certain height they are apt to over-balance. I advise Allwoods' carnation wire rings, which last for years. I am using now rings which I bought in 1914. (This is a good testimonial to their durability). I find that the coloured varieties come stronger and better in colour if grown as cool as possible and not forced. And now as to what sorts to grow.

For pots, Apogee and Jubilee are first-rate, being sturdy and dwarfer than most sorts. All are good for pots, and most are good for cutting as well. For the latter I strongly recommend Buttercup, Conquest, Mouette, Cream Cheese and, especially, Golden King—an old variety now, and the flowers on the small side, but a rich colour, very stiff stems and a wonderfully strong scent, and it flowers last of all, with Cream Cheese.

Freesia raising is a quick job compared with many other flowers, for they can be had in flower in eight months from sowing, but, of course, the flowers and spike will be on the small side and should not be judged until the second year. Some varieties set seed freely, others set none and are very difficult to set seed by hand or by cross pollinating, and generally in the latter case they are the better varieties that one particularly wants to get seed from.

There is much more I could write about on freesias, but time and space forbid, and we must wait and watch for the trials and the results.—G. D.

SUMMER BEDDING PLANTS.

How to Propagate Them.

THESE include many kinds, but only those that are increased or preserved through the winter by the propagation of cuttings are dealt with in this note. Two kinds of compost will be needed: one of fibrous loam 2 parts, leaf-soil 1 part, with plenty of sand added; and the other, fibrous loam 1 part, leaf-soil 2 parts, also with a free addition of coarse sand. The first-named compost should be used for zonal, ivy-leaved, and sweet-scented pelargoniums, calceolarias and similar kinds of plants. The lighter compost

A SPRAY OR CLUSTER OF TERMINAL BUDS.

will be most suitable for such plants as fuchsias, heliotrope, lobelia, verbenas and similar plants. The cultivator should, therefore, prepare two separate heaps and retain them under cover until the soil is being actually used. Where it is difficult to obtain coarse sand, use old mortar rubble instead; a small quantity, mixed with the sandy compost, will do good. Its presence encourages root formation and helps to keep them healthy, when they do good. With few exceptions, inserted cuttings do best until the end of September under well tilted lights in a cold frame. Do not select the very hard nor the very sappy wood for cuttings; that of medium firmness is the best. Boxes and pots are the most suitable for cuttings in general; pans for certain kinds, such as those of small growth and used for edgings. Boxes should be made to last and to keep free from fungus. To this end, nail strips of wood, *a*, on the bottom of each box, and make several drainage holes, *b*, in the box, too. Cut off stem, *c*, and bottom leaf, *d*, when preparing the cutting, even in the case of small ones, shown at *e* and *f* respectively.

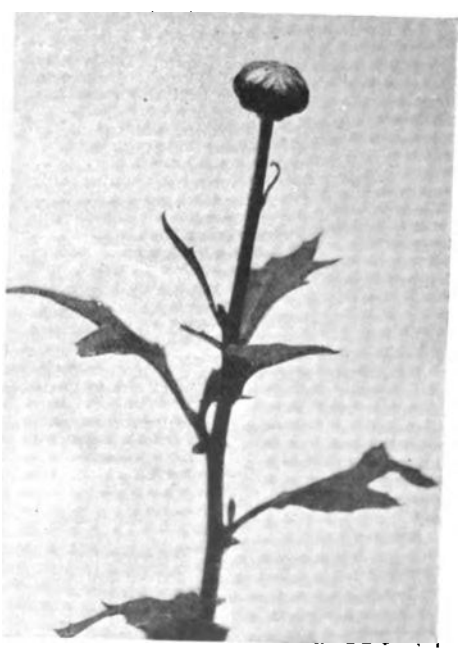
Having prepared and filled the pot or box, make holes with a blunt dibber, *g* and *h*; insert the cuttings as shown at *i*, after removing the stem scales, *j*; *k* shows the drainage material on the crocks, and *l* and *m* new roots growing before winter comes.—G. G.

TAKING CHRYSANTHEMUM BUDS.

MANY varieties of chrysanthemums have produced flower buds persistently since the middle of June. No doubt, last year's weather and the conditions under which the plants were grown have had some effect on the current year's growth. The dark-flowered varieties are the worst offenders in the matter of premature bud-forming. But the buds of certain sorts, such as those of Mrs. G. Drabble, William Rigby, Queen Mary, Princess Mary, Majestic and Victory, if taken any time during the last half of July, will develop into big blooms from October 25th to November 10th. The great majority of varieties, such as Mrs. R. C. Pulling, which is taken as a guide, will show their buds from July 25th to August 20th, and if the buds are gradually "taken," that is, retained, while the shoots growing immediately below are removed, one or two each day, until all are pinched out, the resultant blooms should be large, refined and open at the end of October. Practically all buds so dealt with are crown buds—buds surrounded by young shoots. The next batch of buds will be the final, or terminal, ones, and the central one is retained while those buds—not shoots—surrounding it are removed. The big single flowers are taken as in the case of crown buds. The later and more refined singles are the ones resulting from buds being taken nearer the end of August, and in the majority of cases they are terminals. —GEORGE GARNER.

VIOLETS: MID-SEASON DUTIES.

IN a few weeks hence, we shall be concerned with finding provision under cold frames for violets which have been quartered in the garden since April, but before that time arrives help should be given them in the administering of weak manure water twice a week; in syringing the plants in the evening after hot days; in stimulating them further by applying soot water occasionally; and in generally looking after them by continuing to pinch out runners as they form. It is in the nature of a violet to be perpetually throwing out runners in the summer months, and unless these are stopped one cannot get fine crowns serviceable for lifting into frames, or look for plenty of fragrant blossoms. Unfortunately, at the time of planting the runners in spring, position is not always studied, and it comes about that the plants are exposed to all the heat of summer, without the slightest shade to help them. The ideal spot for violets is a north position where the sun is off in the afternoon, and where they will get a chance of recuperating. The next best position is between rows of peas or beans or other tall-growing plants. Towards the middle of September, according to weather conditions, clumps should be planted in frames with a minimum of root disturbance, but the lights ought not to be entirely closed, the old practice of admitting air at top and bottom being observed. In dry weather, while still out of doors, a watch should be kept for red spider and frequent syringings resorted to.—CLAREMONT.



THE CENTRE TERMINAL BUD RETAINED TO FORM A LARGE BLOOM.

Digitized by Google

BENTLEY'S
WEED DESTROYER

(POISON) STANDS FOR

Strength Reliability Economy

Stronger than any other. One application keeps gravel paths and drives clean for nearly two years. Commands the largest sale both at home and abroad, with a rapidly spreading popularity.

REDUCED PRICES:

Concentrated Liquid (1 to 80)—1 gal. **6/9**; 2 gals. **13/–**; 3 gals. **18/9**; 6 gals. **35/9**; 12 gals. **69/–**; 24gals. **134/3**; 40gals. **218/3**

Powder (1 to 25)—4 tins **9/3**; 8 tins **17/10**; 12 tins **25/6**; 20 tins **40/9**; 40 tins **78/–**

BENTLEY'S
QUASSIA EXTRACT

Compound Liquid **(Non-poisonous)**

Infallibly destroys Aphis in all its forms. It may be used anywhere and everywhere with absolute safety, and is the most economical of all Insecticides.

One gal. makes from 80 to 100 gals. of wash.

5 gals. **6/6** per gal.; 1 gall. **8/9**; ½ gal. **5/–**; 1 qt. **3/–**; 1 pt. **1/9**

Carriage paid on 15/– orders and upwards.

Sole Manufacturers:

JOSEPH BENTLEY LTD.

CHEMICAL WORKS,

BARROW-ON-HUMBER :: LINCS.

FREESIAS

THE MOST DELIGHTFUL FLOWERS FOR POTS OR FOR CUTTING.

BUY and TRY a few!

I can supply the following varieties : per doz.

	s.	d.
Apogee, a very strong grower of good habit, not so tall as most. The flowers are very large, of good shape, and a soft primrose yellow. One of the best varieties. A.M., R.H.S.	5	0
Bluebeard, of a stiff, wiry growth. This variety makes a very good pot plant. Flowers of moderate size, are of a blue-mauve shade with brown markings in the throat	6	0
Buttercup, a strong, tall grower, and one of the earliest to open. Large flowers of a rich primrose yellow with a deep orange lip. A.M., R.H.S.	4	0
Conquest, a strong and very free-flowering early variety. Rose pink, a charming colour	7	6
Cream Cheese, a tall late-flowering variety with pale primrose flowers, a fine variety for cutting	7	6
Golden King, a strong grower, flowers of medium size, of rich golden yellow, very free flowering, with extra strong, stiff stems. Has a very strong scent, and is one of the last to flower. A.M., R.H.S.	4	6
Jubilee, of dwarf habit. Massive flowers of great substance, creamy white, suffused with carmine outside. An excellent variety for pots	6	0
La Charmante, a strong grower of medium height. It opens an apricot shaded with pink, turning to rich copper colour	8	6
La France, an early-flowering variety, free-flowering large well shaped open flowers of a delicate mauve with a white throat. A.M., R.H.S.	4	6
Mouette, a vigorous grower, tall spikes of large open flowers of creamy white suffused with pink, outside a deeper shade of rose	6	0
Preciosa, of medium height, fair-sized flowers of lavender-blue with white throat	5	0
Treasure, the largest flower of all, bright yellow with a few dark lines in throat, and a slight shading of mauve outside. A.M., R.H.S.	5	0
Wedgewood, a dwarf grower with soft blue flowers, a good variety for pots	10	0

G. H. DALRYMPLE,

THE NURSERIES, BARTLEY, SOUTHAMPTON

OBITUARY

THE REV. J. H. PEMBERTON.

THROUGH the lamented death on Friday, July 23rd, of the Rev. J. H. Pemberton the National Rose Society lost one of the last of that famous circle of clergymen rosarians who during the "Dean Hole" era were its stalwart supporters and untiring workers. The Rev. Pemberton was really great among rosarians, a clever grower, an able and successful exhibitor, keen and just judge, and a raiser of considerable renown. His energy and enthusiasm was directed to the welfare of the National Rose Society and the advancement of rose culture, and at the provincial shows of the Society as well as at its London shows he was a regular attendant who always helped by practical means to make the displays worthy of the great organisation which he had been instrumental in making so strong and important.

The Rev. Pemberton was president of the Society in 1911–12, the year of the great International Horticultural Exhibition, and he was the first recipient of the Dean Hole medal, which was awarded him by unanimous vote in 1909. The reverend gentleman first won the Society's Champion Challenge Trophy in the year 1885, repeating his success the following year and again ten years later. At the northern shows he won the Jubilee Challenge Trophy in the years 1889, 1890, 1891 and 1896. The first success with a new rose was, we believe, with the charming variety Moonlight, which was awarded the gold medal in the year 1913. The following year Clytemnestra secured a gold medal, and in 1918 the beautiful hybrid musk rose Pax brought still another award; and since that time quite a number of very delightful new varieties of great decorative value have been introduced by the firm of J. H. Pemberton, for the deceased gentleman had of recent years entered the ranks of trade growers.

A man of great scholastic attainments, the Rev. Pemberton was author of an important work entitled "Roses, Their History, Development and Cultivation." He was, indeed, a man of exceptional versatility, quiet and unassuming in manner, but full of profound knowledge, which was readily imparted to those who sought it, but never ostentatiously paraded. He believed in the uplifting influence of beautiful roses and in the benefits accruing from the personal cultivation of good roses and of the good sportsmanship of the rose show, and was not content merely to engage in the occupation himself, but worked steadily and enthusiastically in the endeavour to induce others to grow and show roses.

The National Rose Society suffers a grievous loss and British horticulture is the poorer through the death of the Rev. J. H. Pemberton.

MR. FRED VERT.

WITH tragic suddenness death snatched Mr. Fred Vert of Saffron Walden, on Tuesday, July 20th. Only forty-five years of age, Mr. Vert was apparently in robust health and full of energy, and visited London on business as recently as July 14th. On the following day, however, he had to go to Cambridge for medical attention, and an immediate operation of a serious character was found to be necessary. The operation itself appeared to be successful, but complications followed which proved fatal, and a hitherto strong young man passed away, at 2.30 p.m. on Tuesday.

Fred Vert was the son of Mr. James Vert, well known as a judge at the leading horticultural shows in the country, and as headgardener to Lord Howard de Walden, formerly at Audley End and more recently at Chirk Castle.

Under his father's able tuition and guidance Fred Vert became a keen horticulturist, and for a considerable number of years he has ably controlled the nursery and seed business of J. Vert and Son, with its specialty of the world-renowned Chater's strain of hollyhocks. The collection, under our departed friend's care, had attained even greater perfection than of old, and several new varieties of sterling merit have been introduced to commerce during Vert and Son's occupation of the nurseries. Hollyhocks were but one feature of these nurseries, for Mr. Vert was a first-class all-round plantsman, and has developed the tree and shrub departments and greatly extended the production of all kinds of fruits, pot-grown collections of which he exhibited in fine style.

Hale and hearty, full of good spirits and geniality, Fred Vert was the friend of a wide circle of both commercial and private horticulturists who will be grievously distressed to learn of his untimely removal from our midst.

A. J. M.

NEW CARNATIONS

(*Continued from page 441.*)

EDITH.—Registered by Mr. A. J. Pointing, Appleton Nursery, Bulpham, Essex. Ward × Triumph. Purple; 3–4ins.; fragrance strongly scented; habit and stem good; calyx very good.

STARTLER.—Registered by Messrs. C. Engelmann, Limited, Saffron Walden. Seedling. Orange scarlet; size 3ins.; scented; habit and stem very free; stems erect and strong.

CITRON.—Registered by Messrs. C. Engelmann, Limited, Saffron Walden. Seedling. Lemon yellow with few pink stripes; size 3½ins.; no fragrance; habit and stem good; strong wiry stems.

PALETTE.—Registered by Messrs. C. Engelmann, Limited, Saffron Walden. Seedling. Yellow ground overlaid with pink and apricot; size 3½ins.; no fragrance; habit good and stem fair.

DORCAS.—Registered by Messrs. C. Engelmann, Limited, Saffron Walden. Seedling. Crimson; size 3ins.; very strongly scented; best type of perpetual-flowering habit, stems good.

VESTA.—Registered by Messrs. C. Engelmann, Limited, Saffron Walden. Seedling. Dark rose pink; size 3ins.; scented; good habit, dwarf grower, strong, erect stems.

BRENDA.—Registered by Messrs. C. Engelmann, Saffron Walden. Seedling. Red, shaded crimson; size 3½–4ins.; good scent; good habit, wiry stems.

KATJA.—Registered by Messrs. C. Engelmann, Limited, Saffron Walden. Seedling. Mauve; size 3ins.; fair fragrance; habit good, strong stems.

HEBE.—Registered by Messrs. C. Engelmann, Limited, Saffron Walden. Seedling. Deep salmon pink; size 3½ins.; good fragrance; good habit, strong stems.

BRILLIANT IMPROVED PAGES.—Registered by Mr. W. H. Page, Tangley Nursery, Hampton. Parentage Brilliant, Scarlet; 3ins.; medium fragrance; habit and stem good.

WE much regret that a printer's error occurred in a note on hydrangeas in the issue of July 10th, page 395. It was stated that a fine bloom could be obtained from rooted cuttings in about two months. This should read "in ten months."

Digitized by Google

IRIS

of the June-flowering family

THEY are worth thinking of ahead—ordering early and planting at the best time, in July or early August. Put in then, the plants get their toes in before the winter comes. Take steps to order them now. Either buy the low-priced collection of excellent varieties offered below for 7/6 the twelve plants or send for our catalogue and make your own selection.

June-flowering Iris:—

Alcazar	Lavender blue and violet.
Archeveque ..	Reddish violet and deep violet.
Caprice	Reddish mauve and deep rosy red.
Dawn	Sulphur yellow, veined bronze.
Her Majesty ..	Pale rose and deep red.
Lohengrin ..	Cattleya mauve.
Mdm. Chereau ..	White, frilled azure blue.
Mrs. H. Darwin ..	White, faintly marked violet.
Mrs. Neubronner	Golden yellow.
Oriflamme ..	Pure blue and blue purple.
Prosper Laugier ..	Bronzy cinnamon and velvety crimson.
Rhein Nixe ..	White and violet purple.

One plant each of the 12 varieties, 7/6 post paid.

Have you seen our Hardy Plant Catalogue? It is better than most.

Bakers
FLOWER FARM
CODSALL
Near Wolverhampton

3 SOUND REASONS WHY

YOU SHOULD SPRAY WITH

The Popular Insecticide

KATAKILLA

1. It is non-poisonous.
2. Harmless to human beings and domestic animals.
3. Deadly to aphis and caterpillars on fruit, flowers and vegetables.

In powder form, ready for mixing with water.

2/- cartons (to make 10 gallons wash.)

6/- " " 50 " "

STOCKED EVERYWHERE

COOPER, McDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, LTD. - - BERKHAMSTED, HERTS

GARDENING OF THE WEEK

FOR SOUTHERN GARDENS.

THE FLOWER GARDEN.

During the present month the plans for next year's summer bedding should be given consideration, so that the necessary plants can be propagated. The approximate number of Paul Crampell and ivy-leaved pelargoniums can be ascertained, and preparations made accordingly. These cuttings will readily root in a cold frame, or on a greenhouse shelf. Fuchsias and heliotropes may be increased in the spring, but a few stock plants should be well established in pots before the winter, the same applies to coleus and a few other subjects. If standard fuchsias or heliotropes are required, they should be grown on now in a cool greenhouse, then good specimens will be available next May.

Climbing Roses.—Climbing varieties of the Dorothy Perkins type, trained on pergolas, walls, poles, etc., have finished flowering and the annual pruning may be done. This will allow more light and air to the strong growths pushing up from the base and other parts of the stems. Cut out a number of the old flowered branches, and cut back others to a strong new shoot. Feed the roots with liquid manure and mulch with partly decayed manure. See that the poles are secure, and use good quality tarred twine for tying purposes. This will save a lot of trouble later on.

Bulbs.—It is rather early to think about the general planting of bulbs, but I always like to get them in as early as possible. Many bulbs, I believe, are planted too late to obtain the best results. Narcissus and tulips that were forced and duly dried off will be set out in the grass directly the ground is soft enough to use a bulb planter. Other bulbs to plant now include the snowdrop, crocus, Anemone apennina, squills and the winter aconite. The latter annually makes a fine show under some beech trees, and this also applies to the squills, both of which are never disturbed. Many of the bulbous irises of the I. reticulata group could also be planted.

Pyrethrums.—Both the double and single pyrethrums are valuable border plants and for cutting purposes, but, unfortunately, slugs are very partial to them, and these pests are responsible for many failures. Plenty of lime should be placed round the plants, at intervals where slugs are troublesome. A stock of useful varieties can be raised from seeds, and there is still time to sow them to secure flowering examples next year.

THE HARDY FRUIT GARDEN.

Raspberries.—When the crop from the summer fruiting kinds has been gathered, the old canes should be cut out at their base, and burnt. With strong clumps, a number of the new ones must be removed to prevent overcrowding, six or seven of the strongest being enough for one stool or root. At the same time, the plantation is cleared of weeds and thoroughly hoed.

Loganberries.—These are strong-growing and always make plenty of new growth. Directly the crop is finished, remove all the old fruiting shoots and replace them with fresh growths. Make all the supports safe before tying begins. Both the loganberries and raspberries will benefit if afforded a mulch of manure between the rows, especially if this has been omitted for a year or two.

Chepstow. T. W. BRISCOE.

FOR NORTHERN GARDENS.

THE FRUIT GARDEN.

Strawberries.—As soon as the crop is harvested and sufficient runners taken for future plantations, all weeds, superfluous runners, old bedding litter and large old leaves should be cleared off. If strawberry leaf spot, characterised by circular brown or red spots, later with white centres, has appeared, it can be dealt with now, if it is not convenient to renew infested plantations. Cut off all the leaves and allow these and the rough clearings to dry somewhat, and burn them, assisting by spraying with petrol or paraffin if necessary.

Experiments have proved this to be the most advantageous time to apply dung to strawberries to obtain the greater quantity of production. As the crowns to produce the following year's crop are built up in autumn and winter, manuring deferred until spring will increase the size of the berries, but will have little influence on the quantity of the crop.

Raspberries.—The majority of growers are in agreement as to the advantages accruing from cutting out the old fruiting canes soon after fruiting is passed. Retain sufficient strong young canes to furnish the trellis, or according to the method of support given. Meantime, loosely tie selected canes for safety, and remove discarded young canes with old growth.

The pupæ of raspberry weevils and beetles and the caterpillars of the raspberry moth hibernate in the soil. Sprinkle sand or sifted ashes saturated with paraffin or 1 part naphthalene to 10 parts ashes or slaked lime around the stools. This will at least lessen the labour of spraying and trapping for the destruction of the adults in the following spring and summer. Afterwards give a mulching of good yard dung and lightly fork it in.

WORK IN THE FLOWER GARDEN.

Cuttings of double arabis, aubrietias and seedling polyanthus will now be sufficiently well rooted to bear transplanting from frames to the open. A piece of ground cleared of potatoes or turnips, lightly forked over, will suit. Put in the plants 6ins. to 9ins. apart each way, water in dry weather until root growth is active, and pinch frequently to form bushy plants.

Narcissus in beds or borders which have been planted for four or more years will be observed to produce fewer and smaller flowers. The obvious remedy is to lift and replant the bulbs. If possible, replant in fresh soil with old cow-manure added, planting the bulbs 6ins. to 9ins. in depth—12ins. will do no harm if the ground has to be planted with summer or autumn flowering subjects.

The delivery of catalogues is a constant reminder of the attention required in compiling and posting the bulb order. This should be done early to ensure delivery of selected sorts, and for other reasons. In spring bedding schemes for northern counties the early-flowering tulip is most in favour, owing to the May or Darwin being late in flowering and so delaying the summer bedding. My notes from previous years remind me of a few simple and, possibly, general combinations: Artus, bright scarlet, associated with double arabis; Yellow Prince with the purple aubrietias; the double-flowered Murillo intermixed with Myosotis alpestris Victoria; and Couleur Cardinal—catalogues are rather undecided as to the colour of this, but the effect is very fine interplanted with Erysimum Golden Gem; as is the variety Cottage Maid—rosy pink, etc.—flowering over an underplanting of Alyssum saxatile compactum.

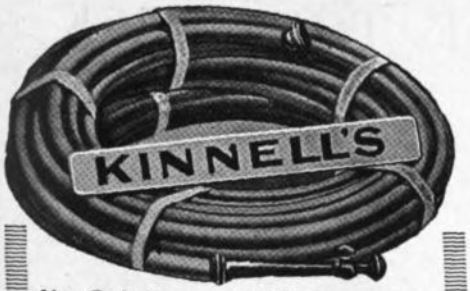
This association of tulips with a groundwork of various other plants tends to prolong the flowering period and produce interesting contrasts. The varieties are low in price, and the manner of use economises the number of bulbs required, with results more generally appreciated than if the beds were planted with tulips alone.

Doune, Perthshire. WM. MCCARRELL.

FRUIT UNDER GLASS.

The Vineries.—Where the vines are cleared of their crop, everything should be done to discourage lateral growth and thoroughly to ripen the wood. It is necessary for the wood to mature and for the rods to have a long season of rest. Admit full air both from the front and top ventilators, and with normal weather no fire heat will be needed, but should it prove dull and cold for any length of time, a little warmth from the hot-water pipes will greatly assist in the ripening process. No damping down is needed, but the roots must still be kept moist, and a mulch of manure will not only reduce the labour in watering, but it will prevent the soil from cracking, and benefit the roots. Keep the foliage clean by spraying with clear water occasionally, and if red spider appears it will be advisable to use an insecticide late in the evening. In vineries where the main leaves have become damaged through scalding, attacks of red spider or other causes, it will be an advantage to allow a moderate extension of the lateral shoots. With this outlet for the sap, the dormant buds quietly develop without starting into growth. Where the main or lower leaves are in perfect health, there is not much need for lateral growths, and these should be pinched frequently. Never allow them to extend so that it becomes necessary to cut a large quantity at one time. T. [illegible]

Digitized by Google



Use Only Genuine High Grade Hose

FOR WEAR

"The No. 4 Hose I had from you 3 years ago appears to be in perfect condition, although neglected so much and left out exposed to all weathers.—Dr. D——, Fisheries Experimental Station, Conway. 14/6/26.

No. 4. "Kinnell" Branded, 60 ft. (fittings extra). ½ in., **39/9**; ⅝ in., **47/6**; ¾ in., **54/10**; 1 in., **70/9**. Also highest grade Long Length Hose. List E118 and Samples Free.

CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD.
65, 65a, Southwark St., London, S.E.1
Phone: Hop 0362. Wire: Kinnell-Boroh, London

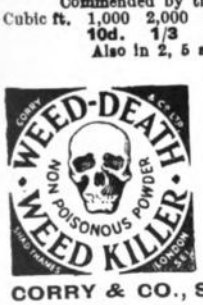
Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE LEADING GLASS HOUSE FUMIGANT

THOUSANDS OF TOMATO CROPS ENTIRELY SAVED
No alterations needed since first introduced.
Be satisfied with the best, it is the cheapest in the end.
Commended by the Royal Horticultural Society.

Cubic ft.	1,000	2,000	4,000	8,000	16,000	32,000	64,000
	10d.	1/3	2/-	3 6	6/-	10/6	19/-

Also in 2, 5 and 10 gall. FREE drums;
ALSO



SAFETY FIRST FOR ANIMALS AND PEOPLE

Non-caustic; colourless; no smells; kills the roots; superior to arsenical compounds.

TINS, 1/- 2/- 3/6 6/6 12/-
for 4 12½ 25 50 100 gals.

SPECIAL. For Parks and Recreation Grounds—in bulk. From Nurserymen and Seedsmen.

CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

By Appointment

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.,
Royal Potteries,
BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

SELECTED DUTCH BULBS

JOHN B. VANDERSCHOOT,

The Old Established Bulb Farms, **HILLEGOM, HOLLAND**

ESTABLISHED 1830.

Own extensive Bulb Farms (comprising over 400 acres) of Hyacinths, Tulips, Narcissi and Daffodils, Crocuses, Irises, &c.

Richly illustrated descriptive Catalogue free on application.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

For success in your Garden USE

THOMSON'S MANURES

On the market for over 50 years, they still hold first place for QUALITY and RESULTS. They are safe, sure and lasting. The direct result of many years' practical experience in gardening, they stand unrivalled at the present day for all Garden Crops.

Prices:—**VINE, PLANT AND VEGETABLE MANURE**—a Perfect Food—1 cwt., **30/-**; 56 lb., **16/-**; 28 lb., **9/-**; 14 lb., **5/-**; 7 lb., **3/-**; tins, **1/3** and **9d.** **SPECIAL TOP DRESSING MANURE**—an excellent stimulant—56 lb., **17/-**; 28 lb., **9/6**; 14 lb., **5/6**; 7 lb., **3/-**; tins, **1/3.** **Carriage paid on 28 lbs.** and up.

WRITE FOR OUR BOOKLET—POST FREE ON REQUEST.

SOLD BY NURSERYMEN AND SEEDSMEN EVERYWHERE.

Or from Sole Makers, WM. THOMSON & SONS, TWEED VINEYARDS, CLOVENFORDS, SCOTLAND

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND. SOILFUME. NICOTINE, INSECTICIDES, FUMERS, SPRAYS AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES—THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY. IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT, CARRIAGE PAID.

Only Address: TOMLINSON & HAYWARD L^td LINCOLN.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by "ALPHOL"

Sample 14 lb., 3/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc.

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

ESTABLISHED 1804. INCORPORATED 1809.

The Royal Horticultural Society's Amateur Vegetable Show

VINCENT SQUARE, S.W.1.

—— 7th SEPTEMBER, 1926. ——

38 Classes. OPEN TO ALL AMATEURS. No Entrance Fees

SUBSTANTIAL PRIZES AND CUPS.

For Schedules, apply to THE SECRETARY, R.H.S., Vincent Square, London, S.W.1.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

CLAY'S FERTILIZER LONDON TRADE MARK

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then, together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices :—

Tins 10d. and 1/6
and in **Branded and Sealed Bags :**

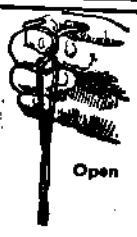
7 lbs.	3/6	14 lbs.	6/-
28 lbs.	10/-	56 lbs.	16/-
	112 lbs.	32/-	

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark.

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers, etc. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**

WILLMOTT
Rival Plant Stake
(Patented No. 183779).
As used in Royal Botanic Gardens, London and Cambridge.
For all plants. WILL NOT ROT, WEAR OUT OR BREAK.
Sample of eight sizes, 2/- car. pd. United Kingdom. 4/- Overseas.
J. GREENWOOD, F.R.H.S., Proprietor, BRACKNELL, Berks.



Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Be prepared
for the rainy day, wear Boots* that have Uppers of "Beva" WATERPROOF LEATHER

*Look for the "Beva" on the looping

The Perfect Sun Blind for Glasshouses

Cannot rot or perish.
Easily fixed and removed.
Admits ample light.
Economical in wear.

SEND FOR SPECIAL ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE

ESSENDER & CO., LTD., LOUGHBOROUGH LEICESTERSHIRE
LONDON OFFICE: 122, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

BY APPOINTMENT *TO H.M. THE KING*

KILL THOSE WEEDS

Nothing is more wearisome and unsatisfactory than hoeing and hand-picking weeds. Why not save your time, your back and your temper by letting

COOPER'S
WEEDICIDE
Do the Work for YOU

(*"Highly Commended" by the Royal Horticultural Society of Great Britain after practical tests.*)

One gallon dilutes to 100 gallons of water and is sufficient for treating 300 to 400 square yards. The cost of the ready-for-use mixture is, therefore, about 1d. per gallon.

Pint tins	1/9	2 gallon drum	17/-
Quart ,,	3/-	5 ,, ,,	36/6
½ gallon drum	5/-	20 gallon cask	105/-
1 ,, ,,	9/-	40 ,, ,,	200/-

OF ALL AGENTS

Write for illustrated leaflet, "The Weed Problem Solved," gratis and post free from

COOPER, McDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, Ltd.
BERKHAMSTED, HERTS.

Digitized by Google

The Cultivation of Tobacco—No. 1.

Planting Out

The seed is sown in February and March in beds or frames, the soil of which has been subjected to great heat to kill any weeds or insects.

These beds are protected from the frost, and in six or eight weeks' time the young plants are about six inches high and are ready to be transferred to the tobacco fields. Without this special preparation it would be impossible to produce the Rich, Ripe, Virginia Leaf used in the making of

PLAYER'S

Navy Cut

TOBACCO & CIGARETTES

PLAYER'S NAVY CUT.

REGD Nº 154011.

P.1360.

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION 1912

WAKELEY'S *Celebrated* HOP MANURE

(PATENTED)

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

A beautiful Free Booklet giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. GENUINE ONLY IN OUR MARKED BAGS, CONTAINING GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

Cash Prices, including bags: Small (about 1 bushel), 3/- : Large (about 4 bushels), 7/- : 5 Large 33/9
10 Large, 65/- : 20 Large, 120/-

Carriage Paid to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company. 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE PATTISSON HORSE BOOTS

SIMPLEST
STRONGEST
MOST ECONOMICAL

ONCE TRIED
ALWAYS USED

Fig. 1—For Shod Horses
Best English Leather or Rubber Soles.
Used for many years in the Royal and in thousands of the Principal Gardens.
Silver Medals:—Royal Horticultural Society, 1904 and 1914
Royal International Horticultural Exhibition, 1912.
HUNDREDS OF TESTIMONIALS.

Fig. 2—Welted Pattern.

Fig. 2—No Welt Pattern

Illustrated Price Lists from the Makers:

H. PATTISSON & CO., STANMORE, MIDDLESEX

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing*

YOUR LAWN!

TRUE PLAY *IN MANY LAWN GAMES IS IMPOSSIBLE UNLESS THE SURFACE IS CLEAR OF DAISIES AND OTHER WEEDS — THE BEST METHOD OF ERADICATION IS ~*

LAWN SAND

Velvas

applied 5 oz. per Square Yard.

MAKES VELVETY LAWNS

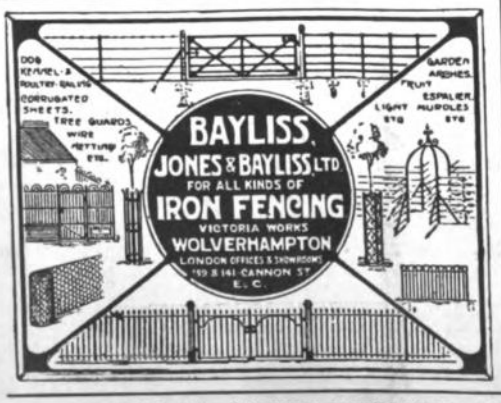
CARRIAGE PAID PRICES:

112 lb. Keg,	29/6	112 lb. Bag,	26/6	14 lb. Tin,	6/-
56 lb. ,,	16/-	56 lb. ,,	14/3	7 lb. ,,	4/-
28 lb. ,,	10/6	28 lb. ,,	9/3	3 lb. ,,	2/6

Sole Manufacturers

ROBINSON BROTHERS Ltd, WEST BROMWICH

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*



WHY is "HOMES and GARDENS" such a Great Success?

BECAUSE it shows greater House Comfort & Convenience —with less Labour and Expense.

Send to-day for a Free specimen Copy of this helpful and beautifully Illustrated Magazine to 20, Tavistock St., Covent Garden, W.C.2

Make the Most of your Greenhouse

and install a SILVER MEDAL

HORSE SHOE BOILER—

which ensures a steady heat for a succession of thriving Plants and Flowers, with minimum trouble and little fuel.

Booklet E and reduced prices post free.

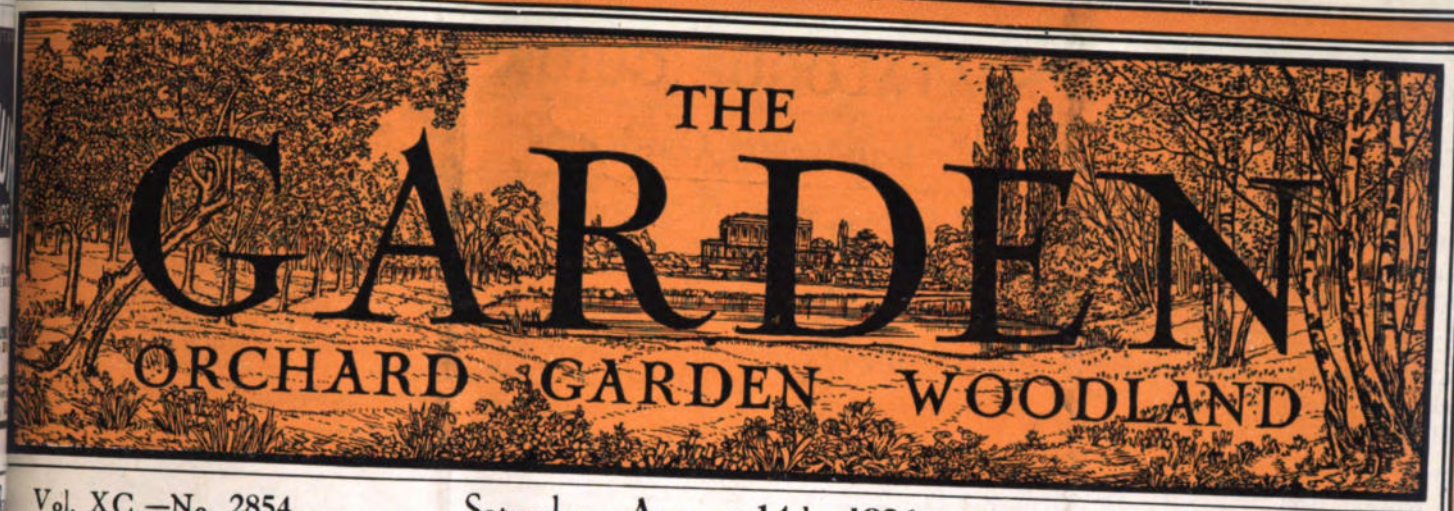
C. P. KINNELL & Co., Ltd., SOUTHWARK STREET, LONDON, S.E.1.

Used in the R.H.S. Gardens

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS 56 & 57, Drury Lane London W.C.2

Digitized by Google

PERIODICAL ROOM
GENERAL LIBRARY
UNIV. OF MICH.
AUG 25 1926



Vol. XC.—No. 2854 Saturday, August 14th, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

BARR'S HYACINTHS

SPECIALLY PREPARED FOR EARLY FORCING.

	Strong Selected Bulbs. per 100	per doz.	Extra Strong Selected Bulbs. per 100	per doz.
Gertrude, bright rose	50/-	7/-	70/-	9/-
La Victoire, bright rose-crimson	50/-	7/-	70/-	9/-
L'Innocence, pure white	50/-	7/-	70/-	9/-
Marie, dark violet-blue	50/-	7/-	70/-	9/-
Schotel, light blue..	50/-	7/-	70/-	9/-
Yellow Hammer, delicate yellow	50/-	7/-	70/-	9/-
6 each of the above 6 varieties	..	..	20/- & 26/-	
3 " " 6 "	..	..	10/- & 13/-	

White Roman Hyacinths

These bulbs may be potted at intervals of two to three weeks and will maintain a succession of flower from November onwards.

Strong flowering bulbs .. per 100, 60/- .. per doz., 8/-
Extra selected bulbs .. " 70/- .. " 9/-

Descriptive Catalogue free on application.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

SEND YOUR ENQUIRIES *NOW* FOR . . .

Autumn Planting of
CHOICE DAFFODILS
British Grown Bulbs

COMPLETE CATALOGUE NOW READY, FREE ON APPLICATION

CARTWRIGHT & GOODWIN Ltd.
BULB GROWERS,
Churchill, Kidderminster, WORCS., ENGLAND

Glass breaks!

USE
'WINDOLITE'
THE PRACTICAL GLASS SUBSTITUTE
for all Garden Purposes.

Light Flexible. Unbreakable.

Easy to cut and fix. It keeps out cold and wet, but lets in all the light—even the Ultra Violet Rays which are stopped by glass.

Send **4/6** *for post free sample, 3 ft. by 2 ft.*

WINDOLITE (DEPT. C) 179/185, GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1.

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

FOR THE GARDEN! FOR EXHIBITION!
FOR BEDS! FOR EVERYWHERE!

Also Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees, Alpines and Hardy Plants.

BUY HOME-GROWN TREES.
Support British Industries.

Catalogue Free on Application, and Addresses booked for Revised Catalogue in late Summer.

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.,
Garden Specialists - - SOUTHWELL, NOTTS

CYCLAMEN SEED
(NOW is the time to Sow)

Our new Scented, also the gorgeous nearly scarlet Cherry Ripe, Salmon King, Pink Pearl, raised by us, supplied separately in eight colours, at **2/6** per packet, or Mixed. Also fine strains of Streptocarpus and Primulas.

2/6 *per packet.*

STUART LOW CO.
BUSH HILL PARK - - ENFIELD

GENTIANA SINO-ORNATA

PLANT NOW for Flowers from September onwards

REALLY STRONG PLANTS FROM POTS WITH FIRM ROOT BALLS, AT LEAST FIVE FLOWERING - - SHOOTS EACH. - -

10/6 per dozen. Carriage Paid

W. E. Th. INGWERSEN,
Birch Farm - Sharpthorne - East Grinstead.
SEND FOR MY CATALOGUE

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
New Alpines and Perennials
Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD,
CHELSEA, S.W.
Bulb Catalogue Now Ready.

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

H. PRINS
BULB AND PLANT GROWERS
WISBECH, CAMBS.
Bulb list free on application

EUREKA WEED KILLER
LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND, SOILFUME, NICOTINE, INSECTICIDES, FUMERS, SPRAYS, AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES—THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY. IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT, CARRIAGE PAID.
Only Address: TOMLINSON & HAYWARD LTD. LINCOLN.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

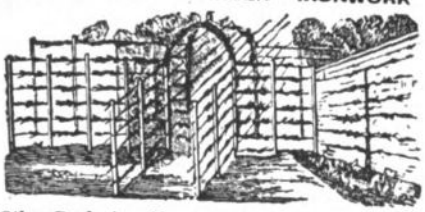
GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
HULL
Weed Destroyers Fertilisers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

ROCKERY STONE
Best Westmorland Weathered Limestone for Rockeries, Rock Gardens, etc.
In any sized pieces to suit requirements. Any quantity. Large Stones a speciality
For price and particulars, write—
J. WARDLEY & SONS, Slackhead, Milnthorpe

HILL & SMITH, Ltd.,
BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS,
Makers of
IRON FENCING, HURDLES, GATES, WIRE NETTING AND GARDEN IRONWORK



Other Products—Hay and Grain Sheds, Dutch Barns, Galvanized Corrugated Sheets and Structural Steelwork.
Catalogues free on mentioning this paper.
London: 300, Abbey House, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

The white-fly scare
That white-fly will not obligingly succumb to ordinary washes is true. Proper treatment with XL ALL White-fly Vapour, however, puts an end to the difficulty. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen and florists.
XL ALL WHITE-FLY VAPOUR
G. H. RICHARDS LTD.,
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
R. 171. Monomark: BCM/XLALL.

The WIZARD Plant LABEL
PATENT No. 212974

Made in Red Pottery, 2½ x 1½ ins., with rustless wires. 12 in., 2/- doz.; 7 in., 1/7 doz. 1½ x 1 in., with wires 6 in. 1/4 doz. For tying on. 1/6 and 1/3 doz. Waterproof Ink, 9d. and 7½d. bot. Crow Quills, 2d. Postage extra.
Highly commended by the R.H.S. at Wisley.
E. TORKINGTON NEW HALL MAIDENH

THOSE ODD JOB
Learn how to do them Yourself
THE HOUSE DOCTO
By R. Randal Phillips
2/6 NET
"COUNTRY LIFE" LIBRARY, 20, Tav Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

BLOM FOR BULBS
HYACINTHS for December and Christmas Flowering
. . . ready for despatch NOW . . .
Apply for Catalogue to Messrs. J. C. WHITNEY & Co., Eldon Street House, Eldon Street, London, E.C or to WALTER BLOM & SON, LTD. (late of Overveen), Hillegom, Holland.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

TERER'S for the best in Bulbs for bedding, naturalising. Colchicums, Autumn-flowering etc. Roses, Fruit Trees, Strawberry Plants in pots pen ground runners, Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Flowering vergreen Shrubs, also Hedge-making Shrubs and Screening Herbaceous and Alpine Plants. New catalogues now post free.—JOHN WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LIMITED, Nurseries, Twyford, Berks.

ALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODEN- on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write talogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

KELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE. original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See on back page.

. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., ns Road, South Tottenham, N.15. — Conservatories, Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

DS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUN- NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.— ON, 80, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

CING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request. — THE ER UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere.

LL AND WATER GARDENS. With on rock gardens, heath gardens, and paved water s. By GERTRUDE JEKYLL. 7th edition, revised. 17/6 by post, 18/4.—Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE" LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C2.

MENTS' DUTCH BULBS. Quality at Moderate Prices. Descriptive Catalogue ing over 700 Named Varieties, including various Novel- lso Cultural Directions, sent post free. Please mention — V. D. CLEMENTS & CO., 12, Stockton Gardens, ham, London, N.17.

DER CARNATIONS. — 200 varieties, 14 varieties, from 6/6, 50 in 50 ditto, from 25/-; paid. Lists free. J. HAYWARD, Chace Gardens, Road, Purbrook, Cosham, Hants.

RETICULATA, good Flowering Bulbs, er 100, cash with order.—COLONEL G. HENRY, Elmestree, ter.

P BARGAINS ! !—Brand new Army fully guaranteed. Big variety and many under cost m them! Cannot hope to repeat. Approval if desired. Post card.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 181 ment, Lytham.

R NETTING.—From 2/5 per 50yd. roll. House in the Kingdom. Write us for prices. ds of rolls stocked.

TS. — Army Bell. All complete, new deep walls, 60/- and 70/-. Scout Tents, 13/8. 50/-. Bathing, 53/-. Also Marquees. Write us for

DEN HOSE.—Superior quality, 6oft.

	1-ply.	2-ply.	3-ply.
a.			
a.	15/- ..	24/6 ..	29/3
.. .. ..	24/6 ..	29/3 .	35/2

Carriage paid. Approval.

N MOWERS.—Five Riveted Blades. Wheels. Brass Bushings. Close Cutting. Highly Finished. alled Value. 8in., 20/6; 10in., 21/6; 12in., 22/6; 14in., Grass Boxes, 8/6 each. Garden Rollers, 30/-.

BOO CANES.—Strong, 3ft., 3/11; 4ft., 5ft., 10/11; 6ft., 14/6 per hundred. Carriage paid.—E. B. SMITH, LIMITED, Dept. E, Shrewsbury.

BARR'S AUTUMN-FLOWERING BULBS.—COLCHICUMS, CROCUS SPECIES, NERINES, WHITE ROMAN and EXTRA EARLY HYACINTHS, LACHENALIAS, etc. List on application.—BARR & SONS, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx and perpetual habit. They flourish in the coldest parts of Britain. Extract, *The Times*: "Mr. Douglas is the leading raiser of this flower. His wonderful strain of new cloves is superb." Plant list now ready. —J. DOUGLAS, Gt. Bookham.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760 yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GAR- DENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial: The Greatest Provincial Show	455
A Selection of Maples	456
Babianas at Home	457
The Tulip Mania	458
Edging Plants	459
Notes of the Week	460–461
Evodia hupchensis; Hollyhocks; Lilium Martagon Cattaneæ; Arctostaphylos Uva-ursi; Aster Farreri; Achilleas; Mesembryanthemum crassulinum.	
Correspondence	462
The Treatment of Primulas; The Value of Anthuriums; Cypripediums in the Wild; Names of Early Potatoes.	
The Flower Garden and Greenhouse	463–465
Spanish Irises; Colchicum speciosum; Mignonette; Lily of the Valley; Bulbs for Christmas Flowering; Specimen Coleus; How to Dry Off Gloxinias, etc.; Potting Nerines.	
Fruit and Vegetables	465
Lifting and Storing Early Potatoes; Fruit.	
The Production of New Flowers ..	466

HEWITT'S FAMOUS DELPHINIUMS AND ROSES. Catalogue now in distribution. Please write for one.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S BULB CATALOGUE NOW READY containing the choicest and inexpensive Daffodils, Tulips, and other Bulbs. "Order early and plant early" so as to avoid disappointment.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

FLAME FLOWER. (Tropæolum speciosum). Extra strong established pot plants of this loveliest of scarlet flowered perennial climbers ready for planting any time now 1/- each, 6 for 5/-, 12 for 10/-, carriage paid for cash with order. —CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED, Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

HAVE YOU BOUGHT "The Pruning of Trees and Shrubs," by W. Dallimore, Assistant at Kew? Fully illustrated. 4s. 6d. net; post free, 4s. 9d. From all Booksellers or direct from the Publishers, DULAU & CO., LTD., 34, Margaret Street, London, W.1.

DOBBIES' FAMOUS BULBS, SCOTCH ROSES and SWEET PEAS for Autumn Sowing. Catalogues free on mentioning THE GARDEN.—DOBBIE & CO., LTD., Edinburgh.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser. no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BRATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

GARDEN NETS.—Best tanned, small mesh; 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 25yds. by 3yds., 6/-; 25yds. by 4yds., 8/-. Carr. Paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Tennis nets from 10/-. Special nets for tennis boundary. Pea training nets. Lists and samples free.—G. JARRETT, Netmaker, Rye.

ROCK AND ALPINE PLANTS.—Large and varied collection. All pot grown. Packed and carriage paid. Catalogue free.—M. J. PIGGOTT, Duffield, Nr. Derby.

GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS — CHOICE TULIPS, &c. List on application.—THE WELSH BULB FIELDS, St. Asaph.

LOOK ! TANNED GARDEN NETS.—All orders dispatched same day. 25yds. by 1yd, 2/-; 25 by 2, 4/-; 25 by 3, 6/-. Odd netting for bushes, 6lbs. for 2/6. All carriage paid. Any sizes supplied. Also Tennis Boundary Nets.—MOORE AND CO., Net Works, Rye.

THE CULTURE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS. By W. WELLS, 2/6 net; cloth, 3/6 net; by post 6d. extra. —Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE" LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

A CATALOGUE of gardening books will be sent free on application to "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

GARDEN DESIGN is best dealt with in "Planning and Planting of Little Gardens," by G. DILLISTONE, 6/-; by post, 6/6. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

THE GARDEN DOCTOR; Plants in Health and Disease, by F. J. CHITTENDEN, V.M.H., freely illustrated, 7/6 net, by post 8/-. A prospectus of this practical book will be sent post free on application to The Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2

PLANT PESTS AND PARASITES.—A useful booklet on garden troubles by HORACE J. WRIGHT is to be obtained from the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, W.C.2; 11d. post free.

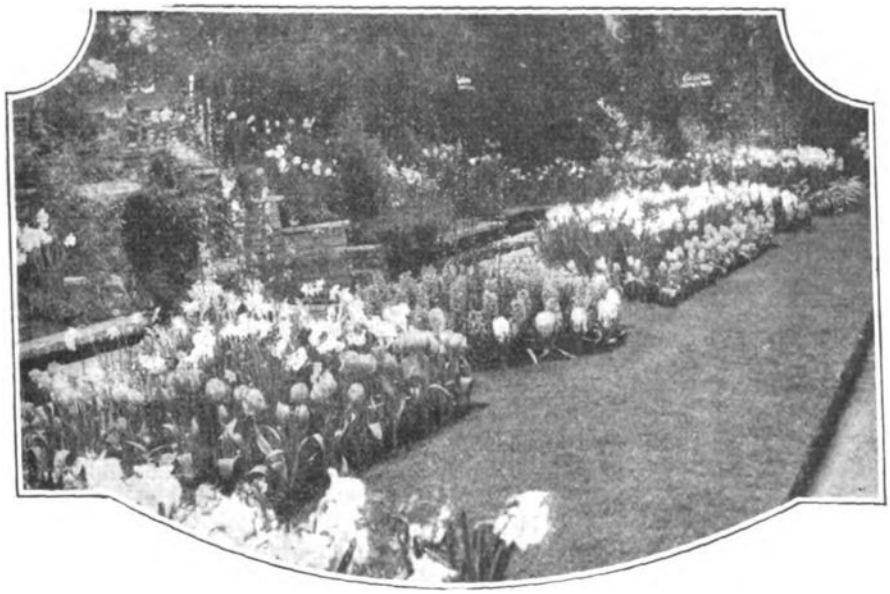
THE DOG: MAN'S FIRMEST FRIEND.— How to choose and care for him, by A. CROXTON SMITH. A copy of this helpful booklet on the housing, breeding, feeding and care of dogs will be sent post free on receipt of 11d., addressed to The Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS Grove Works, Battersea.

Digitized by Google

SEEDSMEN BY APPOINTMENT

CARTERS FORCING BULBS



Carters Picked Bulbs for Early Forcing and Planting for Christmas and Easter Flowers. Carters Royal Parks Bedding Hyacinths, Tulips and Narcissus. The new Catalogue contains particulars of Autumn Renovation of Lawns, etc.

WRITE FOR ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE

Carters TESTED SEEDS

Bulb Growers and Grass Specialists

RAYNES PARK, LONDON S.W.20

LATEST AWARDS—Gold Medal, Bournemouth; Gold Medal, Croydon; Gold Medal, Reading; Gold Medal, Hanley.

One reason why

Manure is scarce!

YOU CAN STILL HAVE PLENTY IF YOU TREAT YOUR GARDEN RUBBISH WITH

ADCO

In a few months you will have a plentiful supply of rich organic fertiliser.
1 cwt. ADCO makes from 2-3 tons of MANURE according to the class of rubbish used.

ADCO ACCELERATOR
(for lawn mowings and soft green refuse
28 lb., 4/8 ... 56 lb., 8/- ... 1 cwt., 15/-

STANDARD ADCO
(for all other garden rubbish and straw
28 lb., 6/- ... 56 lb., 11/6 ... 1 cwt., 20/-

Stocked by all leading Seedsmen, Harrods Ltd., etc.

ADCO LTD. 40 HARPENDEN HERTS.

Banish White Fly

Snow Fly on Tomatoes and Cucumbers can easily and safely be eradicated by means of Abol White Fly Compound. No apparatus is needed. Simply pour the Compound down the centre path of the House at the rate of 2½ fluid ozs. to 1,000 cubic feet of space.

Sold in round tins as under. When reckoning quantity required allow ¼ pint for each 2,000 cubic feet.

Size.	Price.	Postage.
¼ pint	1/-	6d.
½ pint	1/9	6d.
Pint	3/-	9d.
Quart	5/-	9d.
½ gallon	8/-	1.3
Gallon	15/-	2,6

Of all Nurserymen, Seedsmen, Florists, Ironmongers, Chemists and Stores.

Abol, Limited,
9, Beltring, Paddock Wood, Kent.

Write for Descriptive Folder.

Abol White Fly Compound

Notes from Maidstone.

OUR CATALOGUES.

WE have now distributed our Rose, Bulb, and Supplement to the Fruit Catalogue to our customers. Our Illustrated Fruit Tree Catalogue is now ready and contains many new features. The best pollinators for each variety of fruit are stated, where known, and a special table is given of varieties which pollinate each other mutually. Other features of this catalogue will be referred to in subsequent advertisements.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd., The Royal Nurseries, Established 1796. Maidstone.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

VOL. XC.—No 2854. AUGUST 14, 1926

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.; Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2. *Offices for Advertisements:* 6–11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

THE GREATEST PROVINCIAL SHOW

FEW flower shows can have made such an instantaneous success as that at Southport. That which will be held on August 25th, 26th and 27th will only be the third annual show, and yet the Southport Corporation has planned these shows with such skill and such vigour that the Southport Flower Show can now be regarded as second only to Chelsea, and a very good second, as those who visited it last year must realise. The exhibits this year should exceed even those of last year, for several special features are arranged, including a special Jubilee Show of the National Rose Society and a collection of grapes from the largest vine in the world, at Kippen, Stirlingshire, that last year had 2,163 bunches. It is a Gros Colmar.

FOLLOWING Colonel Cuthbert James's letter suggesting the formation of societies for the preservation and re-establishment of our rarer native plants, a correspondent has sent in a more detailed scheme as follows:

"*Where?*

"In counties. Each county to specialise as far as possible in the plants native to that county.

"*By whom?*

"A voluntary organisation of landowners, farmers, gardeners and amateurs.

"*Procedure.*

"(1) Members of the organisation would protect as far as was in their power all rare native plants growing wild.

"(2) They would grow from seed if possible, or from slips, or rootlets (in the case of rare plants the organisation would have to be responsible for the first supply) such plants as were, or had been, native to the district the members live in.

"(3) Progress to be reported to headquarters once a year, in October.

"(4) Young collectors should be encouraged to view the plants growing wild; then, instead of rooting them up, apply to the organisation for specimens to add to their collections. This would arouse their interest and lead them to take a hand in increasing instead of diminishing their county's native plants.

"(5) In two or three year's time when some progress had been made and interest established, the question of joining forces and having a national out-door museum might be considered. — (Mrs.) S. ROBSON, *West Hartlepool.*"

A FRUITING SPRAY OF PYRUS VILMORINII.

THIS week's plant is Pyrus Vilmorinii, one of the best all-round shrubs that has come out of China. It does not grow to a great size and is noted for the elegant grace of its arching branches. As will be seen from the accompanying illustration, the foliage is neat and fernlike, so much separated are the leaflets. In spring when the young shoots first appear they are a most delicate dull red. The flowers are nothing out of the common but the fruit makes up for any lack of flower distinction, for it begins by turning a good light red and the colour slowly fades through pink to a creamy white with a faint blush remaining. This most excellent mountain ash is quite hardy and is perfectly happy in any medium loam. It succeeds best in nearly full sun and should have an annual mulching. It is so good that many who know it will place it among the dozen best all-round shrubs in the garden.

Digitized by Google

A SELECTION OF MAPLES

THE acers are widely distributed, being found in all the principal countries of the world, excepting South America and Australasia. Practically all are very hardy trees and shrubs, and all are deciduous. There are, however, two varieties which sometimes lead one to believe one has found an evergreen acer. The first is A. creticum, the Cretan maple, which in some cases holds its foliage through the winter; in fact, there is great diversity of character in a batch of seedlings, some always appearing to be evergreen varieties. The other is A. lævigatum, sometimes described as evergreen, but I have yet to find a truly evergreen form, as sooner or later it loses its foliage. Acers generally may be divided into three widely scattered groups—Eastern (Japanese and Chinese), Western (American) and European. All three groups furnish us with some varieties of remarkable beauty, but undoubtedly the palm must go to the eastern group, which gives us A. palmatum, the forerunner of all the most beautiful and elegantly foliaged acers. Their colours alone are sufficient to endear them to all garden lovers, embracing as they do every colour known in foliage, including shades of green which I can only call unique. A. palmatum and its varieties enjoy a little peat or leaf-mould added to ordinary soil, and will not do quite so well in soils containing lime as will the members of other groups. When speaking of hardiness in acers, it must be remembered that on account of the beautiful, but very tender, foliage, A. palmatum must have a certain amount of shelter from cutting winds and, sometimes, spring frosts, as these are liable to injure the foliage. One of the most remarkable varieties of A. palmatum is A. p. atropurpureum. This has very dark purple red foliage of palmate form, is a good grower and retains its wonderful colour till the foliage falls. There is also a beautiful golden form of palmatum. A. p. roseo-marginatum has a delightfully green leaf which is heavily bordered with brilliant rose, giving the tree a most pleasing and handsome effect. A. p. dissectum has very finely cut fern-like foliage of a bright green colour. There is a beautifully variegated form called A. p. dissectum variegatum having its foliage plentifully marked with rosy pink and tints of creamy white or palest primrose. A. p. septemlobum sanguineum is a brilliant-coloured variety, and remains good throughout the season.

The Western, or American, group gives us A. Negundo, the box elder. Of this beautiful species Kew mentions no fewer than ten varieties, including the type. In many gardens the graceful A. Negundo variegatum is to be seen, but there are more beautiful varieties to be had. One of the most brilliant here is A. N. foliis marginatis aureis, the variegation being of a most telling golden colour, giving the tree a rich golden hue. A. N. californicum aureum has foliage entirely golden and of a larger size than some others. A. N. laciniatum has foliage finely cut and is a splendid grower, and soon makes a fair-sized tree. A. rubrum also makes a fine tree and, as its name implies, has good foliage. Its variety A. r. Drummondii is indeed a beautiful sight, its foliage being heavily margined with a pale primrose colour. A. pennsylvanicum, in addition to its beautiful foliage, has its bark striated with whitish streaks extending longitudinally along its trunk, hence its common name of snake-bark maple.

A GRACEFUL TREE OF ACER PALMATUM.

Among the European group—which includes the Norway maple with its many lovely and stately trees, the sycamore and the common English maple, A. campestre—are to be found most of the largest tree forms of the acers. Many make fine specimen trees for park planting. They are also extremely useful for woodland plantings. A large wood composed entirely of the European acers would, indeed, present a beautiful and brightly coloured picture in spring and summer. What its autumn effect would be I can only imagine, its tints of scarlet, gold, amber, crimson, etc., being beyond the limits of my pen to describe. Of the common maple, A. campestre, there are one or two extra good varieties. One which makes a pretty standard for the lawn is A. c. pendulum foliis variegatus. It is not a rank grower, therefore it is well suited to limited space. Of the Norway maple one could go on writing

Digitized by Google

for whole days, there are so many truly remarkable varieties. All are good growers, quite hardy and not at all particular as to soil conditions. The type name is A. platanoides. A. p. Schwedleri starts off in spring with rich dark red foliage, which later becomes a deep reddish green. A. p. Reitenbachii has beautiful large green foliage and makes a good tree. In autumn the foliage turns a deep bronzy red. Other good varieties of A. platanoides are laciniatum (the eagle's claw maple), heterophyllum variegatum, maculatum and palmatum.

A. Pseudo-platanus, or the sycamore, has many lovely things to offer. As I can only mention a very few, it becomes difficult to choose. Anyway, A. Pseudo-platanus Leopoldii is one I must include. Easily obtainable and a certain doer, it has large foliage heavily variegated with creamy white and primrose. Moreover, it retains its freshness till autumn. Another fine variety is A. Pseudo-platanus Prinz Handjery. This I consider to be one of the most beautiful acers we have. It has large, typical foliage variegated with silver and deeply tinged with bronze. A. Pseudo-platanus brilliantissimum has lovely pinky foliage in spring. A. Pseudo-platanus Worlei is a beautiful golden sycamore. This is often wrongly called the Corstorphine plane, A. Pseudo-platanus flavo-marginatum being the rightful owner thereof. The best purple sycamore is A. Pseudo-platanus atropurpureum. There is also a purple variegated form.

Paignton. JOHN HILL.

BABIANAS AT HOME

A GLEAMING, glowing spring morning in the Western Province of the Cape; the car skims along over the eight miles of road which take us a thousand feet down, almost to sea-level, through the little dorp which lies at the foot of the mountains and out on to the flats which stretch to Cape Town and the sea.

The road is bordered with mimosa and wattle in full glory of golden bloom, arctotis and gazanias border the roadside in every shade of orange, yellow and white.

Suddenly one gives a gasp and a long drawn "Oh! how beautiful!" In front of us a carpet of deep blue and cream. At first it gives one the impression of primroses and bluebells as one comes across them sometimes in England in a clearing of the woods; then one realises the difference. This is a real, deep, intense blue, without a suggestion of lilac or lavender. Babianas, of course, perhaps half an acre of them, the intensity of their blue just relieved by the cream sparaxis scattered among them. This was two years ago, and now there is a terrace bed in my garden vivid with this same deep dark blue below the orange spikes of Aloe plicata.

It is not necessary to remove many corms, for the babianas seed freely and germinate easily, flowering the second year. The flower has something of the appearance of a crocus on a larger scale, bearing many flowers on branched spikes a foot long or more.

THE SOFT CREAMY PETALS OF B MACRANTHA.

This blue babiana—B. stricta—runs through many varieties, of which the rubro-cyanea mentioned in THE GARDEN for July 11th, 1925, is one. It is also found with pale yellow blooms and is probably better known as Gladiolus sulphureus.

BABIANA RUBRO-CYANEA HAS LILAC FLOWERS WITH A RED THROAT.

B. stricta flourishes on hard, dry ground, but always on stiff soils, where drought affects it little, for its corms are often a foot down and sometimes deeper. It blooms before the really dry weather sets in, and having done this and having set its seeds and stored up supplies, it is impervious to blazing sun and drying winds, and is, indeed, hard to find until, the winter rains being over, its plantain-like leaves push through and soon the wonderful blue blooms are with us again.

Babianas are many and varied. There is B. plicata, which flowers earlier in the spring than stricta. Its blooms run through every shade of mauve and lavender, each one differently marked with crimson or maroon on the lower segments of the corolla, the scent makes it specially attractive, reminding us of freshly picked cowslips. It blooms in masses on sandy soils, which are wet in the winter and its two companions, the golden star hypoxis and the apricot butterfly morea, suit it to perfection.

There is also the deep red B. villosa, which is only found in a few favoured localities; once seen growing among the wonderful patches of purple sparaxis it is not easily forgotten.

Digitized by Google

And again, the lighter scarlet B. ringens, found here and there, is interesting in that it carries a barren branch to its flower spike. This is particularly adapted to form a perching place for the sun bird which fertilises its flowers. Babiana macrantha with its creamy flowers grows very tall in swampy places.

All these should be capable of cultivation in England. Grown in a cool greenhouse and planted out on a warm border at the end of May, they would make a grand show when the spring-flowering bulbs are over, and in warm localities they should stand the winter outside, particularly if a little protection be given. A warm corner in a rock garden would suit them to perfection.

In their own haunts they know not more than one degree of frost, but deluges of rain all the winter and hot baking sun all the summer.

The name babiana comes from the Dutch word for a baboon, as these animals are supposed to be fond of the corms and to dig them up. They would certainly have to work hard for a meal of them. K. C. STANFORD.

THE TULIP MANIA

This is the first of a short series of articles on bulbs which was prepared by the late Rev. J. Jacob for THE GARDEN *a short time before his death.*

TO understand how the famous "Tulip mania" rose, it is necessary first of all to try to picture the rather dull tone of a sixteenth century garden previous to the advent of this gay stranger from the East. The fame of the new flowers in the garden of Carolus Clusius at Leyden rapidly spread and created in the Hollanders of his day a desire to possess some of them for themselves, and it is no more strange than the passion of our parents for the gaudy carpet bedding of the sixties and the seventies of last century, when history repeated itself in good old favourites being thrown away or pushed aside, to make room for the fashionable geraniums and calceolarias with which that time will for ever be associated. As it was then in Britain, so it was two hundred and fifty years before in Holland. The rage for tulips rapidly spread as the flower rose in popular estimation. Even people of moderate means, such as small shopkeepers and weavers eagerly sought for the best varieties, and, in consequence, the prices, which, if we may believe the tale of the theft of bulbs from Clusius's garden to be true, were never very low at this time, became higher and higher, so much so that a trader at Haarlem is said to have given the half of his fortune for a single root, not with the design of selling it again at a profit, but to ornament his garden. This would be situated where the Kleine Hontweg now is, as this road runs through the part of the town where these tulips were formerly cultivated.

Here were the gardens of some of those foolish people whom Petrus Hondius wrote about in his "Dapes Inemptæ," published in 1621 at Leyden, as giving up every other floral adornment for the sake of "one, three or four weeks" of tulips, which are liable, as he said, to be spoilt even in this short time by heat or rain. This contemporary reference to tulip growing proves that up to this time the flower was cultivated for the pleasure it gave, although our author is very careful to observe that much as he loved the tulip himself, he certainly thought these people who gave up all else for it were overdoing the thing. We can well imagine then that when a demand came from rich men in France, who were as anxious to possess them as the Dutch were themselves, that prices stiffened. There is no reason to doubt the testimony of another contemporary writer, one Nicolas Wassenaer, that the owner of two bulbs of the famous red and white "Semper Augustus," refused in 1625 an offer of three thousand florins for them. It may be that the last straw which turned legitimate trading into a pure and simple gamble was the long continuance of a fashion in Paris for the higher class young ladies of the period to wear flowers in their dresses of an evening. Naturally, every young man wished to present the lady he admired with the choicest offering he could buy. Tulips were the fashionable flower. He must have them. The supply at home was soon exhausted, so off he sent to Holland. As this was repeated for several years and as high figures were always obtained, the growers in Haarlem and other Dutch towns began to think that they would not have too many and prices steadily rose higher and higher, culminating in such extravagant figures as 4,400 florins for an Admiral Liefken, 1,620 for an Admiral van der Eyck, 5,500 for a Semper Augustus, 3,000 for a Viceroy, and in certain cases, when the buyer could not raise enough cash, goods of various descriptions were substituted, thus one bulb of Viceroy changed hands for the following: 2 lasts of wheat, 448 florins; 4 lasts of rye, 558 florins; 4 fat oxen, 480 florins; 8 fat swine, 240 florins; 12 fat sheep, 120 florins; 2 hogsheads of wine, 70 florins; 4 tuns of beer, 32 florins; 2 tuns of butter, 192 florins; 1,000 pounds of cheese, 120 florins; a complete bed, 100 florins; a suit of clothes, 80 florins; a silver beaker, 60 florins; total, 2,500 florins.

We have a very good idea of what these flowers were like; for not only have we excellent illustrated books of the period when tulips were fast rising in value in the beautiful "Hortus Floridus" of Crispen de Passe, *c.* 1614–15, and in the "Livre des Fleurs" of Langlois, where accurate pictures are given of some of the best, but there are also coloured sketches of some of the most celebrated blooms of the mania period itself, 1634–37, in Mr. Ernst H. Krelage's library at Haarlem. Three of these, Viceroy, Semper Augustus and Gouda are reproduced in colour in Solms-Lauback's "Weizon und Tulpe." In every case it will be observed they are striped and I am disposed to think that they were most of them either some shade of red and white, or some shade of purple and white.

The year 1634 is usually reckoned as the beginning of the mania proper, although long before this time high prices had been given for choice varieties. The first development seems to have been the selling of the bulbs by weight. This had the advantage of allowing the small offsets to be sold at corresponding prices to the larger ones and to the mother bulb. Before planting, these would be carefully weighed and this weight became the basis of the calculation between buyer and seller in fixing the price when lifted. In the course of time when all pretence of dealing in actual bulbs had been abandoned, when no one either knew or cared what a variety was like, when it was really nothing but a name and when the very last thing that was thought of was either the delivery or the receiving of the bulbs, it became the custom to sell so much of a kind irrespective of whether that weight corresponded to a whole bulb or not. For this purpose a weight called an azen (less than a grain) was used and all later transactions took place on this basis. Thus, not long before the crash came, we have the record of 440 azen of Admiral van der Eyck being sold for 1,620 florins. Again (retracing one's steps), owing to the extraordinary furore which the inflated trade soon caused and the way in which the numbers of those taking part in the gamble rapidly grew, special provisions for selling were instituted. Little capital was at first required for a start, only a small garden and the purchase of a few self-coloured or possibly some striped bulbs, and as these could be secured by the sale of a person's ordinary business or tools, or by a mortgage on their houses, it was possible for all classes to join in, as they undoubtedly did. Soon there arose what are known as Collegiums or Clubs, which virtually corresponded with our modern stock exchanges and where business came to be transacted under certain well defined laws and regulations.

The inevitable crash came at the end of February, 1637. Such mad dealing in bulbs, which cannot have been intrinsically worth but a fraction of their inflated values, could not go on for ever. One thing is certain, the more level-headed and wiser began "to smell a rat," and in their later transactions made what provision they could for the proverbial "rainy day." The possibility of a fall was provided for. Munting cites the case of his own father. "My father had also in 1636 sold a few bulbs to a man from Alkmaar for the sum of 7,000 florins on the condition that the bargain was to stand fast if no fall occurred within six months, but that if this happened within that time the buyer should give 10 per cent. of the price agreed upon." The author records that a fall occurred

Digitized by Google

and to his sorrow the elder Munting only received 700 florins and had to keep his bulbs which he would much rather have handed over.

The dreaded day, February 3rd, 1637, came suddenly once there was a loss of confidence. No one would buy and no one could sell. The florists of the chief towns concerned, Haarlem, Delft, Gouda, Utrecht, Alkmaar, Leyden, Enkhuizen, Rotterdam, Hoorn and Amsterdam, met on February 25th and tried to patch up matters, but not very successfully. In the end the States-General had to intervene and in conjunction with the burgomasters and magistrates they took what measures were possible for the winding up of this disastrous business. Their last decree was dated May 22nd, 1638, so long a time did this process take, before all was settled and trade became normal again.

EDGING PLANTS

THERE is a certain completeness about a garden of which the beds and borders are fringed with flowering plants in their respective seasons, and, incidentally, there is something lacking where edgings are not to be seen. In former years, when the bedding-out system held sway, a deal of trouble and, in some instances, not a little expense were incurred to make the garden bright for a few months, and edgings were one of the chief features. Plants are still used for this purpose of an annual character, but not to the same extent, and I think the reason is because it is being realised more every year that one may employ those of a more enduring nature that will give just as much, if not more, pleasure, without so much labour. It is a far cry to the time when it was regarded as fashionable to have not merely a single row of some tender subject, but a double row of edging plants; and it will, no doubt, be within the recollection of many readers that blue lobelia, dwarf and prim, like the old Crystal Palace compacta, was planted in conjunction with the even more formal Echeveria, the flowers of which were often pinched off. Happily, I think, we live in a day when hardy plants are becoming more recognised every year, and for their usefulness as edgings we may claim some of them. Where garden paths are edged with rough pieces of stone, opportunity offers for planting among them close-growing things like mossy saxifrages, such as SS. muscoides, cæspitosa or hypnoides. Sedums also afford suitable plants to wander about a stone-edged walk, as SS. album and lydium. Who does not know the country flower border where, along the verges, cushions of pink and white thrift are to be seen in spring and summer; and equally familiar are pinks whose foliage is compact, and in their season of flowering bring such fragrance to a garden. Mrs. Sinkins is still one of the sweetest whites! Senecio argenteus is noted for its silvery foliage growing only 2ins. or 3ins. high. It is hardy if planted in a well drained border, and is a capital plant for a permanent edging. A little border in my garden has been a mass of blue and white bells from the fact that along the side of the path some tiny pieces of Campanula pusilla and its white form were planted a year or two ago; but there are others more showy, like G. F. Wilson, with deep blue blossoms; in fact, we have in campanulas quite a number capable of making a brave show year by year.

Spring beauty among edging plants ought not to be lost sight of. Aubrietias offer a selection, and when once established it is mainly a question of keeping them within bounds.

Raised beds are sometimes difficult to deal with in the matter of edgings. One known to me, planted with the dwarf Iberis correæfolia, has covered most of the stones, and for some weeks this summer was full of its white flowers.

It is not the difficulty of finding sufficient hardy subjects for edging purposes that confronts one about to plant, as there are so many, but in choosing one or two that will best suit one's purpose. W. LINDERS LEA.

HARDY PINKS BORDERING A PATHWAY.

SERVICE FOR READERS

Though so many subjects are dealt with in each issue of THE GARDEN, it must constantly happen that readers seek information which is not immediately available. In such circumstances they should make use of our Service Department. Through its medium each reader's own particular enquiry can be dealt with. No matter what the question is, whether advice is sought as to—

RESTOCKING A GARDEN, COLOUR SCHEMES FOR GARDENS, THE BEST PLANTS FOR CERTAIN SITUATIONS, WHERE TO OBTAIN NEW AND RARE PLANTS, INSECT PESTS, NAMING OF PLANTS, AND THE HUNDRED AND ONE OTHER DETAILS RELATING TO THE GARDEN—

there is always information available from a staff of expert contributors and consultants; *and there is no charge for this.* It is one of the additional means of service which THE GARDEN is glad to render to its readers.

Also, there is the further convenience which the Service Department affords of supplying readers with data about anything that is advertised in the pages of the paper. Thus, on receipt of an enquiry, particulars will be sent of, say, half a dozen things about which the reader seeks information. The only stipulation is that a stamped addressed envelope shall be sent with the enquiry.

All communications should be addressed to the Service Department, THE GARDEN, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

NOTES OF THE WEEK

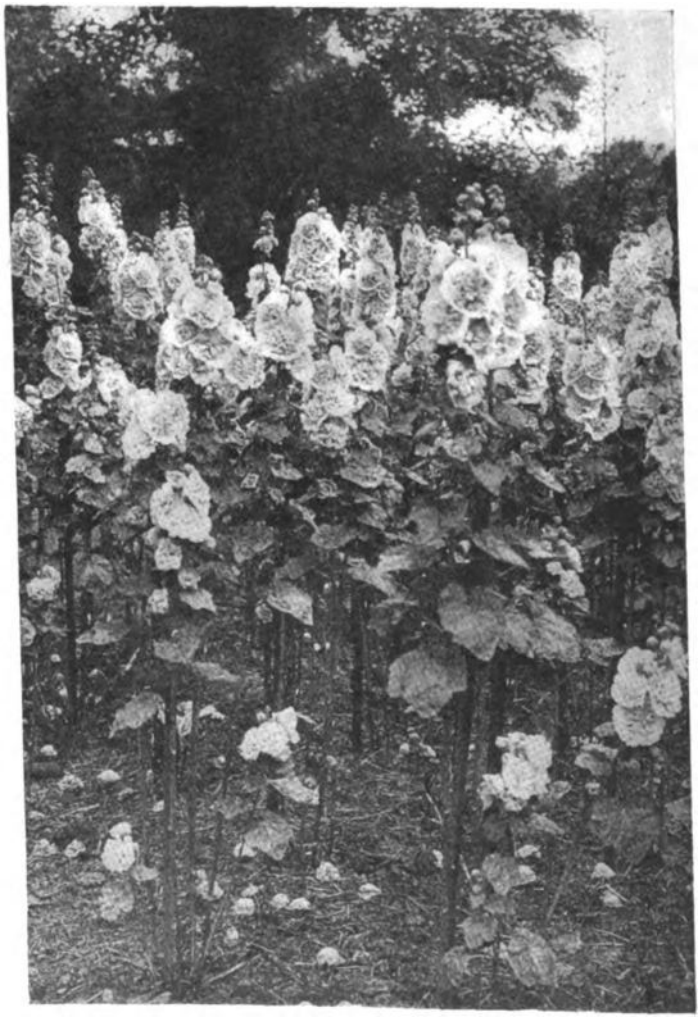
EVODIA HUPEHENSIS.

AMONG the collection of ornamental trees at Kew there is one that proved its worth last year for the first time. This is Evodia hupehensis, whose berries were a magnificent sight for over three weeks. It was first discovered by Professor Augustine Henry (4482) in 1887, and was introduced by Wilson during the Veitch expedition of 1901. This genus is a typical member of the rutaceæ and probably has its nearest relative in the phellodendrons. Wilson states that "it is a very common tree in the woodlands of western Hupeh, where it grows to a larger size than any other species. Like its allies it has smooth grey bark, spreading branches and brittle wood, and is known colloquially as "the stinking ash tree." Why it should be thus named I do not know, for I have noticed no evil odour emanating from several specimens I have seen growing in this country. The tree at Kew, which is probably the largest in Britain, is about 20ft. in height, with a crown about 14ft. in diameter. Four to nine slender leaflets are carried, while the flowers are borne in large panicles and are fairly inconspicuous. So far this tree has been considered uninteresting, but last year it was covered with panicles of tiny berries of a port wine colour. So fruitful was it that it was one of the sights of the garden. It is perfectly hardy, but of rather slow growth. Its fruiting qualities, however, are such that it should be more often grown where autumn colours are appreciated. —R. H.

HOLLYHOCKS.

HOLLYHOCKS were among the most highly prized garden flowers grown by the old florists. As far back as 1724—*vide* Miller's Gardener's Dictionary—we are told that it was a plant of considerable variety, with red, white purple, black and other coloured flowers, and, like some of the other flowers they grew, hollyhocks were distinguished by name; much more, indeed, than they are in our time. Fifty years or more ago the firm of Paul's of Cheshunt and Chater of Saffron Walden were noted for their strains of hollyhocks. In my youth I have a distinct recollection of double-flowering sorts being more thought of than the singles; in fact, I remember that a single would not be countenanced in a garden if it could be avoided, but this was not to be wondered at considering that the same prejudice existed with ten-week stocks. Although the hollyhock may not be so widely cultivated as it deserves, it still remains among the noblest and stateliest of our garden plants, a beautiful object when fully grown and roped with its rosette-like blossoms. Its great height possibly prevents those who have only moderate-sized gardens from growing it, but for long borders and on the foreground of shrubberies it maintains its reputation as one of the most attractive subjects one can possibly take in hand.

Culture.—It is well understood that to have the best results deep and very generous culture must be followed. The great height to which it grows and the rapidity of progress all point to the necessity of deep trenching and a liberal use of manure. The preparation of the soil for hollyhocks is a matter of prime importance, and nothing which may be done for them afterwards can make up for any shortcomings in this respect. To this end a start should be made in the autumn, trenching and manuring the ground, leaving it rough for the winter, and breaking it up in spring, following on by mulching the surface with rotted manure once or twice during the summer. Hollyhocks are lovers of moisture, and during a dry season will need much attention in this direction.



A CLUMP OF OLD-FASHIONED DOUBLE HOLLYHOCKS.

Position.—A sunny position serves them best, although they are not averse to a partially shaded one provided there are no overhanging trees.

Propagation.—Three methods of propagation are open to the cultivator, *viz.*, seed, cuttings, division of roots. The first named is the one most generally practised to-day. Virtually it is treating the hollyhock as a biennial, and it is by following this plan that the disease to which they seem still liable—a rust fungus known as Puccinia malvacearum—is kept under control more than when plants are allowed to occupy the same position for a season or two. Grown as individual plants and given stout, long stakes, hollyhocks form one of the attractions of the garden.—CLAREMONT.

LILIUM MARTAGON CATTANEÆ.

THERE came into flower with me in the first week of July the handsome lily known as L. Martagon Cattaneæ, which is rather lighter in colour than the variety L. M. dalmaticum. Both are exceedingly fine, and L. M. Cattaneæ, with its almost mahogany brown flowers, is quite striking in the border. Mr. A. Grove appears to agree with the late Mr. Elwes in considering that L. M. dalmaticum is entitled to specific rank, and, if so, Cattaneæ may be taken as a variety of dalmaticum. Both have the distinguishing feature of the buds being covered with masses of white hairs. L. M. dalmaticum and L. M. Cattaneæ are sometimes said to grow as much as 8ft. high, but I have never had them so tall. At the same time, in this garden, where L. Martagon and its beautiful white variety are comparatively dwarf, Cattaneæ is quite twice the height of either of these. I am growing it in full sun and in ordinary garden loam, not too rich. It is a lime-loving lily, and is often found growing in shade as well as in sun. It should be planted 4ins. deep.—S. A.

ARCTOSTAPHYLOS UVA-URSI (RED BEARBERRY).

THIS trailing shrub is splendid for a dry, sunny place on the rockery. Attractive in every way, with its small bright evergreen leaves and pinkish white flowers, it is at its best in the autumn, when the foliage turns to bronze and scarlet with its crop of red berries. It is most difficult to transplant, having only one single main root, and should be propagated from seed sown in sand with a little peat in the spring. In Canada, where it grows, bears are very fond of its fruit, and I believe the Indians call it "Kinnikenie," and appreciate it for its medicinal value. Where happily placed the arctostaphylos will cover patches several feet in diameter. A. alpina and A. tomentosa are also very attractive. The former is a very small species, which we have, unfortunately, failed with.—R. MOORE, *Thorpe Hall.*

ASTER FARRERI.

I HEAR a good number of complaints about the shy flowering of Aster Farreri, and my correspondents appear to agree that it does not bloom well in a rich, rather moist soil. In conversation with a friend who sees many gardens from time to time, he informed me that in another garden in somewhat similar soil to mine he had seen it flowering well, but that in others it was a disappointment in this respect. With me it has flowered fairly well, and has increased at the roots. It is in a dry border near a stone edging, and it has shown a tendency to creep along the stones. After growing it for some time, one has to admit that it has fallen in one's estimation very greatly, and now that we have so many good perennial starworts it will take Aster Farreri all its time to retain its favour. Some forms appear better than others, but, on the whole, it does not continue to receive the favour it did when first introduced.—S. ARNOTT.

Digitized by Google

LILIUMS.

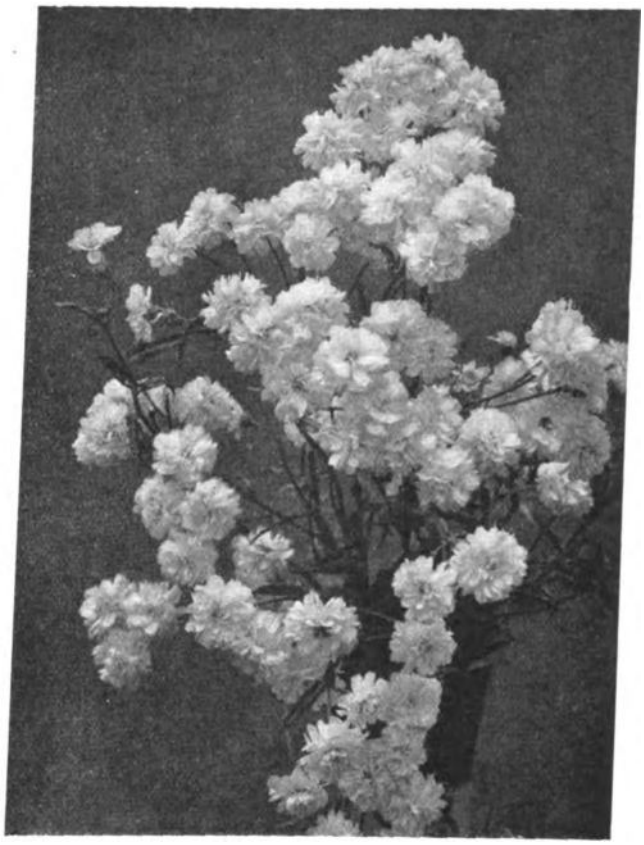
The Fallacy of Cutting Stems Prematurely.

COMPLAINTS are sometimes made as to the non-flowering of garden lilies, notably L.L. chalcedonicum, giganteum, testaceum and candidum. In some instances I think this is due not a little to the stems being cut down the previous season while green and full of sap, instead of letting them wither naturally. There is nothing gained whatever in being in too great a hurry to dispose of flowering stems of lilies; and those whose idea is to keep the borders tidy should, I think, draw the line at these stately denizens of the garden. The one who makes tulips a speciality, or takes a pride in choice narcissi, would never dream of cutting away foliage until it had died down, as to do so cannot be beneficial for the bulbs. On more than one occasion I have seen a group of the old L. candidum quite bare of flowers, due to nothing else than the ruthless depletion of leaves and stems that had not fulfilled their mission, while other clumps in the same garden, left alone, bloomed as usual the next season. In so far as L. candidum is concerned, it is generally agreed that the best time to plant the bulbs is immediately the old flowering stalks have died down, and before new growth appears; and one wonders sometimes whether in the case of non-flowering of imported bulbs the following year, this is not due to the premature cutting away of foliage for the purpose of packing and despatching the bulbs so as to reach the markets early. I think that this may not be after all, a far-fetched idea.—W. LINDERS LEA.

ACHILLEAS.

Useful Plants for Borders.

IN the achilleas, we have a group of very hardy herbaceous plants that are of service in the borders, blooming profusely for many weeks in summer, free of growth, and increasing so rapidly that it becomes imperative, having regard to other occupants, to divide them every two years or so. It is unwise to defer division as it leads to confusion, the roots ramifying so much. As is known, the plants are recognised as milfoils-yarrows, and seen in a mixed border of hardy plants when in bloom, are very attractive. Besides the border species, there are others of a dwarf nature, fitted for edgings or for positions in the rock garden. Taken as a family, they vary in height from 3ins. to 4ins. to about 4ft., and, except in very shady places, will grow in most gardens. They need only ordinary soil. Rich and manured soil only tends to abnormal root growth and that is one thing to be guarded against. One has only to leave a root or two alone in a border for a few years to find out how quickly they run near the surface and almost strangle other plants within their vicinity. Planting may be done in autumn or spring. If planted in autumn, the probability is that the roots will be sufficiently established by the next season, that flowers will follow as a matter of course. Seldom does the frost hurt achilleas. Propagation may be effected from seed sown in spring; from cuttings also in spring, and as mentioned, by dividing the roots. White sorts appear to be very popular still, and it will be remembered that for quite a number of years no one disputed the claims of Achillea Ptarmica The Pearl, for premier position. It is known by its small, white button-like flowers, so plentifully produced, but when Perry's White made its advent, it was, by common consent of those who had grown it, given the first place as the best white achillea. Its flowers are larger, being nearly double the size of The Pearl, and of the purest white. Flowers of all of them are useful for cutting, and last some days in water. Like most other composites, a dry season militates against achilleas and in order to lessen the labour of carrying water, it is advisable to spread about the roots a temporary mulch. If this is not done watering is likely to become burdensome. In a mixed border of hardy flowering plants of any size, one invariably notices achilleas and among them there is almost certain to be a clump of A. eupatorium, with its bright yellow heads, and Cerise Queen, a bright red. These are generally disposed on the middle or back rows of the borders. Other noteworthy members of the family are Mongolica, syn. sibirica (white), Kelwayi (rosy crimson). Most of the achilleas bloom over a long period, but it is advisable as soon as the flowers are over, to cut away the stems. They are among the useful plants in a garden that one would not like to part with and so long as they are kept within proper limits, they serve us well.—W. L.



ACHILLEA PERRY'S WHITE, THE BEST WHITE VARIETY.

A FINE PATCH OF MESEMBRYANTHEMUM CRASSULINUM.

MESEMBRYANTHEMUM CRASSULINUM.

THE mesembryanthemum cannot be grown in every garden, and there are few spots away from the sea where they can be kept permanently in the open ground. However, they are a charming race, although somewhat mixed up in regard to nomenclature, and it is with some diffidence that one refers to the plant illustrated as M. crassulinum. As such it is quoted in catalogues, and whatever the name according to the latest classification of the genus, it is a charming subject for a hot dry part of the rock garden. In such a position it thrives at Castleford, Chepstow, and although it will remain alive throughout several mild winters, it must be regarded as not quite hardy, and, in consequence, provision should be made to keep a stock in a cold frame to replace losses, if any, outside. It forms a close, dwarf, fleshy growth, with masses of white flowers in June and July, and it is readily increased by division. For hot, dry positions in full sunshine the mesembryanthemums are recommended, and they thrive in any poor stony soil.—T. W. BRISCOE.

Digitized by Google

CORRESPONDENCE

THE TREATMENT OF PRIMULAS.

SIR,—As the result of this season's observations, I have arrived at the following conclusions as to the best treatment to give primulas. They may not be new, and may only apply to the climate and conditions we have to contend with.

(*a*) They should, if possible, be grown from seed, a fresh lot being planted yearly. In order to get vigorous seedlings, a considerable number of plants should be grown together. Where you only have one plant, try what can be done by hand pollination to get some seed, and sow that.

(*b*) The planting of primulæ should be done between the third week in August and the middle of September. Should time and space not be available then, every effort should be made to have them planted by the end of September. If planting is carried out at this time, the plants have time to establish themselves before the resting period commences and the cold weather sets in. Spring planting (except of plants in pots) should be avoided, as the plants, being mostly spring or early summer flowering, have no time to establish themselves before the flowering period commences, with the result that the flowers are weakly and the plant, having the double burden, is weak, too, and many of the plants fail to flower. Last winter was a pretty severe one. Seedlings planted out in autumn came through it well, and we were able to sow seed of P. cernua on June 18th. In a winter where there are alternate periods of frost and thaw some plants tend to get thrown out of the ground and need attention. P. chrysopha is a case in point.

(*c*) The soil in which they are planted must be rich, but anything like raw manure should be avoided. No primula likes a starvation diet. Soil from a spent hotbed does well to mix with the ordinary loam. The rose border suits many species, such as the Nivalid Primulas. I believe it was Sir I. Bailey Balfour who first planted a nivalid in the rose border, and the habit is still kept up in Edinburgh for special treasures. If you have a big rose border, you can add to its interest by growing primulas there as well. Most of them will be past before the roses begin to flower, but they must not be trampled on at pruning-time.

(*d*) They are benefited in spring, especially when flowering, by a mulching of leaf-mould. Chips should always be mixed with the soil. Some families, like the auriculæ and its sub-sections, seem to like more stones than soil provided they have a ball of earth for the young roots to work in. Drainage must be good, and all like plenty of water during the growing period.

(*e*) If you fail to get seed, and your plants form crowns, do not neglect to break them up and replant as soon as you can after the middle of August and up to the end of October. It gives a greater interest to think of primulas not only as members of the great clan, but also as members of the various families which make up that clan, as this gives a key to their behaviour. Some families are composed of easy doers while others have to be petted and only put in selected corners where, if they flourish, they are a joy; while of some you will be lucky if you see them flower once, then to die without leaving a seed behind.—WM. LOW, *Balmakewan, Forfarshire.*

THE VALUE OF ANTHURIUMS AS FOLIAGE PLANTS.

SIR,—In the issue of THE GARDEN of July 10th Mr. Schneider brings to notice two species of that grand stove genus anthurium. The species he mentions are grown for the floral display, and now I should like to draw attention to two species which are valued for their foliage. The first one is Anthurium crystallinum, which has lovely velvety green ovate cordate leaves with crystal white veins. This is quite an old species, growing to a height of 1½ft. to 2ft. Owing to the brilliant contrast of the veins against the dark background this anthurium is of great beauty, and always attracts attention and admiration. The second species, A. Pfitzeri, is another noble plant, but whether in commerce or not I do not know. These notes refer to the specimen in the nepenthes house at Kew. Growing in a raised mound of peaty soil, it has ovate lanceolate deep green leaves with deep slightly overlapping lobes at the base. The veins are white,

THE HANDSOME LEAVES OF ANTHURIUM PFITZERI.

but without the crystalline sharpness of A. crystallinum. To give an idea of the size of the plant, I may mention that the largest leaf (when this photograph was taken) measured 48ins. long by 19ins. wide. It is a lovely thing, but, of course, is only a fit occupant for a large stove-house.—N. D. H.

CYPRIPEDIUMS IN THE WILD.

SIR,—Noticing an article on the cypripedium, with illustrations, in a June issue of THE GARDEN, I thought you might be interested in the enclosed photograph of C. spectabile, showing the way they grow here in tamarack swamps.—H. B. LEFROY, *Toronto, Canada.*

CYPRIPEDIUM SPECTABILE GROWING IN A SWAMP NEAR TORONTO, CANADA.

NAMES OF EARLY POTATOES.

SIR,—In regard to Mr. Grant's remarks in THE GARDEN, July 31st, page 436, on the "Names of Early Potatoes," I am afraid he will have some difficulty in establishing his claim that "Victory" is a different potato from Duke of York. Yield is a poor argument when comparing synonymous varieties; climate, soil, manurial treatment, degenerative diseases, etc., have a great influence over yield. What I tried to point out in THE GARDEN, April 10th, was that so many growers duplicate their varieties of potatoes.

Surely the raiser of a potato should be protected: then, I say, the Duke of York name must have priority over the name "Victory." "Victory" is not a different potato from Duke of York. It is Duke of York re-baptised. Sentiment has got nothing to do with the name of the variety. The name given to this splendid first early was Duke of York, and it should be known by that name the world over.

I am not one who would advocate the planting of a potato which has deteriorated if any improved variety could be obtained, but by growing "Victory" one is still growing the same old Duke of York.

There are many "different" stocks of Duke of York potatoes, but the difference is due to virus diseases. We can get good, bad and indifferent stocks all over the country, but when the stock is good we are not at liberty to rename it.

Digitized by Google

Mr. Anderson, Director of the Seed Testing Station, East Craigs, stated last week that "Thirty-two out of a total of ninety-six varieties submitted for testing are old varieties re-named. The practice in sending in old varieties as new is thus not yet dead, despite all the information which has been disseminated regarding the identification of varieties."

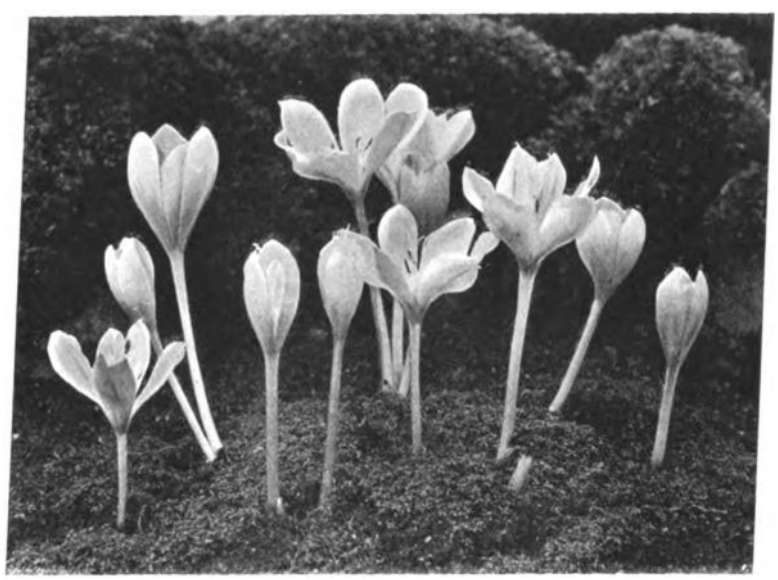
In regard to the Board of Agriculture scheduling all areas under half an acre (not a quarter of an acre), Mr. Grant is under a misapprehension. Growers all over Scotland outwith a scheduled area can grow Duke of York and other non-immune first earlies without even a permit, provided the crop is lifted by the middle of August. Therefore, the greater part of Aberdeenshire, Kincardineshire and other northern counties are not restricted areas, provided the "plotter" complies with the regulations. I, as a "plotter," am not allowed to grow any non-immune variety owing to my plot of ground being within a scheduled area. Still, I do not grumble, there are as good immune varieties as non-immune. I plant Di-Vernon, Early Pink Champion and Snowdrop (Witchhill), and lift in the order named. I commenced using Di-Vernon this year on June 23rd and when those were finished I started on Early Pink Champion and now, August 2nd, I am lifting a beautiful crop of Snowdrop.—GEO. STUART.

THE FLOWER GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE

SPANISH IRISES.

THE iris, such a favourite in all early summer markets, though one of our most attractive and beautiful flowers, is also among the easiest to grow, and the present time is suitable for increasing the stock. The bulbs may be put in flower-pots or boxes filled with any compost of soil and leaf-mould, and then placed in a cool greenhouse to get well rooted before growth commences. In the garden and flower border it is usual to plant the bulbs in clumps of from six to nine, or in rows 2ins. apart, the rows being 9ins. apart. The hole or trench in which the bulbs are placed is best lined with a dash of sand, particularly if the ground is on the heavy side. Three inches is the correct depth to plant the bulbs.

The high prices secured by irises make them a very profitable crop for the small-holder or gardener who includes flowers in his scheme. There is always a strong demand in early summer for the blooms, for nothing at that season can compare in brightness with the glorious yellows, whites and purples of this popular "orchid." They are superb for house decoration, beautiful in the garden and grand in every way. The flowers should not be cut until fully open, and then made up in bunches of a dozen blooms if for sale. After flowering once in pots, the bulbs are quite good for planting out, and can remain in the ground for four or five years, when, if lifted and replanted, they will go on increasing from year to year for many years to come.—R. D.



AN ATTRACTIVE GROUP OF THE TULIP-LIKE FLOWERS OF C. SPECIOSUM.

COLCHICUM SPECIOSUM.

POPULARLY designated meadow saffrons or autumn crocuses, the colchicums, are quite distinct botanically from the crocus, but in general appearance there is a distinct resemblance which justifies the popular name. A wild species, Colchicum autumnale, is found in meadows in certain parts of the country and, in refined forms, in the garden; C. Bornmulleri, often grown, is decidedly better; C. Sibthorpii cilicicum and variegatum are very choice, but best of all the species is C. speciosum, a handsome, very showy type, which will be in bloom when these notes appear. Bulbs, of large size, can be obtained in August and they ought to be planted without any delay; indeed, very often the flower spike is showing when the bulbs are secured. Plant deep enough to give three clear inches of soil above the bulbs.

In spring C. speciosum throws up fleshy, broad leaves; these, during summer, store up a vast amount of energy and die down in July; in August and September the flowers appear alone and, if grown in groups, they make a brilliant spot of colour amid the autumn flowering plants. The flowers are large and bear some resemblance to a tulip; they are decidedly superior in every way to those of autumnale, which are often found in gardens; the colouring is clean and distinct, the flowers more lasting and robust than the anæmic autumnale varieties.

C. speciosum is a variable flower as regards colour, the soil in which it is grown often having an effect and the season, in other cases, altering the tint. The predominant tint is a soft, light purple or mauve, but we have seen them coming up in some years almost white. One variety, rubrum, is of fixed tint, the flowers being a fairly deep ruby red, even the supporting tube, usually white, being in this case a distinct red. A second variety, maximum, retains the soft lilac colour of the parent; the flowers of this are both taller and broader, but we do not find them quite so lasting, especially in wet weather. A double form we grow has very full flowers; this is a fine sort, superior to the common kind and one which lasts well even in bad weather. The last we will mention is a comparatively rare variety, album; this is a gorgeous thing, the flowers being of a beautiful waxy white and, as long as it remains unsullied by rain, the chastest and sweetest toing among all the autumn flowers.—LANARKSHIRE.

MIGNONETTE.

Raising in Pots for Winter Flowering.

MIGNONETTE is always appreciated, whether grown in the open border, in window boxes or in pots in the greenhouse. In general it is a very easily grown plant, but frequently presents some difficulty as a pot subject. In the first place, the cultivator must be careful to examine closely all new loam before it is mixed with other ingredients, as wireworms are enemies of mignonette. The best way is to hand-pick all loam. All manures used should be well rotted and also free from grubs. For the seeds, use fibrous loam reduced to a fine condition, 2 parts; leaf-soil, half-rotted and in a flaky condition, 1 part; a small quantity of old lime rubble will be of more value than sand—even the best. As mignonette does not transplant well, the seeds should be sown in small pots filled with the compost and watered. Drop half a dozen seeds near the centre, cover them lightly with dry soil, and place the pots in a cold frame where they can be watched closely daily. Thin out all but three resultant seedlings if bush plants are required, and all except one if standards are to be grown. In due course, re-pot these seedlings without disturbing the soil around their roots. A shelf in a frame or one in a greenhouse will do very well until Christmas, then a front stage in a greenhouse is best. If the bushes are to be branching, stop the plants; if large spikes are preferred, do not stop. If standard, continue to pinch out side shoots; train the centre stem to a neat stake and remove flowers for a time until the stem is the required height.—CHRISTCHURCH.

LILY OF THE VALLEY: SELECTING CROWNS FOR FORCING.

THE delicious fragrance of lilies of the valley is such as to make them general favourites wherever grown. We value them in the garden when the flowers appear in the first flush of summer, but they are even more welcome in the early days of the year, lured into beauty and sweetness in the warmth of the greenhouse. Time was when the gardener, having in view a spring display under glass, made his preparations by procuring crowns that were grown by Continental dealers for the English markets. That was in the day when Berlin crowns were much in evidence and little attention was paid to the culture of home-grown ones. To a great extent that is now changed and one can buy crowns grown in English soil that are equal to any from abroad. There is a temptation on the part of those potting up crowns for the first time, to repair to the bed in the garden. My experience of this method is, that in many cases such beds are mostly in some out of the way corner, where they are seldom

Digitized by Google

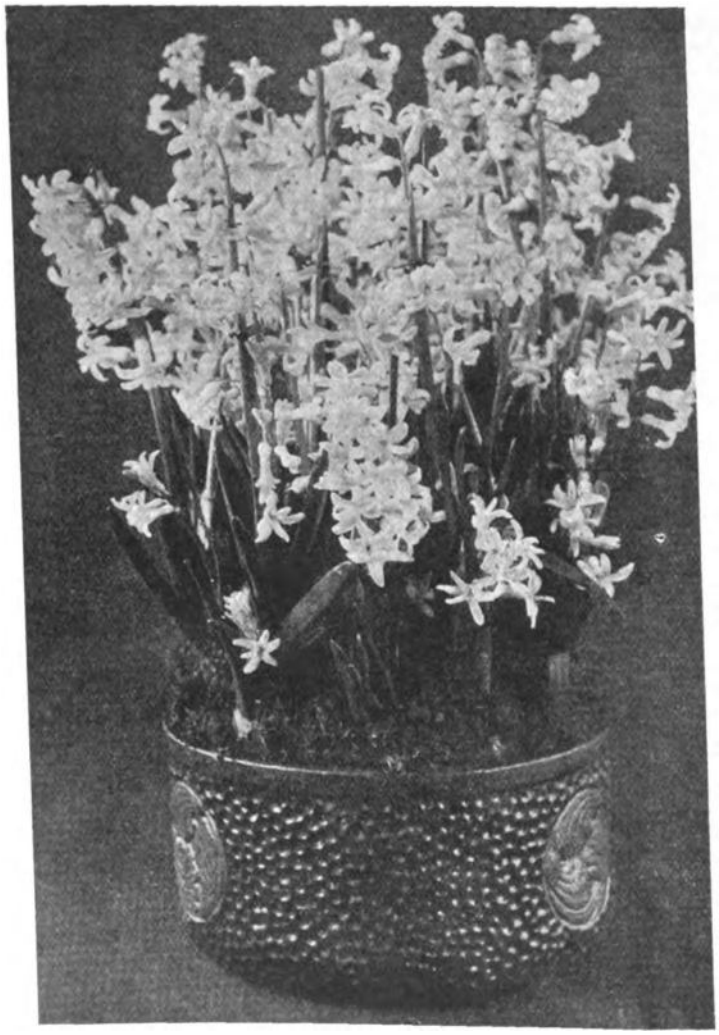
interfered with, which means that they are often neglected and allowed to run riot, so that instead of the fat, individual crowns we seek, we only find thin, weakly, overcrowded roots, quite unfitted for the purpose of producing flowers of quality under glass. Like their fellows in one of the Derbyshire dales we are acquainted with, they have become so overrun and crowded that the blossoms have degenerated into insignificant little bells on thin stems, unworthy of comparison with crowns that have been planted out and grown in generously manured ground for a couple of seasons before being lifted. It is almost useless to expect good results unless the home-grown article has been specially prepared, as to pot up thin crowns from beds in a garden that have not been prepared, only ends in disappointment. Where this obtains, the better plan is to purchase from a reliable bulb firm. To ensure lily of the valley crowns from the home garden one needs to select the strongest after the flowering period, and plant out as suggested 6ins. or 8ins. apart. It is only these prepared crowns that are worth considering for forcing and they must, of course, be given some months in a cold frame or outhouse, away from the light, before they are introduced to even the slightest heat.—W. LINDERS LEA.

BULBS FOR CHRISTMAS FLOWERING.

NO time should be lost in planting the bulbs required for Christmas flowering. All dealers make a special feature of early blooming bulbs for culture in bowls of fibre and any of these will do equally well in pots or boxes of soil. To-day there is a good selection of subjects which include the paper white narcissi, Roman and Italian hyacinths, early-flowering tulips, etc. Make a point of buying bulbs which are specially sold for culture in pots; those which are sold for planting in the open often give poor results indoors. Deal with a reliable firm; you may have to pay a little more money, but only the best bulbs are worth troubling about in this case.

All bulbs grown in bowls or pots must be given as long a time for rooting as possible. If you want to make sure of flowers for Christmas, the bulbs should be planted quite by the end of August. Plant each bulb firmly, pressing down the fibre or soil well. Most bulbs are strong rooting and unless they are securely held they are likely to force themselves upwards. Insert the bulb so that the crown is just clear of the rooting medium. If the fibre or soil is reasonably moist no further water should be given.

Newly planted bulbs should never be placed in a strong light. This will encourage the growth of the top shoot before the roots are well developed, and, as a result, the flowers will be poor and stunted. It is better to keep the bulbs in a semi-dark place for two months or, in the case of hyacinths and tulips, even longer. Bulbs grown in pots or boxes may be placed in some corner of the garden and covered 6ins. deep in fibre or dead leaves. Straw is not suitable, for this is apt to go mouldy when it becomes damp. Bulbs in bowls may be stored away on a shelf away from the light. A position in a dark shed or a cellar is very suitable. After about ten days test the fibre to see if it is getting dry. Then a little water may be given and as active rooting starts, more moisture will be required. Never let the fibre get into a sodden state, however, as without a big top growth the bulbs are not able to get rid of the water they absorb very freely. Narcissi should be watched closely. These take root very soon and at once a vigorous growth of the shoot starts. If this is allowed to proceed too far the plants will be very ungainly. When the shoots are about 4ins. high it is better to bring the bowls into a cool greenhouse or a light room. Hyacinths and tulips may be given much longer in the darkness and, in fact, within reason, the time allowed cannot well be too long.



A FINE BOWL OF ROMAN HYACINTHS AT CHRISTMAS-TIME.

By following the plan indicated the bulbs can be brought to full beauty in about four months from planting and this without any more heat than is to be found in an ordinary room.

The early flowering bulbs lend themselves to novel methods of culture. For instance, charming effects are produced by planting in large shells. Such shells can usually be obtained for a small sum from second-hand shops and it is well to select those with fairly capacious interiors. Fibre is used in the same way as when bowls are used for planting. The effect is all the better if lawn grass seed is thickly sown on the fibre. The grass seed need not be sown until the flower buds are showing, as it grows quickly and rapidly covers the fibre with greenery. Another way is to plant some of the bulbs in a sponge. Secure a large sponge which is rounded in shape. When the sponge is dry cut slits and, in these, insert the bulbs. For this purpose it will be found that Roman hyacinths are the best. Narcissi and tulips are not so satisfactory. Then loop twine round the sponge so that it can be suspended. Soak the whole thing in water for a few hours and, after draining, hang up in some dark position. As required, give the sponge further soakings and, when the bulbs show signs of having rooted, hang the sponge in a light warm room. The sponge may be hidden by sprinkling grass seed all over it or covering it with green moss. The moss is easily tied in place with a little cotton. When the bulbs are in flower a pretty hanging garden is the result.

—S. LEONARD BASTIN, *Bournemouth.*

SPECIMEN COLEUS.

SPECIMENS of these beautiful foliage plants make a splendid display in the greenhouse or conservatory during the summer months and most flower show schedules include classes in which they may be entered. Given a warm greenhouse in which to house them during the winter, their culture presents no difficulties.

Cuttings may be secured from mid-August onwards, firm, short-jointed shoots about 3ins. in length being chosen for this purpose. It is frequently recommended that these should be inserted singly in thumb pots, but, personally, I prefer to strike them in boxes and afterwards pot them up, as I believe that under this treatment a batch of cuttings roots quicker and more evenly than if placed singly in pots. In any case a fine, sandy compost should be used, and after insertion the pots or boxes of cuttings should be well watered and placed in a shaded and close house or pit for about three weeks. When rooted they must be potted into 3in. pots and returned to the propagating house for a few days, after which they should be placed on a shelf in a greenhouse. Fully expose to the sun and air to harden and prepare the plants for the dull winter months. A soft, sappy plant is apt to collapse during this period.

As winter advances remove to the warmest part of the house or to a stove and water sparingly. It will be unnecessary to repot until the days begin to lengthen, and only then when the plants commence growing. Give 4in. pots, using a compost composed of equal parts loam and leaf-mould with a liberal addition of mortar rubble and sand. Place on a shelf, and when growth has restarted pinch out the top of the leading shoot to encourage a bushy growth.

As soon as these pots are filled round with roots repot into 6in. pots, using a similar compost as before. Provide three stakes and lay a good foundation by tying all side shoots out as widely as possible. Pinch all shoots at the third or fourth leaf to ensure the formation of a bushy plant.

When ready transfer to 9in. pots, this time using a richer compost consisting of loam two parts, rotted manure one part, leaf-mould one part, with sand, mortar rubble, bone-meal, wood-ashes and charcoal at the discretion of the mixer. Pot firmly

Digitized by Google

and before the pots become full of roots shift on into the 12in. size, again using a rich medium. If allowed to become at all pot-bound they have a tendency to lose their lower leaves and flower prematurely.

Final staking must be attended to after this last shift, and constant tying and pinching will be necessary. Watering must not be neglected and a moist atmosphere assists growth. Fully expose the plants to the sun and turn them every few days in order to obtain perfectly balanced specimens. The application of nourishment in the form of liquid manure, soot water and a good fertiliser will be beneficial when the pots are full of roots.

While growing, a temperature of 65° to 90°Fahr. suits coleus, but when fully grown a lower temperature is desirable. In this way specimen plants 6ft. high and as much through may be grown.—T. H. EVERETT.

HOW TO DRY OFF GLOXINIAS, ETC.

MANY amateurs are able to grow fine specimen plants of gloxinias, begonias, etc., during the summer months, but fail to dry off the bulbs and winter them successfully. In these days fire heat is not very general for the benefit of greenhouse plants, and those that are grown under cooler conditions are sturdier than the specimens that are more coddled. I may say for the benefit of amateurs who do depend upon the sun heat that the bulbs will winter better than those grown in higher temperatures. But a lot depends upon the way that the bulbs are treated when active growth of stem and leaf ceases. Cold conditions and excessive moisture will result in decay, and great heat during the winter will result in dry rot—so we must avoid these extremes. We will presume that the amateur has a batch of plants on his greenhouse stage. The plants are now showing the first signs of leaf-ripening. It is autumn-time and even evergreen plants must receive less water, naturally; how much more necessary is it that ripening bulbs should—less and less, until, in the course of several weeks, all water is withheld. The bulbs may be wintered in their pots or in leaf-soil or coconut fibre in boxes. I prefer the latter plan, as it economises space, which is a valuable asset in a small structure. Always avoid drip on the stored bulbs from plants on stages; also keep them quite 1ft. away from hot-water pipes and place boards on edge between the bulbs and the pipes, as wood is a non-conductor of heat.—G. G.

POTTING NERINES.

THE nerines are very beautiful Cape flowering bulbs, and are not at all difficult to grow successfully if certain points of management are attended to. The inexperienced amateur cultivator who may possess a few bulbs should err on the side of not repotting at all rather than run the risk of over-potting. The plants will do nicely in pots for several years without any repotting if they are neatly top-dressed. An ideal compost for this top-dressing will be found in mixing the following ingredients: a good fibrous yellow loam two-thirds; leaf-soil, one-third, with sufficient coarse sand to make all porous. The plants make their new growth during the winter—maturing it then—and it is directly after the flowers have faded that the top-dressing material should be applied. It is equally important that a good compost be used for the potting of the bulbs, as fine flowers depend to a great extent on the strength of the new growth. Some of the species flower before the leaves appear and some bear the flower-stems with the leaves. The actual growing period is from September to May. The foliage then dies down and water must be withheld. Both potted and unpotted plants should be placed in a sunny position. To make sure that the bulbs will be kept dry during showery weather, place the pots under well raised frame lights. Pot firmly and provide sound drainage in each pot.—HANTS.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

LIFTING AND STORING EARLY POTATOES, INCLUDING SEED TUBERS.

AS the disease has attacked many plantations of potatoes throughout the country, it is advisable to lift and store all early and second-early varieties before the end of August. In every case where this work is being done the lifting should cease if rain comes. Do not subject the tubers—store or seed—to any rain if it can be avoided, as such tubers always become diseased sooner in the store than others not exposed to any rains.

Before the general lifting of the crop is commenced it is a good plan to lift carefully all the roots showing the strongest and greenest haulm, selecting the best tubers for seed purposes; these, if not as ripe as others, will make the best seed for next year's planting. Grade all tubers as they are taken out of the soil—those of first size, the seed tubers and the "chats" or very small ones only suitable for boiling for fowls or pigs. One hour's exposure to the air will be beneficial in dry weather. Now, there should be two prepared places for the two sets of tubers before any are lifted, namely, an open, cool, dry shed for the big tubers wherein they may remain in a layer 1ft. deep for one week prior to storing finally, and be covered during this time with empty sacks. At the end of the week one more careful examination will be necessary, to pick out any diseased tubers. The other prepared place should be a cold frame where the seed tubers can be placed in a thin layer to "green" with glass lights well raised above them. Failing a frame and lights, an open shed with a north aspect will do. The seed tubers should be turned over twice prior to storing in boxes or on shelves for the winter.—GEO. GARNER.

FRUIT.

When it is Ready for Picking. MANY kinds of apples and pears must be gathered before they are ripe to the taste and allowed to mature in store. It is most important that these should be picked at the right time, as if they are removed from the tree too soon they will shrivel and spoil. On the other hand, if the fruit is allowed to hang too long there is a risk that a certain amount of it may tumble to the ground. In the case of apples, a sufficient sign will be the change in colour and the dropping of a few sound fruits to the ground. Be sure that the fallen apples are really sound, as, of course, fruits often fall prematurely owing to the presence of maggots. Pears are usually much more difficult to deal with. The early kinds, such as the Jargonelle, are often rotten almost as soon as they are ripe, and they have to be eaten straight from the tree. A useful test, which will not seriously harm the fruit, is to pinch very slightly close to the stalk. If the pear is ripe there will be a little "give." After a little practice it is easy to tell in a moment if the fruit is ready for picking without anything like hard pinching, such as would make a bruise. Of course, the later sorts of pears which will have to be ripened in store for winter use cannot be tested in this way. The following is the best way of finding out whether gathering time has come. Hold the spray which is bearing the fruit with the left hand, then gently grasp the pear with the right hand and lift slowly upwards. If the fruit stalk comes away readily the time for gathering has come. Where the stalk still shows a firm attachment the fruit should be allowed to remain. In the case of fine pears it is really a good plan to spread the gathering over a few occasions. Some specimens may require to hang a little longer than others if they are to be picked just at the right moment.—L. B.

THE PRODUCTION OF NEW FLOWERS

JUST now, when a wide range of flowering plants are at their best, many admirers will wonder how such diversity of colour and form has come into being. Some gardeners are beginning to question the value of the constant stream of "novelties," particularly those introductions showing only very small varietal differences, which inundate the horticultural world. It seems safe to prophesy, however, that so long as a demand exists, with its consequent profit, not to speak of the interest which attaches to the work of production, amateurs and professionals will make little attempt to stem the tide. Indeed, the urge to "improve" plants and increase the present range seems to be inherent in every gardener, and therefore some notes on practical methods will be of more than limited interest.

By far the greater number of new varieties within the species at present cultivated have arisen as the result of cross-pollination and consequent re-combination in one plant of different varietal characters derived from the parents. The cross in question may have been deliberately made by man or by any of the pollinating agents of nature, with, however, the same result on the plant in both cases. It is always more interesting, and subsequent work may be greatly facilitated, if the parents of the cross are definitely known. Also, after a deliberate cross great variation in the stock is expected, and there is less likelihood of a valuable type being overlooked, as is the case if the chance product of natural crossing is relied upon. Almost every commercial grower, however, makes a regular round of his cultures, primarily to pull out undesirable intruders or "rogues," as they are called, but also to see that any "novelty" of value is not overlooked. Though the writer would advocate hand-crossing, the great possible value of chance "sports" must not be overlooked, because it is by chance and chance alone that really new "breaks" arise. These very rare true "breaks" or mutations as they are called, differ from

Digitized by Google

variations following a cross in that they are the result of fundamental changes in the constitution of the plant. Unfortunately, no method has been found for producing mutations, though they provide the raw material for extended hybridisation. An instance of this was seen when the Spencer type of sweet pea arose, for a complete new range of varieties in this species became possible by the combination of all the then existing colours with the new type of frilled petals.

HOW CROSSING CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED.

Before going on to describe how desirable innovations may be treated, it will be valuable to give in outline how a hand-cross is accomplished. The work is extremely simple, requiring neither intricate nor expensive apparatus. All that is essential is a fine pair of forceps, some soft copper wire, and a number of blossom bags such as are supplied by seedsmen and florists.

In brief, a cross is complete when *pure* pollen from one variety is applied to the virgin stigma of another. For this purpose pure pollen is ensured by enclosing forward but unopened buds in blossom bags, fastened securely with copper wire wrapped round the stem. The bags prevent insect visitation.

Stigmas entirely free from pollen are then arranged for by gently opening buds at the same stage with the forceps and abstracting the undamaged stamens. Protection from contamination is again secured by covering the buds with blossom bags.

When these flowers from which the stamens have been taken bloom within the bags and their stigmas are seen to be slightly glistening, the transference of pollen may be made. First of all, loosen the bag protecting one of the flowers selected for pollen production on one variety, and then loosen the bag on an emasculated flower of the other variety. A burst stamen with adherent ripe pollen is then pulled out with the forceps from the first and applied to the stigma of the second, the bag being replaced on the seed parent at once. This procedure is continued until all the emasculated flowers have received pollen from the opposite variety.

A METHOD TO BE FOLLOWED TO ENSURE SUCCESS.

The bags should be off and the flowers left uncovered for as short a time as possible, though it is often advisable to repeat the pollination of each flower on a following day so as to ensure that fresh living pollen reaches the stigma when it is really in a receptive state. As a further precaution the cross should be made in both directions, that is to say, pollen should be transferred from what we may call variety A to the stigma of an emasculated flower of variety B, and from variety B to an emasculated flower of variety A. This practically ensures that a cross, if at all possible, will be successful, even if the work has not been too cleanly done. In this connection it might be noted that research workers in the pollination work rub their hands and instruments with a little strong spirit and allow it to dry before proceeding to the next stage. The spirit kills any adherent pollen which might otherwise cause contamination and upset results. This is a refinement which might well be adopted by all workers. If the flowers are labelled and brief notes made at each stage, a further interest is added to the work later on.

The protecting bags are left on the flowers which were emasculated and received pollen until the fruit sets, and maturation is allowed to continue naturally.

Let it now be supposed that the cross has been successful and good seed produced. This must be harvested and sown by itself when the appropriate sowing date for the species comes round. The resulting plants will in all likelihood disappoint the novice because none of them "will fill his eye." This is one

A BLOSSOM BAG IN POSITION ON FLOWERS SELECTED FOR CROSSING.

point where patience comes into plant breeding. These plants of the first generation must be grown on, their seed saved, and in turn sown. Among the plants of this second generation great variation may be expected, the number of different types depending on the degree of difference which existed between the two parents. It is quite reasonable to suppose that among the array at least one plant satisfies the breeder and he decides to proceed with it.

FIXING A NOVELTY.

From this point, in commercial work, all kinds of selections are treated alike, whether they originate as the result of a deliberate cross, such as has just been described, from a natural cross or from a mutation, and the following notes can apply to all of them. The first step is to "fix" the "novelty." This means to obtain it in a pure-breeding non-varying state so that all its progeny will be alike and like the parent. It is clear that if one wishes to prevent further variation in a plant it is absolutely necessary to prevent its most common cause, namely, cross-pollination. Therefore, when the desirable type arises it must be isolated so that no pollen but its own reaches its stigma.

The simplest way of ensuring this is to remove the plant to another station sufficiently distant from all other species with which it crosses. This is not always practicable, except with plants in pots, and the more usual way is to protect the flowers as they open by means of the blossom bags already mentioned. The whole plant may be protected by one very large bag made of paper or tiffany, but this is not often satisfactory, and with a large number of species one or two well filled fruits produced under small individual bags, such as were used in the crossing work, yield sufficient seed to sow all the land available.

The seed which is produced, no matter what system of isolation is adopted, should be sown as far away as possible from any other with which it will cross, and it is possible that the plants may come true.

THE IMPORTANCE OF SINGLE PLANT SELECTION.

The matter is not always so simple, however, and the selection may behave like the first generation from a cross and split up, though the range of variation will not be so great. At this point one with a knowledge of Mendelism may form some opinion as to whether the type is really fixable or not; some types are unfixable and their character depends on their hybrid nature. Should it be decided to go on with the work, a number of plants which come up to the type should be isolated *separately*, in the same way as was done with the original selection, and their seed harvested and sown *separately*, when it may be expected that if the type is really fixable, one of the lines will come true. As soon as one line does come true, all the others should be scrapped, the true one multiplied, tried once again, and then introduced to a critical world. The essence of this whole method of obtaining fixity is the keeping of selections and lines absolutely separate both at flowering and sowing time.

Single plant selection, as the method outlined above is called, requires detailed attention and time on the part of the worker, but in terms of plant generations it is very much more rapid than any other method of selection, and real fixity is obtained.

Special cases arise requiring special treatment. Sometimes the first hybrid generation following the cross is sterile, or, again, the selected type may be sterile, but all the complications only add further interest to the work.

Breeding, selecting and fixing novelties, as has just been shown, demands a full measure of patience, but to one who knows and loves flowers the development of a favourite species in a quiet garden provides a restful counter-interest to these nerve-racking days of hustle and hurry. ALEXANDER NELSON.

Digitized by Google

IRIS

of the June-flowering family

THEY are worth thinking of ahead—ordering early and planting at the best time, in July or early August. Put in then, the plants get their toes in before the winter comes. Take steps to order them **now.** Either buy the low-priced collection of excellent varieties offered below for **7/6** the twelve plants or send for our catalogue and make your own selection.

June-flowering Iris:—

Alcazar	Lavender blue and violet.
Archeveque ..	Reddish violet and deep violet.
Caprice	Reddish mauve and deep rosy red.
Dawn	Sulphur yellow, veined bronze.
Her Majesty ..	Pale rose and deep red.
Lohengrin ..	Cattleya mauve.
Mdm. Chereau ..	White, frilled azure blue.
Mrs. H. Darwin ..	White, faintly marked violet.
Mrs. Neubronner	Golden yellow.
Oriflamme ..	Pure blue and blue purple.
Prosper Laugier ..	Bronzy cinnamon and velvety crimson.
Rhein Nixe ..	White and violet purple.

One plant each of the 12 varieties, **7/6** post paid.

Have you seen our Hardy Plant Catalogue? It is better than most.

Bakers
FLOWER FARM
CODSALL
Near Wolverhampton

KILL those WEEDS!

Nothing is more wearisome and unsatisfactory than Hoeing and Hand-picking weeds. Why not save your time, your back, your temper by letting

COOPER'S

WEEDICIDE

do the job for you.

1 Gall. (price 9/-) dilutes to **100** Galls. water and is sufficient to treat **300/400** square yards.

Pint 1/9 Quart 3/- ½ gall. 5/-
2 galls. 17/- 5 galls. 36/6.

OF ALL AGENTS.

Write for leaflet "The Weed Problem Solved." Gratis and post free from—

Cooper, McDougall & Robertson, Ltd.,
BERKHAMSTED.

J 4652

ENTERPRISING HOLLAND

AMATEUR as well as professional and commercial horticulturists are well acquainted with the vastness and importance of Holland's bulb industry, large numbers of holiday-makers as well as business men visiting the district of which Haarlem may be described as headquarters to see the far-reaching fields of hyacinths, tulips and daffodils when in full bloom. It is also fairly well known that in the Boskoop district, tree and shrub nurseries and rose and azalea nurseries flourish, mainly by reason of the huge export trade carried on with Britain, Germany and America; but I have another story to tell of a comparatively new and rapidly developing industry which is being quietly carried on in a district of Holland which is somewhat off the beaten track of the tourist, and that, for some reason, appears to pass unnoticed by our own commercial horticulturists.

It was by the courtesy of Messrs. Murphy and Son, Limited, of Mortlake, that I was a fortunate member of a party of some thirty horticulturists and chemists to the trade who visited the province of Zeeland, and the Isle of Walcheren, and there discovered a prosperous colony of fruit growers whose orchards, on some thousands of acres of rich reclaimed land which is of totally different character from either the peaty soil of Boskoop or the light sands of the bulb fields, are planted with all the best English varieties of gooseberries, currants and other soft fruits, interspersed with carefully selected apples, pears, plums and cherries, the whole being cultivated in the thoroughly efficient manner which is characteristic of the Dutchman, no matter what he may undertake.

A point of vital importance, not only to our own fruit farmers and market gardeners but to every Britisher who realises what food production and commerce mean, is that the definitely avowed aim of this modern Dutch enterprise is to cater for the British market in soft fruit, both in London and in our jam factories. With that end in view our popular varieties of fruits have taken the place of old Dutch varieties, but not until practically every known variety had been put to test in the exceedingly well organised and controlled demonstration garden, which is run for the instruction and assistance of the landholders at the expense of the Dutch Government.

Capacity for taking infinite pains in order to achieve desired ends is a characteristic of the Dutch which compels admiration, and coupled with this is an eager willingness on the part of all concerned to help in every possible way to develop the industry and increase the prosperity of the country. Wealthy merchants of Rotterdam and Amsterdam finance land reclamation schemes; the Government conducts scientific research and places valuable information at the disposal of the growers. The landholders stock every bit of land with the best things it can grow, always with an eye to its popularity and suitability for some particular market. The peasant works industriously and carefully, not merely to secure his wages but to help his employer to maintain his business in a sound condition and, most of all, to benefit Holland and increase her prosperity. The railways and the shipping companies do their utmost to make transport reliable and cheap, so that Dutch produce may compete on the open market of Europe on the most favourable terms. And even in the matter of affording every possible facility to British visitors to see what Holland is producing, where and how it is produced and handled, the greatest possible care is taken by officials, who seem to realise that thus they are helping to create a good impression upon those whom their country seeks to make customers. Even the café proprietor and the tobacconist reveal an eager desire to know whether the English visitor is impressed with the orchards and the big industry of the province.

All this may, on the face of it, appear to be a matter of interest and concern only to our own fruit growers and market gardeners, whose business it is to meet as best they can the competition with which they are confronted. That, surely, is a fallacious idea, for the welfare of any home industry is of material concern to us, even as the industries of Holland are to every Dutchman.

The question we, as Britishers, have to consider is to what extent is it or should it be necessary for English money to go abroad to purchase gooseberries, currants, strawberries or cherries?

In the first place, it may reasonably be held that if Dutch fruit can be placed on the English market at cheaper prices than home-grown produce, it is to the general good; but we do well to ask why it should be cheaper. Land is as expensive as the best of English land; wages are about level with the customary wages in England—but every hand works with a will to do his utmost. Seasons are as variable as our own, and cultural routine is just as intricate. The one outstanding advantage in the Dutchman's favour appears to be the extremely favourable co-operation of the transport organisations inland as well as overseas, and it seems an extraordinary thing that produce grown in Holland can be conveyed to Flushing, shipped to Folkestone and railed to London cheaper and with less delay than it can be conveyed to London from our own fruit farms. This is a matter which concerns every British citizen as well as the fruit grower, and it should be a matter for searching enquiry and insistent united effort to secure amendment.

Another question is, can we or can we not produce sufficient of these fruits to meet all the demands of our densely populated island? If we cannot, let us be thankful to receive the produce of Holland, for "Eat more fruit" is something more than a mere slogan.

Before dismissing this question, let us consider the possibility of producing what we require. We may leave the purely commercial aspect of the problem to be dealt with in its proper sphere; but, apart altogether from that, there is the question of the average private garden. It may appear to be stretching imagination to claim that the produce of half a dozen gooseberry or currant bushes in a small home garden bears any relation to the revenue of the country; but, multiplied by the number of gardens in which some fruit might be grown where none grows to-day, and with the addition of gardens where diseased, worn-out or inferior fruits might be replaced with healthy stock of the best varieties and where cultural methods might be improved, the possibilities assume proportions which would be capable of making a vast difference to the need for importation of fruit and consequent departure of cash from our country.

Viewed in this light, the whole problem becomes of direct personal concern to every amateur or private gardener as well as to the commercial gardener. It brings into relief the national and economic importance of the mission which THE GARDEN and all the output of horticultural literature strives to fill, and it reveals the fact that the nurseries as well as the fruit farms of this country are something more than mere sources of profit to their proprietors, but are establishments of national importance which place at the disposal of all who occupy a patch of soil, stock which will help to reduce the country's foreign bills for foodstuffs of highest importance to the health of the people.

A. J. MACSELF.

Digitized by Google

EXHIBITION TULIPS

ENJOY THE RAREST AND BEST, A LIST OF TULIPS THAT NEED NO INTRODUCTION. They are the acknowledged "STANDARDS" for Bedding as well as for Cutting.

	per doz	per 100
THE DARWINS.—The most sturdy growing strong upright stems with massive flowers:		
BARTIGON, bright fiery red	1/6	10/-
CLARA BUTT, clear pink, flushed salmon rose	1/-	7/-
LA NOTRE, rose pink shading to silvery pink, centre blue and white. EXTRA FORCER	2/-	14/-
PRINCE OF THE NETHERLANDS, extra large solid flower of perfect form, rich brilliant cerise red, extra strong stems. First rate bedder	2/6	15/-
PROFESSOR RAUWENHOFF, deep cherry rose, white base margined blue	2/-	12/-
PRINCESS ELIZABETH, extra fine rich soft rose, slight silvery flush at margin, centre clear white	2/-	14/-
WM. COPELAND, violet shading to lilac, when forced the colour is a beautiful soft lavender	1/-	8/-
The above 7 varieties, 12 bulbs of each		10/-
The above 7 varieties 100 bulbs of each		£3 10/-

NOVELTY COLLECTION.

THE COTTAGE TULIPS.—The most graceful novelties:		
AMBER, light amber coloured. Award of Merit	1/10	13/-
ERASMUS, large creamy white, long stem. Award of Merit	1/10	13/-
GRAND YELLOW, very deep yellow, extra fine	2/-	15/-
MRS. FRANCIS KING, very fine satiny rose	1/10	13/-
NECTAR, vivid carmine red with clear white base. Award of Merit	2/-	15/-
SIRENE, the wonderful lily-shaped flower of a very fine glistening satiny rose. First Class Certificate, London, Amsterdam	1/10	14/-
SPINOSA, white flower on very tall stem	1/10	13/-
PEARL, finest light rose	2/-	15/-
PROF. WESTERDYK, wonderful lilac rose, very tall, splendid forcer	2/-	15/-
TRITON, glowing carmine rose, pure yellow base, the most attractive tulip yet raised, a real beauty	2/-	10/-
Novelty Collection, ten extra selected bulbs of each of the above 10 varieties, 100 in all		10/-
25 bulbs of each of the above 10 varieties, 250 bulbs in all		20/-

QUALITY.—All bulbs which are not to satisfaction upon receipt may be returned to us and we will gladly refund money and postage. Complete list of other rarer tulips, daffodils, etc., gladly mailed on request.

H. PRINS, F.R.H.S.,
Bulb Specialists, WISBECH.

The Amateur Series

RHODODENDRONS FOR AMATEURS

By E. H. M. COX. *Editor of* THE GARDEN. Demy 8vo. Illustrated. 5s. net.

BULBS FOR AMATEURS

By the Rev. JOSEPH JACOB. Demy 8vo. Illustrated. 5s. net.

HERBACEOUS BORDERS FOR AMATEURS

By R. V. GIFFARD WOOLLEY. Demy 8vo. Illustrated. 5s. net.

A combined Prospectus will be sent on application.

"Country Life," Ltd., 20, Tavistock St., Covent Garden, London, W.C.2

GARDENING OF THE WEEK

FOR SOUTHERN GARDENS.

THE KITCHEN GARDEN.

No further time should be lost in sowing certain seeds, and every effort ought to be made to keep the garden free from weeds, then there will be less work in the autumn with its shorter days. The final sowing of cabbage can be made during the week or so, and this also applies to cauliflower. Select a variety such as May Queen, Early London or Autumn Giant, and when the plants are large enough prick a portion of the seedlings off in a cold frame without the lights so that protection can be afforded in winter if needed. A few should also be pricked out in the garden, selecting a warm, sheltered corner. Another sowing of cauliflower may be made early in September. Other seeds to sow now include onion, spinach, lettuce and spinach beet. The latter is a useful substitute for ordinary spinach. Continue to lift potatoes as they reach maturity, and earth up celery and leeks when the weather is dry.

Late peas will need watching for thrips, and if this pest is present the haulm must be sprayed with an approved insecticide. If the ground is dry, a heavy watering will be helpful. Where the winter greens are showing signs of being stunted, it is a useful practice to give each plant a teaspoonful of sulphate of ammonia when the weather is showery. This will stimulate growth, and the plants will grow freely afterwards.

THE FLOWER GARDEN.

Herbaceous borders will still require attention regarding staking and tying, the removal of seed-pods, dead flowers, and the trimming of plants that have passed their best. Dahlias, Michaelmas daisies and chrysanthemums need special mention, because they furnish a supply of bloom when other subjects have finished. If allowed to flop about they are useless for cutting purposes and, moreover, they present a neglected appearance in the garden. Pentstemons, such as Southgate Gem and Chester Scarlet, are fine plants for borders or beds, and to keep up a healthy stock cuttings should be obtained during the next few weeks. They will root in a cold frame or a well drained border. Select healthy non-flowering shoots as cuttings, and bear in mind that plants will often live through the winter for two or three years, and these make a very fine display the second season.

Trees and Shrubs.—Specimen trees, particularly conifers, must be watched and kept to one leader, so where two shoots are making headway one must be removed, or the tree will be spoilt. Shrubs are kept free from weeds, and all grafted examples ought to be examined occasionally for suckers, which must be ruthlessly cut out, or in time they will kill the plant. Rhododendrons and the beautiful Viburnum Carlesii are often troubled with sucker growths. If not already done, yew hedges should be clipped, also privet for the second time. Lonicera nitida is a good hedge plant, but I am afraid it requires more clipping to keep it neat and tidy than, say, privet.

THE HARDY FRUIT GARDEN.

I think the black currant crop has been a poor one in many districts owing to bad attacks of aphis and, perhaps, the "big bud" trouble. In some instances it may be advisable to clear the plantation and make another one on a different site. Where such a course is expedient, the old bushes should be grubbed up and burnt. Healthy trees will benefit by the annual pruning at this date, and this consists of thinning out the old branches so that the new shoots will derive the full benefit of sun and air. I do not advise the removal of trees if only moderately attacked with "big bud," because, if the necessary time and labour can be provided, this pest can be cured by frequent applications of quassia extract. The space recently occupied with bushes should be trenched, manured and given a sprinkling of fresh lime.

Early Apples.—Such varieties as Lady Sudeley, Beauty of Bath and Langley Pippin are approaching the ripening stage, and if not used directly they reach maturity they soon lose their flavour; in fact, Beauty of Bath is best eaten direct from the tree. Wasps may be destructive, so a hunt should be made for their nests, which are easily destroyed by cyanide of potassium. A small piece, the size of a cob nut, surrounded with wet cotton wool is placed at the entrance to the nest. Remember cyanide of potassium is a deadly poison, so reckless methods cannot be tolerated.

Chepstow. T. W. BRISCOE.

FOR NORTHERN GARDENS.

THE KITCHEN GARDEN.

Lettuce.—Make a sowing now for transplanting to frames, and prick out into sheltered quarters varieties of proved hardiness from earlier sowings.

Radishes of the oval or round sorts can still be sown out of doors on a dry sunny border along with mustard and cress.

Endive should also be sown now for transplanting to frames in October. Plants reaching maturity should be blanched in numbers according to requirements by loosely tying up the leaves, or cover with inverted pots with the holes darkened.

Celery should be earthed up as required, taking the usual precaution of providing a fine soil carefully applied so that none reaches the centre of the plant. As earthing up checks growth, do not commence this work too soon. Continue to feed the plants with available liquid manure, and it is important at this period that they be sprayed regularly to create conditions unfavourable to fungus development.

Leeks in trenches, if the quality of soil necessitates this method of culture, may have blanching material applied as required. These and main-crop supplies growing in the ordinary way should be liberally fed, as a check through lack of food results in tough and strong produce.

Peas of late varieties, because of the extra attention in watering and feeding given to ensure a successful crop, usually outgrow the stakes provided for them, and should have additional support in the form of strings lengthwise on either side of the rows.

Spring Cabbage.—Anticipating the planting of these, take an early opportunity of preparing a place for them.

THE FLOWER GARDEN.

About this period wallflowers, cheiranthus, myosotis and other spring bedding plants will have made a good growth. In order to obtain plants for transplanting with a ball—an essential to success, and especially so in the case of wallflowers—with a garden fork partly lift these in a manner to rupture the strongest roots, afterwards retreading the plants firmly. Needless to say, a dull day is most suitable for the job, and if a light rain follows it is all to the good. Following the operation the plants make myriads of fine roots, which hold the soil when transplanting. It may be necessary to repeat the work if the plants are likely to become gross and unfit to stand the winter.

Violas.—It is not too soon to take cuttings of these, a supply of which is readily procured almost any time from well grown plants. I have always found that good and clean cuttings rooted early, and later inured by exposure, winter better than others taken at a later period. It may be the experience of some that violas are required for a certain position in the garden year after year. Such a procedure can only end disastrously for the viola stock in use. To enable one to carry on it is necessary to interchange the top spit of the bed with another from an adjacent vegetable brake, digging in quantities of manure to the bottom spit and renew the stock.

Pentstemons.—If available, the remarks re early-struck cuttings apply to these, and if the suggestions given in an earlier calendar as to putting out stock plants in the "reserve" and pinching out the flower buds have been followed, there will be a good supply of suitable growth for cuttings of the finer varieties.

Neither violas nor pentstemons are particular as regards a rooting medium, provided plenty of sand and leaf-soil are present. But in this, as in other matters pertaining to horticulture, attention to hygiene always pays.

Doune, Perthshire. WM. MCCARRELL.

LOOK OUT FOR THE RESULT OF OUR SWEET PEA COMPETITION IN THE ISSUE OF AUGUST 28TH.

Digitized by Google

On the Making of Gardens.

The Gardens of Italy. By A. T. BOLTON. Large folio. 400 Illustrations. 3 Gns.

Gardens for Small Country Houses. By Sir L. WEAVER and G. JEKYLL. Large quarto. 25s.

Colour Schemes for the Flower Garden. By G. JEKYLL. 100 Illustrations. 15s.

Gardening for Beginners. By E. T. COOK. Coloured Plates and 200 Illustrations. 8th edition. 16s.

Wall and Water Gardens. By G. JEKYLL. 17s. 6d.

The Planning and Planting of Little Gardens. By G. DILLISTONE. 6s.

Shrubs for Amateurs. By W. J. BEAN. 5s. net.

The Rock Garden. By E. H. JENKINS. 7s. 6d.

For any of the above books, or for a full prospectus, write to "COUNTRY LIFE," 20, Tavistock St., Covent Garden, London.

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by **"ALPHOL"** Sample 14 lb., 5/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps. Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc. to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

Red Spider, Thrips, Black and Green Fly, Mildew, Rust and all Fungoid and Insect Pests are killed with one application of the

"FERRY" BRAND

Regd. Trade Mk.

INSECTICIDE (Non-Poisonous)

Here is the opinion of a user:

"Kingsclere, Newbury.

"I am writing to testify to the good quality of your Insecticide.

"I had the Black Fly very badly on a crop of Broad Beans, but one single application cleared the plants of every trace of Fly and now are quite clean and healthy and have a good crop of Beans on them. I would recommend anyone to use it, also your Antiseptic.—A. C."

PRICES: 1 qt. 2/9 ½ gall. 4/3 1 gall. 7/6 2 galls. 14/- 3 galls. 20/- 5 galls. 33/-

All prices carriage paid to the nearest Railway Station for cash with order.

The BRITON FERRY CHEMICAL & MANURE Co., Ltd. (Dept. E), Briton Ferry, S. Wales. (Est. 1886).

The Greatest Flower Show in the Provinces

SOUTHPORT

Together with the National Rose Society's Special Jubilee Show

— *AUGUST 25th, 26th and 27th* —

Over £3,000 in Cash Prizes

Trophies and Medals

HORSE LEAPING & SHEEP DOG DEMONSTRATIONS & BAND CONCERTS

The exhibits in the Main Marquee, which will occupy nearly 1½ acres of ground, and the wonderful Rock and Formal Gardens in the open will be amazingly beautiful.

SPACES FOR HORTICULTURAL SUNDRIES.—A limited number of spaces are to let for the exhibition of horticultural sundries in the Show Ground. 15ft. by 10ft., rent **£5**; or 15ft. by 15ft., rent **£7 10s.** More than seventy spaces have been let.

TIMES OF OPENING.—First Day, 10.30 a.m. Second and Third Days, 9.30 a.m.

CHARGES OF ADMISSION.—First Day, **2/6** to **7/6**; Second Day, **1/6** to **4/-**; Third Day, **1/-** and **2/-** according to time of day.

The following individual tickets may be purchased in advance **Not later than Monday, August 23rd,** at reduced rates as follows:—First Day, 5/- ticket for **4/-**, 2/6 ticket for **2/-**; Second Day, 2/6 ticket for **2/-**, 1/6 ticket for **1/3**; Third day, 2/- ticket for **1/6.**

SUBSCRIBERS.—Subcribers of one guinea will receive a badge and two Season Tickets. The badge carries the same privilege as a Season Ticket

EXCURSION BOOKINGS FROM NUMEROUS RAILWAY STATIONS TO SOUTHPORT ON EACH DAY OF THE SHOW.

Flower Show Schedule and leaflet giving full details of charges of admission, etc., and Official Guide to Southport, containing list of accommodation for visitors, post free, from the Secretary, Southport Flower Show, Town Hall, Southport.

Applications for tickets and Subscriptions should be sent to the Borough Treasurer, Town Hall, Southport. Remittances should be made payable to the Southport Corporation.

SPRAYING MEANS SAVING

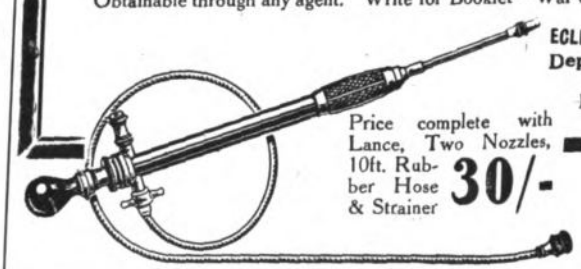
TREE SPRAYING

Keep your trees and plants clear of insect pests by regularly spraying them with insecticide — and

use the **ECLIPSE** *"The Sprayer of a thousand uses."*

for the purpose. It is light, easy to handle, no pumping, no back-wash, can be used in any position and allows both hands free to control the spray. Can also be used for disinfecting, limewashing, etc.

Obtainable through any agent. Write for Booklet "War on Disease."

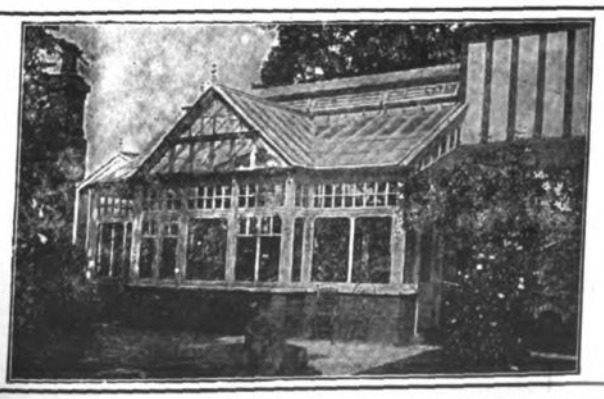


Price complete with Lance, Two Nozzles, 10ft. Rubber Hose & Strainer **30/-**

ECLIPSE SPRAYING CO.
Dept. O, Bearwood, Smethwick, Birmingham.

GARDEN SPRAYING

C.W.P.



FOSTER & PEARSON LIMITED

Established 1841

Please write for Estimates for durable Greenhouses, Boilers, etc., to

BEESTON NOTTS

Digitized by Google

XL BARROW PUMP SET

A boon to Gardeners.

WITH AIR VESSEL, SUCTION PIPE, STRAINER

AND SHORT LENGTH OF DELIVERY HOSE, BRASS SPRAY, ROSE AND TAP.

10 galls.	15 galls.	20 galls.	30 galls.
98/-	107/9	118/-	131/6

XL WING PUMPS.

We have sold thousands of these and they always prove satisfactory.

½	¾	1	1½in.
18/-	20/6	24/6	29/6

List E118 *post free.*

C. P. KINNELL & CO., Ltd., *Engineers,*
65, 65a, Southwark Street, London, S.E.1.
'Phone: Hop 0362 (three lines).

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION 1917

WAKELEY'S *Celebrated* **HOP MANURE**
(PATENTED)
THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 15 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

A beautiful Free Booklet giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. GENUINE ONLY IN OUR MARKED BAGS, CONTAINING GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.
Cash Prices, including bags: Small (about 1 bushel), 3/-; Large (about 4 bushels), 7/-; 5 Large 33/9
10 Large, 65/-; 20 Large, 120/-

Carriage Paid to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company. 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge, Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

CHEAPER IN PRICE — STRENGTH INCREASED

For Peaches, Cucumbers, Carnations, Vines, &c.
Kills Red Spiders as effectively as Corry's White Fly Death kills White Fly. *Non-poisonous.*
Wonderful reports received from some of the largest users and growers in Great Britain and the Channel Islands.

1/6	2/6	4/6	9/-	15/-	27/-	63/-	120/-
½-pt.	1 pt.	1 qt.	½-gal.	1 gal.	2 gals.	5 gals.	10 gals.

Sold by Nurserymen, Seedsmen and Florists.

CORRY'S SAFE AND SURE WASP NEST DESTROYER

Non-Poisonous, yet more effective than Cyanide.

2	6	20	40 Nests
7d.	1/4	3/6	6/6

From Seedsmen and Chemists

CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

By Appointment

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.
RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.,
Royal Potteries,
BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

"The fairest flowers of the season are our carnations."—SHAKESPEARE.

CARNATIONS

FOR EVERY GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE

By Montagu C. Allwood.

With a Foreword by Lord Lambourne, President of the R.H.S.

224 *pages.* 79 *illustrations.*

Just Published - 12s. 6d. net.

For a detailed prospectus of this new and standard book, write to the Publicity Manager, Book Dept., COUNTRY LIFE, 20, Tavistock St., W.C.

A Carmona measuring Spoon in every tin

THE COMPLETENESS OF ITS COMPOSITION AND THE HAPPY BLENDING OF ITS HIGHGRADE ORGANIC AND OTHER INGREDIENTS RENDER

Carmona *Fertilizer*

A PAR-EXCELLENT BLOOM PRODUCER

CARRIAGE PAID PRICES:—

1 lb. Tin 1/3	2 lb. Tin 2/-
7 lb. Tin 4/6	112 lb. Bag 28/-

The fullest instructions accompany each package.

Sole Manufacturers:—

ROBINSON BROTHERS LTD., WEST BROMWICH

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane London W.C.2

Digitized by Google

GENERAL LIBRARY
UNIV. OF MICH.
SEP 1 1926

THE GARDEN

ORCHARD GARDEN WOODLAND

Vol. XC.—No. 2855 Saturday, August 21st, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

BARR'S
GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS

Awarded 72 Gold Medals and 3 Silver Challenge Cups.

The most complete and descriptive Catalogue of DAFFODILS published; over 400 varieties offered, including many NEW and RARE SEEDLING VARIETIES for 1926. Post free.

Also List of NEW HYBRID NERINES, the most beautiful Autumn-flowering plants for the cool greenhouse.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

SEND YOUR ENQUIRIES *NOW* FOR . . .
Autumn Planting of
CHOICE DAFFODILS
British Grown Bulbs

COMPLETE CATALOGUE NOW READY, FREE ON APPLICATION

CARTWRIGHT & GOODWIN Ltd.
BULB GROWERS,
Churchill, Kidderminster, WORCS., ENGLAND

Glass breaks!

USE
'WINDOLITE'
THE PRACTICAL GLASS SUBSTITUTE
for all GARDEN PURPOSES.
Light Flexible. Unbreakable.

Easy to cut and fix. It keeps out cold and wet, but lets in all the light—even the Ultra Violet Rays which are stopped by glass.

Send 4/6 for post free sample, 3 ft. by 2 ft.

WINDOLITE (DEPT. C) 179/185, GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1.

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

FOR THE GARDEN! FOR EXHIBITION!
FOR BEDS! FOR EVERYWHERE!

Also Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees, Alpines and Hardy Plants.

BUY HOME-GROWN TREES.
Support British Industries.

Catalogue Free on Application, and Addresses booked for Revised Catalogue in late Summer.

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.,
Garden Specialists - - SOUTHWELL, NOTTS

GENTIANA
SINO-ORNATA

STRONG PLANTS for Flowers from September onwards

Plant now also Mimulus Lewisii alba, a gem, **1/-**; Myosotidium nobile, The Chatham Island Giant Forget-me-not, **1/-**; Silene californica, an intense scarlet trailer, **1/-**; and the following Bog Primulas for flowering next Spring: Primula capitata, **6d.**; P. cap. Mooreana, **9d.**; P. sikkimensis, giant form, **1/-**; P. japonica Cherry Ripe, a beauty, **9d.**; P. pulverulenta, **9d.**; P. Wardii, **9d.**; P. Veitchii, **6d.**; P. helodoxa, **9d.**; P. Smithii, the finest yellow, **1/-** and P. rosea grandiflora, true.
All strong plants from pots. Carriage paid for cash with order.

W. E. Th. INGWERSEN,
Birch Farm - Sharpthorne - East Grinstead
ASK FOR MY CATALOGUE.

PREPARED HYACINTHS

Specially prepared for Christmas Flowering

BISMARCK, Choice Lavender Blue; GARIBALDI, Brilliant Carmine; GRAND LILAS, Porcelain Blue; LADY DERBY, Lovely Salmon Pink; L'INNOCENCE, Pure White; YELLOW HAMMER, Deep Yellow.

Each, **9d.** Per doz. **8/6**

Our new List is being sent to all customers, and can be had for the asking, full of good things.

LONGSTAFF & SONS
Bulb Growers, Importers and Merchants
NEAR CHELSFIELD STATION ∴ KENT

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
New Alpines and Perennials
Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
Begonias
Delphiniums
Gloxinias
Cyclamen, etc

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD,
CHELSEA, S.W.
Bulb Catalogue Now Ready.

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

H. PRINS
BULB AND PLANT GROWERS
WISBECH, CAMBS.
Bulb list free on application

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
Landscape Gardeners. Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
HULL
Weed Destroyers
Fertilisers
Insecticides
Nets and Sundries

TUBS FOR SHRUBS. WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 100 prizes. R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. — Price List from A. PRADAL, 26, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

THOSE ODD JOBS
Learn how to do them Yourself
THE HOUSE DOCTOR
By R. Randal Phillips
2/6 NET
"COUNTRY LIFE" LIBRARY, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2

KING'S ACRE STRAWBERRIES
New List of the Best Varieties, with helpful Cultural instructions, including all other useful Berries.
A most useful List, post free on application
KING'S ACRE NURSERIES, Ltd., Hereford

EUREKA WEED KILLER
LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND. SCHLFLINE, NICOTINE, INSECTICIDES, FUMERS, SPRAYS AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES—THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY. IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT, CARRIAGE PAID
ONLY AGENTS: TOMLINSON & HAYWARD LTD. LINCOLN

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Mildew's deadly foe!
The old-fashioned Lime Sulphur is replaced by Richards' Ammonium Polysulphide. Safe — convenient — defeats even American Gooseberry Mildew. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen and florists.
RICHARDS' AMMONIUM POLYSULPHIDE
G. H. RICHARDS LTD.,
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
R. 165. Monomark · BCM/XLALL

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by "ALPHOL"
Sample 14 lb. 3/6 carr. paid
Write for particulars of this and other reliable dressings
Helps Lawn Improvers "Veribest" Seeds, etc.
Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

Make the Most of your Greenhouse
and install a
SILVER MEDAL
HORSE SHOE BOILER—
which ensures a steady heat for a succession of thriving Plants and Flowers, with minimum trouble and little fuel.
Booklet E and reduced price post free.
C. P. KINNELL & Co. Ltd.
SOUTHWARK STREET, LONDON, S.E.1.
Used in the R.H.S. Gardens, [illegible]

BLOM FOR BULBS

HYACINTHS for December and Christmas Flowering
. . . ready for despatch NOW . . .

Apply for Catalogue to Messrs. J. C. WHITNEY & Co., Eldon Street House, Eldon Street, London, E.C.
or to WALTER BLOM & SON, LTD. (late of Overveen), Hillegom, Holland.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

ATERER'S for the best in Bulbs for ding, bedding, naturalising. Colchicums, Autumn-flowering ...ses, etc. Roses, Fruit Trees, Strawberry Plants in pots open ground runners. Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Flowering Evergreen Shrubs, also Hedge-making Shrubs and Screening ...es, Herbaceous and Alpine Plants. New catalogues now ...ly, post free.—JOHN WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LIMITED, Nurseries, Twyford, Berks.

...MALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODEN- ...ONS on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and ...ne Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write Catalogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

...AKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE. ...he original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See ...rt. on back page.

M. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., ...rence Road, South Tottenham, N.15. — Conservatories, ...nter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

...RDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUN- ...ALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.— ...ORTON, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

...ENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and ...den Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request. — THE ...ASLEY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottern ill, Haslemere, ...rey.

...ALL AND WATER GARDENS. With ...apters on rock gardens, heath gardens, and paved water ...dens. By GERTRUDE JEKYLL. 7th edition, revised. 17/6 ...t; by post, 18/4.—Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY ...E," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2

...LEMENTS' DUTCH BULBS. ...best Quality at Moderate Prices. Descriptive Catalogue ...taining over 700 Named Varieties, including various Novel- ...s also Cultural Directions, sent post free. Please mention ...per.—W. D. CLEMENTS & CO., 12, Stockton Gardens, ...tenham, London, N.17.

...ORDER CARNATIONS. — 200 varieties, ... in 14 varieties, from 6/6, 50 in 50 ditto, from 25/-; ...riage paid. Lists free. J. HAYWARD, Chace Gardens, ...kes Road, Purbrook, Cosham, Hants.

...RIS RETICULATA, good Flowering Bulbs, ...6 per 100, cash with order.—COLONEL G. HENRY, Elmstree, ...bury.

...UMP BARGAINS ! !—Brand new Army ...mps fully guaranteed. Big variety and many under cost ...make them! Cannot hope to repeat. Approval if desired. ...t free. Post card.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 181 ...partment, Lytham.

...IRE NETTING.—From 2/5 per 50yd. roll. ...eapest House in the Kingdom. Write us for prices, ...housands of rolls stocked.

...ENTS. — Army Bell. All complete, new ...ttings, deep walls, 60/- and 70/-. Scout Tents, 13/8. ...arden, 50/-. Bathing, 33/-. Also Marquees. Write us for ...ices.

...ARDEN HOSE.—Superior quality, 6oft.

...ngths.	1-ply.	2-ply.	3-ply.
...in.	15/-	24/6	29/3
...	24/6	29/3	35/2

Carriage paid. Approval.

...AWN MOWERS.—Five Riveted Blades. ...igh Wheels. Brass Bushings. Close Cutting. Highly Finished. ...nequalled Value. 81n., 20/6; 10in., 21/6; 12in., 22/6; 14in., ...6/-. Grass Boxes, 8/6 each. Garden Rollers, 30/-.

...AMBOO CANES.—Strong, 3ft., 3/11; 4ft., ...9; 5ft., 10/11; 6ft., 14/6 per hundred. Carriage paid.—E. B. ...AWTHORN, LIMITED, Dept. E, Shrewsbury.

BARR'S GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS.—The finest sorts for Pots, Bowls, Exhibition, Flower Borders and to naturalise. Also many new Seedling varieties, offered for the first time. Descriptive catalogue free.

BARR'S HYACINTHS, TULIPS, LILIES, CROCUSES, IRISES, etc., for pots and bedding. Finest quality. Descriptive catalogue, with special directions for the culture of Bulbs in Bowls, free.—BARR AND SONS, 11, 12 and 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx and perpetual habit. They flourish in the coldest parts of Britain. Extract, *The Times*: "Mr. Douglas is the leading raiser of this flower. His wonderful strain of new cloves is superb." Plant list now ready. —J. DOUGLAS, Ct. Bookham.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GAR- DENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial : Garden Pests	467
Index Expurgatorius	468
Rose Notes from Northern Ireland ..	468
The Fascination of Plants	470
Notes of the Week	470-471
Daphne Blagayana ; Trachelium caeruleum ; A Good Cherry-Laurel ; Two Good Buddleias ; Two Interesting Trailing Shrubs.	
Lilies for Every Garden	472
Correspondence	474-475
A Meconopsis Hybrid ; The Protection of Wild Flowers ; The Australian "Wattle" ; "Gardening Without a Garden."	
Late Summer at Vincent Square	475
Garden Technique	476
A Bush of Mignonette ; Brompton and Other Stocks ; Schizanthus ; Winter Greens ; Early-Flowering Hyacinths ; Cyclamen ; Hardy Annuals.	
On Greenhouses	477
Gardening of the Week	478

HEWITT'S FAMOUS DELPHINIUMS AND ROSES. Catalogue now in distribution. Please write for one.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S BULB CATALOGUE NOW READY containing the choicest and inexpensive Daffodils, Tulips, and other Bulbs. "Order early and plant early" so as to avoid disappointment.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760 yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

HAVE YOU BOUGHT "The Pruning of Trees and Shrubs," by W. Dallimore, Assistant at Kew? Fully illustrated. 4s. 6d. net; post free, 4s. 9d. From all Booksellers or direct from the Publishers, DULAU & CO., LTD., 34, Margaret Street, London, W.1.

DOBBIES' FAMOUS BULBS, SCOTCH ROSES and SWEET PEAS for Autumn Sowing. Catalogues free on mentioning THE GARDEN.—DOBBIE & CO., LTD., Edinburgh.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BRATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

GARDEN NETS.—Best tanned, small mesh; 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25yds. by 2yds., 4/-; 25yds. by 3yds., 6/-; 25yds. by 4yds., 8/-. Carr. Paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Tennis nets from 10/-. Special nets for tennis boundary. Pea training nets. Lists and samples free.—G. JARRETT, Netmaker, Rye.

RARE PRIMULA AND ALPINE SEEDS from large (2,000) collection. Also seedlings and plants. Lists free.—REV. J. F. ANDERSON, Glen Hall, Leicester.

GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS — CHOICE TULIPS, &c. List on application.—THE WELSH BULB FIELDS, St. Asaph.

LOOK ! TANNED GARDEN NETS.—All orders dispatched same day. 25yds. by 1yd, 2/-; 25 by 2, 4/-; 25 by 3, 6/-. Odd netting for bushes, 6lbs. for 2/6. All carriage paid. Any sizes supplied. Also Tennis Boundary Nets.—MOORE AND CO., Net Works, Rye.

THE CULTURE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS. By W. WELLS, 2/6 net; cloth, 3/6 net; by post 6d. extra. —Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE" LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

A CATALOGUE of gardening books will be sent free on application to "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

ROCK PLANTS AND ALPINES, Dwarf Conifers, Flowering Shrubs for the Rock Garden, Herbaceous Plants, Monthretias, etc. Catalogue free, ready shortly.— SHEPPARDS, Shawhurst Nursery, Hollywood, Birmingham.

FLAME FLOWER. (Tropæolum speciosum). Extra strong established pot plants of this loveliest of scarlet flowered perennial climbers ready for planting any time now 1/- each, 6 for 5/-, 12 for 10/-, carriage paid for cash with order. —CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED, Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

PLANT PESTS AND PARASITES.—A useful booklet on garden troubles by HORACE J. WRIGHT is to be obtained from the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, W.C.2; 11d. post free.

THE DOG : MAN'S FIRMEST FRIEND.— How to choose and care for him, by A. CROXTON SMITH. A copy of this helpful booklet on the housing, breeding, feeding and care of dogs will be sent post free on receipt of 11d., addressed to The Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the imperishable Putty, 32/- per ... kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, ... extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON & ... Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

SEEDSMEN BY APPOINTMENT

BULBS AND LAWNS

THE BEST VALUE IN RELIABLE BULBS FOR EARLY SPRING FLOWERS

Carters General Collection of Hyacinths, Tulips, etc. Price **12/6** and **21/-** - - - Carriage paid.

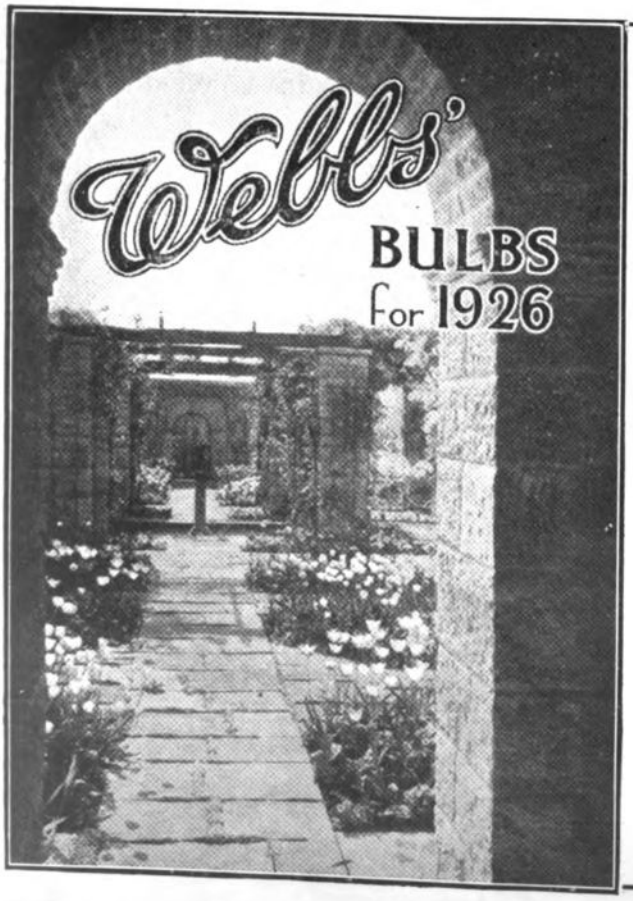
Carters Special Collection of Daffodils and Narcissus. Price **12/6** and **21/-** - - - Carriage paid.

Carters Extra Selected Bulbs for Cultivation in Bowls for Room Culture. Price **12/6** and **21/-**. Carriage paid.

LAWNS — CARTERS BOOKLET "LAWNS AND SPORTS GROUNDS," sent free on application. . . .

The new Catalogue 'Bulbs and Lawns' contains full particulars of the best varieties for forcing and general cultivation, also the Autumn treatment of Lawns.

Carters
TESTED SEEDS
Bulb Growers and Grass Specialists
RAYNES PARK, LONDON
S.W.20



The Finest Selection of the Season

SEND FOR

WEBBS' ILLUSTRATED BULB CATALOGUE for 1926

Post free from

EDWARD WEBB & SONS
LTD.
Seed and Bulb Specialists
STOURBRIDGE

Notes from Maidstone.

A NEW PEAR

WE would call the attention of all lovers of pears to the variety Admiral Gervais, which is fully described in our New Fruit Catalogue, which we think will be of great value. In appearance it much resembles Easter Beurré, but it ripens a little before this variety. It is a good grower, does equally well in the open as a Pyramid or a Cordon. We now introduce it after twelve years' trial and we can confidently recommend it for English gardens.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd.,
The Royal Nurseries,
Established 1796. Maidstone.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

VOL. XC.—No. 2855. AUGUST 21, 1926

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.: Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2. *Offices for Advertisements*: 6-11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

GARDEN PESTS

MANY gardens have been much bothered this year by the prevalence of garden pests, such as greenfly, wire worms and so on. The owners and gardeners have complained bitterly over their misfortune and have left it at that. Early in the year there was every reason to suppose that the hard weather experienced in the winter months would assist in clearing the garden of many pests. In a number of districts that hope has not materialised. The truth is that in many gardens those who work on the soil trust too much to luck and the season. The old rule of "prevention is better than cure" is not practised sufficiently. It is also true that many who use the latest methods of prevention and cure have been much bothered by pests, but they keep pegging away at spraying and so on, and ultimately the pest is brought under control and eradicated. On the other hand, there are many gardeners who are accustomed to keep their greenhouses and frames in spotless condition and yet do not bother with the garden outside. It is never wise to trust to luck, and so every effort should be made to *prevent* pests early in the season. Horticultural and agricultural chemistry is now so efficient that not only preventives but cures exist for almost every garden pest. They are inexpensive, and their use at all times is more than repaid by the improved appearance and better quality of your garden produce, whether it is fruit, flowers or vegetables. It is to be hoped that after this year's experience many who have suffered will have learned their lesson and realise that the policy of trusting to luck in the case of garden pests does not pay. Another point is that prevention is not such a laborious task as the cure, which sometimes takes more time than the gardener is able to afford.

E. H. M. C.

THIS week's plant is Potentilla fruticosa, which many will consider common enough, but whose popularity, oddly enough, seems to be confined to districts. In a note and following correspondence in THE GARDEN last year it was pointed out that there were many forms sold under various high-sounding names. As a matter of fact, all are good, but some are better than others. This late summer shrub, that is so free flowering over such a lengthy period is one of the most valuable plants that we have in the garden. The type, with lemon yellow flowers and greyish green leaves, is still probably one of the best. For those who wish various colours, P. Veitchii, with pure white flowers, and P. Vilmoriniana, with silvery leaves and creamy flowers, can be recommended. Potentillas will grow in any soil as long as the drainage is sufficient, and they have no objection to drought. They are easily propagated from cuttings. In some cases older plants have a habit of dying by bits and pieces; this can be avoided by cutting out old wood in early spring. This is particularly advisable in the richer soils where the plant is rather inclined to overgrow its strength. Dead wood gives an appearance of age that is entirely unnecessary.

POTENTILLA FRUTICOSA IS A FINE AUTUMN-FLOWERING SHRUB.

Digitized by Google

INDEX EXPURGATORIUS

A LIST OF PLANTS ONE OUGHT NOT TO GROW IN THE ROCK GARDEN.

BY DR. R. LLOYD PRAEGER.

OF lists and suggestions as to what we should grow in our rock gardens there is no end, and, indeed, one is embarrassed by the number of plants which are, one is assured, easy, appropriate and beautiful. It may be advantageous to approach the matter from the opposite standpoint and consider briefly what one ought *not* to grow in the rock garden. Large classes of plants are, of course, outside the question—trees, the larger shrubs and the denizens of the herbaceous border. I would add to these all "florists' flowers," whether large or small, perennial or annual, for I believe most gardeners will agree that carnations, clarkias or lobelia are not suitable in the rock garden. I wish rather to write about plants which are often offered as rock garden subjects, but which at least must be used with caution.

There are few of the smaller perennials, I think, that deserve full excommunication, and at the moment I can think of only two such. Once I saw Petasites fragrans described in the catalogue of a reputable firm as the beautiful winter heliotrope, deserving a place in every rock garden, fragrant, winter-flowering—in fact, a very gem among gems; whereas, of all the pestilent weeds——! It belongs to the worst class of weeds—those which have rapidly spreading underground stems, of which every scrap will grow. It can be cordially recommended for railway embankments, or for large areas of waste ground; but if you have a garden, it is scarcely safe to live in the same parish with it. If the least bit of it gets in, you will never get it out. But, all the same, it deserves its meed of praise. In the milder parts of our country its profusion of fragrant bloom in midwinter makes it a very welcome colonist—of somebody else's ground!

The other plant which is or ought to be anathema in the rock garden, although it figures in many nurserymen's catalogues, is that little fiend Helxine Solierolii. Its tiny green mat, resembling that of Arenaria balearica or Mentha Requienii, looks quite innocent; but once it gets among tuft-forming plants, or into the chinks of the stones, it is practically impossible to eradicate. It creeps rampantly and smothers one's smallest treasures while one's back is turned. Its flowers are microscopic, and it has nothing to recommend it.

It will be noted that while the first of these terrors does its fell work by means of subterranean activity, the other works openly on the surface. All the plants which in the rock garden need to be used with caution—if used at all—belong to one or other of these categories, with the exception of a few which propagate in inconvenient abundance by seed or by bulbils. The above-ground plants need not be feared by the watchful gardener; they put all their cards on the table, and can be dealt with accordingly. We have merely to exercise judgment in planting, and not mix the sheep with the goats, and all will be well.

Among the worst offenders are the acænas and cotulas, and other rock garden creepers, from the delightful but rampant Veronica filiformis down to Arenaria balearica. They must not be planted near the kabschia saxifrages and such-like jewels. But plant them along with arabis and alyssum, aubrietia and mossy saxifrages, and they will meet their match and fill their appointed place quite meekly. A few of the sedums, too, are in the same category—reflexum, rupestre, album, sexangulare and spurium in particular. Not only are they rapid spreaders, but scraps broken off will root anywhere—preferably in the heart of some treasure. Put them with their equals and they are all right, and in mass highly ornamental.

(To be concluded.)

ROSE NOTES FROM NORTHERN IRELAND

THERE is nothing very original, I am afraid, in an article on the Queen of Flowers. Undoubtedly, there are different roses for different districts and gardens, and, consequently, it is of interest to read of results and opinions from various parts of our islands—this is my excuse for the present effort.

Before mentioning the actual varieties, I may say that they have all been under personal observation, either in my own garden or elsewhere, and, consequently, the criticism, favourable or otherwise, is just the writer's candid opinion, and, as such, may be taken for what it is worth.

Hugh Dickson is still undoubtedly one of the best crimson roses for the garden, though it is rather too vigorous for bedding purposes; as a standard, however, it is second to none—its fragrance and fine colour are generally known; and so I pass on to General McArthur, another beautiful bright crimson, like the previous variety very sweetly scented, but, unlike it, in that it is a fine bedding rose. The colour is not so rich nor are the flowers so large as Hugh Dickson, but it should certainly find a place in every garden. General McArthur is particularly good in autumn, and the beautiful glossy deep green foliage keeps remarkably clean and fresh and seems practically immune from mildew.

Red Letter Day is another outstanding rose and a great favourite here; the nearly single flowers are freely produced, and hold their colour without any trace of the very objectionable "blue" that spoils so many of our crimson varieties. Red Letter Day, picked as a small bud, develops well in water and lasts for a surprisingly long time. It is altogether an ideal rose for garden and cutting, and is much better here than the somewhat similar K. of K.

Lieutenant Chauré is a fine deep crimson of a rather duller tone than the preceding; it is a good bedder, though not so free-flowering as General McArthur, but the flowers are well shaped, and it may certainly be recommended.

Augustus Hartmann is a rose of which I thought very highly a few seasons ago, but latterly it has not been so good, the colour lacking its former brilliance. At its best, the bright geranium red of the expanded blooms is very effective, but, unfortunately, it is variable, and also fragrance is lacking, though where it does well and keeps its true colour Augustus Hartmann is worth growing and is much more reliable than the newer orange cerise Lady Inchiquin, which, with us, has been very disappointing.

The Queen Alexandra Rose is startling in colour, but is by no means a favourite of mine, and I was greatly surprised to see the high place it occupied in the result of a recent newspaper ballot. The colour, to my mind, is rather artificial, and the flowers hang their heads badly—a very serious defect in a garden variety.

It is also, on account of its vivid colouring, a difficult rose to place well in a small garden where lack of space prevents the possibility of its being allowed a bed to itself.

Betty Uprichard is one of the best and most beautiful of modern varieties; the bright cerise shaded flowers are effective both in the garden and for house decoration. It is a good grower, and, altogether, a very desirable rose.

Lady Ashtown is almost my favourite pink variety, the beautifully shaped buds and flowers are freely produced and are of very pleasing and attractive colour. Its only real fault is that it is rather susceptible to mildew, which, alas! is the reason for the almost complete disappearance of Killarney, in the writer's opinion the most beautiful of all pinks.

Mrs. Henry Morse, salmon pink with paler reflex, is a fine variety that is probably one of the most popular of this section to-day. It is certainly a good bedding rose and one that should be freely planted, though it has not displaced Lady Ashtown in the writer's affections.

Such old favourites among the pinks as Caroline Testout, Mrs. John Laing and La France need only be mentioned here in passing; but I hope it will be many years before they disappear, as they are worth growing for their fragrance alone.

Los Angeles is a very fine salmon pink, shaded gold, that should be grown freely, as it is an ideal garden rose, reminiscent

Digitized by Google

of Lyon but of better habit, though, where it does well, Lyon is still to be recommended. Los Angeles lasts well, is nicely scented, and the individual blooms are of perfect shape.

Coming now to the large section covering flesh pink, salmon pink and pale rose, with or without copper and yellow shadings, I must first mention Lady Pirrie. This is one of the most delightful and generally useful of all garden and decorative roses. The flowers vary greatly in shade from copper pink to blush, according to the season, but are lovely at all times, especially in the bud stage, the fully opened blooms being thin. Lady Pirrie is an ideal bedding rose, and for cutting it gives delightful sprays far into the autumn.

Mme. Abel Chatenay, too well known to need description, may next be quoted, though in this variety we are dealing with an entirely different type, the flowers being large and full. Chatenay is not so good a bedder as Lady Pirrie, for the plants are somewhat straggling and untidy in growth, but against that the flowers retain their beauty for a considerably longer period.

Mme. Butterfly, flesh shaded salmon, is one of the most outstanding of the newer roses—it is a good grower with fine foliage and is fragrant, which, in these days of scentless novelties, is very important. Mme. Butterfly is, in my opinion, a better rose than Ophelia, from which it is a seedling.

Joseph Hill is an old favourite that is valuable for its finely shaped blooms—long and high centred; the colour, a blend of apricot and pink, is very lovely, though somewhat variable, while the bronze foliage is very fine.

Gorgeous, a blend of orange and deep pink that varies considerably in depth and attractiveness, is, at its best, a fine rose, but I would not include it where only a few sorts can be accommodated. Mrs. A. R. Waddell is a very attractive little rose of striking colour—deep copper and apricot; it is very thin, however, and consequently the beauty of the individual flower is very fleeting. Mrs. Alfred Tate, copper salmon and cream, is a lovely little rose with long narrow buds that are delightful.

I now come to the yellows, and shall probably cause surprise by heading them with an old variety, Harry Kirk, bright yellow in the bud stage, marked on the outside with crimson; on opening out the colour fades to creamy yellow. The flowers are freely produced far into the autumn, and the foliage is good—altogether, with us, a reliable garden variety.

WITH ITS GOLDEN YELLOW BLOOMS, CHRISTINE IS ONE OF THE FINEST OF BEDDING ROSES.

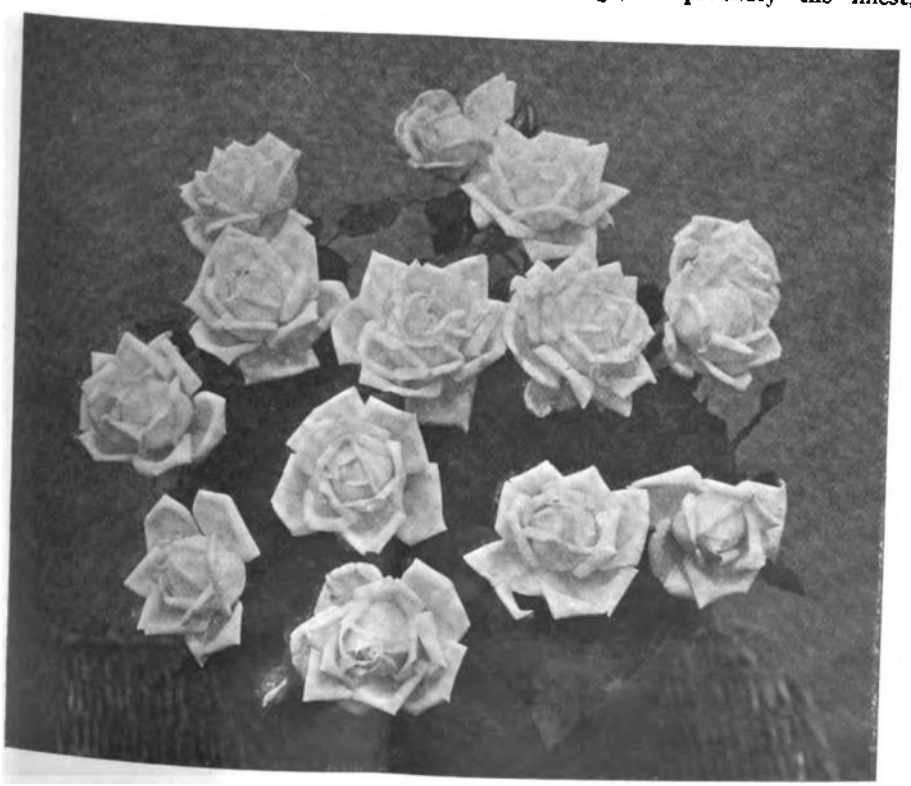
Among the newer varieties, Mabel Morse, golden yellow with glossy dark green foliage, is probably the finest, though it is very similar to the very popular Golden Emblem, which, where it does well, is magnificent, but its behaviour is very uncertain; in this garden Golden Emblem is very unsatisfactory, whereas as seen growing in the grounds of the Donard Nursery Company, Newcastle, County Down, it is really fine. Personally, I prefer Christine to either Mabel Morse or Golden Emblem, though it is a very much smaller rose and may be considered a purely garden variety—for bedding purposes it is first-rate, and the small bright golden-yellow buds are very refined and beautiful.

Souvenir de Claudius Pernet is another bright yellow, but of a different tone from the preceding—it is catalogued as sunflower yellow, and possibly this describes it fairly well—I do not consider it nearly so attractive.

Margaret Dickson Hamill, deep straw yellow, is an older variety and quite distinct from those previously noted. It is a fine garden rose, and may be planted with confidence.

In conclusion, I will name what I consider are the best dozen varieties out of those mentioned, for general garden use: (1) Hugh Dickson, (2) Lady Pirrie, (3) Harry Kirk, (4) Red Letter Day, (5) Betty Uprichard, (6) Los Angeles, (7) General McArthur, (8) Mme. Butterfly, (9) Mme. Abel Chatenay, (10) Lady Ashtown, (11) Margaret Dickson Hamill, (12) Isobel. If a white is desired, Druschki might be substituted for one or other of these.

CECIL M. BAILEY.



MARGARET DICKSON HAMILL, A GOOD ALL ROUND GARDEN ROSE.

Digitized by Google

THE FASCINATION OF PLANTS

THERE are many plants which, while not beautiful in themselves, yet exercise a great fascination upon the enthusiast. I write chiefly of alpine species, the smaller the better. This attraction, of course, does not exist for those people to whom a garden is a place showing masses of colour at some periods of the year and at others being quite uninteresting. It is to the real plant lover that these "ugly ducklings" appeal so much. To those who prize most highly the fact of having made another fractious little stranger from the mountain happy and "comfy."

I have a number of sunk gardens devoted almost entirely to those plants which are rare, small and possess that nameless fascination, and I spend many hours in silent examination of them, and whenever I pass that way always find time to see how they are faring.

To most people a very uninteresting plant is Scleranthus perennis, or S. biflorus, as it is often called. A little tight-growing plant like a tuft of greenish golden moss, with minute greeny flowers entirely without petals carried on quarter-inch stems. It is quite inconspicuous, and yet to many it has this all-redeeming fascination! It likes a sunny position in the "screeiest" of screes, or wedged between stones, where it soon makes a happy little tussock. It is very readily increased by division in the spring, and presents no great difficulty in cultivation.

Another plant of the greatest charm, and as yet quite a newcomer to me, is Acanthozonchus cervicornis. I have been growing it for but a few months, and it has already climbed to a very high place in my regard. It belongs to the sow thistle family, as the name suggests, but the suggestion is as far as the similarity extends. Its habit is that of a lowly hummock. The leaves are narrow, about 1in. to 1½ins. long, and strangely crinkled, with a toothed or serrated edge. About June–July it pushes up a growth of green, branched spines, like those seen upon Alyssum spinosum, but stouter and quite soft. After flowering these spines become hard and brown, and serve as a protection to the plants until the following summer, when the process is repeated, the old spines then dying off.

My plants have not yet flowered, but are just pushing forward their buds from the axils of the spiny growths, and I am waiting with great interest to see them open. I do not expect beauty, for the buds are very like those of a small groundsel flower, but the fascination of the plant is such to me that I often dash to it from other occupations just to refresh myself with its ever-increasing interest. As far as I can discover, it loves a full sun position and a free, well drained soil, and it is, I believe, perfectly hardy. It is very little known as yet, even in the specialist's garden, but I am sure that as it becomes distributed it will be a great favourite with the connoisseur.

Azorella pedunculariis, which comes from the mountains of Ecuador, is an extremely interesting plant of very close creeping habit, forming tight, hard cushions of fairly large green rosettes. The flowers are almost invisible and green, and consequently not worth worrying about. The plant is very happy planted in a sink, where it conceals the edge with its slow growth, and presses tightly and firmly to the stone in its progress.

Another interesting and uncommon plant, but one which is decidedly not without beauty, is Helipterum anthemioides. It throws up fragile growth very like a linum in appearance, surmounted by dainty white everlasting flowers. The individual flowers are about three-quarters of an inch across, and the whole plant is not more than a foot in height, perhaps not so much. It is quite suitable for the rock garden, and presents no difficulty of culture if given full sun and a well drained soil.

The same conditions apply very well to Helichrysum bracteatum—the wild species from Tasmania, not the garden forms—another attractive and little-known everlasting. The rather uninteresting foliage is amply compensated for during June and July by the large flowers borne singly on 6in. to 9in. stems. For the first few days before final development they present the appearance of bronze-coloured plovers' eggs, afterwards opening into lovely golden bronze paper daisies, quite flat and nearly 2ins. across. They are very attractive indeed, especially in sunshine. The leaves are grey green and short, making a carpet about 2ins. above the ground.

There is one of our own native plants, which, though fairly common, and not at all beautiful, yet thrills me afresh every time that I discover it growing in a spongy bog. This is Drosera rotundifolia. It has quaint little rounded leaves on 1in. long footstalks, their flat surfaces covered with tiny sticky knobs with which to retain the insects which form one of its chief means of sustenance. The whole plant is coloured bright red, and has tiny spikes of whitish flowers in June. In winter the plant dies down to a wee bud in the moss, and is quite invisible until the next April or early May. It is possible to cultivate it successfully in a pan in a cold house or frame. I have had it growing for several years under these conditions planted in sphagnum moss, and it is perfectly happy and contented.

There is a Drosera longifolia, not nearly so common as D. rotundifolia, and there is also an intermediate form which I have not yet found.

This charm of plants which would appear to be of nothing but botanical interest seems to me to be strangely akin to the fascination often exercised over women and children by very ugly men, as if, deprived of outward and visible beauty, they are given some inward gift of attraction. Be this how it may, it is there, and I would sooner have my ugly darlings than a garden full of flamboyant beauties like Oriental Poppies, etc. WILL INGWERSEN.

NOTES OF THE WEEK

DAPHNE BLAGAYANA.

THIS beautiful daphne opened its first flowers before the end of January this year and, the weather being mild, with them came the delicious, lily-like fragrance. With a good many people this is deemed an untrustworthy subject, fond of dying-off without any apparent cause, though given the best of attention. What it is that this plant considers essential to its happiness no one can say, for it will prosper in one garden and in another languish though the conditions appear to be exactly similar in both cases.

Though naturally a scree plant, a regular and plentiful supply of underground moisture is not a *sine qua non*, for my oldest and best plant is in the very dry sandy soil of a narrow border, not a couple of feet from the top of a retaining wall 8ft. high. This plant gets tree shade in summer practically all day until evening. It must sometimes get pretty dry, but it is never watered. I attribute our success with it to the top-dressing which is applied twice a year, *i.e.*, just after flowering and again in early autumn. This consists of leaf-mould and course sand, with a mere dash of light loam intermixed. Before the mulch is put on all the largest twigs are bent down, a stone sufficiently heavy to keep them firm is placed on each and the compost is then shaken all over the plant and pressed down until every branch is covered up to the foliage.

The above process continued it means, of course, that D. Blagayana will ultimately occupy a mound, with the tufts of leafage poking out between the stones all over it. But it appears that this is just what the plant likes. This counsel may not be very helpful to those who cannot get D. Blagayana to start at all, but, personally, I have had no difficulty in getting it established. A healthy pot plant is the first essential, and a moderately cool, but light, very gritty soil, well mixed through with old black leaf-soil, should do the rest.—A. T. J.

TRACHELIUM CŒRULEUM.

A Fine Plant for the Greenhouse.

TRACHELIUM CŒRULEUM is a most excellent and very effective pot plant for either greenhouse or house decoration. Those who have old plants that have finished flowering may readily raise a new stock. Points and side shoots should now be obtainable on the old plants which will make good cuttings. If the cuttings be inserted in sand in a frame, or round the sides of pots in light sandy soil and kept close for a week or two until they are able to stand ventilation, in a month or five weeks they should be ready to transfer to small pots. The potting soil may consist of about equal parts of loam and leaf-mould and about one or two parts rough sand or sifted lime rubble. To obtain good plants by flowering time, after the plants have attained the height of 6ins. to 8ins. the points should be pinched out. As the plants grow the pinching of side shoots should be regularly attended to in order to have bushy plants. The plants will require to be potted on as they require it until they are in the size of pot it is desired to flower them in. The soil for the final

Digitized by Google

potting should be used rather rough and consist of good fibrous loam broken up, about three parts to one of half-decayed leaves, one part broken lime rubble with a good dusting of bone meal. The trachelium is almost hardy, as last winter I had some old plants which came through the winter in the open. The tops were frosted to ground-level with 30° of frost, but in spring fine shoots came away from the base again. On no account should the plants be coddled, and they ought to have cold frame treatment until they can be transferred to a cool greenhouse. Usually this plant is raised from a July sowing of seeds or in early spring, but plants grown from cuttings will give excellent results. From the conspicuous absence of this plant in greenhouses in this part of Scotland I cannot think it is sufficiently well known. If once grown and treated as I have outlined, I am sure its beautiful heads of mauve flowers will be appreciated by all, so much that a place will always be found for it in the greenhouse or conservatory.—WM. GRANT, *Kincardineshire.*

A GOOD CHERRY-LAUREL.

THE hardiest of all known cherry-laurels comes from the Shipka Pass in Bulgaria. Forty years ago Prunus Laurocerasus schipkænsis was introduced into cultivation, and has proved hardy even in the colder parts. In the Balkans it grows in half-shady places under trees, forming low, broad bushes mostly of less than 3ft. in height. Several vary as to the shape of the leaves. The typical one with leaves over 1½ins. wide is often called var. Mischeana, while a narrow-leaved form with almost willow-like leaves bears the name var. Zabeliana. The last one is the hardiest form of a cherry-laurel I know. It always remains a rather low shrub, but in cultivation reaches 6ft.

Like most of the broad-leaved evergreens, the cherry-laurel is a hungry plant. To get good strong specimens with a fine shining foliage it is necessary to feed them well. Healthy plants are, however, of exceptional beauty the whole year round, especially in winter, as undergrowth between thinly planted pines. In colder areas the plants suffer during the winter, not from frost but from dryness. If we give a lot of liquid cow manure early in spring and a good cover of compost upon the roots, the plants can stand a good deal of frost.

All forms of the cherry-laurel can be pruned rather heavily. The propagation is very easy and is by cuttings in late summer.—CAMILLO SCHNEIDER.

ONE OF THE FINEST OF HARDY BROAD-LEAVED EVERGREENS, PRUNUS LAUROCERASUS

TWO GOOD BUDDLEIAS.

TWENTY-FIVE years ago I first met with the fine Buddleia Colvilei of which Sir Joseph Hooker said that it is the handsomest of all Himalayan shrubs, in the famous gardens of the late Sir Thomas Hanbury at La Mortola on the Italian Riviera. The tallest plant of it I saw in the open, stood, and is probably still standing, in the well known garden of the late Mr. Allard at La Maulevrie, near Angers, in western France. Here I took the accompanying picture a good many years ago. Unfortunately, the plant was not in flower at this time, but in England I had the opportunity to see flowering plants, mostly grown against a wall. The flowers appear in June at the tips of the young terminal shoots in pendent panicles, as is the case in other species, but the individual flowers are rather large, measuring over ¾in. across. The corolla is of a beautiful deep rose colour whitish in the throat, in its shape not unlike that of a beard-tongue. The elliptical-lanceolate leaves measure up to 10ins. in length.

A HANDSOME SPECIMEN OF BUDDLEIA COLVILEI.

Sir Joseph Hooker brought it to England in 1849 from the higher regions of the Sikkim-Himalaya. B. Colvilei needs a well drained, rather rich soil and a sheltered, sunny position to form a good flowering bush.

Another very distinct and handsome species of the genus is B. globosa from South America (Chile). It has a more open, loosely branched habit and smaller leaves that bear a yellowish tomentum beneath. The flowers are arranged in globular heads, and therefore the inflorescences look quite different from those of the other well known species. They are orange-yellow and very fragrant, appearing in June. They are easily propagated by cuttings in late summer. —C. S.

TWO INTERESTING TRAILING SHRUBS.

LINNEA BOREALIS (the twin flower).—This fragrant trailing shrub has been in flower all the summer. It has a slender red brown stem, trailing from 2ft. to 3ft., with evergreen small, round leaves. Its flowers resemble small pink bells, always in pairs, and are delightfully attractive. It should be planted with plenty of leaf-soil in a shaded, moist position. It is easily propagated by cuttings taken in the spring.

Mitchella repens (the twin berry).—This beautiful little trailer has rounded opposite leaves, bright green in colour with prominent white veins on creeping stems from 6ins. to 12ins. long. The flowers, which appear in pairs after the fashion of Linnea borealis, are bell shaped and of a soft pink colour. Red berries follow these, which are its greatest charm, presenting a vivid contrast to its bright green foliage. The twin berry is of easy culture, liking sun or shade, and may be propagated by cuttings.—R. MOORE, *Thorpe Hall.*

Digitized by Google

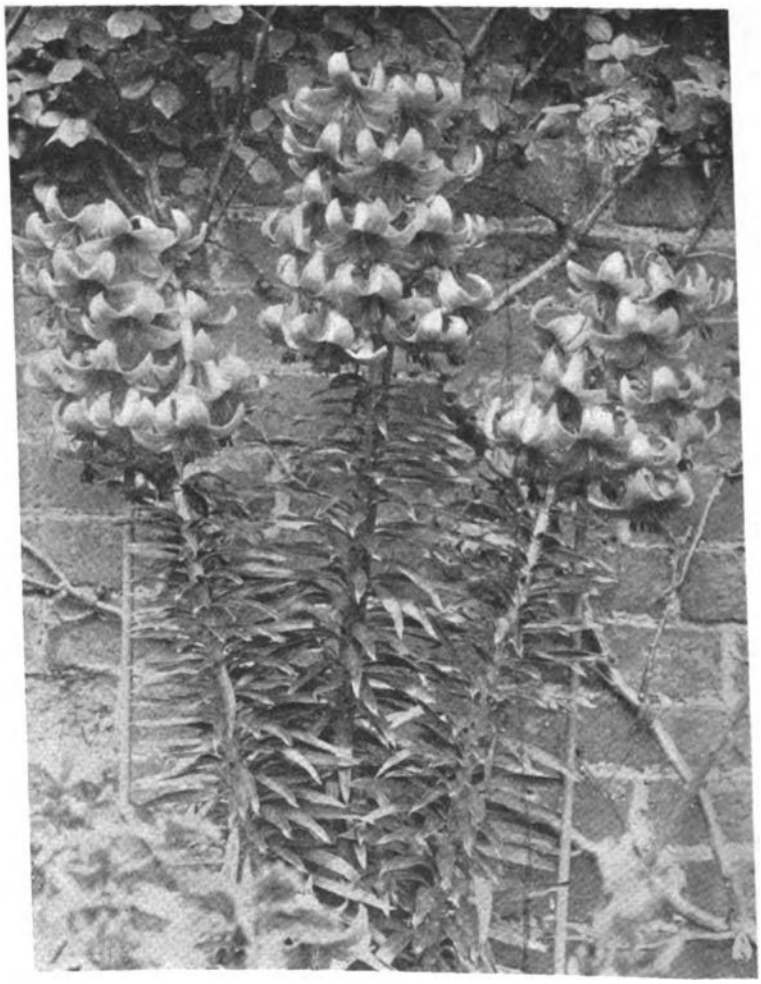
LILIES FOR EVERY GARDEN

MOST of us have at least a nodding acquaintance with the genus lilium; indeed the three old favourites, Lilium candidum, L. croceum and L. tigrinum are to be found in almost every district in the British Isles, growing under most varied conditions. Nine-tenths of the other species are equally as easy of cultivation, but always providing that they are given suitable positions. It must not be argued from this proviso that lilies are capricious. The rhododendron is not capricious because it hates lime, or the primrose because it loves shade; yet the poor lily, nauseated with rich feeding and scorched by "a position where it will get all the sun," is dismissed with the stigma of "not really hardy."

Lilies inhabit the waste places of the Northern Hemisphere, and flourish under conditions often so severe that their complete hardiness in our milder climate seems assured. Let us for a moment journey in thought with that intrepid explorer, Mr. E. H. Wilson, to the confines of mysterious Tibet, to the wild and mountainous hinterlands which separate China proper from the hierarchy of Lhassa. "There in narrow, semi-arid valleys, down which thunder torrents, and encompassed by mountains composed of mud shales and granites, whose peaks are clothed with snow eternal, the Regal Lily has its home. In summer the heat is terrific, in winter the cold is intense, and at all seasons these valleys are subject to sudden and violent windstorms, against which neither man nor beast can make headway. There, in June, by the wayside, in rock-crevices by the torrent's edge, and high up on the mountainside and precipice, this Lily in full bloom greets the weary wayfarer. Not in twos and threes, but in hundreds, in thousands, aye, in tens of thousands. Its slender stems, each from 2 to 4 feet tall, flexible and tense as steel, overtopping the coarse grass and scrub and crowned with one to several large funnel-shaped flowers more or less wine-coloured without, pure white and lustrous on the face, clear canary yellow within the tube and each stamen filament tipped with a golden anther. The air in the cool of the morning and in the evening is laden with delicious perfume exhaled from each bloom. For a brief season this lonely, semi-desert region is transformed by this Lily into a veritable fairyland." ("The Lilies of Eastern Asia," by E. H. Wilson). To try to imitate such conditions would be as futile as it is impossible, but L. regale and most of the other species flourish and increase with far less trouble than is often lavished by many garden lovers on less desirable plants.

On consideration of the most varied conditions under which lilies grow naturally all round the world, it is obviously absurd to lay down any hard and fast rule as to their cultivation in our own small part of the globe. Generally speaking, however, they succeed best in this country when surrounded by a fairly cool, moist atmosphere. Without exception lilies are always found growing among grasses or low shrubs. This teaches us that though they mostly require a certain amount of sun in which to develop their flowers, it is essential to break the direct rays of the sun on the roots and lower part of the stem. It may be taken as a general rule that all lilies revel in leaf soil and loathe raw animal manure, though regale, martagon (and its European allies), candidum and excelsum will also thrive over lime. All lilies, once well established, resent disturbance and should be left severely alone. Deep planting is another important point; those who have attempted the heart (and trowel) breaking disinterment of wilding bulbs firmly wedged about a foot down between rocks and roots of shrubs and trees, will appreciate this fact, and will plant their garden bulbs deeply.

The following lilies will flourish in any good garden soil of a fair depth, well dug and well drained:



LILIUM MONADELPHUM SZOVITZIANUM AS A WALL PLANT.

First and foremost comes L. REGALE, the finest of all garden lilies, ultimately reaching 6ft. or 7ft. under cultivation, with ten to twenty exquisite blooms on each stem.

L. HANSONI is a grand early species, not sufficiently known and grown, with fragrant nodding golden flowers.

L. DAVIDII, also known as Pseudo-tigrinum, is a comparatively new Chinese lily with a splendid constitution and flaring cinnabar-red flowers.

L. HENRYI, truly a "fool-proof" lily, bears so many huge orange-yellow blooms as to need support, but as a stake 6ft. or 8ft., or even 10ft. long is at all times unsightly, it is better to plant this almost aggressively luxuriant lily by some tall shrub, such as a rhododendron, to which it may hitch its tall arching stem by its wiry pedicels in a natural manner.

L. CANDIDUM (Madonna lily) has two forms, the broad petalled and the thin starry petalled; the former is infinitely superior. Bulbs of this lily should be planted just beneath the surface of the ground.

L. EXCELSUM (TESTACEUM) is a hybrid from candidum and it likes the same treatment. Its fine heads of delicate apricot or Nankeen yellow flowers are charming against a background of dark green foliage. Unfortunately, this lily has become scarce.

L. LONGIFLORUM, with its several forms, though perfectly hardy, has a sickening habit of splitting up its bulbs and deteriorating after it has flowered once. It is better under glass, where it is the universal *pièce de résistance* among lilies for forcing.

The common purple L. MARTAGON needs no comment. L. M. ALBUM is superb, with bold pyramidal spikes of glistening snowy flowers; while L. M. DALMATICUM is even stronger than the type, bearing up to fifty flowers, varying in colour from crimson lake to deep wine-red.

L. PYRENAICUM is the malodorous yellow Turk's Cap lily. Its coarse red form is too often sold in place of L. pomponium, a graceful slender mountain species with brilliant sealing-wax red flowers.

L. CHALCEDONICUM, the scarlet martagon, is a brilliantly coloured species well worth growing. L. c. MACULATUM is a

Digitized by Google

superior form, being deeper in colour, slightly spotted with black, and taller growing.

The tiger lilies are of special value, as they extend the lily season into September and October. The best form is L. TIGRINUM SPLENDENS, with bold black-spotted dark salmon-orange flowers; L. T. FORTUNEI GIGANTEUM is the latest form, and grows up to 5ft. or 6ft. high, with thirty or forty flowers of a rather lighter shade. L. T. FLORE PLENO is the only lily in which double flowers are admissible; perhaps not even that.

L. MONADELPHUM SZOVITZIANUM is not seen often enough in gardens. It bears from ten to thirty large black-spotted straw-yellow flowers, poised like so many pendulous bells from a graceful 4ft. stem. A strong grower and a decided acquisition to any garden.

The many hybrid varieties of LL. UMBELLATUM and ELEGANS, though without the proverbial grace of the lily in so far as growth and habit are concerned, bear magnificent flowers like large upright chalices, and provide us with some of the finest orange, crimson and red shades we possess. Like their European cousin L. croceum, they grow almost anywhere, and are to be found doing well even in the heart of London.

A WELL-FLOWERED COLONY OF THE SCARLET LILIUM CHALCEDONICUM.

LL. PARDALINUM and SUPERBUM are two North American swamp lilies which are quite amenable to ordinary garden cultivation. Both grow from 5ft. to 6ft. in height, with quantities of orange flowers deeply spotted and blotched with crimson.

All the lilies so far mentioned will succeed in any ordinary border under conditions inferior to those already described as essential for perfect cultivation. The following lilies require a certain amount of partial shade and coolness at the root, and are most suitable for planting among low-growing shrubs or herbaceous plants.

L. AURATUM, the golden rayed lily of Japan, is universally considered the most magnificent of all lilies, its huge stately flowers of white and gold with their powerful fragrance inspiring many attempts at cultivation which too often merely result in correspondence in the gardening press. The chief cause of failure with this and the following species is inadequate drainage. This may be easily remedied by an artificial strata, 6ins. to 9ins. thick, of broken bricks or stones, about 2ft. below the surface of the ground. Plenty of sandy leaf mould around the bulb will encourage the maximum growth, which must not be allowed to suffer from lack of that moisture which in their native home is supplied by the heavy morning dews. This suggests a judicious use of the watering can.

The sturdiest variety of L. auratum is PLATYPHYLLUM. Though not growing quite so tall as the type, its flowers are larger, often exceeding 12ins. in width. By far the finest of the late-flowering lilies.

L. SPECIOSUM ranks with auratum as one of the most popular lilies, succeeding admirably in the open border. Among the most beautiful Japanese forms are L. S. ALBUM KRAETZERI, very fine white flowers banded with green, and L. S. MAGNIFICUM, with massive ruby carmine flowers margined with white.

L. BROWNII is perhaps the finest of the trumpet lilies, but at present is too expensive to be popular.

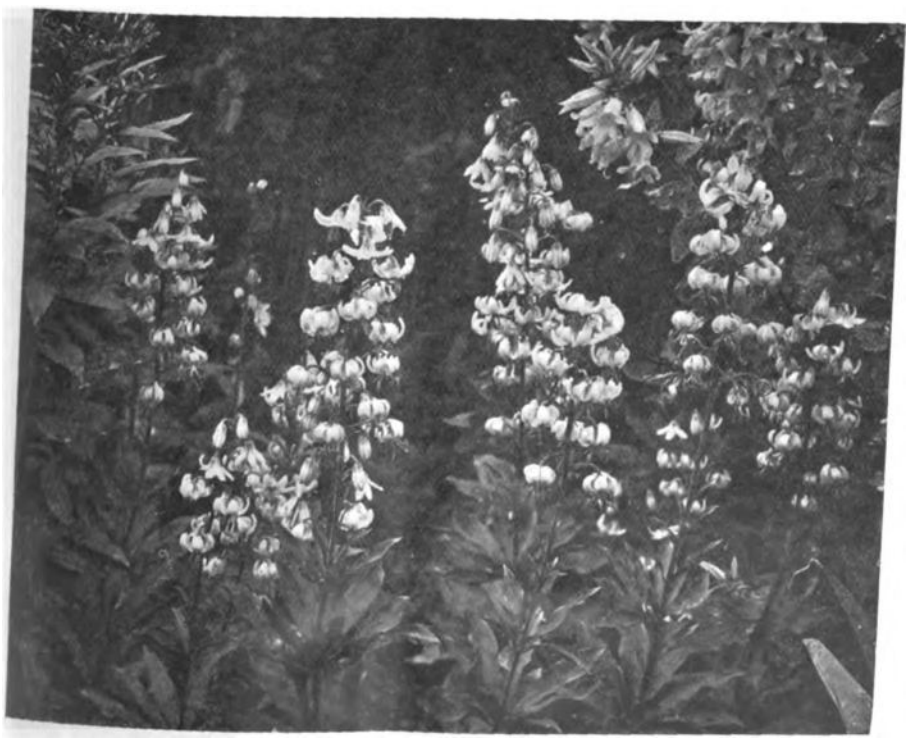
L. PHILIPPINENSE FORMOSANUM is a hardy alpine form of the sub-tropical L. philippinense, its long almost tubular trumpet flowers held rigidly horizontal on 3ft. stems, give it a distinction possessed by no other lily.

L. JAPONICUM (KRAMERI) is the most delicately beautiful of all. The flowers have the form, though not the size, of auratum, and are coloured a clear soft rosy pink, occasionally varying to white. Though not gifted with a first-class constitution, it succeeds admirably in a well drained shady spot.

L. WALLACEI likes a moist position, and bears most pleasing rosy apricot erect cups, increasing rapidly.

L. RUBELLUM is the daintiest flower imaginable. An alpine woodland lily, it is hardy at the foot of a large shrub or among low trees. A cheerful little plant, with pure rose pink trumpets on 2ft. stems.

L. WILLMOTTIÆ is a very graceful and attractive Chinese lily. Its 3ft. stem is often too slender to support the heavy pyramidal inflorescence of twelve to twenty vivid orange red flowers. Nevertheless it is one of the finest and loveliest of the genus.



ONE OF THE MOST GRACEFUL OF LILIES, L. MARTAGON ALBUM.

Digitized by Google

Those who are so fortunate as to possess a wood can grow the grand L. GIGANTEUM to perfection. This, the most majestic of all lilies, delights in a rich deep vegetable soil, protected from wind and sun. A group in flower, with ten to twenty heavily perfumed white trumpets on each 10ft. stem, is a joy for ever.

L. CANADENSE and L. GRAYII are swamp lilies from North America, establishing themselves rapidly by the edge of pond or stream. Both have orange-yellow flowers spotted with crimson, Grayii being the more deeply blotched.

None of the lilies mentioned in these rough notes presents any difficulty under cultivation, if a little commonsense and attention is given to placing them in the positions where they will feel at home. Once more I will repeat the three essential requisites: Deep planting, perfect drainage and unlimited leaf soil.

R. G. WALTER.

CORRESPONDENCE

A MECONOPSIS HYBRID?

SIR,—I enclose an illustration of a meconopsis growing in my garden in Perthshire. This is one of two plants which came out of the seed pan of Meconopsis simplicifolia, Bailey's form. It flowered last summer along with the plants of M. simplicifolia. These died after flowering, but the meconopsis shown flowered this summer again.

The flowers were pale yellow and had only one flower on each stem, which springs up from the root, not like M. integrifolia, which has a number of flowers on the stem. The leaves are similar to M. simplicifolia. The plant did not set seed last summer, but has done so this year—it has every appearance of growing on and flowering next year again. This meconopsis may be a cross between M. integrifolia and M. simplicifolia, as it was raised from seed from plants of M. simplicifolia growing near to M. integrifolia, but as both of these species are biennial I cannot account for this plant flowering two years in succession and not dying. The seed capsule is covered with golden brown hairs somewhat resembling the capsule of M. integrifolia, but the style is quite different from that species, being long and of the same shape as that of M. simplicifolia.

I also enclose a photograph of M. Wallichii with pure white flowers. In growing this species I usually get a few plants with white flowers which bloom at the same time as the blue flowering plants, but the curious thing about this plant is that it came into flower three weeks before the other plants of Wallichii raised from seed and planted out at the same time.—A. HARLEY, *Kirkcaldy*.

THE PROTECTION OF WILD FLOWERS.

SIR,—The Editorial appeal and the suggestions of Colonel Cuthbert James, in your issue of July 31st, respecting the above subject must have caused all lovers of the native flora to think seriously, and it is to be hoped that many useful suggestions will be forthcoming.

The proposed legislation seems to deal effectively with one group of offenders, namely, the gipsy hawkers of wild flowers, but I am inclined to think that there is a greater source of danger to our wild flowers from over-enthusiastic amateur collectors. Week by week classes of students in many parts of the country are taken on rambles where wild flowers abound and, even though botany may be one of the least important subjects in their curriculum, these students are encouraged to collect specimens irrespective of the rarity or otherwise of the plants. These collected specimens are pressed and dried and, finally, stuck on sheets of stiff paper. This task completed, what has been gained?

True, the botanical features are retained, but often to all outward appearance the mounted specimens are unrecognisable, and after a year or two may be quite useless for purposes of comparison.

Therefore, I would say: that indiscriminate collecting be discouraged and as an alternative suggest that charts of drawings be used in the classrooms, which would illustrate the less known plants. That the students, having been introduced, by these charts, to such plants as are likely to be found in the vicinity, may be taken on a ramble and encouraged to take notes on the wild flowers seen. That after each ramble, or after a series of rambles, an examination be held, and that a student's knowledge of wild flowers be based on his ability to write an essay on the plant associations noted on the aforementioned rambles, rather than by the presentation of three or four hundred mutilated dried specimens.

There is much to commend Colonel Cuthbert James's suggestion that a society be formed to protect and propagate the rarer local native plants and the question naturally arises, "Exactly how shall such a society set about its duties?" Could not enthusiasm be aroused by the growing of collections of native plants in many of the public parks? It might work in this manner: that in one park in a town an area be set aside for the cultivation of native plants; that the members of such a society as suggested by Colonel Cuthbert James collect plants and send them to the Superintendent of the nearest park, together with such data respecting the soil and situation as may be deemed important: and that if successful in propagating to any extent, the Superintendents of the parks will give to the members of the society certain plants which they may wish to use for the replanting of ransacked areas.

Of course some parks have already established a collection of native plants and perhaps the idea could be more generally adopted, for it has many good points. For example, classes of students could see the living plants, which are far more instructive than dried specimens, and, furthermore, as such collections would be made up, for the greater part, of plants found in the locality, the atmospheric conditions would be favourable to the establishment of such plants.—W. HOWELL, *Garston, Herts*.

A SUPPOSED HYBRID MECONOPSIS.

A PURE WHITE FORM OF M. WALLICHII.

THE AUSTRALIAN "WATTLE."

SIR,—In a paragraph in THE GARDEN, April 17th, 1926, reference was made to the term "wattle," used instead of mimosa in Australia. As the reason for making use of "Wattle" is somewhat peculiar, it may perhaps be interesting to readers of THE GARDEN if I explain.

When the first settlers, numbering upwards of 1,000, arrived at Port Jackson, New South Wales, in the year 1788, they were obliged to make every effort possible to provide themselves with dwellings of some sort. They found the large predominating trees, eucalypts, extremely difficult to cut down and split or saw up for house-building. However, a species or two of casuarina, supposed to be a pine, which were somewhat plentiful, was easier to work and so also was the cabbage-tree palm, Livistona australis, but it was found easier and quicker to construct the walls of houses of "wattle and daub" than of timber. For this purpose the slender, very flexible, branches of a small tree which was found in abundance growing among sandstone rocks —Callicoma serratifolia—were interwoven together and on to a framework of this, stiff puddled-up mud was spread and smoothed over.

Some time afterwards, the small branches and seedlings of Acacia decurrens were used, probably because the callicoma had become scarce, and as bush and grass fires occurred

Digitized by Google

seedlings of this acacia grew up in hundreds close together, the fires having cracked the hard seeds, giving them a chance to grow. Thus it came about that this species of acacia was known as "wattle." In course of time other acacias were known as wattle by the humblest class of inhabitants, until it was adopted generally, although the name is really an absurd one. For many years, however, acacias were generally known as mimosas, with the exception of A. decurrens. This species, which under its natural conditions attains a height of 40ft. to 50ft., with a diameter of about 6ins., exudes quantities of gum, somewhat similar to gum arabic and much sought after by children.

The wattle has now become the national flower of Australia, which to many persons acquainted with Australian indigenous plants, is a mistake, especially as the common name is a ridiculous one.—WALTER S. CAMPBELL, *Sydney, New South Wales.*

"GARDENING WITHOUT A GARDEN."

SIR,—Many of us who have had to live in London have experienced attacks of garden-hunger similar to that from which "E. H. M. C." is suffering. The incubation period of this complaint is of varying duration, but a climax inevitably occurs when the sufferer must "grow something."

Cacti and succulents are all very well, but by their aloofness and inhumanity they leave one cold. Mere existence is not everything.

During our own exile, we made many experiments, and found that miniature trees throve well and made the greatest appeal to our interest and imagination. Beeches, horse chestnuts, Scots pines and mountain ash all did very well.

The little trees should be sought just before they come into leaf. They must be very carefully uprooted so that the roots are not broken; very coarse or overlong roots can be shortened, but they must be clean cut.

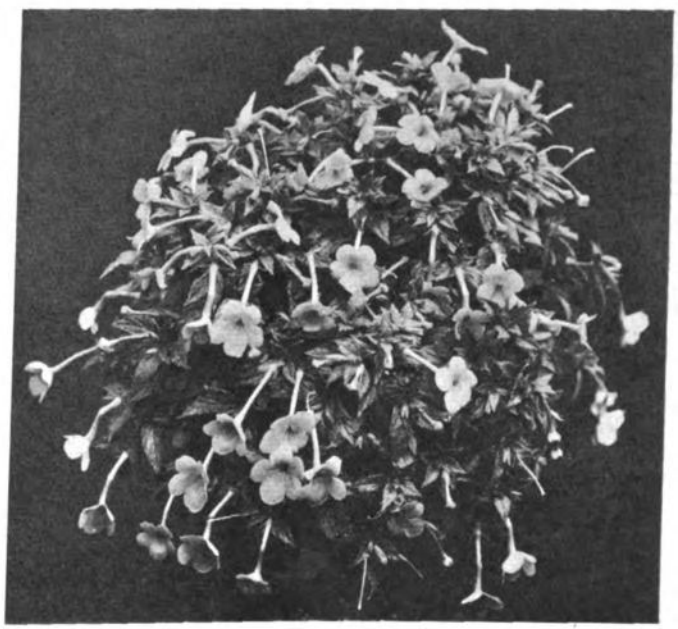
Special care should be taken to select the little trees most characteristic in growth of the full-grown type. They should be as "grown-up" looking as possible. The baby beeches must have the thickest, smoothest "trunks" possible, with a noble spread of branches; the Scots pines should appear windswept and carry a film of lichen, as they often do in their young stages. None of the trees should be more than 8ins. high, as many as possible should be less. The bowls we used were glazed, and were not more than 3ins. and 4ins. deep. A generous supply of pebbles was placed at the bottom of the bowls, and a compost consisting of half light sandy loam and half leaf mould, was used. Care was taken to spread the roots of the trees as naturally as possible and two or more trees were planted in each of the bowls, which ranged from 7ins. up to 12ins. in diameter. Having the trees in position, "features" were added to the miniature landscapes; a dry watercourse, marked with tiny flint chippings and a bridge; a mossy boulder; a hill or a valley; a meadow, formed of that pernicious weed—spurry—which appears to tolerate constant "mowing" (with nail scissors), with perfect equanimity; shrubs, represented by the tiny tufts of young heather. Lichen-covered twigs lay below the most rugged trees to represent fallen boughs.

We never had a single casualty among the trees. Their growth was almost imperceptible, but they formed leaf buds, came into leaf, took on autumn tints and cast their leaf with the utmost regularity, year after year. Their spring was slightly later, their autumn slightly earlier than those of their kind grown under natural conditions. As time went on they adjusted themselves to a very great extent to the size of their surroundings. The beech leaves became much smaller and more numerous, the "hands" of the horse chestnuts were about an inch long, but perfectly proportioned, the needles of the fir trees were only an inch long; this was after they had seen two springs in the bowls.

If we had to leave them unattended for several days the bowls would be stood around a bucket of water and kept moist by capillary attraction by means of woollen threads. For over three years these miniature trees were a source of continuous interest and pleasure to us, but never so much as when we saw the miracle of spring unfolding on a fairylike scale before our enchanted eyes. After one of the beech trees had spent four years in London, in a bowl, 7ins. in diameter and 4ins. deep—with one change of soil and one root pruning during that period—we planted it in the Surrey garden, which suddenly materialised for us out of the blue. It made no growth for about eighteen months, but is now growing rapidly. The trunk promises to be permanently somewhat short in proportion to the spread of the boughs.—GWENDOLYN ANLEY, *Woking.*

LATE SUMMER FLOWERS AT WESTMINSTER

RARELY would it seem that our fruit growers take advantage of the special shows that are set aside for them to display their wares, judging from the few exhibits, numbering four on the present occasion, which were shown at the Royal Horticultural Society's fortnightly meeting on August 10th. This show was really a fortnight in advance according to the R.H.S. list and the main features of interest, instead of being peaches, nectarines and apricots, were gladioli, phloxes and plums. The gladioli were present in considerable numbers and the exhibits certainly augur well for the future of this first-class garden flower. For brilliance and shading of colour and elegance of habit, and length of its flowering period, there are, indeed, few flowers to rank as its equal. Again, the value of the phlox as a high grade subject for the herbaceous border was amply illustrated by the exhibit of Mr. H. J. Jones and several others staged by the Hon. Vicary Gibbs and other exhibitors. The improvement in habit of growth, size of flower and, above all, in gradation of colour, has almost, we should imagine, reached its maximum. A few years back, such shades and tones as we are at present witnessing would not have been thought possible and the phlox serves as still another example of what may be accomplished by continued selection and careful crossing, in one race of plants. A few flowering shrubs were also on view, but their beauty was rather dimmed by the brilliant colourings of the herbaceous flowers alongside.



ACHIMENES DWARF PINK, A MOST DECORATIVE PLANT FOR THE COOL GREENHOUSE.

In nearly every fruit-growing district the present season has proved an excellent one for plums, while in most cases apple crops are poor. Messrs. G. Bunyard staged admirably grown plum trees in pots, thus enabling the visitor to judge of the habit of the varieties and to a certain extent of their fruitfulness. The trees were clean, healthy and vigorous, and on some of the varieties, such as Diamond, the fruit was particularly fine in size and colour. President was another culinary plum bearing well. Jefferson Gage, Early Transparent Gage and Prosperity bore large fruits but smaller crops.

Lane's Nurseries, Limited, had a conspicuous group of two year old vines growing in pots, each specimen carrying six or eight well shaped bunches. Their two best varieties were Black Alicante and Black Hamburgh. Peaches and nectarines of enormous size and in perfect condition were exhibited by the Right Hon. Lord Leconfield. The varieties Peregrine, Dymond and Dr. Hogg were brilliant in colour. A number of good culinary and dessert apples were seen among a collection of fruit shown by Messrs. Spooner and Sons.

Gladioli formed the chief floral groups. A wide range of delightful colourings was displayed by Messrs. Kelway and Son, and the spikes were exceptionally large. Large-flowered and primulinus types were shown as well as a number of this firm's noted Langprim hybrids. Among the large-flowering varieties Kelway's Masterpiece, A. E. R. Gilligan, Brooklands, Christine, Margaret Kelway and the delightfully rosy pink gladiolus Sunset, which is streaked and splashed with slaty violet, were outstanding. Rev. J. Stubbs, the brightest of all the Langprim hybrids, Crimson King and Favour were other fine varieties on show.

A magnificent collection of gladioli was shown by Messrs. R. H. Bath, Limited, and many of the newer introductions were exhibited. Red Emperor, Frau Dr. Hauff and Sheila made brilliant splashes of colour. Gipsy Queen, Rose Ash, Energy, Thomas Edison, Isis, Xanthia, and Joe Coleman were of all-round merit.

Gladioli were also shown by Messrs. H. Langridge and Mr. Alfred Edwards. The former exhibited varieties of such as

Digitized by Google

Mrs. Frank Pendleton, Odin, Golden West and Brilliant of the large-flowered type, together with Souvenir and Psyche among the primulinus hybrids. Graceful spikes of gladioli belonging to the primulinus section formed the exhibit of Mr. A. Edwards. Varieties of the most artistic shades had been selected, a few examples of which are Topsy, Niobe, Daphne and Hermione.

Roses, carnations and hardy flowers were shown by several of the leading firms. Mr. B. Ladhams showed among a general collection of herbaceous flowers a number of his hardy perennial lobelias, which are not only beautiful but most valuable border plants. Hamwood Pink, Mauve Queen and Purple Emperor were three fine varieties. New sidalceas and dahlias were staged by Mr. H. Hemsley. Mr. M. Prichard included several exceedingly fine montbretias in his group of hardy flowers. Lilium tigrinum japonicum, Eryngium planum, Campanula Tymondsi and Armeria Bees' Ruby were all in good form on this stand. A number of plants which deserve greater popularity were exhibited by Mr. G. Reuthe. Catananche cærulea, Stokesia cyanea with its large decorative blue flowers and Bocconia microcarpa with its fine foliage were noted. Dahlias of all types were exhibited by Messrs. J. Cheal, and aquatics and bog plants by Mr. Amos Perry.

One of the features of the meeting was the superb exhibit of orchids from the garden of Baron Bruno Schröder, The Dell Park, Englefield Green, Surrey, which gained a gold medal, accompanied by a silver-gilt Lindley medal to Mr. J. E. Shill in recognition of his skilful cultivation. The group contained over a hundred specimen plants of Cattleya Hardyana, bearing upwards of 500 flowers, all with white sepals and petals and a bright purple lip. Some of the plants had three spikes of bloom, and there were several instances of six flowers on a spike. The central area was filled with numerous well flowered plants of Cattleya Harold (Warscewiczii × Gaskelliana), while in front were some of the new yellow coloured hybrids. Arranged at intervals were four grand specimens of Cypripedium Maudiæ, each with about thirty flowers, proving the suitability of the fibre and moss compost.

Messrs. Sanders staged a group composed principally of summer-flowering species, including Lycaste Deppei, L. leucantha and Epidendrum Brassavolæ, brownish-yellow, the white lip tipped with purple. Dendrobium Victoriæ Reginæ, with flowers of slate blue colour, and D. regium, rose purple, came in for appreciation, as also did a well flowered example of Aerides falcatum. An interesting hybrid was seen in Spathoglottis edinensis (Fortunei × pulchra), raised in the Botanic Garden, Edinburgh.

Messrs. Stuart Low and Co had a select lot of attractive hybrids, including the singular Cattleya Suavior var. Aquinii, with peloric-like markings of purple on the tips of the petals; an unusually dark variety of Cattleya Hardyana; Lælio-Cattleya Ortega var. Ruby, of ruby crimson colour throughout; Odontoglossum Alcimeda, flowering out of season; and the prettily marked Odontioda Joan.

Mr. W. van Deventer, The Hague, Holland, sent a cut spike of Vanda Marguerite Maron, which the Committee considered was a very much finer variety than the original hybrid of this name.

NEW AND RARE PLANTS.

AWARDS OF MERIT.

CUPRESSUS TAMARICIFOLIA TILGATE VARIETY.—As its specific name implies the foliage of this dwarf form of cypress is rather graceful and feathery in character. The scale-like leaves are all more or less flattened in the one plane, giving a frond-like effect. In colour they are of a light glaucous green. It is a dwarf grower, reaching some 2ft. and of rather elegant habit if allowed to grow freely, spreading over a flattish rock in the rock garden or planted in a group in a bed or on a grass slope, where its branches fall over gracefully, giving a raised bed of foliage. Shown by Mr. Hemsley, Crawley.

SATYRIUM AUREUM.—An interesting representative of this genus of terrestrial orchids carrying dense spikes of medium sized light orange yellow flowers. On the reverse the flowers show a deeper orange than the interior. The leaves are few and many occur at the base of the stem. It is a form which is adapted for cultivation in a warm greenhouse. Shown by Mr. Amos Perry, Enfield.

ACHIMENES DWARF PINK.—A most attractive and decorative garden form of this genus of the gesnerads, which of late years has been much improved by continued hybridisation. The flowers are long and tubular and of a rich deep pink shade, which contrasts most effectively with the neat light green toothed and hairy leaves. It is a variety which should prove extremely handsome in a cool greenhouse in late summer, unlike many others which bloom earlier on. Shown by Messrs. Sutton and Sons, Reading.

SPHÆRALCEA FENDLERI HASCOMBE ORANGE.—An interesting form of this sub-shrubby perennial, bearing more cup-shaped flowers than that of the type. The flowers are of an attractive orange tone which stands out well from the greyish green foliage. Shown by Mr. C. T. Musgrave, Godalming.

GLADIOLUS KELWAY'S DEFIANCE.—A strong growing large flowered variety bearing well flowered spikes, having flowers some 4ins. across. The petals are of considerable substance and of a rich scarlet in colour with veining and shading in the lower petal. It is a variety which should look extremely well either in the border in the garden or in a vase in the house. Shown by Messrs. Kelways, Langport.

PHLOX VICARY'S VICTORY.—A variety carrying medium sized trusses of large deep pink flowers and a lighter eye. It is a good bright colour and should be most effective in a clump in the garden border.

PHLOX MRS. EDWIN BECKETT.—The flowers of this variety are of a delicate pink, showing a narrow deeper veining with a conspicuous darker eye.

PHLOX HON. MILDRED GIBBS.—The flowers are of an attractive mauve to violet shade, shading to white in the centre. It is of a shade which is rather inclined to change in bright sunshine.

PHLOX ENCHANTMENT.—A variety which ought to become popular, with flowers of a delicate rich cream pink, with a much deeper crimson eye, giving the flower some character. It represents quite a new break in colour.

PHLOX ANNIE LAURIE.—The flowers are of a delicate salmon pink and are large in size with overlapping shell-like petals. A deep mauve pink eye is most attractive.

All these phloxes were shown by the Hon. Vicary Gibbs (gardener, Mr. E. Beckett), Aldenham House Gardens, Elstree.

GARDEN TECHNIQUE

A BUSH OF MIGNONETTE.

AN interesting plant for the cool greenhouse or room garden is the bush of mignonette. As is well known, mignonette (Reseda odorata), although commonly grown as an annual, will really develop on the lines of a shrub. In such a state the bush flowers profusely for the greater part of the year providing it is shielded from anything like severe frost. The manner in which a bush of mignonette is secured is simple enough. In August select a strong-growing plant in the border, choosing one that has grown in a shapely manner. Pinch away all the flowers and also carefully remove any seed vessels. After this let the plant alone for a few days and then carefully pot up in light soil. If the weather is very dry, soak the soil round the plant a few hours before lifting. It is important to carry out the removal with as little root disturbance as possible. When potting arrange plenty of drainage and press the soil down firmly.

For a few days keep the plant in a cool, shady position and water as required. With ordinary care the mignonette should not suffer from the removal, and the plant will soon settle down into its new quarters. Now remove to a light sunny position. If plenty of water is given, the specimen may be left out of doors in the full sunshine right to the end of the summer season. For a time any attempts to flower should be checked, and this will encourage the formation of a bushy growth. Eventually the mignonette will develop on the lines of a little shrub with a woody stem. From this plant flowers can be picked all through the winter, and the following season there will be a wonderful profusion of bloom. To retain the bushy habit seed setting must be prevented and the dead flowers should be regularly removed.

A bush of mignonette may be grown directly from seed with a small amount of trouble. Here a few seeds are scattered in a pot of soil. At this season of the year the little plants will come up quickly and, when these have developed, all but the most sturdy should be removed. These are grown on and, until the following spring, any tendency to develop flowers should be checked. Pinch out any straggling shoots in order to secure a shapely plant that will look like a neat shrub.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

BROMPTON AND OTHER STOCKS.

Raising from Seed.

IN the midland and southern counties I have never found it difficult to grow Brompton, East Lothian, Empress Elizabeth, Beauty of Nice and similar stocks in quite open quarters; nor in the northern counties where a little protection was afforded from north and east winds. The protection must not be such as to cause the young plants to be drawn up weakly. Two 9in. boards on edge placed between every third or fourth row will be sufficient, or a cold frame from which the lights can be entirely removed during open weather. It is a mistake to raise seedlings too early. I find the end of July a good time in northern and the middle of August equally suitable in southern counties. Instead of sowing the seeds in the open border, do so in boxes or in beds in cold frames. Provide good sound drainage, as the young plants soon turn yellow if the soil does not dry up in a normal way. Beware of wireworms; hand-pick the loam used if it comes recently from an old pasture or upland. Do not be tempted to use spent soil from pots or boxes, especially from boxes which are covered with fungus inside. Even treatment with fungoid killers may not be very successful. Good fibrous loam two parts, sweet leaf-soil one part and old mortar rubble one part will form an ideal compost. Sow the seeds thinly on a watered surface, cover lightly and water carefully at all times. Be sure you transplant when the seedlings are tiny and always select those possessing small, rounded seed leaves, as such generally denote double flowers and very strong plants single flowers.—G. G.

Digitized by Google

IRIS

of the June-flowering family

THEY are worth thinking of ahead—ordering early and planting at the best time, in July or early August. Put in then, the plants get their toes in before the winter comes. Take steps to order them **now.** Either buy the low-priced collection of excellent varieties offered below for **7/6** the twelve plants or send for our catalogue and make your own selection.

June-flowering Iris:—

Alcazar	Lavender blue and violet.
Archeveque ..	Reddish violet and deep violet.
Caprice	Reddish mauve and deep rosy red.
Dawn	Sulphur yellow, veined bronze.
Her Majesty ..	Pale rose and deep red.
Lohengrin ..	Cattleya mauve.
Mdm. Chereau ..	White, frilled azure blue.
Mrs. H. Darwin ..	White, faintly marked violet.
Mrs. Neubronner	Golden yellow.
Oriflamme ..	Pure blue and blue purple.
Prosper Laugier ..	Bronzy cinnamon and velvety crimson.
Rhein Nixe ..	White and violet purple.

One plant each of the 12 varieties, **7/6** post paid.

Have you seen our Hardy Plant Catalogue? It is better than most.

Bakers

FLOWER FARM

CODSALL

Near Wolverhampton

KATAKILLA

The Popular Insecticide

NON-POISONOUS

Harmless to human beings and domestic animals.

DEADLY TO APHIS AND CATERPILLARS ON FRUIT, FLOWERS AND VEGETABLES.

In powder form, ready for mixing with water.

2/- cartons (to make 10 gallons wash)

6/- cartons (to make 50 gallons wash)

OF ALL AGENTS

COOPER, McDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, LTD. BERKHAMSTED

SCHIZANTHUS.

How to Raise and Grow Fine Plants.

THIS is a half-hardy annual, and should be treated as such from the seedling to the flowering stage. It is an easy plant to grow, and on this account, perhaps, its early culture was not attended with the success that the beauty of the plant deserved. During recent years the strains have been greatly improved, and we now possess some very beautiful ones, the richness of the flowers fully warranting them being called butterfly flowers. The present is a suitable time for seed sowing. Sow the seed in a shallow pan well drained and filled with a compost of fibrous loam, leaf-soil and coarse sand or old mortar rubble reduced to a fine powder, then it can be evenly mixed with the soil. Level the soil in the pan, then water it and sow the seeds evenly about one hour afterwards, cover them lightly with fine soil, but do not water afterwards. Simply place a square of glass and some brown paper on the pan, keeping the latter in a frame or on a shelf in a greenhouse until the seeds have germinated. Then gradually expose the seedlings to the full light and admit plenty of air. The first transplanting should be done into small pots, one seedling in each pot, so that there will not be any disturbance of the roots when the plants are repotted. Use a similar compost throughout, only in a rougher condition at the final potting. One plant in a pot is sufficient, some in 6in. and the strongest specimens in 7in. pots. Always pot firmly after the first potting. The right time to feed is when the pots are filling with roots and flower-buds are forming. These plants like plenty of light and air. They do remarkably well during the winter months on a sunny shelf in a greenhouse.—GEORGE GARNER.

WINTER GREENS.

THE way to succeed with winter greens is to have a deep rooting medium—that is, soil trenched or broken up to a good depth, not less than 18ins., and then moderately firmed while the ground is fairly dry; to get sturdy plants established before the month of December; and to grow the best strains. The best cannot be had from a shallow, poor soil. If soil is prepared in July and August after peas or potatoes have been cleared away, it will become quite firm enough before real frosty weather sets in. Where the position is partly shaded the cultivator is somewhat handicapped, as the plants get overdrawn, leggy and sappy. To help plants in such cases do not plant them as closely as those in a quite open part of the garden, and grow more kale, Brussels sprouts and sprouting broccoli in the shaded plots than cabbages and broccoli—those that will form leaves and shoots rather than those that are to form hearts. If the garden is situated in a valley or near rivers or large sheets of water, frost will do more harm than to plants grown on higher ground, so it is advisable to leave sufficient space between the rows to allow earthing up of stems in good time, as the frost always injures the stems just below the main leaves first.—G. G.

EARLY-FLOWERING HYACINTHS.

AS soon as bulbs can be obtained in August or September they may be potted up or put in boxes thickly, the compost consisting of any good porous mixture containing loam, leaf-soil and sand. They are then put into any suitable plunging material for at least six weeks, or until they fill the soil with roots; this will be indicated by vigorous top growth. After that they are taken to a frost-proof frame and, finally, inside the greenhouse. A brisk bottom heat when the buds show will bring them into flower early in December if need be. The elegant, graceful flowers are thus easily obtained in plenty by Christmas-time.

The common variety grown is the Single White, a sweetly scented flower beloved by all. The pink sort is less frequently grown, and is not so fine a flower; the blue also can be had, but it is scarcely worth growing. Italian hyacinths are even better than the Roman, but it is difficult getting them in time for the festive season: however, some should be grown, if only to prolong the season of these delightful flowers. Specially prepared Dutch Romans (what a name?) are being strongly pushed on the market nowadays. There is no difficulty in having them, too, in flower by Christmas, but many do not care for them as they do for the true Romans.—LANARKSHIRE.

CYCLAMEN.

Cultural Notes.

CORMS that have been rested for a time in pots should now receive a thorough watering if it has not already been applied. Place the pots upright outside or in a cold frame for this purpose. Directly the new growth seems to be free and before the new roots are very long shake away the old soil carefully from them and repot the plants in smaller pots. Use a compost of good mellow loam two-thirds, sweet leaf-soil one-third and very coarse sand to ensure the free passage of water. Provide good drainage and clean pots. Place the coarser portion of the compost in the bottom of the pot and finish the work of potting by having the top of the corm clear of the surface of the soil and nearly 1in. space to hold water.

The daily treatment of the plants should be even, that is, they should be placed on a bed of ashes, these being damped in dry weather, the frame ventilated to maintain an even temperature and the plants also watered carefully. For about two weeks after the plants are potted the frame should be kept closed or nearly so and the glass lightly shaded when the sun shines, then gradually ventilate freely. It will then be time to make a sowing of seeds in a pan in a similar compost. Drop the seeds singly about half an inch apart and cover them almost that depth. A suitable position for the seed pan is a shelf near the roof glass where the resultant seedlings will get plenty of light without being exposed to the direct rays of the sun.—HANTS.

HARDY ANNUALS.

Sowing for Early Flowering.

MANY generations ago the kinds and varieties of annuals were very few and the plants were grown in odd corners, often at the ends of rows of potatoes or in batches in the border by the side of the flagged path. To-day we grow them by the hundred thousand in every district and, with no less keen interest, smaller numbers in restricted town gardens.

Most of us know that the most popular annual, the sweet pea, flowers best and longest when the seeds are sown in the autumn, Nigella Miss Jekyll, candytuft, calendula, Clarkia elegans, godetias, annual larkspur, poppy, lupin and several others may be raised from seeds sown in an open but sheltered border—sheltered from north and east winds. Raised in this way, cornflowers will be available for cut flowers at an early date. It is a mistake to try to grow annuals well in a shallow soil; the plants thrive best in a deeply dug or actually trenched soil, and one that is fairly rich. Autumn trenching should always be the rule, too, for all the spring-sown annuals. Prepare some nice sifted soil for placing in the seed drills and also for covering the seeds. Guard against slugs, and be sure there is no overcrowding. Thin out according to the size of the foliage.

SPECIAL OFFER!

LILIUM REGALE

The Finest of all Hardy Garden Lilies

Strong flowering bulbs	**1/6**	each;	**16/-**	doz.
Extra „ „	**2/6**	„	**27/6**	„
Very large selected bulbs	**3/6**	„	**38/-**	„

Orders at these prices booked now for **DELIVERY IN OCTOBER.**
Carriage free on a dozen Bulbs and over.

Our Iris and Bulb Catalogues are now ready and will be forwarded post free on application. The latter contains a more extensive offer of LILIES than any other Catalogue, with full cultural directions.

R. WALLACE & CO., LTD.

The Old Gardens - - - **TUNBRIDGE WELLS**

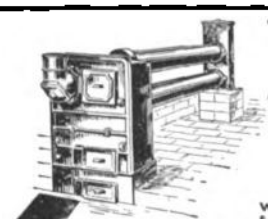
SWEET PEAS AND HOW TO EXCEL WITH THEM. By Horace Wright. 9d. net, by post 11d. Published at the Offices of "Country Life," Limited 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

MANURES.—The most complete little book on the subject is "The Manual of Manures," by H. Vendelmans, 4/5; by post, 4/9. Published at the Offices of "Country Life," Limited, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

The Seaside Planting of Trees and Shrubs

By Alfred Gaut, F.R.H.S. 28 Illustrations. 5/- net. By post, 5/6.

"Country Life" Library, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden London, W.C.2.



Paying Points about "STOURBRIDGE" Greenhouse Boilers

No. 1.

They burn without attention for 12—14 hours.

Write at once for special price. State size of house. Address Dept. 3.

J. & W. WOOD LTD Stourbridge

SELECTED DUTCH BULBS

JOHN B. VANDERSCHOOT,

The Old Established Bulb Farms, HILLEGOM, HOLLAND

Established 1830.

Own extensive Bulb Farms (comprising over 400 acres) of Hyacinths, Tulips, Narcissi and Daffodils, Crocuses, Irises, &c.

Richly illustrated descriptive Catalogue free on application.

For success in your Garden USE

THOMSON'S MANURES

On the market for over 50 years, they still hold first place for QUALITY and RESULTS. They are safe, sure and lasting. The direct result of many years' practical experience in gardening, they stand unrivalled at the present day for all Garden Crops.

Prices:—**VINE, PLANT AND VEGETABLE MANURE**—a Perfect Food—1 cwt., **30/-**; 56 lb., **16/-**; 28 lb., **9/-**; 14 lb., **5/-**; 7 lb., **3/-**; tins, **1/3** and **9d.** **SPECIAL TOP DRESSING MANURE**—an excellent stimulant—56 lb., **17/-**; 28 lb., **9/6**; 14 lb., **5/6**; 7 lb., **3/-**; tins, **1/3**. **Carriage paid on 28 lbs. and up.**

WRITE FOR OUR BOOKLET—POST FREE ON REQUEST.

SOLD BY NURSERYMEN AND SEEDSMEN EVERYWHERE.

Or from Sole Makers, WM. THOMSON & SONS, TWEED VINEYARDS, CLOVENFORDS, SCOTLAND

Please mention The Garden *when writing.*

THE LEADING GLASS HOUSE FU

THOUSANDS OF TOMATO CROPS ENTIRELY
No alterations needed since first introduced.
Be satisfied with the best, it is the cheapest in the
Commended by the Royal Horticultural Society.

Cubic ft.	1,000	2,000	4,000	8,000	16,000	32,000
	10d.	1/3	2/-	3/6	6/-	10/6

Also in 2, 5 and 10 gall. FREE drums;
ALSO

SAFETY FIRST ANIMALS AND PE

Non-caustic; colourless; ... ernells; kills the roots; ... to arsenical compounds.

TINS, 1/- 2/- 3/6 6/6 12/-
for 4 12½ 25 50 100

SPECIAL. For Parks ... Recreation Grounds—in ... From Nurserymen and Seed...

CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, London, S.

The Amateur Seri

RHODODENDRONS FO AMATEURS

By E. H. M. COX. *Editor of* The Ga... Demy 8vo. Illustrated. 5s. net.

BULBS FOR AMATEU

By the Rev. JOSEPH JACOB. Demy ... Illustrated. 5s. net.

HERBACEOUS BORDE FOR AMATEURS

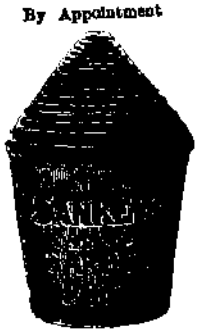
By R. V. GIFFARD WOOLLEY. De... 8vo. Illustrated. 5s. net.

A combined Prospectus will be sent on applica...

"Country Life," Ltd., 20, Tavistock S... Covent Garden, London, W.C.2

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World

By Appointment



THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

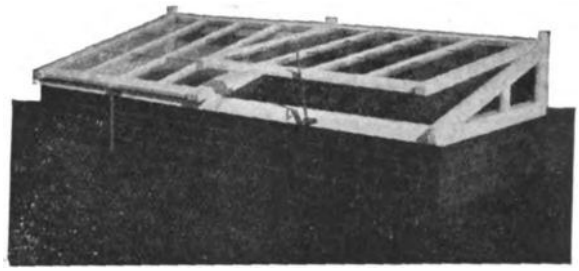
RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.,
Royal Potteries,
BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM.

Please mention The Garden *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

ON GLASSHOUSES

THE glasshouse is such an important adjunct to the average establishment that the selection of the most suitable type for any particular purpose or position is a subject worthy of considerable thought and attention. Rightly planned and placed, the greenhouse, if worked in conjunction with cold frames and the general garden, will provide not only many opportunities for interesting horticultural study, but also a medium by which many varieties of fruit, flowers and vegetables can be obtained in all seasons; while a well designed conservatory or winter garden is an architectural feature which will give a distinctive appearance to any residence. The object of this article is to help the uninitiated in the matter of selection of a suitable structure. Broadly speaking, ordinary greenhouses may be divided into two distinct types, the span-roof and the lean-to roof. For general purposes the former type is, perhaps, more satisfactory, and it should be built in an open spot. If possible it should run from north to south in order that each side will obtain the maximum amount of sunlight in the morning and afternoon respectively. If space is a consideration, however, and there exists a convenient wall against which a lean-to house can be built, then its services can be very well utilised and, as the wall will form a ready-made back, a considerable saving in initial cost can be effected. It will usually be found that plants grown in a house of this description are apt to grow over, away from the back wall, it being their natural inclination to face the light. In the case of pot plants this will necessitate the continual turning of the pots if well shaped and evenly balanced plants are desired. This is a fault which is not noticed in a span-roof house, for here the light will be found to be practically equal from all angles of the house. Another important point in favour of the span-roof type is the fact that it lends itself to more even ventilation than does the lean-to structure; while by the judicious use of blinds or shades it is possible at all times to protect tender plants or seedlings from the glare of the sun without altogether shutting them off from the daylight. The lean-to is, perhaps, more suited for growing vines, wall fruits, climbing roses, etc., and if in summer it becomes too hot for flowers, an ideal crop will be found in the tomato. The ventilation of all houses is an item of paramount importance, and provision should be made for hinged lights at regular intervals in both sides and roof. It is preferable that the ventilators in the roof should not come immediately in line over those in the sides in order that a more even flow of air can be obtained over the whole of the house if desired. While it is possible to arrange for all these ventilators to work from one crank, it is preferable that they should work independently of one another in order that the flow of cool air can be regulated in any part of the house should strong, damaging winds arise. The actual construction is undoubtedly the most important feature of all, for it is upon this that the longevity of the house and the success of the cultivation therein will depend. The building of a glasshouse is a task beyond the powers of the average handyman and, while the local joiner can occasionally be trusted with minor repairs, he seldom possesses either the up-to-date plant or the wide experience which is necessary to produce the ideal house. Only expert knowledge and long experience can successfully deal with the problems of greenhouse construction. The foundations, wood and other materials used, method of glazing, ventilation, heating, etc., are all of vital importance in a building which suffers so much from change of temperature and exposure, and is so largely composed of glass. Unless constructed on the right lines, the building is bound to become a constant source of trouble and expense. In this respect it is far better to deal with a reliable firm which specialises in this particular subject and which is content to stake its reputation on the quality of its products. Any well known firm is always glad to send any interested enquirer illustrated catalogues and specifications of really good class houses to suit all purposes, and is also prepared to submit advice, designs and quotations for the larger and more elaborate conservatory or winter garden. The patent metallic frame glasshouses are familiar to most visitors to the large shows and, while they are a little more expensive in initial cost, they repay for the increased outlay in that they are practically indestructible once they are erected, providing they are regularly painted and kept in good condition, and, what is of still more importance, they ensure a greater amount of light reaching the plants. At the recent Chelsea Show several specimen metal houses were on view, and the construction certainly left little to be desired in the matter of durability or appearance.



A MODEL FRAME FOR THE AMATEUR GARDENER.

Having acquired his glasshouse, it behoves the owner to exercise a little thought and care on its upkeep. A periodical survey should be made occasionally and a watchful eye kept on the condition of the framework. If the outside of the structure is painted every three years and the inside every five years, the woodwork should keep in excellent condition for an indefinite time, but once the water is allowed to enter decay is bound to follow sooner or later. Carson's "Vitrolite" is a paint specially manufactured for conservatory and greenhouse work, and it can be strongly recommended for this purpose.

A. J. C.

A "TENANT'S FIXTURE" GREENHOUSE SUITABLE FOR A SMALL GARDEN.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

"Hampton Court Gardens, Old and New," by Ernest Law. (Messrs. Geo. Bell and Son, Limited, price 3s. 6d.). An interesting descriptive survey, together with a historical and horticultural account of these royal gardens. The full layout of the garden is described, and detailed schemes are given of all the bedding and border arrangements in the gardens, so that to the keen visitor it will form a guide to the gardens of inestimable value. Apart altogether from its value as a guide, the amateur gardener will find it extremely useful as an aid in selecting certain varieties of plants for seasonal exhibition in his own garden. It is a little book well worth possessing.

"The Journal of the Edinburgh Royal Botanic Garden Guild," Vol I, Part II. All former members of the staff of the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, will be pleased to see the reappearance of this Journal.

Digitized by Google

the first number of which was published in 1914, and it is to be hoped that the energy and enthusiasm of the present Committee of the Guild who have made its re-publication possible, will be amply rewarded by a great increase in the membership of the Guild. May we say it is the duty of every old member of the staff to belong to the Guild, and to do what little they can to promote its activities. It exists for a worthy object, namely to keep former and present members of the staff, no matter where they may be, in touch with one another, and in the Journal, which we hope will be published annually, will be found the names and present addresses of those former members of the staff who have been traced. It is the intention of the Secretary, once the Guild gets under way, to publish letters and short articles from members, to make the Journal still more interesting. The present issue takes the form of a war memorial number and should be in the hands of all the many student gardeners who have passed through Edinburgh. All former members of the staff who are not yet members of the Guild should communicate with the Secretary, Mr. A. McCutcheon, Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

The season of bulbs is with us once again and the first bulb catalogue we have to record is that of Messrs. Carters of Raynes Park. It is an extensive list, copiously illustrated and offers a wide variety of bulbous plants for present planting. Detailed cultural hints are given in the case of almost every flower, so that the amateur has only to purchase and follow the directions given in the catalogue to have a fine show of flowers in next year's spring garden. Those who are desirous of planting in pots or bowls for house decoration would do well to get straight ahead with planting. The sooner the bulbs are in their bowls, the sooner will they flower. While those who prefer planting outside, can take a few days leisure to go through the pages of this interesting list and select those they wish for planting at the end of this month or beginning of next. Collections of choice bulbs are offered at reasonable prices and the section devoted to Christmas and Easter flowers is especially large this year, indicating the increasing demand for this class of plant. A section on lawns, with particulars of autumn treatment, will also be found in the catalogue.

Messrs. G. Bunyard and Co., Limited, Maidstone. An illustrated catalogue which will interest every fruit grower has been sent to us by this firm, whose fame as fruit specialists has spread far and wide. The detailed and accurate descriptions of each variety should make this catalogue of value as a work or reference alone. Messrs. Bunyard pay special attention to the stock used for their fruit, and one can rest assured that only the most suitable stock is used and that it is always true. For apples the Paradise stock they use is the true Broad Leaf of Rivers, which they have proved by many years' experience to be the best for general purposes. The question of pollination of cherries and plums is also dealt with and lists of varieties which should be planted together for mutual pollination are given.

Other catalogues which have since been received are those from:

Messrs. Little and Ballantyne, Carlisle, bulbs, roses and fruit trees.

Messrs. Wm. Cutbush and Son, Ltd., Barnet, bulbs and forcing plants. A well illustrated list.

Messrs. Fisher, Son and Sibray, Limited, two lists, one devoted purely to bulbs, the other to hardy trees, shrubs, roses and fruit trees, for general planting.

GARDENING OF THE WEEK

FOR SOUTHERN GARDENS.

THE KITCHEN GARDEN.

At this period the scarlet runner is a most useful vegetable, and the plants should be encouraged by keeping the roots well supplied with water. Even when the weather is showery a thorough soaking will be an advantage, because the foliage has a tendency to throw off the rain from the roots. Keep the pods picked off when young, unless the crop is intended for seed. Tomato plants growing in the open should have their tops removed. Several trusses of fruit have set, and they will be as many as will ripen before the bad weather. If the plants are growing in good garden soil, no stimulants will be needed, but clear water will be helpful during a dry period. Continue to cut out all side growths. Vegetable marrows are growing freely, and here it is not expedient to allow the fruits to become old; if so, the free-bearing qualities of the plant will be reduced. Feed those producing heavy crops with liquid manure or some fertiliser once each week. Early beets, such as the turnip-rooted variety, may be lifted directly the roots are large enough for the kitchen and stored in sand or ashes. Lettuce plants as they attain a suitable size should be planted out in a sheltered border. Early carrots are also ready for lifting. If left in the ground after reaching maturity many of the roots will split, which will impair their keeping qualities. Where young carrots are in demand and the necessary cold frames are available, a sowing of a stump-rooted variety can be made. These will be ready for the kitchen towards the end of the year.

THE FRUIT GARDEN.

Both peaches and nectarines are approaching the ripening stage, and to prevent loss of fruit by dropping examine the trees daily, picking all the fruits that may be ready for removal. The fruits should be fully exposed to the sunlight, and this is done by removing a few leaves or placing them on one side. See that new growth is carefully tied in and all lateral shoots pinched out. It is the latter that will shade the fruits if allowed to develop. Morello cherries are suitable for planting in positions where many fruits would prove a failure, and this year some specimens have carried excellent crops. When the fruit is gathered the annual pruning can take place, but this will not be a big task if due attention has been paid to disbudding. The main branches are left intact unless they show signs of decay, when such parts must be cut out. Discard as much of the old fruiting wood as possible, and tie in the current season's growth. If red spider is present, give the foliage a thorough cleansing with an approved insecticide. By pruning now the new growths will have a chance to become consolidated by due exposure to light and air, and such wood may be expected to produce crops of first-rate quality next year. All fruits on walls, such as plums, must be protected from birds, and if wasps are troublesome a few jars of sweetened beer placed here and there will account for many of these destructive insects.

Lawns.—Although the spring is a good time to sow grass seeds for making a lawn, good results can be obtained by sowing about the end of this month. Lawns and sports grounds can also have worn patches or thin grass put right directly play has ceased and before the bad weather arrives. Choose a mixture of lawn grass seeds from a reliable firm and when sown protect it from birds.

THE FLOWER GARDEN.

Roses.—Many roses will succeed on their own roots, and this remark applies strongly to the rambler section. During the next few weeks cuttings may be inserted in sandy soil on a partially shaded border. The cuttings are from 6ins. to 8ins. in length, and they consist of partially ripened shoots made this year. Usually the centre portion is chosen. With the ramblers a lot of wood suitable for cuttings will be found among the prunings. Sprinkle the bed over occasionally with clear water, and if the weather proves dry afford sufficient moisture to avoid any shrivelling of the cuttings.

Doronicums.—For early flowering the leopard's bane is very acceptable either for the border or cutting purposes. Now is a very good time to lift and divide them and plant in their permanent stations.

Chepstow. T. W. BRISCOE.

CONSERVATORY AND GREENHOUSE.

Richardia africana, which is so useful for a supply of white flowers for cutting during winter and spring, should now be repotted. All the old soil should be shaken off the roots, repotting them in a rich compost of good loam, rotten manure, leaf-soil and sufficient sand to keep the whole open and porous. Strong plants may be placed singly in 6in. or 7in. pots. Where large specimens are required three or four plants may be placed in 10in. or 12in. pots. Where they have been planted out in trenches for the summer they should be lifted and potted as advised about the second week of September. After potting, they should be stood in a deep frame, where the lights can be placed over them during spells of wet weather. Later on, as required, they should be placed in a warm house for forcing.

Nerines, which start the season with the brilliant N. Fothergilli var. major, are deserving of much more general cultivation. They should now be overhauled, examining the bulbs for mealy bug, which often proves troublesome. After cleaning they should be stood on a bench or shelf in a cool greenhouse. Usually no water is necessary at the root until they are in flower and begin to show signs of growth. Nerines usually flower best when the pots are crowded with bulbs, and repotting is not necessary so long as they are in good condition at the root. When repotting is necessary it is best done about this time. The compost should consist of a good loam, with the addition of a little leaf-soil and enough sand to keep the whole open and porous. A 5in. potful of bone meal may be added to every bushel of compost. After repotting, water at the root must be very carefully afforded until a quantity of new roots and growth is made. Too much water at the root after repotting is the most common cause of failure when dealing with bulbous plants.

Lachenalias, another beautiful genus of South African bulbous plants, of which there are many fine varieties, should be repotted during September. Unlike nerines, they should be repotted every year, otherwise they require the same cultural treatment. They are best grown in small pots, 5in. being a suitable size. Place four or five bulbs in a pot. Bulbs that are too small for flowering should be grown on in pans. With good cultivation they should make good flowering bulbs for next year. Lachenalias may be grown quite well in cold frames, but it is an advantage if they can be removed to a cool, airy greenhouse when they are developing their flowers.

Veltheimia viridifolia.—Where stocks of this plant exist they should now be taken in hand and started into growth. If in good condition at the root repotting is not necessary every year, and as it increases by offshoots, the side bulbs should not be detached every year, for if potted on as they require it they in time make fine large specimens. If it is desired to increase the stock the side bulbs can, of course, be detached when they part easily from the parent bulb. Stock can also be raised from seed, but it takes from three to four years for the bulbs to attain flowering size. Although this plant is not showy, it generally appeals to lovers of choice plants.

Aristea corymbosa.—This beautiful blue-flowered plant belongs to the Natural Order Iridæ, and is peculiar in being of a hard woody character. It is by no means easy to propagate successfully, but, in common with many other hard-wooded plants, now is a good time to insert cuttings. For this purpose the side shoots should be carefully detached from the woody stock and inserted in well drained pots of fine sandy peat. After being well watered the pots should be stood under a bell-glass in a cool greenhouse. It may also be rooted very successfully in a shallow sand bed placed on the top of a raised bed in a cool greenhouse. The rooted cuttings require very careful handling, as the brittle, fleshy roots are very easily damaged. This plant succeeds in a well drained compost consisting of three parts lumpy sandy peat and one of light loam. Careful watering at the root is essential at all times.

Begonias.—Winter-flowering varieties, as represented by the Gloire de Lorraine section, should be potted on as they require it. A quantity of late-rooted plants should be retained

Kew. J. COUTTS.

Digitized by Google

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then, together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices :—

Tins 10d. and 1/6
and in **Branded and Sealed Bags :**
7 lbs. - 3/6 14 lbs. - 6/-
28 lbs. - 10/- 56 lbs. - 18/-
112 lbs. - 32/-

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers, etc. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**

WILLMOTT
Rival Plant Stake
(Patented No. 183779).
As used in Royal Botanic Gardens London and Cambridge.
For all plants. WILL NOT ROT, WEAR OUT OR BREAK.
Sample of eight sizes,
2/- car. pd. United Kingdom.
4/- Overseas.

J. GREENWOOD, F.R.H.S., Proprietor,
BRACKNELL, Berks.

RAIN
means wet feet
unless your Boots*
have Uppers of
"Beva" WATERPROOF LEATHER

*Look for the "Beva" on the looping.

The Perfect Sun Blind for Glasshouses

Cannot rot or perish.
Easily fixed and removed.
Admits ample light.
Economical in wear.

SEND FOR SPECIAL ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE

ESSENGER & CO., LTD, LOUGHBOROUGH LEICESTERSHIRE
LONDON OFFICE: 122, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

BY APPOINTMENT TO H.M. THE KING

KILL THOSE WEEDS

Nothing is more wearisome and unsatisfactory than hoeing and hand-picking weeds. Why not save your time, your back and your temper by letting

COOPER'S
WEEDICIDE

Do the Work for YOU

("*Highly Commended*" *by the Royal Horticultural Society of Great Britain after practical tests.*)

One gallon dilutes to 100 gallons of water and is sufficient for treating 300 to 400 square yards. The cost of the ready-for-use mixture is, therefore, about 1d. per gallon.

Pint tins	1/9	2 gallon drum	17/-
Quart ,,	3/-	5 ,, ,,	36/6
½ gallon drum	5/-	20 gallon cask	105/-
1 ,, ,,	9/-	40 ,, ,,	200/-

OF ALL AGENTS

Write for illustrated leaflet, "The Weed Problem Solved," gratis and post free from

COOPER, McDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, Ltd.
BERKHAMSTED, HERTS.

Digitized by Google

The Cultivation of Tobacco—No. 2.

Cleansing the Plants

EARLY in May the seedlings are planted in rows. It is estimated that 5,000 seedlings can be planted to the acre. The tender young plants are in great danger from parasites—bugs is the term used in America—and only by constant attention is it possible to produce the Ripe, Rich Virginia Leaf used in the making of

PLAYER'S

Navy Cut

TOBACCO & CIGARETTES

Regd. No. 154011.

P 1361.

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION

WAKELEY'S Celebrated HOP MANURE

(PATENTED)

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

A beautiful Free Booklet giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. GENUINE ONLY IN OUR MARKED BAGS, CONTAINING GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

Cash Prices, including bags: Small (about 1 bushel), 3/- : Large (about 4 bushels), 7/- : 5 Large 33/9
10 Large, 65/- : 20 Large, 120/-

Carriage Paid to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company. 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge, Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

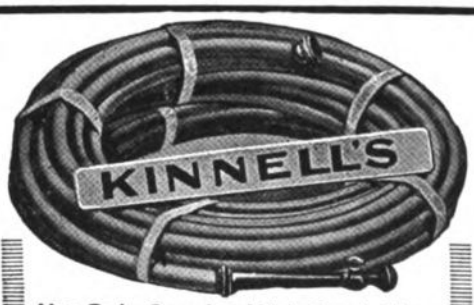
Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

WHY is "HOMES and GARDENS" such a Great Success?

BECAUSE it shows greater House Comfort & Convenience

—with less Labour and Expense.

Send to-day for a Free specimen Copy of this helpful and beautifully Illustrated Magazine to 20, Tavistock St., Covent Garden, W.C.2



Use Only Genuine High Grade Hose

FOR WEAR

"The No. 4 Hose I had from you 3 years ago appears to be in perfect condition, although neglected so much and left out exposed to all weathers.—Dr. D——, Fisheries Experimental Station, Conway. 14/6/26.

No. 4. "Kinnell" Branded, 60 ft. (fittings extra). ½ in., **39/9**; ¾ in., **47/6**; 1 in., **54/10**; 1 in., **70/9**. Also highest grade Long Length Hose. List E118 and Samples Free.

CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD.
65, 65a, Southwark St., London, S.E.1
Phone: Hop 0362. *Wire: Kinnell-Boroh, London*

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

BENTLEY'S WEED DESTROYER

(POISON) STANDS FOR

Strength Reliability Economy

Stronger than any other. One application keeps gravel paths and drives clean for nearly two years. Commands the largest sale both at home and abroad, with a rapidly spreading popularity.

REDUCED PRICES:

Concentrated Liquid (1 to 80)—1 gal. 6/9; 2 gals. 13/-; 3 gals. 18/9; 6 gals. 35/9; 12 gals. 69/-; 24gals. 134 3; 40gals. 218/3

Powder (1 to 25)—4 tins 9/3; 8 tins 17/10; 12 tins 25/6; 20 tins 40/9; 40 tins 78/-

BENTLEY'S QUASSIA EXTRACT

Compound Liquid (Non-poisonous)

Infallibly destroys Aphis in all its forms. It may be used anywhere and everywhere with absolute safety, and is the most economical of all Insecticides.

One gal. makes from 80 to 100 gals. of wash.

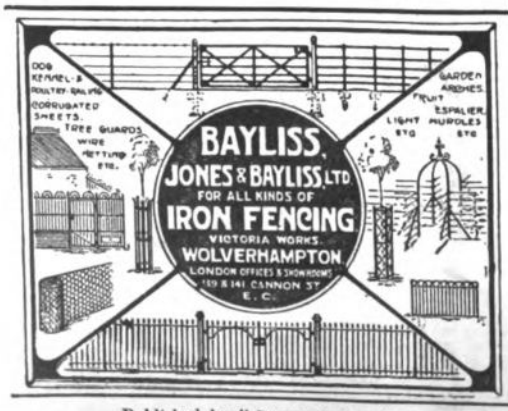
5 gals. 8/6 per gal.; 1 gall. 8/9; ½ gal. 5/-; 1 qt. 3/-; 1 pt. 1/9

Carriage paid on 15/- orders and upwards.

Sole Manufacturers:

JOSEPH BENTLEY LTD.
CHEMICAL WORKS,
BARROW-ON-HUMBER :: LINCS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*



THE PATTISSON HORSE BOOTS

SIMPLEST
STRONGEST
MOST ECONOMICAL

ONCE TRIED
ALWAYS USED

Fig. 2—Welted Pattern.

Fig. 1—For Shod Horses.
Best English Leather or Rubber Soles.
Used for many years in the Royal and in thousands of the Principal Gardens.
Silver Medals:—Royal Horticultural Society, 1904 and 1914
Royal International Horticultural Exhibition, 1912.
HUNDREDS OF TESTIMONIALS.

Fig. 2—No Welt Pattern

Illustrated Price Lists from the Makers:

H. PATTISSON & CO., STANMORE, MIDDLESEX

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS 56 & 57, Drury Lane London W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

SEP 8 1926

THE GARDEN

ORCHARD GARDEN WOODLAND

Vol. XC.—No. 2856 Saturday, August 28th, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

THE NEW SWEET PEA DELIGHTFUL, OF UNIQUE COLOURING, RAISED BY MR. BURPEE.

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
New Alpines and Perennials
Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD,
CHELSEA, S.W.
Bulb Catalogue Now Ready.

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

H. PRINS
BULB AND PLANT GROWERS
WISBECH, CAMBS.
Bulb list free on application

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
HULL
Weed Destroyers Fertilisers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND, SOIL FUME, NICOTINE, INSECTICIDES, FUMERS, SPRAYS, AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES – THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE WILL SEND DIRECT, CARRIAGE PAID

MANUFACTURED BY TOMLINSON & HAYWARD LTD. LINCOLN

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

KING'S ACRE STRAWBERRIES

New List of the Best Varieties, with helpful Cultural instructions, including all other useful Berries.

A most useful List, post free on application

KING'S ACRE NURSERIES, Ltd., Hereford

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Registered Trade Mark.

XL ALL Specialities

Have been the most popular Garden Requisites for the past 30 years.

XL ALL Liquid Nicotine Insecticide provides the finest solution for spraying plants and fruit trees.

XL ALL Nicotine Vaporising Fumigator either in Liquid or Cake, is still unsurpassed.

A New Introduction!

XL ALL Leaf Miner Insecticide for Marguerites, Chrysanthemums, Cinerarias, etc. An infallible remedy.

XL ALL New White Fly Vapour for use in Tomato Houses. One application kills every fly.

SUPPLIES TO BE OBTAINED FROM ALL NURSERYMEN, SEEDSMEN, FLORISTS, AND CHEMISTS.

Please ask for small Pink Price List, giving particulars of the above, and many other XL ALL Preparations.

Manufacturers:

G. H. RICHARDS LTD.,
234, Borough High St., London, S.E.1

Monomark: BCM/XLALL.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

BULBS

BEFORE ORDERING YOUR BULBS
Write for our
FULLY ILLUSTRATED DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE
OF THE
FINEST BULBS PROCURABLE
AT MODERATE PRICES
WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.
75B, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

BLOM FOR BULBS

Apply for Catalogue to—

Messrs. J. C. WHITNEY & Co.,
Eldon Street House, Eldon Street,
London, E.C. - - - *or to—*

WALTER BLOM & SON, LTD.
(Late of Overveen),
Hillegom, Holland.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

ATERER'S for the best in Bulbs for ng, bedding, naturalising. Colchicums, Autumn-flowering ses, etc. Roses. Fruit Trees, Strawberry Plants in pots pen ground runners, Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Flowering vergreen Shrubs, also Hedge-making Shrubs and Screening , Herbaceous and Alpine Plants. New catalogues now post free.—JOHN WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LIMITED, Nurseries, Twyford, Berks.

MALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODEN- NS on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and se Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write Catalogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

AKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE. e original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See rt. on page vi.

M. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., rence Road, South Tottenham, N.15. — Conservatories, ter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

RDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUN- LS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.— STON, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

NCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and den Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.— THE LEY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, ey.

EAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, atoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel- nded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 5 per mile (full 1,760 yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card ay for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S ERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

EMENTS' DUTCH BULBS. st Quality at Moderate Prices. Descriptive Catalogue taining over 700 Named Varieties, including various Novel- also Cultural Directions, sent post free. Please mention er.—V. D. CLEMENTS & Co., 12, Stockton Gardens, tenham, London, N.17.

RDER CARNATIONS. — 200 varieties, in 14 varieties, from 6/6, 50 in 50 ditto, from 25/-; age paid. Lists free. J. HAYWARD, Chace Gardens, kes Road, Purbrook, Cosham, Hants.

MP BARGAINS ! !—Brand new Army ps fully guaranteed. Big variety and many under cost make them! Cannot hope to repeat. Approval if desired. free. Post card.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 181 artment, Lytham.

IRE NETTING.—From 2/5 per 50yd. roll. apest House in the Kingdom. Write us for prices. usands of rolls stocked.

NTS. — Army Bell. All complete, new ings, deep walls, 60/- and 70/-. Scout Tents, 13/8. den, 50/-. Bathing, 33/-. Also Marquees. Write us for ces.

ARDEN HOSE.—Superior quality, 6oft.

ths.			
4in.	1-ply.	2-ply.	3-ply.
5in.	15/-	24/6	29/3
	24/6	29/3	35/2

Carriage paid. Approval.

AWN MOWERS.—Five Riveted Blades. sh Wheels. Brass Bushings. Close Cutting. Highly Finished. equalled Value. 8in., 20/6; 10in., 21/6; 12in., 22/6; 14in., -. Grass Boxes, 8/6 each. Garden Rollers, 30/-.

AMBOO CANES.—Strong, 3ft., 3/11; 4ft., 5ft., 10/11; 6ft., 14/6 per hundred. Carriage paid.—E. B. WTHORN, LIMITED, Dept. E, Shrewsbury.

BARR'S GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS.—The finest sorts for Pots, Bowls, Exhibition, Flower Borders and to naturalise. Also many new Seedling varieties, offered for the first time. Descriptive catalogue free.

BARR'S HYACINTHS, TULIPS, LILIES, CROCUSES, IRISES, etc., for pots and bedding. Finest quality. Descriptive catalogue, with special directions for the culture of Bulbs in Bowls, free.

BARR'S GOLD MEDAL IRISES for present planting. Descriptive Catalogue of the best Tall and Dwarf, early and late flowering varieties sent free on application.—BARR AND SONS, 11, 12 and 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx and perpetual habit. They flourish in the coldest parts of Britain. Extract, *The Times*: "Mr. Douglas is the leading raiser of this flower. His wonderful strain of new cloves is superb." Plant list now ready —J. DOUGLAS, Gt. Bookham.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial: The Result of Our Sweet Pea Competition	479
Tulips for the Garden	480
Daffodils to Grow in Woodland	481
The Poet's and Polyanthus Narcissi	483
Notes of the Week	484–485
Streak Disease in Sweet Peas; Tulips Growing in Grass; The Globe Thistle; A Novel Bedding Plant; The Kaffir Lily; Everlasting Flowers; Spiræa bracteata.	
Bulbs for Your Spring Garden	486
Comments on "The Garden" Sweet Pea Competition	488
The Bulb Garden: Forcing Hyacinths	488
Correspondence	489
Primulas; Rose Albéric Barbier; Hollyhock Rust; The Pink and Grey Garden; Feijoa Sellowiana; Silver Leaf in Fruit Trees; The Achilleas; Fasciation in Lilies; A Trap for Earwigs.	
The Flower Garden	490–491
Pansies and Violas; Tulip-growing in Bowls; Bulb Planting in Grass; Bedding and Border Suggestions for Daffodils; Herbaceous Borders; The Greenhouse: Hard-wooded Plants; Lapagerias.	
The Kitchen Garden	491–492
Fruit Pests; Parsley and Spinach; Burning up Garden Rubbish.	
The Burton-on-Trent Show	492

HEWITT'S FAMOUS DELPHINIUMS AND ROSES. Catalogue now in distribution. Please write for one

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S BULB CATALOGUE NOW READY containing the choicest and inexpensive Daffodils, Tulips, and other Bulbs. "Order early and plant early" so as to avoid disappointment.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GAR- DENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 183. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

HAVE YOU BOUGHT "The Pruning of Trees and Shrubs," by W. Dallimore, Assistant at Kew? Fully illustrated. 4s. 6d. net; post free, 4s. 9d. From all Booksellers or direct from the Publishers, DULAU & CO., LTD., 34, Margaret Street, London, W.1.

DOBBIES' FAMOUS BULBS, SCOTCH ROSES and SWEET PEAS for Autumn Sowing. Catalogues free on mentioning THE GARDEN.—DOBBIE & CO., LTD., Edinburgh.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. *State particulars.*—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

POLYANTHUS NARCISSUS.—Scilly White's, 10/- 100, £3 10s. 1,000. Empress Daffodils, same price.—A. LEON, St. Mary's, Scilly Isles.

ELLISON'S BULBS ON APPROVAL, ROSES, FRUIT TREES. Early-flowering Hyacinths, 3 each 6 var., named, carr. paid, 5/6. Darwin Tulips, 10 each 10 var., carr. paid, 9/-; mixed, 7/6 100. Narcissi and Daffs., 10 each 10 var., named, carr. paid, 11/6. Hyacinths, 1 each 12 var., carr. paid, 4/-, 5/-, 5/9, 6/9, 7/6. Catalogue free.—ELLISON'S, 95, West Bromwich. Established 1890.

IRIS RETICULATA, good Flowering Bulbs, 22/6 per 100; extra large, 4/- per dozen; cash with order; approval.—COLONEL G. HENRY, Elmestree, Tetbury.

LOOK ! TANNED GARDEN NETS.—All orders dispatched same day. 25yds. by 1yd, 2/-; 25 by 2, 4/-; 25 by 3, 6/-. Odd netting for bushes, 6lbs. for 2/6. All carriage paid. Any sizes supplied. Also Tennis Boundary Nets.—MOORE AND CO., Net Works, Rye.

THE CULTURE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS. By W. WELLS, 2/6 net; cloth, 3/6 net; by post 6d. extra. —Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE" LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

A CATALOGUE of gardening books will be sent free on application to "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

ROCK PLANTS AND ALPINES, Dwarf Conifers, Flowering Shrubs for the Rock Garden, Herbaceous Plants, Montbretias, etc. Catalogue free, ready shortly.—SHEPPARDS, Shawhurst Nursery, Hollywood, Birmingham.

FLAME FLOWER. (Tropæolum speciosum) Extra strong established pot plants of this loveliest of scarlet flowered perennial climbers ready for planting any time now 1/- each, 6 for 5/-, 12 for 10/-, carriage paid for cash with order. —CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED, Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

PLANT PESTS AND PARASITES.—A useful booklet on garden troubles by HORACE J. WRIGHT is to be obtained from the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, W.C.2; 11d. post free.

THE DOG: MAN'S FIRMEST FRIEND.— How to choose and care for him, by A. CROXTON SMITH. A copy of this helpful booklet on the housing, breeding, feeding and care of dogs will be sent post free on receipt of 11d., addressed to The Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SON, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

LILIUM CANDIDUM
(Madonna Lily)

The pure white hardy Lilies that should be in every garden. Plant them now and they will improve yearly.

Extra Large Bulbs - Per doz. 7/6, carr. paid
Second Size " - " 5/- " "

We are sending our new list to all our customers, which can be had for the asking. Full of good things

LONGSTAFF & SONS, F.R.H.S.
Bulb Growers, Importers & Merchants,
Near Chelsfield Station, Kent.

LOWE & GIBSON,
Crawley Down, SUSSEX

New Border Carnations.

Our illustrated list for 1926-7 will be published in a few days, and all who wish copies will please apply early. Our own customers will receive copies as soon as published.

Special offers of June-flowering IRISES are made in the same catalogue.

GENTIANA SINO-ORNATA
10/6 a doz.

STRONG PLANTS for Flowers from September onwards

Plant now also Mimulus Lewisii alba, a gem, 1/-; Myosotidium nobile, The Chatham Island Giant Forget-me-not, 1/-; Silene californica, an intense scarlet trailer, 1/-; and the following Bog Primulas for flowering next Spring: Primula capitata, 6d.; P. cap. Mooreana, 9d.; P. sikkimensis, giant form, 1/-; P. japonica Cherry Ripe, a beauty, 9d.; P. pulverulenta, 9d.; P. Wardii, 9d.; P. Veitchii, 6d.; P. helodoxa, 9d.; P. Smithii, the finest yellow, 1/- and P. rosea grandiflora, 1/-

All strong plants from pots. Carriage paid for cash with order.

W. E. Th. INGWERSEN,
Birch Farm, Sharpthorne, East Grinstead
ASK FOR MY CATALOGUE.

Send your Enquiries NOW for
AUTUMN PLANTING OF
CHOICE DAFFODILS
BRITISH GROWN BULBS
Complete Catalogue now ready, free on application.
Cartwright & Goodwin Ltd.
BULB GROWERS,
CHURCHILL, KIDDERMINSTER, WORCS., ENGLAND.

Glass breaks!

USE
'WINDOLITE'

The practical Glass Substitute for all GARDEN PURPOSES.

LIGHT FLEXIBLE UNBREAKABLE

Easy to cut and fit. It keeps out cold and wet, but lets in all the light—even the Ultra Violet Rays which are stopped by glass.

Send **4/6** *for post free sample, 3 ft. by 2ft.*

WINDOLITE (DEPT. C) 179/185, GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1.

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

FOR THE GARDEN! FOR EXHIBITION!
FOR BEDS! FOR EVERYWHERE!

Also Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees, Alpines and Hardy Plants.

BUY HOME GROWN TREES.
SUPPORT BRITISH INDUSTRIES.

Catalogue Free on Application, and Addresses booked for Revised Catalogue in late Summer.

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.
Garden Specialists, SOUTHWELL, NOTTS.

Gayborder Delphiniums
STAND PRE-EMINENT FOR COLOUR.

At no nursery is such an extensive collection of beautiful varieties grown, and the prices charged are most moderate.

CATALOGUES POST FREE ON APPLICATION.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

for September planting. Order now to secure one—they are all carriage and packing free for Cash with Order.

Collection	**D1.**	12 standard varieties (priced at 18s.) ..	**18s. 0d.**
,,	**D2.**	12 good varieties (priced at 24s.)	**21s. 0d.**
,,	**D3.**	12 very good varieties (priced at 42s.) ..	**38s. 0d.**
,,	**D4.**	12 extra good varieties (priced at 60s.)	**54s. 0d.**
,,	**D5.**	12 unnamed hybrids, large 2-year clumps	**7s. 6d.**
,,	**D6.**	12 selected unnamed hybrids (many worth over 2s. 6d. each)	**15s. 0d.**

WM. SYDENHAM,
Raisers of Choice Delphiniums, etc., since 1904.

THE GAYBORDER NURSERIES,
MELBOURNE, DERBY.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

FOR AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER PLANTING.

Barr's Flag Irises for Flower Borders, Shrubberies, and for Naturalising

AWARDED GOLD MEDAL AT THE ROYAL HORTIOULTURAL SOCIETY'S GREAT IRIS CONFERENCE.

TALL BEARDED FLAG IRISES.

The Iris is the "Orchid" of the flower garden, its blossoms being the richest and most varied in colour of all hardy plants. It should be extensively planted in flower and shrubbery borders and wild gardens. When established, the plants yield a great quantity of bloom.

BARR'S COLLECTIONS OF TALL FLAG IRISES (May and June Flowering)

3 each of 100 beautiful named varieties				£10 10s.
3 ,, 50	,,	,,	,,	£5 5s.
3 ,, 25	,,	,,	,,	£2 15s.
3 ,, 12	,,	,,	,,	24/- & 36/-
3 ,, 6	,,	,,	,,	12/- & 18/-

SELECTIONS FOR EXTENSIVE PLANTINGS

1,000 in 50 superb named varieties from all sections, £25, £35, and £45

MIXTURES OF TALL BEARDED IRISES (without names)

	Per 100 s.	Per 100 d.	Per doz. s.	Per doz. d.
Mixture of many fine sorts, from all sections	30	0	4	0
Mixed May-flowering varieties, chiefly purple and violet shades	35	0	5	0
Mixed Plicata and Amœna varieties, in shades of white and blue	40	0	5	6
Mixed Neglecta and Pallida varieties, blue, mauve and violet shades ..	40	0	5	6
Mixed Squalens, beautiful shades of blue, mauve, purple, rose, etc., shot more or less with gold or bronze	45	0	6	0
Mixed Variegata varieties, in shades of yellow and gold	45	0	6	0

BARR'S COLLECTIONS OF DWARF BEARDED ORIMEAN IRISES.
(Flowering during March, April and May.)

These beautiful Irises flower from March to May (before the Tall Flag Irises) and are therefore specially valuable in maintaining a succession of bloom from early spring. Being of dwarf growth they are suitable for planting in front of the taller-growing Flag Irises. They are also valuable as permanent edgings to flower borders and are charming subjects in the rock garden and for old walls.

3 each of 25 beautiful named varieties	35/- & 45/-
3 ,, 12 ,, ,, ,, ...	15/- & 21/-
3 ,, 6 ,, ,, ,, ...	7/6 & 10/6

Mixed Dwarf Orimean Irises (without names), 30/- per 100, 4/- per doz.

FOR FULL DESCRIPTIONS, SEE BARR'S HARDY PLANT CATALOGUE (FREE).

For the best Bulbous Irises, including Early Giant Xiphium, Spanish, English, and many beautiful species, see Barr's Autumn Bulb Catalogue, free on application.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2
AND THE NURSERIES, TAPLOW, BUCKS.

PEARSON'S RELIABLE BULBS

A short selection from our Catalogue, which may be had free on application, mentioning "The Garden."

BULBS FOR EARLY FORCING.

	Per 100	Doz.
Prepared Miniature Hyacinths for early flowering: White, Pink, Blue and Yellow	30/-	4/-
Extra Quality Bulbs.		
Freesia refracta alba, pure white	10/6	1/6
Paper White Narcissus (grandiflora)	16/-	2/3
Tulip Duc Van Thol, scarlet	10/6	1/6
Tulip Prince of Austria	15/-	2/-
Tulip Vermilion Brilliant	16/-	2/3
Tulip Murillo, double blush	12/-	1/9

Collections of Bulbs for fibre culture, and fibre for growing them in, 15/- and 21/-, carriage paid.

DAFFODILS FOR FORCING.

Cervantes, a very prolific trumpet Daffodil ..	16/-	2/3
Golden Spur, large bulbs	20/-	2/9
Princeps, double-nosed bulbs	12/-	1/9
Telamonius plenus, the old double Daffodil ..	14/-	2/-

DAFFODILS FOR OUTDOOR PLANTING.

	Per 100	Doz.
Argent, fine semi-double, very decorative	16/-	2/3
Barril Conspicuus, extra size	12/-	2/-
Bernardino, white, with orange-tinted cup, 8/- doz., 9d. each.		
	100.	doz.
Emperor, largest-sized bulbs	20/-	2/9
,, good second-sized bulbs	14/-	2/-
Empress, largest size	20/-	2/9
,, good second size	14/-	2/-
	doz.	each
Florence Pearson, a grand pale bicolor	3/6	4d.
Great Warley, a huge Incomp.	15/-	2/-
King Alfred, finest yellow Daffodil	7/-	8d.
	100.	doz.
Lucifer, fine red cup, very free	17/6	2/6
Sir Watkin, giant bulbs	21/-	2/9
Van Waveren's Giant, a giant Emperor ..	10/- doz., 1/- each.	
Mixed varieties for planting in grass, ...	65/- 1,000, 7/- 100.	

Collections of Darwin Tulips ..	6 vars.	12 bulbs of each,		9/-.
,, ,, ,, ,, ..	12 ,,	12 ,,	,,	18/-
,, ,, **Cottage Tulips** ..	6 ,,	12 ,,	,,	8/6.

J. R. PEARSON & SONS, LTD.,

Bulb Growers and Importers - LOWDHAM, NOTTS.

ESTABLISHED 1782.

Digitized by Google

WAKELEY'S Celebrated Hop Manure

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

AS USED IN THE GARDENS OF GREAT BRITAIN

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL, ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION, 1912

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE, without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

Every ounce of Wakeley's Hop Manure is of value to the soil, supplying the necessary HUMUS in addition to the valuable plant food. Worthless rubbish is not added to make weight (as is the case of some artificial manures advertised).

Thousands do realise it, the proof of this is the constant flow of UNSOLICITED LETTERS received from time to time in praise of the wonderful results obtained at such a moderate cost (see Booklet for selection).

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.—Genuine Only in our Marked Bags containing Guaranteed Analysis.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of post card.

CASH PRICES (including bags):

Small (about 1 bushel)	3/-
Large (about 4 bushels)	7/-
5 Large	33/9
10 Large	65/-
20 Large	120/-

Carriage paid by Pickford's or to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company; 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.

75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

ROBINSON'S

FAMOUS

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROSES

ARE UNSURPASSED

All strong hardy grown plants. Before ordering, send for my new catalogue post free

T. ROBINSON

: PORCHESTER NURSERIES :

NOTTINGHAM

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE NEW COMPLETE LIST

of

GARDEN BOOKS

published by "Country Life"

is

NOW READY

FREE ON APPLICATION TO THE PUBLISHERS
20, TAVISTOCK ST., COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2

George G. Whitelegg

Specialist in

GARDEN DESIGN

AND

CONSTRUCTION

ROCK AND WATER GARDENS DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTED UNDER PERSONAL SUPERVISION

Alpines, Iris and all Hardy Plants

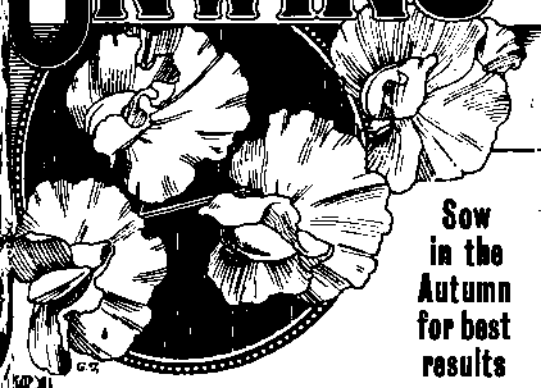
WRITE FOR CATALOGUE

The Nurseries . Chislehurst . Kent

Digitized by Google

UNWIN'S SWEET PEAS

HAVE PROVED THEIR SUPERIORITY - COMPARE OUR PRICES & REMEMBER THERE ARE NO SWEET PEAS OF BETTER QUALITY



Sow in the Autumn for best results

W. J. Unwin. Salmon cream-pink.
Charming. Cerise.
Groundler. Geranium red.
Mauve Beauty. Deep mauve.
Matchless. Cream.
The Sultan. Black velvet-maroon.
Sybil Henshaw. Rich crimson.
Powerscourt. Lavender-lilac.
Constance Hinton. White.
Youth. Picotee.
Picture. Deep cream-pink.
Hebe. Rose-pink.
Royal Purple. Purple.
Mrs. Tom Jones. Blue.

25 Seeds each of above 14 for 3/9 (350 Seeds).
12 " " " 14 " 2/- (168 "). Postage 1½d. extra.

Both Collections of 26 varieties, 25 Seeds of each for 6/3 (Post Free), or **Both Collections** of 26 varieties, 12 seeds of each for 3/3 (Postage 1½d. extra).

FULL CATALOGUE POST FREE

SPECIAL COLLECTION OFFER

The finest value ever offered in Sweet Peas.

UNWIN'S EXHIBITION COLLECTION

Every variety included is first class and reliable.

Mrs. Chas. W. J. Unwin. Salmon-pink.
Daffodil. Deep cream.
Royal Scot. Scarlet-cerise.
Warrior. Maroon.
Austin Frederick Improved. Lavender.
George Shawyer. Orange-salmon.
Blue Butterfly. Light silvery blue.
Unwin's Crimson. Crimson.
Elegance. Blush.
Sunset. Bright rose.
Florence Wright Improved. Pure white.
Improved Jean Ireland. Picotee.

25 Seeds each of above 12 for 2/9 (300 Seeds).
12 " " " 12 " 1/6 (144 "). Postage 1½d. extra.

UNWIN'S GOLD MEDAL COLLECTION

A fine selection at a very moderate figure.

A New Book Every Sweet Pea Grower Should Read

"SWEET PEAS: THEIR HISTORY, DEVELOPMENT & CULTURE."—The up-to-date Standard Work on the subject.

Price 5/- net. (Postage 5d.) By CHAS. W. J. UNWIN.

This new book will be enjoyed by all who love or grow Sweet Peas, indeed by all flower lovers. Every phase of up-to-date culture for all purposes or objects is treated in detail. It is brimful of interest and practical assistance from cover to cover, and admirably illustrated with photographs, a coloured plate, and sketches, while its scope embraces all aspects in detail which are likely to help any and every amateur grower and exhibitor. Prospectus and Press Reviews post free on application.

Send for a copy of our New Autumn Catalogue. Post Free. The Highest Quality Sweet Peas, Bulbs, Gladioli and Roses, etc. All at "buyable" prices.

W·J·UNWIN·F·R·H·S·· *Sweet Pea Specialist and Seedsman,* · HISTON - Cambs.

HARKNESS'S REGAL LUPINS

have achieved a fresh and UNIQUE TRIUMPH by winning

THE ABOL CHALLENGE TROPHY

at Burton-on-Trent Show on August 11 & 12, 1926

for the plant which demonstrates the greatest advancement in any one family since the War

Every Garden Owner who wants to be Up-to-Date must plant

HARKNESS'S REGAL LUPINS

CATALOGUES OBTAINABLE FREE BY APPLICATION.

J. HARKNESS & SONS, Leeming Bar, BEDALE, YORKS.

Digitized by Google

SEEDSMEN BY APPOINTMENT

NOVELTY Mermaid, 18 seeds, 1/6; 12 seeds, 1/-.

SWEET PEAS
for AUTUMN SOWING

Our Autumn List of Sweet Peas includes all the finest Novelties of the Year, post free on application.

NOVELTY **Mermaid.**—Rich lavender, with fine blue sheen, *see photograph.* (18 seeds 1/6, 12 seeds 1/-)

NOVELTY **Crusader.**—Standard; rich orange salmon, wings salmon shaded rose (18 seeds 1/6, 12 seeds 1/-)

NEW **Blue Bird.**—Very large, beautifully waved rich blue flowers, well placed on enormous stems (24 seeds 1/6, 15 seeds 1/-)

NOVELTY **Enid.**—Rich salmon pink on cream ground; large well-frilled (12 seeds 1/-)

NEW **Grenadier.**—Large cerise scarlet, will stand the sun (24 seeds 1/6, 15 seeds 1/-)

CARTERS SPECIAL MIXTURE.—Of Special Merit, comprising all the finest beautifully waved Spencer forms. Per packet 1/- & 2/6, ½ lb. 8/-, 1 lb. 15/-

Carters "Bulbs and Lawns" contains all the best varieties of Hyacinths, Tulips, Daffodils, etc. Post free on application.

Carters TESTED SEEDS
Sweet Pea Specialists
RAYNES PARK, LONDON S.W.20

ALLENS' ROSES

Before placing your Autumn order send for our FULL ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE. We are certain it will be of assistance to you. Ready September 5th. Contents include:—

Survey of new varieties, indicating improved forms.
Frank descriptions of over 500 varieties.
Select lists of Roses for all purposes.
Colour Guide.
Cultural Notes.
Rose Diseases and their Treatment.
Six Colour Plates, etc.

POST FREE ON RECEIPT OF CARD.
Send us your enquiries and we shall be pleased to quote.

Our stock is a most comprehensive one of Roses for all purposes, and we are sure we can give you every satisfaction.

A. J. & C. ALLEN (Dept. A), Nurserymen, NORWICH

Notes from Maidstone.

A NEW PEAR

WE would call the attention of all lovers of pears to the variety Admiral Gervais, which is fully described in our New Fruit Catalogue, which we think will be of great value. In appearance it much resembles Easter Beurré, but it ripens a little before this variety. It is a good grower, does equally well in the open as a Pyramid or a Cordon. We now introduce it after twelve years' trial and we can confidently recommend it for English gardens.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd., The Royal Nurseries, Established 1796. Maidstone.

Digitized by Google

VOL. XC.—No. 2856. AUGUST 28, 1926
Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.; Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2. *Offices for Advertisements:* 6-11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

THE RESULT OF OUR SWEET PEA COMPETITION

WHEN our Sweet Pea Competition started in June, we had little idea of the enormous interest that our readers take in varieties of sweet peas. This interest is proved by the number of entries received, far more than we hoped for even in our most sanguine moments. The total number of varieties mentioned on the competitors' coupons was 302, an amazing total. There is no doubt, however, as to which are the six most popular. They are:

1. CONSTANCE HINTON
2. PICTURE
3. POWERSCOURT
4. MRS. TOM JONES
5. ROYAL SCOT
6. WARRIOR.

The number of votes they received was much in advance of the next in order of popularity. Constance Hinton headed the list with 150 more votes to her credit than were accorded to Picture and 570 more than to Warrior, the sixth on the list. Although several readers were correct in their choice of varieties, yet not one succeeded in giving them in their right order. The first prize, of goods to the value of £30 from any advertisers in THE GARDEN, goes to—

MR. EDWARD CATT,
Harbour View, Iden, Rye, Sussex,

who had only one error in the order of the varieties. The second, of goods to the value of £10, to—

MRS. E. L. MORGAN,
Cefn Eithin, Swansea.

The third, of goods to the value of £5, is divided among three competitors—

MR. E. T. THISTLETHWAITE,
Wensleydale, Mays Lane Road, Barnet, Herts;

MR. C. A. CORKE,
Hobiezjolt, Sudbury, Derby; and

MR. H. M. WILSON,
19, Lee Avenue, Chadwell Heath, Essex,

who get goods to the value of £1 13s. 4d. each.

Consolation prizes of goods to the value of 5s. each are awarded to Mr. W. Barclay, West Lodge, Lamington, Lanarkshire; Mr. W. H. Baker, 45, Mostyn Road, Merton Park, S.W.19; Miss C. M. Beale, Roman Tower, Broadstone, Dorset; Mr. A. W. Beaumont, 6, Cherry Row, Lexden, Colchester; Mr. John Bedhall, Meriden, near Coventry; Mr. S. Davy, Oulton Lodge, Aylsham, Norfolk; Mr. G. A. Funnell, The Gardens, Brambletye, East Grinstead; Mr. Geo. H. Hearse, 53, Parade, Pontypridd, Glamorganshire; Mr. S. C. Holbrook, Elm Croft, Jersey Road, Gloucester; Mrs. Humphreys, Rye, Cranleigh, Surrey; Mr. W. A. C. James, Duncote, Towcester; Mr. N. Lambert, Inglecroft, Fulford, Yorkshire; Mr. F. J. Milburn, Hutton Rudby, Yorks; Mr. T. B. Milburn, Hutton Rudby, Yorks; Mr. A. P. Millard, 10, Albert Road, Newtown, Bishop's Waltham, Hants; Mr. A. H. Preston, Southwick Park, Tewkesbury; Mr. E. Rackley, Alyhwoods, Burghfield, Reading; Mrs. P. H. Sainsbury, 47, Belmont Road, Bushey, Herts; Miss E. Walters, Broadstone, Dorset; Miss W. Wood, Marsden, Ashtead, Surrey.

The Six Most Popular Sweet Peas as Decided by Our Readers are:

1. CONSTANCE HINTON
2. PICTURE
3. POWERSCOURT
4. MRS. TOM JONES
5. ROYAL SCOT
6. WARRIOR

Many readers may be interested to learn what were the next six most popular sweet peas:

7. Hawlmark Pink
8. Charity
9. Royal Purple
10. Charming
11. Matchless
12. George Shawyer.

Short colour descriptions of the leading twelve varieties may be of interest to readers who are not acquainted with these popular sweet peas. Constance Hinton is a showy white variety, Matchless has blooms of rich cream, Picture is a pink sweet pea suffused with apricot. Hawlmark Pink, Charming, and George Shawyer were other pink and rose varieties selected. Powerscourt is a pure lavender; Mrs. T. Jones, a bright light blue; Royal Scot, brilliant scarlet; Royal Purple, a rich purple; and Warrior, a bronzy maroon.

Digitized by Google

TULIPS FOR THE GARDEN

WHEN I am asked to write an article for THE GARDEN containing a specified number of words about the tulip and to give a selection of named varieties for the ordinary garden, I have to consider what will be most interesting to its readers. The tulip is undoubtedly the most gloriously coloured flower that we have in the spring, and when I see my fields of them in full bloom I never fail to appreciate the wisdom of Nature in allowing the daffodil to be first with its more limited and delicate shades of colouring. The range of colour in the tulip is, perhaps, as complete as that of any other flower. Starting with the so-called black, and, indeed, La Noire is as black as anyone would wish it to be, and passing through all the colours and combinations of colours of the rainbow, we arrive at a very pure white. Colour is, however, not the tulip's only charm, its simplicity of form and stately carriage give it a fascination all its own, and flowering, as it does, at a time of the year when Nature is not too lavish with brilliant colours, it is one of the most valuable flowers we possess. It is easily grown, and will flower well in almost any soil and position provided it is given reasonably fair treatment. It does not require a very rich soil, but, on the other hand, it will not give of its best in a dry, hungry sand. The bulbs should be planted in October or not later than the end of November for the best results, although I have planted later with fair results. The bulbs should be set about 4ins. to 5ins. deep. Some of the small species tulips, such as dasystemon, need only be covered with about 3ins. of soil.

For the best results the bulbs should be taken up each year when the foliage has died down. They should be dried off in a cool, airy shed and only the larger ones replanted. If left in the ground they soon become small owing to overcrowding and cease to give satisfactory flowers, and it is then best to throw them away and procure fresh ones. Bulbs that have been planted in formal beds and have to be cleared away before they have died down naturally, in order to make room for summer bedding plants, will not give satisfactory flowers the following season however carefully they may be transplanted and ripened off. When arranging your plantings you should not forget that the tulip is a very valuable flower for indoor decoration and you will not want to cut those in your beds and borders. Be wise, therefore, and have a reserve supply somewhere out of the way in your kitchen garden where you can go and cut to your heart's content.

When selecting a site for tulips, remember that they do not like a windy or a very wet position. They like shelter but not shade, and good, deeply prepared soil without being too rich.

Tulips can be grown in pots in soil or fibre, and many varieties will force, but great care is required to get early blooms.

About the species tulips I hardly think I need say very much, as with a few exceptions they are not suitable for the ordinary garden. I have found T. præstans, an early and gorgeous vermilion scarlet with several flowers on each stem, does well in ordinary soil, so also does Eichleri, another of similar colouring and flowering a little later. T. dasystemon with its many flowers of white and yellow does well, increases and seeds freely. It is dwarf and adapted for edging. T. sylvestris, a gracefully drooping deep yellow flower, I find does best when naturalised, but it is a very shy bloomer. T. australis is a similar variety, and as far as I have seen from one season's trial, it seems far more satisfactory than sylvestris. The charming T. Clusiana or lady tulip, with its slender stem and graceful little white flower striped with rose, requires a warm and light soil.

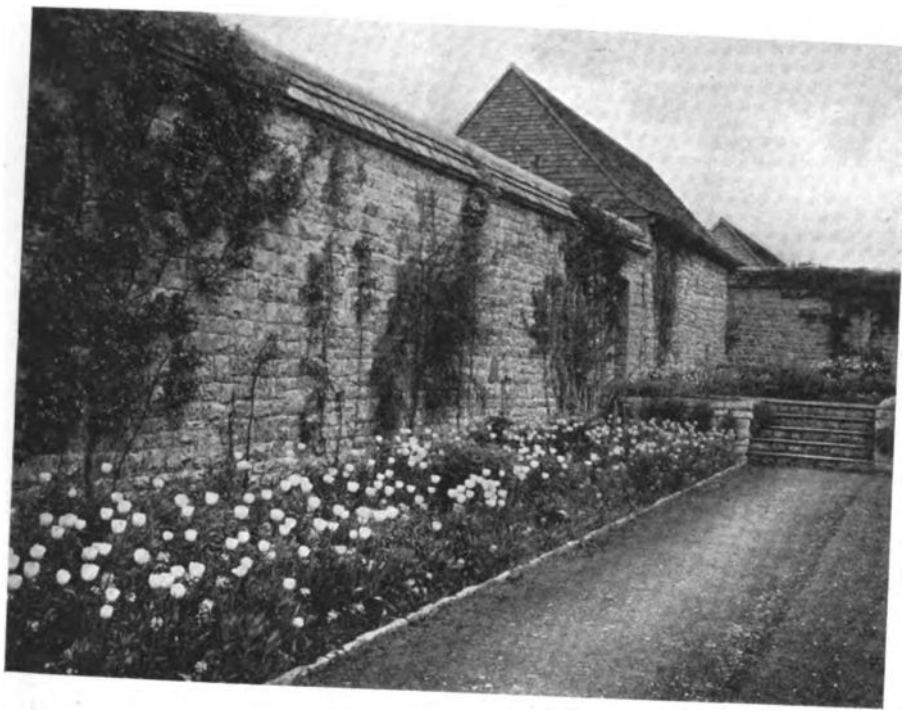
But returning to the practical treatment of bulbs, the tulip lends itself to a variety of schemes of planting. Groups of a dozen or more bulbs of each of a number of varieties arranged in a border give a charming effect, but the place to which the tulip is most particularly adapted is the formal garden. The popular arrangement of the Darwin tulip Clara Butt on a groundwork of blue forget-me-nots is always beautiful. Panorama with its large tawny flowers blends well with an old brick wall. Beds of mixed tulips, gay, dazzling, even daring in their colour contrasts, can please the eye amazingly. Beds filled each with one variety and arranged in colour schemes: yellow and purple, orange and primrose, red and brown, black and white, and many other contrasts that will suggest themselves to individual tastes.

The tulip is divided into various classes, but I am only going to mention the earlies, cottage and Darwins. Of the earlies, putting aside the Duc van Thol and other short-stemmed varieties and the doubles, I consider the following the best varieties: Prince of Austria, orange red and deliciously scented; Keizerskroon, red, edged yellow, a most gorgeous flower; Proserpine, cerise; Van der Neer, purple; Montrésor, deep yellow; and White Pottebakker.

The cottage tulips, so called because they were re-discovered by the late Mr. Peter Barr and Mr. Baylor Hartland in cottage gardens throughout the country and popularised by these two enthusiasts, are almost as varied in their range of colouring and more varied in the form of their flowers than the Darwins. They have many shades of yellow, a colour which is lacking in the Darwins. They are very graceful in form, and quite a number are sweet-scented, a distinct advantage when they are required for house decoration. When cut, however, many of them have a tendency to droop their heads in a most annoying manner. And now for my dozen of the best for the ordinary garden. Boadicea is a fine orange scarlet and sweet-scented; Ellen Willmott, a nice shade of primrose; Inglescombe Pink with its salmon pink flowers is a general favourite; Prince of Orange, rich orange scarlet, one of the most striking and satisfactory tulips I know; The Fawn, a delicate shade of rosy fawn; gesneriana major, fiery cochineal

TULIPS MAKE FINE SPRING BEDDING SUBJECTS.

Digitized by Google



A BORDER OF MIXED MAY-FLOWERING TULIPS.
Plant these next month for an effective show in spring.

red, the best for a brilliant display in the garden and most gorgeous when fully open in the sun; Solomon, a lovely pale rosy mauve and one of the most beautiful; gesneriana lutea, clear deep yellow; Cassandra, a vivid cerise; Goudvink, golden chestnut; Mrs. Kerrell, soft pink; Carrara, a glorious white slightly tinted with bluish grey, at present rather expensive, so I will give as an alternative White Queen, which is creamy blush and a very nice flower.

Passing from the cottage varieties to the Darwins, I might explain that the Darwins have strong and tall stems, blue or white, and never yellow, bases to the inside of the flowers, and generally rounder and shorter flowers than the cottage. My selection of a dozen must include the following, which I have found satisfactory in every way, fine flowers and good constitutions: Baronne de la Tonnaye, a fine tall variety, bright rose with a margin of silvery rose; Clara Butt, the popular salmon pink, could not possibly be omitted, though some might consider its stem to be on the short side; Farncombe Sanders, the best of the cochineal reds, a fine bold flower with a long stem; Glow, vermilion scarlet, a very sturdy and satisfactory variety; King Harold, crimson maroon, another great favourite; La Tulipe Noire, very nearly but not quite black; Margaret, clear pale blush, a fine globular flower; May Queen, a glorious rich pink; Pride of Haarlem, cerise, a great flower and undoubtedly entitled to its place among the select twelve; Rev. Ewbank, clear lilac with pale dusty margin; St. Simon, purple flushed red, seems to appeal to everyone who sees it on my fields, and that spells popularity; Suzon, another great favourite with its flowers of soft rose shaded with cream; Melicette, mauve with a charming clear bright blue centre; and I positively must mention the beautiful white Zwanenburg, rather expensive perhaps, but possessing a charm and fascination that render it quite unique.

Now, as I have exceeded my allotted space, I must stop, though I seem to have mentioned so few. This, however, was inevitable, for all tulips have their own particular charm, and there are such an infinite number of varieties.

W. A. WATTS.

DAFFODILS TO GROW IN THE WOODLAND

WHEN selecting narcissi for this purpose it is essential to choose those kinds which are moderate in price and available in quantity. This being so, I purposely omit many lovely, rare or costly varieties which, for various reasons, are beyond the reach of the average grower. Most of the trumpet daffodils flourish in the grass, and one which has impressed me favourably of late years is FAIRY, a flower of immense size, perfect shape and refinement, with a deep yellow trumpet, and perianth of a lighter shade. A colony of this charming flower rising out of the leafless growths of a group of Rosa arvensis, where these reach the grass, rarely fails to excite admiration.

EMPEROR.—This well known daffodil, with its rich, deep yellow trumpet and paler perianth, should be adopted by all for this picturesque planting. In rich alluvial soils and moist positions near the water's edge it will grow 3ft. tall and furnish annually sheaves of handsome flowers. Cool, northerly slopes, woodland rides and, indeed, almost any but a sun-baked position, will be found to suit this effective and well tried flower.

GOLDEN SPUR, from the Netherlands, although mainly used for forcing, is an excellent kind for naturalising, its large

DAFFODILS PLANTED IN BOLD DRIFTS LOOK VERY EFFECTIVE AT THE WATER'S EDGE OR ON A GRASS BANK.

Digitized by Google

trumpets are distinctly lobed and of a deep rich yellow. It is one of the early-flowering kinds and in my estimation is of equal merit with the early blooming and excellent Henry Irving.

N. MAXIMUS is one of the richest coloured daffodils we possess, the whole flower being of a deep golden yellow and poised on graceful 18in. stems. The richest soil of the meadow should be chosen for this particular kind and the bulbs planted deeper than is necessary for the majority, 10ins. being a good depth. On occasions it is a shy bloomer.

A WOODLAND PATH AT GRAVETYE.

N. MINIMUS is the smallest of all the true daffodils and one of the earliest to bloom, its dainty little flowers standing almost erect on slender squill-like stems are to be seen in the grass early in February each year. The happiest results I have experienced so far with this fascinating little flower have been in grassland where the latter joined a stream and the grass was kept mown like a lawn during its resting season. Under these conditions quite large colonies established themselves, together with the choice N. cyclamineus and Hoop-petticoat (N. Bulbocodium) in its various forms, seedlings appearing on all sides; these dainty species are jewels in their way, but moist places must be chosen for them.

N. OBVALLARIS (Tenby Daffodil).—I know no better early flowerer than this for planting along the margins of streams and other damp places, where it provides huge quantities of its compact neat little flowers, which on account of their stiff, erect stems are delightful for filling vases and most effective in the open air, where twenty flowers appear from one clump; it is one of the earliest to bloom, therefore we grow it in large quantities.

N. MME. DE GRAAFF belongs to the pale coloured trumpet daffodils and should find a place in every garden, the expanding graceful flowers are of a soft primrose shade, becoming pure white with age. It is a mid-season flower as daffodils go and revels in good loamy soil and leafy bottoms, such as we often find along the fringes of grass rides; planted in broad belts it is most effective and increases freely.

N. MOSCHATUS (THE MUSK DAFFODIL), from the Pyrenees, is one of the most distinct and interesting of this family, its pure white flowers droop gracefully from 8in. stems, reminding one of the elegant large snowdrops from Asia Minor. It is a precious flower for choice and partially shaded positions, but the bulbs should not be planted more than 8ins. apart, as it does not increase freely and as everyone rushes to gather its attractive flowers immediately it is observed, its chances of seeding are very small.

N. PALLIDUS PRÆCOX (THE BAYONNE DAFFODIL), is the earliest of all to bloom with me, its flowers are large and of a delightful creamy yellow generally, but these are variable and some may appear which are almost white. This Pyrennean daffodil flourishes both in sun and partial shade, indeed, it appears to enjoy a sunny slope, where a dozen or so flowers clustering about an old tree stump are more beautiful in effect than large masses; this is our prettiest early daffodil.

N. DUKE OF BEDFORD is a striking flower and one which immediately attracts attention on account of its size, the perianth is white and broad and the large, fine trumpet, clear yellow. It comes into bloom early and its flowers possess a pleasing fragrance; this handsome kind loves moisture.

N. EMPRESS is a very highly valued narcissus which may be planted generously. In any fair soil, it is a success. The flowers are attractive and of good substance, perianth white, trumpet rich yellow, they also appear in all their beauty just when the majority are on the wane; this is absolutely reliable for any and every purpose.

THE INCOMPARABILIS GROUP.

In the incomparabilis group, usually known as Star narcissi, will be found many indispensable kinds, which have proved most successful when naturalised, even the choice, new varieties are responding freely to this simple and picturesque culture. Those of special charm include:

N. GLORIA MUNDI, a tall handsome flower with yellow perianth and spreading orange scarlet centre. It is very effective when massed.

N. LUCIFER, which at first was underestimated. This is a really handsome narcissus, growing 18ins. high in strong land, increases rapidly and provides an exquisite effect when growing beneath the twiggy branches of hazel bushes; it also stands the sunshine better than the majority. The perianth is creamy yellow, the cup a glowing orange red; a single bulb will produce twelve in three years.

N. WILL SCARLETT is a strong growing kind with a large open fiery orange red centre, seated in its saucer of crimped white petals. I have tried this in a small way only, but it is full of promise and has a great future.

THE SHORT CUPPED DAFFODILS

comprise many of the most attractive and elegant kinds in the whole genus. Many flower late, and with the grass of the meadows becoming greener each day, the effect of these charming and delightful flowers is greatly enhanced. Of these, the old BARRII CONSPICUUS, with its rich orange scarlet centre, is always satisfactory and effective, both in meadow and wood. Others of charm are:

CŒUR DE LION, delicate primrose cup, fiery orange red, conspicuous whether planted in small groups or massed.

LADY GODIVA, perianth white, with short orange scarlet cup, increases freely in woodland soil.

SEAGULL is a most graceful kind with apricot centre resting upon a pure white base, a strong free grower and rather taller than the majority. This is a deservedly popular favourite for cutting.

LORD KITCHENER carries a flower of great size and substance, the broad, flat perianth being white and the large crimped open crown, pale primrose. This is a very effective flower.

MRS. LANGTRY is cheap and can be indulged in by the thousand by streaming the bulbs thinly over the rising ground in wood and meadow, where its frail and dainty flowers of a tender creamy white appear in profusion.

THE POET'S NARCISSI.

Our picture would not be complete without a few of the deliciously fragrant N. poeticus, which are the last of this large genus to bloom. The following naturalise freely here:

CASSANDRA, perianth large and broad, clear white, with small, dark red eye, invaluable as a cut flower.

HERRICK, a refined and shapely flower of good substance, perianth white, scarlet eye.

POETICUS RECURVUS.—This is the old Pheasant's Eye, so popular for its fragrant, white and red flowers.

ORNATUS.—A grand variety for massing, scarlet eye on a white ground, and the double white poeticus, with gardenia-like flowers of delicious fragrance, must not be omitted from our orders this year.

E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor, Sussex.

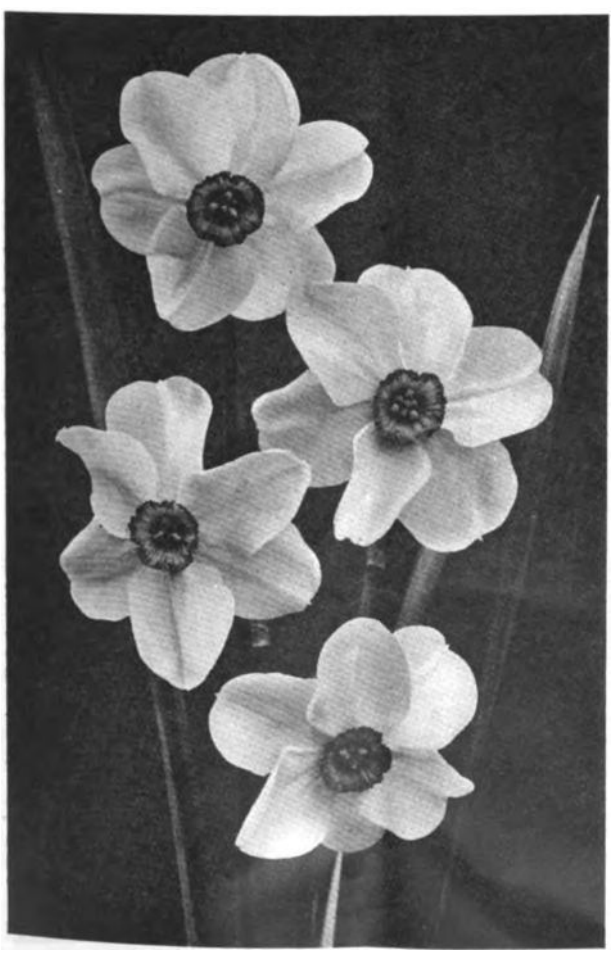
Digitized by Google

THE POET'S AND POLYANTHUS NARCISSI

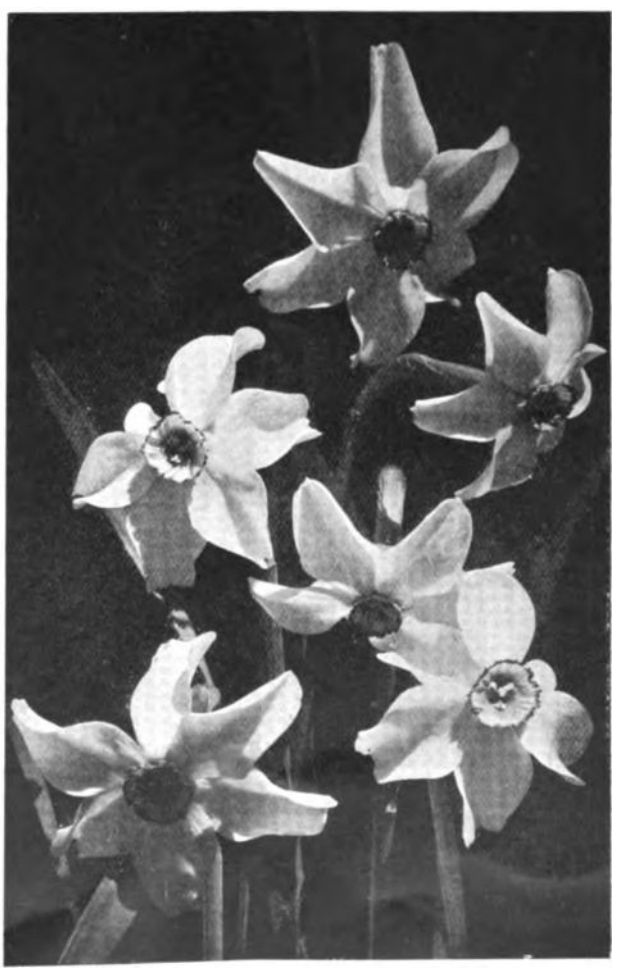
THE Poeticus section, generally termed the Poets by growers, are favourites of mine. They come late and thus extend the daffodil season. They are very free-flowering when well grown and have a delightful scent. The first newcomer in this section that I can remember was Poeticus ornatus, an early-flowering variety introduced from France and then taken up by those two pioneers in cut flower production, Mr. James Walker and Mr. Walter T. Ware. Success attended their efforts, as the old May-flowering P. recurvus had long been a favourite, and this new thing, flowering weeks before recurvus, took the market by storm. Then Mr. Engleheart took up the cross-breeding of the Poets and managed with the comparatively few varieties there were to work upon to produce within a short time flowers of superior size with a wider range of flowering season. Virgil, Homer, Horace, Comus, Cassandra and Epic were some of his first or early productions, and some are holding their own well to-day in spite of the host of seedlings which have since been raised. Horace is still one of the most popular varieties. It is a very good doer and has a very long stalk, some of which I have measured being 22ins. long. Homer is, in my opinion, the only Poet (bar ornatus) which does well under glass. Nearly all the other varieties I have tried produce such poor blooms that they are hardly recognisable. I will not pretend to give a complete list of all the best Poets now on the market, but will mention some of the best varieties with which I am personally acquainted:

Acme, a distinct variety with an all-red eye, a great favourite of the late Rev. Jacob's; Barcarolle, a nicely rounded flower, free blooming; Caedmon, a large firm flower with striking red rim to the eye, a fine exhibition variety, late; Dactyl, same type of flower as the last, tall grower, late; Horace, mentioned before, one of the best; Homer, early and especially good for pots; Jean Ingelow, rather early, a wonderfully strong grower; John Masefield, a very good show flower, very round bloom with extra large eye deeply edged with deep red; Kestrel, a good mid-season Poet; Lullaby, a good round, firm flower, late; ornatus, too well known to need description; recurvus, the old May-flowering Poet; Rupert Brooke, a wonderful variety to flower and increase, the strongest grower I have ever planted; Snow King, flowers of largest size borne on long stems, late; Socrates, one of the recurvus type, a fine firm flower, very late; Sonata, large flower with a large eye rimmed with a narrow band of red, one of the best of the late Poets; Ringdove and Sarchedon are both very fine exhibition varieties, and so is Striking, but a long price is still asked for them.

The members of the Poeticus family must be planted on good retentive soil. Moisture they must have. In Holland and the Fen district at home they get moisture because the water level is never far below the roots of plants. On higher ground a stiffish soil which will hold the moisture must be chosen. I have tried to grow Poets on light land where nearly all other narcissi grow to perfection, but they were miserable and had to be brought back to a much stronger and moister soil. I forgot to mention the double Poeticus (albus plenus odoratus) in my list. This is a great favourite with the general public. Its double white flowers are very richly scented. It does not flower until about the end of May or first week in June in the Midlands. This variety will not do the least good unless it is planted on stiff, moist soil. On any other soil it will not flower at all. It may produce buds, but they all turn into "duds."



CAEDMON, A FINE EXHIBITION VARIETY WITH A STRIKING RED RIM TO THE EYE.



THE FRAGRANT POET'S NARCISSUS, THE PARENT OF ALL THE MODERN POETICUS VARIETIES.

Digitized by Google

THE POETAZ SECTION.

This section is now generally merged into the polyanthus group (Division 8 of the R.H.S. classification). It was at first produced by a Dutch firm by crossing the existing polyanthus narcissi with a Poet.

They are rather hardier than the older polyanthus section, but do not succeed in all soils and climates. They grow well in Holland—protected with litter during severe weather—very well in some parts of Ireland, also Cornwall and the Channel Islands, but are not much good in the midland or northern counties of England—I mean to cultivate in the open ground. In pots or bowls in fibre or soil they are easy subjects to flower anywhere. Their strong scent is appreciated by many, but not by the writer. Some of the best of this section to be had at a moderate price are Alsace, Elvira, Admiration, Aspasia, Jaune à Merveille, Klondyke and Triumph. Some very beautiful things in this section have been raised by Mr. P. D. Williams of Cornwall, and others, but a long purse is required to secure a collection of these modern gems. J. DUNCAN PEARSON.

NOTES OF THE WEEK

STREAK DISEASE IN SWEET PEAS.

IS this disease hereditary, or does it develop through certain conditions of soil; do climatic conditions favour it; does it develop on some soils more than others? These questions are prompted by experience over several years, but more especially during the past two years. Let me say right here that I am fully cognisant of the fact that this subject is no new one, and it is evident that others have had experience of the trouble as well as myself.

As I am out to grow sweet peas as well as they can be grown and my efforts in this direction are frustrated by the plants going off wholesale, I want to know why this comes about.

Perhaps it is unnecessary for me here to detail all the points about methods of cultivation adopted; suffice it to say that it has been the endeavour to give the best possible: such as trenching the soil, incorporating with the soil a fair amount of manure, liming, autumn seed sowing, non-coddling of the young plants—but, even with these precautions, we have disease badly.

Plants attacked are not only those grown on the single stem system, but also those which are unrestricted. The puzzling thing about the whole matter is the fact that there are certain plants under both conditions which are in good health and robust. So far, I cannot see that any variety differs from others, as all are alike in being diseased. If there is any difference in the plants grown under the two systems, it is found in that those grown naturally certainly show a less percentage affected, while the soil preparation for these was not so elaborate.

It is as well to mention that the soil is part of the kitchen garden which has been under cultivation for years, and consists of a light, sandy loam overlying gravel, of fair depth, but very hungry. I wonder if this is a cause of non-success? The plants do well during the earlier stages of growth, after being planted out, and excellent flowers with good stems are obtained, but after a month or six weeks from commencement of flowering the trouble begins. As a test, this year feeding has only been done at long intervals, and it seems, therefore, that feeding is not the cause.

On pulling up affected plants, both roots and stem are in a bad condition. I find little evidence of the nodules which should be found on the roots of healthy plants.

Of course, the unnatural system of disbudding and removing the tendrils obviously must throw the plants out of gear, but that success is obtained, nevertheless, under the system is equally certain.

I refrain from further remarks at present, but leave the subject here, in the hope of obtaining some definite information that will enable myself and others to overcome the trouble.—G. H. H., *Twickenham.*

TULIPS GROWING IN GRASS.

I HAVE made many enquiries, but I have never heard of tulips being successfully established in grass in the same way that daffodils or even crocuses are. My own personal experience confirms this. I have on more than one occasion planted different kinds in our churchyard, which seemingly should make an excellent home for them, but the only variety that has shown the least power of blooming from year to year is elegans. A poor starved-looking bloom occasionally does appear among the others, but this effort is not an annual one. I allow that there are exceptional places and conditions where a much greater measure of success has been obtained, where flowers have appeared annually for a certain number of years, yet even in these cases I do not think there has been any increase and the continuance has been due to the soil having been enriched before the bulbs were planted or to an annual top-dressing afterwards. Time, in the end, has invariably conquered. It would appear that even a good supply of nutriment is soon exhausted and that it is impossible to renew it adequately.

This accounts, I think, for the intermittent flowering and finding of many of the new species (?) in Italy and Savoy. The late Mr. Dykes held the opinion that almost all will eventually be found to be only varieties. Be this as it will, it is a curious phenomenon why in places well known to botanists, a new variety should suddenly appear and then never be seen again. If anyone wishes to plant tulips in grass, I would advise him to take the sod off and then enrich the soil underneath by the addition of old rotten cow manure below the bulbs and bone meal incorporated in the top soil before planting. There will then be in all probability a few years of decent bloom.

If a display is only wanted for one year there is no difficulty, provided no mice, rats or rabbits can get to the bulbs or young foliage. Bulbs may be planted in the ordinary way with a Barr's bulb planter, care being taken to put a pinch of good new rich soil below each one. Three are best for this job. One to make the holes with the planter, one to drop the soil and bulb in the hole and a third to fill it up with the round wedge which the planter took out. It will be seen that the tulips do not die out when they cease blooming for, years after, the one large leaf will be sent up, which is the signal for no flowers.—J. J.

THE GLOBE THISTLE GIVES A STRIKING DISPLAY IN A GROUP WITH A SHRUBBY BACKGROUND.

THE GLOBE THISTLE.

THE enclosed illustration demonstrates the value of this excellent plant where large spaces are to be filled artistically. Against a background of trees, for example, the globe thistle (Echinops Ritro) will create quite a sensation if grown well, because the shelter afforded by the trees enables the plant to maintain its upright status without the necessity for staking or tying, which spoils the appearance of plants of a natural spreading habit. For the wild garden, or, as a relief in the evergreen shrubbery, this beautiful thistle with its rounded heads of a pretty blue and grey-green foliage, is one of the finest subjects that could be planted, especially if it has the distant companionship of one of the eryngiums—even our native teazle. The resemblance, with a decided difference, between the two plants is very pleasing.

No special culture is required by Echinops Ritro; it will grow in any garden soil, the richer ground producing the finest plants.

Digitized by Google

It is a good bee plant and the handsome blue, globular heads can be dried and used as everlastings for home decoration.—H. A. DAY.

A NOVEL BEDDING PLANT.

I AM sending you this photograph of an Anemone apennina growing in an open exposed border in Scotland. The tubers were planted here in the month of November. The first spring's growth produced nothing but leaves—there were only three flowers out of a hundred plants. The leaves soon died down and some quick-growing annuals were sown on the surface soil to make good during the summer. The tubers were left undisturbed the following winter, and the illustration shows the second spring's result. The gorgeous blue colour of the flowers could be seen from the road, and it attracted many gardening enthusiasts, who came to enquire the name of this "new flower." The show of bloom lasted for about a month.

As this type of anemone is usually associated with shady nooks, rockeries, and naturalisation in grass, I thought I would give publicity to this photograph, which, perhaps, in itself will commend the possibility of employing Anemone apennina for ordinary spring bedding. On looking through many provincial bulb catalogues I could find no mention of Anemone apennina. I see that the list of a well known London firm contains this beautiful little flower, priced at about the same rate per hundred as the better quality crocuses.—E. W. TATTERSALL.

THE KAFFIR LILY.

ONE of the most valuable flowers for the late autumn is the Kaffir lily (Schizostylis coccinea), which grows to the height of 2ft. or 3ft. and has something the habit of the gladiolus. The Kaffir lily, which is a native of South Africa, produces flowers of a very bright crimson colour, particularly valuable for cutting. The plant is perfectly hardy in most situations and it deserves to be more extensively grown than is the case. In the ordinary way the flower spikes begin to develop in October, but, in a mild season spikes of bloom are often produced almost to the end of the year. Although the requirements of the Kaffir lily are simple and the plant will grow almost anywhere, it appreciates careful treatment. Of course, on account of its habit of flowering so late in the year the schizostylis has to face a good deal of rough and inclement weather. On this account it is wise to plant the bulbs at the foot of a wall or fence with a south aspect. Here, in the event of severe frost, it is possible to give the flower spikes a little temporary protection in the way of mats. The Kaffir lily revels in a rich soil and it likes abundance of water, especially during the summer. Bulbs newly planted in the early autumn will come into flower in about two months time. It is worth while supporting the flower spikes with stakes as the stems are very apt to get broken in windy weather. The Kaffir lily is an interesting plant for culture in pots under glass or even in a sunny room.—S. L. B.

EVERLASTING FLOWERS.

THERE are numbers of flowering plants in the garden, that as they open in the summer, are not the least attractive, but gathered at the right moment have a value when most other blossoms have gone. We call them "everlastings," and though it may be a rather ambiguous term, it at least conveys the idea of flowers that may be kept for a time beyond ordinary subjects. These blossoms cover a rather wider range than most people unacquainted with them would imagine. You find them among hardy perennials, biennials and annuals and all of them may be grown out of doors and in most gardens. Those who have no glass accommodation and, consequently, are sometimes at a loss for flowers for the home after chrysanthemums and other outdoor blooms have gone, might do worse than turn their attention to, and specialise in, a bed of them with a view to providing something of interest for room decoration in winter. They are not as attractive as freshly gathered flowers from the greenhouse, but they are good substitutes from November to April, before spring flowers appear in quantity.

ANEMONE APENNINA USED AS A BEDDING PLANT.

In hardy plants alone we have some that are of the easiest possible culture, calling for no special soil or treatment, yet providing good material for the filling of vases, cut when half opened and allowed to dry before being deposited in a room. Statice (sea lavenders) are useful, and S. latifolia, bearing heads of dark blue flowers, is one of the best. Echinops (globe thistles) are handsome perennials which show up well in vases to themselves. E. Ritro, a dark blue, and E. sphærocephalus, white flower heads and silvery white foliage, are attractive. The sea hollies (eryngiums) furnish us with branches bearing many spiny bracts of metallic colourings. I mention E. amethystinum, a beautiful plant for the borders, growing about 3ft. in height, bracts as well as stems being of a bright amethyst colour. E. tripartitum is a dark blue species at its best in autumn. E. Oliverianum has steely blue bracts.

The blue cupidone (catananche) is comparatively little known. It belongs to the daisy order and bears flowers, that, when dried, add interest to a bunch of everlastings.

Physalises are very popular. They are much in evidence in September and October and are in demand for decoration. P. Franchetti, bearing scarlet seed vessels; P. Alkekengi, orange red; and P. Bunyardi, a hybrid, bearing a great profusion of pods, are all worth growing.

Gypsophilas, as represented by G. paniculata and its double forms, provide one with spreading panicles of airy lightness, and are too well known to need more than mention among flowers for winter use.

Biennials do not embrace many that serve our purpose in this connection; perhaps the chief is honesty (Lunaria biennis), the silvery seed pods of which are indispensable in schemes for flowers for winter decoration.

Rarely does one meet with the dipsacuses, or teasels, in the garden. Most people who know anything of them, still look upon them as wildings, to be found in quarries and isolated stony places, but it is a mistake to shut one's eyes to their use as garden tenants. Some years ago I secured, from a disused quarry, some heads from which I extracted seed, sowed it, and in August I cut quite a number of the—to me—attractive stems crowded with heads resembling large thistles. They are biennials, need sowing in May and come to maturity in the following year.

Annuals give us helichrysums, rhodanthes and acroclíniums. All, with the exception of rhodanthes, will do well outside and seed can be sown on a sunny border, but even rhodanthes can be so treated if sowing of seed is deferred until the end of May. These provide plenty of flowers, but, like all other flowers intended for future use, need to be gathered before they have expanded very far.

In arranging everlastings for winter use, it is best to do so loosely, either in vases or baskets and the only embellishment they need are light grasses or fronds of dried ferns. A suggestion of perfume may be brought about by interspersing sprigs of lavender among them.—CLAREMONT.

SPIRÆA BRACTEATA.

DURING the months of May and June groups of this white flowering shrub are decidedly attractive, and indeed conspicuous, by reason of the wealth of blooms which clothe the slender arching branches.

S. bracteata is a distinct shrub of rounded habit and reaches 8ft. in height when fully grown. The flowers are pure white and produced in profusion in clusters from the tips of the leafy twigs which spring from the previous year's growths.

It is a native of Japan and succeeds admirably with me near the waterside, where its flower-laden growths weep over to the water and are very attractive.

At no time should the bushes be permitted to become dense and thus filled with a lot of useless dead wood, otherwise the true graceful character which is such a feature of this shrub is lost.—E. M.

Digitized by Google

BULBS FOR YOUR SPRING GARDEN

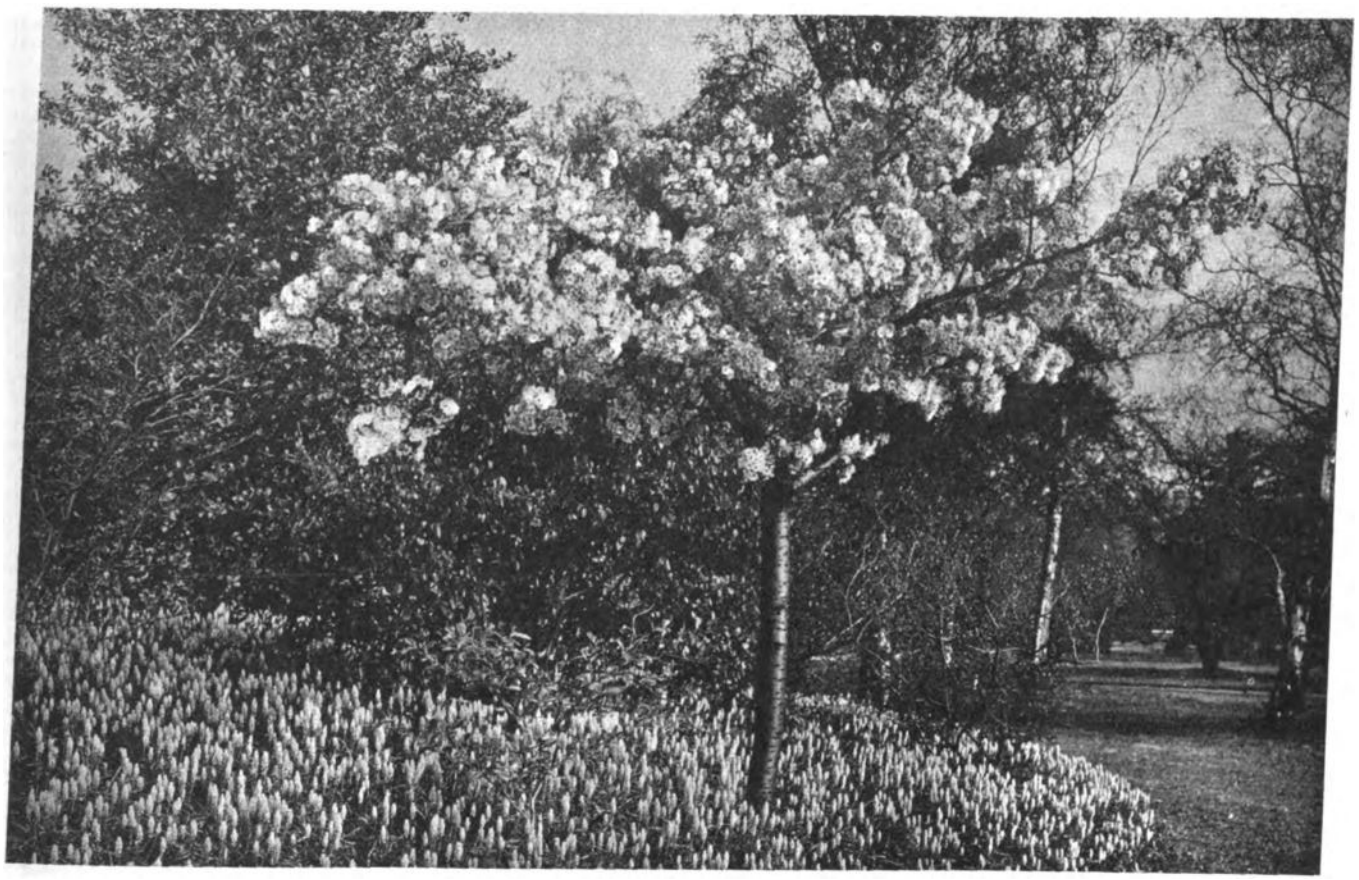
IT is a far call from August to the months when the main show of bulbs adds zest to our spring gardens, and yet from now onwards gardeners take an increasing interest in them. There is no group of plants that has such a range. The autumn-flowering kinds, such as crocuses and colchicums, will soon be in flower, closely followed by the earliest forced hyacinths, and so the tale continues until the last of the tulips are over. Something is in flower for nine months, from September to May. To many the planting time is most fascinating.

TULIPS FOR BEDS AND BORDERS.

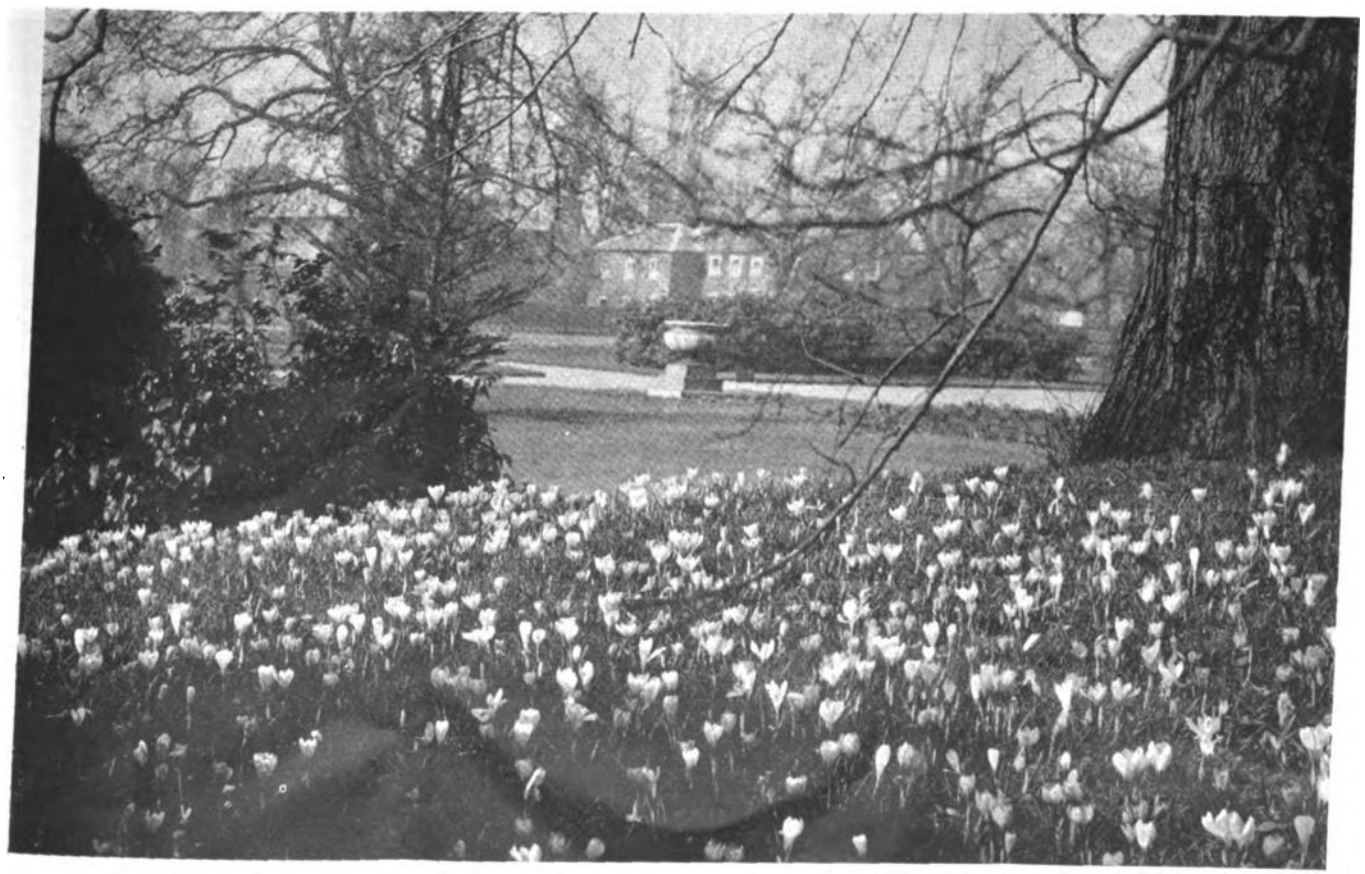
DAFFODILS FOR WOODLAND AND LAWN.

IMAGINATION is at work and colour schemes are made long in advance; in fact, planning takes many hours that are interesting and enjoyable. Most of the bulb catalogues have now been sent out and are eagerly pored over by everyone in touch with gardens. That the general quality of bulbs is increasing there is no doubt. Their season is now prolonged, and some kind of bulb can be found for every purpose, a sure sign that they are becoming more and more popular in every class of garden and among every kind of gardener. Make sure of getting the bulbs you want by ordering early.

Digitized by Google



HERE IS AN IDEA FOR YOUR SPRING GARDEN: GRAPE HYACINTHS UNDER A FLOWERING CHERRY.



FOR SPRING COLOUR, PLANT CROCUSES IN THE OUT OF THE WAY CORNERS, IN THE ROCKERY OR UNDER TREES.

Digitized by Google

COMMENTS ON "THE GARDEN" SWEET PEA COMPETITION

THE recently concluded sweet pea competition in THE GARDEN has been not only interesting and attractive, but valuable in several directions, apart from its main object of indicating the six most popular varieties. The competition has been a great success with respect to the huge number of coupons submitted. In itself, this is encouraging, for it plainly proves that public interest in the most popular annual is not decreasing.

The number of varieties of sweet peas in commerce at the present time is truly bewildering, probably well over five hundred. A really extraordinary number, over three hundred, were mentioned on the voting papers.

What may one gather from the result? I think it provides answers to such queries as "Are decided self-colours preferred to 'mixed' and undecided tints?" "Is any real attention paid by the general public to points such as size of flower, scent, vigour of growth and ability to withstand the effect of sun?" "How long does it take the general public to recognise the merit of a novelty which is a real improvement?" "Bearing in mind the fact that thirty or more novelties are placed on the market every year, do sweet pea growers, as a whole, discern slight improvements on existing varieties, or must a novelty be greatly superior to existing kinds before it is appreciated?" "Does the general public cleave to its old favourites long after they have been superseded by newer and better ones?" "Will the result of the competition surprise anyone in close touch with sweet pea matters?"

Answering the last question first, I think not. I did not enter for the competition, but several weeks ago submitted a forecast to the Editor of what I considered would be the final twelve varieties and the order of their preference. My order of preference was incorrect, but in eleven cases out of twelve my list was right, the only error being the inclusion of Hebe instead of Hawlmark Pink. I gave the list from experience of public taste, not from personal preference.

One cannot help noticing, on looking through the list of the twelve leading varieties, that clear, decided colours are obviously preferred. There is not one which might be termed "mixed" or even "delicate." Eleven out of the first dozen are self-colours, and, of course, all are of the waved or Spencer type. While all might be described as large flowering, it is significant that the leading pair are larger than any of the remainder.

Except in the case of George Shawyer, the last one, all are quite sunproof, and all—with perhaps the exception of Hawlmark Pink—may be truly termed "general purpose" varieties, useful alike for garden and home decoration as for exhibition. Referring to the official audit of the total number of times different varieties were exhibited at the N.S.P.S. 1925 annual show (1926 statistics are not yet available) gives their order of popularity from the particular point of view of the exhibitor. We find that, out of 105 varieties exhibited then, eight of THE GARDEN twelve are included in the most favoured dozen and eleven in the first twenty-four, Hawlmark Pink being the missing one with the position of forty-second in the audit.

The question of preference as regards scent is rather obscure, for six out of the twelve are strongly scented, and the remainder "fair to medium." Although many may disagree with the statement, I should say—from experience—that little notice is taken of scent in individual varieties by growers in general, colour, size and vigour claiming much greater attention. Would Powerscourt, for instance, occupy third position if it were practically devoid of perfume? I think it would. Length of stem, maintained throughout the season, is a decided asset to a variety, and we find only three of the twelve have a tendency to shorten their stems unduly towards the latter part of the flowering period. One cannot expect to find any variety less than two years old in the leading popular dozen, for quite apart from the question of the cost of a novelty, it takes at least three years from the time of its introduction for even an outstanding improvement to become generally known. Although all the first twelve are what may be termed "standard" varieties, the fact that Charming is included shows quite plainly that a real advance is comparatively quickly appreciated.

At the time of its introduction practically every one of the dozen was a decided improvement on all others of a similar shade. Such peas as Constance Hinton, Charity, Royal Purple and Mrs. Tom Jones quickly became popular, and have held their positions against all comers for years, in spite of the rivalry of later varieties.

The only feature of the result which surprises me is the high position of Hawlmark Pink. Of course, its colour is good, but it has few, if any, other claims to priority over several other pinks. Hebe, for example, is superior in size, vigour and length of stem. Perhaps one is inclined to forget that colour is, after all, the main attraction of the flowers.

C. H. A. S.

THE BULB GARDEN: FORCING HYACINTHS

AN essential point pertaining to hyacinth culture is to be early, for it is during the short, dark days when the blooms are most admired and their full value obtained. The merits of Roman hyacinths are well known, but I am afraid the Dutch Romans have not yet risen to their zenith of popularity. To precede the Dutch they are invaluable; obtainable in the same popular colours and by careful management they may be had in bloom from Christmas onwards.

To have the above two classes of hyacinths very early and typical in character one must not wait to be reminded that it is time to order by the arrival of the bulb catalogues; the bulbs must be ordered at least two or three weeks before these pour in, with a note on the order that they are required for earliest forcing. It is imperative that a bulb shall be given a certain period in which to perform its functions, and the longer that period the better. The bulbs must be potted immediately on receipt. A compost suitable for a free and healthy root action is one composed of two parts light loam, one part leaf soil, and half of sand. This may seem rather "poor," but it is better to rely on frequent applications of weak liquid manure when top growth is active, to increase strength of spike and promote earliness, rather than employ a too rich rooting medium. Another important detail is not to overpot—a 5in. size pot is quite large enough for four bulbs of either Romans or Dutch Romans.

VARIETIES TO SELECT.

As one aims at a good spike of the Dutch hyacinth, the compost must be made richer than that recommended for the Roman varieties; therefore add some old cow manure and a little bonemeal. Three bulbs in a 6in. pot is a good number. The varieties are very numerous, but most can be relied upon to throw up good spikes when well grown, so it is not my intention to give a long list or to mention the names of any doubles, as the single varieties are the clearer in colour and more attractive. I do not depreciate the double varieties, however, as many of them throw up fine spikes, and where a large collection is grown, or double flowers find favour, they are valuable plants. The following will be found good single varieties: La Grandesse and L'Innocence, whites; Schotel, Grand Maître, King of the Blues and King Menelik, blues; Jacques, Moreno and Gigantea, pinks; General Pelissier and La Victoire, reds; King of the Yellows and City of Haarlem, yellows.

CULTURAL METHODS.

When potting see that the compost is moderately moist, then no watering will be required till the bulbs are taken out of the plunging material. One crock and a little of the rough potting material will do for drainage. The soil must be lightly pressed, a little sand placed under each bulb, and the apex of the bulb on a level with the surface. Half-decayed leaf-soil and old ashes form a perfectly safe medium in which to plunge the pots; first 2ins. of the former, and then about 3ins. of the latter. A shady position outside should be selected for the earlier batch as the sun often attains great power in September. In eight weeks time, or as soon as 2ins. of growth has been made, move the

Digitized by Google

pots to a cold frame from which light is partially excluded until the growth has turned green, and here they must have ample ventilation, excepting during severe weather, when they should be protected.

When commencing to force, first allow the bulbs one week in an ordinary greenhouse, then a week in intermediate temperature, and finally introduce to stove heat. The best position in the house is on a shelf suspended from the roof, where the maximum amount of sunlight reaches them; couple with this a moist atmosphere, and good spikes of bloom will result. JAMES A. PAICE.

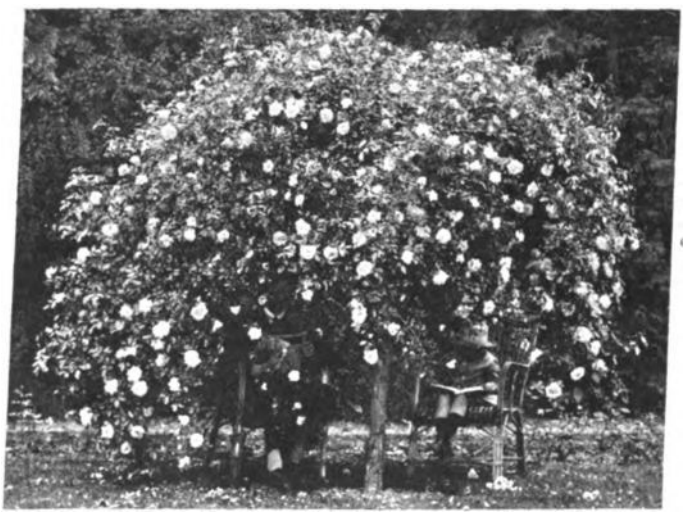
CORRESPONDENCE

PRIMULAS.

SIR,—I see I have made a slip in the communication sent you on primulas and printed in THE GARDEN of August 14th. I gave the credit of first using the rose border as a suitable situation for some difficult primulas to Sir I. Bailey Balfour. I have just come across a note in Vol. IX, page 168, of "Notes from the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh," in which he ascribes the idea to Dr. Macwatt, author of "The Primulas of Europe." I give the quotation: "Dr. Macwatt of Duns has had great success with P. Parryi, *Gray*, planted in a rose border, and following him, I have planted several of the section in like quarters and so far with success in the way of foliage."—WILLIAM LOW, *Montrose*.

ROSE ALBERIC BARBIER.

SIR,—I am enclosing a photograph of a fine weeping standard of Rose Albéric Barbier, which may be of interest to some of your readers. The height of the specimen is nearly 9ft. and circumference of about 30ft., and it will cover easily a seat for four persons with ample headroom under the branches. It is supported by its own stout stem only, and is one of a row of several weeping standards which fourteen years ago I budded where they stand.—H. C. WOOD, *Lingfield*.



A FINE SPECIMEN OF A WEEPING STANDARD, ALBERIC BARBIER.

HOLLYHOCK RUST.

SIR,—I raised a fine batch of named double hollyhocks from seed last year, and all, with two exceptions, have been disfigured and rendered unsightly by the hollyhock fungus, Puccinia malvacearum. The soil prepared for them was liberally enriched with manure from the farmyard, and this, I feel sure, was the cause of the disease. Two spare plants I placed in a very odd spot some distance away in the shade of a large apple tree against a wire netting fence along a bank which had never been dug or manured. These two hollyhocks have bloomed magnificently, leading me to conclude that overdoses of manure, or a well manured piece of land, are favourable to the disease. Curiously enough, hollyhocks against walls in cottage gardens where manure is rarely applied bloom freely and continually year after year. I have sometimes seen it stated that impoverished soil will encourage the disease. My experience leads me to think otherwise, and it would be interesting to hear other opinions on the subject.—CEDRIC C. UNDERHILL, *Canterbury*.

THE PINK AND GREY GARDEN.

SIR,—Some interesting and beautiful combinations for the above garden were given a short time back in THE GARDEN. To that list may I add one more association which I have found most pleasing and effective? It is that of Centaurea cinerarea and the pink Begonia semperflorens, otherwise known as the fibrous begonia; and this is a combination which does as well for pot plants for the conservatory as in the open border—both subjects lending themselves so well for pot culture. This latter remark, however, is by the way only, as one can get much better results from outdoor planting, the growth being more natural and the viewpoint less interrupted than when seen in the glasshouse. I may add pink tuberous begonias are equally suitable, fewer plants being necessary to a given number of centaureas on account of the blooms being larger than those of the fibrous begonia.—C. T., *Ampthill*.

FEIJOA SELLOWIANA.

SIR,—*Re* Feijoa Sellowiana, as noted by various correspondents in THE GARDEN of June 12th and July 3rd, it should be remembered that even in milder climates than the south of England the fruits of this handsome shrub do not ripen on the plant, but normally drop to the ground while still hard and sharply acid. They should thereupon be gathered and laid on a shelf for a few days, or until they develop their characteristic and powerful aroma, when they are ready for the table. Those who try to eat them direct from the plant always court disappointment, whereas the properly ripened fruit is, to most palates, irresistibly luscious. As the skin possesses a slightly disagreeable strong principle, the flavour is more delicate if the fruit is cut with a knife and the pulp carefully scooped out with a spoon.

Seedling plants differ greatly in their time of ripening fruit, some bushes dropping all their fruits before those of neighbouring plants have attained full size. They also differ very conspicuously in size, shape, flavour, thickness of skin, amount of greyish bloom on the fruit, and other particulars.

Some of the best forms grown in California are now propagated by grafting, so that uniform plantings of selected fruit have become possible in recent years. A few of the more noteworthy varieties have received special names, the best known probably being the Coolidge, the Choiceana and the Superba.

The feijoa is not only good as a fresh fruit with sugar and cream, but it makes a superior jelly, a rich paste or marmalade, which some prefer to that of the guava, and an excellent preserve. Many will find it delicious in pies and tarts, using a few apples for softening the flavour if the latter be found too penetrating.

Once established, the plant is surprisingly drought-resistant.—S. S. B., *Redlands, California*.

SILVER LEAF IN FRUIT TREES.

SIR,—With reference to an article in THE GARDEN on Silver Leaf in Plum and Other Fruit Trees, in which you state that there is no known cure for this disease, I saw, a few years ago, a Victoria plum with extensive and unmistakable silver leaf. I asked the owner, an old man and a keen gardener of many years' standing, when he intended cutting down the tree, but he laughed and replied that he had known silver leaf since he was a boy and could soon cure it.

The tree was subsequently sprayed with a strong solution of permanganate of potash, 50 to 60 gallons being used, the surrounding ground as well as the tree being drenched. The following year the tree appeared quite healthy, showing no trace of silver leaf, and bore a heavy crop of fruit.

I regret that I am unable to say whether the tree has remained clean, as I have not seen the garden since, the owner having died; but perhaps some of your readers may have had experience of this "cure." The old man was so sure of it, and the results were so remarkable, that it seems to me to be worth at least a trial.—E. ROSE, *Beeston, Notts*.

THE ACHILLEAS.

SIR,—I am fully in accordance with your correspondent, "W. L." as to the merits of the achilleas (THE GARDEN, August 14th, 1926). Their blooming season is very long; they are exceedingly good tempered and the white varieties are admirable for cutting. But I confess I cannot agree with him when he gives the colour of A. Cerise Queen as "bright red." Far from being this, it begins as magenta and "goes off" a really horrible shade, which can only be described as "bled beetroot" colour!—R. E. H., *Bath*.

FASCIATION IN LILIES.

SIR,—Is it a common occurrence for lilies to become fasciated, and should the bulb be destroyed if the same thing happens every year? I have three bulbs of L. Henryi, two of which produce ordinary flowers; but the third, for the last two years, has had a monstrous head, unsightly, but wonderful. I counted this year the blooms on the fasciated stem, and they amounted to 160, exclusive of several immature buds. It seems incredible, but three people verified the number. The stem is 3ins. across.—F. A. G., *Dublin*.

A TRAP FOR EARWIGS.

SIR,—To catch earwigs, I have found filling the pots with crumpled-up grease-proof paper more successful than using hay. This hint might be useful to some of your readers.—(Mrs.) SARAH ROBSON, *West Hartlepool*.

Digitized by Google

THE FLOWER GARDEN

PANSIES AND VIOLAS.

How to Propagate.

CUTTINGS of these may be successfully rooted any time from mid-July to the end of August or the middle of September in the southern counties. Some persons who love these flowers are reluctant to attempt to grow them in the south, thinking that they will not succeed, but I can assure them that pansy and viola plants will thrive splendidly if they are properly treated. These plants, especially the cuttings, do like cool quarters to grow in; a really deeply dug, well enriched soil. If there is not a wall or fence available, the cultivator should construct a rough fence which will break the sun's rays and afford a cool border facing north, north-west or to east. A row of old pea sticks will do. These should be inserted in double lines and evergreen branches packed between. There not being any roots to such a fence, the cuttings may be inserted quite close up to it.

The best cuttings are those made of young shoots having firm stems, solid, not long ones that are hollow at the base and bearing flower-buds such as the one shown at *a*. Select cuttings similar to *b* and sever the stem just below a joint. These cuttings grow at *c*, shown at the bottom of an old plant, *d*, shown in the sketch. Some cultivators simply press them down with the thumb and thus sever them from the parent plant, inserting them without any further preparation. But the inexperienced amateur should not do this, he must remove the lower leaves and cut across the stem below a joint as shown in the sketch at *b*. Use a compost similar to the following: Some good loam, half-rotted leaf-soil, a small proportion of old rotted manure and some coarse sand. Mix the ingredients thoroughly and form a bed at least 4ins. deep as shown at *e*. On the surface, at *f*, place 1in. of sand, make the bed firm, insert the cuttings and water them with a fine rose watering-can. Water when necessary, and firm the cuttings in the soil after any frost may have loosened it. The north side of a low wall is an ideal position for a cutting bed.—GEO. GARNER.

TULIP GROWING IN BOWLS WITHOUT DRAINAGE.

THE growing of bulbs of all kinds in bowls and other receptacles without any drainage has become very common. It is true that the system has advantages in certain cases, where, for example, no good soil can be obtained unless at a prohibitive cost, or where for some special reason, such as lightness, it is desirable to break away from the orthodox old-fashioned pots.

But where it is as easy to adopt the one system as the other—all things being equal—I would never advise anyone to give the preference to bowls, etc., without drainage. They are more trouble to manage in my opinion, and the results as a rule are not equal to those grown on the ancient lines. I have seen now and again splendid examples of tulips in bowls grown in the latter way. Fill the receptacles with the compost, lightly pressing it down until there is sufficient upon which to place the bulbs. When the whole is finished off, their tops should be level with the surface of the material employed and this in turn should be half an inch below the top of the edge of the bowl. This must then be placed in a dark place, where there is plenty of air in order to promote root growth. After which period it must be placed in a window, which on all suitable days may be opened, being careful to avoid cold draughts or frosts at night. Where a greenhouse is available the treatment is the same as for pots. All through the growing period the great difficulty is to keep the medium sufficiently moist without being too wet. The surface will frequently appear dry when the bottom is wet and sometimes *vice versa*. In all cases of doubt feel with your finger or turn the bowl carefully on to its side in case of too much moisture.

For culture in bowls I would only advise such varieties as naturally grow tall and are easy to manage. When experience has been gained, others may be attempted. The following are those which I recommend for a start: Scarlet Duc van Thol, Vermillion Brilliant, Prince of Austria, Yellow Prince, Jenny, Keizerskroon, Hector and White Hawk.—J.

BULB PLANTING IN GRASS.

READERS of THE GARDEN who are desirous of planting a few bulbs in grass, but hesitate to expend a considerable sum upon a tool which may never be used again, may be interested in a simple and inexpensive bulb planter which I have recently put together in about an hour.

The parts used were:

(1) A piece of steel tubing 14ins. long, 1-16th in. thick, with an internal diameter of 1 3-8th ins. cut to shape, rough-sharpened and with holes ready drilled. Cost 1s. 6d.

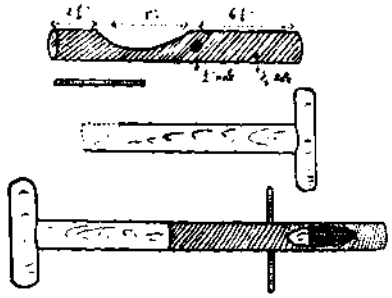
(2) An old door bolt, ½in. in diameter and 9½ins. long.

(3) A straight spade handle of ash, T-shape. Cost 4d.

(4) Two small screws (not really required if the fitting be carefully done). Cost, say, ½d.

The cost came to 1s. 10½d. If the bolt is not available, a steel rod may be purchased at about 8d., bringing the total cost to 2s. 6½d.

The tubing, as may be expected from the price, was "in the rough" and required a certain amount of trimming at the edges with a file and the wooden handle had to be pared down with a coarse file and spokeshave to fit the upper part of the tube and project about 2ins. below the top of the opening. The part projecting was trimmed down diagonally with a chisel to the rear of the tube opening and, so shaped, acts as a slide to throw out the wads of turf as they pass up the lower part of the tube in the course of use. A hole ½in. in diameter was then made through the handle shaft and the bolt driven through with a hammer. Two words of caution are needed: (*a*) sharpening should



1.—*Steel tube as purchased.* 2.—*9½ in. solid steel rod, ½in. thick.* 3.—*2ft. 8in. ash handle.* 4.—*The finished tool.*

be done outside (not inside) the cutting end of the tube, and (*b*) an effort should be made to clear the inside lower part of rust with emery or sand paper before beginning work, otherwise a period of "jamming" will result. A rusty tool never acts well. The illustrations will make matters clear. The result is a strong, reliable tool which works admirably.—S. H.

SOME BEDDING AND BORDER SUGGESTIONS FOR DAFFODILS.

IT must be remembered that the principle of what's one man's meat is another man's poison, holds good about gardens and daffodils. The most striking example, perhaps, is that of King Alfred, which enjoys the rudest health in Cornwall, but can only eke out a miserable existence in most midland counties. All red and red rimmed cupped varieties should be planted only where they can be in partial shade, say under the shadow of a north wall or in a thinly treed wood. There is no use in veiling this drawback to an extensive use of these taking varieties. They undoubtedly burn in the sun. Some do not show the result as much as others, Lady Moor simply looks very like Whitewell, but Mohican takes on an unpleasant look.

Daffodils may be combined with other plants to form "spring beds." Crocuses may be introduced to give an earlier display or late-flowering tulips to give a later one. Different coloured polyanthuses or primroses are very effective as carpeting; for example, a good rich purple, with a deep yellow trumpet, like Golden King, or the fine jonquil hybrid Buttercup; white shades of polyanthuses with Emperor; red shades with Empress, Weardale Perfection or a good giant Leedsii.

Again, daffodils may be planted in rose beds. No less a rosarian than Mr. Edward Mawley did this and he found no resulting ill effects on his pet flowers. Any group of plants in fact which are not placed too close together and have not made very long growth at the time when the daffodils flower, may have bulbs planted between them. For the guidance of those not very familiar with their cultivation, it may be well to say that if the daffodil plants are carefully taken up, so as to do very little injury to either their roots or their leaves, immediately after flowering, they can be transferred to an out of the way quarter to continue their growth and ripen off. It is useful to remember this should any

Digitized by Google

No. 9461.—Boy and Shell Bird-bath.
Dia. of Shell, 15in. Ht. overall. 14in.
PRICE IN CASTONE £4 0 0

GARDEN ORNAMENTS
IN LEAD OR CASTONE

ILLUSTRATIONS AND PRICES OF FIGURES, VASES, BIRD-BATHS AND SEATS WILL BE SENT ON APPLICATION

BROMSGROVE GUILD, LTD.
BROMSGROVE . WORCESTERSHIRE

KATAKILLA

The Popular Insecticide

NON-POISONOUS

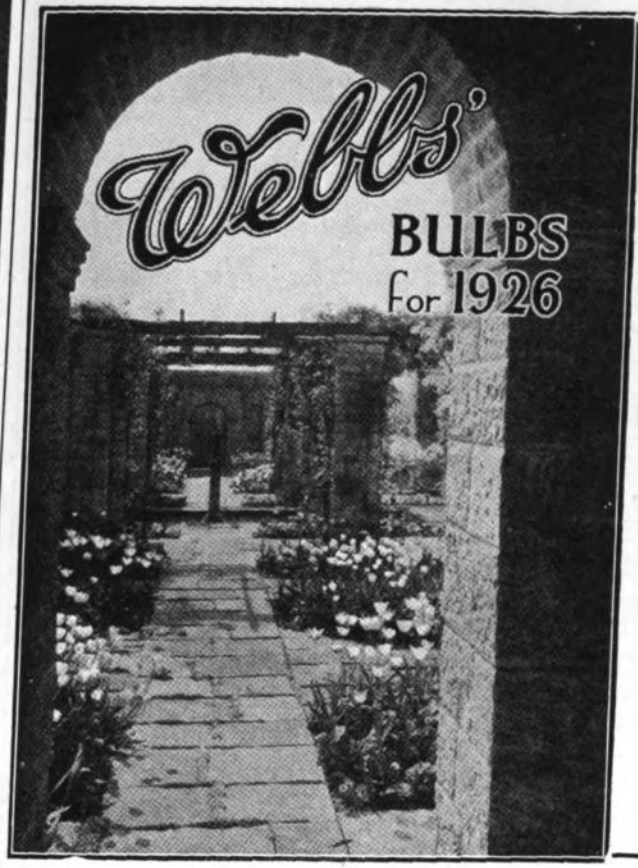
Harmless to human beings and domestic animals.

DEADLY TO APHIS AND CATERPILLARS ON FRUIT, FLOWERS AND VEGETABLES.

In powder form, ready for mixing with water.
2/- cartons (to make 10 gallons wash)
6/- cartons (to make 50 gallons wash)

OF ALL AGENTS

COOPER, McDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, LTD.
BERKHAMSTED



The Finest Selection of the Season

SEND FOR

WEBBS' ILLUSTRATED BULB CATALOGUE for 1926

Post free from

EDWARD WEBB & SONS LTD.

Seed and Bulb Specialists

STOURBRIDGE

CHARLESWORTH'S

World-Renowned Champion

ORCHIDS

The largest Hybridisers, Raisers, Growers and Exporters in the World, and Winners of Highest Honours obtainable.

Expert advice given on all matters appertaining to the Cult, and descriptive Catalogue ∴ free on application ∴

CHARLESWORTH & CO. LTD.
HAYWARD'S HEATH

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

Hewitt's

GLADIOLI

Our group of Gladioli was awarded ***First Prize*** *at the* ***National Gladiolus Show,*** *Burton-on-Trent, in open competition with the leading* ***British & Continental Specialists***

DELPHINIUMS

Our famous strain still remains unrivalled and our exhibits this year have been awarded ***9 Gold Medals*** *at the* ***leading Flower Shows of Great Britain.***

Attractive brochures of each of the above, free on application.

HEWITT & CO. LIMITED

The Nurseries ∴ *SOLIHULL*

WARWICKSHIRE

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS, CHOICE TULIPS, ETC.

LIST ON APPLICATION.

THE WELSH BULB FIELDS, ST. ASAPH

BOLTONS'

FAMOUS

SWEET PEAS

are unsurpassed.

SEND YOUR ENQUIRIES NOW FOR

AUTUMN SOWING

The following varieties have been considered the most popular in cultivation by readers of "THE GARDEN"

1.—**Constance Hinton**
2.—**Picture**
3.—**Powerscourt**
4.—**Mrs. Tom Jones**
5.—**Royal Scot**
6.—**Warrior**

We can supply the above Special Collection also all other leading varieties for AUTUMN and SPRING SOWING.

OUR NOVELTIES

FOR

1926–1927

ARE

COLORADO, FORTUNE, MODEL WHITE, NEW MAUVE, and WHAT JOY

DETAILS FREE

If you are not already on our Mailing List, send for our — NEW CATALOGUE — which will be published shortly.

R. BOLTON & SO

Sweet Pea Specialists

BIRDBROOK :: **ESS**

Digitized by Google

beds be wanted for a summer or autumn display in which there are daffodils.—W.

HERBACEOUS BORDERS.

Seasonable Reminders.

WITH the herbaceous borders at their best it seems almost too soon to be considering their arrangement for next year, but the gardener must ever look ahead if he is to be successful.

Certainly the most common fault with a herbaceous border is the wrong grouping of plants. Not so much is this fault pronounced in miscalculations of the heights of different plants as it is in the clashing instead of the blending of colours. Now is the time to seek a remedy for this fault in this way: See that the different plants are labelled with a tab which indicates the colour of the flower, *viz.*, "Delphinium, dark blue with white eye," "Phlox, pink with scarlet eye," etc. This work, if done now while the blooms are still on the plants, will obviate many of the mistakes which occur through slips of memory at a later season. Of course, in cases where an enthusiast is dealing with plants that he himself has bought, the name of the variety is more or less indicative, but it often happens that the man deputed to dig the herbaceous border during the winter months has a very confused idea of the colours of different varieties, hence I say there is occasion to put the name of the colour on the labels. The labelling of plants leads to the consideration of autumn-flowering herbaceous plants, and now is the time for every enthusiast to have his notebook at hand that he can make a note of any plant which he may see in flower and may desire to add to his own border.

With the approach of shorter days the prospects of more unsettled weather are greater, and for this reason it will be necessary to ascertain that the staking of big plants has been properly attended to. Particularly does this remark apply to such plants as asters, dahlias, solidagos, etc. It must be borne in mind that if they are not securely staked one storm may be sufficient to ruin many of them.

Now that the bulb catalogues are being distributed many people will be thinking of obtaining bulbs to provide an early display of bloom, and here again forethought is required. Bulbs which are set now if planted in a haphazard manner wherever there is a square foot of space are almost sure to be disturbed when the cleaning proper of the border commences. Therefore, if bulbs are to be used in the border, see that the ground is properly cleared for them and also mark out the boundary of each patch clearly with small sticks.

As a concluding note I advocate the early planning of the herbaceous border for next year's display. Get the correct measurements of the border and draw out a plan to a workable scale and when opportunity occurs make an entry on the plan. Above all, let the finished arrangement be the result of days of careful study rather than the outcome of a brain taxed to its utmost for one long evening.—W. HOWELL.

THE GREENHOUSE

HARD-WOODED PLANTS.

When to House.

HARD-WOODED plants rarely do well if they are retained under glass all the year round. When the specimens have finished flowering, those requiring a shift to larger pots are repotted forthwith and kept in the greenhouse, or, better still, in a vinery or peach house, until the new shoots have grown; those not repotted are similarly treated. By the end of June they are all ready for placing on a bed of ashes outside. In such positions, well managed plants are left until the early part of September in the northern counties, and until the end of that month in the southern. If the plants have been properly attended to as regards watering and syringing, the foliage will be healthy and free from pests now; but it is always wise to examine them thoroughly: to lay each one down on a sack or piece of matting and well syringe the under sides of the leaves before the plants are taken to the greenhouse or conservatory for the winter and spring months. It should always be borne in mind that hard-wooded plants, grown in pots, thrive best if they are grown under quite cool conditions, safe from frost. Also, apply clear water only and never allow the soil to get dry; see that the maximum amount of light reaches them. Continue to syringe azaleas, rhododendrons, acacias, cytisus and similar subjects for several weeks after housing.—HANTS.

LAPAGERIAS.

IN the days when a large conservatory was an indispensable feature of every extensive garden, the lapageria was a favourite, but many amateurs have never taken up its culture, we know not why. Lapageria is so nearly hardy that one might expect to find it favoured in greenhouses where little more is done than keep out the frost; it needs a fair amount of space, however, and therein may lie the reason for its lack of popularity.

To succeed well, lapagerias must be in a border and never in a pot; the roots love a moist, free run and when cramped in a pot, always a trifle "fiery," the plants suffer from thrip, bug and all the other ailments that torment the gardener. The soil they seem to like best is a mixture of half loam and half peat, with a slight admixture of sand, perhaps; full and free drainage is also necessary and plenty of liquid refreshment is also demanded.

Plant new plants firmly and train the shoots at first, for they need to be coaxed to take to the wires. We always find that cord is the best for training the shoots or, failing that, old wire; they never take readily to new wire. Pruning is a simple matter; weak growths are cut away, then the shoots which have flowered, unless where needed for extension; the pruning is necessary every year.

The plants are evergreen and their smooth, leathery leaves have an attractive appearance throughout the whole year. They dislike strong sunshine and so flourish best in a shady corner.—CLYDESDALE.

THE KITCHEN GARDEN

FRUIT PESTS.

Fighting the Winter Moth.

IN its narrowest sense the name Winter Moth is usually applied to the species known as Cheimatobia brumata, although this insect is merely one of a group which includes some of the most destructive fruit tree pests. The chief characteristics of the winter moths are that they appear from the end of September until the close of the year. The females of the insects are wingless, or, at least, have such small appendages as to be incapable of flight. On the other hand, the males have comparatively large wings and are very active in the air. In order that the females may reach a suitable position for egg-laying they must crawl up the trunks of the trees, unless, as occasionally happens, they are carried to the branches by the males. The eggs are usually deposited in some bark crevice, and from these the bluish green larvæ, striped with dark lines, emerge. Although the grubs of the winter moths are most harmful to apple trees, they will live on almost any kind of trees or shrubs. At first they eat into the buds in the spring, and, when the leaves begin to appear, they spin two or more together and so form a shelter in which they can feed in safety. When fully developed the caterpillars lower themselves to the ground, burrow into it, and form cocoons about the end of May, from which, in the late fall and winter, they will emerge as perfect insects.

Among the most effective measures to protect fruit trees against the winter moths are the prevention of their ascent of the tree trunks and the destruction of the females. The former is effected quite readily on account of the inability of the moths to fly. The process known as banding is one which every owner of fruit trees should carry out from now until the end of the year. Here some substance is used to encircle the trunk and so provide an area across which the moths cannot pass. Whatever substance is used, it must remain soft and sticky for a day or so (frequent renewal being necessary), and, on no account should it injure the bark. By far the best plan is to fasten bands of greaseproof paper round the trees. Let these be about 4ft. from the ground and tie closely both at the top and bottom. If the band is tied in the middle the borders of the paper open outwards and provide hiding-places for pests of all kinds. The paper is kept smeared with cart-grease, tar, or anything of a similar nature. The coating will have to be renewed every two or three days but if a pot and brush are kept handy, the job is quickly done. Much of this trouble can, however, be avoided if one of the proprietary brands of grease-banding compound is used. These materials are most effective, and do not need to be replenished so frequently as cart-grease or tar. In the case of young fruit trees with stakes, it is most important to grease-band the stakes as well, or the moths will travel up this way. This protection will serve the additional purpose of catching many of the moths. When these reach the sticky area they will become entangled and are easily removed and destroyed. Poultry keepers will find that it is a good plan to let the fowls run about under the fruit trees now and again, for the birds will destroy large numbers of winter moth caterpillars when these have descended from the branches.—L. B.

PARSLEY AND SPINACH.

Supplies for Winter and Spring.

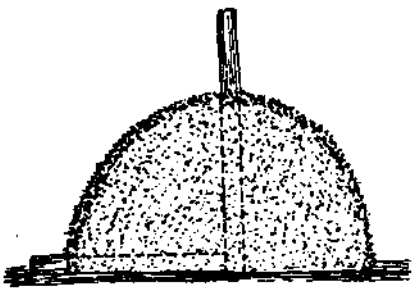
IT is almost impossible to grow parsley at any time of the year in some soils. In others the plants will grow like weeds, and we all know that the latter will grow without being cultivated—intentionally—although they thrive best in soil tilled for garden crops. Parsley seeds rarely germinate, ordinarily, in the open border in spring, sooner than six weeks from the time of sowing. At this season—from late July to mid-September—the seeds will germinate in three weeks time if the soil is kept moist, as it is warm naturally. The best plan is to sow the seeds in beds, having three or four rows in a bed at 1ft. apart, so that it will be an easy matter to put on some protecting material on hoops if severe frosts come. The best position is one on the south, south-west or west side of a wall, hedge or wood fence.

Digitized by Google

Sometimes, in sandy soils, parsley fails to thrive; where this is the case, try spreading on the surface a thin layer of fine gravel after the seeds are sown. Thin out the plants to 4ins. apart and transplant the thinnings. Sow seeds of prickly spinach thinly in rows 2ft. apart or near the foot of walls. Have the soil moderately firm and manured if poor. Thin out the young plants to 6ins. apart.—G. G.

BURNING UP GARDEN RUBBISH.

THE garden bonfire often proves rather a nuisance owing to the large amount of smoke that is given out by the smouldering heap. Of course, green and damp material



cannot be expected to burn up quickly, and it is better to get everything as dry as possible before starting the fire. On a sunny day spread the litter on the ground in a thinnish layer, and turn several times with a fork. Even if it is fairly dry, much of the material that has to be destroyed in the garden will not burn up briskly if it is just piled up in the ordinary way. A very good plan, by means of which a vigorous fire can be secured, is on the following lines:

Secure two rather stout stakes that are 4ft. or 5ft. in length. One of these is cut to a point so that the stick can be driven vertically into the ground, where it is wished to have the fire. The other is placed on the surface in such a way that one end just touches the base of the upright. Now build the rubbish round the stakes in the manner shown in the sketch. Pack the first layers of the material rather closely, adding the final lots in a lighter manner. Carefully withdraw both the stakes and there will then be a channel right from the base to the top of the heap.

Push some paper, or any dry material, into the opening near to the ground and set this alight. The air channel acts very much like the flue of a stove, and the flames roar upwards in fine style. Soon the heart of the mass is glowing, and the fire rapidly spreads to all parts of the pile. After the first ten minutes or so the amount of smoke given out is trifling, and the mass is rapidly reduced to ashes. With a fire of this kind under way, it is possible to consume green or damp stuff if this is spread in a thin layer at the upper part of the pile.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

THE BURTON-ON-TRENT SHOW

UNIQUE interest centred in this show which, to give it its full title, was the Staffordshire and Midland Counties Floral Fête, and was held at Burton-on-Trent on August 11th and 12th. In the first place, it embraced the first provincial show of the National Gladiolus Society, and this in itself was by far the greatest and best show of the three efforts of the committee which has, with good results, set itself to the task of advancing the cult of the gladiolus in Britain. Seconding, the Burton Show was greatly favoured in securing the first round of the competition for the valuable trophy offered by Messrs. Abol, Limited, for the encouragement of plant breeding, and this entirely new idea in competitions among all classes of horticulturists not only excited a deal of keen interest, but brought together a remarkably fine lot of entries.

THE ABOL CHALLENGE TROPHY COMPETITION.

Fourteen important entries for this trophy provided a test of capability for the judges. The trophy was awarded to Messrs. J. Harkness and Sons, Leeming Bar, Bedale, for a grand display of "Regal" lupins which embraced the orange, bronze and apricot shades for which the strain is famous, as well as yellows, salmons, reds and subtle blue shades, in all a glorious demonstration of the evolution of new colours in an old plant which has frequently been the subject of glowing tributes from able pens.

The judges had some difficulty in deciding between this group and a very fine collection of Gladiolus primulinus staged by Mr. W. J. Unwin. There were some wonderful flowers in this exhibit, and had the class been one to show the greatest advancement in gladioli alone, judging would have been a comparatively easy matter. Other remarkably good candidates for the distinctive honour were Hemsley's new sidalceas, House's scabious, Fairburn's new phloxes, a new bedding geranium which is a distinct cross between Paul Crampel and West Brighton Gem, the new rose sport from The Queen Alexandra Rose named Charming Princess, Artindale's calendulas, and a fine group of hybrid astilbes. Altogether, this was an intensely fascinating series of wonderful new improvements in serviceable old plants, not one of which was out of place in the best of company.

Eight strong entries in the opening class for a representative group of gladioli occupying 100 super feet made a show in themselves. Messrs. Hewitt and Co., Limited, Solihull, were winners of the £20 first prize. A strong point was fine culture, but every variety was a good one. Mr. W. J. Unwin's second prize group was very exquisite and any loss of points was solely due to the absence of any but primulinus varieties or hybrids. Of these there were the very best of British, Continental and American varieties, together with a number of unnamed seedlings of the exhibitor's own raising.

Messrs. G. Mair and Sons, Prestwick, Scotland, showed their giant-flowered strain of gandavensis hybrids in the familiar style which has kept the firm so long at the head of the ranks of gladiolus exhibitors, and their awards were numerous, starting with the cup for twenty-four spikes of new varieties and going through all the separate colour classes.

In the amateur classes Mr. Watkin Samuel, of delphinium fame, proved himself to be no mean expert in gladioli. He won several of the principal prizes, and other successful exhibitors were Major Churcher, Mr. A. Amos and Mr. S. Gregg.

Non-competitive exhibits were extremely fine. Mr. Unwin staged a double-fronted group of imposing character and Messrs. J. Kelway and Son had upon their extensive stand a representative collection of their Kelwayi giants and Langprim hybrids. These pioneers in gladiolus breeding had many new varieties, among which several bearing the names of different members of the Kelway family were, naturally, of the best. Messrs. R. H. Bath, Limited, had several new shades of colour in home-raised seedlings, together with a few really good whites, and the cream of the most popular and serviceable varieties in both large-flowered and primulinus sections.

Awards given by the British Gladiolus Society.

Unless otherwise stated the exhibitor is the raiser.

Awards of Merit:

Name of Variety.	*Raiser.*	*Exhibited by.*
Louise Hemon (large-flowered).	Lemoine	Hewitt and Co.
Cyril Blake Amos (large flowered).	—	Lowe and Gibson
Lady Madden (primulinus).	—	" "
Mrs. G. Kellner (primulinus).	—	" "
Sir T. S. Hope Simpson (large-flowered)	—	Kelway and Son.
Burtonia (large-flowered).	—	H. Prins.
Pfitzer's Triumph (large-flowered).	Pfitzer	Konynenburg and Mark
Coryphee (large-flowered).	"	" "
Pour le Merite (large-flowered).	"	" "
Heavenly Blue (large-flowered).	"	" "
Phenomenon (large-flowered).	"	" "
Mrs. van Konynenburg (large-flowered).	"	" "
Rose Précose (large-flowered).	—	K. Velthuys and Co.
Nancy Hanks (primulinus).	Salbach	" "
Emma (large-flowered)	Coblentz(?)	W. J. Unwin
Emile Aubrun (large-flowered).	Lemoine	" "
Dr. F. E. Bennett (large-flowered).	Diener	" "
Ivanhoe (large-flowered	—	G. Mair and Son.
Jessie (large-flowered)	—	" "
Betty (large-flowered)	—	" "

Card of Commendation (Preliminary Award):

Basil Prior (primulinus)	—	A. E. Amos.
Edith (primulinus) ..	—	W. J. Unwin.
Richness (large-flowered)	—	"
Albert E. Amos (large-flowered).	—	G. Mair and Son
Senator (large-flowered)	—	"
Lindfield (medio-prim.)	—	Major G. Churcher
Beckworth (medio-prim.)	—	"
Diomede (primulinus)	—	Lowe and Gibson

The B.G.S. SILVER CHALLENGE CUP for twenty-four spikes of new varieties. First, Messrs. G. Mair and Son, Scotland; second (silver medal), Messrs. Konynenburg and Mark, Holland; third (bronze medal), Kelway and Son, Somerset.

THE "UNWIN" CHALLENGE TROPHY, won by Mr. Watkin Samuel, Wrexham; B.G.S. silver medal, Mr. Ivor Thomas, Liverpool; B.G.S. bronze medal, Major G. Churcher, Sussex.

THE "BATH" CHALLENGE TROPHY, won by Mr. A. Amos, Colchester.

The B.G.S. silver medal for amateur obtaining the largest number of points in Section "D," Major G. Churcher, Sussex; runner-up, Mr. Ivor Thomas.

Bronze medal for largest number of points in Section "C," Mr. A. Amos, Colchester; runner-up, Mr. S. J. Gregg, London.

"DOBBIE'S" SPECIAL FIRST PRIZE, won by Mr. A. Amos.

Group, 20ft. by 4ft (first prize £20 cash), winners, Messrs. Hewitt and Co. Limited, Solihull; second, Messrs. W. J. Unwin, Histon; third, Messrs. Konynenburg and Mark, Holland.

GROUP OF PRIMULINUS, 9ft. by 4ft, first, Mr. W. J. Unwin; second, K. Velthuys, Holland; third, Mr. H. Prins, Holland.

LARGE GOLD MEDAL to Mr. W. J. Unwin for finest group of gladiolus.

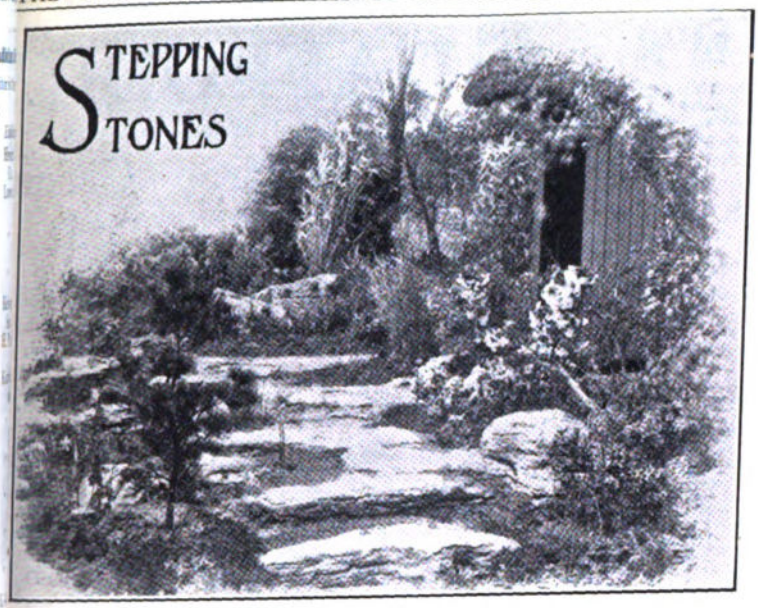
GOLD MEDALS to the following for groups: Messrs. Lowe and Gibson, Crawley Down (seedlings); Messrs. Kelway and Son, Langport; Messrs. R. H. Bath, Limited, Wisbech; Messrs. Konynenburg and Mark, Holland; Mr. H. Prins, Holland; Messrs. K. Velthuys and Co., Holland.

Mr. W. Glen, Chippenham, Wilts.

Successful exhibitors in the open trade classes included Messrs. G. Mair and Son, Ayrshire (14 first, 2 seconds, 1 fourth, 1 fifth); Messrs. Hewitt and Co., Solihull (2 firsts, 5 seconds, 3 thirds); Mr. W. Glen, Chippenham; Messrs. D. Prior and Son, Limited; Messrs. Konynenburg and Mark; and Messrs. K. Velthuys and Co. and Messrs. K. Velthuys and Co. included:

The winning amateur exhibitors included: Mr. Ivor Thomas (5 firsts, 2 seconds, 3 thirds, 3 fifths); Mr. S. Gregg (1 first, 3 seconds, 1 third, 3 fourths, 2 fifths); Major G. Churcher (3 firsts, 6 seconds, 4 thirds, 2 fourths); Mr. A. Amos (twelve prizes, including 7 firsts); Mr. Watkin Samuel (twelve prizes, including 3 firsts, 5 seconds,

Digitized by Google



GARDEN PLANNING

The Stepping Stones to the Good Garden are:

1. GOOD DESIGN: Implying a careful study of existing conditions and evolving a scheme naturally applicable to the site.

2. EXPERT AND CONSCIENTIOUS DIRECTION of its subsequent development.

3. WELL CHOSEN and skilfully arranged planting, in which the chemical constitution of soils, aspect, and local climatic conditions are important.

"EXPERTO CREDE."

GARDEN DESIGN is not merely a matter of planning the more formal portions of the garden. It should extend from the house outwards to the farthest limits of the landscape under our control. Every tree, shrub and plant can, and should, be used to produce that indefinable but æsthetic necessity that artists call composition.

To achieve it requires a knowledge not only of its architectural elements, but an intimate acquaintance with plant life that experience alone can bestow. Lacking this knowledge, wedded to a sympathetic appreciation of beauty, the most attractive paper scheme becomes a series of meaningless lines.

GEORGE DILLISTONE

Garden Architect

42, CLAREMONT ROAD

TUNBRIDGE WELLS

Telephone: 1464

YEARS' PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE IN THE ANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OF GARDENS

Digitized by Google

BURTON-ON-TRENT

We won at the above Show, held 11th and 12th August last, TWO GOLD MEDALS for our WONDERFUL COLLECTION OF GLADIOLI. We offer one Bulb of each variety shown in this collection of 50 different varieties at 8/6, two Bulbs of each variety, in 50 varieties, 16/-, six Bulbs of each variety, in 50 varieties, 45/- The new and most attractive Gladiolus at the Show called BURTONIA, raised by us and only stocked by our firm, only 500 to offer, 2/6 each.

OUR GOLD MEDAL CROCUSES.

The earliest flowers of Spring Exhibition Mixtures for Naturalising.

	Doz.	100	1000
Mixed purple and blue	8d.	4/6	40/-
Mixed striped	8d.	4/6	40/-
Mixed white	8d.	4/6	40/-
Mixed all colours	8d.	4/6	40/-

Crocus, special selected for Window Boxes, Pots and Flower Beds.

	Doz.	100	1000
Special blue, named	9d.	5/-	45/-
Special purple, named	9d.	5/-	45/-
Special striped, named	9d.	5/-	45/-
Special white, named	9d.	5/-	45/-
Special yellows, extra	1/-	8/-	75/-

EXHIBITION TULIPS.

THE DARWINS.—The most sturdy-growing, strong, upright stems with massive flowers:

	Doz.	100
Bartigon, bright fiery red	1/6	10/-
Clara Butt, clear pink, flushed salmon rose	1/-	7/-
La Notre, rose pink shading to silvery pink, centre blue and white. Extra forcer	2/-	14/-
Prince of the Netherlands, extra large solid flower of perfect form, rich brilliant cerise red, extra strong stems. First-rate bedder	2/6	15/-

The above 7 varieties, 12 bulbs of each, 10/-.

	Doz.	100
Professor Rauwenhoff, deep cherry rose with white base margined blue	2/-	12/-
Princess Elizabeth, extra fine rich soft rose, slight silvery flush at margin, centre clear white	2/-	14/-
Wm. Copeland, violet shading to lilac; when forced the colour is a beautiful soft lavender	1/-	8/-

The above 7 varieties, 100 bulbs of each, £3 10 0

NOVELTY COLLECTION.

THE COTTAGE TULIPS.—The most graceful novelties:

	Doz.	100
Amber, light amber coloured. Award of merit	1/10	13/-
Erasmus, large creamy white, long stem. Award of merit	1/10	13/-
Grand Yellow, very deep yellow, extra fine	2/-	15/-
Mrs. Francis King, very fine satiny rose	1/10	13/-
Nectar, vivid carmine red with clear white base. Award of merit	2/-	15/-
Spinosa, white flower on very tall stem	1/10	13/-

	Doz.	100
Sirene, the wonderful lily-shaped flower, of a very fine glistening satiny rose. First-class certificate, London, Amsterdam	1/10	14/-
Pearl, finest light rose	2/-	15/-
Prof. Westerdyk, wonderful lilac rose, very tall, splendid forcer	2/-	15/-
Triton, glowing carmine rose pure yellow base, the most attractive tulip yet raised, a real beauty	2/-	10/-

Novelty collection ten extra selected bulbs of each of the above 10 varieties, 100 in all, 10/-.

25 Bulbs each of the above 10 varieties, 250 Bulbs in all, 20/-.

Quality.—All bulbs which are not to satisfaction upon receipt may be returned to us and we will gladly refund money and postage. Complete list of other rarer tulips daffodils, etc., gladly mailed on request.

H. PRINS, F.R.H.S., Bulb Specialists, WISBECH, CAMBS.

DAFFODIL

FROM

Disease-free Grou

Write for our List of the best novelties.

VERY SPECIAL. A Unique Opport

We can offer just a few 2-year-old pedigree D seedlings, which we have not room to plant

Particulars on Application.

HERBERT CHAPMAN, L
ROTHERSIDE GARDENS, RYE, SUS

HARDY BULBS

ETC.

New List of above now ready, contain collections of Anemones nemorosa varieties, Camassias, Chionodoxas, Col chicums, Crocus (Species), Cyclamen, Erythroniums, Irises, Liliums, Mont bretias, Muscarias, Narcissi, Scilla Tulips, etc. *Free on Application.*

T. SMITH
Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry

FOR ROSE ENTHUSIASTS.

Roses, and How to Excel With Them

By R. V. GIFFARD WOOLLEY. *Illustrated.* 2/6. *Cloth* 3/6.

"COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

Fruit Tree Banding for Small Orchards

No matter how small the orchard, or whether you have only one or two fruit trees in a garden, it pays to use Stictite Tree Banding Compound.

It traps the crawling insects—Winter, March and Mottled Umber Moths, and so prevents the laying of thousands of eggs which would otherwise hatch out in the spring.

Stictite is extremely "tacky," and remains so throughout the season, so that one application is sufficient. It will not "run" or dry up after exposure, and withstands the rain.

The sooner the trees are banded the better the result will be. Winter Moth is the first to appear, and emerges about the end of September so that the bands should be on by that time if possible.

Stictite is supplied in tins from ½lb. upwards, and ½lb. will do for or six trees of about 8ins. diameter. The 4lb. and 7lb. sizes are in gold-lacquered pails with lids and handles.

½lb., 1/6; 1lb., 2/9; 2lb., 5/-; 4lb., 10/-; 7lb., 17/6.

Larger quantities quoted for if required.

Best Quality Greaseproof Paper

Only good quality paper should be used, and this is supplied as under. The paper is necessary for the application of Stictite, and is quite useless without the Compound.

Yards: 6, 2d.; 12, 3d.; 25, 6d.; 50, 9d.; 100, 1/6; 200, 2/6.

Write for Descriptive Folder.

Of Nurserymen, Seedsmen, Ironmongers, etc. Sole Proprietors and Manufacturers, Abol Limited, 9, Beltring, Paddock Wood, Kent.

Let Stictite Safeguard your Fruit Crop

Digitized by Google

IRIS

of the June-flowering family

THEY are worth thinking of ahead—ordering early and planting at the best time, in July or early August. Put in then, the plants get their toes in before the winter comes. Take steps to order them **now.** Either buy the low-priced collection of excellent varieties offered below for **7/6** the twelve plants or send for our catalogue and make your own selection.

June-flowering Iris:—

Alcazar	Lavender blue and violet.
Archeveque ..	Reddish violet and deep violet.
Caprice	Reddish mauve and deep rosy red.
Dawn	Sulphur yellow, veined bronze.
Her Majesty ..	Pale rose and deep red.
Lohengrin ..	Cattleya mauve.
Mdm. Chereau ..	White, frilled azure blue.
Mrs. H. Darwin..	White, faintly marked violet.
Mrs. Neubronner	Golden yellow.
Oriflamme ..	Pure blue and blue purple.
Prosper Laugier..	Bronzy cinnamon and velvety crimson.
Rhein Nixe ..	White and violet purple.

One plant each of the 12 varieties, 7/6 post paid.

Have you seen our Hardy Plant Catalogue? It is better than most.

Bakers
FLOWER FARM
CODSALL
Near Wolverhampton

PRIOR'S

World-famed

ROSES,
CARNATIONS,
DAHLIAS,
FRUIT TREES
AND
GLADIOLI

Book your orders NOW.

SHIPMENTS TO ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.

Catalogue containing cheap offers post free.

D. PRIOR & SON,
LTD.,
COLCHESTER.

GARDENING OF THE WEEK

FOR SOUTHERN GARDENS.

THE KITCHEN GARDEN.

Onions.—In some gardens spring-sown onions did not germinate well, and consequently crops are poor, but those raised in boxes in a cold frame and transplanted are excellent. Many, however, are thick necked, and to check excessive top growth the stems should be bent over. This will encourage the bulbs to develop, and will promote firmness. If the bulbs are thoroughly ripened they remain in good conditionfor a long period. Onions that have already lost their foliage may be lifted and allowed to complete their ripening in an open dry shed.

Mushrooms.—If the droppings have been collected as advised, a bed should be made up inside. A September-spawned bed is usually valuable for autumn and early winter, when mushrooms are appreciated.

Turnips.—A good breadth of turnips should be sown, choosing a hardy variety such as Green Top. Where the roots do not mature they will produce a supply of nutritious tops in the spring.

The general work in the kitchen garden will consist of keeping it tidy, such as trimming hedges, cleaning paths, clearing away crops that have finished, and burning up all rubbish that it is possible to burn. The ashes are useful for all root crops. Deep cultivation is recommended, and where possible the plots should be trenched or double dug, with a liberal dressing of manure placed at the bottom of the trench.

THE FLOWER GARDEN.

It is a good plan to sow a number of annuals and biennials at this season with a view to producing a display of bloom to follow the flowering of narcissi and early tulips. Few realise the value of autumn-sown annuals, and there is a wealth of varieties to choose from. Among them will be found the Shirley poppy, cornflower, the many beautiful eschscholtzias, larkspur, sweet sultan, coreopsis, phacelia, calendula, nemophila and others. Sow thinly in drills 1ft. apart, and when the seedlings are large enough they should be thinned sufficiently for each plant to develop. This will be enough till the spring, because a few are sure to fail owing to damp or the ravages of slugs. The thinnings may be transplanted in the borders or reserve garden to supply cut bloom. Keep the plants free from weeds and prevent overcrowding, then strong, healthy plants will be built up which will have every opportunity of going through the winter safely.

No time should be lost with the numerous varieties of violas. Plenty of cuttings are available near the base of the old plants, and these should be placed 1in. or 2ins. apart in a cold frame. A well drained border may also be chosen, or they can be dibbled in where they are intended to bloom next spring. Such subjects as agapanthus in tubs need plenty of water and weak liquid manure. This plant will thrive in the open ground, especially where the soil is deep and rich, and the roots can be planted at any time now till March. The Crown Imperial should also be planted now. A note should be made of the hardy fuchsias and a few cuttings of each variety rooted. They are beautiful subjects for summer and autumn. A few clumps on the rock garden and in shrubbery borders are producing a fine effect at this season.

THE HARDY FRUIT GARDEN.

Apricots here and there have been very good, and now the fruit is gathered any necessary pruning can be carried out. Make the main growths secure to the wall, and where there is room for extension tie new shoots in their full length. Others are reduced to three or four eyes. Sweet cherries may also be pruned. The pear crop is excellent, but where blackbirds and tits are troublesome it will be necessary to protect the crop. Wall trees can be covered with nets, also small specimens growing by the side of walks in the kitchen garden, but with large examples this is not possible. Here the finest fruits should be covered with muslin bags.

Chepstow. T. W. BRISCOE.

FOR NORTHERN GARDENS.

THE KITCHEN GARDEN.

Spring Cabbages.—To have plants strong enough to withstand the variable climatic conditions of northern localities they require all the attention hitherto mentioned. All being well they are fit to plant in their permanent quarters now. Did the seasons permit it my choice of a site would be the ground cleared of onions, for the reason that such is sufficiently well nourished meantime, and firm owing to the spring preparation for earlier crops. But the rotation differs according to locality, and in lieu of this the cabbages are planted on an early sunny border following the early potato crop. The preparation consists merely of levelling the ground and, contrary to custom, no manure is given owing to its unfavourable mechanical effects on the soil, and I prefer to feed the crops the following spring when the plants are making new growth. A distance of 18ins. each way is a good average to plant most of the varieties. Lift with good balls attached, replant firmly and water if necessary.

THE FRUIT GARDEN.

Work in the fruit quarters can be carried on as opportunity permits by attending to loganberries in the matter of cutting out old fruit canes and other such cultural points, as suited to raspberries, as required. The loganberry, while not the most delectable of preserves, differs from most, and can be appreciated for this and the fact that it is such an accommodating plant, annually yielding large crops with small consideration as to soil and situation.

Continue the work in the black currant plantation as soon as the fruit is gathered. This latter is not a toil by any means this year in most places and most disappointing following the prolific promises of early season. Despite the discouragement of such happenings next year's crop is partly assured if the bulk of the old wood is cut out to allow the young growths to acquire all the benefit possible from exposure.

Include in the good work another and closer search among the gooseberry bushes for shoots having the tips coloured chocolate brown. These will mainly be found in the centres of the bushes and as succulent soft shoots of the current year's growth. This will generally be recognised as the winter form of American gooseberry mildew, bearing spores which germinate the following spring and produce the white or summer mildew. Such shoots should be carefully cut out and burned, and the labour will not be lost if all the bushes are given a spray with the paraffin emulsion-liver of sulphide wash at full strength.

The Fruit Room.—As various ills develop on fruit in storage, with succeeding evil consequences, prepare the fruit room for the reception of apples, etc., by washing down all stages and supporting woodwork, and limewash the walls. As apples readily absorb any extraneous flavours, this should be done early, allowing the room to regain its neutral atmosphere by the admission of plenty of air.

Doune, Perthshire. W. MCCARRELL.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

Messrs. D. Stewart and Sons, Ferndown Nurseries, Wimborne, Dorset. A special catalogue of bulbous and tuberous-rooted plants. A good list of liliums is given.

Messrs. V. D. Clements and Co., 12, Stockton Gardens, Tottenham, London, N.17. A classified catalogue of selected Dutch bulbs.

Messrs. J. Waterer, Sons and Crisp, Limited, Twyford, Berks. Three excellent and well compiled catalogues have been received from this firm. Their catalogue of rhododendrons, conifers and ornamental trees and shrubs is particularly interesting, and includes a large collection of plants. Good illustrations and careful descriptions are given. Bulbs and tuberous plants of all kinds are grouped together in another catalogue, and attention has been paid to the sections on bulbs for forcing and for naturalising. The fruit and rose planting season will soon be upon us, and those who intend planting would be well advised to write for this firm's catalogue of roses and fruit trees, in which there is considerable useful information.

WRITE TO "THE GARDEN" ABOUT YOUR GARDENING PROBLEMS.

Digitized by Google

PREPARE NOW

FOR THE COMING

Autumn Planting Season

BY SENDING FOR OUR
DESCRIPTIVE ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE
OF

HARDY HERBACEOUS PLANTS

POST FREE

We specialise in and hold exceedingly fine stocks of the following :—

DELPHINIUMS
EREMURUS
IRIS
PÆONIES
& PHLOX

ALL OF THE MOST UP-TO-DATE VARIETIES

ARTINDALE'S HARDY FLOWERS have gained Premier Awards at all the Leading Shows in the Country.

Over 200 SILVER CUPS & MEDALS have been awarded our Exhibits

All plants supplied are strong roots, not small offsets.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.

SEND YOUR ENQUIRIES NOW.

WM. ARTINDALE & SON

Nurserymen,

NETHER GREEN . SHEFFIELD.

A GRASS LAWN TENNIS COURT

A METHOD OF CONSTRUCTION.

IN laying out a lawn tennis court, before commencing actual work one should go carefully over the space at one's disposal for the purpose, in order to satisfy oneself as to the nature of the soil, the drainage and the elevation. Next, the actual surroundings should have consideration, for these, if unsuitable, would be likely to spoil an otherwise passable ground. Rows of high trees, for instance, would detract from the light, an essential to a good game. A strong afternoon sun bearing direct upon the service line makes a really good game an impossibility; therefore, in laying out the actual court, it should be so arranged that the sun falls upon it crosswise. Placed in such a position, neither opponent will have an advantage over the other in regard to light.

It would seem an easy matter to enclose a piece of fairly level meadow and to turn it into a tennis ground by rolling and constant cutting. But in reality this is, in the long run, costly and disappointing, the better plan being to spend more time on it and to do the work thoroughly.

The proper time to commence this work is in the fall of the year after rain had set in and when suitable labour is available. Over fifty years ago my father, being an enthusiast, enclosed a piece of meadowland and made an excellent ground during the winter with odd labour from the farm.

To begin with, the cheapest way to remove the turf is to use a plough with the breast removed and with a broad share. This will cut the sod 2ins. thick ready turned over for removal. It should then be cut into lengths of from 2ft. to 3ft., wheeled to convenient heaps at the lower side of the court, and there left until the ground is levelled. Levelling ought to be done carefully. But for this purpose all that is necessary is a number of stout pegs. Take the centre of the ground to be worked, drive the pegs in in a straight line. A string stretched taut from one extreme peg to the other will show whether or not all the pegs are of the same height. From this row of sticks the string should be stretched at right angles from the highest point of the ground to the lowest, where pegs again must be driven into the ground to a height corresponding with that of the line of pegs in the middle. In the width of a full-sized court, *i.e.*, 36ft., there may be a drop of, say, 4ft., therefore 2ft. of soil would have to be removed from the topmost side and placed on the lower. The easiest way to effect this removal is by the use of the plough, if available. It will turn up the soil to a depth of from 6ins. to 8ins. or even more, ready for the farm cart, hand truck or barrow. When tipping the loose soil, however, care would have to be taken. It should be tipped down firstly on the extreme outer edge of the court and well packed together; the freshly moved soil should also be banked up quite 8ins. higher than the actual level desired in order to allow for sinkage. The entire ground should then be allowed to settle during the winter; or, if it is thought advisable to complete the ground before winter sets in, the turf would have to be replaced without delay. In the latter case, it would be necessary before relaying the turf to fill in any holes with extra soil. The lawn should then be well rolled. As soon as the surface is fairly level the machine, with knives set high, ought to be put to work, and kept at work until well on into December; in fact, so long as the weather permits. The more the machine is used the finer will be the turf in the spring, and the sooner work commences on the ground after Christmas the better.

If expense is no object, then I strongly advise excavating to a depth of 2ft. and of using 18ins. of clinkers as a bed before putting down the soil and then the turf. If the ground is required to be used as soon as possible, turf would be best; but seed sown on a good bed and carefully tended make, in the long run, a better court.

A good court is often spoiled by bad surroundings; the grass around it should be close trimmed, as also that about the fence. If there should be cattle in the field adjoining, struts nailed on to the fence posts at intervals, projecting at least 1yd. from the fence itself, and supporting a row or so of barbed wire would prevent stock from doing a good deal of damage.

Hard courts are being used now all over the country. Play on these undoubtedly is faster. It is sometimes claimed that when once laid down there is no expense attached to their upkeep. The latter idea is, however, erroneous. Hard red courts should be well watered before being used, otherwise the surface is soon spoilt, while after the game is over they need both the wire mat and the roller to level the surface; and, after all, what looks better in the summer than a piece of good grass ground well cared for?—HARRY DANES.

"The fairest flowers of the season are our carnations."—SHAKESPEARE.

CARNATIONS

FOR EVERY GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE

By Montagu C. Allwood.

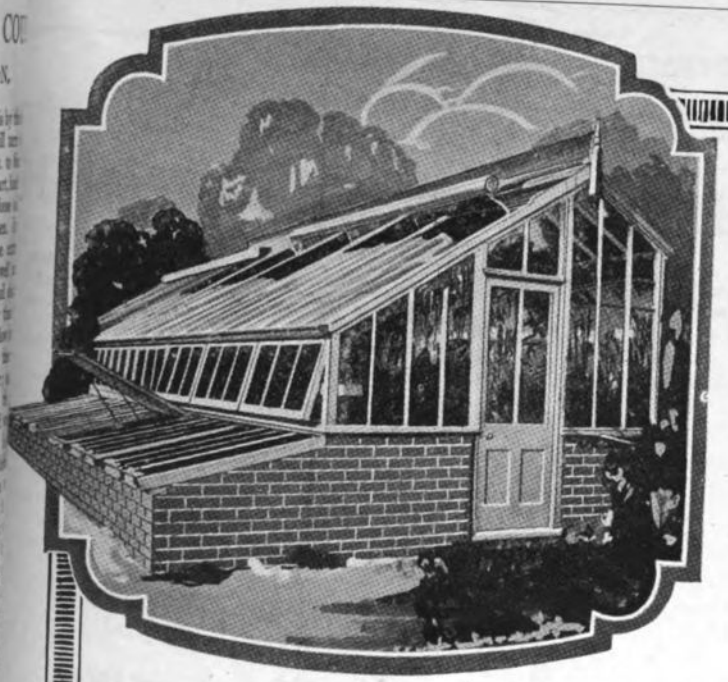
With a Foreword by Lord Lambourne, President of the R.H.S.

224 *pages.* 79 *illustrations.*

Just Published - 12s. 6d. net.

For a detailed prospectus of this new and standard book, write to the Publicity Manager, Book Dept., COUNTRY LIFE, 20, Tavistock St., W.C.

Digitized by Google



Built to resist the Ravages of Time

TO be thoroughly efficient a Glasshouse must be so constructed that it will resist the rigours of all phases of our variable climate. Rain or sun, wind or frost—it must be impervious to the effect of each.

The most convincing testimony to the work of Duncan Tucker & Sons, Ltd., is the numerous structures designed and erected by them throughout the country.

Well-nigh one hundred years of experience are behind Duncan Tucker's work; it is this specialised knowledge you acquire when you enlist their aid.

If you want distinctive work—yet built *to last*—you need their services.

¶ If you want a Garden Frame, Duncan Tucker & Sons, Ltd., can supply one to meet your needs. There are models for every imaginable purpose, constructed with the care and experience for which Duncan Tucker's are noted.

The prices are the lowest possible, consistent with good workmanship.

Write for full particulars.

Wm. Duncan Tucker & Sons Ltd.
ESTABLISHED-1830
TOTTENHAM. N.15.

G.A.5740

DAWKINS
CHELSEA
Illustrated Bulb Catalogue

for 1926 now ready. Pleased to send copy, post free on application.

	Per 100.	Doz.
White Roman Hyacinths ..	45/-	6/-
Dutch Roman Hyacinths, grown in South of France; give excellent results for Christmas flowering ..	42/6	5/9
Cynthella Prepared Hyacinths, in fine colours	32/-	4/6
Polyanthus Narcissus Snowflake	16/-	2/3
Polyanthus Narcissus Paper White	15/-	2/-
Freesia refracta alba 8/- &	10/-	—
Freesia Buttercup, new yellow	16/-	—
Freesia, pink shades ..	14/-	—

SWEET PEA LIST,
Containing all the leading varieties suitable for Autumn sowing, now ready. Please ask for a copy to be sent.

ALFRED DAWKINS

(17 years Manager Seed and Bulb Dept., Messrs. James Veitch & Sons, Chelsea)

PROPRIETORS:
ALFRED DAWKINS A. DONALD BLAXILL

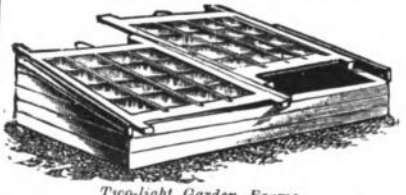
408, King's Road, Chelsea, S.W.10

DAVID SWAIN & CO.

Horticultural Builders

Telephone: NORTH 2807.

GARDEN FRAMES ALL SIZES.
GLASSHOUSES RENOVATED.
REPAIRS AND REPAINTING. HEATING.



Two-light Garden Frame.

ERECTED AT MOFFAT.

Write for LISTS and ESTIMATES.

101, SUSSEX ROAD, HOLLOWAY, LONDON, N.7

BARR'S
GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS

Awarded 72 Gold Medals and 3 Silver Challenge Cups.

The most complete and descriptive Catalogue of DAFFODILS published; over 400 varieties offered, including many NEW and RARE SEEDLING VARIETIES for 1926. Post free.

Also List of NEW HYBRID NERINES, the most beautiful Autumn-flowering plants for the cool greenhouse.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2

Digitized by Google

A GROWING HABIT

and a very sensible one is to give your friend, especially a friend overseas, a year's subscription to one of the best weekly periodicals.

It means fifty-two kind remembrances of you, and fifty-two remembrances of England.

There is no paper so representative of England and none so welcome abroad as

COUNTRY LIFE

80/- *a year abroad.* 60/- *to Canada*

20, TAVISTOCK ST., COVENT GARDEN, LONDON W.C.2

On the Making of Gardens.

The Gardens of Italy. By A. T. BOLTON. Large folio. 400 Illustrations. 3 Gns.

Gardens for Small Country Houses. By Sir L. WEAVER and G. JEKYLL. Large quarto. 25s.

Colour Schemes for the Flower Garden. By G. JEKYLL. 100 Illustrations. 15s.

Gardening for Beginners. By E. T. COOK. Coloured Plates and 200 Illustrations. 8th edition. 16s.

Wall and Water Gardens. By G. JEKYLL. 17s. 6d.

The Planning and Planting of Little Gardens. By G. DILLISTONE. 6s.

Shrubs for Amateurs. By W. J. BEAN. 5s. net.

The Rock Garden. By E. H. JENKINS. 7s. 6d.

For any of the above books, or for a full prospectus, write to "COUNTRY LIFE," *20, Tavistock St., Covent Garden, London.*

"FERRY" BRAND
Regd. Trade Mark

BULB MANURE is both a PLANT FOOD AND A SOIL PEST DESTROYER

The "Ferry" Bulb Manure is the result of many years of experiment where bulbs are grown to perfection. It is composed of all the constituents required for the healthy growth of bulbs. It acts as a soil pest destroyer, and ensures freedom for the bulbs from all insect and fungoid pests, which are the cause of so many failures.

In the open, use 2 to 3 ozs. per square yard when preparing the soil, for pots work ½ to ¾ lb. to each bushel of soil.

PRICES—Carriage Paid, for cash with order—

7 lbs. **2/-**; 14 lbs. **3/9**; 28 lbs. **7/-**; 56 lbs. **13/-**; 1 cwt. **22/-**

Agents wanted throughout England for "Ferry" Specialities.

The BRITON FERRY CHEMICAL & MANURE Co., Ltd. (Dept. E), Briton Ferry, S. Wales
(Est. 1886)

SELECTED DUTCH BULBS

JOHN B. VANDERSCHOOT,

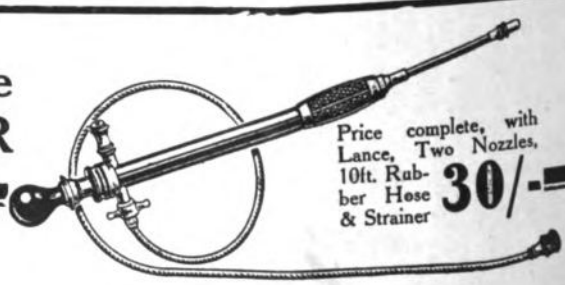
The Old Established Bulb Farms, HILLEGOM, HOLLAND

ESTABLISHED 1830.

Own extensive Bulb Farms (comprising over 400 acres) of Hyacinths, Tulips, Narcissi and Daffodils, Crocuses, Irises, &c.

Richly illustrated descriptive Catalogue free on application.

THIS is the SPRAYER



"The World's Best —costs less"

Price complete, with Lance, Two Nozzles, 10ft. Rubber Hose & Strainer **30/-**

— you need ECLIPSE —the World's BEST Sprayer, yet costs only 30/- complete.

in order to keep your trees and plants clear of pests. It is the . *"The Sprayer of a thousand uses."*

It is light, easy to use, no pumping, no backwash, allows both hands free to control the spray, and will reach to spray over fruit trees or wash high ceilings. . Can also be used for disinfecting, limewashing, etc. Order from your local dealer— or write us direct for Folder.

ECLIPSE SPRAYING CO. (Dept. O), Bearwood, Smethwick, B'ham.

GARDEN SPRAYING

TREE SPRAYING

HAVE YOU PROVIDED?

The United Horticultural Benefit and Provident Society

PROVIDES 27/- per week in illness for 1/1½; 18/- for 9d.; or 12/- for 6d., weekly contributions.

PROVIDES your dependents with £10, £15 or £20 at death, according to Scale.

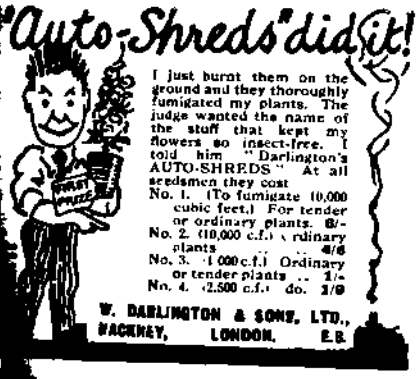
PROVIDES you with a Savings Bank.

PROVIDES grants from Distress and Convalescent Funds

PROFIT BY THE EXPERIENCE OF A MEMBER WHO HAS £150 TO HIS CREDIT

State Insured members of this Society may also Contribute to the private Section, and by so doing will add to their Benefits in accordance with the Scale they adopt.

A. C. HILL, Secretary, 35, Alexandra Road, WEST KENSINGTON, W.14



FOSTER & PEARSON LIMITED

Established 1841

Please write for Estimates for durable Greenhouses, Boilers, etc., to

BEESTON NOTTS

STRENGTH INCREASED

Peaches, Cucumbers, Carnations, Vines, &c.
Red Spiders as effectively as Corry's White Fly Death kills White Fly. *Non-poisonous.*
Useful reports received from some of the largest growers in Great Britain and the Channel Islands.

2/6	4/6	9/-	15/-	27/-	63/-	120/-
½ pt.	1 qt.	½-gal.	1 gal.	2 gals.	5 gals.	10 gals.

Sold by Nurserymen, Seedsmen and Florists.

CORRY'S SAFE AND SURE WASP NEST DESTROYER

Non-Poisonous, yet more effective than Cyanide.

2	6	20	40 Nests
7d.	1/4	3/6	6/6

From Seedsmen and Chemists

CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE WIZARD PLANT LABEL

PATENT No 212974

Made in Red Pottery, 2½ x 1¼ ins., with rustless wires, 12 in., 2/- doz.; 7 in., 1/7 doz. 1½ x 1 in., with wires 6 in., 1/6 doz. For tying on, 1/6 and 1/8 doz. Waterproof Ink, 9d. and 7½d bot. Crow Quills, 2d. Postage extra

Highly commended by the R.H.S. at Wisley.

E. TORKINGTON - NEW HALL . MAIDENHEAD

By Appointment

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD., *Royal Potteries,* BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by "ALPHOL" Sample 14 lb. 3/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps. Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc. to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

HILL & SMITH, Ltd., BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS,

Makers of

IRON FENCING, HURDLES, GATES, WIRE NETTING AND GARDEN IRONWORK

Specialists—Hay and Grain Sheds, Dutch Galvanised Corrugated Sheets and Structural Steelwork.

Catalogues free on mentioning this paper.

Offices: 88, Abbey House, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

THE SILVER MEDAL

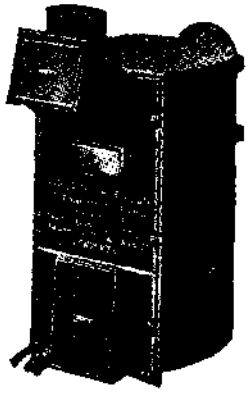
"HORSE SHOE" BOILER

Unrivalled for sturdy wear, heat maintenance and remarkable economy in fuel.

A gentleman writes from Mile End Gardens, Bridgend, Glam.: "*I have for 34 years been using various types of Greenhouse "Boilers, large and small, and must say there is no better Boiler "for Amateurs or small Growers than the "Horse Shoe." This "Boiler of yours is in my Greenhouse of 36 ft. x 14 ft., and has "enabled me to rear my stock of some thousands of Tomato "Plants at a very low cost indeed.*" 19/4/26

PROVED AND APPRECIATED BY AMATEURS AND GROWERS ALIKE. Used in the R.H.S. Gardens.

Booklet "E" "Making the Most of your Greenhouse," post free, from the Makers:—



CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD.,

65, 65a, SOUTHWARK STREET, LONDON, S.E.1.

'Phone: Hop. 0382. Wires: "Kinnell, Borgh, London."

Digitized by Google

BURPEE'S NEW SWEET PEAS

ROYAL BLUE.

This is undoubtedly the brightest of all the dark blues. It lacks the dull colour of existing varieties, for it has life and brilliancy and so leads the way in this section. It is of good size, vigorous habit, and most prolific in fours. Royal Blue, with its great advance in colour, will be eagerly welcomed by all lovers of Sweet Peas.

GLADNESS.

The soft coral pink of Gladness is somewhat intensified by a suffusion of rather deeper pink towards the base of the standard and wings. The colour may be described as geranium pink. The exquisite delicacy of colour is further enlivened by the lemon keel which greatly enhances the beauty of the flower.

DELIGHTFUL.

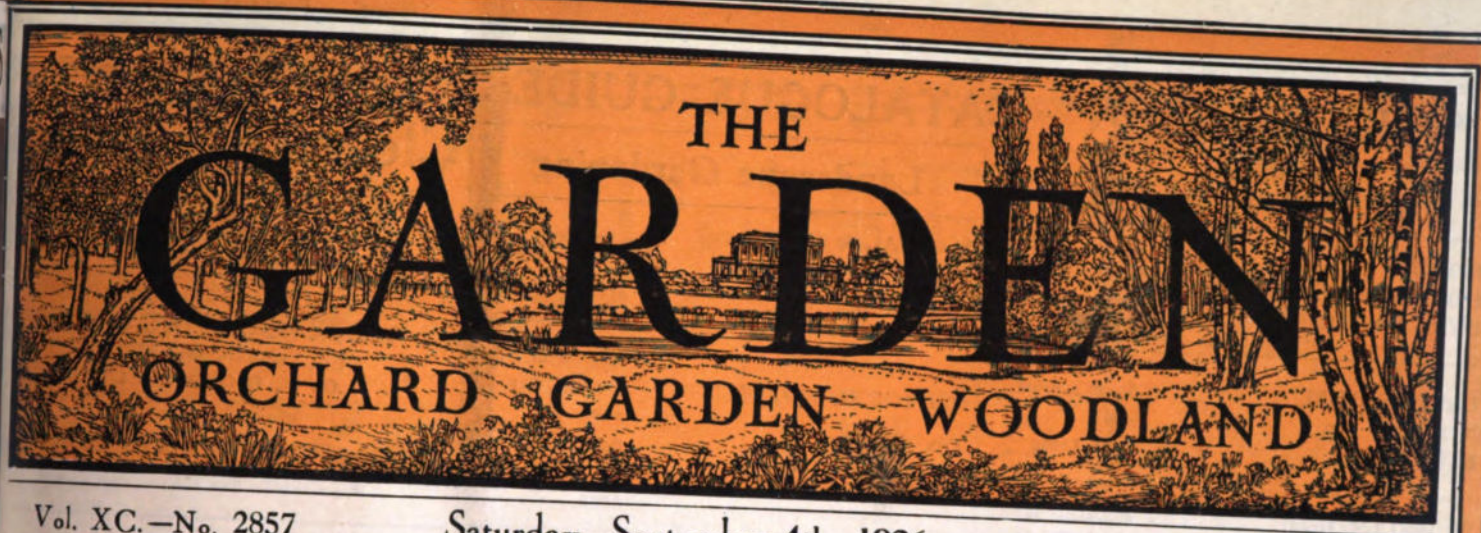
This great novelty is a distinct new colour, a rich terra cotta cerise suffused orange, or soft scarlet red. It is so bright in its glowing beauty that it is at once the most appealing of all the richer toned varieties. In addition to its colour, Delightful has all the qualities which go to make a first-class variety.

Buy them from your Seedsman. Packet of 15 Seeds, 1/-

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

SEP 15 1926



Vol. XC.—No. 2857 Saturday, September 4th, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

Barr's Gold Medal Daffodils

STRONG SELECTED BULBS FOR OCTOBER PLANTING.

Awarded SEVENTY-TWO GOLD MEDALS and THREE SILVER CHALLENGE CUPS.

FLOWER BORDER COLLECTION,	6 each,	18 sorts	..	30/-
POT CULTURE	3 ,,	18 ,,	..	15/-
,,	6 ,,	20 ,,	..	40/-
BOWL CULTURE ,,	3 ,,	10 ,,	..	10/6
,,	6 ,,	15 ,,	..	25/-
FLOWER BORDER MIXTURE .. per 100,	3 ,,	15 ,,	..	12/6

MIXTURE of all kinds for naturalising, per 1,000, 95/-; 100, 10/6
TRUMPET DAFFODILS, MIXED, per 1,000, 160/-; 100, 17/6
MIXTURE of CHALICE CUP and STAR NARCISSI only, for naturalising .. .. per 1,000 110/-; 100, 12/-

Descriptive Catalogue Free.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

SEND YOUR ENQUIRIES *NOW* FOR . . .

Autumn Planting of

CHOICE DAFFODILS

British Grown Bulbs

COMPLETE CATALOGUE NOW READY, FREE ON APPLICATION

CARTWRIGHT & GOODWIN Ltd.

BULB GROWERS,

Churchill, Kidderminster, WORCS., ENGLAND

Glass breaks!

USE

'WINDOLITE'

THE PRACTICAL GLASS SUBSTITUTE for all GARDEN PURPOSES.

Light Flexible. Unbreakable.

Easy to cut and fix. It keeps out cold and wet, but lets in all the light—even the Ultra Violet Rays which are stopped by glass.

Send 4/6 for post free sample, 3 ft. by 2 ft.

WINDOLITE (DEPT. C) 179/185, GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1.

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

FOR THE GARDEN! FOR EXHIBITION!
FOR BEDS! FOR EVERYWHERE!

Also Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees, Alpines and Hardy Plants.

BUY HOME-GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries.

Catalogue Free on Application, and Addresses booked for Revised Catalogue in late Summer.

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.,
Garden Specialists - - SOUTHWELL, NOTTS

GENTIANA SINO-ORNATA

10/6 doz.

STRONG PLANTS for Flowers from September onwards

Plant now also Mimulus Lewisii alba, a gem, **1/-**; Myosotidium nobile, The Chatham Island Giant Forget-me-not, **1/-**; Silene californica, an intense scarlet trailer, **1/-**; and the following Bog Primulas for flowering next Spring: Primula capitata, **6d.**; P. cap. Mooreana, **9d.**; P. sikkimensis, giant form, **1/-**; P. japonica Cherry Ripe, a beauty, **9d.**; P. pulverulenta, **9d.**; P. Wardii, **9d.**; P. Veitchii, **6d.**; P. helodoxa, **9d.**; P. Smithii, the finest yellow, **1/-** and P. rosea grandiflora, **1/-**

All strong plants from pots. Carriage paid for cash with order.

W. E. Th. INGWERSEN,
Birch Farm - Sharpthorne - East Grinstead

ASK FOR MY CATALOGUE

DON'T BUY BULBS

UNTIL YOU HAVE SEEN OUR SPECIAL LIST (FULL OF GOOD THINGS) WHICH CAN BE HAD FOR THE ASKING.

Special Offer of DARWIN TULIPS

100 fine Bulbs in 10 Choice Varieties, all guaranteed to flower splendidly, for **5/-**, carriage paid.

LONGSTAFF & SONS

Bulb Growers, Importers and Merchants

NEAR CHELSFIELD STATION .·. KENT

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
New Alpines and Perennials
Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD,
CHELSEA, S.W.
Bulb Catalogue Now Ready.

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

H. PRINS
BULB AND PLANT GROWERS
WISBECH, CAMBS.
Bulb list free on application

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
HULL
Weed Destroyers Fertilisers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

TUBS FOR SHRUBS. WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 100 prizes. R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. — Price List from A. PRADAL, 26, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

SITUATION VACANT.

EXPERIENCED GROUNDSMAN required, with thorough knowledge of hockey grounds, tennis courts (including hard courts), pitches, etc. Assistance given. Pony and boy. Modern cottage.—Apply, stating wage, to MISS JUDSON, Abbey School, Malvern Wells.

King's Acre Strawberries

20,000 Pot-Grown Runners for next season's Fruiting ready for immediate despatch.

NEW LIST OF THE BEST VARIETIES with cultural instructions, including all other useful Berries. A most useful List, post free, on application.

King's Acre Nurseries, Limited,
Established 1785. **Hereford.** Nurseries 140 Acres.

Clean fumigation!

Besides its swift efficiency, XL ALL Fumigating Compound rids fumigation of its unpleasantness. Ventilation disperses it rapidly after use, leaving the greenhouse sweet and clean. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen, florists and chemists.

XL ALL FUMIGATING COMPOUND
(Liquid or Cake)

G. H. RICHARDS LTD.,
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
R. 176. Monomark: BCM/XLALL

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Please Mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Make the Most of your Greenhouse
and install a
SILVER MEDAL
HORSE SHOE BOILER—

which ensures a steady heat for a succession of thriving Plants and Flowers, with minimum trouble and little fuel.

Booklet E and reduced prices post free.

G. P. KINNELL & Co., Ltd.
SOUTHWARK STREET, LONDON, S.E.1.
Used in the R.H.S. Gardens

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

BLOM FOR BULBS

Apply for Catalogue to—

Messrs. J. C. WHITNEY & Co.,
Eldon Street House, Eldon Street,
London, E.C. - - - *or to—*

WALTER BLOM & SON, Ltd.
(Late of Overveen),
Hillegom, Holland.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

ATERER'S for the best in Bulbs for ...ing, bedding, naturalising. Colchicums, Autumn-flowering ...ses, etc. Roses, Fruit Trees, Strawberry Plants in pots ... open ground runners, Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Flowering ... Evergreen Shrubs, also Hedge-making Shrubs and Screening ... Herbaceous and Alpine Plants. New catalogues now ...dy, post free.—JOHN WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LIMITED, ... Nurseries, Twyford, Berks.

IMALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODEN-...ONS on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and ...pine Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write ... Catalogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

AKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE. ...he original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See ...vert. on back page.

M. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., ...wrence Road, South Tottenham, N.15. — Conservatories, ...nter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

IRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUN-...ALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—...OSTON, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

ENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and ...rden Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE ...ANLEY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottern-hill, Haslemere, ...rrey.

LEMENTS' DUTCH BULBS. ...est Quality at Moderate Prices. Descriptive Catalogue ...ntaining over 700 Named Varieties, including various Novel-...s, also Cultural Directions, sent post free. Please mention ...per.—V. D. CLEMENTS & CO., 12, Stockton Gardens, ...ttenham, London, N.17.

ORDER CARNATIONS. — 200 varieties, ... in 14 varieties, from 6/6, 50 in 50 ditto, from 25/-; ...rriage paid. Lists free. J. HAYWARD, Chace Gardens, ...kes Road, Purbrook, Cosham, Hants.

WEET PEAS.—My New Catalogue, con-...ning the leading Novelties for 1927, should be in the hands ...all keen Exhibitors.—F. C. WOODCOCK, Sweet Pea Specialist, ...lmer, Kent.

IXED DAFFODILS.—Best sorts, 35/-, 1,000 ...rriage paid.—Address: MRS. NEW, Cruddock, Cullompton, ...evon.

RIS RETICULATA.—First size, 20/-, 100; ...cond size, 18/- 100. Cash with order.—JOHNSON, Meadow-...oft, Beccles.

UMP BARGAINS ! !—Brand new Army ...umps, fully guaranteed. Big variety and many under cost ... make them! Cannot hope to repeat. Approval if desired. ...st free. Postcard.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 188 ...epartment, Lytham.

IRE NETTING.—From 2/5 per 50yd. roll. ...heapest House in the Kingdom. Write us for prices. ...housands of rolls stocked.

ENTS. — Army Bell. All complete, new ...ttings, deep walls, 60/- and 70/-. Scout Tents, 18/8. ...arden, 50/-. Bathing, 83/-. Also Marquees. Write us for ...rices.

ARDEN HOSE.—Superior quality, 50ft. ...engths.

	1-ply.	2-ply.	3-ply.
...in.	.. .. .. 15/-	.. 24/6	.. 29/8
...in.	.. .. .. 24/6	.. 29/3	.. 35/2

Carriage paid. Approval.

AWN MOWERS.—Five Riveted Blades. ...igh Wheels. Brass Bushings. Close Cutting. Highly Finished. ...nequalled Value. 8in., 20/6; 10in., 21/6; 12in., 22/6; 14in., ...4/-. Grass Boxes, 6/6 each. Garden Rollers, 30/-.

AMBOO CANES.—Strong, 3ft., 3/11; 4ft., ...9; 5ft., 10/11; 6ft., 14/6 per hundred. Carriage paid.—E. B. ...AWTHORN, LIMITED, Dept. B, Shrewsbury.

BARR'S GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS.—The finest sorts for Pots, Bowls, Exhibition, Flower Borders and to naturalise. Also many new Seedling varieties, offered for the first time. Descriptive catalogue free.

BARR'S HYACINTHS, TULIPS, LILIES, CROCUSES, IRISES, etc., for pots and bedding. Finest quality. Descriptive catalogue, with special directions for the culture of Bulbs in Bowls, free.

BARR'S GOLD MEDAL IRISES for present planting. Descriptive Catalogue of the best Tall and Dwarf, early and late flowering varieties sent free on application.—BARR AND SONS, 11, 12 and 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx and perpetual habit. They flourish in the coldest parts of Britain. Extract, *The Times*: "Mr. Douglas is the leading raiser of this flower. His wonderful strain of new cloves is superb." Plant list now ready.—J. DOUGLAS, Gt. Bookham.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial: Hints from our Readers ..	493
A Favourite Summer Flower	494
Plants to Grow with Bulbs	495
Indoor Daffodil Culture	496
Notes of the Week 497–499	
The Cherokee Rose; Phyteuma comosum; Rose Hedges; Cassiope tetragona; Winter Aconites; The Butterfly Flowers; Bellflowers for Various Positions.	
Nurseries of the British Isles.—II, Messrs. Barr and Sons	500
A Great Provincial Show	501
Gladioli at Vincent Square	502
The Flower Garden	503
Liliums; Primulas and Cinerarias; Annuals for the Greenhouse	
The Kitchen Garden	504
Storing Beetroots; Mustard and Cress	
Gardening of the Week	504

HEWITT'S FAMOUS DELPHINIUMS AND ROSES. Catalogue now in distribution. Please write for one.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S BULB CATALOGUE NOW READY containing the choicest and inexpensive Daffodils, Tulips, and other Bulbs. "Order early and plant early" so as to avoid disappointment.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 6, Solihull, Warwickshire.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GAR-DENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

A CATALOGUE of gardening books will be sent free on application to "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

SWEET PEAS AND HOW TO EXCEL WITH THEM. By HORACE WRIGHT, 9d. net, by post 11d. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

HAVE YOU BOUGHT "The Pruning of Trees and Shrubs," by W. Dallimore, Assistant at Kew? Fully illustrated. 4s. 6d. net; post free, 4s. 9d. From all Booksellers or direct from the Publishers, DULAU & CO., LTD., 34, Margaret Street, London, W.1.

DOBBIES' FAMOUS BULBS, SCOTCH ROSES and SWEET PEAS for Autumn Sowing. Catalogues free on mentioning THE GARDEN.—DOBBIE & CO., LTD., Edinburgh.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

POLYANTHUS NARCISSUS.—Scilly White's, 10/- 100, £3 10s. 1,000. Empress Daffodils, same price.—A. LEON, St. Mary's, Scilly Isles.

RARE PRIMULA AND ALPINE SEEDS from large (2,000) collection. Also seedlings and plants. Lists free.—REV. J. F. ANDERSON, Glen Hall, Leicester.

GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS — CHOICE TULIPS, &c. List on application.—THE WELSH BULB FIELDS, St. Asaph.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760 yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

LOOK ! TANNED GARDEN NETS.—All orders dispatched same day 25yds. by 1yd, 2/-; 25 by 2, 4/-; 25 by 3, 6/-. Odd netting for bushes, 6lbs. for 2/6. All carriage paid. Any sizes supplied. Also Tennis Boundary Nets.—MOORE AND CO., Net Works, Rye.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

ROCK PLANTS AND ALPINES, Dwarf Conifers, Flowering Shrubs for the Rock Garden, Herbaceous Plants, Montbretias, etc. Catalogue free, ready shortly.—SHEPPARDS, Shawhurst Nursery, Hollywood, Birmingham.

FLAME FLOWER. (Tropæolum speciosum) Extra strong established pot plants of this loveliest of scarlet flowered perennial climbers ready for planting any time now 1/- each, 6 for 5/-, 12 for 10/-, carriage paid for cash with order.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED, Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

INDIAN ORCHIDS.—12 grand fl. sorts, 25s.; 6 sorts Aerides, 23s.; 12 sorts grand fl. Dendrobiums, 35s.; 6 sorts Vandas, 20s.; 6 sorts Cymbidiums, 24s. Cash. All paid in U.K. List free.—CHANDRA NURSERY, P.O. Rhenock, Sikkim (Bengal), India.

HARDY ROCK PLANTS.—700 varieties. Catalogue free.—ALPINE NURSERIES, Stechford, Birmingham.

THE DOG: MAN'S FIRMEST FRIEND.—How to choose and care for him, by A. CROXTON SMITH. A copy of this helpful booklet on the housing, breeding, feeding and care of dogs will be sent post free on receipt of 11d., addressed to The Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

SEEDSMEN BY APPOINTMENT

LAWNS

At the end of the season all lawns should be reconditioned immediately if the turf and surface are to be in good condition for the following season, consequently, preparations should be made in advance and all the required materials—Grass Seed, Fertiliser, Wormkiller, etc., assembled.

BOOKLET
"LAWNS & SPORTS GROUNDS"
POST FREE

Carters
TESTED SEEDS

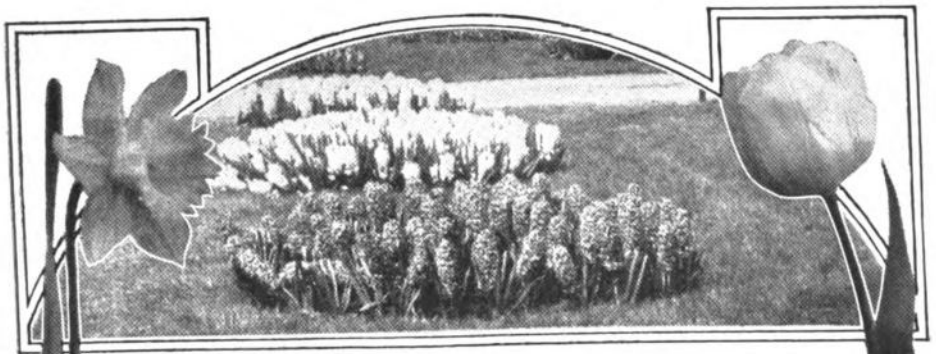
Grass Seed and Turf Specialists
RAYNES PARK, LONDON, S.W.20

Notes from Maidstone.

OUR ROSE CATALOGUE

This Catalogue has now been distributed, but we shall be pleased to send it to any reader of this paper. Those who appreciate the old-world Roses of unequalled fragrance will be interested in our collection of these.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd.,
The Royal Nurseries,
Established 1796. Maidstone.



SUTTON'S

BULBS, LAWN GRASS SEED ETC.

HYACINTHS TULIPS
NARCISSI CROCUS
and all Spring-flowering Bulbs

TOP SIZE ONLY.
TRUE TO NAME.

LAWN GRASS SEED
and all Specialities for Turf
SUTTON & SONS,
Bulb Specialists, **READING.**

Cut out this Coupon and send for
"SUTTON'S BULBS for 1926"
POST FREE.

Name .....
Address .....
Gn. 1 .....

WARNING!

SPECIAL STATEMENT BY RYDERS, ST. ALBANS

We strongly advise all Bulb growers to apply at once for Ryders' 1926 Bulb Catalogue, now ready, for distribution and on no account to place their order for bulbs until they have had an opportunity of comparing Ryders Prices with those of other leading British Bulb Merchants.

Owing to large purchases Ryders have once again secured the pick of the new season Bulbs and are able to offer first grade bulbs at extremely favourable prices, in addition to Special Collections at Special Prices which are a practical and money saving feature of the new Bulb Catalogue.

We warn our Customers to ignore the many tempting Bulb Offers now being posted from abroad. Many such bulbs are of inferior quality and are likely to cause intense disappointment when flowering time arrives.

Make sure that your bulbs are reliable and true to strain. Buy Ryders Beautiful Bulbs at Popular Prices.

RYDERS 1926 BULB CATALOGUE

(fully illustrated)

The Ryder Bulb Catalogue includes a full list of all the popular and new varieties, and is a comprehensive guide to Bulb growing. It is fully illustrated.

Send for Your Copy To-day.

Ryders
RYDER & SON (1920), LTD.
(Dept. 11),
Seed and Bulb Specialists,
St. Albans

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

VOL. XC.—No. 2857. SEPTEMBER 4, 1926

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.; Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2. *Offices for Advertisements:* 6-11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

HINTS FROM OUR READERS

THE growth of gardening in the British Isles increases the amount of our information on horticulture. After all, this is obvious, since the more plant growers there are and the more people there are working on a subject the more widespread becomes the common experience. The horticultural Press and books on gardening try to supply all the information available, but from experience we know that there are many valuable hints and tips that readers of THE GARDEN treasure. These are results of personal observation and experiment.

There is no hobby that is so unselfish as horticulture. Therefore, THE GARDEN asks its readers to give freely of their store of knowledge for the assistance of gardeners in general. It has, therefore, been decided to offer a

PRIZE OF HALF A GUINEA

a week for the best original hint published each week, and to pay 5s. for all others published. These hints must be the result of personal observation and experiment, and may consist of any information on horticultural matters. For instance, some readers may know a short cut in the propagation of a plant; others a method of growing a supposedly difficult plant. Other suggestions are a particular colour scheme, a new way of mending a lawn, how to remove a garden pest, a fresh way of arranging a vase, how to keep weeds down on a path, a new way of cooking fruit, a different situation for a plant, an idea for a time-saving tool. There are hundreds and thousands of hints which will assist the gardener. Will you send in your quota to help the gardening public?

HERE ARE THE ONLY RULES.

1.—Half a guinea will be paid for the best hint published each week.
2.—Five shillings will be paid for all others published.
3.—All hints must be sent in on a post card addressed "Hints," THE GARDEN, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.
4.—Only one hint per post card, and no hint may exceed 150 words in length.
5.—No hints, whether published or unpublished, will be returned.
6.—Payment will be made on the 7th of each month following publication.
7.—The first issue to contain these hints will be that of September 25th.

By this means we hope that much information hitherto unobtainable will be supplied by our readers for the common weal.

THE WATER LILY TULIP

WHEN making out the bulb order this season, there is one tulip which ought to be included. It is one which, although of the most chaste beauty, is seldom seen in the majority of gardens. It may be that its high-sounding name of T. Kauffmanniana spells distrust in the mind of the amateur, or it may be that its charms have not been broadcast. It is one of the tulip species, however, that a gardener should grow, because there are no others like it. With its brilliant colourings of white, yellow and red, and its shapely flowers which unfurl after the fashion of a water lily when fully open, it is well worth a place in every garden. In addition, it is an early flowerer, opening its blooms in March and April if the weather is kind. Its precocity, unfortunately, may mar its beauty if early frosts are prevalent, and it should be given a corner where it will not be unduly hurried into flowering, yet one where it will receive all the sun of early spring. A border in front of a south-west wall is ideal. On the whole, it is fairly hardy, and with a little care it will do equally well in the north as in the south. One of its chief charms lies in its dwarf and neat habit. It only reaches some 6ins. in height, and more often than not about 4ins. The flowers stand well out from the foliage, and when fully open it has every appearance of a water lily. The bulbs may be planted from now onwards, in good loamy soil, about 2ins. deep. When planting, it is advisable to apply a dressing of sand, which keeps the bulbs dry and prevents rotting. It looks well as an edging to a narrow spring border, either by itself or in association with other spring-flowering bulbs, such as muscari or chionodoxas.

A TULIP WORTH GROWING.

Digitized by Google

A FAVOURITE SUMMER FLOWER

IN RECENT YEARS GREAT IMPROVEMENT HAS BEEN REGISTERED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PENTSTEMON—ONE OF THE FINEST OF OUR LATE SUMMER FLOWERS. IT IS THE FLOWER FOR THE AMATEUR. CUTTINGS TAKEN NOW WILL FORM GOOD FLOWERING PLANTS FOR NEXT SUMMER

AS decorative plants the pentstemons possess many advantages over other plants for the flower garden, herbaceous and shrubbery borders. They are as beautiful as they are suitable for any position, because they are in perfection from the middle of June until the autumn frosts stop them, a quality that the majority of plants used for the embellishment of our gardens do not possess. In addition to this, their spikes of blooms are invaluable for cutting; while their cultivation is easy, for they will thrive in almost any soil and position.

Pentstemons are easily propagated by seeds and cuttings, the former being freely produced; but plants raised from the latter are preferable where neat, even arrangements in beds and borders are needed. It is most interesting to raise a few seedlings when the seeds have been saved from choice varieties, and although they may prove rather uneven as regards height, they make a very effective bed or border.

It is advisable to grow a few from seeds annually, as some very beautiful and distinct varieties may be obtained by this means. Sow the seeds on the surface of the soil in pans and boxes in heat early in the year, and when the seedlings are large enough prick them off singly into other boxes, and then grow them on quicky until they are ready for planting out in frames and treating the same as those raised from cuttings. It is necessary to hasten them so as to get them as large as possible before the time for planting outside, for the larger they are when planted out the sooner they commence flowering.

From early plants cuttings are generally plentiful towards the end of August and early September. The sooner they can be obtained after this date the better, so that they will become rooted and established before winter. Vigorous cuttings from 2ins. to 3ins. in length should be selected and inserted thickly together in a frame, or where old lights can be placed over them. The bottom of the frame in which they are to be inserted should be firm, and on this must be placed 3ins. to 4ins. depth of old potting soil, surfaced with sand. After insertion a good watering should be given, keeping the frame closed and shaded until they are rooted, when abundance of air may be admitted whenever the weather is favourable.

The young plants will require very little water during the winter, free ventilation only being needed. During severe weather the protection afforded by the lights will be ample, for if the soil becomes frozen no injury results; but this I endeavour to avoid by placing an old mat or two on the frame.

Some cultivators place their plants as soon as rooted in 3in. or 4in. pots, but, judging from experience, this is really unnecessary and only a waste of labour. When in small pots the plants are very liable to become dry at the roots or to suffer from insufficient root-room

A LATE SUMMER BORDER OF PENTSTEMONS.

Next year's garden should certainly contain a few clumps in the general border for colour effect.

Digitized by Google

before they are planted out in spring. In early spring, about the middle of February, as soon as the young plants show signs of growth, the points of the shoots are pinched out, which will induce the plants to branch and to push shoots from the base. About a fortnight afterwards, or as soon as they commence to break, the plants are lifted and transplanted into frames temporarily prepared for them. The base is made firm, and then soil to the depth of 5ins. or 6ins. is placed in. Any ordinary potting soil will do, provided that a liberal quantity (about one-third) of old mushroom-bed refuse or well decayed leaf-mould is mixed with it. These plants are gross feeders, and grow quickly and luxuriantly in rich soil. They root freely in leaf-soil, and lift well when a good quantity is used in the soil for them. The plants are placed about 4ins. apart, watered if the soil is dry; if not, they are lightly syringed daily and shaded when the sun is bright, until they commence to grow. Abundance of air is afterwards given them, and when the plants are growing freely and strongly the lights are taken off and the frames removed by the time the latter are needed for the protection of other plants.

Pentstemons are hardier than many people suppose, and if grown on the principles detailed they will bear a low temperature without apparent injury. They lift much better than the majority of plants, and if dry weather follows the operations of lifting and planting, one good watering is generally sufficient to start them growing freely. It is surprising how well these plants bear drought, and do not even show the least signs of suffering, when phloxes and many other hardy plants are flagging from insufficient moisture. In order to keep beds and borders gay the old spikes should be removed, because seeds are so freely produced and the plants are then soon exhausted.

There are many excellent named varieties in cultivation which, when massed in small beds or grouped in borders, are most effective; of these, mention may be made of Newbury Gem, in its scarlet, pink and white forms; Southgate Gem, which is an exceedingly fine scarlet form of the preceding variety; Mrs. Leonard Cutbush, a striking scarlet with white throat; Mauve Queen, mauve, throat clear white, edged mauve; Day Dream, a pleasing shade of rosy pink, grand for massing; Autumn Cheer, scarlet, white throat; Miss Baird, rich pink, white throat, large spike, grand flower; and Ivorine, a good white with large flower. JAMES A. PAICE.

PLANTS TO GROW WITH BULBS

ONE often meets garden lovers who remark that they do not "go in" for spring bulbs because their flowering period is relatively short and, in the need for ripening the bulbs, the appearance of the border is somewhat spoilt just at an important time. This objection is one of those half-truths which are often difficult to combat, for we all have experienced seasons when the weather has been so unkind that one has felt that there has not been that enjoyment in the hyacinths and the early Dutch tulips that could reasonably have been expected. Then again it occasionally does so happen that just as the Darwin and cottage tulips are at their best, there has been a sudden burst of a fortnights' sunshine, almost tropical in its intensity, that has so hastened the development of the tulips that it seemed as though they had no sooner disclosed their floral beauty than the petals had fallen and, all too soon, the May-flowering tulips were a memory.

But even so, such seasons are the exception and one feels that a garden cannot be complete without a generous quota of spring bulbs. While there are no practicable means of conserving and prolonging the flowering period of the bulbs in the garden, yet the objection on the score of appearance can be readily overcome by associating the bulbs with selected herbaceous plants and annuals, so that when the otherwise disappointing season may come the flower borders will continue well filled with interesting plants.

When daffodils and narcissi are grown in large quantities, the maximum effect is obtained, as so many charming illustrations in THE GARDEN have shown, by planting broad sweeps of the bulbs in grass, either in the open or in thin woodlands with judicious plantings of bamboos, shrubs, ferns and a few of the bolder herbaceous plants.

In the flower garden proper it has become almost the general practice to associate the bulbs with wallflowers, forget-me-nots and polyanthuses. But while good effect may, and is, obtained with these, their restricted use tends to monotony. There are many other subjects that might with advantage be similarly employed more often than is now the case. To mention a few examples there are the graceful little Phlox setacea (subulata), and varieties which bear a profusion of flowers in various shades of rose and pink; the white Arabis alpina and the equally easy-growing double-flowered form; Iberis gibraltarica; Alyssum saxatile and its varieties, and aubrietias of many sorts, all of which may be safely lifted and planted in the store garden when the bulbs have finished flowering and the flower beds are needed for summer bedding.

A PLEASANT ASSOCIATION OF TALL DARWIN TULIPS AND FORGET-ME-NOTS.

For the herbaceous border the choice is wider, as, among other considerations, the plants to be grown with the spring bulbs may be looked upon more in the light of the regular occupants of the sites. In the front of the border, where the dwarfer Dutch tulips and hyacinths will be planted, the plants already named will, of course, find a place, and in addition use should be made of Adonis amurensis, Achillea argentea, A. tomentosa, A. umbellata, Anchusa myosotidiflora, many of the border pinks, the Oriental hellebores, Tussilago fragrans, Plumbago Larpentæ, Polygonum affine, Stachys lanata and the dwarf veronicas. It will be found that, as a rule, the most effective plan is to associate the daffodils and narcissi with the border plants of prostrate habit, while the hyacinths will be planted with the polyanthuses, forget-me-nots and such, which grow more erect. Objection may be raised to the association of spring bulbs with border plants on the score of root disturbance and consequent injury to the plants when the bulbs are lifted to be spread out to complete their ripening. But if the narrow bulb trowel is used the loss of the few roots that may be injured will be of no moment and there will be no apparent difference in the well being of the plants. Generally it is only the narcissi among the bulbs planted in the front part of the border that are worth lifting for preservation. If the hyacinth bulbs are left in the ground the majority will survive the following winter, and during the next spring will, instead of one compact spike, generally throw up several more slender spikes of distinct grace and beauty. Or, of course, they may be discarded and new bulbs planted again in the autumn.

The place for the taller Darwin and cottage tulips, as well as various narcissi,

Digitized by Google

is more towards the middle of the border, where there will be many opportunities for effective combinations. The yellow tulips and also the Poet's narcissi are especially effective when planted among peonies of officinalis type and varieties which have rosy-purple young shoots. They also associate well with the graceful foliage of Dielytra (Dicentra) spectabilis and may appropriately be planted between the tufts of Campanula persicifolia and any others of similar habit.

Except the Darwin tulips, which flower best when planted at the end of November, it will be found that, as when grown in pots, it is the early planted bulbs that always give the most satisfaction. A. C. B.

INDOOR DAFFODIL CULTURE

This is the second of the short series of articles on bulbs which was prepared by the late Rev. J. Jacob for THE GARDEN *a short time before his death.*

THERE are two ways in which daffodils may be grown in greenhouses and rooms. One is the orthodox system of pot culture and the other is a revival of an old practice which was advocated so far back as 1734 when Sir Thomas More, Bt., narrated as an appendix to "The Flower Garden Displayed in above four hundred curious Representations" (London, 1734) his experience in growing bulbs and certain fibrous-rooted plants in "Basons and in Flint Tumbler-Glasses," which were wider at the top than the bottom, on corks with holes cut to receive the bases of the bulbs and with water as the rooting medium.

From a long experience I have found that any good light garden soil which is fairly porous and which is well drained grows daffodils very well. As a counsel of perfection I would advise such a mixture as the following: two parts good virgin loam, one part coarse silver sand and one part old decayed leaf-mould, the whole mixed well together and a small quantity of ground bone meal added. For calathinus and triandrus I use a more porous soil consisting of two parts of very coarse silver sand, one part of good rich loam and one part of old decayed leaf-mould or coconut fibre, and when potting fill the pots about a quarter full of broken crocks. These are stood in saucers, which are constantly kept filled with water, none being given from the top except every now and again. These are never buried under any sand, ashes, etc., to start their growth. I have dwelt upon the treatment of these Angels' Tears daffodils because they are particularly lovely when grown under the refining influence of glass.

W. P. MILNER, A USEFUL DAFFODIL FOR POTS.

With regard to the number of bulbs in a pot opinions differ. For the purpose of exhibiting at a show the usual practice is to cram as many as can be got into the pot, and no doubt a big mass of bloom is the result. Personally, I do not care for such a crowded mass of flowers for ordinary house decoration, and some such proportion as three Emperors in a 5in. pot or five in a 6in., or, say, double the quantity of W. P. Milner in the same-sized pots, would be much more pleasing.

The earlier a bulb is potted the earlier it may be in bloom. The end of August or early September is none too soon for the first batches. No satisfactory Christmas or New Year's bloom can be had unless this is done. On the other hand, I have planted bulbs on February 3rd and had flowers from them in mid-April, but the stems were weak and the size of the bloom was small. Early planting is a golden rule and should never be broken except in very occasional circumstances.

After planting, the pots should be buried to the depth of 5ins. or 6ins. in fibre, ashes or sand, or stood in a darkened cold frame until the bulbs have made good roots and from 1½ins. to 2ins. of top growth. They may then be placed in a cold frame where severe frost can be excluded and light and air given whenever the weather is mild. This will act as a store room from which supplies for introducing into heat may from time to time be obtained. If no frame is available, the pots may be left under their covering outside until wanted. It is impossible to go into all the details about their introduction into the greenhouse and the amount of heat necessary. As a general principle it is well to remember that the lower the temperature that is maintained, the longer the blooms are on the way, and that more time must be given for growth if flowers are wanted on January 1st than on March 1st. I try to keep a temperature of between 45° to 50°, rising in the sun to 60° and dropping on very cold nights to 40°. With this heat it will take five or six weeks to get flowers on January 1st and only three weeks or even less to have them on March 1st.

The details of cultivation consist in giving as much air as possible on all available occasions, keeping an equitable moisture in the pots and avoiding, as much as possible, violent fluctuations of temperature.

One is frequently asked about the treatment after flowering. Several courses are open. The bulbs may be turned out carefully from the pots if no leaves have been cut and planted in an out of the way border just as they are, or even in grass. Here they will gradually recover, but it will take two years at least before they are quite strong again. If valuable bulbs have been employed and if they have not been brought into bloom before, let us say, Valentine's Day, the pots should be kept as they are and, if possible, in the same temperature (45° to 50°) in which they have bloomed. If they are kept constantly watered and fed with weak soot water or very diluted cow manure water and gradually allowed to die off, good sound bulbs will be formed, which may be counted upon to flower again the next year if planted outside.

Digitized by Google

CULTIVATION IN BOWLS OR OTHER RECEPTACLES WITHOUT DRAINAGE.

It is not generally known that any rooting medium may be employed. One of the best displays from bulbs grown entirely from the start to the finish in a dwelling-house came from bulbs planted in *light* garden soil. Silver sand is equally as good. For those who are unable to get suitable soil no doubt the ready-made mixtures which are sold by bulb dealers are most useful. Here, again, coconut fibre refuse or well broken up peat moss litter may be equally well employed. The results are identical. When soil or sand is used it will be found the bulbs bloom from five to six days in advance of those in fibre. In filling the bowls it is well to add broken pieces of charcoal about the size of a Kentish cob nut to the fibre or soil, as their presence tends to keep the medium in a good and sweet condition, without which root action will not be what it should be and the health of the plants will suffer. The fibre itself should be *nicely moist all through*, but not soaking wet. The operation of planting in bowls is much the same as in pots. Matters should be so arranged that when all is completed the top of the bulbs should be level with the top of the fibre. This should be made firm round them by gentle pressure in order to prevent the bulbs lifting and turning over on one side. In the early stages of growth it is important to keep a sharp look-out for any signs of their getting out of place. When this happens they must at once be carefully put straight.

The after-cultivation consists in the bowls being placed in a cool, dark, airy place indoors or in a darkened frame outside for a sufficient time for a good root formation, which is just as important for these as it is for plants in pots. When the bowls are filled with roots and when about 2ins. of top growth has been made, they must be placed in light. A cold frame from which frost is excluded, or if this is not available a light, airy window in a room without fires make a store place from which bowls may be taken into heat as required.

It is important for the welfare of the plants to keep the medium neither too wet nor too dry. To guard against the first it is well to turn the bowls carefully over on their sides, holding the bulbs and fibre in position by the outstretched fingers thrust across the top of the bowl. Dryness must be tested by feeling with one's finger among the roots. It may be well to state that any earthenware or china receptacle may be employed, but that the plainer they are the better the whole looks at flowering time. My parting word is, avoid decorated receptacles for growing bulbs in without drainage.

NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE CHEROKEE ROSE.

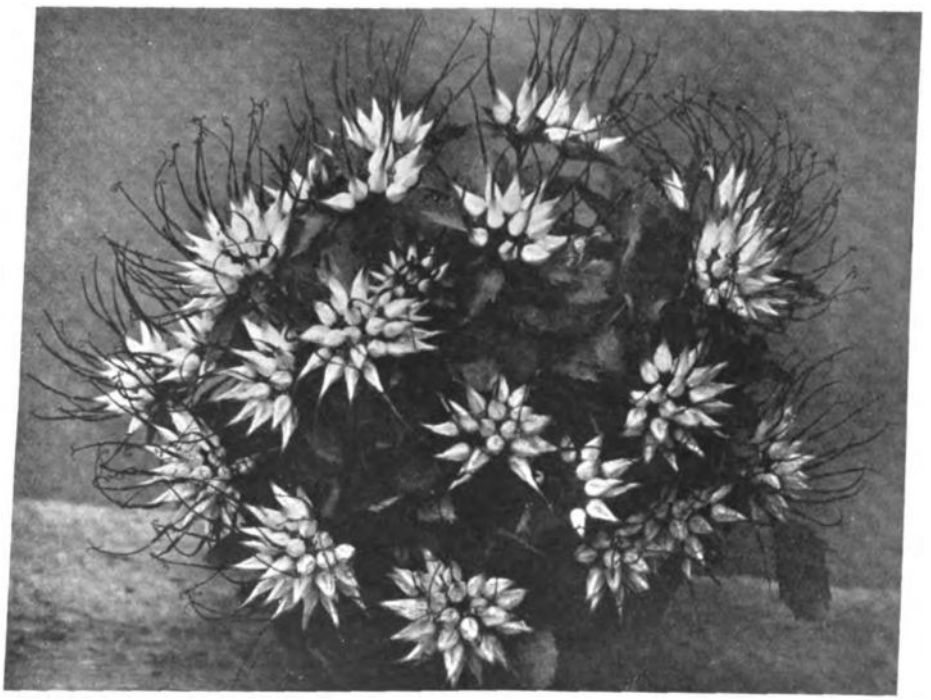
OWING to its comparative tenderness, the Cherokee rose, Rosa lævigata, is little seen. This is not suprrising, as it is unsuited for growing anywhere except on a warm wall, and that in a very mild part of the country. I know of one very good garden in the south-west of Scotland, close to the sea, and with a climate of exceptional mildness, where the Cherokee rose flowered well for a number of years against a warm south wall. It is a truly handsome rose, with fine glossy foliage and very large single pure white flowers. It is worth growing by those who have a favoured climate for the British Isles and a good wall against which to plant it.—S. ARNOTT.

PHYTEUMA COMOSUM.

ONE of the strangest looking alpine flowers in cultivation is Phyteuma comosum, and, although at the same time this plant has great beauty, it is so comparatively rare in gardens that one can never quite get so used to its oddness as to appreciate its beauty fully.

Naturally the plant is a cliff dweller, fairly plentiful throughout the Dolomites, and not difficult to grow in the garden. In case you should be going to the Dolomites, I will give you not only a hint or two about collecting P. comosum, but at least two stations where you may see the plant without danger or difficulty. First, I will tell you where you may find the second—no, the third, finest specimen in the world. I believe Mr. Mark Fenwick has the second finest. The third finest specimen grows close to the road on the left-hand side as you go up from Riva to Storo, a mile or so out of Storo. (This, by the by, is hardly the Dolomites, but it is not far away.) Farrer and I saw it there some sixteen years ago and we agreed to leave it there. I saw it again several years later as I passed in a motor. It is a superb specimen and you cannot miss it. But having divulged the secret, I trust no one will go and attempt to take this plant. If you try you will quite certainly fail, even with ropes and ladders, and you will almost certainly break your neck. So much for the third best specimen. What about the best you ask? At a recent R.H.S. show I exhibited a pan specimen of P. comosum from my alpine house, and Mr. Mark Fenwick told me that he had always thought his own specimen was the finest, but that he had to confess that mine beat it. This plant of mine was given an award of merit. Its photograph accompanies these notes and saves me much trouble in a vain attempt to describe the strange mauve and violet bottle-shaped flowers. The other station I can give for the phyteuma is not quite so far off the beaten track, in fact, it is at that popular centre of the Dolomites, Cortina. Here two great and very comfortable hotels dominate the hillside just above the town. Stay at either of these and it is an easy stroll, between tea and dinner, up through the woods immediately above the hotels to a range of limestone cliffs.

Daphne Cneorum dwells in these woods, and the lovely Rhodothamnus chamæcistus at the foot of the cliffs, while in the cliffs themselves grows P. comosum in fair quantity. And you can get at the plants without danger of breaking your neck, though in getting roots from the steel-hard rock you are likely to break your trowel, your knuckles—even your heart. But the plant is not difficult to establish even if you do not secure the whole root complete—which you seldom will. Slugs, with their almost uncanny intuition for the catalogue value of alpines, love P. comosum; but slugs apart, the plant is not difficult to grow in the rock garden. A natural hole in a big limestone rock in which some wild plant formerly grew is the ideal place for it, or failing this ideal, a deep crevice between two rocks. In the alpine house it seems to flourish better than in nature. In a garden I visited recently I saw a flourishing colony of P. comosum growing in a cold frame in a bed of deep limy sand and surrounding the elder plant grew a family of a dozen or two lusty self-sown seedlings. It is such sights as this that make



PHYTEUMA COMOSUM, AN ALPINE OF STRANGE BEAUTY.

Digitized by Google

a nurseryman's eyes glitter! My host stayed with me the whole time.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, *Stevenage.*

ROSE HEDGES.

A ROSE hedge is a charming addition to any garden where there is space for it. Though roses are not suitable for a boundary fence, there are many places where they can be used instead of uninteresting shrubs, as, for instance, a dividing hedge between one part of the garden and another. In some old-world gardens there are hedges of clipped yew. These form an excellent background to a lower and less formal hedge of roses, the dark, sombre yew serving to throw up the lighter beauty of the foliage and blooms of the roses.

Up to now, the common sweet briar has generally been planted for hedges; but several other roses, including some of the climbing varieties, can be used for this purpose.

Among the dwarf-growing kinds, nothing is more compact than the Scots roses, all of which are suitable for a hedge round the rose garden.

Rosa Hugonis grows well and produces bright yellow single flowers towards the end of May. It forms a large bush, and is easily increased by cuttings taken in the autumn. The many-coloured polyantha roses are excellent for low hedges, and the taller-growing R. altaica can also be used. The latter bears yellow-white flowers with deep yellow centres, and is very free-flowering; while the old-fashioned pink China monthly rose is very hard to beat for this purpose, as it blooms continually throughout the summer and autumn.

There is nothing more fragrant than a sweet briar hedge; its scent after a shower of rain is delightful. To be really effective the hedge should be about 5ft. in height and the same in thickness. Unlike most roses, sweet briars do best in a light, sandy soil, as they dislike clay or heavy, wet land.

All the Lord Penzance hybrids are of strong growth and suitable for hedges. Meg Merrilees, a bright crimson; Flora McIvor, white; and Julia Mannering, a pink, are particularly good. For an impenetrable hedge they can be grown up to 10ft. in height and nearly as much through; while for a lower hedge they may be planted in single or double rows about 4ft. apart. Cut them back hard the first year; but later on, only thin out the old wood and any twiggy growths, and bend the long flowering shoots as nearly horizontal as possible, so as to limit the height to about 4ft. or 5ft.

Of course, hedges of this description cannot be trimmed as closely as those formed of shrubs on which the shears are used. But they can, and should, be judiciously pruned at the proper season. If the flowering branches are tied in here and there, the hedges will be kept fairly true to the required shape. To encourage the young growths to develop and prevent the bottom of the hedge from getting thin, all the old wood that has flowered should be cut out at the base.

Before planting the rose trees, the ground should be thoroughly prepared by deep digging or trenching, and some good manure or decayed vegetable matter added to the lower spit.

As a rule, roses do well on heavy soils, to which such materials as bonfire ash, mortar rubble or sand can be added. In all cases a top-dressing of manure is beneficial.

The best time for planting roses is in October and November, or in February and March; and it is a mistake to bury the roots too deeply.—HAZEL ALLAN.

THE CHARM OF A ROSE HEDGE: UTILITY AND BEAUTY COMBINED.

CASSIOPE TETRAGONA.

STILL frequently known as Andromeda tetragona, the title given to it by Linnæus, this charming little member of the erica family deserves the fullest consideration of the cultivator of alpine flowers. It is not only attractive, but its foliage is evergreen and is pleasing in itself with its imbricated appearance and arrangement in four-angled stems. It is absolutely hardy under ordinary conditions, as it should be, seeing that it is widely spread over both Arctic and Sub-Arctic regions; and I can only recollect losing one plant through weather conditions, and this loss would probably not have occurred had the cassiope been in a less draughty place. It was lost in one of those trying winters of ours, when snow was followed by rain and then by a biting wind and severe frost, which proved too much for a plant in a wind-swept, draughty position. Others in more favourable conditions did not suffer, even although they had not their natural winter covering of snow to shelter them from the inclemency of the season. Given an open position in sandy peat, never allowed to become too dry in spring, summer or autumn, but not in sodden soil, there is no reason why this delightful cassiope should not gladden the owners of many more gardens. And it is a great beauty, only some 7ins. or 8ins. high, if allowed to grow as much, a foot across, and hung with lovely pure white, lily of the valley-like bells of waxlike texture. When of good size it may be increased by division.—S. ARNOTT.

WINTER ACONITES.

STRANGE as it may seem, the average grower of bulbs among amateur gardeners knows very little from practical experience about winter aconites, often the first of blossoms to greet us in the morning of the year. It may be that his eyes have never been gladdened by a sight of a drift of their golden yellow flowers opening in the fitful sunlight of a cold January day. He may have perused some list and glanced casually through the names under "Miscellaneous Bulbs," but Eranthis hyemalis has conveyed no idea to his mind of a dainty little flower which comes at the beginning of the year, and which we commonly call the winter aconite. Perhaps if the "trade" boomed it, or it came under review at some exhibition by the general public, they would want to know more about it; but long before the "light footsteps of the spring" are manifest—indeed, before scarcely any spring flowers appear—these charming winter visitors have fulfilled their mission and vanished. It is a delightful little blossom, nestling in its frill of green leaves, and makes a brave show of gold at a time of the year when there are few other outdoor flowers to bear it company, save only the yellow blossoms

Digitized by Google

A FINE DARK COLOURED STRAIN OF SCHIZANTHUS.

of the winter jasmine as they hang over the wall. There are several reasons which might be advanced for the growing of these little bulbs in every garden, however small. First, because the flowers are very charming, and come at a time when any bright colour is welcome in the garden; (2) they can be planted in any odd corner, but chiefly round doorways, or where the blossoms can be seen from the windows of the home, under trees, in the rock garden, round steps, at the edge of paths, or on banks among shelter of foliage or grass; (3) once the bulbs have been planted one need not meddle with them for years, as they improve with keeping. Seldom does the weather hinder them revealing their faces, as they will push through snow and show their golden glory. And the final reason why everybody who loves a garden should grow the winter aconite and plant the bulbs profusely is, perhaps, the best. It is the matter of cost.

For about 3s. one may have a hundred of the bulbs, which means that in your garden, long before the spring treasures appear—nay, scarcely have given signs of their presence—you will have in these lowly blossoms more than a hundred golden faces to greet you, reminding you of the passing of winter and that spring days will surely come!—W. LINDERS LEA.

THE BUTTERFLY FLOWERS.

Sow Schizanthus Now.

AMID all the half-hardy annuals grown for greenhouse decoration in spring the schizanthus stands supreme. Well grown plants blossom with astounding profusion, and the colours are so gorgeous as to baffle description; even that popular name, the Poor Man's Orchid, does not do full justice to a collection of handsome plants.

First of all, procure only the very best seed. I specially recommend the Wisetonensis grandiflora strain of Messrs. Blackmore and Langdon, the American hybrids known as Dr. Badger's strain, and the true to colour varieties of Messrs. Sutton; but a good dealer will, for a reasonable price, furnish varieties of superb nature and delightful colours. The retusus types, not so frequently grown in pots, are in my opinion almost equally as good as the others, and room might be found for a few of them too. Except where one or two colours are particularly desired, I advocate mixed seed, for the flowers invariably show a wide range of colours and tints in various markings and combinations.

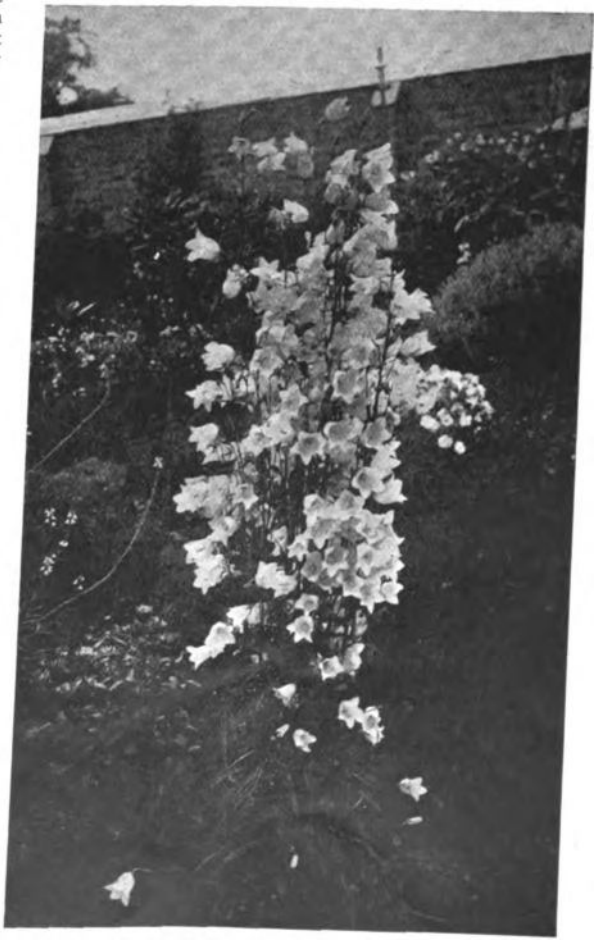
Seed is best sown as early as possible in late summer and germinated in a temperature round about 60° or 65° Fahr.; this can be secured in a frame easily, but shade from strong sunshine is necessary at first. Seedlings appear in a week, and they are then kept near the glass; in fact, at all times is it advisable to grow these plants near the glass, since short sturdy growth is one of the main keys to success. Seedlings are pricked off into boxes in the usual way and again, when sizable, transferred to 3in. pots. Some growers put three plants in a pot; while this can be done with named varieties, it is always better, I think, to keep one plant to a pot. Let the plants remain in the frame as long as possible, for the schizanthus is essentially a cool greenhouse subject. Water regularly, taking care neither to give too much nor too little.

When the plants are 3ins. to 4ins. high, pinch out the tip and continue pinching them as they grow, so as to get neat compact bushes. In February they will be ready for 6in. pots, in which they are flowered. The compost should consist mainly of a fibrous loam, and a little dry cow-manure may be added to enrich it. Pot firmly at this stage, and when roots fill the pots feed twice weekly until buds appear. Shade from strong sunshine prolongs the life of the blossom.—CLYDESDALE.

BELLFLOWERS FOR VARIOUS POSITIONS.

WHEN we bear in mind their all-round capabilities, there are few hardy plants more useful in and about a garden than campanulas, and, in particular, the taller sorts that are such a feature of many gardens. Most of them are free with their blossoms; they will grow in any moderately good soil and thrive under conditions where other plants would barely exist. It is because of this that they do so well in the suburbs of towns. For borders, some of the old and well tried sorts, like persicifolia, the peach-leaved bellflower, and pyramidalis, the chimney bellflower, in both blue and white forms, are well known. In many places they constitute the stock and are largely drawn upon for potting and bringing into bloom early in the year. In addition to the two old standard sorts referred to, one does not forget sorts that are of service in a garden, such as macrantha, with royal purple trumpet-shaped flowers borne on tall spikes; Burghalti, with lavender blue flowers; and grandis, of a rich blue. Telham Beauty, of the persicifolia type, is a tall-growing variety with thin wiry stems, with large single bells of pale blue. Glomerata dahurica, purple, and its white counterpart, the clustered harebell, though only growing about 18ins. in height, is a favourite border plant with many. We owe much to campanulas for their long season of blooming, and this contributes much beauty to a garden from early summer. We cannot forget, too, the claims of sorts of lowlier growth that come to our aid for edging paths and for planting in positions where taller plants would be out of place, such as carpatica Riverslea, with deep blue flowers; pusilla, with shining heart-shaped leaves and pale blue blossoms; and turbinata, yielding a profusion of large individual blooms on quite dwarf plants. There is a great choice in the selection of campanulas open to the would-be grower, and the gardener taking them in hand for the first time will find them easy to deal with. Unfortunately, a number of growers allow the plants to occupy the same spot for several seasons without troubling to divide them, and this accounts for some of the spikes being puny. Nothing is gained by allowing campanulas to develop into large clumps; on the contrary, they, as a rule, take up space rightly belonging to other plants in a border.

Every two years it is best to take stock and divide. It is the individual plant which produces the finest spike and the best flowers. As with the tall sorts, so with the cushion and carpeting sorts; they, too, must be overhauled at intervals to curtail their growth and to thin out the weakliest.—W. F.



THE WELL TRIED CAMPANULA PERSICIFOLIA, A GOOD ALL ROUND BELLFLOWER.

Digitized by Google

NURSERIES OF THE BRITISH ISLES.—II

MESSRS. BARR'S GROUNDS AT TAPLOW

THERE are few firms which can lay claim to such a long record of service in the interests of horticulture in general and in the growing of bulbous plants in particular as Messrs. Barr and Sons of Covent Garden. One has to go back to the sixties of last century to discover the beginnings of the firm, which was founded by the late Mr. Peter Barr in 1861 under the title of Messrs. Barr and Sugden, by which it was known until 1882, when the name was altered to the present one of Barr and Sons. Originally the firm dealt only in high-class seeds and bulbs, and, soon established a name all over the world. In the early sixties nursery ground was acquired in Garrett Lane (between Lower Tooting and Wandsworth), not far from the famous nurseries of Mr. Robert Parker and Messrs. Rollison and Sons. There, were planted a valuable collection of bulbous plants, many classes of irises, and also the collections of new hybrid daffodils raised by William Backhouse and Edward Leeds, which had been purchased by Peter Barr. A very complete collection of helleborus species was also grown, many of which are now unobtainable.

In 1889 the firm removed their nurseries to Long Ditton Surrey, and old travellers on the South Western Railway must well remember the feasts of colour afforded by the daffodils, tulips, irises and summer-flowering herbaceous plants cultivated at these nurseries. Owing to the encroachment of buildings, Messrs. Barr found it necessary to seek new ground and in 1911 established themselves at their present nurseries at Taplow. From 1861 until the present day represents sixty-five years of continuous service to gardeners the world over. The founder of the firm was one of the pioneers in the horticultural world of last century, and the energy which he showed in the development and improvement of many types of bulbous plants, notably the daffodil, has been and is being still carried on by the present members of the firm. Under the *régime* of the founder, the firm acquired a reputation as the leading growers of daffodils, of which they have since always made a speciality, and year after year Messrs. Barr's present to the daffodil world a number of novelties of considerable merit. Yet their interests were sufficiently wide for them to grow and popularise many other plants, including irises peonies, tulips and liliums, to mention only a few. The interest in irises, tulips and lilies has been sustained and increased, and in addition a flourishing alpine department has been set going, containing many new and rare alpines, as well as the commoner members of the rock garden. In 1910 ground was procured in Cornwall for the purpose of growing the new seedling and better kinds of daffodils. This not only ensures early-flowering, but also a thorough change of soil and climate from Taplow. All along the line it is a record of progress, and the future, we have no doubt, will only add success to past successes.

Lovers of the daffodil should not fail to pay a visit to the nurseries at Taplow during the month of April, round about Eastertime. It is then when the beds are a blaze of all shades of yellow, made all the more attractive by the rise and fall in the levels of the individual beds and the contrasting blocks of colours. Looking along one of the beds, one cannot but call to mind Wordsworth's pen picture of a "host of daffodils waving and dancing in the breeze." They are among the most elegant and graceful of our flowers, and with their delicacy and refinement of colouring they easily take first place among spring-flowering subjects. To see these beds in their full splendour is to convince one that no garden should be without one or two of their representatives. There is, indeed, no flower which so well conveys the spirit and atmosphere of spring as the daffodil.

A SEA OF YELLOW NODDING HEADS.

ANOTHER CORNER IN THE NURSERY.

While the general effect and appearance will fascinate the amateur, the daffodil enthusiast looks for something more. It is he who wishes to know what this and that variety is like, and how it grows and if it is likely to prove a valuable garden sort. These, and a hundred and one other questions, he will find answered for him by a careful survey. A most alluring assortment of varieties is on view, extending from the giant trumpet-flowered kinds to the dainty poetaz and tazetta varieties, and it may be interesting to mention a few individual sorts which appealed to us on our visit this spring. The most noticeable bed was probably that filled with the gorgeous waving plumes of King Alfred. There seems little doubt that this is one of the finest daffodils for ordinary garden purposes which we have. Not only is it desirable on account of its vigour and deep colour, but its flowering period is a long one. Arion, a fairly new Leedsii, is a most distinct and beautiful flower as well as being a neat grower, and is most effective when seen in a drift. Among the other striking Leedsii noticed were the snow white Venus, which is a fine early sort and excellent for association with King Alfred, as both

Digitized by Google

bloom at the same time, and the care-free Lady Godiva.

Among the many fine jonquil hybrids the charming white Fairy Nymph stood out as distinct from its neighbours. Among white trumpets were Mrs. Robert Sydenham, a good garden variety; Peter Barr, the largest flowered white trumpet daffodil, one of the first raised and still one of the best; and Silver Gift, a more recent variety with really beautiful snow white, medium-sized flowers. In the new seedling daffodils there were many interesting flowers on view. One seedling, No. 3853, was particularly striking, and appeared to be a much improved Lord Kitchener. The large and handsome snow white blooms of Viscountess Northcliffe, a triandrus hybrid, were also to be seen in association with many other recent seedlings. The selection offered in these novelties is an extensive one. One other grand garden variety, Bonaparte, a fine yellow incomparabilis, formed a perfect sheet of yellow; while Sunrise looked a good market flower, being a very early red cup. Many interesting hybrids, such as Triandrus × Leedsii and Trumpet × Poeticus, are all good. Silver Fleece, one of the former, being particularly so.

In April, also, many of the early-flowering tulips are to be seen, and the brilliantly coloured Thomas Moore is sure to attract attention. The tulips showed the same care in cultivation as the daffodils, and in the spring of this year were very far ahead.

Messrs. Barr's have long been known for their interesting collection of rock and alpine plants, and many of these are to be seen in company with a number of early-flowering irises for which this firm is also famous. The patches of aubrietias and alyssum, with the kaleidoscopic shades of the new Spetchley polyanthus-primroses, make a vivid colour display in the early months of the year. A noticeable feature of the nursery, and one which will strike many amateurs, is the number of beech hedges, which prove exceedingly useful as wind screens, even in winter; as is well known, the beech holds its leaves for a considerable time. It is a practice which might be well adopted in many a wind-swept garden.

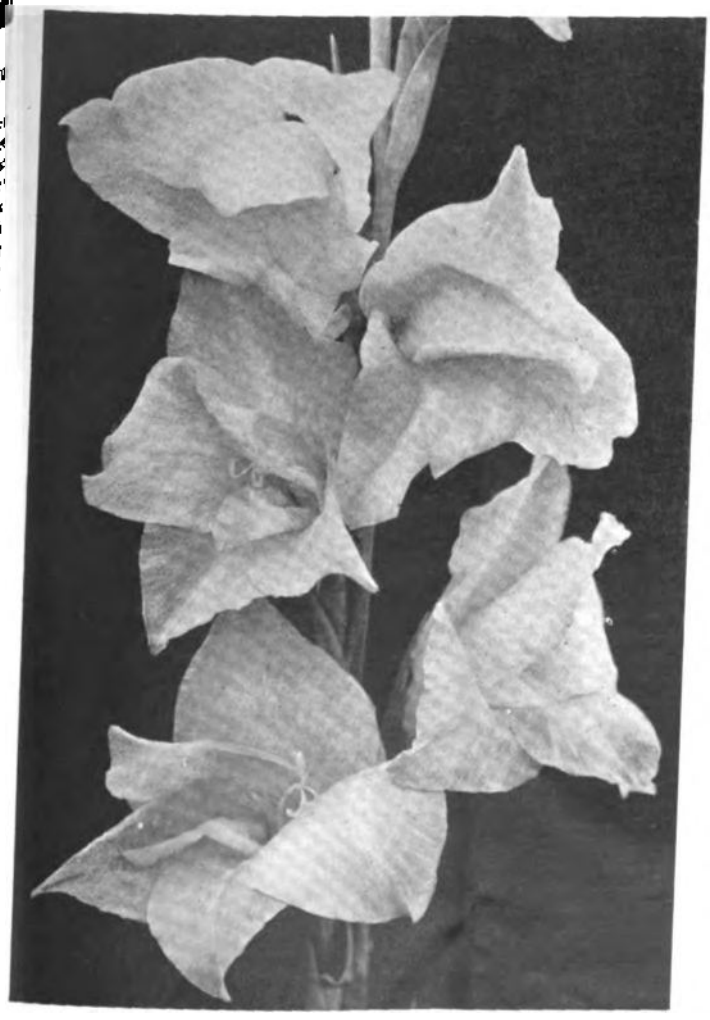
A GREAT PROVINCIAL SHOW

THE Southport Flower Show goes from strength to strength. In 1926, although only in its third year, the area under canvas was considerably larger than that at Chelsea. That the Southport Corporation has been able to accomplish this in this short time is nothing short of miraculous. It speaks volumes for their enterprise and skill of management. It might be imagined that the show might be a success from the number of visitors, owing to Southport's popularity as a summer resort; but it is more than that. It is a success as a business proposition, as is shown by the number of our largest nurserymen and seedsmen who have supported it from the start and are continuing to do so. A large buying public obviously attends, and it is through them that the latest and best of our garden plants are spread far and wide through the north of England.

This year's Show was noteworthy for two things, the magnificent collections of stove and greenhouse plants and the gladioli. Many keen gardeners of an older generation said that such groups of caladiums and other stove and greenhouse ornamental plants had not been seen since the days of the old York galas. If anything should increase their popularity again, it would be a view of the massed exhibits of Messrs. Cypher and Sons, Mr. W. A. Holmes and Sir G. H. Kendrick, among others. Their exhibits were a host in themselves and worthy of the very best that English houses can produce. It is to be hoped that their lead will increase the waning popularity of numbers of incomparable stove and greenhouse plants.

GLADIOLI.

In the opinion of many, there has never been a finer show of gladioli staged at any flower show. Not only was the quality of the individual spikes extraordinarily high, but the numbers of varieties staged only shows to what a point of perfection the modern gladioli has been raised. It must have been a difficult task for the judges to pick and choose among the different groups. Among the non-competitive groups the most striking was that of Messrs. Sutton, who showed



LADY ADA FITZWILLIAM, A FINE LANGPRIM HYBRID.

RED LADDIE, A CARNATION OF GOOD FORM AND COLOUR.

Digitized by Google

massive spikes, mostly of the large-flowered varieties, arranged in large baskets. This style of display suits those of striking colour particularly well. Red Emperor, with its rich clear crimson tone, was magnificent, as was Early Sunrise, a glowing flame colour, and Imperator, a pure white.

Messrs. Kelway also staged a fine exhibit, not only of better known varieties, but also of novelties. Of the latter two were easily singled out, a large-flowered variety, Queen of the Roses, of a very pure tone of rose and a deeper throat. The shape of the flower was excellent and the texture perfect. The second was a Langprim, Lady Ada Fitzwilliam, most distinctly hooded, of a fine flame colour with a deep cream throat. Other non-competitive exhibits of gladioli included Messrs. R. H. Bath, Limited, who, though not real specialists, staged a fine exhibit among which were to be seen the deep crimson, Crimson Glow, with darker markings, and Dawn, a lovely salmon flower of good shape with a darker throat; and Messrs. Unwin, whose large exhibit of primulinus and large-flowered hybrids showed what care is taken in their cultivation at Histon; all the varieties staged were in the best of condition, and the wide colour range made their exhibit most attractive. This exhibit was considered one of the finest ever staged. Messrs. Daniels Brothers, Limited, staged gladioli along with montbretias and asters, among the gladioli being the brilliant crimson, large-flowered Vesuvius, the soft salmon General de Wet, and the canary yellow Souvenir. And lastly, Garden Supplies, Limited, staged gladioli among an attractive exhibit of rock plants, dwarf conifers and montbretias.

Others in competitive classes who had excellent exhibits of gladioli were Messrs. Artindale, with L'Arques, a bright terra cotta, and the magnificent La Lys, a creamy yellow of large size and good texture without being too stiff; and Messrs. Lowe and Gibson, whose collection of primulinus hybrids was worthy of all praise. Many of the newer sorts were to be seen, such as Andromache, the only absolutely pure yellow self; Canopus, the palest of yellows with a lemon throat; Ethlyn, a soft apricot yellow; and Midsummer Dream, a real geranium red, an uncommon colour in gladioli. Messrs. Bees, Limited, also staged gladioli. Most striking were the primulinus arranged in large vases, among them La Reine Victoria, a fiery salmon; and Fire King, a brilliant vermilion with an orange throat. Messrs. Webbs showed gladioli and other border plants, among the former the good salmon Odin was most noticeable. Mr. Alfred Edwards staged a fine collection of primulinus hybrids, among them Seedling A, rose flushed orange; L'Oise, deep cream with rose flush were very good. Mr. P. Gardner and Messrs. W. J. Garner also showed gladioli of good quality.

HERBACEOUS FLOWERS.

Among general herbaceous plants one of the best exhibits was that of Messrs. Isaac House, who staged their fine perennial scabious in various colours, including the fine white Miss Willmott. Then, again, Messrs. Dickson and Robinson showed what they could do with dahlias of every variety and colour, magnificently staged. Other herbaceous plants were staged by the Chalk Hills Nurseries, among them Achillea eupatorium, that should be much more often seen; Messrs. Prichard had Dracocephalum atroroseum, montbretias and the magnificent flame crimson Kniphofia Lord Roberts; and Mr. Jones's phloxes were very fine, among them Europe, blush white with rose ring, Telma, salmon with deep eye, and Exquisite, white with rose centre. Messrs. Carter staged a fine exhibit with a centre of Lilium tigrinum Fortunei giganteum, surrounded by mixed large asters of all colours and with baskets of lilies and gloxinias at the side. Mr. Amos Perry had a most interesting exhibit with a little pool filled with water lilies in the centre, surrounded by some less commonly seen plants such as the rare Montbretia rosea, the excellent perennial Stokesia cyanea cœrulea, that should be far more often grown, and watsonias of various shades. Messrs. Blackmore and Langdon, as well as staging delphiniums of various excellent sorts, had a wonderful exhibit of the begonias for which they are so famous. Among them was a new break called Begonia crispa marginata, a frilled single with orange centre and rose edging, a most striking plant. Two other begonias, Bryon Langdon, an enormous salmon double, and Sydney Robinson, one of the best oranges, were most noticeable. The beauty of Messrs. Wells' exhibit was much enhanced by magnificent spikes of Liatris pycnostachya, the deep mauve-purple spikes of which are the glory of the late summer garden, as also are the orange-crimson spikes of Kniphofia nobilis, one of the best of the red-hot pokers.

Messrs. Reamsbottom showed St. Brigid anemones; Messrs. Forbes of Hawick showed fine collections of phloxes and pentstemons, among the latter one of the best of all, the rose-scarlet George Horne, with large pips; Messrs. John Peed showed crotons, lilies and hydrangeas; Messrs. Hewitts and Messrs. Bees fine collections of delphiniums; Messrs. Russell clematis and tree ferns; Messrs. Waterers a fine collection of herbaceous plants, such as lilies, gladioli and phloxes, as also did Messrs. Harkness, together with a few of the lupins for which they are so famous.

Messrs. E. F. Fairbairn had a fine exhibit of phloxes well arranged in big vases, among them the deep rose Signal and the true rich purple called The King. Messrs. W. H. Simpson had not only fine spikes of gladioli, but excellent antirrhinums, among the latter The King, a really good orange-scarlet of good substance and magnificent tone. Messrs. Clibrans, as well as their fine stand of stove and greenhouse ornamental plants, had a nice table of streptocarpus and gloxinias in good variety; Messrs. Bakers showed a mixed group of herbaceous plants such as kniphofias, delphiniums, phloxes, hollyhocks and gladioli. They all showed signs of the excellent material for which this firm is famous. Messrs. Keith Luxford showed early chrysanthemums in good variety and carnations.

DAHLIAS.

Messrs. Treseder and Sons staged a fine collection of cactus dahlias in great variety and showing excellent cultivation, as did Mr. H. Woolman, whose cactus forms were most noteworthy, among them the fine Ballet Girl, white shaded vermilion, and Canary, a good lemon yellow. In Messrs. Jarman's exhibit of dahlias two deep black-crimsons were striking, Conquest and the large decorative King Harold. Messrs. Dickson and Robinson's stand was noticeable from the fact that the blooms were arranged without wires, and very attractive they were, too. Edgar Jackson, an orange-vermilion, looked particularly well. Messrs. Hewitt also staged an excellent show of dahlias, among which the brilliant scarlet-crimson Martial was most noticeable. Messrs' Dobbie had a fine show of dahlias for which they are so well known, along with potatoes and roses. Among the first was the good crimson Glen Etive and the charming anemone-flowered Seafield.

CARNATIONS.

Mr. Engelmann won the silver challenge cup with a wonderful collection of perpetuals, as usual magnificently shown. Among the varieties were Red Laddie, the deeper form of the ordinary Laddie, the deep lavender Arnos Grove and the scarlet Spectrum. Messrs. Allwood showed perpetuals in good variety, among them the fine yellow Maine Sunshine and the scarlet Edward Allwood.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Good collections of apples and peaches in pots were shown by the King's Acre Nurseries; and peaches, nectarines and plums by Messrs. Rivers.

The Hon. Vicary Gibbs' exhibit of vegetables has never been better, and Mr. Beckett deserves every credit not only for the magnificent cultivation shown, but also for his staging of vegetables.

ROCK GARDENS.

The rock gardens were limited in size and were much alike in form, with a central stream round which clustered rocks. They were too obviously planted for late summer plants, and so would be almost impossible in practice, although the general display was a most effective one. However, Mr. T. R. Hayes well deserved his success in winning the silver challenge cup, with a subdued design in which the rock was excellently placed. Good use was made of dwarf conifers.

Further details and List of Awards will appear next week.

GLADIOLI AT VINCENT SQUARE

CONSIDERING the number of important provincial shows which have been well patronised by the trade during the last few weeks, it is surprising how the supply and quality of the plants at Vincent Square keep up to the standard. This Show in itself was noteworthy for the excellence of many plants, especially gladioli. Dahlias of every type were well represented, while miscellaneous groups of hardy flowers and fruit occupied a fair space.

A splendid group of gladioli was staged by Messrs. R. H. Bath. Varieties which are particularly suitable for garden decoration were on show. Xanthia, a brilliant orange primulinus hybrid; L'Exuette, a cherry red variety blotched with yellow, belonging to the same class; and the large-flowered varieties, Duchess of York, bluish purple; Principine, carmine red; and Jack London, striped salmon, were a few of the best.

Messrs. Hewitt's gladioli were in excellent condition and of remarkable size. Red Emperor, a glowing scarlet red; Rose Precoce, a beautiful rose-coloured gladiolus; and Love's Fire, a striking scarlet self, were perhaps the most prominent varieties. A large and imposing gladioli group was staged by Messrs. Kelway and Son. Numerous "Langprim" hybrids of recent introduction were on show, as well as such well known varieties as Rev. J. Stubbs and Golden Girl. Langport Scarlet, A. E. R. Gilligan, T. S. Hope Simpson, Kelway's Defiance, T. W. Sanders, Beau Brocade and The King were all noticeable. The Orpington Nurseries staged gladioli of both types. White City and White Giant, two fine large-flowered varieties, and the old favourite, Willie Wiseman, were included. Mr. G. Whitelegg had some fine primulinus hybrids, particularly in shades of orange.

The Foremarke Challenge Cup, which is awarded each year for the best twenty spikes of gladioli in not less than ten varieties, was won again this year by Messrs. G. Maw and Sons. Gertrude and Cally were the best specimens. Messrs. Dobbie showed massive spikes of pedigree seedling gladioli.

A handsome collection of fruit was exhibited by Baron Bruno Schröder. Peaches, nectarines, grapes, apricots, plums, melons and pears, all large, well ripened and in

Digitized by Google

BURPEE'S NEW SWEET PEAS

3 Striking Novelties

THREE entirely new varieties—each as fascinatingly attractive as it is novel. Two distinctively new colours, and a brilliantly dark blue. Lovers of Sweet Peas will be delighted with these novelties.

DELIGHTFUL

A rich terra cotta cerise suffused orange or scarlet red. A colour never before produced—the most appealing, in its glowing beauty, of all the richer toned varieties; bright and shining even on dull days, intensified in hot sunshine and startlingly brilliant under artificial light.

GLADNESS

A soft coral pink, intensified by a suffusion of a deeper shade toward the base of the standard and wings. A distinct new sweet-pea colour, which might be called a geranium pink—the softest and daintiest of all pinks—with its exquisite delicacy still further enhanced by a lemon keel.

ROYAL BLUE

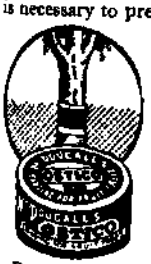
A true Royal Blue, but full of life and brilliancy instead of dull and uninspiriting, as is the case with existing varieties; undoubtedly the brightest of all sweet pea dark blues. A flower of great substance and enchanting beauty, extremely prolific in fours.

Each Packet of 15 Seeds for 1/-

BUY THEM FROM YOUR SEEDSMAN.

FRUIT-TREE BANDING

is necessary to prevent the wingless females of the winter and other moths from crawling up the trees to deposit their eggs which, in the spring, hatch out into fruit-destroying caterpillars.



Banding with "OSTICO" is the most reliable means of protecting next year's crop. It catches and holds the moths as they ascend the trees.

Only one application is necessary. "OSTICO" is always "sticky" and does not run.

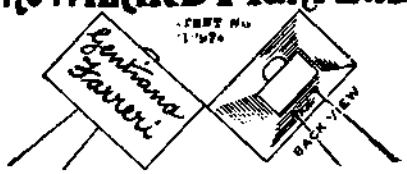
8-oz. tin (*for* 10 *trees*) 1/6
1-lb. " (" 20 ") 2/9
5-lb. " (" 100 ") 12/6

OF ALL AGENTS

COOPER, McDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, LTD. BERKHAMSTED

OSTICO FOR BANDING TREES

The WIZARD Plant LABEL

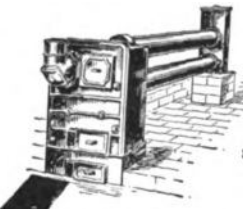


Made in Red Pottery, 2½ x 1¼ ins., with rustless wires. 12 in., 2/3 doz.; 7 in., 1/9 doz. 1½ x 1 in., with wires 6 in., 1/6 doz. For tying on, 1/3 and 1/6 doz. Waterproof Ink, 9d. and 7½d. bot. Crow Quills, 2d. Postage extra.

Highly commended by the R.H.S. at Wisley.

E. TORKINGTON - NEW HALL . MAIDENHEAD

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*



Paying Points about "STOURBRIDGE" Greenhouse Boilers

No. 2 Substantially reduced prices and immediate delivery

Write at once for special price. State size of house. Address Dept. 3.

J. & W. WOOD LTD Stourbridge

BLACKMORE & LANGDON'S

Gold Medal Delphiniums

(*Awarded 5 Gold Medals.*)

We recommend early Autumn planting for best results, and our stock is in grand condition.

Our "AWARD OF MERIT" Collection, every variety having received the A.M. at the R.H.S. Trials.

17 varieties - - - - **£4 10s.**
or a selection of 12 varieties - **£2 15s.**
Other collections at **15/-, 22/-, 30/-, 42/-** and **70/-** per doz.

BLACKMORE & LANGDON, BATH

Digitized by Google

NEW AND RARE NARCISSI

AND A SHORT SELECTION FROM SOME OF THE OLDER VARIETIES.

F.C.C., R.H.S., signifies First-Class Certificate, Royal Horticultural Society. A.M.—Award of Merit. The date after raiser's name indicates the year the Daffodil was put into commerce. The Letters and Figures placed before each variety denote its position according to the Classification of the R.H.S.

1b BEERSHEBA (Engleheart). This is a real advance in white trumpets and is built on somewhat new lines. Trumpet long and slightly funnel-shaped; segments long and slightly pointed. Stalk longer than most of the pure white Daffodils. A very distinct and beautiful show flower; growth vigorous and free. F.C.C. R.H.S., 1926. **£8 per bulb**

2b BERNARDINO (Worsley). A seedling from Lulworth, but much larger and having a taller habit of growth. Perianth creamy white, cup large and prettily crinkled at the edge, deeply tinted orange apricot. Highly recommended. **8/- doz. 9d. each**

3a BRILLIANCY (Engleheart). This may best be described as an enlarged and glorified Barrii Conspicuus. It is a very tall plant, very early flowering, and a great increaser. Delightfully scented. **10/6 doz., 1/- each**

1a CERVANTES. A very early yellow trumpet Daffodil, fine for forcing, extremely florriferous. **16/- per 100, 2/3 doz., 3d. each**

4a EMPIRE (Crosfield, 1911). One of the finest Giant Leedsii yet sent out. A large and perfectly formed flower, with a fine pose. Segments pure white, cup pale lemon passing to white. A quick increaser and good seeder. Early. **27/6 doz., 2/6 each**

3b FIREBRAND (Engleheart). A somewhat starry flower, but well set up and lasting; cup most intense fiery red, segments creamy white. A good grower and rapid increaser. Mid season. A very good pot plant. **18/- per 100, 2/6 doz., 3d. each**

3b FIRETAIL (Crosfield, 1910). A large firm flower 3½ in. in diameter, of best lasting quality. Segments creamy white, broad and overlapping. Disc large, quite flat, of deep red throughout. A.M., Birmingham, 1910, and F.C.C., April 13th, 1921, and F.C.C., R.H.S., May 9th, 1922. Very late. **9/- per bulb**

1c GLORY OF NOORDWIJK (D. Groot and Sons). An enormous bicolor about twice the size of Empress. A.M., Mid. Daff. Soc., 1902. Mid season. **22/- per 100, 3/- doz.**

4a HON. MRS. J. L. FRANCKLIN (Pearson, 1908). A Giant Leedsii of perfect form and extreme lasting quality. Segments pure white, flat and imbricate, slightly pointed at tips. Cup (almost a trumpet) long and regular, slightly reflexed at brim. A large up-standing flower, equal if not superior to any in the market. Plant tall and very vigorous; grand for pots; mid season. **22/- per 100, 3/- doz., 4d. each**

1c LADY MINE (Pearson, 1923). A very bright clear bicolor trumpet Daffodil. The flower is of good form, substance and pose, and is carried on long stalk. Its habit of plant is quite remarkably vigorous and free. **15/- doz., 1/6 each**

1a LEMON GIANT (Pearson, 1921). A remarkably fine trumpet Daffodil of perfect form and a pleasing and novel colouring. The well formed perianth measures 5½ in. in diameter, and is of a clear light lemon tint. The trumpet is golden yellow, 2 in. long by 2 in. across the mouth, which is slightly reflexed and gracefully serrated. The plant is very strong with broad foliage, and the flower is carried on a long stalk. Mid-season. **5/- per bulb**

1c MOIRA O'NEILL (Engleheart). The most refined and beautiful bicolor trumpet yet offered. The large flower is perfect in shape and pose, and the plant is extremely vigorous, having leaves broader than Emperor. **30/- per bulb**

1a POTENTATE (Pearson, 1911). A very large early trumpet Daffodil, of perfect form, bright clear yellow. A most robust grower and wonderfully free; a grand show or garden plant. Early. **2/6 per bulb**

TENEDOS (Engleheart). Without doubt the finest Giant Leedsii yet produced. Flowers of largest size, borne on very long stalks, plant very vigorous and a quick increaser. Segments pure white, of great substance, slightly pointed. The large cup is pale lemon on opening, passing to white when fully developed. A.M. Mid. Daff. Soc., 1923. F.C.C., Mid. Daff. Soc., 1924. **£4 10s. per bulb**

1c VESTAN (Copeland, 1923). A huge bicolor trumpet Daffodil, but not at all coarse. Very vigorous and free. Attracted attention on our stand at Birmingham, April 19th, 1923. **3/6 per bulb**

2b ZILLAH (Mrs. R. O. Backhouse, 1923). A very fine new variety, flower large, segments broad and imbricated, creamy white. Cup large and rather spreading, yellow, deeply edged bright orange-scarlet. A good strong grower. Much admired on our Show Stands at R.H.S. and Birmingham, 1923. **30/- per bulb**

J. R. PEARSON & SONS, LTD., The Nurseries, Lowdham, NOTTS.

GARDENING FOR BEGINNERS

By E. T. COOK.

Coloured Plates and 200 Illustrations. 8th edition. 16/-.

Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C 2

BURTON-ON-TRENT

We won at the above Show, held 11th and 12th August last, TWO GOLD MEDALS for our WONDERFUL COLLECTION OF GLADIOLI. We offer one Bulb of each variety shown in this collection of 50 different varieties at 8/6, two Bulbs of each variety, in 50 varieties, 16/-, six Bulbs of each variety, in 50 varieties, 45/- The new and most attractive Gladiolus at the Show called BURTONIA, raised by us and only stocked by our firm, only 500 to offer, 2/6 each.

OUR GOLD MEDAL CROCUSES.

The earliest flowers of Spring Exhibition Mixtures for Naturalising.

	Doz.	100	1000
Mixed purple and blue	8d.	4/6	40/-
Mixed striped	8d.	4/6	40/-
Mixed white	8d.	4/6	40/-
Mixed all colours	8d.	4/6	40/-

Crocus, special selected for Window Boxes, Pots and Flower Beds.

	Doz.	100	1000
Special blue, named	9d.	5/-	45/-
Special purple, named	9d.	5/-	45/-
Special striped, named	9d.	5/-	45/-
Special white, named	9d.	5/-	45/-
Special yellows, extra	1/-	8/-	75/-

EXHIBITION TULIPS.

THE DARWINS.—The most sturdy-growing, strong, upright stems with massive flowers:

	Doz.	100
Bartigon, bright fiery red	1/6	10/-
Clara Butt, clear pink, flushed salmon rose	1/-	7/-
La Notre, rose pink shading to silvery pink, centre blue and white. Extra forcer	2/-	14/-
Prince of the Netherlands, extra large solid flower of perfect form, rich brilliant cerise red, extra strong stems. First-rate bedder	2/6	15/-

The above 7 varieties, 12 bulbs of each, 10/-.

	Doz.	100
Professor Rauwenhoff, deep cherry rose white base margined blue	2/-	12/-
Princess Elizabeth, extra fine rich soft rose, slight silvery flush at margin, centre clear white	2/-	14/-
Wm. Copeland, violet shading to lilac; when forced the colour is a beautiful soft lavender	1/-	8/-

The above 7 varieties, 100 bulbs of each, £3 10 0

NOVELTY COLLECTION.

THE COTTAGE TULIPS.—The most graceful novelties:

	Doz.	100
Amber, light amber coloured. Award of merit	1/10	13/-
Erasmus, large creamy white, long stem. Award of merit	1/10	13/-
Grand Yellow, very deep yellow, extra fine	2/-	15/-
Mrs. Francis King, very fine satiny rose	1/10	13/-
Nectar, vivid carmine red with clear white base. Award of merit	2/-	15/-
Spinosa, white flower on very tall stem	1/10	13/-

	Doz.	100
Sirene, the wonderful lily-shaped flower, of a very fine glistening satiny rose. First-class certificate, London, Amsterdam	1/10	14/-
Pearl, finest light rose	2/-	15/-
Prof. Westerdyk, wonderful lilac rose, very tall, splendid forcer	2/-	15/-
Triton, glowing carmine rose pure yellow base, the most attractive tulip yet raised, a real beauty	2/-	10/-

Novelty collection ten extra selected bulbs of each of the above 10 varieties, 100 in all, 10/-.
25 Bulbs each of the above 10 varieties, 250 Bulbs in all, 20/-.

Quality.—All bulbs which are not to satisfaction upon receipt may be returned to us and we will gladly refund money and postage. Complete list of other rarer tulips, daffodils, etc., gladly mailed on request.

H. PRINS, F.R.H.S., Bulb Specialists, WISBECH, CAMBS.

A GROWING HABIT

and a very sensible one is to give your friend, especially a friend overseas, a year's subscription to one of the best weekly periodicals.

It means fifty-two kind remembrances of you, and fifty-two remembrances of England.

There is no paper so representative of England and none so welcome abroad as

COUNTRY LIFE

80/- a year abroad. 60/- to Canada

20, TAVISTOCK ST., COVENT GARDEN, LONDON W.C.2

Digitized by Google

BULBS

We invite immediate application for our BULB CATALOGUE, knowing that the very fine quality of our bulbs enables us to offer exceptionally good value for money.

Send for a copy of the BULB CATALOGUE at once.

Bakers
SEED AND FLOWER FARM
CODSALL
Near Wolverhampton

SCHIZANTHUS WISETONENSIS GRANDIFLORA

BLACKMORE & LANGDON'S SUPERB STRAIN

Finest mixture, 1/6 and 2/6 per packet.

BLACKMORE & LANGDON, BATH

LOWE & GIBSON,
Crawley Down, SUSSEX

New Border Carnations.

Our illustrated list for 1926-7 will be published in a few days, and all who wish copies will please apply early. Our own customers will receive copies as soon as published.

Special offers of June-flowering IRISES are made in the same catalogue.

perfect condition, were on show, and bore evidence of great skill in cultivation.

Several firms staged dahlias. Messrs. J. Cheal and Sons concentrated on star and mignon dahlias. Both these types are invaluable for garden decoration and cut flowers. They are graceful in habit, exceedingly free flowering, and carry their blooms well above the foliage on stiff wiry stems. This firm showed some most desirable varieties for bedding purposes, and among them were the mignon dahlias Grace, Meta, Dazzle and Etna; while for the herbaceous border their star dahlias, Horsham Star, Hindhead Star and Salmon Star, would be most attractive. Dahlias of all types and new hybrid sidalceas were shown by Mr. H. Hemsley. Some of his neat button-like pompon dahlias were very effective. Enormous decorative and cactus dahlias, seven of which were recommended for trial at Wisley, were exhibited by Messrs. J. Stredwick and Son.

The new perennial scabious raised by Mr. Isaac House are beautiful as well as being extremely useful border plants. Miss Willmott was a new large-flowered white novelty, Clive Greaves a rich violet mauve, Mrs. J. C. House a rich lavender, and Isaac House one of the darkest of all the scabious. Herbaceous phloxes of brilliant and varying shades were shown by Messrs. J. Cheal and Sons. Some of the finest varieties were Le Mahdi, Elizabeth Campbell, Jules Sandeau, Etna and Evelyn. Mr. F. G. Wood included a number of good late-flowering plants for the rock garden in his collection of hardy plants.

Mr. G. Reuthe staged a general collection of hardy plants, such as Eryngium planum, Echinops bannaticus, Liatris pychnostachya, Anemone japonica Prince Henry and several good shrubs. Roses were exhibited by Messrs. A. J. and C. Allen and Mr. J. Pemberton, and carnations by Mr. C. Engelmann and Messrs. Allwood Brothers.

A most interesting collection of dried specimens of some of the plants collected by Mr. Harold F. Comber during an expedition to the Andes was exhibited. Photographs of a number of the plants in their native habitat were also on show. Some of the plants collected should prove of great value for the garden.

NEW AND RARE PLANTS.

FIRST-CLASS CERTIFICATE.

EUCRYPHIA NYMANSAY.—A robust and free flowering hybrid between E. pinnatifolia and E. cordifolia which received an award of merit in August, 1924. The flowers are large and the foliage a deep glossy green. A very fine shrub. Shown by Lieutenant-Colonel Messel, Handscross.

AWARDS OF MERIT.

ANARRHINUM BELLIDIFOLIUM.—A herb from southern Europe with a feathery spike-like raceme of minute pale mauvish-blue flowers. It grows to a height of about 2ft. Shown by Mr. T. Hay, New Lodge, Hyde Park.

MONTBRETIA LORD LAMBOURNE.—Large blooms of deep bronzy orange shaded at the base with yellow are borne on thick, wiry reddish stems. The petals are slightly reflex and the yellow stamens are shown up well against their glowing colour.

M. E. A. BOWLES.—The flowers of this variety are somewhat smaller, measuring about 2ins. across, and the petals more rounded. The colour is a bright rose-cardinal. Both these montbretias were shown by the Hon. Mrs. Montagu, Attleborough.

PHLOX MAUVE QUEEN.—A clear lavender mauve variety with a conspicuous white centre. The truss is of medium size.

P. LORD LAMBOURNE.—A soft salmon pink phlox with a well shaped truss. A beautiful colour. These two phloxes were raised and shown by the Hon. Vicary Gibbs, Elstree.

ORCHIDS.

PCTINARA LA PAZ.—This interesting hybrid was raised by crossing Sophro-Cattleya Faboris with Brasso-Lælio-Cattleya The Baroness, and thus combines the genera brassavola, cattleya, lælia, and sophronitis. Although the young plant does not appear to possess a robust constitution, the flower is comparatively large, and with all the segments of model formation. The sepals and petals are clear yellow, the labellum orange yellow. Exhibited by Baron Bruno Schröder, (gardener, Mr. J. E. Shill). First-class certificate.

LÆLIO-CATTLEYA × JACQUINETTA (C. Empress Frederick × L.-C. Lustre).—A bold flower of rich purple colour throughout all the segments, with a deeper tint on the labellum and midrib of the petals. Shown by Messrs. Stuart Low and Co. Award of merit.

FLOWER GARDEN

LILIUMS.

How to Pot for Foreing.

A GOOD general compost in which to grow liliums when they are intended for forcing is turfy loam, half-rotted leaf-soil, peat and very coarse sand. Pots 6ins., 7ins. and 8ins. in diameter are the most suitable sizes, as all lilium bulbs are not of similar size even when they belong to the same variety. Probably, for forcing purposes, Lilium longiflorum (also known as L. Harrissii) is the most popular, because the flowers are pure white, large and trumpet-shaped. Few sorts are easier to force, provided the cultivator gives them fair treatment. This includes sound drainage, evenness of moisture while the bulbs are in the frame, and judicious feeding while the plants are growing on towards the flowering stage. Liliums like moisture if it is not stagnant. They also dislike dryness before they are potted, so that it is advisable to have both pots and compost ready for use before the bulbs are unpacked when they are received from the bulb merchant. The pots must be clean and dry when used, especially on the inside. Many crocks are not needed, but the few used should be carefully placed and covered with a thin layer of the fibre from the general compost. Place each bulb on a pinch of sand and charcoal scattered on the soil, then carefully pack more compost round the bulb so that the pot will be three parts filled, with the crown of the bulb just clear above it when the potting in completed. As the stems grow the pots cae be filled with some of the compost in ths usual way. Do not apply too much water. Keep the newly potted bulbs in a darkened frame until growth is free. Other varieties may be potted in the same way.—HANTS.

LATE PRIMULAS AND CINERARIAS.

Final Potting.

THE latest batches of these plants often afford us the best flowers, especially in gardens which are, through their positions, very sunny, because the subjects here dealt with thrive best in cool and intermediate temperatures. From the early part of September to the end of November, approximately three months, the newly potted plants are very active in both root and leaf growth. From December to the end of January very little growth is made except in a few instances. This late and final potting is, therefore, a very important work, which should be carefully carried out. Clean pots, crocks and sound drainage are essential matters. The shift to larger pots should not be a large one, just sufficient to permit of the fingers being inserted between the old ball of soil and the side of the pot. The

Digitized by Google

compost should be carefully mixed and consist of fibrous loam, made fine, but with the fibre retained, two-thirds; sweet leaf-soil, half-rotted, one-third. To each bushel of the combined parts add builders' old mortar rubble, pounded to ensure good mixing, sufficient in quantity to make the whole porous and encourage free root action. Very firm potting is not required, nor is it desirable. Many crocks are not needed; one good-sized hollow potsherd over the drainage hole and three or four neatly placed round it will be sufficient. Do not have the collar below nor above the new compost; water carefully without wetting the leaves, and ventilate judiciously.—CHRISTCHURCH.

ANNUALS FOR THE GREENHOUSE.

HARDY and half-hardy plants in pots are valuable assets to any greenhouse for spring decoration; in fact, were it not for these subjects, many gardeners would have a difficulty of maintaining a continuous supply of bloom throughout the season. Although a book could almost be written on the various plants suitable for spring decoration, perhaps if I confine myself to a few of the most popular of these useful plants it will suffice: Clarkia, mignonette, stocks and wallflowers will provide the greenhouse with a supply of beauty throughout the spring.

Sowing should be started without delay and continued until late autumn in successional batches. Some growers recommend sowing mignonette in seed pans and pricking off into 5in. or 6in. pots, but five plants to a pot; but if five or six seeds are sown in a 3in. pot, and when the plants are ready potted on into the flowering pots, the plants are more likely to make sturdier growth, owing to the roots not being disturbed. The seed should be sown in a compost of 2 parts sweet maiden loam, 1 part leaf-mould and a good sprinkling of sand; and for the final potting 1 part old charred cow-manure and 1 part lime rubble added.

The pots should not at any time be allowed to become dry, as this causes the roots to get bound; an occasional watering with soot water is extremely beneficial.

Clarkia elegans should now be sown in a light compost, and when large enough to handle pricked off into 3in. pots. Place in a cold frame and shade for a few days, afterwards plenty of air should be given. With an abundance of air and sunshine the plants should make good growth. The plants, when ready, should be repotted into 5in. or 6in. pots. For final potting use compost of two parts loam, one part leaf mould, one part sand and half part old decayed manure. Pot moderately firm and remove to the frame again. As soon as the chilly nights arrive the plants should be taken to a heated greenhouse and staged near the glass, admitting air whenever favourable. Where large bushy specimens are required the plants should be stopped once or twice, but if the plants are kept dwarf stopping is not necessary. It will also be necessary to give the plants occasionally a light fumigation with a nicotine compound to keep them clean of aphis.

Double wallflower makes a charming pot plant for spring if sown now in seed-pans or large pots. The young seedlings should be pricked off when large enough to handle and before they are likely to become pot-bound potted firmly into 5in. pots.

The double variety of wallflower is not grown so much now as it was twenty years ago, and yet as a pot plant, when fully grown, will rival either the daffodil or hyacinth both for beauty and perfume when in flower.

Of the stock family the East Lothian is best for spring flowering and should be treated in the same manner as wallflower. As the plants require it, stake and tie them up and, lastly, avoid keeping the plants too damp, for nothing is more detrimental to their growth than a superfluous quantity of water.—G. BARTON.

KITCHEN GARDEN

STORING BEETROOT.

IT is important to lift beetroot in the early autumn to prevent damage by frost. When digging, be very careful not to cut the roots with a fork, or they will "bleed" and be of little use for cooking. Never cut away the foliage from the top of a beet, but twist the stalks off about 2ins. above the root. Place the roots on the ground in little heaps after digging and cover with leaves. After about a week the beets may be taken up and stored. By far the best way of keeping the beets is to place them in sand or some light soil. This should not be absolutely dry, although on no account must it be at all wet. Make a heap of the sand up against a fence or in the corner of a shed. Then push the roots in singly up to their crowns letting the leaf stalks stand clear. Now cover the whole with a layer of fine and somewhat moist soil. This should be deep enough to bury the stalks of the roots completely.—L. B.

MUSTARD AND CRESS.

MUSTARD and cress is such a useful salad that it is a wonder more people do not grow it. Crops of the little seedlings can be raised with the greatest ease throughout the autumn and winter in any frost-free position. By far the best method of culture is on the following lines. Get some shallow wooden boxes and remove the tops and bottoms. Then, over the wooden frameworks thus secured, tack pieces of wire netting. To fit the netting, cut flannel, or any thick material, and, after soaking well with water, place in position. The seed is scattered rather thickly on the material, and this is kept continuously moist. Cress takes longer to germinate than mustard, and should be sown about four days in advance of the latter. The rate of growth depends on the warmth of the situation, but in an ordinary living-room the salad will be ready for cutting in from two to three weeks. By sowing at intervals it is very easy to arrange a succession of crops.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

GARDENING OF THE WEEK

FOR SOUTHERN GARDENS.

THE FLOWER GARDEN.

The month of September is a good time to plant many of the irises with bulbous root-stocks, and they include I. Histrio, I. reticulata, with its several varieties, I. alata, and others. Insert the bulbs 2ins. deep, and 4ins. to 6ins. apart. They are ideal for groups on the rock garden, and produce a fine bit of colour in the early spring. The sparaxis, especially pulcherrima, thrives well in this district, the bulbs being left in the ground throughout the year. Bulbs can be planted now, 4ins. deep, and the soil need not be rich for these delightful flowers that appear in July and August. S. pulcherrima may be readily raised from home saved seeds. Another glorious plant for the rock garden, beds or border is Anemone fulgens, which may also be planted this month in fairly rich soil. The flowering season is prolonged by planting again in the early spring. Snowdrops, scillas, winter aconites, bluebells, etc., should be put out during the next few weeks.

Bedding Calceolarias.—Cuttings are now available, and these should be inserted in a cold frame in which has been placed 3ins. of sandy soil on a hard base. In this frame we arrange various marguerites and other subjects that may require a little protection during the winter months.

THE KITCHEN GARDEN.

Spring Cabbage.—Directly the seedlings are large enough, they can be transferred to their final quarters. They often follow the onions, with excellent results, give the plot a liberal sprinkling of old soot and then lightly fork it over. Destroy any leather jacket grubs as the operation proceeds. Hardy coleworts may also be planted.

General Remarks.—Continue to plant out lettuce and make another sowing of hardy varieties. Endive can be placed in a cold frame if one is available, and potatoes must be lifted when the weather is suitable. Most herbs, such as thyme and sage, can be increased by cuttings set out in the open ground, and celery is earthed up during a spell of dry weather. When earthing up celery, remove all weeds, side growths and decayed leaves, tie each plant with raffia, which will keep the soil from the heart of the plants. The soil should be well pulverised and made firm.

At this season the question of storing vegetables for winter use will arise, and there is nothing better than a cool, airy shed from which frosts can be excluded if needed. Onions do not object to a little frost, providing they are dry and such roots as carrots, turnips, beetroot, etc., should be embedded in sand or sifted ashes. Here they will be preserved in good condition. Potatoes are covered with straw to exclude light, and it should be remembered that frosts must be kept out or the tubers will be ruined.

THE FRUIT GARDEN AND ORCHARD.

Now is a suitable time to make plans for the planting season, and making notes of fresh varieties. New plantations may be trenched and in orchards the holes can be prepared as the opportunity occurs. If the soil is poor, collect a quantity of old turf and stack it ready for the planting season. Early planting is advised and it is best carried out as soon after the leaves have fallen as possible.

Chepstow. T. W. BRISCOE.

FOR NORTHERN GARDENS.

THE KITCHEN GARDEN.

Onions.—The harvesting of this crop is worth a deal of attention, for on the perfect ripening of the bulbs depends their keeping properties in storage. Lift carefully those bulbs which have completed growth naturally and lay them with their roots looking southwards to dry. Large breadths of onions can only be ripened where they grow, but smaller quantities spread out in frames, where they can have protection in wet weather or on the stages in vineries, will ripen more completely than in the open. Odd bulbs among the crop that are dilatory in finishing their growth should have the top gently bent over at the neck to check this and hasten ripening.

GENERAL WORK.

Weeds.—The month of September is always impressive by its prolific production of weeds. Well kept ground may have a crop blown in from badly tended roadside and other places; while the gardener who adopted a "ca-canny" policy in the earlier part of the season will be painfully aware of the source from which they come. At this season they are apt to be overlooked and consequently do great mischief in choking plants on seed beds and others that are ripening their crops. They keep the ground cold and damp, absorbing food that could be better utilised, and generally spoil the look of things, leaving behind a heritage of worries for future years. Also for the above reasons clear the ground of vegetable remains as the crops are gathered. Retain the soft, clean portions for composting or digging in, rejecting the hard stems of brassica, as they decay but slowly in the soil. My own practice is to have the required amount of manure carted on to the brake and get the ground trenched. And if it is found by the various simple methods in practice that the ground is in need of lime, this is applied as the work proceeds.

Shrubs.—For those who have time at their disposal, an interesting and useful side line is the propagation of a few flowering shrubs of such hardy types as philadelphus and deutzias in variety, ceanothus, buddleias, cotoneasters, weigelas, viburnums, etc. Take shoots of the current year's growth, fairly firm and about 1ft. long, formed as cuttings in the usual way. And if with a "heel," it is all to the good. These will root freely in a cold frame inserted about one-third their depth in sandy soil and given the usual treatment prescribed for cuttings.

Doune, Perthshire. W. MCCARRELL.

Digitized by Google

CLAY'S LONDON FERTILIZER TRADE MARK

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then, together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices :—

Tins 10d. and 1/6

and in **Branded and Sealed Bags :**

7 lbs. - 3/6 14 lbs. - 6/-
28 lbs. - 10/- 56 lbs. - 18/-
112 lbs. - 32/-

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers, etc. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**

WILLMOTT

Rival Plant Stake

(Patented No. 183779).

As used in Royal Botanic Gardens London and Cambridge.

For all plants. WILL NOT ROT, WEAR OUT OR BREAK.

Sample of eight sizes, 2/- car. pd. United Kingdom. 4/- Overseas.

J. GREENWOOD, F.R.H.S., Proprietor, BRACKNELL, Berks.

Be prepared for the rainy day, wear Boots* that have Uppers of "Beva" WATERPROOF LEATHER

**Look for the "Beva" on the looping*

THE LOUGHBOROUGH BOILER

Over 40,000 in use

The high reputation of this Boiler for efficiency and economy is still unrivalled

Easy to fix, easy to manage, and most economical in fuel, it is the ideal Boiler for the Amateur's Greenhouse

Price Lists and Estimates for complete apparatus on application

MESSENGER & CO., LTD. LOUGHBOROUGH
LONDON OFFICE: 122, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

For success in your Garden USE

THOMSON'S MANURES

On the market for over 50 years, they still hold first place for **QUALITY** and **RESULTS.** They are safe, sure and lasting. The direct result of many years' practical experience in gardening, they stand unrivalled at the present day for all Garden Crops.

Prices :—**VINE, PLANT AND VEGETABLE MANURE**—a Perfect Food—1 cwt., 30/-; 56 lb., 16/-; 28 lb., 9/-; 14 lb., 5/-; 7 lb., 3/-; tins, 1/3 and 9d. **SPECIAL TOP DRESSING MANURE**—an excellent stimulant—56 lb., 17/-; 28 lb., 9/6; 14 lb., 5/6; 7 lb., 3/-; tins, 1/3. **Carriage paid on 28 lbs. and up.**

WRITE FOR OUR BOOKLET—POST FREE ON REQUEST.

SOLD BY NURSERYMEN AND SEEDSMEN EVERYWHERE.

Or from Sole Makers, WM. THOMSON & SONS, TWEED VINEYARDS, CLOVENFORDS, SCOTLAND

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by **"ALPHOL"**

Sample 14 lb., 5/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

AUCTION SALES OF

BULBS

by PROTHEROE & MORRIS

EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY at 67, 68 Cheapside, London, E.C.2.

Write for Catalogues · Phone City 3856

THE LEADING GLASS HOUSE FUMIGANT

THOUSANDS OF TOMATO CROPS ENTIRELY SAVED

No alterations needed since first introduced.

Be satisfied with the best, it is the cheapest in the end.

Commended by the Royal Horticultural Society.

Cubic ft.	1,000	2,000	4,000	8,000	16,000	32,000	64,000
	10d.	1/3	2/-	3/6	6/-	10/6	19/-

Also in 2, 5 and 10 gall. FREE drums;

ALSO

SAFETY FIRST FOR ANIMALS AND PEOPLE

Non-caustic; colourless; no smells; kills the roots; superior to arsenical compounds.

TINS, 1/- 2,- 3/6 6/6 12/-
for 4 12½ 25 50 100 gals.

SPECIAL. For Parks and Recreation Grounds—in bulk.

From Nurserymen and Seedsmen.

CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

DOBBIE'S AUTUMN CATALOGUE

FREE by post to all.

BULBS (All kinds)—Clear and simple cultural directions are given. By following them the Garden and the Home can be made beautiful in Spring for a very moderate outlay.

SWEET PEAS—Our varieties and our stocks are pre-eminent; all grown on our Essex Seed Farm and therefore unsurpassed for Autumn sowing.

ROSES — Our Famous Scotch Roses succeed everywhere. Our list embraces all the best.

DOBBIE & CO., LTD.

Seed Growers to H.M. The King

EDINBURGH

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

HARDY BULBS

ETC.

New List of above now ready, contains collections of Anemones nemorosa varieties, Camassias, Chionodoxas, Colchicums, Crocus (Species), Cyclamens, Erythroniums, Irises, Liliums, Montbretias, Muscarias, Narcissi, Scillas, Tulips, etc. *Free on Application.*

T. SMITH

Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

BENTLEY'S
WEED DESTROYER

(POISON) STANDS FOR

Strength Reliability Economy

Stronger than any other. One application keeps gravel paths and drives clean for nearly two years. Commands the largest sale both at home and abroad, with a rapidly spreading popularity.

REDUCED PRICES:

Concentrated Liquid (1 to 80)—1 gal. **6/9**; 2 gals. **13/–**; 3 gals. **18/9**; 6 gals. **35/9**; 12 gals. **69/–**; 24gals. **134/3**; 40gals. **218/3**

Powder (1 to 25)—4 tins **9/3**; 8 tins **17/10**; 12 tins **25/6**; 20 tins **40/9**; 40 tins **78/–**

BENTLEY'S
QUASSIA EXTRACT

Compound Liquid (Non-poisonous)

Infallibly destroys Aphis in all its forms. It may be used anywhere and everywhere with absolute safety, and is the most economical of all Insecticides.

One gal. makes from 80 to 100 gals. of wash.

5 gals. **8/6** per gal.; 1 gall. **8/9**; ½ gal. **5/–**; 1 qt. **3/–**; 1 pt. **1/9**

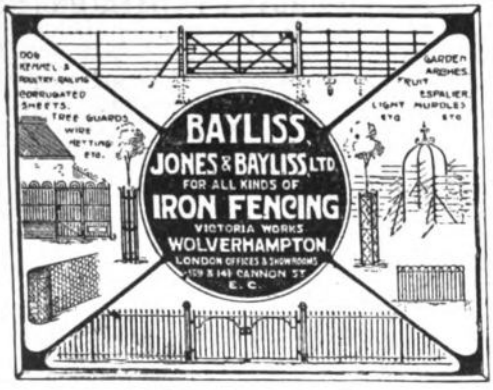
Carriage paid on 15/– orders and upwards.

Sole Manufacturers:

JOSEPH BENTLEY LTD.

CHEMICAL WORKS,

BARROW-ON-HUMBER :: LINCS.



Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

By Appointment

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.,
Royal Potteries,
BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION 1912

WAKELEY'S *Celebrated* HOP MANURE
(PATENTED)

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only **7/–** carriage paid to your door (if within 5 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

A beautiful Free Booklet giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. GENUINE ONLY IN OUR MARKED BAGS, CONTAINING GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

Cash Prices, including bags: Small (about 1 bushel), **3/–**; Large (about 4 bushels), **7/–**; 5 Large, **33/9**; 10 Large, **65/–**; 20 Large, **120/–**

Carriage Paid to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company. 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge, Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

THE PATTISSON HORSE BOOTS

SIMPLEST STRONGEST MOST ECONOMICAL

Fig. 2—Welted Pattern.

Fig. 1—For Shod Horses.

ONCE TRIED ALWAYS USED

Fig. 2—No Welt Pattern

Best English Leather or Rubber Soles.

Used for many years in the Royal and in thousands of the Principal Gardens.

Silver Medals:—Royal Horticultural Society, 1904 and 1914 Royal International Horticultural Exhibition, 1912.

HUNDREDS OF TESTIMONIALS.

Illustrated Price Lists from the Makers: **H. PATTISSON & CO., STANMORE, MIDDLESEX**

FOR ROSE ENTHUSIASTS.

Roses, and How to Excel With Them

By R. V. GIFFARD WOOLLEY. *Illustrated.* **2/6.** *Cloth* **3/6.**

"COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

All ready to put into your pipe—*that's handy for the garden*

Ask for

PLAYER'S

MEDIUM NAVY CUT

RUBBED READY

P.1372. Reg. No. 154,011

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS 56 & 57, Drury Lane London W.C.2.

GENERAL LIBRARY
UNIV. OF MICH.

THE GARDEN

ORCHARD · GARDEN · WOODLAND

Vol. XC.—No. 2858 Saturday, September 11th, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

Barr's Gold Medal Daffodils

STRONG SELECTED BULBS FOR OCTOBER PLANTING.

Awarded ***SEVENTY-TWO GOLD MEDALS and THREE SILVER CHALLENGE CUPS.***

FLOWER BORDER COLLECTION,	6 each,	18 sorts	..	**30/-**
POT CULTURE	3 ,,	18 ,,	..	**15/-**
,,	6 ,,	20 ,,	..	**40/-**
BOWL CULTURE	3 ,,	10 ,,	..	**10/6**
,,	6 ,,	15 ,,	..	**25/-**
FLOWER BORDER MIXTURE	3 ,,	15 ,,	..	**12/6**

MIXTURE of all kinds for naturalising, per 100, **21/-**; per doz., **3/-**
TRUMPET DAFFODILS, MIXED, per 1,000, **95/-**; 100, **10/6**
MIXTURE of CHALICE CUP and STAR NARCISSI only, for naturalising .. .. per 1,000 **160/-**; 100, **17/6**

Descriptive Catalogue Free.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

HARDY BULBS ETC.

New List of above now ready, contains collections of Anemones nemorosa varieties, Camassias, Chionodoxas, Colchicums, Crocus (Species), Cyclamens, Erythroniums, Irises, Liliums, Montbretias, Muscarias, Narcissi, Scillas, Tulips, etc.

FREE ON APPLICATION.

T. SMITH, Daisy Hill Nursery, NEWRY

Glass breaks!

USE
'WINDOLITE'
THE PRACTICAL GLASS SUBSTITUTE
for all GARDEN PURPOSES.

Light Flexible. Unbreakable.

Easy to cut and fix. It keeps out cold and wet, but lets in all the light—even the Ultra Violet Rays which are stopped by glass.

Send **4/6** *for post free sample,* 3 *ft. by* 2 *ft.*

WINDOLITE (DEPT. C) 179/185, GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1.

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

FOR THE GARDEN! FOR EXHIBITION!
FOR BEDS! FOR EVERYWHERE!

Also Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees, Alpines and Hardy Plants.

BUY HOME-GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries.

Catalogue Free on Application, and Addresses booked for Revised Catalogue in late Summer.

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.,
Garden Specialists - - SOUTHWELL, NOTTS

"APEX" FISH MANURE

THE PERFECT PLANT FOOD

WRITE TO-DAY FOR
DESCRIPTIVE PAMPHLET
TO

J. C. WHITNEY & Co.

ELDON STREET HOUSE,
2/3, ELDON STREET,
LONDON, E.C.2.

Telephone: London Wall 1118. *Telegrams: Whitneymer, Ave, London.*

Lovely DARWIN TULIPS

THE FINEST VALUE EVER OFFERED.

100 Large Bulbs in **10** Choice Varieties for **5/-**

Spanish Iris (Top size Bulbs) Mixed Colours, 25 for **9d.**; 50 for **1/3**; 100 for **2/-** Dutch Iris (Top size Bulbs) Mixed Colours, 25 for **1/-**; 50 for **1/10**; 100 for **3/6** English Iris (Top size Bulbs) Mixed Colours, 25 for **2/6**; 50 for **4/6**; 100 for **8/6**

ORDERS VALUE **5/-** CARRIAGE PAID.

Ask for Special List of other Spring Flowering Bulbs.

LONGSTAFF & SONS

Bulb Growers, Importers and Merchants

NEAR CHELSFIELD STATION .·. KENT

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
— New Alpines and Perennials. Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
— Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
— Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
— Begonias, Delphiniums, Gloxinias, Cyclamen, etc

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD,
CHELSEA, S.W.
— Bulb Catalogue Now Ready.

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
— Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

H. PRINS
BULB AND PLANT GROWERS
WISBECH, CAMBS.
— Bulb list free on application

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND, SOILFUME, NICOTINE, INSECTICIDES, FUMERS, SPRAYS, AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES – THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY. IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT, CARRIAGE PAID.

Only Address: TOMLINSON & HAYWARD LTD. LINCOLN

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
— Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
— Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
HULL
— Weed Destroyers, Fertilisers, Insecticides, Nets and Sundries

TUBS FOR SHRUBS. WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 100 prizes. R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. — Price List from A. PRADAL, 26, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

The Seaside Planting of Trees and Shrubs

By Alfred Gaut, F.R.H.S. 28 Illustrations. 5/- net. By post, 5/6

"Country Life" Library, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden London W.C.2

King's Acre Strawberries

20,000 Pot-Grown Runners for next season's Fruiting ready for immediate despatch.

NEW LIST OF THE BEST VARIETIES with cultural instructions, including all other useful Berries. A most useful List, post free, on application.

King's Acre Nurseries, Limited,
Established 1785. **Hereford.** Nurseries 140 Acres.
RECENT PREMIER AWARDS:
Royal Show, Reading; Shrewsbury and Southport.

A pest which hides

Killing each insect by hand used to be the only remedy against the burrowing leaf-miner. But to-day, XL ALL, with its penetrative action, cleanses a plant at a spray. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen, florists and chemists.

XL ALL LEAF-MINER INSECTICIDE

G. H. RICHARDS LTD.,
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
R. 173. Monomark: BCM/XLALL

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Please Mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

CLIBRANS' Special Offer

DAFFODILS & NARCISSI
ALL FLOWERING BULBS.

Barrii Conspicuus. Emperor.
Glory of Leiden. Golden Spur.
Grandee. Incomp. Double.
Pheasant's Eye Sir Watkin.
Van Sion Double. Princeps.

100 each variety - - 90/- Carriage Paid
50 " " - - 50/- " "
25 " " - - 30/- " "

Splendid for Naturalisation.

DARWIN TULIPS
Choice Mixed, 60/- 1,000; 35/- 500; 21/- 250

CLIBRANS, 12, Market St., MANCHESTER

BLOM FOR BULBS

Apply for Catalogue to –

Messrs. J. C. WHITNEY & Co.,
Eldon Street House, Eldon Street,
London, E.C. - - - *or to–*

WALTER BLOM & SON, LTD.
(Late of Overveen),
Hillegom, Holland.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

ATERER'S for the best in Bulbs for ing, bedding, naturalising. Colchicums, Autumn-flowering uses, etc. Roses, Fruit Trees, Strawberry Plants in pots open ground runners, Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Flowering Evergreen Shrubs, also Hedge-making Shrubs and Screening s, Herbaceous and Alpine Plants. New catalogues now y, post free.—JOHN WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LIMITED, Nurseries, Twyford, Berks.

MALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODEN- ONS on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and ine Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write Catalogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

AKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE. he original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See ert. on back page.

M. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., rence Road, South Tottenham, N.15. — Conservatories, ter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

RDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUN- ALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.— OXTON, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

ENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and den Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request. — THE SLEY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shotternill, Haslemere, rey.

EMENTS' DUTCH BULBS. est Quality at Moderate Prices. Descriptive Catalogue taining over 700 Named Varieties, including various Novel- s, also Cultural Directions, sent post free. Please mention per.—V. D. CLEMENTS & CO., 12, Stockton Gardens, ttenham, London, N.17.

ORDER CARNATIONS. — 200 varieties, in 14 varieties, from 6/6, 60 in 50 ditto, from 25/-; riage paid. Lists free. J. HAYWARD, Chace Gardens, kes Road, Purbrook, Cosham, Hants.

WEET PEAS.—My New Catalogue, con- ing the leading Novelties for 1927, should be in the hands all keen Exhibitors.—F. C. WOODCOCK, Sweet Pea Specialist, almer, Kent.

IXED DAFFODILS.—Best sorts, 35/-, 1,000 rriage paid.—Address: MRS. NEW, Craddock, Cullompton, von.

UMP BARGAINS ! !—Brand new Army umps, fully guaranteed. Big variety and many under cost make them! Cannot hope to repeat. Approval if desired. st free. Postcard.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 189 epartment, Lytham.

CATALOGUE of gardening books will sent free on application to "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

WIRE NETTING.—From 2/5 per 50yd. roll. heapest House in the Kingdom. Write us for prices. housands of rolls stocked.

ENTS. — Army Bell. All complete, new ttings, deep walls, 60/- and 70/-. Scout Tents, 13/8. arden, 50/-. Bathing, 33/-. Also Marquees. Write us for rices.

ARDEN HOSE.—Superior quality, 50ft.

ngths.	1-ply.	2-ply.	3-ply.
in.	15/-	24/6	29/3
in.	24/6	29/3	35/2

Carriage paid. Approval.

AWN MOWERS.—Five Riveted Blades. igh Wheels. Brass Bushings. Close Cutting. Highly Finished. nequalled Value. 8in., 20/6; 10in., 21/6; 12in., 22/6; 14in., 4/-. Grass Boxes, 8/6 each. Garden Rollers, 30/-.

AMBOO CANES.—Strong, 3ft., 3/11; 4ft., /6; 5ft., 10/11; 6ft., 14/6 per hundred. Carriage paid.—E. B. AWTHORN, LIMITED, Dept. E, Shrewsbury.

BARR'S GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS.—The finest sorts for Pots, Bowls, Exhibition, Flower Borders and to naturalise. Also many new Seedling varieties, offered for the first time. Descriptive catalogue free.

BARR'S HYACINTHS, TULIPS, LILIES, CROCUSES, IRISES, etc., for pots and bedding. Finest quality. Descriptive catalogue, with special directions for the culture of Bulbs in Bowls, free.

BARR'S GOLD MEDAL IRISES for present planting. Descriptive Catalogue of the best Tall and Dwarf, early and late flowering varieties sent free on application.—BARR AND SONS, 11, 12 and 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx and perpetual habit. They flourish in the coldest parts of Britain. Extract, *The Times*: "Mr. Douglas is the leading raiser of this flower. His wonderful strain of new cloves is superb." Plant list now ready. —J. DOUGLAS, Gt. Bookham.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial: Notes from My Garden	505
The Rose Garden	506
Design in the Rock Garden	508
Autumn Colour in an American Shrubbery	509
Notes of the Week	510–511
The Marsh Gentian; An Out of the Way Primula; Native Meadow-sweets; Gypsophila Bristol Fairy; Night-scented Flowers.	
Nurseries of the British Isles—III, Messrs. Blackmore and Langdon	512
Correspondence	513–514
Lilies for the Garden; The Protection of Wild Flowers; The Staging of Flowers and Vegetables; Natural Regeneration Among Garden Plants; "Gardening Without a Garden."	
Picking and Storing Apples	514
Garden Technique	515–516
Wallflowers—When Growth Should be Hindered; Bulbs in Pots and Bowls; Plants to Winter on Greenhouse Shelves; Calceolarias for the Flower Garden; Ixoras; Preparing Ground for Fruit Trees; The Parasitic "Sucker"; Spinach Beet.	
More About the Southport Show	517
Gardening of the Week	518

HEWITT'S FAMOUS DELPHINIUMS AND ROSES. Catalogue now in distribution. Please write for one.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S BULB CATALOGUE NOW READY containing the choicest and inexpensive Daffodils, Tulips, and other Bulbs. "Order early and plant early" so as to avoid disappointment.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GAR- DENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

HAVE YOU BOUGHT "The Pruning of Trees and Shrubs," by W. Dallimore, Assistant at Kew? Fully illustrated. 4s. 6d. net; post free, 4s. 9d. From all Booksellers or direct from the Publishers, DULAU & CO., LTD., 34, Margaret Street, London, W.1.

DOBBIES' FAMOUS BULBS, SCOTCH ROSES and SWEET PEAS for Autumn Sowing. Catalogues free on mentioning THE GARDEN.—DOBBIE & CO., LTD., Edinburgh.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BRATTER, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

POLYANTHUS NARCISSUS.—Scilly White's, 10/- 100, £3 10s. 1,000. Empress Daffodils, same price.—A. LEON, St. Mary's, Scilly Isles.

GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS — CHOICE TULIPS, &c. List on application.—THE WELSH BULB FIELDS, St. Asaph.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760 yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

LOOK ! TANNED GARDEN NETS.—All orders dispatched same day. 25yds. by 1yd, 2/-; 25 by 2, 4/-; 25 by 3, 6/-. Odd netting for bushes, 5lbs. for 2/6. All carriage paid. Any sizes supplied. Also Tennis Boundary Nets.—MOORE AND CO., Net Works, Rye.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

ROCK PLANTS AND ALPINES, Dwarf Conifers, Flowering Shrubs for the Rock Garden, Herbaceous Plants, Montbretias, etc. Catalogue free, ready shortly.—SHEPPARDS, Shawhurst Nursery, Hollywood, Birmingham.

FLAME FLOWER. (Tropæolum speciosum) Extra strong established pot plants of this loveliest of scarlet flowered perennial climbers ready for planting any time now 1/- each, 6 for 5/-, 12 for 10/-, carriage paid for cash with order. —CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED, Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

INDIAN ORCHIDS.—12 grand fl. sorts, 25s.; 6 sorts Acrides, 28s.; 12 sorts grand fl. Dendrobiums, 35s.; 6 sorts Vandas, 20s.; 6 sorts Cymbidiums, 24s. Cash. All paid in U.K. List free.—CHANDRA NURSERY, P.O. Rhenock, Sikkim (Bengal), India.

HARDY ROCK PLANTS.—700 varieties. Catalogue free.—ALPINE NURSERIES, Stechford, Birmingham.

THE DOG: MAN'S FIRMEST FRIEND.— How to choose and care for him, by A. CROXTON SMITH. A copy of this helpful booklet on the housing, breeding, feeding and care of dogs will be sent post free on receipt of 11d., addressed to The Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

SWEET PEAS AND HOW TO EXCEL WITH THEM. By HORACE WRIGHT, 9d. net, by post 11d. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 82/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SON, Grove Works, Batterses, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

BURTON-ON-TRENT

We won at the above Show, held 11th and 12th August last, TWO GOLD MEDALS for our WONDERFUL COLLECTION OF GLADIOLI. We offer one Bulb of each variety shown in this collection of 50 different varieties at 8/6, two Bulbs of each variety, in 50 varieties, 16/-, six Bulbs of each variety, in 50 varieties, 45/- The new and most attractive Gladiolus at the Show called BURTONIA, raised by us and only stocked by our firm, only 500 to offer, 2/6 each.

OUR GOLD MEDAL CROCUSES.

The earliest flowers of Spring Exhibition Mixtures for Naturalising.

	Doz.	100	1000
Mixed purple and blue	8d.	4/6	40/-
Mixed striped	8d.	4/6	40/-
Mixed white	8d.	4/6	40/-
Mixed all colours	8d.	4/6	40/-

Crocus, special selected for Window Boxes, Pots and Flower Beds.

	Doz.	100	1000
Special blue, named	9d.	5/-	45/-
Special purple, named	9d.	5/-	45/-
Special striped, named	9d.	5/-	45/-
Special white, named	9d.	5/-	45/-
Special yellows, extra	1/-	8/-	75/-

EXHIBITION TULIPS.

THE DARWINS.—The most sturdy-growing, strong, upright stems with massive flowers:

	Doz.	100
Bartigon, bright fiery red	1/6	10/-
Clara Butt, clear pink, flushed salmon rose	1/-	7/-
La Notre, rose pink shading to silvery pink, centre blue and white. Extra forcer	2/-	14/-
Prince of the Netherlands, extra large solid flower of perfect form, rich brilliant cerise red, extra strong stems. First-rate bedder	2/6	15/-

The above 7 varieties, 12 bulbs of each, 10/-.

	Doz.	100
Professor Rauwenhoff, deep cherry rose white base margined blue	2/-	12/-
Princess Elizabeth, extra fine rich soft rose, slight silvery flush at margin, centre clear white	2/-	14/-
Wm. Copeland, violet shading to lilac; when forced the colour is a beautiful soft lavender	1/-	8/-

The above 7 varieties, 100 bulbs of each, £3 10 0

THE COTTAGE TULIPS.—The most graceful novelties:

	Doz.	100
Amber, light amber coloured. Award of merit	1/10	13/-
Erasmus, large creamy white, long stem. Award of merit	1/10	13/-
Grand Yellow, very deep yellow, extra fine	2/-	15/-
Mrs. Francis King, very fine satiny rose	1/10	13/-
Nestor, vivid carmine red with clear white base. Award of merit	2/-	15/-
Spinosa, white flower on very tall stem	1/10	13/-

NOVELTY COLLECTION.

	Doz.	100
Sirene, the wonderful lily-shaped flower, of a very fine glistening satiny rose. First-class certificate, London, Amsterdam	1/10	14/-
Pearl, finest light rose	2/-	15/-
Prof. Westerdyk, wonderful lilac rose, very tall, splendid forcer	2/-	15/-
Triton, glowing carmine rose pure yellow base, the most attractive tulip yet raised, a real beauty	2/-	10/-

Novelty collection ten extra selected bulbs of each of the above 10 varieties, 100 in all, 10/-.
25 Bulbs each of the above 10 varieties, 250 Bulbs in all, 20/-.

Quality.—All bulbs which are not to satisfaction upon receipt may be returned to us and we will gladly refund money and postage. Complete list of other rarer tulips, daffodils, etc., gladly mailed on request.

H. PRINS, F.R.H.S., Bulb Specialists, WISBECH, CAMBS.

39th YEAR

Mrs. PYM'S Famous Plants

AT VERY MODERATE PRICES.

Send for Catalogue of Choice Hardy Perennial Plants for Rockeries, Crazy Paving, Borders, Beds, etc. Plant now for success, and get plants established before winter. Prompt despatch. Correctly named. Carefully packed and guaranteed to arrive in excellent condition.

Orders over 3/- post free, under 3/- please add 4d. extra.

All per dozen, quarter dozen same rate.

Strong Transplanted Plants. Glorious Hardy Primulas should be planted now in the open garden or potted for early bloom in cold house when flowers are scarce. Primula japonica, extremely showy, rich colours, will thrive anywhere, 6/-. P. **pulverulenta**, rich crimson, 6/-; **P. sikkimensis**, scented, lemon yellow, 6/-; **P. Bulleyana**, rich orange, 6/-; **P. Cashmeriana**, large heads, purple, 6/-; **P. denticulata**, large heads, lilac, 6/-; **P. Veitchii**, fine rosy purple; **P. Wanda** (gift of the Ideal Homes Exhibition gardens last spring), free flowering, beautiful rich purple, 7/-.

Pot Now for early blooming in cool house. **Cineraria**, prize exhibition and stellata, 3/-; **Cyclamen**, choicest strains, 6/-; **Nicotiana** (tobacco), white or crimson, 3/-; **Schizanthus**, new, compact, very large flowering, splendid colours, 5/-; **Primula malacoides**, semi-double, mauve, soft rose, rose pink and robusta, a very vigorous variety, mauve, 5/-; **P. kewensis**, very early, golden yellow, 4/-. **Many thousands splendid plants, Catalogue free.**

Wallflowers, strong spring sown; **Brilliant**, blood red; **Belvoir Castle**, golden yellow; **Eastern Queen**, salmon red; **Ruby Gem**, rich satiny ruby; **Vulcan**, rich velvety crimson, and new, large-flowering hybrids, 9d.

MRS. PYM (F.R.H.S.)
10, Vine House, Woodston, Peterborough

"The fairest flowers of the season are our carnations."—SHAKESPEARE.

CARNATIONS

FOR EVERY GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE

By Montagu C. Allwood.

With a Foreword by Lord Lambourne,
President of the R.H.S.

224 *pages.* 79 *illustrations.*

Just Published - 12s. 6d. net.

For a detailed prospectus of this new and standard book, write to the Publicity Manager, Book Dept., COUNTRY LIFE, 20, Tavistock St., W.C.

The Amateur Series

RHODODENDRONS FOR AMATEURS

By E. H. M. COX. *Editor of* THE GARDEN. Demy 8vo. Illustrated. 5s. net.

BULBS FOR AMATEURS

By the Rev. JOSEPH JACOB. Demy 8vo. Illustrated. 5s. net.

HERBACEOUS BORDERS FOR AMATEURS

By R. V. GIFFARD WOOLLEY. Demy 8vo. Illustrated. 5s. net.

SHRUBS FOR AMATEURS

By W. J. BEAN. *Curator of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.* Demy 8vo. Illustrated. 5s. net.

ORNAMENTAL TREES FOR AMATEURS

By W. J. BEAN. Demy 8vo. Illustrated. 5s. net.

A combined Prospectus will be sent on application.

"Country Life," Ltd., 20, Tavistock St., Covent Garden, London, W.C.2

BULBS FOR NATURALISING

All Delivered Post Free at your door.

	per doz.	per 100	per 1,000
MUSCARIA HYACINTHS, Grape Hyacinths, blue	1/-	5/-	40/-
SNOWDROPS, earliest flowers of Spring	1/-	6/-	50/-
SPARAXIS, selected show mixtures, all colours	6d.	3/-	25/-
CROCUS, in finest mixed, all colours	1/-	4/-	35/-
SCILLA SIBIRICA, extra fine blue	1/-	9/-	80/-
NARCISSUS, all varieties and colours mixed	1/-	7/6	60/-
TULIPS, all varieties and colours mixed	1/-	7/-	60/-

(All the above for growing in Woodlands or Grass)

Full Illustrated List post free upon application.

H. PRINS (F.R.H.S.) *Flower Bulb Specialists*, **WISBECH, CAMBS.**

Digitized by Google

ESTABLISHED 1804 INCORPORATED 1809

THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S

GREAT AUTUMN SHOW

HOLLAND PARK HALL, HOLLAND PARK AVENUE LONDON, W.

21st, 22nd and 23rd SEPTEMBER, 1926

PRICES OF ADMISSION FOR NON-FELLOWS:

Tuesday, 21st September	2 p.m. to 5 p.m.	10/-
" " "	5 p.m. to 7 p.m.	5/-
Wednesday, 22nd September	10 a.m. to 5 p.m.	5/-
" " "	5 p.m. to 7 p.m.	2/6
Thursday, 23rd September	10 a.m. to 5 p.m.	2/6

FELLOWS TICKETS ADMIT FREE, AND ON TUESDAY, THE 21st, AT NOON.

Particulars of Fellowship may be obtained on application to the Secretary, Royal Horticultural Society, Vincent Square, London, S.W.1.

CLIBRANS' HYACINTHS
FOR EXHIBITION.
Monster Bulbs, any colour. 12 in 6 varieties - 10/6
6 in 3 varieties - 5/6
Post Paid.
CLIBRANS, 12, Market St., MANCHESTER.

WHY is "HOMES and GARDENS" such a Great Success?
BECAUSE it shows greater House Comfort & Convenience —with less Labour and Expense.
Send to-day for a Free specimen Copy of this helpful and beautifully Illustrated Magazine to 20, Tavistock St., Covent Garden, W.C.2

BLACKMORE & LANGDON'S
Gold Medal Delphiniums
(*Awarded 5 Gold Medals.*)
We recommend early Autumn planting for best results, and our stock is in grand condition.
Our "AWARD OF MERIT" Collection, every variety having received the A.M. at the R.H.S. Trials.
17 varieties - - - - - £4 10s.
or a selection of 12 varieties - £2 15s.
Other collections at 15/-, 22/-, 30/-, 42/- and 70/- per doz.
BLACKMORE & LANGDON, BATH

HAVE YOU PROVIDED?
The United Horticultural Benefit and Provident Society
PROVIDES 27/- per week in illness for 1/1½; 18/- for 9d.; or 12/- for 6d., weekly contributions.
PROVIDES your dependents with £10, £15 or £20 at death, according to Scale.
PROVIDES you with a Savings Bank.
PROVIDES grants from Distress and Convalescent Funds
PROFIT BY THE EXPERIENCE OF A MEMBER WHO HAS £150 TO HIS CREDIT
State Insured members of this Society may also Contribute to the private Section, and by so doing will add to their Benefits in accordance with the Scale they adopt.
A. C. HILL, Secretary, 35, Alexandra Road, WEST KENSINGTON, W.14

Digitized by Google

Seedsmen by *Appointment*

EXPERT GARDEN ADVICE FREE

AUTHORITATIVE advice is willingly given on any phase of gardening, Small or Large Gardens, Lawns, Sports Grounds, or Estates, by our practical experts. We are anxious to help you in a practical way to obtain the best results from your garden and it will be a personal pleasure to us if you will take advantage of our services whenever the necessity may occur, to write us on any matter relating to the garden, when you can be sure of receiving comprehensive yet concise and readable reply

FROM

CARTERS ADVISORY DEPT.

CATALOGUE
"BULBS & LAWNS"
POST FREE

Carters
TESTED SEEDS
SEEDSMEN TO H.M. THE KING
RAYNES PARK, LONDON, S.W.20

Notes from Maidstone.

UTOPIAS.

From Bacon to Wells all Utopian dreamers have set first store on a perfected human character. It may, however, be that we must first perfect our plants to arrive at a New Atlantis, and we present as a first step a few disease-resisting fruits.

Lancashire Lad Gooseberry is largely immune from American Mildew.

In Apples, Transparent de Croncels and Irish Peach present an unfavourable pasture to American Blight.

A small beginning for a Garden Utopia, but has any dreamer built on a surer foundation?

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd.,
The Royal Nurseries,
Established 1796. Maidstone.

BY APPOINTMENT.
Fertilizer Manufacturers to H.M. THE KING.

FEED YOUR LAWN

CONSTANT cutting reduces the store of nutriment in the soil. To continue resistance against weed seedlings strong roots must be regularly nourished. Finest swards and strong roots are produced by using

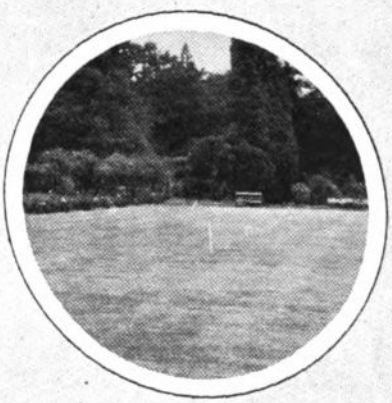
FISONS' LAWN GUANO

Use 4ozs. to the square yard. One cwt. is sufficient for a Tennis Court. The Guano is used by important Sports Clubs.

	7-lbs.	14-lbs.	28-lbs.	56-lbs.	1-cwt.
Carr.pd.	4/-	7/-	11/-	18/-	33/-

Write for Illustrated Catalogue No. 5 containing particulars of Fertilizers for all Garden Crops with full instructions for use.

JOSEPH FISON & CO LTD
IPSWICH



SUTTON'S GRASS SEED for Lawns.

After the hard wear of the Summer season,
LAWNS
are in need of renovation.
Write for advice and information regarding the best GRASS SEEDS, FERTILISERS, ETC.

SUTTON & SONS,
Turf Experts, READING.

DOBBIE'S

Sweet Pea Collections

For PRESENT Sowing

COLLECTION A (T.G.)—Six Splendid Novelties for 1926-27—Gleneagles (12), Red Gauntlet (12), Chieftain (12), Patience (12), Magnet (25), Mary Pickford (25) **5/6**

The figures in brackets denote the number of seeds per packet.

COLLECTION B (T.G.)—The Exhibitors' "CHAMPION" Collection of Fifteen Splendid Exhibition Varieties—20 seeds each—Constance Hinton, Crimson King, Grenadier, George Shawyer, Hebe, Hawlmark Salmon Pink, Jessie Ireland, Majestic Cream, Mrs. Tom Jones, Picture, Powerscourt, Renown, Royal Purple, Warrior, Youth **5/**

COLLECTION C (T.G.)—Twelve Splendid Exhibition Varieties—20 seeds each—Austin Frederick Improved, Charity, Constance Hinton, Dignity, George Shawyer, Hawlmark Pink, Matchless, Mrs. Collier, Robertson, Royal Purple, Royal Scot, Renown, The Sultan **2/**

Our Autumn Catalogue of Bulbs, Roses, Sweet Peas, etc., post free on application.

DOBBIE & CO. LTD.
Royal Seedsmen .·. EDINBURGH

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

VOL. XC.—No. 2858. SEPTEMBER 11, 1926

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.; Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2. *Offices for Advertisements:* 6-11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

NOTES FROM MY GARDEN

THIS year, on the whole, has been an excellent one for rhododendrons. The growths are good and firm, although in some cases the leaves are not so large as they were last year, owing to a cold spell in May. Each year shows more clearly that force of circumstances will make certain rhododendrons alter their season of growth. One of Farrer's introductions, a plant close to R. decorum and an early grower, has been cut each spring for the past four years. Apparently, it has learned its lesson, for only now is it making its growth and in most cases this is not second growth. Many of the new shoots are 18ins. in length and are ripening well, so that there will be little danger of their being caught by the first autumn frost in late October. One of the commonest causes of failure in rhododendrons has just come to light and this may be an object lesson to others. Some years ago a bed was made in gravelly soil in full exposure and was planted with hardy hybrids. For a year or two they flourished well, but after that they began to grow thin and straggly, with little bloom. A day or two ago they were dug up and the reason for their failure discovered. Originally they must have been grown in a heavy soil or clay; they must have been planted without loosening and teasing out the roots, with the result that the clay of the original balls had combined with the gravelly soil to make a ball so hard that a pickaxe was necessary to break it. It is obvious that the tiny fibrous roots have been strangled and the plant stifled in consequence. The lesson is clear; not only must the ground be loosened and prepared for rhododendrons, but great care must be taken to loosen and free the roots from caked soil before they are planted. I am quite sure that 50 per cent. of the failure of rhododendrons, hardy or otherwise, is caused either by lack of care in freeing the roots before planting or by too deep planting, another fault that is frequently seen; the latter, indeed, is not confined to rhododendrons, but applies to almost all shrubs. In every case the root system should be examined and the ground prepared according to the nature of the roots. For instance, it is no use making a small hole and bending a tap root in coils in order to find room for it; the hole should be deep. On the other hand, for fibrous root systems width and not depth is essential. This may seem to be elementary, but it is surprising how many people are careless in this respect.

Last spring I mentioned that I had thinned severely such plants as Spiræa sorbifolia and a philadelphus from China, in order to make them flower. This treatment has been eminently successful and has proved to me once and for all that many shrubs which run to growth and not flower are the better for a constant use of the knife. On the whole I think that wholesale thinning is more satisfactory, if it is done early in the spring. On the other hand, if whole plants have to be removed, this is better done in the autumn, so that the frost can get in about those that are left and so ripen the wood.

So much is written about the glory of Chinese shrubs that one is apt to imagine that they are all good and so plant them indiscriminately. For the information of others I can mention one or two that are not worth growing. One is Buddleia Forrestii, a wonderful plant in Upper Burma and Yunnan, but apparantly unsuited here. It grows at an extraordinary rate, but however much it is pruned and cut back it sets few flowers and those that do appear are poor in colour and last only a very short time. I also consider that few of the species of deutzia are worth growing. The hybrids are so infinitely better in quality of flower, that species, where you have them, can be relegated to out-of-the-way corners. Care ought also to be taken over the selection of berberis. They happen to flower, berry and colour well with me, so having ample space at my disposal I can plant indiscriminately, but in neighbourhoods that do not suit them so well, it is better to enquire as to the best varieties suitable for the neighbourhood before planting. There are few new species that can equal old favourites like the forms of B. stenophylla and B. Thunbergii, or such species as B. Wilsonæ and B. pruinosa. E. H. M. C.

THE EDITOR'S TABLE.

WE have received a box of beautiful gladioli from Messrs. Kelway and Son of Langport, Somerset. The flowers arrived in good condition, indicating that the gladiolus carries well and should prove a good market flower, once it increases in popular favour. The spikes of flowers look most effective in a vase, and they last for some considerable time in bloom, the flowers opening gradually up the spike. Under artificial light, too, their shades of colour stand out well, especially those of a pink and scarlet tone. Among the blooms so kindly sent were representative varieties of the famous Langprim strain, of which Red Rover, a rich crimson and a novelty for 1926, is very fine. Others which were included were Golden Girl, Sylph and Rev. J. Stubbs. Among the large-flowered sorts are the very large salmon rose Countess of Leicester, the rosy scarlet Brooklands, the salmon red Empoclus, and Kelway's Painted Lady. There seems little doubt that, with its grace, beauty, long flowering period and wealth of colour tones, the gladiolus is the flower of the future for outdoor as well as indoor decoration.

Digitized by Google

FRAGRANCE IN THE ROSE GARDEN

TOWARDS the close of one of the most attractive of his stories, our great statesman-novelist outlined his picture of a garden. It was Lady Corisande's garden: "No flowers are admitted," Lord Beaconsfield says, "that have not perfume. It is very old-fashioned." It was formed upon a gentle slope, with turfen terraces, walled in on three sides, the fourth consisting of arches of golden yew, and had been given to Lady Corisande "in order that she might practise her theory that flower gardens should be sweet and luxuriant, and not hard and scentless imitations of works of art. Here in their season flourished abundantly all those productions of nature which are now banished from our once delighted senses: huge bushes of honeysuckle and bowers of sweet pea, and sweet briar, and jasmine, clustering over the walls, and gilly flowers scenting with their sweet breath the ancient bricks from which they seemed to spring."

"It was very old-fashioned." Here we find the theory, apparently ineradicable, which is held to-day as it was then, that the old roses are more fragrant than the new ones. In one sense, indeed, the theory is true. Raisers of new roses to-day raise scented and scentless roses. So did the raisers of yesterday, but it is only the fragrant roses that have survived. The scentless have disappeared, as will soon disappear the scentless roses of to-day. I think, however, that the proportion of fragrant roses produced to-day is probably as high as it ever was. Certainly we have a larger field to select from.

A PLEASANT ARRANGEMENT OF ROSE BEDS.

But I must come to the garden, for the question I wish to consider is, How shall the Lady Corisande of to-day arrange and plant her garden? The "turfen terraces" we may at once admit, for now, as then, nothing so well sets off the beauty of the flowers as smooth, well made and well kept grass walks.

Then we come to the bowers of sweet briar, and sweet briar in some of its forms should never be lacking in the rose garden. A hedge of sweet briar may, where circumstances admit, be planted on the windward side of the garden, and the use of Lord Penzance hybrids, which give a range of colour from nearly crimson to pink and white or terra cotta, will add much to the interest of the hedge; or large bushes of the Penzance briars or common sweet briar may be disposed in convenient places about the garden, or trained in bowers or screens so that we may enjoy the delightful scent of the leaves whatever wind may blow.

The common sweet briar, now obtainable from nurserymen, is a tall-growing plant with arching stems. This tall, arching plant, however, is not the true sweet briar, R. rubiginosa, which is a dwarf plant about 2ft. or 3ft. high with smaller leaves, which, according to Colonel Woolly Dod, have a more pronounced scent. This dwarf, highly scented form is at present difficult to procure, but as it grows wild in many parts of England, particularly in the chalk districts, it should not be long before it is generally obtainable if any demand for it should arise, as I hope may take place. There are, however, few organs of the rose that are so readily affected by changes of climate and cultivation as the foliar glands. This was noted many years ago by Professor Crépin in reference to European roses, and the changes produced in the glandular organs of the moss rose by change of habitat have more recently been the subject of observation in India. It seems probable, therefore, that we have much yet to learn as to the methods of cultivation that may bring us the greatest amount of perfume from the scented leaves of our sweet briars.

AN OLD-WORLD ROSE GARDEN.

Next we may turn to the climbing roses, particularly to the Wichuraiana hybrids, which may be trained to cover arches, pillars or bowers. Here there is one rose, and one only, that is quite indispensable, the Wichuraiana Evangeline. The flower is single, pale pink with whitish centre, and, though pretty if it opens in fine weather, is rather easily spoilt by rain; but the perfume is delightful. I know of no climbing rose that equals it in this respect, and when an arch or pillar of this rose is in full flower, it will, on a summer evening, scent the garden for yards around it with a sweet and rich perfume. I have four or five arches of

Digitized by Google

this rose planted in different parts of the garden that they may afford this delightful odour.

Though no other rose appears to scent the garden as does Evangeline, some of the other Wichuraianas have a pleasant perfume, particularly François Juranville, Purity and Léontine Gervais. The multifloras are usually scentless, but an exception is found in Tea Rambler; and the hybrid Bourbon Zéphirine Drouhin, though only a semi-climber, has a delightful perfume.

Except for these, we have to turn to the hybrid teas and their climbing sports. One of the most fragrant of these is Colcestria, a large but somewhat loose flower of pink colouring. It is fairly free in flowering, but not quite continuous, as there are decided gaps between the flowering periods; but its fragrance is delightful. Another good H.T. that may be used as a climber is Avoca, a crimson rose of fine form and fragrance. It will clothe an 8ft. pillar, or may be grown on a low wall or screen, and when so used it is much more free and continuous than when treated as a dwarf rose and pruned hard back.

summer evening as one entered the garden was very pleasant. The pink rose Ellen Poulsen has some fragrance, though it is not often strong, as also have Léonie Lamesch and Cecile Brunner; while Eugénie Lamesch reminds some people of the violet perfume.

A few big bushes 6ft. or so high and allowed to develop to some thickness should certainly find a place in the scented rose garden, and for these we may look in the first place to some of the hardy rugosa race or Japanese roses.

Some of the best of these are Rose à Parfum de l'Hay, a crimson rose of poor form but delicious fragrance; the pink hybrid rugosa Conrad F. Meyer and its cream-coloured sport Nova Zembla; and the white Blanc Double de Coubert; while, if the list can be extended, the pink Delicata and crimsons Mrs. Anthony Waterer and atropurpurea may be added.

In this form also may be used the hybrid tea Grüss an Teplitz and Zéphirine Drouhin (H.B.), which I have already mentioned.

THE RAREST CHARM OF AN ENGLISH GARDEN, A PERGOLA IN ITS DRAPERY OF WHITE AND GREEN.

Climbing Chatenay and Climbing Ophelia are both good examples of climbing hybrid teas, and sweetly scented.

Climbing Richmond, out of doors, has been disappointing, and, though Climbing Château de Clos Vougeot is better, and I have had it doing well for a time, the plants have never lasted with me for very long. Still, it has such fine crimson colour and excellent fragrance that it is worth trying.

For a fragrant white climber, resort will be made to the hybrid noisette, Mme. Alfred Carrière.

The polyantha pompons have, as a rule, little or no fragrance; but the white Yvonne Rabier is an exception and is sweetly scented. This, according to Mr. Daniels (THE GARDEN May, 1911), is a cross between a Wichuraiana and a dwarf polyantha. In order to get the best effect from its fragrance it should not be pruned closely, but grown into a bush 6ft. or so in height. Mr. C. C. Williamson, the President of the N.R.S., used to grow it in this manner near the wall of his house, at the entrance to his garden, and the perfume on a

Turning then to the hybrid teas, which must, of course, form the mainstay of the rose garden, I shall place at the head of my list Mrs. Bryce Allan, a pink flower of most delightful fragrance. The colour, perhaps, is rather a hard pink, but the plant is a good grower, and carries its well formed flowers on strong stems. Other fragrant pink roses are Columbia, Lady Alice Stanley, Mme. Abel Chatenay, Gustav Grünerwald, and one must not omit Mme. Butterfly and Ophelia; while the fragrance of Mrs. George Norwood is excellent, but it is too poor a grower as a cut-back to recommend for the ordinary garden. The day of the hybrid perpetual has already waned, but those who can still find room for a few of these old roses will find no fault with Mrs. John Laing and Ulrich Brunner on the score of fragrance.

Among the crimsons we may fine plenty of choice, and, though it ranks among the hybrid perpetuals, I must still put at their head Hugh Dickson for its fine perfume, notwithstanding its want of flowers during the summer after its early

Digitized by Google

flowering is over until the autumn flowers arrive. The old bedding roses General McArthur and Richmond will bring us plenty of fragrance, and among the taller growers there are Florence Haswell Veitch, Laurent Carle and Avoca, which I have already referred to. A rose I like for its form and fragrance is Dora van Tets, though I could wish it was a better grower; while William Bowring, though rather weak in the stalk and not too well formed, is one of the most fragrant roses we have.

The very dark crimsons also provide some highly fragrant flowers, and of these Château de Clos Vougeot, Hoosier Beauty and Etoile de Hollande must certainly be included, also, if a place can be found for it, George Dickson, for when we find a flower good enough to bring indoors it is lovely in form and perfume; but I do not know where it is to be placed in the garden, on account of its disabilities—a bad head-hanger, the flower generally quartered, the foliage subject to mildew, and the growth awkward and inconvenient. These defects make a sad list, yet I would not myself discard it, for the few magnificent flowers one can pick in a season make up for many deficiencies.

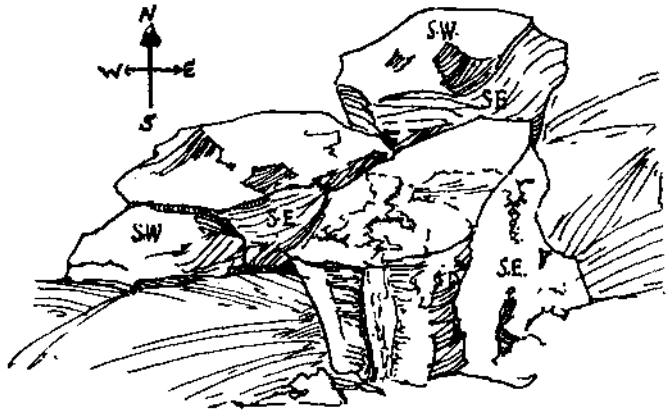
Of cream or white shades there are three outstanding roses—Westfield Star (a sport from Ophelia), Mrs. David McKee and Marcia Stanhope. They are all delightfully fragrant, with slightly differing perfume, and grow well; but Marcia Stanhope must be watched for mildew, and early preventive measures taken. I may also add the tea rose Mrs. Foley Hobbs, a lovely flower but useless in the garden from its head-hanging habit.

It is, perhaps, a question whether any yellow roses can be admitted. There are, however, two which should receive consideration. The first is the Duchess of Wellington, which makes fine growth and in fine weather is a good garden rose with quite a distinct perfume. If, however, it prove wet, Duchess of Wellington becomes one of the most useless of roses, the petals cling together and the flowers rot without opening. The other, Mabel Morse, does not suffer from this defect and my friends generally tell me it is fragrant. I can certainly detect some scent, but it can hardly be called pronounced, and if Mabel Morse finds a place I think it must be because it is in other respects a good garden rose, and there is no other of its colour more highly scented, unless, indeed, we resort to the Dijon teas, a race which is rather going out of favour.

Such being the material, it remains to arrange the roses in the garden. Here individual taste and the conditions of the site must come into play, and I can only lay down a few general rules: (1) Try to arrange for a sweet briar hedge on the windward side of the garden; (2) mass round the entrances highly fragrant climbers and pillars; (3) arrange for some big bushes and pillars of fragrant roses in the midst of the garden; and (4) in arranging the dwarf growers mass the colours into well thought out effects. H. R. DARLINGTON.

DESIGN IN THE ROCK GARDEN

YOU can set no greater pitfall for the jobbing man—or the professional gardener, for that matter—than to ask him to build you a rockery. It is the same problem that Lancelot Brown and his followers tried to master and in the end mastered them—the problem of copying nature in an unnatural setting. These raised beds, to be seen everywhere, stuck all over with spears of rock like blanched almonds, are like the nightmare creations of Brown's brain and I hope will die a decent death before this generation has passed away!



No, a real rockery, however small, is a workmanlike affair, not to be put together in a hurry and sprinkled on top with any rocks left over. The rock garden or rockery may be for a variety of purposes and its treatment will vary accordingly.

There is the case of the gravel or sand pit, which provides the chance of forming a sunk rock garden. The banks of the pit will be built up in a slope, varying from a batter of half-an-inch to a foot to a slope of 45° or less. Here and there a ridge will be run out to drop steeply—sometimes almost vertically—to ground level. In a hard rock the sides of the bank will fall back sharply from such ridges; in a soft sandstone, more gradually. Rock steps should be placed to allow one, to reach the higher level and in so doing to see some of the plants at closer quarters. The bolder convex surfaces and ridges will be enhanced by planting dense shrubs, like Genista hispanica, Cytisus præcox, Escallonia langleyensis, Fuchsia globosa, olearias and some shrubby veronicas. Too many rock cliffs will give a restless and unnatural appearance, but when decided on should be built up with some of the boldest and tallest slabs and planted on top as suggested. Contrasting with such upstanding features, the concave sides of the pit must have the rocks built up in ledges with the flatter slabs and planted with dwarf shrubs (Veronica Autumn Glory, Cotoneasters humifusa and microphylla, Juniperus Sabina procumbens and Iberis corriæfolia, etc.) and creeping plants. Mass the rock roses here with vaccinium—where non-calcareous soil—and the host of alpine pinks, saxifrages, gentians, erinus (which will seed itself happily into the rock crevices), Polygonum vaccinifolium and Veronica rupestris. Let them spread themselves in mats till they have clothed the banks in evergreen and deciduous drifts. When you have the *forms* of your plant groups schemed, then you may begin to plan your colour arrangements. This is true for all rock garden work.

Very often a slope has to be retained with rockwork. According to the situation and the depth to be retained, this may have to be a wall, properly built in cement, or a dry wall with blocks of roughly squared stone, or it may be a soil bank informally built up with slabs of undressed stone. If a rock bank is to be made, the first thing to be decided is the disposition of the main ridges and strata and for this a visit to the quarry gives the best idea of how to plan the slopes and stratifications. An example of the trend of the rock surfaces is shown in the accompanying sketch, where the strata slope downwards to the south-west and the rocks break vertically in this direction and at right-angles to it. Such an arrangement is ideal since it gives sun-baked shelves to the south and south-west, clefts and rock faces to the south-east and south-west

Digitized by Google

as well as, of course, shady clefts at the back of the rocks, where ramondias and other shade lovers may be established. Whatever direction is chosen, the same trend of the strata should be kept throughout the garden. A wonderfully restful and natural appearance is created where this simple guide is followed.

When the ridges and margin of the bank are mapped out, the sections may be designed in detail. The gullies may be made into miniature moraines, where some of the treasures of the garden may be given a home after their own heart—for instance, Dianthus neglectus and D. alpinus, some dwarf campanulas, Gentiana verna, Raoulia, Potentilla nitida and some androsaces. The knolls and summits will be planted with dwarf or larger shrubs, according to the scale of the rock garden, and with aubrietias in all shades, double arabis and alyssum to clothe the bare shoulders quickly. Cistuses and alpine rhododendrons will be at home here, as well as the other shrubs mentioned previously. From high clefts let Saxifraga lingulata hang its silver rosettes, with sempervivums in moderation and dianthi revelling over the sunny rock faces. Spaces will be left on the slope of the bank for massing mossy saxifrages, Primula Juliæ or gentians; or if on a peaty soil—sheets of pinguicula with sundews and Primula farinosa.

Most fairylike will the bank be in spring if miniature daffodils, winter aconites and squills are thickly planted. To guard against dullness in the summer months, these patches may be sown with low annuals, or planted with nemesia, verbenas or Phlox Drummondii. EVELYN N. COWELL.

AUTUMN COLOUR in an AMERICAN SHRUBBERY

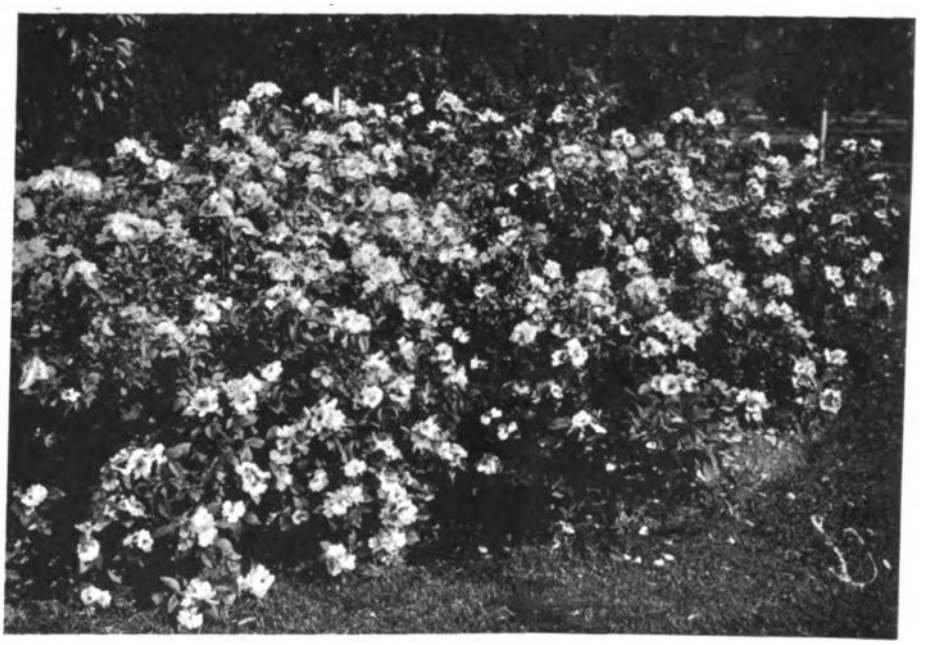
Mr. Marshall is owner of one of the best arboretums in the Middle West, and in this interesting article he describes the use of native shrubs for colouring in the autumn. The information he gives should be of great use to all who love autumn tints—and who does not?—for most of the plants he mentions are well known in this country.

AUTUMN, mellow and lovely, following close on summer's breathless heat, transforms the landscape from uniform green to marvellous banks of colour. The distant forests, half hidden in autumnal haze, blend into the foreground with vivid reds and yellows. For the first time during the year the trees and shrubs assert their true personalities, for at no other season does their individuality so markedly stand forth.

In the eagerness of collectors and nurserymen to acquire the unusual, Japan, Siberia and China have been combed for a host of importations. All of them, perhaps, have some intrinsic mark of merit, but the particular adaptability and beauty of our own native stock should not be overlooked.

No finer background, for instance, can be found than the sassafras. Vacillating between tree and shrub, it is by this very virtue well adapted to plantings where height and denseness are desirable. Its mitten-shaped leaves, soft green during the summer, become saffron as the season wanes, changing again to deeper shades tinged with red before they finally drop off. Grouped near should be the cornels—some in reality small trees, others shrubby in form. Bursting into bloom while the landscape is still bare, with four-petalled white and pink blossoms, they are, with the shad bush (amelanchier), among the first shrubs to bloom. After this splendid show is over, they drop back into the ranks of green until frost is in the air, when again they flash forth in brilliant tones of scarlet, crimson and russet.

After the last leaves have fallen, Cornus stolonifera stands forth against the winter landscape a mass of red branches: this particular variety of dogwood is more commonly known as red osier. The pale whiteness of the under leaf contrasts with the bright upper surface of scarlet. The silky dogwood, C. Amomum, lover of wet ground and stream border, stands out well with its twigs of deep purple amid the falling leaves. The hairy C. asperifolia, brown-branched, looks best when planted with C. Baileyi—the latter usually found around our Great Lake region together with C. alternifolia. This last differs somewhat from the others, in that the leaves are found in little tufted bunches, rather breaking up the regularity of the other cornels when planted together. With its alternate leaves it is a most vigorous shrub, ranging on the Atlantic seaboard from one extreme to the other.



ROSA SETIGERA, ONE OF THE MOST CHARMING OF ROSE SPECIES.
Splashes of purple, green, bronze and red appear on the one bush.

Then, for a change, there might be the Hamamelis virginiana, or witch hazel. When all other shrubs are preparing for the winter, the witch hazels optimistically begin to flower. Even in August, one may see the tiny buds unfolding. September, October pass and it gaily blossoms. Cheerful, delicate things they are.

Using these higher tree-like shrubs as a setting, one may place the somewhat lower Rhus canadensis, the most fragrant member of the group. Nearly all the rhus family have interesting fruits. Dull, rich red berry clusters stand out from the red and yellow of the leaves. Here belong the twins, glabra and typhina, so often found together in their native state. In fact, more than a second look is often necessary to separate the smooth from the staghorn. They are lovely, with huge fruited cones standing out against the scarlet leaves. By all means here should also be the feathery-leaved forms called lacinata. In fact, the family as a whole is a most versatile one, ranging from R. copallina, the mountain sumach, down through the strange R. cotinoides with its smoky pedicels, to the several poisonous members of which the less said the better.

Nor in plantings should one fail to remember the possibilities of the buckeyes, or horse chestnuts. Æsculus arguta, with dark green leaves during the hot summer days, turns to the most brilliant orange in the frosty air. Octandra and parviflora are also typical natives and not to be neglected. Their dull russets lend an interesting though somewhat subdued note to the gayer sumachs.

Conspicuous for their autumn shading are also the viburnums. The hobble-bush, V. alnifolium, takes a particularly brilliant red. V. Opulus, or the high-bush cranberry, found in our extreme north, blossoms generously with clusters of white flowers, soon replaced by green

Digitized by Google

berries turning to yellow splashed with vermilion. The leaves themselves turn a daring red, persisting late into the season. Most interesting of all the viburnums from the standpoint of exotic coloration is V. acerifolium. The purple drupes crown a bush of scarlet. It startles one on finding the very next neighbour has forsaken the conventional hue for one of pinky white or a delicate shade of old rose. Imagine, therefore, what a range of shades one may find where a whole cluster is planted.

By all means the downy viburnum, V. pubescens, should be placed near for the sake of contrast. This is somewhat smaller in stature, and turns the deepest purple. Many of the leaves are downy, others quite smooth, affording most unusual shading to the shrub. Viburnums dentatum and cassinoides, and Symphoricarpus racemosus as well, can be placed near by way of variety and for their lovely berries.

Another crimson beauty of very early autumn is Itea virginica. Though it colours in late August, the vivid scarlet stays well into the autumn, holding its own with the other, perhaps better known, species not indigenous to our country. Rosa setigera, or the Michigan rose, is another good plant. Of the innumerable roses here, it is one of the quaintest and most charming, not so much for bloom alone as for dignity. Splashes of purple, green, bronze, red and yellow appear on the same bush—at times a veritable riot of colour.

Brief mention should be made of the "burning bushes," Euonymus americanus and E. atropurpureus, distinguished for their fruit rather than for their hue. The latter is usually classed as a tree, but is more properly a shrub. Its purple capsule splits open to disclose seeds of the brightest scarlet, a unique colour combination.

The spice benzoin, Lindera benzoin, and the alders, Alnus rugosa and A. incana, are excellent examples of late yellows, more or less brilliant in shading, which can well be placed near by way of contrast. And for a patch of deeper tone one might group the dangleberry, Gaylussacia frondosa, and a plant of elder, though here the shade is a rather tawny one and somewhat subdued. Blending in nicely, a bush or two of Pyrus coronaria ties in with the host of lusty thorns.

These are truly a native family. Rough and hardy, somehow reflecting the rigour of our land, with all the characteristic tenacity necessary for the carrying on of a vigorous existence, they spring up in every fence-row.

Crataegus tomentosa, C. punctata and C. mollis, though similar in late colour, have their separate individualities. C. mollis is the most desirable of them all. Close growing and compact in a fine pyramidal form, it is a joy to use for close planting or even specimen work. Loaded with scarlet apples, it stands out with brilliant orange and red leaves through sheer personality. Therefore, this shrub-like tree is by far the most popular where selection is limited.

G. G. MARSHALL.

NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE MARSH GENTIAN.

GENTIANA PNEUMONANTHE, to give it the name bestowed upon it by Linnæus over two hundred years ago, and by which it has been known ever since, is one of the most beautiful and interesting of our native plants.

The marsh gentian is found in various parts of England, but it is strictly local. As a rule it delights to grow in spongy, peaty turf, pushing its slender, erect stems through the dwarf furze and heathers. In August these stems, with their narrow, dull green leaves, break into blossom, holding upright at their tips the elegant, narrow bell-shaped flower which is streaked with beetle-green on the outside and burnished with sapphire and emerald within. But if the marsh gentian does not vary very much in the colour of its flowers (there is a white form, and a pink has been reported), it shows considerable diversity in size and habit. Generally speaking, the stems are unbranched and bear two to four flowers in a head, but I know of one "station" where very few of the plants (scattered over about an acre) have more than a solitary bloom. Then, as regards stature, one may get a range of sizes from a dwarf form of 2ins. to others of 9ins.; and then there are those splendid stalwarts of Continental sources which stand at 2ft., with blossoms some 2ins. long all along the upper half of the stem. The average height of our natives is probably about 8ins.

Given a cool or moist soil and full sun, the marsh gentian is very easily grown, proving reliably perennial and an unfailing bloomer. I like to see it coming up through other plants of a suitable kind, and among these the Grass of Parnassus, the bog pimpernel, the ivy-leaved campanula, butterworts and sundews can be recommended—and all of them are "British goods."

Though one must refrain from diving into the interesting history, botanical and legendary, of this very unique gentian, I may remind readers that it was known as the Calathian Violet to the botanists of three or four centuries ago. The word "Calathian" apparently implies a likeness of the flower to a wine-cup, while "Violet" or "Viola" was a name loosely applied to many very different plants. Old Gerard's descripton of the plant is so delightful that I must quote a line or two: "The Calathian Violet is the gift of Autumne: the other violets are of the spring: it hath a little leafe, not unlike to that of the small stock gilliflower. The flower is like a little bell cuppe, of so beautiful a colour, that it passeth the very blewe itselfe."—A. J.

AN OUT OF THE WAY PRIMULA.

AMONG the many species of primula which have of late reached our gardens from the East, there are a few which apparently do not take at all kindly to ordinary conditions in this country. One of these is P. Forrestii, a find and an introduction of Geo. Forrest. One hears many reports of the behaviour of this plant in various districts. In some it does well, in others it misbehaves, pines and ultimately dies for no apparent reason. It is a species, however, which, given a position it likes, will thrive and flower well. In the first place it is a sun lover and should be given a place on a sunny limestone wall. The more vertical the position in the wall the better it seems to do, as it must have perfect drainage, especially in the winter. A cranny or crevice in the wall is its ideal situation. Its rather stout, crinkly leaves fit snugly into the rock and in April it pushes forth a sturdy stem with a fuzzy head of glowing orange coloured flowers. Something akin to P. rufa, a species of easier culture and more hardy, when given a good position it is a free flowerer and spreads rapidly, running along the rock crevices. In spring the plants should be gone over and pressed back tightly into their "holes," because it is almost certain that the frost will have lifted them. This is a point which applies equally well to all primulas and is one which is often overlooked. It is a representative of this handsome genus which is well worth growing in every garden where the suitable position and conditions can be furnished.—T.

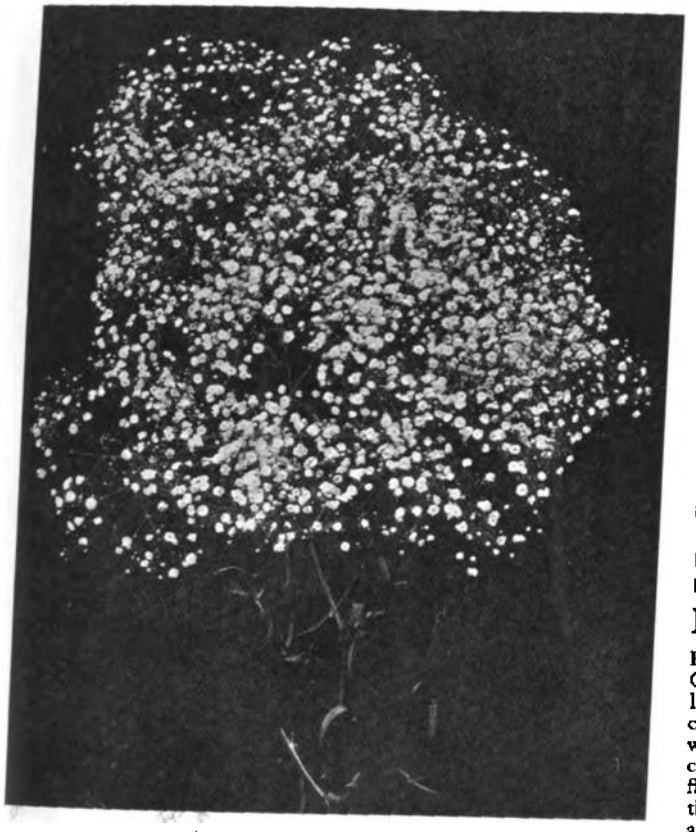
PRIMULA FORRESTII IN POSITION.

NATIVE MEADOWSWEETS.

WE have only two really indigenous meadowsweets (spiræa) and both of them are herbaceous perennials of no small garden value. The best known in the wild state, S. Ulmaria, is not an altogether desirable plant to introduce, save in the wild garden; but its double-flowered form is a very handsome subject for any moist soil or waterside, and it does not appear to seed as the typical one does all too freely. This variety makes an imposing, upright plant of some 3ft. to 4ft., with an elegant foliage and many branching stems, which terminate in dense heads of blossom. These flowers, moreover, are much whiter than those of the common single meadowsweet and, of course, they last very much longer. This is always one of the earliest of its race to bloom with me, coming into flower about mid-June and often continuing until well into August.

The other species is the dropwort, S. Filipendula, and this stands almost alone among the spiræas in preferring rather drier quarters, it being common to many limestone uplands, where the vegetation is often sparse. In good, moist garden soil S. Filipendula is liable to become gross, yielding much foliage and few flowers, but in any light, well drained stony soil, with full exposure, in the rock garden or at the front of the mixed border, it will always give a good account of itself.

Digitized by Google



THE FEATHERY SPRAYS OF THE NEW AND IMPROVED GYPSOPHILA, G. BRISTOL FAIRY.

But in this, as in the preceding species, the double form is by a long way the more attractive as a garden plant, the inflorescences being a cleaner white and more lasting. A very striking, yet refined, effect may be realised by planting the gentian blue Cynoglossum amabile, or C. Wallichii among a scattered grouping of the double dropwort.—A. T. JOHNSON.

GYPSOPHILA BRISTOL FAIRY.

OF the many new, hardy plants which have gained the A.M.R.H.S. during the last few years, there is one which deserves more than ordinary attention on the part of the amateur gardener, and that is Gypsophila Bristol Fairy.

This plant is the result of long and careful selection of seedlings of G. paniculata fl. pl., carried out by one of the leading horticulturists of America, who saw great possibilities for an improved form of the old double gypsophila. G. Bristol Fairy has a much stronger constitution and is more robust and larger in every way that the parent plant, bearing as it does much larger panicles of pure white, double flowers of exquisite beauty, the individual pips are fully three times the size of G. p. fl. pl. As a border plant it is difficult to imagine anything more effective than G. Bristol Fairy, to see the foamy mounds fully 4ft. in height is a sight not easily forgotten; it flowers at least a fortnight earlier than G. p. fl. pl. and continues to bloom until cut down by frost. Although I find it will grow in almost any soil, or position, the best results are obtained if it is grown in good rich loam well prepared and manured.

The reputation of G. p. fl. pl. as a cut flower needs no comment, but I predict that Bristol Fairy will supersede that variety in the near future. Apart from the fact that it is much earlier it also has the great advantage of throwing another crop of bloom after the main sprays are cut.

As an everlasting flower it is ideal and is almost as effective in the dried state, owing to its drying much whiter and larger than G. p. fl. pl. when at its best. I still have the original sprays which were exhibited at the R.H.S. when it received the A.M. and they are in perfect condition.

There are doubtless further possibilities with this plant, as at the moment I am making a series of experiments with the object of finding out what it will do for winter work under glass.—W. WELLS.

NIGHT-SCENTED FLOWERS.

MRS. EARLE in her "More Pot-Pourri from a Surrey Garden," quotes a letter from a Manchester business man who points out how certain night-scented flowers "throw out their precious odours and make the garden all the pleasanter and more refreshing for the night stroll after supper." There are really quite a number of these night-scented flowers. They are for the most part white so that the night-flying insects on which they depend for the fertilisation of their flowers may see them gleaming in the darkness. Many of these are not true night-scented flowers, but give out a greater perfume after nightfall. The wild white campion has quite a sweet scent at night, though this does not appear to be a matter of common knowledge. It may well be that the essential oils are distilled during the day by the heat of the sun's rays and condense at night when the source of heat is withdrawn. The true night-scented flowers are, however, those that open their flowers at night and are gone by the morning.

Sweet Rocket (Hesperis matronalis), derives its name from Hesperos, the evening star, because it becomes more fragrant as evening draws in. This old-fashioned plant was a great favourite of Marie Antoinette and it is known in France by the rather charming name of Julienne des Jardins. There is another hesperis (H. tristis), a half hardy biennial which Robinson calls the night-scented stock, but to most of us this wonderful little plant is known as Mattiola bicornis. It is best to sow this annual in little patches here and there, so that when one is strolling round the garden at night one gets little puffs of its almond perfume. The tobacco (Nicotiana affinis) is too well known to need description. It was named after Nicot, who was a French Ambassador to Portugal, for it was he who first obtained seeds from a Dutch merchant. The name tobacco as is well known comes either from Tobago in the West Indies or from Tabasco in Mexico.

The evening primrose must find a place among the night-scented flowers, though the plant has not a very pronounced perfume There is one, however, Œnothera cæspitosa which is said to give out a scent resembling Magnolia grandiflora. The roots of the œnotheras were supposed to be an incentive to the drinking of wine, and it is from this that they get their Greek name. Then there are the half hardy annual daturas which open their great cups as evening draws in and by the morning they fade away. They possess a very sweet smell and require plenty of room for development. In English they are known by the name of thorn-apples, from their great prickly pods.

By far the most interesting of all the night-scented flowers is a little inconspicuous plant, which, during the day, remains with its petals tight closed like so many little brown buttons on the stem. As night comes on, however, these open and disclose the most beautiful regular elongated heart-shaped petals of the purest white. They then give out a most delicious perfume, reminiscent of jasmine and vanilla. This plant rejoices in the name of Nicterinia selaginoides or if you do not like this, you may prefer to call it Zaluzianskya, after a seventeenth century botanist of that name.

Schizopetalon Walkeri is another imposingly named plant which comes to us from Chile. It has pure ivory white flowers which have a delicate almond scent after dark. Lastly, I may mention the yuccas, as they are particularly beautiful and odorous at night.—EDWARD CAHEN.

THE EVENING PRIMROSE SHOULD FIND A PLACE AMONG NIGHT-SCENTED FLOWERS.

Digitized by Google

NURSERIES OF THE BRITISH ISLES.—III

THE TWERTON HILL NURSERIES, BATH.

JUST as it takes all sorts to make a world, so has it taken all kinds of nurserymen to build up the horticultural world and its products as we know them to-day. Each fits into the general scheme in his own particular way. Some are specialists, others, again, are general, and all are necessary. Each, in his sphere, has contributed something towards the present high standard of excellence of British horticulture, and in that respect is entitled to praise on the part of every gardener, amateur or professional.

In the realm of specialist nurserymen, there are few firms that have done more to add beauty to our gardens in recent years than Messrs. Blackmore and Langdon of Bath. It is something of an achievement to be ranked as one of the horticultural "immortelles," with only some twenty-five years standing, yet that is what this firm has gained for themselves among horticulturists and gardeners the world over. In this country and abroad their name has become almost synonymous with their productions in the sphere of begonias, cyclamens and delphiniums, and their reputation is of the highest order as general growers and raisers of these wonderful blooms, which never fail to attract the attention of every visitor to Chelsea Show. In 1901, when the firm was founded, the main object of both partners in the firm was the growth and ultimate improvement of the tuberous begonia. This has been the main plank of the firm all these years and that they have succeeded in their aim is well known. Blackmore and Langdon's begonias are now recognised as the finest in the world and are grown all over the globe where the climatic conditions make growth possible.

Beautiful as their exhibits are at the various flower shows throughout the country, these are nothing compared to the display in their nurseries during the month of June and on until October. Here the visitor can see the growing plants, and appreciate with his own eyes the merits of the individual varieties. He can sort out and classify his ideas regarding various sorts while walking round, momentarily registering the characteristics of each kind. In that way the amateur or even the professional can reach definite conclusions as to what plants are likely to suit his particular requirements. There is no risk of deception, for the plants are selected on their face value, which is a most important point from the amateur's standpoint. Moreover, many useful hints as to cultivation are gleaned on a walk round and these will greatly assist one towards success with the plants in one's own garden.

BEGONIA LADY ANN, A MODERN VARIETY OF MESSRS. BLACKMORE AND LANGDON'S RAISING.

The Twerton Hill Nurseries have much to offer in that way. The display of begonias in the greenhouses—a magnificent sight—stands as an object lesson to all gardeners as to what can be obtained in the way of bloom from these plants. There are no half measures here, the very best is got from the plant. Naturally, this is the outcome of many patient years of selection and hybridisation, a point which the amateur is apt to overlook when purchasing plants. The stages of the greenhouse with the full complement of double-flowered begonias, presented a really wonderful colour display on our visit in June last. It is no exaggeration to say that it was one of the most pleasant and alluring assortments of brilliant shades that we have seen. From the roofs of the houses were suspended many of the leading basket varieties, which enhanced still further the general decorative effect.

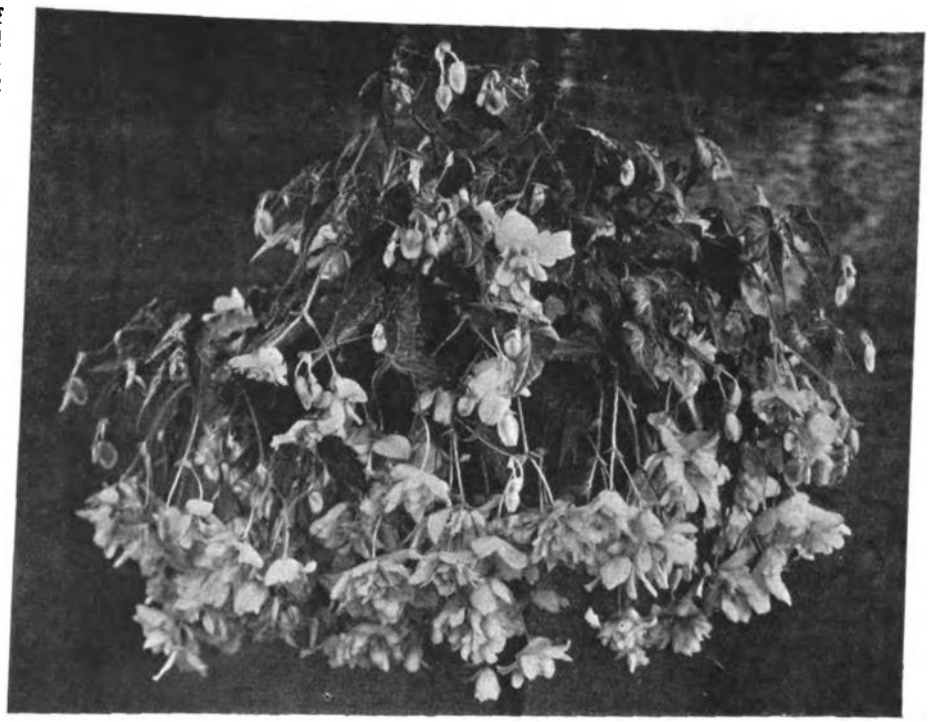
Among the basket varieties, which, by the way, are all tuberous sorts, we noted the old-fashioned Fleur de Chrysantheme, a plant of elegant habit and a profuse flowerer. It is one of the original plants which Mr. Langdon has used in the production of many of his finer varieties, in which the influence of its salmon pink colour is to be seen. All their later varieties, such as Golden Shower, a beautiful golden yellow; Eunice, a light shade of rose pink; Rose Cactus, also rose pink, with pointed petals; and Venus, pure white when fully open, represent the latest evolution in basket plants for the greenhouse or conservatory. From the display which the visitor will see at Twerton in June he will realise that they are unsurpassed for this kind of treatment. Mr. Langdon advocates growing them in flat-bottomed pans rather than in actual baskets, and the results certainly bear out his advice. Three tubers can be planted in pans of 10in. diameter and the result is a well furnished and evenly balanced hanging basket by the summer. One or two of these varieties should be included in this year's order for the sake of conservatory and house decoration next summer.

It is impossible in the short space at our disposal to give an adequate description of the many fine sorts of double begonias which we saw on our visit. The novelties, among which Mrs. E. Ramsden is outstanding, represent real advances in habit, colour and size on previous introductions, although

DELPHINIUM MILLICENT BLACKMORE, STILL ONE OF THE BEST GARDEN VARIETIES.

Digitized by Google

these are already of a high quality. All their named varieties are true to type, being raised from cuttings, and the buyer can be certain that the plants are true. On the stagings of the greenhouses is to be seen a perfect host of varieties, each seeming to outdo its neighbour in size, colour and vigour. It would seem invidious to select any for special mention, but as a guide to those who know little of the begonia, we would suggest the following as representing a few of the best sorts. Hilda Langdon, of large size and of a perfect rose colour, almost a small tree in stature when well grown; Albatross, a pure white; Lord Lambourne, deep salmon orange; Lady Ann, a delicate shell pink; Mrs. W. L. Anslie, still one of the best deep yellows; and Mrs. W. Cuthbertson, lilac rose; Sidney Robinson, a rich orange; and Peace, of a delicate creamy white. These include the pick of the begonia display, although the numerous others are not by any means far behind.



EUNICE, ONE OF THE CHOICE VARIETIES OF BASKET BEGONIAS.

About twenty years ago the delphinium was taken up as a speciality and at the present time it has almost become as great a feature of the business as the begonia. Numerous new varieties have been raised by the firm in the course of time and their success in this sphere is only too well evident by the long list of awards of merit which they have gained from the R.H.S. for their new productions and additions to the delphinium world. A walk round the seedling beds of delphiniums in the nursery is most interesting. One sees all shades of blue, mostly new blends, representing breaks from existing varieties. Combined with the new shades, however, is a great increase in the size of the individual flowers and also in the size of the "pips." In many of these new sorts the "pip" is fully 2½ins. to 3ins. across, giving the flower considerable character and boldness, being either white, brownish and sometimes almost black in colour. Almost every opalescent gradation of blue is to be seen in the modern delphinium, while the latest productions show a decided trace of pink, which although perhaps not attractive to all eyes, is nevertheless pleasant as a new break. Not only does the visitor gain considerable knowledge about the individual varieties, but what is more important from the gardening point of view, he gains some insight into what varieties can be conveniently grouped to form good colour associations. We will mention two which we saw and which in our opinion were most effective. These were three colour groupings in each case—the first of that fine variety Millicent Blackmore, Lord Derby and Blue Boy; the second of George Cochrane, Lord Derby and Blue Boy. One novelty which was brought to our notice at these nurseries was a new variety named Blue Bedder, which is most attractive and flowers at a height of some 18ins., and rarely attains more than 2ft. For those who like novelty in their bedding arrangements, this is a plant for trial.

Among the many other florists' flowers of which the firm hold noted stocks are cyclamen, polyanthus, blue primroses, schizanthus (including a fine dark coloured Wisetonensis strain) and carnations, both border and perpetual varieties.

It is a nursery of which the owners may well be proud and is one which all horticulturists and gardeners should visit if they chance to be in the West Country. They will certainly learn much of what is being done in modern horticulture and appreciate to some extent the efforts of the energetic band of specialist nurserymen, of which Messrs. Blackmore and Langdon are one of the foremost.

CORRESPONDENCE

LILIES FOR THE GARDEN.

SIR,—The article by Mr. R. G. Walter on lilies is encouraging to those who, like myself, long, but fear, to grow them; but further information would be welcome. A classification of lilies into three catagories: those which want, those which endure, and those which hate lime is of prime importance to prevent disappointment.

Next are wanted the proper dates for planting bulbs and necessary warnings as to the behaviour of various species, *e.g.*, L. candidum starts to form new roots soon after the flowers have faded, if, indeed, it is ever at rest, and for success should be as short a time as possible out of the ground and not dried.

Next, notes on propagation are desirable. Why lily bulbs should be so dear is a mystery; but dear they are, and too dear for many. Therefore the keen, but poor, gardener, who wants good clumps, must buy few and propagate for himself. Which species set seed well in our climate. Which require hand pollination. Which must be pollinated from another plant. How long the seeds of each species take to germinate and to grow to flowering bulbs. When seeds should be sown, *e.g.*, as soon as ripe or next spring.

Also notes on other methods of increase and time required to obtain flowers, *e.g.*, which species behave like L. candidum, every scale of which broken from the bulb and planted, will form a bulb and flower in about three years. What other methods are there of inducing rapid formation of bulblets?

Knowledge on these points may be readily obtainable by those who have the necessary books of reference, but a summary and a classification of the species according to cultural requirements would be helpful to many.—IGNORAMUS.

THE PROTECTION OF WILD FLOWERS.

SIR,—Although you published a letter from me on this subject on September 5th, 1925, now that another scheme has been suggested and by an M.P., may I briefly say that the formation of yet another society for the protection of our wild flowers is probably doomed to failure. There are already enough societies more or less interested in these matters, and there is a danger of too much advertisement of increasingly rare plants. We do not want to talk in public about great rarities. That is often how they get known.

Though not a few "grown-ups" need educating in this matter, a greater reverence for all beautiful things, if encouraged at our schools and in our homes, will do more good than the founding of further societies. Incidentally, the *bona fide* naturalist has become a rarity, whereas the number of scientifically trained men and especially women has increased greatly. If some of these teach botany they do not choose rare plants for demonstration or for examination purposes.

A propos the proposed legislation, it was pointed out by "P. R." in the *Westminster Gazette* of August 16th that a principal feature of the Bill is that flower hawkers are to be penalised, but that the right way to deal with them is to educate the public so that it will not buy wild flowers. "What is wanted is not fines and imprisonment," but that the hawker of wild flowers "should be found another job." It is mostly the general public, including well dressed women, who pull up bluebells by the hundred. The same writer thought fit to remark that "many nurserymen sell tame wild flowers . . . and do not hesitate to replenish them from native haunts."

There is an admirable suggestion, on page 474, by Mr. W. Howell, that in schools the boys and girls should be discouraged from collecting plants (may I add because rare), and encouraged to take notes on rambles, and that afterwards they should

Digitized by Google

write an essay on the plant associations noted on the excursions. This is not only in keeping with the modern trend of botanical teaching in Universities and secondary schools, but it should help in the composition of good English, which, like the naturalist of old, is less in evidence to-day.

But the same correspondent, who considers the "over-enthusiastic amateur collectors" the worst offenders, may be reminded that there are in Britain to-day very few collectors for the herbarium who could be accused of doing any serious damage, though, alas! I understand several Cornish rarities have suffered sadly of recent years.—H. STUART THOMPSON.

THE STAGING OF FLOWERS AND VEGETABLES.

SIR,—In the plea for more flower shows made by "R. D.," in your issue of July 31st, I notice the suggestion that vegetables be shown on black velvet. Why? Is not this material quite unsuitable for staging such things? And if one were to suggest the exhibiting of flowers against it, would not the occupation of Mr. Mould and his gloomy assistants at once come to mind? How are poor people to get black velvet? I think a dark leaf-green sateen or muslin of sufficiently heavy texture, excellent background for fine vegetables, and far more in place than a material which properly belongs to a jeweller's window.

As we are to have on this small place of two acres a town flower show within the next week, I am especially interested now in this subject. Our classes for this show number only eleven. For each class there are a prize and two ribbons, and among the prizes are such things as kneeling mats all of rubber, and jars and vases of beautiful form and colour. The flower show is becoming very general throughout America, and it is interesting to see how many banks in smaller cities open their foyers for such shows, often of special flowers, such as the peony or the gladiolus.—(Mrs.) FRANCIS KING, *Alma, Michigan.*

NATURAL REGENERATION AMONG GARDEN PLANTS.

SIR,—Last year Viburnum rhytidophyllum fruited here for the first time, and to-day I was amazed to see the ground beneath it crowded with seedlings. It seems very strange to me that most shrubs and plants reproduce themselves in these gardens so easily without any trouble.

Gunnera manicata and G. scabra, elæagnus, cotoneasters, pentstemons, ericas, cistus, bays, Abutilon vitifolium, berberis, Eucalyptus globulus, Lonicera nitida and even daffodils are a few, taken at random, which come up where one least expects to see them. Doronicum austriacum has proved itself a weed in the woodland, together with the foxgloves.

I think such must be exceptional, and wonder why these plants are so prolific here. I should feel glad if any reader could suggest a reason.—R. MOORE, *Thorpe Hall, Essex.*

"GARDENING WITHOUT A GARDEN."

SIR,—The following have done well with me:

Gentiana verna.—I find this the most accommodating alpine imaginable. Possibly I have got a good strain as I find it flowers freely in all aspects and in any soil (stiff clay, gravel, pure peat, ordinary stones and nothing else, and bulb fibre). During absence, in the winter, it can be left bone dry, and in the summer the pot can stand in a pan of water till return.

Androsace sarmentosa.—Also very good, though its habit is rather too spreading for a pot, as it prefers ramping through aubrietias and dwarf phloxes. It also can be allowed to dry off in the winter and in the summer a good soaking will last for a month.

Soldanella alpina.—Pot culture seems to be the only thing it likes here, though S. montana flowers well outdoors.

Ramondia pyrenaica.

Rock primulas.—Auricula, hirsuta, hybrids of course all do well.

Dianthus.—Ditto, but almost too well to be interesting.

Campanula pusilla.

I think you will find that alpines do not object to soot. It can always be washed off. The exception, perhaps, is Gentiana acaulis. Here it makes great mats, but only produces about two flowers per square foot. Why? When verna covers itself with flowers! And yet the latter is always spoken of as if it was difficult, and sheets of glass and other abominations are recommended. Incidentally they are also recommended for Androsaces sarmentosa and lanuginosa, but are totally unnecessary.—H. SWANN, *Wimbledon.*

PICKING AND STORING APPLES

ALTHOUGH the apple crop this year will not be a heavy one, most people who are fortunate enough to possess a few trees of such varieties as Worcester Pearmain, Charles Ross and King of Tompkins County will be picking quite a good sample of fruit if attention has been paid to proper cultural details, such as feeding, spraying, thinning and summer pruning.

There are several points regarding picking which I should like to mention, for I have found that many amateurs have little idea of when to pick fruit. In the majority of cases the best test as to whether an apple is fit for picking is to lift the fruit upwards so as to bend the stalk. If then the apple parts readily, the fruit is fit for gathering. With most of the mid-season varieties the whole of the crop can be gathered at once, but with early varieties more care is necessary, as these do not ripen so regularly, and most of them are far better if eaten as soon as picked.

Lady Sudeley is quite a good dessert apple for its season if eaten as picked, and the fruit ripens over a period of ten to fourteen days. Beauty of Bath is very prone to dropping before quite ripe, and I always advise a bed of litter under these trees to prevent any apples which fall from bruising. From August until mid-September apples will be picked as they ripen, but on the approach of frost more care must be taken. I have seen some of the very latest apples, notably Sturmer Pippin, hanging on the trees in December without apparently suffering any harm from frosts, but Lane's Prince Albert will drop most of its fruit after one sharp frost, so that when a frost is expected this variety should be picked at once. One peculiarity of this latter variety is that even when carefully picked many of the fruits appear to be bruised slightly when being graded. I have carefully watched these apples and have found that these slight bruises recover, there being no discoloured flesh or rotting in store. Of course, I should never think of storing badly bruised fruits.

That brings me to another detail—care in picking. Last year one of the daily papers published a photograph of a scene in a commercial orchard showing apples being picked into sieves and then thrown into barrels for marketing. Well, that method may do for poor quality fruit which is to be sold quickly, but I would be sorry to see any apples of mine treated in such a way.

After all the care and trouble which has been bestowed on the trees, it always seems a great pity to me to be careless in handling the fruit. Surely it does not take much longer to pick carefully and place in a basket and then grade them in the fruit-room before placing in the trays in which they are to be stored. Of course, in the grading, all misshapen, diseased and under-sized fruits should be placed on one side for immediate use.

As to storing the fruit, those who possess a properly constructed fruit-room will have no difficulty in this matter, but those not so fortunately placed need not despair, for I have kept fruit perfectly in a disused stable, in a cellar and in boxes in an outhouse.

The worst place to keep apples is in a loft where the air is very dry and the temperature fluctuates suddenly. The ideal store will be dark, cool and slightly moist—not wet—but just moist enough to prevent shrivelling. The best fruit-rooms are built partly underground. When I say that the place should be cool and of equable temperature, I do not mean that the place should be airtight, for a certain amount of fresh air is essential to the health and keeping qualities of the fruit, as many shipowners have discovered to their cost.

For those who have only a few apples to store, boxes or barrels are very satisfactory if the fruits are *packed* in them and not simply dumped in roughly. The later keeping varieties I prefer to wrap in paper before packing in the boxes. Newspaper serves quite well, although oiled paper has, in recent experiments, proved superior. When more experience in the use of these oiled paper wraps has been obtained I hope to be able to say more about them. For the present, I content myself with saying that I have had excellent results with newspaper.

One often hears of apples shrivelling in store. There are two likely causes of this, the first being too dry a store-room and the second picking too early. I cannot give any dates for picking, as these vary with different soils, varying parts of the country and our changeable seasons.

Finally, the principal things to remember are—not to pick before the fruits are ready and to handle all fruits carefully.

N. D. H.

Digitized by Google

THE FLOWER GARDEN

WALLFLOWERS—WHEN GROWTH SHOULD BE HINDERED.

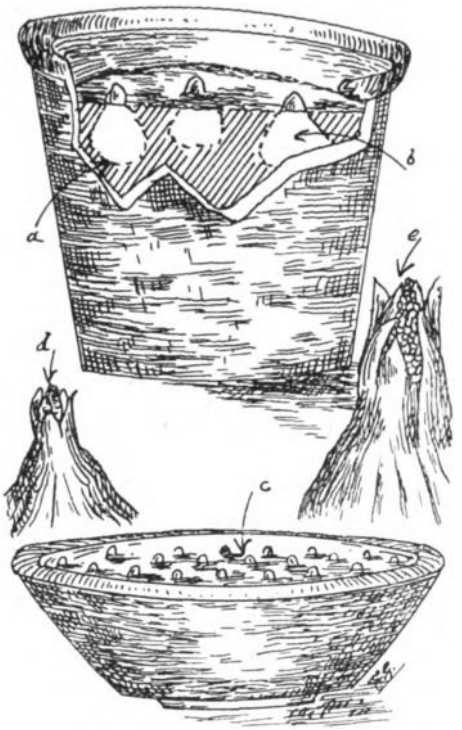
AS a general rule, June is quite soon enough to sow seeds of wallflowers in most districts, but in many localities, whether from fear of being late or a desire to get seed sowing over, one notices that sowings are made in the first or second week in May. This is not all; the seed bed is sometimes one which was manured for a crop previously and, as a consequence of this and to their being given a generous soil where pricked out for the summer, September finds the plants (especially should a spell of wet weather intervene), abnormally large.

Size is no criterion of strength in the matter of wallflowers, and plants, which to some people appear to be very promising because of their forward state, are in reality not so, as invariably they are the first to feel the effects of a sharp frost or two, which kills the centre shoot, and before the winter has far advanced, the borders have the appearance of plants which might have been treated to hot water and been scalded.

Stiff, compact, shrubby plants of moderate size are always preferable to larger ones, among which there is more likelihood of failures. The question which suggests itself in September in the case of over-large, exuberant plants of wallflowers, is whether it is possible to retard them for a time and so miss much of the risk of havoc by frost. My experience prompts me to answer in the affirmative. Most of us who grow wallflowers endeavour, I imagine, to get them into their final quarters, either just before, or just after bulb planting has been done in November. Between now and that time, it is possible to backen or retard them, so that when shifted finally, they will not be leggy or too robust. It can be done in this way: Lift these large specimens and replant them in the same place; they may, and probably will, flag for a few days, but will recover. It will stop them in their career, and to use a common expression, "they will stiffen," but by spring will be strong and bloom as well as those more compact. This plan was forced upon me years ago, after previous failures, but I have learned since that so far as I am concerned, the first, or even the second week in June is early enough for the sowing of wallflower seeds; furthermore, I have come to the conclusion that manured ground is more likely to hinder than help the grower in the long run; that, as a matter of fact, manure is not needed at all! As with some other garden flowering plants, plain living in the case of these, the sweetest of spring flowers, meets their case, and is sufficient to ensure a profusion of blossoms from plants in the picture of health.—CLAREMONT.

BULBS IN POTS AND BOWLS.

MANY kinds of bulbs are very accommodating and may be grown where there is not any garden, if suitable receptacles and soil can be obtained, and light windows are available in a dwelling house. Hard-forced bulbs are not very satisfactory when there are flowers—not very rich in colour—and only puny leaves. Of course, there is a suitable compost, sweet and clean, that nearly all florists sell at a reasonable price, and this compost can be placed in the bowls or flower pots direct and the bulbs planted forthwith. But there is another way of doing these things, namely, potting or boxing the bulbs in the usual way, plunging them under sand or ashes in the open air or a cold frame and lifting, potting or placing in the bowls when they have made a few inches of growth. Associated with tiny ferns in large bowls—somewhat shallow—quite a miniature bulb garden may be created in a few days in the hall or dwelling room. The growing bulbs when ready, are lifted with tufts of compost adhering to the roots and carefully replanted in the pots or bowls and, with ordinary care, they will continue to grow and flower well in due course. At *a* and *b* bulbs are shown potted in a large pot; and at *c* they are shown newly placed in a bowl. Empty, inverted pots may be placed on these till new leaves appear and not be taken out of the house. At *d* a crown is shown malformed from under



course ashes; at *e* one is shown growing normally, taken from beneath an empty covering pot.

THE GREENHOUSE

PLANTS TO WINTER ON GREENHOUSE SHELVES.

DURING the dull days of winter the shelves in the hothouse are in the lightest part of it. On shelves plants are less liable to damp off than they are on stages lower down or on the floor. So we should select the most succulent stemmed and leaved ones for placing on shelves; also those that thrive best in a sunny position. Schizanthus plants are delightful in spring and to secure the best specimens then we should place the plants on warm, sunny shelves during the winter, where they will also receive ample ventilation. Many people still have a fondness for zonal pelargoniums as summer bedding-out plants. The chief drawback in their case is their liability to damp off in the winter unless they are grown in well heated structures. The shelf is the best position for all autumn-struck cuttings. There are lower shelves as well as high ones and on these marguerites and lobelia, heliotrope and young fuchsias will do splendidly. While older cyclamen are better on stages, young ones do best on shelves. Primulas, cinerarias and calceolarias are all suitable subjects for the cool shelf. When bulbs are taken from the ashes and cold frames, they do very well indeed on shelves about 15ins. or 18ins. from the roof-glass. Crassula coccinea does well on shelves high up and sunny. Then there are the plants that are needed to furnish shelves so that they will form a part of the general ornamental arrangement. For this purpose Isolepis gracilis and Panicum variegatum are suitable for shelves in a greenhouse and Tradescantia zebrina and Asparagus Sprengeri are for shelves in a stove temperature.—G. G.

CALCEOLARIAS FOR THE FLOWER GARDEN.

THESE are not grown as generally now as in former years, but there are many lovers of the pure golden flowers who grow plants regularly every year, as I have observed. One drawback to the growth of the plants is the liability of many to die off suddenly about mid-summer or a little later and so cause gaps in the beds. This trouble, however, can be avoided. In the first place the cuttings should be inserted in a sandy bed of soil—three parts sand—in a cold frame in September. The right cuttings are those taken off as side slips as near the base of the plant as possible. When the cuttings are inserted they must be watered and shaded till a callus forms, as rarely do roots form before the month of February, then they grow rapidly. This condition of each plant is easily ascertained as the points begin to grow. In due course 1in. should be pinched off to cause side shoots to form. Of course, where spring bedding-out is the rule the borders will not be available before the end of May and calceolarias must be planted when the other subjects are. But to be quite successful with them and avoid loss through early dying off at the soil level, the plants should be finally planted out early in April in the south and near the end of the month in the north. Plant just as deeply as when they were inserted as cuttings. By the middle of June the plants will be well established and continue to grow throughout the summer.—HANTS.

IXORAS.

VERY few stove plants are more valuable for either decorative or exhibition purposes than are ixoras. As small plants with from one to half a dozen trusses of bloom, few plants can excel them during their period of flowering; while as large specimens, with rich, deep green foliage and noble heads of fragrant flowers, they present a most imposing appearance.

Ixoras cannot be successfully grown unless a high temperature and moist atmosphere can be given during the summer, which is their growing season.

They are readily propagated from cuttings made of short-jointed, half-ripened wood, about 6ins. in length and inserted firmly in small thumb pots in a mixture consisting of leaf-soil, peat, a little fibrous loam and a liberal proportion of sharp silver sand. Plunge the cuttings in bottom heat in a propagating case and very soon roots will be emitted. When ready, transfer to pots a little larger, and eventually into 5in. pots, using a compost similar to that described for the cuttings. Well grown plants in this size pot are useful for table decoration, while medium sized plants with six or seven trusses of flower are of use for many decorative purposes.

The next shift from the 5in. should be into a 6in. pot and future moves must be at the discretion of the grower, according to

Digitized by Google

the size of the plants he requires, but large shifts should be avoided as this results in sour soil and unhealthy plants. When potting these plants it is essential that ample drainage should be provided.

During the growing season afford plenty of heat and syringe frequently. A little liquid manure may be given when the plants are established. Any very vigorous shoots should be stopped.

Should fly, thrip or mealy bug make an appearance, sponging or vaporising must be at once resorted to.

This treatment should continue with shade from bright sun until September when the plants should be placed near the glass in full light and syringing gradually discontinued. The supply of water may also be lessened, but never to cause flagging. The object of this treatment is to ripen the wood formed during the summer.

From October to February reduce watering and the temperature may fall to 60 degrees or 55 degrees, as this is the resting period. About March increase the temperature by degrees to 75 degrees or 80 degrees, and, of course, watering at the root must be increased as growth commences. Use the syringe freely until the blooms show, then maintain a drier atmosphere and a cooler temperature to preserve the flower.—T. H. E., *Kew.*

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

PREPARING GROUND FOR FRUIT TREES.

IF the intending fruit grower fully realised the importance of thorough soil preparation necessary for successful fruit culture, he would not hesitate to spend time and money on the work. Fruit trees are not like lettuces or even strawberries, which occupy the ground for a few weeks or three years in the case of the latter at the outside; they are expected to remain fruitful for many years. Soil improvement can be effected after planting, certainly, but the foundation must be laid before any trees are planted. Planting should be carried out from October 20th to the end of November, where the conditions of the soil and other matters permit. Trees planted then are much superior in growth afterwards than those planted in spring. During the month of September the soil should be trenched quite 3ft. deep; it does not matter how light the soil may be, it is advisable to trench it and then allow it some time to settle down before the trees are planted in it. The planting, too, should be done while the soil is fairly dry, if possible. In the case of orchards where trees are grown in plantation form, the whole of the soil should be trenched. Where isolated trees are grown, as is mostly the case in small and suburban gardens, a space quite 6ft. in diameter should be dealt with in this way. Some soil should be taken out to the required depth, the remainder trenched and that first taken out placed in to fill up. Thoroughly break up the sub-soil and leave it below; if there are stones in the ground, leave them there; on the top let the soil remain lumpy, it will crumble in due course. At least one peck of wood ashes should be mixed with the surface portion for each tree.—GEO. GARNER.

THE PARASITIC "SUCKER."

THERE are few grafted fruit trees that are not subject to the development of "suckers," at the roots or upon the bole of the stem just under or above the soil—this is especially the case as the tree grows older. The state of the soil, the stock upon which the tree is grafted, and neglect by the owner are other influential factors in the production of unwanted shoots. The latter are a source of danger to the tree, not only from the fact that they represent efforts of the wild stock to assert itself but they harbour and assist insects in their attacks upon the tree. If mildew or American blight attacks the tree, it will probably be the "suckers" upon which the disease is first introduced. Left to themselves, the root "sucker" shoots will multiply and flourish

A COLONY OF "SUCKERS" WITH A ROOTING SYSTEM ALL THEIR OWN.

for several years around the tree, to its great detriment; while those springing from the tree above ground will eventually dominate and kill the fruit-bearing branches.

It is essential, whether these things happen or not, to remove "suckers" of any kind from fruit trees. I have noted many instances

THE MASS OF SHOOTS AND ROOTS CAN BE REMOVED BY A CLEAN CUT FROM A SHARP SPADE.

where their presence has been ignored. Other cases occur where the "suckers" are simply cut out with a knife, maybe just below the surface of the soil, the user of the knife thinking he has got rid of the nuisance; but he is woefully mistaken every time, and under such treatment "sucker" removal becomes a regular yearly operation.

It is best to get down to the root of the matter—literally and practically—and eradicate the trouble once for all. Excavate the soil around the affected tree in the neighbourhood of the "sucker" colony, exposing all its ramifications, and it will be found that a long-standing growth has a root system quite independent of the tree, and of no use to the tree. It of little use to remove the shoot without its roots, therefore cutting out is waste of time.

If the excavation is done carefully, none of the proper roots of the tree need receive injury. It may be found that there are but few tree roots around the "sucker"-infested spot, the "sucker" roots having taken full possession.

When the earth around the "sucker" mass has been removed, it will be seen how and where the mischief has started and the place where the "sucker" is attached to the tree stem. The blade of a sharp spade inserted between the trunk and the mass of roots will make a quick, clean and complete severance. If the cut is not even, however, it should be trimmed with a sharp knife. Around it afterwards, in place of the "suckers," will probably form a mass of fibrous roots that will nourish the tree and make it fruitful.

It often happens that a long, thong-like root will turn its end up towards the surface of the soil and push through as a "sucker." It is best to dig and track this offending root to its junction with the tree and clear it out of the way without mercy. This applies even more to rose trees.

After removal of the "suckers" fill in the hole with good soil and place over the roots a mulch of rotten manure to encourage the formation of fibrous roots of good character. —H. A. DAY.

SPINACH BEET.

THIS most useful green-top vegetable came through the last winter splendidly. The roots were, naturally, very much depleted of any sign of greenery, but they remained, nevertheless, sound, and as the days begun to lengthen new growth soon showed itself in the form of a host of young leaves. For some time now fairly heavy gatherings of this foliage have been made, and will continue to be so, the leafage being in constant demand as a green vegetable. Later on this kind of spinach will give place to what is known as summer prickly spinach —a choicer production than the former. There is also a winter type of prickly spinach, but it is not hardy enough to withstand severe winters on cold soils—hence our resorting to spinach beet, or perpetual spinach as it is sometimes termed. As much of the usual winter green stuff often gets badly crippled in prolonged cold, damp winters, it is a wonder this leaf-beet is not more relied upon, for no matter how harshly the winter deals with its tops, the rootstocks always come through unscathed and are quickly refurnished as the winter passes. It is this feature which makes spinach beet a substantial help in the kitchen during the early days of the year when other vegetables are on the wane. To be thus available seed should be sown in August or early September. —C. TURNER.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

Messrs. Dicksons, Limited, Chester. An illustrated catalogue of choice and selected flowering bulbs. Vegetable seeds for autumn sowing, garden tools and requisites are also listed.

FOREIGN.

Messrs. Walter Blom and Son, Limited, Hillegom, Holland. A catalogue of Dutch bulbs of all kinds. Numerous varieties of narcissi and tulips of every type are included, and the hints on the positions in which each variety should be planted and their adaptability will be found most helpful.

Digitized by Google

PLANT CARNATIONS NOW FOR BEST RESULTS

Our stocks of plants ex 3½in. pots for prompt delivery are the finest obtainable. Each of the undermentioned collections is exceptional value.

ALLWOODII (half Pink, half Carnation).—The popular hardy plant—grows anywhere and flowers from spring to winter.

6 Plants in good variety 5/6
12 " " " 10/6
" " " 20/-
Carriage Paid.

BORDER CARNATIONS.—We grow only the best proved hardy Garden Kinds, from which you are certain to get satisfaction.

6 Plants in good variety 8/6
12 " " " 16/6
" " " 30/-
Carriage Paid.

HARDY PERPETUAL BORDER CARNATIONS—the old Carnations' charm, the new Carnations' freedom. Well cultivated, they produce masses of flower from early Summer to Autumn.

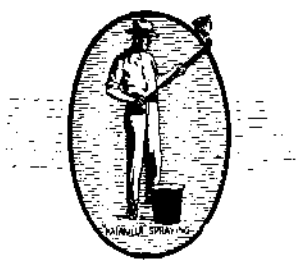
6 Plants in good variety 8/6
12 " " " 16/6
Carriage Paid.

ORDER NOW FOR PROMPT DELIVERY—or write for illustrated Catalogue, post free on request to

Allwood Bros

The leading Carnation Raisers and Specialists in the World.

Dept. 4, **Hayward's Heath, Sussex**



KATAKILLA

The Popular Insecticide.

NON-POISONOUS

Harmless to human beings and domestic animals.

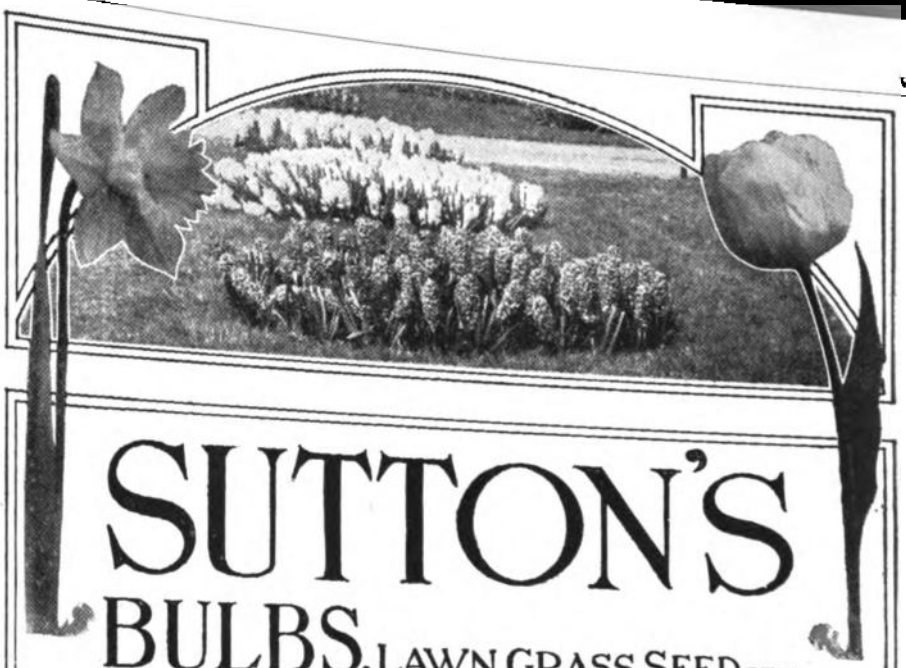
DEADLY TO APHIS AND CATERPILLARS ON FRUIT, FLOWERS & VEGETABLES.

In powder form, ready for mixing with water.
2/- Cartons (to make 10 gallons).
6/- Cartons (to make 50 gallons).

OF ALL AGENTS

COOPER, McDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, BERKHAMSTED, LTD.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*



SUTTON'S BULBS, LAWN GRASS SEED ETC.

HYACINTHS TULIPS
NARCISSI CROCUS
and all Spring-flowering Bulbs

TOP SIZE ONLY.
TRUE TO NAME.

LAWN GRASS SEED
and all Specialities for Turf

SUTTON & SONS,
Bulb Specialists, **READING.**

Cut out this Coupon and send for
"SUTTON'S BULBS for 1926"
POST FREE.

Name .....
Address .....
Gn. 1 .....

CHARLESWORTH'S

World-Renowned Champion

ORCHIDS

The largest Hybridisers, Raisers, Growers and Exporters in the World, and Winners of Highest Honours obtainable.

Expert advice given on all matters appertaining to the Cult, and descriptive Catalogue free on application

CHARLESWORTH & CO. LTD.
HAYWARD'S HEATH

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

"FERRY" BRAND

Regd. Trade Mark

BULB MANURE

is both a Plant Food and a Soil Pest Destroyer

THE "Ferry" Bulb Manure is the result of many years of experiment where bulbs are grown to perfection. It is composed of all the constituents required for the healthy growth of bulbs. It acts as a soil pest destroyer, and ensures freedom for the bulbs from all insect and fungoid pests, which are the cause of so many failures.

In the open, use 2 to 3 ozs. per square yard when preparing the soil, for pots work ½ to ¾ lb. to each bushel of soil.

PRICES—Carriage Paid, for cash with order—
7-lbs. 2/-; 14-lbs. 3/9; 28-lbs. 7/-;
56-lbs. 13/-; 1-cwt. 22/-

Agents wanted throughout England for "Ferry" Specialities.

The BRITON FERRY CHEMICAL & MANURE Co., Ltd. (Dept. E), Briton Ferry, S. Wales. (Est. 1886).

CHEAPER IN PRICE

CORRY'S RED SPIDER DEATH

REGISTERED NO. 446881.

STRENGTH INCREASED

For Peaches, Cucumbers, Carnations, Vines, &c.

Kills Red Spiders as effectively as Corry's White Fly Death kills White Fly. *Non-poisonous.*

Wonderful reports received from some of the largest users and growers in Great Britain and the Channel Islands.

1/6	2/6	4/6	9/-	15/-	27/-	63/-	120/-
½-pt.	1 pt.	1 qt.	½-gal.	1 gal.	2 gals.	5 gals.	10 gals.

Sold by Nurserymen, Seedsmen and Florists.

CORRY'S SAFE AND SURE WASP NEST DESTROYER

Non-Poisonous, yet more effective than Cyanide.

2	6	20	40 Nests
7d.	1/4	3/6	6/6

From Seedsmen and Chemists

CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

HILL & SMITH, Ltd.,

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS,

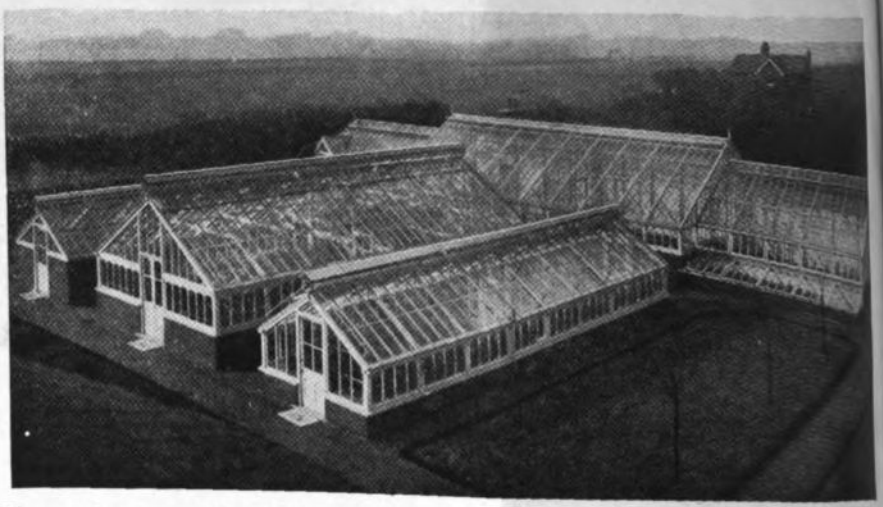
Makers of

IRON FENCING, HURDLES, GATES, WIRE NETTING AND GARDEN IRONWORK

Other Products—Hay and Grain Sheds, Dutch Barns, Galvanized Corrugated Sheets and Structural Steelwork.

Catalogues free on mentioning this paper.

London: 300, Abbey House, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1



Boulton & Paul *for* Modern Glasshouses

THE above illustration shows a typical range of Boulton & Paul Glasshouses. Our Catalogue includes an extensive series of designs to choose from, but special requirements always receive careful attention.

The service of an expert staff of Designers is always at disposal of clients and we are ready to advise on any subject. A representative will be sent by appointment to consult and prepare schemes for any kind of Horticultural Work.

Ask for our free Catalogue No. 742.

Trays for storing Fruit or Potatoes—a Speciality. Ask for Leaflet G. 196. Examples of B. & P. Greenhouses and Garden Frames may be seen at our London Showrooms.

Boulton & Paul Ltd

Telegrams: BOULTON NORWICH **NORWICH** Telephone NORWICH 851 (5 lines)

LONDON OFFICE: 135-137, QUEEN VICTORIA ST. E.C.

Telegrams: Boutique Cent London Telephone 4642 Cent

"Garden Frames" *by A. J. Macself.* **Price 6d. Post Free.** This book is not a catalogue but a practical treatise on utility and purposes of Garden Frames of all kinds. Send 6d. in stamps to Dept. G.

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

By Appointment

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

Fancy Fern Pans and Bulb Bowls, from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD., *Royal Potteries,* BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

THOSE ODD JOBS

Learn how to do them Yourself . .

THE HOUSE DOCTOR

By R. Randal Phillips

2/6 net.

"COUNTRY LIFE" LIBRARY, 20, *Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2*

SELECTED DUTCH BULBS

JOHN B. VANDERSCHOOT,

***The Old Established Bulb Farms,* HILLEGOM, HOLLAND**

ESTABLISHED 1830.

Own extensive Bulb Farms (comprising over 400 acres) of Hyacinths, Tulips, Narcissi and Daffodils, Crocuses, Irises, &c.

Richly illustrated descriptive Catalogue free on application.

Digitized by Google

BULBS

We invite immediate application for our

BULB CATALOGUE,

knowing that the very fine quality of our bulbs enables us to offer exceptionally good value for money.

Send for a copy of the BULB CATALOGUE at once.

Bakers
SEED AND FLOWER FARM
CODSALL
Near Wolverhampton

WARNING!

SPECIAL STATEMENT BY RYDERS, ST. ALBANS

e strongly advise all Bulb growers to apply at once for Ryders 26 Bulb Catalogue, now ready, for distribution and on no count to place their order for bulbs until they have had an portunity of comparing Ryders Prices with those of other ading British Bulb Merchants.

ring to large purchases Ryders have once again secured the k of the new season Bulbs and are able to offer first grade lbs at extremely favourable prices, in addition to Special llections at Special Prices which are a practical and money ving feature of the new Bulb Catalogue.

e warn our Customers to ignore the many tempting lb Offers now being posted from abroad. Many such lbs are of inferior quality and are likely to cause intense appointment when flowering time arrives.

ake sure that your bulbs are reliable and true to strain. Buy ders Beautiful Bulbs at Popular Prices.

RYDERS 1926 BULB CATALOGUE

(fully illustrated)

he Ryder Bulb Catalogue includes a full list of all the popular d new varieties, and is a comprehensive guide to Bulb growing. is fully illustrated.

Send for Your ***Copy To-day.***

Ryders
RYDER & SON (1920), LTD.
(Dept. 11),
Seed and Bulb Specialists,
St. Albans

MORE ABOUT THE SOUTHPORT SHOW

ROSES.

IN conjunction with the Southport Floral Fête, the National Rose Society held their Jubilee Show. The standard of the roses exhibited reached a very high average. They were, indeed, considered by many to be the finest ever staged in the provinces at this time of the year.

Messrs. S. McGredy and Son had some good seedling roses, three of which, named Sir David Davis, Portadown Yellow and Patience, received certificates of merit. Another seedling rose, named Mrs. G. A. Wheatcroft, was shown by Messrs. Wheatcroft Bros. Margaret Bulkeley, a flesh pink variety, shown by Mr. S. Dickson, was awarded a silver-gilt medal. Messrs. Bees exhibited two beautiful varieties, J. C. Thornton (scarlet) and Hon. Violet Douglas Pennant (blush). Princess Charming was one of the good new varieties exhibited by Mr. T. Hancock. Both Mr. Elisha Hicks and Mr. George Prince's had magnificent displays of well grown roses. Clovelly, one of the best pink bedding roses; W. F. Dreer, a golden yellow rose, delicately shaded with deep peach; and Joanna Bridge, with its straw yellow blooms, were three varieties in excellent condition shown by Mr. Hicks. Angele Pernet, with its vivid orange yellow blooms and glossy green foliage, was outstanding among Mr. Prince's roses. Messrs. Wheatcroft Bros. had fine blooms of Shot Silk, Lady Inchiquin and the pure white Mrs. Herbert Stevens. Almost every exhibitor included Betty Uprichard in his collection. Mr. Robinson among his exhibit of decorative roses, had a particularly good group of this variety. Mr. Gregory staged a splendid collection of autumn roses, many of which such as George Dickson, were in perfect condition. Roses were also shown by Messrs. Dobbie and Co., and some beautiful baskets of roses were arranged by Mr. T. Smith, Mr. J. Mattlock and Mr. H. Drew.

ORCHIDS.

Among the gorgeous display of greenhouse plants, the orchid groups attracted particular attention. Most of the orchid specialists, such as Messrs. J. and A. McBean, Messrs. Charlesworth, Messrs. Stuart Low and Messrs. Sanders, all brought interesting collections and a number of good new varieties. Messrs. J. and A. McBean won the Challenge Trophy for the third time. Beautiful blooms of Cattleya aurea and C. Enid alba were to be seen in their stand. Lælio-Cattleya Carmencita, a fine hybrid, was shown by Messrs. Sanders. Several awards were given to Messrs. Charlesworth's orchids, and among them were Miltonia William Tell and Lælio-Cattleya Marina. Cattleya Suavior var. Excelson, shown by Messrs. Stuart Low was awarded a first-class certificate.

In the amateur section Mr. Adamson excelled and gained a number of awards for his fine orchids. The amateur trophy went to Mr. G. V. Llewellyn, whose orchid exhibit was excellent, and for a group of orchids the Hon. George Vestey won the first place.

TROPHIES.

The People Trophy, for most meritorious non-competitive exhibit.—King's Acre Nurseries.

Sir John Brunner Trophy for most meritorious competitive exhibit.—Messrs. J. Cypher and Sons.

Southport Corporation Trophy for best rock or water garden.—Messrs. T. R. Hayes and Son.

Southport Cinema and Variety Theatres' Trophy for best group of miscellaneous and fine foliage, in Class 2.—Messrs. J. Cypher and Sons.

Rowntree Trophy for best collection of tree or perpetual-flowering carnations.—C. Engelmann, Limited.

J. P Rudolf Trophy for best collection of tree or perpetual-flowering carnations in Class 6.—Messrs. Keith, Luxford and Co.

Southport Boarding and Apartment House Proprietors' Association Trophy.—W. H. Woolman.

Sir Albert Stephenson Trophy for best collection of gladioli, primulinus, or primulinus hybrids only, in Class 9.—Bees, Limited.

Southport Chamber of Trade Trophy for best group of herbaceous, etc., plants and flowers or cut blooms of annuals, etc.—Bees, Limited.

Councillor Hartley Trophy for best exhibit of orchids in Class 14.—Messrs. J. and A. McBean.

Messrs. Clay and Son Trophy for best display of violas and/or pansies in Class 15.—J. H. Milner.

Messrs. Thompson Brothers, Southport, Trophy for best exhibit of sweet peas in Class 24.—Messrs. Herd Brothers.

Southport Hotels and Hydros Trophy for best decorated table of fruit in Class 36.—The Duke of Newcastle.

Mayor of Southport's (Councillor E. Hadfield) piece of silver plate for best exhibit of twelve bunches of grapes in Class 37.—The Duke of Newcastle.

Hon. G. E. Vestey Trophy for best exhibit of orchids in Class 78.—G. V. Llewelyn.

Mrs. J. Rayner Batty (Southport) Trophy for best exhibit of sweet peas in Class 97.—J. A. Grigor.

Southport and District Licensed Victuallers' Association Trophy for best collection of vegetables in Class 239.—W. Robinson.

AWARDS TO NON-COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS.

Large Gold Medals.—Messrs. James Carter and Co., for lilies, etc.; King's Acre Nurseries, for fruit trees in pots; Messrs. Isaac House and Son, for scabious; Messrs. Charlesworth and Co., for orchids; Messrs. J. Peed and Son, for stove and greenhouse plants; Messrs. W. H. Simpson and Sons, for hardy flowers; Messrs. Sutton and Sons, for gladioli; the Hon. Vicary Gibbs, Aldenham, for vegetables; Mr. W. J. Unwin, for gladioli; and Messrs. Dickson and Robinson, for dahlias.

Gold Medals.—Cheadle Mental Hospital, for a miscellaneous group; Messrs. Daniel Brothers, for hardy flowers; Messrs. Dobbie and Co., for dahlias and potatoes; Messrs. E. Fairbairn and Sons, for phloxes; Mr. H. J. Jones, Lewisham, for phloxes; Messrs. Mahood Brothers; Messrs. L. R. Russell, for clematis; Messrs. T. Rivers and Son, for fruit; Mr. T. Smith, Newry, for hardy flowers; and Messrs. Alex. Dickson and Sons, for roses.

Silver-gilt Medals.—Messrs. Allwood Brothers, for carnations; Messrs. Backhouse, for alpine plants; Messrs. Blackmore and Langdon, for delphiniums; Mr. H. Clark, for hardy flowers; Mr. Robert Hayes, for alpine plants; Mr. Johnson; Messrs. Kelway and Son, for gladioli; Messrs. Stuart Low and Co., for carnations and orchids; Messrs. Maxwell and Beale, for hardy plants; Mr. Amos Perry, for aquatics; Mr. E. J. Rigg, for alpines; Messrs. Toogood and Sons, for gladioli; Messrs. Sutton Brothers, for orchids; Messrs. Webb and Sons, for gladioli, etc.; Mr. W. Wells, jun., for hardy flowers; Messrs. Wood and Ingram; Messrs. Waterer, Sons and Crisp, for hardy flowers; and Mr. John Forbes, for pentstemons and phloxes.

Digitized by Google

GARDENING OF THE WEEK

FOR SOUTHERN GARDENS.

THE FLOWER GARDEN.

For fine bold groups the eremuri have few equals, and some should be grown in every garden of reasonable dimensions. Now is the time to make a start, and old clumps may be divided. These plants enjoy a sandy loam and should be placed at the back of the border, where their tall massive spikes will be most effective. The roots ought not to be exposed any longer than is really necessary.

Sweet Peas.—About the middle of this month seeds may be sown, and from this sowing fine sprays of flowers can be expected in due season. Sow thinly in pots or boxes and winter the plants in a cold frame, admitting air both day and night when the weather is mild. Keep a watch for mice and slugs.

General Remarks.—The shoots of border carnations layered some weeks ago will soon be ready to take up a separate existence. When they are severed from the old plant, they can either be potted up and wintered in a cold frame, or placed in their final quarters. The latter is the best plan in country districts, and the soil should be improved by adding old mortar rubble and well seasoned soot.

Evergreen Shrubs can be transplanted during September and October or in late spring, and where it is decided to move any specimens in private gardens, such work is best carried out in the autumn. If there is still a little mildew on some roses, these should be sprayed with sulphide of potassium. It is unwise to ignore mildew even near the end of the season.

THE KITCHEN GARDEN.

During the last week I have heard of several cases where the late or main crop of potatoes is making a second growth, and often a remedy is sought. There is only one thing to do: lift them at once. Where the tubers are taking their normal course and no disease is present, it is best to allow them a few more weeks.

Vegetable marrows are very susceptible to injury from early frosts, so when a drop in the temperature is expected all fruits that are ready should be cut, and the plants protected with a few evergreen boughs. Runner beans should be picked closely as the cold nights advance. Brussels sprouts are growing freely, and "buttons" are already formed; collect all dead and decaying leaves and bury them in a trench. Continue to earth up leeks, and mustard and cress should be sown fortnightly in a cold frame. Radishes may be afforded similar treatment. Outside tomatoes ought to be gathered and the green fruits will ripen on a greenhouse shelf or sunny window, or they can be made into chutney.

THE FRUIT GARDEN.

Hardy Fruits.—No further time should be lost in making new plantations of strawberries, and the roots of raspberries are all the better for being planted early.

When peach and nectarine trees are relieved of their fruits, the necessary pruning can be carried out while the weather is still congenial. Remove as much old wood as possible, and tie in the current year's shoots, at the same time prevent overcrowding. Specimens that have produced a heavy crop will be benefited by a soaking of liquid manure.

Where it is intended to plant peaches and nectarines during the coming season, it will save time later on if the stations are prepared forthwith. No manure will be needed if the soil is in good heart, but there are few places where lime or old mortar rubble will not be an advantage. All stone fruits need lime. Trench the ground and see that the border is well drained. If the soil is poor, add fibrous loam, which is preferable to manure.

Towards the end of the month grease bands should be placed on the trunks of apple trees.

This season the Japanese wineberry has been very profitable, and a few plants are worth growing to furnish ripe fruits after the loganberries and raspberries are over. The Himalayan berry is also prolific; it is a robust blackberry and should be planted where there is ample space. This plant produces fruit from the old wood for several seasons, a point to be remembered when pruning.

Chepstow. T. W. BRISCOE.

FOR NORTHERN GARDENS.

THE KITCHEN GARDEN.

Potatoes.—To judge from local conditions, those who were wise in time will now have reason to consider the labour involved in spraying the potato crop a good investment. Under present circumstances no good thing can result from leaving them in the ground longer where they are exposed to influences of a destructive nature. And the job is pleasanter to do when the soil is comparatively dry and the tubers come up clean.

There is no new method recorded for storing potatoes, and the old practice of storing sound tubers in the most convenient dry, frost-free places still holds good. And, of course, those tubers of suitable size will have special attention in "gathering" and storing to form sets for replanting. Needless to say the haulm will be cleared off and burned at the earliest opportunity.

Carrots.—The main crop, as it shows signs of maturing, will be lifted and stored. It is a well known axiom in horticulture that frost has an injurious effect on these and excessive rain causes the roots to crack, especially on a heavy soil. Later sowings, given light protection when needed, can be left for present use and will be appreciated in the young state of unimpaired flavour.

Beetroot.—From a bad beginning these have made a satisfactory growth, sufficient to warrant the turnip-rooted sorts being carefully lifted and stored. In this district the best varieties of these are largely superseding the long-rooted kinds, owing to their ease in culture and their adaptability in culinary use, without appreciable loss in colour, crispness and flavour. From experience, their keeping qualities are beyond reproach.

FRUIT UNDER GLASS.

Peach Trees from which the fruit has been gathered may have some of the old wood removed with advantage to the remaining young growth. This should be kept clean by frequent hosings, so that it may derive the greatest benefit from the maturing influence of the light, and see to it that the trees do not lack water at the root. If, too, there is a scarcity of food elements in the soil, it will result in the formation of weak flower buds. Young trees, if making excessively gross wood must needs be slightly root pruned. Given a circumscribed area and a firm medium-rich soil it will be found that the growth of young trees, efficiently handled, will just be sufficient for the formation of a sound basis on which to produce fruit in after years.

Vines Bearing Fruit.—The attendant should study the state of the weather each day. The needs of the vines are air without draughts and any inclemency of the weather, with absence of solar heat, counteracted by a little warmth in the pipes. Late varieties should be given more heat to help in finishing the berries, with protection to outside borders to carry off heavy rainfall.

Vines from which the bunches have been cut should have the laterals partially shortened to induce the "plumping" of the basal buds. Examine the borders as to their needs and give every facility for the proper ripening of the wood. Many prominent growers take this opportunity of cyaniding the house for the extermination of mealy bug.

The renovation of unsatisfactory borders can be proceeded with, as opportunity permits, and may be summarised as follows. Fork out the soil from the outermost edge of the border inwards, coiling up the roots as met with, proceeding thus as far as circumstances allow. Overhaul the drainage, add to it if advisable, re-cover with fresh strong turf, fill in the space with new compost, of the best loam with the usual addition at discretion, relaying the roots in strata and nearer the surface, if possible. If sunshine prevails while carrying out this operation, spray the outside glass with whitewash or other means of shading and continue this for a time.

Doune, Perthshire. W. MCCARRELL.

CONSERVATORY AND GREENHOUSE.

Trachelium cœruleum.—If seed is sown at this time in a cool greenhouse, the resulting plants will prove useful for early flowering next year. Plants raised from seed early in the year and that have done duty for furnishing the stages, should not be discarded, since, if trimmed back and potted on as they require, they will make fine large specimens for furnishing the beds next season. This plant with its cloud of small bluish-mauve flowers is very elegant and is deserving of more general cultivation, which presents no difficulty as it only requires cool greenhouse treatment and thrives in any good potting compost.

Annuals for Conservatory Decoration.—Seed of the many beautiful annuals, as represented by schizanthus, nemesias, clarkias, godetias, viscarias, etc., should now be sown in cold frames or in a cool greenhouse. Care should be taken to sow the seeds very thinly or damping off may result. Careful watering and airy conditions are very essential in this respect. Pricking off should also be attended to before the young plants become at all crowded. The young seedlings may be pricked off directly into small pots, or into pans or boxes, afterwards potting them up when they have attained some size. Mignonette, which resents root disturbance, should be pricked off into small pots, also such slender growing plants as viscarias, in their case allowing six plants to a pot, afterwards potting them on without disturbance. Schizanthus and plants that are naturally of a bushy habit are best grown singly in pots, also clarkias and godetias, unless large specimens are required, when three or four plants may be placed in a pot. Such plants in time will require 8in. or 10in. pots in which to grow. Annuals, although they may be wintered in cold frames, are better if they can be grown in a cool, airy greenhouse, where they are under closer observation for watering, etc., and suitable atmospheric conditions are under better control; most of them grow freely in any good potting compost, and if the loam is not too heavy they are best grown without the addition of leaf-soil to the compost, growth is then much firmer and sturdier, which is important for bringing them safely through the winter.

Schizostylis coccinea (Crimson Flag or Kaffir Lily) and its rose-coloured variety, known as Mrs. Hegarty, although hardy in warm borders in the south and west, is an excellent plant for greenhouse decoration, when grown in pots. The best results, however, are obtained when it is planted out in the summer in clumps of a dozen crowns that can be lifted entire at this time and placed in a 6in. or 7in. pot. Where this has been done or where a stock of plants is growing outdoors, a quantity should now be lifted and placed in pots. If they are well watered and kept shaded for a few days, they will take no hurt and will give a bright display for a long time.

Lilium longiflorum.—When the bulbs come to hand they should be potted without delay; if for any reason this cannot be done, they should be covered with leaf-soil or fibre, as all lily bulbs quickly suffer if left exposed to the air for any length of time. Plant bulbs singly in 6in. pots, or three or four according to size in 8in. or 9in. pots. As this is a stem-rooting lily, the bulbs should be placed sufficiently low in the pots to allow for top-dressing, or the pots may be filled right up at the time of potting; personally, I always practise the latter method. After potting they may be stood in cold frames, or in a cool greenhouse, or, if so desired, may be started right away in a warm house. Water should be carefully afforded until they have made a quantity of roots and have commenced to grow. They are very subject to attacks of green fly, which must be prevented by spraying with an approved insecticide, or by frequent light fumigations.

Lantana salvifolia.—This plant, in the south at least, makes a fine summer bedding subject, while at this time well grown plants in 6in. pots make a fine display on the stages in the greenhouse. It also is, when planted out, ideal for furnishing pillars in the conservatory, its long slender stems in time attaining a height of 10ft. to 15ft., the whole plant being clothed with a wonderful profusion of flowers for the greater part of the year. Where a stock of plants is required for next year, now is a good time to insert cuttings which root readily in a close propagating case.

Housing Plants.—Hard-wooded plants that have been stood outdoors for the summer should now be housed for the winter; any cleaning, staking or tying that may be required should be done before they are taken indoors. The house should be kept well damped down and the plants syringed for several weeks during bright weather to accustom the plants to the drier atmosphere of the house.

Chrysanthemums.—If not already done, early flowering varieties should be got under glass; to prevent mildew they should be sprayed with sulphide of potassium, using 1 oz. to three gallons of water, taking care to wet the under sides of the leaves thoroughly. Plenty of ventilation should be given, but avoid draughts. During cold weather a little fire heat may be used. Some arrangements should be made for plants which are to be kept outdoors as long as possible.

Kew. J. CO

Digitized by Google

ANNOUNCING

"Ben Watson"

by

CUTCLIFFE HYNE

Ben Watson is the Jorrocks of the shooting field—a new character in sporting literature. Yorkshireman, philosopher and grouse enthusiast, Ben is a student of wild nature—and human nature. He gives as good as he takes. His story breathes the spirit of the moors

Each instalment complete in itself.

COUNTRY LIFE

Obtainable from all Bookstalls and Newsagents. One shilling Weekly, or post free, 1/3, from the Publishers, 20, Tavistock Street, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

The Cultivation of Tobacco—No. 3.

Topping Tobacco

When the Tobacco Plant is fully grown, and just before the ripening process commences, the tops are cut off to prevent the plant from flowering and running to seed.

By this process the leaves which remain get all the nourishment, and so it is possible to produce the Rich, Ripe Virginia Leaf which goes to the making of

PLAYER'S

Navy Cut

TOBACCO & CIGARETTES

Reg. No. 154011.

P.1362.

The WIZARD Plant LABEL

PATENT No 212976

Made in Red Pottery, 2½ x 1½ ins., with rustless wires, 12 in., 2/3 doz.; 7 in., 1/9 doz. 1½ x 1 in., with wires 6 in., 1/6 doz. For tying on, 1/8 and 1/6 doz. Waterproof Ink, 8d. and 7½d. bot. Crow Quills, 2d. Postage extra.

Highly commended by the R.H.S. at Wisley.

E. TORKINGTON - NEW HALL . MAIDENHEAD

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION

WAKELEY'S *Celebrated* HOP MANURE

(PATENTED)

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

A beautiful Free Booklet giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. GENUINE ONLY IN OUR MARKED BAGS, CONTAINING GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

Cash Prices, including bags: Small (about 1 bushel), 3/-; Large (about 4 bushels), 7/-; 5 Large, 33/9; 10 Large, 65/-; 20 Large, 120/-

Carriage Paid to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company. 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge, Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

AUCTION SALES OF

BULBS

BY MESSRS.

PROTHEROE & MORRIS

EVERY

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY at

67, 68, Cheapside, London, E.C.2.

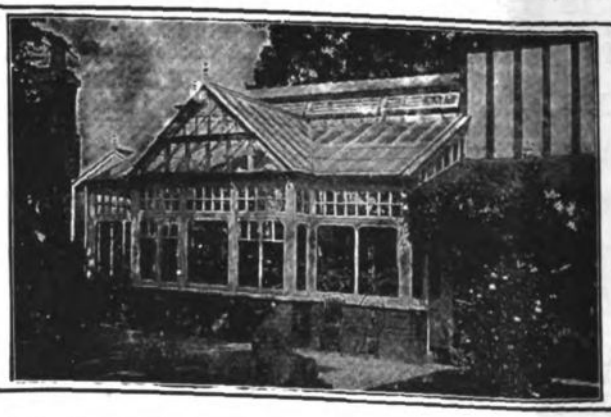
Write for Catalogues - Phone City 3856

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by "ALPHOL"

Sample 14 lb., 5/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool



FOSTER & PEARSON LIMITED

Established 1841

Please write for Estimates for durable Greenhouses, Boilers, etc., to

BEESTON NOTTS

Even Birds

—to say nothing of slugs, snails, worms, and other soil-pests, shun crops protected with

SANITAS POWDER

Sprinkle on soil, dust on seeds, dust over trenches, put into drills. The saving is enormous. There is no poison in it. Get a 1/3 Tin to-day, or write to us for bulk quotations.

THE "SANITAS" CO. LTD.

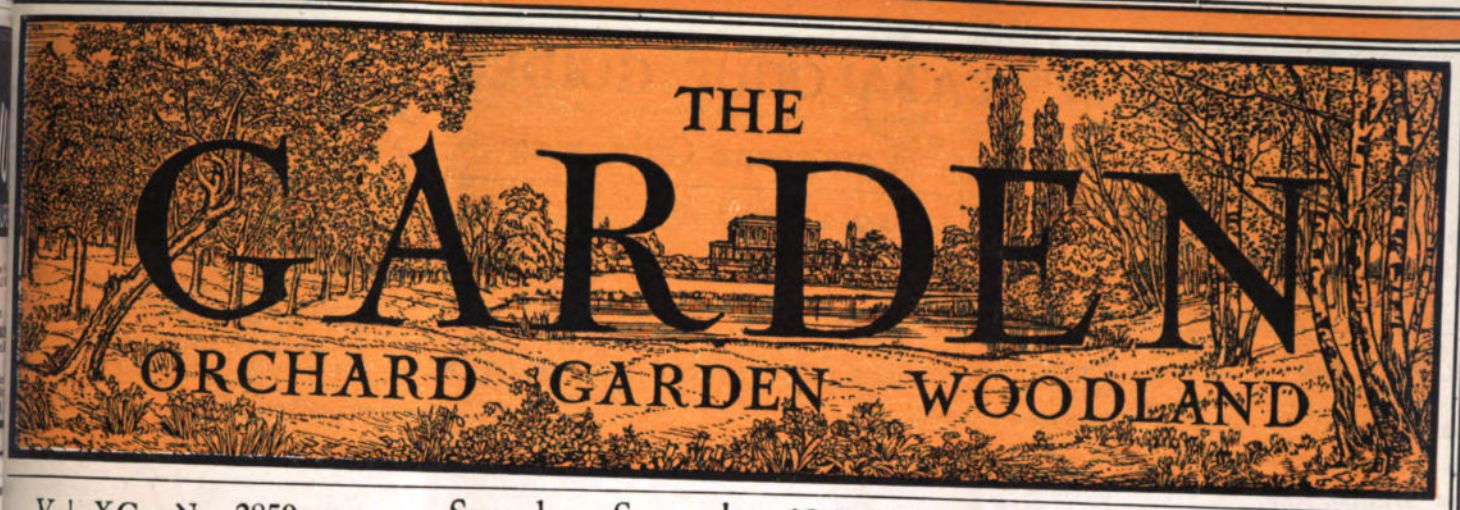
LIMEHOUSE, LONDON, E.

San 84—89a

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

SEP 29 1926


THE
GARDEN
ORCHARD GARDEN WOODLAND

Vol. XC.—No. 2859 Saturday, September 18th, 1926 Price THREEPENCE

PERIODICAL ROOM GENERAL LIBRARY UNIV. OF MICH.

Barr's Gold Medal Daffodils

STRONG SELECTED BULBS FOR OCTOBER PLANTING.

Awarded SEVENTY-TWO GOLD MEDALS and THREE SILVER CHALLENGE CUPS.

FLOWER BORDER COLLECTION,	6 each,	18 sorts	30/-
" "	3 "	18 "	15/-
POT CULTURE "	6 "	20 "	40/-
" "	3 "	10 "	10/6
BOWL CULTURE "	6 "	15 "	25/-
" "	3 "	15 "	12/6

FLOWER BORDER MIXTURE .. per 100, **21/-**; per doz., **3/-**
MIXTURE of all kinds for naturalising, per 1,000, **95/-**; 100, **10/6**
TRUMPET DAFFODILS, MIXED, per 1 000, **160/-**; 100, **17/6**
MIXTURE of CHALICE CUP and STAR NARCISSI only, for naturalising .. .. per 1,000 **110/-**; 100, **12/-**

Descriptive Catalogue Free.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.

CLIBRAN'S SPECIAL OFFER

DAFFODILS & NARCISSI

ALL FLOWERING BULBS.

BARRII CONSPICUUS. EMPEROR. GLORY OF LEIDEN.
GOLDEN SPUR. GRANDEE. INCOMP. DOUBLE.
PHEASANT'S EYE. PRINCEPS. SIR WATKIN.
VAN SION DOUBLE.

100 each variety - - **90/-** Carriage Paid.
50 " " - - **50/-** " "
25 " " - - **30/-** " "

Splendid for Naturalisation.

DARWIN TULIPS

Choice Mixed - - **60/-** 1,000 **35/-** 500 **21/-** 250

CLIBRANS, 12, Market St., MANCHESTER.

Glass breaks!

USE
'WINDOLITE'
THE PRACTICAL GLASS SUBSTITUTE
for all GARDEN PURPOSES.

Light Flexible Unbreakable.

Easy to cut and fix. It keeps out cold and wet, but lets in all the light—even the Ultra Violet Rays which are stopped by glass.

Send **4/6** *for post free sample. 3 ft. by 2 ft.*

WINDOLITE (DEPT. C) 179/185, GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1.

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

FOR THE GARDEN! FOR EXHIBITION!
FOR BEDS! FOR EVERYWHERE!

Also Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees, Alpines and Hardy Plants.

BUY HOME-GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries.

Catalogue Free on Application, and Addresses booked for Revised Catalogue in late Summer.

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.,
Garden Specialists - - SOUTHWELL, NOTTS

KING'S ACRE STRAWBERRIES

20,000 Pot-Grown Runners for next season's Fruiting ready for immediate despatch.

NEW LIST OF THE BEST VARIETIES with cultural instructions, including all other useful Berries. A most useful List, post free, on application.

King's Acre Nurseries, Limited,
Established 1785. HEREFORD. Nurseries 140 Acres.

RECENT PREMIER AWARDS: Royal Show Reading; Shrewsbury and Southport.

Lovely Darwin Tulips

THE FINEST VALUE EVER OFFERED.

100 Large Bulbs in 10 Choice Varieties for 5/-

Spanish Iris (Top size Bulbs) Mixed Colours, 25 for **9d.**; 50 for **1/3**; 100 for **2/-** Dutch Iris (Top size Bulbs) Mixed Colours, 25 for **1/-**; 50 for **1/10**; 100 for **3/6** English Iris (Top size Bulbs) Mixed Colours, 25 for **2/6**; 50 for **4/6**; 100 for **8/6**

ORDERS VALUE **5/-** CARRIAGE PAID.

Ask for Special List of other Spring Flowering Bulbs.

LONGSTAFF & SONS,
Bulb Growers, Importers and Merchants
NEAR CHELSFIELD STATION ∴ KENT

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S HARDY PLANT FARMS ENFIELD, MIDDX.	New Alpines and Perennials Complete Collection
LAXTON BROS. NURSERIES BEDFORD	Strawberries and Fruit Trees
W. WELLS, JUNR. HARDY PLANT NURSERY MERSTHAM, SURREY	Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON TWERTON HILL NURSERY BATH	Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc
DAWKINS 408, KING'S ROAD, CHELSEA, S.W.	Bulb Catalogue Now Ready
R. H. BATH, LTD. THE FLORAL FARMS WISBECH	Home Brown Bulbs and Seeds
H. PRINS BULB AND PLANT GROWERS WISBECH, CAMBS.	Bulb list free on application

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND, SOILFUME, NICOTINE, INSECTICIDES, FUNGERS, SPRAYS AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES - THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY. IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT, CARRIAGE PAID.

Only Address TOMLINSON & HAYWARD LTD LINCOLN

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD. NURSERIES CRAWLEY	Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc
GEORGE G. WHITELEGG THE NURSERIES CHISLEHURST, KENT	Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show 1925.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD. BARROW-ON-HUMBER HULL	Weed Destroyers Fertilisers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

TUBS FOR SHRUBS. WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 100 prizes. R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. — Price List from A. PRADAL, 26, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

THE PLANTING SEASON

is fast approaching, and intending planters are advised to place their orders at the earliest possible date in order to secure early delivery.

THE BARNHAM NURSERIES LTD. offer a magnificent stock of

Fruit Trees - - Roses
Alpines - Hardy Perennials
Ornamental Trees & Shrubs
Hedge and Shelter Plants

- and will be glad to send - descriptive catalogues on application.

The BARNHAM NURSERIES Ltd.
BARNHAM, SUSSEX.

Greenhouse pests

There are two simple, certain remedies —XL ALL Fumigating Compound over a lamp, or some XL ALL Shreds, lit and left to smoulder on the floor. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen, florists and chemists.

XL ALL FUMIGATING COMPOUND & SHREDS

G. H. RICHARDS LTD.,
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
R. 183. Monomark: BCM/XLALL

PORTWAY

Coke Break

Break your Co make your S remain alight lo

As Shown - 4

OR

On Stand - 6

Of all Ironmon

MAKERS:

C. PORTWAY & SO
Tortoise Works,
HALSTEAD, ESSEX.

BLOM FOR BULBS

Apply for Catalogue to—

Messrs. J. C. WHITNEY & Co.,
Eldon Street House, Eldon Street,
London, E.C. - - - *or to—*

WALTER BLOM & SON, LTD.
(Late of Overveen).
Hillegom, Holland.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

BBS' 1926 AUTUMN CATALOGUE is ready. Post free on request. Beautifully illustrated and ains particulars of all the best varieties of BULBS, also E BOWLS, BULB COMPOST, etc., LAWN GRASS DS, SWEET PEAS, FLOWERING PLANTS, etc.— S AND SONS, LIMITED, The King's Seedsmen, Stourbridge.

ATERER'S for the best in Bulbs for g, bedding, naturalising. Colchicums, Autumn-flowering ses, etc. Roses, Fruit Trees, Strawberry Plants in pots open ground runners, Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Flowering Evergreen Shrubs, also Hedge-making Shrubs and Screening , Herbaceous and Alpine Plants. New catalogues now , post free.—JOHN WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LIMITED, Nurseries, Twyford, Berks.

IALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODEN- on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write logues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

KELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE. original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See on back page.

. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., ace Road, South Tottenham, N.15. — Conservatories, Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

DS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUN- S, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.— 863, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

CING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request. — THE UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, .

E PRIMULA AND ALPINE SEEDS rge (2,000) collection. Also seedlings and plants. Lists REV. J. F. ANDERSON, Glen Hall, Leicester.

MENTS' DUTCH BULBS. Quality at Moderate Prices. Descriptive Catalogue ing over 700 Named Varieties, including various Novel- to Cultural Directions, sent post free. Please mention —V. D. CLEMENTS & Co., 12, Stockton Gardens, ham, London, N.17.

DER CARNATIONS. — 200 varieties, 14 varieties, from 6/6, 50 in 50 ditto, from 25/-; paid. Lists free. J. HAYWARD, Chace Gardens, Road, Purbrook, Cosham, Hants.

ET PEAS.—My New Catalogue, con- the leading Novelties for 1927, should be in the hands een Exhibitors.—F. C. WOODCOCK, Sweet Pea Specialist, , Kent.

ED DAFFODILS.—Best sorts, 35/-, 1,000 paid.—Address: MRS. NEW, Craddock, Cullompton,

R NETTING.—From 2/5 per 50yd. roll. e House in the Kingdom. Write us for prices. ds of rolls stocked.

NTS. — Army Bell. All complete, new deep walls, 60/- and 70/-. Scout Tents, 13/6. 30/-. Bathing, 33/-. Also Marquees. Write us for

DEN HOSE.—Superior quality, 50ft.

	1-ply.	2-ply.	3-ply.
.. .. ..	15/- ..	24/6 ..	29/3
.. .. ..	24/6 ..	29/3 ..	35/2

Carriage paid. Approval.

N MOWERS.—Five Riveted Blades, beck. Brass Bushings. Close Cutting. Highly Finished. ded Value. 8in., 20/6; 10in., 21/6; 12in., 22/6; 14in., Iron Boxes, 6/6 each. Garden Rollers, 30/-.

BOO CANES.—Strong, 3ft., 3/11; 4ft., , 10/11; 6ft., 14/6 per hundred. Carriage paid.—E. B. AY, LIMITED, Dept. E, Shrewsbury.

BARR'S GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS.—The finest sorts for Pots, Bowls, Exhibition, Flower Borders and to naturalise. Also many new Seedling varieties, offered for the first time. Descriptive catalogue free.

BARR'S HYACINTHS, TULIPS, LILIES, CROCUSES, IRISES, etc., for pots and bedding. Finest quality. Descriptive catalogue, with special directions for the culture of Bulbs in Bowls, free.

BARR'S GOLD MEDAL IRISES for present planting. Descriptive Catalogue of the best Tall and Dwarf, early and late flowering varieties sent free on application.—BARR AND SONS, 11, 12 and 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx and perpetual habit. They flourish in the coldest parts of Britain. Extract, *The Times*: "Mr. Douglas is the leading raiser of this flower. His wonderful strain of new cloves is superb." Plant list now ready. —J. DOUGLAS, Gt. Bookham.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial: Notes from My Garden—II.	519
A Free and Formal Rock Garden	520
The Value of Foliage—IV	521
Spring Bedding	522
Wild Garden Construction	523
Notes of the Week	524–526
Rosa Wichuraiana; Some Forms of the Red Cedar; Some Scutellarias; Colchicum byzantinum; The Alpine Spiræa; A Beautiful Sun Rose; A Plant for Shady Corners; Japanese Anemones; Gardening Without Soil; Logans and Hybrid Berries.	
Nurseries of the British Isles—IV, Messrs. Bakers of Codsall	526
Correspondence	528
The Cherokee Rose; Winter Aconites; Names of Early Potatoes.	
Vegetables at Westminster	528
The Autumn Rose Show	529
The Dahlia Show	530
Garden Technique	viii–ix
Hardy Flowering Plants in Autumn; Violets in Frames; Plant Allwoodii Now; Pot Up Arums; Club Root; Dandelion as a Salad; Lime for Brassicas; Basic Slag.	
London Allotment Show	ix
Book Reviews	x

HEWITT'S FAMOUS DELPHINIUMS AND ROSES. Catalogue now in distribution. Please write for one.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S BULB CATALOGUE NOW READY containing the choicest and inexpensive Daffodils, Tulips, and other Bulbs. "Order early and plant early" so as to avoid disappointment.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GAR- DENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 168. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

HAVE YOU BOUGHT "The Pruning of Trees and Shrubs," by W. Dallimore, Assistant at Kew? Fully illustrated. 4s. 6d. net; post free, 4s. 9d. From all Booksellers or direct from the Publishers, DULAU & CO., LTD., 34, Margaret Street, London, W.1.

DOBBIES' FAMOUS BULBS, SCOTCH ROSES and SWEET PEAS for Autumn Sowing. Catalogues free on mentioning THE GARDEN.—DOBBIE & CO., LTD., Edinburgh.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

POLYANTHUS NARCISSUS.—Scilly White's, 10/- 100, £3 10s. 1,000. Empress Daffodils, same price.—A. LEON, St. Mary's, Scilly Isles.

GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS — CHOICE TULIPS, &c. List on application.—THE WELSH BULB FIELDS St. Asaph.

BATH'S HOME-GROWN BULBS. — New Illustrated Catalogue of the finest Narcissi, Hyacinths, Tulips, etc., as supplied to the Royal Parks and Gardens, with full cultural directions, is now ready, and will be sent post free on application.—(Dept. E.), R. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760 yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

ROCK PLANTS AND SHRUBS.—Over 300 varieties in stock. Descriptive Catalogue free. Also Herbaceous Plants and Roses.—HODSONS, LIMITED, 58, Castle Gate, Nottingham.

WE SPECIALISE IN RARE HARDY FLOWERING SHRUBS AND ALPINES. Send for Catalogue TRESEDER & CO., Nurseries, Truro.

LOOK ! TANNED GARDEN NETS.—All orders dispatched same day. 25yds. by 1yd, 2/-; 25 by 2, 4/-; 25 by 3, 6/-. Odd netting for bushes, 5lbs. for 2/6. All carriage paid. Any sizes supplied. Also Tennis Boundary Nets.—MOORE AND CO., Net Works, Rye.

GENTIANA SINO-ORNATA flowered here last year from October until Christmas unharmed by frost. Dazzling sapphire trumpets. Strong pot Plants for immediate planting, 7/6 per dozen. Cultural instructions sent with each order.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED, Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

INDIAN ORCHIDS.—12 grand fl. sorts, 25s.; 8 sorts Aerides, 23s.; 12 sorts grand fl. Dendrobiums, 36s. 6 sorts Vandas, 20s.; 6 sorts Cymbidiums, 24s. Cash. All paid in U.K. List free.—CHANDRA NURSERY, P.O. Rhenock, Sikkim (Bengal), India.

FOR SALE.—Seeds of South African Gladioli, Babianas, Watsonias, etc. Packets, 2/6 each, not less than 50 seeds.—R. C. STANFORD, Stokesay Castle Gatehouse, Craven Arms, Salop.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the Imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

BURTON-ON-TRENT

We won at the above Show, held 11th and 12th August last, TWO GOLD MEDALS for our WONDERFUL COLLECTION OF GLADIOLI. We offer one Bulb of each variety shown in this collection of 50 different varieties at 8/6, two Bulbs of each variety, in 50 varieties, 16/-, six Bulbs of each variety, in 50 varieties, 45/-. The new and most attractive Gladiolus at the Show called BURTONIA, raised by us and only stocked by our firm, only 500 to offer, 2/6 each.

OUR GOLD MEDAL CROCUSES.

The earliest flowers of Spring Exhibition Mixtures for Naturalising.

	Doz.	100	1000
Mixed purple and blue	8d.	4/6	40/-
Mixed striped	8d.	4/6	40/-
Mixed white	8d.	4/6	40/-
Mixed all colours	8d.	4/6	40/-

Crocus, special selected for Window Boxes, Pots and Flower Beds.

	Doz.	100	1000
Special blue, named	9d.	5/-	45/-
Special purple, named	9d.	5/-	45/-
Special striped, named	9d.	5/-	45/-
Special white, named	9d.	5/-	45/-
Special yellows, extra	1/-	8/-	75/-

EXHIBITION TULIPS.

THE DARWINS.—The most sturdy-growing, strong, upright stems with massive flowers:

	Doz.	100
Bartigon, bright fiery red	1/6	10/-
Clara Butt, clear pink, flushed salmon rose	1/-	7/-
La Notre, rose pink shading to silvery pink, centre blue and white. Extra forcer	2/-	14/-
Prince of the Netherlands, extra large solid flower of perfect form, rich brilliant cerise red, extra strong stems. First-rate bedder	2/6	15/-

The above 7 varieties, 12 bulbs of each, 10/-.

	Doz.	100
Professor Rauwenhoff, deep cherry rose; white base margined blue	2/-	12/-
Princess Elizabeth, extra fine rich soft rose, slight silvery flush at margin, centre clear white	2/-	14/-
Wm. Copeland, violet shading to lilac; when forced the colour is a beautiful soft lavender	1/-	8/-

The above 7 varieties, 100 bulbs of each, £3 10 0

THE COTTAGE TULIPS.—The most graceful novelties:

	Doz.	100
Amber, light amber coloured. Award of merit	1/10	13/-
Erasmus, large creamy white, long stem. Award of merit	1/10	13/-
Grand Yellow, very deep yellow, extra fine	2/-	15/-
Mrs. Francis King, very fine satiny rose	1/10	13/-
Nectar, vivid carmine red with clear white base. Award of merit	2/-	15/-
Spinoea, white flower on very tall stem	1/10	13/-

	Doz.	100
Sirene, the wonderful lily-shaped flower, of a very fine glistening satiny rose. First-class certificate, London, Amsterdam	1/10	14/-
Pearl, finest light rose	2/-	15/-
Prof. Westerdyk, wonderful lilac rose, very tall, splendid forcer	2/-	15/-
Triton, glowing carmine rose, pure yellow base, the most attractive tulip yet raised, a real beauty	2/-	10/-

NOVELTY COLLECTION.

Novelty collection ten extra selected bulbs of each of the above 10 varieties, 100 in all, 10/-.

25 Bulbs each of the above 10 varieties, 250 Bulbs in all, 20/-.

Quality.—All bulbs which are not to satisfaction upon receipt may be returned to us and we will gladly refund money and postage. Complete list of other rarer tulips, daffodils, etc. gladly mailed on request.

H. PRINS, F.R.H.S., Bulb Specialists, WISBECH, CAMBS.

CLIBRANS' HYACINTHS

FOR EXHIBITION.

Monster Bulbs, any colour. 12 in 6 varieties - 10/6
6 in 3 varieties - 5/6
Post Paid.

CLIBRANS, 12, Market St., MANCHESTER.

GARDEN DESIGN is best dealt with in "Planning and Planting of Little Gardens," by G. DILLISTONE, 6/-; by post, 6/6. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

PLANT PESTS AND PARASITES.—A useful booklet on garden troubles by HORACE J. WRIGHT is to be obtained from the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, W.C.2; 11d. post free.

Burpee's
NEW SWEET PEAS for 1927

GLADNESS A soft coral-pink, intensified by a suffusion of a deeper shade toward the base of the standard and wings. The softest and daintiest of all pinks. Of exquisite delicacy, enhanced by a lemon keel.

DELIGHTFUL A rich terra-cotta cerise, suffused orange or scarlet-red. A colour never before produced—the most appealing, in its glowing beauty, of all the richer toned varieties; bright and shining even on dull days, and startlingly brilliant under artificial light.

ROYAL BLUE A true Royal Blue, but full of life and brilliancy instead of dull and unspiriting; undoubtedly the brightest of all sweet pea dark blues. A flower of great substance and enchanting beauty, extremely prolific in fours.

ON SALE BY THE LEADING WHOLESALE HOUSES

ESTABLISHED 1804 — INCORPORATED 1809

THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S

GREAT AUTUMN SHOW

HOLLAND PARK HALL, HOLLAND PARK AVENUE LONDON, W.

21st, 22nd and 23rd SEPTEMBER, 1926

PRICES OF ADMISSION FOR NON-FELLOWS:

Tuesday, 21st September	2 p.m. to 5 p.m.	10/-
	5 p.m. to 7 p.m.	5/-
Wednesday, 22nd September	10 a.m. to 5 p.m.	5/-
	5 p.m. to 7 p.m.	2/6
Thursday, 23rd September	10 a.m. to 5 p.m.	2/6

FELLOWS TICKETS ADMIT FREE, AND ON TUESDAY, THE 21st, AT NOON.

Particulars of Fellowship may be obtained on application to the Secretary, Royal Horticultural Society, Vincent Square, London, S.W.1.

Digitized by Google

GOLD MEDAL
DELPHINIUMS

Awarded 5 Gold Medals.

PLANT NOW for a good display next Summer

Delphinium "George Cochrane" (B. & L.) 7/6 each.

We have pleasure in offering the following Delphiniums, each of which gained an Award of Merit at the R.H.S. Trials, held at Wisley in 1925:—

Blue Princess	7/6
Mrs. Townley-Parker	7/6
Queen Mary	2/6
Constance	15/-
Blue Boy	5/-
Col. Sir W. Murray	2/6
Mrs. Shirley	5/-
Mrs. C. McIvor	5/-
Lord Derby	7/6
W. T. Ware	3/6
Marjorie Ferguson	7/6
Norah Ferguson	5/-
E. Bremet	15/-
Mrs. A. J. Watson	5/-
Mrs. Kaye	5/-
Millicent Blackmore	7/6
Rev. E. Lascelles	3/6

One of each for £4 10/- **1 doz., our selection, £2 15/-**

Other choice named Collections, 15/-, 22/-, 30/-, 42/- and 70/- per doz.

Write for descriptive catalogue of above and other specialities including—

BEGONIAS, PHLOX, POLYANTHUS, BLUE PRIMROSES, HERBACEOUS PLANTS, Etc.

BLACKMORE & LANGDON, BATH

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

SUTTON'S GRASS SEED for Lawns.

After the hard wear of the Summer season,
LAWNS
are in need of renovation,
Write for advice and information regarding the best GRASS SEEDS, FERTILISERS, ETC.

SUTTON & SONS,
Turf Experts. READING.

SIX HILLS NURSERY, STEVENAGE, HERTS.

SECOND
Annual Sale
OF
CHOICE ALPINE AND HERBACEOUS PLANTS

including Iris Kæmpferi, the very finest Delphiniums, Phloxes, newest varieties of Michaelmas Daisies, Chinese Pæonies, etc.

MINIATURE ROCK GARDENS in Stone Troughs and Pans, as exhibited at the Chelsea Show this Summer.

ALPINES in Italian Strawberry Pots, choice dwarf Shrubs and Bulbs for the Rock Garden and numerous other interesting items.

Messrs. PROTHEROE & MORRIS
are instructed by
Messrs. CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LTD.
to sell the above at the
SIX HILLS NURSERY, STEVENAGE
ON
Tuesday & Wednesday, SEPT. 28th & 29th
at **11.30** o'clock precisely each day.

May be viewed one week prior to the sale. Catalogues obtainable on the premises, and of the Auctioneers, 67-68, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON, E.C.2

N.B.—Messrs. P. & M. will be pleased to execute commissions for those unable to attend the Sale.

The man who wants his house to be a HOME takes his wife back

HOMES & GARDENS

The best written, best produced monthly paper on

HOUSE DESIGN, GARDENING, FURNISHING, DOMESTIC SCIENCE, ETC.

For a free specimen copy write to the Publisher, 20, Tavistock Street, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

SEEDSMEN BY APPOINTMENT

BULBS & LAWNS

Carters New Catalogue of Hyacinths, Tulips, Daffodils and other Bulbous subjects for planting now, for Spring Flowers. The Lawn section contains particulars of end of season reconditioning of your turf, making a new lawn, etc.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE POST FREE

Carters TESTED SEEDS

Bulb Growers and Grass Specialists
RAYNES PARK, LONDON, S.W.20

Notes from Maidstone.

MATRIMONIAL NEWS

There are journals we believe which bring together those desiring to marry, and now that we learn that some fruits require such introductions, and as they are fastidious in the choice of their affinities, it seems necessary to provide a Pomological Matrimonial Agency. Failing this desirable institution, our Fruit Catalogue must serve as a medium, and the marriages which science has blessed are indicated, where known. Of special interest and rarity are those couples which are mutually satisfactory. All planters of Cherries and Plums should gravely consider this point before making final decisions.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd.,
The Royal Nurseries,
Established 1796. Maidstone.

ALLENS' ROSES

Before placing your Autumn order send for our FULL ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE. We are certain it will be of assistance to you. Ready now. Contents include :—

Survey of new varieties, indicating improved forms.
Frank descriptions of over 500 varieties.
Select lists of Roses for all purposes.
Colour Guide.
Cultural Notes.
Rose Diseases and their Treatment.
Six Colour Plates, etc.

POST FREE ON RECEIPT OF CARD.
Send us your enquiries and we shall be pleased to quote.

Our stock is a most comprehensive one of Roses for all purposes, and we are sure we can give you every satisfaction.

A. J. & C. ALLEN (Dept. A), Nurserymen, NORWICH

DOBBIE'S

Sweet Pea Collections

For PRESENT Sowing

COLLECTION A (T.G.)—Six Splendid Novelties for 1926-27—Gleneagles (12), Red Gauntlet (12), Chieftain (12), Patience (12), Magnet (25), Mary Pickford (25) **5/6**

The figures in brackets denote the number of seeds per packet.

COLLECTION B (T.G.)—The Exhibitors' "CHAMPION" Collection of Fifteen Splendid Exhibition Varieties—20 seeds of each—Constance Hinton, Crimson King, Grenadier, George Shawyer, Hebe, Hawlmark Salmon Pink, Jean Ireland, Majestic Cream, Mrs. Tom Jones, Picture, Powerscourt, Renown, Royal Purple, Warrior, Youth **5/-**

COLLECTION C (T.G.)—Twelve Splendid Exhibition Varieties—20 seeds each—Austin Frederick Improved, Charity, Constance Hinton, Dignity, George Shawyer, Hawlmark Pink, Matchless, Mrs. Cuthbertson, Royal Purple, Royal Scot, Renown, The Sultan **2/9**

Our Autumn Catalogue of Bulbs, Roses, Sweet Peas, etc., post free on application.

DOBBIE & CO. LTD.
Royal Seedsmen .·. **EDINBURGH**

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

VOL. XC.—No. 2859. SEPTEMBER 18, 1926

Price Threepence. Yearly Subscription, Inland, 17s. 4d.; Foreign, 17s. 4d. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2. *Offices for Advertisements:* 6–11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.

NOTES FROM MY GARDEN—II

AS a correspondent pointed out in THE GARDEN a week or two ago, August is the best month for dividing primulas that have formed a mass of crowns during the year. While doing this I found that in some cases plants had increased to such an extent that they were too large for the pocket in which they were planted and had forced themselves practically out of the ground. P. secundiflora appears to be the most tenacious of life. In many cases six or eight crowns were packed so tightly that one long root per crown was their only anchor to the soil. In such cases great care must be taken that these roots are not damaged in dividing them. In fact, with P. secundiflora the division next year will be done a month or so earlier, so that a root system will have more chance of establishing itself before the winter sets in. As a rule slugs do little damage to well grown Asiatic primulas, but this year I find that they have attacked P. sikkimensis and P. pseudo-sikkimensis viciously. Three plants of the latter have been entirely stripped of leaves. They have also eaten several omphalogrammas to the ground, which is more than a nuisance, as these lovely plants are shy seeders in this country.

This summer in eastern Scotland has been particularly fine and flowers have come and gone with remarkable rapidity. Especially is this the case with shrubs. That being so, the worth of Spiræa bella with its flat panicles of rose flowers is more than proved, for the bloom remains flush over a long period and a group of them has shown a soft rose flush for several weeks. This is by no means the most showy of the spiræas, but it is a graceful bush and it has great value as a late summer and early autumn flowering shrub. Just as important are the various shrubby potentillas, which are excellent plants for a cold garden. Their flowering period is long and the various shades from golden, through citron-yellow to white are charming when the shrub garden is inclined to be dull in colour. It is strange how many gardens are without this excellent and easily grown plant. Unfortunately, with us this is a bad year for berberis berries. Cold nights in May prevented most of the fruit from setting and many bushes that were magnificent last year are without berries this season.

Never have the wasps been so bad. Numerous nests have been destroyed, but there is no diminution in their numbers. For the first time I have seen a plum tree with each plum nothing but a hollow shell, with the pulp entirely consumed by wasps. This has been a particularly good honey year, which is probably the reason for this plague of wasps. Still another pest that has increased enormously is the tall Campanula latifolia. I mentioned it last year in an article on my garden. This was originally introduced as a pleasant plant for the wild garden. Now I would give pounds to be able to eradicate it. It is a terrific grower and forms dense thickets, killing out everything, including dwarf shrubs, in its neighbourhood. Let this be a warning to those who may be tempted to try it. However charming a plant may be, if it turns into a pest it is useless in a wild garden, where control is difficult. After all, one of the reasons for a wild garden is the small expense of its upkeep. When much time and labour have to be spent in eradicating plants that tend to take control, much of the joy of wild gardening ceases. Four plants that should be left out are the polygonum, the campanula, the giant parsnip and the spiny aralia. Cutting is little use; the roots must be dug out bit by bit. I cut down several aralias last spring and where one stem existed before, there are now a dozen. E. H. M. C.

HINTS FROM OUR READERS

THERE is no hobby that is so unselfish as horticulture. Therefore, THE GARDEN asks its readers to give freely of their store of knowledge for the assistance of gardeners in general. It has, therefore, been decided to offer a

PRIZE OF HALF A GUINEA

a week for the best original hint published each week, and to pay 5s. for all others published. These hints must be the result of personal observation and experiment, and may consist of any information on horticultural matters. For instance, some readers may know a short cut in the propagation of a plant; others a method of growing a supposedly difficult plant. Other suggestions are a particular colour scheme, a new way of mending a lawn, how to remove a garden pest, a fresh way of arranging a vase, how to keep weeds down on a path, a new way of cooking fruit, a different situation for a plant, an idea for a time-saving tool. There are hundreds and thousands of hints which will assist the gardener. Will you send in your quota to help the gardening public?

HERE ARE THE ONLY REGULATIONS.

1.—Half a guinea will be paid for the best hint published each week.

2.—Five shillings will be paid for all others published.

3.—All hints must be sent in on a post card addressed "Hints," THE GARDEN, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

4.—Only one hint per post card, and no hint may exceed 150 words in length.

5.—No hints, whether published or unpublished, will be returned.

6.—Payment will be made on the 7th of each month following publication.

7.—The first issue to contain these hints will be that of September 25th.

By this means we hope that much information hitherto unobtainable will be supplied by our readers for the common weal.

Digitized by Google

A FREE AND FORMAL ROCK GARDEN

A FREELY PLANTED ROCK BANK IN A FORMAL SETTING, A COMBINATION OF PARTICULAR CHARM.

IT is both formal and free, this garden I have in mind, and the combination has peculiar charm. As you step out of the French windows of the house, you are standing on the paved garden, long, wide, strictly rectangular. The flags themselves suggest a certain orderly method in their disarray. The low wall that guards them is trim and straight to line.

All else is freedom. The little, Puck-like dwarfs of plant-land thrive and make merry. Wild thyme roves in and about, a chartered libertine. Its breath, in high summer, is a fragrant miracle. Viola gracilis, the white and the purple, nods at her humble neighbour from the crannies on either side, and here and there Silene maritima wanders pleasantly. The sedums revel in full sun-glow, and the Balearic sandwort thrives.

This latter is so brave and joyous a wanderer that it is surprising so little use is made of it in pavement gardens. It should be allowed to cover wide spaces with its tiny, rich green leafage that is a joy the year through. In its flowering time it is a foam of pearly white, hiding the leaves. But whether for its leaf or flower beauty, it is useless to grow it in sparse driblets. Like wild thyme, and all the smallest of the rock-children, it needs ample space if its effect is to be real.

One thought of the mind that planned this paved courtyard is bound to make appeal to the poetry in one. Though most of the crannies were filled by choice and with design, some were left for the winds of Heaven to plant with seedlings. It was a spacious thought, as if some rich manorial lord of other days left certain outbuildings with doors open for such casual vagrant-men as chose to claim his hospitality—guests not of his own choosing, but of the wild's.

The whole scheme of this paved garden is enhanced by the lavender growing all down the side of its low guardian wall. A few steps, crowned by Siberian wallflowers, lead to the rose garden, and this, too, is both free and formal, carrying forward the same underlying *motif*. The rose beds are set among smooth, faultless turf. The lily pool in the centre is austere almost in its simple lines. The straight paths surrounding turf and rose-beds are orderly tracks of limestone chips; and beyond them are straight limestone walls, dry-built, with generous spaces between the rocks.

It is the denizens of these crannies, luxuriant in leaf and blossom, that give the right contrast. The rose-beds and clipped lawns do not seem formal now, but are instinct with a pensive dignity. Before the roses add their own notes of colour, aubrietias are in full bloom. Rosea splendens has Micriana and Potter's Selected on either hand, and the three hues blend most happily together. Close to them Alyssum saxatile runs down its strip of wall in a flood of sunny gold, looking always as if new-washed by rain not long before.

Mother of thousands has its place here. When our grandfathers were young, the tiny, creeping beauty, with its pink-white bloom, crept out of wall crannies into their hearts, as it does into ours to-day. No drought dismays it. In a cared-for garden, or in the clefts of dry, neglected walls, its whole aim in life is to cover nakedness with a persuasive tender grace that is almost human in its wistful courage.

Double arabis, too, is here, flowing in white and green cascades next door to pink Erinus alpinus, and next door again is perennial candytuft, free-branched and profligate of blossom. A little farther on you are greeted by masses of that most beguiling alpine, the pink æthionema, garbed all in fresh, young health and beauty.

Digitized by Google

Above this garlanded wall stands what one may call a woodland belt of broom, ablaze with flower—Genista præcox, I believe it is, though by any other name it would make a glorious background for the wall's simplicity. And in among the broom runs white cerastium, budding fast. The country people name it Snow in Summer, an alluring title.

If I dwell upon the spring aspect of this garden, it is because this is the special festival-time of all rock gardens. High summer by and by will bring the roses. Lilies will rise in gracious array from the pool that seems now to give no hint of the wonder-time to come. The formal turf will be a clipped, weedless joy—an emerald carpet leading to the roses' feet.

The wall garden takes on another aspect now. Its effects are less bold and obvious than in spring; but in detail it has its victories, no less renowned than massed battalions. The rock pinks come to their own, and no flower of the whole year has more grace and winsomeness. It is so simple, so full of friendliness and smiles, and always suggests, somehow, that it is ready-gowned to trip it at some country fair.

When the broom has flowered its heart out on the banks above, great bushy clumps of feathery green have grown in front of it; and these break later on into a riot of alternate pink and white. The mallows have come into their kingdom, and there is a curious charm about this old-fashioned plant that is all too seldom cultivated nowadays. Backed by the slender tallness of the broom, its effect is free, yet trim.

Gentiana Farreri lives in one corner of wall garden. It is not a plant that anyone can grow successfully. It is, indeed, so shy and capricious that I class it among those wayward beauties which need wooing with solicitude and patience before they are well won. But, once won, gentiana has no half measures. She simply thrives. All blue flowers have, somehow, a hint of wistfulness about them, perhaps because they are the emblem of persistent hope. Lingering round Gentiana Farreri there will always be a deeper pathos to those who know that the man who gave his name to it gave his life also in pursuit of his work for alpine flora. It is as though blossoms of remembrance grow, not only on his grave, but in many an English garden corner when gentian blue looks up at us.

To complete the picture of this garden, one must take note of the paths spoken of as bordering the rose garden. They are rectangular and strictly weedless; but choice seedlings from the surrounding walls are allowed to claim a footing if it pleases them. It is astonishing how self-sown seedlings will mature and thrive in quarters where one could not hope to plant with the least success.

Through the limestone chips, violas, blue white and golden, have found root-hold to their liking. The moist freshness of the bloom, in contrast with the Quaker-grey of the chips, is delightful. So is the wild thyme's warm crimson, and bugloss when he sounds his bugles up the spring-time months. Iceland poppies, too, wander in little companies, and farinosa, beloved of all folk, finds ampler blossoms here, and richer colour, than on her native highlands, a mile away up the fells. HALLIWELL SUTCLIFFE.

THE VALUE OF FOLIAGE—IV

IN this article I particularly want to draw attention to some hardy trees and shrubs which, while lacking the brilliant colouring described on some former occasions, are notable for their more sober, but nevertheless beautiful foliage. This group offers a tremendously wide selection and in a short article it is really very difficult to start at all, but, once started, far more difficult to cease writing of such beautiful subjects as, say, Paulownia imperialis.

Young plants of this, grouped at 6ft. apart and cut down to ground level in March each year, will make magnificent leaves on single stems. On plants only planted in April last year and so treated, I measured leaves in the autumn 26ins. by 22ins., the stem being about 6ft. in height. P. imperialis, if allowed to grow naturally, will make a splendid tree, its foliage then being about 8ins. to 12ins. across, according to soil and situation. Another beautiful and very prettily foliaged tree is Ailanthus glandulosa; this, treated as recommended above, will throw enormous foliage, beautifully pinnate and fully a yard in length. Both are deciduous. Laurels and hollies are all useful for their evergreen qualities, but there is just one of each which stands alone for its magnificent covering of greenery, the laurel being Prunus Laurocerasus latifolia and the holly Ilex latifolia, the magnolia-leaved holly of Japan. Both are extra good and well worthy of a place in all large shrubberies. One of the finest berberis for foliage is Mahonia nepalensis from Kashmir, its elegant foliage often reaches a length of 2ft.; it makes a grand shrub and when laden with its large clusters of sweetly scented lemon coloured flowers, backed by the brilliant green foliage, it compares favourably with any other of the berberis family, even B. (or Mahonia) japonica Bealei.

VIBURNUM RHYTIDOPHYLLUM, EXCELLENT BOTH IN FOLIAGE AND FLOWER.

There are many beautiful things among berberis, but I must content myself by describing just the one variety or I shall find myself in the berberis bag and writing many pages, not even leaving space for that beautiful hardy evergreen, Elæagnus japonica macrophylla. This is a remarkable shrub and does well in coastal gardens. It bears large silvery-hued foliage and is always very ornamental. For sub-tropical effect the aralias are most useful subjects, bearing as they do such gigantic bi-pinnate foliage and, being rapid growers, soon filling their allotted space. Some of the varieties reach tree size and make truly remarkable specimens, especially when covered with the large heads of creamy-white flowers. The aralias appear to flourish in practically any soil or situation.

There is just one poplar which stands in splendid isolation from among its many relatives, Populus szechuanica. Its foliage is of great size, often reaching 12ins. in width by 14ins. in length; it is of a beautiful shade of green above, lined with pinky ribs,

Digitized by Google

ERIOBOTRYA JAPONICA IS A CONSPICUOUS OBJECT IN ANY SHRUBBERY WITH ITS LARGE SHINING LEAVES.

and beneath it assumes a delicate shade of pink or blush pink. The current year's wood is also brightly coloured. This tree, when more plentiful in the trade, is bound to be largely planted.

Another deciduous tree which calls for attention is Salix magnifica. This, a native of China, is really good, as it bears foliage sometimes as much as a foot in length of a lovely glaucous green colour, also it gives a certain amount of autumn colouring. My experience with this beautiful willow is that it grows best when well away from water, or wet positions, such as some other willows love. Eriobotrya japonica is a conspicuous object by reason of the very large and shining green foliage with which it clothes itself; individual leaves often measure 18ins. in length by 6ins. broad. This tree is more hardy than generally supposed. I have planted out two-year seedlings in very exposed positions, and although they had their foliage simply blown away, they grew and grew hard, for to-day they are flourishing plants, with foliage like boards and as hard as nails. Some of the older leaves turn a brilliant red in autumn and remain on the plant till springtime. But to see eriobotrya to perfection it requires the protection of neighbouring trees, when its foliage will be at its best; in the very coldest parts of the country it can be grown on high walls. Another newer variety is E. prianophylla; this, so far, appears to be hardy and has distinct evergreen foliage, 6ins. to 8ins. in length, rounded at the end and beautifuly dentated. Several viburnums are good foliage plants, but one variety, V. rhytidophyllum will suffice for this article and is certainly good, both for foliage and flower effect. One warning note: If one wants V. rhytidophyllum at its best, *do not plant* in windy positions. It is hardy, thrives well on chalk and in almost any aspect, its foliage is evergreen, 8ins. to 10ins. in length and up to 3ins. in width and of a delightful shade of dark green, the underside being coated with buff tomentum. I had almost forgotten to mention its autumn attraction—its beautiful fruits, red and black, which remain practically through the winter.

There are very many beautiful subjects which I have refrained from describing only because I feel certain they could not be obtained in sufficient quantity, or if described would lead many garden enthusiasts to try them in positions which would only mean failure.

Some such are Magnolia macrophylla, with leaves *two to three feet in length*. Guevina Avellana, Lomatia ferruginea, etc. There are specimens of such as these in the country, but they are few and far between. Rhododendrons offer us some truly magnificent foliage and the whole family of bamboos are most useful, but I must leave it for an abler pen than mine to describe them. Then comes that most varied, brilliant and easily grown family, the acers. I have already mentioned in my preceding article "A Selection of Maples," on page 456 a number of species and varieties which are well worth introducing to the shrubbery.

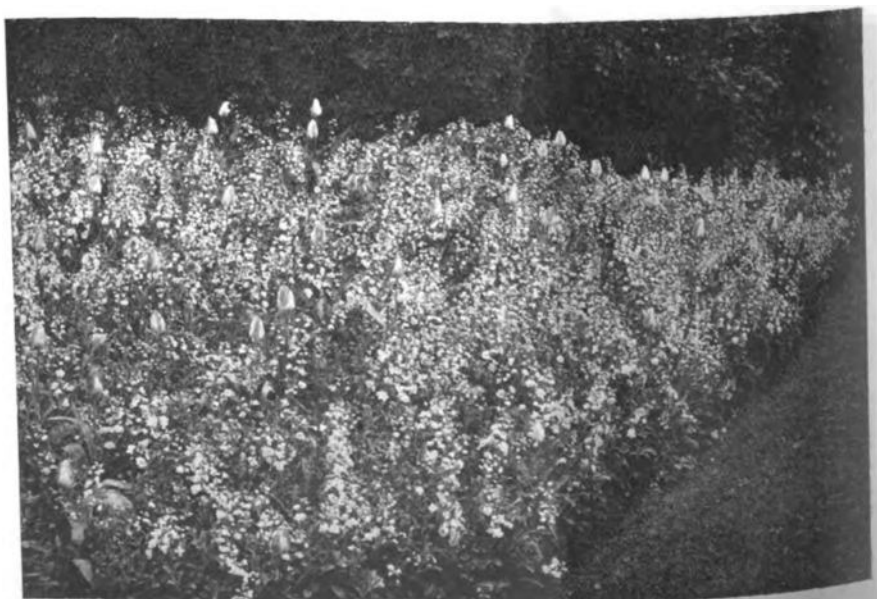
JOHN HILL.

SPRING BEDDING

In this article will be found a few suggested arrangements for the next year's spring garden. The earliest opportunity should be taken to procure the plants and carry out the planting during the next few weeks.

NOW is the time to think about spring bedding. The gardener possesses, and should utilise to the full, the privilege of looking ahead, of turning his back resolutely on the past; and of enjoying, without unduly dwelling upon, his present triumphs. Herein lies one of the secrets of successful achievement. Plan six months ahead and, more important still, do not be turned aside from your plan once it is made. The delights and distractions of modern gardening are so numerous that the temptation to daily with catalogues, to grow twenty things inadequately rather than half a dozen well, is almost overwhelming. But this temptation must be resisted with all the force at one's command, and especially in this matter of planning designs for bedding.

Summer bedding should be cleared by the beginning of October; the beds should be dug, manured and generally prepared for the spring show. It is a mistake to delay this work too long. The fact that the beds are going to look



A SPRING BED OF TULIPS WITH A CARPET OF DOUBLE ARABIS.

Digitized by Google

bare and unattractive for many months ought to have been faced when the beds were made originally, and spring plans should not be jeopardised on this account. Well stocked and well planned spring beds are a wonderful delight and are worth some sacrifices in the late autumn.

Variations without end can be played upon the fascinating theme of spring flowers, the only stipulation for success being, as I have said, that the variations should be developed in the early autumn and not left to mature until a few weeks before the effects are wanted.

The following are a few designs that have been tried with success; details may be changed and one flower substituted for another without upsetting the general scheme of colour and effect.

(1) Lemon-white and orange-coloured primroses, bordered with mauve violas, were intermingled with mauve and silvery pink tulips. This charming scheme was used in four long beds cut in grass surrounding an old grey stone sundial. The beds were seen against a yew hedge on one side and an open wood trellis on the other.

(2) A second scheme tried in the same beds consisted of lilac primroses, aubrietia and pansies. This gave an effect of level, unobtrusive colour which was exceedingly charming.

(3) For late spring, white Canterbury bells with a carpeting of silene (dwarf pink campion) are charming. They flower in June and July, and gladioli should be planted between the bells in spring to ensure a succession. Hardy chrysanthemums may be substituted for gladioli. The Canterbury bells should, of course, be planted in autumn.

(4) Wallflowers and narcissi combine beautifully in spring beds. Good varieties of wall flower are Cloth of Gold, Primrose Monarch, Purple Queen, and Eastern Queen (apricot).

(5) Most bulbs are excellent for spring bedding. A slight variation in the use of bulbs is a combination of primrose yellow hyacinths planted alternately with narcissi, the whole having a carpeting of arabis.

Single hyacinths produce finer spikes and are more reliable in the open ground than double varieties.

Where the cost of bulbs for beds is found to be somewhat heavy, a carpeting of myosotis, silene or arabis is very useful; again, large distant beds need not be planted so thickly as beds in the immediate foreground.

Speaking of bulbs, double tulips are not grown as much as they deserve to be. They are more economical than single varieties, as they fill more space, and they have a longer flowering period. The yellow varieties are specially pleasing.

(6) Polyanthus primroses in white, yellow and orange look well together, and they might have a carpeting of double white arabis which will balance the heaviness of the primroses.

WILD GARDEN CONSTRUCTION

LET us picture to ourselves an undulating area of woodland with open grass glades, as indicated in the diagram.

The higher ground lies to the western side of the pathway shown, with a low dell-like valley separating two mounds, (A) and (B). The mound (B) slopes gently into flat terrain underneath some sycamores in the south-west corner.

The entrance is on the north side. An iron paling (indicated by the dotted line) forms part of the boundary, behind which lies a bank of laurels. A bold hedgerow forms the western boundary.

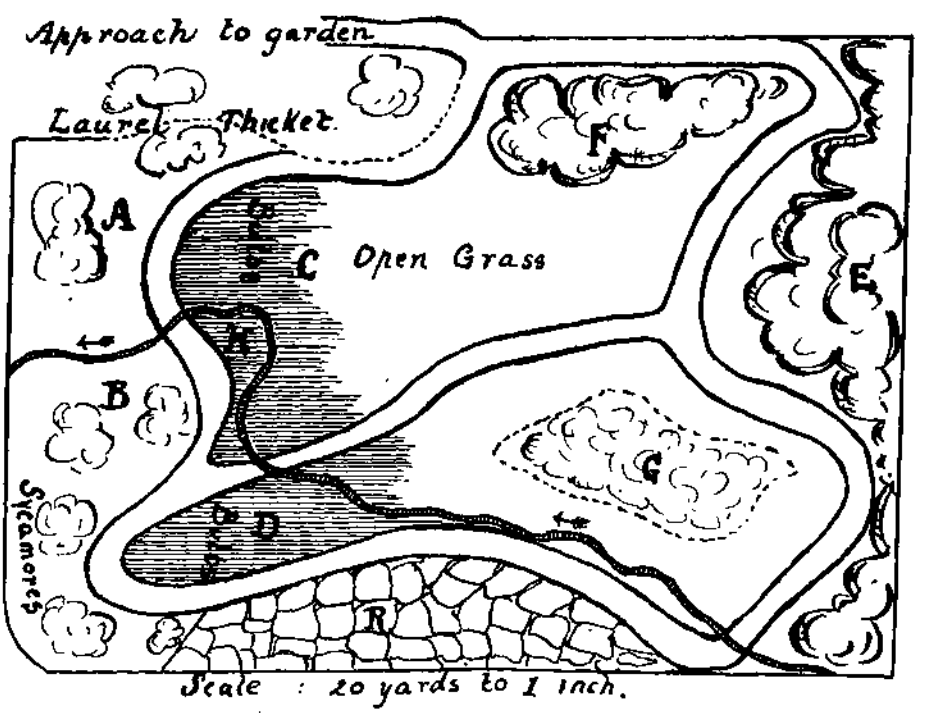
A large rockery (R) forms an outstanding feature on the southern side, which is bounded by a stone wall throughout.

The slopes (A) and (B) are planted informally with lilacs, syringas (philadelphus), buddleias and privet as a background, in front of which stand deutzias, forsythias, euonymus, common yellow broom and evergreen shrubs, including aucubas and butcher's broom. For the grassy slopes we require naturalised bulbs and wild garden plants such as primroses, ferns, American cowslips, giant cow-parsnip (heracleum), bluebells, daffodils, crocuses, scillas and snowdrops—the smaller bulbs strewn about the lower parts in irregular waves. Odd clumps of bamboos (Arundinaria nitida and A. Falconeri) add picturesqueness to the scene.

The low-lying parts (C) and (D) are suitable for more naturalised bulbs, such as bluebells and daffodils, sown broadcast. Dotted clumps are to be avoided in such sites. In the small patch (H) moist and swampy soil, irises would do well—*e.g.*, the yellow water flag (I. pseud-acorus), I. sibirica and I. germanica. The Gladwin iris (I. fœtidissima) and Butomus umbellatus (flowering rush) with water forget-me-nots would also be suitable.

Water is provided by the stream shown on the diagram.

In the plot marked (G) is a clump of Berberis Darwinii, with spiræas and isolated gorse bushes. In the south-east corner are some evergreen oaks which serve to shade this corner. The space marked (E) is also planted with shrubs spiræas, buddleias, elderberries, May trees, laurels, silver birch, lilacs and laburnums.



It is most important in the planting up of a wild garden that consideration be given to a selection of suitable shrubs, only those kinds should be introduced which require little attention in the way of clipping and grooming, and give every year a fine display of flowers. There are many shrubs which require space to show off their beauty, and these will give most satisfaction in the wild garden. The spiræas certainly ought to be included as they are most decorative in flower and foliage.

The eastern wall is constructed of stone, with rough coping, which serves as a bed for wall ferns, Cherianthus Allionii and valerians. The northern boundary is likewise a stone wall, but somewhat lower than the others, allowing a view over the adjoining fields.

The corner (F) is planted with shrubs and trees similar in character to those in the space (E).

E. A. SAUNDERS.

Digitized by Google

NOTES OF THE WEEK

ROSA WICHURAIANA.

BECAUSE it has been eclipsed in brilliance of colour by the many well known hybrids raised from it, R. Wichuraiana does not, I think, enjoy the esteem it deserves. At this season in particular it can put up a good claim for admiration, for it is one of the latest of all wild roses to flower and it will continue in bloom until practically all the aforesaid hybrids are over. But, apart from this, R. Wichuraiana stands almost alone in habit of growth, it being a creeping, or entirely prostrate, species—which means that it is of unique value as a shrub for covering slopes, rocky banks, low walls and the like. I have also grown it successfully among the dwarfer heaths through which the long slender branches thread their way for 15ft. to 20ft., tossing out at intervals an elegant panicle of snow-white flowers. Individually the blooms are about 2ins. across; they are delicately fragrant and a succession will be maintained from August until autumn is far advanced.

The foliage of R. Wichuraiana is evergreen and abundant, and the fresh glossy green, admirable at all seasons, makes an effective setting for the blossoms. A very robust and generally healthy rose (I have never known it to suffer from aphis or mildew), it will thrive in the poorest of soils, and annual growths of 10ft. are by no means uncommon even on my hot and shallow loam, which it shares with such good drought-resisters as double gorse, Erica cinerea and the lesser brooms.

R. W. var. rubra, which has flowers of a deep rose-crimson, I rather think is a pretty impostor. For though it may contain the "blood" of the true species, it is very different, not merely in colour but in foliage and habit. It sulks where the other prospers, it has a strong inclination towards an upright growth and, with me at any rate, it never escapes mildew. All of which makes one think that they are right who consider it to be no more than a hybrid between R. Wichuraiana and the old Crimson Rambler.—A. T. J.

SOME FORMS OF THE RED CEDAR.

OF the tree-like junipers which may often be met with in our parks and gardens, the Chinese juniper and the North American red cedar are the best and most ornamental. In Continental gardens the upright form of Juniperus chinensis is rarely seen, and this excellent and hardy species is mostly represented by the variety Pfitzeriana, that forms very broad pyramidal bushes with horizontally spreading branches and nodding tips. The low procumbent variety of the Chinese species, too, is rather common in middle Europe under the name of J. procumbens. By A. Henry and other authors it is, probably rightly, regarded as a good species.

Of the red cedar the tree-like type and columnar forms are often seen. This juniper is even more variable than the Chinese one. The most showy form of the red cedar, in my opinion, is the one called var. glauca or var. argentea. It is of rather vigorous growth and its foliage assumes a fine glaucous or silvery grey at least in the spring and early summer. Later on it becomes more greenish. The finest plant I have seen of this variety stands in the famous arboretum of the late Mr. G. Allard, La Maulevrie, at Angers, France. Years ago when I saw it, it formed a broad, rather loose pyramidal tree of about 30ft. high.

The specimen shown I photographed in the interesting evergreen park of Count I. Ambrozy - Migazzi at Malonya, Czecho-Slovakia. It forms a vigorous plant and its

A FINE PYRAMIDAL FORM OF THE RED CEDAR WITH FOLIAGE OF A BLUEY-GREY COLOUR.

blue appearance was doubled by the numerous fruits which are covered with a blue glaucous bloom. Young plants of the red cedar are always of a much more dense pyramidal growth, and therefore much more attractive from a garden point of view.

AN EARLY FLOWERING COLCHICUM, C. BYZANTINUM, WORTH A PLACE IN THE ROCK GARDEN.

The finest low-growing variety of the red cedar is var. tripartita that forms irregular spreading bushes. It is sometimes rather similar to forms of the Chinese juniper, but the scale-like leaves of this species are obtuse and not sharp pointed, and the juvenile acicular leaves of the Chinese are often arranged in whorls of threes and not always in pairs as in J. virginana.—CAMILLO SCHNEIDER.

SOME SCUTELLARIAS.

AMONG the few species of the genus scutellaria that may be met with in our gardens, S. alpina from the European Alps is best known as a handsome hardy rock plant. It forms rather broad and dense cushions which are densely covered with large purplish flowers in terminal racemes. It is a very valuable summer-flowering perennial, its flowers lasting almost from the beginning of July until the first week of September. There is a white flowered variety and also one called var. rosea.

Another variety, var. lupulina, is often regarded as a species, and offered in the trade under the name of S. lupulina bicolor. It is sometimes described as having yellow flowers, but this is certainly a mistake. The flowers are of a rosy or violet colour, but the lower lip is much paler than the tube and the upper one. Hence the name bicolor. Both the type and var. lupulina grow scarcely higher than 6ins. S. baicalensis is a much more vigorous plant. It is a species from eastern Asia, and more commonly known as S. macrantha. It reaches a height of 8ins. to 12ins. or even more, and has fine blue flowers which are of great ornamental value during July and August in a large rock garden or in the herbaceous border.

Both species like rather dry, sunny places and do not need any special care. S. baicalensis is most easily grown from seed in April or May, while S. alpina may be best increased by division in autumn or perhaps better in spring.

Another old-world species, S. orientalis, or pulchella, from the Altai mountains, is occasionally found in the gardens. It is related to alpina, but its leaves are tomentose beneath, deeply dentate, and the flowers are purple with a yellow throat or wholly yellow.—C. S.

COLCHICUM BYZANTINUM.

DURING the second half of August, Colchicum byzantinum makes a very lovely display of soft rosy lilac flowers in my garden, at a time when the rock garden is rather bare of bright colours. As the picture shows, this kind is distinct, owing to the large number of flowers which rise out of each corm. I counted on several established plants from twelve to fifteen blooms. Its very early time of flowering and the abundance of blossoms distinguish it clearly from its close relatives, C. Bornmulleri and C. speciosum, to which a note was devoted in your issue of August 14th. C. byzantinum comes, not from Byzantium (*lucus a non lucendo!*), but from other districts of southern Europe, chiefly Greece and Asia Minor. I grow it in a rather heavy moist soil in slight shade. The leaves produced in spring have a vague resemblance to a veratrum.

From among *spring*-flowering colchicum species I should suggest trying the very elegant pink C. hydrophilum, from Cilicia, and C. montanum (*L.* not *All.*) from south Europe and Orient. C. crociflorum (*Regel*, not of other authors) from central Asia may also be a very delightful early spring-flowering species, but, so far, I have not been able to get the true plant.—F. LEMPERG.

Digitized by Google

DOG'S TOOTH VIOLETS LOOK WELL IN THE ROCKERY.

THE ALPINE SPIRÆA.

Lutkea pectinata. THIS little alpine spiræa will prove a delight in any rock garden. Small in every way, its lovely flowering spikes are only about 4ins. high, each individual flower having six white small petals with glistening yellow stamens, while its foliage clings to the ground and resembles a mossy saxifrage.

It loves a sunny, fairly dry position, and in such a corner its leaves will colour well in the autumn. We have raised it from seed and increased it by cuttings, and it seems of easy propagation.

Its native home is in the mountains in western Canada, where it covers quite large areas. It belongs to the rose family, and flowers in June and July.—R. MOORE, *Thorpe Hall, Essex.*

A BEAUTIFUL SUN ROSE.

IF ever I were doomed to grow but one sun rose, my choice would assuredly be Helianthemum lunulatum. For this little shrublet of the Mediterranean coast is not only one of the loveliest and daintiest of its race—which is saying much — but I know of none other which will flower so abundantly for so long a period.

Semi-deciduous in this country, H. lunulatum has no sooner refurbished its compact, bunchy cushion of slender, more or less procumbent, twigs with the gleaming silver of its tiny oval-pointed leaves, than it greets the spring with a galaxy of its pretty yellow blooms. This brave show is maintained until about midsummer, when the plant has a brief interlude of rest to break into renewed splendour in August, whence it carries on well into autumn. The blossoms, over ½in. across, are a particularly pleasing shade of yellow, and each petal has at its base a crescent of orange. It is not, perhaps, absolutely hardy everywhere. But it will stand a lot of frost if the root-run is gritty and stony. In addition to this, thorough drainage and full sun are desirable. It may be grown on the flat, but prefers to flop over a rock face. Plants from cuttings will begin flowering when no bigger than a golf ball.—A. T. J.

A PLANT FOR SHADY CORNERS

AMONG spring-flowering subjects there are few more charming plants than the erythroniums or dog's tooth violets. They are little known among the majority of amateur gardeners, and only one, E. Dens-canis, is seen to any great extent in gardens, and that one perhaps the least striking of them all. It is difficult to suggest a reason why they should be so seldom grown. They are of easy culture and only ask for a cool shady corner in the rock garden or under trees in a light, rather moist but well drained soil. The corms are best planted now at about 5ins. deep, and need not be disturbed again. It is an ideal plant for the man who gardens in his spare time, as once it is planted it can be left to its own devices and rarely fails to throw up its beautiful lily-like flowers year after year, generally in April. There are any number to choose from, with flowers of many delicate shades of white, cream, pink, bright yellow and rose, and the best for the amateur are EE. revolutum and Howelli, for a shady rock crevice; and, for a more open and sunny spot, E. americanum. This latter species is one of the choicest of woodland plants and should be given a trial under trees where the shade is not too dense.—T. C.

JAPANESE ANEMONES.

AMONG plants in our gardens that denote by the opening of their blossoms the near approach of autumn, few are more familiar than the Japanese anemones. A. japonica and its numerous varieties, by their profusion, bring a freshness to the garden with their flowers fromAugust and right on into September. The blossoms are thrown up on stout stems well above the dark cushion of leaves. Anemones are, as is known, simple to grow, and give a good account of themselves if planted in loam and leaf-mould with a little rotted manure added. They are popular as town and suburban plants and stand the confines of a town much better than most. Two of their worst enemies are the slug, which attacks the young shoots in spring, and the earwig, which spoils both leaves and blooms unless frustrated. Anemones thrive well in a sunny or partially shaded position. Propagation is effected by divsion of roots in late autumn or spring, or from root cuttings struck in the warmth of a propagator in spring.

It is a matter for surprise that so many appear content to grow one or two of the old sorts like the rose-coloured japonica and its white form, and apparently overlook the fact that there are others in this most interesting family worthy of a place in the garden. Mention should be made that anemones do not like disturbance, and in choosing the site it should be one where they can be allowed to remain. They are capital for grouping in a border with other hardy flowering plants, and, if mulched occasionally with manure, will call for little trouble. In a dry season, however, they need copious supplies of water as they are among the first to feel ill effects of drought. In a mild season it is no unusual thing to be able to gather blossoms to the end of October, and if planted on a wall border where some temporary screen can be given one may catch some of these late flowers.

JAPANESE ANEMONES THRIVE IN SUN AND SHADE.

Digitized by Google

Intending planters should, as far as possible, include some of the after-mentioned varieties to give colour to the garden in autumn: Prince Henry, double rich pink; Lady Ardilaun, large pure white with broad petals; Elegantissima, semi-double, silvery rose flowers; Max Vogel, fine double pink; Whirlwind, pure white semi-double; Alice, lilac and carmine pink; Queen Charlotte, very strong growing, tall, bearing sheaves of deep pink, crimped blooms.—W. LINDERS LEA.

GARDENING WITHOUT SOIL.

NOT everybody realises that it is possible to grow quite a lot of things in the room garden without the use of any soil at all. Gardening without soil, naturally, has limitations, but it is surprising what can be done in this way. Here are a few ideas which the writer carried out with great success, although at no time was any soil, or even fibre, employed.

For instance, ivy cuttings with well ripened stems will grow for years in plain water. If the shoots are allowed to rest in bowls or jars of water, roots will be freely sent out. The upper part of the stem then starts active growth and quantities of fresh, green foliage are produced. A pretty screen for an empty fireplace may be secured by training the ivy stems over a light wooden frame. Change the water in the jars every ten days unless a lump of charcoal has been placed in each. Then the water will keep fresh indefinitely.

Very quaint little moss trees are easily made. Go out into the woods and collect some of those rounded cushions of the fork moss (leucobryum), which are usually so common. Now secure some forked twigs, selecting those that resemble miniature trees in shape. The lower part of the twig forms the trunk of the tiny tree and the forked parts the branches. Over each branch press three or four of the moss cushions, arranging so that the larger ones are towards the lower part and finishing with a small, rounded cushion at the top. The trunk of the small tree is inserted into a hole bored in a block of wood. all one has to do is to keep the moss cushions damp and these will remain fresh and green for a long while. A few of these moss trees form a most charming and attractive table decoration.

Many seedling plants can be grown on a damp sponge. Of course, the bright greenery of grass is attractive especially in the winter. A sponge thickly sown with grass seed and suspended by means of narrow red ribbon makes a very ornamental object for the garden without soil. Some of the common annuals, like flax, Virginian stock, etc., can even be induced to flower on a damp sponge or a piece of moist flannel. To get this effect keep the little seedlings covered with a glass shade of some kind. Of course the flowers will not be quite so fine as those developed in the ordinary way, but it is something of an achievement to grow a plant from seed to a flowering state without the use of any soil at all. A little soilless rock garden is a novelty that is worth carrying out. Get a shallow dish and in the bottom of this place a piece of felt or flannel folded several times. Soak well with water and pile up the tiny rocks or stones to form the rockery. In the rock crevices push tiny fragments of moss and insert little pieces of stonecrop, house leeks or similar succulents. As well sow pinches of seed of various kinds in the crannies. All one has to do is to keep the felt or flannel damp and by capillary attraction the moisture is continually passing up among the rocks forming the little garden.—LEONARD BASTIN.

LOGANS AND HYBRID BERRIES.

IT is an undoubted fact that logan and similar hybrid berries are fast coming into popularity, and rightly so, for most kinds bear immense crops of fruit of the very finest kind.

The loganberry is, up to the present, the most popular of these hybrids. Bushes bear very large crops of long, juicy, but acid, fruits; such fruits make excellent and beautifully coloured jelly, while they also prove popular in other fruit concoctions. The Phenomenal Berry is, with us, almost exactly like the logan; the fruits may be a trifle smaller, but otherwise they prove exactly the same. The total crop is equally as large as that from the former, and the fruits equally as useful. The lowberry is a black loganberry; the fruits are of great size, jet black in colour, and they possess, when fully ripe, the choice flavour of the bramble. A fault is its extreme vigour, as the shoots are frequently 10ft. and 12ft. long. Although the general appearance of the Laxtonberry bushes is that of the loganberry, and the treatment given exactly the same yet the fruits are much different: they are globular, a brighter red, juicy and sweeter than the others. It fruits all summer and bears enormous crops, but the fruits are inclined to break up when pulled; the flowers are "self-sterile," and the plants must be near raspberries, loganberries or brambles, in order to get satisfactory cropping.

The Hailshamberry is also distinct and can best be described as an autumn-fruiting raspberry of luxuriant growth. The fruits are raspberry-like in every way, and borne in bunches at the tips of the young canes. The King's Acre Berry, one of our latest introductions, is a bramble-raspberry hybrid and, like the lowberry, it favours the former in appearance and flavour. In other ways it resembles the logan, *i.e.* in growth and habit; it fruits at the same time, the fruits being black and sweet, with the pronounced bramble flavour. The Wineberry may not be a hybrid but a natural species; it carries large crops of small, round, orange-tinted berries; the flavour is rather poor and, on the whole, the plant is scarcely worth a place. It is ornamental and the fruits ripen at the end of August.

One cannot overlook the brambles or blackberries among the autumn berries, but, of course, they are not hybrids. The Himalayan Berry, said by some to be a hybrid bramble, is a fine variety; it is a vigorous grower, and the fruits ripen rather earlier than the brambles; the flavour of the fruits is fine when they are fully ripe, and they are best used in jams and jellies. Old canes are not cut away in this hybrid, except when thoroughly exhausted.

All these autumn fruits are worthy of their place in a fruit garden, with the exception mentioned above. They are easy to grow; indeed, they all grow luxuriantly, and it needs a brave grower to tackle them at pruning time. In the small garden they do best on arches, pergolas or poles, or they may be allowed to ramble over a hedge or shed. In a fruit garden the best results may be had when they get ample space, a sunny site and good free soil, inclined to the heavy side. Pruning is carried out when the fruits have been harvested, the old canes being cut away at soil level and the new canes tied into position.—CLYDESDALE.

NURSERIES OF THE BRITISH ISLES.—IV

MESSRS. BAKERS' NURSERIES AT CODSALL

IF one was given the choice of a site for establishing a garden and the growing of all manner of plants, there are few who would be likely to alight on Wolverhampton as an ideal gardening spot. Yet such are the anomalies in gardening, that one finds in Codsall, only five miles out of the town and close to the Shropshire border, the flourishing nursery of Messrs. Bakers. The extent of the nursery at present is some ninety acres and the position, which is a rather exposed one, and the soil, which could not be called hospitable, must, we should imagine, prove that the growing of plants can be a rather difficult proposition at times. From the amateur gardener's point of view, however, the situation is a good one in that the plants which leave this establishment should prove hardy in almost any part of these islands. The plants, if they thrive under difficult climatic conditions not entirely conducive to good gardening, will certainly go forward by leaps and bounds when accommodated in a garden where good soil and shelter are provided.

Notwithstanding all these difficulties, however, Messrs. Bakers have built up a most successful business, which shows every promise of extending in the near future. All kinds of plants are grown, but the principal stocks are those of hardy border plants and alpines, and roses, shrubs and trees. Among hardy border plants, chief attention is being paid to the delphinium, astilbe and lupin, with one or two subsidiary subjects, and no doubt, as extension takes place, other kinds will be taken up and developed.

Everywhere there is evidence of their desire to please those whom they serve. They do not specialise in any particular line of work, but rather spread their interests over all branches of gardening wherein they can be of more use to the suburban gardener, a very important point in these days of ultra-specialisation. By their catholic tastes and their tolerant attitude to the amateur and his difficulties, they have done much to raise the standard of suburban gardening in this country and they deserve no little praise from those who desire to see our large industrial areas made the more beautiful by the presence of flowers, shrubs and trees. They have set themselves out to please the amateur gardener, whose ranks are swelling annually, and that they have already succeeded is beyond doubt, if one judges by the extent of their nursery and business. But there is still room for further expansion and improvement and we look forward to the future when still more Messrs. Bakers will become an integral part of the amateur gardener's life.

One of the most interesting parts of the nursery, at least to the ordinary amateur visitor, will be the well laid-out private garden of Mr. J. S. Baker, which is a pleasant and attractive retreat, open to all visitors to the nurseries. It is an innovation which many of our nurseries would do well to adopt, as the amateur grower obtains a much better idea of the characters of the respective plants, how they should be grown and the positions they should occupy in the garden proper. There are many features in this garden, such as the low retaining wall, which will prove to the amateur that each can be utilised and fitted in to his own garden scheme. The Codsall stone, rather attractive in appearance, a mixture of sandstone and limestone, lends itself to this treatment and gives considerable character to the wall. Moreover, the plants seem to take kindly to it and succeed well in

Digitized by Google

its crevices. All over the nursery, and in this private garden in particular, the herbaceous plants do extremely well, and the beginner will learn something more of the value of selecting plants for certain positions and of proper grouping for colour harmony and height. Many groups of delphinium varieties stand out prominently and the tall elegant spikes of such as "Jean" and "David," presented pictures of pleasant tranquillity. Particular use is made of shrubby backgrounds to the herbaceous flowers—an important point in garden design, and the amateur grower will realise their enormous value in this respect alone. Here lies one of the lessons to be learned in this show garden. It demonstrates how the shrubs seen elsewhere in the nursery in their respective lines and rows are to be utilised in association with other plants in the garden. It was here, also, that we noticed a very fine specimen of Cotoneaster salicifolia which had attained some 12ft. in height, although only planted as a dwarf bush some three years ago. It is a shrub, judging from its capabilities as seen in this garden, which is eminently suited as a screen plant, almost guaranteed under reasonable treatment to form an effective screen hedge in about two to three years time. In addition, it has considerable beauty of flower, which renders it doubly attractive. In summer, the blaze of colour is most effective, but in spring the garden is not without charm, with its complement of early-flowering cherries and late-flowering pears. In autumn, too, the display is maintained by the use of chrysanthemums and asters, both of which Messrs. Bakers specialise in to some extent. There is little doubt that as well as being an effective and interesting flower garden, it stands as a prominent educational feature of the nurseries and a monument to the enterprise of the firm. Every amateur should certainly make a point of seeing it when on a visit to the nurseries.

In the nursery grounds, everything is on an extensive scale. The alpine department, almost as large as the hardy border department, is entirely self-contained and possesses its own propagating houses and frames, all arranged in an orderly method. One sees in this department something equivalent to mass production in the raising and growing of alpine plants. The visitor will also notice that the modern concrete frame has replaced the old wooden type with the most successful results, to judge from the growth and general health of the plants.

The shrub department, recently greatly extended, is also on a large scale and offers a wide selection in all kinds of shrubs, all of which are either raised from seed or grown from cuttings on the premises. In that way, good sturdy plants are the outcome and purchasers can be certain of being supplied with real home-grown material—a great asset in these days when so many of our plants are imported. Fruit trees are also plentiful and all looked to be in a healthy condition. Spraying is carried out at regular intervals to insure against disease.

HERBACEOUS FLOWERS DO WELL AT CODSALL. GATHERING FOR THE MARKET.

CORNER OF THE SHRUB GARDEN AT MESSRS. BAKERS'.

Among the many hardy plants delphiniums and lupins were present in the greatest numbers. One break of some eighty thousand delphiniums looked most effective; while, from the point of view of colour, the bed of the new Lupin Delight, of a brilliant carmine shade, stood out from its neighbours.

Another excellent border subject of which we saw a large stock was the astilbe, unfortunately not in flower. The size of the individual plants and their elegant habit were most remarkable. There were other subjects, all showing patches of rich colour here and there over the nursery, but space does not permit of a detailed list.

One more point in connection with Messrs. Bakers to which we would draw attention is that branch of the business devoted to garden design and construction, which we believe has been increasing enormously of late years. The nursery has much to offer in the way of interest and education in horticulture and no amateur will regret a visit to Codsall, where he will learn something of the commercial side of growing plants and in addition will pick up much information which he will find of great service in his own garden.

THE ALPINE PROPAGATING HOUSE.

Digitized by Google

CORRESPONDENCE

THE CHEROKEE ROSE.

SIR,—I do not think the Cherokee Rose requires any special aspect, as long as it has a wall at its back. I had it for over fifteen years on a west wall. I now am growing it on an east as well as on a south-west wall. It is certainly worth growing.—D. B., *Uckfield, Sussex.*

WINTER ACONITES.

SIR,—Mr. W. Linders Lea in THE GARDEN (September 4th, 1926), expresses some surprise that that charming little bulb, Eranthis hyemalis, is not more frequently grown. Possibly, however, the reason for this is that in some gardens it is a complete failure. It is in mine. For many years I bought every autumn a hundred or more bulbs—probably between 1,000 and 2,000 altogether—but the result was always the same, to wit, about 90 per cent. flowered the first season after planting; 20 per cent. the second and from 1 to 10 per cent. in ensuing seasons. I have now ceased to buy and every year I get a great display of pretty green leaves, but rarely more than half a dozen flowers. If anyone can tell me why this should be so, I shall be greatly obliged. The bulbs have been obtained from three different firms, all first-class, and planted in full sun and also under deciduous trees, but with equally unsatisfactory results. My soil is very light, dry and full of lime. Does this account for my failure, which annoys me very much?

May I say that winter aconites are delightful as cut flowers, if arranged in shallow bowls lightly filled with tufts of mossy saxifrage? A few little red-veined ivy leaves may be added with advantage.—R. E. H., *Bath.*

NAMES OF EARLY POTATOES.

SIR,—In reply to Mr. Geo. Stuart, *re* "Early Potato Names," in THE GARDEN of August 14th, page 462, he now contends that Victory is merely a re-baptised Duke of York; he also says that a raiser must be protected.

As the late Mr. Sim of Fyvie was the raiser of both these potatoes, I really cannot see what bearing protection would have in this particular instance, or how applied. To say that the raiser re-baptised Duke of York and put it out as a new potato under the name of Victory, casts a reflection on the reputation of a renowned potato raiser. As indicated in an earlier issue, Victory was the result of a cross between Duke of York and Fyvie Flower. The raiser gave it to growers in the firm and sincere belief that he had given growers an improved Duke. The really good types of these potatoes found here and there throughout the country, and being re-baptised as Duke, are no doubt remnants of the original seeds of Victory that have been preserved. The climatic conditions and soil of Deeside, and part of Aberdeen and Kincardineshire, appear to suit the healthy development of the Duke of York type to a remarkable degree. We may say that we are clear from all virus, mosaic and wart disease, which these potatoes appear to be heir to. Our potatoes, in consequence, are usually all fine healthy, clean, well developed specimens, and we are easily able to detect a deteriorated stem. It also enables us to speak with confidence on the matter.

It was not to sustain a dogmatic argument that I took up the defence of Victory, nor am I going entirely on my own experience; I have the support of other growers of long experience, and of exhibitors of potatoes.

I note that I made an error in stating "a quarter of an acre" as the scheduled area; it was a clerical one, however, as everyone interested in potatoes knows the scheduled regulations.

Compulsory lifting of potatoes in the middle of August undoubtedly imposes a hardship on many at that season of the year when other important work has to be done. The latter consideration deters many from the planting of early non-immunes.

Mr. Stuart says that there are as good immune early potatoes as non-immune. He is unquestionably right. The Di Vernon he mentions is a splendid potato, of excellent quality, and an exceptionally heavy cropper. Unfortunately, we find it to be ten to fourteen days later than Duke or Victory. Witch-hill, decidedly the best table potato of them all, is but a second early. I note that Mr. Stuart lifted his Di Vernons on June 23rd; here we lifted Victory on June 10th—large tubers.

I believe if the Board of Agriculture devoted a good deal of their money to further the raising of early immune varieties, and the giving of prizes of some value to that end, it would be a real benefit to practical agriculturists. These only to be awarded in the case of the production of an immune potato of equal earliness to that of Duke or Victory. If this could be accomplished, the Board could make it compulsory to scrap and destroy all non-immunes completely, immaterial of what area they were grown upon. It would ultimately save a vast annual expenditure upon our endless string of regulations, printing, postage, etc., and would be the only real solution to this problem.—W. GRANT, *Crathes, Kincardineshire.*

VEGETABLES AT WESTMINSTER

THE Royal Horticultural Society's Amateur Vegetable Show, held in conjunction with the general fortnightly meeting on September 7th, brought home two points. First, that, when properly displayed, vegetable exhibits can be quite as attractive as fruit or flowers; and secondly, that during the last few years the quality of vegetables grown in private gardens has improved considerably, in many cases being equal to that of the vegetables raised by the leading trade exhibitors in the country. In some instances the staging and method of arrangement were not all that could be desired, but it must be remembered that the amateur cannot be expected to come up to trade growers in this matter, for he has neither the same experience nor the same scope. This point was emphasised by the magnificent non-competitive vegetable group displayed by Messrs. Sutton and Sons, a group which was not restricted as to space, variety or quantity of material used. In this collection were countless vegetables of all kinds, admirably grown and staged. Brilliant orange capsicums, red and white blotched ornamental podded French beans, pure white egg plants, and the shiny brown skins of huge selected strains of Ailsa Craig onions made a most attractive contrast against tender green beans and peas.

The foremost amateur group was that shown by Viscount Hambledon, who won not only a first prize, but the Sutton Vegetable Cup also. The leeks, parsnips and onions in this collection were of excellent quality. Sir Charles Nall Cain, Bt., came second in this class, Sir Joseph Tichbourne third and Lord Riddell fourth. The latter had some remarkably good specimens of onions and tomatoes. For a smaller vegetable collection Mr. R. Chetwynd-Stapylton was awarded the first place. Particularly good were his leeks (variety Acquisition). Mr. R. H. Ling took the first prize for a collection of six distinct kinds of vegetables, and in a similar class Mr. J. Day had the best group. In all these vegetable groups it was somewhat surprising to see that, in many cases, the same varieties had been selected. Tomato Best of All, Onion Ailsa Craig, Potatoes Catriona and The Bishop, Cauliflower All the Year Round, were general favourites and, indeed, excellent exhibition varieties.

The onions exhibited were of good size and shape and of fine finish. Improved Reading, Silver Globe and Crimson Globe were some of Viscount Hambledon's prize varieties. Celery Solid White and the cabbage lettuce Ideal, shown by Viscount Hambledon among a collection of salad vegetables, were of splendid size and quality.

Numerous classes were devoted to single dishes of separate vegetables. Major C. B. Krabbe, Sir Charles Nall Cain and Mr. J. H. Hill showed prize beans; and the following were awarded first prizes: Mr. J. Head, for globe beet; Sir Joseph Tichbourne, Bt., for long beet and onions; Mr. S. Thompson, for Brussels sprouts; Viscount Hambledon, for cabbages, cucumbers and onions; the Hon. Sir Ronald Lindsay, for celery; Cheadle Royal Mental Hospital, for celery, peas, turnips (white and yellow fleshed); Mr. R. Chetwynd-Stapylton, for cucumbers; Mr. J. Fleming, for leeks; Mr. J. Wells, for marrows; Mr. R. B. Hoare, for mushrooms; Sir Randolf Baker, for parsnips and carrots; Mr. R. Abel-Smith for onions; Mr. W. H. Tyzack, for carrots; Mr. G. Thorn, for potatoes; and Mr. R. H. Ling, for tomatoes.

As well as vegetables exhibited by amateurs, there were non-competitive groups of flowers and fruit put up by the trade. Mr. T. Rivers had an excellent group of well grown pot fruit. His specimens of the Plum President were bearing heavy crops of large fruit. The peach (variety Sea Eagle) was well laden. A collection of plums in dishes and pot-grown espalier and bush-trained fruit trees was displayed by Messrs. J. C. Allgrove. Several interesting new apple varieties, such as Bedford Pippin, Laxton's Harvester and Beauty of Bedford were exhibited by Messrs. Laxton.

Great strides are being made in the evolution of the montbretia. Large blooms of brilliant and varied colouring are borne on strong wiry stems by these modern varieties. Some of the finest, such as His Majesty, Queen Charlotte, Copper King and Sunshine were shown by Messrs. Barr and Sons. Unfortunately, Messrs. Dobbie's fine strain of China asters, which otherwise would have made a most attractive group, showed marked signs of damage by the recent violent gales and heavy rains. Late Beauty Carmine Rose was a delightful colour; Early Beauty Crimson and Late Beauty Purple were also good. A collection of late-flowering herbaceous phlox came from the nursery of Mr. H. J. Jones.

Gladioli were exhibited by a number of firms. Mr. Alfred Edwards and Messrs. Kelway and Co. had the finest collections. Among Mr. Edwards' well staged group a number of beautiful varieties were noted. Topsy, Xanthia and Ethel, among the primulinus section; while Orby and Caruso, belonging to the large-flowered type, were perhaps the most attractive. Messrs. Lowe and Gibson and The Orpington Nurseries also showed gladioli. All gladioli growers have suffered heavy losses through the recent bad weather, and not one exhibitor was able to show a representative collection.

A particularly good strain of giant-flowered streptocarpus of varying shades was shown by Messrs. Cuthbert. Tritoma erecta and perennial scabious were shown by Mr. Isaac House; Cupressus Lawsoniana Lanei

Digitized by Google

by Mr. H. Lane; and Solidago Hemsley's Dwarf by Mr. H. Hemsley. This solidago should prove a most useful acquisition for the herbaceous border. It grows about 3½ft. tall, is erect in habit, floriferous, and has attractive dark foliage.

ORCHIDS.

BRASSO-LÆLIO-CATTLEYA IRMA (B.-L.-C. The Baroness × L.-C. Golden Queen).—A beautiful flower both in formation and colour. The sepals old gold, the petals yellow with a delicate apricot tinge, the open labellum best described as orange-flame, margined with cerise-purple. From Baron Bruno Schröder. First-class certificate.

ODONTONIA REGINA (Odontonia Gladys × Odontoglossum Doreen).—A charming hybrid which takes the form of a large odontoglossum. The sepals and petals heavily blotched with crimson-purple, the labellum profusely marked with small rose-purple spots. From Messrs. Charlesworth and Co. Award of merit.

LÆLIO-CATTLEYA CANTAB VAR. SUNSET (C. Ballantineana × L.-C. St. Gothard).—A very showy hybrid with a spike of three large flowers. In colour rich purplish mauve, the labellum ruby-crimson with golden venation in the throat area. From Messrs. Stuart Low and Co. Award of merit.

THE AUTUMN ROSE SHOW

THE jubilee year of the National Rose Society has been one of the most outstanding and successful years in the history of the Society. During this season numerous shows have been held throughout the country, and at each one competition among the exhibitors has been keen, and countless rose lovers have flocked to see the beautiful displays of our national flower. Interest at these shows has centred mainly round two classes of roses—those that are of value for garden decoration and those whose chief merit lies in their delightful fragrance. It could be clearly seen at this autumn show that the raisers of new seedling roses had considered these points well, and although the number of awards given to new roses was small, there were several new varieties exhibited which should prove good all-round garden roses.

THE NURSERYMEN'S CLASSES.

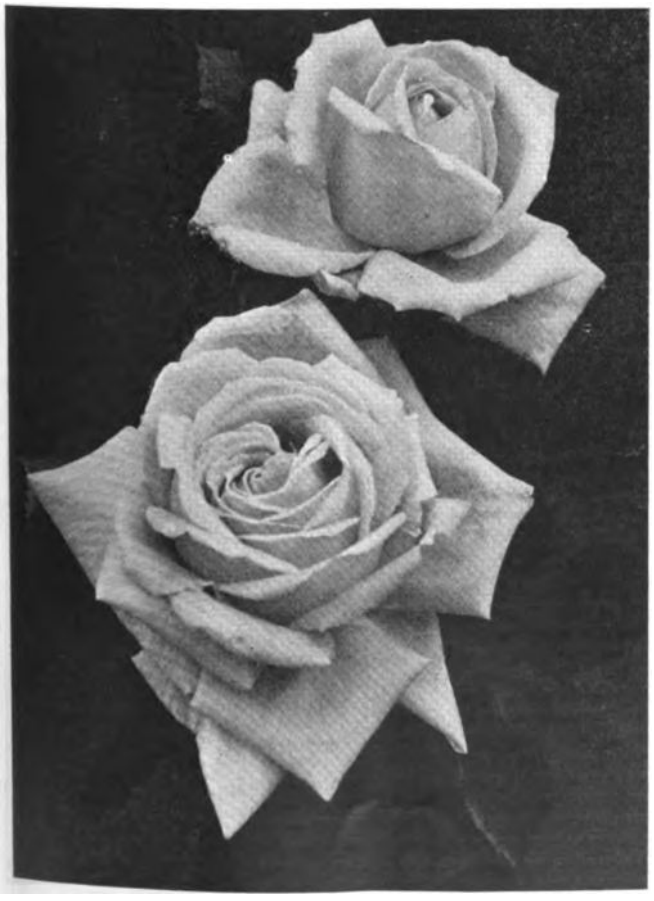
As is usual at the shows of the National Rose Society, the large trade group presented a magnificent spectacle.

Within the limits of space allowed, the exhibitors in the class for the large representative group of cut roses were particularly successful. Of the nine collections, there could be no doubt but that the very best was arranged by Messrs. S. McGredy and Son. This was noteworthy for the splendid quality of the very many blooms as well as for the excellence of the arrangement. They were particularly happy in the finish, and the trails of Phyllis Bide and small vases of Lady Inchiquin, Lady Roundway and other sorts leading up to the larger quantities, had a very telling effect. Their pillars of Mrs. Henry Morse, Margaret McGredy (of glowing colour), Betty Uprichard and Mabel Morse, and the baskets of the deep pink Mrs. H. Barraclough, White Ensign, Diadem and Padre, were most handsome. This memorable exhibit received the silver-gilt medal and first prize.

In the second prize group of Messrs. Alex. Dickson and Sons, there were very charming baskets of Mrs. Wemyss Quinn, Betty Uprichard, Shot Silk and Lady Inchiquin, with generous pillars of Madame Edouard Herriot and Margaret Dickson Hamill. The third prize was awarded to Mr. C. Gregory.

Competition was not so keen in the class for a smaller, though still larger group, of roses, and here the first prize was won by Messrs. R. Harkness and Co., who had a very fascinating series of arches of Betty Uprichard and Mrs. Henry Morse at the back. In the centre and towards the front they placed delightfully arranged baskets of Los Angeles, Lord Charlemont, Hadley, K. of K. and Isobel. Mr. John Mattock, who was second, had a pleasant arrangement of pillars of Isobel, Vesuvius, Red Letter Day and Betty Uprichard. Mr. G. Lilley was third.

The three exhibits of twenty-four varieties of roses in separate vases provided an excellent opportunity for examining the habit as well as the beauty of the flowers, and all those shown were of good garden value. Mr. John Mattock had, in his first prize collection, splendid vases of Mrs. Henry Morse, Hadley, Innocence, Betty Uprichard and Los Angeles, Mr. Henry Street was second, and he included Mabel Morse, Christine, Innocence and Emma Wright. Messrs. A. Warner and Son, the third prize winners, used Mrs. McKellar, of cool lemon yellow colour; Lady Pirrie, Mrs. Henry Morse and other good sorts.



DAME EDITH HELEN, THE BEST SCENTED ROSE OF THE YEAR.

ROSE PATIENCE, ONE OF MESSRS. MCGREDY'S NEW VARIETIES.

Digitized by Google

The method of exhibiting roses in round baskets is also very useful to the visitor as this entails the cutting of the blooms with long stems, and so one may appraise their vigour and freedom in flowering. Messrs. Wheatcroft Brothers were certainly first with four baskets of decorative varieties, for they showed Mme. Butterfly, Mrs. H. Stevens, the Queen Alexandra Rose and Shot Silk splendidly. Messrs. T. Smith and Sons had good baskets of Mme. Edouard Herriot, Ophelia and British Queen in their second-prize exhibit. Messrs. D. Prior and Son won the first prize for three baskets of Polyantha roses even more easily, for the second prize was not awarded. They showed lovely baskets of Else Poulsen, Kirsten Poulsen and Orange King. The exhibition roses in baskets were not of such good quality as the other types. Messrs. T. Smith and Son were first with two baskets of fairly good blooms of Earl Haig and Mrs. John Laing; while Mr. G. Burch was second with George Dickson and Frau Karl Druschki.

Many of the exhibition roses exhibited on boards also showed signs of the recent inclement weather. There were only two collections of twenty-four distinct varieties, and the best, shown by Messrs. T. Smith and Sons, included good blooms of George Dickson, Mrs. C. Lamplough, Frau Karl Druschki, Augustus Hartmann and Souvenir de Georges Pernet. Messrs. Prior and Sons' second prize collection included some weather-stained blooms, but their Snow Queen, M. Louis Crette, Coronation and Florence Forrester were good.

The eighteen varieties were rather better in the first prize exhibit of Mr. George Prince, who had clean and bright specimens of Caroline Testout, H. V. Machin, Frau Karl Druschki, Earl Haig and George Dickson.

Amateur Section.

The roses shown by amateurs varied considerably. Some were badly damaged by rain, others again were of fine quality. Many beautiful roses in vases were exhibited, and in the classes for exhibition roses competition was keen and the blooms were good. In one of the classes for amateurs who grow their roses without any assistance, Miss B. H. Langton won a first for vases of six different varieties, her best being Los Angeles and Mme. Edouard Herriot. General McArthur and Betty Uprichard were among the second prize group of Mrs. H. Cribb. In a similar class Mr. W. E. Moore had prize vases of Shot Silk and Hadley. The vase of roses shown by Mr. A. C. Turner was far superior to any of the others in the same class.

Among the exhibition roses George Dickson proved to be a great favourite. Mrs. Henry Bowles was also used by the majority of the exhibitors, and perhaps the best specimen was seen among the collection of twelve prize blooms shown by Mr. H. Mitchell. In this class Mr. J. N. Hart had excellent blooms of Frau Karl Druschki, and Mr. Gulliver Speight was awarded a prize for a collection of exhibition roses.

The roses shown in baskets varied also, both in the condition of the blooms and in the arrangement. Mrs. H. Cribb, Mr. S. E. Tattershall and Mr. H. Mitchell had good first prize baskets.

As a whole, there was a great similarity between the table decorations, and little originality was shown in arrangement. Mme. Butterfly or Roselandia were used by the majority. In the ladies' section, first and second prizes were won by Mrs. Courtney Page and Mrs. F. Charlton for tables decorated with Roselandia and Mme. Butterfly respectively. In each case the blooms were perfect. A particularly artistic table was arranged by Mrs. Colston Hales. Two large bowls filled with Isobel and Betty Uprichard were set diagonally across the table, and one small vase was placed at each corner. In the open artistic section, both Mrs. L. R. May and Mrs. Tisdall used Mme. Butterfly for table decoration. Mrs. L. R. May's blooms were fresh and spotless and her table gained the premier award. The second prize went to a pretty decoration by Miss M. G. Archer. Dainty Bess, the shell pink single, had been used for this table.

Mrs. Courtney Page again won a first prize for a vase of Mme. Butterfly. There are few who are able to arrange roses so skilfully as Mrs. Courtney Page. Her bowl of mixed roses also took a first prize. The bowl was lightly arranged with roses of all colours and attractive rose foliage. Mrs. Oakley Fisher came second for a bowl of roses. The bowls in this class were all good. In the open artistic classes, the first prize went to Mrs. A. R. Bide for a bowl of Phyllis Bide and Angele Pernet, an attractive combination.

New Roses and Special Awards.

Patience was awarded a gold medal. This is a salmon pink hybrid tea shaded with orange. The buds are pointed and the foliage good. It is a perpetual flowering rose, slightly fragrant, with a free and bushy habit, and will be excellent for either garden decoration or for bedding. Shown by Messrs. S. McGredy.

Dame Edith Helen received the Clay Cup for the best scented rose raised during the year. It is a vigorous growing hybrid tea, with large shapely blooms of bright carmine pink. It is very sweetly fragrant and is said to keep its colour remarkably well. Shown by Messrs. Alex Dickson.

J. Ferris received a certificate of merit. This hybrid tea variety has large creamy white blooms borne on strong stems. It is free and upright in habit and perpetual flowering. As an exhibition rose this variety should be of value. Shown by Dr. Campbell Hall.

Charles P. Kilham, also, was awarded a certificate of merit. This is a bright pink hybrid tea which is shaded and blended with orange. The colour is uncommon. In shape, the blooms are long and pointed and are borne on particularly stiff, strong stems. The foliage is shiny and very dark, and appears to be mildew resistant. Shown by Messrs. G. Beckwith.

Thelma won the Cory Cup for the best new rambling rose. It was shown at the Spring Rose Show, when it won a certificate of merit. It is a vigorous and fairly free flowerer. The blooms are a pale pink. Raised by Messrs. Walter Easlea and Sons.

George Dickson.—This well known old variety was awarded a silver gilt medal for one of the best roses exhibited in the nurserymen's classes. Shown by Messrs. T. Smith.

THE DAHLIA SHOW

THE organisers of a dahlia show need be thorough-going optimists, for, as is well known, the dahlia is the most tender of the flowering plants grown to any extent in our gardens, and the slightest of frosts, which leaves other plants none the worse for its visitation, will destroy effectually the hopes of a good show of dahlias. For some years the weather has been kind to the National Dahlia Society, in that there has been no early frost until after the annual show. This good fortune continues, and on September 8th last the Society had an admirable show of the newest and best, as well as of many old favourite, dahlias at the Royal Horticultural Hall, Westminster.

The large trade groups, aranged in the conventional manner around the hall, made a splendid frame for the competitive classes. These generous displays of bloom attracted the well merited attention of many of the visitors and, as there was a pleasant variety in the styles of arrangement as well as in the types and sorts so admirably arranged, the groups escaped the monotony which at times afflicts such exhibits.

The most effective of the many collections was that of Mr. H. J. Jones, who, with great artistry, associated his dahlias with exceptionally good secondary spikes of delphiniums and brilliant kniphofias. Mr. Jones arranged his flowers in many medium-sized gilt baskets, every one of which was a picture in itself, while part of a harmonious whole, well worthy of the gold medal.

From the pure dahlia point of view, the palm was given to Messrs. Dobbie and Co. for a superb collection of dahlias. This was of varieties chiefly of the decorative collarette type, all raised by them, and the colour associations were delightful; the flowers themselves were, of course, excellent examples of cultural skill. The judges awarded this imposing exhibit a large gold medal.

Gold medals were awarded to Mr. J. B. Riding, Mr. J. T. West and Messrs. J. Cheal and Sons for their admirable collections of dahlias. The first-named specialised in the large decorative types; while Mr. West gave special prominence to the useful small peony-flowered varieties, of which he has raised so many; and Messrs. Cheal and Sons set out in front of their exhibit many baskets of dwarf single varieties of the type now termed "mignon" dahlias, which are on trial at Wisley this year.

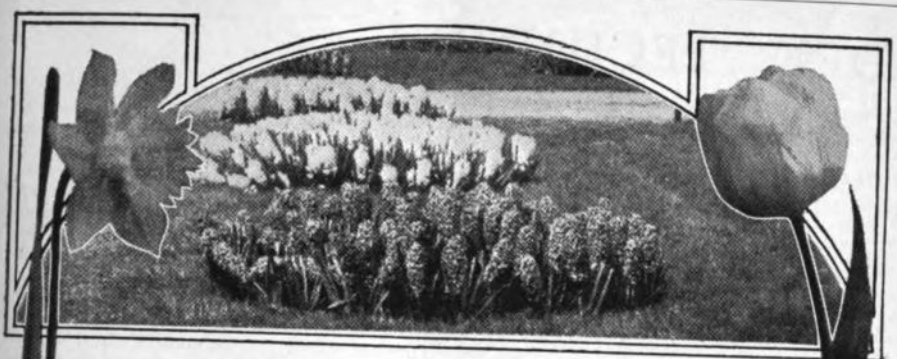
In a corner space Messrs. Jarman and Co. set up a most artistic display, largely of excellent cactus varieties, well worthy of the silver-gilt medal, an award which was also made to Mr. J. Emberson for equally good cactus and other varieties; and to Messrs. Carter Page and Co. for an extensive collection of most of the types best suited for garden display. Messrs. Waterer, Sons and Crisp and Mr. H. Hemsley also had interesting collections of dahlias.

Most of the competitive classes were well filled with very good blooms. The outstanding features were the exhibition cactus and the dainty pompon varieties. Messrs. J. Stredwick and Son, in the open classes, and Mr. A. Brown of Leagrave, and Mr. A. T. Barnes of Bedford, in the amateurs' classes, were the chief prize-winners. Their best varieties were Herbert Blackman, Supreme, Mammoth, Mrs. W. Jackson, Mrs. A. Harvey, Edgar Jackson, Edith Page and S. J. Jones. Again the tiniest and most perfect pompon dahlias were to be found in the amateurs' classes, and the blooms, smaller than many a button, of Nerissa, Little Beeswing, Bacchus and other sorts were very charming.

The class for garden cactus dahlias was not well contested, and the blooms that were exhibited did not impress one as being of great garden value; they were mostly weak in the stem, but the miniature peonies were especially decorative. Messrs. Wilham Treseder, Limited, in the open class, had beautiful little blooms of Cherry, Miss M. A. Hay, Our Annie and other sorts.

The Floral Division was a fascinating feature of the Show and contained many well arranged exhibits in bowls, vases and baskets, as well as on dinner-tables; while the sideboard decoration of Mr. J. Emberson was decidedly the best of the many exhibited. Miss E. L. Jones was first in the dinner-table class for star dahlias; and Mr. Courtney Page excelled with other types. A large number of novelties were selected for trial at Wisley, but some of them were scarcely worth the distinction, and it remains to be seen how they do in future.

Digitized by Google



SUTTON'S

BULBS, LAWN GRASS SEED ETC.

HYACINTHS TULIPS
NARCISSI CROCUS
and all Spring-flowering Bulbs

TOP SIZE ONLY.
TRUE TO NAME.

LAWN GRASS SEED
and all Specialities for Turf

SUTTON & SONS,
Bulb Specialists, READING.

Cut out this Coupon and send for
"SUTTON'S BULBS for 1926"
POST FREE.

Name .....
Address .....
Gn. 1 .....
.....

WARNING!

SPECIAL STATEMENT BY RYDERS, ST. ALBANS

We strongly advise all Bulb growers to apply at once for Ryders 1926 Bulb Catalogue, now ready, for distribution and on no account to place their order for bulbs until they have had an opportunity of comparing Ryders Prices with those of other leading British Bulb Merchants.

Owing to large purchases Ryders have once again secured the pick of the new season Bulbs and are able to offer first grade bulbs at extremely favourable prices, in addition to Special Collections at Special Prices which are a practical and money saving feature of the new Bulb Catalogue.

We warn our Customers to ignore the many tempting Bulb Offers now being posted from abroad. Many such bulbs are of inferior quality and are likely to cause intense disappointment when flowering time arrives.

Make sure that your bulbs are reliable and true to strain. Buy Ryders Beautiful Bulbs at Popular Prices.

RYDERS 1926 BULB CATALOGUE

(fully illustrated)

The Ryder Bulb Catalogue includes a full list of all the popular and new varieties, and is a comprehensive guide to Bulb growing It is fully illustrated.

Send for Your Copy To-day.

Ryders

RYDER & SON (1920), LTD.
(Dept. 11),
Seed and Bulb Specialists,
St. Albans

PLANT CARNATIONS NOW FOR BEST RESULTS

Our stocks of plants ex 3½in. pots for prompt delivery are the finest obtainable. Each of the undermentioned collections is exceptional value.

LWOODII (half Pink, half Carnation).—The popular hardy plant—grows anywhere and flowers from spring to winter.
Plants in good variety **5/6**
" " " **10/6**
" " " **20/-**
Carriage Paid.

ORDER CARNATIONS.—We grow only the best proved hardy Garden Kinds, from which you are certain to get satisfaction.
Plants in good variety **8/6**
" " " **16/6**
" " " **30/-**
Carriage Paid.

ARDY PERPETUAL BORDER CARNATIONS—the old Carnations' charm, the new Carnations' freedom. Well cultivated, they produce masses of flower from early Summer to Autumn.
Plants in good variety **8/6**
2 " " " **16/6**
Carriage Paid.

ORDER NOW FOR PROMPT DELIVERY—or write for illustrated Catalogue, post free on request to

Allwood Bros. The leading Carnation Raisers and Specialists in the World,
Dept. 4, **Hayward's Heath, Sussex**

CHOICE SHRUBS FOR OCTOBER PLANTING.

ARBUTUS MENZIESII.—The giant "Madronna" of California, has beautiful cinnamon-coloured bark, lily of the valley-like flowers, and clusters of orange-red fruits. **5/6** and **7/6** each.
STEWARTIA SINENSIS.—The "Deciduous Chinese Camellia." Fragrant pure white flowers. **5/6** to **10/6 each.**
VIBURNUM FRAGRANS.—Flowers flesh pink, very fragrant, produced in winter. **5/6** each.
PISTACIA CHINENSIS.—This "Chinese Pistachio" has charmingly elegant fern-like foliage, which assumes rich tints in the autumn. **5/6** each.
HYDRANGEA SARGENTIANA.—The new giant-leaved Chinese shrubby Hydrangea, with pale blue and white flowers. **5/6** and **7/6** each.
SOPHORA TETRAPTERA MICROPHYLLA.—The New Zealand "Kowhai," a beautiful evergreen with large clusters of tubular yellow flowers. **5/6** each.
All strong plants in 5½in. pots. The set for **31/6**, packing free, on rail Winchester Station.

Write for catalogues of Herbaceous Plants and Alpines, Bulbs, Roses, Fruit Trees, etc. New Tree and Shrub Catalogue in October.

HILLIER & SONS, West Hill Nurseries, **WINCHESTER.**

BULBS

BEFORE ORDERING YOUR BULBS
Write for our
FULLY ILLUSTRATED DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE
OF THE
FINEST BULBS PROCURABLE
AT MODERATE PRICES
WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.
75B, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

Small Orchards

No matter how small or large the orchard, it pays to use Stictite Tree Banding Compound.

Winter Moth rises from the soil early in October or late September, and the females (being wingless), at once crawl up the tree trunks in order to deposit their eggs in the branches.

By banding the trees with Stictite in the autumn you can prevent the eggs being laid, and so avoid having to spray for the caterpillars in the spring,

1 lb. of Stictite will do 9 to 12 trees of about 8 in. diameter.

½-lb. 1/6 (post 6d.); 1-lb. 2/9 (post 6d.); 2-lb. 5/- (post 9d.); 4-lb. 10/- (post 9d.); 7-lb. 17/6 (post 1/-).

Greaseproof Paper, 5 ins. wide: 6 yds., 2d.; 12 yds., 3d.; 25 yds., 6d.; 50 yds., 9d.; 100 yds., 1/6; 200 yds., 2/6.

Write for Descriptive Folder.

Stictite is sold by Nurserymen, Seedsmen, Florists, Ironmongers, Chemists & Stores. If any difficulty, please write to Abol Limited, 9, Beltring, Paddock Wood, Kent.

Stictite

Digitized by Google

GARDEN TECHNIQUE

FLOWER GARDEN.

HARDY FLOWERING PLANTS IN AUTUMN—TAKING STOCK.

ONE of the duties which presents itself to the grower of hardy flowering plants at stated periods is the taking stock and making arrangements for division of those which need it. Neglected in this particular, plants soon get out of hand and confusion ensues. No time is better to review the work than autumn, before the foliage entirely dies away: for, in the absence of a label, one is not quite certain of their whereabouts and sometimes unintentionally disturbs plants that are better left alone.

No rule is applicable to all and every clump in a hardy flower border, as constitutions differ so much, and division which would benefit one would be prejudicial to another. Take for example robust growing plants like starworts and chrysanthemums of the maxima type and compare them with, say, gypsophilas and alstrœmerias. The first two can seldom be allowed to remain in one place more than a couple of seasons without being taken up and divided. The last-named, although strong growers and deep delvers, their roots penetrating a considerable distance, are best left alone when established and doing well, and if one attempts to lift them, roots in most cases being brittle, snap off, and they seldom recover for a long time. Before making a start on the work, the better plan is to be quite sure that division is necessary—and that autumn is the best time. As a general rule most lilies should be shifted at the fall of the leaf, and irises of the flag section as soon after the flowering season is over as convenient.

October, however, will be found as good a time as any for most things, as by then many are showing signs of having spent themselves and one can get on with the work before frosts likely to injure, appear. In the case of long borders of hardy plants, it will be found more satisfactory to deal with them in sections, rather than uproot the whole of the plants at the same time, as, should a spell of frost occur to delay the work, the risk of injury is less than the whole of the clumps being left out of the soil.

Fresh Positions.—After a portion of the ground has been cleared, it is advisable to dig it well before any replanting is done, and work in any old manure that may be necessary. It is always advisable to plant hardy things in fresh positions instead of putting them back in the same spot. Care should be taken in dividing clumps not to injure them more than can be avoided. Autumn affords one an opportunity of re-organising hardy flower borders, and of making changes which suggest themselves during the summer when plants are in bloom. It is better done at this time of the year than in spring, as plants have time to get established, while, should a dry season follow spring planting, failures often ensue. If the work is undertaken in October one can often "pick the day" for it, and there is always a deal of satisfaction when it has been completed and borders made tidy, each clump being "tallied" to denote its occupant, a very important point to bear in mind, especially in regard to herbaceous perennials which may have been removed from one position to another.

As we have said, if hardy plants are left alone and neglected to be divided, nothing but confusion can possibly result. It is a duty frequently put off, to the detriment of the plants and the general appearance of a garden. One must have order, and this is only achieved by taking in hand at certain intervals work which, to some, is irksome, but carried out at the right time brings its own reward.—W. F.

VIOLETS IN FRAMES.

VIOLETS which are grown in frames in order to provide early flowers, must have bottom heat in order that growth may be continuous. This heat need not be and ought not to be excessive; a pile of stable litter is generally used or, probably better still, half litter and half fallen leaves, the ingredients being thoroughly teased out and mixed before being placed *in situ*. Rank horse manure should be stored for ten days before use and teased out two or three times. When a heap larger than the frame has been secured, it is then tramped firm—indeed, very firm; the frame is laid on top, 8ins. of good soil spread inside, after admixture with a little artificial manure or guano (say 2lb. per large frame), and the whole left for another ten days. By this time the heat will have risen and started to decline; lift or procure plants and at once plant them in the frame, 8ins. apart, the plants ought to be quite close to the sash when everything is correct. Water moderately well and keep the sash tight for a week, shading during the day. Afterwards admit air more and more until the sash can almost be dispensed with entirely on a fine day; always open on the lee side, however, and keep the frame shut in frost, fog or cold, dull weather. Protect from frost by means of mats and dust the soil with lime if rot or decay sets in. Never let the plants become too dry or red spiders will prove a nuisance and do not give too much water in dull, non-drying days; remove runners as they form and gather the flowers daily. Beginners may buy in plants at this time suitable for the above process.—H. A.

PLANT ALLWOODII PINKS NOW.

ALTHOUGH they have fallen from the front rank of popularity, Allwoodii pinks are still in the van of horticultural progress, excellent plants for those who love profuse and glorious blossom in summer. Experience during the last five years shows that best results are invariably obtained by planting in autumn. This rather upsets the usual plan of things; cuttings are taken early in the summer (or seed may be sown in early May), so that plants are available in August or September for the borders. By winter, such plants are firmly established; they are quite hardy, and may actually grow during what we generally regard as the dormant months. Naturally, such plants blossom much earlier and more freely next summer, this causing them to be considered perpetual-flowering. Readers who have cuttings which are just rooted, and no more, may with confidence plant out during a fine spell yet. Seedlings raised this year may also be put into permanent places. Rock garden lovers are reminded that Allwoodii are fine things in the rock garden.—CLYDESDALE.

POT UP ARUMS.

THE arums, callas or richardias, as the popular "lilies" are various called, need attention about this time. Whether planted out in the open border during summer or kept growing in pots or dried off, they must now be potted up in a loamy compost of a rich nature, say loam 3 parts, sifted dry manure 1 part, and sand ½ part. An 8in. pot will take three medium roots, but, of course, this is only an average guide and much depends on the root-stocks themselves. Water is sparingly given until growth starts in the frame, after which they must go into the greenhouse for safety. Well rooted by this time, they may then be forced into early blossom; but a good number should also be kept under fairly cool conditions, coming into bloom a little later in the New Year. When full growth starts they require water more freely and liquid feeding. This is also a fine time for beginners to buy in stock, bulb catalogues generally listing a few varieties at moderate prices. The most popular species, Æthiopica, is easiest to succeed with at first; Childsii is of more compact growth, producing a profusion of delightful white flowers. Where space is a consideration the popular variety Godfrey is to be recommended, this plant being of medium growth, one of the earliest to flower and a distinct clean white. Little Gem may prove a trifle shy unless well treated, but, being a dwarf, it is always popular for table decoration; it blooms with great freedom. Perle de Stuttgart, an older variety, is also very fine.—H. H.

KITCHEN GARDEN.

THE CLUB ROOT OF CABBAGES.

CLUB root or finger-and-toe is a common disease which only attacks cabbages, turnips, swedes, radishes and members of the cruciferous order. The cause of the trouble is a fungus or minute organism which lives in the soil; the part attacked is invariably the root, which is clubbed or malformed in the familiar way. Growth slows down after attack, development practically ceases and failure is the result. Club root—and this is a point which must be emphasised—is extremely infectious; nevertheless, it only spreads from infected plants or soil, and so a cure is, in a sense, fairly easy. When an attack develops, infested plants should invariably be burnt or deeply buried; care is thereafter taken that no soil is carried to another part of the garden and, at the very earliest opportunity, a heavy dressing of caustic lime is applied and dug in. At least 1lb. per square yard should be given, and quicklime is best; slake it in little heaps, let it stand till it crumbles down, scatter and dig in in a short time. Ground lime is very good; freshly slaked lime quite effective, but a half more is necessary; other limes are less useful, but all have an anti-club effect. It must never be overlooked, however, that the ordinary liming process is not a complete cure immediately, for the simple reason that an intimate mixture of the soil and the lime is impossible by ordinary cultivation. For several years, therefore, no cruciferous plants (cabbages, cauliflower, borecole, sprouts, wallflower, stocks, rape, radishes, such weeds as cress, shepherd's purse, and so on) should be allowed on that plot of ground; this makes the cure certain, and immunity is then secured. Also, growers who have to raise plants in fresh land or in land which they are not too certain about, should always apply in advance of cropping a small lime dressing as a precaution.—LANARKSHIRE.

DANDELION AS A SALAD.

THE blanched leaves of the common dandelion make an excellent salad for mixing with lettuces during the autumn and winter. At this time of the year go out and collect the dandelion plants from fields and hedgerows, choosing only those with strong rootstocks. Pack the roots, with a little soil, into pots or boxes, putting them closely together. Keep in a light position for about a week and then trim off most of the leaves. Following this, place them in a cellar or a dark shed, where there is a fairly even temperature. The leaves develop all the more quickly if pots or boxes are inverted over the clumps. This

Digitized by Google

BULBS

We invite immediate application for our BULB CATALOGUE, knowing that the very fine quality of our bulbs enables us to offer exceptionally good value for money.

Send for a copy of the BULB CATALOGUE at once.

Bakers
SEED AND FLOWER FARM
CODSALL
Near Wolverhampton

MOTHS LAY EGGS
. . on your Fruit Trees . .
unless you band the trees with OSTICO.

They can't get past OSTICO it catches and holds them because it is always "sticky."

NO EGGS—
NO CATERPILLARS

OSTICO saves next year's crop at trifling cost.

OSTICO FOR BANDING TREES

PRICES:
8-oz. tin (for 10 trees) - 1/6
1-lb. tin (for 20 trees) - 2/9
5-lb. tin (for 100 trees) - 12/6

Obtainable from Agents everywhere.

COOPER, McDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, LTD. BERKHAMSTED. HERTS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

tends to keep the atmosphere surrounding the plants close and moist, so that growth is more tender and delicate. Of course a much quicker growth is secured if the dandelions are on a hot bed and it is often possible to find a corner where a few pots or boxes can be placed. In a warm position the roots will need a good deal of water. The leaves may be gathered until the roots show signs of being worn out and these are then thrown away.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

LIME FOR BRASSICAS.

IT is almost safe to say that every gardener grows some members of the brassica or cabbage genus and though the plants are among the easiest to grow, yet the ultimate crop is not always to the credit of the grower. Years of experience show that one important reason for the irregularity is a failure to realise the value of lime for such crops. No other plants in the garden resent more the slightest tendency to sourness; even a wet season upsets the uniformity of the plants and heavy soil or richly manured land, which should bear first class plants, only does so with highest satisfaction when lime has been used beforehand. Lime, as is known, removes all sourness, but it also promotes those soil conditions so encouraging to the strong roots of all such plants; they revel in the actual presence of lime, and the lime indirectly confers benefits by ameliorating the soil texture, by disintegrating the humus and by promoting drainage. I emphatically urge a lime dressing as a preliminary to cabbages, cauliflowers, broccoli, sprouts, savoys, and so on, and preferably some months in advance, so that the chemical may permeate the ground and make it a place "fit for brassicas to live in." In heavy land, in land super-rich in humus as most garden soils are, two stones per rod are not excessive; half that will often do in ordinary soil; good quicklime, slaked and then dug in is best, but all forms of lime are good.—C.

MISCELLANEOUS

BASIC SLAG.

UNLIKE many other garden fertilisers, basic slag or slag is a commodity which may vary within wide limits. From a garden point of view its value lies in the amount of available phosphate of lime which it contains; it also contains a fair proportion of lime in a free form, but this need not be considered. Fineness of grinding is also of great importance, but samples offered nowadays generally prove quite satisfactory in that respect. It is really a difficult matter to state how the average amateur may decide which kind of slag is best; a firm of good reputation may be depended upon to give value for the price charged, while those who wish to buy low and doubtful grades may seek gratis advice from the nearest Agricultural College. Generally speaking, a highly soluble slag is best in the garden, most particularly in those parts where the winter rainfall is not excessive. The best time to apply slag is between September and February; it ought to be mixed as well as possible with the soil so that its "goodness" may permeate the whole and be readily available for cropping, when the plants make a call upon it in spring. The quantity to apply may vary from 3oz. per square yard, high values, to 8oz. per yard, low percentage slag; this varies from 5lb. to a stone per rod. Slag proves of great value for all kinds of fruit, including strawberries, for turnips and swedes, peas and beans, and many others; it is a fine manure for the lawn when the soil is on the heavy side (it may encourage clovers, however). As a phosphatic manure for heavy land it is one of the best.—HUGH AITKEN.

THE LONDON ALLOTMENT SHOW

NOW that this Society seems to have firmly established an annual show, we should expect that the management will, in future years, divide the competitive classes into district sections. At present competition is open to societies and members of societies cultivating allotments within the Metropolitan Police Area, so that the exhibitors came from Beckenham, Brockley, Hampton, Windsor, Watford, Southgate, Well Hall and other places which are still, as far as cultivation is concerned, country. As might be expected, many of the chief prizes were won by vegetables grown in these districts. It is manifestly unfair to expect allotment holders, no matter how enthusiastic and skilful, residing at Palmer's Green, Chiswick Park, Willesden and East Ham, for example, to compete on equal terms with those from the outer area, while within the limits we have roughly outlined there is a large number who have even smaller chances of success.

It would be idle to claim that every plot-holder is an expert cultivator or that all make the best possible use of their opportunities. But as those who go about the country are well aware, the majority "do their plots well," and the wonderful success attained by the most enthusiastic was abundantly evident at the show which was held at the Royal Horticultural Hall, Westminster, on September 3rd and 4th.

A very comprehensive schedule had been drawn up. There were 1,300 entries, which was said to be an increase of fully twenty-five per cent. on last year, while the quality throughout the many classes, and the many more exhibits, was exceedingly high. In some instances the exhibits closely approached perfection.

Each of the eight collections of twelve kinds of vegetables grown by members of one society on their allotments was an excellent example. They were all composed of splendidly grown vegetables—cauliflowers, peas, leeks, celery, runner beans, tomatoes and such—admirably displayed. The quality was no less high in the class for individual growers, where eleven set out most praiseworthy collections of six distinct vegetables.

As is only right and proper, potatoes were of great importance at this show and we question whether better tubers were to be seen at the recent vegetable show of the R.H.S. The very many exhibits in the single dish classes, as well as the collections, were all composed of tubers of perfect form, clean-skinned, of moderate, useful size and quite true to type. The varieties most favoured by the allotment holder seemed to be King Edward VII, Tinwald Perfection, Arran Comrade, Royal Kidney, Di Vernon and Majestic.

Of the other vegetables, perhaps the very best were tomatoes, runner beans, onions, carrots, beet, leeks and peas, though, except marrows, all were equal to the best exhibition standard. The only fault that could be found with the marrows was that some were a trifle too old for culinary purposes. It is said to have been an unfavourable year for marrows on the allotments and in some commercial gardens. But plenty of marrows have been grown somewhere, for they have been a glut at Covent Garden Market and good marrows large enough for a family of three or four have been retailed at a penny each.

The skill of the allotment-holder is equally as great with flowers as with vegetables, for there were handsome vases of hardy border flowers. Gladioli, sweet peas, dahlias, asters, salpiglossis and roses; while, as was to be seen by the many lovely table decorations, the lady members possess the ability to arrange the flowers with great artistic skill and taste.

Digitized by Google

BOOK REVIEW

THE demand for horticultural literature must, indeed, be a large one, if one is to judge by the constant stream of volumes on all aspects of gardening which make their appearance every year. Many of these contributions are of a temporary nature. They are suddenly born, flourish for a short time, and then just as suddenly die. Others, again—of which the present work, "A Handbook of Flowering Trees and Shrubs for Gardeners," by R. C. Notcutt, edited by the late W. R. Dykes; (Martin Hopkinson and Co., Limited, price 12s. 6d.)—is one, are more lasting. The reason is evident. These latter are books written by a practical authority, and give first-hand personal knowledge and experience which the keen amateur grower is always desirous of obtaining. This is true of Mr. Notcutt's volume. The book is practical throughout, clear and concise in its style and accurate in its information. Naturally, one does not look for much new information in a tree and shrub volume, since we have already a standard work on the subject; but what one has realised, and what this present work has filled is the need for some practical advice about shrubs.

In a way, the title of the book is a misnomer, as only some few genera are treated in its pages. Certainly these contain the better known and more popular of our shrubs, but it is a little unfortunate that other equally important families could not have been included. After all, it should be the aim of a book such as this to draw attention to subjects which ought to be more grown in our gardens, and not to follow on in the wake of public popularity. Through time, no doubt, Mr. Notcutt will rectify these sins of omission in the present volume, at some future date.

The genera treated in the book are twelve in number and comprise berberis, buddleias, ceanothus, cistus and helianthemums, cotoneasters, cytisus and genista, prunus, flowering cherries, pyracantha, pyrus and viburnums. Useful descriptions in simple language are given for each species and variety, and the amateur will find all the information readily palatable. The author writes from a first-hand knowledge of the subjects. The chapter on Seaside Planting is a most excellent one. Much timely advice is given and the lists of shrubs suitable for this purpose will be found of the greatest help to those who are gardening at the seaside. It is one phase of gardening which is on the increase, and Mr. Notcutt's advice should do much to stimulate interest in the growing of plants on or near the sea coast, and assist seaside gardeners to success in their enterprise.

The introduction is full of homely and practical advice on the treatment of shrubs, including pruning and propagation, which, to the amateur, should prove invaluable. Much of the author's information will be new to many, coming, as it does, from the recent experimental work which has been and is being still carried on at the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh. The amateur should pay close attention to this chapter because most of it is good sound advice and represents much knowledge acquired in the last few years.

The outstanding chapter of the work is that on the Japanese cherries, contributed by Mr. Collingwood Ingram, who is an acknowledged authority on these trees. This chapter should do much to popularise the growing of these beautiful and charming trees in our gardens, more especially since Mr. Ingram completes his chapter with a list of kinds which will prove hardy in this country.

The book is remarkably free from errors in nomenclature and misprints. It is well printed, and the illustrations which appear are good; but one wishes there had been more, especially a few of the shrubs growing in the garden, rather than sprays of fruit or flower. The value of good illustrations in a book of this description is inestimable. With the exception of this fault, if it may be termed a fault, the book is excellent as far as it goes and is well worth the close study of every keen gardener, especially if he be a shrub enthusiast.

G. C. T.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

Messrs. Hewitt and Co., Solihull, Birmingham.—A catalogue of roses as well as this firm's famous Wexham strain of delphiniums. This strain of delphiniums combines grace of habit with varied and gorgeous colouring and robustness of constitution. Each spike has an elegant tapering habit, and in many of the recent introductions the spikes are of immense height. A catalogue of choice bulbs, including the best of the modern narcissi, tulips, irises, hyacinths, crocuses, and miscellaneous bulbs was also sent.

Messrs. Sutton and Sons, Reading.—This firm's new bulb catalogue is of more than usual interest, particularly just now, as it is high time that preparation for next spring's floral display be made. Bulbous plants are the chief class of flowers which bloom at intervals from Christmas to May, and during that time, by careful choice, there need be no period when either the garden, greenhouse or home is without flowers. A selection of suitable bulbs to form this succession can easily be made from Messrs. Sutton's well classified bulb catalogue, which contains not only colour descriptions, but useful cultural hints also.

Messrs. Joseph Fison and Co., Ipswich.—The lawn needs particular attention during the autumn. To have a really good lawn it is essential that the weeds be removed, the soil aerated and rolled, and, above all, that food in some form be applied. Lawns soon become impoverished if some complete fertiliser is not added. Messrs. J. Fison and Co. is a firm which has specialised in the manufacture of lawn fertilisers and lawn sand for many years, and every gardener would be well advised to write for their small brochure on turf cultivation.

TRADE NOTE.

For the convenience of residents in the London area a special showroom has been opened by Messrs. Boulton and Paul at 135–7, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.4. It is often a little difficult to purchase from a catalogue, and always a great advantage to see and examine the precise article you are buying, and this showroom will be of immense utility to residents in London and the home counties. There will be showroom specimens of the famous Boulton and Paul greenhouses, garden frames, etc., on view, and the keen gardener will find it worth his while to make a visit.

"ACME" WEED KILLER

Awarded Gold Medal at Anglo-American Exhibition and Bronze Medal by Royal Horticultural Society.

Has stood the test of over 30 years.

POWDER.—No. 1 Tin makes 25 gals., 3/-; postage 9d. No. 2, 50 gals., 6/-; postage 9d. Carriage paid on No. 4, which makes 150 gals., 15/-

LIQUID.—1 gal. to 50 gals. water. 1 gal., 6/-; 2 gals., 10/6; carriage paid on 5 gals., 25/-

NON-POISONOUS.—No. 1 Tin makes 6 gals., 1/6 post free; No. 2, 12 gals., 2/3 post free; No. 4, 50 gals., 7/- post free.

LAWN SAND

destroys weeds and moss in grass and fertilizes the lawn. No other manure necessary.

14 lbs., 4/-; 28 lbs., 7/-; 56 lbs., 13/-; 1 cwt., 25/- Carriage paid on 1 cwt.

The Acme Chemical Co., Ltd.,
TONBRIDGE, KENT.

SEEDSMEN BY APPOINTMENT

GRASS SEED

ONE of the best seasons for sowing Grass Seed is as soon as possible after the break up of the hot summer weather. All lawns should be re-conditioned immediately if the turf and surface are to be in good condition for the following season, consequently, preparations should be made in advance, and all the required materials—Grass Seed, Fertiliser, Worm Killer, etc., assembled. For particulars how to renovate your lawn, make a new lawn, diagrams and instructions, write to-day for Carters Booklet on "Lawns and Sports Grounds," post free on application.

SERVICE AND ADVICE

Carters will answer any question in regard to the improvement or up-keep of your Turf

Carters TESTED SEEDS

SEEDSMEN TO H.M. THE KING,
RAYNES PARK, LONDON, S.W.20

Digitized by Google

CLAY'S LONDON FERTILIZER TRADE MARK

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then, together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices :—

Tins 10d. and 1/6
and in **Branded and Sealed Bags :**
7 lbs. - 3/6 14 lbs. - 6/-
28 lbs. - 10/- 56 lbs. - 18 -
112 lbs. - 32/-

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers, etc. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**

WILLMOTT
Rival Plant Stake
(Patented No. 183779).
As used in Royal Botanic Gardens London and Cambridge.
For all plants. WILL NOT ROT, WEAR OUT OR BREAK.
Sample of eight sizes,
2/- car. pd. United Kingdom.
4/- Overseas.

J. GREENWOOD, F.R.H.S., Proprietor,
BRACKNELL, Berks.

All Boots* for heavy going across country in all weathers should have Uppers of "Beva" Waterproof Leather

*Look for the "Beva" on the looping.

For success in your Garden USE

THOMSON'S MANURES

On the market for over 50 years, they still hold first place for QUALITY and RESULTS. They are safe, sure and lasting. The direct result of many years' practical experience in gardening, they stand unrivalled at the present day for all Garden Crops.

Prices :—**VINE, PLANT AND VEGETABLE MANURE**—a Perfect Food—1 cwt., 30/-; 56 lb., 16/-; 28 lb., 9/-; 14 lb., 5/-; 7 lb., 3/-; tins, 1/3 and 9d. **SPECIAL TOP DRESSING MANURE**—an excellent stimulant—56 lb., 17/-; 28 lb., 9/6; 14 lb., 5/6; 7 lb., 3/-; tins, 1/3. **Carriage paid on 28 lbs.** and up.

WRITE FOR OUR BOOKLET—POST FREE ON REQUEST.

SOLD BY NURSERYMEN AND SEEDSMEN EVERYWHERE.

Or from Sole Makers, WM. THOMSON & SONS, TWEED VINEYARDS, CLOVENFORDS, SCOTLAND

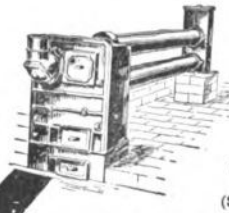
The WIZARD Plant LABEL

Made in Red Pottery, 2½ x 1½ ins., with rustless wires. 12 in., 2/3 doz.; 7 in., 1/9 doz. 1½ x 1 in., with wires 6 in., 1/6 doz. For tying on. 1/8 and 1/8 doz. Waterproof Ink, 9d. and 7½d. bot. Crow Quills, 2d. Postage extra

Highly commended by the R.H.S. at Wisley.

E. TORKINGTON - NEW HALL . MAIDENHEAD

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*



Paying Points about "STOURBRIDGE" Greenhouse Boilers

No. 3
Very economical with fuel.
(See testimonials).

Write at once for special price. State size of house. Address Dept. 3.

J. & W. WOOD LTD Stourbridge

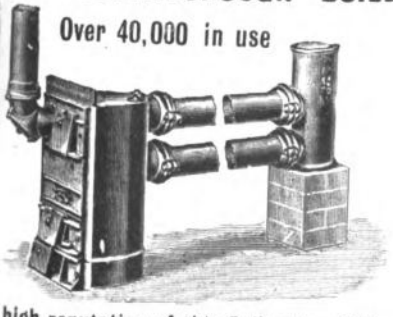
The Seaside Planting of Trees and Shrubs

By Alfred Gaut, F.R.H.S. 28 Illustrations. 5/- net. By post, 5/6

"Country Life" Library, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden London, W.C.2.

THE LOUGHBOROUGH BOILER

Over 40,000 in use



e high reputation of this Boiler for efficiency and economy is still unrivalled

Easy to fix, easy to manage, and most economical in fuel, it is the ideal Boiler for the Amateur's Greenhouse

Price List and Estimates for complete apparatus on application

ESSENGER & CO., LTD. LOUGHBOROUGH
ONDON OFFICE : 122, VICTORIA ST., S.W.

Make the Most of your Greenhouse

and install a
SILVER MEDAL
HORSE SHOE BOILER—

which ensures a steady heat for a succession of thriving Plants and Flowers, with minimum trouble and little fuel.

Booklet E and reduced price post free.

C. P. KINNELL & Co., Ltd.,
SOUTHWARK STREET,
LONDON, S.E.1.

Used in the R.H.S. Gardens

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE LEADING GLASS HOUSE FUMIGANT

THOUSANDS OF TOMATO CROPS ENTIRELY SAVED
No alterations needed since first introduced.
Be satisfied with the best, it is the cheapest in the end.
Commended by the Royal Horticultural Society.

Cubic ft.	1,000	2,000	4,000	8,000	16,000	32,000	64,000
	10d.	1/3	2/-	3/6	6/-	10/6	19/-

Also in 2, 5 and 10 gall. FREE drums;

ALSO

WEED-DEATH NON POISONOUS POWDER WEED KILLER

SAFETY FIRST FOR ANIMALS AND PEOPLE

Non-caustic; colourless; no smells; kills the roots; superior to arsenical compounds.

TINS, 1/- 2 - 3/6 6/6 12/-
for 4 12½ 25 50 100 gals.

SPECIAL. For Parks and Recreation Grounds—in bulk. From Nurserymen and Seedsmen.

CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

BENTLEY'S
WEED DESTROYER

(POISON) STANDS FOR

Strength Reliability Economy

Stronger than any other. One application keeps gravel paths and drives clean for nearly two years. Commands the largest sale both at home and abroad, with a rapidly spreading popularity.

REDUCED PRICES:

Concentrated Liquid (1 to 80)—1 gal. **6/9**; 2 gals. **13/–**; 3 gals. **18/9**; 6 gals. **35/9**; 12 gals. **69/–**; 24gals. **134,3**; 40gals. **218/3**

Powder (1 to 25)—4 tins **9/3**; 8 tins **17/10**: 12 tins **25/6** 20 tins **40/9**; 40 tins **78/–**

BENTLEY'S
DAISY KILLER

The only scientific Lawn Sand.

Weeds of all kinds are quickly killed by one dressing of this unique speciality. Afterwards the finer grasses are free to develop into a dense, rich green sward.

One pound is sufficient to dress 3 square yards.

1 ton, **£26**; 4 cwts. **26/6** per cwt.: 1 cwt. **28/–**; 56 lbs. **15/6**; 28 lbs. **8/6**: 14 lbs. **4/9**; tins **1/6** each.

Carriage paid on 15/– orders and upwards.

Sole Manufacturers:

JOSEPH BENTLEY LTD.
CHEMICAL WORKS,
BARROW-ON-HUMBER :: LINCS.

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION 1911

WAKELEY'S *Celebrated* HOP MANURE
(PATENTED)

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY
RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only **7 -** carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

A beautiful Free Booklet giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. GENUINE ONLY IN OUR MARKED BAGS, CONTAINING GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

Cash Prices, including bags: Small (about 1 bushel), **3/–**: Large (about 4 bushels), **7/–**; 5 Large **33/9**
10 Large, **65/–**: 20 Large, **120/–**

Carriage Paid to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company. 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge, Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

THE PATTISSON HORSE BOOTS

SIMPLEST
STRONGEST
MOST ECONOMICAL

Fig. 2—Welted Pattern.

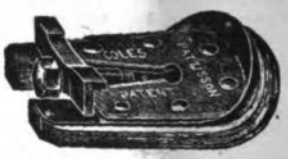


Fig. 1—For Shod Horses.
Best English Leather or Rubber Soles.
Used for many years in the Royal and in thousands of the Principal Gardens.
Silver Medals:—Royal Horticultural Society, 1904 and 1914 Royal International Horticultural Exhibition, 1912.
HUNDREDS OF TESTIMONIALS.

ONCE TRIED
ALWAYS USED

Fig. 2—No Welt Pattern

Illustrated Price Lists from the Makers:

H. PATTISSON & CO., STANMORE, MIDDLESEX

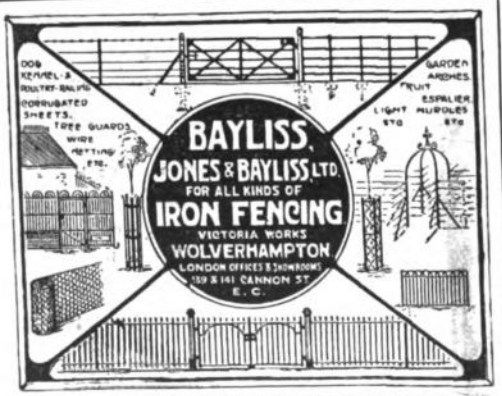
Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing*

AUCTION SALES OF
BULBS
BY MESSRS.
PROTHEROE & MORRIS
EVERY
MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY at
67, 68, Cheapside, London, E.C.2.
Write for Catalogues · Phone City 3856

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by **"ALPHOL"**
Sample 14 lb., 5/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc. to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

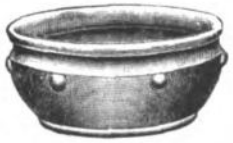


BY APPOINTMENT

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

The BEST and CHEAPEST

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.



FANCY FERN PANS and BULB BOWLS from **4d.** each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.
Royal Potteries, **BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM**

All ready to put into your pipe—*that's handy for the garden*

Ask for
PLAYER'S
MEDIUM NAVY CUT
RUBBED READY

P.1372. Reg. No. 154,011

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2

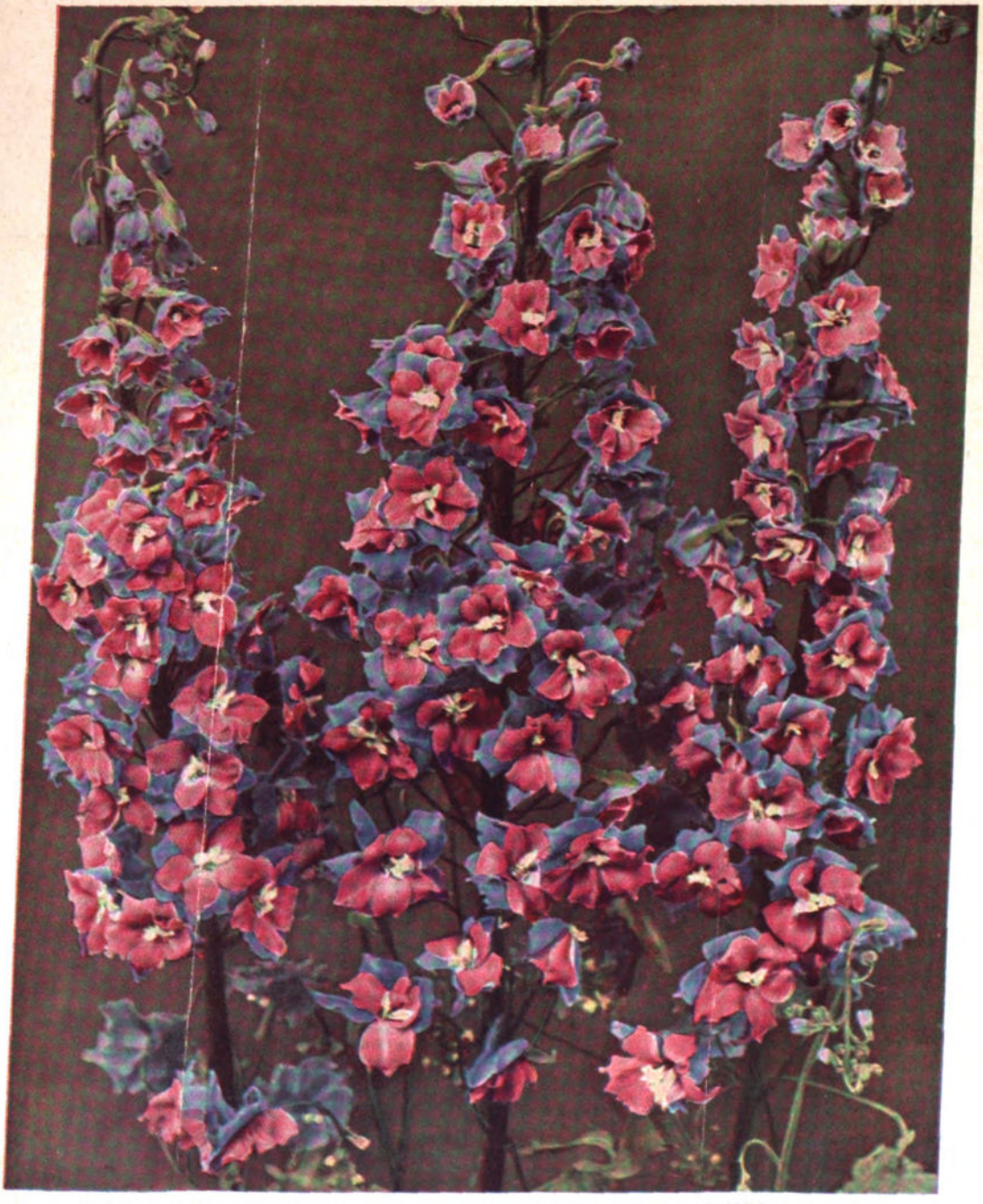
Digitized by Google

GENERAL LIBRARY
UNIV. OF MICH.
OCT 5 1926

THE GARDEN

THE AMATEUR GARDENERS' PAPER

Vol. XC.—No. 2860 Saturday, September 25th, 1926 Price TWOPENCE



MODERN DELPHINIUMS ARE INVALUABLE IN THE SUMMER BORDER.

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
New Alpines and Perennials
Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD,
CHELSEA, S.W
Bulb Catalogue Now Ready

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

H. PRINS,
BULB AND PLANT GROWERS
WISBECH, CAMBS.
Bulb list free on application

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND. SOLFUME, NICOTINE, INSECTICIDES, FUMERS, SPRAYS, AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES—THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY. IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT. CARRIAGE PAID

TOMLINSON & HAYWARD LTD. LINCOLN

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
HULL
Weed Destroyers Fertilizers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

TUBS FOR SHRUBS.
WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 100 prizes. R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. — Price List from A. PRADAL, 26, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

THE PLANTING SEASON

is fast approaching, and intending planters are advised to place their orders at the earliest possible date in order to secure early delivery.

THE BARNHAM NURSERIES LTD. offer a magnificent stock of

Fruit Trees - - Roses
Alpines - Hardy Perennials
Ornamental Trees & Shrubs
Hedge and Shelter Plants

- and will be glad to send - descriptive catalogues on application.

The BARNHAM NURSERIES Ltd.
BARNHAM, SUSSEX.

Registered Trade Mark.

XL ALL Specialities

Have been the most popular Garden Requisites for the past 30 years.

XL ALL Liquid Nicotine Insecticide provides the finest solution for spraying plants and fruit trees.

XL ALL Nicotine Vaporising Fumigator either in Liquid or Cake, is still unsurpassed.

A New Introduction!

XL ALL Leaf Miner Insecticide for Marguerites, Chrysanthemums, Cinerarias, etc. An infallible remedy.

XL ALL New White Fly Vapour for use in Tomato Houses. One application kills every fly.

XL ALL Winter Wash (Improved Caustic) For Dormant Fruit Trees and Bush Fruits (Non-Poisonous). It pays to wash Fruit Trees in winter.

SUPPLIES TO BE OBTAINED FROM ALL NURSERYMEN, SEEDSMEN, FLORISTS AND CHEMISTS.

Please ask for small Pink Price List, giving particulars of the above, and many other XL ALL Preparations

Manufacturers:
G. H. RICHARDS LTD.,
234, Borough High St., London, S.E.1

Monomark: RCMXLALL.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing*

BLOM FOR BULBS

Apply for Catalogue to—

Messrs. J. C. WHITNEY & Co.,
Eldon Street House, Eldon Street,
London, E.C. - - - *or to—*

WALTER BLOM & SON, LTD.
(Late of Overveen).
Hillegom, Holland.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

WEBB'S 1926 AUTUMN CATALOGUE is now ready. Post free on request. Beautifully illustrated and contains particulars of all the best varieties of BULBS, also BULB BOWLS, BULB COMPOST, etc., LAWN GRASS SEEDS, SWEET PEAS, FLOWERING PLANTS, etc.—WEBB AND SONS, LIMITED, The King's Seedsmen, Stourbridge

WATERER'S for the best in Bulbs for flowering, bedding, naturalising. Colchicums, Autumn-flowering Crocuses, etc., Roses, Fruit Trees, Strawberry Plants in pots and open ground runners, Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Flowering and Evergreen Shrubs, also Hedge-making Shrubs and Screening Trees, Herbaceous and Alpine Plants. New catalogues now ready, post free.—JOHN WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Twyford, Berks.

HIMALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODENDRONS, on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and Alpine Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write for Catalogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE—The original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See advert. on page iv.

WM. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., Lawrence Road, South Tottenham, N.15.—Conservatories' Winter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

LOWE & GIBSON, Crawley Down, Sussex.—Our new Border Carnation and Bearded Iris list is now ready, and may be had on application. Please write name and address plainly.

BIRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUNDIALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—TOOGOOD, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

FENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Garden Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE STANLEY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 43, Shottermill, Haslemere, Surrey.

RARE PRIMULA AND ALPINE SEEDS from large (2,000) collection. Also seedlings and plants. Lists free.—REV. J. F. ANDERSON, Glen Hall, Leicester.

CLEMENTS' DUTCH BULBS. Finest Quality at Moderate Prices. Descriptive Catalogue containing over 700 Named Varieties, including various Novelties, also Cultural Directions, sent post free. Please mention paper.—V. D. CLEMENTS & CO., 12, Stockton Gardens, Cheltenham, London, N.17.

BORDER CARNATIONS.—200 varieties, 25 in 14 varieties, from 6/6; 50 in 50 ditto, from 25/-; carriage paid. Lists free. J. HAYWARD, Chace Gardens, Oakes Road, Purbrook, Cosham, Hants.

SWEET PEAS.—My New Catalogue, containing the leading Novelties for 1927, should be in the hands of all keen Exhibitors.—F. C. WOODCOCK, Sweet Pea Specialist, Wilmer, Kent.

YORK STONE PAVING, for Garden Paths and Lily Ponds; rectangular or broken for rustic work: steps and wall coping: rockery.—GEO. VINT & BROS., Stone Merchants, Idle, Bradford.

LABELS.—Patent metal, so simple to write by nail: can't fade or break. Trial offer bargain: 100 with 3 stakes, 50 tie wires, 1 pocket nail, 10/- free. Lists.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

PRIMULA FORRESTII, SAXIFRAGA Silberfeld, Dianthus Mosalae, 9/- doz.; Linum Salsoloides Flavum, 16/- doz.; Edralanthus Pomilio, Campanula Allionii, Dianthus Freynii, 12/- doz. Carriage free.—TAYLOR, Quarry Orchard, Reigate.

ROCK PLANTS AND ALPINES, Dwarf Conifers, Flowering Shrubs for the Rock Garden, Herbaceous Plants. Montbretias, etc. New catalogue now ready, post free.—JEFFERIES, Shawhurst Nursery, Hollywood, Birmingham.

BARR'S GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS.—The finest sorts for Pots, Bowls, Exhibition, Flower Borders and to naturalise. Also many new Seedling varieties, offered for the first time. Descriptive catalogue free.

BARR'S HYACINTHS, TULIPS, LILIES, CROCUSES, IRISES, etc., for pots and bedding. Finest quality. Descriptive catalogue, with special directions for the culture of Bulbs in Bowls, free.

BARR'S GOLD MEDAL IRISES for present planting. Descriptive Catalogue of the best Tall and Dwarf, early and late flowering varieties, sent free on application.—BARR AND SONS, 11, 12 and 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx and perpetual habit. They flourish in the coldest parts of Britain. Extract, *The Times*: "Mr. Douglas is the leading raiser of this flower. His wonderful strain of new cloves is superb." Plant list is now ready.—J. DOUGLAS, Great Bookham.

Yearly Subscription, Inland, 13s.; Foreign, 13s.
Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2.
Offices for Advertisements: 6–11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial: The Old Order Changeth	531
Roses of Good Constitution	532
Roses That Keep Their Colour And Are Not Scorched	532
Plants at Their Best in Late Summer	533
Your Bulbs: How to Get the Best Out of Them	534
The Joy of Making a New Garden	535
Antirrhinums for Present Sowing	536
The Busy Man's Page	538
How to Make the Best Use of Frames	539
Do You Grow These Michaelmas Daisies?	540
Hints Worth Remembering	542
What Our Readers Say	542–543
Lilies for the Garden; Gentians in an Amateur's Garden; The Decorative Agapanthus; Buddleia Forrestii.	
The Fruit and Kitchen Garden	544
Our Service Bureau	545
Garden Pests	546
Autumn Care of Fruit Trees	546

HEWITT'S FAMOUS DELPHINIUMS AND ROSES. Catalogue now in distribution. Please write for one.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S BULB CATALOGUE NOW READY containing the choicest and inexpensive Daffodils, Tulips and other Bulbs. "Order early and plant early" so as to avoid disappointment.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

HAVE YOU BOUGHT "The Pruning of Trees and Shrubs," by W. Dallimore, Assistant at Kew? Fully illustrated. 4/6 net; post free, 4/9. From all Booksellers, or direct from the Publishers, DULAU & CO., LTD., 34, Margaret Street, London, W.1.

DOBBIES' FAMOUS BULBS, SCOTCH ROSES and SWEET PEAS for Autumn Sowing. Catalogues free on mentioning THE GARDEN.—DOBBIE & CO., LTD., Edinburgh.

BATH'S HOME-GROWN BULBS.—New Illustrated Catalogue of the finest Narcissi, Hyacinths, Tulips, etc., as supplied to the Royal Parks and Gardens, with full cultural directions, is now ready, and will be sent post free on application.—(Dept. E.), R. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

POLYANTHUS NARCISSUS.—Scilly White's, 10/- 100, £3 10s. 1,000. Empress Daffodils, same price.—A. LEGN, St. Mary's, Scilly Isles.

GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS — CHOICE TULIPS, etc. List on application.—THE WELSH BULB FIELDS, St. Asaph.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE!!!—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full, 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

ROCK PLANTS AND SHRUBS.—Over 300 varieties in stock. Descriptive Catalogue free. Also Herbaceous Plants and Roses.—HODSONS, LIMITED, 58, Castle Gate, Nottingham.

WE SPECIALISE IN RARE HARDY FLOWERING SHRUBS AND ALPINES. Send for Catalogue.—TRESEDER & CO., Nurseries, Truro.

LOOK! TANNED GARDEN NETS.—All orders despatched same day. 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25 by 2, 4/-; 25 by 3, 6/-. Odd netting for bushes, 6lb. for 2/6. All carriage paid. Any sizes supplied. Also Tennis Boundary Nets.—MOORE AND CO., Net Works, Rye.

GENTIANA SINO-ORNATA flowered here last year from October until Christmas unharmed by frost. Dazzling sapphire trumpets. Strong pot plants for immediate planting, 7/6 per dozen. Cultural instructions sent with each order.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED, Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

INDIAN ORCHIDS.—12 grand fl. sorts, 25s.; 6 sorts Aerides, 23/-; 12 sorts grand fl. Dendrobiums, 35/-; 6 sorts Vandas, 20/-; 6 sorts Cymbidiums, 24/-. Cash. All paid in U.K. List free.—CHANDRA NURSERY, P.O. Rhenock, Sikkim (Bengal), India.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING—"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

WAKELEY'S Celebrated Hop Manure

(PATENTED)

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

AS USED IN THE GARDENS OF GREAT BRITAIN

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL, ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION, 1912

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE, without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

Every ounce of Wakeley's Hop Manure is of value to the soil, supplying the necessary HUMUS in addition to the valuable plant food. Worthless rubbish is not added to make weight (as is the case of some artificial manures advertised).

Thousands do realise it, the proof of this is the constant flow of UNSOLICITED LETTERS received from time to time in praise of the wonderful results obtained at such a moderate cost (see Booklet for selection).

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.—Genuine Only in our Marked Bags containing Guaranteed Analysis.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of post card.

CASH PRICES (including bags):

Small (about 1 bushel)	3/-
Large (about 4 bushels)	7/-
5 Large	33/6
10 Large	65/-
20 Large	120/-

Carriage paid by Pickford's or to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company; 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.

75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

Alpine Plants . . 500 varieties. All pot grown.

Hardy Perennials . Comprehensive Collections Asters, Phlox, Iris, Delphiniums, Paeonies, Pyrethrums, etc.

Greenhouse Plants. Specialities in Primulas, Cyclamen, Ferns, Begonias, Gloxinias, etc.

Catalogue on Request.

H. H. MAW & SON,

Friarwood Nurseries, PONTEFRACT

For Autumn Use in the Garden

"FERRY" BRAND

Regd. *Trade Mark*

GARDEN MANURE
SOIL PEST DESTROYER

"FERRY" GARDEN MANURE gives back to the soil the Phosphates, Potash, Nitrogen and other foods that have been taken up by the growing plants during this year. It is the finest manure for general garden purposes. Apply at the rate of 2 to 3 ozs. per square yard.

14 lbs., 3/-; 28 lbs., 5/9; 56 lbs., 11/-; 1 cwt., 20/-

"FERRY" SOIL PEST DESTROYER sweetens and sterilises the soil and destroys pests, such as slugs, wireworms, caterpillars, ants, etc. Its use provides a quick, sure and reliable way of freeing your land from all insect pests. Apply 2 to 3 ozs. per square yard.

14 lbs., 3/-; 28 lbs., 5/6; 56 lbs., 10/6; 1 cwt., 20/-.

ALL PRICES CARR. PAID TO NEAREST STATION FOR CASH WITH ORDER.

Agents wanted throughout England for "Ferry" Specialities.

The BRITON FERRY CHEMICAL AND MANURE CO., LTD. (Dept. E), Briton Ferry, South Wales. (Est. 1886).

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

For success in your Garden USE THOMSON'S MANURES

On the market for over 50 years, they still hold first place for QUALITY and RESULTS. They are safe, sure and lasting. The direct result of many years' practical experience in gardening, they stand unrivalled at the present day for all Garden Crops.

Prices:—**VINE, PLANT AND VEGETABLE MANURE**—a Perfect Food—1 cwt., 30/-; 56 lb., 16/-; 28 lb., 9/-; 14 lb., 5/-; 7 lb., 3/-; tins, 1/3 and 9d. **SPECIAL TOP DRESSING MANURE**—an excellent stimulant—56 lb., 17/-; 28 lb., 9/6; 14 lb., 5/6; 7 lb., 3/-; tins, 1/3. **Carriage paid on 28 lbs.** and up.

WRITE FOR OUR BOOKLET—POST FREE ON REQUEST.

SOLD BY NURSERYMEN AND SEEDSMEN EVERYWHERE.

Or from Sole Makers, WM. THOMSON & SONS, TWEED VINEYARDS, CLOVENFORDS, SCOTLAND

Choice Plants that will Grow

Dianthus Lindsayii - - -	1/6 each.
Gentiana Farreri - - -	1/6 ,,
,, Sino-ornata - -	1/- ,,
Meconopsis quintuplinerva	5/- ,,

J. KELLEY, Alpine Specialist, **CRIEFF**

Laxton's FRUIT TREES

CATALOGUES & CULTURAL HINTS GRATIS.

LAXTON BROS. BEDFORD.

"ACME" WEED KILLER

Awarded Gold Medal at Anglo-American Exhibition and Bronze Medal by Royal Horticultural Society.

Has stood the test of over 30 years.

POWDER.—No. 1 Tin makes 25 gals., 3/-; postage 9d. No. 2, 50 gals., 6/-; postage 9d. Carriage paid on No. 4, which makes 150 gals., 15/-.

LIQUID.—1 gal. to 50 gals. water. 1 gal., 6/-; 2 gals., 10/6; carriage paid on 5 gals., 25/-.

NON-POISONOUS.—No. 1 Tin makes 6 gals., 1/6 post free; No. 2, 12 gals., 2/3 post free; No. 4, 50 gals., 7/- post free.

LAWN SAND

destroys weeds and moss in grass and fertilizes the lawn. No other manure necessary. 14 lbs., 4/-; 28 lbs., 7/-; 56 lbs., 13/-; 1 cwt., 25/-. Carriage paid on 1 cwt.

The Acme Chemical Co., Ltd., TONBRIDGE, KENT.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

Burpee's
NEW SWEET PEAS for 1927

GLADNESS A soft coral-pink, intensified by a suffusion of a deeper shade toward the base of the standard and wings. The softest and daintiest of all pinks. Of exquisite delicacy, enhanced by a lemon keel.

DELIGHTFUL A rich terra-cotta cerise, suffused orange or scarlet-red. A colour never before produced—the most appealing, in its glowing beauty, of all the richer toned varieties; bright and shining even on dull days, and startlingly brilliant under artificial light.

ROYAL BLUE A true Royal Blue, but full of life and brilliancy instead of dull and uninspiriting; undoubtedly the brightest of all sweet pea dark blues. A flower of great substance and enchanting beauty, extremely prolific in fours.

ON SALE BY THE LEADING WHOLESALE HOUSES

Glass breaks!

USE 'WINDOLITE'

The practical Glass Substitute for all GARDEN PURPOSES.

LIGHT FLEXIBLE UNBREAKABLE

Easy to cut and fix. It keeps out cold and wet, but lets in all the light—even the Ultra Violet Rays which are stopped by glass.

Send 4/6 for post free sample, 3 ft. by 2ft.

WINDOLITE (DEPT. C) 179/185, GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1.

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

FOR THE GARDEN! FOR EXHIBITION!
FOR BEDS! FOR EVERYWHERE!

Also Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees, Alpines and Hardy Plants.

BUY HOME GROWN TREES.

SUPPORT BRITISH INDUSTRIES.

Catalogue Free on Application, and Addresses booked for Revised Catalogue in late Summer.

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.
Garden Specialists, SOUTHWELL, NOTTS.

PLANT CARNATIONS NOW FOR BEST RESULTS

Our stocks of plants ex 3½in. pots for prompt delivery are the finest obtainable. Each of the undermentioned collections is exceptional value.

ALLWOODII (half Pink, half Carnation).—The popular hardy plant—grows anywhere and flowers from spring to winter.

6 Plants in good variety 5/6
12 " " " 10/6
25 " " " 20/-
Carriage Paid.

BORDER CARNATIONS.—We grow only the best proved hardy Garden Kinds, from which you are certain to get satisfaction.

6 Plants in good variety 8/6
12 " " " 16/6
25 " " " 30/-
Carriage Paid.

HARDY PERPETUAL BORDER CARNATIONS—the old Carnations' charm, the new Carnations' freedom. Well cultivated, they produce masses of flower from early Summer to Autumn.

6 Plants in good variety 8/6
12 " " " 16/6
Carriage Paid.

ORDER NOW FOR PROMPT DELIVERY—or write for Illustrated Catalogue, post free on request to

Allwood Bros The leading Carnation Raisers and Specialists in the World.
Dept. 4, Hayward's Heath, Sussex

Barr's Gold Medal Daffodils

STRONG SELECTED BULBS FOR OCTOBER PLANTING.

Awarded SEVENTY-TWO GOLD MEDALS and THREE SILVER CHALLENGE CUPS.

FLOWER BORDER COLLECTION,	6 each,	18 sorts	..	30/-
POT CULTURE	3 "	18 "	..	15/-
"	6 "	20 "	..	40/-
BOWL CULTURE	3 "	10 "	..	10/6
"	6 "	15 "	..	25/-
"	3 "	15 "	..	12/6

FLOWER BORDER MIXTURE .. per 100, 21/-; per doz., 3/-
MIXTURE of all kinds for naturalising, per 1,000, 95/-; 100, 10/6
TRUMPET DAFFODILS, MIXED, per 1,000, 160/-; 100, 17/6
MIXTURE of CHALICE CUP and STAR NARCISSI only, for naturalising .. .. per 1,000 110/-; 100, 12/-

Descriptive Catalogue Free.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2

Digitized by Google

BULBS FOR NATURALISING

All Delivered Post Free at your door.

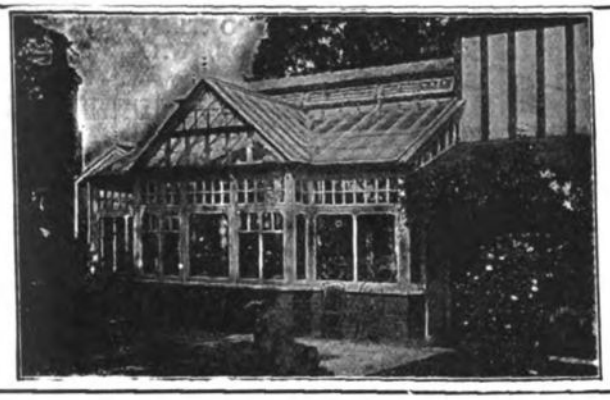
	per doz.	per 100	per 1,000
MUSCARIA HYACINTHS, Grape Hyacinths, blue	1/-	5/-	40/-
SNOWDROPS, earliest flowers of Spring	1/-	6/-	50/-
SPARAXIS, selected show mixtures, all colours	6d.	3/-	25/-
CROCUS, in finest mixed, all colours	1/-	4/-	35/-
SCILLA SIBIRICA, extra fine blue	1/-	9/-	80/-
NARCISSUS, all varieties and colours mixed	1/-	7/6	60/-
TULIPS, all varieties and colours mixed	1/-	7/-	60/-

(All the above for growing in Woodlands or Grass)

Full Illustrated List post free upon application.

H. PRINS (F.R.H.S.) *Flower Bulb Specialists,* **WISBECH, CAMBS.**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*



FOSTER & PEARSON LIMITED

Established 1841

Please write for Estimates for durable Greenhouses, Boilers, etc., to

BEESTON NOTTS

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

SELECTED DUTCH BULBS

JOHN B. VANDERSCHOOT,

The Old Established Bulb Farms, HILLEGOM, HOLLAND

ESTABLISHED 1830.

Own extensive Bulb Farms (comprising over 400 acres) of Hyacinths, Tulips, Narcissi and Daffodils, Crocuses, Irises, &c.

Richly illustrated descriptive Catalogue free on application.

Please Mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

"It warms my Greenhouse nicely at a cost of **about 2d. per day,** which I think very reasonable. I am a new beginner with a Greenhouse, and your

'HORSE SHOE' BOILER

took my fancy. I have not regretted my choice," writes Mr. F. G., Clifford, Boston Spa. 23/3/26

Cold weather comes soon. Write for particulars now

To CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD.,
Engineers, Southwark Street, S.E.1.

Please send me Booklet E "Making the Most of Your Greenhouse," and price of complete Outfit to suit *(span-roof)(lean-to) greenhouse.....
long.....wide inside, side of *(wood)(brick).....thick.

Name.....

Address.....

*Strike out particulars not needed. Cut out and send by id. post.

Can be supplied from Immediate Stock

USED IN THE R.H.S. GARDENS

Wire: "Kinnell-Boroh-London." 'Phone: Hop 0362 (3 lines)

CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., Ltd.

65, SOUTHWARK STREET, LONDON, S.E.1

Sunningdale Nurseries, Windlesham SURREY

52nd ANNUAL SALE

of a choice assortment of well-grown

STANDARD and BUSH, NAMED, HIMALAYAN and CHINESE

RHODODENDRONS

including many of the newer species

ALSO A COLLECTION OF

HARDY AZALEAS, ORNAMENTAL, EVERGREEN and FLOWERING SHRUBS and TREES and other **NURSERY STOCK,** all in excellent condition for removal.

Messrs. PROTHEROE & MORRIS

will sell the above by AUCTION on the Premises

THE SUNNINGDALE NURSERIES (late Noble's), Windlesham, Surrey

Near SUNNINGDALE RAILWAY STATION, SOUTHERN RAILWAY

On Wednesday & Thursday, OCTOBER 6th and 7th, 1926, at 12.30 o'clock precisely each day

ON VIEW. Catalogues may be had on the premises, and of the AUCTIONEERS, 67 and 68, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON, E.C.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Special Autumn Offer

Order **NOW** for delivery in November.

12 Gooseberries
"WHINHAM'S INDUSTRY."
12 Black Currants
"SEABROOK'S" (Mite resisting).
12 Red Currants
"RABY CASTLE."

The above 36 strong, well-grown Fruiting Bushes for 20/- Carriage Paid for Cash with Order. Half the above numbers for 10/-

Descriptive Catalogue of Fruit Trees, Roses, Ornamental Trees and Shrubs, free on application.

The FOREST & ORCHARD NURSERIES, Ltd. BUCKOVER, FALFIELD, GLOS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

BY APPOINTMENT

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

The BEST and CHEAPEST

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

FANCY FERN PANS and BULB BOWLS from **4d.** each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.
Royal Potteries, **BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM**

Digitized by Google

The Floral Event of the Season

THE SEVENTY-GUINEA 'ABOL' TROPHY

offered at BURTON-ON-TRENT, on AUGUST 11TH, 1926 for **"Progress in Plant Breeding"**

WAS AWARDED TO

HARKNESS'S 'REGAL' LUPINS

14 other subjects were shown by leading specialists.

Gold Medal awarded by Kent County Society
"Award of Merit" by Royal Horticultural Society
"Award of Merit" by Royal Agricultural Society

SPECIAL OFFER OF 'REGAL' LUPINS

"TROPHY" Collection:—	Each
Bronze Queen, bronzy-orange and yellow	2/6
Cleopatra, fawn, yellow wings, tall	1/6
Essie Crawford, apricot and yellow	2/-
Eva Thorpe, apricot and fawn	2/-
Fascination, violet and purple, shaded lavender	1/6
Fortunata, pale apricot and yellow	1/6
Gold Crest, yellow with deeper yellow wings	2/-
Marjorie, bronze, shaded yellow	1/6
May Robinson, apricot and fawn	2/-
Merry Times, fawn and creamy-pink	1/6
Mrs. Harry Morris, fawn, yellow wings	2/-
Westwick, apricot and yellow	2/-

One strong plant each above, **18/-**; 3 each, **51/-**.

12 "CHOICE" VARIETIES.	
Beauty, lavender-blue, lined white	9d.
Enchantment, pink and cream	1/-
Exquisite, lavender-rose and white	1/-
Monas Welcome, purple, shaded crimson	1/-
Mrs. Lindley Bown, mauve, yellow wings	1/-
Mrs. J. Pearson, lavender-blue, fine	1/6
Mrs. J. Wilson, apricot and pink	1/-
Rose Queen, deep rose self	9d.
Ruby King, purple, shaded ruby	9d.
Wistaria, wistaria colour, lovely	9d.
Winsome, fawn, shaded yellow	1/-
21st Lancers, mauve, orange-yellow wings	1/6

One strong plant each above, **10/6**; 3 each, **30/-**.

SEED. SEED. SEED.

We offer seed of above, mixed in packets **1/-, 1/6, 2/6.**
Strong young plants from seed, **5/-** doz., 50 for **18/-**, 100 for **35/-**.
Orders of 5/- upwards, Carriage Paid. Odd plants or whole collections may be ordered.

HARKNESS & SONS
Grange Nurseries, Sedale, YORKS.

King's Acre Strawberries

20,000 Pot-Grown Runners for next season's Fruiting ready for immediate despatch.

NEW LIST OF THE BEST VARIETIES with cultural instructions, including all other useful Berries. A most useful List, post free, on application.

King's Acre Nurseries, Limited,
Established 1785. **Hereford.** Nurseries 140 Acres.
RECENT PREMIER AWARDS:
Royal Show, Reading; Shrewsbury and Southport.

CHOICE SHRUBS
FOR OCTOBER PLANTING.

ARBUTUS MENZIESII.—The giant "Madronna" of California, has beautiful cinnamon-coloured bark, lily of the valley-like flowers, and clusters of orange-red fruits. **5/6** and **7/6** each.

STEWARTIA SINENSIS.—The "Deciduous Chinese Camellia." Fragrant pure white flowers. **5/6 to 10/6 each.**

VIBURNUM FRAGRANS.—Flowers flesh pink, very fragrant, produced in winter. **5/6** each.

PISTACIA CHINENSIS.—This "Chinese Pistachio" has charmingly elegant fern-like foliage, which assumes rich tints in the autumn. **5/6** each.

HYDRANGEA SARGENTIANA.—The new giant-leaved Chinese shrubby Hydrangea, with pale blue and white flowers. **5/6** and **7/6** each.

SOPHORA TETRAPTERA MICROPHYLLA.—The New Zealand "Kowhai," a beautiful evergreen with large clusters of tubular yellow flowers. **5/6** each.

All strong plants in 5½in. pots. The set for **31/6**, packing free, on rail Winchester Station.

Write for catalogues of Herbaceous Plants and Alpines, Bulbs, Roses, Fruit Trees, etc. New Tree and Shrub Catalogue in October.

HILLIER & SONS, West Hill Nurseries, **WINCHESTER.**

LONGSTAFF & SONS' SPECIAL
Bargain Column

These are not odd lots bought at sales (which are often not true to name), but our own direct importation, and are the finest bulbs we have ever offered. You can pay more money, but you cannot obtain better.

PREPARED HYACINTHS

Specially prepared for Christmas Flowering.
Top Size Bulbs, each **9d.**; per doz., **7/6.**

ORDINARY HYACINTHS

	Each.	Doz.
Top Size Bulbs	7d.	6/6
Second Size, splendid	6d.	5/-
Third Size, fine bulbs	4d.	3/6
Fourth Size, good bulbs	3d.	2/6

For names and colours, see List.

LOVELY DARWIN TULIPS

Our Special Collection of 100 **Top Size Bulbs**, in 10 choice varieties, for **10/-**; First Size Bulbs, **7/6**; Large Second Size, **5/-**. The finest value ever offered. For names and colours, see List.

APRIL FLOWERING TULIPS
(Top Size.)

	Per doz.	Per 100
Artus, deep scarlet	1/3	9/6
Cottage Maid, rose and white	1/9	12/6
Cramoisie Brilliant, scarlet	1/6	10/-
Diana, pure white, early	1/6	10/-
Duc de Berlin, red and yellow	1/9	12/6
Fred Moore, terra cotta, scented	1/9	12/6
Kaiserskroon, scarlet and gold	2/6	20/-
King of Yellows, very early	2/-	13/6
L'Immaculee, pure white	1/9	12/6
La Reine, white, tinted rose	1/3	9/6
Montresor, golden yellow	2/3	17/6
Pink Beauty, magnificent	3/6	25/-
Primrose Queen, fine bedder	1/6	10/-
Prince of Austria, orange, scented	2/-	15/-
Proserpine, rosy carmine, unique	2/6	20/-
Prosperity, rose, white stripe	1/9	12/6
Rising Sun, beautiful yellow	2/3	17/6
Rose Precose, fine early pink	2/6	20/-
White Hawk, large pure white	2/-	15/-
White Swan, pure white late	1/6	10/-
Wouverman, beautiful purple	1/9	12/6

DAFFODILS AND NARCISSUS

Our Special Collection of 100 **Top Size Bulbs**, in 10 choice varieties (which cannot fail to please), for **15/-**; Second Size Bulbs, **10/-**. For names, see List.

	Per doz.	Per 100
Princeps, early trumpet, fine bulbs	9d.	5/-
Do. do. first size	1/-	7/6
Do. do. extra large	1/3	9/-
Pheasant's Eye, fine bulbs	9d.	5/-
Poeticus Ornatus, fine bulbs	9d.	5/-
Emperor, monster bulbs	2/6	17/6
Do. top size	2/-	15/-
Do. first size	1/6	10/-
Empress, top size	2/-	15/-
Do. first size	1/6	10/-
Sir Watkin, top size	2/-	15/-
Do. first size	1/9	12/6
Golden Spur, top size	2/-	15/-
Do. first size	1/6	10/-

BEAUTIFUL IRIS
(Top Size Bulbs)

Spanish, mixed colours .. 25, **9d.**; 50, **1/3**; 100, **2/-**
Dutch do. .. 25, **1/-**; 50, **1/10**; 100, **3/6**
English do. .. 25, **2/6**; 50, **4/6**; 100, **8/6**

CROCUS, SNOWDROPS, SCILLAS, Etc.

	Per doz.	Per 100
Crocus, choice named varieties	7½d.	4/6
Do. mixed colours	6d.	3/-
Snowdrops, single, top size	1/-	5/-
Do. do. fine bulbs	6d.	3/-
Do. double, top size	1/3	6/6
Scillas, lovely blue, first size	1/3	6/6
Do. do. second size	9d.	5/-
Grape Hyacinths, heavenly blue	6d.	3/-
Anemones, Giant French, mixed	9d.	5/-
Do. St. Bavo, mixed	1/-	6/6
Do. St. Brigid, mixed	1/3	9/6
Do. Fulgens, dazzling scarlet	1/3	9/-
Do. Hollandia, lovely carmine	1/3	9/-

(Ask for Special List and compare our prices.)
Orders value **5/-** carriage paid.

LONGSTAFF & SONS
Bulb Growers, Importers & Merchants,
Near CHELSFIELD STATION, KENT.

SWEET PEA NOVELTIES

F. C. Woodcock's Sweet Peas have gained fame in all parts of the World where they can be successfully grown.

—MY NOVELTIES FOR 1927.—

LILAC QUEEN.
Certificate of Merit, Scottish National Sweet Pea Trials, 1926.

One of the most beautiful and distinct Sweet Peas I have had the pleasure to offer. The colour is rich Lilac on a White ground, producing four and five large flowers on giant stems, quite distinct from any other Sweet Peas in commerce. Per pkt., 12 seeds - **1/-**

CREAM PERFECTION.

This is a rich Cream, the flowers are large and beautifully waved. The stems are of giant size, longer than any other cream I know of. Sure to please the keenest exhibitor.
Per Pkt., 12 seeds - - - - **1/-**

My New Catalogue containing all the best to grow for Exhibition. Post Free.

F. C. WOODCOCK,
Sweet Pea Specialist, WALMER, KENT.

39th YEAR

Mrs. PYM'S FAMOUS PLANTS

AT VERY MODERATE PRICES.

Send for Catalogue of Choice Hardy Perennial Plants for Rockeries, Crazy Paving, Borders, Beds, Greenhouses etc. Plant now for success, and get plants established before winter. Prompt despatch. Correctly named Carefully packed, and guaranteed to arrive in excellent condition. Carriage paid.

Mrs. PYM, F.R.H.S.,
10, Vine House, Woodston, PETERBOROUGH

RARE DAFFODILS

Planting Stock

Miss Willmott, 5/-; Bonfire, 5/-; Cleopatra, 5/-; Masterpiece, 4/-; Inglescombe, 4/-; Will Scarlet, 3/-; Bernardino, 3/-; Duke of Bedford, 3/-; Early Surprise, 3/-; Lord Kitchener, 2/-; W. P. Milner, 6d. All per dozen.

Mixed Daffodils, all sizes, for scattering among shrubberies and woodlands, 10/- per 1,000, and many others. Write for illustrated catalogue to

MONTGOMERY CRAWFORD
Highfield Bulb Farm, Barrasie, Ayrshire

Gayborder Delphiniums

Stand Pre-eminent for Colour

At no nursery is such an extensive collection of beautiful varieties grown, and the prices charged are moderate.

Catalogues post free on application.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS for SEPTEMBER PLANTING :—

Order now to secure one—they are all carriage and packing free for Cash with Order.

Coll.		s.	d.
D1	12 standard varieties (priced at 18s.)	16	0
D2	12 good varieties (priced at 24s.)	21	0
D3	12 very good varieties (priced at 42s.)	36	0
D4	12 extra good varieties (priced at 60s.)	54	0
D5	12 unnamed hybrids, large 2-year clumps	7	6
D6	12 selected unnamed hybrids (many worth over 2s. 6d. each)	15	0

WM. SYDENHAM
(Raisers of Choice Delphiniums, etc., since 1904)
THE GAYBORDER NURSERIES
MELBOURNE - DERBY

Digitized by Google

SEEDSMEN BY APPOINTMENT

BULBS for ROOM CULTURE

This mode of culture is most suitable where garden space is limited, and a continuous supply of blooms of Hyacinths, Daffodils, Narcissus, etc., may be had from Christmas to Easter if planted in Bowls or Pots indoors.

Full particulars of "Room Gardening" contained in "Bulbs and Lawns," post free on application.

Carters TESTED SEEDS

Bulb Growers and Grass Specialists

RAYNES PARK, LONDON, S.W.20

Notes from Maidstone.

MATRIMONIAL NEWS

There are journals we believe which bring together those desiring to marry, and now that we learn that some fruits require such introductions, and as they are fastidious in the choice of their affinities, it seems necessary to provide a Pomological Matrimonial Agency. Failing this desirable institution, our Fruit Catalogue must serve as a medium, and the marriages which science has blessed are indicated, where known. Of special interest and rarity are those couples which are mutually satisfactory. All planters of Cherries and Plums should gravely consider this point before making final decisions.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd., The Royal Nurseries, Established 1796. Maidstone.

ALLENS' ROSES

Before placing your Autumn order send for our FULL ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE. We are certain it will be of assistance to you. Ready now. Contents include :—

Survey of new varieties, indicating improved forms.
Frank descriptions of over 500 varieties.
Select lists of Roses for all purposes.
Colour Guide.
Cultural Notes.
Rose Diseases and their Treatment.
Six Colour Plates, etc.

POST FREE ON RECEIPT OF CARD.

Send us your enquiries and we shall be pleased to quote.

Our stock is a most comprehensive one of Roses for all purposes, and we are sure we can give you every satisfaction.

A. J. & C. ALLEN (Dept. A), Nurserymen, NORWICH

BY APPOINTMENT.

Fertilizer Manufacturers to H.M. THE KING.

FEED FRUIT TREES

HEAVY Crops are peculiar to healthy trees, and nutriment is drawn rapidly from the soil by these. Prepare for next year's crop now. Complete restoration of the constituents necessary for sound crops is obtained by using . . . .

FISONS' FRUIT FERTILIZER

Use 7 lbs. to the rod, in the Autumn. Professional growers secure their crops by the use of this Fertilizer. . . .

Prices	7-lbs.	14-lbs.	28-lbs.	56-lbs. 112-lbs.
Carr. pd.	3/-	5/-	8/-	18/6 28/-

Write for Illustrated Catalogue No. 6 containing particulars of fertilizers for all Garden Crops with full instructions for use.

JOSEPH FISON & Co Ltd IPSWICH

Digitized by Google

VOL. XC.—No. 2860. SEPTEMBER 25, 1926 PRICE TWO PENCE.

THE OLD ORDER CHANGETH

IN bygone days, when THE GARDEN was in its infancy, the science of gardening was only known to a few, the magnificent body of professional gardeners who have done so much to bring British horticulture to its present supreme position. Slowly but surely the desire to learn has spread, as more and more people have become attracted to horticulture. A hundred gardens exist to-day where there was only one before; but the hundred differ from the one in that they are tended and cultivated to a large extent by amateurs.

This is a statement of fact that no one will gainsay. In the past, THE GARDEN has appealed to the enthusiastic specialist, to the experienced gardener, to those who have liked searching into the byways of horticulture. There has, perhaps, been too little appeal to the ordinary amateur. We believe that frankness, which has always been a policy of this paper, has been appreciated by our readers. The policy of frankness will be continued, although readers will find that in other respects this issue of THE GARDEN differs from all previous issues.

Since in the past we catered for the advanced horticulturist, we regarded the main issues of horticulture as already learnt. We began above the heads of that enormous body that has come into being within the last few years. In the future we shall cater for everybody. There is *no* suggestion of lowering the quality of the material. Because we give advice on the simpler side of gardening, there is no reason why it should be of inferior quality. Our policy in future is not to give less information, but more, much more.

If you will take this issue as a sample and examine its pages, you will see the various details that will be given, for this is no abnormal issue, except for the coloured cover, which is one of our most popular features, and will be seen oftener in future.

As this is the time of year when most gardeners are thinking of garden design and garden alteration, we have arranged for the grand old lady of British gardening, Miss Gertrude Jekyll, to make for THE GARDEN a series of designs. They will show various phases and features of an average sized small garden. Miss Jekyll is so well known that it should be unnecessary to say that the designs will be strictly practical and adaptable to almost all positions and situations. The first of the series begins in this issue, and we are sure that all readers who are planning or about to plan a garden will find them both instructive and useful. Another page is devoted to roses. Two problems often confront the amateur rose grower: which roses retain their colour, and which are vigorous? The answers are given here. Then follow notes dealing with fruit and vegetables and an entirely new feature, the Busy Man's Page, where the man who can only spare an hour or two to his garden can gain week by week a great deal of information in the minimum of space. This should be exceedingly valuable to many busy people. It will be seen that there is information in the pages of THE GARDEN for most of the gardeners of the British Isles. And all this for 2d. a week—a remodelled paper, a new price.

We have been frank with you as readers of THE GARDEN. We, in turn, hope that you will be frank with us. In the past we were proud of our position as THE paper for the advanced gardener. In the future we hope to be proud of our position as THE paper for ALL gardeners. But in order to gain this position our readers must help with suggestions and advice.

E. H. M. C.

HAVE YOU

¶ *Sown your half-hardy annuals for spring flowering in the greenhouse?*

¶ *Lifted your violet plants for forcing?*

¶ *Taken your pentstemon cuttings?*

¶ *Finished propagating your violas and calceolarias?*

¶ *Planted your lilies of the valley?*

¶ *Pruned your morello cherries? This is the best time for this important operation.*

¶ *Remembered your successional plantings of lettuces?*

¶ *Lifted all your onions and harvested them in a dry shed?*

¶ *Cleared the space occupied by your tomatoes?*

The Holland Park Show.

EACH year the great autumn show at Holland Park improves, and demonstrates more and more clearly what can be done to beautify our gardens in the autumn. Not so long ago gardeners set their hearts on making their gardens supreme during spring and summer, and relaxed their efforts towards having autumn colour from flowers, foliage and berries. Now this is altered, and enthusiasts consider the autumn nearly as important as the other seasons. However, there still remains a great number of otherwise keen gardeners who do not sufficiently realise what modern horticulture has done for the autumn garden. Not only does this apply to flowers, but also to leaves that colour magnificently and berries of vivid tints. Many of the maples and berberis and plants like Rhus cotinus and Cercidiphyllum japonicum have come to stay, owing to the glory of their autumn tints. What can be more wonderful than the berries on some of the pyracanthas? In the same way Gentianas Farreri and sino-ornata, autumn-flowering crocuses, dahlias and Michaelmas daisies have improved the flower colour of the autumn to an extent that our forefathers never believed possible. These are only a few of the plants which make such a marvellous autumn show. Each year the garden can be made more full of colour the year round.

All those who can will have visited Holland Park, but to those who have been unable to spare the time, no better advice can be given than to watch the pages of THE GARDEN carefully during the next few weeks and so learn of the various plants that contributors and readers mention, so that they may be in a position to improve their autumn garden next year.

Owing to the many alterations that have been made in the present issue of "The Garden" and the greatly increased demand received from the Trade for this issue, a very much larger edition has had to be printed, with the result that arrangements have had to be made with the printers to go to press earlier than usual. In view of this the Holland Park Show Report has unavoidably been held over until our next issue, where a fully illustrated account will appear.

Digitized by Google

ROSES OF GOOD CONSTITUTION

PURCHASERS of rose trees may, generally speaking, be divided into three classes—(1) those who from personal experience of the varieties, and having due regard to the nature of their soil and locality, know exactly what they require; (2) those who on the recommendation of friends or from catalogue descriptions are prompted to acquire them; and (3)—probably a not inconsiderable number—others who, having become enamoured of blossoms staged at some exhibition, give an order for delivery of trees in the following autumn without any knowledge as to their capabilities as garden roses or of their constitution. It is, I think, mainly this latter section of purchasers, who realise, only too often, a certain amount of disappointment when the trees bloom in their garden and it is found that growth is far from robust, and that, even when established, they fall short of their ideal. It is one thing to admire a group of blooms effectively staged in an exhibition tent, which in all probability have been grown for that special object, and quite another matter to attempt to grow similar superb flowers from bushes in one's own garden. Sooner or later one is apt to wake up to the fact that some roses are capricious. Happily, however, there are many roses of vigorous constitution that can be depended upon to do well in any fairly good soil and open situation. They need little or no recommendation, as, owing to their long career and their marvellous freedom of blooming, they carry their own testimonial.

The Glory of Caroline Testout.

From my window where these lines are written this summer morning my eyes rest upon a bush full of silvery pink blossoms, a tree which has occupied the same position close on thirty years. Never once has Caroline Testout disappointed me in all that time in giving of its best. How many thousands of blossoms it has produced it would be difficult to compute! I have always gathered flowers in early June, often in May and always, without exception, in late October. This variety is to be found in many gardens. It is regarded as essential to every large collection, and maintains its popularity because of sheer merit. Every nurseryman dealing in roses knows the value of Caroline, as they are never wrong in recommending it. I have long since come to the conclusion that if ever the National Rose Society awards its D.S.O. for varieties of worth and long service, then surely Caroline Testout will be among the recipients, for it is altogether a worthy rose.

Some Robust Varieties.

One is glad to note that modern raisers are paying much attention to the production of vigorous, robust sorts, and whatever charges may be brought against them in those of recent introduction lacking somewhat of perfume, it cannot be said that they are neglecting the essential of good constitution; The familiar indicator "V" in trade lists is noted by would-be purchasers in selecting sorts of healthy, vigorous constitution, because, among growers to-day, there are not a few whose gardens lie in and near to towns and cities, so that roses possessing robust habit are necessary. In that most popular section, the *Hybrid Teas*, we can claim quite a number that are ideal for the general grower. Here are some of them: General McArthur, Hoosier Beauty, Una Wallace, Rev. F. Page Roberts, Ophelia, J. G. Glassford, Betty Uprichard, Mme. Mélanie Soupert, Clara Curtis, J. B. Clark, Mrs. Henry Bowles and The Queen Alexandra Rose.

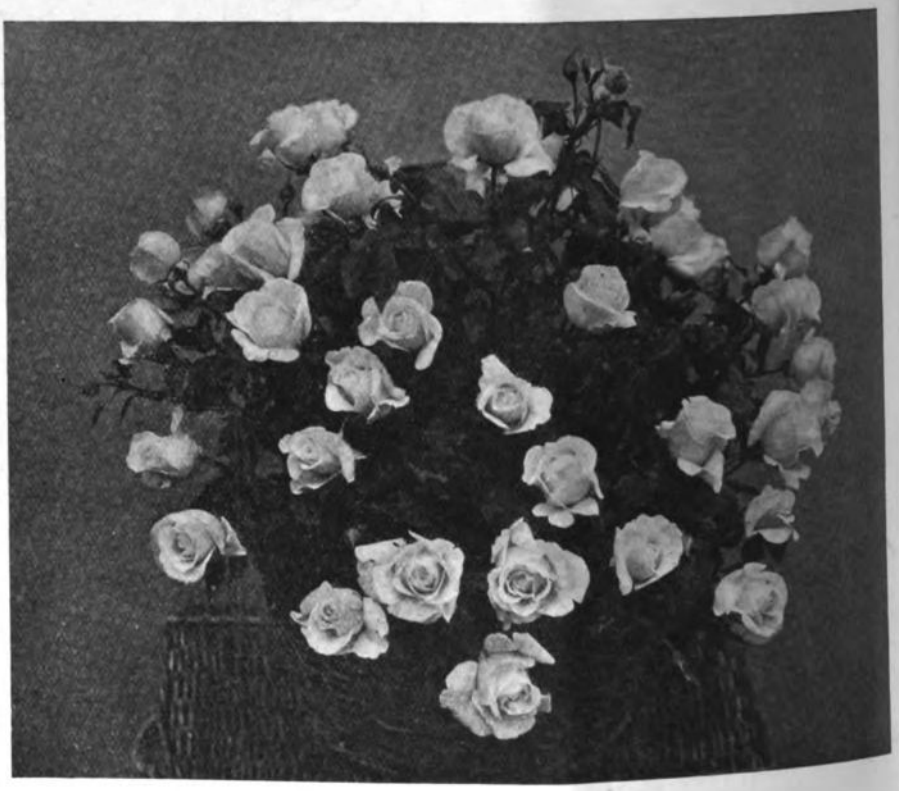
Hybrid Perpetuals.—Hugh Dickson, Frau Karl Druschki, Annie Crawford, Mrs. John Laing and Captain Hayward.

Singles.—Isobel, Mrs. Oakley Fisher and Irish Fireflame.

Climbers.—Albéric Barbier, Paul's Scarlet Climber, Blush Rambler, American Pillar, Excelsa and Sanders' White.

One noted firm of rose growers, in issuing its list every year, takes the trouble to publish the names of varieties they no longer offer for sale because of other and more modern sorts being judged better. Among the names I notice some that do not come up to the standard of vigorous constitution. This I look upon as useful information to prospective buyers. Their slogan is "Grow the best, discard the rest." It is one worth bearing in mind.

W. LINDERS LEA.



A FINE BASKET OF THE POPULAR ROSE MRS. HENRY MORSE.

Roses that Keep their Colour and are not Scorched

ON one of those sweltering days about the middle of July I was in a country garden admiring roses which were opening in such quick profusion. It was early morning as I stood before a pergola covered on one side with that old and not easily ousted variety William Allen Richardson. There were many clusters of half-opened buds revealing the exquisite deep orange yellow tints. Before noon the petals had fully expanded, but the delightful colour had gone, leaving them bleached and washed out. What happens with this rose does so with many others, and unless they are given some temporary shading the sun scorches them to such an extent as to make them almost unrecognisable.

In such a season as the present one, when the thermometer for days stood in the neighbourhood of 80° to 84° in the shade, comparatively few roses were exempt from losing colour, although some did not seem to be much affected. My experience with climbers that keep their colour and do not scorch very much is presumably that of many others. In the glare of hot sun I find that Hiawatha retains much of its crimson, and lasts longer than almost any rose I know. Excelsa (crimson) and Paul's Scarlet Climber came out of the ordeal very well, but American Pillar soon lost its lovely shade of pink.

All roses of a coppery or golden shade are subject to bleaching more or less, but Lady Pirrie and Los Angeles, with me, seemed to be affected the least. Fisher Holmes, one of the oldest of the hybrid perpetuals and seldom seen to-day, kept its crimson scarlet flowers wonderfully well in the trying days of abnormal heat. I cut a few blooms of Edward Mawley, that beautiful velvety crimson hybrid tea, on a day that would try the most "warranted fast colour," and was surprised at the excellent tints.

Among pinks, Mrs. Henry Morse, while not being entirely immune from scorching, came out of the heat much better than one expected, and the same remarks are true of the salmon pink Mme. Abel Chatenay, the blooms of which, I think, are almost as beautiful when slightly bleached as when they first open in the morning before the sun has time to leave its mark upon them. One of my dark crimson roses, Hadley, also gave a very good account of itself in the torrid heat, as did the single Isobel. Margaret Dickson Hamill, one of the best of its class, continues to be more largely grown every year, and though losing some of its fawn yellow colour in trying heat, is a variety to be looked upon as good for the garden. Still one of the most sweetly scented of our hybrid perpetuals, Hugh Dickson proves a grand rose even in almost tropical heat, and as a crimson scarlet it is, in its class, one of the best. Still another, though newer, crimson hybrid tea that is sunproof is Bedford Crimson. In this case fear of scorching is practically eliminated.

W. F.

Digitized by Google

PLANTS AT THEIR BEST IN LATE SUMMER

This is the first of a series of contributions to THE GARDEN *by the well known writer on horticulture, Mr. A. J. Macself. It is really an enlargement of our "Worthy Plants" that has been such a popular feature.*

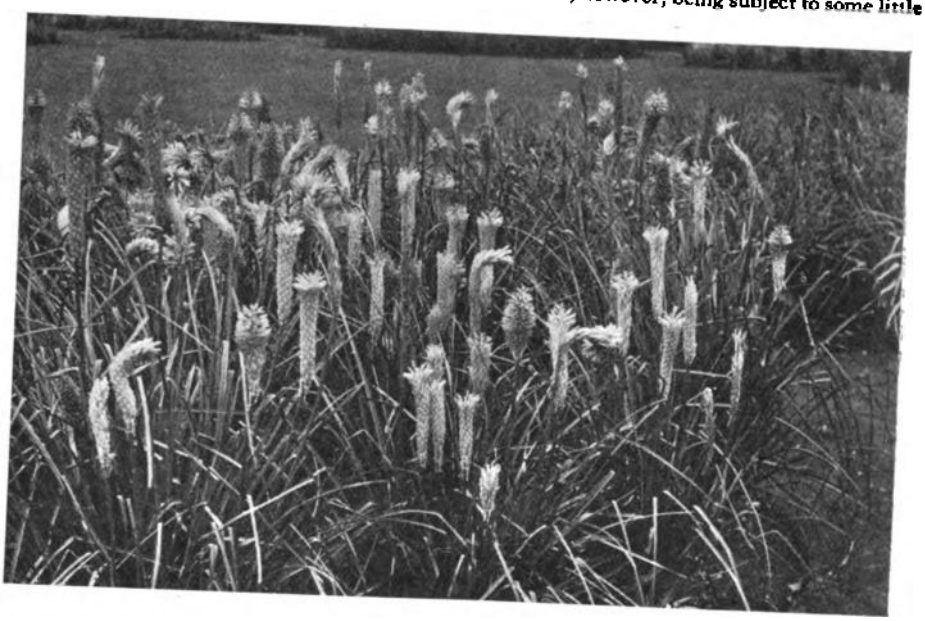
Ceratostigma plumbaginoides.

BLUE is not plentiful in the garden after the gold and bronze of autumn bursts upon the scene, and it is often said that the rock garden has only a tithe of the floral beauty in autumn it has in spring. Strange, then, it seems that a plant which is of easy culture and which bears flowers of a soft, pleasing shade of blue in autumn is as seldom met with to-day as it was twenty or thirty years ago. Under the synonymous name Plumbago Larpentæ I grew this plant before the dawn of this century, and found it luxuriant in growth, the glossy green of its foliage and ruddy hue of its stems being at all seasons delightful. It has been laid to the charge of the leadwort (to give it a so-called popular name) that it flowers too lazily to be effective, but if the simple precaution is taken to thin out the crowded growths of a fair-sized clump, that the stoutest growths may get the benefit of summer's sunlight and air, flowers will not be scarce. A fine mass about 4ft. across, which I have had under observation for several years, is thus treated, and every year, from about September 7th or 10th and on to the end of the month it is one of the best of good things, often flowering through the greater half of October. In some gardens flowers are freely borne in August.

Brilliant as a Burning Bush.

ZAUSCHNERIA CALIFORNICA blooms just now with unequalled freedom. It is an extraordinary plant, and would be far more conspicuous in British gardens if a mistaken notion that it requires coddling treatment were dispelled. It has to be admitted that many plants of zauschneria have been failures, but in the majority of cases the real reason has been that cosy corners have been selected and rich composts provided, with the result that the plants have made rank, soft growth which has fared badly during winter.

In a neighbouring garden is a bank which originally was formed by dumping builders' rubble, road sweepings, ashes and other harsh material. This was covered with ordinary soil held up by rows of rough stones and clinkers. The position is fully exposed to sunshine, and often in summer it is baked so hard that even aubrietias and alyssums are seared and scorched. Here Zauschneria californica has grown so well that sucker-like growths with stems tough as wire wriggle their way to daylight through chinks between the stones and clinkers, and just now the growths are literally ablaze, the shining flame-coloured tubular flowers being as brilliant as a burning bush. Spring planting from pots is recommended.



THE SEALING WAX RED SPIKES OF KNIPHOFIA ERECTA.

A Fine Red Hot Poker.

THE kniphofias—or tritomas, as they are still as frequently called as by the first and more correct name—are a vastly improved and still improving family. By intermixing a number of distinct species, plant breeders have given us some lovely hybrids, varying in size, stature, colouring and in season of flowering—the latter, however, being subject to some little variation according to aspect, environment and season.

At the present time, Kniphofia erecta is the most effective of a fairly representative collection, and among the whole tribe this is particularly noteworthy as possessing distinctive merit. Its colour is deep rich red, almost of sealing-wax tone; but the outstanding feature of the torch-like inflorescence is in the upward direction in which all the tubular florets grow. This is not alone a matter of interesting peculiarity, but has an important practical value. The one drawback to most kniphofias is that the pendent florets around the base of the inflorescence fade and assume the unsightly colour of decay before the topmost florets have fully developed; but in K. erecta this defect is eliminated, and the basal florets, being fully exposed to view, contribute most to the glowing effect of the spike which, in an accentuated degree, justifies the common name of the genus, the "red-hot poker."

LA TOSCA IS ONE OF THE BEST AUTUMN ROSES.

A Jewel Among Autumnal Roses. La Tosca.

WITH all the glory of our modern highly coloured roses of the pernettiana class, we have not lost affection for—or, indeed, the particular need of—this old but exquisite rose, which a quarter of a century ago (the rose was introduced the first year, or thereabouts, of the present century), was hailed with delight as an exceptionally fine autumn rose.

It is just now making a perfectly delightful show, and, as seen in the illustration, is thoroughly capable of making an effective display in a bed to itself.

The colour of La Tosca is delicate blush with quite a silvery sheen, and the form of the flower and habit of growth possess extreme elegance. La Tosca is a rose which should be but lightly pruned in spring, but it benefits in an especial degree by being judiciously relieved of spent growth during July.

Digitized by Google

YOUR BULBS

HOW TO GET THE BEST OUT OF THEM

Useful Hints about Potting and Planting Bulbs.

FOR some weeks now we have had the autumn bulb catalogues before us and, if the orders have not already been sent in, no time should be lost. There is no doubt that with bulbs, whether these are grown indoors or outside, early planting is likely to give the best results. When bulbs are grown in pots or bowls for winter flowering it is essential to get them settled in soil or fibre by the end of the summer. Either a fibre mixture such as is supplied by any bulb specialist, or a compost made out of rotted fibrous turf, leaf soil and sand, or even gravel so long as it is water worn, make good growing mediums for bulbs in pots and bowls. Hardly any of the early-flowering bulbs grown indoors require a great amount of heat provided they are allowed a good long rooting period. In fact, with the paper white narcissi and the early tulips a brisk heat is positively injurious. Roman hyacinths and other early varieties will tolerate a certain amount of forcing, but this is usually quite unnecessary if the bulbs have had a good chance to develop their roots. Care should be taken not to plant such bulbs as hyacinths and tulips too deep in the pot or bowl, in fact, with these two bulbs the crowns should be just clear.

When bulbs have been planted in fibre the bowls should be put into a cool place away from a strong light. A stuffy cupboard is not suitable: for bulbs are living, breathing things, and they simply must have fresh air. Keep the fibre just moist, but until active growth has started not a great deal of water will be required. Let the water be just off the chill, as if this is icy cold it will check the growth of the bulbs.

Plunging in Ashes.

Bulbs grown in pots, later to be placed in a frame or a greenhouse, are best treated in this way: Choose a corner of the garden where there will be no drippings from roofs or tree branches. On the ground spread a layer of ashes, making the surface quite smooth. Then stand the pots on this and cover with a full 6ins. of light mould, dead leaves, ashes or fibre. The covering should be thick enough to give protection from frost, and the bulbs may remain here for from two to three months. At the end of this time they will have developed a fine root system as well as a certain amount of top growth. In the case of the early-flowering varieties a moderate heat will bring them into full beauty within a short while.

Planting Bulbs in the Garden.

Out of doors very early bulb planting is not always possible. At this season many of the beds cannot be cleared of their summer occupants, but, as opportunity offers, the bulbs should certainly be placed out. After the removal of the summer plants the soil will require very little preparation to make it ready for the bulbs. A good digging with a fork so that the ground is well broken up will nearly always meet the needs of the case. The depth at which bulbs should be planted is rather an important matter. To be on the safe side, when placing in the open garden, the bulbs should be buried about three times their own diameter in the soil. The small bulbs, like crocuses, scillas, etc., will thus be about 1in. to 2ins. down; hyacinths, narcissi and tulips will be from 4ins. to 9ins. below the surface. If you are rather late in your planting, or the soil is on the heavy side, it is an excellent plan to set the base of each bulb in a little silver sand. This very much hastens the rooting of the bulb and you will be well repaid for the trouble. In any case loosen the soil well under the bulb and see that there is no space underneath, as sometimes happens in the case of careless planting.

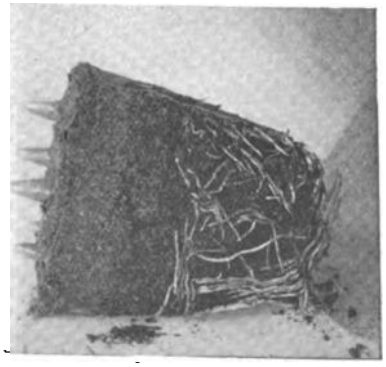
BULBS POTTED READY FOR PLUNGING.

Until the bulb is covered press the soil fairly firmly round it and then add the remainder rather lightly. To protect newly planted bulb beds from cats, etc., there is

THE CORRECT METHOD OF PLUNGING.

nothing so good as a few twiggy growths pushed at intervals into the ground.

When planting bulbs try to conjure up a mind picture of the ultimate effect when



THEY ARE READY FOR REMOVAL WHEN A STURDY ROOT SYSTEM IS ESTABLISHED.

the plants are in flower. Many people plant a number of bulbs and then get a very disappointing result in the spring. Remember that *naturally* most of the bulbous plants grow in clumps. Their chief means of increase is by means of offshoots, and the young bulbs develop quite close to the parents. This is especially the case with the smaller kinds of bulbs, which grow closely crowded together. Even with large hyacinths the distance between the plants should not be too great, or much of the effect is lost. Snowdrops are, perhaps, the least effective of all in the general border. These look best, and usually are the happiest, in some corner of the garden where there is a certain amount of shade. Here the snowdrops will settle down and grow for years, steadily increasing with the passing seasons. In very open situations snowdrops often die away after the first year, although why they do so has never been explained.

Bulbs in Grass.

Bulbs look extremely effective when growing in grass. For this it is far better to choose the corners of the lawn rather than to carry out any widespread planting. Keep the bulbs in the grass to a few limited areas and here let them be thickly planted. Ideal situations are round about the base of a tree or at the foot of a rustic arch which comes close to the grass. In these situations the foliage of the bulbs can be allowed to die down after flowering, and there will be no serious disfigurement of the lawn as a whole. When planting bulbs in grass an old knife is a handy appliance. Cut a little round of turf and carefully remove this. Now dig down into the soil and, when the hole is of the required depth, loosen the earth well at the bottom. Next pop in the bulb and press it rather firmly. Make sure that it is well set before replacing the little cap of turf, for the strong-growing narcissi have a habit of forcing themselves up by means of their roots unless they are securely gripped by the soil. If the pieces of turf have been neatly cut there is no reason why the appearance of the grass should be spoiled.

Best of all for lawn planting are the various kinds of narcissi, although charming effects are secured with crocuses, snowdrops, scillas, etc. With the small bulbs remember the importance of thick planting in order to secure the massed colour effect which is so desirable. Happily, bulbs suitable for planting in grass or for naturalisation in the semi-wild garden are to be obtained at a low price, so that there is no reason why one should plant sparingly.

Wherever bulbs are planted, whether in the border or on the lawn, it is very desirable to mark the place. A gardener should always be able to see at a glance just where anything has been planted, and if there is a label to tell him what it is, so much the better.

In conclusion, one may give a little hint which specially applies to crocuses. Where, as often happens, the bulbs are left in from year to year they should be lifted and replanted every second season. This is necessary owing to the peculiar method of increase to be found in crocuses. The new offshoots are produced on the upper part of the bulbs or corms as they are more properly called. This tends to bring the corms up towards the surface, with the result that they may be forced out of the soil altogether. The flowers will then be poor and small, and nothing like so fine as those produced by corms that are better covered with soil.

Crocuses both of the autumn and spring flowering species and varieties are becoming deservidly popular both in large and small gardens. They come at seasons of the year when ordinary flowers are by no means common, and the colours in their delicate shades are all attractive.

L. S.

Digitized by Google

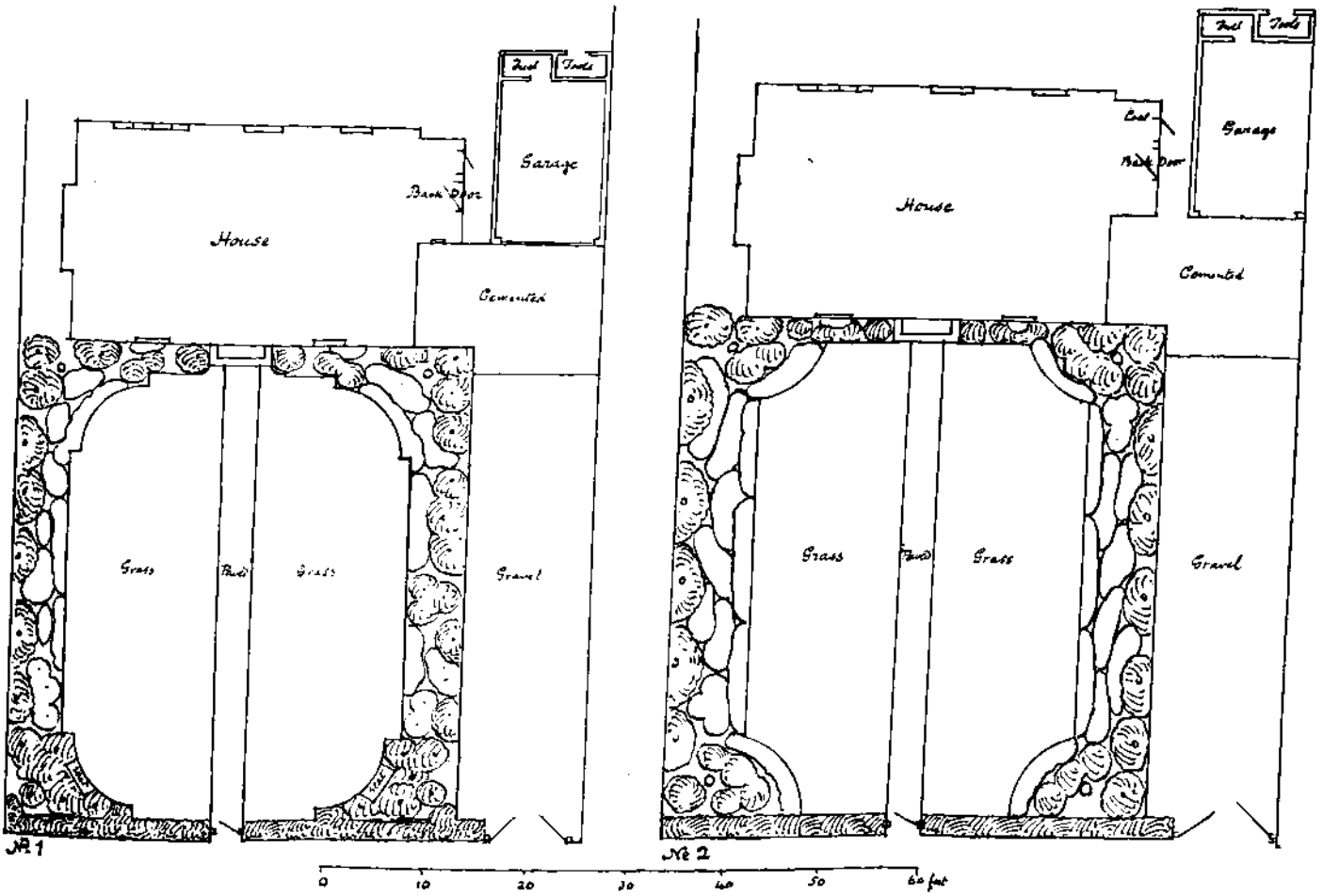
THE JOY OF MAKING A NEW GARDEN

By GERTRUDE JEKYLL.

[Many of our readers will be interested at this time in the making or remaking of their gardens. Naturally, although this is a question of personal taste, certain guiding principles are to be followed, and suggestions, as a rule, are welcomed. It is with this end in view that THE GARDEN *has arranged for a series of articles, with plans, to be published during the coming planting season commencing with this issue, and which will be one of the many helpful features of the new* GARDEN. *To make these articles and plans as helpful as possible to the amateur gardener, we have asked Miss Gertrude Jekyll to undertake the work for us. There is no one more qualified to give advice on such matters than Miss Jekyll. She has been a keen student of gardening in all its branches during the last fifty years, and has done more, along with Mr. Wm. Robinson, to raise the status of English gardens than anyone. Miss Jekyll is especially well known in connection with schemes involving the planning and planting of shrubs and herbaceous plants for colour effects, and the results of her artistic efforts are clearly apparent in the great development and improvement of herbaceous gardening in this country. Her interests are catholic, but the garden of the amateur has always been her special hobby and joy. Miss Jekyll has many novel schemes and suggestions to offer out of the well of her experience to the amateur who is planning a new garden, and these articles, with their accompanying plans, will, we are sure, be of the greatest assistance to the ever-increasing band of suburban gardeners.]*

THERE are thousands of small houses, built or in course of building, on sites of narrow form, such as are so usual in the outer areas of suburban London and on the outskirts of country towns. The owners of many of these may be glad of some general advice about laying out the ground both at the front and the back. THE GARDEN is preparing a set of plans such as will probably be helpful. The first example is that of a house just built on a site 60ft. wide by 200ft. deep. It is set back 50ft. from the road, a good plan in any case, as it is that much removed from the disturbance of passing traffic, and the depth just gives room for some simple gardening. It is this front space that will be here considered ; the treatment of the larger area at the back will come later.

For access from road to front door there is nothing so good as York stone paving securely set and the joints cemented so that no weeds can get lodgment. It is absolutely permanent and is no further trouble, while any slight litter of blown dead leaves or side sprinkle of mown grass can easily be swept up. Then a width of well kept turf 15ft. to 16ft. wide will give a sense of space and dignity, and the remaining few feet will be for shrubs and flowers. Many front gardens are already treated in some such way, but the side plantings are commonly carried straight up to the house, whereas it will be found much better to give the angles some kind of shaping, such as is shown in these plans. In both examples they give the same general treatment, but with these angles varied in detail. This will not only redeem the general plan from the obvious commonplace, but will afford more space for something specially careful and effective in the way of planting. Close to the steps to the front door a bush of box on each side is advised, and the larger bushes to right and left should be laurustinus. The windows on this side face east and have shutters, as is seen in the photograph of the house, which open flat back against the wall, so that there is not much space for wall plants, but if some wall clothing is desired the laurustinus nearest to the angles of the house can have their back branches trained up clear of the shutters. The little circles on the plans mean standard flowering trees, such as almond and Waterer's double cherry. The slight shading indicates shrubs, the other forms are groups of flowers. To give an idea of the planting, taking the left-hand side of Plan No. 1, next to the box bush to the left of the entrance steps there should be two rosemary, a bush that can be cut to any form and that will train neatly to the little sharp angle there shown. A China rose, the common pink kind, will come at the back of the rosemary and the



TWO DESIGNS SHOWING ALTERNATIVE CORNER ARRANGEMENTS OF A FRONT GARDEN PLOT FIFTY FEET WIDE.

Digitized by Google

blooms will show up pleasantly from within the room window. At the back are three laurustinus, and between them a standard almond. This corner faces north-east, and will be the coolest place in the front garden, therefore there will be a patch of Solomon's seal just in front of the almond, and next to it a group of white phlox. The shrubs on this side, planted 18ins. away from the fence, will be such as the rosy flowered Weigela amabilis, an inmate of many a cottage garden, Deutzia Pride of Rochester, Spiræa Van Houttei, philadelphus and the beautiful white Lilac Marie Legraye. In front will be groups of hardy plants—iris, peony, phlox, etc., with smaller things to the edge, such as Polygonum affine, one of the knotweeds, London pride, and, bordering the rounded curve near the house, the cabbage-leaved saxifrage Megasea cordifolia, with its handsome foliage. The opposite side will have nearly the same treatment close to the house, with a standard double cherry. Then will follow some ornamental shrubs, such as Veronica Traversii, sea buckthorn and Olearia Haastii. Next to the road there will be a hedge of Cupressus macrocarpa. In the case of a road that is fairly quiet it would be tempting, at the road end of the garden, to plant on each side five yews with a seat notched in, and one tall Irish yew at the back.

If the front garden was planted in this way it would show as nearly all evergreen next the house, so giving a comfortable effect of winter clothing and evergreen ends next the road. This would not only give a desirable feeling of seclusion from the thoroughfare but would serve as a quiet background to the flowers in the borders as seen from the house. Plan No. 2 shows an alternative treatment of the angles and slightly wider borders for the shrubs and flowers.

THE HOUSE AND FRONT PLOT FOR WHICH THE PRESENT PLAN WAS DESIGNED.

The plan of the back garden of this house will be published in our next issue along with a further article.

ANTIRRHINUMS FOR PRESENT SOWING

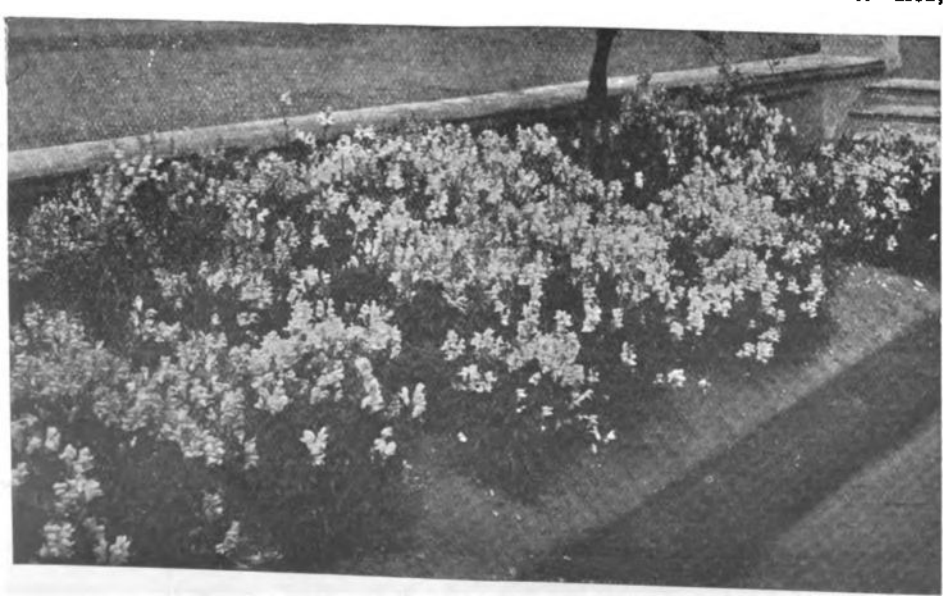
If an early floral display is desired in the garden next summer, then attention should be given to the immediate sowing of the majority of our hardy annual flowers. Although not strictly an annual, the Snapdragon is best treated as such, and if seeds of some of the varieties given in this article are sown during the next few weeks, the resultant plants if properly grown should be more robust than those sown in the spring.

Some Points About Autumn Sowing.

THEORETICALLY, autumn-sown antirrhinums should invariably be superior to those which are sown in spring; actually, a good many disappointments and partial or total failures are experienced, and it is not uncommon for spring-sown plants to outpace the autumn sown.

Recognition of a few simple facts will enable the raiser to avoid the various causes of failure, and it is well worth while to exercise proper care in handling one's seedlings, for the advantages that can be obtained by using autumn-sown antirrhinums really are very considerable. Common causes of failure are too much nursing, or "coddling," as the gardener terms it, too soft and rich a soil in the seed bed or the boxes used, over-crowding, and, finally, stunting the plants before bedding out in spring.

Antirrhinums are hardy enough so far as ability to withstand the severest frosts is concerned; they are very impatient of winter damp, and even more so of grimy deposits on their stems and foliage. To the last named is due the fact that antirrhinums do not winter well in the London district, while in much colder, but drier and cleaner atmospheres they pass unharmed through the winter, young seedlings and old plants alike suffering no harm on cold bleak hillsides or on the cliff gardens around the coast.



ANTIRRHINUMS, WHEN MASSED, FORM A PRETTY COLOUR BORDER.

Dates for Sowing.

Where one's garden is of porous, gritty and well drained soil, and where the atmosphere is not smoke laden, there need be no hesitation over sowing antirrhinum seed in the open any time between, say, September 20th and October 10th, and it may be noted that small seedlings almost invariably pass through the winter more satisfactorily than larger plants with a considerable amount of soft stem and foliage. Early sowing is, consequently, by no means an assured method of avoiding failure.

Mother Earth is a far better bed for young seedlings than the most carefully prepared compost in a box, and outdoor sowing is to be strongly recommended except where stagnant damp or a polluted atmosphere discounts the advantages. Obviously, a seed-bed requires to be clean, both in regard to weed seeds and ground pests, but it should not be rich with manure.

Those who have to contend with the disadvantages of wet, heavy soil or smoky

Digitized by Google

atmosphere will be driven to protect their seedlings, but they will be well advised to make up a well drained bed of porous soil in a cold frame in preference to sowing in boxes and wintering the seedlings in a heated greenhouse. Sow seeds very thinly, because it will be necessary to allow the young plants to remain undisturbed until the new year has spent several weeks, and anything approaching overcrowding in the seed-bed is distinctly detrimental to proper development.

After-Treatment of Seedlings.

The frame should seldom be closed entirely, and on clear, fine days the lights may with advantage be drawn right back for a few hours. There is no advantage whatever in encouraging development of big top growth, the one necessity being to secure good roots and stiff, stocky stems.

For pricking out seedlings thus raised—a task for the early days of February—there is nothing at all to equal a frame-bed on a very mild hotbed. This secures just the soil warmth necessary to promote root activity and avoids a heated atmosphere. The notion that by bringing up plants from a cold frame into artificial heat they will be urged into good growth is imagination, unsupported by practical experience. The tendency of these days to ignore the utility of the hotbed is one rather deplorable instance of error of judgment on the part of modern horticulturists.

Where hotbeds are impossible the best plan will be to fill some boxes with gritty compost, prick out the seedlings from the frame and, having just warmed the soil in the boxes, place them on shelves in a cool, airy greenhouse kept at a steady temperature just above freezing at night. The open ground seedlings will be best left until they show signs of making new growth in early spring, when they may be pricked out in a sheltered border, from where they may be lifted and transplanted with a trowel into flowering quarters. Should the open ground seedlings at any time during winter appear to be distressed, it is well to mulch the whole bed with sharp, dry sand, allowing it just about half to bury the seedlings.

A Selection of up-to-date varieties.

Of varieties we have a grand selection, and while some old favourites cannot be dispensed with, there are novelties of surpassing excellence which deserve to figure prominently in our bedding schemes for 1926 as well as on the exhibition stage.

Among the tall growers which are particularly serviceable for the latter purpose and also for grouping in the herbaceous border The King is one of the brightest and best. Orange scarlet with a suffusion of yellow and white tube is its colour description. Yellow King is the best of the yellows in the tall section, and Monarch is a grand crimson. Rose King provides a deep rich rosy pink on spikes a yard high.

The most serviceable of all antirrhinums are the intermediates, which range from 18ins. to 2ft. in height. Appleby Matthews is a very beautiful variety, orange terra-cotta with white tube, a plant of excellent habit and producing a large quantity of fine spikes. Charm is well named, for its rose pink is of a delightfully soft pure shade, and the plant is of superb habit. Empress is extremely good as a rich velvety crimson, and Mrs. R. F. Felton is a scarlet self of first-class quality. For delicately tinted and suffused colours Sybil Eckford is enchanting, and Estelle is one of the apricot salmon class which is to be strongly recommended.

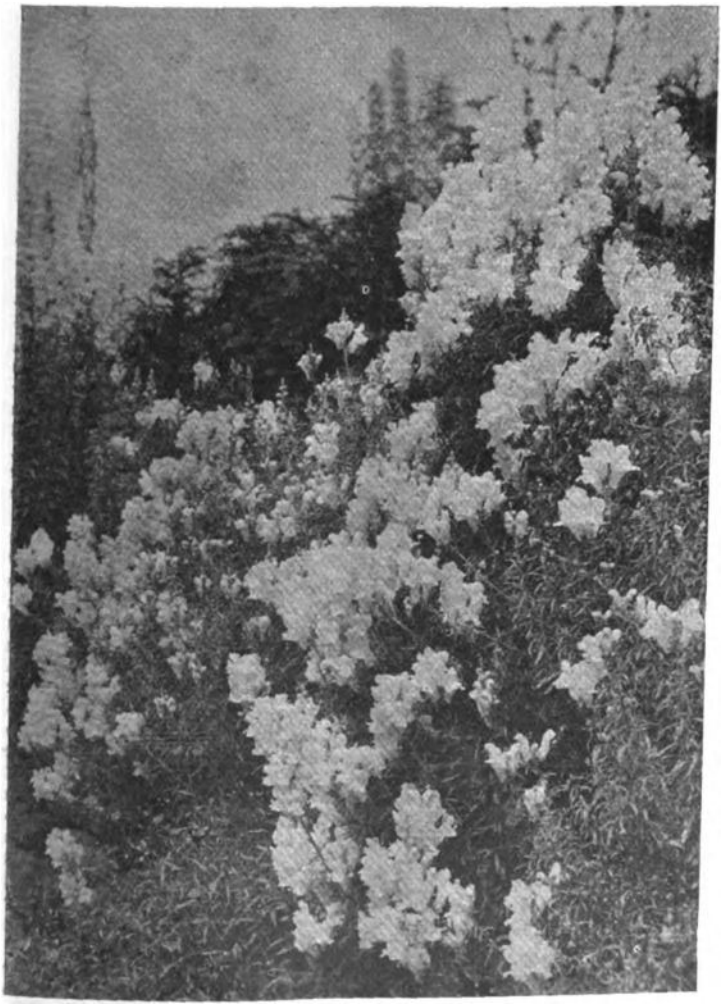
Either Gay Gordon or Grenadier should certainly be grown. I cannot imagine anyone being otherwise than delighted with the striking combination of the intense scarlet and bright yellow, but both are so similar that one will probably suffice for most needs.

Fireflame is a brilliantly coloured variety, with flowers of a fiery orange scarlet. During late summer this antirrhinum is particularly effective.

Many other excellent varieties are available, but catalogues of the specialists so well describe them that there is small need for extending my list. A pleasing fact is that the experts have been engaged in improving the Tom Thumb antirrhinum, and are making it a very useful plant for small beds, narrow borders and for margins of large beds. The fault hitherto has been that the Tom Thumbs were too squat and half buried their flowers among a cushion of foliage. The newest types just raise the flower-stems above the foliage. There is just the danger that the lifting of the flower-spikes may exceed requirements, and on that account it is inadvisable to sow the new Tom Thumbs in autumn, the spring-sown seedlings being less prone to get away from correct habit.

L. A. ATRIS.

A CHARMING COMBINATION OF BLUE AND PINK, ANTIRRHINUMS IN ASSOCIATION WITH CATMINT.



SNAPDRAGONS ARE EQUALLY ADAPTED FOR A HOT SUNNY POSITION AS A SHADY ONE, HERE THEY ARE USED FOR CLOTHING A DRY WALL.

Digitized by Google

THE BUSY MAN'S PAGE

EIGHTEEN BULBS FOR THE ROCK GARDEN.

In case readers have forgotten to order their bulbs for the rock garden, here is a short list of suitable varieties:

CHIONODOXAS, *Glory of the Snow.*—*C. Luciliæ, brilliant blue with white centre; C. sardensis, a little darker in colour than the former and later in flowering.*

CROCUSES.—*C. Sieberi, lavender and orange base; C. Tomasinianus, a pale lavender; C. biflorus, outer segments blue and inner white.*

IRISES.—*I. reticulata, February flowering, violet coloured and sweetly scented; I. orchioides, golden yellow; I. Histrio, bright blue with yellow blotch; I. persica, white suffused pale blue.*

LEUCOJUM.—*L. vernum, the Spring Snowflake.*

MUSCARI.—*M. Heavenly Blue, one of the best bright blues; M. azureum, Cambridge blue, earlier than the former.*

NARCISSI.—*N. cyclamineus, yellow and very early, with reflexed segments; the Angel's Tears, N. triandrus, creamy white; N. minimus, the smallest of all; N. Bulbocodium, the Hoop-petticoat Daffodil.*

TULIPS.—*T. Clusiana, the Lady Tulip, outer petals cherry colour, inside white; T. persica, inside bright yellow, outside golden bronze, very fragrant.*

Climbing Plants for the Porch.

THERE is no doubt that the appearance of almost any porch is improved by the judicious use of climbing plants. In such a situation almost any climber can show its characteristic growth to better advantage than when the plant is stiffly trained against a wall. When selecting the creepers, to use a popular name which has a wide application, it is most important to consider the aspect of the porch. Many climbing plants are failures, or at least only partially a success, when growing in a cold and heavily shaded situation, while others dislike a dry, hot situation. In this connection the following lists will be found helpful. It will be noted that certain shrubs, like Cratægus Pyracantha, which do not actually climb, have been included. Some of these are excellent for training against the walls of porches, where they have a softening effect on hard outlines.

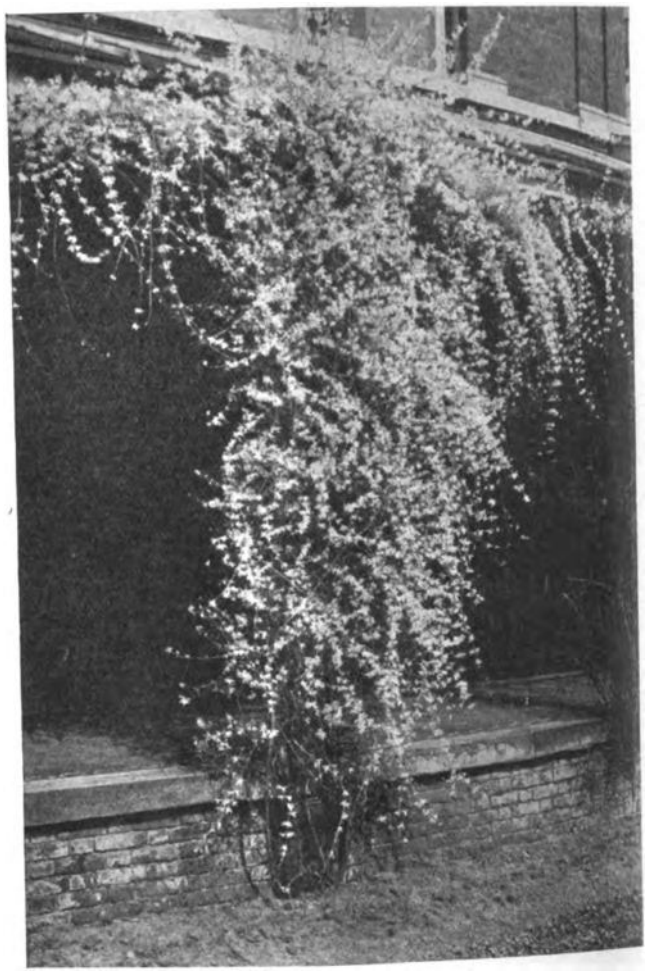
For the north porch.—Here there will be a great deal of shade, and the list of suitable climbers is not very extensive. The common Virginian creeper will succeed well and also any of the strong-growing ivies. Other subjects include Cratægus Pyracantha, Calycanthus occidentalis and Rose Homère.

For the south porch.—Many attractive climbers are available, and it is only possible to give a few. Passiflora cœrulea and its white variety, many kinds of clematis, wistaria, and roses such as Gloire de Dijon, W. A. Richardson and (in mild localities) Maréchal Niel, will all do well. Vitis inconstans, the self-clinging Virginian creeper, is also at its best with a south aspect on account of the glowing autumn colouring of its foliage. Escallonia and ceanothus are useful shrubs for sunny positions.

For the east porch.—Here the lovely Ayrshire and evergreen roses do well. This is an excellent position for Cydonia japonica, Forsythia suspensa and Jasminum nudiflorum.

For the west porch.—Good subjects include Clematis montana and C. Jackmanni. Vitis vinifera purpurea, with its bronzy red leaves, is also very fine. Other subjects include Chimonanthus fragrans var. grandiflora, Garrya elliptica and Jasminum officinale.

When planting creepers prepare the situation carefully, especially if the specimen has to be established where there is no actual border. All climbers, if they are to grow vigorously, must be able to extend their roots freely, and it is as well to open up the ground over rather a wide area.



THERE IS NO EARLY-FLOWERING SHRUB SO GOOD FOR A PORCH AS FORSYTHIA SUSPENSA.

The Border by the Hedge.

IN the suburban garden it is desirable to make the best use of all available space. Often there is a border by the side of a hedge formed of privet, or some other evergreen shrub, which might well be turned to good account with proper treatment. As a rule the plants placed in this position do not give very good results, and the gardener is apt to abandon the bed as hopeless. Sometimes, of course, the hedge casts a definite shade on the situation, and it is well to reduce this by a severe cutting back. The trouble is more often caused by the roots of the hedge shrubs, which drain the soil of moisture and plant foods generally so that it is almost incapable of supporting even the hardiest subjects. The border may be rendered as useful as any other part of the garden if it is treated in the following manner: Open out the ground to the depth of 2ft., or even more, so that the roots of the hedge shrubs are fully exposed. A fork will be the more handy tool at the start, for, owing to the closely matted growth, it is difficult to force a spade into the ground. Then, when the roots are exposed, carry out a severe pruning so that on this side of the hedge they are cut almost back to the stock. Now secure some lengths of sheet iron which are about 2ft. in width. It does not matter how old this may be, and pieces of corrugated roofing that are no longer of service will answer the purpose well. Press the strips of iron closely against the cut ends of the roots so that any further growth in the direction of the border will be out of the question.

Patching the Front Lawn.

THERE are few things more unsightly than those bare places which will, at times, appear on the best-kept lawn. These should be taken in hand while the weather is still fairly warm so that the newly established grass may have a chance to settle in before winter. Loosen the soil well not only on the surface but for some distance down. A common cause of bare patches on a lawn is the existence of a very compact subsoil which prevents a free drainage. Rake the surface evenly and then at once sow grass seed thickly. Unless there is an unusual spell of dry weather no watering will be required.

A plan which the writer has tried with great success is the mending of lawns with grass mats. Here grass seed is thickly sown on sacking. The material is kept moist and allowed to rest on a hard surface which the roots of the grass cannot penetrate. When the grass is growing strongly on the sacking a piece to fit the patch is cut out. This is pressed on to the soil which has been previously well loosened. The material forming the grass mat soon rots away and a permanent green patch, in place of the bare spot, is the result. This plan yields better results than the patching of a lawn with turf. Quite often for a year or more the outlines of the pieces of new turf show in a very distinct way, which spoils the appearance of the lawn as a whole.

On small front lawns a very common cause of bare patches is the overhanging tree branch which drips in wet weather. There is nothing so likely to kill grass as the dropping of water on one place if this continues for hours.

Digitized by Google

FISONS OF IPSWICH

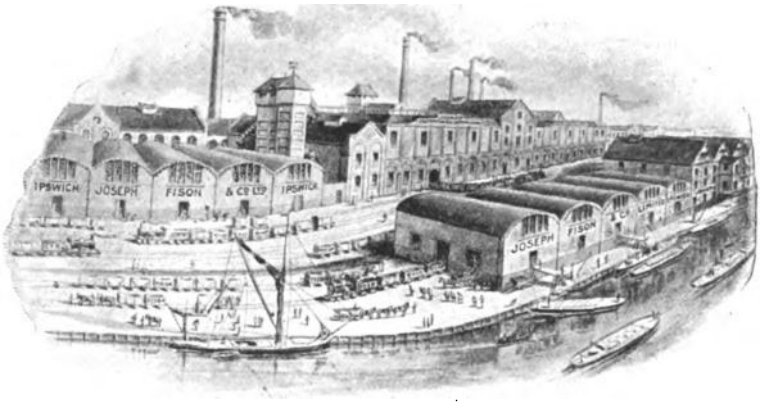
By H.S.

Did Mr. Joseph Fison, as he superintended the dissolving of Coprolites in his tub at Ipswich, seventy-nine years gone by, have a vision of the vast works—the highly technical plant and widespread organisation which stands as his monument to-day.

"FISONS OF IPSWICH": to my mind the very simplicity of this title conveys exactly that sense of dignity, sincerity and vastness which are the outstanding impressions I carried away from my recent visit to the huge works from which half the world or more draws its supplies of chemical fertilizers.

With a friend I had motored down to see for myself this business of converting raw products into life-giving plant foods and I shall endeavour, somewhat sketchily I am afraid, to describe at least some of the things I saw.

But, if you would glimpse the romance which lies hidden in this as in any other great enterprise, you must stand, as I stood, in front of those great mounds of fertilizers—each one different—binned, dated and labelled like some rare vintage wine: Lawn Guano — Fruit Fertilizer—Chrysanthemum — Tomato — Rose — Sweet Pea—Vine and so on. It is then that one realises the fascination that for seventy odd years has lured these men of science into the realm of business — the irresistible fascination of "making things grow."



THE BRAMFORD (SUFFOLK) WORKS OF JOSEPH FISON & CO., LTD., ABUTTING UPON THE RIVER GIPPING, THE L. & N.E. RAILWAY AND THE ROAD TO IPSWICH.

If we were farmers these bins of garden foods would impress us less than those other and still larger bins, housing still greater mounds of agricultural fertilizers, which, in due season, are destined to play such an important part in producing the world's supply of wheat, barley, and other food crops. For, important as the "Home" section of this remarkable business is, it is, if I may use the word, overshadowed by the magnitude of the firm's export trade.

AN OFFICIAL VISIT FROM SOUTH AFRICAN FARMERS.

In connection with this export demand I learnt that in July of last year an important group of South African farmers paid an official visit to Fisons and that one of the most significant tributes they paid had reference to the excellent *condition* in which the fertilizers reached South Africa in spite of the prolonged sea journey. This is, of course, a case of cause and effect. The fertilizers arrived in good condition for the simple reason that they were *despatched* in good condition.

In mentioning the visit of the overseas farmers I am reminded of yet another impression which stands out in connection with my own, and it is one of remarkable *dryness*. How remarkable this dryness was, is explained by the fact that on the day in question everywhere and everybody, with the single exception of the interior of Fisons' Bramford Works and its inmates, appeared, not without cause, to be thoroughly waterlogged. It was as wet a day as I can recollect. Maybe the sun shone somewhere in Merrie England, but, most emphatically, it did not shine on Merrie Ipswich.

I have not the slightest desire to enlarge upon the unpleasant wetness of the weather, but I have special reason for emphasising the ideal conditions of "dryness" under which Fisons' fertilizers are manufactured. This concerns not merely the vast weather-proof buildings which shelter everything, including even the private railway siding, but includes the special process of manufacture, which makes it dead certain that no gardener who takes reasonable storage precautions can ever complain that any Fisons' product has "gone damp" through keeping. I am quite certain that there are many with unfortunate experience of other fertilizers for whom the above statement will have a special and interesting significance.

FISONS' FERTILIZERS STAY DRY.

One of the first essentials of a perfect fertilizer is its fine dry texture and freedom from cloggy lumps, which prevent its fair and even distribution over a given area. This being so, I readily appreciate the insistence of my guide when he so emphasised the fact that when Fisons' fertilizers are dry they stay dry.

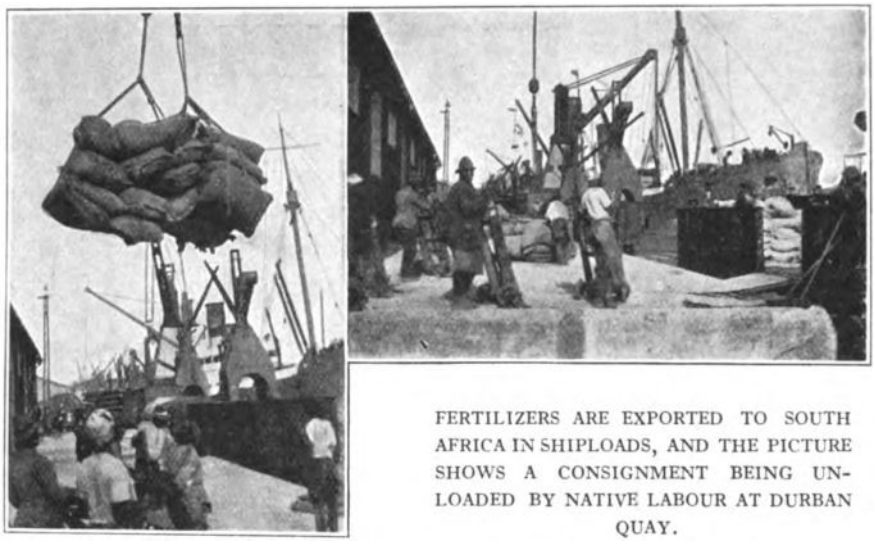
Following this I would like to mention the extraordinary *fineness* which characterises Fisons' fertilizers—it is, indeed, the "fineness of flour." Every gardener knows how important this is. For, since most (it may be all) fertilizers are comprised of three distinct plant foods, of which plants require a definite proportion of each, the whole compound must be so fine and so well mixed that each grain contains its proper proportion of nourishment, namely, nitrogen, potash and phosphates.

This question of fineness leads naturally to yet another important factor—that of mixing. I believe that in the scientific world two cardinal rules are to take nothing for granted until actually accomplished and to leave nothing to chance. I can only say that in their method of mixing, Fisons obey these rules to the very letter.

I have already written that when Fisons' fertilizers are dry they *stay* dry. To this I will add that when they are ground they *are* ground, and when they are mixed they *are* mixed.

Fisons leave nothing to chance! If you could see, as I have seen, how each step forward in the making of a perfect fertilizer calls (according to the Fison standard), for a degree of mechanical perfection and

Digitized by Google



FERTILIZERS ARE EXPORTED TO SOUTH AFRICA IN SHIPLOADS, AND THE PICTURE SHOWS A CONSIGNMENT BEING UNLOADED BY NATIVE LABOUR AT DURBAN QUAY.

scientific scrupulousness that would do credit in a doctor's dispensary, you would realise that I have by no means overstated the case.

1847—JOSEPH FISON, PIONEER.

May I quote from a little history book of the firm's activities since 1847. It says: "In 1847 Mr. Joseph Fison, a pioneer in the discovery of the manufacture of chemical fertilizers, first made Superphosphate by dissolving with Sulphuric Acid, *in a tub at Ipswich* (the italics are mine), coprolites collected from Suffolk farms."

I like the quiet restraint with which the commencement of this immense undertaking is recorded. It so well illustrates the dignified simplicity with which, as I have already mentioned, this business is conducted.

Did Mr. Joseph Fison, as he superintended the dissolving of coprolites in his tub at Ipswich, seventy-nine years gone by, have a vision of the vast works—the highly technical plant and widespread organisation which stands as his monument to-day? I wonder. Did he realise that the pioneer work to which he set his hand and the services he rendered both to horticulture and agriculture would, in the fullness of time, earn for his descendants the signal appointment of Fertilizer Manufacturers to H.M. the King. Fisons not only hold this appointment to-day, but for the past five or six years have sent regular supplies of their fertilizers for use on the Cornish estates of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

Breaking away from my narrative for a moment, it is interesting to note—especially in these topsy-turvy days—that there still exist sound old British business houses in which hardly acquired technical knowledge is handed down from father to son as an honourable "Trade Secret," together with the family tradition for honourable and just dealing. Fisons of Ipswich represent this all too uncommon type to a nicety—it is the type in which progress is made certain through the contribution of brains and energy bestowed upon it by *each successive generation*. It is the type in which the master earns the respect of his workmen, and in which the workman earns respect and consideration from his employer.

5,000 TONS OF PHOSPHATE.

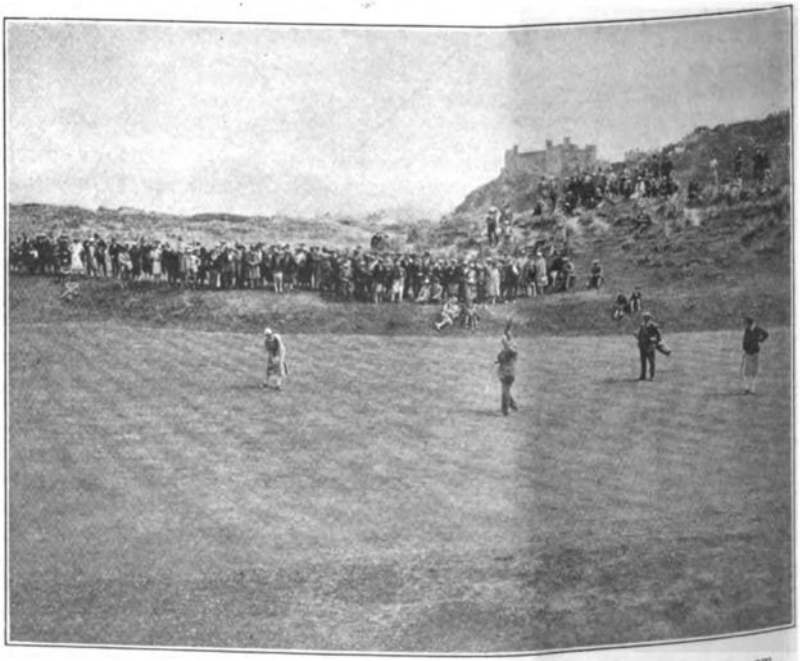
As we came away after our visit my friend turned to me and said, "It is almost incredible, never did I realise there existed in this or any other country so great a business devoted to the manufacture of fertilizers. Did you?" And truthfully I answered, "No." How could I? How could any man whose wildest conception ranged no higher than a warehouse full of neatly stacked sacks, realise what it felt like to be suddenly confronted with about five thousand tons of phosphate towering up and frowning at him like some mountain with four walls around it and a roof on top? Many times have I gazed at the mountains in the distance, never before have I stumbled across one *indoors*.

In the Fison works everything seems to start at the top, and the top of the Fison works is a very long way from the bottom. I state this fact feelingly—from which you may gather that I went up. Having arrived there I was able to witness parts of my phosphate mountain being ground and air screened until its degree of fineness was enough to turn a white miller green with envy.

A WONDERFUL SULPHURIC ACID PLANT.

And now we come to the "Super" part of my narrative. That is to say, I will try to give some idea of how the virgin phosphates, after they have been ground as fine as flour, are converted into the superphosphates of commerce. As most gardeners know, this is achieved with the aid of sulphuric acid. Now, the making of sulphuric acid is a costly and highly specialised business, and the fact that Messrs. Fisons have built and equipped one of the largest sulphuric acid plants in the country solely to supply their own private needs is an amazing tribute to their enterprise and the demands of their business. This plant requires a large building all to itself and its nature is so technical that I beg permission to leave the matter at that.

However there is just one sidelight on this intricate business which, as people



MISS CECIL LEITCH PUTTING ON THE 15TH GREEN OF THE ROYAL ST. DAVID'S GOLF COURSE, HARLECH, IN THE LADIES' INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, 1926. FISONS' LAWN GUANO WAS APPLIED ON EACH OF THE GREENS IN PREPARATION FOR THE EVENT.

Digitized by Google

often say, is "good enough for *Punch*." It concerns the pyrites ore from which Messrs. Fisons' extract the sulphur for their acid. It appears that this pyrite ore hails from Spain, and much in the same way as a schoolboy will, for a consideration, temporarily part company with his stick of Spanish licorice under bond of speedy and honourable restoration, so the gentlemen of Spain temporarily part company with their beloved pyrite ore on condition that it is returned to them immediately the sulphur has been extracted.

SUPERPHOSPHATES AND THE FISON DEN.

Taking things all together, the making of fertilizers is by no means the dull business I imagined. For instance, let me tell you in my own fashion how the superphosphates come into being. In the floor of one of the top storeys at Bramford Mills there is a little trapdoor leading to a sort of reception chamber where the phosphate is invited to make first acquaintance with the acid. A series of revolving "stirrers" immediately assist the new found friends to indulge in a hearty, if somewhat mechanical handshake.

Then comes a visit which I can only conjecture must be highly exciting for all concerned to the Fison Den. This den (in reality a huge cylinder), is, I believe, Messrs. Fisons own invention and supersedes in effective thoroughness all other methods of mixing. Exactly what transpires within this giant drum I know not, but I can say, that when the moment for release arrives the phosphate and the sulphuric acid have experienced such a glorious mix-up, and have had such a hot time of it together, that no one knows which is which. And so to be on the safe side they henceforth sign the register as superphosphates. By the way, I almost omitted to mention that a vicious looking revolving knife carves great slices off the newly-wedded phosphate and acid the instant it ventures to peep outside the den. These slices are spirited away "down" an elevator where the final drying processes await them.

Of the varying processes which follow this interesting episode—of how the superphosphates join other ingredients and finally lose their identity in one or other of the scientifically compounded fertilizers—I have no space to write. It is a tale of ups and downs—of elevators and "shoots," of forced marching along endless rubber bands—of no peace for fertilizers until they reach that final screen which is a sort of "Customs House," where all foreign matter collected on their travels must be declared and handed over. Only through this narrow way and searching sieve can any Fisons' fertilizer hope to gain the peace and temporary respite of a tightly sewn sack.

Towards the end of my travels I noticed another building, so large that it occurred to me that it must house some important process which seemingly I had not been invited to witness. Forthwith I put out a "feeler," and you may imagine my astonishment when I learned that the building in question was merely a duplicate of the one I had already inspected. Thus, in the peak period and other busy times of the fertilizer season, the output can be doubled without risk of congestion or any confusion.

I would like to say more concerning this highly instructive visit—I would like to mention the firm's splendid canteen—the pride they take in the engine and pumping station—I should, by rights, explain fully how each "brew" of fertilizer is analysed—dated and recorded for all time in the firm's log, but time and printers wait for no man. Have I said sufficient to show you that the confidence you, as gardeners, have in Fisons' fertilizers is the result of hard work, knowledge and a genuine resolve to supply you with the best that science can offer and that alone?

THE SPLENDID EXHIBIT OF HYDRANGEAS STAGED BY MR. H. J. JONES, RYECROFT NURSERIES, LEWISHAM, AT THE CHELSEA SHOW, 1926, WHICH WAS AWARDED THE R.H.S. SILVER CUP, WAS GROWN WITH FISONS' FERTILIZERS.

FISONS' CATALOGUE.

Just one final note concerning Messrs. Fisons' catalogue. Many readers may possess copies, and if they do I am perfectly certain they will agree with me that the word "Catalogue" is rather an inadequate word, with which to describe this book and the information contained between its handsome covers, embossed in gold. For instance, the opening chapter, "Chemical Fertilisers—What They Are and Their Effect Upon Plant Life," contains a veritable mine of information for any amateur gardener who is a little "hazy" concerning just what the various things like phosphate of lime, nitrogen or potash do and, still more important, what they will not do.

Even the actual list of Fisons' Specialities, such as Lawn Guano and Rose Fertilizer, is supplemented with many useful notes and hints telling how to get the best out of them.

The book also gives one of the best cultural tables for sowing vegetable seed and the correct rotation of crops. There is also an excellent page of notes dealing with the pruning of fruit trees and bushes. I made enquiries as to whether this book was intended for customers only, and I was told that I might offer an invitation to any reader of this article to apply for a copy. If you would care to do so, please make your application direct to Joseph Fison and Co., Limited, Ipswich. I do not know if it is possible to obtain also a copy of the firm's little History Book, but if you are interested it is certainly worth asking for.

Time and Printers wait for no man, but I would like to finish this article with a real practical and personal hint to those tennis enthusiasts who are now forsaking the grass court for their winter quarters on the "hard."

This has been a strenuous summer for lawn tennis lawns—plenty of sun, plenty of hard play. Now is the time to feed your lawns—rejuvenate the grass roots—and destroy the clover—moss—grubs and other things which conspire to take advantage of a tired out lawn. Fisons make the things that do these things and, as usual, with this thorough going firm, they are willing to give you their reasons first and leave the decision of purchasing to you. So when you are writing for the Fison Catalogue, ask also *at once* for a clever little book entitled "The Cultivation of Turf."—H.S. [ADVT.

Digitized by Google

FERTILIZERS FOR THE GARDEN

IT is not true economy to buy expensive seeds and plants and to pay your garden wages if for the sake of a small outlay on Chemical Fertilizers you starve the soil and prevent your garden from producing its maximum of Fruit, Vegetables and Flowers.

FISONS' LAWN GUANO

Constant cutting reduces the store of nutriment in thes oil. To continue resistance against weed seedlings, strong roots must be regularly nourished. Finest swards with strong roots are produced by using FISONS' LAWN GUANO. Use 4oz. to the square yard.; 1cwt. is sufficient for a tennis court. The Guano is used by important Sports Clubs.

Prices	7lb.	14lb.	28lb.	56lb.	1cwt.	
	4/-	**7/-**	**11/-**	**18/-**	**33/-**	Carriage paid.

FISONS' LAWN SAND

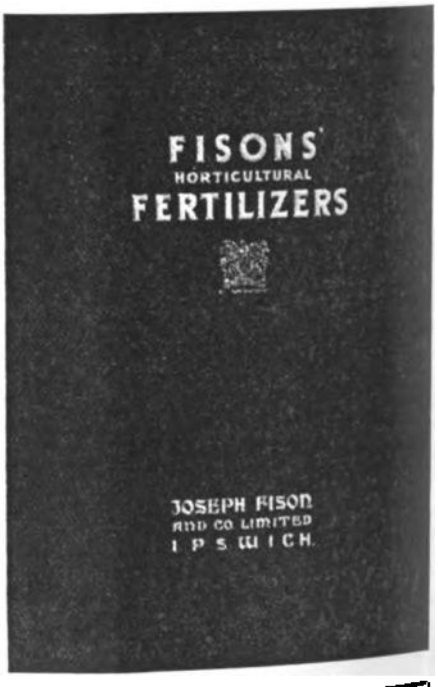
Complete destruction of clover in lawns can be obtained by the use of Fisons' Lawn Sand. The grass is nourished at the same time. It is a recognised weed eradicator. Use 4 oz. to the square yard; 1cwt. is ample for a tennis court. Fisons' Lawn Sand delivered direct from the works in wooden kegs.

Prices	14lb.	28lb.	56lb.	112lb.	
	7/6	**12/6**	**20/-**	**35/-**	Carriage Paid.

FISONS' FRUIT FERTILIZER

Heavy crops are peculiar to healthy trees, and nutriment is drawn rapidly from the soil by these. Prepare for next year's crop now. Complete restoration of the constituents necessary for sound crops is obtained by using Fisons' Fruit Fertilisers. Use 7lb. to the rod in the Autumn. Professional growers secure their crops by using this Fertiliser.

Prices	7lb.	14lb.	28lb.	56lb.	112lb.	
	3/-	**5/-**	**8/-**	**13/6**	**24/-**	Carriage Paid.



A complimentary copy of FISONS' Illustrated Catalogue of Garden Fertilizers will be sent to those interested by return of post on receipt of name and address.

JOSEPH FISON & CO LTD IPSWICH

Digitized by Google

HOW TO MAKE THE BEST USE OF FRAMES

THERE is no doubt that the possession of one or more frames is an enormous advantage to the gardener, especially at this season of the year. Frames of every conceivable size and shape are to be found in gardens, but probably the most convenient pattern is that with two lights. This can be easily moved about and placed on prepared beds of fermenting material for forcing purposes. A three-light frame gives extra accommodation, but this will be more difficult to handle when it is required to change the position. Generally speaking, the depth of frames should not be greater than is sufficient to hold the necessary soil and accommodate the plants so that the latter may be as near to the glass as possible. There will then be no risk of their being unduly drawn.

Wintering Tender Plants in Frames

Many tender plants which it is desired to keep through the winter, such as geraniums, fuchsias, etc., can be safely housed in a cold frame. Should the weather become severe the frame can be covered with matting, dried fern, or anything to keep the frost out. During mild, quiet weather free ventilation should be allowed, as in the confined quarters of a frame the air is likely to get stagnant and damp. This will bring the plants into a very unhealthy state, and the only preventive is plenty of fresh air whenever the conditions are at all favourable.

Making up a Hot-bed.

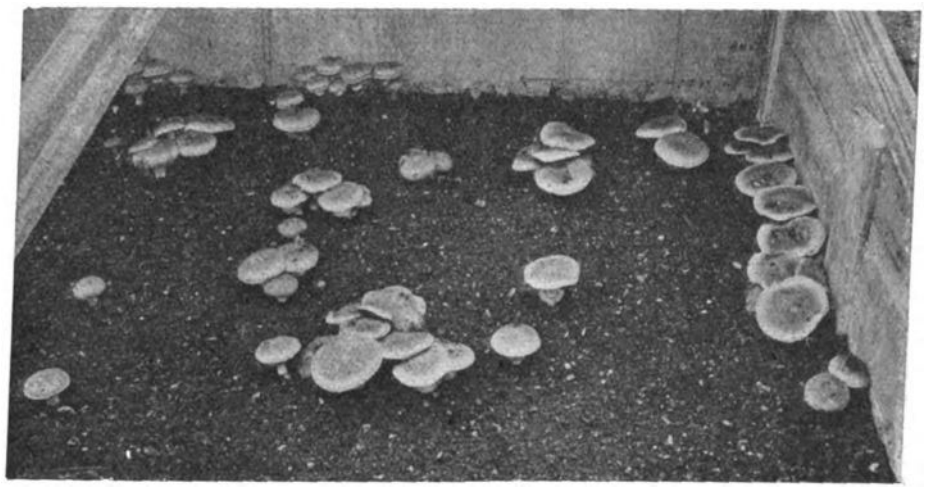
Of course, the value of a frame is very much enhanced if it is used in conjunction with a hot-bed. With artificial heat the grower can produce all kinds of things that are very welcome during the autumn and early winter. In making a hot-bed the length and width of the frame should be marked on the ground. All round this should be indicated a space a foot wider by placing a stick at each of the corners. In this way, when the bed is completed, it will be a foot wider and longer every way than the frame itself. The site for the hot-bed should, if possible, be facing south and must be on a well drained surface so that water will not lodge at the base of the bed and check the heating of the manure. Secure some good fresh stable manure and shake this well out three or four times to remove any sawdust, shavings, etc. Any dry parts should be damped and the heap must be repeatedly turned over for about a week. Then the manure should be laid down in even layers on the space which has been marked with the sticks. At this stage dead leaves and tan may be worked in with the manure. These have not the same intense heating properties as manure, but the warmth lasts longer. Press the mass down well until a height of about 2ft. or a little more has been secured. The frame is then placed in position and the lights are opened to allow the steam to pass away. The hot-bed will rapidly attain to a heat of 130° to 140° F., which is, of course, too high for the well-being of plant life. Two or three days must be allowed for the temperature to subside, after which the manure may be covered with a layer of soil if it is desired to grow anything directly on the bed. Of course, where the plants are in pots or boxes these may be placed straight on to the manure, or, in the case of those to be forced, they are sunk right up to the rims. Naturally, the heat of a hot-bed tends slowly to decline as the weeks pass. Manure banked up round the outside will be found to put fresh life into the heap, and an even more effective way is to work short manure with a fork right into the bed.

Forcing Vegetables and Flowers.

With the hot-bed in full swing there are almost endless possibilities for the enterprising grower. It is easy to grow many of the early vegetables and salads, like carrots, lettuces, radishes, etc. French beans and peas in pots are also worth trying. A few dishes of green peas in December, or even later, will be very welcome and are easy to secure. Sow the seeds in pots in September and keep these out of doors for a month or six weeks. Then remove to the hot-bed, which may previously have been employed at a stronger heat for the culture of salads. Give plenty of fresh air whenever possible and there is no reason why the peas should not set well. French beans are as easy to manage, although here it is as well to have the pots in the hot-bed from the start. In both cases buy varieties of peas and beans that are suitable for forcing. Asparagus is more easily forced in a frame than is commonly supposed. Cover the manure with about 3ins. of gritty soil and then place out the roots rather thickly. Finish with a 4in. layer of a rich light compost and give water at 80° F. to settle things down. Keep the frame well protected during cold weather but ventilate whenever the conditions are mild. Naturally, a frame with a hot-bed is an ideal place for the forcing of the early bulbs. It is quite easy to keep up a continuous display of bloom, though it is essential that all bulbs should be thoroughly well rooted before bringing into the heat. Lilies of the valley may also be brought into early flower. Up to the end of the year it is better to use the retarded "crowns," as these give much more satisfactory results. They are easily brought into full flower and leaf within a month. When forcing bulbs and lilies of the valley, growth will be quicker if the plants are kept in darkness by the placing of mats on the lights. Air from the outside should be admitted cautiously, and not at all if the weather is cold.

Mushrooms in Frames.

A frame which has been fitted with a hot-bed is ideal for the culture of mushrooms. The hot-bed is prepared in the manner already described, but special care should be taken to beat the manure down very firmly. After making the bed nothing should be done in the way of planting until the temperature has subsided to 85° to 90° F. This may be ascertained by plunging a thermometer into the bed. Mushroom "spawn" is sold in the form of cakes or bricks, and, when planting, each of these may be broken into six pieces. These pieces are just pushed into the bed about 6ins. to 9ins. apart. When the bed has been spawned all over, cover with a 2in. layer of soil. Rich loamy soil is best for the purpose, but ordinary garden mould will answer almost as well. It is essential that the soil should be passed through a sieve, or, in the case of loam, chopped very finely. Care should be taken to see that the mushroom bed does not get really dry, although the soil must not be kept in anything like a sodden condition. Cold water should never be used and water must always be given in a tepid state. After about a month, if all is going well, it will be seen, on pushing aside the soil, that extensions of the spawn in the form of white threads are beginning to push their way about the manure. Shortly after this the mushrooms appear in the form of tiny white buds which rapidly increase in size. Generally speaking, mushrooms are at their best when the gills inside have assumed a bright pink colour. When the gills become brown the mushrooms tend to have a much ranker flavour.



FORCED MUSHROOMS ON AN OLD HOT-BED.

General Management of Frames.

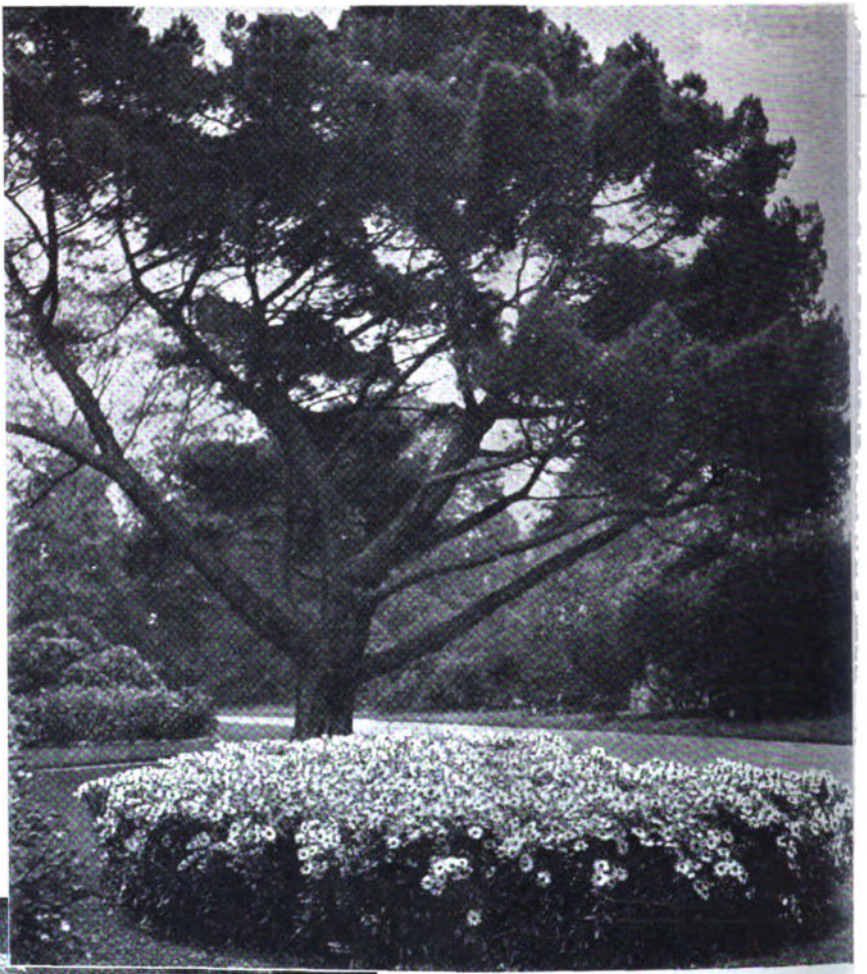
For whatever purpose a frame is used, it is a mistake, as is sometimes done, to place it in any odd corner of the garden. Certainly it is an advantage to have the frame where there will be some protection, such as a fence or a hedge, against winds from the north or east. Otherwise the more open the situation the better, so that the plants may have the full benefit of such sunshine as may be experienced. Never have a frame where water from a roof or a tree branch can drip on it. In damp autumn weather it is often rather a difficult matter to keep the interior of a frame in a dry wholesome state. Where the air inside is stuffy, fungoid pests may do a great deal of damage to young plants and, to prevent this, free ventilation is very needful. All frames are happy hunting grounds for slugs, snails and other pests. This is especially the case with hot-beds, where these creatures will often thrive and increase to an amazing extent. As far as possible all soils used in a frame should be sterilised with scalding water or baked in order to destroy the eggs of slugs, etc. This plan also kills the spores of mould and other minute fungi.

S. LEONARD BASTIN.

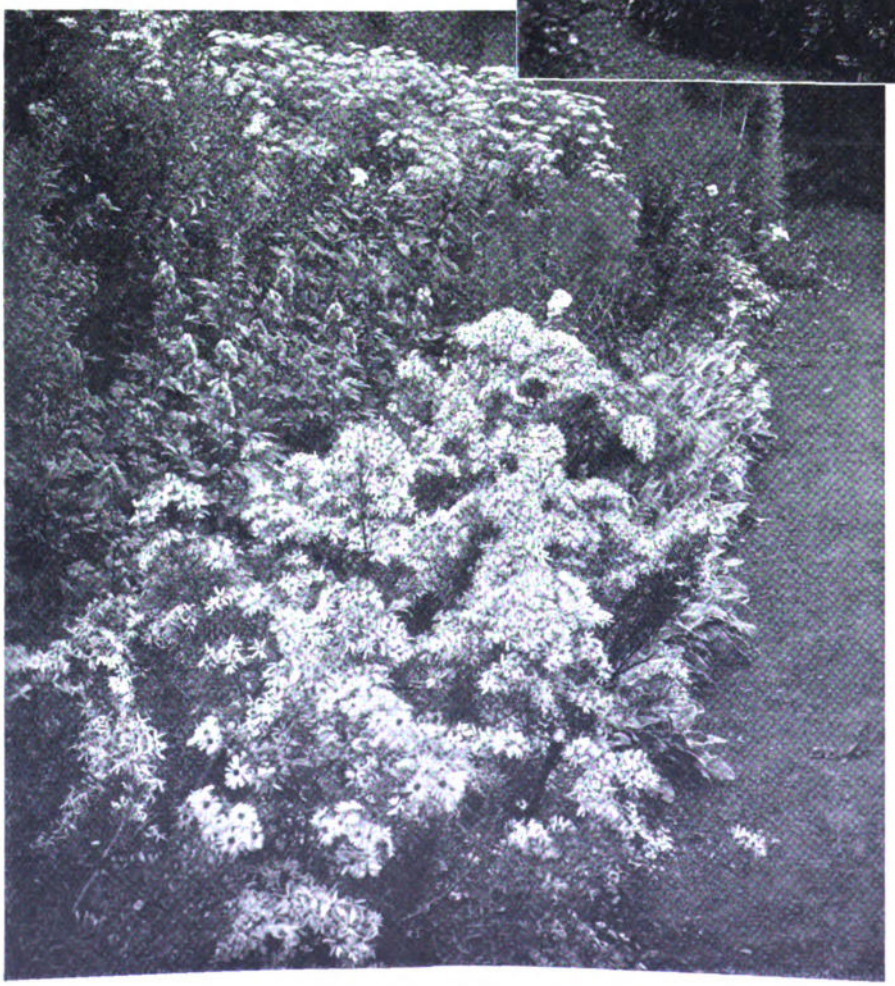
Digitized by Google

Do You Grow These Michaelmas Daisies?

Now that perennial asters, or Michaelmas daisies, are at their best, readers should see if those that they grow come up to expectations. There are few plants so useful in the late summer and early autumn, whether they are planted for massed effect in a bed or along with other plants in a herbaceous border. They are little trouble to grow; they are now obtainable in a large range of enchanting shades; they bloom profusely over a long period; they are admirable for use as cut flowers for house decoration. No garden, whether large or small, should be without them; for they are among the best plants for the amateur. He knows that with Michaelmas daisies he can succeed whatever the climate or soil may be, for they are among the most accommodating plants that we have, and provide the most vivid colour effects during the autumn months.



ASTER AMELLUS KING GEORGE AS A BEDDING PLANT.

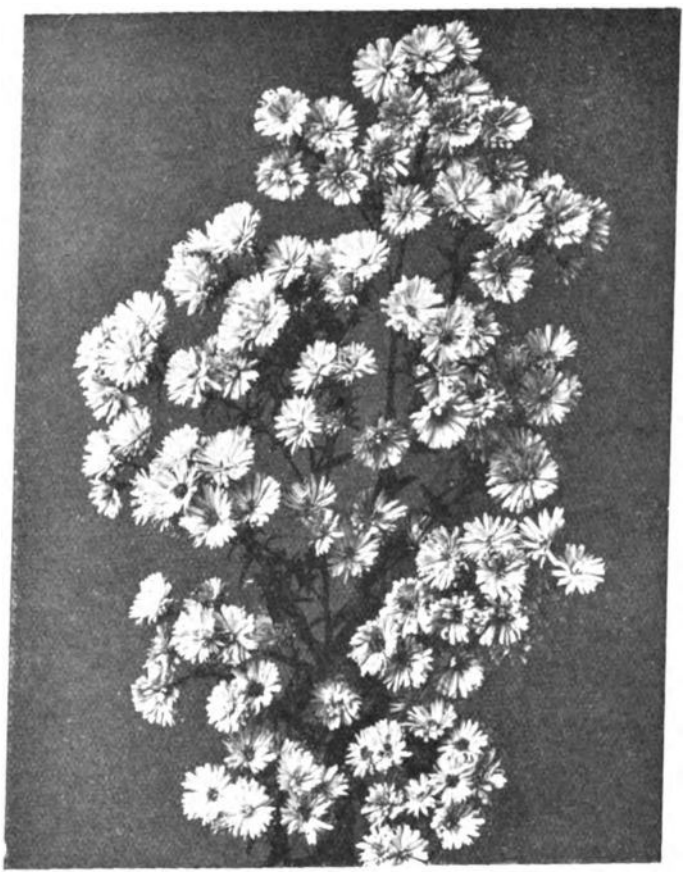


ASTER ACRIS AS A CONSTITUENT OF THE LATE BORDER.

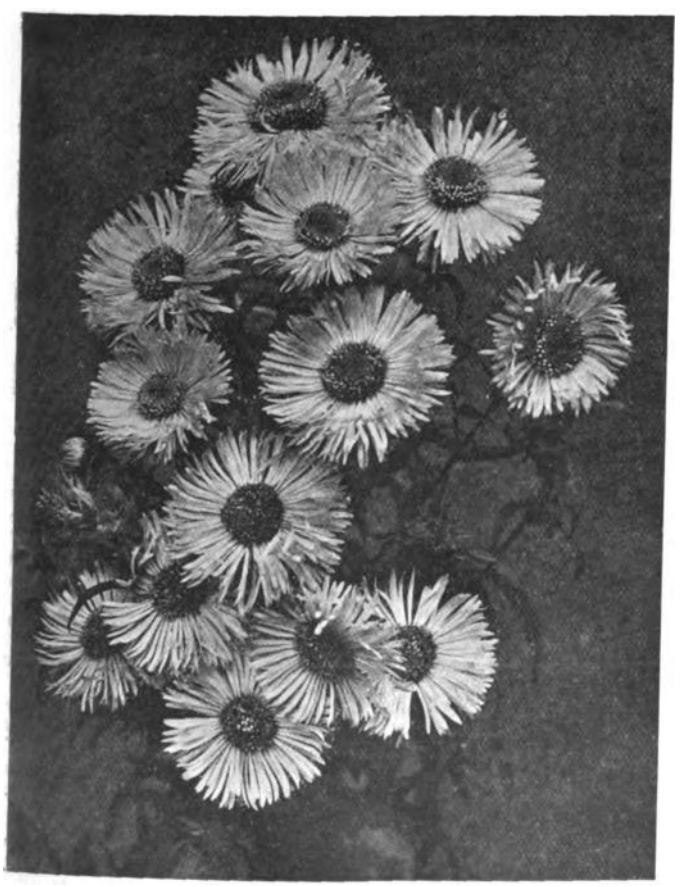
On the opposite page some admirable varieties are illustrated. Three of them—Nancy Ballard, Perry's White and Little Boy Blue—belong to the Novi-Belgii section, one of the largest and one of the best, that is noted for its large-flowered varieties, very floriferous and strong, healthy growers. The fourth, Barr's Pink, belongs to the Novæ-Angliæ, a small section, but containing one or two fine varieties, like the one illustrated. Other sections are the Amellus and the ericoides, the latter with heath-like foliage. These illustrations also show the great variation in type of flowers; some are semi-double, some have wide and comparatively few ray florets, in others the florets are narrow and closely set. Above all, they show the same grace and free-flowering habit. Each individual bloom is not only perfect in itself, but in the mass makes a marvellous effect. At least one of these types should make an unmistakable appeal to the amateur who wishes to add brightness to his garden.

Digitized by Google

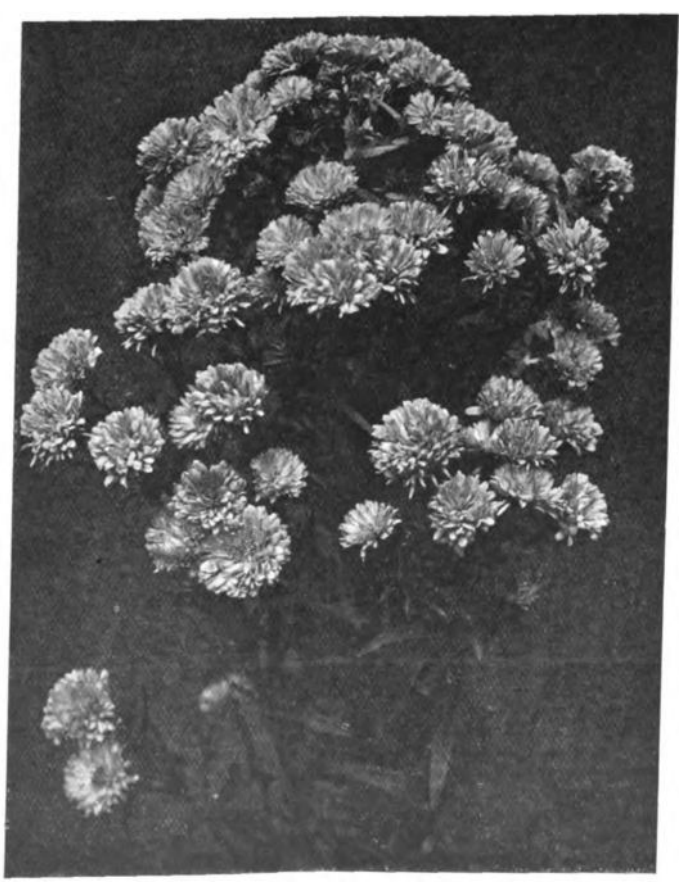
PERRY'S WHITE, WITH LARGE PURE WHITE FLOWERS OF FINE FORM.



THE COMPACT ROSY LAVENDER FLOWERS OF NANCY BALLARD. A MODERN VARIETY OF STERLING WORTH.



THE LARGE OPEN FLOWERS OF BARR'S PINK ARE ROSE-PINK WITH A BRONZE EYE.



LITTLE BOY BLUE IS VERY FREE FLOWERING AND HAS SEMI-DOUBLE FLOWERS OF BRIGHT BLUE.

Digitized by Google

HINTS WORTH REMEMBERING

This is the first instalment of Hints that have been received from our readers in response to our request. There seems little doubt, judging from the numbers that have reached us, that this will prove a most useful feature of THE GARDEN *in future. We hope, therefore, that all our readers will assist to make this page as valuable as possible by sending in their Hints, the result of personal observation and trial, and so help the gardening public in general. Hints which will be specially considered as worthy of a prize will be those that are seasonable as well as interesting and apply particularly to duties that can be carried out in the garden at the present time.*

Half a guinea will be paid each week for the most useful or interesting hint sent in by a reader. Five shillings will be paid for all others published. Each must be sent in on a separate sheet and must not be more than 300 *words in length.*

THE HALF-GUINEA HINT.

Propagation of Double Gypsophila.

Amateurs may strike this plant from cuttings if the right sort of cuttings are taken. This is important. It is practically impossible to root tops of the main shoots, but laterals from them, which are freely produced, take root fairly easily under conditions similar to those given to perpetual carnations, viz., inserted in spring in sandy soil with mild bottom heat.—A. J. C.

Pernettyas Fruiting.

Having bought all my pernettyas when covered with berries, I was much disappointed when year after year I had no more fruit, though numerous flowers. Then came a hint that the plants were monœcious, and a visit last autumn to a doubting market gardener for the purchase of a plant without berries. I planted this near the plants I already had, and this autumn the trees are covered with fruit, with the exception of the last bought, which, though covered with flower in the spring, has not a single berry.—M. C.

Sowing Lawn Seed.

My system of sowing lawn grass seed is to have two lines with a stick on each end 1yd. long. Then I measure a pound of seed in a box and lay a piece of cardboard to fit inside on the top of the seed; I next make a pencil mark on the top of the cardboard so as to know when I have a pound of seed without weighing. I measure 16yds. in length, that is for 1 oz. to the yard, then I sow my seed between the two lines. In this way, if you sow your seed up to each line, it is bound to come up evenly and not patchy as one sometimes sees it. Of course, the ground is prepared in the first place, and after sowing, the seed is lightly raked in and rolled when dry.—W. L.

A Spring Effect in Bed or Border.

Darwin tulip Loveliness with Cheiranthus mutabilis as an undergrowth, deep bordering of pink and blue Myosotis interspersed. Ajuga reptans atropurpurea as an edging and foil to grass.—E. W.

A Preventive for Damping-Off Among Seedlings.

It is just now and during spring when batches of annuals are being raised from seed for next year's garden that the gardener has to suffer much loss in his crops through the dreaded damping-off disease which makes its appearance through over-watering and bad ventilation. One of the most effective remedies I know is to water the seedlings with a dilute solution of potassium permanganate. The best way to judge the strength of the solution is not so much from the actual quantities but from the colour of the solution, which should be of a pale pink to purple tinge. Watering with this solution should be carried out at least twice a week, and the results will easily repay one for the little extra trouble involved. A concentrated solution of the permanganate can be purchased and diluted with water to the desired strength—or, rather, colour. A few drops of it put into the water kept in the greenhouse will be found beneficial in keeping down the scum which invariably collects on the surface of the tank.—R. E.

Floating Bulb Gardens.

A pretty little novelty for the indoor garden is formed in this way. Get one or two large flat corks, or some pieces of virgin cork. Make holes in these in which the bulbs of crocuses, scillas, etc., can be inserted. The bulbs should be arranged so that the part from which the roots come is well to the under side of the cork. Fill an ornamental bowl with water and then float the corks on the surface. Keep the bowl in rather a shaded place for a time and, if a lump of charcoal has not been placed in the water, change every ten days. When the bulbs are sending down their roots freely into the water bring the bowl into a warm sunny room. Then scatter grass seed thickly on the tops of the corks or cover with bright green moss. —F. C. W.

Preserving Marrows.

Vegetable marrows may be satisfactorily preserved for winter use in the following manner: Cut the marrows at the end of the season with as much stalk as possible. Now cover the cut part with melted sealing wax, taking care to close it up altogether. In this way the air is entirely excluded and there is no risk of the marrow starting to shrivel, as often happens when the cut part is left exposed.—R. E. L.

WHAT OUR READERS SAY

LILIES FOR THE GARDEN.

SIR,—In the last paragraph of his letter, "Ignoramus" raises the whole point. It is next to impossible to obtain the information he asks for in potted form. On the other hand, handbooks giving all that he requires are readily obtainable at small cost. "The Book of the Lily" is one.

General principles are comparatively easy, but each lily requires its own special treatment to ensure a modicum of success.

Here are a few notes, etc., that may help him. With the exception of L. candidum, Henryi, regale, the tiger lilies, the Turk's cap, L. Philippinense formosanum, and one or two others, the great majority of lilies are definite haters of lime and chalk.

Cultivation.—All lilies appear to require perfect drainage, even the swamp lilies like their bulbs to be dry, though their roots are in the wet.

Compost.—I have found that broken brick or tile, and charcoal, freely added to a sharp mixture, two thirds leaf-mould and sand, one third good loam, gives satisfactory results. In planting a full sized bulb I invariably give it a bed and a thick waistcoat of silver sand, and plant the bulb, with the exception of candidum, which should be at the surface level, at a depth equivalent to three times the diameter of the bulb, that is to say, a 3in. bulb 9ins. deep, a 4in. at a depth of 12ins., and so on.

As a broad general rule, all lily bulbs detest being moved and even as seedlings prefer to be raised in their ultimate positions, *when* this is possible.

Lily seeds should be sown in pans or boxes, in a sharp compost, when ripe; further, it helps growth if, till germination has occurred they are kept close. After this they should be hardened off in the cold greenhouse or frame. When they have their first rough leaves, if they are to be transplanted, this should be done very carefully. Green fly is the great enemy of young seedlings and should be ruthlessly kept under. The vast majority of lilies, except regale, dislike a full sun and all are happier if their roots are in shade. Lastly, slugs are very fond of lily bulbs. —"IGNOTUS."

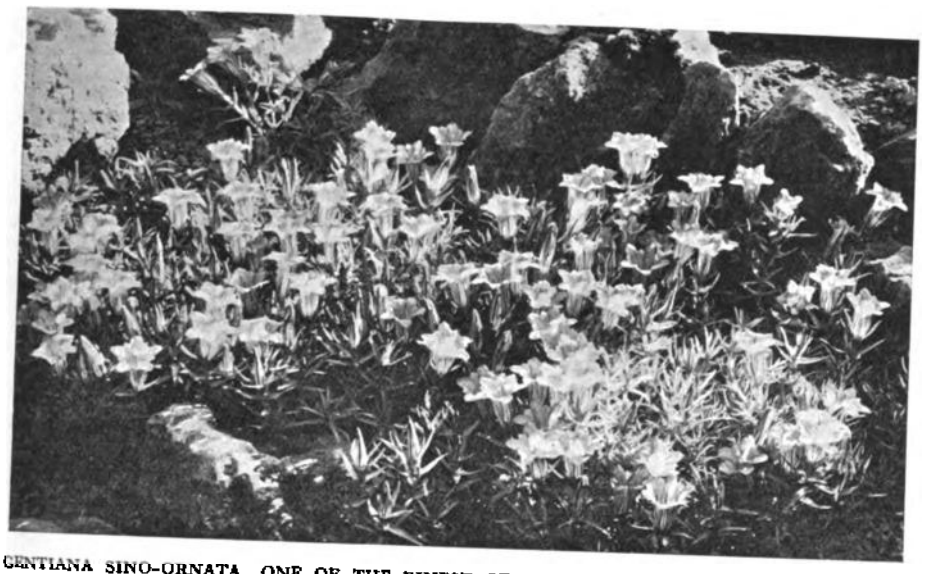
A FINE PATCH OF GENTIANA VERNA IN A READER'S GARDEN.

GENTIANS IN AN AMATEUR'S GARDEN.

SIR,—The late R. Farrer, in his small book on "Rock Gardening," refers to certain gentians as "mimps." In spite of this, or, maybe, because of it, I have given much time and thought to some of the more difficult and rarer species of the genus, so that to me and, I expect, to many more of your readers, the article by Mr. A. Harley on "A Selection of Gentians," in your issues of July 31st and August 7th, has been studied with great interest.

I venture to enclose one or two illustrations of gentians growing in my garden. G. acaulis grows quite freely in my soil. When I first started with a few plants, I prepared special beds and made a great fuss by mixing mortar

Digitized by Google



GENTIANA SINO-ORNATA, ONE OF THE FINEST OF AUTUMN-FLOWERING ROCK PLANTS.

rubble with the soil, but now I find this quite unnecessary. The clumps increase very rapidly, and to get an abundance of bloom it seems necessary to divide the clumps every three or four years. Seedlings I raised last year are now nice little plants and are throwing up fat flowering buds.

The photograph of G. sino-ornata was taken last October and was, indeed, a very fascinating patch. The bed was made, early in the year, of peat, sand and leaf-soil. To give the roots the cool moisture they love, I let into the beds land-pipes, in some instances under the ground and watered from a feed-pipe hidden behind a rock; and in others the pipe inserted upright. During the very hot and dry weather these are filled up with water two or three times a week; by doing this I find that, although the surface is bone dry, the soil a few inches under is quite cool and moist. However, whether this trouble is necessary or not, it has appeared to give results of great satisfaction.

I was much interested in Mr. Harley's idea of incorporating manure with the soil, and shall certainly try his method next year. I quite agree that to retain the moisture in the soil is the chief secret to success.

I am not going to say much about G. Farreri, only that when grown well it is one of the most beautiful of the genus.

It is not very often one hears anything of G. Purdomi: perhaps it is not too well known yet, or only a few have managed to be lucky enough to flower it or to see it flower to perfection. I saw a plant in full bloom at the end of July, and it was a sight never to be forgotten.

The photograph of G. verna was taken in the spring of this year. The bed, which is at the base of a dry wall facing due south, was made four or five years ago. The ground was dug out to a depth of 2½ft., rough stone placed at the bottom and filled in with a good mixture of loam, leaf-soil, sand, fine moss-peat and mortar rubble.

G. bavarica is so very often taken for G. verna—a mistake one can quite understand. In the first place, the flowers of G. bavarica are of a velvety intense blue, unlike G. verna in any form, on taller stems of 3ins. or more; in the second, the foliage is of a yellow-green and much smaller. Many people find it difficult to thrive, but if grown in a thoroughly wetted sandy soil it should do well. Two little pieces, planted in my garden eighteen months ago, have increased into fine clumps and are now flowering for the third time in twelve months. There is one very important factor to bear in mind, and that is strain. There is no doubt that certain strains of gentian, such as G. acaulis, G. Farreri and, more particularly, G. sino-ornata, are more robust and free flowering than others.—A. G. W., *Surrey*.

THE DECORATIVE AGAPANTHUS.

SIR,—Increasing use is being made of the blue African lily as a means of outdoor decoration during the summer months. Where one solitary house, out of many hundreds, was wont to take advantage of this beautiful flower to make the approach to the house more pleasant and colourful, one sees several house frontages nowadays graced by the presence of the agapanthus, with its handsome drooping foliage and tall stems bearing huge clusters of flowers that are of a glorious blue shade.

It is really strange why this subject is no in greater demand for the purpose. Anyone possessing a greenhouse can introduce the flower into his garden arrangements every year with great profit, seeing that the plant remains in flower from some time in June—perhaps in July—up to the middle or end of September; at any rate, a three month's display can be depended upon, which may be extended by allowing the pots to remain out of doors until it becomes dangerous to do so, for the foliage itself adds ornament to the garden even after the flowers disappear.

Here we have a valuable plant that all may grow who can provide the necessary glass shelter during adverse weather. Precautions are essential especially against frost and keen winds; and even in summer, should strong winds prevail, it is well to place the plants in a sheltered position or move them to the greenhouse for the time.

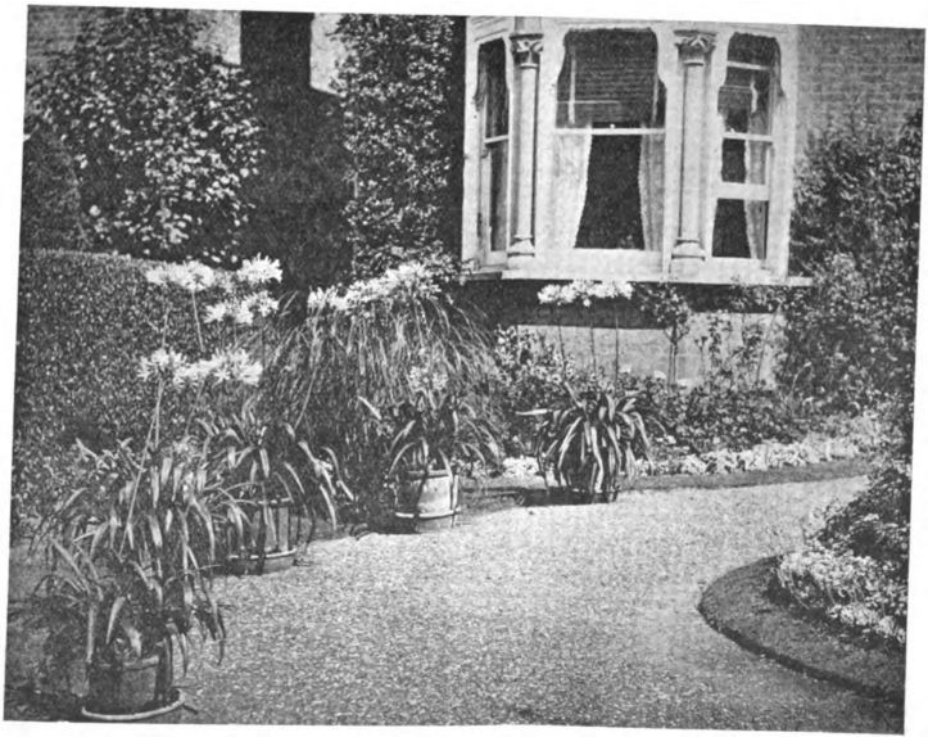
The plant does not demand great things in the way of soil or special culture. Once the bulb is planted, in pot or tub, and growth commences, ordinary attention and care that can be given by the amateur will keep the plant in good condition. It will need re-potting, perhaps every third season, and a yearly top-dressing is an advantage.

There are three agapanthuses of half-hardy nature. Two—the blue and white A. umbellatus—are the most commonly grown, and are easily acquired of any nurseryman, but the other—A. giganteus—is a very rare plant of much larger dimensions and growing up to 7ft. in height, which is suited for large conservatory decoration. In addition to these, there exists a *hardy* species—A. mooreanus—of dwarfer stature, but with dark blue flowers.—H. A. DAY.

BUDDLEIA FORRESTII.

SIR,—In your editorial of September 11th, I notice that you have dealt rather severely with Buddleia Forrestii. May I suggest that its failure with you may be a matter of position or climate that many of your readers escape? Having seen the plant at Pylewell Park, Lymington, for several years in succession, my regard for it has steadily grown. Planted in a light, dry soil at the foot of a low wall facing south it flowers very freely, and the harmony of those lavender-blue spikes with the white tomentum on stem and leaves is most beautiful.

Here I find the shrub a little tender, and frost last winter cut it to the ground, while B. Fallowiana, growing beside it, escaped with a shaking. It is worth noting that, although my plant was propagated from the Pylewell specimen, it never achieves the hoary aspect of the parent, which I believe is due to excessive waterings.—H. BLANCHARD, *Parkstone*.



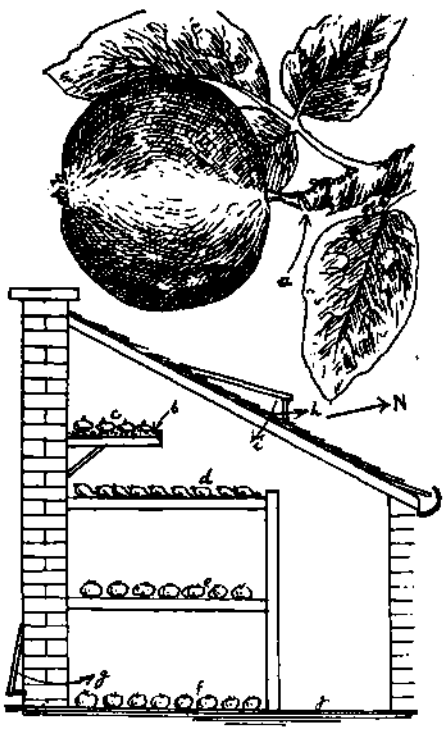
AGAPANTHUSA ARE USEFUL FOR SUMMER DECORATION AT THE FRONT OF THE HOUSE.

Digitized by Google

THE FRUIT AND KITCHEN GARDEN

Gathering and Storing Hardy Fruits.

IN the southern counties hardy fruits ripen earlier, naturally, than in the northern. In the northern, midland and southern counties all fruits should be gathered as they mature, even if the work is prolonged, as it is essential to the successful storing and keeping that the specimens of every variety be fully ripe when gathered. For the benefit of the inexperienced I would draw attention to the specimen shown in the sketch. When it is raised gently to a horizontal position and parts readily from the stem, as shown at *a*, it is fit to gather. All fruits should be carefully placed in single layers on dry, soft hay or paper in the basket, and so conveyed to the fruit store. Careful grading is beneficial. How a cool, dry old shed facing north may be converted into a fruit store is shown in the sketch.



Lath shelves should be built. Sand is placed on the top one for medlars to be placed eyes downwards, *c*. Pears at *d* and apples at *e* and *f*, the longest keeping ones at the bottom. Form ventilators at *g* and *h*, with the lid, *i*, to close down as required. The path is shown at *j*. The structure should be kept darkened.

The Care of Raspberry Plants.

FEW kinds of plants become a thicket sooner than raspberry canes when once they are neglected. There is all the difference between a well cared for plantation and one left to run wild. We may see examples in our journeyings through various districts. Close attention to details of management means fine remunerative crops; neglect, failure. Directly the crops are cleared, cut out all old canes close to the soil; then follow up this work by removing quite small, unripe or sappy sucker shoots, pulling them up forcibly to prevent an undue growth of weakly shoots next year. At the same time pull up and burn all large weeds found, lightly hoeing the seedlings. All that are not wanted should now be cleared away. The extra strong young canes that may cause overcrowding should also be removed. A suitable distance between the retained canes being about 6ins. Instead of tying up the retained canes now, allow them to spread out so that air and sunshine may help them to mature thoroughly. At this stage it is advisable to make sure that all supports are sound and secure, also to prepare a winter surface mulch.

Blanching Celery.

OF course, it is necessary to attend to the blanching of celery at an early stage of the plants' growth where they are required for early use; but the late, or main, crops do not require very early attention in this respect. Inexperienced cultivators are always anxious to finish the earthing-up work, as they think it will hasten the growth of the plants. But it is a mistaken idea, as the heaped-up earth actually prevents water reaching the roots in great quantity. The celery being a water-loving plant, requires much moisture at the roots, especially throughout the growing stage. At the present time all side shoots and any outside split leaves should be carefully removed and the plants lightly tied with soft raffia. Then thoroughly soak the roots and soil with diluted liquid manure and forthwith place soil to the stalks to blanch them, taking care to press the soil firmly to them, but keeping it out of the hearts. Where slugs are troublesome place a mixture of coarse sand and sifted ashes next to the stalks. It will increase the whiteness of the stalks as well as prevent slugs eating them.

Late Summer and the Winter Tomato Crops.

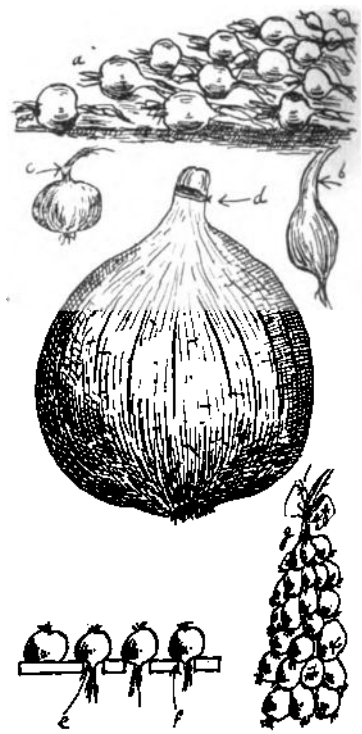
THE tomato being a sun-loving plant, can be very successfully grown during the warm summer and early autumn months with ordinary care as to management. Extra care is, however, needed when the autumn turns out to be cold and dull. There are thousands of amateur cultivators who at this time possess plants bearing more fruits than at any earlier date. Full exposure to air and sunshine is most essential. This exposure is obtained only by cutting off all old main leaves. As the latter have done their duty, their removal now will help matters. The next stage is to pull up the plants with their ripening fruits and suspend them in a cold glass structure or open shed to finish. Finally, the latest specimens may be gathered, placed in cupboards or boxes and covered with flannel to ripen and colour. The young plants for bearing the winter crop should at this date be potted into their fruiting pots and be placed in a house with a summer temperature, and be brought on steadily and sturdily. Winter Beauty is a suitable variety to grow. Use good loam and pot firmly.

Cauliflowers for Next Year.

THE early cabbages may be very successfully grown in the open air throughout the winter months. The earliest cauliflowers may also succeed if the winter be an open one, but we cannot tell what kind of weather will come, so that it is unwise to run any undue risks in this respect. Much must, also, depend upon the locality, the nature of the soil and the situation, high or low. In a light or sandy soil risks are less; in a heavy and naturally wet soil risks must not be taken. The young plants should be protected until quite mid-March. But I wish readers to understand thoroughly that I do not advise any undue protection or coddling. The shallow, cold frame is an ideal place for the young plants, but only when the weather is becoming severe should the glass lights be placed on, and only in times of actual frost should the lights be closed entirely. Any rough temporary frame will answer made with plain boards and a framework to bear up mats as occasion requires. The border soil should be good, but made very firm, then the wintered plants will be nice sturdy specimens to plant out next April.

Gathering and Storing Onions.

ONION bulbs ripen and are ready for storing from mid-August to mid-September, according to the season, the variety and the culture. In light soils they mature earlier than in heavy ones. The



bulk of the onions are harvested about mid-September. Cultivators are very proud of growing fine specimens. Large ones require more care than small ones, but all, if they are to keep sound throughout the winter, must be very carefully harvested. Just a word of warning: Do not allow the bulbs to be exposed to rains after they are pulled up. A few days' drying on the ground as shown at *a*, with the roots towards the south, will help matters wonderfully if the weather is dry. Thick-necked bulbs, *b*, should be stored separately to be used first. Smaller, well ripened ones, *c*, are the longest-keeping. Exhibition specimens should be tied as shown at *d*, only after every part is dried. Big bulbs keep well with the tops downward through the lath shelves, as shown at *e* and *f*. In this way the final drying off may be done. Medium-sized "ropes," *g*, suspended from the roof of a dry shed generally store well, too.—GEORGE GARNER.

WHEN IN DOUBT WRITE TO "THE GARDEN."

Digitized by Google

SEND FOR CATALOGUE OF

VEBBS' BULBS

e Finest Selection of the Season.

WEBBS' WHITE FORCING TULIP, 2/6 per doz.

EBB & SONS, LTD., Bulb Specialists, etc.
STOURBRIDGE.

SEEDSMEN BY APPOINTMENT

GRASS SEED

ONE of the best seasons for sowing Grass Seed is as soon as possible after the break up of the hot summer weather. All lawns should be re-conditioned immediately if the turf and surface are to be in good condition for the following season, consequently, preparations should be made in advance, and all the required materials—Grass Seed, Fertiliser, Worm Killer, etc., assembled. For particulars how to renovate your lawn, make a new lawn, diagrams and instructions, write to-day for Carters Booklet on "Lawns and Sports Grounds," post free on application.

SERVICE AND ADVICE
¶ Carters will answer any question in regard to the improvement or up-keep of your Turf

Carters
TESTED SEEDS

SEEDSMEN TO H.M. THE KING,
RAYNES PARK, LONDON, S.W.20

w North Country Phloxes

Plant NOW our
OLD MEDAL VARIETIES
including the latest novelty—
"BORDER GEM"
the finest and largest purple Phlox to date; already this variety has been awarded
CERTIFICATES OF MERIT

SEND FOR SPECIAL OFFER

F. FAIRBAIRN & SONS
EDENTOWN NURSERIES
CARLISLE
Est. 1852

WATTS'
Gold Medal Daffodils

	Per doz.
ALED.—A fine Giant Incomp., perianth cream, crown clear pale yellow ..	3/-
ALBATROSS.—Barrii, perianth white, cup citron, edged red	2/6
ARTHEN.—A beautiful Leedsii, with cup of biscuit cream	3/-
BERNARDINO.—Bicolor Incomp., perianth white, cup apricot orange ..	15/-
COLWYN.—A lovely white Leedsii ..	2/-
COUNTESS OF PEMBROKE.—Leedsii with greenish grey centre to cup ..	10/-
DERWIN.—Rich self yellow Incomp., sweet scented	5/-
EGRIN.—A very early self yellow Incomp.	2/6
ELVIRA.—The best poetaz at a reasonable price	2/6
FAIR MAIDEN.—Barrii, perianth white, cup lemon, edged apricot	2/6
GIRDLE.—Giant Leedsii, crown tinted apricot	5/-
LORD KITCHENER.—Perianth white, soft yellow crown	7/6
PLOVER.—Barrii, perianth lemon, cup orange	2/6
PRINCESS VICTORIA.—Especially fine early yellow Incomp., crown suffused bright orange red	25/-
WHITE LADY.—Leedsii, with pale canary cup	2/6
WEARDALE PERFECTION.—Bicolor trumpet, very fine	7/6
12 bulbs of each of the above for	£4 10s. 0d.
6 " " " "	£2 7s. 6d.

Carriage Paid for Cash with Order within the United Kingdom.

The Welsh Bulb Fields, St. Asaph

No. 9461.—Boy and Shell Bird-bath. Dia. of Shell, 15in. Ht. overall. 14in.
PRICE IN CASTONE £4 0 0

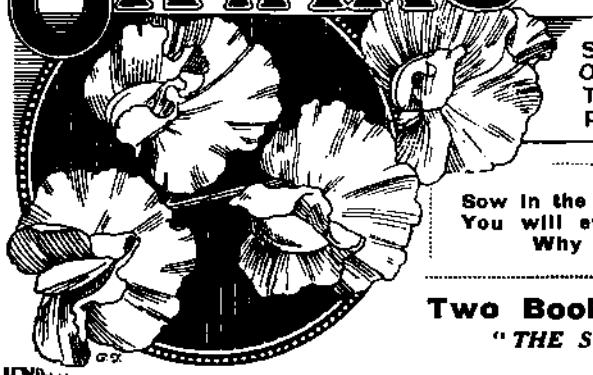
GARDEN ORNAMENTS
IN LEAD OR CASTONE

ILLUSTRATIONS AND PRICES OF FIGURES, VASES, BIRD-BATHS AND SEATS WILL BE SENT ON APPLICATION

BROMSGROVE GUILD, LTD.
BROMSGROVE . WORCESTERSHIRE

Digitized by Google

UNWIN'S SWEET PEAS



HAVE PROVED THEIR SUPERIORITY - COMPARE OUR PRICES & REMEMBER THERE ARE NO SWEET PEAS OF BETTER QUALITY

FULL CATALOGUE POST FREE

Sow in the Autumn for best results. You will eventually grow Unwin's. Why not THIS Season?

SPECIAL COLLECTION OFFER

The finest value ever offered in Sweet Peas.

UNWIN'S EXHIBITION COLLECTION

W. J. Unwin. Charming. Grenadier. Mauve Beauty. Mrs. Tom Jones. Matchless. The Sultan. Sybil Henshaw. Powerscourt. Youth. Picture. Constance Hinton. Hebe. Royal Purple.

2/- for 12 seeds each of above 14 varieties.
3.9 for 25 seeds each of above 14 varieties.
Postage 1½d. extra.

Two Books on Culture every Grower should read:

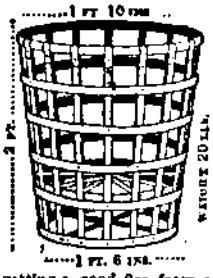
"THE SWEET PEA AND ITS CULTIVATION" and its 1927 "Supplement."

By W. J. UNWIN.

These books contain all the information the amateur needs, given in a simple, detailed and interesting manner, and illustrated by explanatory sketches. They have helped thousands to grow better Sweet Peas. Why not let them help you?
Price **9d.** the two (post free for **10½d.**)

W. J. UNWIN, F.R.H.S. *Sweet Pea Specialist and Seedsman.* HISTON - Cambs.

VULCAN GARDEN REFUSE INCINERATOR



Garden and household refuse reduced to ashes quickly, cleanly, with minimum amount of smoke. Will take a barrow load of rubbish at a charge.

British Manufacture.
PRICE EACH 10/-

Carriage paid nearest Railway Station - 2 for 18/-
Larger size 2 for 22/6 **12/6**

"The incinerator arrived on Wednesday, and after two soaking nights I had no difficulty in getting a good fire from exposed material. I burnt up in an hour what would have taken me all day with a bonfire."

THE LOSTOCK IRON BASKET WORKS,
8/11, Griffiths Lane, Lostock Gralam, nr. Northwich

SNAPDRAGONS

For Gorgeous Massing

SIMPSON'S SUPER-SEED

Royal Horticultural Society's Trials
13 Awards of Merit & 10 Highly Commended 1920
5 Awards of Merit 1922, in pots

Seeds from **6d.** to **2/6** per packet.

LISTS FREE UPON REQUEST.

W. H. SIMPSON & SONS, BIRMINGHAM

NOW is the time to order

Michaelmas Daisies

(ASTERS)

for Autumn Planting

Our Exhibit of these seasonable and popular flowers at **Holland Park** Show was universally admired.

OUR COLLECTION is admitted to be the most complete and **Up-to-Date**, containing all the **latest Novelties**, together with the pick of the **Best** of the **Older Varieties.**

Customers who were unable to see them at the Show should send for our New Catalogue, Post Free.

W. WELLS, Junr.
Hardy Plant Nurseries, MERSTHAM, SURREY

CHEALS OF CRAWLEY

Have over FIFTY YEARS' Experience of GARDEN & ESTATE PLANTING AND GENERAL IMPROVEMENTS.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY ACRES

of Nursery stocked with a First Class Collection of

ORNAMENTAL TREES . SHRUBS

FRUIT TREES . . HERBACEOUS AND ALPINE PLANTS
ROSES, DAHLIAS, and all Garden Requisites.

IT WOULD PAY YOU TO CONSULT THEM.

Catalogues of each Department and an Illustrated Pamphlet on Garden Design.

J. CHEAL & SONS, Ltd., The Nurseries, CRAWLEY

Digitized by Google

OUR SERVICE BUREAU

Though so many subjects are dealt with in each issue of THE GARDEN, *it must constantly happen that readers seek information which is not immediately available. In such circumstances they should make use of our Service Department. Through its medium each reader's own particular enquiry can be dealt with. No matter what the question is, there is always information available from a staff of expert contributors and consultants; and there is no charge for this. It is one of the additional means of service which* THE GARDEN *is glad to render to its readers.*

Also, there is the further convenience which the Service Department affords of supplying readers with data about anything that is advertised in the pages of the paper. Thus, on receipt of an enquiry, particulars will be sent of, say, half a dozen things about which the reader seeks information. The only stipulation is that a stamped addressed envelope and the coupon, that will always be found in each issue, shall be sent with the enquiry.

All communications should be addressed to the Service Department, THE GARDEN, *20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.*

We have selected the following enquiries, with their answers, as being of more general interest, and therefore worthy of publication.

Diseased Violas.

I should be so much obliged if you could tell me what you think causes my violas to die. Dozens and dozens in the garden have done so; there is evidently some creature, but we cannot find it. If you could tell me what it is and what to put in the ground to avoid the loss, I should be so much obliged. It seems to be destroyed just at the collar.—(Mrs.) PETER JONES.

Your viola plants are suffering from a fungoid disease known as black rot, or black stem rot. We advise you to grow the plants in a fresh border next year and, meantime, during the early winter time, dig into the surface portion fresh lime, at the rate of 8 oz. per square yard. Do not use any leaf-soil.

Alpines for a Small Rock Garden.

I would be indebted to you if you could furnish me with a list of alpine plants with which to lay out a small rock garden in the Clyde district, with a southern, sunny exposure. There is ample moisture in the ground, even in dry weather.

Plants to be mainly of the mossy or cushion variety, and not more than 6ins. in height. I would like to have a display of bright colour through the year, if possible.—G. FORSYTH.

The following would suit your purpose very well, and you can add to them at will: Erythræa diffusa, Gentiana verna, G. ornata, G. acaulis, G. sino-ornata, Verbena chamædryfolia, Lithospermum Heavenly Blue, Campanula pusilla Miss Willmott, Hypericum fragile, Polygonum vaccinifolium, Genista tinctoria plena, Cotyledon simplifolia, Sedum pallida roseum, Hypericum reptans and Thymus citriodorus aureus.

A Blue Garden.

I have a suburban garden on clay soil, and it is my ambition to have it at its best on June 21st or thereabouts each year. I want it to be a "blue" garden.

Could you help me with a list of suitable hardy plants, especially flowering shrubs and climbers?—C. G. CHAPPELL.

The following kinds and varieties would be suitable for your purpose: Delphiniums, eryngiums, Aster amethystinus, lupins, aconites, echinops, campanula, Centaurea montana, Aquilegia cœrulea. Scabiosa caucasica, Gentiana bavarica and G. cruciata, violas, Clematis lanuginosa, wistarias (W. Consequana is a lovely blue), Ceanothus dentatus, C. floribundus, C. divaricatus, Veronica exaltata, V. latifolia and Buddleia insignis, B. intermedia and B. purpurea. Blue anchusas would make a fine display, especially the Dropmore variety.

A Disease of Pears.

Enclosed please find two pears from one of my trees, and also half of one showing a black inside. Can you give me any information about this? The pear, we think, is a Marie Louise, and we have given it potash, kainit and vine manure. Last year we had no crop. This year there is a good setting, but they will be useless if this disease cannot be stopped.—D. A. TYRIE.

The pears sent for examination are attacked by the pear midge pest. The midges lay eggs in the blossoms, and from these eggs grubs hatch out and immediately burrow into the tiny fruits, spoiling them and causing them to fall when but half grown, or earlier. This is a very serious pest, and not the easiest to get rid of. The only real remedy seems to be to run poultry under the trees in June and July, and in April, so that the fowls eat up the grubs as they leave the damaged fruit to pass to the soil to attack the blooms in spring. This method, however, is not always practicable. Alternatively, you must gather up and burn all pears that drop; pick off those abnormally developed, blackened or showing signs of attack, and dress the soil now with naphthalene at the rate of 3 oz. or 4 oz. to the square yard, pricking it lightly into the top soil with a fork. The naphthalene will kill many grubs in hiding in the soil, but is not nearly so effective a measure as that of running fowls under the trees. If the latter method is practised for two or three summers running, a cure may be expected. Spraying is of no use whatsoever.

Backgrounds for Herbaceous Borders.

I am proposing to make a herbaceous border in the autumn, and the question at present taxing me is the provision of a suitable background. The position is abutting on the kitchen garden, it is windswept and the climate is a cold one. I wish to avoid a greedy hedge, if possible, and I have considered a stout oak trellis with hardy climbing shrubs and roses as a possible solution. Could you give me your opinion and also suggest some names of suitable shrubs for trelliswork? At the same time any alternative suggestion would be very much appreciated.—F. N. H. MAIDMENT.

Cupressus macrocarpa planted 4ft. apart and about 5ft. back from the proposed herbaceous border would make the most satisfactory screen. It is not a big robber of border plants, such, for instance, as privet. It will bear any amount of exposure, may be cut to any size or form if trimmed in June and September. Roses would not be very satisfactory, but the close-growing, golden-leaved honeysuckle would be the next best to the cupressus.

Culture of Vallota purpurea.

I shall be glad to have information about the culture of Vallota purpurea bulbs in a small greenhouse. I have now a few pots of the bulbs and the foliage is not very healthy and rather yellow. Should the pots now be kept watered or should it be allowed to die down, as with some amaryllis bulbs? The gardener speaks of it as resting. Is that right?—(Mrs.) H. J. ELWES.

Vallota purpurea requires a firm, loamy soil in which to grow, ample water supplies during the summer months, and a moderate amount during the winter. Complete drying-off may kill the plant. The latter flowers best when fairly pot-bound, so that feeding judiciously every week after the flower-stem shows will be beneficial.

Perennials for Peaty Soils.

Could you name a few genera of perennials likely to succeed in a Cornish garden on the moors? It lies 800ft. above sea level, but in a sheltered hollow, and the soil is practically pure peat.—EDWARD S. RASHLEIGH.

The following list contains plants that will succeed, under ordinarily good treatment, in the garden to which you refer: Achillea The Pearl, Alstrœmeria aurea, Anemone japonica and A. japonica alba, Armeria cephalotes rubra, Campanula carpatica, C. Van Houttei, Centaurea montana rubra, Chrysanthemum Mrs. Lothian Bell, Coreopsis grandiflora, delphiniums in variety, erigeron, Gaillardia grandiflora, Gypsophila paniculata, Helenium superbum, Iris germanica in variety, Lychnis chalcedonica, malvas in variety, phlox in variety, Rudbeckia Newmanii, Michaelmas daisies in variety, Scabiosa caucasica, Solidago canadense and Statice latifolia.

Shrubs Under Trees.

I will feel greatly obliged if you will give me a list of shrubs, both flowering and non-flowering, evergreens and otherwise, for planting under trees.—F. F.

Flowering shrubs under trees are not particularly common. Probably the best are Prunus Laurocerasus, the rose of Sharon (Hypericum calycinum), Gaultheria Shallon and G. procumbens, and, of course, Rhododendrons ponticum and Cunningham's White. Among the non-flowering the most important are the various forms of aucuba, the common mahonia, our native butcher's broom (Ruscus aculeatus) and the rather more common R. Hypoglossum, Sarcococca ruscifolia, also the Alleghany spurge (Pachysandra procumbens). Of course, in addition to these, the privets and the snowberries do well under trees.

How to Make Lavender Perfume.

I have such a large quantity of lavender this year that I am anxious to make good use of it and shall be glad of any suggestions.—(Mrs.) G. I. CLARK.

A very pleasant perfume is made from lavender flowers (after being thoroughly dried) if the following directions are carefully carried out: Procure a wide jar, fairly deep, and cut rounds of cotton wool, each of which should be soaked with best almond oil. Put a thick layer of dried lavender in the jar, then a round of oiled wool, and so on, until the requisite amount is used, letting the top layer be wool. Leave for a week or ten days, then press as much oil as possible out, and pour into tiny bottles with well fitting corks. Just a drop of the lavender oil on the corner of a handkerchief is most pleasant and refreshing.

Digitized by Google

GARDEN PESTS
AND HOW TO DEAL WITH THEM

The Narcissus Fly.

The perfect insect bears a resemblance to a honey bee in its hairiness and form, but the end of the body is blunt. Its colour is usually yellowish-brown, but there is considerable variation. The grub is, in form, like a rolling-pin, greyish yellow in colour, with a row of backward-directed bristles round each ring of the body. The damage caused by the larva of the narcissus fly consists in the fact that it eats out the centre of the bulbs. When full-fed the grub crawls out and changes into an oval brown pupa in the soil near the top of the bulb. It is stated that, besides the mechanical injury to the bulb caused by the gnawing, the larvæ excrete an acid which induces decay of the tissues round the burrows, so that the original wound is very much extended.

When planting any narcissus bulbs these should be examined to see if any signs of the grub of the narcissus fly exist. In the early autumn the larvæ, which have developed from eggs laid by the perfect insect, will not have penetrated very far into the bulb. It is recommended that such bulbs should be soaked in water for about a week; this will not harm the bulbs, but it will surely kill the grubs. Watch should be kept for sickly plants, and these should be removed and destroyed, for it is quite likely that they have been attacked by the narcissus fly. It may be mentioned that newly purchased bulbs obtained from a firm of high standing are not likely to be infected with the larvæ of the narcissus fly, as great care is taken to send out only clean stock. When narcissi are actually growing, attack by the narcissus fly is minimised by dusting the plants, when damp with dew, with soot, or spraying with a solution of a wineglass of petroleum, 2 oz. of quassia chips, 2 oz. of soft soap and a gallon of water.

Earwigs.

Many gardeners seem to think that the depredations of the earwigs begin and end with the dahlias, but this is far from being the case. These insects attack flowers of all kinds, and will often do a lot of damage to ripe fruit. The young flower heads of chrysanthemums, dahlias and carnations are specially liable to be assaulted, however, and growers of these should be on the look-out for earwigs in the late summer and autumn. Earwigs will often turn up in large numbers in a garden which has been free from the pest, and this is due to certain curious migratory habits of the insect which are not completely understood. The fact that earwigs work at night makes them very difficult to deal with by the use of any of the ordinary insecticides. During the daylight hours the earwigs retire to cracks in walls, tree trunks or, in fact, any hiding place. The only effective way of dealing with the earwig pest is to set traps. These are of numerous kinds, but for practical purposes the following are the best. Cut broad bean stalks, or the hollow stems of the sunflower and the Jerusalem artichoke, into pieces about 9ins. long and suspend these from the middle among the branches of fruit trees or infested plants. The old idea of filling flower pots with moss and placing these, inverted, at the tops of stakes is good. If it is thought that the pots are unsightly, just as good results are secured by resting the pots on the sides at the base of the plants. Note that any traps should present a fairly dry interior, for earwigs will avoid damp places. Whatever traps are employed, they should be examined often during the day and the captured earwigs shaken out and destroyed.

Leather-jackets.

At this time of the year the perfect insect of one of the worst garden pests is much in evidence. Everyone has noticed those curious two-winged flies commonly known as daddy-long-legs or crane flies, which blunder about in such an aimless way that they might seem to be incapable of any harm. Yet it is a safe rule to destroy all the daddy long-legs to be found, and so help to keep a highly injurious insect in check. The commonest species, known to science as Tipula oleracea, is but one representative of a considerable group, all of which exhibit much the same habits. It is these ungainly flies that are responsible for the leather-jackets which cause such an infinite amount of harm to the roots of plants. The grubs, which are, of course, the larval stage of tipula, live in the soil a little way below the surface and, when present in large numbers, they will devour a large part of the roots of almost any crop. Some are particularly harmful to lawns, others seem to devote most attention to cabbages, but all are capable of a great amount of damage if unchecked. Leather-jackets are clumsy creatures which move about slowly, but they are protected by a very tough skin which makes them difficult to injure. In colour the grubs are a dirty grey, and they are usually about an inch in length.

Preventive measures against leather-jackets may be taken in the autumn, when the female flies are busy laying their eggs. Cleared land may be treated with gas lime or even common salt. This will not only discourage egg-laying, but it will also help to destroy any grubs that may be lurking in the soil. Watering the ground with a hot solution of soft soap is also useful. This will make the larvæ pop up to the surface, where they may be captured and destroyed. In badly infested soil large numbers of the pest may be captured by traps formed of hollowed-out portions of potato, carrot or parsnip half buried in the ground. In the case of lawns, heavy and repeated rollings will often prove beneficial in killing the leather-jackets, which, as has been stated, are usually fairly near the surface. It should be noted that this pest is most troublesome in heavy ill-drained soil. Good cultivation will go a long way to keeping leather-jackets under.—L. B.

AUTUMN CARE OF FRUIT TREES

QUITE apart from harvesting ripe fruit there is need for careful and timely attention to the trees which have this season been more than usually loaded with an extensive variety of insect pests and fungoid diseases.

It cannot be too forcibly urged that there will be a repetition on an even larger scale of the onslaughts by these enemies of the garden and orchard if matters are just allowed to run their course, and the adopted policy is to leave everything to chance, hoping that a sharp winter may kill off the pests. There is a tendency to assume that because this season's crops are now mature and ready for storing there is no further chance of pests doing serious harm; but in horticulture one season always overlaps another, and in the case of insect pests it is during the next few weeks the majority of moths are flitting about seeking suitable depositories for the eggs which are to produce next year's hordes of grubs and caterpillars. Fungoid diseases, too, are ripening their pustules or fruit which contain the spores by which propagation is to be carried on.

Grease-Banding.

An operation which must be carried out now.

The most urgent of tasks at the moment is to get all fruit trees grease-banded, for this is one of the surest methods of reducing the forces of the enemies of fruit trees if the bands are placed on the trees soon enough, and are examined at reasonably frequent intervals to make sure that none cease to do their work through any one of various possible causes. Do not let it be supposed that the mere fact of a tree being encircled by a greased paper band renders that tree immune from insect attack; there is nothing magic or supernatural about a grease band. The whole truth is this—several species of moths, which are enemies of our principal fruit trees, are due to hatch out at various times between now and next spring. I have already captured a fully developed vapourer moth, and in a good many gardens there will very shortly be a rapid awakening of some of the earliest so-called "winter" moths. The females, which, of course, are the egg layers, are wingless, and when they emerge from the soil around the trees they crawl up the tree trunks to lay their eggs on the twigs and fruit spurs so that the young larvæ shall be within reach of food immediately upon hatching out. The object of grease-banding is to capture these moths by entangling them in the sticky grease before they reach the branches. Obviously, it is a pity to delay the application of the band until a few of the earliest moths have accomplished their journey, for even one moth will deposit eggs enough to produce a mischievous battalion of grubs.

The moths of different kinds hatch out at different and uncertain periods, and although it is a gratifying fact that some of the best proprietary brands of banding grease are capable of retaining their adhesive quality for months—I have found Stickite quite soft and sticky after exposure for three months—it has to be remembered that in windy weather dust, leaves and other substances will as easily stick to the grease as the moths will do, and unless the bands are frequently examined it is quite possible these dry materials may form bridges over the grease, and it is very extraordinary how cunningly the moths will discover any safe means of crossing the paper band which was intended to be their death-trap. I have even known cases where a band has caught so many moths that their carcasses have made a dry footway over which later travellers have safely passed. Hence the necessity not only to start early, but to clean frequently and re-coat the bands during autumn, winter and spring. Instructions given with any of the good brands of grease are so clear and simple that there is no need to explain here how a band should be bound round a tree and evenly coated with grease.

Autumn Spraying.

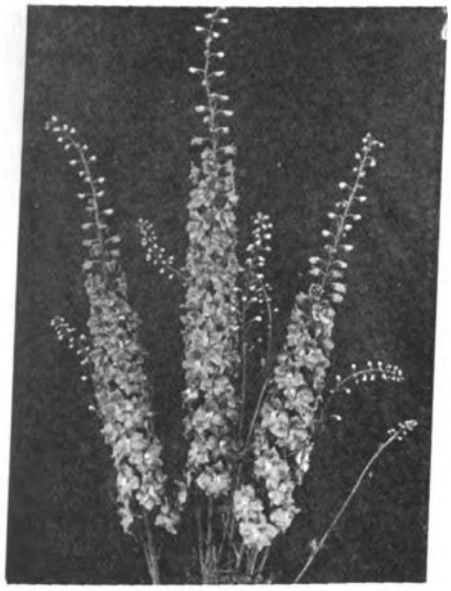
While foliage remains upon the trees nothing in the way of caustic sprays can be used, but it is well worth while to spray with a summer wash, which will coat the whole surface with a protective film of saponaceous character. Moths are very discriminating in their search for "safe" quarters for their eggs, and will avoid sprayed trees. Many of the fungus pustules which are to be seen on leaves and bark may be checked and destroyed by even a weak solution of Bordeaux mixture, which may be used as soon as the fruit is gathered. Be careful, however, that the spray does not reach lettuces, runner beans or other food crops which are ready for use. A. J. M.

Digitized by Google

GOLD MEDAL DELPHINIUMS

Awarded 5 Gold Medals.

PLANT NOW for a good display next Summer



Delphinium "George Cochrane" (B. & L.) 7/6 each.

We have pleasure in offering the following Delphiniums, each of which gained an Award of Merit at the R.H.S. Trials, held at Wisley in 1925 :—

Blue Princess	7/6
Mrs. Townley-Parker ..	7/6
Queen Mary	2/6
Constance	15/-
Blue Boy	5/-
Col. Sir W. Murray ..	2/6
Mrs. Shirley	5/-
Mrs. C. McIvor	5/-
Lord Derby	7/6
W. T. Ware	3/6
Marjorie Ferguson ..	7/6
Norah Ferguson ..	5/-
E. Bromet	15/-
Mrs. A. J. Watson ..	5/-
Mrs. Kaye	5/-
Millicent Blackmore ..	7/6
Rev. E. Lascelles ..	3/6

One of each for £4 10/- **1 doz., our selection, £2 15/-**

Other choice named Collections, 15/-, 22/-, 30/-, 42/- and 70/- per doz.

Write for descriptive catalogue of above and other specialities including—

BEGONIAS, PHLOX, POLYANTHUS, BLUE PRIMROSES, HERBACEOUS PLANTS, Etc.

BLACKMORE & LANGDON, BATH

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Dawkin's . . Seeds

SWEET PEAS FOR AUTUMN SOWING

2/6 COLLECTION

OF THE

SIX WINNING VARIETIES

IN THE BALLOT BY READERS OF

"THE GARDEN."

1. **Constance Hinton** (WHITE)
2. **Picture** (CREAM PINK)
3. **Powerscourt** (LAVENDER)
4. **Mrs. Tom Jones** (BLUE)
5. **Royal Scot** (SCARLET)
6. **Warrior** (MAROON)

5/- COLLECTION

BEING THE **FIRST 12 VARIETIES** SELECTED IN THE BALLOT. THE ABOVE-NAMED SIX VARIETIES AND ALSO

7. **Hawlmark Pink** (PINK)
8. **Charity** (CRIMSON)
9. **Royal Purple** (PURPLE)
10. **Charming** (PINK)
11. **Matchless** (CREAM)
12. **George Shawyer** (ORANGE PINK)

ALFRED DAWKINS,

(17 years Manager Seeds and Bulbs Dept., Messrs. James Veitch & Sons,)

408, KINGS ROAD, CHELSEA, S.W.10

Proprietors: ALFRED DAWKINS, A. DONALD BLAXILL.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Ryders Book of Beautiful Bulbs

For 1½D.

FREE DISTRIBUTION.

WHETHER you wish to plant bulbs in your garden or grow them indoors or in window boxes send coupon to-day for this splendid list of Ryders **reliable** Bulbs at Popular Prices. If you have never yet made your home and garden beautiful with spring blooms this informative book gives you full directions to ensure success.

INSTRUCTIONS—Write name and address clearly, preferably in block letters, on the coupon, place the coupon in an envelope addressed to Ryders, tuck in the flap but do not stick down, affix a halfpenny stamp—post at once—and the catalogue will reach you by return.

RYDER & SON (1920 LTD.)
SEED & BULB SPECIALISTS, **St. Albans.**

Please Send RYDERS BULB CATALOGUE POST FREE to

.....

No other enclosure must be placed in the envelope, and nothing written on this Coupon but your name and address.—*Garden.*

Recommended for Roses, Bulbs, all other Flowers and Fruit Trees.

The Helichrysa Permanent LABEL

Registered Trade Mark.

Write for circular and full particulars to :—

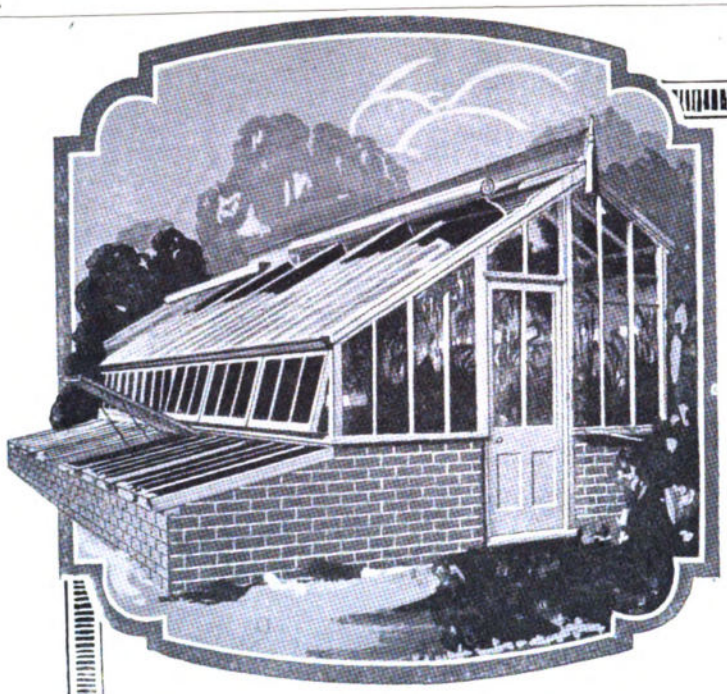
THE "HELICHRYSA" PERMANENT LABEL CO.

8, Rusthall Park, TUNBRIDGE WELLS

From 2/- per doz.

Patent 245842

Digitized by Google



Built to resist the Ravages of Time

TO be thoroughly efficient a Glasshouse must be so constructed that it will resist the rigours of all phases of our variable climate. Rain or sun, wind or frost—it must be impervious to the effect of each.

The most convincing testimony to the work of Duncan Tucker & Sons, Ltd., is the numerous structures designed and erected by them throughout the country.

Well-nigh one hundred years of experience are behind Duncan Tucker's work; it is this specialised knowledge you acquire when you enlist their aid.

If you want distinctive work—yet built *to* last—you need their services.

¶ If you want a Garden Frame, Duncan Tucker & Sons, Ltd., can supply one to meet your needs. There are models for every imaginable purpose, constructed with the care and experience for which Duncan Tucker's are noted.

The prices are the lowest possible, consistent with good workmanship. *Write for full particulars.*

Wm. Duncan Tucker & Sons Ltd.
ESTABLISHED—1830
TOTTENHAM. N.15.

G.A.5740

Fruit Tree Banding for Small Orchards

No matter how small the orchard, or whether you have only one or two fruit trees in a garden, it pays to use Stictite Tree Banding Compound.

It traps the crawling insects—Winter, March and Mottled Umber Moths, and so prevents the laying of thousands of eggs which would otherwise hatch out in the spring.

Stictite is extremely "tacky," and remains so throughout the Season, so that one application is sufficient. It will not "run" or dry up after exposure, and withstands the rain.

The sooner the trees are banded the better the result will be. Winter Moth is the first to appear, and emerges about the end of September so that the bands should be on by that time if possible.

Stictite is supplied in tins from ½lb. upwards, and ½lb. will do five or six trees of about 8ins. diameter. The 4lb. and 7lb. sizes are in gold lacquered pails with lids and handles.

½lb., 1/6; 1lb., 2/9; 2lb., 5/-; 4lb., 10/-; 7lb., 17/6.
Larger quantities quoted for if required.

Best Quality Greaseproof Paper

Only good quality paper should be used, and this is supplied as under. The paper is necessary for the application of Stictite, and is quite useless without the Compound.

Yards: 6, 2d.; 12, 3d.; 25, 6d.; 50, 9d.; 100, 1/6; 200, 2/6.

Write for Descriptive Folder.

Of Nurserymen, Seedsmen, Ironmongers, etc. Sole Proprietors and Manufacturers, Abol Limited, 9, Beltring, Paddock Wood, Kent

Let Stictite Safeguard your Fruit Crop

Digitized by Google

BULBS

We invite immediate application for our

BULB CATALOGUE.

knowing that the very fine quality of our bulbs enables us to offer exceptionally good value for money.

Send for a copy of the BULB CATALOGUE at once.

Bakers
SEED AND FLOWER FAR
CODSALL
Near Wolverhampton

MOTHS LAY EGGS

. . on your Fruit Trees . . unless you band the trees with **OSTICO.**

They can't get past OSTICO it catches and holds them because it is always "sticky."

NO EGGS—
NO CATERPILLARS

OSTICO saves next year's crop at trifling cost.

OSTICO
FOR
BANDING TREES

PRICES:
8-oz. tin (for 10 trees) - 1/6
1-lb. tin (for 20 trees) - 2/9
5-lb. tin (for 100 trees) - 12/6

Obtainable from Agents everywhere.

COOPER, McDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, LTD. BERKHAMSTED. HERTS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

OBITUARY

Sir George Holford.

THE death of Sir George Holford at Westonbirt, Tetbury, on September 11th, has removed a great figure from English life. For many years Sir George was closely associated with royalty, first having been Equerry to the Duke of Clarence and then to the Prince of Wales, until 1899, when he was Equerry to King Edward until his death in 1910. Sir George was formerly Colonel Commandant of the Life Guards. As a connoisseur he was famous. At Westonbirt hangs a magnificent collection of old masters, among them two of the finest Rembrandts in private hands, while at Dorchester House is a fine library, containing not only splendid examples of early illuminated missals, but also a wonderful group of Shakespeare quartos and folios, and the finest copy of the first edition of Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress" in a private library.

For many years Sir George had taken a great interest in horticulture and silviculture. His collections of orchids and amaryllis were famous, while of the arboretum at Westonbirt he had made a glory, both in spring and autumn. The arboretum was originally planted by his father, but Sir George had utilised the immense banks of yews and conifers as backgrounds for the brilliant tones of maples and cherries and birches. Many of the rarest trees in the British Isles are to be found at Westonbirt. Not only was Sir George a keen cultivator, but he had a wonderful eye for the points of a tree or shrub. He was a noted authority on placing them where they could be seen to the best advantage, a factor that has done more than anything in making such a wonderful effect of the Westonbirt arboretum.

BOOK REVIEW

THIS little handbook, "Hampton Court Gardens, Old and New," by Ernest Law (G. Bell and Son, 3s. 6d.), the author of the well known "History of Hampton Court," will be found almost equally interesting by those who are actually acquainted with the famous borders in the Palace gardens, and those who only know them by repute. The book, we are told in a preface, is only the forerunner of a larger and more elaborate volume on the subject, but as the title page sets forth, it gives "the lay-out, the full schemes of all the bedding in the herbaceous and mixed borders and the flower beds and shows the position of every flower and shrub in the Garden." Surely only a greedy soul would ask for more. Recalling one's impression of the gorgeous effect of the herbaceous border, it comes as rather a surprise, on studying the plan, to find how few of the plants are rare or even not very well known, the great majority being the familiar things we all grow, and of these many are not what are generally regarded as the best varieties. Perhaps this is as it should be in a border which is primarily intended to appeal to the man in the street, rather than the gardener. Still it is a little difficult to understand why certain important families of plants are so sparsely represented; the campanula, for instance, and although this omission is less noteworthy, the centaureas. Very few liliums, moreover, appear in the lists. Only a small number of the annuals grown are mentioned, but these include sweet peas, all, or nearly all of which are varieties—Etta Dyke, Countess Spenser, Queen Alexandra, Asta Ohn and Thomas Stevenson, for example—which have been long since superseded by improved kinds.

Mr. Law's views on plant nomenclature are somewhat similar to those of Mr. W. Robinson. He has a great aversion to "those horrid, absurd, uncouth Latin names, which convey nothing to most people and which few can pronounce which these high-brow botanists are trying to force on simple-speaking gardeners and lovers of gardens." No doubt there is a good deal to be said for his point of view, but after all, is "Chinese grape-flower" so much simpler than "Wistaria," and "Hedgehog Flower" than "echinops?" And how many people would recognise Solanum jasminoides under the name of "Potato-climber," or Kerria japonica under the already double appropriated title of "Bachelor's Buttons"?

The book is fully and most excellently illustrated from photographs and sketches. There are many clearly drawn plans, including an interesting one of the "Knott Garden," laid out in 1920, and the description of the various features of, and the historic notes on, the Gardens, necessarily brief, though they are admirably lucid. As a guide to the visitor to Hampton Court, who is also a gardener, the value of the little volume cannot be over-estimated.—R. E. H.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

Messrs. Dobbie and Co., Limited, Edinburgh.—For the amateur a well illustrated and classified catalogue giving cultural hints is extremely useful. A catalogue of this type has just come to hand from the above firm. In it daffodils, hyacinths, tulips and bulbous plants of every kind are listed. Many sweet pea novelties are also given.

Messrs. Wakeley Brothers, Honduras Wharf, Bankside, London, E.C.—This firm, who prepare the celebrated hop manure, can also supply bulbs, composts, bulb fibre, garden ornaments, garden lime, etc., particulars of which can be found in their new catalogue.

Messrs. Foster and Pearson, Beeston, Notts.—Since the year 1841 this firm has been building greenhouses, and during that time their reputation has spread far and wide. In their new catalogue there are over 100 illustrations, designs of greenhouses and conservatories which they have constructed all over the country. This catalogue should be procured by all those contemplating the erection of glass structures.

Messrs. Barr and Sons, 11, King Street, Covent Garden.—Three different bulb catalogues have been received from this well known firm of bulb specialists. All daffodil enthusiasts should hasten to procure the list of gold medal daffodils, so that they can make an early application for the newer seedling daffodils, which in some cases are offered for the first time. Those gardeners interested in irises or nerines should write for this firm's catalogues. Useful cultural directions will be found.

Messrs. E. Webb and Sons, Stourbridge.—A useful and well compiled catalogue, illustrated with numerous half-tone reproductions, should prove of service to all amateur gardeners. Some of the best bulbs for bedding and growing in fibre are given.

Messrs. Blackmore and Langdon, Bath.—Delphiniums, begonias and cyclamens are the chief plants in which this firm specialises. Numerous exceedingly good varieties have been raised by them, and in their catalogues, which have just come to hand, some of the finest are listed.

Messrs. R. H. Bath, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.—An illustrated catalogue of choice bulbs, roses, peonies, carnations and fruit trees for autumn planting. The lists of bulbs and peonies are most comprehensive.

Messrs. Finneys, Newcastle-on-Tyne.—Bulbs, fruit trees, garden implements, and a short list of roses, are included in this catalogue.

Messrs. R. Sydenham, Limited, Tenby Street, Birmingham.—A handy list of bulbs for the garden and greenhouse. The interesting article on growing bulbs in bowls without drainage should prove of great service to the amateur.

Digitized by Google

GARDEN PATHS

HOW TO MAKE & MAINTAIN THEM

PATHMAKING is a very important feature of the work in connection with the laying out of a garden. Before actually starting the work of forming the paths it is essential to decide just what one is going to do, and here even the roughest plan of the land will prove helpful. It is well to keep in mind that paths in the garden are essential and should be designed to go simply where it is necessary that they should go. In the average garden an elaborate system of walks is really quite out of harmony, and may easily destroy the good effect of the whole. On the other hand, there is no reason why all the paths should be dead straight. A little bend here and there, especially round some object like a bush or the projection from a rock garden, makes a natural and pleasing variation. Having decided the course which the pathways shall follow, one must consider the question of width. This should be at least 3ft. for the main one in a small garden and greater width in proportion for a larger piece of ground. By-paths leading into the main walks might be about 2ft. 6ins. in width, or even rather less than this in some cases.

The Foundations for Paths.

It is true to say that the most important part of a path is that which, in the ordinary way, is not seen. However well the surface may be formed, if the foundations are wrong the path will never be satisfactory. The idea is to plan matters so that the path will be just as pleasant to walk upon in winter after weeks of wet weather as it is in the summer. Should the soil be of a heavy nature, it should be taken out to the depth of at least a foot in the pathways. The soil thus obtained may be spread evenly over the adjoining ground. Every path should be made up in three layers. Start with about 6ins. of broken bricks or large clinkers. This must be well rammed down to make a solid foundation, through which, nevertheless, water will freely pass. Over the clinkers a 4in. layer of coarse gravel or small clinkers should be arranged. This should also be rammed down, but not quite so firmly as the lower layer. A foundation prepared on the lines indicated will be satisfactory except where the soil is of a retentive nature or the path runs to very low levels. Here there is always a likelihood that the water will stand in rainy weather, and some special form of drainage should be adopted. Where it is realised that the natural drainage of the land is not good it is an excellent plan to take out the original trench to an additional 2ins. or 3ins. If they can be obtained, broken glass bottles are excellent for strewing in the bottom before placing the layer of brick bats or large clinkers. The simple type of drain commonly known as a "soakaway" is most useful to employ at special points. These drains are simply formed in the following manner: At the lowest point of the path and towards the side open up a hole in the ground which is about 3ft. in depth. Fill in the bottom with clinkers or broken bricks, and then on this place an old drain pipe. Matters should be arranged so that the top of the drain pipe is in a little hollow somewhat below the surface of the path which surrounds it. Fill the space between the pipe and the sides of the hole with stones and shingle, beating these firmly down. The top of the pipe may be covered with a flat stone or, if desired, a small iron grating could be secured and fitted over the opening. These soakaways will prove of immense service, particularly during heavy showers and, if properly adjusted, will entirely prevent the flooding of the path. Of course, if there is any way of connecting the soakaway with pipes to some lower outlet, so much the better, but it is only now and again that this is possible.

Path Surfaces.

The walks will now be ready for surfacing, but it is well not to be in too much of a hurry to complete them. Wait until a really wet day comes when the rain keeps on for hours, and then see what is happening to a half-made path. If there are any places where the water does not clear away as quickly as it should it is safe to conclude that the drainage at this point is faulty. Perhaps below the point to which the trench was opened there is a bed of clay which is impervious to the passage of water. In such a case there is nothing for it save to take out the ground to a greater depth and fill in with more drainage material. In this way the annoyance and bother of re-making a surfaced path is avoided.

Although several kinds of surfaces are used in the making of garden paths there is much to be said in favour of gravel. In many districts there is not much difficulty in getting good gravel, the best material, of course, being that which binds well and thus presents a smooth surface. It pays to spend a little more to get really good gravel, as the inferior qualities often to be met with in coast localities will never make a really satisfactory path. For shaded walks and parts of the kitchen garden a cinder path is to be highly recommended. This not only provides a dry surface even in the wettest weather, but in addition weeds and moss do not readily grow on the surface. Where there is a steep rise in a path asphalt and concrete are now and again employed. The hard surfaces do not gutter after heavy rainfall, but in other ways they hardly appeal to the ordinary gardener.

Edgings.

Before actually starting to surface the path some attention must be given to the matter of the edgings. Of course, where the path runs along by the side of a lawn the grass will form a natural edging. Again, the border might consist of a strip of grass separating the walk from the flower-bed. The best border is that which serves its purpose in preserving the outline of the path without being greatly in evidence. In a small garden a wooden edging to a path is by far the cheapest, and if the wood is first creosoted it will last for years. Old bricks, if these are well sunk and set one upon another at an angle of 45°, are not wholly displeasing, especially after these have weathered and become moss grown. Apart from a grass strip various plants may be used with good effect to border paths. Box is an old-world favourite, but the close-growing little shrubs certainly harbour snails and slugs to an alarming extent. Shoots of ivy pegged down to encourage quick rooting will form quite a good border. Other suitable edging plants include thrift, daisies, mossy saxifrages, London pride, the evergreen Verbonica rupestris and Euonymus microphyllus. These may be arranged in long narrow strips or planted in the form of a narrow rockery. In this latter case many other suitable rock subjects might find a home.

Gravel Paths.

Having decided upon and fixed or planted the edging, the last stages in the making of the path may be carried out. Where a sufficient amount of gravel can be secured the depth of the final layer might be from 3ins. to 4ins. Of course, quite a good path can be made with a layer of half this thickness, especially if the foundations are good and the gravel itself is of a binding nature. Paths with only an inch of gravel on the top will often last in good order for years if they receive an occasional raking. For spreading the gravel a wooden rake will be found to be a handy tool. To throw off the water from the centre to the sides the pathway should be somewhat higher in the middle, being rounded or domed after the manner of a well constructed road. The actual height of the centre of the walk above the level of the edges will be determined by the width of the path. If the edges of the path are on about the same level, it is not difficult to shape out the form of the surface with the eye alone. A simple device in which the curve of the path is cut from a piece of wood is handy when pathmaking. With this the shape of any particular section of the path may be tested from time to time and irregularities rectified by raking the gravel over again or, if needful, adding fresh material. The device will prove very useful when the roller is brought into use.

Rolling.

This is really a very important part of path making, for without a good deal of rolling it is impossible to get a good surface. As one proceeds with the rolling keep a sharp eye on the form that the path is taking. Under the pressure of the roller certain positions may cave in a little so that something like a hollow is formed. These depressions are instantly revealed when the path is tested with the curved wood, and the situation must be raked over once more and a little of the finer gravel added before the roller is applied again. When the ground is soft after rain it is always worth while giving a recently made path a rolling. In fact, the more the path is rolled during the first few weeks the better it will look and the longer it will last in good order.

VERMOL
KILLS WORMS AND GROWS GOOD GRASS
VERMOL gets the lot.

Vermol Products COMPANY
61 ST. MARY AXE
LONDON, E.C.3
Teles.: Aven. 1869 and 1870.
Telegs.: "Pinerous, Phone, London."

Digitized by Google

HAVE YOU PROVIDED?

The United Horticultural Benefit and Provident Society

PROVIDES 27/- per week in illness for 1/1½; 18/- for 9d.; or 12/- for 6d., weekly contributions.

PROVIDES your dependents with £10, £15 or £20 at death, according to Scale.

PROVIDES you with a Savings Bank.

PROVIDES grants from Distress and Convalescent Funds.

PROFIT BY THE EXPERIENCE OF A MEMBER WHO HAS £150 TO HIS CREDIT

State Insured members of this Society may also Contribute to the private Section, and by so doing will add to their Benefits in accordance with the Scale they adopt.

A. C. HILL, Secretary, 35, Alexandra Road, WEST KENSINGTON, W.14

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by "ALPHOL" Sample 14 lb. 5/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Aids, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc. to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

AUCTION SALES OF

BULBS

PROTHEROE & MORRIS

every

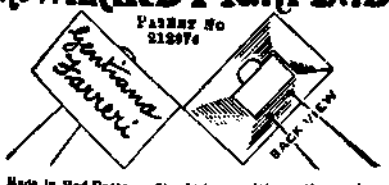
MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY at

67/68 Cheapside, London, E.C.2.

Write for Catalogues · Phone City 3854

The WIZARD Plant LABEL

Patent No 212976



Made in Red Pottery, 2½ x 1¼ ins., with rustless wires. 12/6 doz.; 2/3 doz.; 7 in., 2/9 doz. 1½ x 1 in., with wires 6 in., 1/6 doz. For tying on, 1/6 and 2/6 doz. Waterproof Ink, 9d. and 1/6 bot. Crow Quills, 2d. Postage extra.

Highly commended by the R.H.S. at Wisley.

E. TORKINGTON - NEW HALL - MAIDENHEAD

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

HILL & SMITH, Ltd.,

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS,

Makers of

IRON FENCING, HURDLES, GATES, WIRE, NETTING AND GARDEN IRONWORK

Other Products—Hay and Grain Sheds, Dutch Barns, Galvanized Corrugated Sheets and Structural Steelwork.

Catalogue free on mentioning this paper.

London: 208, Abbey House, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

LAWNS Autumn Treatment

FERTILISER, restores grass; 20/- per cwt.

WORMKILLER, stops worm-casts; 19/- per cwt.

Both net cash, carriage paid.

HY. RICHARDSON & CO.,

Skelidergate Bridge Works, YORK.

CHEAPER IN PRICE — STRENGTH INCREASED

For Peaches, Cucumbers, Carnations, Vines, &c.

Kills Red Spiders as effectively as Corry's White Fly Death kills White Fly. *Non-poisonous.*

Wonderful reports received from some of the largest users and growers in Great Britain and the Channel Islands.

1/6	2/6	4/6	9/-	15/-	27/-	63/-	120/-
½-pt.	1 pt.	1 qt.	½-gal.	1 gal.	2 gals.	5 gals.	10 gals.

Sold by Nurserymen, Seedsmen and Florists.

CORRY'S SAFE AND SURE WASP NEST DESTROYER

Non-Poisonous, yet more effective than Cyanide.

2	6	20	40 Nests
7d.	1/4	3/6	6/6

From Seedsmen and Chemists

CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Even Birds

—to say nothing of slugs, snails, worms, and other soil-pests, shun crops protected with

SANITAS POWDER

Sprinkle on soil, dust on seeds, dust over trenches, put into drills. The saving is enormous. There is no poison in it. Get a 1/3 Tin to-day, or write to us for bulk quotations.

THE "SANITAS" CO. LTD.

LIMEHOUSE, LONDON, E.

S&B 84—894

SITUATION VACANT.

WANTED—Under Gardener, single, inside and out; used to Carnations, Chrysanthemums, etc. State wages required.—Apply, with copies of references, HEAD GARDENER, Whitehall, Bishops Stortford, Herts.

The Service Bureau Coupon.

THE GARDEN, *September 25th*, 1926.

Name.....

Address.....

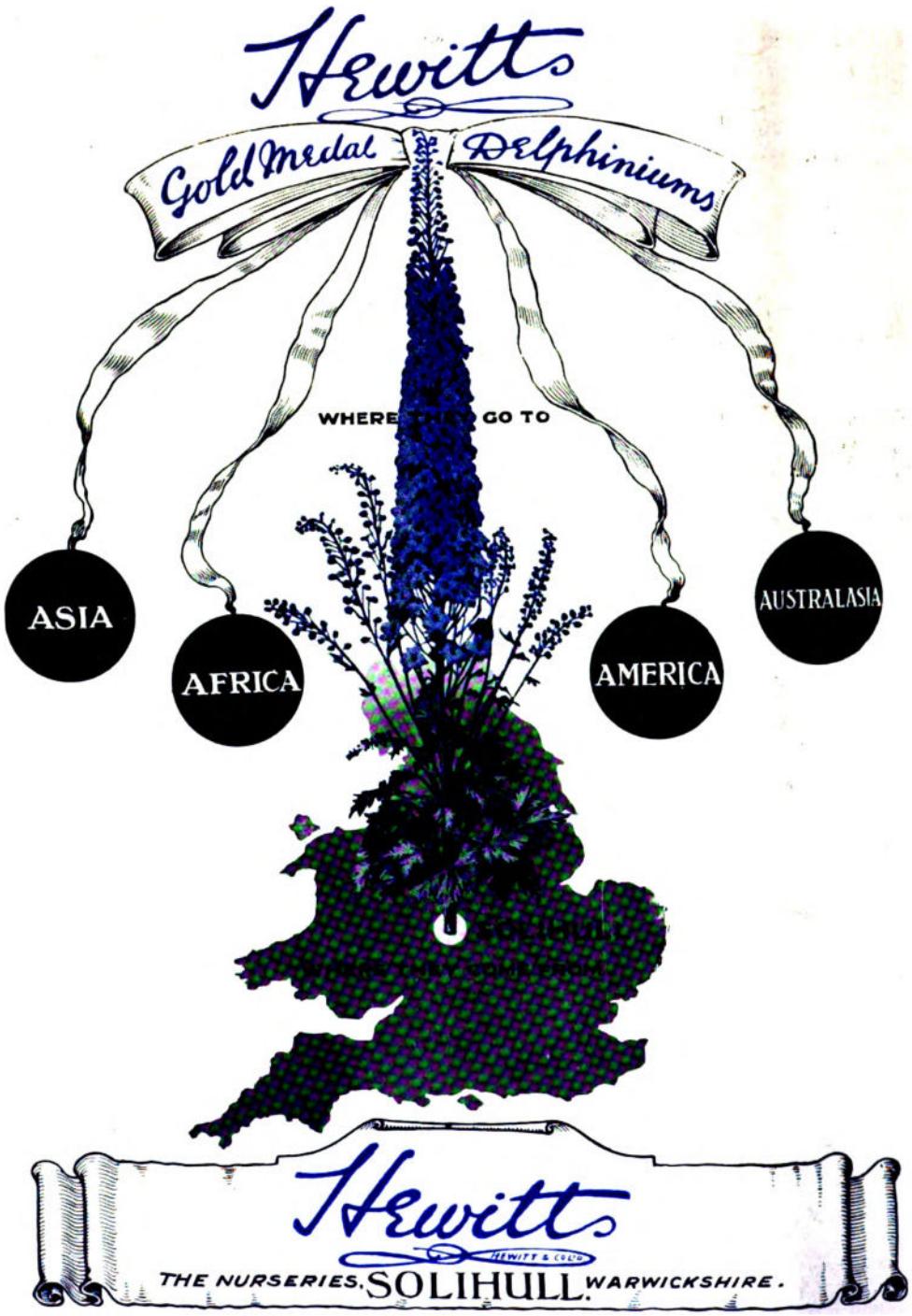
.....

This Coupon must accompany each enquiry along with a stamped addressed envelope.

See page 545.

THE SERVICE DEPT., "THE GARDEN," 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2

Digitized by Google



PLEASE WRITE FOR OUR LISTS.

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

PERIODICAL ROOM
GENERAL LIBRARY
UNIV. OF MICH.

THE GARDEN

THE AMATEUR GARDENERS' PAPER

Vol. XC.—No. 2861 Saturday, October 2nd, 1926 Price TWOPENCE

Barr's Gold Medal Daffodils

STRONG SELECTED BULBS FOR OCTOBER PLANTING.

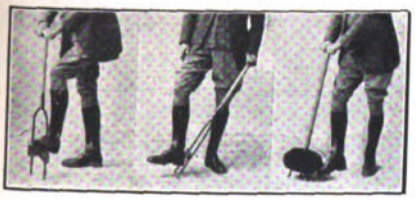
Awarded SEVENTY-TWO GOLD MEDALS and THREE SILVER CHALLENGE CUPS.

FLOWER BORDER COLLECTION,	6 each,	18 sorts	..	30/-
POT CULTURE	3 „	18 „	..	15/-
„	6 „	20 „	..	40/-
BOWL CULTURE	3 „	10 „	..	10/6
„	6 „	15 „	..	25/-
„	3 „	15 „	..	12/6

FLOWER BORDER MIXTURE .. per 100, 21/-; per doz., 3/-
MIXTURE of all kinds for naturalising, per 1,000, 95/-; 100, 10/6
TRUMPET DAFFODILS, MIXED, per 1,000, 160/-; 100, 17/6
MIXTURE of CHALICE CUP and STAR NARCISSI only, for naturalising .. .. per 1,000 110/-; 100, 12/-

Descriptive Catalogue Free.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12, & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2.



No Country House or Golf Club is complete without

THE SPADE" BOOT CLEANERS

THE 'SPADE' SCRAPER removes all mud from just those parts of the boot which the ordinary fixed scraper cannot touch. There is a curve or angle to fit every odd corner.

THE 'SPADE BRUSH' entirely supersedes the old type because: It is raised off the damp ground on 3 little feet; and you can get the toe and sides of the boot well under the bristles, which extend beneath the brush. It is impervious to rain and cannot get sodden.

Scraper 10/3; Brush, 25/6; or the pair for 35/-, carriage paid.

From your Bootmaker, Gunmaker or Ironmonger, or direct from

"SPADE SCRAPERS," (Dept. G), WAPPENHAM, TOWCESTER, NORTHANTS.

Ask your Garage to fit the car pattern Spade Scraper under the step of your Car. Price 4/6 inclusive.

Glass breaks!

USE 'WINDOLITE'

THE PRACTICAL GLASS SUBSTITUTE for all GARDEN PURPOSES.

Light Flexible. Unbreakable.

Easy to cut and fix. It keeps out cold and wet, but lets in all the light—even the Ultra Violet Rays which are stopped by glass.

Send 4/6 for post free sample, 3 ft. by 2 ft.

WINDOLITE (DEPT. C) 179/185, GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1.

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

FOR THE GARDEN! FOR EXHIBITION!
FOR BEDS! FOR EVERYWHERE!

Also Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees, Alpines and Hardy Plants.

BUY HOME-GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries.

Catalogue Free on Application, and Addresses booked for Revised Catalogue in late Summer.

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.,
Garden Specialists - - SOUTHWELL, NOTTS

CHEALS OF CRAWLEY

Have over FIFTY YEARS' Experience of GARDEN AND ESTATE PLANTING and General Improvements.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY ACRES

of Nursery stocked with a First Class Collection of

Ornamental Trees - Shrubs

FRUIT TREES, HERBACEOUS AND ALPINE PLANTS, ROSES, DAHLIAS, and all Garden Requisites.

IT WOULD PAY YOU TO CONSULT THEM.

Catalogues of each Department and an Illustrated Pamphlet on Garden Design.

J. CHEAL & SONS, Ltd. THE NURSERIES CRAWLEY

MADONNA LILIES

The pure white scented Lily which should be in every garden. Plant them now and they will bloom beautifully next summer.

Top size Bulbs, each **8d.**; per doz. **7/6**
Second size „ „ **6d.**; „ **5/-**

Orders value 5/- carriage paid.

Ask for Special List of other bulbs and compare our prices.

LONGSTAFF & SONS

Bulb Growers, Importers and Merchants

NEAR CHELSFIELD STATION .·. KENT

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
— New Alpines and Perennials. Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
— Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
— Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
— Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD,
CHELSEA, S.W.
— Bulb Catalogue Now Ready

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
— Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

H. PRINS,
BULB AND PLANT GROWERS
WISBECH, CAMBS.
— Bulb list free on application

EUREKA WEED KILLER
LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND, SCALFUME, NICOTINE, INSECTICIDES, FUNGUS, SPRAYS AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES - THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT. CARRIAGE PAID.
TOMLINSON & HAYWARD LTD. LINCOLN

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
— Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
— Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
HULL
— Weed Destroyers Fertilizers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

TUBS FOR SHRUBS.
WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 100 prizes. R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. — Price List from A. PRADAL, 26, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

THE PLANTING SEASON
is fast approaching, and intending planters are advised to place their orders at the earliest possible date in order to secure early delivery.
THE BARNHAM NURSERIES LTD. offer a magnificent stock of
Fruit Trees - - Roses
Alpines - Hardy Perennials
Ornamental Trees & Shrubs
Hedge and Shelter Plants
- and will be glad to send descriptive catalogues on application.
The BARNHAM NURSERIES Ltd.
BARNHAM, SUSSEX.

Any leaf-miner?
Chrysanthemums should be searched for leaf-miner before too late. The pest easily succumbs to the penetrative action of our spray. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen, florists and chemists.
XL ALL LEAF-MINER INSECTICIDE
G. H. RICHARDS LTD.,
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
R. 186. Monomark: BCM XLALL.

PORTWAY'S
Coke Breaker
Break your Coke to make your Stove remain alight longer.
As Shown - 45/-
OR
On Stand - 65/-
Of all Ironmongers.
MAKERS:
C. PORTWAY & SON,
Tortoise Works,
HALSTEAD, ESSEX.

BLOM FOR BULBS
Apply for Catalogue to—
Messrs. J. C. WHITNEY & Co.,
Eldon Street House, Eldon Street,
London, E.C. - - - *or to—*
WALTER BLOM & SON, LTD.,
(Late of Overveen),
Hillegom, Holland.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

OUR NEW GARDEN " is a publication ...lly compiled by us to assist economically the making of ...new garden. In addition, we issue catalogues of Bulbs, ... Fruit Trees, Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Evergreens, ...ring Hedgemaking and Screening Shrubs, Hardy and ... plants, any of which we will gladly send, post free. Each ...tains copious cultural notes and is beautifully illustrated. ...N WATERER, SONS AND CRISP, LIMITED, Twyford, Berks.

...ALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODEN- ...S, on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and ... Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write ...alogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

...KELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE. ... original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See ... on back page.

... DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., ...nce Road, South Tottenham, N.15. — Conservatories, ...r Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

...DS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUN- ...S, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.— ...TON, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

...ICING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and ...n Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request. — THE ...LEY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, ...y.

...RE PRIMULA AND ALPINE SEEDS ...large (2,000) collection. Also seedlings and plants. Lists —REV. J. F. ANDERSON, Glen Hall, Leicester.

...EMENTS' DUTCH BULBS. ...t Quality at Moderate Prices. Descriptive Catalogue ...ding over 700 Named Varieties, including various Novel- ...also Cultural Directions, sent post free. Please mention ...—V. D. CLEMENTS & Co., 12, Stockton Gardens, ...ham, London, N.17.

...RDER CARNATIONS. — 200 varieties, ...n 14 varieties, from 6/6; 50 in 50 ditto, from 25/-; ...age paid. Lists free. J. HAYWARD, Chace Gardens, ...n Road, Purbrook, Cosham, Hants.

...EET PEAS.—My New Catalogue, con- ...ng the leading Novelties for 1927, should be in the hands ...keen Exhibitors.—F. C. WOODCOCK, Sweet Pea Specialist, ...ner, Kent.

...HIBITION HYACINTHS, FIRST SIZE.— ...idesse Marie Garibaldi, Yellow Hammer, Peyrense, Lady ...y, etc., 12 in 12 varieties, 5/6; 6 for 3/-. Carriage paid.— ...ENS, Specialist, Retford, Notts.

...ASS HORTICULTURAL, all sizes stocked; ...gh Glass Plate for poultry houses, Ready Mixed Paints, ...y, Diamonds, etc.—BRITISH GLASS COMPANY, Dept. "G.N.," ...ers Buildings, Church Street, Liverpool.

...TROWSKIA MAGNIFICA.—One of the ...k glorious hardy plants in cultivation, flowering roots, ...each; a few specimen roots, 3/6 each. Special offer of ... and Rare Bulbs, now ready.—PERRY'S HARDY PLANT ...M, Enfield.

...RK STONE PAVING, for Garden Paths ...Lily Ponds; rectangular or broken for rustic work; steps ...wall coping; rockery.—GEO. VINT & BROS., Stone ...chants, Idle, Bradford.

...BELS.—Patent metal, so simple to write by ...all; can't fade or break. Trial offer bargain: 100 with ...stakes, 50 tie wires, 1 pocket nail, 10/- free. Lists.— ...EETER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

...LIUM POMPONIUM. L. MARTAGON ...BUM.—1926 Seed. Each packet 1/-.—MOUNTFORT, Upping- ...n.

...PINES AND HARDY ROCK PLANTS. ...varieties. Catalogue free.—LEE, Alpine Gardens, Stechford, ...mingham.

BARR'S GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS.— The finest sorts for Pots, Bowls, Exhibition, Flower Borders and to naturalise. Also many new Seedling varieties, offered for the first time. Descriptive catalogue free.

BARR'S HYACINTHS, TULIPS, LILIES, CROCUSES, IRISES, etc., for pots and bedding. Finest quality. Descriptive catalogue, with special directions for the culture of Bulbs in Bowls, free.

BARR'S GOLD MEDAL IRISES for present planting. Descriptive Catalogue of the best Tall and Dwarf, early and late flowering varieties, sent free on application.— BARR AND SONS, 11, 12 and 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx and perpetual habit. They flourish in the coldest parts of Britain. Extract, *The Times*; "Mr. Douglas is the leading raiser of this flower. His wonderful strain of new cloves is superb." Plant list is now ready.—J. DOUGLAS, Great Bookham.

Yearly Subscription, Inland, 13s.; Foreign, 13s.
Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2.
Offices for Advertisements: 6-11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial: The Amateur Fruit Show ..	547
Rock Gardening in Towns and Suburbs ..	548
Plants at Their Best in Autumn	549
The Busy Man's Page	550
The Joy of Making a New Garden ..	551
The Great Autumn Show	552
The Fruit and Kitchen Garden	556
A Cold House in Early Autumn ..	557
What Our Readers Say	558–559
A Small Town Garden; The Lorette System of Pruning; A Pentstemon Which Should be More Grown; Plant Collecting; Prunus Davidiana; The "Star Flowers"; Viburnum rhytidophyllum.	
Hints Worth Remembering	559
Garden Pests and How to Deal With Them	560
Cleaning the Garden	561
Our Service Bureau	562

HEWITT'S FAMOUS DELPHINIUMS AND ROSES. Catalogue now in distribution. Please write for one.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S BULB CATALOGUE NOW READY containing the choicest and inexpensive Daffodils, Tulips and other Bulbs. "Order early and plant early" so as to avoid disappointment.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GAR- DENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wire work of every description. Catalogue G. 166. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates, Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

HAVE YOU BOUGHT "The Pruning of Trees and Shrubs," by W. Dallimore, Assistant at Kew? Fully illustrated. 4/6 net; post free 4/9. From all Booksellers, or direct from the Publishers, DULAU & CO., LTD., 34, Margaret Street, London, W.1.

DOBBIES' FAMOUS BULBS, SCOTCH ROSES and SWEET PEAS for Autumn Sowing. Catalogues free on mentioning THE GARDEN.—DOBBIE & Co., LTD., Edinburgh.

BATH'S HOME-GROWN BULBS. — New illustrated Catalogue of the finest Narcissi, Tulips, etc., as supplied to the Royal Parks and Gardens, with full cultural directions, is now ready, and will be sent post free on application.—(Dept. E.), R. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS — CHOICE TULIPS, etc. List on application.—THE WELSH BULB FIELDS, St. Asaph.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! ! — Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full, 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

ROCK PLANTS AND SHRUBS.—Over 300 varieties in stock. Descriptive Catalogue free. Also Herbaceous Plants and Roses.—HODSONS, LIMITED, 58, Castle Gate, Nottingham.

WE SPECIALISE IN RARE HARDY FLOWERING SHRUBS AND ALPINES. Send for Catalogue. TRESEDER & CO., Nurseries, Truro.

LOOK ! TANNED GARDEN NETS.—All orders despatched same day. 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25 by 2, 4/-; 25 by 3, 6/-. Odd netting for bushes, 6lb. for 2/6. All carriage paid. Any sizes supplied. Also Tennis Boundary Nets.—MOORE AND CO., Net Works, Rye.

GENTIANA SINO-ORNATA flowered here last year from October until Christmas unharmed by frost. Dazzling sapphire trumpets. Strong pot plants for immediate planting, 7/6 per dozen. Cultural instructions sent with each order.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED, Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

INDIAN ORCHIDS.—12 grand fl. sorts, 25s.; 6 sorts Aerides, 23/-; 12 sorts grand fl. Dendrobiums, 35/-; 6 sorts Vandas, 20/-; 6 sorts Cymbidiums, 24/-. Cash. All paid in U.K. List free.—CHANDRA NURSERY, P.O. Rhenock, Sikkim (Bengal), India.

PRIOR'S COLCHESTER ROSES, Fruit Trees, Gladioli, Dahlias, Carnations, Herbaceous. Catalogue containing cheap collections free.—D. PRIOR AND SON LTD., Colchester.

KNIPHOFIA ERECTA.—The most beautiful, brilliant and interesting of the red-hot pokers. Free, parcel post, 18/- per dozen.—GALVIN'S NURSERIES, Wexford.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

BULBS FOR NATURALISING

All Delivered Post Free at your door.

	per doz.	per 100	per 1,000
MUSCARIA HYACINTHS, Grape Hyacinths, blue	1/-	5/-	40/-
SNOWDROPS, earliest flowers of Spring	1/-	6/-	50/-
SPARAXIS, selected show mixtures, all colours	6d.	3/-	25/-
CROCUS, in finest mixed, all colours	1/-	4/-	35/-
SCILLA SIBIRICA, extra fine blue	1/-	9/-	80/-
NARCISSUS, all varieties and colours mixed	1/-	7/6	60/-
TULIPS, all varieties and colours mixed	1/-	7/-	60/-

(All the above for growing in Woodlands or Grass)

Full Illustrated List post free upon application.

H. PRINS (F.R.H.S.) *Flower Bulb Specialists,* **WISBECH, CAMBS.**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE DOWNER LUPIN

is now known all the World over.

Apply for Lupin List; also Herbaceous and Alpine Catalogue.

DOWNER

2, Drayton Manor Nurseries, CHICHESTER

LAWNS Autumn Treatment

FERTILISER, restores grass; 20/- per cwt.
WORMKILLER, stops worm-casts; 10/- per cwt.
Both net cash, carriage paid.

HY. RICHARDSON & CO.,
Skeldergate Bridge Works, YORK.

Laxton's FRUIT TREES

CATALOGUES & CULTURAL HINTS GRATIS.
LAXTON BROS. BEDFORD.

ROBERT VEITCH & SON

Royal Nurseries

EXETER

will be pleased to send all or either of their Catalogues free on application:

FRUIT TREES :: ROSES
HERBACEOUS PLANTS
BULBS
HARDY TREES and SHRUBS

which includes their novelties

Escallonia Iveyi and
Erica australis Mr. Robert

"ACME" WEED KILLER

Awarded Gold Medal at Anglo-American Exhibition and Bronze Medal by Royal Horticultural Society.

Has stood the test of over 30 years.

POWDER.—No. 1 Tin makes 25 gals., 3/-; postage 9d. No. 2, 50 gals., 6/-; postage 9d. Carriage paid on No. 4, which makes 150 gals., 15/-

LIQUID.—1 gal. to 50 gals. water. 1 gal., 6/- 2 gals., 10/6; carriage paid on 5 gals., 25/-

NON-POISONOUS.—No. 1 Tin makes 6 gals., 1/6 post free; No. 2, 12 gals., 2/3 post free; No. 4, 50 gals., 7/- post free.

LAWN SAND

destroys weeds and moss in grass and fertilizes the lawn. No other manure necessary.

14 lbs., 4/-; 28 lbs., 7/-; 56 lbs., 13/-; 1 cwt., 25/-
Carriage paid on 1 cwt.

The Acme Chemical Co., Ltd.,
TONBRIDGE, KENT.

"It warms my Greenhouse nicely at a cost of **about 2d. per day**, which I think very reasonable. I am a new beginner with a Greenhouse, and your

'HORSE SHOE' BOILER

took my fancy. I have not regretted my choice," writes Mr. F. G., Clifford, Boston Spa. 23/3/26

Cold weather comes soon. Write for particulars now

To CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD.,
Engineers, Southwark Street, S.E.1.

Please send me Booklet E "Making the Most of Your Greenhouse," and price of complete Outfit to suit *(span-roof) (lean-to) greenhouse..... long.....wing inside, side of *(wood) (brick).....thick.

Name.....

Address.....

*Strike out particulars not needed. Cut out and send by ½d. post.

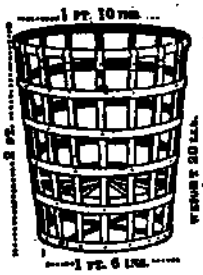
Can be supplied from Immediate Stock

USED IN THE R.H.S. GARDENS

Wire: "Kinnell-Boroh-London." 'Phone: Hop 0362 (3 lines)

CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., Ltd.
65, SOUTHWARK STREET, LONDON, S.E.1

VULCAN GA...
REFUSE INCI...



1 FT. 10 INS. ... 2 FT. ... 1 FT. 6 INS. ... WIDE AT TOP 2 FT.

Garden ... reduced to ... with ... Will ... birch ... Carriage ... Stations ... Larger ... 2 ft. ...

"The ... Wednesday ... ing night ... getting a good fire from exposed ... an hour what would have taken ... to ...

THE LOSTOCK IRON ...
8/11, Griffiths Lane, Lostock ...

The Cultivation of Tobacco—No. 4.

Examination of Plants.

THE British Farmer knows when to cut his corn by the gradual change of colour. There is no such indication where tobacco is concerned.

The leaf must be fully grown or it is useless; on the other hand it must be gathered while it is still green or it will be blotchy.

It therefore requires great judgment on the part of the Tobacco Grower to know when the plant is just in that condition to produce the Rich, Ripe Virginia Leaf used in the making of

PLAYER'S

Navy Cut

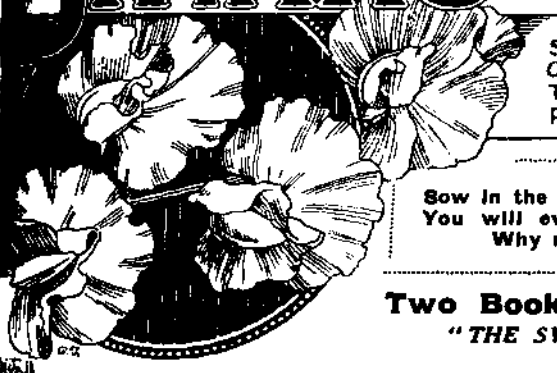
TOBACCO & CIGARETTES

REGD Nº 154011.

P.1362

Digitized by Google

UNWIN'S SWEET PEAS



HAVE PROVED THEIR SUPERIORITY - COMPARE OUR PRICES & REMEMBER THERE ARE NO SWEET PEAS OF BETTER QUALITY

Sow in the Autumn for best results. You will eventually grow Unwin's. Why not THIS Season?

FULL CATALOGUE POST FREE

SPECIAL COLLECTION OFFER

The finest value ever offered in Sweet Peas.

UNWIN'S EXHIBITION COLLECTION

W. J. Unwin. Charming. Grenadier. Mauve Beauty. Mrs. Tom Jones. Matchless. The Sultan. Sybil Henshaw. Powerscourt. Youth. Picture. Constance Hinton. Hebe. Royal Purple.

2/- for 12 seeds each of above 14 varieties.
3/9 for 25 seeds each of above 14 varieties.
Postage 1½d. extra.

Two Books on Culture every Grower should read:

"THE SWEET PEA AND ITS CULTIVATION" and its 1927 "Supplement."

By W. J. UNWIN.

These books contain all the information the amateur needs, given in a simple, detailed and interesting manner, and illustrated by explanatory sketches. They have helped thousands to grow better Sweet Peas. Why not let them help you?
Price 9d. the two (post free for 10½d.)

W. J. UNWIN, F.R.H.S. — *Sweet Pea Specialist and Seedsman,* — HISTON - Cambs.

SWEET PEA NOVELTIES

F. C. Woodcock's Sweet Peas have gained fame in all parts of the World where they can be successfully grown.

—MY NOVELTIES FOR 1927.—

LILAC QUEEN.

Certificate of Merit, Scottish National Sweet Pea Trials, 1926.

One of the most beautiful and distinct Sweet Peas I have had the pleasure to offer. The colour is rich Lilac on a White ground, producing four and five large flowers on giant stems, quite distinct from any other Sweet Peas in commerce. Per pkt., 12 seeds - 1/-

CREAM PERFECTION.

This is a rich Cream, the flowers are large and beautifully waved. The stems are of giant size, longer than any other cream I know of. Sure to please the keenest exhibitor. Per Pkt., 12 seeds - - - - 1/-

My New Catalogue containing all the best to grow for Exhibition. Post Free.

F. C. WOODCOCK,
Sweet Pea Specialist, **WALMER, KENT.**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

RARE DAFFODILS

Planting Stock

Miss Willmott, 5/-; Bonfire, 5/-; Cleopatra, 5/-; Masterpiece, 4/-; Inglescombe, 4/-; Will Scarlet, 3/-; Barnardine, 3/-; Duke of Bedford, 3/-; Early Surprise, 3/-; Lord Kitchener, 2/-; W. P. Milner, 6d. All per dozen.

Mixed Daffodils, all sizes, for scattering among shrubberies and woodlands, 10/- per 1,000, and many others. Write for illustrated catalogue to

MONTGOMERY CRAWFORD
Highfield Bulb Farm, Barrasie, Ayrshire

CHOICE SHRUBS FOR OCTOBER PLANTING.

ARBUTUS MENZIESII.—The giant "Madronna" of California, has beautiful cinnamon-coloured bark, lily of the valley-like flowers, and clusters of orange-red fruits. 5/6 and 7/6 each.

STEWARTIA SINENSIS.—The "Deciduous Chinese Camellia." Fragrant pure white flowers. 5/6 to 10/6 each.

VIBURNUM FRAGRANS.—Flowers flesh pink, very fragrant, produced in winter. 5/6 each.

PISTACIA CHINENSIS.—This "Chinese Pistachio" has charmingly elegant fern-like foliage, which assumes rich tints in the autumn. 5/6 each.

HYDRANGEA SARGENTIANA.—The new giant-leaved Chinese shrubby Hydrangea, with pale blue and white flowers. 5/6 and 7/6 each.

SOPHORA TETRAPTERA MICROPHYLLA.—The New Zealand "Kowhai," a beautiful evergreen with large clusters of tubular yellow flowers. 5/6 each.

All strong plants in 5½in. pots. The set for 21/6, packing free, on rail Winchester Station.

Write for catalogues of Herbaceous Plants and Alpines, Bulbs, Roses, Fruit Trees, etc. New Tree and Shrub Catalogue in October.

HILLIER & SONS, West Hill Nurseries, **WINCHESTER.**

The Dwarf Varieties of Berberis Darwinii and Stenophylla

raised at DAISY HILL NURSERY are excellent Shrubs for the Rock Garden, or other places where dwarf Shrubs are required. They are perfectly hardy and will grow and thrive in any soil or situation.

All own root plants and regularly transplanted.

	Each.
Darwinii pendula, D. prostrata.—Two distinct forms of B. Darwinii, whose habits are aptly described by their names	2/6, 3/6
Stenophylla autumnalis.—Flowers freely in the Autumn as well as in Spring	3/6, 5/-
S. cocolnes.—The most wonderful coloured of the Berberis family, the flower buds are scarlet, and the foliage glaucous tipped with purple	3/6, 5/-
S. compacta.—Forms a cushion	2/6, 3/6
S. corallina compacta.—One of the most charming of the series, quite compact and dwarf, covered in Spring with bright coral red buds and golden flowers	3/6, 5/-
S. diversifolia.—Compact habit and the golden flowers literally smother the plants in Spring	2/6, 3/6
S. erecta.—A small but erect grower, pale green foliage	2/6
S. gracilis.—Graceful arching stems, small leaves and yellow flowers	2/6
S. gracilis nana.—A miniature gem	2/6, 3/6
S. Irwinii.—A well known dwarf kind	2/6, 3/6
S. latifolia.—This is a complete breakaway to the others, of most robust growth with large dark green leaves and racemes of golden flowers, it makes a handsome shrub up to 10ft. high	2/6, 3/6
S. reflexa.—Very distinct spring foliage and dwarf habit	2/6, 3/6
S. semperflorens.—One of the most charming of the set, the foliage is pale green tinted with bronze in the young stage and it practically flowers from April to November, every growth terminates with a small raceme of coral buds and yellow flowers	3/6, 5/-

T. SMITH
Daisy Hill Nursery, NEWRY

APPOINTMENT

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

The BEST and CHEAPEST

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

FANCY FERN PANS and BULB BOWLS from **4d.** each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.
Royal Potteries, **BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Special Autumn Offer

Order **NOW** for delivery in November.

12 Gooseberries
"WHINHAM'S INDUSTRY."
12 Black Currants
"SEABROOK'S" (Mite resisting).
12 Red Currants
"RABY CASTLE."

The above 36 strong, well-grown Fruiting Bushes for 20/- Carriage Paid for Cash with Order. Half the above numbers for 10/-

Descriptive Catalogue of Fruit Trees, Roses, Ornamental Trees and Shrubs, free on application.

The FOREST & ORCHARD NURSERIES, Ld.
BUCKOVER, FALFIELD, GLOS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

SEEDSMEN BY APPOINTMENT

EXPERT GARDEN ADVICE FREE

AUTHORITATIVE advice is willingly given on any phase of gardening by our practical experts. It will be a personal pleasure to us if you will write us on any matter relating to the garden, when you can be sure of receiving a comprehensive yet concise and readable reply

from

Carters
TESTED SEEDS

Seedsmen to H.M. The King
RAYNES PARK,
LONDON, S.W. 20

Burpee's
NEW SWEET PEAS for 1927

GLADNESS A soft coral-pink, intensified by a suffusion of a deeper shade toward the base of the standard and wings. The softest and daintiest of all pinks. Of exquisite delicacy, enhanced by a lemon keel.

DELIGHTFUL A rich terra-cotta cerise, suffused orange or scarlet-red. A colour never before produced—the most appealing, in its glowing beauty, of all the richer toned varieties; bright and shining even on dull days, and startlingly brilliant under artificial light.

ROYAL BLUE A true Royal Blue, but full of life and brilliancy instead of dull and uninspiriting; undoubtedly the brightest of all sweet pea dark blues. A flower of great substance and enchanting beauty, extremely prolific in fours.

ON SALE BY THE LEADING WHOLESALE HOUSES

Notes from Maidstone.

CHERRIES IN MAY.

Fruit is scarce in early May, but the Chinese Early Cherry we now introduce will enable anyone with an unheated greenhouse to add cherries to their dessert at this season. It is extraordinarily prolific and self-fertile, and as a fan (15/-) on the wall, or as a bush (7/6) in a pot or planted out in the border, this luxury is easily attainable.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd., The Royal Nurseries, Established 1796. Maidstone.

Alpine Plants . . 600 varieties. All pot grown
Hardy Perennials . Comprehensive Collections Iris, Phlox, Iris, Delphiniums, Pentstemons, Pyrethrums, etc. Specialities in Primulas, Cyclamen, Ferns, Begonias, Gloxinias, etc.
Greenhouse Plants.

Catalogue on Request.

H. H. MAW & SON,
Friarwood Nurseries, PONTEFRACT

ALLENS' ROSES

Before placing your Autumn order send for our FULL ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE. We are certain it will be of assistance to you. Ready now. Contents include :—

Survey of new varieties, indicating improved forms.
Frank descriptions of over 500 varieties.
Select lists of Roses for all purposes.
Colour Guide.
Cultural Notes.
Rose Diseases and their Treatment.
Six Colour Plates, etc.

POST FREE ON RECEIPT OF CARD.
Send us your enquiries and we shall be pleased to quote.

Our stock is a most comprehensive one of Roses for all purposes, and we are sure we can give you every satisfaction.

A. J. & C. ALLEN (Dept. A), Nurserymen, NORWICH

NOW is the time to order

Michaelmas Daisies
(ASTERS)
for Autumn Planting

Our Exhibit of these seasonable and popular flowers at **Holland Park** Show was universally admired.

OUR COLLECTION is admitted to be the most complete and **Up-to-Date**, containing all the **latest Novelties**, together with the pick of the **Best** of the **Older Varieties**.

Customers who were unable to see them at the Show should send for our New Catalogue, Post Free.

W. WELLS, Junr.,
Hardy Plant Nurseries, MERSTHAM, SURREY

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

VOL. XC.—No. 2861. OCTOBER 2, 1926 PRICE TWOPENCE.

THE AMATEUR FRUIT SHOW

WE wish to draw the attention of our readers to the Fruit Show which is to be held in the Royal Horticultural Society's Hall, Vincent Square, Westminster, S.W.1, on October 12th and 13th. Every year this Show increases in size and in importance, and this year it is the desire of the Council of the Society to make it a thorough success, so as to be of some lasting value to all amateur growers of fruit. With this end in view, various new features have been incorporated in the schedule, which should be in the hands of all interested fruit growers.

This season, a notoriously bad one for all fruit crops, except, perhaps, plums and pears, many amateurs may have some little difficulty in sending exhibits, but some effort should be made to make at least a small contribution to aid the Society in their efforts to make the Show a success, and in this way to increase and popularise fruit growing in gardens, both large and small, up and down the country. Amateurs should make it their business to grow fruit. It is a national necessity. Our own varieties of fruits are among the best that the world has to offer and a home-grown apple or pear has always much more to recommend it than those from abroad. Moreover, the amateur will find fruit growing full of interest and once he gets the length of exhibiting his produce at a Show like this one, then he will have caught the fever. It is only in this way through the medium of exhibitions such as this one, where keen competition is entered into, that an all-round general improvement can be registered in fruit culture.

The principal differences in this year's schedule, compared to those of former years, are that in Division I, open to amateurs only for fruit grown under glass or otherwise, the value of the prizes has been increased, while the classes for collections of grapes have been modified to meet present-day conditions, when fewer varieties are grown than formerly, and an additional class has been provided for a collection of eighteen dishes of hardy fruits. Division No. II, open to nurserymen only, has been amended by the provision of a new class for the smaller nurseries. In the past there has been only one class for market growers, now, in addition to two classes for apples in standard boxes, there are classes for apples and pears packed in peach boxes, and two classes for grapes. Moreover, substantial money prizes are offered, as well as medals and cups. In Division IV, open to amateurs only, for "fruits grown in the open air," there is a new class for peaches, while the single dish division, again only open to amateurs, has been enlarged by the provision of classes for three more apples, namely Monarch, William Crump and St. Cecilia.

Division V is an interesting one, catering, as it does, for exhibits for outdoor fruits from all parts of the country, and it is to be hoped that advantage will be taken of this class and that numerous entries will be forthcoming. Such a class has an undoubted value in that it indicates the general state of the fruit crops in different parts of the country.

The present Show is chiefly one for the amateur. The classes are numerous and cover a wide field, so that practically any amateur fruit grower who is sufficiently keen stands a chance of success. It is only by the support of the thousands of keen gardeners in the country that this Show can be made the success it ought to be. Exhibits are welcomed and additional information and copies of the schedule will be only too willingly supplied on application to the Secretary, R.H.S., Vincent Square, London, S.W.1.

While on the topic of fruit a word of warning regarding its storage may not come amiss. All amateur fruit growers should remember that properly stored fruit remains in good condition considerably longer than fruit which has received indifferent treatment. Both apples and pears need careful handling when picking. They should not be bruised in gathering or when placing in the fruit store. Careful grading is essential, and only perfect fruit of even size should be stored for the winter; damaged, diseased and inferior specimens should be set aside for present use. A cool, well ventilated, dark storeroom which is frost-proof is the most satisfactory. Wooden sheds with corrugated iron roofs, as well as dry buildings, are bad, as the fruit in them is liable to shrivel. It is best to place the fruit in single layers on trays lined with straw or hay. Choice dessert fruit may be wrapped singly in grease-proof paper, and in this way an apple such as Cox's Orange Pippin will keep in good condition until the beginning of February.

HAVE YOU

¶ *Made an autumn sowing of sweet peas and hardy annuals?*

¶ *Finished planting your bulbs? If not, this should be completed soon, otherwise the bulbs will not have a sufficiently long season of growth.*

¶ *Ordered herbaceous plants for replenishing the mixed border?*

¶ *Lifted your early gladioli?*

¶ *Prepared, by deep digging and manuring, your beds and borders for autumn planting?*

¶ *Patched, renovated and fed your lawn?*

¶ *Grease-banded your fruit trees?*

¶ *Thinned your loganberries and summer-fruiting raspberries?*

¶ *Given your maincrop celery its final earthing up?*

¶ *Trimmed your evergreen hedges?*

Novelties Seen at Holland Park

IT may interest our readers to call their attention to a few of the excellent novelties which were exhibited at this show. The four which are mentioned here should prove really valuable hardy border plants, and each one has some particular merit of its own. Among the Michaelmas daisies was a new variety aptly named Ruby Tips of upright habit, and with flowers of rose pink.

Phlox Border Gem was another novelty. It is one of the brightest of blue-purple varieties yet raised. Mount Etna was the most conspicuous variety among the newer torch lilies seen at the Show. It is tall and stately in growth and has large handsome spikes of glowing salmon scarlet. Solidago Ballardii was a fine new golden rod which was exhibited. Its merits lie in its light and loosely formed pyramidal spray of flowers, an arrangement which is more attractive than in some of the older varieties which are inclined to be somewhat heavy in appearance. The tiny flowers are bright clear yellow in colouring, and the plant is of good habit.

Digitized by Google

ROCK GARDENING IN TOWNS AND SUBURBS

IT is an open secret that scarcely any phase of gardening has become more popular within recent years than rock gardening. Its devotees are to be found in all parts of the country, even among those to whom horticulture has not previously appealed, and, go where you will, evidence is to be found which leaves no doubt that many are fascinated with it.

It does not seem so many years since that it was spoken of as "a mere craze," and there were those who prophesied it would be short-lived. They were wrong in their prophecy, and to-day it is scarcely possible to go into any suburban locality without meeting with rock gardens. Personally, I think that the miniature gardens to be seen at every horticultural show of any size have done much to stimulate interest, and have been the means of suggesting to visitors the possibility of something of the kind in their own garden. Discussing the question with a man connected with a large stone quarry, he told me that, what with stone being required for certain classes of houses, for crazy paving, and for the formation of rock gardens, they had plenty of orders. Obviously, the desire for a garden of this character has given considerable impetus to the raising and cultivation of alpine and other plants for furnishing them, and from personal observation I have come to the conclusion that never before has there been such a demand for them.

As showing the keen interest now being taken in this department of gardening, I have recently noticed in connection with sales of suburban property that prominence is frequently given in bills announcing such sales to there being "a good rock garden." It is not surprising, therefore, that the dweller in and quite near to a town, with a garden of modest dimensions, has become infatuated and, seeing what other people are doing in transforming the few yards of ground —possibly, they own—takes up rock gardening with a zest.

Making a Start.

Having made up their minds to have a rock garden, people begin to look about and enquire as to the best and most economical way to proceed. It is always safe to take the opinion of someone in the locality who has constructed one, and gain what information is possible. Those who have had no experience of making one of these gardens will often find it better to obtain an estimate from a specialist, rather than procure material and construct one himself. It should not be forgotten that it is a rock *garden* that is required, and not a display of architecture and ornamentation. It will be patent to anyone that, in these days of heavy haulage charges and increased cost of labour, it will be cheaper to procure stone as near one's home as possible than to send to a distance for it.

Those who have a taste for gardening, however, will not let the constructing of such a garden act as a stumbling block, but will be their own workmen. There is much information to be gleaned from modern publications with respect to the erecting and planting of a rock garden which will be found a great help to the handy-man. It is best, however, before one makes an attempt, to draw a plan, having regard to the space at one's disposal, as, if it is not strictly adhered to, it will be a guide, and is much better than starting in a haphazard way and, possibly, having some of the work to undo.

No more convenient time for a beginning can be selected than autumn, as by spring, when most of the planting should be done, the structure will have "settled."

Furnishing.

Here, again, one should be guided by the experience of others. The tyro will, possibly, display an anxiety to fill every niche and crevice, every overhanging ledge and scree with plants. To do so would be unwise, as subjects in a rock garden differ so widely and grow so rapidly that scarcely before a year has elapsed some of the very dwarf subjects are smothered or obscured by plants of more vigorous growth. An example in one "home-made" rock garden will explain what is meant: A patch of Thymus serpyllum coccineum (a little well known carpeter growing about 3ins. high) was planted in close proximity to a plant of Arabis albida fl. pl. It did not take long for the latter to cover the thyme completely. Instances of unwise "mating" might be multiplied. It involves less trouble and expense if each plant put in is given ample room for development, and its habit should be studied before consigning it to its quarters.

Should there be overhanging ledges in the garden, opportunity is best taken to plant things of a procumbent or trailing character, like helianthemums, aubrietias, Gypsophila repens or the evergreen candytuft, Iberis sempervirens. In niches one can make good use of dwarf campanulas. In dry sunny positions it is worth while remembering such things as Saxifraga longifolia, Erinus alpinus and Androsace sarmentosa. For moist and partly shaded places Arenaria balearica and various primulas, like Juliæ, Rosea and Wanda, are worthy of consideration.

A TOWN ROCK GARDEN, A YEAR AFTER ITS FORMATION.

It indicates what may be readily accomplished by any amateur with limited space at his disposal.

General Remarks.

In the making of a rock garden the temptation is to overdo it by attempting more than the space for such a structure warrants, and in planting too many subjects. As a general rule, the more simple the structure the more satisfaction it will give. One can add to a small rock garden as time goes on. One's ideas sometimes undergo a change, and we see where improvements might be made. In the making of paths and in leaving space between the stones for plants it is well to have some plan as to what we desire to put there, providing the particular soil for the tenant before the stones are laid, and not "sticking" in plants after stones are placed, without regard to their likes or dislikes—whether lime-lovers or peat-lovers. This article is intended mainly for the benefit of those who contemplate forming a small rock garden and doing most of the work themselves, and is prompted by the writer having made one on such lines in his garden.

By a careful selection of subjects a rock garden may be made interesting for the greater part of a year, and not in spring only, as so many seem to think. Early-flowering bulbs, such as scilla, chionodoxas, Scilla sibirica, snowdrops and crocuses, should be given the benefit of a warm, sheltered nook, to be followed by aubrietias, violas and other spring-flowering things; while in the later months of the year one will not be unmindful of the wealth of beauty in the flowers of that gem of the gentians, *viz.*, sino-ornata, reference to which was made in THE GARDEN on July 31st. I know that I am voicing the opinion of some who read these notes when I say that a rock garden, wisely planted, can, and may, be a place of delight at most seasons.

W. LINDERS LEA.

Digitized by Google

PLANTS AT THEIR BEST IN AUTUMN

This is the second of a series of contributions to THE GARDEN by the well known writer on horticulture, Mr. A. J. Macself. It is an enlargement of our notes "Worthy Plants" that have been such a popular feature.

THE BRILLIANT SCARLET BLOSSOMS OF ROSA MOYESII.

An Echinacea of Real Merit.

FOR nearly a month, and still blooming bravely, a variety of echinacea—or, as it was formerly called, Rudbeckia purpurea—has been claiming a steadily increasing share of my affections. The old type is a plant for which I could never summon any enthusiasm, for its habit of drooping its petals gives it a listless, lazy air, while its dull magenta or puce shade seems dowdy and extremely dull. The new variety with which I am enamoured is named "The King," and it is well worthy of such a name. Quite ordinary cultivation has produced blooms 5½ins. in diameter, and these flowers hold their petals well up, making a flower as flat and symmetrical as the best varieties of Chrysanthemum maximum. The petals have breadth as well as length, and the disc is a beautiful globular cushion with a spiny surface of a polished mahogany colour, eventually opening tiny florets in rings to expose golden yellow stamens. The colour of the petals is clear old rose, bright and clean in effect. Echinacea The King is a plant to buy this season to ensure a pleasing display in your autumn garden a year hence.

The Peardrop "Hips" of Rosa Moyesii.

BEAUTIFUL enough when clothed in its unique, flat and intensely coloured blossoms among their setting of prim little leaves and formidable, yet handsome, thorns, Rosa Moyesii is more picturesque still, now the long branches of an established and well developed bush are clothed with its lobster-red "hips" or seed pods, which hang like strings of handsome pear-shaped beads of Oriental splendour. There are other berry-bearing roses which have their claims to admiration, but R. Moyesii is one of the finest when the plant is given head room and nourishment to develop into a strong-limbed bush. This rose was well-nigh ruined a few years since by the importation of a lot of inferior seedlings from the Continent which not only varied in the colour intensity of their flowers, but in the size, shape and colour of the seed vessels. Fortunately, our best growers, and particularly Mr. J. C. Allgrove of Langley, saw and realised the gravity of the mischief, and, by selecting the very best form in cultivation, and propagating this by budding on canina stock, the situation has been saved. So vastly different is the true stock from the inferior foreign seedlings that whoever may happen to possess the latter should not hesitate to grub up the plants and replace with the genuine article.

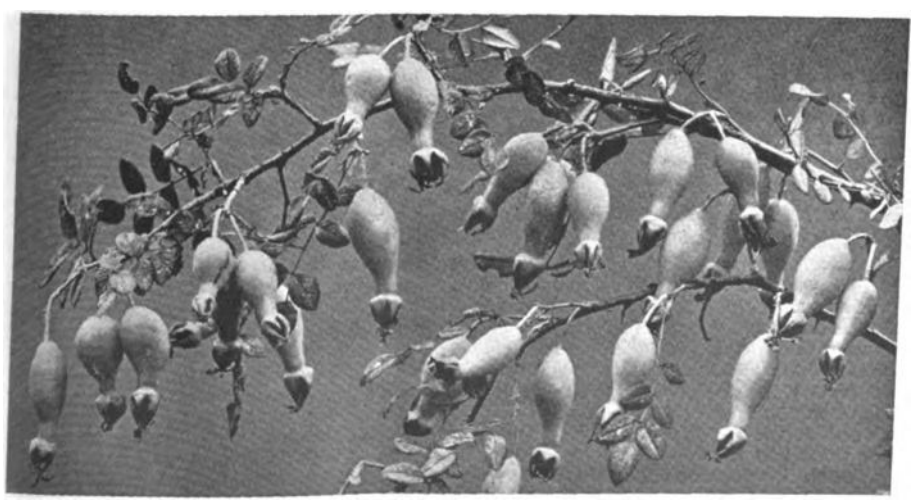
Salvia Harbinger.

OUT of the five distinct types or varieties of scarlet salvia grown this season, Harbinger has proved so decidedly superior that it is the only one I shall attempt to grow next season. I wanted to make quite sure of a bright show of scarlet in July, and so secured some plants which were raised from seed sown last September and wintered under glass. Early in the New Year they were potted into 48's, and were planted at the end of May. Not only was the bed ablaze with scarlet before mid-July, but it is still gloriously brilliant, and has not had a blank day throughout. To test the reliability of the statement that spring-sown seedlings will flower profusely the same year, I tried another batch, sown at the beginning of March, potted first into thumbs, then 60's, and planted out on June 8th. The plants "showed colour" by the first days of July, but these first central spikes were pinched out, and it is remarkable how suddenly the laterals jumped along, and before the end of July these plants, although not so large as the autumn-sown, were just as gay; and at the present time they look capable of going on till Christmas. I believe they would, in pots in a light, airy greenhouse, keep company with the cyclamen, winter-flowering begonias, and greet the first of the azaleas and forced bulbs. Salvia Harbinger is decidedly one of the very best of good plants, and it is sheer folly to cling to the old types and forms of S. fulgens.

Berberis Stenophylla Autumnalis.

LAST spring I planted quite a small plant of this delightful little barberry, and in a short space of time it gave me a brief display of its dainty sulphur and bright yellow flowers; but the spring display was small in comparison with its present show, every slender arching stem being bespangled with brighter and exceedingly lovely blossoms.

I had been informed that I might expect this autumn crop of bloom, but had not anticipated so delightful a mass of charming colour. The plant is by no means large, and where a shrub of small dimensions, neat but extremely graceful of habit and unusual liberality in production of flowers is desired—and we have not too many autumn-flowering shrubs—here is a real gem which, given a fibrous soil, will make itself comfortable and happy. This plant was, I believe, raised as a seedling in the Daisy Hill Nurseries, Newry, Ireland, by the owner, Mr. T. Smith.



R. MOYESII IS AN EXCELLENT DUAL PURPOSE ROSE.
It is as brilliant in autumn as it is in summer when draped with its long flask-shaped fruits.

A Dahlia that is Dainty and Charming.

THE subject which forms this note bears the pleasing name of "Our Annie," and it belongs to the section known as the "charm" dahlias, which are peony-flowered on a small, refined scale, and are more suitable than their heavier relatives for cut flower decorations. In the garden they contrive, by industrious production of bloom, to paint as effective a picture as the massive giants.

Personal taste must always affect choice of varieties in such flowers as dahlias; but it is noteworthy that "Our Annie," growing beside a representative collection of the best of modern varieties, never fails to draw some word of praise from visitors who count dahlias among their favourite flowers. It is shapely, grows on a sturdy, compact plant less than 3ft. high, its blossoms nicely poised on lengthy, wiry stems, and its colour is a fresh and pleasant shade of pink which may legitimately be termed shrimp pink.

Digitized by Google

THE BUSY MAN'S PAGE

Darwin and May-Flowering Tulips.

FOR general usefulness these are invaluable owing to their accommodating nature for grouping, massing and as cut-flower specimens. The flexible stems are particularly amenable to arrangement in vases.

While it is better to have lifted and dried the bulbs following the decay of the foliage, yet, if through pressure of work or other circumstance this has been omitted, it is still permissible to do the job now with every prospect of success. Later the bulbs become active and disturbance is harmful.

Replant in good garden soil and in a fresh situation, about 4ins. deep in this case, varying the depth according to the texture of the soil. It is not profitable that they occupy the same soil for more than a couple of years at most. The results of such practice is small bulbs and, moreover, decrease in length of stem and size of flower, with a tendency to encourage "fire" in flower, "sclerotia" in bulbs.

Twelve Good Darwin Tulips for Present Planting.

ANDROMAQUE.—*Brilliant garnet red flowers with a white base. A tall and vigorous grower.*

BARONNE DE LA TONNAYE.—*A deep rose variety with a pale margin. Late flowering.*

CLARA BUTT.—*One of the most popular of all the Darwins. Colour delicate rose.*

ERGUSTE.—*Deep heliotrope shaded with silver. The flowers are somewhat pointed.*

FARNCOMBE SANDERS.—*One of the best bedding Darwin tulips. An immense flower of vivid cherry red.*

ISIS.—*A blood-red variety with tall, strong stems.*

KING HAROLD.—*Large handsome flowers of glossy crimson maroon.*

MARCONI.—*Deep purple with white base. A well formed flower and the finest purple Darwin.*

PETRUS HONDIUS.—*Bright carmine rose. Quite a distinct colour.*

PRIDE OF HAARLEM.—*Large finely formed flowers of vivid rose and white at the base. A beautiful bedding variety.*

THE BISHOP.—*Rich purple blue-shot flowers. Attractive in association with soft pale pink tulips.*

YELLOW DARWIN.—*Large canary yellow blooms. Not a true Darwin, but similar in shape.*

Anchusa Italica, Dropmore Variety.

THE stock of this first-rate border plant can be easily increased at this time by means of vegetative propagation, consisting in digging up the root-stalk carefully and dividing the thong-like roots in small pieces (about 3ins.). Dibble these into boxes filled with light sandy soil, place in a cool house or frame, when plants suitable for spring planting will result.

Divide and Replant your Phloxes.

THIS is a particularly suitable period, on passing out of flower, for the planting or lifting, division and replanting of phloxes. The stems being still erect, assist greatly in determining the various heights and habits of the component varieties, thereby facilitating the placing and arrangement of these excellent border plants in groups to provide masses of colour.

Trench the ground thoroughly, choosing a new situation of a like medium, if possible, for replanting. Apply a good dressing of artificial manure, plant young, vigorous outside pieces firmly and fairly close together. Endeavour, in after cultivation, to promote the strong growth to be self-supporting, obviating, if possible, the necessity for staking.

Wintering Geraniums in Safety.

AMATEURS seem to have confused ideas about the safe wintering of geraniums. One very good plan is to lift the plants from the open before frost blackens them. Most of the soil round the roots is then shaken off, the larger leaves are cut away and the plants placed firmly in pots just large enough to hold the roots. Very, very little water suffices to keep them safe; too much water and absolute dryness are both to be avoided, more especially too much water. A second plan is to get the plants thoroughly hardened as they stand in the open; this is done by cutting away most of the leaves, all sucker shoots, and by pinching well back all the upper branches. Later, and before frost, they are lifted, potted tightly in boxes or pots of soil, as many as can be put in comfortably. Geraniums in the greenhouse must be kept dry, but not dust dry. Let the plants remain just as they are, avoid too wet a soil, give very little water and none at all unless the compost begins to dry up. Safety from frost and avoidance of excessive soil moisture are the two important points.

ANCHUSA ITALICA DROPMORE VARIETY MAKES A CHARMING BLUE BORDER WHEN GROWN IN THE MASS.
Increase your stock of it now.

Protecting Plants from Early Frosts

BRACKEN, heather or straw, if placed along the roots on the windward side, will help to prolong the life of many annuals, and autumn seedlings may be protected in the same way. Winter greens, such as broccoli and cabbage, benefit greatly if the soil is drawn up round the stalks to a height of several inches as the winter advances. If, when planting out, the ground is slightly ridged in the opposite direction to that of the prevailing winds and the greens planted in the shallow trenches, they will be considerably protected.

Marrows and outdoor tomatoes can be protected at night with old muslin, which is easily removed during the day. A very amateurish, but none the less effective, form of protection is by covering with old newspapers. The disadvantage in doing this is that they blow away easily and soon become sodden during rain.

At night sacks should be placed over the glass of frames containing seedlings, and during severe frost they should have the additional protection of dry bracken or straw. The value of bracken as a guard against frost cannot be over-estimated. Any plant or young tree that is likely to suffer owing to being in an exposed position may be protected by a barricade of bracken on the side exposed to the cold winds. Do not simply dump the bracken in a heap, or the first wind will scatter it. Build it up and keep it in position with wire hoops, sticks or string stretched over it and pegged down.

Plant Kerria Japonica for Wall Decoration.

AMONG flowering shrubs that brings welcome colour in a garden in late spring and early summer, Kerria japonica, with its bright orange globular blossoms, is a favourite with many. It has the advantage of lasting a long time in beauty, and when a bush has once become established, is seldom disturbed, going for years without needing much—or, indeed, with village people, receiving scarcely any attention, except to restrain growth occasionally. Any pruning which requires to be done should be undertaken as soon as the flowering season is over. Propagation is effected by cuttings taken of half-ripened shoots. Soil seems to be a secondary consideration in regard to this old-fashioned shrub, as it may be seen growing well in quite different localities widely apart.

Mostly one finds it in bush form, but on several occasions I have met with it trained over a cottage wall by some enterprising tenant, and when thus grown it is very charming when in bloom. It associates well with Pyrus (Cydonia) japonica and its various forms. November will soon be upon us with its busy planting-time, when kerrias may safely be removed.

Digitized by Google

THE JOY OF MAKING A NEW GARDEN

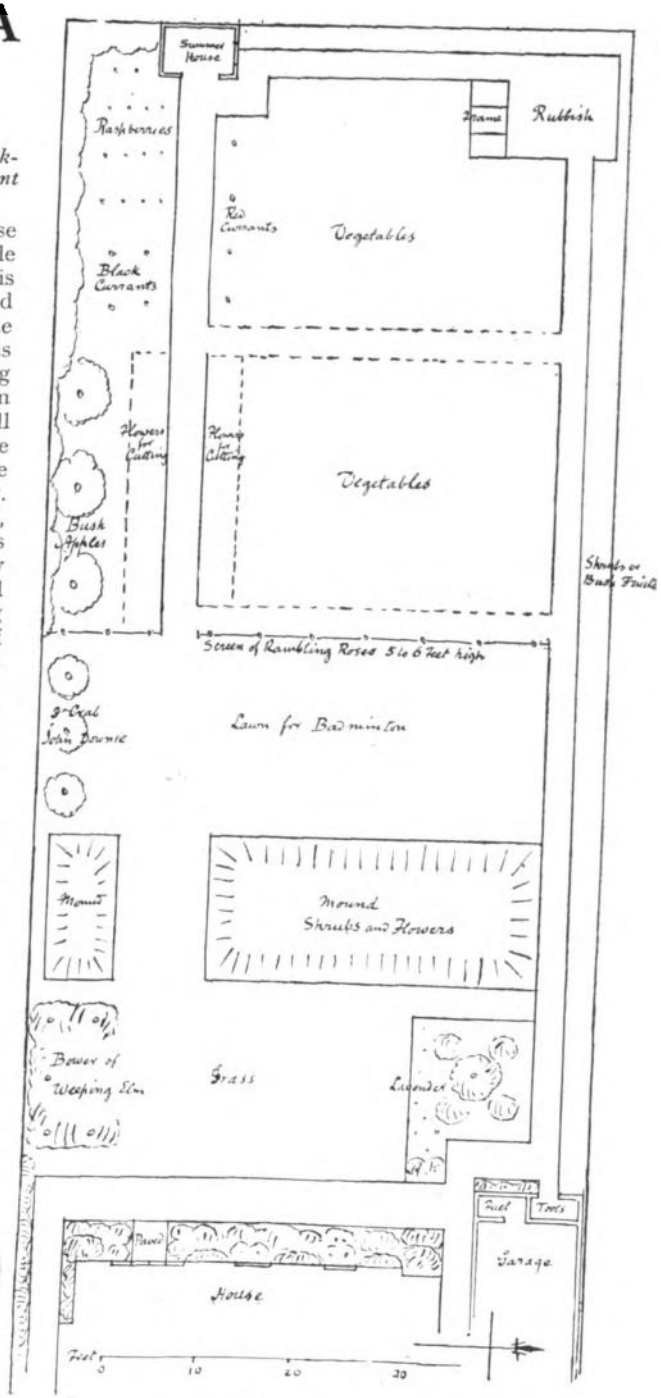
By GERTRUDE JEKYLL.

In this article suggestions are given for the planning and planting of a back-garden plot approximately 125ft. long by 50ft. wide. Plans for the front garden of this house were given in last week's issue.

WHEN planning the arrangement of a piece of ground whose length is several times greater than its width, it is advisable to treat it in separate sections across and across. This not only corrects the impression of a narrow strip, but each divided portion can be made individually interesting by being given some distinct character of its own. In the garden in question this is helped by the fact of there being a quantity of soil, that was dug out of the foundations, having been deposited a few yards from the garden front of the house. If the ground sloped down-hill away from the house, this could easily be disposed of by some levelling; but in this case the land slopes the other way, the house being near the lowest level and the vegetable ground on the higher. But this mass of soil gives the opportunity of making a mound, sloping away easily on all sides, to be planted with low shrubs and flowers. It could, alternatively, if rough stone was easily available, be made into a rock garden or be a nearly level mound retained by a few courses of dry walling for planting; but sloping it nearly equally all ways is, perhaps, the best, and lends itself to the most effective planting. The smaller mound on the left would be treated in the same way. From the front of the house to the foot of the mound should be one level, the little lawn for badminton should also be level; the mound would, therefore, be less in height on the play lawn side, and the space between the two mounds will be a slope up from one level to the other. If the rise was more considerable, it would be best to have three steps up, at any point that was found most convenient.

It is always best that the planting close against a house should have the effect of being fairly permanent and should be mostly evergreen. There should be a laurustinus at each end, and smaller shrubs, such as rosemary, lavender and the beautiful Olearia Gunni, with pink china roses to look in at the windows. As there are no shutters on this side, there will be room for three good wall plants, Escallonia macrantha, Ceanothus dentatus and a white jasmine. The shrub clump at the northern end of the small home lawn would come well, and would help the feeling of privacy near the house. It should have some choice shrub of fair size in the middle, preferably a Magnolia stellata, with four smaller shrubs—cassinia would be suitable—and a good planting of lavender on the sunny side, with two rosemary next to the path matching two of the same at the angle on the house side. A vine should be planted near the angle of the fuel place at the end of the garage, and could be trained round along the south side of the garage

THE BACK GARDEN AS IT NOW STANDS, SHOWING THE MOUND IN THE FOREGROUND WHICH CAN BE EFFECTIVELY PLANTED WITH SHRUBS AND FLOWERS.



THE PROPOSED DESIGN FOR THE PLOT.

wall, and would show handsomely at the end of the path in front of the house. As the site is open on all sides, some shade on the little home lawn is badly wanted. There can be nothing better than a bower of weeping elm. It is true that it needs some care at first, for there must be some kind of simple framework for training the branches. Those outside will hang down to form the walls, but the inner branches must be guided horizontally to make the roof. The five elms are standards with stems 7ft. 6ins. high. But if it is properly done there will be some shade the first year after planting, then every season it becomes better both for use and appearance, and soon becomes a delightful and roomy green parlour.

The small play lawn will have three Crab John Downie at the southern end

Digitized by Google

John Downie is the prettiest of the fruiting crabs, beautiful both in bloom and when loaded with its little apples. The fruits are eagerly welcomed by the careful housewife, for they make a jelly which is not only the best of its kind, but is of a lovely colour and will certainly be much admired when friends come to tea in the elm bower.

The pleasure part of the garden will be shut off from the vegetable quarters by a screen of rambling roses, with perhaps a rose arch over the two paths. The path down the kitchen garden forms one line, with the centre between the two mounds. This general axial line is demanded by the double glazed doors of the sitting-room leading out to the garden. For the depth of the first vegetable quarter a border on each side would give flowers for house decoration. The dotted lines across the vegetables are not meant for made paths, but only for easy access to the crops. If there can be a well built summer-house at the west end, it is a thing that is most desirable; in fact, if the depth of the summer-house, as shown, could be continued southward, filling up all that corner with an open shed, it would be found to be of the greatest use for housing the wheelbarrow, sticks and stakes and the many things that are wanted about a garden, and for which there would not be space in the small place for tools at the end of the garage.

THE GREAT AUTUMN SHOW

THE Holland Park Show, which opened on Tuesday, September 21st, and which remained open for two following days, was undoubtedly one of the finest autumn shows staged under the auspices of the Royal Horticultural Society. For the time of year, the wealth of colour and flower was magnificent. The exhibits of roses were almost as good, if not better than when at their height in midsummer; while the general herbaceous groups of summer-flowering perennials were a blaze of colour. In addition, real autumn flowers in dahlias, chrysanthemums and Michaelmas daisies were added to the display, and shrubs, instead of being in the forefront, lagged behind. Autumn colour in foliage and berry is lacking so early in a season such as we have experienced, but the vivid greens rather enhanced the colour of the other groups, and in that way the delicate tints of autumn, although missed, were not exactly necessary. The exhibitors who staged groups at the show and the Secretary of the Royal Horticultural Society deserve every credit for the high standard of the show, which will do much to popularise this important event in the gardener's calendar.

MESSRS. SUTTON'S CENTRAL EXHIBIT OF BRILLIANTLY COLOURED ZINNIAS.

BORDER FLOWERS.

One of the outstanding features of the show was the excellent exhibits of border plants. Over forty different firms staged groups of this class, and some of the finest of autumn-blooming perennials were exhibited. It is at this time, when the work of replanting and renovating the herbaceous border is at hand, that it is especially interesting and useful to take notes of good border plants which are seen at shows or in gardens. Every gardener should keep up to date with the work which is being carried on by plant hybridists, for many of their new introductions, such as new Michaelmas daisies, phloxes and kniphofias, are exceedingly valuable border plants and great improvements on the old varieties.

Gold-flowered perennials which bloom during August and September are numerous, and each firm exhibited some of them. Messrs. Waterers had excellent specimens of Helianthus sparsifolius, a sunflower with rich yellow blooms, and mass of Solidago Golden Wings, the finest of the golden rods. Mr. E. Ballard exhibited Solidago Ballardii, a recent introduction which should prove of great value. Messrs. J. Cheal showed, among a general collection of herbaceous flowers, Rudbeckia Newmanii, a golden yellow cone flower with an almost black centre. Helianthus The Marshal and H. Lodden Gold, both shown by the Chalk Hill Nurseries, are effective autumn border plants. Many interesting perennials were staged by Mr. Amos Perry, and in his collection was the yellow-flowered Achillea eupatorium Parker's var. Among the summer-blooming gold-flowered perennials Mr. B. Ladham showed Coreopsis auriculata superba, and C. Bedding Queen. Both of these perennials are exceedingly floriferous and valuable for the border or for cutting. Hemerocallis aurantiaca major, a beautiful day lily with apricot-coloured blooms, was shown by Mr. Maurice Prichard.

Kniphofias and montbretias made brilliant splashes of colour in the hall. Messrs. W. Artindale had a striking group of the Red Hot Poker Mount Etna, a tall-growing variety of glowing orange scarlet. An excellent lobelia named Huntsman, with crimson flowers and very dark red foliage, was noted on this same stand. All the perennials shown by this firm were in good form. Two exceedingly fine large-flowered montbretias, Star of the East and His Majesty, were seen among Messrs. Daniel Brothers' collection of herbaceous plants.

Delphiniums and lupins were shown by several firms, and those exhibited by Messrs. Hewitts were of remarkable size and quality for a second crop. The best varieties—Joybells, Wembley and Violet Queen—seen on this stand were of the famous Wrexham strain. A varied and interesting collection of herbaceous plants was staged by Mr. T. Carlile. Lupin Sunshine, several delphiniums, heleniums, phloxes and asters were included.

Lobelias of a hardy hybrid strain in a great variety of colours were shown by Mr. B. Ladham. Mrs. Humbert, Purple King and Lady Gregory were all good. Border plants were exhibited by Mr. J. C. Case, and several fine snapdragons, such as The Fawn, Beacon, Empress and Carmine Queen, by the well known antirrhinum firm of Messrs. W. H. Simpson. Messrs. Forbes made an imposing group with pentstemons, dahlias and phloxes. Castle Forbes, a bright cherry red pentstemon with a white throat, was shown by them. Pentstemons were also shown by Messrs. Cutbush. Perennial scabious in many varieties was exhibited by Mr. Isaac House, and violas by Mr. W. Yandell. Herbaceous plants in general were also shown by Mr. G. Gibson and Mr. G. Jackman.

Lilies were seen on a number of the stands. The most interesting collection was that of Mr. Amos Perry, who showed lilies, watsonias, etc., raised from Empire-grown bulbs. The beautiful Lilium longiflorum giganteum, L. Regale, L. wallichianum superbum and Watsonia rosea were much admired.

Zinnias arranged by Messrs. Sutton and Sons formed an imposing group in the centre of the hall. Varieties of every colour were set out in a large circular bed. There were giant double varieties in shades of crimson, orange, rose and sulphur yellow; miniature pompon varieties in mixed colours, as well as double dwarf and double cactus flowered zinnias.

Phloxes of the herbaceous type formed one of the most important classes of border plants exhibited. The two largest collections were those shown by Messrs. E. F. Fairbairn and Son and Messrs. Blackmore and Langdon. Messrs. Fairbairn arranged large pillars of vivid-coloured phloxes in shades of purple, carmine pink and scarlet. Lord French, Vivid (a salmon scarlet), Sir Douglas Haig and Border Gem (a striking new deep blue variety), were perhaps the best. Mia Ruys (the finest all-round white phlox), Baron Van Heeckeren (salmon pink) and Nana cœrulea (a dwarf variety with a large mauve truss) were shown among Messrs. Blackmore and Langdon's collection. Messrs. Bakers had a charming soft pink variety named Apple Blossom, and Messrs. Forbes exhibited Rijnstroom, Albert Vandal and W. J. Marlow, all fine varieties.

MICHAELMAS DAISIES.

On nearly every stand of hardy border plants Michaelmas daisies predominated. Asters of every type were on show, but chiefly varieties of the amellus and Novi-belgi sections. King George and Ultramarine, both with the typical large blooms and dwarf habit of growth of the amellus section, were to be seen everywhere. Mr. W. Sydenham had a particularly good group

Digitized by Google

of this variety. All his asters were in good form. Fleuve Bleu and Mrs. A. H. Wiggin were two other amellus asters shown by him. Among the tall-growing varieties Mr. Sydenham had Maid of Athens and Grey Lady, while Rose McDonald, with heath-like foliage and tiny shell-pink flowers, was a most attractive variety of a different section. A fine collection was shown by Mr. E. Ballard, the aster specialist. Ruby Tips, one of the latest varieties raised by him, was exhibited. Its blooms are of an uncommon rose shade, and the buds as they open are a brilliant ruby red. Royal Blue (a rich purplish blue), Grey Lady (with its masses of opal grey flowers) and Countess (a rose-coloured aster) were a few of Mr. Ballard's best.

Little Pink Lady and Little Boy Blue are a charming pair of low-growing Novi-Belgii asters. The soft toned blooms of the former were seen on Messrs. Waterer's stand, and the latter variety with its semi-double deep blue flowers was exhibited by numerous firms, including the Chalk Hill Nurseries. Two of the best of the Novæ-Angliæ section (which includes strong-growing varieties with brightly coloured blooms produced in terminal clusters) are Barr's Pink and Lil Fardell. Barr's Pink is undoubtedly a very fine aster. It bears large bright rose pink flowers which have a showy gold and bronze centre. A conspicuous group of it was staged by the raisers, Messrs. Barr and Sons. Lil Fardell, with its rich clear pink flowers, was exhibited, among other asters, by Mr. H. J. Jones. Lavender (an early semi-double variety) and Charm (a soft pink aster) were also shown by Mr. Jones.

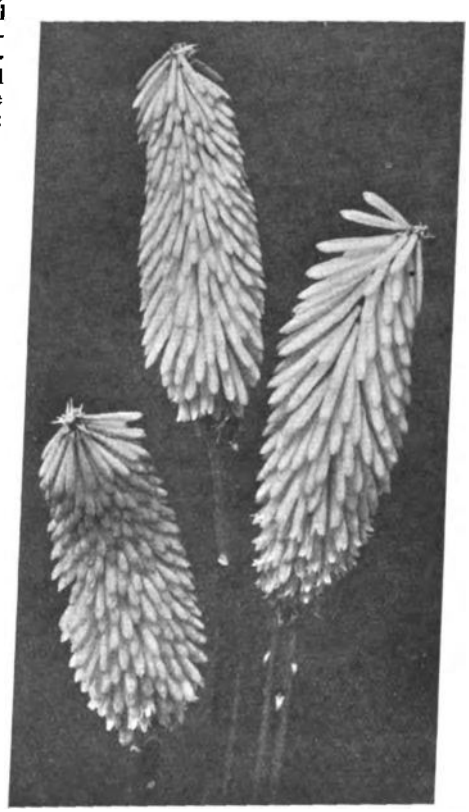
Messrs. Bunyard concentrated chiefly on asters of the amellus section. Beauty of Ronsdorf, lilac pink; Beauté Parfaite, the best of the dark violet shades; and General Pershing, with large pale pink flowers, softening to white in the centre, were outstanding. Mr. T. Bone staged a number of good seedling asters as well as a representative collection of modern varieties. Snowdrift, the finest semi-double white, was shown by him, and also Elsa, a good rosy lavender double variety.

ASTER RUBY TIPS, A NOVELTY IN MICHAELMAS DAISIES.

Messrs. Cutbush had an interesting group of perennials, and among them were the Michaelmas daisy Robinson V.C., of fine bushy habit, carrying long sprays of double mauvish blue flowers, and the distinct Aster Linosyris, whose dense terminal clusters of small rounded heads of golden yellow flowers have given it the name of Goldilocks. King of the Belgians (one of the tallest of asters), Cloudy Blue and Beauty of Colwall were three lavender blue asters shown by the Matham Gardens. Messrs. Baker, Messrs. Bowell and Skarratt, Mr. G. Reuthe, Mr. G. Jackman were some of the other exhibitors of asters.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

Considering the garden value of the early-flowering border chrysanthemums, it was a little surprising and, to some, disappointing, to find so few exhibits of them at the Autumn Show. Messrs. Puttridge Limited had



THE ORANGE RED SPIRES OF KNIPHOFIA MOUNT ETNA.

quite an imposing array of most of the best varieties, which they had massed in large stands. Their chief varieties were Mrs. Jack Pearson, bright orange varying to orange chestnut; Phœnix, a richly coloured flower of very similar habit and form; Hollicot Yellow, which is considered by many market growers to be the best early yellow, as it may be grown either as natural sprays or disbudded; Almirante is a bright red chestnut coloured flower; while Pink Delight and Cranford Cream need no colour description.

Undisbudded sprays were mostly shown by Messrs. Keith Luxford and Co., whose exhibit also showed the decorative value of the border chrysanthemum. They had large vases of T. Bannister, Miss Mattie and Cranford, three good yellows; Franfield Early, white; Lichfield Peach, Red Almirante, which is of more glowing colour than the type, and Provence, a pretty pink.

PHLOX BORDER GEM, OF A RICH DEEP BLUE COLOUR.

Good sprays of flower were shown by Mr. W. Yandell, who had Salmon Profusion, Phœnix, Dick Barnes (which has erect florets of wine red colour), Harvester and Mrs. Jack Pearson. Chrysanthemums were associated with other flowers by various exhibitors, notably Messrs. George Bunyard and Co., Messrs. Daniels Bros., and Messrs. H. Woolman and Son.

DAHLIAS.

Although there were many fewer new seedling dahlias than usual submitted to the Committee, the collections were magnificent and particularly numerous. Of the novelties which were selected for trial at Wisley, Irma found most admirers. It is of the useful miniature peony type and of rich vivid rose colour, with a small crimson zone. Maggie and Tibothe, which also were shown by Messrs. Burrell and Co., are of the same type and of orange buff colouring. The former is edged with rose pink and the latter is flushed with bright carmine.

In a magnificent group Messrs. Dobbie and Co. had brilliant stands of President Wilson, Dazzle, Amos Perry, Cactus and Crimson Flag, a neat double which should be valuable for bedding out. Their miniature peony and cactus varieties were also excellent. Mr. H. J. Jones again used his charming gilt baskets for colour schemes. The association of the maroon King Harold with the mauve Emma Groot, was very effective, and also was the scarlet and orange of Christine Prior and My Treasure. For bold effect no dahlias could be better than the glowing salmon of Jersey Beauty, while George Duncan of deeper colour is admirable. With nearly all his dahlias Mr. Jones used sprays of Michaelmas daisies of the Aster ericoides type, an association which also suggested itself to Messrs. James Stredwick and Son, who had delightfully arranged vases of their newer sorts.

Many were charmed with the hanging baskets and stands so well arranged by Messrs. Dickson and Robinson, who had many large decorative and small peony varieties. Show cactus varieties, such as Rachel Troughton, Pixie, Edgar E. Jackson, and Joyce Goddard were shown by Mr. J. T. West. Messrs. Jarman and Co. and Messrs. Carter Page and Co., while Messrs. W. Tresider, Limited, Mr. C. Turner and Mr. J. B. Riding had handsome blooms of Mrs. Warnaar, Emma

Digitized by Google

Groot, Mabel Lawrence and Couronne d'Or of the large decoratives. Messrs. J. Cheal and Sons, Messrs. H. Woolman and Son, and the Central Gardens Supplies had many good varieties.

SHRUBS.

Messrs. Hillier's exhibit housed a number of very interesting shrubs and trees, one or two of them on show for the first time, and it caused a considerable amount of interest among shrub enthusiasts. Two rare maples were on view; one, Acer Hersii, an arrival from China, with shapely and pointed foliage, and lithesome, red-coloured shoots; and the other, A. lævigatum, with Turkey oak-like leaves about 8ins. long, 1¾ins. broad and a serrate margin. A touch of colour was provided by a fine standard of Pyrus Vilmorinii, covered in berries, and the tinted foliage of Vitis Thomsoni and Himalayana and Acer circinatum. The whitewashed stems of Rubus Veitchii stood out well against the more sombre colouring of many conifers, including the fox tail-like Larix Potanini, Cunninghamia sinensis and Picea polita. A new buddleia of B. Farreri Kingdon Ward's, 6372, with very woolly leaves and small racemes of small violet flowers, looked to be a welcome addition to the genus, but judging from its nature, it may prove a difficult "doer" in gardens other than in the south.

Many other interesting plants were included among them the black-fruited Cornus Controversa Cotoneaster Dielsiana applanata and the handsome Pyrus aria majestica.

An admirable collection of hollies, both variegated forms and species, backed by a number of conifers and berried shrubs, was shown by Messrs. John Waterer, Sons and Crisp. Neat little bushes of the pink-fruited Pernettya murcronata were most attractive, while the coral-pink rounded drops of Euonymus Yedoensis caused much comment. It is a most handsome shrub in autumn and deserves to be much more widely grown. A few well flowered hibiscus were also shown. Unfortunately, however, these are only suited to southern gardens. They refuse to face the more rigorous climate of the north. The sea buckthorn was there and a number of berberis and cotoneasters, all well berried, but with, as yet, little colour.

Messrs. Cuthbert grouped a number of ornamental forms of cupressus and retinospora with lilies, the association is a most charming one as well as illustrating how lilies are best grown. One of the best was the elegant Cupressus Allumii. Another firm who also had a mixed exhibit of shrubs and herbaceous flowers was Messrs. Wallace. Here a fine collection of well tinted Japanese maples was staged in addition to the thorny Ilex Veitchii, carrying a crop of berries.

As is their custom, Messrs. Cheals again staged both an attractive and interesting exhibit. Cotoneasters acutifolia and moupinensis were both on view, the latter with viburnum-like leaves and carrying a heavy crop of rich red berries. The decorative Crataegus Warleyensis, with its long oval leaves and its loose clusters of small reddish fruits was there, along with the red-coated Berberis Thunbergii and the curiously tinted Prunus Hersii.

Mr. G. Reuthe showed a number of interesting things in which we noted Eucryphia Moorei and K. Billardier.

Almost opposite was Mr. R. C. Notcutt's group, worthy of every gardener's attention. Every year Mr. Notcutt stages a variety of subjects and this year his exhibit was even more representative. Quite a number of autumn flowering subjects were shown, including Perovskia atriplicifolia, Hibiscus in variety, Clerodendrons Fargesii and trichotomum, Thalictrum dipterocarpum and Weigelia Abel Carriere. Berried shrubs were plentiful and included Hypericum hircinum grandiflorum, a most decorative shrub, and its relative, H. androsanum, with black fruits. Cotoneaster Zaballi Henryana, frigida and Berberis Corii. It was a group indicative of what our modern shrubs are capable of providing in the way of decoration in the garden.

The other exhibitors were Messrs. Robt. Green and Co., who staged standard bay trees; Messrs. Orpington Nurseries; Hollamby's Nurseries, with a number of maples and cotoneasters; Messrs. Charlton and Sons; Messrs. Fletcher Bros.; Mr. Geo. G. Whitelegg, with rock garden conifers; and Messrs. Harrods and Mr. Klinkert, with exhibits of topiary work.

ROSES.

The popularity of half a dozen or so of the newer hybrid tea varieties with the growers was fully evident, for nearly every exhibit contained beautiful blooms of the brilliant Lady Inchiquin, Shot Silk of shining elusive colouring, the dark fragrant blooms of Etoile de Hollande, the deep pink Mrs. Henry Morse, Golden Emblem of rich colour, and either Ophelia or Mme. Butterfly of chaste colouring. These may well be termed the roses of the Show, for they appeared everywhere.

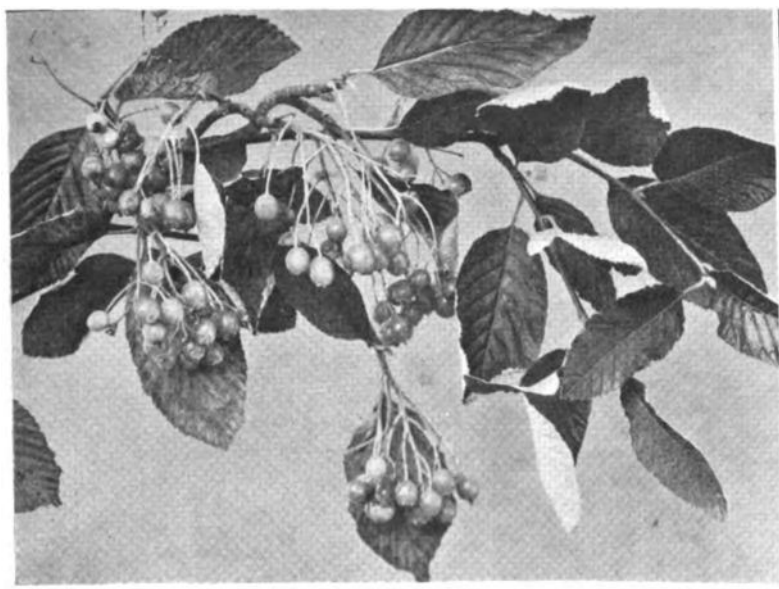
At this season new roses were, naturally, not expected in any quantity, but Messrs. Alex Dickson and Sons had a splendid basket of Dame Edith Helen, which, besides being the most fragrant new rose, has every other merit of the desirable rose. Few varieties, if any, dazzled the visitor more than Angele Pernet, especially as seen in Mr. George Prince's pillar, where its orange glow, occasionally flushed with peach pink, was irresistible. In addition to the charm of colour, it is sweetly scented and said to be very free-flowering. Messrs. Wood and Ingram had a large arch of this variety.

White Ensign, Margaret McGredy, of rich scarlet crimson colour, and the Golden Florence Izzard in the gold medal group of Messrs. S. McGredy and Son, were excellent. Besides Angele Pernet, Mr. Prince showed Padre, which even when full blown is of gorgeous colour. Windsor, a fully double crimson rose, shown by Messrs. Chaplin, Bros., appears to be a good bedding variety. Their blooms of the large single Mermaid, which has such lovely golden stamens, and the equally large Innocence, were very fascinating.

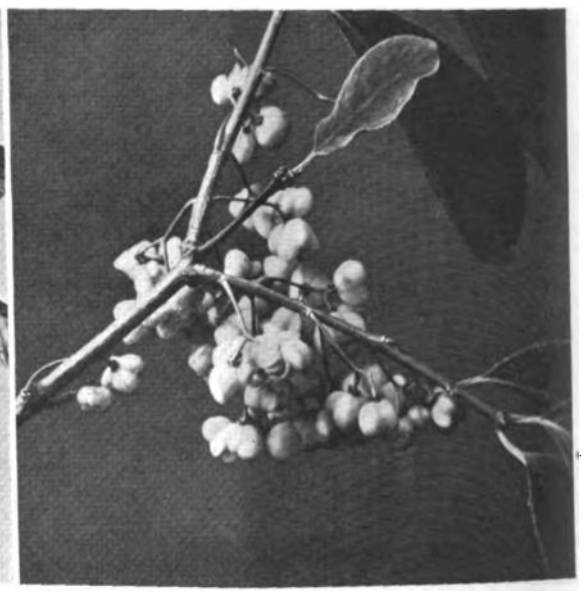
Clovelly is an excellent large, pink hybrid tea, and Mr. Elisha Hicks had two beautiful baskets of it with Joanna Bridge and the fragrant General McArthur near by. G. H. Mackereth, which Mr. John Mattock has shown several times this year, was again of great merit. As befits a rich crimson rose, it is deliciously fragrant. Chief of the fragrant roses shown by Mr. Walter Easlea were Etoile de Hollande and Hadley.

Cecil, a rich yellow single rose of large size, was excellent in the group of Messrs. B. R. Cant and Sons, who also showed the fragrant blush coloured Mrs. Beatty. Messrs. Wheatcroft Bros. had a gorgeous basket of Los Angeles and unusually good blooms of Mrs. Charles Lamplough.

There were many varieties of the free-flowering dwarf polyantha and of the pillar roses. Messrs. A. Warner and Son set up well filled vases of Mrs. W. H. Cutbush of beautiful pink colour, the rich reds of Jessie and Koster Orleans and the pink Ellen Poulsen. Kirsten Poulsen, of rich scarlet colour, with deep rose pink Alice Amos, shown by Messrs. D. Prior and Son, are good examples of the larger-flowered polyanthas.



PYRUS ARIA MAJESTICA, WITH HANDSOME FOLIAGE AND BRILLIANT RED FRUITS, SHOWN BY MESSRS. HILLIER.



THE CORAL-PINK ROUNDED DROPS OF EUONYMUS YEDOENSIS, SHOWN BY MESSRS. WATERER.

Digitized by Google

while Variety and Pax, as shown by Mr. J. H. Pemberton, are more vigorous varieties which produce large quantities of bloom.

GLADIOLI.

Along the front of their handsome groups of gladioli, Messrs. Austin and McAslan had dainty bowls of Lady Bethune' a lovely pink variety; Orange Brilliant, Loriot, Atalanta and L'Exuette. Among their large-flowered sorts Red Emperor, Red Canna and Princeps were of rich glowing colour. Golden Measure, the smaller richly coloured King Christian, Orange Nassau and the purple Baron Hulot were very handsome.

Primulinus varieties, including Asia, Alice Tiplady and Rosanra were included by Messrs. R. H. Bath, Limited, in their extensive group of gladioli. Their large-flowered varieties included Red Canna, Miss Spokane, Lucette and Red Emperor.

A valuable selection of both types was attractively arranged by Mr. Alfred Edwards, and Messrs. Lowe and Gibson, set out a number of their well coloured seedlings, with a background of delphinium spikes.

STOVE AND GREENHOUSE PLANTS.

Even those whose garden interest is centred in hardy flowers could scarcely fail to have been impressed by the handsome crotons shown by Mr. A. P. Brandt of Bletchingley Castle, Surrey. Every one of the many plants was a model of first-class cultivation, and the shining leaves of golden and green, of crimson, golden and green colour, and of many forms, made the exhibit of great decorative value.

The large leaves of the caladiums, in a well arranged group of stove plants by Messrs. John Peed and Son, gave colour and tropical luxuriance of quite a different type. Many of these immense leaves were of such delicate and transparent loveliness that it seemed almost impossible that they could withstand even the most gentle breeze, while often these fascinating leaves had so little green in them that one marvelled how, in Nature's scheme of plant life, they grew and were so healthy. Besides these caladiums, Messrs. Peed showed well coloured crotons and a fine strain of the greenhouse streptocarpus.

The fragrant Bouvardia Humboldtii corymbiflora, with the smaller flowered sorts, which a few years ago were in great demand as buttonhole flowers for gentlemen's evening wear, were associated with the greenhouse Erica gracilis, E. nivalis and the pretty rose coloured Chironia exifera by Messrs. Stuart Low and Co., who, at the back of the group, had gorgeously coloured cannas.

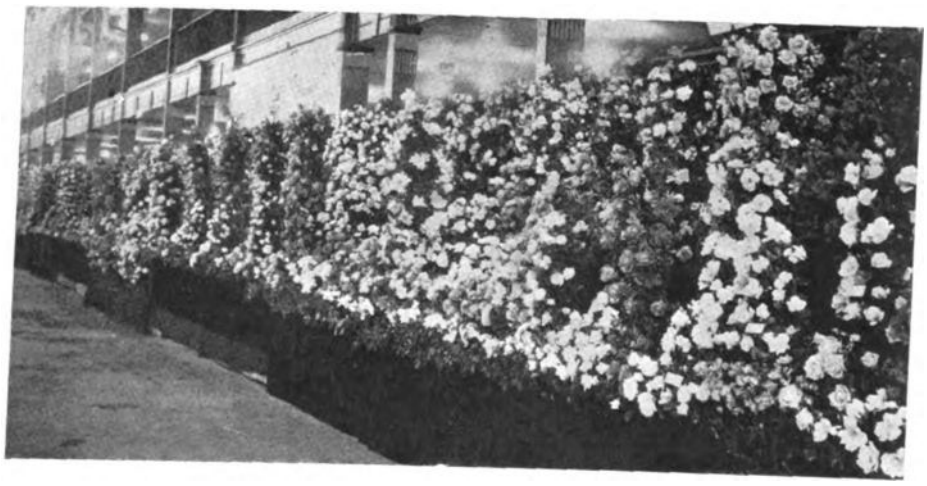
The stately New Zealand tree ferns which Messrs. T. R. Russell, Limited, grouped so well on mounds made a splendid centre for the floral groups in the hall. Beneath the Dicksonias and cyatheas they cunningly placed Sansievieras marantas, Billbergias and foliage begonias, which gave a fascinating exotic effect.

Messrs. Blackmore and Langdon are famed for the excellence of their double flowered begonias, and on the present occasion they seemed to have excelled even their own high standard of excellence.

There was only one group of cacti and allied plants, but Mr. Sydney Smith showed this bristling and peculiar race of hot, dry-country plants in great variety and to perfection.

In Messrs. Carter's handsome circular group there were many splendidly grown plants of the gorgeous Clerodendron fallax with many useful liliums and dwarf everflowering begonias.

A description of the Orchids and New and Rare Plants will be found on page viii of this issue.



LOOKING DOWN THE ROSE AVENUE.
One of the best rose displays ever seen at Holland Park.

MESSRS. AUSTIN AND MCASLAN'S EXHIBIT OF GLADIOLI.
The elegant spikes of these handsome primulinus hybrids were in splendid condition for so late in the season.

THE GOLD MEDAL GROUP OF COLLARETTE DAHLIAS STAGED BY MESSRS. DOBBIES.
The brilliant display of dahlias illustrated how useful these flowers are for colour effect in the autumn garden.

Digitized by Google

THE FRUIT AND KITCHEN GARDEN

Lifting and Storing Maincrop Potatoes.

GARDENERS and farmers, as well as seamen, take due note of the prevailing weather conditions—current signs throughout the year. When the weather is fine harvest work is rendered more pleasant, and the crops, gathered in such circumstances, are all the more likely to remain in a sound condition for a longer period. The maincrop potatoes are, generally, dug, sorted and stored during the month of October. Very often we experience really good weather in this month, and, while such ideal spells continue, we should lift the tubers, dry and store them. When the garden fork is used, some of the tubers get stabbed unless great care is taken. Instead of driving in the fork between the haulm and roots, insert it at the side of the ridge, driving it in well under the roots, then throwing out the latter so as to free them from soil. The tubers should be graded when they are picked up, to obviate the necessity of too many handlings. The large, medium-sized and small tubers should be placed in separate flat-shaped heaps, preferably in an open, cool shed facing the north. In such positions the tubers should remain for about one week, being turned over once so that any tubers that may be decaying can be picked out before they contaminate sound ones, as they would if placed with the latter in the store heap. The ground is afterwards forked over to expose tubers left buried. Some are sure to be damaged, and all such ought to be stored by themselves for immediate use.

When storing the tubers in sheds, be sure that, in the case of wooden floors raised from the ground, there is an ample thickness of straw under them as well as against the walls, especially outer walls, as frosts penetrate quickly and, unlike top coverings, side ones cannot be easily applied to the heaps.

Outside potato clamps should always be arranged on high, dry ground, the actual bed of the heap being higher than the ground surrounding it. The ideal way to cover the heaps is first to place straw next to the tubers, then ordinary soil and litter, and dry fern or similar short material as an outer or final covering, with wisps of straw at about 4ft. apart fixed near the top of the ridge for ventilation. The ridge should be at an angle of 45°, then rain-water will readily run off.

When Picking Fruit.

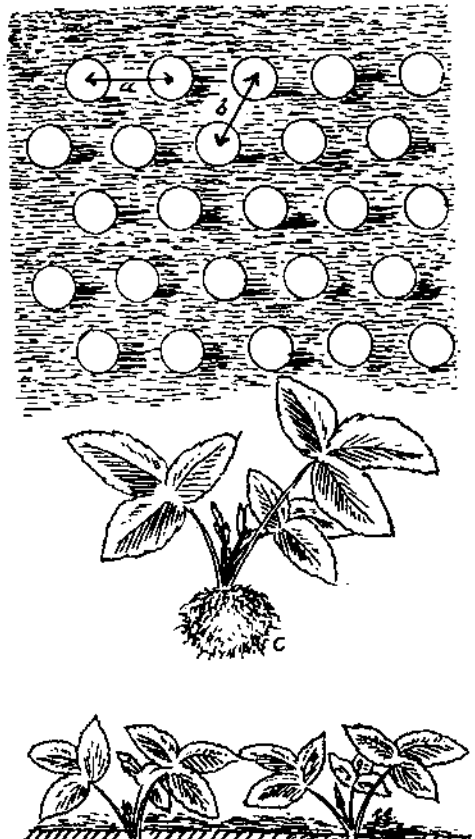
WHEN gathering apples and pears it often happens that some of the fruits tumble to the ground. This causes bad bruises likely to impair the keeping qualities of the fruit. With small trees, or those of moderate size, the following is a good plan: Get a large dust sheet, or any similar piece of material, and arrange this under the branches of the tree. The sheet should be kept some inches clear of the ground by tying it at the corners to wooden stakes. Then, any fruit that tumbles will fall into the sheet instead of dropping on the hard ground.

Earthing-up Winter Greens.

THE drawing up of soil to rows of winter greens has a very beneficial effect, especially if the work is done in good time before the leaves have become very large and entirely closed up to the space between the rows. The first to be dealt with should be the Brussels sprouts, those raised from seeds sown last autumn. In their case the roots will have taken possession of most of the soil, so that only the portion from the centre of each space between the rows of plants should be utilised for placing over the roots and against the lower part of each stem. In the case of July-planted greens more soil should be heaped against the stems, especially against the stems of broccoli, as it is the portion of stem immediately under the lower leaves that is the tenderest part, and suffers most when severe frosts come. If the ground is dry apply water, and then draw up the soil high enough to touch the lower leaf-stalks. Use the Dutch hoe where there is ample room to do so without breaking off the leaves. Where the leaves almost meet across the space use the spade on light and the garden fork on heavy ground.

Planting Late Strawberries.

IT is not always possible to procure runners early enough to permit of the final planting out in July or during the early part of August. The bulk of the runners are available for planting in September.



Of course, early planting means established plants before the cold days of winter come. Late planting means that extra care must be taken when the work is done so that the check to growth will not be serious.

Some cultivators do not attach much importance to the matter of soil enrichment, relying mainly on mulching to supply nutriment to the plants. But I believe it is very beneficial to the plants if they are at first grown in a really good soil, then the mulching will be a supplementary assistance, and can be applied in weak or strong doses, according to the condition of the plants at the time. All soils should be trenched 2ft. deep for strawberry growing. The plants certainly do well on a medium heavy loam well worked. They also succeed splendidly in a sandy soil. The latter is mainly composed of tiny stones and the soil about 2ins. below the sufrace is always moist in very hot weather. Planting in a sandy soil rarely checks growth, however late the work may be carried out.

The approximate distance from plant to plant in the rows should be 18ins. and the same distance from row to row as shown at *a* and *b* respectively. A properly rooted young plant is shown at *c*, the wrong way to plant at *d* and the right way at *e*. A trowel is the best tool to use.

Thinning-out Raspberry Canes.

RASPBERRY plants that do well, that is, grow freely in a good soil, are often neglected as regards the due thinning out of surplus canes. The best time to do this work is immediately after the fruit is gathered; the worst time after the winter has passed. The canes retained should be exposed to as much air and sunshine as possible so that they will become hard and well ripened before the dull days of winter come. Also, throughout the wintertime air does much good to well thinned canes. Now, the cultivator should understand all about the quality, good or bad, of the canes. Those who have not had much experience will not thoroughly understand, and the hints here given will be helpful. A cane that is very thick and very tall is not an ideal one. One that is weakly, dwarf, with a thin and pointed top, is also a poor specimen. The one of medium height, or just above medium height, of good average thickness and with leaf-joints rather close together is the kind to retain. First cut out to the soil level the weakly shoots, then deal with the very strong-looking ones—they are, usually, sappy or very pithy—and finally deal with the medium-strength specimens. Rows: If the plants are grown in rows and are tied to wires, a fair average distance apart from cane to cane at the final thinning will be 7ins. or 8ins. Clumps: If the plants are grown in clumps, four or five canes will be sufficient to retain in each clump. The retained canes in both cases will be benefited if they are left untied until the end of November.

The New Asparagus Bed and How to Make It.

EVERY amateur who possesses a vegetable garden likes to have it well filled with healthy produce, and the asparagus bed is generally the one that claims most attention when it comes to the making of it. If the position is one on a gentle slope, beds should be formed at right angles to the fall of the ground so that all the rain-water possible will be retained for the benefit of the roots. And when manure water is applied, it, too, will not run away and be wasted. The planting and the sowing, whichever is preferred, should be done in the spring, but the bed ought to be got ready during the autumn months so that the soil will be in prime condition just when it is required for use.

Some cultivators put in a lot of manure and bury it deeply; this is the wrong way. The soil should be trenched quite 2ft. 6ins. deep, and the manure used, well mixed with the soil, about 9ins. below the surface, then the plants will in due course derive benefit from it. Deep trenching is very essential to success. The bottom portion should be well broken up, but left below; the top portion should be left in a rough state. It does not matter how lumpy the soil may be, as the full exposure to the weather during the winter will be beneficial. Air, frosts and rains will pulverise and sweeten the soil a great deal. A bed should be large enough to accommodate three rows of plants 20ins. apart, leaving a space of 12ins. on each outer side.

GEO. GARNER.

Digitized by Google

A COLD HOUSE IN EARLY AUTUMN

The keen amateur will find a small unheated greenhouse an immense asset to the successful stocking of his garden, as well as providing a brilliant display of easily grown pot plants during the spring months.

IT should be borne in mind that an unheated greenhouse depends entirely on sun heat; consequently, there will be periods when it will not be possible to keep out frosts. This fact puts out of court a large number of plants that may be grown in greenhouses from which frosts are just excluded. Still, we have plenty of material available for our purpose, the majority of the plants being hardy, or nearly so. At present, the house may be filled with tomatoes, and, having picked the fruit, both green and ripe, the old plants should be cleared out and burnt, if only to put an end to thousands of eggs of the white fly.

Numerous annuals, like balsams and Lobelia tenuior, will be over, and the indispensable tuberous-rooted begonia will now require drying off till the spring. When the tubers are quite at rest, they should be shaken from the soil and stored in a dry place which is safe from frosts. All climbers should be cleansed, pruned where they are crowded, and then tied up so that they do not exclude light. A large number of climbers ought not to be encouraged, but one or two may be allowed, with pleasing results; while a back wall is greatly improved and made profitable when covered with a rose or other plant. Among the roses will be found Scarlet Climber, Gloire de Dijon and various climbing hybrid teas; while the beautiful white, scented Mandevilla suaveolens should be included, and, where it is possible to plant it out, Diplacus glutinosus ought to find a congenial home. Cassia corymbosa is also recommended. Any climbers could be planted at the present time, and, although little top growth will be made, the roots will be making headway ready for the spring.

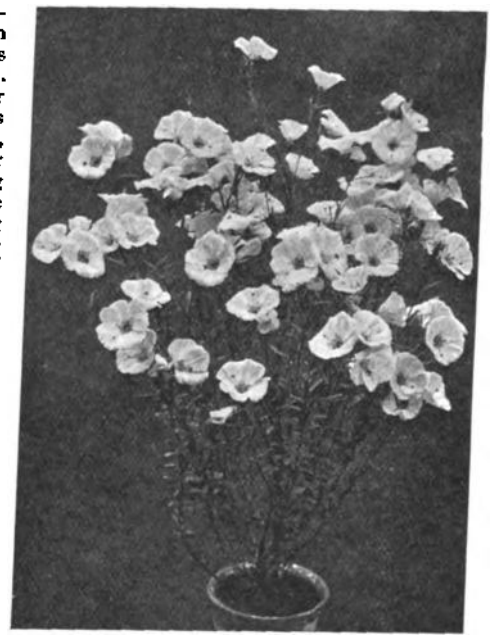
Throughout October, November and the greater part of December, if the weather proves open, a good display of chrysanthemums can be obtained. These have been growing in the open, and now the earlier-flowering sorts must be taken inside, first picking off dead leaves, and carefully looping up the growths. Here a note of warning is necessary to the owner of a small cold greenhouse: more attention must be paid to ventilation, and when the chrysanthemums are inside, leave all the ventilators open to their fullest extent, and even the door when there is little wind.

With care, Primula stellata can be grown, also the bright yellow P. kewensis, and these should be placed on the side stages. Fuchsias can be stood under the stage till the spring. Most greenhouses possess a shelf, and this can be filled with pots of schizanthus, stocks, and clarkia (but these must be kept slightly on the dry side until the spring), godetia and salpiglossis.

Roses in pots offer scope for the observant grower, and with the selection of suitable varieties a fine display can be obtained some weeks in advance of those outside. If already established in pots, so much the better, and now they should be overhauled, top-dressed with good quality loam and the drainage put right, but not pruned until taken inside some week hence. A start could be made by potting up some new bushes during the next few weeks, afterwards plunging the pots in ashes until after the beginning of the New Year.

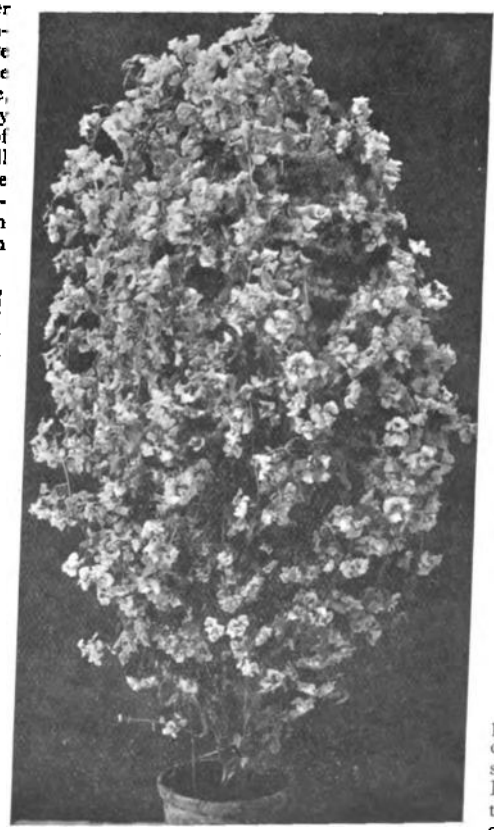
Bulbs and Tubers for the Cold House.

These ought to play an important part in keeping the house gay after Christmas and bridge the interval between late chrysanthemums and stocks, and they ought to be potted



GODETIAS ARE ADMIRABLE FOR GREENHOUSE DECORATION.

at once. Receptacles 5ins. to 7ins. in diameter are suitable, and when the repotting is completed, plunge the pots in old ashes to a depth of several inches until root action is well advanced; then they are moved into the greenhouse. Among the bulbs suggested are narcissus, tulips, hyacinths and others quoted in most bulb catalogues. Freesias can be potted, also the beautiful Iris tingitana, whose large bright blue flowers can be had soon after Christmas. Solomon's Seal and lilies of the valley, Christmas and Lenten roses, Iris reticulata, I. Histrio and I. Danfordiæ are choice plants, and very effective in pans 8ins. to 10ins. across. Most of the lilies are suitable, especially the glorious L. regale, which is readily raised from seeds. It is both an ideal border and pot plant, and when employed under the latter heading the bulbs should be potted up now, and sparingly supplied with water during the winter months. L. tigrinum splendens, L. croceum, L. candidum and L. longiflorum may be afforded similar treatment.



A FINE PLANT OF CLARKIA.
Seeds should be sown now.

In the spiræas or astilbes, we have a graceful lot to choose from, the pure white variety Gladstone, and Peach Blossom, with its large feathery sprays of blush pink flowers, are both good, and this remark also applies to S astilboides. The early-flowering Scilla sibirica will furnish blue colouring, and ixias, beautiful bulbs from the Cape, are rather out of the ordinary, and six bulbs in a 5in. pot will create considerable interest. The early-flowering gladiolus, of which The Bride may be cited as an example, are all worthy of consideration by the owner of a cold greenhouse.

Shrubs for the Cold House.

Early-flowering shrubs will produce quite a fine display in the early spring, and a few should certainly be grown. Many of them can be secured already established in pots, but they may also be lifted from the open ground and potted up in readiness to arrange in the house directly space is available.

One of the best shrubs for our purpose is Forsythia intermedia spectabilis, a golden yellow, free-flowering plant. Deutzias are also excellent, while lilacs, both the coloured and double white forms, are always appreciated. Azaleas, especially the mollis group, are showy; and small, well budded examples of rhododendron will repay the trouble in potting them up. I have found both the double and single flowered philadelphus a great success, also well established specimens of Jasminum primulinum.

The sweet-scented Viburnum Carlesii is a gem, and, if space is available, the laburnum can be included. Small plants of Wistaria sinensis, especially grown for pots, will bloom freely under glass; while Staphylea colchica is a white-flowered plant worthy of consideration.

The extent of the structure and the taste of the owner will decide the number of shrubs grown, and it should be borne in mind that the list of names submitted above can be extended considerably, for there is to-day a wealth of fine material for the gardener to choose from.

The earlier the above are potted up the better, and then they may have their pots plunged in ashes till needed. This will keep the roots uniformly moist, and help to prevent any frosts splitting the receptacles.

Alpines for the Cold House.

I merely draw attention to this delightful phase of gardening, but, with many of the choicer subjects, it takes years before one secures such glorious specimens as seen at Kew, and a few other establishments. Nevertheless, the possessor of a cold house might give the matter a thought, and in the meantime begin to get a few plants together.

T. W. BRISCOE.

Digitized by Google

WHAT OUR READERS SAY

A SMALL TOWN GARDEN.

SIR,—I was much interested in Miss Jekyll's admirable article, "The Joy of Making a New Garden," which appeared in last week's issue of THE GARDEN. Such a series of articles and plans should prove of great assistance to those finding difficulties in the way of laying out and planting a garden in the suburbs of our large cities and on the outskirts of our country towns. In connection with this I thought the two accompanying illustrations might be of interest to readers to indicate to some extent what can be accomplished even in the town. Full use has been made of the space and by a judicious blending of stonework and plants quite an effective town garden has been made. The photographs may indicate to others who find themselves in a similar position a certain line of treatment of their space which they will find to result in a charming garden.—C. T.

[We should be pleased to receive notes and illustrations of any of our readers' gardens with a view to their publication. Such notes and illustrations are always of interest to others, as they bring up new points and raise new questions.—ED.]

A CHARMING VISTA IN A SMALL TOWN GARDEN.
Borders of herbaceous flowers set off by brick paths make a pleasant combination in such a position and in limited space.

THE LORETTE SYSTEM OF PRUNING.

SIR,—May I ask, through the columns of your valuable paper, if any of your readers can tell me anything about the Lorette system of pruning for pears and apples. I have read something about it, and it seems to give wonderful results in France; but I should very much like to know if there is anywhere where it has been tried in this country, and, if so, with what degree of success. Thanking you in anticipation.—G. C. O.

A PENTSTEMON WHICH SHOULD BE MORE GROWN.

SIR,—That this species (P. gentianoides), which is rarely met with in cultivation, has possibilities for garden decoration is evidenced by the admiration that a bed of it near the tropical ferneries at Kew excites.

It is a native of Mexico and produces its spikes of delicate mauve coloured flowers with great freedom from mid-July to October.

Propagate from cuttings inserted in a cold frame in September. When rooted, admit plenty of air on all favourable occasions and plant out in a deeply dug nursery bed into which some leaf-mould has been worked, in early April.

When the spring bedding plants have been removed from the beds the pentstemons may be planted at a distance of one foot apart. Pentstemons delight in a sunny position and a deep, rich, well drained soil. Liquid manure applied at intervals during the summer is decidedly beneficial.—T. H. E., *Kew.*

THE BOUNDARY OF THE GARDEN WITH TRELLISED WALL.
This end screened portion may serve in summer as an outdoor dining-room.

PLANT COLLECTING.

SIR,—I was very interested in Mr. C. Elliot's note, in your issue of September 4th, on "Phyteuma comosum, as during a walking tour in the Dolomites this summer I kept a perfunctory look-out for it, but without success. As I was there in June and the season was very late, presumably I was too early to find it in bloom. My object in writing you, however, is to obtain some information as to the best way to get plants over from Italy. Farrer, in his work on Alpines, says remove every particle of earth from the roots and pack dry in tin boxes. This, under ideal conditions, is, no doubt, sound advice. The difficulty is, though, that one often is compelled to get the plants up when the ground is soaking wet, even if, as is not always the case, the atmospheric conditions are favourable. Then, again, the parcel post from Italy takes about a week on the journey. The result in my case was that tins of cherished roots arrived at their destination as wet and decomposing masses. I intend visiting the Dolomites again next summer, and am anxious not to repeat this year's disastrous failure, so I should be very grateful to Mr. Elliot or some other expert if he would give your readers a few hints on this subject, which, I am sure, would be much appreciated by many, who, like myself, delight in enriching their gardens with some of the many lovely and fascinating plants that they come across in their travels abroad.—C. RUNGE.

PRUNUS DAVIDIANA.

SIR,—Now that the planting time is coming near once more, I should like to recommend everyone who has not done so to put in one of these most attractive little trees. I planted mine about six years ago, and it has done very well in a rather unprotected position, where it must certainly get a good deal more than one would choose of the keen spring east winds which never fail my garden.

Digitized by Google

Also, as it was placed quite near the boundary fence, it has suffered a good deal from the admiration of passers by, and has been practically beheaded twice. This seemed tiresome at first, but the little tree seems really to thrive under the treatment. The soil is a fairly good clayey loam, and it gets an occasional sprinkle of lime, but otherwise has no attention. It is always out early, and just over when the almond comes into bloom, so it is a real treasure in the beginning of the year. My specimen has pure white flowers and the petals are of a very firm substance and stand a good deal of bad weather. I hear there is a pale pink variety, but have never seen it. It is said to grow to 20ft., but mine does not seem likely to be so tall. It has a more upright habit of growth than many trees, so does not take very much room.—A. E. W.

THE STAR FLOWERS.

Plant Them Now.

SIR,—Now is the time to plant these dainty and pretty spring flowers. They love the shade of the woodland, and should be planted with plenty of leaf soil. The starry flowers are small, and white or pink in colour; they grow in clusters on slender stems from 9ins. to 18ins. high, and are surrounded by a collarette of small pointed green leaves. It is a curious little plant, its calyx is seven parted, the flowers have seven stamens, and usually its little collarette is composed of seven leaves. They flower in April and May and die down in early autumn, after the manner of trilliums. They have a creeping, woody rootstock, and are best propagated by seed sown in the spring and root division in the autumn. Trientalis are of the primrose family and are easily grown. T. americana, arctica and europæa are the principal species.—R. MOORE, *Thorpe Hall.*

VIBURNUM RHYTIDOPHYLLUM.

Is it a Shrub Worth Growing?

SIR,—In spite of the praise bestowed on this viburnum by Mr. John Hill, it is nevertheless a disappointing subject in the majority of gardens. It is often a ragged, untidy plant, and why it ever received a first-class certificate from the Royal Horticultural Society I do not know. The chief beauty and attraction of V. rhytidophyllum is undoubtedly the clusters of red and black fruits which appear at their best in autumn and early winter, if we are lucky. These, however, are rarely seen, as the flowers fail to set. If this could be overcome, the plant under notice would be of some value and merit. This winter, however, I hope to plant up an example of the native V. lanatum in close proximity to V. rhytidophyllum, as I have been told that it is necessary to secure fertilisation of the flowers of the latter species. Perhaps some other readers have tried this experiment, and, if so, the results obtained should be made known to readers of THE GARDEN. As a foliage plant I cannot recommend V. rhytidophyllum, but as a berried shrub it is useful, providing it is possible to obtain a good crop of fruits.—T. W. BRISCOE.

[We should be pleased to hear from readers who have tried growing these two plants in association for fruiting purposes.—ED.]

HINTS WORTH REMEMBERING

This is the second instalment of Hints that have been received from our readers in response to our request. There seems little doubt, judging from the numbers that have reached us, that this will prove a most useful feature of THE GARDEN *in future. We hope, therefore, that all our readers will assist to make this page as valuable as possible by sending in their Hints, the result of personal observation and trial, and so help the gardening public in general. Hints which will be specially considered as worthy of a prize will be those that are seasonable as well as interesting and apply particularly to duties that can be carried out in the garden at the present time.*

Half a guinea will be paid each week for the most useful or interesting hint sent in by a reader. Five shillings will be paid for all others published. Each must be sent in on a separate sheet and must not be more than 300 words in length.

THE HALF-GUINEA HINT

An Effectual and Economical Method of Spraying against Mildew.

Procure a sheet of corrugated iron, large enough to accommodate a pot chrysanthemum lying at full length. Fix it at a gentle slope, one end resting on something higher than the other. Lay the infected pot plant upon it, and syringe first from one end, then from the other, gently rolling the pot over as you proceed, so as to ensure every part of the leaves—underside as well as top—being reached by the spray. If a small tank or footbath be placed below the lower end of the corrugated iron sheet, the spraying mixture drains into it, and can thus be used again.—D. H. P.

Use Your Old Broom Heads.

When my brooms are worn and no further use for sweeping purposes, I have found them most useful as a bootbrush and scraper, either at the greenhouse or potting shed door. To form this I simply drive two short stakes into the ground, leaving about 4ins. or 5ins. above the ground. Then I nail the broom head on to these, and I find this method saves a lot of dirt and grit from treading into either greenhouse or potting shed, as one can clean both the sides and the bottom of the boots.—T. S.

A Handy Tool.

For those who find difficulty in hoeing among the roots of crops and herbaceous plants, a very useful tool can be made by putting a 4ft. or 5ft. handle on to an ordinary weeding fork, one with narrow prongs for preference. The surface of the soil can be effectually broken up without any danger of cutting the roots of the plants. Also it will be found handy for weeding, in that it saves stooping, and the back of the borders can be reached without trampling on the front of the beds.—L. P.

Weeds on Lawns.

Tap-rooted weeds in lawn or garden can be completely eradicated if, when the tops are cut off, a wooden skewer, previously dipped in crude carbolic, is pushed home. It is recommended that an old pair of gloves be worn, but a cork near the blunt end of the skewer will prevent the fluid reaching the fingers.—E. E. P.

Forget-Me-Nots for the Cold House.

I wonder whether many people have tried growing forget-me-nots in pots to flower early in spring with the first bulbs. Last spring I grew forget-me-nots in pots with great success. Potted up in October, they remained all winter in a quiet corner of a cold conservatory, requiring little attention, only needing water occasionally and soot-water once a fortnight until the flowers began to show. They were then brought to a sunny shelf, and when they finally flowered, were plunged in a bed of snowdrops, the effect being fresh and charming.—D. S. D.

Try Sphagnum Moss for Difficult Subjects.

Androsaces and primulas thrive in sphagnum, without soil, on the shelf of the little cold greenhouse. Try it mixed with a little peat and leaf-soil in pockets to grow our native plants from damp places on the hills. Try it for the difficult primulas in gardens where there is no "water's edge" to plant them by. Primula farinosa planted in July in a small trough in a hot, dry, exposed place in sphagnum, with a little leaf soil below, has flowered through August into September.—M. G.

Shrub Cuttings.

Instead of putting in ripened cuttings of deciduous shrubs in autumn, wait until late spring or early summer, when the plants will have made 2ins. or 3ins. of young growth. From these shoots make cuttings, and insert them in sand in a cold frame or box and cover with glass. Except for wiping the moisture off the glass each morning, keep close for about three weeks and shade from the sun. Cuttings should be "calloused" by this time, and air may gradually be admitted until fully open. In from six to eight weeks they should be put into thumb pots. Pot in a mixture of one of leaf mould, one peat and two parts silver sand. Give the pots a good soaking of water through a fine rose. Place in a frame, and shade from the sun. Cletharas, staphyleas, cornus, caryopteris, etc., may be grown as above.—W. G.

Gentiana Verna.

I have found the following method of growing the above very effective: Grow in 3in. to 4in. pots in compost of good fibrous loam and sand. Plunge the pots in sand below the ground level so that the plants may obtain all the moisture possible, preferably at the base of the rockery. In spring top-dress the crowns with sandy soil and limestone chips. My small plant in a 3in. pot had nine beautiful blooms under this treatment last spring.—T. A. T.

Plants for Hanging Baskets.

My kitchen has two windows. All summer I have kept them gay with hanging baskets lined with moss. A creeping campanula provides the green background. About once a week—perhaps twice during very sunny, dry weather—I soak the baskets thoroughly with water. I then secure showy trusses of schizanthus and stick the stems well down in the wet earth, above and below the basket, so that the effect produced is like a ball of blossom. I find that schizanthus lasts fresh in this way for a fortnight, if the dead blooms are picked off and the earth kept wet. I have used hard wooded sprays of clarkia with equal success, and I feel sure that many annuals would lend themselves to the scheme. Thus one avoids monotony, nor has one to wait with patience until the planted flowers in the basket bloom.—M. W.

Digitized by Google

GARDEN PESTS AND HOW TO DEAL WITH THEM

THE gardener has always to combat the enemies of his crops. He sows, he plants, and directly the young plants appear above the soil they are attacked. Often before they pass the stage of the seed leaves they are destroyed. The crops when

Eggs of the large white cabbage butterfly greatly enlarged.

The very young larvæ of the cabbage butterfly work in companies and are relatively easy to collect and destroy. This is one of the worst enemies of the garden.

half-grown are not exempt from attack, neither are they when they are approaching maturity.

The Cabbage Butterflies.

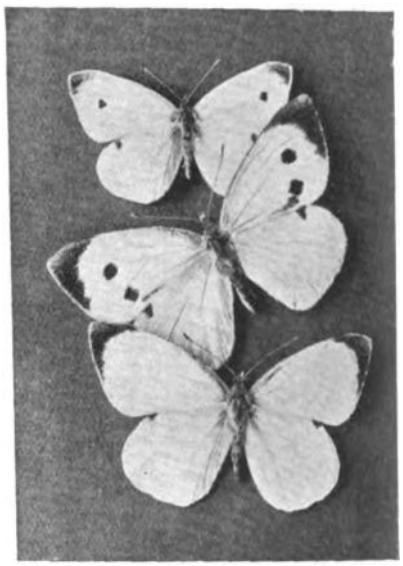
Both large and small cabbage butterflies are now attacking the plants. The large white butterfly lays its eggs on the undersides of the cabbage leaves, and are so hidden from view that the caterpillars resulting are swarming over the plants before we are aware of them. It is too late to stop the fly laying its eggs, but we can attack the caterpillars, more especially those of the large white than those of the small white, because the latter get inside the hearts of the plants and continue their destructive work well out of sight. I recommend light applications of dust-dry lime followed by very heavy syringings of cold water. The caterpillars thrive in warm, dry weather and are easily killed by cold and wet. Katakilla powder is also very effective as a preventive and remedy.

Slugs and Shell Snails.

The field or milky slug, measuring, extended, about 1½ins. long; the black slug, much longer; and the shell-snails are the gardener's aversion on account of their great numbers and large amount of damage they are capable of doing. Where the haunts of the shell-snails are, there you will find thousands of young ones in due course—in empty pots, hollows in banks near to a large stone, in dry walls and similar places. Unless you turn up some object under which a shell-snail is clinging to something, you will rarely find them abroad during the daytime. So it is a good plan to hunt for them on grass, near any decaying leaves or close to the beds of lettuces and cabbages soon after sunset. They may be found in hedges of the common laurel and shaken down, gathered and destroyed. I have myself found the plan of looking for and killing them the best way, and followed it up till as late as midnight. The milky and black slugs have the power to slough off any applications of lime, soot or salt for several times, and do so successfully if the applications are weekly, or even bi-weekly ones, as the pests have time to fill up their store of slime. But if the applications are daily ones and put down where the slugs come out to feed, the latter will be conquered, because the substance falls on their unprotected skin and kills them. The same principle applies to other kinds of remedies mainly, such as "Slugene."

The Celery and the Parsnip Fly.

The fly is very busy in spring and again in July. No doubt many readers of THE GARDEN are now troubled about the maggot-infested leaves. It is too late to do anything more than the removal of bad leaves and the crushing of the maggots in slightly affected ones. But the cultivator who is anxious to get rid of the pests next year should begin operations now or soon. When the crops have been used simply level the soil on the space and on a few feet all round if possible. Spread hedge trimmings, dried grass or weeds or anything similar, even a few shavings, to the depth of 6ins. at least, and sprinkle paraffin on it. Set this alight and even feed the fire a little if there is ample material, or, better still, turn over the top 4ins. and burn more rubbish on it. In this way you will destroy the maggots as



Garden white butterflies: The small white (Pieris rapæ), the large white (P. brassicæ), female and male.

they enter the top crust of soil to go down and turn into pupæ, from which they emerge next spring to trouble you again. No doubt a good dressing of vaporite and other soil fumigants would do a lot of good where burning cannot be carried out.

The Codlin Moth.

It is now time to band apple and pear trees, also all supporting stakes. Instead of being content with one band, apply two—the lowest 1ft. from ground-level and the second 6ins. above it. The bands should be well greased and applied on a part where the bark has been judiciously smoothed to allow of the close fitting of the greased band. Use wire to fasten on the bands, then they will not tighten nor slacken according to weather changes.

CHRISTCHURCH.

CLEANING THE GARDEN

WITH the fall comes an excellent opportunity for a general cleaning of the garden. This is really one of the best opportunities that arise for tackling the weed problem. If the weather is fairly damp and mild, as is usually the case, the seeds of large numbers of the common weeds, both annual and perennial, start growth. Destroy the young plants now and you will take a long step towards a weed-free garden next year. Even in the best-kept garden it is likely that the clearing of beds and vegetable patches will disclose some of the strong-growing perennial weeds like docks, dandelions, etc. These should

A clump of Michaelmas daisies to be divided for replanting.

The wrong way to plant. Each portion is too large and planted too closely together.

The right way. The portions are small in size and have ample room to grow.

Digitized by Google

be bodily uprooted, as even small pieces left in the ground are quite likely to grow. If by any chance these plants have got as far as the production of seed, take special precautions. Do not walk over the garden waving a large thistle plant and so allow the downy fruits to spread in all directions. If you do you will be laying up much trouble for next year. Neither should weeds of any kind ever be stacked up on a rubbish heap and left there to rot. Most of our common weeds have an amazing amount of vitality, and they are quite capable of bursting into flower, setting and ripening seed, even if they are not actually in the soil at all. By far the safest way is to burn weeds of every description at the earliest possible moment and so, once and for all, put an end to their harmful careers. It is worth while making up a special fire of some dry litter, and when this is burning strongly to spread the green weeds in thin layers on the glowing embers.

In addition, the autumn is a great time for the suppressing of insect and other pests. At this season, when roots are being lifted and digging generally is the order of the day, there is much disturbance of the soil. Keep a sharp look-out for grubs of all kinds. When digging potatoes it is worth while giving the soil a little extra turn in order to bring to light such things as wireworms, leather jackets, etc. All should be collected and destroyed without mercy. When ground is vacant an excellent plan to adopt is on the following lines: Make a very hot solution of soft soap and water (about an ounce of the soap to every gallon of water) and sprinkle the ground in sections with this before it gets absolutely cold. Large numbers of grubs of all kinds will pop up, and these should be seized before they have a chance to escape. At the approach of the winter earwigs, woodlice, snails, slugs and a host of other pests betake themselves to cracks in fences and any positions where protection can be secured. It is worth while examining situations of this nature and thus reduce the number of noxious things in the garden generally.

Clearing up the Herbaceous Border.

At this season of the year a certain amount of time must be devoted to setting things straight in the herbaceous border. One should not approach the problem in the spirit of the average jobbing gardener, who would cut everything down in order to make things tidy for the winter. As a matter of fact, it is wiser to let the plants complete their natural growth before bringing the knife into operation. It cannot be too often insisted that plants exist by means of the food material which they elaborate, with the help of light, in their leaves. Thus, to remove masses of healthy green foliage is to take away nutriment which should properly be stored away in the roots. In the case of a very strong-growing plant this might do no more than give a slight check to its vigour; with a less robust specimen the effect would be an inferior production of blossom next season. Of course, any plants that are obviously dying away may have their stems cut to within an inch or so of the ground. Incidentally, it may be mentioned that the dried stems of asters and many other herbaceous plants if stripped of their leaves, and cut into convenient lengths, make excellent spills for pipe lighting, etc.

Usually it is impossible to make a clean sweep of the herbaceous border at one time. Some varieties of aster, for instance, naturally flower late. In addition, many perennials when well established are apt to start away a second growing season if the fall is genial. There is every reason for allowing this to proceed, for quite often a bright display of flowers is the result, and no possible harm is done to the rootstock. Take note at this time of any plants which seem to be in the wrong place, and correct the errors by removal when the clumps are at rest. Again, mark down any subjects that tend to take up more room than is their share, and plan to reduce these or, perhaps, take them away altogether. Replace any labels that are difficult to read or have become lost. It is an excellent plan to make a practice of labelling subjects in the herbaceous border. Then, when making any alterations or additions, it is easy to know just what you will get in the way of colour effects.

After cutting down any clumps fork the soil lightly and clean the ground of any weeds. The heavy rains of autumn will, at times, tend to lay bare the tops of the roots, and this is a very unnatural state of affairs. In a wild state these perennial plants would be covered with dead leaves and decaying vegetation, and it is worth while making some attempt to reproduce this condition. It is a very excellent rule in the case of all herbaceous subjects to scatter lightly a layer of good soil over the roots after the stems have been cut down. This may be repeated once again in the very late fall, and it will be found to have a highly beneficial effect on the herbaceous subjects of all kinds.

AN EXAMPLE OF A BORDER WHICH REQUIRES THINNING AND CLEANING DURING THE NEXT FEW WEEKS.

Lifting Tender Plants.

Towards the latter part of September the weather usually shows signs of breaking up. Geraniums, marguerites, heliotropes, begonias and a host of other subjects that make the garden bright during the warm days of summer are evidently feeling the effects of the chill nights of autumn. Even if it is not really cold steps should be taken to lift all tender plants that cannot face the winter in the open border. Choose the dryest possible day for the business, and have pots and soil at hand before actually digging anything up. Lift with as little root disturbance as possible and get the plants quickly settled into the pots. Often this work is done carelessly, and this is a pity, for many of these specimens, if properly treated, will flower freely during the winter in a cool greenhouse or conservatory. Of course, begonias, gladioli, etc., will have to be dried off, after lifting, in some warm, dry place, the tubers or corms being finally stored in dry sand. Take care in the case of every subject to attach a label giving the name of the variety or, at least, the colour of the flowers. In these times of removal it is very easy to get the plants mixed up, and it is most annoying to find that one does not know in the least what any particular specimen happens to be.

Plants in pots should be kept in a cool place, and it is best not to place them under glass at once. Providing there is no serious risk of frost they are better left out of doors for a week or so at any rate. Probably little watering will be needed, but care should be taken to remove all dead flowers and foliage. Where it is wished to use plants as stock for the taking of cuttings in the spring a drastic cutting back of geraniums, etc., is advisable. On no account should this be done until it is certain that the specimens have settled down into their new quarters. It is a fact that geraniums will survive the winter when suspended by their roots in a cellar, but it is much better to treat them in a more natural way. Let the winter quarters of these tender plants be light and airy. Providing there is no risk of frost a great degree of heat is not desirable, and a few specimens may easily be wintered in the sunny window of a living room. Until active growth starts again it is wise to keep the soil on the dry side, and, whenever the weather is mild, air from the outside should be freely admitted.

When lifting the tender plants it is worth while selecting a few of the best for placing in a conservatory or room. Choose those which are sturdy and have plenty of developing flower-buds on them. After a few days, when the plants show signs of recovering from the shock of removal, place in the conservatory or a sunny window and a wonderful show of bloom will be the result. The writer has kept a small conservatory gay with lifted bedding plants right up to Christmas, and even into the early months of the New Year.

Digitized by Google

OUR SERVICE BUREAU

Though so many subjects are dealt with in each issue of THE GARDEN, *it must constantly happen that readers seek information which is not immediately available. In such circumstances they should make use of our Service Department. Through its medium each reader's own particular enquiry can be dealt with. No matter what the question is, there is always information available from a staff of expert contributors and consultants; and there is no charge for this. It is one of the additional means of service which* THE GARDEN *is glad to render to its readers.*

Also, there is the further convenience which the Service Department affords of supplying readers with data about anything that is advertised in the pages of the paper. Thus, on receipt of an enquiry, particulars will be sent of, say, half a dozen things about which the reader seeks information. The only stipulation is that a stamped addressed envelope and the coupon, that will always be found in each issue, shall be sent with the enquiry.

All communications should be addressed to the Service Department, THE GARDEN, *20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.*

We have selected the following enquiries, with their answers, as being of more general interest, and therefore worthy of publication.

Edging Plants for Borders.

I have a border 200yds. long, and I should be glad of your advice about edging plants.

I notice you mention in your paper, in an article on Edging Plants, such flowers as pink and white thrift, Mrs. Sinkins pinks, Senecio argenteus, Campanulas pusilla and G. F. Wilson, aubrietias. Achilleas, too, are mentioned, and Colchicum speciosum. Can these all be used together? How many of each should I want for a border a yard wide and length as above? What month should they be planted?—G. H.

We suggest that you plant the edging plants which you mention at intervals along the border, blocks of pink and white thrift mixed with Pink Mrs. Sinkins, Campanula pusilla, aubrietias and achilleas. Colchicum speciosum we should be inclined to omit. The plants should be placed fairly close together, and you will require, roughly speaking, about fifty plants of each—probably more. You will be able to judge better after you have planted a number of them to see how the border is planning out. All these can be planted during the next few weeks, say some time in October; or planting may be withheld until the early spring. On the whole, it is better, however, to plant in the autumn this year, as the plants will then have a chance to become established, and will probably flower better next spring and summer.

Transporting Millipedes.

The garden of this town house is infested with millipedes, though I have endeavoured to reduce the number by potato traps, etc. I am hoping shortly to be removing to a house in the country, and would like to take with me a few specimens from this garden. Can you tell me of any course I can adopt so that I can be reasonably certain I shall not take the millipedes with me? There should be little risk, but they are so numerous that they appear to have abandoned their carnivorous habits and cling to the roots freely. Bulbs, violas, wallflowers, carnations, lupins, all seem to have the young millipedes at the roots, just as carrots suffering from fly. Water does not appear to drown them. Salt water would, presumably, kill the plants. The soil here is very sour, though I have dressed it with chalk and lime. The land I am going to is meadow land, where I shall probably find quite enough enemies without adding any.

I should be very grateful if you could tell me of some means whereby I could ensure there were no young millipedes, even the tiniest, and no eggs left in the crannies of the roots. I should indeed despair if the plague were to be established in the new garden.—E. D. S.

We do not wish to dishearten you, but we do not think it very likely that you will be able to remove soil from your garden without also taking some of the millipedes. However, you can try to prevent such happening by watering the soil around the plants with nitrate of soda solution a day or so before removing them. Use 1 oz. to 2 gallons of water, or a strong solution of common salt 1 oz. dissolved in 1 gallon of water. Several days before lifting your choicest plants procure some farmers' cotton cake, break it up and scatter on the soil surface round the plants. Millipedes like it, so you may in this way catch and destroy them.

A Remedy for Slugs.

What, in your opinion, is the most effective remedy for slugs? I understand that Leeds University have a mixture of kainit and, I believe, copper nitrate, which, although harmless to plant life, spells instant death to the slug. Do you know of this?—T. B.

A good remedy for slugs is one part of copper sulphate and 20 parts of kainit, mixed together and applied at the rate of 1½ oz. per square yard. This ought to be done while it is dark.

Cutting Back Rock and Herbaceous Plants.

Some of the rock plants in my garden are beginning to look straggly, such as the aubrietias, saxifrages, etc., and, as my rock garden is on the small side, I want to cut these back. The question arises as to how far or close one should cut them. I have other carpeting plants which are thus being covered.

When a herbaceous border containing lupins, delphiniums, aquilegias has finished flowering, I am told that they can be cut down to ensure tidiness. Once again, how close are these to be cut?—T. W.

For such spreaders as aubrietias and saxifrages, they are unharmed by thorough cutting back. Probably the best time to do it is about September or the beginning of October, and really it makes very little difference how much you use the knife.

The herbaceous border can certainly be cut to the ground, but only after the flowering season is completely over. This, of course, depends on the weather, but will certainly not be before the first half of October; then it can be cut right to the ground.

A Preventive for Rhododendron Fly.

I enclose a few leaves of Rhododendron fastuosum which seem to be diseased. The plants affected have produced very little young growth. They have been in about four years and have done very well till this summer. Other groups of rhododendrons in the same border look quite healthy as usual. The plants look as if they had got red spider, but I do not actually see any red spider on the leaves.—D. P.

The rhododendron leaves are infected with the rhododendron fly, and I may say that we have never seen a worse case. Luckily the fly is a slow spreader. In mild cases the method of cure is to spray the plant thoroughly with an emulsion of soft soap and water. However, it appears that in this case the plants are too bad, and I should strongly advise you to dig them up and burn them now to prevent the pest from spreading to other plants.

Mealy Bug on Vines.

The vines here are literally covered with mealy bug, some of the bunches of grapes being already spoilt. I have been using methylated spirit on get-at-able places, but, of course, I cannot get into the bunches. I wonder whether fumigating with XL-All would be of any benefit and whether the fumes would deposit any poison on the berries so as to make them injurious to the consumers.

The berries have not commenced to colour yet and will not do so for some time. Is there anything else that could be used now?—A. W.

There are several fumigating compounds available, but it is considered risky to use them after the stage when the grapes begin to soften for ripening. Always ask the manufacturers' advice in such cases. To meet your present case, we advise you to wait until the grapes are ripe, and then syringe out the mealy bug from each bunch, as it is used, with clear water, suspending it in an airy place to dry. When the vines are pruned and cleaned, use Gishurst Compound on the vine rods, lime wash on the walls, soft soap and paraffin on the wood, and pure paraffin on all wires and other ironwork.

Training Yew Trees.

Last spring I planted a yew hedge of quite small trees, about 1½ft.–2ft. high and 18ins. apart. I want it eventually to be a clipped hedge dividing kitchen from flower garden. How soon ought I to begin to clip it, and at what time of year?

I suppose, in any case, I must not clip the top shoots, which will carry the hedge up?

Some four or five years ago I put in two small yews at either end of a stone seat: they are now about 5ft. high and have been allowed to grow naturally. I should like to clip them, so as in time to have them rounded pyramids (or cones). At what time of year should I clip them, and how much should I clip them? Is it best to begin by just shortening the ends of the longer branches, and then, another year, cutting them more into shape, or should I begin by cutting them back into the required shape, and leave the trees to "fill out" and gradually get an evenly rounded surface? Here, also, must I leave the top leading shoot?—H. M. L.

We should suggest that you leave the newly planted yew hedge for a year or two before touching it with the knife. It must be allowed to grow naturally and form itself into a bushy habit. In order to keep it in shape, clipping can be carried out during the early summer, preferably on showery days, but too much should not be taken off the plants while they are young. Later on, when the hedge reaches an average height, it can be "topped," so as to produce bushy growth at the base, and give you an even, bushy hedge from the bottom upwards.

The clipping of the two small yews which you mention should be carried out in early summer or early autumn. Again, the actual work is best carried out in showery weather. Do not cut off too much at once. It is probably best to begin by shortening the ends of the longer branches, which will prompt more bushy growth. After this is done, an attempt can be made at shaping the plant. If this method of doing the work by degrees is followed, the trees do not lose in appearance, as they have time to recover from the first shock of clipping. In this case, if you desire a pyramid or cone shape, it will be necessary to clip the tree to the leading shoot, leaving it untouched if you still wish the plant to gain in height.

Digitized by Google

NEW HARDY CRIMSON BROOM

Chelsea Show (1925) the King said, "That ... red Broom is certainly very striking." This ... the new crimson Broom "Dorothy Walpole," ... received the unanimous Award of Merit ... the R.H.S. as well as other distinctions in ... on and on the Continent. Plants have been ... to U.S.A., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, ... ce, Holland, etc.

... the Field, a well known ex-Curator of Kew ... 'ens wrote: "The richest coloured Broom ... n is one named 'Dorothy Walpole.' It is ... rdy as the common Broom . . . and is ... free-flowering . . . the colour is rich ... ty crimson . . . more attractive than ... f the coloured Brooms yet seen." The colour ... urpasses Cytisus Dallimorei, and the growth ... vigorous as C. Andreanus; it requires no ... al treatment nor any kind of protection ... ever—just a hardy shrub for ordinary garden ... n any part of the British Isles, however far ...

... Vice-Chairman, Floral Committee, R.H.S., ...: "Everyone who has seen my plant has astonished at its warm glowing red"; and a lady in Devon: "I am so delighted with Broom 'Dorothy Walpole.' It has done ...diddly and is like a sparkling gem in the garden ... mass of flower."

NEW SEASON'S PRICES.

... rong pot-grown plants now ready for planting ... to flower in May, 7/6 each. Carriage paid ... to any station in Great Britain or Ireland: ... plant, carriage paid, 10/-; two plants, ...age paid, 18/6; three plants, carriage paid, ...; six plants, carriage paid, 49/6; twelve ...ts, carriage paid, 99/-.

...oloured illustration sent on application if GARDEN is mentioned.

...m. Watson & Sons, Limited, Nurseries, ...ney, Co. Dublin.

New North Country Phloxes

Plant NOW our

GOLD MEDAL VARIETIES

including the latest novelty—

"BORDER GEM"

the finest and largest purple Phlox to date; already this variety has been awarded

2 CERTIFICATES OF MERIT

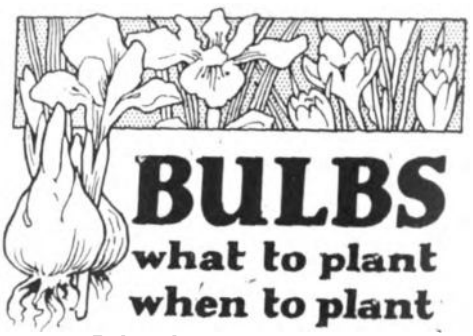
SEND FOR SPECIAL OFFER

E. F. FAIRBAIRN & SONS

EDENTOWN NURSERIES

CARLISLE

Est. 1862



BULBS

what to plant when to plant

Cultural notes of the greatest value both to professional and amateur gardener form a special feature of the new illustrated bulb catalogue issued by John Waterer, Sons & Crisp, Ltd.

A rigorous system of selection is followed at the Nurseries so that the purchaser receives none but bulbs of tested strain, inherently vigorous and therefore suitable for forcing and planting.

John Waterer Sons & Crisp Ltd

The Nurseries, Twyford, Berks

Shrub Nurseries: BAGSHOT, SURREY.

City Showrooms: 44, LONDON WALL, E.C.2

—for bulbs, plants and seeds of tested strain

MOTHS LAY EGGS

. . on your Fruit Trees . . unless you band the trees with **OSTICO.**

They can't get past OSTICO it catches and holds them because it is always "sticky."

NO EGGS—

NO CATERPILLARS

OSTICO saves next year's crop at trifling cost.

OSTICO FOR BANDING TREES

PRICES:
8-oz. tin (for 10 trees) - 1/6
1-lb. tin (for 20 trees) - 2/6
5-lb. tin (for 100 trees) - 12/6

Obtainable from Agents everywhere.

COOPER, McDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, LTD. BERKHAMSTED. HERTS.

PLANT CARNATIONS NOW FOR BEST RESULTS

Our stocks of plants ex 3½in. pots for prompt delivery are the finest obtainable. Each of the undermentioned collections is exceptional value.

ALLWOOD!! (half Pink, half Carnation).—The popular hardy plant—grows anywhere and flowers from spring to winter.

6	Plants in good variety	5/6
12	" " "	10/6
25	" " "	20/-

Carriage Paid.

BORDER CARNATIONS.—We grow only the best proved hardy Garden Kinds, from which you are certain to get satisfaction.

6	Plants in good variety	8/6
12	" " "	16/6
25	" " "	30/-

Carriage Paid.

HARDY PERPETUAL BORDER CARNATIONS—the old Carnations' charm, the new Carnations' freedom. Well cultivated, they produce masses of flower from early Summer to Autumn.

6	Plants in good variety	8/6
12	" " "	16/6

Carriage Paid.

ORDER NOW FOR PROMPT DELIVERY—or write for illustrated Catalogue, post free on request to

Allwood Bros

The leading Carnation Raisers and Specialists in the World.

Dept. 4, Hayward's Heath, Sussex

Small Orchards

No matter how small or large the orchard, it pays to use Stictite Tree Banding Compound.

Winter Moth rises from the soil early in October or late September, and the females (being wingless), at once crawl up the tree trunks in order to deposit their eggs in the branches.

By banding the trees with Stictite in the autumn you can prevent the eggs being laid, and so avoid having to spray for the caterpillars in the spring.

1 lb. of Stictite will do 9 to 12 trees of about 8 in. diameter.

½-lb. 1/6 (post 6d.); 1-lb. 2/9 (post 6d.); 2-lb. 5/- (post 9d.); 4-lb. 10/- (post 9d.); 7-lb. 17/6 (post 1/-).

Greaseproof Paper, 5 ins. wide: 6 yds., 2d.; 12 yds., 3d.; 25 yds., 6d.; 50 yds., 9d.; 100 yds., 1/6; 200 yds., 2/6.

Write for Descriptive Folder.

Stictite is sold by Nurserymen, Seedsmen, Florists, Ironmongers, Chemists & Stores. If any difficulty, please write to Abol Limited, 9, Beltring, Paddock Wood, Kent.

Stictite

Digitized by Google

NEW AND RARE PLANTS AT HOLLAND PARK

ORCHIDS.

Messrs. Cowan and Co. staged a representative group of autumn-flowering orchids. The back portion was composed of Dendrobium Phalænopsis intermixed with well flowered plants of Odontoglossum grande, while the main area was filled with Cattleya Vesta, pure white; C. Helidor, apricot yellow; C. Harold alba; and Lælio-Cattleya luminosa aurea. Cypripedium Bedfordiæ, with an unusually large flower, but somewhat deficient in colour, was arranged with C. Ernest Read and C. Royal George.

Messrs. Black and Flory, Slough, had an effective group of Cattleya hybrids, mostly obtained through C. Warscewiczii var. F. M. Beyrodt, in which the white sepals and petals are a well known character. Novelties were staged in Cattleya Marlow and Lælio-Cattleya Colnbrook.

Messrs. Stuart Low and Co. had a group at the end of the hall. It contained the rare Æranthus grandiflorus from Madagascar, Eria bicolor, the scarce Paphinia cristata, an attractive example of Vanda coerulea, also Cymbidium erythrostylum and the charming Sophronitis grandiflora.

Messrs. Charlesworth and Co. staged Odontioda Pamela var. autumnalis, a showy hybrid with large flowers strongly indicating the O. Harryanum parentage, the lip usually large, bright purple, with a white apical half.

Orchid Committee Awards of Merit.

LÆLIO-CATTLEYA PROFUSION, STAMPERLAND VAR. (L.-C. Serbia x C. Hardyana).—A very showy hybrid possessing a robust constitution. The present example bore a spike of four large flowers with the segments well displayed, the petals broadly developed and of soft rosy mauve colour, the labellum intense purple on the disc and marginal zone, and with a yellowish area on each of the lateral lobes. Shown by Mr. Robert Paterson, Glasgow.

LÆLIO-CATTLEYA GENERAL MAUDE VAR. SPLENDENS.—This handsome hybrid bore a couple of widely developed flowers of rich mauve-purple evenly suffused throughout the sepals and petals, the roundly formed labellum purple-crimson with some golden venation in the throat portion; one of the best varieties of this hybrid between L.-C. Rubens and C. Hardyana. Shown by Messrs. Cowan and Co.

CATTLEYA LORNA VAR. EMPRESS.—In this hybrid between C. Warscewiczii var. F. M. Beyrodt and C. Enid alba the white sepals and petals of both parents are inherited. The bright purple colour of the disc of the labellum is a pleasing contrast, while the clear yellow in the throat portion is another feature. Shown by Messrs. Black and Flory.

CATTLEYA MIMOSA VAR. GOLDEN QUEEN.—A very beautiful hybrid obtained by crossing C. Venus with C. triumphans, both of which are noted for their attractive yellow colour. The segments are of thick texture, the petals broad and up-standing, with undulated margin and of clear yellow colour, the labellum pandurate in form and of rich ruby colour. Shown by Messrs. Cowan and Co.

BRASSO-LÆLIO-CATTLEYA MATTHES.—A particularly pleasing hybrid obtained by crossing the yellow-flowering B.-L.-C. The Baroness with the white-flowering C. Maggie Raphael alba. The segments are effectively arranged and of a clear yellow colour of unusual brightness, the labellum alone showing some slight cerise markings. Shown by Messrs. Stuart Low and Co.

Floral Committee Awards.

AMARCRINUM HOWARDII.—This plant is of special interest in that it is one of the very rare instances of successfully crossing the Amaryllis Belladonna with another bulbous plant. A few years ago Dr. Attilio Ragionieri, using a crinum, apparently C. Moorei, as the seed parent, successfully fertilised it with the pollen of the belladonna lily and named his bi-generic hybrid Crinodonna Memoria Corsii. But the plant shown at the R.H.S. Autumn Show represents a more valuable instance of the reverse cross. At Los Angeles Mr. F. Howard succeeded in crossing Amaryllis Belladonna with pollen from Crinum Moorei. He sent a few of the seedling plants to Mr. T. Hay of Hyde Park, who gave two to the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, where the stronger flowered last year in a warm border out of doors. The flower-spike grew to about 4ft. in height, but Mr. Hay's plant, which received the award, being in a flower-pot, is not so tall. It has nine flowers altogether, and these have the tips curved outwards as in the belladonna lily, while the spike itself is much like that of a crinum. The flowers are of a lovely soft shade of pink. The bulb is necked as in crinums, but the leaves are narrow like those of Amaryllis Belladonna. First-class certificate. Shown by Mr. T. Hay.

APHELANDRA TETRAGONA.—This tropical bromeliad requires hot-house culture. The opposite, pale green, ovate-lanceolate leaves are about 7ins. long, and the terminal four-square inflorescence is composed of brilliant orange-scarlet flowers. Award of merit. Shown by Messrs. L. R. Russell, Limited.

CLERODENDRON FŒTIDUM.—A vigorous evergreen shrub from Nepal, and is only suitable for outdoor cultivation on warm borders in the southern counties. The foliage is handsome and the large, compact heads of rose-coloured flowers are produced at the ends of purplish growths. The flower-buds are of a rich vinous crimson colour. Award of merit. Shown by Mr. G. W. S. Loder.

BERBERIS THUNBERGII ATROPURPUREUM.—A neat, compact little specimen bearing leaves which, when young, are a beautiful clear rosy colour. The older leaves are reddish purple. Award of merit. Shown by Mr. Amos Perry.

SALVIA "BLUEBEARD."—We have given the name by which this salvia is said to be known in Chili; its correct name has to be determined. It is an erect herbaceous plant bearing stout, opposite, shining, ovate leaves, which are regularly toothed and are paler on the undersurface. The terminal spikes have foliaceous whorls of up to four dark blue flowers about 2ins. long. It was hardy throughout last winter. Award of merit. Shown by Mrs. Philip Martineau.

BIARUM EXIMIUM.—An attractive little aroid from Anatole. The velvety purple spathe, which is spotted below, is produced from the dry and leafless corm. Botanical certificate. Shown by Mr. Amos Perry.

ASTER RUBY TIPS.—The ruby colour was not apparent in the uncertain light of the hall, where the medium-sized round flowers of this Michaelmas daisy appeared to be of a pleasant pink colour. Award of merit. Shown by Mr. E. Ballard.

SCOLOPENDRIUM VULGARE SAGITTATUM CRISPUM.—This is a very good, compact form of the hart's-tongue fern, with regularly waved and undulated dark green fronds. Award of merit. Shown by Mr. Amos Perry.

SOLIDAGO × BALLARDII.—A tall-growing golden rod bearing narrow, erect spikes of yellow flowers. Award of merit. Shown by Mr. E. Ballard.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS JANET WYBER, MADELINE AND PEERLESS, which received the first-class certificate of the National Chrysanthemum Society, were also given the R.H.S. award of merit.

HOW TO GET THE BEST OUT OF YOUR CHRYSANTHEMUMS

Treatment of Exhibition Blooms.

UNDOUBTEDLY, amateurs like to excel in the culture of chrysanthemums for big blooms, and the latter will soon be ready for the show table. It is, now, the most interesting stage of the plant's growth, as the blooms are developing rapidly and require constant attention. If they are well managed only a small percentage of blooms will be lost. On the day of the show the blooms and the specimen plants must be at their best, fully developed, but quite fresh. To obtain such flowers, certain varieties will need some shading in sunny weather; others, which are backward, will require full exposure and, perhaps, a little artificial heat, but we should always bear in mind the fact that the blooms are best when they are developed slowly in a rather cool temperature. After a bloom is half open it fully expands in a short time, approximately sixteen days, so that the grower should not be over anxious in this matter and spoil good flowers by subjecting them to a high temperature and close atmosphere.

SHADING.—Early in the morning, before the sun shines on the house in which the plants are, put on a light, temporary shade if the night air has been very damp and foggy. The mischief of damping is done, mainly, by the sun shining on the damp petals; the light shade and judicious ventilation will combine to ward off the evil of damping.

WATERING.—The watering of the plants should next be attended to; if the soil is rather dry apply clear water only. Manure water may be used early in the day to soil of sufficient moisture. Again at midday examine the plants in case some need water. After midday do not water any plants; wait until the next morning. If a plant, bearing blooms developing well, has a very dry soil, apply water at once, and only clear water for nearly a week afterwards. It is a mistake to keep the soil in pots very dry with a view to avoiding the damping of the blooms, as such excessive dryness of soil conduces to the damping.

VENTILATION AND PESTS.—Air allowance should be increased gradually early in the morning, and as gradually reduced after two o'clock in the afternoon. If fire heat is necessary, it should be applied so that the pipes will be warm by sunset so that there will not be any sudden lodgment of moisture on the blooms. Also the day should begin and end with a thorough search for earwigs. Every week fumigate the house with Darlington's Auto-shreds or any other approved fumigating material to keep down aphides, as if once they get established in the blooms it is a most difficult matter to kill all.

FORWARDING AND RETARDING THE BLOOMS.—As varieties vary much as to the time of flowering, it will be necessary to watch the opening blooms closely. The backward plants should be placed in good time in the

Digitized by Google

BULBS

We invite immediate application for our

BULB CATALOGUE,

knowing that the very fine quality of our bulbs enables us to offer exceptionally good value for money.

Send for a copy of the BULB CATALOGUE at once.

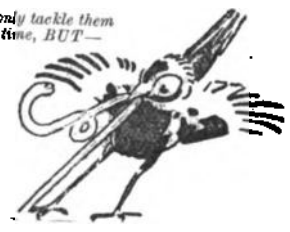
Bakers
SEED AND FLOWER FARM
CODSALL
Near Wolverhampton

Choice Plants that will Grow

Dianthus Lindsayii - - - 1/6 each.
Gentiana Farreri - - - 1/6 „
„ Sino-ornata - - 1/- „
Meconopsis quintuplinerva 5/- „

J. KELLEY, Alpine Specialist, CRIEFF

He can only tackle them one at a time, BUT—



VERMOL

KILLS WORMS AND GROWS GOOD GRASS

VERMOL gets the lot.

Vermol Products COMPANY

61 ST. MARY AXE LONDON, E.C. 3

Teles.: Aven. 1869 and 1870.
Telegs.: "Pinerous, Phone, London."

warmest part of the house and the more forward ones in the coolest. Always avoid a very close atmosphere as it does not help the blooms forward, but spoils them. Nitrate of soda or sulphate of ammonia may be used to hasten development, but I do not advise its use, as the blooms open with flimsy-textured petals, which soon fade.

Bush-grown Plants.

These should be placed in the vinery, peach house or greenhouse directly the flower buds can be clearly seen. At this stage any necessary disbudding should be done. Open the ventilators wide during the first fortnight or so, then restrict ventilation somewhat, but always allow ample fresh air to enter. At every watering weak doses of manure water may be given.

The plants forming the latest batch, to supply flowers about Christmas, may be kept outside in a sheltered place until nearly the end of October. If the position is such that it will allow of a temporary shelter being fixed in case of frost, the tender shoots and buds will not be damaged. Feed these plants lightly. GEORGE GARNER.

TIMELY REMINDERS

Cuttings of Currants.

OCTOBER is a very good month for the taking of cuttings of red and white currants. Select young shoots about a foot long and cut just below a bud. Remove the buds down the stem with the exception of three or four at the top. Insert the cuttings about 6ins. deep in rows, pressing the soil firmly round them. With red and white currants the idea is to get a bush with a clear stem above the ground. In the case of black currants a similar plan is adopted, except that no buds are removed. Here the object is not to secure a bush with a clear stem, but to get as many young growths from the base as possible.

The Lawn in October.

ABOUT the first week in October the lawn should have its final mowing and the edges trimmed with shears. It is a mistake to continue cutting grass right through October, as is sometimes done. When treated in this way the lawn has not the same opportunity of thickening to withstand frosts. As a result, the spring growth is not so robust as where the grass has carried a longish growth during the late fall and winter.

Keep an Eye on the Parsnips.

PARSNIPS should be left in the ground until required for use as, if removed from the moist earth, the roots soon shrivel. As well, too, this excellent vegetable is always in better flavour if it has been exposed to a certain amount of frost. It is a mistake to neglect the parsnip bed completely at this season. Weeds grow apace during the mild wet weather which we are likely to experience, and these should be steadily kept down. Then an occasional stirring of the surface soil will go a long way towards helping the parsnips to complete their final stages of growth.

Winter Mint.

FRESH mint is always very acceptable in the winter, and it is not difficult to secure. When the foliage of the plants dies down during October, lift a certain number of the roots. Leave these exposed on the surface of the soil for two or three days and nights. If there is a slight frost this will do no harm, but be, rather, beneficial. Then plant the roots in pots or boxes of soil and, after about a week, place where there is a mild heat. A position under the staging of a greenhouse, or in a nearly worn-out hot-bed is admirable. After an interval the roots start to send up new shoots, and useful gatherings of winter mint may be made as required.

Fruit Tree Planting.

THERE is no doubt that early planting is highly desirable with all fruit trees. If the trees are set while the ground is still warm, they have full opportunity of taking a firm hold before the winter sets in, and the chances of failure are much reduced. There seems a widespread idea that fruit trees to be a success need vast quantities of manure, but this is not the case at all. Almost any ordinary garden soil of good quality will suit them very well indeed. In taking out the holes be sure and make these big enough to accommodate the roots without crowding. In addition, dig the soil to a depth of 2ft. so that the commencement of a free root action is easy. If you strike a stiff clay subsoil, it is usually better to take this right out, remove it to another part of the garden, and fill the place with fresh surface soil. Leave a little mound in the centre of the hole on which to rest the base of the tree and spread out the roots. Tread the soil in well as it is placed over the roots.

About the Herbaceous Border.

AS the season draws to an end some attention must be given to the herbaceous border. Of course, the majority of the perennial plants commonly grown which die down in the winter are perfectly hardy, but this is not so in all cases. Except in some of the mildest localities, dahlias cannot safely be left for long after the first frost has blackened the foliage. When this happens, the best plan is to cut the tops to within 6ins. of the ground and, on a dry day about a week later, lift the roots carefully with a fork and place them in some airy outhouse. Attach the names of the plants to the stems so that one may know just what each happens to be. Leave the roots until all moisture has gone out of the stems and then put in some cool, and preferably dark, place where there is no risk of frost. If the roots are to keep well, dryness is essential over the resting period. While a certain number of the early-flowering gladioli are hardy when once established, these plants, as a whole are best lifted in the autumn. The right time to do this is when the leaves become yellow. After lifting dry the corms out of the sun in an airy place and then put in paper bags which are kept in a cool frost-free place. Take care to mark the names of the varieties on the bags or, if these are unknown, give some indication of the colour of the flower to avoid confusion when planting time comes round. The young offshoots, from which fresh plants are easily raised, should not be removed from the corms until the spring. Another herbaceous perennial which is not able to face the winter is the canna. As soon as the weather becomes definitely cooler cannas show signs of flagging, and then is the time to lift the roots. Remove carefully from the ground with as much soil attached as possible. Then store in boxes filled with dry earth and keep in an absolutely frost-free place. Cannas are easily propagated by root division, but this should not be attempted until the spring. Here, again, some form of labelling should be adopted so that next season it will be possible to know the different varieties.

Digitized by Google

MANURING & LIMING SOILS

THIS is a matter that affects everyone who grows fruits, flowers, vegetables and trees of all kinds. Crops deteriorate if the soil is not enriched with manure in organic or liquid form. In the former condition the beneficial effects are more lasting than in the latter. Applied in a liquid form the stimulants' power is soon exhausted because it is easily washed down below the point where the roots of the plants grow, or is evaporated into the air. In organic form the exact position of the bulk of the manure can be determined when it is applied. From time to time the nutriment it contains is liberated for the benefit of the plants, the roots of which often thoroughly permeate the manure and absorb strength from day to day. The concentrated manures act more quickly than farmyard and similar manures and should always be applied with great care, then they are immediately beneficial. They are not, as a rule, applied to plants with few roots, but to those possessing many roots which have absorbed the nutriment contained in the soil and need continued sustenance; then the concentrated manures act as stimulants, as manures in any other form will not—especially in the limited time left to the plant before its maturity.

Lime.

Lime is very essential if the best is to be obtained from the soil we till. Many people do not regard lime as a manure, but to some extent it is, as it contains salts that are most beneficial to practically every vegetable we grow. To be absolutely sure as to the benefit certain plants will derive from an application of lime it is necessary to have a true analysis of both the lime and the soil, as both vary so much in the different districts and even in various parts of the same district. These are essential details that cannot, beneficially, be dealt with in this article. Some limes contain much magnesia, which absorb carbonic acid slowly and remains in a caustic state, then the roots of the plants are injured, as it reduces the benefit from the carbonic acid evolved by the decomposing parts of the soil. Even in our elementary knowledge we refrain from applying lime to rhododendrons, azaleas, bog and heath plants generally because on the surface of it all we see such plants die or just exist when they have come into contact with lime incorporated in the soil. Bog soil contains gallic acids, and if lime is mixed with such soil those acids are lost. Now we will return to the question of

Manuring.

Manures may be vegetable, mineral or animal. In recent years the latter was the one with which gardeners were most concerned. Now, perhaps, there is a more even balance between the three forms. As the season of digging is coming, our thoughts are of the various forms of manure which we ought to use and, I daresay, organic manures occupy our thoughts most. If we had our choice we should apply cow and pig manures to light and horse manure to heavy soils. For the benefit of autumn crops—crops put in during the early autumn time—we would prefer rotted to fresh manures, but where there is not any choice and fresh manure must be used, then it is a wise plan to dig it in a little deeper than usual so that the tender roots of plants will not come into direct contact with it too soon. Generally, fresh manures should be dug into soils during the autumn and the surface portion left in a rough, lumpy state where the crops are to be put in during the spring. For all root crops, where the soil unmanured is too poor for them, autumn manuring is always the best.

In the case of sandy or very light soils, organic manures are best applied in the spring, because owing to the great porosity of the soil the major part of the goodness they may contain would be washed down by the winter rains quite out of the reach of the roots of plants occupying that particular plot of ground from spring onwards.

The way in which manure is applied to the ground is important. It should not be put on the ground and just got rid of by burying it anyhow. By far the best way is to place the manure in heaps conveniently so that it will not be unduly dried or washed by sudden rains. Then the workman as he turns over the soil should spread the manure in the trench made, mixing it evenly with the soil from a few inches below the surface to a foot or even more for certain root crops. This way is much better than spreading the manure on the surface and digging it in thinly in some parts, thickly in others. Furthermore, it adheres to the boots and is unpleasant. Do not bury it in largel lumps but in small ones.

Lime has the beneficial effect on hard, clayey ground of breaking up the lumps and so making the whole more easily worked as well as more productive. It is a great sweetener and purifier of the soils we have to deal with and in certain cases, where the soil has been overmanured and become sour, an application of lime will in a year's time rectify matters. Lime kills insects and guards plants to a considerable extent against club-root. Fresh slacked lime is the best to apply, and in a powdered condition, not in large lumps. The autumn is the ideal time of the year for its application and about 6 oz. per square yard a medium-strength application.

G. G.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

Messrs. Chaplin Bros., Limited, Paul's Royal Nurseries, Waltham Cross.—A catalogue dealing chiefly with roses. Hardy conifers, evergreen and deciduous shrubs and herbaceous plants are also given. A bulb list has also come to hand.

Messrs. W. Drummond and Son, Limited, 57, Dawson Street, Dublin.—A bulb and autumn planting catalogue. A useful selected list of insecticides and horticultural manures is included.

Messrs. E. P. Dixon and Sons, Paragon Square, Hull.—Bulbs for early forcing, hyacinths for pots, daffodils for the woodland and bulbous plants for the rockery are given in this firm's catalogue.

The Orpington Nurseries, Limited, Kent.—A catalogue of irises of all types. Careful colour descriptions of some of the novelties introduced during 1926 are given.

Messrs. W. Bignell and Son, 48, North Road, Highgate.—A list of bulbs for cultivation in bowls and in the garden.

Messrs. McHattie and Co., Chester.—Bulbs, roses, shrubs, fruit trees and perennials for the herbaceous border are listed in this firm's autumn catalogue of nursery stock. All the roses are British grown.

Messrs. A. Ireland and Hitchcock, Marks Tey, Essex.—In many districts autumn-sown sweet peas give the best results, and those contemplating seed-sowing within the next few weeks should write for this firm's list of new and old varieties of home-grown sweet peas.

Mr. A. Dawkins, 408, King's Road, Chelsea, London, S.W.10.—May-flowering and Darwin tulips for massing in beds and borders are a special feature in this catalogue.

Messrs. D. Prior and Son, Colchester.—These rose specialists have sent us their new rose catalogue, including novelties for 1926 and the best of the old varieties.

Messrs. Dickson, Brown and Tait. 57, Cross Street, Manchester.—Attractively produced catalogues of bulbs and roses, illustrated with numerous coloured plates, have been received from this firm.

Messrs. John Waterer, Sons and Crisp, Twyford, Berks.—A carefully compiled catalogue of hardy perennials and alpine plants. The height, colour and blooming season of each plant is given, and, in many cases, notes on the most suitable site are also included. The numerous excellent half-tone illustrations of various plants growing in the garden should be found most useful, as they give a fair idea of the habit and the situation in which the plants are likely to flourish.

Mr. W. J. Unwin, Histon, Cambs.—A sweet pea, bulb and gladioli list. A number of 1926 sweet pea novelties are included.

Primley Botanic Nursery, Paignton, South Devon.—A list of hardy and tender shrubs, both deciduous and evergreen. The season of blooming and the origin of each shrub are given. This catalogue is interesting from the botanical point of view.

Mr. H. Hanchet, Crab Hill Lane, South Nutfield, Surrey.—A selection of British-grown roses, fruit and climbers.

Messrs. W. Cutbush and Son, Barnet, Herts.—A special list of strawberries and roses for bedding, pergolas and hedges.

Mr. Thomas Carlile.—A general catalogue of hardy perennials. Particularly good selections of delphiniums, lupins and irises are given.

Messrs. Pennell and Sons, Lincoln.—Copiously illustrated is the bulb catalogue sent in by this firm. Plants specially prepared for forcing, such as azaleas, deutzias, hydrangeas, lilacs, spiræas, are also included.

Messrs. Cooper, Taber and Co., 90, Southwark Street, London, S.E.—A wholesale bulb catalogue which should be of interest to anyone wishing to buy bulbs in large quantities.

Mr. Amos Perry, Enfield.—A special early offer of bulbs and tubers, new June-flowering irises, for early autumn planting. A number of uncommon and rare bulbs are listed.

FOREIGN.

Messrs. John B. Vanderschoot, Hillegom, Holland.—An illustrated catalogue of selected Dutch bulbs has been received from this well known firm of bulb growers.

Messrs. J. B. Wijs and Son, Amsterdam, Holland.—Tulips, narcissi, hyacinths, crocuses and miscellaneous bulbs are given in this list.

TRADE NOTE.

OWING to the continued expansion of their Landscape and Rock Building Department, Messrs. Wm. Wood and Son, Limited, are developing a nursery adjacent to their present premises at Taplow, where they are growing and raising alpine and herbaceous plants, including dwarf rock conifers, roses and hardy flowering shrubs. They have been fortunate enough to secure the services of Mr. A. Lynes, late of Messrs. Waterer, Sons and Crisp, as their nursery manager. They would be glad to have particulars of any rare and new plants that raisers and collectors may have for disposal.

THE annual general meeting and dinner of the Royal Botanic Garden (Edinburgh) Guild was held in Ferguson and Forresters, 129, Princes Street, Edinburgh, on the evening of Wednesday, September 8th, 1926, Professor W. Wright Smith, the president, occupied the chair.

After the business meeting members and friends, to the number of fifty-two, sat down to dinner. The guests of the evening were Mr. W. Thomson, seedsman and nurseryman; Mr. Jeffrey, the city gardener, and Mr. Wm. Austin, nurseryman.

Digitized by Google

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then, together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices :—

Tins 10d. and 1/6
and in **Branded and Sealed Bags :**
7 lbs. - 3/6 14 lbs. - 6/-
28 lbs. - 10/- 56 lbs. - 18/-
112 lbs. - 32/-

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

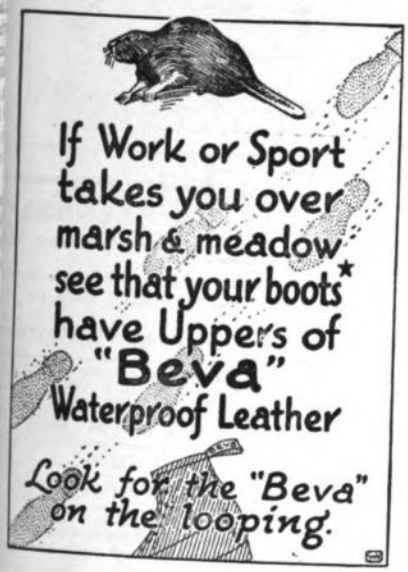
Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers, etc. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**

WILL MOTT
Rival Plant Stake
(Patented No. 183779).
As used in Royal Botanic Gardens London and Cambridge.
For all plants. WILL NOT ROT, WEAR OUT OR BREAK.
Sample of eight sizes,
2/- car. pd. United Kingdom.
4/- Overseas.

J. GREENWOOD, F.R.H.S., Proprietor,
BRACKNELL, Berks.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*



For success in your Garden USE

THOMSON'S MANURES

On the market for over 50 years, they still hold first place for QUALITY and RESULTS. They are safe, sure and lasting. The direct result of many years' practical experience in gardening, they stand unrivalled at the present day for all Garden Crops.

Prices :—**VINE, PLANT AND VEGETABLE MANURE**—a Perfect Food—1 cwt., 30/-; 56 lb., 16/-; 28 lb., 9/-; 14 lb., 5/-; 7 lb., 3/-; tins, 1/3 and 9d. **SPECIAL TOP DRESSING MANURE**—an excellent stimulant—56 lb., 17/-; 28 lb., 9/6; 14 lb., 5/6; 7 lb., 3/-; tins, 1/3. **Carriage paid on 28 lbs.** and up.

WRITE FOR OUR BOOKLET—POST FREE ON REQUEST.

SOLD BY NURSERYMEN AND SEEDSMEN EVERYWHERE.

Or from Sole Makers, WM. THOMSON & SONS, TWEED VINEYARDS, CLOVENFORDS, SCOTLAND

KINNELL'S COKE CRUSHER

FROM STOCK

Reduces Fuel to the correct size for long burning

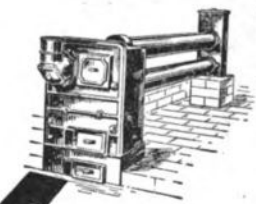
Small Crusher for Wall - 20/-
Ditto on Wrought Stand - 40/-
Large Crusher for Wall - 40/-
Ditto on Wrought Stand - 60/-

Strong Coke Pan 10/- extra

Large Crusher breaks 1 cwt. & small one 42 lb. in 20 minutes

Carriage paid to Stations in England and Wales

CHAS. P. KINNELL & Co LTD
65.65A Southwark St. London, S.E.1



Paying Points about "STOURBRIDGE" Greenhouse Boilers

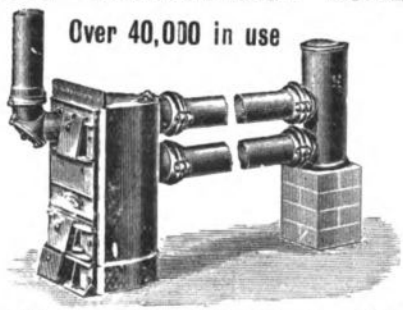
No. 4
Simple to stoke up.

Write at once for special price. State size of house. Address Dept. 3.

J. & W. WOOD LTD Stourbridge

THE LOUGHBOROUGH BOILER

Over 40,000 in use



The high reputation of this Boiler for efficiency and economy is still unrivalled

Easy to fix, easy to manage, and most economical in fuel, it is the ideal Boiler for the Amateur's Greenhouse

Price Lists and Estimates for complete :: apparatus on application ::

MESSENGER & CO., LTD. LOUGHBOROUGH LEICESTERSHIRE
LONDON OFFICE : 122, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

The Seaside Planting of Trees and Shrubs

By Alfred Gaut, F.R.H.S. 28 Illustrations. 5/- net. By post, 5/6.

"Country Life" Library, 20, Tavistock Street Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

THE LEADING GLASS HOUSE FUMIGANT

Autumn & Winter Wash

(Corry's). For Fruit Trees, NON-POISONOUS, NON-CAUSTIC, Destroys APPLE AND PEAR SCAB, CANKER and American Blight.

1 Pt., 1/6; 1 qt., 2/6; ½ gal., 4/9; 1 gal, 8/6. From Seedsmen.

CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

The Service Bureau Coupon.

THE GARDEN, *October 2nd*, 1926.

Name.....

Address.....

.....

This Coupon must accompany each enquiry along with a stamped addressed envelope.

See page 562.

THE SERVICE DEPT., "THE GARDEN," 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2

Digitized by Google

WAKELEY'S Celebrated Hop Manure

(PATENTED)

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

AS USED IN THE GARDENS OF GREAT BRITAIN

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL, ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION, 1912

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE, without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

Every ounce of Wakeley's Hop Manure is of value to the soil, supplying the necessary HUMUS in addition to the valuable plant food. Worthless rubbish is not added to make weight (as is the case of some artificial manures advertised).

Thousands do realise it, the proof of this is the constant flow of UNSOLICITED LETTERS received from time to time in praise of the wonderful results obtained at such a moderate cost (see Booklet for selection).

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.—Genuine Only in Our Marked Bags containing Guaranteed Analysis

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.

CASH PRICES (including bags):

Small (about 1 bushel)	3/-
Large (about 4 bushels)	7/-
5 Large	33/9
10 Large	65/-
20 Large	120/-

Carriage paid by Pickford's or to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company; 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2.6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.

75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

BENTLEY'S WEED DESTROYER

(POISON) STANDS FOR

Strength Reliability Economy

Stronger than any other. One application keeps gravel paths and drives clean for nearly two years. Commands the largest sale both at home and abroad, with a rapidly spreading popularity.

REDUCED PRICES:

Concentrated Liquid (1 to 80)—1 gal. **6/9**; 2 gals. **13/-**; 3 gals. **18/9**. 6 gals. **35 9**; 12 gals. **69 -**; 24gals. **134 3**; 40gals. **218/3**

Powder (1 to 25)—4 tins **9.3**; 8 tins **17/10**; 12 tins **25/6**; 20 tins **40/9**; 40 tins **78/-**

BENTLEY'S DAISY KILLER

The only scientific Lawn Sand.

Weeds of all kinds are quickly killed by one dressing of this unique speciality. Afterwards the finer grasses are free to develop into a dense, rich green sward

One pound is sufficient to dress 3 square yards.

1 ton, **£26** 4 cwts. **26/6** per cwt. 1 cwt. **28/-**; 56 lbs. **15/6**; 28 lbs. **8/6** 14 lbs. **4/9**; tins **1/6** each.

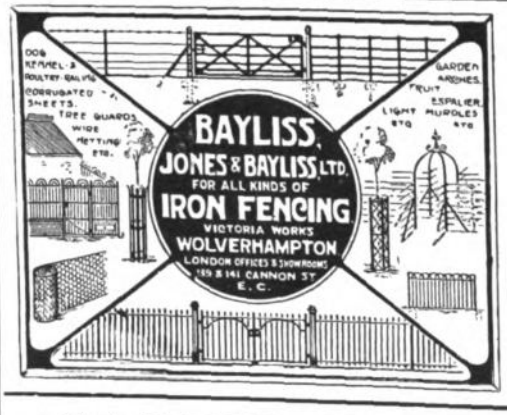
Carriage paid on 15/- orders and upwards.

Sole Manufacturers:

JOSEPH BENTLEY LTD.

CHEMICAL WORKS,

BARROW-ON-HUMBER :: LINCS.



SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by "ALPHOL"

Write for particulars of this and other reliable ... Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc.

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Granmer St. Liverpool

AUCTION SALES OF

BULBS

PROTHEROE & MORRIS

EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY at

67, 68, Cheapside, London, E.C.2

Write for Catalogues. Phone City 4858

GARDENING FOR BEGINNERS

By E. T. COOK.

Coloured Plates and 200 Illustrations. 8th edition. 16/-.

Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

THE PATTISSON HORSE BOOTS

SIMPLEST
STRONGEST
MOST ECONOMICAL

ONCE TRIED
ALWAYS USED

Fig. 2—Welted Pattern.

Fig. 1—For Shod Horses.

Best English Leather or Rubber Soles.

Used for many years in the Royal and in thousands of the Principal Gardens.

Silver Medals:—Royal Horticultural Society, 1904 and 1914 Royal International Horticultural Exhibition, 1912.

HUNDREDS OF TESTIMONIALS.

Fig. 2—No Weld Pattern

Illustrated Price Lists from the Makers:

H. PATTISSON & CO., STANMORE, MIDDLESEX

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS 56 & 57, Drury Lane London W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

OCT 1 9 1926

THE GARDEN

THE AMATEUR GARDENERS' PAPER

Vol. XC.—No. 2862 Saturday, October 9th, 1926 Price TWOPENCE

PERIODICAL ROOM GENERAL LIBRARY UNIV. OF MICH.

WITH THEIR CLUSTERS OF ORANGE YELLOW FLOWERS IN SPRING AND THEIR SPRAYS OF RICH RED ATTRACTIVE BERRIES IN AUTUMN COMBINED WITH BRONZY RED FOLIAGE TINTS, THE BARBERRIES UNDOUBTEDLY STAND IN THE FIRST RANK OF OUR ORNAMENTAL SHRUBS FOR GENERAL PLANTING IN ALL GARDENS THEY ARE EASY TO CULTIVATE AND HARDY IN NATURE, TWO FINE QUALITIES WHICH SHOULD COMMEND THEM TO ALL GARDEN LOVERS.

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
New Alpines and Perennials
Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
Specialist in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD
CHELSEA, S.W.
Bulb Catalogue Now Ready

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

H. PRINS,
BULB AND PLANT GROWERS
WISBECH, CAMBS.
Bulb list free on application

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND, SODDYNE, NICOTINE, INSECTICIDES, FUNGUS SPRAYS AND OTHER CHEMICALS ARE SUPERIOR. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES—THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY. IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT, CARRIAGE PAID.

MANUFACTURERS: TOMLINSON & HAYWARD LTD. LINCOLN

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing*

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
HULL
Weed Destroyers Fertilizers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

TUBS FOR SHRUBS.
WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 100 prizes. R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. — Price List from A. PRADAL, 26, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

THE PLANTING SEASON

is fast approaching, and intending planters are advised to place their orders at the earliest possible date in order to secure early delivery.

THE BARNHAM NURSERIES LTD. offer a magnificent stock of

Fruit Trees - - Roses
Alpines - Hardy Perennials
Ornamental Trees & Shrubs
Hedge and Shelter Plants

- and will be glad to send - descriptive catalogues on application.

The BARNHAM NURSERIES Ltd.
BARNHAM, SUSSEX.

"Phew-m-e-s!"

A sudden oppressiveness warns the white-fly of his approaching end! There is no escape in any corner from XL ALL White-Fly Vapour. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen and florists.

XL ALL WHITE-FLY VAPOUR

G. H. RICHARDS LTD.,
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
R. 188. Monomark: BCM/XLALL.

CHEALS OF CRAWLE

Have over FIFTY YEARS' Experience of GARDEN AND ESTATE PLANTING and General Improvements.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY ACR of Nursery stocked with a First Class Collection o

Ornamental Trees - Shrub
FRUIT TREES.
Herbaceous and Alpine Plant
ROSES, DAHLIAS, and all Garden Requisi

IT WOULD PAY YOU TO CONSULT THEM. Catalogues of each Department and an Illustrated Pamp on Garden Design.

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD
The Nurseries, **CRAWLEY.**

BLOM FOR BULBS

Apply for Catalogue to—

Messrs. J. C. WHITNEY & Co.,
Eldon Street House, Eldon Street,
London, E.C. - - - *or to—*

WALTER BLOM & SON, LTD.
(Late of Overveen),
Hillegom, Holland.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

EBBS' COLLECTIONS OF BULBS.—st Quality. Excellent Value. Collections for Forcing; Growing in Bulb Compost; for Conservatories; for dows; for Beds, Borders and Outdoor Growth. Each, and 21/-. For lists of contents see Webbs' Illustrated Catalogue. Post Free.—WEBB AND SONS, LIMITED, Bulb cialists, Stourbridge.

YOUR NEW GARDEN" is a publication ially compiled by us to assist economically the making of new garden. In addition, we issue catalogues of Bulbs, s, Fruit Trees, Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Evergreens, ering, Hedgemaking and Screening Shrubs, Hardy and e Plants, any of which we will gladly send, post free. Each contains copious cultural notes and is beautifully illustrated. OHN WATERER, SONS AND CRISP, LIMITED, Twyford, Berks.

MALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODEN-ONS, on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and ne Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write Catalogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

AKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE, he original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See ert. on back page.

M. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., rence Road, South Tottenham, N.15. — Conservatories, ter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

RDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUN-ALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—RTON, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

NCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and den Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE BERT UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, rey.

EMENTS' DUTCH BULBS. st Quality at Moderate Prices. Descriptive Catalogue taining over 700 Named Varieties, including various Novel-, also Cultural Directions, sent post free. Please mention er.—V. D. CLEMENTS & Co., 12, Stockton Gardens, tenham, London, N.17.

RDER CARNATIONS.—200 varieties, in 14 varieties, from 6/6; 50 in 50 ditto, from 25/-; riage paid. Lists free. J. HAYWARD, Chace Gardens, kes Road, Purbrook, Cosham, Hants.

VEET PEAS.—My New Catalogue, containing the leading Novelties for 1927, should be in the hands all keen Exhibitors.—F. C. WOODCOCK, Sweet Pea Specialist, lmer, Kent.

XHIBITION HYACINTHS, FIRST SIZE.—ndaise Marie Garibaldi, Yellow Hammer, Peyrense, Lady by, etc., 12 in 12 varieties, 5/6; 6 for 3/-. Carriage paid.—CKENS, Specialist, Retford, Notts.

LPINES, ROCK AND HERBACEOUS ANTS, Dwarf Conifers and Shrubs, Bulbs for the Rock rden, etc. New catalogue ready, post free.—SHEPPARDS, awhurst Nursery, Hollywood, Birmingham.

ARE PRIMULA AND ALPINE SEEDS m large (2,000) collection. Also plants and rockery bulbs. ts free.—REV. J. F. ANDERSON, Glen Hall, Leicester.

ALLFLOWERS, Ruby Gem, Blood Red, sh of Gold, Vulcan (deep crimson), and Linneus (white), ra strong plants, 100 2/6; 250 for 5/6, or 500, 10/-. Carefully ked. Carriage paid.—C. R. SHILLING, 6, Hartley Nursery, nchfield, Hants.

OLIATH STRAWBERRY.—The largest od in cultivation. Fruit from 2oz. to 4oz. in weight, of fine vour and most prolific. Does well in any soil or locality. rong plants selected from fertile stock, 50 for 3/6 or 100 6/-. rriage paid.—C. R. SHILLING, 6, Hartley Nursery, Winchfield. nts.

EAUTIFUL AND RARE ANEMONES, binsoni, 12, 2/-; Blue Bonnet, 6d.; coerulea, 6d.; Cornuse, 6d.; Allani, 6d.; alba major, 4d.; Apenni, 12, 1/8; pleua, 12, 1/6. Hardy Cyclamen, varied colours, 12, 5.—J. CORNHILL, Byfleet, Weybridge.

BARR'S GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS.—The finest sorts for Pots, Bowls, Exhibition, Flower Borders and to naturalise. Also many new Seedling varieties offered for the first time. Descriptive catalogue free.

BARR'S HYACINTHS, TULIPS, LILIES, CROCUSES, IRISES, etc., for pots and bedding. Finest quality. Descriptive catalogue, with special directions for the culture of Bulbs in Bowls free.

BARR'S GOLD MEDAL IRISES for present planting. Descriptive Catalogue of the best Tall and Dwarf, early and late flowering varieties, sent free on application.—BARR AND SONS, 11, 12 and 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx and perpetual habit. They flourish in the coldest parts of Britain. Extract, *The Times*: "Mr. Douglas is the leading raiser of this flower. His wonderful strain of new cloves is superb." Plant list is now ready.—J. DOUGLAS, Great Bookham.

Yearly Subscription, Inland, 12s.; Foreign, 13s.
Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2.
Offices for Advertisements: 6–11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Editorial: Garden Renovation	563
How to Arrange Herbaceous Borders	564
Plants at their Best in Autumn	565
The Busy Man's Page	566
Some Blue Flowers to Plant Now	567
Foliage Plants for the Small Garden	568
The Joy of Making a New Garden	569
Why Not Have Autumn Tints in Your Garden?	570
The Fruit and Kitchen Garden	572
What Our Readers Say	573–574
Hints Worth Remembering	574
Autumn Sowing of Sweet Peas	575
Nurseries of the British Isles—V: Messrs. Kelway and Son	576
Our Service Bureau	577

HEWITT'S FAMOUS DELPHINIUMS AND ROSES. Catalogue now in distribution. Please write for one.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S BULB CATALOGUE NOW READY containing the choicest and inexpensive Daffodils, Tulips and other Bulbs. "Order early and plant early" so as to avoid disappointment.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GAR-DENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wirework of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 168. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

OSTROWSKIA MAGNIFICA.—One of the most glorious hardy plants in cultivation, flowering roots, 2/6 each; a few specimen roots, 3/6 each. Special offer of Iris and Rare Bulbs, now ready.—PERRY'S HARDY PLANT FARM, Enfield.

GLASS HORTICULTURAL, all sizes stocked; Rough Glass Plate for poultry houses. Ready Mixed Paints, Putty, Diamonds, etc.—BRITISH GLASS COMPANY, Dept. "G.N.," Coopers Buildings, Church Street, Liverpool.

HAVE YOU BOUGHT "The Pruning of Trees and Shrubs," by W. Dallimore, Assistant at Kew? Fully illustrated. 4/6 net; post free, 4/9. From all Booksellers, or direct from the Publishers, DULAU AND CO., LIMITED, 34, Margaret Street, London, W.1.

DOBBIES' FAMOUS BULBS, SCOTCH ROSES and SWEET PEAS for Autumn Sowing. Catalogues free on mentioning THE GARDEN.—DOBBIE AND CO., LIMITED, Edinburgh.

BATH'S HOME-GROWN BULBS.—New Illustrated Catalogue of the finest Narcissi, Tulips, etc., as supplied to the Royal Parks and Gardens, with full cultural directions, is now ready, and will be sent post free on application.—(Dept. E.), R. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS — CHOICE TULIPS, etc. List on application.—THE WELSH BULB FIELDS, St. Asaph.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

ROCK PLANTS AND SHRUBS.—Over 300 varieties in stock. Descriptive Catalogue free. Also Herbaceous Plants and Roses.—HODSONS, LIMITED, 58, Castle Gate, Nottingham.

WE SPECIALISE IN RARE HARDY FLOWERING SHRUBS AND ALPINES. Send for Catalogue.—TRESEDER AND CO., Nurseries, Truro.

LOOK! TANNED GARDEN NETS.—All orders despatched same day. 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25 by 2, 4/-; 25 by 3, 6/-. Odd netting for bushes, 6lb. for 2/6. All carriage paid. Any sizes supplied. Also Tennis Boundary Nets.—MOORE AND CO., Net Works, Rye.

GENTIANA SINO-ORNATA flowered here last year from October until Christmas unharmed by frost. Dazzling sapphire trumpets. Strong pot plants for immediate planting. 9d. each; 3 for 2/3; 6 for 3/9; 12 for 7/6. Cultural instructions sent with each order.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED, Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

INDIAN ORCHIDS.—12 grand fl. sorts, 25s.; 6 sorts Aerides, 23/-; 12 sorts grand fl. Dendrobiums, 35/-; 6 sorts Vandas, 20/-; 6 sorts Cymbidiums, 24/- Cash. All paid in U.K. List free.—CHANDRA NURSERY, P.O. Rhenock, Sikkim (Bengal), India.

PRIOR'S COLCHESTER ROSES, Fruit Trees, Gladioli, Dahlias, Carnations, Herbaceous. Catalogue containing cheap collections free.—D. PRIOR AND SON, LTD., Colchester.

KNIPHOFIA ERECTA.—The most beautiful, brilliant and interesting of the red-hot pokers. Free, parcel post, 18/- per doz.—GALVIN'S NURSERIES, Wexford.

YORK STONE PAVING, for Garden Paths and lily ponds; rectangular or broken for rustic work; steps and wall coping; rockery.—GEO. VINT AND BROS., Stone Merchants, Idle, Bradford.

LABELS.—Patent metal, so simple to write by a nail; can't fade or break. Trial offer bargain; 100 with 50 stakes, 50 tie wires, 1 pocket nail, 10/- free. The R.H.S. use them. Lists.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

ALPINES AND HARDY ROCK PLANTS. 700 varieties. Catalogue free.—LEE, Alpine Gardens, Stechford, Birmingham.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 19/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastina," the imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/- post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

BULBS FOR NATURALISING

All Delivered Post Free at your door.

	per doz.	per 100	per 1,000
MUSCARIA HYACINTHS, Grape Hyacinths, blue	1/-	5/-	40/-
SNOWDROPS, earliest flowers of Spring	1/-	6/-	50/-
SPARAXIS, selected show mixtures, all colours	6d.	3/-	25/-
CROCUS, in finest mixed, all colours	1/-	4/-	35/-
SCILLA SIBIRICA, extra fine blue	1/-	9/-	80/-
NARCISSUS, all varieties and colours mixed	1/-	7/6	60/-
TULIPS, all varieties and colours mixed	1/-	7/-	60/-

(All the above for growing in Woodlands or Grass)

Full Illustrated List post free upon application.

H. PRINS (F.R.H.S.) *Flower Bulb Specialists,* **WISBECH, CAMBS.**

WHY is "HOMES and GARDENS" such a Great Success?

BECAUSE it shows greater House Comfort & Convenience —with less Labour and Expense.

Send to-day for a Free specimen Copy of this helpful and beautifully Illustrated Magazine to 20, Tavistock St., Covent Garden, W.C.2

LONGSTAFF & SONS

FINEST QUALITY BULBS

These are not odd lots bought at sales (which are often not true to name), but our own direct importation. You can pay more money, but you cannot obtain better.

LOVELY DARWIN TULIPS

OUR SPECIAL COLLECTION of 100 TOP SIZE BULBS in 10 Choice Varieties for **10/-**; First Size Bulbs **7/6**; Large Second Size **5/-**, Carriage Paid.

Ask for Special List and compare our Prices.

LONGSTAFF & SONS,

Bulb Growers, Importers and Merchants,

Near CHELSFIELD STATION, KENT.

Chase Continuous Cloches

should be used through winter to protect Sweet Peas, Parsley, Lettuce, Cuttings, Christmas Roses, etc.

Tent Shape, Size A, 12 for 18/-; 52 for 55/-
Barn Shape, No. 1, 6 for 18/-; 26 for 55/-

CHASE ALPINE CLIPS hold any glass over Alpine plants. 3/6 per doz.

Above prices include carriage to any railway station in England and Wales, or part carriage elsewhere.

SECTIONAL FRUIT RACKS build up to any size. Each section contains 5 trays of 4 sq. ft. One section, 25/-; two sections, 45/-, f.o.r.

Full particulars, Cloches, Clips, Racks:

CHASE CONTINUOUS CLOCHE, Chertsey, Surrey

LAWNS Autumn Treatment

FERTILISER, restores grass; 20/- per cwt.
WORMKILLER, stops worm-casts; 19/- per cwt.
Both net cash, carriage paid.

HY. RICHARDSON & CO.,
Skelidergate Bridge Works, YORK.

THE DOWNER LUPIN

is now known all the World over.

Apply for Lupin List; also Herbaceous and Alpine Catalogue.

DOWNER

2, Drayton Manor Nurseries, CHICHESTER

By Appointment.

BOULTON & PAUL

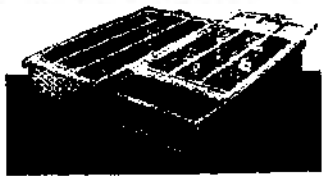
GARDEN FRAMES

High grade, solidly built. Renowned for durability strength and simplicity.

Delivered ready painted, glazed 21 oz. English glass, complete with bolts, and can be put together in a few minutes by any amateur.

TYPICAL EXAMPLES

No. H. 77



VIOLET OR BORDER FRAME.
Supplied with Sliding or Hinged Lights.
Cash Prices:

1-Light Frame (sliding)	3ft. by 4ft.	£1 15 0
2-Light Frame ,,	6ft. by 4ft.	£2 18 0
3-Light Frame ,,	9ft. by 4ft.	£4 4 0
1-Light Frame (hinged)	3ft. by 4ft.	£2 2 0
2-Light Frame ,,	6ft. by 4ft.	£3 15 0
3-Light Frame ,,	9ft. by 4ft.	£5 7 0

No. H. 75

MELON AND CUCUMBER FRAME.
Cash Prices:

1-Light frame, 4ft. long by 6ft. wide	£3 10 0
2-Light Frame, 8ft. long by 6ft. wide	£5 13 0
3-Light Frame, 12ft. long by 6ft. wide	£7 15 0

No. H. 74

BEDDING-OUT FRAME.
Cash Prices:

4ft. long by 6ft. wide	£7 2 6
8ft. long by 6ft. wide	£10 15 0
12ft. long by 6ft. wide	£14 13 0

No. H. 62

LEAN-TO FRAME FOR BRICKWORK
Cash Prices:

10ft. long by 3ft. wide by 1ft. 9ins. high at back, above wall	£5 18 0
15ft. long by 3ft. wide, ditto	£8 7 0
10ft. by 4ft. by 2ft. at back	£8 5 0
15ft. by 4ft. by 2ft. at back	£10 5 0

Carriage paid to most stations in England and Wales. Packing extra, but allowed for if returned.

For other designs and sizes ask for Catalogue No. 144

Examples of B. & P. Garden Frames and Greenhouses, Poultry Houses, Motor Houses, Shelters and Shoverooms may be seen at our London Office and Showroom 135-7, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4.

Boulton & Paul Ltd.
NORWICH
LONDON OFFICE 135-137 QUEEN VICTORIA ST. E.C.

A most interesting

FRUIT TREE CATALOGUE

FREE and POST FREE

THIS Catalogue nicely produced and well printed, contains a valuable host of useful hints on FRUIT TREE CULTURE—for Amateur and Professional. Herein will be found all the best and most popular Fruits for all purposes, alphabetically arranged for ready reference. A feature has been made of interesting Chats on soils, situations, and fertilizers; in fact, it is a valuable book, which should be in the hands of all those who possess a Garden or Fruit Farm, large or small. Sit down now, while the matter is fresh in your mind, and write for your free copy.

KING'S ACRE ROSES

THE King's Acre Nurseries — famous since 1785 for the stamina and vigour of their roses—have hardy and reliable

Bushes and Ramblers

in a wonderful, almost endless variety, which they are offering at prices considered by experts and amateurs to be beyond competition.

Alphabetically arranged Rose Catalogue, replete with reliable information, FREE ON REQUEST.

AWARDED 95 GOLD MEDALS.

KING'S ACRE NURSERIES, LTD., HEREFORD

Established 1785. ∴ *NURSERIES—140 ACRES.*

SPECIAL VALUE IN COLLECTIONS OF FRUIT TREES AND ROSES

Digitized by Google

UNWIN'S SWEET PEAS

HAVE PROVED THEIR SUPERIORITY - COMPARE OUR PRICES & REMEMBER THERE ARE NO SWEET PEAS OF BETTER QUALITY

Sow in the Autumn for best results. You will eventually grow Unwin's. Why not THIS Season?

FULL CATALOGUE POST FREE

SPECIAL COLLECTION OFFER

The finest value ever offered in Sweet Peas.

UNWIN'S EXHIBITION COLLECTION

W. J. Unwin. | Sybil Henshaw.
Charming. | Powerscourt.
Grenadier. | Youth.
Mauve Beauty. | Picture.
Mrs. Tom Jones. | Constance Hinton.
Matchless. | Hebe.
The Sultan. | Royal Purple.

2/- for 12 seeds each of above 14 varieties.
3/9 for 25 seeds each of above 14 varieties.
Postage 1½d. extra.

Two Books on Culture every Grower should read:

"THE SWEET PEA AND ITS CULTIVATION" and its 1927 "Supplement."

By W. J. UNWIN.

These books contain all the information the amateur needs, given in a simple, detailed and interesting manner, and illustrated by explanatory sketches. They have helped thousands to grow better Sweet Peas. Why not let them help you?
Price **9d.** the two (post free for **10½d.**)

W. J. UNWIN · F.R.H.S. — *Sweet Pea Specialist and Seedsman,* — **HISTON - Cambs.**

39th YEAR

S. PYM'S FAMOUS PLANTS

AT VERY MODERATE PRICES.

for Catalogue of Choice Hardy Perennial Plants Rockeries, Crazy Paving, Borders, Beds, Greenhouse, Plant now for success, and get plants established e winter. Prompt despatch. Correctly named. fully packed, and guaranteed to arrive in excellent condition. Carriage paid.

Mrs. PYM, F.R.H.S.,
Vine House, Woodston, PETERBOROUGH

PLANT CARNATIONS NOW FOR BEST RESULTS

Our stocks of plants ex 3½in. pots for prompt delivery are the finest obtainable. Each of the undermentioned collections is exceptional value.

LLWOODII (half Pink, half Carnation).—The popular hardy plant—grows anywhere and flowers from spring to winter.

8 Plants in good variety 5/6
2 " " " 10/6
5 " " " 20/-
Carriage Paid.

ORDER CARNATIONS.—We grow only the best proved hardy Garden Kinds, from which you are certain to get satisfaction.

6 Plants in good variety 8/6
2 " " " 16/6
5 " " " 30/-
Caariage Paid.

HARDY PERPETUAL BORDER CARNATIONS—The old Carnations' charm, the new Carnations' freedom. Well cultivated, they produce masses of flower from early Summer to Autumn.

8 Plants in good variety 8/6
12 " " " 16/6
Carriage Paid.

ORDER NOW FOR PROMPT DELIVERY—or write for illustrated Catalogue, post free on request to

Allwood Bros. The leading Carnation Raisers and Specialists in the World,
Dept. 4, Hayward's Heath, Sussex

AUTUMN TINTS in the GARDEN

AT the fall of the year nothing is quite so attractive in garden, woodland or shrubbery as those trees and shrubs which taking on their Autumn tints create splashes of gorgeous colour at a time when the flowering plants in beds and borders are becoming bedraggled and untidy.

Conspicuous amongst the shrubs which thus add to the beauty of the Autumn days, are the many lovely varieties of Berberis with their brilliant coloured foliage in shades of yellow, orange and crimson, to be followed a little later by equally attractive coral red fruits daintily hung on graceful branches. In Spring, Summer, Autumn or Winter these Barberries are always lovely, either with flower, foliage or berry, and for grouping in bold masses on lawns, by the side of water, on edge of woodland, or in shrubbery they have no equal. Our catalogue describing these and many other beautiful trees and shrubs for present planting will be posted free on application.

JOHN JEFFERIES & SONS, LTD.
Royal Nurseries :: CIRENCESTER

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Glass breaks!

USE

'WINDOLITE'

The practical Glass Substitute for all GARDEN PURPOSES.

LIGHT FLEXIBLE UNBREAKABLE

Easy to cut and fix. It keeps out cold and wet, but lets in all the light—even the Ultra Violet Rays which are stopped by glass.

Send **4/6** *for post free sample, 3 ft by 2 ft.*

WINDOLITE (DEPT. C) 179/185, GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

Seedsmen by Appointment

WORMS & LAWNS

These pests are now beginning to work and are throwing up their muddy casts. Where they abound the turf becomes coarse, weedy, soft and muddy.

USE CARTERS WORMKILLER

Full directions for use with each package

7 lbs. 3/6; 14 lbs. 5/-; 28 lbs. 8/-; 56 lbs. 14/-; per cwt. 22/6 Carriage paid

"THE CASE AGAINST THE WORM" POST FREE ON APPLICATION

Carters TESTED SEEDS

Grass & Turf Specialists

RAYNES PARK
LONDON, S.W.20

BY APPOINTMENT.
Fertiliser Manufacturers to H.M. THE KING.

KILL CLOVER NOW

COMPLETE destruction of Clover in Lawns can be obtained by the use of Fisons' Lawn Sand. The Grass is nourished at the same time. It is a recognised weed eradicator. Use 4ozs. to the square yard. One cwt. is ample for a Tennis Court.

FISONS' LAWN SAND

is delivered direct from the works in wooden kegs, carriage paid.

14-lbs.	28-lbs.	56-lbs.	112-lbs.
7/6	12/6	20/-	35/-

Write for Illustrated Catalogue No. 6, containing particulars of Fertilizers for all Garden Crops with full instructions for use.

JOSEPH FISON & CO. LTD
IPSWICH

Notes from Maidstone.

PRUNUS DAVIDIANA

Many gardeners have planted this charming shrub only to find it die back after a few years. This, we think, is very probably due to the fact that we have not yet found the right stock to graft it upon. We are pleased, therefore, to be able to offer plants raised from seed of the White and Pink variety, small bushes at 3/6 each, which we hope will restore this valuable spring flowering tree to British gardens.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd.,
The Royal Nurseries,
Established 1796. Maidstone.

Allens' Roses

ENSURE SUCCESS! OBTAIN A COPY OF OUR CATALOGUE BEFORE OBTAINING YOUR ROSES.

CONTENTS include :— **Frank descriptions of novelties, indicating improved forms—Select lists of roses for all purposes—Critical descriptions of over 500 varieties—Six colour plates—Cultural Hints—Rose diseases and their treatment, etc., etc.**

SEND A CARD FOR IT TO-DAY.
A complete Handbook of Roses and their culture.

For a limited period and solely to circulate our catalogue we are offering our "Superb" collection of 12 fine dwarf roses as below for October delivery. Price 12/- carriage paid. Cash with order.

BETTY UPRICHARD, the finest rose in commerce; salmon and orange scarlet.
DIADEM, orange crimson suffused salmon.
ETOILE DE HOLLANDE, the finest, fragrant dark crimson rose.
HORTULANUS BUDDE, an effective crimson scarlet.
JAMES WALLEY, rich apricot and salmon.
JULES TABART, silvery salmon, copper centre.
MRS. BECKWITH, clear lemon yellow.
MRS. WEMYSS QUIN, intense lemon chrome.
SOUV. DE. GEORGES PERNET, coppery pink.
SUNSTAR, orange tipped vermilion.
THE QUEEN ALEXANDRA, vermilion and old gold.
VANITY, new Hybrid musk, large trusses of rose pink flowers.

All first-class varieties in finest quality plants.

ORDER NOW AND ENSURE EARLY DELIVERY.

A. J. & C. ALLEN, Dept. M, Nurserymen, Norwich, Norfolk.

NEW HARDY CRIMSON BROOM

AT Chelsea Show (1925) the King said," That red Broom is certainly very striking." This was the new crimson Broom "Dorothy Walpole," which received the unanimous Award of Merit from the R.H.S. as well as other distinctions in London and on the Continent. Plants have been sent to U.S.A., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, France, Holland, etc.

In the Field, *a well known ex-Curator of Kew Gardens wrote: "The richest coloured Broom known is one named 'Dorothy Walpole.' It is as hardy as the common Broom . . . and is very free-flowering . . . the colour is rich velvety crimson . . . more attractive than any of the coloured Brooms yet seen." The colour far surpasses Cytisus Dallimorei, and the growth is as vigorous as C. Andreanus; it requires no special treatment nor any kind of protection whatever—just a hardy shrub for ordinary garden soil in any part of the British Isles, however far north.*

A Vice-Chairman, Floral Committee, R.H.S., wrote: "Everyone who has seen my plant has been astonished at its warm glowing red"; and from a lady in Devon: "I am so delighted with the Broom 'Dorothy Walpole.' It has done splendidly and is like a sparkling gem in the garden—one mass of flower."

NEW SEASON'S PRICES.

Strong pot-grown plants now ready for planting out, to flower in May, 7/6 each. Carriage paid rates to any station in Great Britain or Ireland: One plant, carriage paid, 10/-; two plants, carriage paid, 18/6; three plants, carriage paid, 26/-; six plants, carriage paid, 49/6; twelve plants, carriage paid, 99/-.

Coloured illustration sent on application if THE GARDEN *is mentioned.*

Wm. Watson & Sons, Limited, Nurserie, Killiney, Co. Dublin.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

VOL. XC.—No. 2862. OCTOBER 9, 1926 PRICE TWOPENCE.

GARDEN RENOVATION

TOWARDS the end of the summer it is well to give a little attention to renovation work in the garden. Too often the hardy perennial subjects in the herbaceous border are allowed to go on year after year, the idea being that these plants can very well look after themselves and that any time bestowed upon them is more or less wasted. As a matter of fact, any herbaceous border calls for a large amount of consideration if it is to be entirely successful. The plants vary a great deal in the vigour of their growth and the stronger kinds are always likely to crowd out the less robust sorts; in many instances the latter may be the more desirable. In October one can see at a glance just what has happened during the growing season. The more robust varieties of aster are likely to have developed to such an extent that they are taking up far more than their share of room, while the perennial sunflowers are turning up in situations where it was never intended that they should be at all. As a matter of fact, if the bed has been established for three or four years, it is worth while considering whether the time has not come to have a complete replanting. Of course, the lifting and reduction of the biggest plants, here and there, may be attempted, but it is usually more satisfactory to make a complete re-arrangement. This will give an opportunity for the trenching and manuring of the bed to make good the nutriment which the strong plants have taken from the ground. Where a complete replanting of the border is not carried out an annual manuring is really a necessity. Well rotted farmyard manure or artificial fertilisers may be employed as top-dressings.

Of course, the actual replanting of the herbaceous border will not be taken in hand until later on. It is important to decide, however, what you are going to do before the plants are cut down. In the case of a large bed it is worth while making a rough plan and, on this, noting the specimens which require some checking. In certain soils some of the perennials grow much taller than in others, and it may be needful to remove these more to the rear of the bed. Then while you can still find out the colours of the flowers, attach labels to the clumps. It is far better if the plants are to be lifted to tie a label to the stem rather than rely on one pushed into the soil near the clump. It is most annoying, after digging up a mass of roots of aster, for instance, to find that you have not the faintest idea as to the variety with which you are dealing.

Then, again, certain subjects must now be moved entirely from their positions. Now is the time to lift all your gladioli, also any other tender plants which have been outside during the summer months. Do not deal with these subjects carelessly, but treat them with respect. The drying and storing of these summer-flowering plants is a most important duty and, if well done, the gardener will be amply repaid next season by another fine display of flower. Detailed instructions are given elsewhere in this issue regarding the storing of gladioli, and if all amateurs will follow these carefully there will be no reason why, next year, their show of gladioli should not be as fine, if not finer, than this year's display. Moreover, their stock of plants will, in all probability, have increased.

Roses, this year, have been particularly good, and a little time spent among the roses during the next few weeks will be amply repaid. Where space permits, a few new varieties may be added to one's collection. Be careful in your choice, however, and do not make a selection purely on the beauty of the bloom seen at a flower show. Be mainly guided by what sorts do well in your particular district. It is an excellent criterion on which to work. Not a few varieties have something against them, such as being prone to mildew or, as is the case with many pernetianas, a prey to that unsightly disease, black spot. Rely chiefly on well tried sorts, although they may be old stagers. After all, they are wanted for garden decoration principally. According to all the canons, all the necessary preparation of the soil and heavy spadework should be completed by the end of this month at the latest, and planting commenced immediately afterwards. The secret of good rose culture is to provide a soil which is of a holding nature. It must retain a certain amount of moisture in the heat of summer, and it is for that reason that a soil of a clayey nature is excellent for roses. Be careful in planting, which should neither be too deep nor so shallow that the plants will be blown over. A good guide is to place the point of union of the stock and graft at soil level or an inch or so below it, as often soil shrinkage in the beds leaves it slightly above the ground level. If attention is given to these few points, the planting of roses will present no difficulty to the beginner. Shrub renewals may also be undertaken now, and try, as far as possible, to plant a few which will provide variety over the year.

Although these remarks apply wholly to the flower garden, bear in mind that already consideration should be given to the planting of fruit trees next month, and that the time has now come to select varieties for future planting.

If these details of renovation and renewal are given the care and attention that ought to be devoted to them, then next year's garden will gain considerably in return.

HAVE YOU

¶ *Lifted the rooted layers of your border carnations? These should be potted up and stood in a cold frame.*

¶ *Taken cuttings of such bedding plants as antirrhinums, pentstemons, violas, pansies and calceolarias? Insert these cuttings in a frame containing sandy soil.*

¶ *Cleaned up your herbaceous border, lightly forked it over and given it a thin dressing of well decayed manure?*

¶ *Stored in a frost-proof shed your begonias, cannas, Salvia patens, etc.?*

¶ *Prepared and manured your ground for planting fruit trees?*

¶ *Made an autumn sowing of broad beans?*

¶ *Lifted and stored your carrots and beetroot?*

¶ *Protected your winter-greens by drawing up soil round the stems?*

Owing to the numerous letters which we have received from our readers asking the name of the variety of delphinium illustrated on the front cover of our issue of September 25th, 1926, we have pleasure in stating that it is the variety Monarch of Wales, one of the finest of the Wrexham strain sold by Messrs. Hewitts of Birmingham. We are indebted to Messrs. Hewitts for the flowers from which the illustration was made. At the same time we take the opportunity of thanking readers for the many kind letters of congratulation received during the past few days.

Digitized by Google

HOW TO ARRANGE HERBACEOUS BORDERS

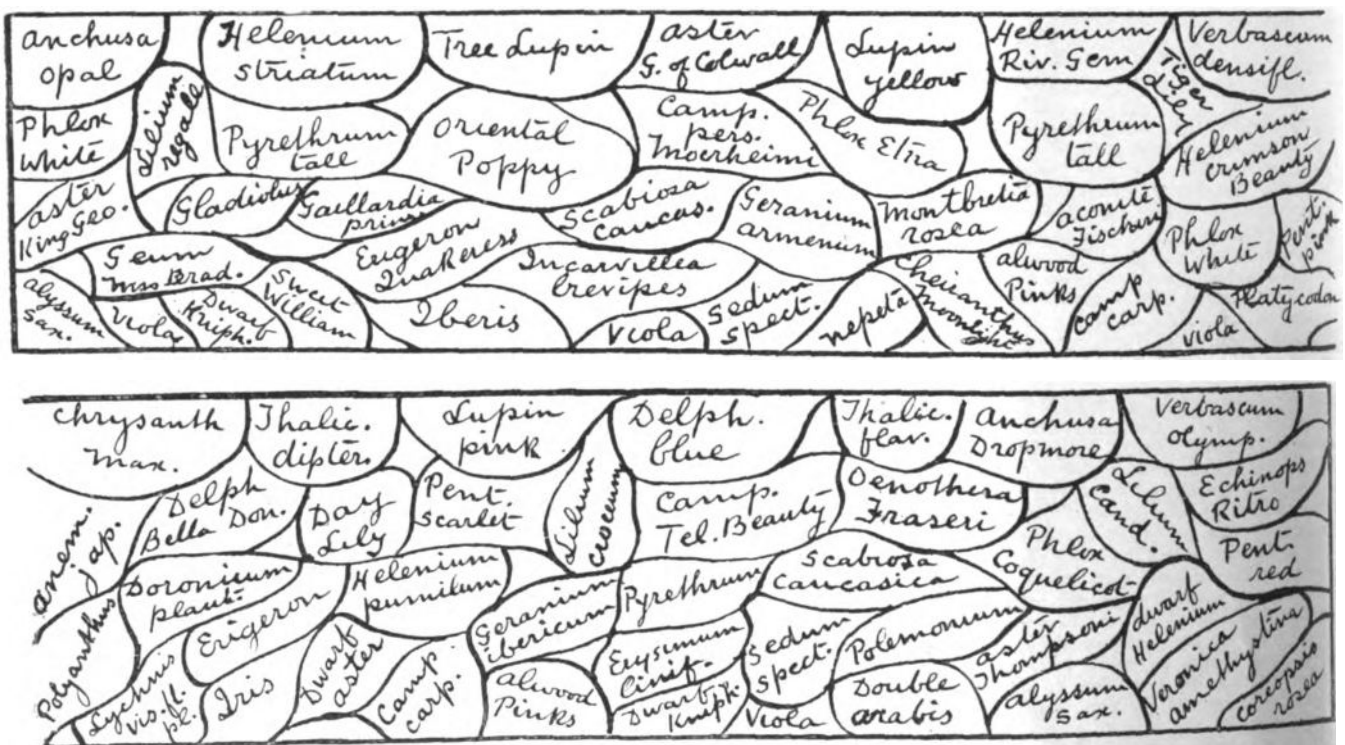
In this article, with its accompanying plan of a small simple herbaceous border, suggestions are given which may aid the amateur in the selection and grouping of plants to provide a border which will give the maximum effect over a long period. The work of planning and re-making the summer border should be commenced immediately.

THE average amateur's keenness for herbaceous subjects is generally limited by his space. He wants, or must have, a border that will give a pleasing effect the season through, and if this can never be the most satisfactory way of dealing with herbaceous perennials, it has its compensations. Such a border is always interesting and full of the charm of variety. It can, for the most part, be planned and planted right away in autumn. It involves a minimum of labour and expense, and if it does not yield a vast block of unbroken colour from spring to autumn, it can be quite gay enough to satisfy most of us.

As these suggestions are manifestly intended to give the beginner a "leg-up" in the difficulties he will usually encounter in making a start, the accompanying plan will doubtless prove helpful. Such a lay-out will perhaps not please everyone, nor will it be applicable to all soils and situations. Then we all have our individual tastes in flowers and their arrangement, and every planter should aim at striking a personal note. Here I can only propose a certain number of the hundreds of plants one has to choose from. These are selected, as I have suggested, with the view of obtaining an all-round interest, but the reader can delete some or add others as the fancy leads him.

The preparation of the border will always depend upon the condition and nature of the soil. Generally speaking, the ground should be well dug—trenched if necessary—and have worked into it a good dressing of really old manure or well rotted vegetable compost. This is especially needed along the back half of the border, and before the planting is done the soil must be allowed to settle naturally.

A glance at the plan will show that the taller plants are placed at the rear, but in the case of a border that has a walk on both sides, these would, of course, be down the centre. Then come subjects of rather lesser stature, while along the front are dwarf, or edging, plants. But, while this is a sound general rule, too much uniformity is not desirable. If some of the taller things are brought forward a little and lower ones worked back, a more pleasant variety in contour will be the result. Indeed, there are few features which afford such a striking note of character to a border as one or two moderately tall and stately plants among the lesser fry of the front row. Among these may be mentioned the dwarf kniphofias (early and late), Veronica gentianoides, Linum narbonense, liatris, Verbascum hybridum cupreum, V. nigrum, Camassia esculenta, Campanula grandis and Polemonium Richardsonii. Again, with the object of giving point and distinction to the border, such grassy-leaved subjects as the day-lilies, libertias and irises are most effective.



Into colour arrangement I need not enter, for reasons given; but if the planter desires he can, even in a border no more than about 40ft. long, so dispose all the taller plants that the stronger colours will be in the centre, with a gradation to the paler ones at each end. Or he may place the latter in the middle and work right and left to the deeper tones. On the other hand, in adopting something after the design of the plan, some regard must be given to the blending of harmonious colours and the avoidance of clashing tints.

Spacing is a detail which will have to be studied when treating each individual plant, or rather group of plants, for it will be wiser in most instances to put from three to five roots in a group, save in the case of big things like lupins, the taller verbascums and anchusas. But where there is any doubt it is wiser to be on the safe side and give too much room than not enough. In any event, but more especially during the first year or two, there will be spaces between each subject to fill up. These are, by way of illustration, indicated by blanks in the plan. Therefore, in addition to the herbaceous perennials with which the border is mainly planted, there is an extensive list of subjects which, if not strictly herbaceous, are quite permissible and extremely useful.

These fill-gaps are mainly biennials, annuals and bulbous plants, and while many of them are tall enough for the back row, they are often very slender and so take little room. To name a few, I never think a border is complete without some evening primroses of the large-flowered kind. The white, yellow and mottled foxgloves are also first-rate subjects, and Canterbury bells will often come in very useful. A few border chrysanthemums, which need not be put out until some of the earlier things are cut back, will always be welcome during the later summer and autumn, and at the same time groups of montbretias and the Cape hyacinth (Galtonia candicans), will do much to prolong the show of colour.

Then there are the spring bulbs, daffodils, alliums, ornithogalums, brodiæas and the like, which will go fairly well back, as will the late-flowering gladioli, antirrhinums and May-flowering (Darwin and cottage) tulips. These tulips are a most valuable addition to an herbaceous border, the long, slender stems rising among other plants to a height of 2ft. or 3ft., and the flowers, which last a long time, often going on to midsummer.

If the border is verged by grass, true herbaceous subjects can, if desired, be brought right to the front; but if there is a path, or stone edging, then one may go in for any of the various more or less prostrate subjects usually classed as rock plants. A few of these are included in the plan, but there are scores of others—campanulas, sun roses, armerias, alpine phloxes and pinks, æthionemas, veronicas, hypericums, tiarellas and heucheras. These give a charming finish to a border, and here, again, the planter will be able to indulge his fancy to almost any extent in the many comely little bulbous plants which go so well with these front-seaters. The inclusion here of such subjects as rock plants and bulbs may be unorthodox, but I know that in my own borders they afford a colour and interest I would not be without.

A. T. J.

Digitized by Google

PLANTS AT THEIR BEST IN AUTUMN

This is the third of a series of contributions to THE GARDEN *by the well known writer on horticulture, Mr. A. J. Macself. It is really an enlargement of our "Worthy Plants" that has been such a popular features.*

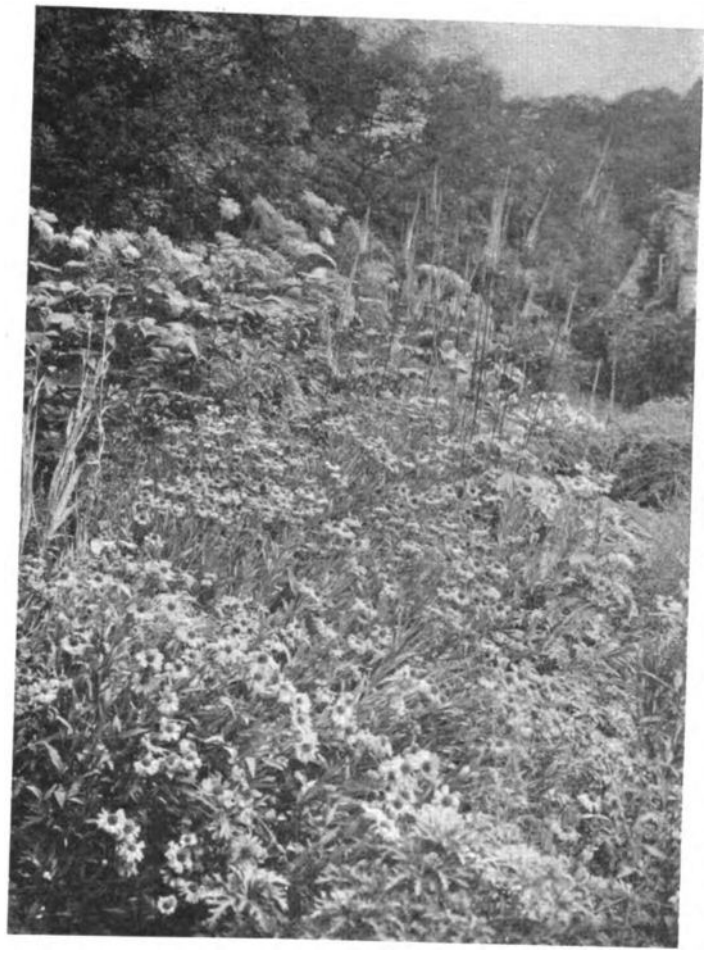
THERE is ground for lavishing special affection upon the plants which, having already given us of their best during the bright warm days of summer, are nobly making an effort to cheer us now that October's misty mornings tell us so plainly that summer is gone and winter is drawing near.

Potentilla Gibson's Scarlet.

Even yet this excellent shrub opens sufficient blossoms to bespangle its sprawling stems with scarlet as vivid now as it was in June. There are very few plants which maintain an unbroken succession of flowers for so long a period as this potentilla. It is no wonder there is always a scarcity of this plant, for it must fascinate many thousands who see it somewhere at some time during the period extending from the last week or so of May right into October. Two feet from plant to plant is not too much to allow when forming a colony or group in the foreground of a border, and the growths should be allowed to lie about just as they choose; it is a great mistake to tie or restrict the ever-lengthening stems in any way. Planted this month, on a patch of deeply dug and well manured soil, a dozen plants will provide a gorgeous display next year. It pays for liberal feeding with liquid manure.

Helenium pumilum magnificum.

By cutting closely back a few clumps of the bright yellow helenium when their summer flower-heads were going to seed the plants were induced to make fresh growth from the base. The stems are little more than half the length and substance of the first growths, but since mid-September they have thrown up as liberal a quantity of bloom as they gave in July. By keeping the September flowers cut right from the ground line, growth of new shoots has continued, and now, even after the latest of helianthus and rudbeckias have lost their charm, there is a bold show of clear golden yellow on these hard-worked heleniums. To persist in this treatment upon the same plants every year would, doubtless, wear them out; but it is a simple matter to treat half a batch one year and the other half the next.



GOLDEN HELENIUMS LOOK WELL IN THE AUTUMN BORDER.
By cutting back a few clumps now, fresh growths will be encouraged and perhaps a prolongation of bloom.

THE "WHITEWASHED" STEMS OF THE HANDSOME BRAMBLE RUBUS QUINQUEFLORUS.
These show up well in autumn and winter when planted against evergreens.

Cupressus macrocarpa lutea

This is not a plant of a week or a month—its extreme elegance is enjoyable every day in the year; but just now its clear yellow tint appears to be particularly bright, and it stands conspicuous among coniferæ, and especially in contrast to the darkest of green Irish yews. There was some talk of this fine conifer being less hardy than the type, but that is due to fancy rather than fact. Like its parent, it thrives best in sea air, and when it is not happy, geographical position seems to be the cause usually, and it is more a matter of longitude than latitude. The principal necessity is to be content to plant small young plants, and there can be little objection to this, for it is an extremely rapid grower.

Euonymus europæus.

This plant should never be despised because its name figures among the wildings of some few spinneys and woods of Britain, but it is not half enough grown in gardens. I have just seen a young "feathered" tree which, apparently, has never been touched with a knife, and right from the ground-line its delightful clusters of opened pods illuminate the whole tree with wondrous splendour. It is, indeed, as catalogues are wont to say, "a most attractive shrub which should be largely planted." The variety coccineus is of a more dazzling sealing-wax red than the type, and one or both should be ordered forthwith by all who are making new gardens.

The Whitewashed Bramble.

It is now that we can begin to appreciate the weird charm of Rubus Giraldianus or one of its close relatives Rubus biflorus or R. quinqueflorus. Its far-flung, formidably spined branches are white as refined chalk, and there is positively nothing to compare with the effect of a big, spreading bush growing before a background of sweeping cedars. One does not recommend the plant for trim town gardens, but it should be a conspicuous feature in many a wild garden.

Digitized by Google

THE BUSY MAN'S PAGE

Succession in Spring Bedding.

Some Suggestions.

A LITTLE thought expended on the combination of early and late-flowering bulbs, together with a judicious choice of carpeting plants, will ensure the beds and borders being gay from mid-March to the end of May. Here are some suggestions which will be found to work out satisfactorily:

1.—Early double Tulip Lord Beaconsfield (rose), Darwin Tulips La Tristesse (lavender-mauve) and Margaret (pale pink). Carpeting, pink double daisies. Edging of pale purple crocuses.

2.—Narcissus Golden Spur, Cottage Tulip Bouton d'Or (or Golden Crown). Carpeting, Wallflower Vulcan. Edging of Scilla sibirica.

3.—Early single Tulip Queen of the Netherlands (shell pink), Cottage Tulip Inglescombe Pink. Carpeting, Myosotis Sutton's Royal Blue.

4.—Narcissus Henry Irving, mixed Rembrandt tulips. Carpeting, single arabis. Edging, yellow crocuses.

5.—Early Tulip Thomas Moore Improved (brownish red), Narcissus incomparabilis Lucifer. Carpeting Wallflower Primrose Monarch. Edging Chionodoxa Luciliæ.

6.—Early Tulip Prince of Austria (red, shaded orange), Spanish Iris Thunderbolt. Carpeting, Cheiranthus Allionii. Edging, Muscari Heavenly Blue.

7.—Early Tulip Chrysolora (yellow), Darwin Tulip Dream (soft heliotrope), Cottage Tulip Moonlight (pale primrose). Carpeting, mauve primroses.

8.—Narcissus Emperor, Cottage Tulip Ellen Willmott (primrose, shaded yellow). Carpeting Wallflower Blood Red.

9.—Narcissus odorus (Campanelle), Cottage Tulip Millet (crimson) or Darwin Tulip Hambeau (deep crimson, blue centre). Carpeting, double arabis.

10.—Narcissus Tazetta Grand Soleil d'Or, Spanish Iris La Nuit or Heavenly Blue. Carpeting, polyanthus in shades of yellow.

11.—Early Tulip Cottage Maid (pink and white), Cottage Tulip Picotee (white, edged pink). Carpeting, polyanthus in shades of crimson and maroon.

12.—Early Tulip Pottebakker White, Narcissus Leedsii White Lady. Carpeting Wallflower Sutton's Orange Bedder.

In the last six schemes edging plants have not been included, but they can be added if wished.

The Foam Flower.

WELL proved and charming hardy plants are frequently overlooked because of the desire for novelty, whether the new acquisitions are as good or are inferior; but there are many old favourites which it would be almost a crime to neglect. Tiarella cordifolia, the foam flower, comes under this category. When well grown it is delightful, with its rather heart-shaped, spotted leaves and its spikes of white, feathery flowers, which have given it the popular name it bears. It is an excellent plant for the rock garden or border, but as it delights in a good supply of moisture, some rather damp spot might be found for it. It must not, however, be in too wet a place. There is room in most gardens for this lovely little plant, and as it is only a foot or so high it is as well adapted to the small as to the large garden. Plants may be raised from seeds, but it grows well from divisions made in spring or autumn. It grows satisfactorily in sun or shade.

Bulb Planting.

WHEN planting bulbs and corms of all kinds it is advisable to have a quantity of sand near by, a little of which can be utilised for placing below each bulb. The sand at the base of the bulb prevents rotting setting in due to the presence of continuous moisture and to a certain extent stimulates the formation of roots. After planting has been carried out a slight surface mulch given some time in November or December will be found beneficial in protecting the bulbs from severe frost, especially if they have not been planted deep enough.

A PLEASANT SPRING ASSOCIATION OF TULIPS, PEONIES AND GOLDEN ALYSSUM.

All three subjects can be planted now.

Runner Bean Tubers.

MOST people know that scarlet runner beans form large tuberous roots. As a matter of fact the plant is really a perennial, although in this country it is usual to treat it as an annual. It is worth while saving a few of the tubers to secure an extra early crop next year. Select some of the largest, taking care not to injure them with the fork. Then store in a box of dry sand, placing the whole in a frost-free place. These tubers may be planted about ten days before the ordinary seed sowing, and they will produce strong plants that will quickly come to the cropping stage.

Plant and Divide Your Lupins Now.

EARLY autumn and just before growth begins in spring, are the most suitable times to divide and replant lupins. Do not disturb your established lupins unless the soil in which they are growing has become exhausted or you wish to increase your stock by division. It is better to purchase and plant some of the fine new varieties which are now on the market, rather than disturb a clump of lupins which is flowering well. If replanting is necessary, lift the plants gently with a fork on a day when the soil is not sodden, and take care not to break off any of the fleshy roots. Prepare large holes in the border and replant the divided pieces firmly.

Glory of the Snow.

BULBS of this charming, early spring-flowering plant, Chionodoxa Luciliæ, should be planted as soon as they can be obtained. To display its full beauty it should be planted in bold patches; no conception of its true beauty can be formed when only seen as single bulbs dotted about, but the contrary is the case when planted in masses, and one can readily imagine what a wonderful picture it must make in its native land.

Good patches are delightful among rockwork or in the mixed border, but it is lovelier still when seen growing in grass in a position where it will not be over-shaded. Glory of the Snow is a most appropriate name, for it may frequently be seen in full flower when the ground is covered with a carpet of snow, and the blooms remain uninjured even in severe frosts.

Although it is sometimes recommended for indoor pot culture, it is not exactly suitable for that purpose. Even outside it appears naturally to flower rather irregularly, and this characteristic is more marked when grown in pots. Under cold-frame treatment it has proved most unsatisfactory, and it is not nearly so good as Scilla sibirica for pot work.

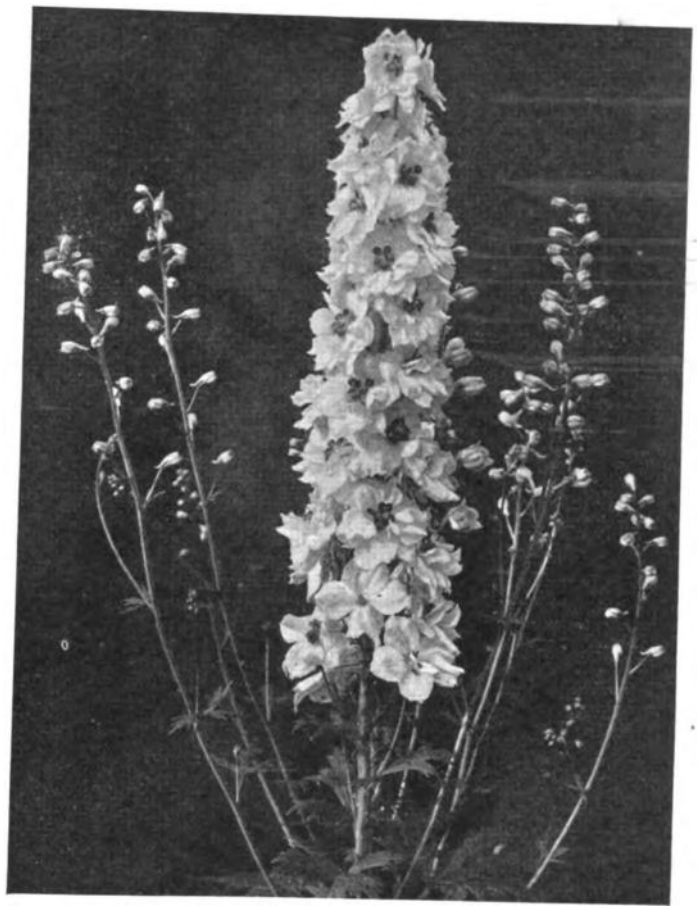
Echeverias—Winter Quarters

FOR the winter, and, indeed, until early spring, echeverias, those succulent plants still grown by many, need only to be kept free from frost and on the dry side, administering water only occasionally. Not always is it possible to find a place to meet their requirements (a frost-proof shed or room will do), and not infrequently they have to be accommodated in the greenhouse where heat is kept up for other things. It is then when trouble begins, as excitement is quite unnecessary and much moisture only tends to make them damp off or reduce them to a state understood by gardeners as "flabbiness." Often the winter requirements can be met by placing them in pans or boxes and depositing them in a dry frame having a south aspect. I have wintered them in such a quarter, but one has to be prepared to cover with mats on the approach of frost, also to keep a sharp look-out for slugs, which sometimes attack them. The main thing for echeverias is to keep them dry most of the winter. The advantage of growing in boxes in a frame is that they can easily be removed to other quarters should the winter be very severe.

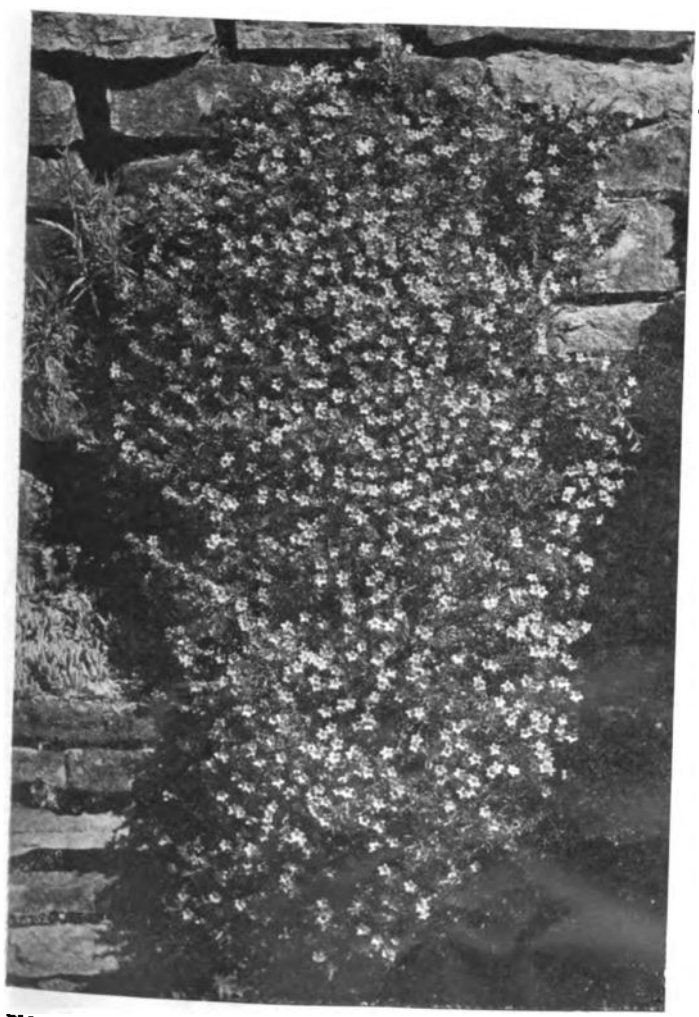
Digitized by Google

SOME BLUE FLOWERS TO PLANT NOW

WHEN planning an all-blue border, bed or corner in the garden, it should be borne in mind that if both pure blues and purple-blues are to be introduced, a great deal of care is called for if they are to live happily together. To consider the pure blues first, chief among the tall, back-row plants come the delphiniums, light and dark, ranging from the old favourites, Belladonna and Persimmon, to the newer Blue Boy, True Blue, Royal Blue and Queen of Bath, all of which are free from purple. Anchusa italica Dropmore variety, is a glorious colour, and if well treated will grow 5ft. high. There is also a more recent introduction, Pride of Dover, but it is doubtful whether this shows any marked superiority over the older kind. Then there is the seldom seen but very charming Baptisia australis, the False Indigo, which has pea-shaped flowers of a good blue shade; the great blue Himalayan poppy, Meconopsis Wallichii, a glorious plant growing 5ft. or 6ft. high, but which needs moisture and peat; the eryngiums, effective in any situation, of which E. planum is perhaps the freest from grey, although in other respects it is inferior to E. Oliverianum and Echinops Ritro Taplow Blue, which is more decidedly blue than the old variety of the globe thistle and grows tall. Neither the eryngiums nor the echinops, however, have any real claim to be classified among pure blues, but their glistening metallic tints accords admirably with the clear and definite blues of such things as Linums perenne and narbonense, Commelina cœlestis, Geranium grandiflora, Plumbago Larpentæ (this will do in semi-shade), Anchusa myosotidiflora—alas that it should be so beloved of slugs!—and Omphalodes cappadocica, a front-row plant this, but not a trailer as Blue-eyed Mary. There are very few really blue campanulas, although many are described as such by nurserymen. C. persicifolia is a blue tone of lavender, especially the variety Telham Beauty, but the nearest to true blue is the delicate, slender-stemmed C. rotundifolius, the garden variety of the wild harebell. Pentstemon heterophyllus is doubtfully hardy in cold districts, but if a warm, sheltered place can be found for it, it should be tried. Its flowers are certainly flushed at the base with soft, rose mauve, but their main colour is a clear, bright blue, and it may be counted among the best of the liason plants.



THE STATELY DELPHINIUM, ONE OF THE BEST OF BLUE FLOWERS.
They should be planted now.



BLUE FLOWERS LOOK MOST EFFECTIVE ON DRY SUNNY WALLS.
Here is the easily grown and attractive Lithospermum prostratum (Heavenly Blue) smothered in flower.

No flower is of a more beautiful shade of light blue than our native chicory, Cichorium Intybus. It is a straggling, untidy grower and has the tiresome habit of going to bed at an unreasonably early hour, but a big bush of it, 4ft. or 5ft. high, seen in sunshine at midday, when its myriads of sky-coloured flowers are all open, is a thing to be remembered. A band of either Gentiana acaulis, G. verna or G. sino-ornata, will make the most charming of edgings to a blue border or bed; but, unhappily, the gentians, especially the lovely starry verna, are tricksy sprites and will not thrive everywhere. For a raised rockery stone edging, the trailing Lithospermum prostratum Heavenly Blue is admirable; its colour is very rich, but its habit, in light soils at any rate, is rather unduly rambling.

There are some good blue annuals, myosotis, nemophila, Nigella Miss Jekyll, cornflowers (light and dark), and Phacelia campanularia, being among the first to occur to me. The latter is showy and has a long flowering season—always provided that it escapes the delicate attentions of the slugs! Convolvulus major and C. minor can both be had in dark and light blue, although neither can be relied upon to come true invariably, and Sutton's hybrid Nemesia Blue Gem deserves a place in the list, as also does the dwarf variety of the chickling vetch, Lathyrus sativus azureus. This climbs to a height of about 5ft. and has small, but brilliant, turquoise-blue flowers which look very pretty in a modest way, if the pea is grown in clumps on bamboos connected by strings down the centre of a border.

And there is the tiny annual sedum, S. cœruleum, despised by some for its insignificance, but very dainty for growing between edging—or paving—stones.

Of plants that, being on the border line between pure blue and purple blue, will help best to bring the two into harmony, the delphiniums are again the most important, as they are to be had in an infinite variety of shades, from pale sky blue to reddish purple, through beautiful tones of opal. Some of the eryngiums, too, are good "linking-up" plants and the same may be said, although not quite unreservedly of the aconitums. Of these last, the best are A. Fischerii, the

Digitized by Google

THE QUAINT LOVE-IN-THE-MIST, WHICH ALWAYS LOOKS WELL IN AN OUT OF THE WAY CORNER.
Nigella Miss Jekyll is one of the best varieties.

nearest to true blue and of medium height, A. Wilsonii and A. Sparkes' variety, the last two growing to a height of 5ft. or 6ft. There are no really blue lupins, but among those of both the polyphyllus and the arboreus × polyphyllus sections are several that have purple flowers shading to blue, while others—and very charming they are—are pure blue flushed with rose or pale gold. The hybrid Eastern Queen, for example, may be admitted in a blue border without an undue departure from consistency.

A plant which is not as much grown as in the past is the spiderwort, Tradescantia virginica cœrulea; it is a pretty shade of purple-blue and is excellent for a damp corner. Another good "old-fashioned" plant is Cupid's Dart, Catananche cœrulea, which flourishes in any fairly light soil in sunshine, and Centaurea montana does well—often rather too well!—under similar conditions. These three are all most suitable for the middle of a border of moderate width, growing about 2ft. to 2ft. 6ins. high. There are many campanulas in shades of lavender-blue and purple blue, ranging from the tall C. lactiflora (there is a strain of deeper colour which is preferable to the type), C. latiloba and C. latifolia, to the many alpine kinds which are delightful growing over a rockery-stone edging. Of these, C. Portenschlagiana and C. pusilla are, perhaps, the best of those most generally grown, but there are others almost as charming and quite as easy to grow. Platycodon Mariesii, that near relation of the campanula, is a very lovely shade of rich blue-purple. It should be planted in masses for effect as—in my garden, at any rate—it increases but slowly. The only really blue aquilegia—A. cœrulea and A. glandulosa are both blue and white—is A. alpina. It is not very reliable in this climate, but if it can be provided with a well drained soil with plenty of sand in it, and a warm, airy situation, it does well.

R. E. HEAD.

FOLIAGE PLANTS for the SMALL ROCK GARDEN

TOO frequently the value of foliage is deemed secondary to that of the flower. With some plants the beauty of the foliage is not seen until the flowering season is over, while with many others the approach of winter is signalled by brilliant coloration of their leaves. The following is a list of twenty plants which can be trusted to provide beauty at times when there is little to see in the small rock garden.

Achillea Kelleri.—A silvery beauty with delicately cut leaves and the purest of white flowers.

Artemisia pedemontana.—Another silvery treasure without the same beauty of flower, but well worthy of a place in any collection.

Berberis Wilsonæ.—For autumn colouring berberis are supreme. This is one of the dwarfest.

Cotoneaster adpressa.—Probably the most perfect habited of all rock shrubs, and with leaves which turn a beautiful shade in late autumn. The berries are delightful in their turn.

Dianthus cæsius.—Forms a beautifully neat mat of a wonderful silvery blue colour.

Erodium chrysanthum.—Pure silver with exceedingly charming flowers, the yellow colour being exceptional in a race of pinky tints.

Geranium argenteum.—Very well named and probably the best of its kind.

Juniperus communis compressa.—The cheeriest of baby conifers and universally beloved.

Juniperus Fletcheri.—Much bigger, though still a baby. The foliage is more attractive.

Picea pungens Kosteriana compacta.—This is the blue spruce and a matchless colour. It is far too seldom seen in rock gardens.

Potentilla fruticosa Vilmoriniana.—Grows rather tall, but its silvery leaves and pale lemon flowers make it a welcome addition to any rock garden.

Potentilla nitida.—A sun-lover whose leaves positively sparkle. It is, unfortunately, rather reluctant to flower.

Raoulia australis.—Probably the most beautiful carpeting plant in cultivation. The pure silver of its tiny leaves excites admiration.

Saxifraga cochlearis minor.—A splendid example of the diminutive encrusted saxifrage with most attractive flowers. It follows the contour of a rock like moss.

Sedum spathulifolium purpureum.—Here the foliage is an intensely deep plum colour and forms a wonderful foil to the burnished gold of the flower.

Sempervivum rubicundum.—Another wonderful colour which deepens as the season advances.

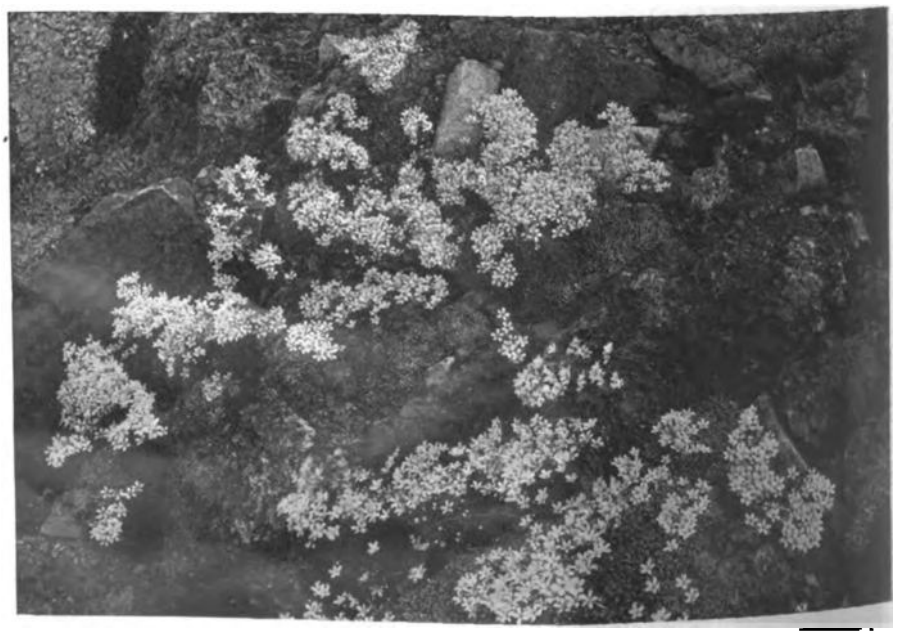
Senecio Grayii.—A pure silver plant, seldom seen, with a very charming yellow flower.

Teucrium aureum.—A silvery aromatic which seems to get daily more silvery when flowering has ceased.

Veronica incana.—The true plant is exceedingly beautiful and the leaves are pure silver. The flowers in their turn are of a splendid shade of purple.

Veronica Trehane.—Here we have golden foliage, a neat habit, and flowers of a pleasing shade of blue.

Much more could be said of the charm of foliage, and many other plants possess as great or greater charms: those enumerated are, however, in general cultivation, inexpensive, and not difficult to grow.



A CHARMING EXAMPLE OF A FINE ENCRUSTED SAXIFRAGE (S. COCHLEARIS) WHICH SHOULD FIND A PLACE IN EVERY ROCK GARDEN.

Digitized by Google

THE JOY OF MAKING A NEW G

By GERTRUDE JEKYLL.

In this article suggestions are given for the lay out of ground adjacent to a house built on a corner si site calls for unusual treatment in its design, and the arrangements and suggested plantings put forward by M. will be found most effective by readers who have a plot of ground similar to this in shape and size to

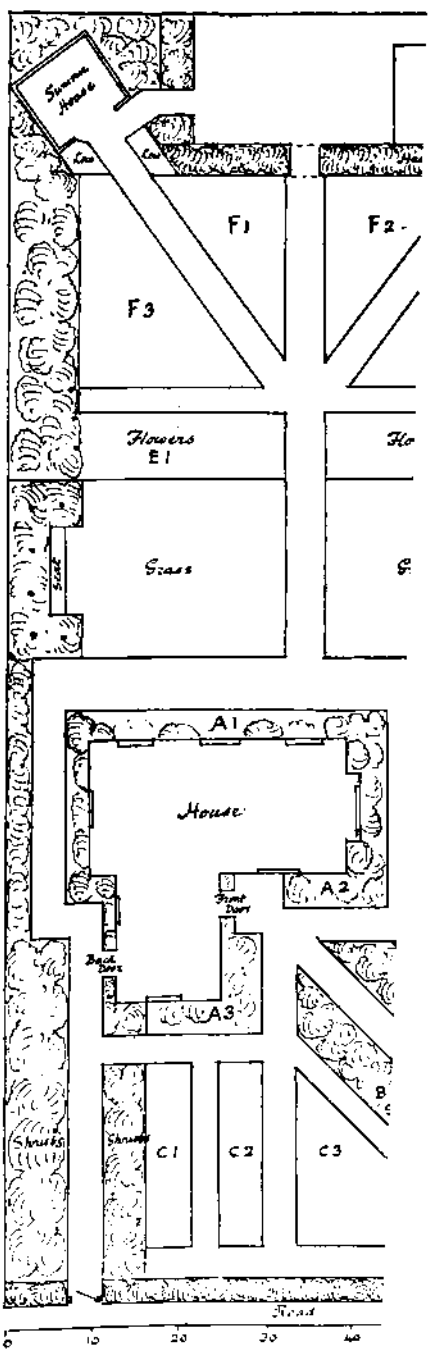
THE site of this house and garden is different from the more usual ones because it is at an angle of two roads and has a wider proportion. There is a step up from the pathway by the road to the segmental-fronted landing; the wall at the back having the same curve reversed. This is backed by a continuation of the evergreen hedge that encloses the property on the two outer sides. A diagonal path leads up to a small paved space by the front door; it will be all the better if this path can also be paved.

It is desirable that the planting on both sides, in B1 and B2, should be of shrubs, mostly evergreen, the better to secure the privacy of the two garden spaces D and C. The borders C1 and C2 would be for flowers; C3 may have an alternative arrangement of either flowers or, what may be better, small shrubs such as lavender and China rose: always a delightful combination. Or, if it is desired to have something simpler than these paths and borders, the whole could be a quiet space of grass, with evergreen shrubs keeping it private from the tradesmen's entrance.

To the north-west the large border D1 is for flowers, and D2 for flowering shrubs—lilac, philadelphus, weigela, deutzia, etc., with a few groups of plants of special interest, such as lilies and roses on the side facing D1. The borders close against the house are always best filled with something of shrubby growth; in the larger spaces there is nothing better than laurustinus and box, especially at the angles, where there is so often a draught. Where this occurs, the protection of a solid evergreen may make all the difference to the well-being of any tender shrubs that may come between, such as sweet verbena, hydrangea or one of the hardier fuchsias. With these and the addition of rosemary, lavender and the beautiful Olearia Gunni, and lower growths of santolina, stachys, dwarf lavender, catmint and the broad-leaved saxifrages, the borders would be well clothed for all seasons.

A wide path passes along the main south-west front, ending in a seat closely sheltered by a planting of yews. In time the yews may be encouraged to come forward over the seat when they have grown to a height of 7ft., so that they will eventually form a complete hood. A good space of grass on this garden front is divided by the path that runs straight down; on one side it will have a long seat protected and shaded by a planting of Portugal laurels. E1 and E2 are flower borders; tall plants at the back, or a backing of any of the flowering shrubs that do not take up too much space, will screen the pleasure garden from the useful but less beautiful vegetable beds marked F.

After the flower borders E, the two diagonal paths separating symmetrically will have a good effect: one of these leading to a summer-house. A thick hedge of green holly shuts off the garage and the space between it and the summer-house, which will serve for a place for burning dry rubbish and also for a rot-pit, a most useful thing in these days of difficulty : It is a rectangular pit 2ft. deep, w stuff, lawn mowings, weeds and all and most woody material, unlikely



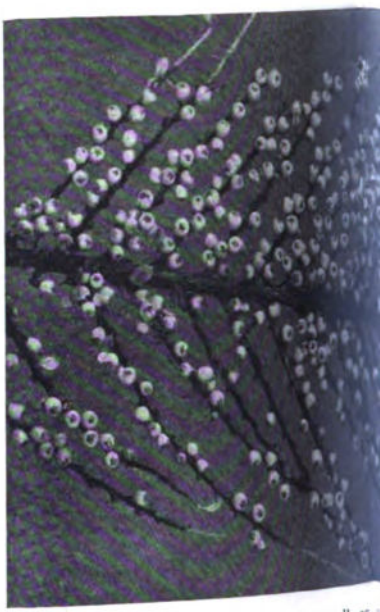
be thrown. Whatever its size twice as long as it is wide, ar one end. After lying for six to the empty end and the bottc material, fit to be used in any

Digitized by Google

WHY NOT HAVE AUTUMN

SOME BERRIED SHRUBS

All gardens are made the more brilliant in autumn by the inclusion of a few of the best of our berried and autumn-tinted trees and shrubs, and at this time of year preparation should be made to ensure a bright display next autumn by planting a few of the most handsome kinds this season. Many of them are, indeed, shrubs of dual purpose, with their bright floral display in spring and an equally decorative show of fruit in autumn, and the amateur will find that the beauty and charm of his garden will be greatly enhanced by the introduction of even a few for the sake of autumn effect.



ONE OF THE "SAILS" OF

E SALMON CORAL FRUITS AND GOLDEN SPINES OF BERBERIS SUBCAULIALATA.

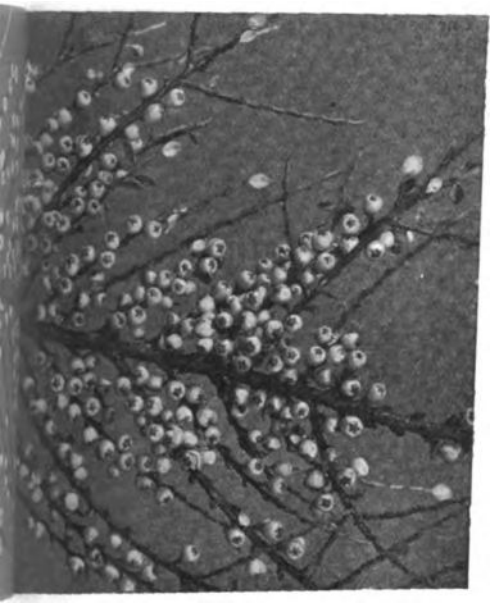
llustrations on these pages represent five very useful genera ried shrubs. The berberis are by far the most popular and e for general purposes. Their bright red or blue fruits in se of some species are most attractive, while the foliage, nd spines lend further beauty to the plant. Many of the viburnums carry crops of handsome fruits, and V. Opulus luteo is one of the finest, even although it is only a better f our native guelder rose. Pyrus Eleyi is one of the most ntal of fruiting pears. It makes a small but elegant tree neat habit, dark almost purple foliage and its large, hand- uits. Another brilliant berrier is the stranvæsia, excellent ub borders. Cotoneasters, of which C. horizontalis is representative, are undoubtedly shrubs for the amateur.

THE YELLOW-FRUITED VIBURNUM OPULUS FRUCTU LUTEO.

Digitized by Google

...N TINTS in YOUR GARDEN?

...BS WORTH PLANTING



...COTONEASTER HORIZONTALIS.

The majority of them are easy to grow and amateurs should find little difficulty with them, once the initial trouble of planting is completed. Almost all are hardy and accommodating subjects and grow equally well in the cold rigorous climate of the north or the more kindly conditions of the south. Certainly in southern gardens they berry more freely and form one of the most attractive charms of many a small garden around London. Plant a few of the sorts mentioned in these pages and you will find the expense and trouble amply repaid by the brilliance of their autumn display.

THE PURPLISH CRIMSON FRUITS OF PYRUS ELEYI.

THE BRIGHT RED FRUITS OF THE NI
WELL SET OFF BY ITS DAI

Berried shrubs can be made full in the garden. Many of them look subjects in the shrub border, if allowe Others, such as the pyracanthas, of u the best, are suited for wall decora two of the finest berberis species, B. make first-rate hedge plants. In t including the low-growing and spreadi pernettyas, the gaultherias and others viding colour over the late autumn a plants are drab. It will be readily s considerable scope for the keen garde display in his garden, as well as aidi

Prepa Fruit

WHE sm imports pared. it may lifting they are out wh now un it for t several grow r quite 3 and the has be the roo there is soil is on as planted litter f Novem a year

Stake

BEFO orcl support stake is somewh cient a the soil before will not the latt an adva tree. T to form branche with su any bru are use against directio new, sn

Wall

THE all trees ne a suitab the forr that an not mak time to space v horizon the pla Now, I walls to also so Cordon bear th fails, a be repl If a la gap is the bra that sp grow m are pre if some and yie cordons at an an Plums also ap single the bes

Treat

THE the gets dri in the

Digitized by Google

THE FRUIT AND KITCHEN GARDEN

ring Ground for Planting Trees.

THER fruit trees are grown on a all or a large scale it is of the highest nce that the ground be well pre- The trees are to remain many years, be, in the same place, and although and root-pruning can be done while young, this work is not easily carried en they are older. If the ground der grass, peel off the latter and store future use, mainly as a top-dressing years hence to encourage roots to ear the surface. Trench all soils ft. deep, leaving the subsoil below top in a lumpy condition. If the ground n neglected and the soil is full of ts of weeds, clear them out now— not any better opportunity. If the very poor prepare manure for putting a surface mulch round each newly tree. If the soil is rich, prepare or a similar purpose. Planting in ber instead of spring means, practically, gained.

s for Fruit Trees.

RE any fruit trees are planted in the hard the necessary stakes for their should be prepared. Where a single used, as may be the case in positions at sheltered, one stake will be suffi- nd it should be driven firmly into near the centre of the opened ground the tree is placed there, then there be any damage done to the roots of er. In very exposed positions it is ntage to provide three stakes for each hese stakes are driven into the ground a triangle, to meet near the main s and fastened to the stem securely, ch material under them as will prevent lising of the bark. When three stakes d the young tree is held securely the wind, no matter from which n it may blow. Let the stakes be hooth and neat, but strong.

Fruit Trees.

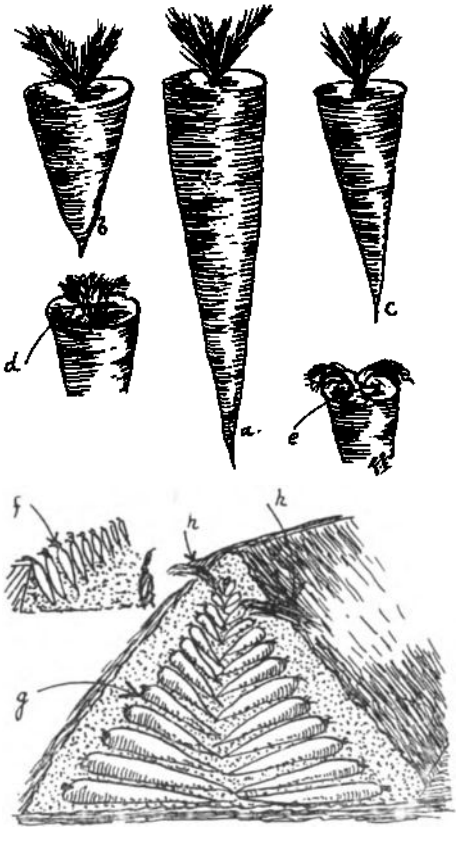
present is a very good time to make necessary arrangements for planting ar to walls in November. It is, also, le time to consider the question of n of tree to plant. I am quite sure hateurs who possess wall space do e the most of it in this respect. From time I see a lot of valuable wall wasted. The planting of fan and ally trained trees is neglected and nting of cordons almost ignored. would urge all those who possess grow cordons of both apples and pears, ne of the best varieties of plums. s are not difficult to manage, and they e finest fruits. If, by chance, a tree small gap only results, and this can aced quickly and at a small cost. ge fan-trained specimen fails, a big made and, for several years, while nches of a new tree are filling it up, ace is wasted. Furthermore, we can any more varieties, when the cordons ferred, on a given space, and, again, ail to crop satisfactorily, others succeed ld us fine fruits. On high walls the may be trained upright; on low ones gle of 45° to secure length of cordon. may be trained as double cordons, les and a few varieties of pears; but cordons of the latter, generally, are t.

ment of Wall Fruit Trees Now

irst thing you should do is to examine soil 1ft. below the surface. The soil er near a wall sooner than it does middle of the garden. Unless the position is a low, damp one, carefully loosen the surface crust and apply water liberally. Cut out every bit of unwanted wood and very forcibly syringe the trees and the whole of the wall surface, too, to clean the branches and clear away any insects lodging in holes in the wall.

The Treatment of Spring and July Sown Carrots.

DURING the past few years gardeners have paid very close attention to the raising of late vegetables—those that mature well from seeds sown in July. Of course, they are the naturally early maturing varieties, and afford the cultivator ample supplies for winter use. Now, too, we are concerned about the harvesting and storing of the roots to the best advantage. Where the carrots are grown in a sandy soil they may be left



in it later than in cold, heavy loam, as there is not so much danger of splitting, decay and damage from frosts. It is unwise to use ordinary soil in which to store carrots, as earthworms always do a lot of harm by eating holes in the roots. There is not this danger if pure sand or fine ashes are used—the first-named for preference.

Lift all the roots with the aid of a garden fork so that they will be intact. At *a*, *b* and *c* three types are shown, and the best way of storing them. The tops should be cut off rather close to the crown as shown at *d*. If left on, as shown at *e*, it is quite likely that the long tops will decay and cause the crown to do so, too. The types *b* and *c* may be stored close together in a sand-bed as shown at *f*, and type *a* as shown at *g*. Wisps of straw, fixed as shown at *h*, *h*, will afford ample ventilation. Store in sand and cover with straw.

Ripening Tomatoes.

WHEN the weather really breaks up it is much better not to allow the green tomatoes to ripen on the outdoor plants. These fruits are not likely to grow much more, and it is wiser to gather them. If allowed to remain on the plant they are quite likely to start to rot. Cut the fruits as far as possible in clusters, with a liberal amount of stem. It is a great mistake, as is often done, to hang the green tomatoes in the sun. This will make them shrivel badly, so that many of the smaller ones are hardly fit for eating. Hang the clusters in a shaded and even a dark place, and the fruits will take on a fine red colour and become perfectly ripe. Tomatoes ripened in this manner are hardly to be distinguished from fruits freshly gathered.

Preparing Vegetables for Forcing.

THE work connected with the forcing of the earliest vegetables is most interesting. I have, just lately, been requested by some beginners in my own district to explain how the forcing of certain vegetables is done. They are not content with their summer work among their crops, but wish to have early ones by means of forcing. Now, like fruit trees, vegetables must be sufficiently ripened to force well. Rhubarb and seakale should have thoroughly matured their leaves, so that the crowns are large and firm. If there are weeds on the beds, hoe them up and very carefully clear them away. Do not use a garden rake among the crowns of the vegetables, but pick up the weeds there with the hand and use the rake in the alleys between the rows, then the crowns will not be bruised. Chicory should be examined now, weeds and faded basal leaves cleared off the ground. It is only the strong roots that will yield large succulent tops. The strongest asparagus plants, too, should be duly noted and marked if they are to be lifted for forcing. Sift some soil and keep it dry in readiness for packing round the chicory, rhubarb and seakale roots. Prepare any necessary boxes, tubs or pots, and also a nice heap of litter covered from the rains.

A Watercress Hollow.

A CONTINUOUS supply of crisp watercress may be obtained from the garden in this way. In any fairly open position dig out the ground in the form of a hollow. The opening might be 4ft. or 5ft. across, with a depth at the centre of about 9ins. below the ordinary level. Loosen the ground well and then insert the watercress cuttings 3ins. or so apart. The cuttings are taken from bunches of watercress and practically every piece will grow. As long as the weather is at all inclined to dryness, pour several buckets of water into the hollow each day. The cuttings root rapidly and are soon in full growth. Frequent gatherings are likely to encourage a vigorous shooting, so quite a small hollow on the lines described will supply the needs of the average household. Now and again it is a good plan to scatter a little rich soil as a top-dressing to the watercress and a sharp look-out should be kept for any weeds.

Cleaning the Asparagus Beds.

USE and not abuse the asparagus plants and they will yield very remunerative crops for many years. At this time we have the ripening tops, and soon it will be necessary to trim the beds and put them in order for the winter. It has been a very common practice to put on a thick coat of wet manure in the autumn. This is wrong treatment, as such a coat of wet manure keeps the soil and roots cold. There is not any need to feed the plants during the winter, as this should be done in the summer, and all you have to do now is put on a thin layer of half-rotted litter which will act as a warm winter covering in the true sense.—G. GARNER.

Digitized by Google

WHAT OUR READERS SAY

A SMALL SUBURBAN GARDEN.

SIR,—I am sure many readers of THE GARDEN will be pleased to see it in its new form and under a new price, and if the present standard is maintained it will prove of the most valuable assistance to all amateur gardeners like myself. I am pleased to see that it is the intention to run a series of articles with designs on the planning and planting of gardens by Miss Jekyll, and feel certain that such articles will be most helpful. I have been much interested in the two articles which have appeared, and in response to your request send along an illustration of the herbaceous border in my garden. This year it has been a perfect mass of colour from June on until the present time. This autumn some renovation work will need to be undertaken on the basis mentioned in a recent article in THE GARDEN, to reduce the size of the individual clumps and also to introduce new subjects. It may be of interest to readers to see what success can be obtained in the growing of herbaceous plants in a suburban garden near London and the effective display they provide during the summer months. The other illustration shows how effective baskets or pot plants are when placed round the house. The zonal pelargoniums have been much admired with their bright trusses of blooms and their handsome foliage. Many more amateurs might be encouraged to grow them near the house where they are so decorative.—G. R.

BASKET AND POT PLANTS MAKE A MOST EFFECTIVE DISPLAY NEAR THE HOUSE DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS.

WINTER ACONITES.

SIR,—I am consumed with envy of "R. E. H." able to buy her winter aconites by such hundreds, nevertheless I sympathise deeply with her, because I have the same horrid Bath soil. Only worse, probably, since my garden is on a stony hillside, a thin coating of soil over millions of stones. Perhaps the aconite trouble would cease to afflict if she got a large load of leaf-mould and made rockeries with it. I have done so, using the sandy parts of the native soil, with a little rotten cow manure and a dash of stable manure, also a small proportion of weathered ashes from the hot-water furnace. This mixture seems to suit aconites very well, also hepaticas, the nemorosa anemones, hardy cyclamens and crocus species, all of which are impossible in the staple lime dust. Unlike loam, you get quite a large quantity of leaf-mould to the lorry load, as it is so light.

I cannot resist breaking a friendly lance with anyone who recommends Scutellaria baicalensis. This brute from Lake Baikal, wherever that may be, entirely ruined a choice rockery for me, and, as a weed, has more vigour than gout weed. It spreads with incredible rapidity after pretending for a season, or perhaps two, that it is a pretty and harmless little thing, with charming blue flowers. It makes a dense mass of hard roots, which nothing short of deep digging, sifting and a bonfire on the spot will get rid of; and even then you meet it several yards away, getting up steam to destroy another area. In short, it is a regular land Azolla caroliniana. I should like, if I had unlimited space quite away from the flower garden, to put it and Convolvulus tenuissimus, with two or three others any gardener can think of, on a bank together, and see which would win.—M. L. R. W., *Bath.*

A WELL ARRANGED HERBACEOUS BORDER IN A READER'S SUBURBAN GARDEN.

"FAMILIES" AND "VARIETIES."

SIR,—These terms, and particularly "variety," are often used by gardeners in quite a loose and vague way. Family is the modern name for the natural order, *e.g.*, ranunculaceæ. Ranunculus is a genus (anemone another genus), bulbosus one of the species of ranunculus; and the term variety is given to "a sort or modification subordinate to species" (Dr. B. D. Jackson), *e.g.*, Anemone nemorosa var. cœrulea, or to some garden-raised variation other than a hybrid. Both species and varieties should remain constant under cultivation, or they are unworthy of further denomination.—H. S. T.

GINKGO BILOBA FROM SEED.

SIR,—I wonder if many of your amateur readers have raised Ginkgo biloba from seeds. In a garden I visited last week, the owner showed me a small tree which he raised from seed he collected and brought home himself. Three seeds were sown, only one germinated, this is now, at three years, about 2½ft. high, and well established in its permanent quarters. —B. W. N., *Hereford.*

THE GRASS OF PARNASSUS.

SIR,—There is no native plant, to my mind, which can give such a wealth of bloom and for such a long period, as the Grass of Parnassus (Parnassia palustris). It can be seen at its best during the latter part of August and early September. The glorious white single flower born on a solitary stem stands out among the short grass in marshy places on nearly all our Scottish hillsides. We do not find it on the plains nor on the hill tops, but in marshy places on the hill slopes. The flower, somewhat reminds one of the snowdrop, with its pure white petals and delicate veins. It does not droop its head like the snowdrop, but stands erect, proud sentinel of the fading summer.

Although, as the name implies, it is a plant of our upland bogs and marshes, it

Digitized by Google

can easily be cultivated in our gardens, provided it is grown in partial shade and given abundant water during the summer months. —G. S., *Edinburgh.*

A RECORD IN DELPHINIUMS?

SIR,—It would be interesting to hear through THE GARDEN, if this has been a record year for delphiniums. One specimen here reached the height of 10ft. 2½ins. and had twenty-nine spikes on it. The accompanying illustration of this handsome specimen may be of interest to readers of THE GARDEN.—R. H. LAIDLER, *Durham.*

NAMES OF EARLY POTATOES.

SIR,—I have been interested in potato growing for many years and was greatly surprised to read Mr. W. Grant's statement in THE GARDEN, September 18th, page 528, that Victory is now masquerading under the name of Duke of York. This is certainly an admission. If growers are growing Victory under the belief that they have Duke of York—they therefore cannot tell the difference. The name Duke of York was given to this variety before that of Victory. Then why have both names? I should like to ask Mr. Grant to describe the botanical difference, if there is any, between Duke of York and Victory.

I certainly do not wish to cast any reflections on the raisers of new varieties of potatoes. Everyone who is raising new and improved varieties, especially varieties which will stand the immunity test, virus diseases and blight, is doing a service for all mankind.

May I also ask Mr. Grant why Victory has not taken the place of Duke of York as a commercial potato, when it is claimed by him to be an improved variety. At least one seedsman advertises Victory as being similar to Duke of York; that, again, is an admission.

A HANDSOME CLUMP OF DELPHINIUMS.

Mr. Grant mentions that Victory is the result of a cross between Duke of York and Fyvie Flower. Now, I am satisfied that Fyvie Flower is Duke of York, so that what Mr. Sim did was to cross Duke of York with Duke of York and the result has been, not a new variety, but Duke of York again. I should like heartily to congratulate Mr. Grant and all northern growers on being in such a fortunate position in having their stocks of potatoes free from all virus diseases.

For many years I have been on the lookout for a disease-free plant of Duke of York, and have travelled the greater part of Scotland, including Deeside, but so far have failed to find a single specimen. I have seen many stocks fairly healthy, but not absolutely free from virus diseases. Holland, I believe, is the only country where one can see Duke of York free from the virus disease called mosaic. May I suggest that Mr. Grant supplies the Board of Agriculture with a stone of his so called Victory and I will gladly send a stone of Duke of York; or, as he has no faith in the Board, I will make a sporting offer. Mr. Grant to supply a stone of Victory seed and I a stone of Duke of York, both lots to be planted side by side in a nursery or garden convenient to both, say Aberdeen, Mr. Grant to appoint an arbiter and I will do likewise, the examination of the plants to take place about the end of July or early August and the result published in THE GARDEN.

Mr. Grant does not seem to be familiar with the work which is carried out by the officials of the Board of Agriculture. He suggests that the Board encourages the raising of new early varieties. This, of course, is far from the point at issue. I have nothing in common with the Board of Agriculture, still, I do like to give honour where honour is due. The Board is encouraging and protecting the raisers of new varieties of potatoes. A visit to East Craigs, Corstorphine and Philpstoun, will, I think, convince Mr. Grant.—GEO. STUART.

[The correspondence on this subject is concluded.—ED.]

HINTS WORTH REMEMBERING

This is the third instalment of Hints that have been received from our readers in response to our request. There seems little doubt, judging from the numbers that have reached us, that this will prove a most useful feature of THE GARDEN *in future. We hope, therefore, that all our readers will assist to make this page as valuable as possible by sending in their Hints, the result of personal observation and trial, and so help the gardening public in general. Hints which will be specially considered as worthy of a prize will be those that are seasonable as well as interesting and apply particularly to duties that can be carried out in the garden at the present time.*

Half a guinea will be paid each week for the most useful or interesting hint sent in by a reader. Five shillings will be paid for all others published. Each must be sent in on a separate sheet and must not be more than 300 *words in length.*

THE HALF-GUINEA HINT.

Prolonging the Supply of Roses.

In cutting roses, either for the house or in removing dead ones, it is important to cut back a good distance, at least 6ins. and past any spent shoot, to a visible bud in the angle of the leaf. This is practically summer pruning. The tree responds at once by sending out a flowering shoot, which flowers in a marvellously short time. By adopting this plan of never "nipping" off dead flowers, my rose garden has been a continuous mass of colour since June, with no dull period and I shall have roses as long as weather permits. —M. R.

How to Get Rid of Carrot-Fly.

If you have a bed of carrots and you suddenly see with dismay the carrot fly has been at work and its maggots have started on the roots of the carrots, get some *unslaked* lime, mix it with water at the rate of two handfuls of lime to four quarts of water, and with this mixture water all those carrots showing signs of maggot, and you will save your whole bed; do it when the ground is moist or water with clear water first; I have watered the whole bed sometimes with lime water if there has been signs of maggot in more than one patch.—(MISS) E. F. CORNISH-BOWDEN.

How to Deal with Big Beetroot.

If beet has grown so large that it exceeds the dimensions of the pan, the colour may be preserved by cutting in half, the bleeding being sealed by applying a hot iron to both cut parts. It is not generally known that large beet can be roasted in the oven, but the flavour is not so good as when boiled.—(MRS.) E. E. PEARSON.

Propagation of Clematis by Cuttings

Cuttings from most clematis may be struck in spring, by means of short, young shoots with a piece of old wood attached to form a heel. The sappy shoots alone will not strike, as they shrivel too quickly. Insert cuttings in a cold frame to ensure success and give air when necessary to avoid damping off. They can also be struck in summer (June or July), but frame light should be shaded from fierce sun. Cuttings require to be kept fairly moist, and succeed best in loamy soil, mixed with sand. A little leaf mould may be added, but too much seems to cause the callus to rot. Pot up when struck, as this ensures good root growth.—V. W.

Spring and Summer Bedding Together.

The following method I have found most successful and labour saving. Get your bed prepared for planting, then first fill up your bed with Canterbury bells, planting about one foot apart, and between these plant tulips. The tulips give a fine display in the spring, and can be lifted when they have done blooming and dried off. The Canterbury bells continue to grow on and fill the bed, and give a good display right through the summer. A tulip I like for this method is Prince of Austria.—W. T.

Propagation of Hollies by Cuttings.

Perhaps the following hint will be of some service to readers of THE GARDEN. The best time of the whole year (from personal experience) is to take cuttings the first week in December, inserted under a bell-glass in the open. Ilex insignis, a most difficult subject, I was singularly successful with. Several people tried with me in friendly competition, but failed. At various times of the year I have experimented, but the latter part was most successful.—J. M.

Digitized by Google

AUTUMN SOWING OF SWEET PEAS

Few amateurs realise the value and importance of making a sowing of sweet peas during the next fortnight. If the seeds are sown outside and the weather conditions remain fair over the winter months, then fine healthy specimens for planting out will be obtained by March next year.

ALTHOUGH autumn sowing has repeatedly proved the more satisfactory method, three or four times as much sweet pea seed is still sown in the first three months of the year as in September and October. Probably this is because so many growers do not realise the comparative hardiness of the flower or fight shy of the additional trouble which an autumn sowing in pots in a cold frame entails.

I assure readers who may be doubtful, that the enhanced results more than justify the little time spent in looking after the seedlings during the winter months. Some may say, "What advantage is there in sowing sweet peas in the autumn?" While I admit spring-sown plants may give good results, I am confident that, on the whole, there is no time like September and October for sowing. In the first place, autumn-sown sweet peas come into bloom much earlier; further than that, they often continue to produce good flowers after the spring-sown ones have finished. Their hardier constitution and much more extensive root system promote more vigorous growth, tending to render them less liable to contract disease, more responsive to judicious feeding and the better able to withstand droughts, particularly in late spring. The actual flowers are larger, of better quality and, for some reason not very apparent, their colours are a trifle more "solid," more brilliant. The last named is not exaggeration, but plain fact, as anyone with an eye for colour may prove to his own satisfaction. No wonder almost all successful exhibitors in all parts of these islands now rely entirely on autumn-sown plants.

An Easy, Economical Method.

While I would never recommend the sowing of the newer and more expensive varieties right out in the open ground where they are to flower, a row or two of a good but inexpensive mixture of Spencer or "frilly" varieties treated in this way may well be a source of pleasure and a generous provider of cut bloom for the house from early June until late August. An ounce of seeds (which should cost no more than one shilling) will be ample for a row 8yds. to 10yds. long. It is wise, of course, to sow on well prepared soil that has previously been deeply dug or, better still, bastard trenched and liberally manured, for sweet peas produce huge quantities of flowers and need a deep, rich rooting medium to give of their best. The rows should run from north to south, and be unshaded from the sun by trees or buildings. Just make drills with the side of a hoe 1½ins. to 2ins. deep (as for culinary peas), sow the seeds and, after covering them in, dust soot all over the surface. The actual time of sowing will depend on locality, but the end of September to the third week in October is wide enough a range, the later date for the south of England, the earlier for Scotland and the north. By sowing as thickly as already advised, an ample margin is allowed for possible losses from frosts, birds and other pests, and if it is found that the plants are too thick in the row in spring, it is a simple matter to thin them out. Where the unwelcome attention of birds is feared, the young seedlings—when they appear—may be protected either by the well known wire pea guards or by a few strands of black cotton stretched along the rows just above them. Slugs and snails may be kept in check by sprinkling lime or soot (not both) or finely sifted ashes on each side of the rows in the young stages. Later on, when the growth is more woody, slugs will not touch them. About the beginning of November give the young plants support by means of twigs about a foot high. This will not only prevent them from blowing about, but will

THE LARGER PLANT WAS SOWN LAST OCTOBER, WHILE THE SMALLER WAS SOWN AT THE END OF FEBRUARY.

It will be seen that the former has been pinched and has thrown out two strong side basal shoots.

afford no small measure of protection from frosts. No other attention will be necessary until their permanent supports are placed in position in the spring.

Cold Frame Treatment.

This method is advisable when dealing with comparatively expensive seeds, for it is less risky than an outdoor sowing and more economical. Late September is not too early a date for the north of England and Scotland, while the end of October is time enough on the south coast. A cold frame is the only protection the plants need during winter, although a cold greenhouse may be used. Pots are preferable to boxes for the reason that they are, as a rule, better drained and the seedlings can be moved at transplanting time with less likelihood of damaging their roots. I find 48s pots a convenient size, but smaller ones answer the purpose just as well. Long "thumb" pots containing only one plant are often used when a limited number of plants are required. Boxes should be at least 5ins. deep, but not more than 9ins. As a potting medium, any good garden soil will do if not too rich and fairly light. The addition of well decayed leaf-mould and silver sand will render the more "clingy" soils sufficiently porous. Crock the bottoms of pots or boxes in the usual way to ensure ample drainage and to prevent the roots finding their way out. Sow the seed ½in. deep, allowing roughly 2 sq. ins. or 3 sq. ins. of surface space to each seed. Label each pot or box, or each batch of pots, as the case may be, with the name of the variety, afterwards taking care at all stages that no mixing of varieties occurs.

Necessity for Rapid Germination.

One's aim should be quick, even germination with only just enough moisture in the potting soil to effect this and not enough to cause some of the thin-skinned varieties, such as the whites, lavenders, blues and creams, to rot during germination. Some of the black-seeded kinds, such as Charity, Hebe, Warrior, etc. (not the coffee-coloured seeds, such as Hawlmark Pink, George Shawyer, etc.), are thick skinned and, comparatively speaking, impervious to moisture, and a percentage of their seeds will lie in the soil, or even in water, for weeks before swelling. Such seeds should have a very tiny portion of their seed coat removed with a file or sharp penknife on the side opposite to the "eye" to ensure a quick germination. Dress the soil of the frame with a soil fumigant such as Apterite or Vaporite to get rid of any stray wireworms or slugs, and to avoid frequent watering plunge the pots to their rims in soil, peat, ashes or fibre refuse. This will also protect the roots from frost. Mice may be troublesome, so do not fail to set a "breakback" trap or two on top of the pots. Keep the glass framelights on until the plants appear through the soil, then immediately remove them altogether, only replacing during frosty or very wet weather. The frame should be in an unshaded position, open to sunlight all day as far as possible, but if protected by a wall or building on the north or north-easterly side so much the better.

Hardy and Sturdy Growth Essential.

Give the young plants perfectly hardy treatment throughout the winter months; water very sparingly. Net the frame if birds are a nuisance. To encourage the formation of strong basal growths pinch out the tops of the plants as soon as three pairs of leaves have formed and keep them upright in their pots or boxes by inserting small twigs. Above all, do not "coddle" the seedlings in any shape or form. Hardy, sturdy growth is essential, and if you forget all about them and leave them to take their chance with the framelights off all through the winter, they will pull through nine seasons out of ten. The procedure I have outlined in detail is very simple and will most certainly ensure strong, healthy plants for transplanting to their flowering quarters in March.

C. H. A. S.

Digitized by Google

NURSERIES OF THE BRITISH ISLES.—V

MESSRS. KELWAY AND SON OF LANGPORT.

THERE are few gardeners the world over who are not acquainted with the name of Kelways of Langport. In the eighties and nineties of last century their place in the horticultural world as leading growers of plants had been firmly established, and from then up to the present day they have greatly added to the lustre of their name by the prominent part which they have played in the enrichment of our gardens by valuable contributions in the shape of the gladiolus and of the delphinium as we know them to-day, as well as in other directions no less valuable.

They were the pioneers in the gladiolus world, being the first firm to give us the large-flowered varieties, which they produced from 1870 onwards, and more recently by presenting to the horticultural world, as a result of their crossing, the now famous Langprim strain of gladioli. Again, it was largely owing to the enthusiasm and insight of the founder of the firm and Mr. William Kelway that the delphinium was taken in hand, developed, improved and made the popular plant it is to-day. In spite of these excellent credentials, however, they, as a firm, are probably best known as the leading peony growers in this country and probably in the world. In almost every corner of the globe where gardens flourish, their fame as peony growers is recognised—a monument to their energy and activity in the improvement and development of this fine herbaceous flower.

June is the month of the peonies, and those who can spare the time should certainly not miss a visit to Langport to view the magnificent colour display presented by the peony beds in their full beauty. The huge flowerheads in all their opalescent shades provide a perfect riot of colour which is made all the more brilliant and effective by the carpet of heavy foliage, which makes an admirable foil. Some of the blooms are of mammoth dimensions, and when one finds four or five clustered on the one stem the decorative effect can well be imagined. Many will have seen and admired those shown by Messrs. Kelways at the fortnightly shows at Vincent Square; but the peony, to be seen at its best and in all its nobleness of character and beauty, must be viewed as it grows in a bed. And one will not only see beds of them at Langport, but fields of them. When grown in a mass, after this fashion, the plant retains its bushy habit and only requires staking when the site is an exposed one. Moreover, where staking has to be considered, it can be done almost unnoticed owing to the plant's heavy crown of leafage. It is here that the amateur will realise how effective and decorative it can be if grown properly, and what a blaze of colour it will add to the June border in the garden if included in the planting scheme. Nowadays, it is not the flower of the specialist. True, there are many high-priced varieties, largely due to the fact that it takes a considerable time before the raisers can work up a stock of the one variety; but, on the other hand, there are many low and medium priced sorts which contain, from the point of view of colour shading, all that the amateur grower wants. Such varieties may be found in Lady Alexandra Duff, Kelway's Rosemary, Princess Olga, Sunrise, Lemosil, among doubles; while among the singles there are Pink Pearl and Duchess of York. All these will prove good and reliable kinds and, when once given their position in the garden, require little or no further attention and give freely of their lovely blossom year after year.

More recently, Messrs. Kelways have been specialising in pyrethrums and the changes now recorded in the character and colour of the flower are almost beyond belief. Every year sees the birth of new shades of colour, and those flowers which appear to the growers eye to be striking and unique and show improvement on existing varieties are carefully selected and grown on through a number of generations till a pure line results, which makes it safe for the amateur to go ahead. Few amateurs realise the number of years which the nurseryman has to wait till a variety proves itself, and all the while it

IN THE PEONY VALLEY AT LANGPORT.
Some of the fine flowers that may be seen on a visit to Messrs. Kelways in June.

MESSRS. KELWAYS HAVE LONG BEEN FAMED FOR THEIR GLADIOLI.
A corner of their gladiolus fields in August this year.

Digitized by Google

NOW IS THE TIME TO PLANT - - -

KELWAY'S LOVELY PAEONIES

THE NOBLEST HARDY PERENNIAL.

THE WONDERFUL NEW LANGPORT VARIETIES ARE ENCHANTINGLY BEAUTIFUL, SURPRISINGLY HARDY AND SWEET SCENTED.

We offer the following collections containing Kelway's celebrated varieties, which have secured the Highest Honours at Exhibitions.

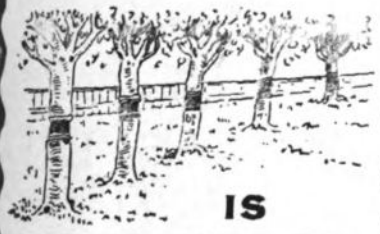
COLLECTION B.—**24**/- per dozen, **180**/- per 100, double and single flowered named varieties, in a complete range of colour, or of one colour.

COLLECTION C.—**30**/- per dozen, 50 for **£5 5s.**, double flowered or single flowered, or both; rose pink, lilac rose, rich rose, deep amethyst, cherry red, crimson purple, crimson, maroon crimson, white, cream, faint blush and peach. Fragrant varieties true to name, & strong plants guaranteed.

COLLECTION D.—**42**/- per dozen, 50 for **£7 7s.** All the most fragrant sorts are included. Pure white, cherry red, crimson, deep rose, bright pink, peach and combinations of creamy yellow and white and blush are but a few of the glorious shades in this collection. Purple and lilac are excluded. Strong plants true to name.

KELWAY & SON - The Royal Horticulturists - LANGPORT, SOMERSET.

Headquarters for all Hardy Plants.



IS IT WORTH 2d.

That is the cost per fruit tree for banding with

OSTICO

and one application will last throughout the season.

If your orchard yields more than 2d. worth of fruit per tree

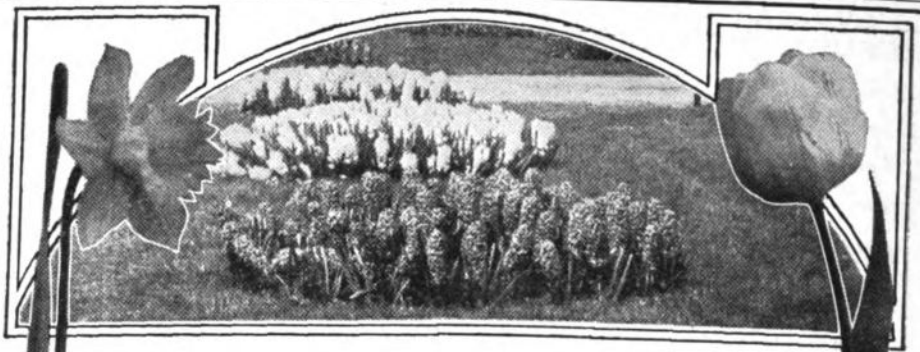
OSTICO PAYS

8 oz. tin (for 10 trees) ..	1/6
1 lb. tin (for 20 ,,) ..	2/9
5 lb. tin (for 100 ,,) ..	12/6

Agents Everywhere.

COOPER, MCDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, LTD. BERKHAMSTED, HERTS.

OSTICO FOR BANDING TREES



SUTTON'S BULBS

HYACINTHS TULIPS
NARCISSI CROCUS
and all Spring-flowering Bulbs

TOP SIZE ONLY. TRUE TO NAME.

SUTTON & SONS,
Bulb Specialists, READING.

Cut out this Coupon and send for
"SUTTON'S BULBS for 1926"
POST FREE.

Name .....
Address .....
Gn. 3 .....

Digitized by Google

JOHN WATERER, SONS & CRISP,
LIMITED

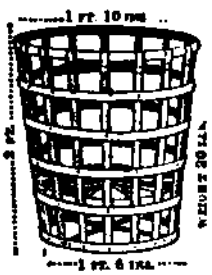
beg to announce that TITTENHURST having been disposed of, they have been commissioned to sell the surplus of this well-known collection of RHODODENDRONS, including many fine specimens, 6-10 feet high, of the better class hybrids, such as Gill's Triumph, Gill's Goliath, Loder's White, &c., some original Loderi, 12-15 feet high, and a great many similar hybrids raised on the estate, many from the same seed pan as those which have gained Awards of Merit. Appointments can be made to view these Rhododendrons during the month of October on application to

F. GOMER WATERER, Esq.,

John Waterer, Sons & Crisp,
LIMITED

The Nurseries, BAGSHOT, SURREY

VULCAN GARDEN REFUSE INCINERATOR



Garden and household refuse reduced to ashes quickly, cleanly, with minimum amount of smoke. Will take a barrow load of rubbish at a charge.

British Manufacture.
PRICE EACH **10/-**
Carriage paid nearest Railway Station - 2 for 18/-
Larger size 2 for 22/6 **12/6**

"The incinerator arrived on Wednesday, and after two soaking nights I had no difficulty in getting a good fire from exposed material. I burnt up in an hour what would have taken me all day with a bonfire."

THE LOSTOCK IRON BASKET WORKS,
8/11, Griffiths Lane, Lostock Gralam, nr. Northwich

SITUATION VACANT.

WANTED, HEAD WORKING GARDENER of Three. Young, energetic. Must have good knowledge of herbaceous and shrubs. Cottage. Full particulars to CAPTAIN STOKES, Brooklands, Longdon, Stafford.

BERBERIS and COTONEASTERS
FOR
SPRING (flower) AUTUMN (foliage) WINTER (berry)
EITHER

*Collections of Berberis or Cotoneasters :—

A.—6 bushy plants in 6 distinct species, for **14/6**; or larger, **21/-**
B.—12 bushy plants in 12 distinct species, for **30/-**; or larger, **42/-**
C.—24 bushy plants in 24 distinct species, for **60/-**; or larger, **82/-**

*In each collection half to be deciduous and half evergreen, and every Berberis collection to contain one plant similar to that depicted on the Cover.

Packing free for Cash with Order.

LIER & SONS - WINCHESTER

"APEX" FISH MANURE
THE PERFECT PLANT FOOD

WRITE TO-DAY FOR
DESCRIPTIVE PAMPHLET
TO

J. C. WHITNEY & CO.

ELDON STREET HOUSE, 2/3, ELDON STREET,
LONDON, E.C.2.

Telephone: London Wall 1118. *Telegrams: Whitneyser, Art, London.*

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

THE "SOUTHWELL" COLLECTION
Twelve Varieties, Carriage and Packing Free - - **12/6**
With "ACME" Labels - **15/-**

Caroline Testout
Col. O. FitzGerald
Emma Wright
Frau Karl Druschki
General McArthur
Henrietta
Hugh Dickson
Independence Day
Madame E. Herriot
Ophelia
The Queen Alexandra
Ulrich Brunner

Also Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees, Alpines and Hardy Plants.

ALL HOME GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries. *Catalogue Free on Application.*

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LTD.
Garden Specialists, SOUTHWELL, NOTTS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

NEW MICHAELMAS DAISY BARR'S PINK

The Finest Pink Michaelmas Daisy yet raised.

The flowers, which are semi-double, large and open, are of a bright rose-pink with showy gold and bronze central disc. Excellent as a cut flower, lasting well in water, and equally charming in artificial light as in daylight. The plant is of elegant and graceful habit, THE FINEST PINK MICHAELMAS DAISY YET RAISED; height, 4½ ft. Award of Merit at the R.H.S. Wisley Trials, 1925, and Silver-Gilt Banksian Medal at the R.H.S. Great Autumn Show, Holland Park, Sept. 21st, 1926.

Strong plants .. .. per doz., **25/-**; each, **2/6**
Extra large plants .. .. " **36/-**; " **3/6**

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2
Nurseries—BATH ROAD, TAPLOW, BUCKS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

has to be looked after like some pampered child.

It is these years which are the testing time, and which, if successful, result in plants coming true to colour and type from seed, which the amateur sees as novelties either in the nursery bed or on the exhibition table. This production of new varieties is no easy or inexpensive task, and an insight into this line of work would make many amateur growers more tolerant of the efforts of our nurserymen, who are continually striving to raise the standard of our plants. In pyrethrums, many excellent crimson shades are to be seen at Langport, and the gardener who wishes bold splashes of colour in the border in early summer should certainly grow a few choice kinds of these newer pyrethrums. They are graceful both in flower and foliage, and never seek to get out of hand, an important point to be considered in choosing border plants.

These and many other flowers are to be seen on a June visit to Langport. We noted many fine new seedlings among the delphiniums, of good size, colour and habit of growth, many of which will ultimately find their way to the exhibition stand and there enhance still further the reputation of Messrs. Kelways as a firm of renown.

The beds of gladioli presented a picture of perfect health during our visit, and it is the products of these beds which have given us the fine displays of this first-rate border flower staged by the firm at the August and September shows. It is now, when the gladiolus is coming into its own as a garden flower of the highest merit, that we realise the debt which the gardening world owes to the enterprise of Messrs. Kelway for the part which they have played in raising a strain of this flower which has done much to bring about its present popularity. That they still take as keen an interest in the well-being of the flower is shown by the fact that the firm offered a challenge bowl to the National Gladiolus Society to be awarded to the best group of British gladioli grown by an amateur and staged at the show at Burton-on-Trent.

It has been largely through the efforts of the present owner of the firm, Mr. James Kelway, that our present ideas of colour arrangement and schemes in the herbaceous border have been evolved and perfected, through the introduction of Kelway's Colour Border, which provides a harmony of colour throughout the summer months.

Almost every branch of horticulture is catered for in some way or other. Vegetable trials, as well as flower trials, are carried on with marked success. The interests of the firm are catholic and widespread, as can be seen at once by a visit to the nurseries. The amateur gardener who can afford the time will find himself well repaid by a visit. He will not only learn a great deal about plants, if his visit is timed to coincide with the most effective floral display, but he will come to appreciate the more the efforts of such pioneers of the horticultural world as Messrs. Kelways and what they have done for English gardens and gardeners.

A BED OF MESSRS. KELWAYS' STRAIN OF HARDY PYRETHRUMS.
These look well in the border when massed in clumps.

OUR SERVICE BUREAU

Though so many subjects are dealt with in each issue of THE GARDEN, *it must constantly happen that readers seek information which is not immediately available. In such circumstances they should make use of our Service Department. Through its medium each reader's own particular enquiry can be dealt with. No matter what the question is, there is always information available from a staff of expert contributors and consultants; and there is no charge for this. It is one of the additional means of service which* THE GARDEN *is glad to render to its readers.*

Also, there is the further convenience which the Service Department affords of supplying readers with data about anything that is advertised in the pages of the paper. Thus, on receipt of an enquiry, particulars will be sent of, say, half a dozen things about which the reader seeks information. The only stipulation is that a stamped addressed envelope and the coupon, that will always be found in each issue, shall be sent with the enquiry.

All communications should be addressed to the Service Department, THE GARDEN, *20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.*

We have selected the following enquiries, with their answers, as being of more general interest, and therefore worthy of publication.

Montbretias.

I have not been very successful with the culture of montbretias, which makes me think I am not treating them as I ought to. My garden is situated in open country near the town, and I grow them in clumps.—T. RILEY.

Montbretias prefer a rich, well drained soil in a rather sunny position. Varieties should be planted in early April, and the more tender ones generally lifted in October, the corms being dried and then stored in sand or a frost-proof shed over the winter. When in active growth occasional waterings should be given in dry weather, with liquid manure to act as a stimulant. They may either be grown in beds or in the border in a sunny aspect.

Wintering Geraniums and Fuchsias.

In window-boxes and vases outside we have ivy-leaved geraniums, which were bought new this spring. As we have no greenhouse, I am wondering what to do with them during the winter. Would it be any use potting them up and standing them in a frame or stables, or would it be better to take cuttings in a cold frame? Also we have some fuchsias which are not the small-flowered kind. Is there any method of preserving them?—E. M. G.

Take up and pot the ivy-leaved geraniums, reducing the roots and shoots—that is, cut them back one-third—and winter them inside a window, anywhere safe from frost and excessive damp. Be careful not to overwater. The fuchsias may be stored in the stable during the winter. Do not water after the first application until February, when new shoots will begin to grow.

Unsuccessful Figs and Vines.

I have a fig tree growing against a wall in a heated vinery. It appears healthy and has plenty of fruit on it, but none of the figs have come to perfection. Some grow larger than others, but most of them just the size of a small plum.

Another glasshouse contains seven old vines. Each have a few bunches, but shanking has been very bad among them. The borders are both inside and outside, the inside border being 24ft. long and 12ft. wide. The vines seem deeply planted, and I was thinking of lifting them and replanting in fresh soil. Do you think this will cure them from shanking, as I think that it is the border which is causing the trouble? The house is heated.—A. F.

When the young shoots are about 6ins. long, pinch off the ends and young figs will soon form. Any good garden soil will be suitable, but a nice chalky loam is ideal. Do not overcrowd the shoots, but do not cut them off—thin out while young. Admit air freely in nice open weather.

Undoubtedly the vine roots are deep in a cold subsoil. Lift them and replant nearer the surface, using a good fibrous loam, builders' mortar rubble and finely ground bones. Do this work at the end of October and only one portion of the border in one year. Do not allow the roots to get dry; while out of the soil syringe and wrap them in wet mats.

"Broken" Tulips.

If tulips which have "broken" are planted, will the offsets from these be also striped, or is there a chance of their returning to the original whole colour? In cleaning off my tulip bulbs I find that frequently I cannot avoid rubbing off the outer skin, thus leaving the bulb white. Can you tell me whether this does any practical harm?—E. S.

Your question raises a very difficult point regarding the breaking of bulbs. It is almost impossible to say when a bulb thus broken will revert to a pure type or when

Digitized by Google

Ryders

Book of Beautiful Bulbs

For 1/2 D.

FREE DISTRIBUTION.

WHETHER you wish to plant bulbs in your garden or grow them indoors or in window boxes send coupon to-day for this splendid list of Ryders reliable Bulbs at Popular Prices. If you have never yet made your home and garden beautiful with spring blooms this informative book gives you full directions to ensure success.

INSTRUCTIONS—Write name and address clearly, preferably in block letters, on the coupon, place the coupon in an envelope addressed to Ryders, tuck in the flap but do not stick down, affix a halfpenny stamp—post at once—and the catalogue will reach you by return.

RYDER & SON (1920 LTD.)
SEED & BULB SPECIALISTS, **St. Albans.**

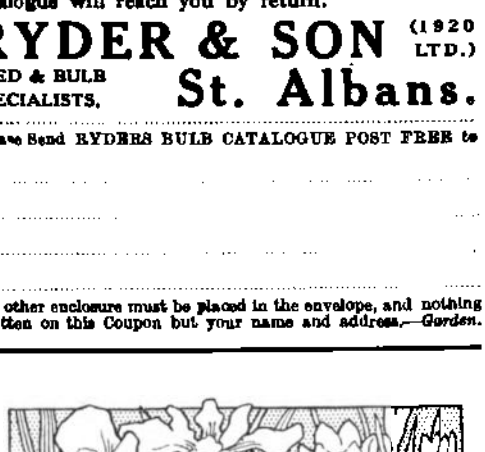
Please Send RYDERS BULB CATALOGUE POST FREE to

.....

.....

.....

No other enclosure must be placed in the envelope, and nothing written on this Coupon but your name and address.—*Garden.*



BULBS
what to plant when to plant

Cultural notes of the greatest value both to professional and amateur gardener form a special feature of the new illustrated bulb catalogue issued by John Waterer, Sons & Crisp, Ltd.

A rigorous system of selection is followed at the Nurseries so that the purchaser receives none but bulbs of tested strain, inherently vigorous and therefore suitable for forcing and planting.

John Waterer Sons & Crisp Ltd
The Nurseries,
Twyford, Berks
Shrub Nurseries:
BAGSHOT, SURREY.
City Showrooms:
44, LONDON WALL, E.C.2
—for bulbs, plants and seeds of tested strain

a pure bulb will break. Changes in the soil condition seem to be responsible to a large extent, but even then evidence goes to show that this alone is not entirely the cause. Provided that the inner part of the bulb is not in any way damaged, the disturbance of the outer skin should not do any harm regarding the flowering of the bulb, but in future try to prevent, as far as possible, this injury to the outer skin.

Diseased Roses and Wistaria.

The diseased rose is on my house and is a fair size, but owing to the disease, which appears to be black spot, it is rapidly dwindling. Can anything be done to cure it? (I believe spraying is the only hope.) Almost beneath this rose is a very fine daphne, name uncertain, but supposed to be a cross between fioniana and neapolitana. Situated in an angle of the wall, it is about 8ft. high by 5ft. across, and in full flower now; in fact, it flowers for months and is finely scented. The rose leaves help to make a mulch for the daphne, and any spray or treatment must be innocuous to it. The wistaria leaves are also diseased apparently. It was only planted this spring out of a pot, and has made excellent growth and is still doing so. Another one within 12ft. is perfectly healthy. As I have been trying for years to persuade wistarias to grow on this house, and these two at last are away, I do not want to destroy the apparently diseased one if I can help it. Aspect in both cases, rose and wistaria, south south-east, soil peaty sand, typical heather soil. The wistaria was given a prepared home with the best soil we have and cow manure below. The rose is old and planted long before I came here.—L. J. T.

The rose leaves have the appearance of being affected by orange rust rather than black spot. The orange rust attacks the plants earlier in the season, and at that time—early June—the foliage should be syringed with a solution of sulphide of potassium, one quarter-ounce to the gallon. All fallen leaves should be carefully gathered and burned. Apply a rather stronger application of the sulphide now—after the leaves are gathered—then the drip will do some good, killing spores on the surface of the soil. Syringe the wistaria with "Abol" according to directions and surface mulch now with loam and leaf-soil, equal parts. Has the soil been well watered during the summer months?

A Shrub for Filling in a Gap.

I want to plant a fairly quick-growing flowering shrub, evergreen and bushy habit, not less than 7ft. in height, to fill a gap between fence and summer-house. The situation is south-west, but owing to the shade of the house gets little sunshine before noon. I had thought of Choisya ternata or Eucryphia pinnatifolia. Would these be suitable, and could they be grown together at, say, 4ft. apart?

Do you think Lonicera sempervirens would be successful on an archway facing west? I am about five miles out of Manchester and the soil can be made suitable.—S. M.

We should suggest Choisya ternata for the position you mention. Eucryphia pinnatifolia is a very slow grower, and you would have considerable difficulty in purchasing it 7ft. or 8ft. high, whereas Choisya ternata is very quick growing. Why not try Berberis stenophylla, with its weeping, arching branches. It would look well in such a position. Lonicera sempervirens should prove successful on an archway facing west.

Peach Trees from Seed.

We have in the garden the ornamental peach P. persica Clara Meyer, and this year for the third time it has fruited one peach. Is it worth while planting the stone? And if so, should it be cracked or otherwise treated before planting?—E. H. D.

Peach trees seldom come true from seed, and we think it highly improbable that by sowing the stone from the fruit of the ornamental peach you will raise a tree of any great value. Most seedlings are decidedly inferior to varieties grown. It is not difficult to get the stone to germinate, and the seedling would, no doubt, soon grow into a large tree. The stone should be taken from the ripe peach, dried and then sown in sandy loam in a small pot. The pot should stand out of doors all the winter, and in February or March it should be examined and the outer coat of the stone lightly filed along the edge, so that the seedling will have no difficulty in breaking it when germination commences. Often enough even this filing is unnecessary, the seedling breaking the covering without difficulty. When large enough to handle the seedling can be repotted, placing it in good loam, where it will grow rapidly, and may be planted into the open ground by the following autumn.

FURTHER NOTES ON HOLLAND PARK SHOW.

OWING to the extensiveness of this fine autumn show and to the great pressure on our space, we, unfortunately, were unable to mention all the chief exhibits in our report. We feel that several of those omitted ought not to be overlooked, for they were particularly meritorious and also of special interest at the present time, as excellent perennials which can be planted now were on show. Mr. W. Wells, jun., had an exceedingly fine group of herbaceous flowers which he brought from his nurseries at Merstham. The majority of his perennials which he exhibited are suitable for inclusion in a herbaceous border of modest dimensions. Aster Royal Blue (of rich deep purple blue), Aster Little Boy Blue (a dwarf semi-double Michaelmas daisy with clear blue flowers), the large-flowered crimson Pyrethrum Harold Robinson, Achillea Cerise Queen and Viking (a salmon pink phlox) were all good tall-growing perennials exhibited. The three following rudbeckias were also noticeable: purpurea with its uncommon blooms of crimson purple, nitida Herbstonne of yellow colouring and Newmanni with its conspicuous black eye in the centre of its golden flowers. Mr. Wells also showed his new double Gypsophila Bristol Fairy.

Another group worthy of mention was that of Messrs. Whitelegg, who staged a collection of all the finest modern Michaelmas daisies. Asters of the Nova-Anglia as well as numerous varieties belonging to the Novi-Belgii group were included.

The outstanding exhibit of fruit was staged by Messrs. Bunyard, who showed bunches of grapes grown on outside vines as well as countless varieties of apples and pears and plums. The Barnham Nurseries exhibited nearly sixty varieties of apples, while Messrs. Stuart Low had a collection of apples, with fig trees in pots placed behind them.

The fruit exhibited staged by Messrs. Daniel Brothers consisted chiefly of apples but pears, plums and grapes were also included. On the whole the fruit exhibits were of a good standard, in spite of the fact that this season has been an exceedingly bad one for fruit.

TRADE NOTE.

Messrs. W. Atlee Burpee and Co. would like to announce to our readers that seeds of their sweet pea novelties may be obtained from all seedsmen throughout the country and not only through wholesale houses, as stated in their advertisements.

Digitized by Google

BULBS

We invite immediate application for our

BULB CATALOGUE.

knowing that the very fine quality of our bulbs enables us to offer exceptionally good value for money.

Send for a copy of the BULB CATALOGUE at once.

Bakers
SEED AND FLOWER FARM
CODSALL
Near Wolverhampton

hoice Plants that will Grow

Dianthus Lindsayii - - -	1/6 each.
Gentiana Farreri - - -	1/6 „
„ Sino-ornata - -	1/- „
Meconopsis quintuplinerva	5/- „

KELLEY, Alpine Specialist, CRIEFF

VERMOL

KILLS WORMS AND GROWS GOOD GRASS

VERMOL gets the lot.

Vermol Products COMPANY
31 ST. MARY AXE
LONDON, E.C. 3
Teles.: Avenue 1869 and 1870.
Telegs.: "Plasmous, Phone, London."

LIFTING GLADIOLI

NEITHER the large-flowering nor primulinus gladioli are hardy; consequently, like dahlias, they need protection from frost during winter. The general tendency is to leave the corms in the ground too long, thus laying them open to the risk of rotting, particularly on heavy soils. It is not too early to dig them up a fortnight or three weeks after they have finished flowering. Lift them gently with either a fork or spade, taking care to keep each variety separate. It will be found that two, and often three, new corms will have formed in the place of the one corm planted (a new one at the base of every flower stalk sent up), while numerous little corms, generally known as bulblets, will appear around their bases. The old corm, like an old shrivelled potato, is attached to the base of the new ones. The whole plant—foliage, new corms, old corm and bulblets—should be hung up in an airy outhouse or in a greenhouse until withered and perfectly dry. This drying will be complete in ten days or a fortnight, and the stems should then be cut off about half an inch above the new corm, and the old one at the bottom broken off and thrown away. The treatment of the bulblets I will leave for a moment. After the new corms have been trimmed in the above manner, they are ready to be stored. A fairly dry (but not warm) and frost-proof position should be chosen, and they must not be put in a bag on top of each other, but laid out thinly on shelves or in trays. Potato trays are ideal, where a quantity is to be dealt with. There is nothing difficult about storing gladioli corms; simply lay them out thinly after drying in some frost-proof place, not damp and not too warm, till planting time in March.

Treatment of Bulblets.

Is it generally realised how easily and how quickly gladioli may be increased by means of their bulblets? I think not. Given ordinary treatment, the majority of bulblets from the large-flowering varieties bloom their second year, a few perhaps the first; while in the case of the more precocious primulinus hybrid varieties, a large number will bloom the first year—that is, the year after they have formed. Consequently, it is a decided waste to discard bulblets, particularly if they be of new and expensive varieties. Some varieties of gladioli produce large quantities of bulblets, others very few indeed. It is not uncommon to find upwards of sixty on one plant of what we should term a "good propagator." When lifting the plants, care should be taken not to knock or rub off the bulblets; then, when the plants have been dried off as already described, the bulblets—which are really little corms—will readily pull off. They vary in size from that of a small sweet pea seed to that of a large culinary pea. Store them in the same frost-proof position as the corms, but it will be found convenient to use little bags which can be hung up rather than trays. Cardboard boxes also answer the purpose admirably. Again may I emphasise the advisability of guarding against mixing the varieties together; each should be carefully labelled, for it is so much nicer to grow each kind separately. The bulblets will keep true to name and colour, and a large stock of any variety one particularly likes can be obtained within a very few years.

I recommend the following after-treatment. In mid-March, draw drills with a hoe and sow the bulblets just as you would sow culinary peas, at the same depth but a trifle more thickly, for it must be admitted that a small percentage of them will fail to "germinate" the first season. Keep them clean by frequent hoeing, but otherwise let them look after themselves until the late autumn.—C. H. A. S.

ROBERT VEITCH & SON
Royal Nurseries
EXETER
will be pleased to send all or either of their Catalogues free on application:
FRUIT TREES :: ROSES
HERBACEOUS PLANTS
BULBS
HARDY TREES and SHRUBS
which includes their novelties
Escallonia Iveyi and
Erica australis Mr. Robert

CYCLAMEN

The Finest Strain in the World.

There is nothing to equal these glorious plants for winter flowering.

Grand plants in 5-in. pots.
Fine selection of colours.
25/- and **30/-** per doz.

Blackmore & Langdon
BATH.

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by "ALPHOL"
Sample 14 lb., 2/6 carr. paid
Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Verimot" Seeds, etc., to
Garden Supplies, Ltd., Granmer St. Liverpool

Special Autumn Offer

Order **NOW** for delivery in November.

12 Goosberries
"WHINHAM'S INDUSTRY."
12 Black Currants
"SEABROOK'S" (Mite resisting).
12 Red Currants
"RABY CASTLE."

The above 36 strong, well-grown Fruiting Bushes for **20/-** Carriage Paid for Cash with Order. Half the above numbers for **10/-**

Descriptive Catalogue of Fruit Trees, Roses, Ornamental Trees and Shrubs, free on application.

The FOREST & ORCHARD NURSERIES, Ltd.
BUCKOVER, FALFIELD, GLOS.

Digitized by Google

HAVE YOU PROVIDED?

The United Horticultural Benefit and Provident Society

PROVIDES 27/- per week in illness for 1/1½; 18/- for 9d.; or 12/- for 6d., weekly contributions.

PROVIDES your dependents with £10, £15 or £20 at death, according to Scale.

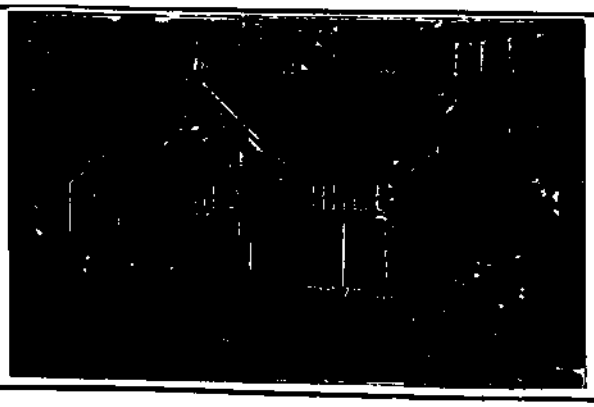
PROVIDES you with a Savings Bank.

PROVIDES grants from Distress and Convalescent Funds.

PROFIT BY THE EXPERIENCE OF A MEMBER WHO HAS £150 TO HIS CREDIT

State Insured members of this Society may also Contribute to the private Section, and by so doing will add to their Bonus in accordance with the Scale they adopt.

A. C. HILL, Secretary, 35, Alexandra Road, WEST KENSINGTON, W.14



FOSTER & PEARSON LIMITED

Established 1841

Please write for Estimates for durable Greenhouses, Boilers, etc., to

BEESTON NOTTS

HILL & SMITH

BRIERLEY HILL,

Makers of

IRON FENCING, HURDLES, GATES, NETTING AND GARDEN

Other Products—Hayland and Grain Stacks, Barns, Galvanized Corrugated Sheets, Structural Steelwork.

Catalogue free on mentioning this paper.

London: 989, Abbey House, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

LOWE & GIBSON,

Crawley Down, SUSSEX

New Border Carnations

If any of our Customers have not received our new list, we shall be happy to rectify the omission on receipt of a p.c. Every Carnation grower should send for a copy.

Special offers of June-flowering IRISES are made in the same catalogue.

Alpine Plants. 500 varieties. All pot grown.

Hardy Perennials. Comprehensive Collections Asters, Phlox, Iris, Delphiniums, Paeonies, Pyrethrums, etc.

Greenhouse Plants. Specialities in Primulas, Cyclamen, Ferns, Begonias, Gloxinias, etc.

Catalogue on Request.

H. H. MAW & SON,

Friarwood Nurseries, PONTEFRACT

The Amateur S

RHODODENDRONS F AMATEURS

By E. H. M. COX. *Editor of* THE GA
Demy 8vo. Illustrated. 5s. net.

BULBS FOR AMATEU

By the Rev. JOSEPH JACOB. Dem
Illustrated. 5s. net.

HERBACEOUS BORDE FOR AMATEURS

By R. V. GIFFARD WOOLLEY. D
8vo. Illustrated. 5s. net.

ORNAMENTAL TREES FOR AMATEURS

By W. J. BEAN. Demy 8vo. Illu
5s. net.

SHRUBS FOR AMATEURS

By W. J. BEAN. *Curator of the Botanic Gardens, Kew.* Demy 8vo.
trated. 5s. net.

A combined Prospectus will be sent on

"Country Life," Ltd., 20, Tavistock
Covent Garden, London, W.C.2

AUCTION SALES OF

BULBS

EVERY

PROTHEROE & MORRIS

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY at

67, 68, Cheapside, London, E.C.2.

Write for Catalogues. Phone City 2858.

DARWIN TULIPS FIRST QUALITY ONLY.

Illustrated list post free on application.

10/- orders post free, otherwise 9d. extra.

100 Darwin Tulips in 10 fine varieties - 8/6
50 " " 10 " " - 4/6

	100	Doz.
Baron de la Tonnaye, rose pink, margined blush	9/-	1/3
Clara Butt, salmon-rose	7/6	1/-
Douglas, wine red	8/6	1/2
Dream, large-flowered lilac	10/6	1/6
Euterpe, beautiful lilac	10/-	1/4
Farncombe Sanders, large fiery scarlet	10/6	1/6
Glow, vermilion scarlet	12/6	1/8
Harry Veitch, rich blood red	10/6	1/6
Loveliness, soft carmine rose	9/-	1/3
Madame Krelage, bright lilac rose, large	11/6	1/6
Margaret, silvery rose	8/6	1/2
Nauticus, purplish rose	9/-	1/3
Painted Lady, cream white, tinged heliotrope	9/6	1/4
Philip de Commines, large velvety maroon	11/-	1/6
Pride of Haarlem, brilliant rose scarlet	8/6	1/2
Rev. Ewbank, bright heliotrope	10/-	1/4
The Sultan, nearly black	7/6	1/-
Wm. Copland (Sweet Lavender), soft lilac	9/-	1/3
Zulu, deep velvety violet black, large	10/6	1/6
Darwin Tulips in finest mixture	6/-	10d.

Satisfaction Guaranteed or money refunded.

WILLIAM HELPS,

Bulb Merchant, Woodford Green, Essex

THE NEW COMPLETE LIST

of

GARDEN BOOKS

published by "Country Life"

is

NOW READY

FREE ON APPLICATION TO THE PUBLISHERS
20, TAVISTOCK ST., COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2

Digitized by Google

Even Birds

—to say nothing of slugs, snails, worms, and other soil-pests, shun crops protected with

SANITAS POWDER

Sprinkle on soil, dust on seeds, dust over trenches, put into drills. The saving is enormous. There is no poison in it. Get a 1/3 Tin to-day, or write to us for bulk quotations.

THE "SANITAS" CO. LTD.
LIMEHOUSE, LONDON, E.

San 84—89a

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

BY APPOINTMENT

The BEST and CHEAPEST

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

FANCY FERN PANS and BULB BOWLS from **4d.** each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.
Royal Potteries, **BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

WEED-DEATH
NON POISONOUS POWDER
WEED KILLER

SAFETY FIRST FOR ANIMALS AND PEOPLE

Non-caustic; colourless; no smells; kills the roots; superior to arsenical compounds.

TINS, 1/- 2,- 3/6 6/6 12/-
for 4 12½ 25 50 100 gals.

SPECIAL. For Parks and Recreation Grounds—in bulk.

ALSO

LETHORION
Improved Nicotine Cone
FUMIGATOR

Certain destruction to all pests in glasshouses.

No. 1, for 1,000 cubit feet	.. ..	10d.
No. 2, „ 1,500 „	„	1/3
No. 3, „ 2,500 „	„	1/9

Sold by all Seedsmen and Nurserymen.

CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, LONDON, S.E.1

"FERRY-BRAND"

Regd. *Trade Mark*

BULB MANURE

is both a Plant Food and a Soil Pest Destroyer

THE "Ferry" Bulb Manure is the result of many years of experiment where bulbs are grown to perfection. It is composed of all the constituents required for the healthy growth of bulbs. It acts as a soil pest destroyer, and ensures freedom for the bulbs from all insect and fungoid pests, which are the cause of so many failures.

In the open, use 2 to 3 ozs. per square yard when preparing the soil, for pots work ½ to ¾ lb. to each bushel of soil.

PRICES—Carriage paid, for cash with order—
7-lbs. 2/-; 14-lbs. 3/9; 28-lbs. 7/-; 56-lbs. 13/-; 1-cwt. 22/-

Agents wanted throughout England for "Ferry" Specialities.

The BRITON FERRY CHEMICAL & MANURE Co, Ltd. (Dept. E), Briton Ferry, S. Wales. (Est. 1886).

The Service Bureau Coupon.

THE GARDEN, *October 9th*, 1926.

Name.....

Address.....

.....

This Coupon must accompany each enquiry along with a stamped addressed envelope.

See page 577.

THE SERVICE DEPT., "THE GARDEN," 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2

The Cultivation of Tobacco—No. 5.

Harvesting

THE Tobacco Harvest commences at the end of July, when the plants are harvested and threaded on long poles.

Mule carts are used to convey these poles to the curing barns.

The average crop is about 700 lbs. to the acre, but only a small percentage of this will ultimately produce the Rich, Ripe Virginia Leaf used in the making of

PLAYER'S

Navy Cut

TOBACCO & CIGARETTES

Regd. No. 154011.

P.1364.

The WIZARD Plant LABEL

Made in Red Pottery, 2½ x 1½ ins., with rustless wires, 12 in., 2/3 doz.; 7 in., 1/9 doz. 1¼ x 1 in., with wires 6 in., 1/6 doz. For tying on, 1/8 and 1/6 doz. Waterproof Ink, 9d. and 7½d. bot. Crow Quills, 2d. Postage extra

Highly commended by the R.H.S. at Wisley.

E. TORKINGTON · NEW HALL · MAIDENHEAD

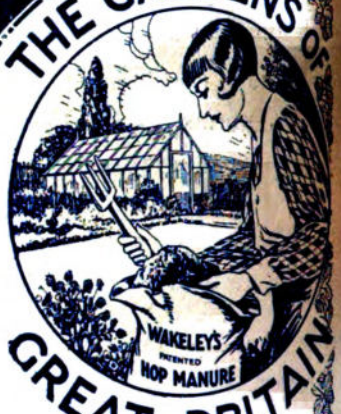
Digitized by Google

WAKELEY'S Celebrated Hop Manure

(PATENTED)

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

AS USED IN THE GARDENS OF GREAT BRITAIN



DIPLOMA AND MEDAL, ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION, 1912

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE, without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

Every ounce of Wakeley's Hop Manure is of value to the soil, supplying the necessary HUMUS in addition to the valuable plant food. Worthless rubbish is not added to make weight (as is the case of some artificial manures advertised).

Thousands do realise it, the proof of this is the constant flow of UNSOLICITED LETTERS received from time to time in praise of the wonderful results obtained at such a moderate cost (see Booklet for selection)

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.

CASH PRICES (including bags):

Small (about 1 bushel)	3/-
Large (about 4 bushels)	7/-
5 Large	33/9
10 Large	65/-
20 Large	120/-

Carriage paid by Pickford's or to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company; 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.

75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

Small Orchards

No matter how small or large the orchard, it pays to use Stictite Tree Banding Compound.

Winter Moth rises from the soil early in October or late September, and the females (being wingless), at once crawl up the tree trunks in order to deposit their eggs in the branches.

By banding the trees with Stictite in the autumn you can prevent the eggs being laid, and so avoid having to spray for the caterpillars in the spring.

1 lb. of Stictite will do 9 to 12 trees of about 8 in. diameter.

½-lb. 1/6 (post 6d.); 1-lb. 2/9 (post 6d.); 2-lb. 5/- (post 9d.); 4-lb. 10/- (post 9d.); 7-lb. 17/6 (post 1/-).

Greaseproof Paper, 5 ins. wide: 6 yds., 2d.; 12 yds., 3d.; 25 yds., 6d.; 50 yds., 9d.; 100 yds., 1/6; 200 yds., 2/6.

Write for Descriptive Folder.

Stictite is sold by Nurserymen, Seedsmen, Florists, Ironmongers, Chemists & Stores. If any difficulty, please write to Abol Limited, 9, Beltring, Paddock Wood, Kent.

Stictite

Recommended for Roses, Bulbs, all other Flowers and Fruit Trees.

The Helichrysa Permanent LABEL

Registered Trade Mark.

Write for circular and full particulars to:—

THE "HELICHRYSA" PERMANENT LABEL CO.

8, Rusthall Park, TUNBRIDGE WELLS

From 2/- per doz.

Patent 245842

"It warms my Greenhouse nicely at a cost of **about 2d. per day,** which I think very reasonable. I am a new beginner with a Greenhouse, and your

'HORSE SHOE' BOILER

took my fancy. I have not regretted my choice," writes Mr. F. G., Clifford, Boston Spa. 23/3/26

Cold weather comes soon. Write for particulars now

To CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD.,
Engineers, Southwark Street, S.E.1.

Please send me Booklet E "Making the Most of Your Greenhouse," and price of complete Outfit to suit *(span-roof) (lean-to) greenhouse..... long.....wide inside, side of *(wood) (brick).....thick.

Name.....

Address.....

*Strike out particulars not needed. Cut out and send by ½d. post.

Can be supplied from Immediate Stock

USED IN THE R.H.S. GARDENS

Wire: "Kinnell-Boroh-London." 'Phone: Hop 0362 (3 lines)

CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., Ltd.

65, SOUTHWARK STREET, LONDON, S.E.1

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

1926 26 130 PERIODICAL ROOM GENERAL LIBRARY

THE GARDEN

THE AMATEUR GARDENERS' PAPER

Vol. XC.—No. 2863 Saturday, October 16th, 1926 Price TWOPENCE

TULIPA KAUFMANNIANA, ONE OF THE MOST HANDSOME SPECIES OF THE WHOLE FAMILY. THE BRILLIANTLY COLOURED FLOWERS IN SHADES OF YELLOW AND SCARLET APPEAR EXCEPTIONALLY EARLY, AND FROM THEIR RESEMBLANCE WHEN PARTIALLY OPEN TO THOSE OF NYMPHÆAS THIS SPECIES HAS ACQUIRED THE NAME OF "THE WATER LILY" TULIP.

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
New Alpines and Perennials
Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
Strawberries and Fruit Trees

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD
CHELSEA, S.W.
Bulb Catalogue Now Ready

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

H. PRINS,
BULB AND PLANT GROWERS
WISBECH, CAMBS.
Bulb list free on application

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND. SOIL FUME. NICOTINE. INSECTICIDES, FUNGICIDES, SPRAYS AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES—THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY. IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT, CARRIAGE PAID.

ORIGINATORS TOMLINSON & HAYWARD LTD. LINCOLN

The Seaside Planting of Trees and Shrubs

By Alfred Gaut, F.R.H.S. 28 Illustrations. 5/- net. By post, 5/6.

"Country Life" Library, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
HULL
Weed Destroyers Fertilizers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

TUBS FOR SHRUBS. WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 100 prizes. R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. — Price List from A. PEADAL, 26, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

THE PLANTING SEASON

is fast approaching, and intending planters are advised to place their orders at the earliest possible date in order to secure early delivery.

THE BARNHAM NURSERIES LTD. offer a magnificent stock of

Fruit Trees - - Roses
Alpines - Hardy Perennials
Ornamental Trees & Shrubs
Hedge and Shelter Plants

- and will be glad to send - descriptive catalogues on application.

The BARNHAM NURSERIES Ltd.
BARNHAM, SUSSEX.

Leaf-miner time!

Chrysanthemum time is leaf-miner time. Owing to its penetrative action, a few sprays with XL ALL Leaf-Miner Insecticide will perfectly clean plants from this pest. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen, - - florists and chemists. - -

XL ALL LEAF-MINER INSECTICIDE

G. H. RICHARDS LTD.,
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
R. 200. Monomark: BCM XLALL.

CHEALS OF CRAWLEY

Have over FIFTY YEARS' Experience of GARDEN AND ESTATE PLANTING and General Improvements.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY ACRES of Nursery stocked with a First Class Collection of

Ornamental Trees - Shrubs
FRUIT TREES,
Herbaceous and Alpine Plants
ROSES, DAHLIAS, and all Garden Requisites

IT WOULD PAY YOU TO CONSULT THEM. Catalogues of each Department and an Illustrated Pamphlet on Garden Design.

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
The Nurseries, CRAWLEY.

BLOM FOR BULBS

Apply for Catalogue to –

Messrs. J. C. WHITNEY & Co.,
Eldon Street House, Eldon Street,
London, E.C. - - - *or to–*

WALTER BLOM & SON, LTD.,
(Late of Overveen),
Hillegom, Holland.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

BBS' TULIPS for Massing in Beds. Scarlet, Yellow, White, Pink, Purple, Mixed (Single and Double) 2/6 per doz.; 17/6 per 100

BBS' HYACINTHS for Glasses, Pots and Bowls. 12 in 12 good varieties, 8/-; 24 in 12 good varieties, 15/6. See Webbs' Bulb Catalogue—Post Free.
WEBB & SONS, LTD., Bulb Specialists, STOURBRIDGE.

OUR NEW GARDEN" is a publication ally compiled by us to assist economically the making of new garden. In addition, we issue catalogues of Bulbs, s, Fruit Trees, Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Evergreens, ering, Hedgemaking and Screening Shrubs, Hardy and e Plants, any of which we will gladly send, post free. Each ontains copious cultural notes and is beautifully illustrated. HN WATERER, SONS AND CRISP, LIMITED, Twyford, Berks.

MALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODEN- ONS, on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and e Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write Catalogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

AKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE. e original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See ert. on back page.

M. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., rence Road, South Tottenham, N.15. — Conservatories, ter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

RDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUN- LS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.— RTON, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

NCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and den Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE NLEY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, rey.

EMENTS' DUTCH BULBS. est Quality at Moderate Prices. Descriptive Catalogue taining over 700 Named Varieties, including various Novel- also Cultural Directions, sent post free. Please mention er.—V. D. CLEMENTS & CO., 12, Stockton Gardens, tenham, London, N.17.

ORDER CARNATIONS. — 200 varieties, in 14 varieties, from 6/6; 50 in 50 ditto, from 25/-; riage paid. Lists free. J. HAYWARD, Chace Gardens, kes Road, Purbrook, Cosham, Hants.

XHIBITION HYACINTHS, FIRST SIZE.— andeae Marie Garibaldi, Yellow Hammer, Peyrenee, Lady rby, etc., 12 in 12 varieties, 5/6; 6 for 3/-. Carriage paid.— ICKENS, Specialist, Retford, Notts.

LPINES, ROCK AND HERBACEOUS ANTS, Dwarf Conifers and Shrubs, Bulbs for the Rock rden, etc. New catalogue ready, post free.—SHEPPARDS, awhurst Nursery, Hollywood, Birmingham.

ARE PRIMULA AND ALPINE SEEDS m large (2,000) collection. Also plants and rockery bulbs. ts free.—REV. J. F. ANDERSON, Glen Hall, Leicester.

LASS HORTICULTURAL, all sizes stocked; ough Glass Plate for poultry houses. Ready Mixed Paints, tty, Diamonds, etc.—BRITISH GLASS COMPANY, Dept. "G.N.," ppers Buildings, Church Street, Liverpool.

STROWSKIA MAGNIFICA.—One of the st glorious hardy plants in cultivation, flowering roots, 6 each; a few specimen roots 3/6 each. Special offer of ie and Rare Bulbs, now ready.—PERRY'S HARDY PLANT ARM, Enfield.

ABELS.—Patent metal, so simple to write y a nail; can't fade or break. Trial offer bargain; 100 with stakes, 50 tie wires, 1 pocket nail, 10/- free. The E.H.S. se them. Lists.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

ASKELL'S HOP MANURE.—Best sub- itute for stable manure, 56lbs., 4/-; cwt., 6/-. Times Guano, e all-round fertiliser, 56lb., 5/-; cwt, 8/6. Ground garden me, 56lb., 4/-; cwt., 6/-. Screened Gas Lime, cwt., 5/- sic Slag, cwt., 6/6. Packed in bags and carriage paid. All rtilisers, etc., supplied. Booklets free.—MASKELL'S LTD., rleston Road, West Ham, E.15.

BARR'S GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS.— The finest sorts for Pots, Bowls, Exhibition, Flower Borders and to naturalise. Also many new Seedling varieties offered for the first time. Descriptive catalogue free.

BARR'S HYACINTHS, TULIPS, LILIES, CROCUSES, IRISES, etc., for pots and bedding. Finest quality. Descriptive catalogue, with special directions for the culture of Bulbs in Bowls free.

BARR'S GOLD MEDAL IRISES for present planting. Descriptive Catalogue of the best Tall and Dwarf, early and late flowering varieties, sent free on application.—BARR AND SONS, 11, 12 and 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx and perpetual habit. They flourish in the coldest parts of Britain. Extract, *The Times*: "Mr. Douglas is the leading raiser of this flower. His wonderful strain of new cloves is superb." Plant list is now ready.—J. DOUGLAS, Great Bookham.

Yearly Subscription, Inland, 13s.; Foreign, 15s.
Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2.
Offices for Advertisements: 6–11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Notes of the Week	579
Plants at Their Best in Autumn	580
A Design for a Small Garden	581
Autumn Colour in the Garden	582
The Rose Garden	583
The Busy Man's Page	584
Long-flowering Plants	585
Why Not Vary Your Shrubs?	586
The Fruit and Kitchen Garden	588
Hints Worth Remembering	589
Sweet Peas for the Cold Greenhouse	590
What Our Readers Say	590
What to do in the Greenhouse	592
Apples for Present Planting	593
Our Service Bureau	593

HEWITT'S FAMOUS DELPHINIUMS AND ROSES. Catalogue now in distribution. Please write for one.

HEWITT'S GARDEN SEEDS.—Catalogue of thoroughly reliable tested Seeds, free on application.

HEWITT'S BULB CATALOGUE NOW READY containing the choicest and inexpensive Daffodils, Tulips and other Bulbs. "Order early and plant early" so as to avoid disappointment.

HEWITT & CO., LIMITED (of Delphinium fame), 8, Solihull, Warwickshire.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING AND GAR- DENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wirework of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

MECONOPSIS INTEGRIFOLIA M. WAL- LICHII, 8/6 per doz. to clear. Primula sikkimensis, P. pulverulenta, P. Beesiana, P. Bulleyana, P. Mooreana, P. crispata (new), P. japonica, P. Inverleith Hybrid. Two year old plants to clear at 10/6 per doz. Price Lists on application. The present season's seed is now available.—WM. T. HUNT, Primula Grower, 4, Northcote Street, Edinburgh.

LIME FOR THE GARDEN —Price delivered cash with order, 28lb., 3/6; 56lb., 5/-; 112lb., 8/-. Special quotations for large quantities. Real Cotswold Crazy Paving, Walling Stone, etc.—THOMAS TIERNEY AND CO., LTD., Milk Street House, Cheapside, E.C.

DULAUS are the largest dealers in Horticultural Books. If you are in need of volumes on any Horticultural or Botanical subject, write to DULAU & CO., LTD., 34, Margaret Street, London, W.1.

DOBBIES' FAMOUS BULBS, SCOTCH ROSES and SWEET PEAS for Autumn Sowing. Catalogues free on mentioning THE GARDEN.—DOBBIE AND CO., LIMITED Edinburgh.

BATH'S HOME-GROWN BULBS. — New Illustrated Catalogue of the finest Narcissi, Tulips, etc., as supplied to the Royal Parks and Gardens, with full cultural directions, is now ready, and will be sent post free on application.—(Dept. E.), R. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATHE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS — CHOICE TULIPS, etc. List on application.—THE WELSH BULB FIELDS, St. Asaph.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

ROCK PLANTS AND SHRUBS.—Over 300 varieties in stock. Descriptive Catalogue free. Also Herbaceous Plants and Roses.—HODGSONS, LIMITED, 58, Castle Gate, Nottingham.

WE SPECIALISE IN RARE HARDY FLOWERING SHRUBS AND ALPINES. Send for Catalogue. —TRESEDER AND CO., Nurseries, Truro.

LOOK ! TANNED GARDEN NETS.—All orders despatched same day. 25yds. by 1yd., 2/-; 25 by 2, 4/-; 25 by 3, 6/-. Odd netting for bushes, 6lb. for 2/6. All carriage paid. Any sizes supplied. Also Tennis Boundary Nets.—MOORE AND CO., Net Works, Rye.

GENTIANA SINO-ORNATA flowered here last year from October until Christmas unharmed by frost. Dazzling sapphire trumpets. Strong pot plants for immediate planting, 9d. each; 5 for 2/3; 6 for 3/0; 12 for 7/6. Cultural instructions sent with each order.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED, Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

PRIOR'S COLCHESTER ROSES, Fruit Trees, Gladioli, Dahlias, Carnations, Herbaceous. Catalogue containing cheap collections free.—D. PRIOR AND SON, LTD., Colchester.

KNIPHOFIA ERECTA.—The most beautiful, brilliant and interesting of the red-hot pokers. Free, parcel post, 18/- per doz.—GALVIN'S NURSERIES, Wexford.

STRONG ALPINE AND DWARF HER- BACEOUS PLANTS. 12 for 5/- in 6 varieties, 52 for £1 in 16 varieties. Carriage paid for cash with order.—GNOSSPELIUS, Hawkshead, Ambleside.

YORK STONE PAVING, for Garden Paths and lily ponds; rectangular or crazy for rustic work; steps and wall coping; rockery.—GEO. VINT AND BROS., Stone Merchants, Idle, Bradford.

ALPINES AND HARDY ROCK PLANTS. 700 varieties. Catalogue free.—LEE, Alpine Gardens, Stockport, Birmingham.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/- post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SON, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

BULBS FOR NATURALISING

All Delivered Post Free at your door.

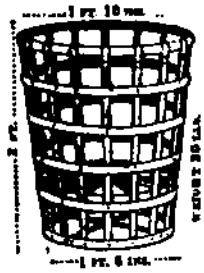
	per doz.	per 100	per 1,000
MUSCARIA HYACINTHS, Grape Hyacinths, blue	1/-	5/-	40/-
SNOWDROPS, earliest flowers of Spring	1/-	6/-	50/-
SPARAXIS, selected show mixtures, all colours	6d.	3/-	25/-
CROCUS, in finest mixed, all colours	1/-	4/-	35/-
SCILLA SIBIRICA, extra fine blue	1/-	9/-	80/-
NARCISSUS, all varieties and colours mixed	1/-	7/6	60/-
TULIPS, all varieties and colours mixed	1/-	7/-	60/-

(All the above for growing in Woodlands or Grass)

Full Illustrated List post free upon application.

H. PRINS (F.R.H.S.) *Flower Bulb Specialists,* **WISBECH, CAMBS.**

VULCAN GARDEN REFUSE INCINERATOR



Garden and household refuse reduced to ashes quickly, cleanly, with minimum amount of smoke. Will take a barrow load of rubbish at a charge.

British Manufacture. PRICE EACH **10/-**

Carriage paid nearest Railway Station - 2 for 18/-

Larger size 2 for 22/6 **12/6**

"The incinerator arrived on Wednesday, and after two working nights I had no difficulty in getting a good fire from exposed material. I burnt up in an hour what would have taken me all day with a bonfire."

THE LOSTOCK IRON BASKET WORKS,
8/11, Griffiths Lane, Lostock Graiam, nr. Northwich

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

LOWE & GIBSON,
Crawley Down, SUSSEX

New Border Carnations

If any of our Customers have not received our new list, we shall be happy to rectify the omission on receipt of a p.c. Every Carnation grower should - - send for a copy. - -

Special offers of June-flowering IRISES are made in the same catalogue.

PORTWAY'S

Coke Breaker

Break your Coke to make your Stove remain alight longer.

As Shown - 45/-

OR

On Stand - 65/-

Of all Ironmongers.

MAKERS:

C. PORTWAY & SON,
Tortoise Works,
HALSTEAD, ESSEX.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THOSE ODD JOBS

Learn how to do them Yourself

THE HOUSE DOCTOR

By R. Randal Phillips

2/6 NET

"COUNTRY LIFE" LIBRARY, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2

THE DOWNER LUPIN

is now known all the World over.

Apply for Lupin List; also Herbaceous and Alpine Catalogue.

DOWNER
2, Drayton Manor Nurseries, CHICHESTER

MANURES.

The most complete little book on the subject is "The Manual of Manures," by H. VENDELMANS. 4/5; by post, 4/9. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.

AUCTION SALES OF

BULBS

PROTHEROE & MORRIS

EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY at
67/68 Cheapside, London, E.C.2.
Write for Catalogues - Phone City 3658

BY APPOINTMENT

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

The BEST and CHEAPEST

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

FANCY FERN PANS and BULB BOWLS from **4d.** each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.
Royal Potteries, **BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

ROBERT VEITCH & SON

Royal Nurseries

EXETER

will be pleased to send all or either of their Catalogues free on application:

FRUIT TREES :: ROSES
HERBACEOUS PLANTS
BULBS
HARDY TREES and SHRUBS

which includes their novelties

Escallonia Iveyi and
Erica australis Mr. Robert

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

"THE GARDEN" Climbing Rose COMPETITION

Name .....

Address .....

.....

1 .....

2 .....

3 .....

4 .....

5 .....

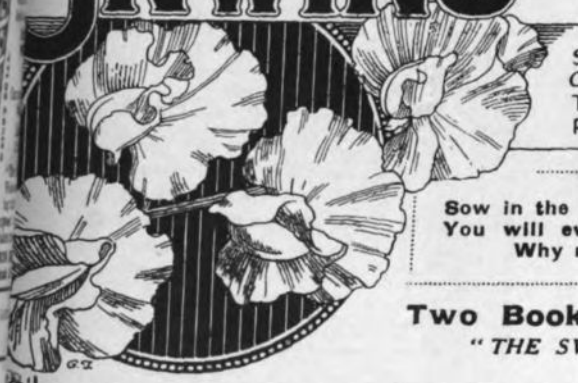
6 .....

Coupon October 16th

OUT ON [illegible]

Digitized by Google

UNWIN'S SWEET PEAS



HAVE PROVED THEIR SUPERIORITY – COMPARE OUR PRICES & REMEMBER THERE ARE NO SWEET PEAS OF BETTER QUALITY

Sow in the Autumn for best results. You will eventually grow Unwin's. Why not THIS Season ?

FULL CATALOGUE POST FREE

SPECIAL COLLECTION OFFER

The finest value ever offered in Sweet Peas.

UNWIN'S EXHIBITION COLLECTION

W. J. Unwin
Charming
Grenadier
Mauve Beauty
Mrs. Tom Jones
Matchless
The Sultan
Sybil Henshaw
Powerscourt
Youth
Picture
Constance Hinton
Hebe
Royal Purple

2/- for 12 seeds each of above 14 varieties.
3/9 for 25 seeds each of above 14 varieties.
Postage 1½d. extra.

Two Books on Culture every Grower should read:

"THE SWEET PEA AND ITS CULTIVATION" and its 1927 "Supplement."

By W. J. UNWIN.

These books contain all the information the amateur needs, given in a simple, detailed and interesting manner, and illustrated by explanatory sketches. They have helped thousands to grow better Sweet Peas. Why not let them help you ?
Price **9d.** the two (post free for **10½d.**)

W. J. UNWIN · F.R.H.S.. Sweet Pea Specialist and Seedsman, · HISTON - Cambs.

CYCLAMEN

The Finest Strain in the World.

There is nothing to equal these glorious plants for winter flowering.

Grand plants in 5-in. pots.
Fine selection of colours.
25/- and **30/-** per doz.

Blackmore & Langdon
BATH.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

NEW MICHAELMAS DAISY BARR'S PINK

The Finest Pink Michaelmas Daisy yet raised.

The flowers, which are semi-double, large and open, are of a bright rose-pink with showy gold and bronze central disc. Excellent as a cut flower, lasting well in water, and equally charming in artificial light as in daylight. The plant is of elegant and graceful habit, THE FINEST PINK MICHAELMAS DAISY YET RAISED; height, 4½ ft. Award of Merit at the R.H.S. Wisley Trials, 1925, and Silver-Gilt Banksian Medal at the R.H.S. Great Autumn Show, Holland Park, Sept. 21st, 1926.

Strong plants .. .. per doz., **25/-**; each, **2/6**
Extra large plants .. ,, **36/-**; ,, **3/6**

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2
Nurseries—BATH ROAD, TAPLOW, BUCKS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Special Autumn Offer

Order **NOW** for delivery in November.

12 Gooseberries
"WHINHAM'S INDUSTRY."
12 Black Currants
"SEABROOK'S" (Mite resisting).
12 Red Currants
"RABY CASTLE."

The above 36 strong, well-grown Fruiting Bushes for **20/-** Carriage Paid for Cash with Order. Half the above numbers for **10/-**

Descriptive Catalogue of Fruit Trees, Roses, Ornamental Trees and Shrubs, free on application.

The FOREST & ORCHARD NURSERIES, Ld.
BUCKOVER, FALFIELD, GLOS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

THE "SOUTHWELL" COLLECTION

Twelve Varieties, Carriage and Packing Free - - **12/6**
With "ACME" Labels - **15/-**

Caroline Testout (H.T.) satiny rose.
Col. O. FitzGerald (H.T.) crimson,
Emma Wright (H.T.) pure orange.
Frau Karl Druschki (H.P.) pure white.
General McArthur (H.T.) carmine.
Henrietta (H.T.) orange crimson.
Hugh Dickson (H.T.) brilliant crimson.
Independence Day (H.T.) orange apricot.
Madame E. Herriot (H.T.) coral red.
Ophelia (H.T.) salmon flesh.
The Queen Alexandra (H.T.) deep vermilion.
Ulrich Brunner (H.P.) cherry crimson.

Also FRUIT TREES, SHRUBS, ORNAMENTAL TREES, ALPINES & HARDY PLANTS
ALL HOME GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries. *Catalogue Free on Application.*

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LIMITED
Garden Specialists, SOUTHWELL, NOTTS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

Seedsmen by Appointment

WORMS & LAWNS

These pests are now beginning to work and are throwing up their muddy casts. Where they abound the turf becomes coarse, weedy, soft and muddy.

USE CARTERS WORMKILLER

Full directions for use with each package

7 lbs. 3/6; 14 lbs. 5/-; 28 lbs. 8/-; 56 lbs. 14/-; per cwt. 22/6 Carriage paid

"THE CASE AGAINST THE WORM" POST FREE ON APPLICATION

Carters TESTED SEEDS

Grass & Turf Specialists

RAYNES PARK
LONDON, S.W.20

CHOICE

Daffodils & Narcissus

	Each.	Per Doz.
Emperor (Trumpet)	3d.	2/-
Empress ,,	3d.	2/-
Duke of Bedford (Trumpet)	9d.	7/6
King Alfred ,,	6d.	5/-
Madame de Graaff ,,	3d.	2/6
Miss Ellen Terry ,,	3d.	2/6
Spring Glory ,,	4d.	3/-
Sulphur Beauty ,,	3d.	2/6
Van Waveren's Giant (Trumpet)	1/-	10/-
White Knight ,,	1/-	10/-
Admiration (Poetaz)	4d.	3/-
Orange Blossom ,, (new)	4d.	3/6
Orange Cup ,,	3d.	2/6
Glory of Lisse (Poeticus)	3d.	2/-
Horace ,,	4d.	3/6
King Edward VII ,,	3d.	2/-
Sir Watkin (Incomparabilis)	3d.	2/-
Will Scarlett ,,	6d.	5/-
Lord Kitchener (Leedsii)	6d.	5/-
Southern Gem ,,	3d.	2/-
Golden Phœnix (Double)	2d.	1/6
Orange ,, ,,	3d.	2/-
Silver ,, ,,	2d.	1/6
The Pearl ,,	3d.	2/-

For full descriptions see List, which can be had for the asking. Second size bulbs can be supplied of some varieties at very low prices.

Orders value 5/- carriage paid.

TESTIMONIAL RECEIVED 6-10-26.
Fence Houses,
Co. Durham.

In forwarding the above order I take this opportunity of congratulating you on the quality of Bulbs and prompt attention given to my previous orders. I can with confidence recommend you to anyone wishing for the best quality bulbs at moderate prices, and I shall take every opportunity of doing so.

LONGSTAFF & SONS
Bulb Growers, Importers and Merchants,
Near CHELSFIELD STATION, KENT

Notes from Maidstone.

CAPE PLUMS.

This group of Plums is descended from Prunus salicifolia, a Chinese species, but the exports from South Africa during the winter have led to the name given above. Not hardy enough to fruit outside in this country, they are most interesting orchard house plants in pots or trained on walls, and we offer three varieties: Abundance (Burbank), golden yellow and red; Botan, garnet red—the best flavoured; and Shiro, golden yellow, of enormous size. All are rather early ripening. Bushes and Fans are 7/6 each.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd., The Royal Nurseries, Established 1796. Maidstone.

Allens' Roses

ENSURE SUCCESS! OBTAIN A COPY OF OUR CATALOGUE BEFORE OBTAINING YOUR ROSES.

CONTENTS include :— **Frank descriptions of novelties, indicating improved forms—Select lists of roses for all purposes—Critical descriptions of over 500 varieties—Six colour plates—Cultural Hints—Rose diseases and their treatment, etc., etc.**

SEND A CARD FOR IT TO-DAY,
A complete Handbook of Roses and their culture,

For a limited period and solely to circulate our catalogue we are offering our "Superb" collection of 12 fine dwarf roses as below for October delivery. Price **12/-** *carriage paid. Cash with order.*

BETTY UPRICHARD, the finest rose in commerce; salmon and orange scarlet.
DIADEM, orange crimson suffused salmon.
ETOILE DE HOLLANDE, the finest, fragrant dark crimson rose.
HORTULANUS BUDDE, an effective crimson scarlet.
JAMES WALLEY, rich apricot and salmon.
JULES TABART, silvery salmon, copper centre.
MRS. BECKWITH, clear lemon yellow.
MRS. WEMYSS QUIN, intense lemon chrome.
SOUV. DE. GEORGES PERNET, coppery pink.
SUNSTAR, orange tipped vermilion.
THE QUEEN ALEXANDRA, vermilion and old gold.
VANITY, new Hybrid musk, large trusses of rose pink flowers.

All first-class varieties in finest quality plants.

ORDER NOW AND ENSURE EARLY DELIVERY.

A. J. & C. ALLEN, Dept. M, Nurserymen, Norwich, Norfolk.

Your garden for the coming year

—what to do now—

Send for a copy of "Your New Garden," an informative booklet published by Waterer's. The booklet is filled with useful cultural notes and helpful suggestions. *Free to* ***amateur gardeners.***

Write to the address below and obtain a copy for your personal use.

John Waterer Sons & Crisp Ltd

The Nurseries, Twyford, Berks

City Showrooms - 44, London Wall, E.C.
Shrub Nurseries - Bagshot, Surrey

For bulbs, plants, and seeds of tested strain

Digitized by Google

VOL. XC.—NO. 2863. OCTOBER 16, 1926. PRICE TWOPENCE.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

Your Help.

IN an article that appeared in our issue of September 25th, attention was drawn to the importance of readers and contributors pulling together. We hope that by co-operation we shall make THE GARDEN, not only pleasant and instructive to all gardeners, but an absolute necessity. This co-operation has been touched upon several times previously in the paper and it is to be hoped that old readers will not think it amiss if attention is drawn to its importance once again.

The old days of what might be called stilted gardening, are over and done with, and the cultivation of plants by rule of thumb methods have more or less disappeared, as gardeners realise more and more that plants respond according to individual treatment. In other words: it is easy to grow most plants fairly well, but much more difficult to have your fruit and vegetables and flowers of first-class quality, and the latter is what all gardeners should aim at. That is where your help and co-operation are so useful. Many readers by their own foresight and ingenuity have evolved methods, entirely their own, by which they are eminently successful with some plant or other. As there is no profession or hobby so generous as horticulture, will you not give of your knowledge for the benefit of the gardening fraternity in general? This is already being done in the space devoted to our "Hints from Readers," but that space is devoted to potted tit-bits of information, whereas your contribution may require more room in which to describe your discovery. Short articles and notes are always welcome and they will be paid for not only materially, but also in kind; for in other parts of the paper you may be able to read, perhaps, a note from another contributor that explains just why you have not succeeded so well as you might with this or that plant.

In fact, it is the aim of THE GARDEN to become the clearing house of all horticultural information, and to be a paper in which everyone has a chance to discuss his successes and failures. The editorial staff exists solely to co-ordinate and prepare every item of gardening information for publication. Let us judge if your information is of general interest, and do not bother about a literary style; it is the information that is important. We ask you to help your fellow gardeners by sending in contributions on your experiences on every phase of gardening. It is by this means that our gardens and the cultivation of our plants can be improved. We hope that THE GARDEN is proving more useful week by week.

Early Weeding.

THIS year has been a bad one for weeds in many parts of the country, so much so that much time has had to be expended in extra weeding that might have profitably been spent in doing other garden work. Gardens that have suffered worst are those in which weeding has been left in abeyance for too long. In fact, this year has proved the importance of weeding early in the season, particularly in new ground. It must be remembered that many weeds, such as the pestilential bishop's weed, seed very rarely, but are terrific runners underground. It is next to impossible to remove every inch of root, however carefully the soil is dug over so the longer it is left to grow unchecked, the stronger is becomes. On the other hand careful hand weeding or hoeing, by cutting off the vegetative growth, soon weakens the plant. Another point in weeding early is that few weeds go to seed; they are cut before they reach the flowering period and so their reproductive powers are checked. This is particularly the case, of course, with annuals. Weeding is practically over for the season: but this is a good time in which to point out the importance of early weeding. It is certainly the case that many of the weeds that in some cases have almost taken control of some areas of garden, could have been eliminated by a rigorous attack earlier in the season. It is often a good plan in a new garden, where the complete layout cannot be completed in one year, to utilise the ground that would otherwise remain fallow for growing potatoes. This not only supplies a useful crop, but also helps to clean the ground. Trenching for this purpose can be done in spare moments throughout the winter. This saves a fine crop of weeds coming up in fallow ground during the coming season.

HAVE YOU

¶ *Increased by cuttings your rambler and pillar roses?*

¶ *Planted your St. Brigid anemones?*

¶ *Removed to a cool, airy greenhouse your cinerarias, cyclamen and primulas which have been growing in a frame during the summer?*

¶ *Planted in your rock garden such bulbs as the hoop-petticoat daffodil, glory of the snow (chionodoxa), grape hyacinths (muscari) and the spring snowflake (Leucojum vernum)?*

¶ *Repotted your greenhouse azaleas?*

¶ *Planted out into their permanent quarters your Canterbury bells and sweet williams?*

¶ *Inserted cuttings of your gooseberries, red and black currants, and layered your loganberries?*

¶ *Cleaned up, lightly forked over and mulched your rhubarb bed?*

¶ *Started root-pruning your fruit trees which make excessive wood growth and are unfruitful?*

Heath as an Edging.

FOR many years box has been used as an edging plant, especially by the pathside; in fact, it has been supreme. Now, however, some of the heaths are coming into fashion, and it is a fashion that will certainly increase. This practice of growing heaths as edging plants has many points in its favour. They are neat plants, they grow quickly, they flower profusely over a long period, and they are easily propagated. Erica carnea is excellent for this purpose, but the best of all is undoubtedly the heath that is called St. Keverne. Edgings already exist made out of it over a hundred yards in length, with every plant the same size and smothered with bloom throughout almost the entire summer. Any garden that is lime free can possess such edgings. All that is necessary is to buy a few plants from which to take cuttings, which are easily struck in sand under a bell glass or in a frame. When struck these should be planted fairly close together, about 4ins. to 6ins. apart. They can be clipped in the same way as box and so can be kept trim and neat. In fact, the St. Keverne heath is *the* edging plant. Why not try it?

Particulars of this month's Competition will be found on page 583.

Digitized by Google

PLANTS AT THEIR BEST IN AUTUMN

This is the fourth of a series of contributions to THE GARDEN *by the well known writer on horticulture, Mr. A. J. Macself. It is an enlargement of our Notes on "Worthy Plants" that have been such a popular feature.*

A Fine Veronica for Edging.

IN conjunction with the scarlet Salvia Harbinger, previously mentioned in these articles, I planted a front line of this charming veronica (V. Andersonii variegata), and throughout the summer the belt of elegant and pleasingly light foliage made a setting for the salvias which it would be difficult to surpass. It is now, however, that the value of this border plant is greatest; the plants have grown into a regular unbroken line of sturdy bushes, the older foliage taking on a darker but still pleasing green, with cream edges, the younger foliage being more white than coloured. Since October started, the plants have produced quite a show of their fluffy tassels of turquoise blue flowers, and although the precise artistic taste for colour harmony might raise objection to bringing such a shade of colour into contact with scarlet, the profusion of white-margined leaves and the space between the veronica flowers and the scarlet spikes of the salvias save the situation. At any rate, the plant itself is a treasure, and if it is used in the manner I used mine there is no difficulty in pinching off the buds should the colour-clashing idea disturb one's mind; while, if planted by itself, the turquoise blue is an extremely pretty colour.

My next move is to use this beautiful shrub for window boxes, a sheltered position on the south-western side of the house being quite suitable for its winter quarters.

VERONICA ANDERSONII VARIEGATA MAKES AN EFFECTIVE EDGING TO A NARROW BORDER.

A Desirable Flowering Shrub.

IF the colours of the hypericums were as varied as their forms and habits of growth, we should surely find a vast number of garden enthusiasts vying with each other to possess the most complete collection. Being a yellow-flowered genus, a few usually suffice for the requirements of most gardens, and the result is that some of the most charming species and varieties are but seldom seen. It is not often, for instance, that H. oblongifolium is met with, but it is one of the most desirable of flowering shrubs, and is particularly entrancing during the sombre days of late autumn. Never a canary had plumage of a brighter, purer yellow than the petals of this flower, and it is a flower of beautiful cupped form, as refined and chaste as the less easily grown Dendromecon rigidum, which everyone covets but only the comparative few can possess for any length of time. A great point about Hypericum oblongifolium is that yearling plants from cuttings will bloom freely on wiry stems of a foot long, and plants will gain in size year by year until they attain a height and diameter of 4ft. or 5ft., and will yield a great mass of bloom. When a plant exceeds convenient dimensions, all that is necessary is to cut it back and start afresh.

A Charming Variegated Heath.

A CHOICE little variation of E. vagans alba, flowering well on quite small young plants, E. v. Lyonnesse was one of the tit-bits of Maxwell and Beale's late autumn exhibits, and it is one of the ericas that all who are really interested in the finer points of variation and charm in the hardy heaths should secure. There is a loose, shaggy sort of appearance about both the growth and the flower heads that makes it totally different from the ordinary form, and the bells are slightly larger, globose, and apparently, if not actually, purer in their whiteness. This may in part be due to the loose formation of the inflorescence, and it is accentuated by the particularly bright colour of the protruding stamens. I am disposed to call that colour terra cotta, and, if contradicted, will say: Very well; let it be red ochre—and anyway, it is a pretty colour in these tiny pinheads, whatever it might be in a big splash. E. vagans Lyonesse might, for all I know at present, lose some of its distinctive character after several years' development, but if that should be the case it would be adequate reason for frequent propagation and replanting; it is worth all that to retain its best character.

An Elegant Grass Worth Growing.

AMONG the grass family, replete with plants of fairy-like elegance, few can excel Miscanthus zebrina—when it is happy; but truth to tell, it is far too often an unhappy plant, by reason of the prevalent, but erroneous, custom of planting it in swampy ground.

Years ago I followed the rule, and planted what was then invariably called Eulalia zebrina in positions where one's boots sunk into the saturated soil, or where the roots might, at any rate, get down below the water level, and, like my friends, I grieved over the lack of hardiness of this plant that had won my affections. I grew some in pots, and used to flood them incessantly; but, by some accident, a plant escaped the water pot sufficiently to let me into the secret that it is when dry that it will thrive contentedly and bring out its most conspicuous contrasts in green and cream. That season a few plants from pots were planted on a dry bank, and, after watering to give them a gradual change from their former state of incessant saturation, they were left to themselves, and in the course of a single season they made some grand specimens. Within the past week or two I have seen Miscanthus zebrina in several places, and the magnificence of the foliage and development of the feathery plumes has been in corresponding proportion to the dryness of their position, the best plant being in the centre of a raised bed the soil of which is upheld by a surrounding wall of flints.

Just another point about this unique rush; it pays to lift, divide and replant about every third year. Older plants become hollow centred, and seldom maintain symmetry. Treated thus, there is no need to doubt the hardiness of this very lovely grass.

Phlox "Border Gem."

THE name of this phlox has appeared in print a number of times since August, for it has been widely exhibited by its raisers, Messrs. E. F. Fairbairn and Sons. There is, however, more in this variety than the mere fact that Border Gem is a near approach to a blue border phlox; it is particularly commendable as a variety that may be had later in bloom than almost any other, especially if grown from spring-propagated cuttings or, alternatively, if established plants are allowed to grow until a foot high and are then cut down for encouragement of second growth. The whole structure of the plants —stem, foliage, truss and pip—is of unusual firmness and strength. The individual pips are as perfectly outlined, and are smooth. The truss is built on the whorled pyramid style. But that is not the sole point of importance, for it is this smoothness of pip and evenness of truss, combined with the thick substance of the petals, which result in a flower calculated to endure both drenching rain and autumn night mists with far greater impunity than the broad, loose, flat-headed trusses covered with large but irregularly waved or folded petals, such as are so prevalent among the Continentals. It would be quite possible, by adopting the spring propagation or the cutting back already referred to, to make plenty of the German phloxes bloom very late, but Border Gem would beat them because of the distinctive characteristics here mentioned.

Digitized by Google

A DESIGN FOR A SMALL GARDEN

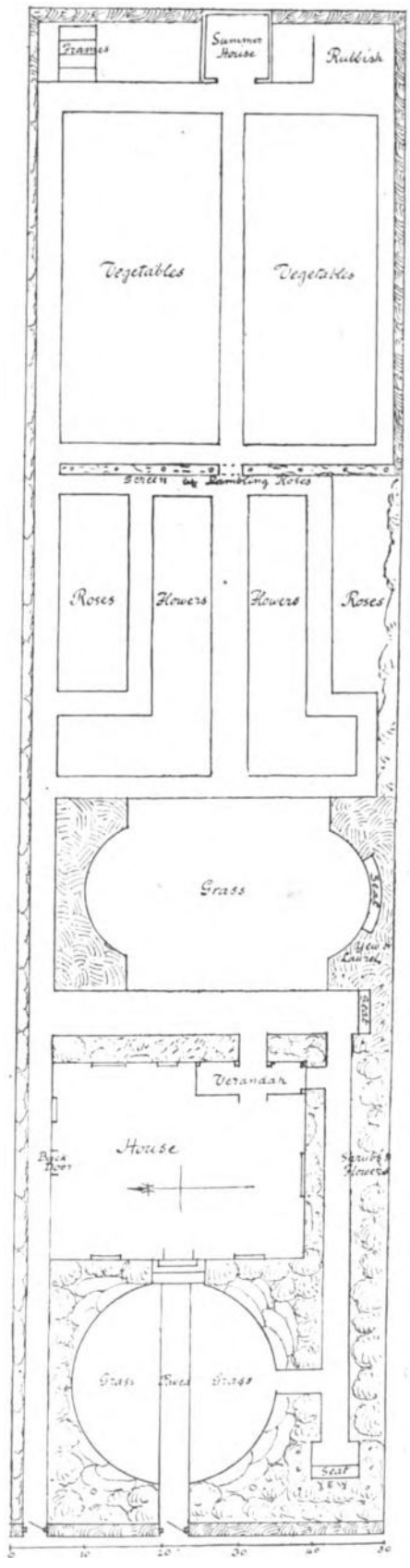
By GERTRUDE JEKYLL.

In this plan Miss Jekyll shows how attractive a long and narrow plot can be made with sufficient foresight. As this shape and size of plot is common, these suggestions are sure to prove invaluable to many of our readers.

THIS plan shows a site with a frontage of 50ft. to the road and a depth of 200ft. A paved path leads from the front gate to the house door through a circular grass plat. The tradesmens' entrance is on the north side; a narrow space on the left of it against the fence serves for the placing of such shrubs or flowering plants as can be kept within this small width. There are many pretty ivies that would serve, and the ever useful, but not very interesting privet, and a number of roses. This path continues right down as a service track to all the sections of the garden. For the main shrub planting there will be a good proportion of laurustinus, especially at or near the angles of the house. In any case it is best that the shrubs on this entrance side, at least, should be mostly evergreen, in order that the house should have a well clothed appearance in winter. Besides laurustinus, there are many other ornamental evergreens with fine leaves that remain attractive throughout the year, among them the smaller skimmias, St. John's Wort. Next to the road there will be a distinct hedge. Cupressus macrocarpa answers well for this, or green holly, or the always useful, but lately neglected laurel. The small circles are standard flowering trees, a pair of the beautiful early-flowering crab, Pyrus Malus floribunda. As the space is wider on the south side, there will be a way out from the grass plat, joining the path that leads past the house on the same side. It turns a little way towards the road, where there is space for a seat, comfortably screened by yews.

Next to the house on the garden side there will be small shrubs—lavender, rosemary, Olearia Gunnii, etc., with a white jasmine, and perhaps a wistaria on the veranda and a laurustinus at each end. This kind of permanent planting next to the house-foot, is much better than the rows of soft summer plants that are so often seen, and that are out of character with the solidity of the near structure. A wide path passes along this front, with a shaded seat, embowered by yews, at the southern end. Then comes a grass lawn. The partly circular shaping of this at the two ends, helps to counteract the feeling that the ground is one long strip. In sites of this kind the more they are cut across, in following sections, differently treated, the better. It is advisable to keep the lawn quite quiet by letting the planting at the two ends be of one kind of evergreen shrub only—yew, holly or laurel. There has been of late a prejudice against the use of laurel, quite unfair to this valuable shrub, for, if worthily treated, it is one of the best of evergreens.

The next division will be a wide, double flower border, L shaped, with beds of roses at the back; the appearance of this will be much enhanced by the quiet of the lawn. Seen from the house windows this flower garden will make a brilliant display, pleasantly framed by the quiet green of the lawn and its evergreens. This garden will end in a screen of rambling roses; the remainder of the ground forms convenient quarters for vegetables. It is hoped that there will be a good summer-house at the far end, for in addition to providing a desirable alternative to the rooms of a small house—not only for pleasant rest, but reading writing or study—it ends the long vista with something distinct and permanent; and if the path through the vegetables is bordered on each side with small fruit bushes, the eye need not be offended by patches of half-cleared cabbages or newly turned-up earth, or any other of the useful but unbeautiful aspects of the kitchen garden.



PLANTING HARDY CREEPERS AND CLIMBERS.

WHEN autumn closes in and falling leaves give evidence of the swift passing of many of our garden treasures which have kept us company these many months, we are reminded of duties that must presently be attended to. Among such is the planting of creeping and climbing plants if we would have our walls and pergolas and arches objects of beauty another season. It is the nurseryman's harvest. It is the gardener's opportunity. The business may be deferred for a time, but as a general rule, and also by consent of custom, autumn is looked upon as the best time of all for removing hardy climbers and replanting them in fresh quarters.

Most people, I think, in making a selection, have some idea of what is required. It may be that for long some object has been anything but attractive in the garden, and the time has arrived when a transformation may be brought about by planting something suitable and, at the same time, pleasing. Roses will possibly be needed. We may have our own ideas about them; some variety, seen perhaps in a neighbour's garden, has called forth our praise, and we have made a mental note that, whatever we order, we must have that particular variety. So many roses have been bought in this way.

We may have—like so many—a cold, bleak wall which has not received much attention hitherto. Why not plant ivies there? Somehow, when one mentions ivies, it does not always convey a sense of lightness and attractiveness, rather does one meet with folk who regard ivies as always being dull and sombre, but those good people have never made the acquaintance of the close-clinging gold and silver sorts that are charming nearly all the year round except for the few weeks when clipped of their foliage in spring, which enables them to appear in a brighter dress!

More attention is being given in these days to berry-bearing shrubs for training on walls, and one is not surprised to find that some of the pyracanthas, like the scarlet-fruited Lalandei, are making many adherents. It is not without value when the flowers appear, but its chief worth lies in its rich clusters of fruit closely studding the walls.

Whatever we plant, we should bear in mind that we are providing for future beauty in our garden, and therefore we shall see to it that the ground is well prepared by bringing in, if need be, suitable soil. Near to walls, as a rule, one finds builders' rubbish that is not helpful, to say the least, for the growth of climbers, however suitable it may be placed 2ft. or 3ft. below surface for drainage purposes. Nothing but the best and most suitable soil for our climbers should be found for them. It may involve trouble, and possibly expense, but we shall be more than compensated in the days to come by the freedom with which they grow and the pleasure they give us when the flowers and foliage and fruit appear. W. F.

Digitized by Google

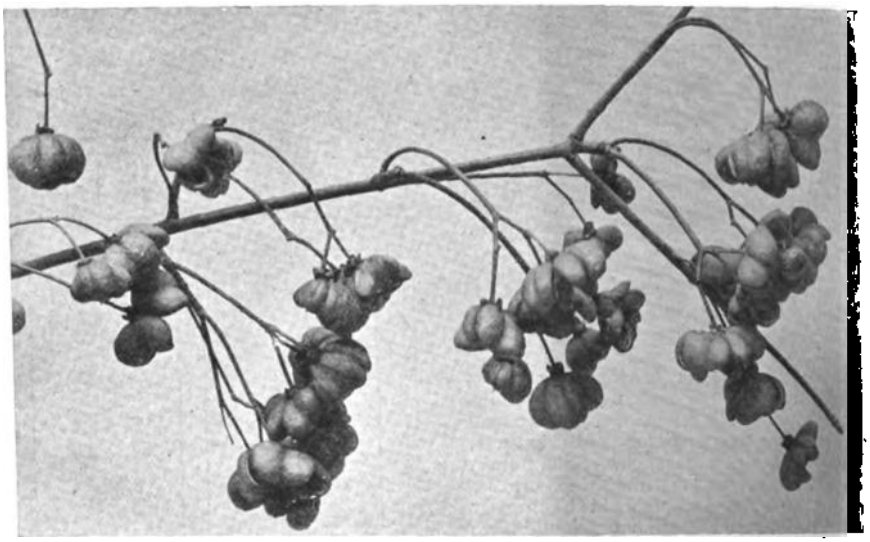
AUTUMN COLOUR IN THE GARDEN

IF the autumn tints of our landscape can not compare in splendour with those of some other countries, we have an immeasurable compensation in the fact that our climate and soil allow us to grow a range of exotic trees and shrubs so wide that even within the limits of a moderate sized garden one is able to enjoy many of the most gorgeous examples of autumn coloration which the world affords.

In my own woodland garden—and one gladly resorts to some limitation in attacking a subject so vast—autumn steals into the ebbing verdure of summer before August is half over with flushes of yellow and ivory among the bracken's green, with the glistening sealing-wax red of the wild arum's clubs, with clusters of fruits on Cotoneaster frigida and the even earlier red-berried elder. Then comes Berberis Thunbergii with its blaze of scarlet, reminding us once again not only of the great merit of this fine old shrub, but of its admirable punctiliousness. You may set the year's clock by B. Thunbergii, and no matter what the weather may have been, rely upon its accuracy in sounding, if not the first, the most poignant note of autumn's triumph over the verdure of summer.

Before the fire of Berberis Thunbergii has expired, the foliage of the yellow azalea has begun to assume the hues of its passing, its green giving way to bronze, the bronze to crimson and thence to scarlet or orange. Not only does this never too familiar shrub give us a generous range of wonderful and harmonious colours, but the leaves often remain in their full glory for several weeks, flaming in a splendour which few shrubs can equal and suffusing the misty sunlight of the woodland aisles with a warm and radiant glow.

Vaccinium corymbosum follows much the same process as the azalea, adding the beauty of its violet fruits to the tints of its ample foliage. In vivid red and yellow Enkianthus cernuus is not less striking, and Parrotia persica, in a neighbour's garden, is a sight for gods and men during that all too brief a period when it is mantled in crimson and gold. The sumachs bid their farewells to summer in magnificent shades of crimson, scarlet and bronze, and those who cannot grow Azalea pontica because of their limy soil, will find a selection from their genus (rhus) an admirable substitute.



THE BRIGHT ORANGE CRIMSON FRUITS OF OUR NATIVE SPINDLE, E. EUROPÆUS.

Down by the waterside where the irises are slashed with streaks of rusty yellow, Liquidambar styraciflua is refulgent with full-toned red, purple and orange. Here, too, is Spiræa arborea, its long and elegant fern-like leaves changing to a curious blend of orange and tawny red—in striking contrast to most of the other ash-leaved spiræas, which go off in pale yellow. Ribes americanum and R. aureum both press their claims to recognition among the best of autumn-colouring shrubs, and those who cannot accommodate the more robust of the vines and their allies, should not overlook Vitis vinifera var. purpurea. This, the claret vine, is a singularly charming subject for trellis or pergola, and if it is so planted that the evening sun gleams through its beautiful foliage, the deep purple of the leaves will become an intense blood-red, and thus it will remain from early September to the first frosts.

When the ramanas roses are chequered with yellowing leaves and apple-tinted fruits, little Rosa nitida will be aflame with vermilion and crimson. The soft emerald of R. alpina pales to primrose just in time to give a telling emphasis to the beauty of its scarlet hips, and the yellow of R. lucida is not less charming by contrast with the ruddy bark of its younger wood. But still more striking is the nasturtium yellow of Halesia diptera and the Judas-tree. Exochorda grandiflora and Forsythia suspensa have draped their slender branches with the same colour and the large, saddle-shaped leaves of the tulip tree will maintain their pale golden hue for many weeks. And here, against the shades is Hydrangea petiolaris, shrouding the trunk of a leaning alder with a pallor so blanched that its leaves only have to rattle down the woodland walk to play the part of those "ghosts from an enchanter fleeing," which we read of in the greatest poem on autumn leaves in the language.

In shrubs which are notable for both berry and leaf colour, the many newer barberries and their hybrids are, perhaps, supreme. But it will be much later before these come, and one looks to them to fan the embers of the season into that fierce glow with which they challenge the very gates of winter. To-day it is the cotoneasters which hold the field in these dual features. C. horizontalis, its broad planes 15ft. across, is laden with a scarlet crop of fruit, which will shortly yield place to the vinous purples of the dying leaf. Distinctly showy in berry alone are C. Dielsiana and C. Francheti, but the bronze and orange foliage and copious clusters in a glistening tomato-red of C. bullata, place this species in the very front rank where both fruit and leaf colour are concerned. C. adpressa must also have its meed of praise for its mellowing foliage and scarlet berries are in the most delicate accord. Nor can one overlook the peculiar beauty of our native spindle (Euonymus europæus), whose orange-coated seeds are canopied by an "aril" of coral. E. latifolius may run our spindle very close in ornamental value, its jewelled "ear-rings" being more than double the size and of a bright crimson and orange. But this does not fruit so generously as the native. Both of

BERBERIS THUNBERGII, ONE OF THE BEST OF THE AUTUMN COLOURING BARBERRIES.

Digitized by Google

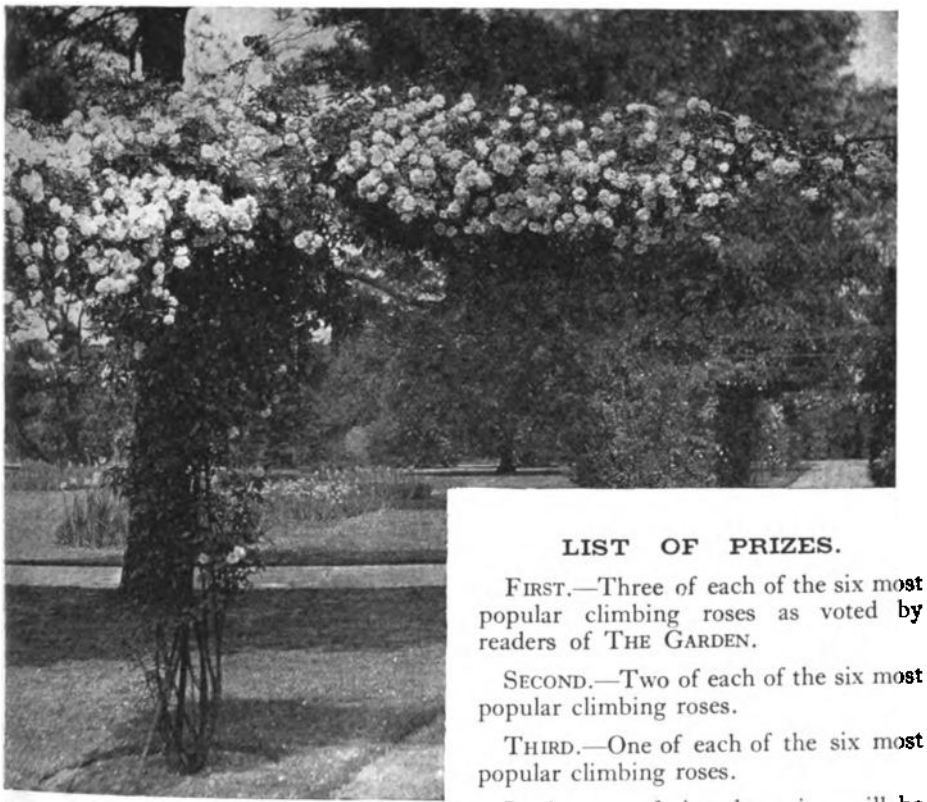
these, and I must include E. alatus, develop gorgeous leaf tints, their rich bronzy-reds being pervaded with stains of bright rose.

Though I have passed by the witch-hazels and maples, the smouldering fires of the beech and the incomparable gean, space in these notes must be found for a brief notice of a few of those herbaceous plants which have their place in autumn's pageant. Among these is the sensitive fern (Onoclea sensibilis), whose emerald fronds are now a clear, soft buff. Solomon's seal is never more handsome than it is to-day, when its pendants of jet swing in the radiance of its golden leaves. The brilliant tints of Geranium ibericum have a serious rival in the more vehement blood crimson of G. Loweii, as happy a woodlander as any Herb-Robert, and gleaming with a primrose light in shady places is the bold foliage of Funkias Sieboldii and Fortunei.

The noble leafage of Saxifraga peltata is among the first of herbaceous things to surrender, its big leaves passing into a tawny orange, and here where the willow gentians are still abloom, where the glossy green carpet of Polygonum vaccinifolium is being invaded by the "sere and yellow" before the last of its rosy-pink has left its upturned spikes, are the mellow browns of osmundas, the coppery hues of rodgersias and tall ranks of Lysimachia clethrioides in a bleached straw gold. Against the deep green of an ivied slope the tall sheaves of antholyza and montbretia, all stained and streaked with rust and yellow, are emphasising the inestimable value of a dark background where autumn colour is concerned. Kirengeshoma palmata asserts the same truth from a shadowy retreat where, with the crimson-dyed Galax aphylla for company, its big, vine-like leaves have at the first gentlest touch of frost surrendered their hearty olive green for a sapless ivory, wan and pale.

N. Wales. A. T. JOHNSON.

THE ROSE GARDEN



THIS MONTH'S COMPETITION

SO much interest is now being taken in climbing roses of all kinds that in this month's competition we are anxious to test the popularity of the various kinds by asking our readers to vote what, in their opinion, are the six most popular climbing roses. No matter to what class it belongs, a rose is eligible so long as it climbs. This should prove of interest to everybody, for opinions differ more regarding climbing roses than they do on bush roses. The use that the climbing rose is put to has now increased to a large extent, since they are planted in positions that before the war would have been considered impossible. In fact there is little doubt that the climbing rose has an immense future in front of it, since all gardeners are paying more attention to its importance. That being the case, we are sure that all readers, whether keen rosarians or not, will enter for this competition. The more that enter the more certain will the result be. Remember that it only lasts for two weeks, so be sure to fill in your coupons at once.

LIST OF PRIZES.

FIRST.—Three of each of the six most popular climbing roses as voted by readers of THE GARDEN.

SECOND.—Two of each of the six most popular climbing roses.

THIRD.—One of each of the six most popular climbing roses.

In the case of ties the prizes will be divided.

RULES.

1.—A list of your choice of the six most popular climbing roses to be sent in in order of preference on the coupon to be found on page iv of this week's issue of THE GARDEN. A coupon will also be found in next week's issue.

2.—No reader may win more than one prize, but they may send in any number of lists, provided that they are written on the special coupon to be found in this and the next issue.

3.—Coupons must reach this office not later than Tuesday, October 26th.

4.—Envelopes must be marked "Competition."

5.—The popular vote will be final and no correspondence will be entered into over this competition.

6.—The result will be announced in the issue of THE GARDEN, November 6th.

7.—The Editor's decision on all points is final.

ROSES FOR FENCES AND BARRIERS.

THE introduction, years ago, of Crimson Rambler and, later, of Dorothy Perkins, was a new departure in the rose world, inasmuch as it was found that these almost irrepressible climbers could be grown and bloomed with a certain amount of satisfaction in the very heart of a town. Though these two have long been superseded in many places, they still have a wide sale, and are grown for the purpose of quickly covering fences and acting as barriers. We have progressed a good deal since those days, and now have a wealth in varieties enough to satisfy the most fastidious, notwithstanding the fact that the season of flowering of the Wichuraiana is brief. Albéric Barbier, creamy white; Shower of Gold, bright golden yellow; American Pillar, pink; Excelsa, crimson scarlet; Romeo, deep red; and Hiawatha, single crimson, are among sorts that enjoy a wonderful popularity. Some of the old Ayrshire roses, such as Bennett's Seedling, semi-double white, and Dundee Rambler, make capital coverings wherever one desires cluster roses that will soon festoon trellis-work or drape a wall.

Beyond personal observation and my own experience, I have no information as to whether the sale of rambler roses is on the increase or not; but of recent years I have noticed that many have uprooted strong-growing sorts of the style of Dorothy Perkins in favour of some of the climbing hybrid teas, a new race, so to speak, that cannot fail to please when we remember their long season of flowering and splendid assortment, from General McArthur, Liberty, Richmond, Mme. Abel Chatenay, Ophelia and many others, that only a few years ago were known and grown as dwarfs.

It may be said of this new section that it has opened up a wide field and, instead of our walls and fences being covered with roses that will bring a glamour of colour for a few weeks and then cease to charm, we have an opportunity of planting sorts that will flower with the same continuity as we have been accustomed to have in their dwarf forms. I predict for these climbing hybrid teas a wide patronage as their usefulness becomes better known.

In the next few weeks many will be studying catalogues with a view to ordering roses for the covering of walls and pergolas and the hiding of fences and barriers, and, doubtless, some of the climbing forms of hybrid teas will appeal to those who hitherto may not have made their acquaintance.

The site for the roses should now be prepared for planting by deep digging and applying to the soil a good dressing of well rotted manure, or if the latter is not obtainable, Wakeley's Hop Manure, an excellent substitute, should be used. W. F.

Digitized by Google

THE BUSY MAN'S PAGE

Ten Perennials Which Look After Themselves.

ALL the perennials mentioned here are perfectly hardy, easy to grow, and can be planted within the next few weeks. When once established they need very little attention, and will bloom well year after year. They are not particular as to soil, provided the site is well prepared and the drainage is good.

ANEMONE JAPONICA QUEEN CHARLOTTE.—*A Japanese anemone with flowers of a delicate pink shade borne on stems 3ft. high. Plant in cool rich loam in semi-shade. In front of a shrubbery is an excellent site.*

GALEGA OFFICINALIS.—*This goat's rue produces small lilac pea-shaped blooms from July to August. It is tall-growing and should be given plenty of space in a corner of the mixed border.*

HELENIUM PUMILUM MAGNIFICUM.—*A dwarf sneeze-wort with large golden yellow flowers. It is suitable for the herbaceous border, grows to a height of 2¾ft. to 3ft., and blooms freely from July to September in any good garden soil. Staking is unnecessary.*

HEMEROCALLIS FLAVA MAJOR.—*A showy day lily with canary yellow blooms produced during June. It should be planted in bold clumps in a sunny position, or in beds alone.*

LUPINUS ARBOREUS.—*The tree lupin is most suited for a sheltered sunny position, where it forms a large bush. It bears yellow flowers from July to September.*

NEPETA MUSSINI.—*An attractive catmint with silvery grey foliage and violet blue flowers. It can be grown with the greatest of ease and blooms throughout the summer. It is suitable for edging a perennial border, or for clumps in the rock garden.*

PEONIES (DOUBLE CHINESE).—*Any of the well known varieties of this type of peony succeed in well dug and manured soil in a south-west or west aspect. Good varieties are Victor Hugo, carmine; M. Chas. Leveque, salmon pink; and Duchesse de Nemours, pure white.*

PAPAVER ORIENTALE.—*For producing a brilliant effect Oriental poppies are invaluable. A sunny position in a border or the front of a shrubbery suits them well.*

RUDBECKIA NEWMANII.—*A cone flower with large orange yellow blooms which have a conspicuous black centre. It flowers during late summer.*

THALICTRUM AQUILEGIFOLIUM PURPUREUM.—*A handsome meadow rue with flower-heads of rich mauve-purple produced in mid-summer.*

How to Ripen Hard Pears.

AN interesting way to hasten the ripening of hard pears is to pack them in a box of hay. Get a good-sized wooden box which is rather deep. Into the bottom of this spread a layer of hay about 6ins. in depth. Then arrange the pears singly with a fair amount of space in between. Add another layer of hay and then put in more pears. These should be covered with further hay and, if there is room in the box, a third batch of fruit can be set out. Finish with a good thick covering of hay and, on the top of this, place some boards of wood. Arrange the pieces of wood so that the whole of the hay is well covered, and then finish with a number of bricks or anything heavy. The idea is that the pears in the hay shall be subjected to a continuous pressure and, within reason, the heavier the weights the better. Now and again the pears should be examined and those that have become soft and sweet taken out. The length of time required depends upon the variety, but some kinds will be fit for eating in ten days. The best way is to treat small quantities of fruit in this way, taking them from the store as required.

Maidenhair Ferns.

AT this time of the year maidenhair ferns will often languish very badly indeed. Of course, the plants are entering on their resting stage, but most of the adiantums are of evergreen habit, and there is no reason why they should not keep up a good show of fronds even in the winter. Usually the cause of the dejected appearance of the ferns at this season is due to the fact they are overwatered. For the next two or three months maidenhair ferns will require very little water indeed, not more than is enough to keep the soil from getting absolutely dry. If there is any doubt about the drainage, do not hesitate to tip the plant from the pot, loosen the soil a little at the bottom, and then re-arrange the crocks. A friend of the writer, who always managed to keep half a dozen maidenhair ferns growing in a room in a state of great luxuriance all through the winter, attributed her success to castor oil! In the late fall of each year she poured just one teaspoonful of the oil on to the soil of each pot. Whether her success with the ferns was due to the castor oil or not, it was remarkable how well the plants carried their fronds in the somewhat unfavourable atmosphere of a living-room.

A HANDSOME MAIDENHAIR FERN IN MID-AUTUMN.

Hardy Plants for Indoor Blooming.

IN the late autumn, when clearing up and dividing plants in hardy flower borders, many things will be found suitable for potting up and relegating to a cold frame for a few months until they have become established, preparatory to bringing them under glass for early blooming. By introducing hardy plants into a greenhouse one is able to obtain quite a variety of blossoms, and if one is careful to arrange matters so that plants can be transferred to a slightly warmer temperature, the house can be kept gay for many weeks. In making a selection, only those clumps known to be strong should be chosen, and it is important that they should have a long period in a cold frame or outhouse under ashes away from light to enable roots to make progress before any attempt is made to introduce them to a higher temperature. Some of our most familiar garden flowering plants will serve our purpose if only we are prepared to give them a period in which root action can continue. One old border plant which readily responds to warmth and moisture is Dielytra spectabilis, whose pink racemes and glaucous foliage make it a handsome subject for the cool and moderately warm greenhouse. Deutzias, like gracilis and crenata, give a prodigality of white blossoms. Spiræas are attractive from the point of view of foliage and flowers, too, from the old form of S. japonica with its white spikes to the more modern America with soft lilac flowers or the deep pink of Queen Alexandra. Comparatively few look upon pyrethrums in the light of plants for potting, but, while nothing in the way of forcing [as it is generally understood should be attempted in their case, one may have them in bloom weeks before the clumps out of doors have shown signs of buds by growing them in a slightly warm temperature after they have been kept for a time in a cold frame to promote root growth. Few plants in our gardens serve us better when potted up than campanulas, and of these C. persicifolia in its various forms and C. pyramidalis are worthy of note. Mention is made of that showy biennial the Canterbury bell, that in the coolest house gives a wealth of blossoms in late spring if only plants are potted up in autumn. These are but a few of the plants to be found in many gardens which, if potted and prepared, will bring bloom and beauty in a greenhouse in the spring.

Mistakes are sometimes made in attempting to force them into bloom before root action has taken place. It is useless to try to do so, as results are never satisfactory. The longer they can be kept in pots in a cold frame away from light until growth appears the better, as then only a slightly warmer temperature is necessary to induce them to bloom. Express treatment in the matter of bringing on hardy plants mentioned, and such as these, is one that cannot be entertained, except, maybe, in the case of water-loving things like spiræas, and gradual progress will always be found to answer best.

Digitized by Google

LONG-FLOWERING PLANTS

Here are a few suggestions for plants that bloom over a long period. These are valuable when planning additions to the denizens of your rock garden.

WHILE I do not propose to confine myself to rock plants in these short notes of plants which have a particularly long flowering season, yet most of those mentioned are worthy of inclusion in our rock gardens. The greatest, and sometimes the only disadvantage of many of our most beautiful plants is that their period of flower is so soon past. What an inestimable advantage it is when we can combine beauty with a long flowering season!

One of the best plants that I know for the rock garden, or even the scree, is Erodium chamædryoides roseum, it commences to flower in the early days of May and now (September) its dainty, deep pink flowers are still freely dotting the dark green carpet of its foliage on inch-high stems. Perfectly happy in any well drained and sunny nook or cranny, it is one of the best tempered plants and should be included in every collection.

Several of the erodiums have a very long flowering period, and although they are not so tiny and compact as the above mentioned variety, are splendid plants for bold positions in the rock garden. I should chiefly mention E. guttatum, E. trichomanefolium, E. amanum and E. chrysanthum, the last named is especially valuable as the flower is a lovely sulphur yellow, associating beautifully with the handsome silver foliage.

Although scarcely a plant for the rockery, being better in the front of the border, its colour and long season render Geranium Endressii a very desirable plant; it really seems never to be out of flower and the masses of rosy pink blossoms are ever welcome. One of the most beautiful colour combinations I have seen is a group of this, planted together with Borago laxiflora, an invaluable member of the borage family, whose rather straggly and leafy habit almost spoil its individual beauties, but when associated with other suitable plants it shows to great advantage numberless hanging bells of dainty porcelain blue.

I am always trying to decide definitely whether I like or dislike the borages as a whole, for with certain notable exceptions they possess far too much leafage for the amount of flower produced; on the other hand, their blue's are incomparable and they are invaluable in the formation of colour schemes.

The violas give us several varieties of great merit, one worthy of particular mention being the pure white form of V. cornuta, which is far too seldom seen. The flowers are produced in great quantity for months on end and when it does commence to fade, if it be cut over, it will promptly oblige with a fresh crop of virginal daintiness. The purpurea form is also long flowering and valuable, although not so noticeable.

The Grecian violet (V. gracilis), is almost too well known to need description; sufficient to say that it is one of the most indispensable plants we have and always seems in flower.

A really dainty daisy, that blooms from spring to autumn without a break, is Erigeron mucronatus. It is an admirable subject for wall and pavement planting, thriving well in any poor soil and sunny position. The countless numbers of daisy flowers open pure white and fade to a deep pink, and the effect produced by these and all the intermediate shades in flower at once is truly handsome. The whole plant is not more than 6ins. to 9ins. high.

THE DAINTY DAISY-LIKE BLOOMS OF ERIGERON MUCRONATUS ARE PRODUCED FROM SPRING UNTIL THE AUTUMN.

VIOLA GRACILIS, THE GRECIAN VIOLET, IS SMOTHERED WITH FLOWERS FOR MANY WEEKS

Those to whom an undoubted magenta is not objectionable should certainly grow Oxalis floribunda. If given a sunny corner in the rock garden to itself, where it cannot clash with any pinks, reds, etc., it is a sight to behold. It flowers freely from June to October, its 6in. stems bearing quantities of wide open flowers, which, although magenta, are not unpleasantly so, there not being sufficient blue in the red to render it objectionable.

For a long flowering period at a time when there is but too little colour in the rock garden, Primula Juliana gloria stands alone. It gives us masses of deep crimson flowers, peeping from among its dark green primrose leaves, from November onwards. To me, a group of this glowing colour bravely defying the elements, is one of the winter joys which are, alas, so few. The wahlenbergias contribute a very dainty and long flowering plant in W. vincæflora, its fragile looking, widely opened bell flowers are wonderfully attractive in their delicate tint of porcelain blue.

Gazania montana, although not a rockery plant and certainly not quite hardy, except in the west and some favoured spots in the south (generally needing the protection of a cold frame), is an extremely showy plant, with its huge, creamy yellow flowers and the dark blotches at the base of the petals and is well worth a sheltered, sunbaked spot somewhere in the garden.

All of the foregoing, except perhaps the last mentioned, may, I think, be termed indispensable plants, which should be grown in all gardens where a late show of colour is required, and it is one of the charms of the well ordered rock garden that there is something to be seen almost all the year round.

W. INGWERSEN.

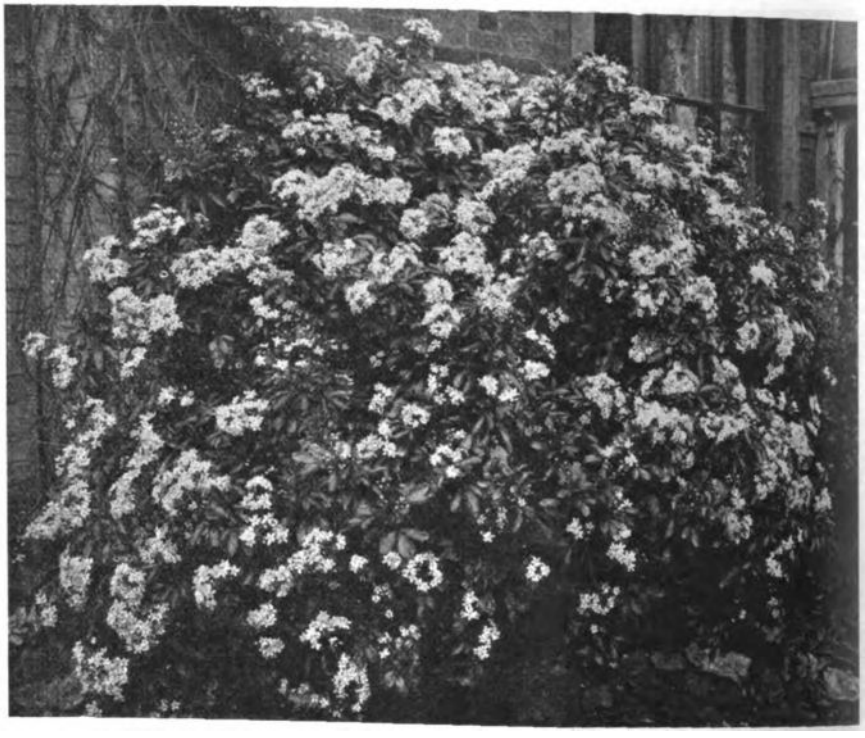
Digitized by Google

WHY NOT VARY YOUR SHRUBS?

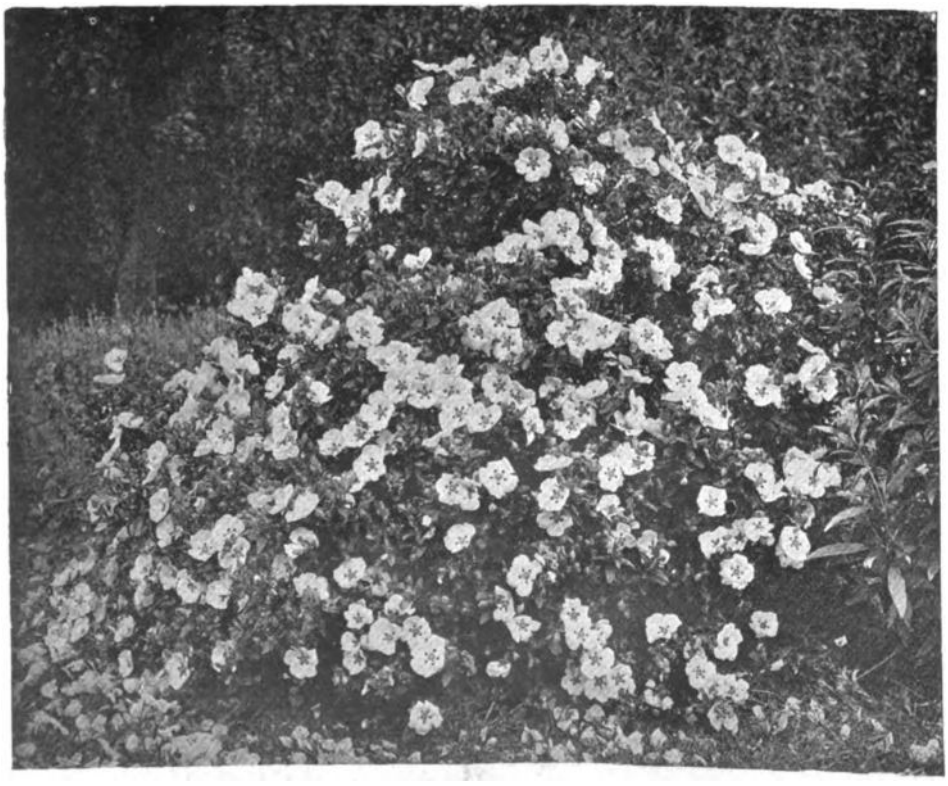
Whatever size your garden may be, it will be improved by planting at least one or two fine flowering shrubs. In only too many gardens aucubas and privet are still given preference. Remember that if a shrub bears magnificent flowers it does not mean that it is difficult to grow.

FROM the number of letters that are sent in to our Service Department from readers who want to know what shrubs to plant in their gardens, it is obvious that more and more amateurs realise that even the smallest garden can be improved by planting one or two fine flowering shrubs. In the old days there was a mistaken idea that flowering shrubs were useless in anything except a large garden, with the consequence that nothing was seen except aucubas or laurels, or privets or holly, with an occasional laurustinus or buddleia of poor quality to give variety. The truth is that these shrubs have certain qualities that make them useful as blinds or in odd corners where evergreens are invaluable, but so many choice shrubs are now common and cheap that the former should be sparingly grown. As decorative shrubs they are entirely out of date. Unfortunately, they are still only too common, especially in old-established gardens, where the gardener, whether amateur or professional, may be more interested in his herbaceous border or in his annuals or vegetables. If he only realised that a good shrub takes no longer to plant and requires little more attention than a privet, he would not hesitate a moment, but have them out and plant something better in their place.

Let us try to suggest a few shrubs or small trees that can be called utility plants and that are suitable for every garden. A small selection of the best is too long for one article, so this feature will continue for a week or two, and even then one or two of the bigger groups, like the berberis, will be left out for the moment.



CHOISYA TERNATA IS A MAGNIFICENT EVERGREEN SHRUB THAT LIKES A WALL AT ITS BACK.



CISTUS LORETI IS AT ONCE THE HARDIEST AND THE MOST FREE-FLOWERING OF ALL THE ROCK ROSES.

First we come to the almond. This is already one of the most popular of small trees in gardens of small area, but even then it should be more grown. There are few flowering trees that succeed so admirably in a smoky neighbourhood. They rarely miss blooming freely in March or early April, and they are admirable for growing as a standard in the middle of the front garden. No one can help loving the rosy hue of an almond tree in full bloom, even in the dullest of March days. Another shrub or small tree that is admirable for these reasons is Amelanchier canadensis or, to give it its popular name, the service berry. In this the flowers are pure white and are produced in great abundance. It is much more twiggy and a freer grower than the almond. The only fault to be found with it is the short life of the flowers; on the other hand, it is a fine foliage tree in autumn and the leaves turn either a rich red or a yellow according to the form.

Although buddleias are useful, yet they must be used with care, partly owing to the great size to which they grow, out of all proportion to what one unaccustomed to buddleias would imagine, and partly because some of the forms are poor in comparison to the size of the plant. There are two, however, which are worth growing, particularly in a corner where they can grow to some size. These are Buddleia variabilis var. Veitchiana, with long panicles of lilac flowers, and var. magnifica, rather deeper in tone and a later flowerer. Beautiful though the new Buddleia alternifolia is with its drooping branches laden with lilac flowers, yet it is inadvisable to grow it if you are confined for space, as it flowers

Digitized by Google

on the old wood, and so cannot be cut back like other buddleias.

Next we come to ceanothus, shrubs that are best seen against a wall. So good are they that it is surprising that more are not grown against the front of a house. The illustration shows a hybrid C. Veitchianus bowering a window, and a very charming sight it is. They are fast growers and most of them are quite hardy against a wall; also they are easily kept within bounds. C. Veitchianus has innumerable blobs of flowers of an excellent blue, while other good varieties are Gloire de Versailles, a rich blue and about the hardiest, and C. thyrsiflorus, a tall grower with paler blue flowers. An added attraction to these shrubs is that they flower from the end of June onwards, a time when flowering shrubs are not too common.

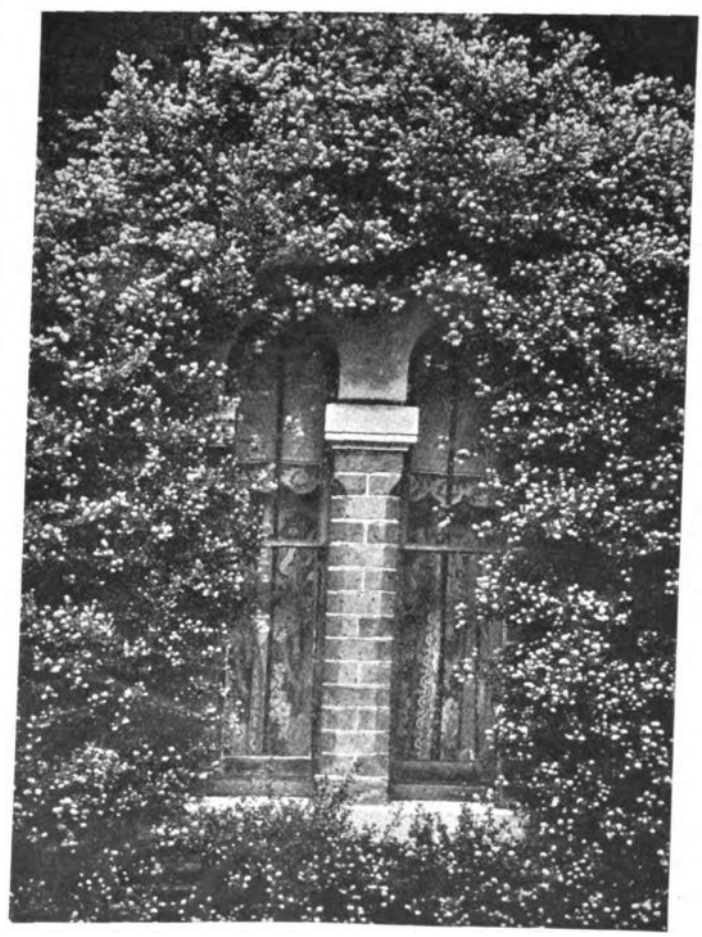
We must not forget Choisya ternata, which is one of the best of all flowering evergreen shrubs of lowish compact habit. Its habit makes it an excellent subject for growing under a window or in the corner of a house where its white flowers make a glorious show during April against the dark green leaves. It needs the shelter of a wall, but otherwise it likes a sunny position, while any good loam suits it. Although it is a Mexican shrub, yet it is quite hardy on a wall even in the north country.

For dry and sunny gardens there are few shrubs that give such a return as the cistus, for they will flourish in ground that is unsuitable for most plants. In June and July, given sun, they produce masses of their flat, platter-shaped flowers. The best varieties for ordinary purposes are C. Loreti, white flowers with a crimson blotch, and C. purpureus, of a purplish rose. Both are easily propagated by means of cuttings. If possible, two or three should be grown together in a clump, when the massed effect in full flower is wonderful. Two more useful shrubs for the front of the house are Cydonia japonica and its forms and Cydonia Maulei. The former grows to some size, while the flowers, which are produced on the old wood, vary in different tones of red. The better of the two is Cydonia Maulei, which should be far more often grown. It flowers profusely in late spring and early summer with colour that is usually like a brilliant blood-orange. It is dwarfer than the former, and so is most convenient, as it rarely exceeds 3ft. in height. It is really one of the most useful of all shrubs.

Above all, let us have more brooms. The beauty of a bush of a good variety in full bloom in May cannot be beaten. There are now varieties to suit every taste. If you want a small-growing bush, you cannot do better than grow C. kewensis with creamy white flowers, such as is seen in the illustration. If you want a different colour, try C. Dallimorei, of varying shades of pink and deep red. If you want a taller variety, try C. præcox with sulphur-yellow flowers, or the variety Moonlight of a soft white. They will grow in almost any soil and like sun. In fact, they are everybody's plants.

AMELANCHIER CANADENSIS IS A SHEET OF WHITE IN MID-APRIL.

CYTISUS KEWENSIS IS ONE OF THE BEST OF THE SMALL-GROWING BROOMS.



MANY A WINDOW COULD BE IMPROVED IF BOWERED IN CEANOTHUS VEITCHIANUS.

Digitized by Google

THE FRUIT AND KITCHEN GARDEN

Treatment of Ripe Grapes.

THE amateur grape grower is always anxious about his vines in spring, and while the berries are swelling during the summer months, but when the berries have coloured nicely he often relaxes that watchfulness that has been so beneficial in the past. This is a grave mistake, because well grown grapes are soon ruined after the ripening stage has been reached if there are errors of management. Ventilation is still an essential point. During a very bright day it is unwise to throw open all the ventilators wide. Very little air should be admitted on the side from which the wind comes, and only a small amount of ventilation is desirable at the front of the house. Air should be admitted in such quantity as to prevent any stagnant moisture resting on the berries. At night admit just enough air to prevent a stagnant chilly atmosphere. Fire heat at night, during the autumn months, is very beneficial used in moderation, and where fuel can be spared for the purpose. If there are pot plants in the vinery—and generally there are, then care must be taken to prevent any undue amount of water being spilled on stage or floor; furthermore, the necessary watering should be done early in the day. Watch practically every berry in every bunch, especially the berries near the centre of the bunch, and if one is found decaying, remove it carefully at once or it will cause the loss of many berries and probably bunches too. Keep the border surface soil dry, but do not disturb it or the dust will settle on the berries and spoil their appearance.

Thinning and Pruning Bush Fruits.

ALL bush fruit trees, if healthy and growing in a good soil, soon become a tangled mass of shoots if they are neglected as regards due thinning-out and pruning of branches. Then the resultant fruits are small and of poor quality. Also, we find that badly pruned bushes do not yield the maximum crop even in a year when everything is favourable to a high yield. From a long experience I find that autumn pruning has the best effect on the bushes, that the buds left are stronger, and the crop a week or so earlier than follows when spring pruning is done. Especially is this the case where gooseberries are dealt with. Before you put knife to branch take due note of the form of the bush; generally, you should prune so that the centre of the specimen is more open than any other part, as, naturally, the centre becomes choked with young wood first. Some gooseberries are pendulous-growing, others have the more upright habit. A pendulous-growing one should be pruned to an upper bud, shown at *a*; to counter the natural habit a little, as shown at *b*. To form spurs prune as shown at *c*, and to build up single and double cordons prune as shown at *d*, *d*.

In the case of white and red currants the leading shoot of a big branch is pruned as shown at *e*, and the spurs on the lower part as shown at *f*, *f*, *f*, *f*. Black currants are thinned out rather than pruned. The older branches, *g*, *g*, are cut out severely; the young ones, *h*, *h*, *h*, *h*, are retained. Take care of basal, pink-coloured buds, *i*, *i*, as these make fine young shoots in due course.

The Final Earthing-up of Celery.

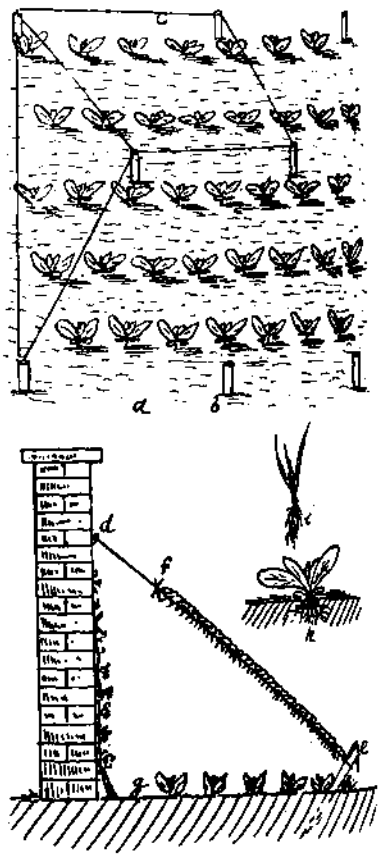
IF water can reach the roots of the plants in sufficient quantity, they will continue to grow till almost Christmastime. It is unwise to defer the final earthing-up too long, however. On the first fine day, now, place the final layer of soil to the plants pressing the loam very firmly round the plants and taking care that none of it falls into the centre of a plant, as it might cause early decay. The plants need moisture at the roots, but not round the stalks, so, to prevent rain entering there, make the sides of the ridges, especially near the tops, smooth, to cast off rainwater.

Early Broad Beans.

BROAD beans are a particularly fine dish early in the year and those who love them must not overlook the fact that earliest crops are obtained from sowings made soon after reading this. The old Mazagan was often recommended for this, but the Long-pods are equally hardy and, indeed, almost any variety will do. Autumn sowings, however, are not successful where the soil is heavy, cold and continuously sodden all winter; in light porous land, in medium warm loams, in stiff, well drained and sunny plots, they will succeed well. The ground should first of all be dug—the deeper the better—and at the same time a liberal but not excessive supply of manure may be incorporated in it; farmyard manure is best, but a semi-artificial mixture, like fibro-manure or hop manure, will serve. Plant the seeds 2ins. deep, 6ins. apart in double rows 6ins. apart, with 2ft. between each pair of rows. Shelter from cold prevailing winter winds is desirable, as such blight the foliage badly after a mild growing spell; if the spot is an open one, sow in the bottom of a trench or shelter the seedlings later with little spruce or evergreen twigs or, as we have often done, by a board erected alongside on edge.

Cauliflowers and Onions.

THE good gardener looks ahead and makes preparations accordingly. For example, he plants several varieties of broccoli so that heads, or curds, will be available from Michaelmas to early June. An early medium or late sort, only, would not serve his purpose. Having provided for a supply of broccoli to the month of June, he wishes to secure an early crop of cauliflowers to continue the supply through the summer until Michaelmas again. To this end he must make some



provision for the protection of young cauliflower plants from frosts and excessive moisture, especially in the northern counties, where I have, personally, had hard fights against severe weather, with regard to my cauliflowers. Of course, cold frames are ideal structures in which to winter the plants if they can be spared for the purpose. But in these days of shortage of fuel and the high cost of firing, many kinds of pot plants are wintered in the cold frames, being covered, in due course, with mats and straw. So the amateur must try some other kind of protection. Against excessive moisture in the soil, one can build up beds and, to a great extent, avoid it. Against severe frosts we can use simple means, such as the two illustrated. Among the plants *a*, stakes are driven into the ground a few feet apart as shown at *b*. Laths, or even strong string, *c*, should be fastened to the tops of the stakes to bear up mats, then dry litter if need be. Where there are low walls available, the young plants —also lettuces—may be planted in a nursery bed, as shown in the sketch. By fixing wires, as shown at *d* and *e*, mats, *f*, can be readily placed on or taken off in frosty weather. The plants are surface-rooting, but it is advisable to keep them at least 18ins. away from the stems of the fruit trees or 2ft. from the foot of the wall. By using a dibber the work of transplanting can be done more quickly but not as well as if a hand trowel be used. The roots should be spread out as shown at *h*. In the case of onions the same care is needed; but as the plants are to remain permanently, till maturity, in the bed, the soil should be deeply dug and enriched with manure first. The roots are very important and should be lifted out of the soil, not pulled. At *i*, the roots are shown intact. Allow a distance of 1ft. between the rows and 7ins. from plant to plant in the rows. Water thoroughly after planting, then keep the surface soil loose between the rows by using the Dutch hoe.

Digitized by Google

Preparing Frames for Winter Vegetables.

DURING the winter months the garden frame should never be empty. As a rule it is required for pot or border plants and cannot be spared for vegetables and salads. But there are roughly constructed frames in most gardens and such are suitable for the protection of young vegetables from October to early March, and then for several weeks more in the case of seedling vegetables raised in spring. There are positions in which beds cannot be constructed, there soil must be placed in boxes, but for such plants as cauliflowers the boxes should be at least 7ins. deep and filled to the top with good loam and some rotted manure in the bottom. In country districts and where there is a suitable frame ground, an old spent hot-bed with the frame on it and soil 1ft. deep inside, will prove very useful indeed. The soil, if good and quite sweet, free from insects and fungus, should be placed in the frame now, even if it will not be required for use until after Christmas, as it will not be exposed to rain and probably snow. The glass lights can be raised to admit air to the soil. If the insides of frames are to be painted, now is a good time to do the work, or to whitewash them as the case may be. As the bulk of soil in frames is not great, carefully examine it and be sure that it is free from wireworms.

Cabbages: Old and Young Plants.

IN normal seasons experienced growers do away with the old stumps at the earliest opportunity because they know that if left in the soil they will unduly rob it of valuable nutriment. The present season has been a very dry one in certain counties, and when rains come and start new life in the old stumps, the latter may, by some, be kept to bear sprouts. Do not rely upon them. However promising they may be, discard all old stumps, their retention would be a big mistake. Now with regard to the young plants. Winter is before them, it may be a mild one or very severe. We do not know, if we did we should prepare the soil to suit them; but, being ignorant, we must make the soil moderately rich and, if light in nature, very firm while it is in a dry state. The object is to grow quite sturdy plants that will withstand severe frosts without any serious damage. When the month of February comes we can feed the plants if they require nourishment—just force on the growth with the aid of artificial manures when the weather is mild enough, as from the latter part of March they should be fit to cut and the gentle forcing will result in tender hearts, as there should not be any frost severe enough to do harm. There will, probably, be six weeks of open weather from this date and, weekly, when the soil is dry enough, it should be hoed whether weeds appear or not, as this stirring of the soil tends to good health of all the plants. GEO. GARNER.

HINTS WORTH REMEMBERING

This is the fourth instalment of Hints that have been received from our readers in response to our request. There seems little doubt, judging from the numbers that have reached us, that this will prove a most useful feature of THE GARDEN *in future. We hope, therefore, that all our readers will assist to make this page as valuable as possible by sending in their Hints, the result of personal observation and trial, and so help the gardening public in general. Hints which will be specially considered as worthy of a prize will be those that are seasonable as well as interesting and apply particularly to duties that can be carried out in the garden at the present time.*

Half a guinea will be paid each week for the most useful or interesting hint sent in by a reader. Five shillings will be paid for all others published. Each must be sent in on a separate sheet and must not be more than 300 words in length.

THE HALF-GUINEA HINT

Protection Against Rabbits.

It is not widely known that fox oil is a sure protection against damage by rabbits in the garden. This rather evil-smelling oil is dissolved in a lathery solution of soft soap, until a liquid the colour of weak coffee is obtained, which liquid may then be sprayed on the plants attacked. It is not wise to use the solution on vegetables owing to the horrible taste of the fox oils. In badly infested areas it is a good plan to run all round the garden string soaked in the pure oil. Rabbits detest the smell, and will never pass such a barrage. Fox oil is known also as animal oil, bone oil, hartshorn dregs and Dippell's oil, and is frequently used by farmers to protect fields of young turnips and mangolds from wild rabbits.—E. D. S.

A Quick Way of Striking Polyantha and Rambler Roses.

Take short leafy cuttings, about 6ins. long, and lay in a box of damp moss an inch deep, pressed fairly firm at the bottom, with the cuttings lying on a pillow at one end with their lower half covered with more moss. Cover with a sheet of glass and put in a hot moist heat—as in a cucumber house. Shade from very bright sun and keep damp. They will root into the moss in about a month or six weeks.—R. D.

On Tying Celery.

Take the garden line, unwind it the length of the trench, twist it once round the top of each plant as one moves along the row, sticking the other peg in the ground at the opposite end of the trench; this will enable the worker to have both hands free when tying with raffia or twine. Remove the line when task is completed.—A. D. T.

Layering Rambler Roses.

The usual plan is to layer a strong shoot of the current season's growth around the parent plant, but by sinking a large pot, filled with sandy soil, in the ground and pegging down the cut portion made in forming the tongue, as near the centre of the pot as possible, the greatest measure of success is assured. All the roots may thus be preserved with ordinary care in removing the plants from the pots for transference to permanent positions. In the ordinary way there is the risk of damaging the roots when lifting them, and much of the soil is displaced from among them in the process. Treated as advised, well established specimens are secured in the shortest possible time.—J. C. C.

A Gooseberry Hedge.

The idea of making use of gooseberry plants as a dividing hedge, or edging for paths, is worth consideration at this time of the year. Prepare the cuttings in the usual way, but only leave two buds on opposite sides of the stem and close together. Insert these cuttings in the desired position about 9ins. apart, so that shoots produced from the buds will all lie in the same plane, *i.e.*, along a line joining the cuttings. As will be seen, as these shoots grow they can be interlaced and made to support each other. In the course of two seasons quite a good network is formed, and if the laterals are summer-pruned and then cut back in the winter, good crops are obtained which can be gathered with very little difficulty. The pruning is also quite straight-forward.—H. B.

For Killing Bindweed and Other Hard-Growing Plants.

Tie one end of a piece of thick wool round the bottom of the stem, the other place in a small bottle of turps which has been put in the ground near the plant. In a short time the plant will die off. In this way the writer has destroyed a bed of horse-radish.—M. E. T.

Furnishing a Round Bed.

Three years ago, in a round bed, I planted twenty-five tulip bulbs—Mrs. Moon—and, as a carpet, yellow polyanthus of Dobbie's best strain, and round the edge Sweet Peas Picture, John Ingram, Hawlmark Pink and Asta Ohn. As soon as the polyanthus have done flowering, I divide and replant them, after stirring up the soil and adding burnt earth. The tulips ripen off naturally and the polyanthus develop into fine plants for next season. When tulips have done blossoming, support sweet peas with good sticks, as up to this time small twiggy sticks have been sufficient. By the second week in June sweet peas begin to bloom and continue until the end of September, provided seed-pods are picked off, a feast of colour and scent. At the end of September I tidy up the bed and sow sweet peas for next year.

Last spring I had over 200 tulip blooms on the bulbs planted three years ago. This I attribute to the bulbs not having been lifted during that time and ripening off naturally. —M. K.

A Use for Old Rubber Tyres.

The prevalent winds of October and November often give gardeners much trouble in securing trees, bushes and sometimes branches. In place of the ordinary sacking to place round the trunk or stems of anything needing attention, I find a very valuable substitute in the use of discarded rubber tubes from car tyres. This, when cut into whatever length or width is required, and used instead of sacking, is preferable on account of its elasticity in giving to the swelling growth of whatever it is used for. Thus is a waste material made a valuable aid to a gardener's difficulties.—V. H. L.

How to Keep Plant Labels Readable.

Planting time is close upon us, and it is now that we should get our markers ready. In my early gardening days I was often stumped when trying to identify a plant that had died down, through the name on the marker being illegible.

An old hand gave me this tip: when using a marker always print the name on paint that is not dry. I found that no weather or soiling affects it; for, however dirty it is, a wipe brings the name up clear. I have dug up markers which were rotted to a shell on which the name was quite plainly marked.

When I intended planting and used painted markers, I used to take some thin white paint and, putting a little on a piece of rag, smear the face of the markers, rubbing the paint flat with the rag. These keep damp for quite a while and, when written on and stuck by a plant, dry as if varnished.—N. D.

Digitized by Google

SWEET PEAS FOR THE COLD GREENHOUSE

EARLY flowers of any species are always attractive, and sweet peas are no exception. Although sweet peas are first and foremost a subject for the open garden, no amateur growers who possess a cold greenhouse not lower than 5ft. at the eaves, will begrudge space given up to a few sweet peas. Even a dozen plants will produce a gratifying quantity of blooms well before the outdoor crop is ready and just when other flowers are scarce. The wonderful blooms seen at the Chelsea and other early shows of recent years are all from cold houses. They have been grown on the "cordon" or exhibition system, of course, but anyone who has seen them cannot have failed to notice their beautifully "clean" appearance.

System of Culture.

Unless the plants are grown on the "cordon" or single-stem system, indoor culture varies very little from ordinary outdoor culture. The seeds should be sown in pots or boxes in a cold frame in September or early October, plunging the pots to their rims in ashes, peat or soil to conserve moisture and to keep the roots from being cut by frosts. As soon as germination has taken place, remove the glass frame-lights entirely, giving the seedlings all the light and air possible, keeping them hardy and sturdy until it is time to move them indoors. Due precautions should, of course, be taken against slugs, mice and birds.

Wherever practicable, I advise planting the sweet peas out in the soil of the greenhouse rather than in large pots or boxes. It is not necessary to make any very elaborate preparation, or where space is limited, to have the rows farther apart than 2½ft. to 3ft. Just dig out a trench, or trenches, 2ft. wide and 18ins. to 20ins. deep, breaking up the bottom roughly to allow for efficient drainage. When digging, well mix in a good dressing of decayed animal manure in the lower 12ins., and if bone meal or wood ashes (or both) are available, they may be incorporated in both bottom and top layers with advantage. Should the soil of the greenhouse be suspected of sourness or if it is very poor, it is advisable to remove it, or at least the top 12ins., and replace with fresh soil from the garden. This will also provide an excellent opportunity for utilising such suitable material as the remains of an old hot bed, old potting soil, decayed leaf mould or anything of a like nature. Trenching may take place any time before Christmas, the earlier the better, and as a firm soil is essential, it should be trodden down as it is prepared.

Treatment of Seedlings.

In mid-January, bring in the plants from the cold frame and let them remain ten days or a fortnight in the greenhouse before transplanting. Water the trenches several days before planting out the sweet peas, making it fairly moist all through, but not "stodgy." Transplant the seedlings firmly 6ins. apart, and do not water too freely until strong growth commences. Support the young plants immediately with short twigs. Plenty of fresh air at all stages of their progress is an important point and no attempt should be made to force them by artificial heating. A fairly even temperature should be one's aim and careful manipulation of the ventilators will ensure this.

As soon as the plants are large enough, some kind of permanent support must be given them. While sticks will answer the purpose, wide mesh cord netting is neater and just as efficient. Fairly frequent watering will be found necessary, and when the first flowers open, a top-dressing or mulch of loose horse litter or spent hops applied around the base of the plants, and a periodical feeding with liquid animal manure and soot water will greatly assist them. Avoid overfeeding, particularly in the early stages.

After-care of Plants.

The only pest likely to be a nuisance is aphis and immediately these are noticed, it is best to spray the plants with a good insecticide, such as Abol, syringing them the next day with pure soft water to clean the foliage. As the season advances, mildew may possibly affect them, but this can be checked by spraying infected plants with a liver of sulphur solution in the proportions of ½oz. to the gallon of water. If the weather sets in hot and dry in the late spring and early summer, the power of the sun may be lessened by spraying whitening on to the glass.

Often, trenches in the soil of the cold house are quite out of the question, then one must fall back on large pots or boxes, using as a rooting medium good fibrous loam enriched with bone meal and wood ashes. A space should be left at the tops of pots or boxes for top dressing later, and both watering and feeding will, of course, be comparatively frequent. This method has one distinct advantage, which is that the sweet peas can be quickly removed to make room for a following crop as soon as their period of usefulness is over. If trained in a neat clump, they can even be taken temporarily into the house to beautify a corner of the hall or other position on special occasions.

Varieties to Choose.

Some varieties (or perhaps I should have written, some colours), are much more suitable for the greenhouse than others, and I would particularly recommend any of the lavenders, all orange shades, all whites, creams, cream-pinks, salmon cream-pinks, salmons, orange-pinks, pinks, blushes and any others which have orange or salmon in their colouring. The orange shades are especially beautiful under glass.

The cultural treatment I have outlined refers to the ordinary summer-flowering type of sweet peas, not the early or winter-flowering class. The latter are very precocious and will flower three months after sowing, given suitable conditions. They strongly resent transplanting, therefore it is advisable to sow them right away in large pots in a cold frame, moving the pots to their flowering quarters in November. Failing this, they should be sown singly in smaller pots and the ball of soil left undisturbed when moving them to their prepared trenches indoors. This early flowering type has not the same tendency to produce basal side shoots as the later, or ordinary type and the young plants should not be "pinched" for the original seed growth grows away strongly with very few laterals. Excellent varieties in a great many shades which produce large, frilly flowers on long stems, equalling most of the better later-flowering kinds, are now obtainable. It is perhaps advisable to point out, however, that this early-flowering type, although quite suitable in some climates out of doors, is of little use when given open-air treatment here, in England.

C. H. A. S.

WHAT OUR READERS SAY

GENTIANA SINO-ORNATA.

SIR,—The difficulties which for a time threatened the successful culture of this invaluable autumn-flowering gentian seem to have finally evaporated into the air, and wherever one goes one is confronted with thriving colonies of healthy-looking plants—of course, I refer to comparatively lime-free situations, for it is essentially a lime-hater, as are almost all of the ornata group.

Its requirements, so far as I am concerned, are a fairly rich soil—equal parts of peat or leaf-mould, and a good fibrous loam, with a dash of silver sand; planted in this and given full sun, it asks for nothing more, but just goes ahead.

If the plants are well top-dressed and filled up with a rather sandy mixture in the autumn, every shoot will root down, and in the spring each clump may be divided into many strong young plants.

My chief anxiety at present is to make G. Farreri as happy as G. sino-ornata; so far, it has not responded satisfactorily to any of my treatment. I grow it, certainly, and with a fair amount of success, but it is not really at home. In some gardens I know it thrives, and I should be much interested to hear other readers' experiences with this plant.

I certainly agree with the remarks made by "A. G. W." on page 543 of THE GARDEN with reference to G. Purdomi. I feel sure that it is one of the gentians of the future; the rather miserable plants we have so far seen are no guide to the beauties which this species can reveal.

A really well grown and flowered specimen is a sight well worth seeing, especially if it is a good form—for that there are forms *and* forms of many of the gentian species is an indisputable fact. I know of three distinct forms of G. sino-ornata, including a very early flowering one, which is rather valuable as it may be possible to procure good crops of seed, which is not easy with the later flowering forms. But to return to G. Purdomi. The colour is really good, a deep violet purple, and it is of good habit, showing its flowers well, seven or eight upturned blooms along a trailing stem. A good plant may have as many as a dozen stems, and I think that a mass of this plant would be rather a wonderful sight.—WILL INGWERSEN, *Sussex*.

"THE PROTECTION OF WILD FLOWERS."

SIR,—May I comment briefly on one or two points raised by your correspondent, Mr. H. Stuart Thompson, on the above subject.

He deprecates the formation of yet another society and predicts its probable failure, if formed. I sympathise very largely with his point of view. If the existing societies in the course of their campaigns displayed greater activity in restoring the beauties of the countryside, rather than the more negative attitude of proffering advice and exhortation—too frequently ignored—to all and every not to deface it, I should agree *in toto*. (Naturally, I make an exception in the case of societies interesting themselves in nature reserves.) Many of these societies have been conducting the educational campaigns to which your correspondent so properly refers, for months and even for years past. And, so far as I can see, the only apparent result is that in the neighbourhood of the towns and cities the denudation of hedgerows and woodlands increases in arithmetical progression.

The "encouragement of beautiful things" hardly finds expression in the bungaloth- some structures that like poisonous fungi,

Digitized by Google

are springing up everywhere along the new roads almost in a night, and are making blot after blot upon the landscape!

Enough of that. As to the Bill. The intelligent anticipation of the *Westminster Gazette* on August 16th seems a trifle premature, as, so far, I have not yet seen the Bill in draft form, and do not yet know, in fact, whether the Royal Horticultural Society has yet decided that legislation comes into the realms of practical politics.

As for "finding another job" for the hawkers who peddle uprooted wild flowers, I frankly confess that I have not made personal investigation and enquiry into the normal avocations of these people, but, when you see them in the streets, the great majority appear to be of the travelling gipsy type and the unemployables.

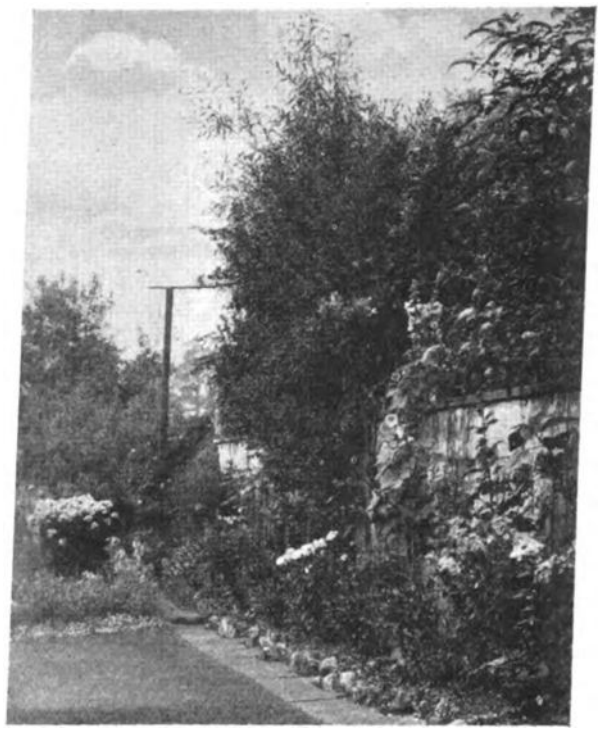
The last point, *viz.*, that raised by Mr. W. Howell, would defeat its own object. Every schoolboy is by instinct a collector — it may be of postage stamps, of conkers, autographs or what not—excite his interest, and, the collector of a rarity is a natural *sequitur*.

Again, the dividing line between the orthodox collector for the herbarium and the over-enthusiastic amateur inevitably causes the many sins, often the fruit of ignorance, committed by the latter, to be visited upon the former.—CUTHBERT JAMES.

A READER'S BACK GARDEN IN A SUBURB.

SIR,—I am sending you two photographs of my garden which is situated in a suburb of a large town and at the back of a row of four-storey houses, which effectually cuts off the sun from half of it. The portion shown is about a third of the whole length and as it is the end farthest from the house, it gets a fair amount of sunshine, except in the depth of winter. The rose on the tall post on the left of the first illustration (that showing the garden door), is Mrs. Flight; next it is a very good specimen of Albéric Barbier and farther along are Garland, Mme. Alfred Carrière and American Pillar. This border is planted with mixed perennials, including Oriental poppies in variety, delphiniums, phloxes, Aster Amellus, montbretias, geums and tall campanulas. White foxgloves make an effective show at the back in early summer and sunflowers later. The edging is of London pride. The bed at the end of the lawn is planted with mixed antirrhinums, edged with Alyssum Little Dorrit. The second illustration shows the other side of the same garden. The border here does less satisfactorily than its opposite neighbour, but phloxes do fairly well. The irregular stone edging was originally planted with mossy saxifrages, but they were a failure and did not bloom, so last autumn they were replaced by the commonplace but good-natured London pride. The poles and cross-piece at the end of the border were completely covered by two Minnehaha roses, but one died about two years ago and its successor has not yet made much growth. A nice specimen of Cistus ladaniferus is just visible at the end of the garden beyond the white phlox, and Clematis orientalis partly veils the wall. I may add the soil is very light, shallow and poor.

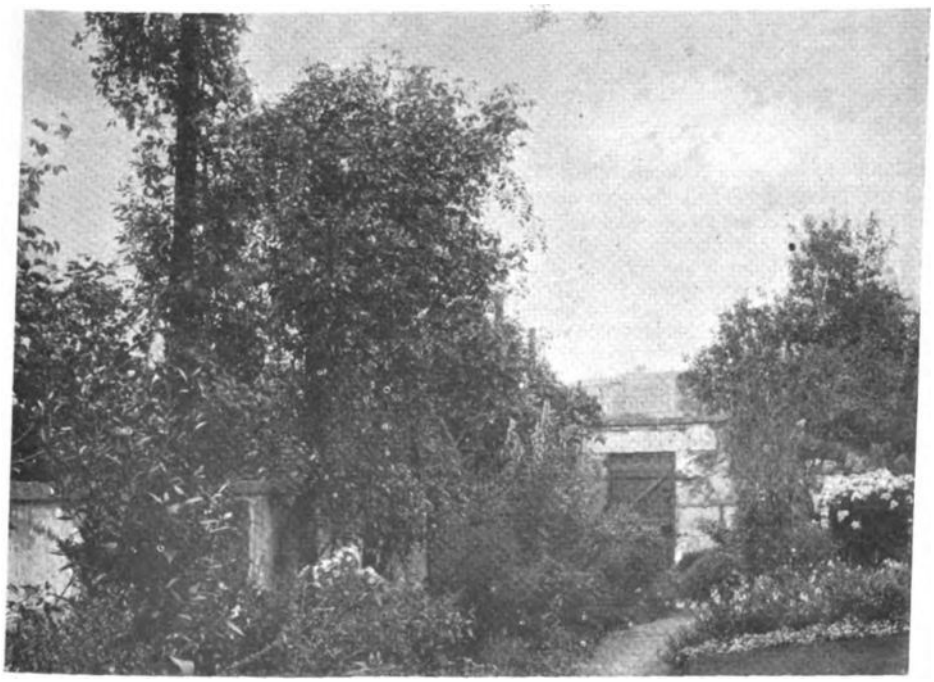
In my opinion the idea of illustrating your readers' gardens is an excellent one and to see what one's fellow amateurs are doing is both interesting and instructive.—H., *Bath*.



BY SKILFUL PLANNING AND PLANTING THE EFFECT OF LENGTH CAN BE OBTAINED IN EVEN A SMALL GARDEN.

PLANT COLLECTING.

SIR,—With reference to the above, and Mr. F. Runge asking for advice on the same. The following is the method we adopted last year when collecting native plants in Canada, to be sent home here and with which we have been most successful. Each plant we wrapped in sphagnum moss, the latter having first been soaked in water, then squeezed as dry as possible with the hand, after which it was carefully wrapped in greaseproof paper and tied. All plants were then packed tight in large tins, in which we made small holes, and sent home the same day as collected by the Canadian National Express. If dormant, or partly so, roots or bulbs were collected, we packed these in dry leaf-soil only. We collected from June until October.—R. MOORE, *Thorpe Hall*.



AN ATTRACTIVE MIXED BORDER WITH A BACKGROUND OF CLIMBING ROSES IN A SMALL SUBURBAN GARDEN

VIBURNUM RHYTIDOPHYLLUM.

SIR,—I quite agree with Mr. Briscoe that the above is a disappointing shrub. We have grown it here in several sheltered sites, and only after six years has it fruited at all, and then only once.

We have not grown it near V. lanatum, and is it worth the trouble with so many other handsome berried shrubs to choose from? It is certainly attractive swaying in the wind, when the foliage will show its silvery reverse, but in a very windy place this viburnum will not grow at all.—R. MOORE, *Thorpe Hall*.

THE LORETTE SYSTEM OF PRUNING.

SIR,—Your correspondent "G. C. O.," asks about the Lorette pruning Messrs. Laxtons have carried out the system for some time, as well as myself, but I find it is not so good for apples as for pears, and only for those varieties that fruit on short spurs.—H. BUCKTON, *Cambridge*.

GLORIOSAS.

SIR,—I have for long been meaning to write and answer, or comment on, Mr. E. Brown's letter on gloriosas which appeared in your April 24th number. The gloriosas are one on our commonest wild flowers during the rainy seasons, and one can pick them by armfuls, but when Mr. Brown says they are "an open grassland plant," I venture to disagree. It is true that they persist on the cleared land, and come up in gardens and farmlands generally, but they naturally require the protection and shelter of a hard, low scrub, as they like to climb by means of the leaf tendrils. They adopt coffee very gladly and do remarkably well in the cultivated ground a coffee farm ensures.

But I have also found them thriving very happily right through big indigenous forests (our forests here are practically never

Digitized by Google

"steamy"), and the variety common in Uganda is, I understand, purely a forest plant. I have one flowering in my garden now, about 10ft. of long, thin stem, a lemon yellow flower with dark red blotch down the centre of each petal, and in full shade; while the common one, indigenous here, always does better if planted under a big shrub and allowed to come up through it. But I agree that the cool house should be sufficient for their culture at home, as our climate is very temperate here, never either very hot or very cold. One more point, I have seldom had to dig deeper than 6ins. for the tubers of gloriosas, and often, in cultivated coffee land, the root has come up when one wished only to pick the bloom.

As a distant reader of your paper, I wonder if it would be possible, when new, rare and very desirable plants are written of, to state where they are to be got. I have searched all catalogues for Hibiscus Waimeæ, and for seeds of Argemone platyceras rosea and its hybrids, without success. As many hibiscus varieties are indigenous here and as argemone is apt to become a cheerful weed in Kenya gardens, I should much like to obtain these rarer varieties as they would be likely to do well.—LADY MURIEL JEX-BLAKE, *Nairobi, Kenya Colony.*

WHAT TO DO IN THE GREENHOUSE

Topical Greenhouse Notes.

PERHAPS, during the hottest spells of weather, owners of greenhouses have not entered them often during the daytime. They were content to do the necessary watering and ventilating work. But now the greenhouse is an object of great interest; it is being cleaned out; any plants that can be spared are discarded, because every square foot of stage and border space is required for those valuable plants now ready to be brought in from the bed of ashes outside and from the cold frames. I daresay many readers own greenhouses from the roofs of which climbing and trailing plants gracefully depend. A start should be made with these plants, beginning at the top and finishing at the bottom; but first clear away any pot plants immediately underneath, so that insect pests disturbed on the climbers will not fall on the pot plants but on mats placed on the floor, then all can be shaken off with dead leaves and twigs on the garden fire. Having dealt with the roof plants, finish with those on the stage and, finally, with any that may be growing under it.

Throughout the winter months, as we know, there is a minimum of light, so we should arrange our stocks of plants accordingly. Some will thrive where a minimum of sunlight reaches them—such, for instance, as cinerarias, cyclamen, calceolarias and primulas. Then the schizanthus, zonal pelargonium, heliotrope, bouvardia and similar kinds require the maximum amount of light and should have positions on shelves and high stages well exposed to the light.

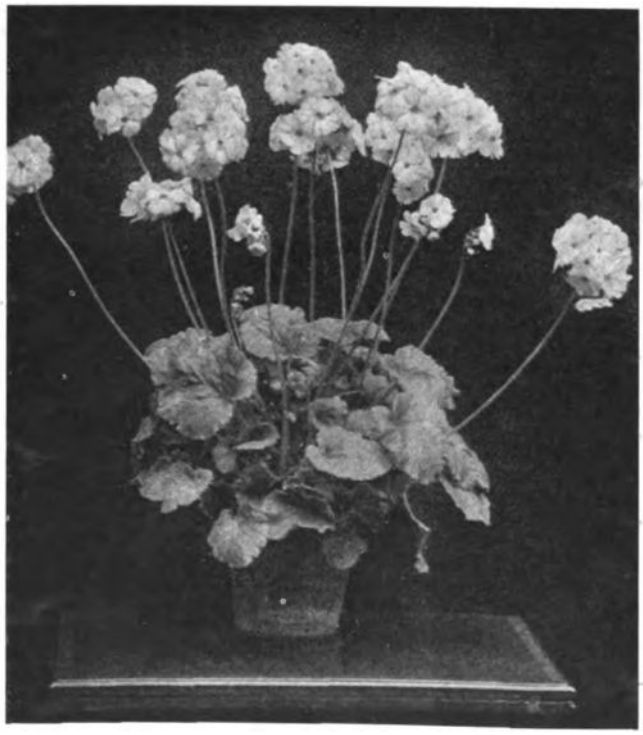
By doing this—it is a case of good management—we get the very best out of all our plants. Having well cleaned the plants and the whole of the inside of the greenhouse, we must also clean the pots and plants that we bring into it; seeing to it, also, that the drainage of each pot is free, unblocking any that is found unsound.

I daresay readers will be anxious to re-pot some of their plants. At this season of the year it is unwise to do so except in certain cases where the plants are really starving in their small pots, then re-potting may be done. In other doubtful instances a little feeding until the end of November will do most good. The watering of the plants should be done in the morning now and until the end of February. Manure water and other stimulants should be withheld from November to February, except in such cases as referred to above.

Then, there will be the question of fire heat. Sufficient should be used to exclude excessive moisture and to maintain a minimum temperature of 42° during frosty nights. It is atmospheric moisture that does so much harm to our greenhouse blossoms late in the autumn and early in the winter. Ventilation should be given whenever the weather permits and the atmosphere should be kept dry.

Finishing and Staging Chrysanthemums.

THERE are some cultivators of these plants for exhibition purposes who succeed well enough with them up to a certain point. I know of several myself. They grow excellent plants which bear grand buds; the stage reached is that where the buds are sufficiently advanced to warrant the removal of the plants to a glass structure and, so far, everything is going well. The next stage is that where the colour of the flowers can be clearly seen, and it is from this point that mistakes are often made. I have heard one grower remark about another, "Oh! he can grow the plants well enough, but he cannot finish them," meaning, of course, the blooms. In the first place, we must remember that the chrysanthemum is, almost, a hardy plant; as a plant it is hardy, but the blooms will not pass through a rather severe frost without injury. This fact teaches us how we should treat the plants and blooms of exhibition varieties while they are under glass. Abundance of air should be admitted up to the stage when the colour of the blooms shows; then less ventilation and less watering and feeding, respectively. But these changes should be gradual and according to prevailing weather conditions. At first there must not be any shading of the structure; from the stage I now refer to there should be a green shading applied to the glass. If there are some blooms backward, then place them in a position by themselves where they can have the benefit of more sunshine.



PRIMULAS ARE FIRST RATE PLANTS FOR LATE WINTER DECORATION IN THE GREENHOUSE.
Give them every attention during the next few weeks.

Feed the plants judiciously until the blooms are three parts developed. Apply water of the same temperature as the interior of the house between the hours of nine o'clock and two o'clock, when moisture at the roots is needed. Always avoid cold draughts blowing directly on the blooms. Be careful about front ventilation, not any in gusty weather. The top ventilators should be open a little even on frosty nights, just a little on foggy nights, and every night have the pipes nicely warmed to expel damp. As a guide see that there is not any moisture on the inside part of the roof-glass.

Nearly every class for cut blooms provides for long stems, too. In cases where a particular prize is being competed for the stems should be placed in cups containing water in the bottom of a box or frame covered with canvas. In ordinary cases provide boxes 9ins. deep, 3ins. wide and 48ins. in length. Lay the blooms in rows in the box, a roll of paper under the stems of each row, and a light lath just pressing on the stems and wedged to the sides of the box. The latter will contain twenty-four blooms with long stems, which will travel well if first placed in water for a few hours and covered with blue paper inside the box. Do not unduly crowd the blooms in the vases. Remove any damaged petals. Have good depth, broad petals, rich colours, good form and perfect freshness in every bloom.

Bringing on the Arum Lilies.

ARUM lilies in pots pay for a little special attention just now in order to bring them into flower at the earliest possible date. Of course, in an absolutely cold greenhouse the plants will make little headway and, unless protected, the leaves may suffer badly from frost. Where a high temperature ranging from 65° to 70° is available, the richardia is easily forced into flower by Christmas, but with much less warmth they can be induced to bloom in the early months of the year. When growth is actively started the arums will require an abundance of water; in fact, the best results are usually secured when the pots are actually standing in saucers of water. Arums very much appreciate weekly applications of liquid manure. The foliage is greatly benefited by syringing, and this will help to keep down green fly, which is often a trouble where these plants are concerned. C.

Digitized by Google

APPLES FOR PRESENT PLANTING

The time has come round for the ordering and planting of fruit trees. Here is a list of a few good all-round varieties which every amateur should grow.

IT is, naturally, not possible to compile a short list of fruits which will be considered ideal by everyone and, while not professing to have chosen the best in some people's opinions, I can safely say that the following list is composed of varieties which have been found the most successful ones here, and, from what I have seen in various parts of the country, they are among the most successful generally. The newer varieties I have ignored, for, although I have seen beautiful fruits and tasted well flavoured fruits at shows, I have had no experience of most of them, and, being rather cautious, I prefer to rely, for the time being, on well tried varieties and to include the newer varieties when I have had more experience of them.

Beauty of Bath is, perhaps, the best of the very early varieties. A flat apple of medium size with a yellow colour plentifully tinted with red stripes and possessing a fine flavour. Its faults are that it is not a really good cropper and that it drops early—often before it is ripe, and for that reason should be looked over several times. It is also a good plan to place a layer of straw under each tree, so that any fruits which drop may not be bruised. The growth is of medium strength, and it makes a nice bush if carefully shaped; it is liable to grow very one-sided if not regulated.

Irish Peach is not, in my opinion, as good as Beauty of Bath, but it seems to be popular. A somewhat conical fruit of medium to small size, having a pale yellow colour, with a red flush and red stripes. It has a fairly good flavour, but, like Beauty of Bath, it is liable to drop before it is ripe. Owing to the habit of this variety of fruiting on the tips of its shoots, it is generally grown on the "thinned" or extension system—that is, the branches are thinned out instead of being spur-pruned. I have heard of Irish Peach being spur-pruned, but have never seen one, and should imagine it would not fruit freely under this treatment.

Lady Sudeley follows Beauty of Bath and is of similar colour, but is larger and more oblong. There appear to be two types of this variety. The larger of these two has very little red colouring and is rather too large and coarse for dessert; while the smaller is almost covered—at least, on the exposed side—with a bright red flush and broad stripes. Its fruit is of good flavour if eaten as soon as picked, but if kept is liable to get very mealy. The great value of this variety lies in its regular cropping and its fine colour.

Duchess of Oldenburgh is another variety which ripens in August and September. It is also of value for cooking. A medium-size fruit of very pale, almost white, colour, with a few red stripes over the exposed side. The flavour is fair and acid. While young, this variety produces lovely fruits; but as it gets older it appears to contract every disease which is about, being especially subject to scab and canker. For this reason I would not grow it.

Worcestershire Pearmain.—I think I may safely omit any description of this well known variety. Its season is September and early October, and its greatest claims to notice are its regular cropping habit and its fine colour. As for flavour, it is a matter of opinion; personally, I do not care for it; but others I know think it very fine. However, I know all will agree with me when I say it is one of the very best to grow for market.

James Grieve is, to my mind, the best apple of its season, which is late September and October. It is a round conical fruit of a pale yellow colour with red stripes. The flavour is first-class, and its main fault appears to be that it does not colour well in some years. From a marketing point of view it has one other fault—it is soft. It is a good grower, a regular cropper and a nice clean fruit. Here, again, picking should extend over a period, as some fruits mature much earlier than others.

Charles Ross is a good apple which does not seem to be very well known. Rather large, round or flattish (there appear to be two types of this variety), with a greenish colour flushed a reddish brown, this apple has a good flavour and is in season from October to Christmas. As it somewhat resembles Cox's in appearance, the small fruits sometimes find their way to shops under the latter name. Although it does not crop heavily for the first few years, it overcomes this defect when well established, and then bears both regularly and heavily. It is rather subject to attacks of capsid bug, but that is the only fault I can find with it.

Allington Pippin, a conical apple with a good flavour, pale cream in colour, with a slight flush. It is a regular cropper which does not make a lot of growth. Its season is similar to Charles Ross.

Cox's Orange Pippin.—The very best of our dessert apples. In season from November to February, it has an exquisite flavour. In size medium to small, and rather dull in appearance. The ground colour is yellow, with a red flush covered with russet. Its faults are that it is self-sterile and must be planted with other varieties, and that it is very prone to mildew, canker and scab. This apple often cracks very badly with scab.

Gascoyne's Scarlet is more of an exhibition apple than a dessert variety, but its flavour is fairly good. Its season is till January, and its colour is a brilliant red with tiny dots all over it. There is a waxy bloom on the fruit, and its eye is very deep. The flesh is faintly stained with red.

William Crump is another apple which appears but little known, but is now being planted more. Keeping till February or March, it has a conical fruit with a rather dull red skin. Of medium size the flesh is stained with pink right to the core. The growth is very upright, reminding one of a pear tree. This variety obtained a special prize at the Imperial Fruit Show last autumn.

King of Tomkins' County.—A spreading, rather strong-growing variety which crops very well indeed. Keeping till April, this apple is rather large and irregular in shape. The general outline is conical. It is of a golden colour with a bright flush and broad red stripes. The skin is greasy and the flavour very good.

Warwickshire. N. D. H.

OUR SERVICE BUREAU

Though so many subjects are dealt with in each issue of THE GARDEN, *it must constantly happen that readers seek information which is not immediately available. In such circumstances they should make use of our Service Department. Through its medium each reader's own particular enquiry can be dealt with. No matter what the question is, there is always information available from a staff of expert contributors and consultants; and there is no charge for this. It is one of the additional means of service which* THE GARDEN *is glad to render to its readers.*

Also, there is the further convenience which the Service Department affords of supplying readers with data about anything that is advertised in the pages of the paper. Thus, on receipt of an enquiry, particulars will be sent of, say, half a dozen things about which the reader seeks information. The only stipulation is that a stamped addressed envelope and the coupon, that will always be found in each issue, shall be sent with the enquiry.

All communications should be addressed to the Service Department, THE GARDEN, *20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.*

We have selected the following enquiries, with their answers, as being of more general interest, and therefore worthy of publication.

Babianas for a South Devon Garden.

In the August 14th, 1926, issue of THE GARDEN *there appeared an article on "Babianas at Home," by K. C. Stamford. The writer remarks that these should be capable of cultivation in England. My garden in South Devon is a hot, dry one in summer, and contains a steeply sloping wild bank, which, though facing north, is sheltered by an adjacent quarry and gets a good deal of sunshine. I should be glad to know if you think this plant would flourish here. Our soil is a bright red, very heavy kind, which becomes dry and hard in summer, but is very fertile.—D. L.*

We certainly think you would be successful with babianas in the position in your garden which you mention. They require a very sunny spot, and should do well if they receive protection over the winter.

Kniphofia erecta and its Requirements.

With envy I see the illustration of Kniphofia erecta in your issue for September 25th, page 533. Is this quite hardy? Two plants I had rotted off last winter. I want to try them again, but will wait and hear what you have to say about them. I also lost in the same way C. M. Prichard. My ground is cold clay, but has been very much lightened with loam, leaf-mould and sand.—W. A. S., King's Norton.

Kniphofia erecta does not differ in any way from the other species with regard to hardiness. It requires an ordinary light, rich sandy soil, and a sunny, or lightly shaded, position. Propagation by division of the roots should be carried out in spring. In an exposed position it is advisable to lift and winter them in a frame, or cover the roots with leaf-mould or coconut fibre to keep them warm. That is the only essential to bring them through the winter months. The clayey nature of your soil is probably responsible for the plants dying off with you in the winter.

Division of Perennials and Sowing Sweet Peas.

I want to dig my garden well all over and thin it out. Can I divide and replant now, without harm, the plants one usually divides in the spring—such as pinks, doronicums, violas, London pride, etc.? Also, can I sow sweet peas out of doors now with advantage, also carnation seeds in a conservatory

Digitized by Google

unheated), or shall I wait till early spring?—B. C., Palmers Green.

It is better to lift and divide the plants which you mention now, since you are digging over your whole garden. The majority of herbaceous plants can always be lifted at this time, including such subjects as doronicums, Michaelmas daisies, lupins, etc. Pinks can also be divided, also violas and London pride. London pride is a rapid grower and some care should be taken in not allowing it to get out of hand. Sweet peas can be sown out of doors during the middle weeks of October. Sow in the open ground in a position which has some shelter. After germination, which should be rapid, protect the young seedlings with twigs and branches; not only do these give the seedlings additional support, but they also supply the necessary protection from winter frosts. You will find a very helpful article on this subject in our issue of October 9th. It will probably be better to wait until the spring before sowing carnation seeds, although certain success might be obtained by sowing them now.

A Columnar Cypress.

Could you advise me as to the best type of columnar tree of the cypress type for the Glasgow district? It is essential that it should be of very erect columnar habit and narrow upright growth. Is Cupressus sempervirens hardy in this district, and would it be suitable?—W. K. R.

We suggest that you might purchase Cupressus Allumii. It is a most erect grower and has an elegant habit and glaucous foliage, and should do well in the vicinity of Glasgow. Cupressus sempervirens is quite hardy on the west coast of Scotland and should do well round the Glasgow district.

Flowering Shrubs for Hot Sandy Soil.

I should be grateful if you could tell me of some bright flowering shrubs about 4ft. to 5ft. high that would be suitable to mass in a bed in rough grass in very hot, dry, poor, sandy soil. I do not want either brooms or gorse, or anything white, as I have these. Also I should be glad to know of some bright yellow or blue prostrate and creeping rock plants to put into a rough retaining wall on a bank in a very hot, dry position to flower about June or May. I have Cytisus Ardoini prostrata, C. kewensis, Genista tinctoria fl. pl., G. prostrata, Coronilla iberica and Potentilla Farreri prostrata.—A. C., West Malling, Kent.

We should advise you to give the soil a liberal dressing of rich manure and then plant Forsythia spectabilis (rich yellow), Spartium junceum (yellow), Rubus ulmifolius fl. pl. (pink) and Tamarix pentandra (pink), which will all be suitable for massing in grass. The rock plants we should suggest are Cytisus Beanii (yellow), Rosmarinus officinalis var. prostratus (pale blue), Helianthemum formosum (yellow) and H. vulgare (yellow).

Ripening of Vines.

If a Muscat Hamburgh vine is planted in a house with Black Hamburghs, will both varieties of grapes be ripe at the same time, or should the Muscat Hamburgh be started earlier? Is it true that the Muscat Hamburgh will come to perfection only when grafted on the Black Hamburgh? Will sulphate of iron improve the colour of Muscat of Alexandria if applied to the border? If so, what time of the year is best to apply it?—H. B., Barnwood, Glos.

The variety Muscat Hamburgh will not ripen as early as Black Hamburgh if both sorts are grown in the same structure. The former requires a longer period of growth—similar to that of the Muscat of Alexandria. The Muscat Hamburgh is improved by being grafted on the Hamburgh, as it "sets" its berries better and "stones" a little more freely. In every case, however, the Muscat Hamburgh is a disappointing grape to grow, being deficient in colour and, often, shanking badly. Sulphate of iron will improve the colour of black grapes, as will sulphate of magnesia and sulphate of potash. Half a part of the former, one part magnesia, two parts potash. Fork lightly into the surface soil early in spring, but only give small applications.

Quick-Growing Hedge Plants.

I am anxious to plant a hedge that will screen out the garden from the carriage drive. I thought of planting Cupressus macrocarpa, but am told that it gets very leggy and is altogether unsatisfactory. Do you recommend Thuya Lobbii, and is it very slow growing? I really want to make a hedge that will grow up quickly, as I only rent this place.—K. D. B., Exeter.

Cupressus macrocarpa forms a fine hedge, provided that a sufficiency of space is allowed between the plants, so that bushy growth results. In addition, it is also fairly quick growing. Thuya Lobbii, on the other hand, is much slower in growth. Another shrub which forms an excellent hedge is Berberis stenophylla. It is fairly rapid in growth and forms a bushy hedge, often reaching a height of from 6ft. to 8ft. As well as forming a suitable screen, it is exceedingly decorative, carrying numerous yellow flowers in spring and crops of red berries in the autumn.

Plants for Damp Situations.

We have in our two acres of ground three swampy places, where apparently nothing grows but alders and meadow sweet. These patches we have tried to drain, but they seem full of springs from the hill and are as wet as before the drains were made, and I suppose always will be. Is there anything that would be likely to grow besides what I have mentioned? I dislike alders and of birches we have more than enough already. I think the soil is rather sour, as on the drier parts heather and bracken and blackberries grow. Would any prettily barked willows do, or variegated elders? We tried spiræas, but only some seem to have grown and those not in the boggiest parts. The climate is mild and everything we have planted since coming here two years ago has done well, except, as I say, in these swampy places.—L. B., Aberfoyle, Perthshire.

Before anything will grow well in the sour, swampy ground, it must be drained by means of trenches to carry away the water. Snowy Mespilus (amelanchier), swamp honeysuckle (azalea), Senecio Clivorum, S. Ledebouri, Japanese irises (I. Kæmpferi), I. versicolor, I. ochroleuca, I. sibirica, Caltha polypetala, Lobelia cardinalis, Lysichitum camtschatcense and Lythrum salicaria rosea might be tried among others.

A Compact-Growing Conifer.

I am going to plant a specimen conifer. I would like it to be a neat compact grower, making about 18ins. growth per year and as glaucous as it is possible to get it.—W. A., Dumbartonshire.

We should suggest that you select one of the species of cupressus, which we think will satisfy your requirements. Cupressus Fletcheri is a compact and fairly rapid grower, and is exceedingly handsome with its compact form and bluey green foliage.

Green Gages for Wall.

I wish to plant a few green gage trees against the high west wall of our enclosed kitchen garden and would be glad of your advice as to which varieties are most suitable for this part of the country. Our garden is about 300ft. above sea level in the middle of south Perthshire with a clay subsoil. Early fruiting trees are an advantage here, as in the event of a wet, sunless summer the fruits have a longer time to ripen. We have already a very old green gage tree against part of the wall I refer to which sometimes fruits well, but we have no idea of the variety and the tree is almost done and evidently very old.—M. G., Muthill, Perthshire.

You should plant the old green gage, as the fruits are always so sweet, and Jefferson gage, Denniston's Superb gage, Oullin's Golden gage and Early Transparent gage. Destroy the old tree. Use lime or lime rubble in the soil if it is deficient in lime.

Shrubs for Trellises.

I should be glad if you could tell me any suitable shrubs, flowering or otherwise, which would grow up and cover the netting of a tennis court at one side in order to hide a bad view. The netting is 9ft. high and on the east side of the court. The tennis court is an ash one surrounded by a field of clay soil. Also, could you recommend suitable roses for growing on a trelliswork wood fence only 4ft. high.—A. B., Stirlingshire.

As the soil is clay, this should be trenched 2ft. deep, working in plenty of old builders' rubble before planting the following climbers: Jasminums nudicaule and officinale, Rose Albéric Barbier (which is practically evergreen), Lonicera japonica, Pyracantha Lalandei, if the position is not too cold and bleak. The stronger-growing ivies would make a good screen if you consider them suitable.

Shrubs for Walls.

I have lately moved into a newly built cottage (red brick walls) and want to plant the walls as soon as possible. It faces south-west, and is on high ground in a rather exposed position, the prevalent wind being south-west. I would like to plant Choisya ternata, Ceanothus microphyllus, roses, Clematis Flammula, Virginian creeper, Jasminums nudiflorum and officinale and ivies, but would like to know which aspects would suit best for these. The cottage is about 38ft. long on the south-west side, 24ft. on the south, 38ft. on the north-east. There is a wooden shed at the north end which has an available side for planting on its south-west and north, and on it I would like to have a pear or other fruit tree, and would be very glad of advice as to planting walls and shed, as I do not want to lose time by planting in the wrong places. The walls are a rather bright red, so do not want to put crimson roses on them, but would like some evergreen, like euonymus or pyracantha by the entrance on north-east side, or Garrya elliptica. Would honeysuckle do best on the shady or sunny aspect?—M. B., East Grinstead, Sussex.

We should suggest that you try the following climbers for the walls of your cottage:

For South-west Wall.—Pyracantha, Garrya elliptica, Cydonia japonica, Jasminum officinale and Clematis montana, fast growing.

For South Wall.—Any ceanothus, choisya, Climbing Niphetos rose, Eccremocarpus scaber, Passiflora cœrulea, Solanum crispum—the three last named are fast growing.

North-east Wall.—Virginian creeper, Jasminum nudiflorum, Rose Gloire de Dijon, Clematis Flammula and C. Jackmanii, ivies and Forsythia suspensa. The honeysuckle (Lonicera japonica) would probably be the best evergreen climber for the north-east wall by the entrance.

For the shed we suggest that you try Pear Williams' Bon Chrétien at the south-west end and Morello cherry at the north end.

Digitized by Google

NEW HARDY CRIMSON BROOM

Chelsea Show (1925) the King said, "That red Broom is certainly very striking." This the new crimson Broom "Dorothy Walpole," received the unanimous Award of Merit the R.H.S. as well as other distinctions in on and on the Continent. Plants have been o U.S.A., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, ce, Holland, etc.

the Field, a well known ex-Curator of Kew lens wrote: "The richest coloured Broom n is one named 'Dorothy Walpole.' It is rdy as the common Broom . . . and is free-flowering . . . the colour is rich ty crimson . . . more attractive than of the coloured Brooms yet seen." The colour urpasses Cytisus Dallimorei, and the growth vigorous as C. Andreanus; it requires no al treatment nor any kind of protection ever—just a hardy shrub for ordinary garden in any part of the British Isles, however far

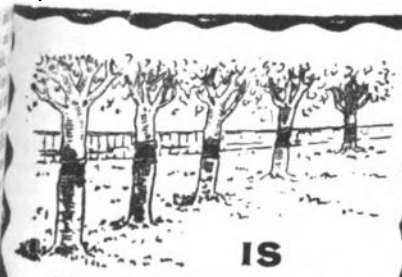
Vice-Chairman, Floral Committee, R.H.S., e: "Everyone who has seen my plant has astonished at its warm glowing red"; and a lady in Devon: "I am so delighted with Broom 'Dorothy Walpole.' It has done diddly and is like a sparkling gem in the garden a mass of flower."

NEW SEASON'S PRICES.

trong pot-grown plants now ready for planting to flower in May, 7/6 each. Carriage paid to any station in Great Britain or Ireland: plant, carriage paid, 10/-; two plants, iage paid, 18/6; three plants, carriage paid, ; six plants, carriage paid, 49/6; twelve ts, carriage paid, 99/-.

oloured illustration sent on application if GARDEN is mentioned.

m. Watson & Sons, Limited, Nurseries, ney, Co. Dublin.



IS IT WORTH 2d.

That is the cost per fruit tree for banding with

OSTICO

and one application will last throughout the season.

If your orchard yields more than 2d. worth of fruit per tree

OSTICO PAYS

8 oz. tin (for 10 trees) ..	1/6
1 lb. tin (for 20 ,,) ..	2/9
5 lb. tin (for 100 ,,) ..	12/6

Agents Everywhere.

COOPER, McDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, LTD. BERKHAMSTED, HERTS.

OSTICO FOR BANDING TREES

Please mention THE GARDEN when writing.

Glass breaks!

USE 'WINDOLITE'

The practical Glass Substitute for all GARDEN PURPOSES.

LIGHT FLEXIBLE UNBREAKABLE

Easy to cut and fix. It keeps out cold and wet, but lets in all the light—even the Ultra Violet Rays which are stopped by glass.

Send 4/6 for post free sample, 3 ft by 2 ft.

WINDOLITE (DEPT. C) 179/185, GREAT PORTLAND ST., LONDON, W.1

WHY is "HOMES and GARDENS" such a Great Success?

BECAUSE it shows greater House Comfort & Convenience —with less Labour and Expense.

Send to-day for a Free specimen Copy of this helpful and beautifully Illustrated Magazine to 20, Tavistock St., Covent Garden, W.C.2

BIRDS' BATHS, - SUNDIALS, - VASES, Etc., in Imperishable, Reconstructed Stone.

Write for Booklet E1.

CRAZY & SQUARED PAVING

DWARF WALLING. ROCKERY STONE. Direct from Quarries. *Write for Booklet E2.*

THE RHYMNEY QUARRIES, 16, Ludgate Hill, E.C.4

THE PATTISSON HORSE BOOTS

SIMPLEST STRONGEST MOST ECONOMICAL

ONCE TRIED ALWAYS USED

Fig. 1—For Shod Horses. Best English Leather or Rubber Soles.

Used for many years in the Royal and in thousands of the Principal Gardens.

Silver Medals:—Royal Horticultural Society, 1904 and 1911 Royal International Horticultural Exhibition, 1912.

HUNDREDS OF TESTIMONIALS.

Fig. 2—Welted Pattern.

Fig. 2—No Welt Pattern

Illustrated Price Lists from the Makers:

H. PATTISSON & CO., STANMORE, MIDDLESEX

A most Interesting

FRUIT TREE CATALOGUE

FREE and POST FREE

THIS Catalogue nicely produced and well printed, contains a valuable host of useful hints on FRUIT TREE CULTURE—for Amateur and Professional. Herein will be found all the best and most popular Fruits for all purposes, alphabetically arranged for ready reference. A feature has been made of interesting Chats on soils, situations, and fertilizers; in fact, it is a valuable book, which should be in the hands of all those who possess a Garden or Fruit Farm, large or small. Sit down now, while the matter is fresh in your mind, and write for your free copy.

KING'S ACRE ROSES

THE King's Acre Nurseries — famous since 1785 for the stamina and vigour of their roses—have hardy and reliable

Bushes and Ramblers

in a wonderful, almost endless variety, which they are offering at prices considered by experts and amateurs to be beyond competition.

Alphabetically arranged Rose Catalogue, replete with reliable information, FREE ON REQUEST.

AWARDED 95 GOLD MEDALS.

KING'S ACRE NURSERIES, LTD., HEREFORD

Established 1785. ∴ *NURSERIES—140 ACRES.*

SPECIAL VALUE IN COLLECTIONS OF FRUIT TREES AND ROSES

Digitized by Google

Small Orchards

No matter how small or large the orchard, it pays to use Stictite Tree Banding Compound.

Winter Moth rises from the soil early in October or late September, and the females (being wingless), at once crawl up the tree trunks in order to deposit their eggs in the branches.

By banding the trees with Stictite in the autumn you can prevent the eggs being laid, and so avoid having to spray for the caterpillars in the spring.

1 lb. of Stictite will do 9 to 12 trees of about 8 in. diameter.

½-lb. 1/6 (post 6d.); 1-lb. 2/9 (post 6d.); 2-lb. 5/- (post 9d.); 4-lb. 10/- (post 9d.); 7-lb. 17/6 (post 1/-).

Greaseproof Paper, 5 ins. wide: 6 yds., 2d.; 12 yds., 3d.; 25 yds., 6d.; 50 yds., 9d.; 100 yds., 1/6; 200 yds., 2/6.

Write for Descriptive Folder.

Stictite is sold by Nurserymen, Seedsmen, Florists, Ironmongers, Chemists & Stores. If any difficulty, please write to Abol Limited, 9, Baltring, Paddock Wood, Kent.

Stictite

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Alpine Plants . . 500 varieties. All pot grown.
Hardy Perennials . Comprehensive Collections Asters, Phlox, Iris, Delphiniums, Paeonies, Pyrethrums, etc.
Greenhouse Plants. Specialities in Primulas, Cyclamen, Ferns, Begonias, Gloxinias, etc.

Catalogue on Request.

H. H. MAW & SON,
Friarwood Nurseries, PONTEFRACT

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

DARWIN TULIPS FIRST QUALITY ONLY.

Illustrated list post free on application.

10/- orders post free, otherwise 9d. extra.

100 Darwin Tulips in 10 fine varieties - 8/6
50 ,, ,, 10 ,, ,, - 4/6

	100	Doz.
Baron de la Tonnaye, rose pink, margined blush	9/-	1/3
Clara Butt, salmon-rose	7/6	1/-
Douglas, wine red	8/6	1/2
Dream, large-flowered lilac	10/6	1/6
Euterpe, beautiful lilac	10/-	1/4
Farncombe Sanders, large fiery scarlet ..	10/6	1/6
Glow, vermilion scarlet..	12/6	1/8
Harry Veitch, rich blood red	10/6	1/6
Loveliness, soft carmine rose..	9/-	1/3
Madame Krelage, bright lilac rose, large ..	11/6	1/6
Margaret, silvery rose	8/6	1/2
Nautilus, purplish rose	9/-	1/3
Painted Lady, cream white, tinged heliotrope	9/6	1/4
Philip de Commines, large velvety maroon	11/-	1/6
Pride of Haarlem, brilliant rose scarlet ..	8/6	1/2
Rev. Ewbank, bright heliotrope	10/-	1/4
The Sultan, nearly black	7/6	1/-
Wm. Copland (Sweet Lavender), soft lilac	9/-	1/3
Zulu, deep velvety violet black, large ..	10/6	1/6
Darwin Tulips in finest mixture	6/-	10d.

Satisfaction Guaranteed or money refunded.

WILLIAM HELPS,
***Bulb Merchant*, Woodford Green, Essex**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

PENNELL'S TULIPS

Unsurpassed for their quality and constitution.

Darwin Tulip, Baronne de la Tonnaye.

Send for beautifully illustrated catalogue of Bulbs and Forcing Plants, and compare our moderate prices for the highest quality.

PENNELL & SONS, LINCOLN
ESTABLISHED NEARLY 150 YEARS.

THE DOG: MAN'S FIRMEST FRIEND.—How to choose and care for him, by A. CROXTON SMITH. A copy of this helpful booklet on the housing, breeding, feeding and care of dogs will be sent post free on receipt of 11d. addressed to The Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

A CATALOGUE of gardening books will be sent free on application to "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

NOW is the time to order

Michaelmas Daisies
(ASTERS)
for Autumn Planting

Our Exhibit of these seasonable and popular flowers at **Holland Park** Show was universally admired.

OUR COLLECTION is admitted to be the most complete and **Up-to-Date**, containing all the **latest Novelties**, together with the pick of the **Best** of the Older Varieties.

Customers who were unable to see them at the Show should send for our New Catalogue, Post Free.

W. WELLS, Junr.,
Hardy Plant Nurseries, MERSTHAM, SUR

RARE DAFFODI

PLANTING STOCK.

Cleopatra, **5/-**; Bonfire, **4/-**; Inglescombe, Bernardino, **3/-**; Duke of Bedford, **3/-**; Flam Weardale Perfection, **3/-**; Blackwell, **2.-**; Surprise, **2/-**; Will Scarlet, **2/-**; Red Beacon Lord Kitchener, **1/-**; W. P. Milner, **8d.**; Sunri

ALL PER DOZEN.

Mixed Daffodils, small sizes, for scattering Shrubberies and Woodlands, **10/-** per And many others.

Ask for our pecial prices for large plump Tulip *Descriptive Illustrated Catalogue sent on req*

MONTGOMERY CRAWFO
Highfield Bulb Farm, Barassie, AYRS

The New Garden Edging

Make paths and borders now!—with Bordex.
A yard a minute—inexpensive—indestructible.

Give your garden the professional touch by edging borders paths and lawns with Bordex—the premier rustless met edging. In yard lengths, finished dark green or terra cott with rolled top. Bordex is fluted every nine inches so th it can be shaped by hand to conform to any curve or angl

1/3 PER YARD LENGTH
ORDER NOW BY POST.
Carriage paid on 31 lengths and over in U.K. Carriage extra, 10 to 20 lengths 2/-, 21 to 30 lengths 2/6.
IMMEDIATE DELIVERY.

BORDEX
GARDEN EDGING

Bordex is easily pushed into place by means of its stro fluted spurs. Interlocking ends ensure perfect alignment. Tot depth 5½ ins. Bordex is immensely strong and firm, cannot b chipped or broken by garden rollers, mowers or frost. It is tremendous advance in garden edging—durable—labour savi —a splendid investment.

MILLBROOK MANUFACTURING CO. (Dept. O.) **37, Furnival Street, HOLBORN, London, E.C.4**
'Phone: Holborn 2226.

Digitized by Google

BULBS

We invite immediate application for our

BULB CATALOGUE,

knowing that the very fine quality of our bulbs enables us to offer exceptionally good value for money.

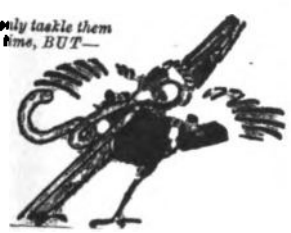
Send for a copy of the BULB CATALOGUE at once.

Bakers
SEED AND FLOWER FARM
CODSALL
Near Wolverhampton

Choice Plants that will Grow

Dianthus Lindsayii - - - 1/6 each.
Gentiana Farreri - - - 1/6 „
„ Sino-ornata - - 1/- „
Meconopsis quintuplinerva 5/- „

J. KELLEY, Alpine Specialist, CRIEFF



VERMOL

KILLS WORMS AND GROWS GOOD GRASS

VERMOL gets the lot.

Vermol Products COMPANY

61 ST. MARY AXE
LONDON, E.C.3

Teles.: Avon. 1869 and 1870.
Telegs.: "Placerus, Phone, London."

HOW DIGGING AND TRENCHING SHOULD BE DONE

ORDINARY digging is turning the soil over one spit deep; trenching means turning it over two or more spits in depth. But we will first deal with ordinary digging. If ground is uneven on the surface it can be levelled very much by judicious digging, carrying out the work with one's face to the higher ground, is the easiest way, but not the best, if the surface is uneven. Always begin at the lowest point and finish at the highest. If you begin at one corner, intending to finish at the one directly opposite, there is no need to move over any great bulk of soil. But to afford freedom for the work it is a wise plan to move one barrow-load of soil with which to fill up at the opposite corner when the digging has reached that point. If, however, the whole of one side, or end, of a plot is being dug across, then it is necessary to remove a spit of soil right across and take it to the side or end where the work is to be finished. Where clayey soils obtain, a strong garden fork is a better tool than a spade, as it is easier to insert and leaves the turned-over soil with a more broken surface than a spade would. Moderately light and sandy soils are easily turned with the spade. Whether spade or fork be used the tool should be driven in straight down and not at an angle of about 45 degrees as one often sees it done. The straight-down drive, with leverage towards the workman, raises an almost square-shaped lump of soil, which, when turned over remains lumpy on the surface, open, too, admitting rains and air freely; and at the end of the winter the whole bed is readily broken up in a mellow state and made fit for the planting or sowing as required. The soil soon pans down hard again when the spade is inserted in a slanting direction and the soil is turned over in thin slices. Dig a course right across the plot, returning so, to and fro, until the plot is dug. If there is any uneven surface, watch it carefully and level as the work proceeds.

Trenching.

By this, as I have said, is meant digging the soil two, or more, spits deep. If two spits, two layers of soil are turned over, but, usually, kept in their positions as regards surface and distance below it, and at the bottom of the two spits the sub-soil is thoroughly broken up with the garden fork and left below. If trenching is done more than 2ft. in depth a wider open trench is necessary, and three spits of soil must be turned over, the sub-soil being loosened in addition. With regard to bringing up the sub-soil in any quantity, opinions vary as to the merit of the system. I firmly believe it is best to leave it below, as some of the good top soil is sure to fall down and mix with it every time the ground is deeply prepared for cropping. The plot should always be divided into two parts for trenching; the soil removed from the end of one part is placed at the end of the other part abreast and used for the final filling-in when the second portion of the plot is finished.—G

SOCIETY NOTES.

THE Council of the Royal Horticultural Society is desirous of drawing attention to the Jones-Bateman Cup. This cup was presented to the R.H.S. in 1920 by Miss L. Jones-Bateman of Cae Glas, Abergele, and is a valuable silver-gilt replica of the Warwick Vase. It has been decided to award the cup for the encouragement of fruit production. It is offered triennially for researches in the growing of hardy fruits, figs, grapes and peaches in the open or under glass.

Candidates should submit accounts of their work by October 31st of the appointed years. The work dealt with must have been carried out by the candidate in the United Kingdom mainly during the preceding five years. The cup will be held for three years by the successful candidate, who must give a bond for its safe return.

The assessors shall be two appointed by the Royal Horticultural Society and one by the Federation of British Growers, who shall report to the R.H.S. Council upon the originality and comparative potential value to the fruit-growing industry of the work of the candidates.

It will be seen that candidates account of work must be submitted by October 31st this year and the Council sincerely hope that there will be a response from those interested in fruit culture.

The Annual Orchid Show.

THE annual R.H.S. Orchid Show will be held in the Society's Hall at Vincent Square, Westminster, S.W.1, on October 19th and 20th.

The Baron Schröder Challenge Cup will be awarded for the best group of orchids exhibited by an amateur; no restriction as to the number of assistants or area. A challenge cup value 20 guineas, presented to the Society by the Trade Orchid Growers for competition, will be awarded for the best group (60 square feet) exhibited by an amateur who employs not more than three assistants. A silver trophy, valued 7½ guineas, for the best twelve orchids, not more than two of one genus, exhibited by an amateur who employs not more than two growers in his orchid house.

The Secretary of the R.H.S. will be pleased to receive entries for these competitions and to supply entry forms. Entries should not be received later than by the first post on Monday, October 18th.

The National Rose Society.

THE dates of the National Rose Society's shows in 1927 are as follows:

The Spring Show will be held at Vincent Square, Westminster on Friday, April 22nd; the Summer Show in London on July 1st and 2nd; the Provincial Show at Cheltenham on July 6th and 7th. The Special Show of New Seedlings, at which the *Daily Mail* Cup will again be competed for, will be held at Westminster on July 15th, and the Autumn Show at Westminster on September 9th and 10th. It has been decided by the Council to hold a Rose Conference in London in July, 1928. An announcement as to the arrangements will be made later.

TRADE NOTE.

The home gardener is often at a loss to know how to enclose his flower borders, garden paths and lawns in such a manner as will show these off to the best advantage and, at the same time, ensure perfect tidiness in the garden. The work can be much simplified by the use of "Bordex" patent garden edging, manufactured by The Millbrook Manufacturing Company, London, E.C.4, sold in yard lengths that interlock in such a manner that perfect rigidity and alignment is preserved. The finished appearance is pleasing, giving the effect of tiling, at very much lower cost and infinitely less trouble. "Bordex" is made of weatherproof metal, finished in dark green or in terra-cotta, the top edge being rounded over and having vertical corrugations that enable the edging to be bent to fit any curve or angle. On the lower edge are stout, sharp spurs, which are inserted into the ground merely by pressure of the hands. This edging allows for a depth of 2¾ins. above the level of the path or border, while the saving in labour when it is used to edge lawns is very considerable, because it can be pressed down to a level which will allow the mower to pass over, and the edges of the grass will no longer need trimming by hand.

Digitized by Google

" It warms my Greenhouse nicely at a cost of **about 2d. per day,** which I think very reasonable. I am a new beginner with a Greenhouse, and your

'HORSE SHOE' BOILER

took my fancy. I have not regretted my choice," writes Mr. F. G., Clifford, Boston Spa. 23/3/26

Cold weather comes soon. *Write for particulars now*

To CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD.,
Engineers, Southwark Street, S.E.1.
Please send me Booklet E "Making the Most of Your Greenhouse," and price of complete Outfit to suit *(span-roof) (lean-to) greenhouse.....
long.....wide inside, side of *(wood) (brick).....thick.

Name.....

Address.....

*Strike out particulars not needed. Cut out and send by ½d. post.

Can be supplied from Immediate Stock

USED IN THE R.H.S. GARDENS

Wire: "Kinnell-Boroh-London." 'Phone: Hop 0362 (3 lines)

CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., Ltd.

65, SOUTHWARK STREET, LONDON, S.E.1

" The fairest flowers of the season are our carnations."—SHAKESPEARE.

CARNATIONS

FOR EVERY GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE

By Montagu C. Allwood.

With a Foreword by Lord Lambourne,
President of the R.H.S.

224 pages. *79 illustrations.*

Just Published - 12s. 6d. net.

For a detailed prospectus of this new and standard book, write to the Publicity Manager, Book Dept., COUNTRY LIFE, 20, Tavistock St., W.C.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

The Cultivation of Tobacco—No.6.

Curing.

THE leaf is taken straight from the fields to the Curing Barns where it is subjected to great heat up to 220° Fahr. This is to turn the Leaf to that golden brown colour with which we here are most familiar.

It is then sorted into grades according to its colour, size and "body," and the best grades of this Rich, Ripe Virginia Leaf are used in the making of

PLAYER'S

Navy Cut

TOBACCO & CIGARETTES

Reg. No. 154011.

The Half-Crown Garden Books

A new series. Thoroughly practical, well printed and illustrated. The first two are now ready.

VEGETABLE GROWING By GEORGE GARNER

ROCK GARDENING By WALTER IRVING

2s. 6d. net each.

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

CLAY'S LONDON FERTILIZER TRADE MARK

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then, together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices :—

Tins 10d. and 1/6

and in **Branded and Sealed Bags :**

7 lbs. - **3/6** 14 lbs. - **6/-**
28 lbs. - **10/-** 56 lbs. - **18/-**
112 lbs. - **32/-**

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers, etc. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**

WILLMOTT

Rival Plant Stake

(Patented No. 183779).

As used in Royal Botanic Gardens London and Cambridge.

For all plants. WILL NOT ROT, WEAR OUT OR BREAK.

Sample of eight sizes, **2/-** car. pd. United Kingdom. **4/-** Overseas.

Closed

Open

J. GREENWOOD, F.R.H.S., Proprietor, **BRACKNELL, Berks.**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Farmers and Sportsmen out in the Shires—see that your boots have Uppers of "Beva" Waterproof Leather

Look for the "Beva" on the looping

The Service Bureau Coupon.

THE GARDEN, *October 16th*, 1926.

Name.....

Address.....

.....

This Coupon must accompany each enquiry along with a stamped addressed envelope.

See page 593.

THE SERVICE DEPT., "THE GARDEN," 10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2

For success in your Garden USE

THOMSON'S MANURES

WM. THOMSON & SONS LIMITED

On the market for over 50 years, they still hold first place for QUALITY and RESULTS. They are safe, sure and lasting. The direct result of many years' practical experience in gardening, they stand unrivalled at the present day for all Garden Crops.

Prices :—**VINE, PLANT AND VEGETABLE MANURE**—a Perfect Food—1 cwt., **30/-**; 56 lb., **16/-**; 28 lb., **9/-**; 14 lb., **5/-**; 7 lb., **3/-**; tins, **1/3** and **9d.** **SPECIAL TOP DRESSING MANURE**—an excellent stimulant—56 lb., **17/-**; 28 lb., **9/6**; 14 lb., **5 6**; 7 lb., **3/-**; tins, **1/3.** **Carriage paid on 28 lbs.** and up.

WRITE FOR OUR BOOKLET—POST FREE ON REQUEST.

SOLD BY NURSERYMEN AND SEEDSMEN EVERYWHERE.

Or from Sole Makers, WM. THOMSON & SONS, TWEED VINEYARDS, CLOVENFORDS, SCOTLAND

KINNELL'S COKE CRUSHER FROM STOCK

Reduces Fuel to the correct size for long burning

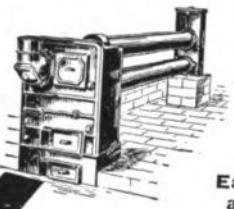
Carriage paid to Stations in England and Wales

Small Crusher for Wall	20/-
Ditto on Wrought Stand	40/-
Large Crusher for Wall	40/-
Ditto on Wrought Stand	60/-

Strong Coke Pan 10/- extra

Large Crusher breaks 1 cwt. & small one 42 lb. in 20 minutes

CHAS. P. KINNELL & Co LTD
65.65A Southwark St. London. S.E.1



Paying Points about "STOURBRIDGE" Greenhouse Boilers

No. 5

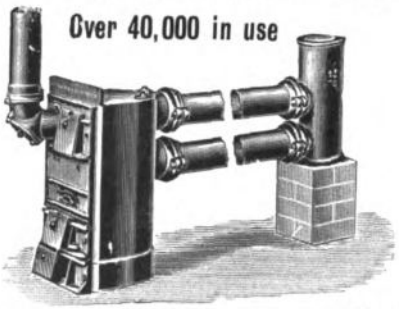
Easily fixed by an amateur.

Write at once for special price. State size of house. Address Dept. 3.

J. & W. WOOD LTD Stourbridge

THE LOUGHBOROUGH BOILER

Over 40,000 in use



The high reputation of this Boiler for efficiency and economy is still unrivalled

Easy to fix, easy to manage, and most economical in fuel, it is the ideal Boiler for the Amateur's Greenhouse

Price Lists and Estimates for complete :: apparatus on application ::

MESSENGER & CO., LTD. LOUGHBOROUGH LEICESTERSHIRE
LONDON OFFICE : 122, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by **"ALPHOL"**

Sample 14 lb., 3/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc. to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

THE LEADING GLASSHOUSE FUMIGANT.

Autumn and Winter Wash

(Corry's). For Fruit Trees, NON-POISONOUS NON-CAUSTIC, Destroys APPLE AND PEAR SCAB, CANKER and American Blight.

1 Pt., **1/6**; 1 qt., **2/6**; ½ gal., **4/9**; 1 gal., **8/6** From Seedsmen.

CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

Digitized by Google

WAKELEY'S *Celebrated* Hop Manure

REGISTERED

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL, ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION, 1912.

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE, without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.
Every ounce of Wakeley's Hop Manure is of value to the soil, supplying the necessary HUMUS in addition to the valuable plant food. Worthless rubbish is not added to make weight (as is the case of some artificial manures advertised).
Thousands do realise it, the proof of this is the constant flow of UNSOLICITED LETTERS received from time to time in praise of the wonderful results obtained at such a moderate cost (see Catalogue for selection).

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.—Genuine only in our Marked Bags, containing Guaranteed Analysis.

A BEAUTIFUL FREE CATALOGUE.—Giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of post card.

CASH PRICES (including bags): Small (about 1 bushel), 3/-; large (about 4 bushels), 7/-; 5 large, 33/9; 10 large, 65/-; 20 large, 120/-

WAKELEY'S GARDEN SUNDRIES

WAKELEY'S COMPOST

For the Improvement of Garden Soils.

Prepared in three grades. No. 1 for use on light, No. 2 for med., and No. 3 for heavy soils. (Cow Manure can be added if stated on order.)
2 bush. bags, 7/6; 4 bags, 29/-; 10 bags, 70/-

WAKELEY'S CHEMICAL MANURES

Wakeley's Empire Fertiliser,
for general garden use.
Analysis: Ammonia 4%, Phosphate 24%, Potash pure 2%..

	14lb.	28lb.	56lb.	1 cwt.
Sulphate of Ammonia	3/6	6/6	13/-	22/-
Super Phosphate 30%	1/6	2/9	4/6	8/6
Basic Slag 30%	1/6	2/9	4/3	8/-
Sulphate of Potash 90%	3/9	6/6	12/-	22/6
Kainit	1/6	2/9	4/3	7/6
Nitrate of Soda	3/3	5/6	10/6	20/-
Pure English Bone Meal	2/9	5/-	8/6	16/-
Sulphate of Iron	3/9	6/6	12/-	22/6

WAKELEY'S GROUND GARDEN LIME

Caustic or Quick Lime, *not Powdered Chalk.*

Invaluable for Rich and Heavy Soils, also as Exterminator of Soil Pests.

Prices (including bags):
Bushel bag, 4/6; ½ bushel, 3/-

WAKELEY'S LAWN SAND

Eradicates Weeds and Promotes Growth of Finer Grasses.

7 lb., 2/6; 14 lb., 4/6; 28 lb., 8/-; 56 lb., 14/-; cwt., 25/-.

GARDEN EDGING, FLOWER POTS, CANES, STICKS, LABELS, STAKES, STRING, HESSIAN & GARDEN NETTING at carriage paid prices.

A good selection of **GARDEN VASES, Etc.**

	14lb.	28lb.	56lb.	1 cwt.
Tonk's Rose Manure	4/9	8/6	15/9	30/-

WAKELEY'S SUPER-WHITE LIME

EXTRA FINELY GROUND

Invaluable for Light or Poor Soils, and as a Dressing for Mossy Lawns. Also for use in Poultry Runs.

Prices (including bags):
14lb., 2/6; 28lb., 3/6; 56lb., 4/6; 1 cwt., 7/-

WAKELEY'S POTTING SOILS, Etc.

HIGHEST GRADE.

	Bshl. bag.	2 bshls.
Brown Fibrous Peat	4/-	7/-
Leaf Mould	3/-	5/-
Mixed Potting Soil	3/6	6/3
Yellow Fibrous Loam (Surrey)	3/3	5/-
Coarse Silver Sand (Bedford)	4/3	7/6
Cow Manure	3/6	5/6

Short Horse Manure Bag (about cwt.), 3/6; 4 bags, 14/-; 10 bags, 32/6

All above prices Carriage Paid for Cash by Pickford's or to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company. 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY'S SPECIALLY SELECTED CRAZY PAVING.

	Per Ton.
1in. thick (Approximate covering capacity 16 sq. yards)	55/-
1½ " " " " " 12 "	52/6

WAKELEY'S SPECIALLY SELECTED ROCKERY STONE Per Ton. 37/6
WAKELEY'S SPECIALLY SELECTED BRICK BURRS per c. yd. 37/6

Delivered to your address, ex. stock, in loads of 2½ cubs., or 1½ yards and upwards, within a radius of 10 miles of Bankside. Add 1/- per ton per mile for distances beyond. Special prices for larger quantities taken direct from truck.

WAKELEY'S SELECTED BULBS

HYACINTHS

	Each.	Doz.
Early White Roman	7d.	6/-
Prepared Miniatures for early forcing (Bismarck, L'Innocence, Garibaldi and Moreno)	7d.	6/-
First size—Bismarck, Garibaldi, Queen of Pinks	9d.	8/6
Marie and La Francaise	8d.	7/6
L'Innocence	10d.	9/6

HYACINTHS FOR BEDDING

	Doz.	100
Single Red and Pink	4/6	34/-
" Light Blue	4/6	32/6
" Dark Blue	4/6	32/6
" White, Pure	4/6	34/-
" Blush, White	4/6	32/-

SINGLE MIXED, ALL COLOURS
a good mixture 4/- 30/-

SINGLE TULIPS

	Doz.	100
Crimson King, good bedding	1/6	10/6
Fred Moore, orange, shaded scarlet	1/9	12/6
Kelzerskroon, bright red, yellow edge	3/6	25/-
Prince of Austria, orange scarlet	2/3	16/-

DARWIN TULIPS

Baron de la Tonnaye, bright rose	1/6	10/-
Clara Butt, soft salmon rose	1/-	7/6
Glow, vermilion	1/9	12/6
La Candeur, white	1/9	12/6
Rev. Ewbank, heliotrope	1/6	10/6

DOUBLE TULIPS

Couronne d'Or, orange-yellow	2/3	16/-
Murillo, blush-white	1/9	12/-

LATE MAY FLOWERING

Picotee, white with pink edge	1/3	9/-
Inglescombe Pink, salmon rose	1/6	10/-

DAFFODILS & NARCISSI

	Doz.	100
Double—Van Sion	1/6	10/6
Trumpets—Emperor, Empress, Golden Spur, and Horsfieldii	2/-	14/6
Princeps	1/3	8/6
Victoria—Giant form of Horsfieldii	2/6	17/6
Various—Barrii Conspicuus	1/3	9/-
Incomparabilis, Sir Watkin	1/9	12/6
Pheasant's Eye	8d.	5/-

VARIOUS BULBS

Crocus, yellow	from 1/-	7/6
" mixed, all colours	9d.	5/-
Iris, Spanish, mixed	6d.	3/-
Scilla sibirica	1/-	7/6
Snowdrops, single	9d.	5/-
" double	1/-	7/3
Winter Aconites	4d.	2/3

Carriage and packing free. Write for Illustrated Autumn Catalogue of Bulb Bowls. Full list of bulbs, etc. Sent free on application.

WAKELEY'S BULB FIBRE. For growing bulbs in fancy bowls without drainage. Containing finest ingredients, shell and charcoal. Prices (including bags) ¼ gallon, 1/-; 1 gallon, 1/3; peck, 2/-; ½ bushel, 3/-; bushel, 4/-

WAKELEY BROS. & Co., Ltd. 75a, BANKSIDE LONDON, S.E.1

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

PERIODICAL ROOM
GENERAL LIBRARY
NOV 2 1926

THE GARDEN

THE AMATEUR GARDENERS' PAPER

Vol. XC.—No. 2864 Saturday, October 23rd. 1926 Price TWOPENCE

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
New Alpines and Perennials
Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
Specialists in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

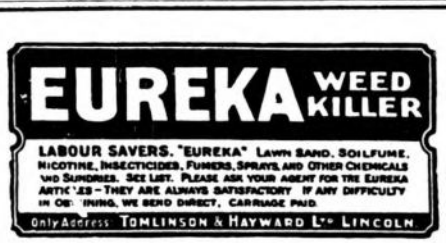
Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD,
CHELSEA, S.W.
Bulb Catalogue Now Ready

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

H. PRINS
BULB AND PLANT GROWERS
WISBECH, CAMBS.
Bulb list free on application



Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
LINCS.
Weed Destroyers Fertilizers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

TUBS FOR SHRUBS. WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 100 prizes. R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. – Price List from A. PRADAL, 26, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

THE PLANTING SEASON

is fast approaching, and intending planters are advised to place their orders at the earliest possible date in order to secure early delivery.

THE BARNHAM NURSERIES LTD. offer a magnificent stock of

Fruit Trees - - Roses
Alpines - Hardy Perennials
Ornamental Trees & Shrubs
Hedge and Shelter Plants

- and will be glad to send - descriptive catalogues on application.

The BARNHAM NURSERIES Ltd.
BARNHAM, SUSSEX.

Hydrangea colour!

The most wonderful intensification of colour can be safely produced in Hydrangeas and other plants by naturally stimulating the soil with XL ALL Colour Intensifier. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen, or florists.

XL ALL COLOUR INTENSIFIER

G. H. RICHARDS LTD.,
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
R. 191. Monomark: BCM/XLALL.

Chase Continuous Cloches

should be used through winter to protect Sweet Peas, Parsley, Lettuce, Cuttings, Christmas Roses, etc.

Tent Shape, Size A, 12 for 18/-; 52 for 55/-
Barn Shape, No. 1, 6 for 18/-; 26 for 55/-
CHASE ALPINE CLIPS hold any glass over Alpine plants. 3/6 per doz.
Above prices include carriage to any railway station in England and Wales, or part carriage elsewhere.
SECTIONAL FRUIT RACKS build up to any size. Each section contains 5 trays of 4 sq. ft. One section, 25/-; two sections, 45/-, f.o.r.

Full particulars, Cloches, Clips, Racks: DEPT. 7,
CHASE CONTINUOUS CLOCHE, Chertsey, Surrey

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

CHEALS OF CRAWLEY

Have over FIFTY YEARS' Experience of GARDEN AND ESTATE PLANTING and General Improvements.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY ACRES of Nursery stocked with a First Class Collection of

Ornamental Trees - Shrubs
FRUIT TREES,
Herbaceous and Alpine Plants
ROSES, DAHLIAS, and all Garden Requisites

IT WOULD PAY YOU TO CONSULT THEM
Catalogues of each Department and an Illustrated Page on Garden Design.

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
The Nurseries, **CRAWLEY.**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

BLOM FOR BULBS

Apply for Catalogue to –

Messrs. J. C. WHITNEY & Co.,
Eldon Street House, Eldon Street,
London, E.C. - - - *or to—*

WALTER BLOM & SON, LTD.,
(Late of Overveen),
Hillegom, Holland.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

EBBS' TULIPS for Massing in Beds.
Scarlet, Yellow, White, Pink, Purple, Mixed (Single and Double) 2/6 per doz.; 17/6 per 100

EBBS' HYACINTHS for Glasses, Pots and Bowls. 12 in 12 good varieties, 8/-; 24 in 12 good varieties, 15/6. See Webbs' Bulb Catalogue—Post Free.
WEBB & SONS, LTD., Bulb Specialists, STOURBRIDGE.

HAT TO PLANT, WHEN TO PLANT?
TERERS WILL TELL YOU. Catalogues beautifully trated with copious cultural notes are issued of the following: s, roses, fruit trees, herbaceous and alpine plants, rhododrons, azaleas, evergreen flowering, hedgemaking and screenshrubs; also "YOUR NEW GARDEN," a publication piled to assist economically the making of your new garden. of the above gladly sent free.—JOHN WATERER, SONS AND , LIMITED, Twyford, Berks.

MALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODENONS, on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and ine Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write Catalogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

AKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE. he original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See ert. on back page.

M. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., rence Road, South Tottenham, N.15. — Conservatories, ter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

RDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUNALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—ORTON, 80, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

ENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and rden Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE NLEY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, rey.

EMENTS' DUTCH BULBS.
est Quality at Moderate Prices. Descriptive Catalogue taining over 700 Named Varieties, including various Novel-, also Cultural Directions, sent post free. Please mention per.—V. D. CLEMENTS & CO., 12, Stockton Gardens, ttenham, London, N.17.

ORDER CARNATIONS.—200 varieties, in 14 varieties, from 6/6; 50 in 50 ditto, from 25/-; riage paid. Lists free. J. HAYWARD, Chace Gardens, kes Road, Purbrook, Cosham, Hants.

LPINES, ROCK AND HERBACEOUS ANTS, Dwarf Conifers and Shrubs, Bulbs for the Rock rden, etc. New catalogue ready, post free.—SHEPPARDS, awhurst Nursery, Hollywood, Birmingham.

LASS HORTICULTURAL, all sizes stocked; ugh Glass Plate for poultry houses. Ready Mixed Paints, ity, Diamonds, etc.—BRITISH GLASS COMPANY, Dept. "G.N.," pers Buildings, Church Street, Liverpool.

ABELS.—Patent metal, so simple to write a nail; can't fade or break. Trial offer bargain; 100 with stakes, 50 tie wires, 1 pocket nail, 10/- free. The R.H.S. e them. Lists.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

ASKELL'S HOP MANURE.—Best substitute for stable manure, 66lbs., 4/-; cwt., 8/-. Times Guano, e all-round fertiliser, 56lb., 5/-; cwt, 8/6. Ground garden ne, 56lb., 4/-; cwt., 6/-. Screened Gas Lime, cwt., 5/-. ale Slag, cwt., 6/6. Packed in bags and carriage paid. All rtilisers, etc., supplied. Booklets free.—MASKELL'S LTD., ckleton Road, West Ham, E.15.

OW IS THE TIME TO LOOK TO YOUR ARDEN. "THE HOME GARDEN BOOKS" deal with every anch of the art. Send for pamphlet C, post free, from THORN-ON BUTTERWORTH, LIMITED, 15, Bedford Street, London, W.C.2

ARDEN FOR SALE. FREEHOLD. ecently started as Market Garden by old Swanley student. ell stocked with fruit trees. Pigstyes, garage, etc. Owner oing abroad.—MELTHAM, Freshwater, Isle of Wight.

WALLFLOWERS.—Ruby Gem, Vulcan (deep crimson), Blood Red, Linneous (white) and Cloth of Gold, xtra strong plants, 2/6 100, 250 for 5/6 or 500 10/-. Carriage aid.—C. R. SHILLING, 6, Hartley Nursery, Winchfield, Hants.

BUSH APPLES, three years, in best varieties, 7/- dozen. Roses, hedge plants, flowering and evergreen hrubs, etc., at equally moderate prices. Catalogue sent ost free on application.—C. R. SHILLING, 6, Hartley Nursery, Winchfield, Hants.

BARR'S GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS.—The finest sorts for Pots, Bowls, Exhibition, Flower Borders and to naturalise. Also many new Seedling varieties offered for the first time. Descriptive catalogue free.

BARR'S HYACINTHS, TULIPS, LILIES, CROCUSES, IRISES, etc., for pots and bedding. Finest quality. Descriptive catalogue, with special directions for the culture of Bulbs in Bowls free.

BARR'S GOLD MEDAL IRISES for present planting. Descriptive Catalogue of the best Tall and Dwarf, early and late flowering varieties, sent free on application.—BARR AND SONS, 11, 12 and 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx and perpetual habit. They flourish in the coldest parts of Britain. Extract, *The Times*: "Mr. Douglas is the leading raiser of this flower. His wonderful strain of new cloves is superb." Plant list is now ready.—J. DOUGLAS, Great Bookham.

JOIN THE BRITISH GLADIOLUS SOCIETY. Annual subscription, 5/-. Particulars from HON. SEC., A. E. AMOS, 10, Bergholt Road, Colchester.

Yearly Subscription, Inland, 13s.; Foreign, 13s.
Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2.
Offices for Advertisements: 6-11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Notes of the Week	595
Shrubs for the Small Garden	596
Plants at Their Best in Autumn	597
Flower Garden Notes	598
The Joy of Making a New Garden	599
The Problem of the Hedge	600
The Busy Man's Page	601
Tall Perennials for Present Planting	602
The Mixed Border	604
What Our Readers Say — *Belladonna Lilies; The Lorette System of Pruning; Rose Rust; Gladiolus Langprim; Aster Farreri; An Interesting Plant; The Joy of Making a New Garden*	604–605
The Fruit and Kitchen Garden	606
Hints Worth Remembering	607
Spadework: A Most Important Garden Operation	608
Cutting Lawn Flower Beds	608
An Autumn Fruit Show	609
Our Service Bureau	609

HEWITT'S HARDY PLANT CATALOGUE, free on application.

HEWITT'S DELPHINIUMS, famous the world over for their marvellous size and quality. Please write for our catalogues.

HEWITT'S BULBS.—The finest obtainable at reasonable prices. List free on application.

HEWITT'S ROSES.—Catalogues of all the finest and newest varieties, free on application.—HEWITT AND CO., LIMITED, Horticultural Specialists, Solihull, Warwickshire.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wirework of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

HERBACEOUS AND ROCK PLANTS. Dianthus neglectus, 8d.; Tiarella cordifolia, 6d.; Verbascum phœnicum, 6d.; Campanulas Everest and Snowdrift, 1/-. Autumn list ready, post free.—FLORA HARDY, Knockholt, Kent.

DULAUS are the largest dealers in Horticultural Books. If you are in need of volumes on any Horticultural or Botanical subject, write to DULAU & CO., LTD., 34, Margaret Street, London, W.1.

DOBBIES' FAMOUS BULBS, SCOTCH ROSES and SWEET PEAS for Autumn Sowing. Catalogues free on mentioning THE GARDEN.—DOBBIE AND CO., LIMITED, Edinburgh.

BATH'S HOME-GROWN BULBS.—New Illustrated Catalogue of the finest Narcissi, Tulips, etc., as supplied to the Royal Parks and Gardens, with full cultural directions, is now ready, and will be sent post free on application.—(Dept. E.), R. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS—CHOICE TULIPS, etc. List on application.—THE WELSH BULB FIELDS, St. Asaph.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE!!!—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

ROCK PLANTS AND SHRUBS.—Over 300 varieties in stock. Descriptive Catalogue free. Also Herbaceous Plants and Roses.—HODSONS, LIMITED, 58, Castle Gate, Nottingham.

GENTIANA SINO-ORNATA flowered here last year from October until Christmas unharmed by frost. Dazzling sapphire trumpets. Strong pot plants for immediate planting, 9d. each; 3 for 2/3; 6 for 3/9; 12 for 7/6. Cultural instructions sent with each order.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED, Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

PRIOR'S COLCHESTER ROSES, Fruit Trees, Gladioli, Dahlias, Carnations, Herbaceous. Catalogue containing cheap collections free.—D. PRIOR AND SON, LTD., Colchester

KNIPHOFIA ERECTA.—The most beautiful, brilliant and interesting of the red-hot pokers. Free, parcel post, 18/- per doz.—GALVIN'S NURSERIES, Wexford.

YORK STONE PAVING, for Garden Paths and lily ponds; rectangular or crazy for rustic work; steps and wall coping; rockery.—GEO. VINT AND BROS., Stone Merchants, Idle, Bradford.

ALPINES AND HARDY ROCK PLANTS. 700 varieties. Catalogue free.—LEE, Alpine Gardens, Stechford, Birmingham.

GARDEN IMPLEMENTS AND SUNDRIES. Write for Free Illustrated Catalogue from FINCH AND FLEMING, LIMITED, Soar Lane Mills, Leicester.

HARDY CYCLAMEN.—Plant now, spring and autumn flowering, 5/- doz. free for cash with order.—JURY, Brooklands, Dunmurry.

TO FLOWER NEXT SUMMER, 12 Hydrangeas, assorted carriage paid on receipt of 20/-. A real bargain.—TRESEDER AND CO., The Nurseries, Truro.

LOBELIA CARDINALIS QUEEN VICTORIA, brilliant scarlet, late flowering perennial, 1 doz., post free, for 10/-.—TRESEDER AND CO., as above.

LIME FOR THE GARDEN—Price delivered cash with order, 28lb., 3/6; 56lb., 5/-; 112lb., 8/-. Special quotations for large quantities. Real Cotswold Crazy Paving, Walling Stone, etc.—THOMAS TIERNEY AND CO., LTD., Milk Street House, Cheapside, E.C.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING—"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/- post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

BULBS FOR NATURALISING

All Delivered Post Free at your door.

	per doz.	per 100	per 1,000
MUSCARIA HYACINTHS, Grape Hyacinths, blue	1/-	5/-	40/-
SNOWDROPS, earliest flowers of Spring	1/-	6/-	50/-
SPARAXIS, selected show mixtures, all colours	6d.	3/-	25/-
CROCUS, in finest mixed, all colours	1/-	4/-	35/-
SCILLA SIBIRICA, extra fine blue	1/-	9/-	80/-
NARCISSUS, all varieties and colours mixed	1/-	7/6	60/-
TULIPS, all varieties and colours mixed	1/-	7/-	60/-

(All the above for growing in Woodlands or Grass)

Full Illustrated List post free upon application.

H. PRINS (F.R.H.S.) ***Flower Bulb Specialists,*** **WISBECH, CAMBS.**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

NEW MICHAELMAS DAISY BARR'S PINK

The Finest Pink Michaelmas Daisy yet raised.

The flowers, which are semi-double, large and open, are of a bright rose-pink with showy gold and bronze central disc. Excellent as a cut flower, lasting well in water, and equally charming in artificial light as in daylight. The plant is of elegant and graceful habit, THE FINEST PINK MICHAELMAS DAISY YET RAISED; height, 4½ ft. Award of Merit at the R.H.S. Wisley Trials, 1925, and Silver-Gilt Banksian Medal at the R.H.S. Great Autumn Show, Holland Park, Sept. 21st, 1926.

Strong plants .. .. per doz., **25/-**; each, **2/6**

Extra large plants .. ,, **36/-**; ,, **3/6**

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2

Nurseries—BATH ROAD, TAPLOW, BUCKS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

SELECTED DUTCH BULBS

We herewith offer in extra fine stuff following choice sorts of Tulips and Narcissi for immediate delivery.

	100	Doz.
SINGLE EARLY TULIPS.		
Rainbow Mixture	7/-	1/-
Cramoisie Brilliant, crimson scarlet ..	10/-	1/6
King of the Yellows, golden yellow ..	12/-	1/9
La Reine, white..	10/-	1/6
Prince of Austria, orange-scarlet	14/-	2/-
Rose Grisedelin, rose	10/-	1/6
DOUBLE EARLY TULIPS.		
Murillo, white	10/-	1/6
NEW DARWIN TULIPS.		
100 in 10 choice named sorts, our selection, for	9/-	—
Splendid mixture of Darwin Tulips 1,000, 65/-	7/-	1/-
Bartigon, carmine-red	12/-	1/9
Bleu Aimable, bright blue	14/-	2/-
Clara Butt, salmon pink	9/-	1/3
King Harold, dark ox-blood red	12/-	1/9
La Candeur (White Queen), white	10/-	1/6
Le Notre, soft rose	16/-	2/3
Mad. Krelage, soft lilac rosy	12/-	1/9
Margaret, delicate pale pink	8/-	1/3
Mr. Farncombe Sanders, brilliant crimson red	10/-	1/6
Philippe de Commines, velvet black ..	10/-	1/6
Pride of Haarlem, dark cherry red ..	9/-	1/3
Scarlet Gem, brilliant dark scarlet.. ..	9/-	1/3
The Sultan, maroon black	9/-	1/3
William Copland, beautiful lavender ..	10/-	1/6
William Pitt, crimson scarlet	16/-	2/3

	100	Doz.
NARCISSI AND DAFFODILS.		
Trumpet Grispa, large frilled yellow trumpet, perianth creamy-white	15/-	2/-
,, **Magnificent** (Harbinger), yellow trumpet, creamy-white perianth .	24/-	3/3
,, **Purity,** yellow trumpet, white perianth	20/-	2/9
,, **Victoria,** trumpet clear yellow, perianth creamy-white	13/-	1/9
Barrii Blood Orange, petals lemon, with bright orange eye	19/-	2/6
,, **Seagull,** white perianth, pale citron cup	15/-	2/-
Incomparabilis Lucifer, white perianth, glowing red cup	15/-	2/-
Leedsii Evangeline, white petals, cup soft lemon	13/-	1/9
,, **Fairy Queen,** white	13/-	1/9
,, **Southern Gem,** white perianth, pale lemon cup	14/-	2/-
,, **White Lady,** white	14/-	2/-
Poeticus Ornatus, the popular early Ornatus	8/-	1/3
Poetax Aspasia, yellow eye, white perianth	16/-	2/3
,, **Elvira,** yellow eye, pure whit perianth	16/-	2/3
Van Sion, common double golden yellow daffodil	10/-	1/6
Mixture of large trumpets .. 1,000, 105/-	11/-	1/6
Short Cupped or Star Narcissi, mixed for Naturalisation .. 1,000, 80/-	8/6	1/3

All orders amounting to One Guinea or more are sent **Carriage Paid, including Packing.** On orders under One Guinea, 2/6 extra for postage will be charged.

A Discount of 5 per cent. is allowed on all prepaid orders. Payments can be made direct to our firm or to our Bankers, **Bank of Liverpool and Martins, Limited, 68, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3.**

JOHN B. VANDERSCHOOT, Ltd., The Old Established Bulb Farms, HILLEGOM, HOLLAND.

ESTABLISHED 1830.

Own extensive bulb farms (comprising over 400 acres) of Hyacinths, Tulips, Narcissi and Daffodils, Crocuses, Irises, etc. Richly illustrated descriptive catalogue free on application.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

DARWIN TULIPS

FIRST QUALITY ONLY.

Illustrated list post free on application.

10/- orders post free, otherwise 9d. extra.

	100	Doz.
100 Darwin Tulips in 10 fine varieties	8/6	
50 ,, ,, 10 ,, ,,	4/6	
	100	Doz.
Baron de la Tonnaye, rose pink, margined blush	9/-	1/3
Clara Butt, salmon-rose	7/6	1/-
Douglas, wine red	8/6	1/3
Dream, large-flowered lilac	10/6	1/6
Euterpe, beautiful lilac	10/-	1/4
Farncombe Sanders, large fiery scarlet ..	10/6	1/4
Glow, vermilion scarlet..	12/6	1/8
Harry Veitch, rich blood red	10/6	1/6
Loveliness, soft carmine rose..	9/-	1/3
Madame Krelage, bright lilac rose, large ..	11/6	1/6
Margaret, silvery rose	8/6	1/3
Nautilus, purplish rose	9/-	1/3
Painted Lady, cream white, tinged heliotrope	9/6	1/4
Philip de Commines, large velvety maroon	11/-	1/6
Pride of Haarlem, brilliant rose scarlet ..	8/6	1/3
Rev. Ewbank, bright heliotrope	10/-	1/4
The Sultan, nearly black	7/6	1/-
Wm. Copland (Sweet Lavender), soft lilac	9/-	1/3
Zulu, deep velvety violet black, large ..	10/6	1/6
Darwin Tulips in finest mixture	8/-	1/-

Satisfaction Guaranteed or money refunded.

WILLIAM HELPS,

Bulb Merchant, **Woodford Green, Essex**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE JERSEY FRUIT TREES ROSE TREES AND CARNATIONS

ARE PACKED FREE OF COST, AND ***DELIVERED CARRIAGE PAID***

Before ordering, **IT WILL PAY YOU** to write for our Illustrated Catalogue and Planter's Guide, which contains **Elaborate Instructions** on the most profitable methods of cultivation, besides an article dealing with **Insects** and **Fungoid Diseases**, and is **FREE TO ALL.** It also gives particulars of our cheap

COLLECTIONS OF NEW ROSES
Exceptional Value. **Unsurpassed Quality**

ALL GUARANTEED BRITISH GROWN.

Fifty varieties illustrated in colours, direct from photographs.

CORDON FRUIT TREES OUR SPECIALITY

Vast quantities of strong, healthy, fibrously-rooted Apples, on the broad-leaved Paradise, Pears, Plums, Peaches, Grape Vines and Strawberry Plants of superior quality.

The Jersey Nurseries, Ltd., (Late Le Coran) **JERSEY**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

ROBERT VEITCH & SON

Royal Nurseries

EXETER

will be pleased to send all or either of their Catalogues free on application:

FRUIT TREES :: ROSES
HERBACEOUS PLANTS
BULBS
HARDY TREES and SHRUBS

which includes their novelties

Escallonia Iveyi and Erica australis Mr. Robert

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

GIBSON'S GARDEN GLORIES

15 Acres of Glorious ROSES, SHRUBS, FRUITS, Alpine and Herbaceous Plants, Lupins, etc.

NEW CATALOGUE FREE ON REQUEST

THE AMATEUR'S DOZEN DWARF ROSES.
Grand trees, all named, for 13/-, carriage paid. Betty Uprichard, Lady Ashtown, Mrs. Wemyss Quin, F. K. Druschki, Lady Hillingdon, Mme. E. Herriot (Daily Mail), Gen. McArthur, Los Angeles, Mrs. J. Laing, Hugh Dickson, Mme. Abel Chatenay, Ophelia.

COLLECTIONS.
Carriage paid for cash.
12 Grand Alpines, all distinct, named, for 6/6; 25 distinct for 15/-.
12 Hardy Border Flowering Plants, named, for 6/-; 25 distinct for 14/-; 50 distinct for 30/-; 100, in 50 varieties, for 60/-.

LONICERA NITIDA
The New Hedge Plant.
This will take the place of Privet. It is quick growing, hardy, evergreen and elegant. Try a sample dozen at 5/-; 35/- per 100. Carriage paid for cash.

THE NEW CLIMBING ROSE
Phyllis Bide. Perpetual flowering. 2/- each.
Colour: Pale gold at base, flushed and shaded carmine pink, in long sprays.
3 for 5/9. Carriage Paid for Cash.

REGALE LUPINS
Most wonderful shades and colours ever seen.
Strong plants, all shades,
10/- per dozen.

G. GIBSON & CO., Leeming Bar, BEDALE

PURPLE PERFECTION DARWIN
We offer top size bulbs of this lovely variety at 1/9 per dozen; 13/6 per 100.
No collection is complete without this.

OUR SPECIAL COLLECTION
Of 100 Darwins in 10 choice vars. can still be supplied. Top size, 10/-; First size, 7/6; Large second size, 5/-.
Orders value 5/- Carriage Paid.

EARLY FLOWERING GLADIOLI.
Our Special List of these is now ready, and will be sent immediately on request; also Spring Flowering Bulb List.

LONGSTAFF & SONS,
Bulb Growers, Importers and Merchants,
Nr. CHELSFIELD STATION, KENT.

Alpine Plants . . 500 varieties. All pot grown.
Hardy Perennials . Comprehensive Collections Asters, Phlox, Iris, Delphiniums, Paeonies, Pyrethrums, etc.
Greenhouse Plants. Specialities in Primulas, Cyclamen, Ferns, Begonias, Gloxinias, etc.
Catalogue on Request.
H. H. MAW & SON,
Friarwood Nurseries, PONTEFRACT
Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

NOW is the time to order
Michaelmas Daisies
(ASTERS)
for Autumn Planting

Our Exhibit of these seasonable and popular flowers at Holland Park Show was universally admired.

OUR COLLECTION is admitted to be the most complete and Up-to-Date, containing all the latest Novelties, together with the pick of the Best of the Older Varieties.

Customers who were unable to see them at the Show should send for our New Catalogue, Post Free.

W. WELLS, Junr.
Hardy Plant Nurseries, MERSTHAM, SURREY
Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

A most interesting
FRUIT TREE CATALOGUE
FREE and POST FREE

THIS Catalogue nicely produced and well printed, contains a valuable host of useful hints on FRUIT TREE CULTURE—for Amateur and Professional. Herein will be found all the best and most popular Fruits for all purposes, alphabetically arranged for ready reference. A feature has been made of interesting Chats on soils, situations, and fertilisers; in fact, it is a valuable book, which should be in the hands of all those who possess a Garden or Fruit Farm, large or small. Sit down now, while the matter is fresh in your mind, and write for your free copy.

KING'S ACRE ROSES

THE King's Acre Nurseries — famous since 1785 for the stamina and vigour of their roses—have hardy and reliable
Bushes and Ramblers
in a wonderful, almost endless variety, which they are offering at prices considered by experts and amateurs to be beyond competition.

Alphabetically arranged Rose Catalogue, replete with reliable information, FREE ON REQUEST.

AWARDED 95 GOLD MEDALS.
KING'S ACRE NURSERIES, LTD., HEREFORD
Established 1785. ∴ *NURSERIES—140 ACRES.*
SPECIAL VALUE IN COLLECTIONS OF FRUIT TREES AND ROSES

IF YOU DESIRE VALUE AND APPRECIATE QUALITY
Please send for my new Catalogue of
ROSES - DELPHINIUMS
and my famous new
PYRETHRUMS
Magnificent Plants. Very Reasonable Prices.
H. ROBINSON, Dept. S,
Victoria Nursery, Burbage, Hinckley.
Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

RARE DAFFODILS
PLANTING STOCK.
Cleopatra, 5/-; Bonfire, 4/-; Inglescombe, 4/-; Bernardino, 3/-; Duke of Bedford, 3/-; Flame, 3/-; Weardale Perfection, 3/-; Blackwell, 2/-; Early Surprise, 2/-; Will Scarlet, 2/-; Red Beacon, 2/-; Lord Kitchener, 1/-; W. P. Milner, 6d.; Sunrise, 8/-
ALL PER DOZEN.
Mixed Daffodils, small sizes, for scattering among Shrubberies and Woodlands, 10/- per 1,000. And many others.
Special offer of Early Flowering Tulips in large Top Size Bulbs, Cramoise Brilliant, Fred Moore, Murillo, Prince of Austria, 9/6 per 100, Post Free.
Descriptive Illustrated Catalogue sent on request to
MONTGOMERY CRAWFORD
Highfield Bulb Farm, Barassie, AYRSHIRE

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

THE "SOUTHWELL" COLLECTION
Twelve Varieties, Carriage and Packing Free - - **12/6**
With "ACME" Labels - **15/-**

Caroline Testout (H.T.) satiny rose.
Col. O. FitzGerald (H.T.) crimson,
Emma Wright (H.T.) pure orange.
Frau Karl Druschki (H.P.) pure white.
General McArthur (H.T.) carmine.
Henrietta (H.T.) orange crimson.
Hugh Dickson (H.T.) brilliant crimson.
Independence Day (H.T.) orange apricot.
Madame E. Herriot (H.T.) coral red.
Ophelia (H.T.) salmon flesh.
The Queen Alexandra (H.T.) deep vermilion.
Ulrich Brunner (H.P.) cherry crimson.

Also FRUIT TREES, SHRUBS, ORNAMENTAL TREES, ALPINES & HARDY PLANTS
ALL HOME GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries. *Catalogue Free on Application.*

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LIMITED
Garden Specialists, SOUTHWELL, NOTTS.

Digitized by Google

SEEDSMEN BY APPOINTMENT

BULBS & LAWNS

Carters Catalogue of Hyacinths, Tulips, Daffodils and other Bulbous subjects for planting now, for Spring Flowers. The Lawn Section contains particulars of end of season reconditioning of your turf, making a new lawn, etc.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE POST FREE

Carters TESTED SEEDS

Bulb Growers and Grass Specialists

RAYNES PARK
LONDON SW 20

Allens' ROSES

ENSURE SUCCESS!

Obtain a copy of our Catalogue before obtaining your Roses.

CONTENTS INCLUDE:
Frank descriptions of novelties, indicating improved forms—Select lists of roses for all purposes—Critical descriptions of over 500 varieties — Six colour plates — Cultural Hints — Rose diseases and their treatment, etc., etc.

SEND A CARD FOR IT TO-DAY—A complete Handbook of Roses and their culture.

For a limited period and solely to circulate our catalogue we are offering our "Superb" collection of 12 fine Dwarf Roses as below for October delivery. Price 12/-, carriage paid. Cash with order.

BETTY UPRICHARD, the finest rose in commerce; salmon and orange scarlet.
DIADEM, orange crimson suffused salmon.
ETOILE DE HOLLANDE, the finest, fragrant dark crimson rose.
HORTULANUS BUDDE, an effective crimson scarlet.
JAMES WALLEY, rich apricot and salmon.
JULES TABART, silvery salmon, copper centre.
MRS. BEOKWITH, clear lemon yellow.
MRS. WEMYSS QUIN, intense lemon chrome.
SOUV. DE GEORGES PERNET, coppery pink.
SUNSTAR, orange tipped vermilion.
THE QUEEN ALEXANDRA, vermilion and old gold.
VANITY, new hybrid musk, large trusses of rose pink flowers.

All first-class varieties in finest quality plants.

STANDARDS IN FIRST QUALITY TREES.

ADMIRATION	3/6
ASPIRANT M. ROUYER	3/6
BETTY UPRICHARD	3/6
CAROLINE TESTOUT	3/6
CHEERFUL	3/6
CHRISTINE	4/-
CLARICE GOODACRE	3/6
COVENT GARDEN	3/6
CLOVELLY	4/-
ETOILE DE HOLLANDE	3/-
FRAU KARL DRUSCHKI	3/-
GENERAL McARTHUR	3/6
GOLDEN EMBLEM	4/-
GOLDEN OPHELIA	3/6
HADLEY	3/6
HAWLMARK CRIMSON	3/6
HORTULANUS BUDDE	3/6
HUGH DICKSON	3/6
INDEPENDENCE DAY	3/6
K. OF K.	3/6
LADY HILLINGDON	3/-
LADY PIRRIE	3/6
MME. ABEL CHATENAY	3/6
MME. EDOUARD HERRIOT	3/6
MABEL MORSE	4/-
MME. BUTTERFLY	3/6

and numerous other varieties.

WEEPING STANDARDS.

Fine specimen trees, 5ft. stems, 5/- each, 6ft. stems, 8/- each.

Alberic Barbier	Hiawatha
Albertine	Jacotte
American Pillar	Leontine Gervaise
Blush Rambler	Paul's Scarlet Climber
Dorothy Perkins	Romeo
Emily Gray	Sander's White.
Havering Rambler	Sea Spray

etc., etc.

Order for Standards under 15/- in value 1/- extra for packing and carriage.

ORDER NOW AND ENSURE EARLY DELIVERY.

A. J. & C. ALLEN (DEPT. G)
Nurserymen, NORWICH, NORFOLK

Notes from Maidstone.

CAPE PLUMS.

This group of Plums is descended from Prunus salicifolia, a Chinese species, but the exports from South Africa during the winter have led to the name given above. Not hardy enough to fruit outside in this country, they are most interesting orchard house plants in pots or trained on walls, and we offer three varieties: Abundance (Burbank), golden yellow and red; Botan, garnet red—the best flavoured; and Shiro, golden yellow, of enormous size. All are rather early ripening. Bushes and Fans are 7/6 each.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd., The Royal Nurseries, Established 1796. Maidstone.

NEW HARDY CRIMSON BROOM

AT Chelsea Show (1925) the King said, "That red Broom is certainly very striking." This was the new crimson Broom "Dorothy Walpole," which received the unanimous Award of Merit from the R.H.S. as well as other distinctions in London and on the Continent. Plants have been sent to U.S.A., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, France, Holland, etc.

In the Field, a well known ex-Curator of Kew Gardens wrote: "The richest coloured Broom known is one named 'Dorothy Walpole.' It is as hardy as the common Broom . . . and is very free-flowering . . . the colour is rich velvety crimson . . . more attractive than any of the coloured Brooms yet seen." The colour far surpasses Cytisus Dallimorei, and the growth is as vigorous as C. Andreanus; it requires special treatment nor any kind of protection whatever—just a hardy shrub for ordinary garden soil in any part of the British Isles, however far north.

A Vice-Chairman, Floral Committee, R.H.S., wrote: "Everyone who has seen my plant has been astonished at its warm glowing red"; and from a lady in Devon: "I am so delighted with the Broom 'Dorothy Walpole.' It has done splendidly and is like a sparkling gem in the garden—one mass of flower."

NEW SEASON'S PRICES.

Strong pot-grown plants now ready for planting out, to flower in May, 7/6 each. Carriage paid rates to any station in Great Britain or Ireland: One plant, carriage paid, 10/-; two plants, carriage paid, 18/6; three plants, carriage paid, 26/-; six plants, carriage paid, 49/6; twelve plants, carriage paid, 99/-.

Coloured illustration sent on application if THE GARDEN *is mentioned.*

Wm. Watson & Sons, Limited, Nurseries, Killiney, Co. Dublin.

Your garden for the coming year

—what to do now—

Send for a copy of "Your New Garden," an informative booklet published by Waterer's.

The booklet is filled with useful cultural notes and helpful suggestions. ***Free to amateur gardeners.***

Write to the address below and obtain a copy for your personal use.

John Waterer Sons & Crisp Ltd

The Nurseries, Twyford, Berks

City Showrooms - 44, London Wall, E.C.
Shrub Nurseries - Bagshot, Surrey

For bulbs, plants, and seeds of tested strain

THE GARDEN

VOL. XC.—No. 2864. OCTOBER 23, 1926. PRICE TWOPENCE.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THIS MONTH'S COMPETITION

LIST OF PRIZES.

FIRST.—Three of each of the six most popular climbing roses as voted by readers of THE GARDEN.

SECOND.—Two of each of the six most popular climbing roses.

THIRD.—One of each of the six most popular climbing roses.

In the case of ties the prizes will be divided.

RULES.

1.—A list of your choice of the six most popular climbing roses to be sent in in order of preference on the coupon to be found on page x. of this week's issue of THE GARDEN. A coupon will also be found in last week's issue.

2.—No reader may win more than one prize, but they may send in any number of lists, provided that they are written on the special coupon to be found in this and the next issue.

3.—Coupons must reach this office not later than Tuesday, October 26th.

4.—Envelopes must be marked "Competition."

5.—The popular vote will be final and no correspondence will be entered into over this competition.

6.—The result will be announced in the issue of THE GARDEN, November 6th.

7.—The Editor's decision on all points is final.

Plants in Rooms.

FEW things add so much to the appearance of the inside of the house as a number of well chosen foliage plants, to which flowering specimens are added according to season. It may be said at once that the conditions obtaining in a house are not ideal from the point of view of a plant. In spite of this, given a certain amount of care, many specimens will do well and continue in a healthy state for a long time. Of course, if one is so fortunate as to own a greenhouse, it is an excellent plan to let the plants have spells in this. Thus, after a fortnight in a room, any plant would be all the better for a month's holiday in the glasshouse. Where the specimens have to be kept in the house all the time, it is a very good thing to move them about every few days. Plants that seem rather unhappy in a north room during the dull days of winter, should be given a chance to recover in a sunny southern apartment. Even the simple plan of turning round a pot, now and again, will often help a great deal, for this enables an equal amount of light to reach all parts of the specimen. Plants give sure warnings of gas leaks. If foliage specimens never seem to do well in a room, no matter what is done for them, it is safe to assume that there is a gas leak somewhere.

Another point of the greatest importance in connection with room plants is the question of watering. Carelessness in the direction of giving too much will do more harm than allowing too little moisture. In the winter, when few plants are growing actively, not much water will be needed, certainly not more than is sufficient to keep the soil from becoming dust dry. In the growing season, of course, more moisture is required, but even here do not keep the soil in a continually wet state. The old plan of tapping the pot with the knuckles will often give helpful indications as to whether water is required or not. If the sound is sharp and hollow, the soil is certainly dry right through; on the other hand, a dull note indicates a moist condition of the pot contents. In watering always give sufficient to moisten the whole of the soil. Fill the pot up to the rim each time and then wait until the soil is getting dry. If a plant never does seem to dry up properly there is probably something wrong with the drainage. Here it is a good plan, even in the winter, to deal with the matter at once. Tip the plant right out of the pot, loosen the soil a little at the bottom, and then re-arrange the crocks, adding a few more if this seems needful. After this keep the plant in the warmest and sunniest room in the house for a week or so.

Palms, and other foliage plants, suffer very much from dust when fires are burning. It is a good rule to sponge the leaves at least once a week with lukewarm water. When the weather is mild and rainy these specimens will benefit greatly by being placed out of doors for a few hours. The writer has found that palms, especially, benefit very much if the leaves are washed with a solution of equal parts of milk and water. Note, the milk must be fresh.

HAVE YOU

¶ *Prepared your beds for rose planting?*

¶ *Sent off your plant order? Remember that the best specimens are secured by ordering early.*

¶ *Housed all tender bedding plants?*

¶ *Potted Spanish irises, ixias, fritillarias and early flowering gladioli for spring flowering in the greenhouse?*

¶ *Transplanted your evergreen shrubs which need more room?*

¶ *Stored your late varieties of apples?*

¶ *Pruned your gooseberry bushes and given a dressing of finely ground lime to your plums and cherries?*

¶ *Lifted your seakale for forcing?*

¶ *Mulched with rotted manure your fruit trees which have borne heavy crops?*

Mr. T. W. Sanders.

IT is with the greatest regret that we have to announce the death, on October 14th, of Mr. T. W. Sanders, F.L.S., F.R.H.S., editor of our contemporary *Amateur Gardening*. Mr. Sanders was the Grand Old Man of British horticultural journalists, and his death at seventy after a short illness is a great loss to British gardening. He was born at Martley in Worcestershire, and from boyhood showed an aptitude for gardening that has certainly borne fruit. After an ample practical training he was appointed editor of *Amateur Gardening* in 1887, a post which he worthily filled since that date. The small amateur gardener owes more than he imagines to Mr. Sanders' foresight and help, for he has always been a firm believer in popularising the best types of plants that are easily grown by the man who looks after his own garden. Mr. Sanders was the author of nearly forty volumes, all of which were written to help the small gardener. He was considered as a great horticultural expert throughout the whole of Europe, and in 1906 King Oscar of Sweden made him a Knight of the First Class of the Order of Vasa.

Digitized by Google

SHRUBS FOR THE SMALL GARDEN

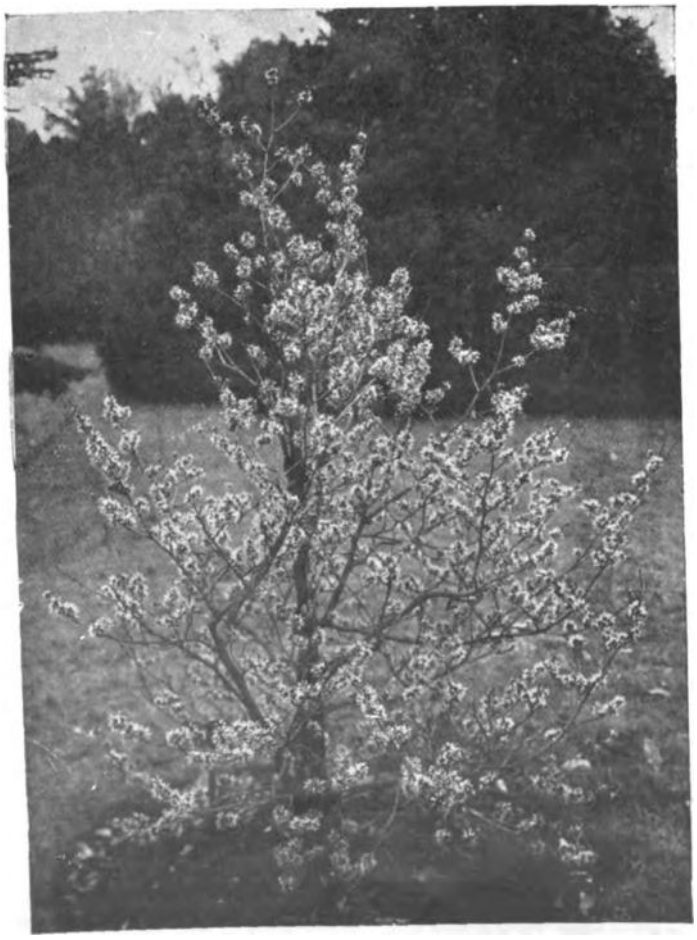
A continuation of the article in our issue of October 16th which dealt with flowering shrubs that are suitable for the average garden.

IN many old cottage gardens in the North you will find fine bushes of the old-fashioned Daphne Mezereum, sometimes called the Mezereon. It is always a most attractive shrub in February and March, when its bare twigs are covered with clusters of almost stemless maroon or white flowers. It apparently succeeds better in the North than in the South, and we should recommend gardeners in the North and East to try it. It is particularly suitable for small gardens, as it is a neat grower up to about 4ft., and does not take up much space. Another shrub which no garden should be without is some form or other of the deutzia. The varieties are numerous, but all are good in that they are graceful growers and are very floriferous. Good varieties, reasonable in price and easily obtainable, are crenata fl. pl., a fine double pink; discolor grandiflora, rose fading to white; gracilis Boule Rose, rosy white with a pink reverse; and Vilmoriniana, a large-flowered white.

Among the best of all evergreen plants for planting against the house are the escallonias. These South American shrubs are good examples of plants that are not quite hardy in the open and yet are very handy when planted under the shelter of a wall. They are really among the best wall plants that we have, for they are quick growing and yet are easily kept within bounds. Three good varieties are the old exoniensis with white flowers faintly flushed with pink; langleyensis, bright rose; and the newer edinensis or Edinburgh variety, of a deeper rose and with slightly larger flowers. Forsythias were mentioned in THE GARDEN a week or two back as useful porch plants, but they are also excellent for the open. The golden bell, Forsythia suspensa, and its hybrid, F. intermedia, are among the best March-flowering shrubs that we have. Their growth is charming, they do not take up too much room, and their golden yellow flowers, produced in clusters on the bare wood, invariably please all who see them. In addition, they last a long time. In the forsythias we have a most useful spring shrub.

Rather low-growing and spreading is the Spanish gorse or Genista hispanica, but it is so covered with bloom in May and June that it is well worth a place even in the smaller gardens. Many authorities call it an indispensable shrub. It does not grow very fast, and so gardeners who have to conserve space need not be unduly alarmed. Its neat, compact habit makes it an admirable subject for a foreground or for the corner of a bed under the house. Although still rather expensive, the two witch hazels that are commonest in cultivation are well worth growing for their curious shaped narrow-petalled flowers that appear on the leafless twigs while winter is still with us. The cheaper of the two is Hamamelis japonica, with yellow flowers; but the better of the two is H. mollis, whose colour is much more golden—it has a much more picturesque growth. Their habit is always good, and their foliage, like our own hazel, is pleasant throughout the summer. Unfortunately, they are rather difficult to propagate, which explains their cost.

DEUTZIAS ARE INVALUABLE IN ANY GARDEN.



A BUSH OF HAMAMELIS MOLLIS IN EARLY SPRING.

Perhaps St. John's worts are hardly suitable for the small garden owing to their spreading habit and their untidy appearance in late autumn; but one variety is worth growing, even in the smallest area. That is Hypericum patulum var. Henryi, which is the best of the St. John's worts, with flowers of a magnificent golden yellow, larger than others, and more handsome foliage. In addition, it is one of the hardiest of the genus, and so is not inclined to look so untidy during the winter months. It will grow to about 3–4ft. in height.

As a wall shrub for against the house, the famous old Jasminum nudiflorum cannot be missed. It flowers so pleasantly throughout the darkest months and is so absolutely hardy that at least one plant should be grown against every house. It flowers better if grown against a south or west wall where it can get the maximum amount of sunshine; but even on a north wall it will provide a sprinkling of its charming yellow flowers throughout the winter months.

A shrub that is rapidly coming into favour is Kalmia latifolia, a native of the United States. For those whose soil is lime-free this is one of the most floriferous evergreens in existence. The flower is saucer-shaped and five-lobed, and is usually of a bright rose. As these are produced in numerous clusters, the sight of a bush in full flower is magnificent. The only fault it has is that it is slow-growing, but it has a neat habit and so is invaluable for small gardens. It should be planted in the sunniest corner, as most flower is produced when the wood is well ripened. It is absolutely hardy, and its uncommon colour and free flowering habit make it invaluable.

Magnolias are usually plants for the large garden, but there is one that is always worth a place in the small garden. This is M. stellata. It rarely grows beyond 12ft. in height, and its white flowers are a sight in March on the leafless branches. It is about the hardiest of the magnolias, but should be given as sheltered a corner as possible without being over-shaded. Another white-flowered shrub that is well worth growing is Olearia Haastii, the New Zealand daisy bush. This bushy shrub that grows to about 6ft. is charming with its greyish foliage, particularly when it is covered in July and August with thousands of white daisy flowers. This shrub is quite hardy and is altogether an admirable plant. Another suggestion for this plant is to grow it

Digitized by Google

as a hedge plant. Flowering hedge plants are rare and its thick bushy growth can be moderately pruned in the spring.

A new shrub that is a magnificent addition to any garden is Osmanthus Delavayi, an evergreen of about 5ft., of good habit and with neat box-like foliage. In addition the flowers are charming, clusters of small white tubular flowers that are very fragrant. Although still a little expensive, yet it is an excellent grower and will certainly become one of the most popular of all shrubs. E. C

PLANTS AT THEIR BEST IN AUTUMN

Gardeners are always glad to receive information about plants that have been particularly noted in other gardens. Week by week plants that are really worth growing are described in this page.

Lobelia Huntsman.

UNTIL really keen frost appears I shall have Lobelia Huntsman still blooming, for since the central spikes faded the laterals have carried on gaily, and many buds yet remain to open.

If one sees a group of Lobelia cardinalis or the old favourite variety Queen Victoria in full bloom, the impression forms itself in one's mind that surely here is the most brilliant colour of which flower can be capable; but when Huntsman, at its prime, is brought into comparison, it is like bringing an electric light beside an oil lamp.

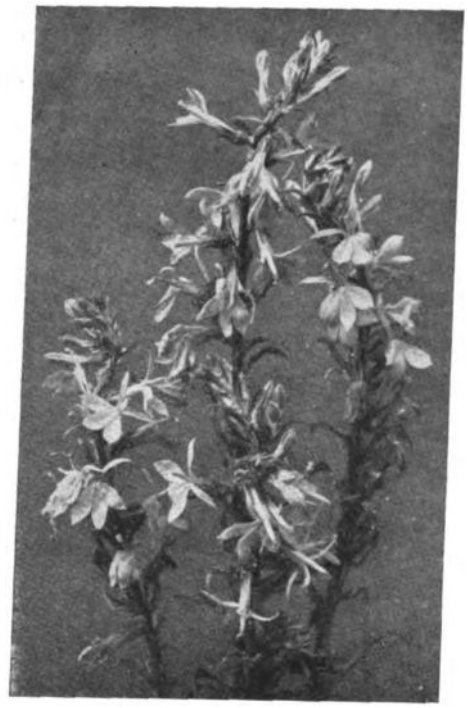
It was in July that my plants began to open flowers; it is now October, and still flowers are opening daily, not so large or dazzlingly bright as they were, but the colour is wonderful still. The central spikes ran well-nigh 6ft. high, and their flowers were individually of great size. The accompanying illustration is of lateral spikes, taken when the bigger flowers had passed, but showing the honest value of the plant for late autumn flowering.

The foliage of Huntsman is green, with a glaucous tomentum, and this helps to accentuate the brilliancy of the flowers better than the mahogany foliage of Queen Victoria.

The "Monarch" Sunflower.

WHETHER or not the plant is properly named Monarch or should be called Helianthus sparsifolius I am not disposed to debate, but it certainly merits the title of Monarch of the Perennial Sunflowers. It is many years since I grew Helianthus sparsifolius, and thought it then much superior to the Harpalium Miss Mellish, which had a great run of popularity; but when Maurice Prichard first showed Monarch I ordered it and have been well pleased. It is flowering as I write as though October were the sun's great month, and even on a murky day the outlook is made more cheerful by the sight of this grand sunflower with its strong stems towering 8ft. or 9ft. high and carrying great golden flowers which are too elegantly built to look coarse, as most large sunflowers do.

There are soils wherein the fleshy roots of this plant rot in winter, but it is generally after they have been gnawed by ground pests. Lime, or a soil fumigant, will preserve many roots from injury; but, rather than risk loss of stock, it is well to resort to the very simple expedient of lifting a few roots as soon as flowering is over, packing the stoutest of the claw-like tubers closely in a box of sandy soil, and wintering in a cold frame. Early in spring these roots may be planted out, giving them all the room that can be spared. It is thus that the strongest stems and finest flowers may be produced.



LOBELIA HUNTSMAN IS WORTH GROWING FOR AUTUMN EFFECT IN THE GARDEN.

An Arum for the Small Garden.

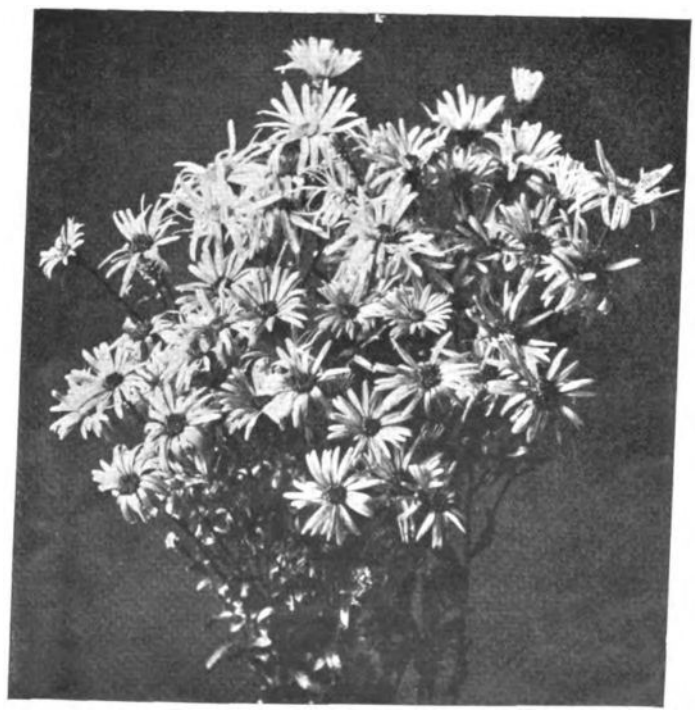
THE closely packed spikes of shining, real orange-coloured berries of this plant constitute a more striking feature in a moist boggy spot than anything else to be seen at this late period. Bigger plants, bushes and trees are carrying berries and making a fine display, but for the most part they are showy because they are massive, and, moreover, they are familiar; but in Arum orientalis we have a small plant which nestles where it may come suddenly and unexpectedly into view. Its short stem only lifts the berried spike clear of the rough grass against which the vivid orange, the glassy polish, and the altogether uncommon character of the berries are thrown into relief with more effect than if they were lifted high above their surroundings.

One of the Finest of Autumn Flowers.

THERE is no question about it, we have in Gentiana sino-ornata a plant to make much of; it is a grower. At any rate, it has flowered well for seven or eight weeks. In point of beauty it is well worthy of its illustrious family. Advice I received from a competent source was that brown peat and leaf-mould should alone form the compost for its pocket on the rockery, but I have since seen it thriving in an entirely satisfactory manner in a bed of gritty garden soil over which a layer of ashes from the rubbish fire was spread before turning over the soil in readiness for planting. Let no one who has decent soil and good drainage hesitate to plant this gentian under the supposition that it must have a special bed made up to carefully calculated formula—the plant is a grower.

Hemerocallis Sir Michael Foster.

ONE of the largest as well as brightest of the day lilies, this variety is adding to its value by continuing to open fine flowers as though its season knows no end. True, we have experienced an exceptional autumn, but it is well worth planting this hemerocallis even for its earlier flowers, and if its behaviour this season is repeated more or less regularly it will be a plant of unique value. Its size singles it out among the best of its family; its colour is bright as yellow can be, and the foliage adds both in graceful form and pleasing colour to the fine effect produced now that good things are becoming scarce.



ASTER ULTRAMARINE.

One of the best of Michaelmas daisies for interior decoration.

Aster Amellus Ultramarine.

THE chief reason why this variety of a tribe that is rich in jewels deserves special mention is that it follows the best of its section, King George, and thus avoids a sudden feeling of loss when useful flowers for the house are in constant request.

Ultramarine is small by comparison with King George, but it is wonderfully neat in a vase, and its colour is very bright blue. In the garden it has a radiance which makes it most pleasing of all when daylight fades to dusk or twilight, and it is different from some blues in that it is bright and lively under electric light. Like all the asters, small young plants give much better flowers than older clumps. A. J. MACSELF.

Digitized by Google

FLOWER GARDEN NOTES

New Flowers worth Growing.

CORRESPONDENCE columns do much good when thrown open to opinions on the "new things" every gardener tries, for no better guide exists than the experience of others in addition to one's own. Gardeners are always on the look-out for improved varieties of the really useful garden flowers, but, as conditions vary widely over the country, writers should always state where the plants were grown.

Calliopsis Dazzler.—This is a fine bedding variety of the common genus, a little taller than the popular Beauty and even more prolific. The warm July suited it well, and for many weeks it has been a striking splash of colour—yellow and brownish crimson. The lasting nature of the flowers is another feature.

Brompton Stock Monarch.—Most gardeners know the common failings of the Brompton stocks, but in this variety they will be pleased to note an absence of most. The colours are fine; I actually had 85 per cent. doubles, and the plants in bloom were delightfully uniform, both individually and collectively.

Aquilegia Dobbie's Hybrids.—I do not desire to laud these varieties generally, as I have had equally fine plants from other sources; but must say that the reds which came from my mixed seed were exceptionally fine. They were of many tints, from the palest pink to a deep distinct colour, and all were delightful.

Calceolaria Albert Kent.—I grew these out of doors and the fine summer suited them well. The plants remained rather dwarf with me, but the colouring was very rich and effective.

Dahlia White Coltness Gem.—Although I am not so very enthusiastic about virginalis, described as a white Coltness dahlia, yet I must admit that it is fairly good; the habit of the plants being particularly fine and the flowers freely produced. The rains in mid-August spoiled it (I am too near Glasgow), but it ought to succeed better in the country.

Coltness Hybrids.—Trying out some new Coltness Gem hybrids, I may say that I rather like Patrician, Zenobie, Titian and the above virginalis; improvement will surely be made, but as they stand they are worth a place. Not one of them, in my opinion, is quite equal to Coltness Gem itself.

Giant Zinnias.—I wrote in praise of the giant dahlia-flowered zinnias last year, and I can only repeat that they are really fine things. They are particularly fine where effective and good-sized flowers for cutting are desired, and have proved to be as easy to grow as the usual run of half-hardy stuff.

Sidalcea hybrida Ruby—This is a charming improvement of the old perennial sidalceas; the flowers appear at mid-summer and continue in pleasing profusion right up till frosts come. The colour is a ruby red and attractive.

Some Lupins.—There is no need nowadays to have nothing but blue, white, and the more recent pink lupins in the border. Here are a few real gems, perhaps not novelties, but comparatively new in some districts and worthy of a prominent place in all gardens: Somerset, yellow; Sunshine, a clear deep chrome yellow; Queen Amelia, a deep purple; Southern Belle, mauve shaded lavender; Downer's Delight; Wargrave Beauty; Dresden China; Queen of the West; Fascination; Mayflower; Primrose Queen; May Princess, and many others.

Echium plantagineum.—This is a fine annual for showy purposes, the flowers being large and tinted vividly. I used them as dot plants to pack tightly a long herbaceous border (perennials mostly), and the plants bloomed from the end of June right on.—H. A.

A Fine Yellow-Flowered Clematis.

DURING August and the greater part of September, unless we get premature frosts, one of the most attractive corners in my garden is a bit of old stone wall topped with wooden lattice which (and also, I regret to say, a neighbouring bush of Cistus ladaniferus), is completely veiled with Clematis orientalis, covered with its little drooping golden yellow flowers interspersed towards the end of its long flowering season with silky grey seed heads that are very pretty in themselves. This clematis introduced into England nearly a century ago, has never obtained the popularity it merits, probably by reason of its lack of showiness compared with its large-flowered relatives. It is easily raised from seed, though its growth is rather slow at first, and is quite hardy in a dry, sunny position sheltered from cold winds, but in a cold, exposed place it needs some root protection in winter. Its worst fault is its tendency to twist itself—after the manner of C. montana, only more so!—into a dense thicket, so that any serious attempt at training or pruning is out of the question and it is wisest to leave it severely alone. C. orientalis is apt to be confused with C. tangutica, but according to Mr. Robinson ("The English Flower Garden"), the latter is spring-flowering and of a deeper yellow. I do not know it, myself, however.—R. E. HEAD.

LUPIN DOWNER'S DELIGHT. A BEAUTIFUL VARIETY WORTH PLANTING THIS AUTUMN.

A Few Red Michaelmas Daisies.

ONE of the earliest varieties to bloom is Walkden Pink, a fine rose coloured flower of the most charming kind, with clearly defined flowers of a semi-double nature. Grace Darling is much later, very good also, but not such a refined flower as the former; the colour is a lighter pink. Edna Mercia is a much more decided red. Aldenham Pink, another excellent rose red sort, is just to the late side very often, but when it does get a chance to blossom well, it gives the greatest satisfaction. Mrs. F. Penn we also like; the plants are not so tall as many, but they bloom with the greatest freedom and the colour is rose pink. Those who prefer singles may try the large-flowered Ethel Ballard, a soft pink, very fine in vases. Rachel Ballard is double, but a fine sister flower. In the Angliæ group one finds Rosy Morn, Mrs. Raynor, Ryecroft Pink and Rubrus, the last being exceptionally tall and just, too late to succeed in a stormy October. Perry's Favourite, Esther and Formosus sum up the reds we have in these delightful late-autumn flowers.—LANARKSHIRE.

Spanish Irises.

THE merits of this delightful bulbous iris are such that it is deserving of much wider general cultivation than it at present receives. An ideal plant for the amateur, it is of easy cultivation and is exceedingly useful for planting in beds, for grouping in borders, and for the production of cut bloom. In addition to this, the bulbs are quite inexpensive and may be purchased in named varieties for 4s. or 4s. 6d. per 100, while mixed colours cost even less.

The bulbs may be planted any time from September to December, although it is better to get them in before this latter date. Plant 4ins. or 5ins. apart and 3ins. deep. For cut flowers they may be planted in double rows 5ins. apart, allowing 1ft. between each double row; but for garden decoration plant in clumps of about twenty bulbs each.

They thrive in a rich, dryish soil and do not object to a little shade. In open, exposed positions they should be sheltered from cold east winds. Keep free from weeds and give applications of liquid manure when the flower buds begin to develop. Every third year they should be lifted as soon as the foliage has died down, the bulbs sorted according to size, the ground manured and deeply dug, and the largest bulbs replanted. The smaller bulbs may be planted separately and will soon develop into flowering size.

This iris may also be grown in pots, placing six bulbs in a 6in. pot filled with a rich, light compost. Plunge outside under ashes or sand, and do not introduce them to any artificial warmth until the flower spikes show.

Excellent varieties are Canary Bird, bright yellow; Cornflower, lovely blue; King of the Blues, dark blue; Snowball, pure white; Thunderbolt, rich bronze and yellow; and Leander, a deep yellow, sweetly scented variety.—T. H. E.

Digitized by Google

THE JOY OF MAKING A NEW GARDEN

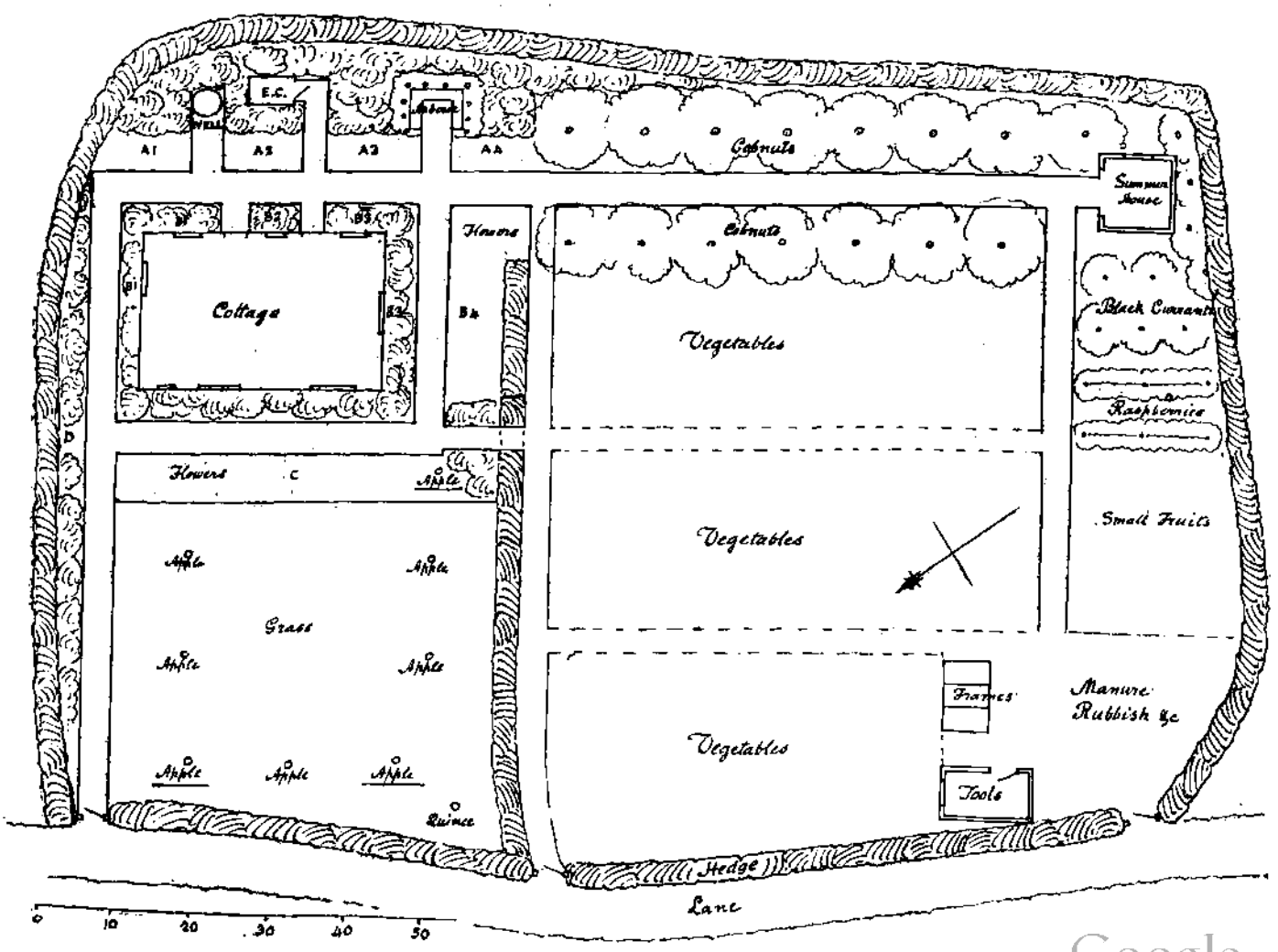
BY GERTRUDE JEKYLL.

In this article, with its accompanying plan, Miss Jekyll treats a site entirely different from those already published.

THIS plan shows a quite different site and character of house from those that have gone before. It is an old thatched cottage, such as, in some unfortunate recent cases, has been condemned as unfit for habitation and has been destroyed. But such a cottage in good hands can not only be made structurally sound, water-tight and wholesome to live in but will have a charm, both inside and out, such as can hardly be acquired by any new building.

The space is something under half an acre; it is surrounded by an old bank and hedge and has another hedge, parallel with the one on the north-west side, that runs up to near the cottage. It is proposed to treat the place according to the plan. The whole sentiment is that of a small, old world country dwelling, sweet and modest, quiet and restful. There is no door in the front face, the main door is at the back, between B 1 and B 2; the kitchen door is next beyond it. Tradesmen come up the middle path that runs next to the dividing hedge on the side next to the vegetable quarters. The front windows look out on to the flower border C; beyond this is a grassy space with apple trees. There is one existing apple just to the right as you enter, one more farther along and another at the end of the flower border; the others shown will be planted. The existing apples are underlined. A quince will come well in the lower right hand corner. At the back of the cottage next to the hedge there is already a planting of small trees and shrubs, shading the wall and a useful place near it. The front spaces, A 1 to A 4 will be flowers, AC being edged with sweet herbs for the kitchen—thyme, savory, marjoram and sage, with a patch of the stronger growing mint at the end of A 4. The borders round the house will have rosemary, lavender, hardy fuchsia and the sweet old southernwood, or lad's love, beloved of the old cottagers who had the habit of taking a sprig of it to church with the prayer book, folded round with a clean white handkerchief. Here, also, will be China roses, cabbage roses and moss roses, the sweet bergamot and edgings of thrift and white pink. The arbour, with a seat around the three sides, will come well and make a good finish to the path that passes between B 3 and B 4. It will have ten upright posts and just enough crosspieces to guide the rambling roses and

THE SITE FOR WHICH THE ACCOMPANYING PLAN IS DESIGNED.



Digitized by Google

early Dutch honeysuckle and virginia creepers that will form the roof. The dividing hedge stops nearly level with the north-west angle of the cottage, but as it is desirable that the flower border B 4 shall be screened from the kitchen garden, it will be continued for a few yards, where shown by lighter hatching, by planting guelder rose and ribes—two shrubs which answer admirably for the making of such a shrub hedge.

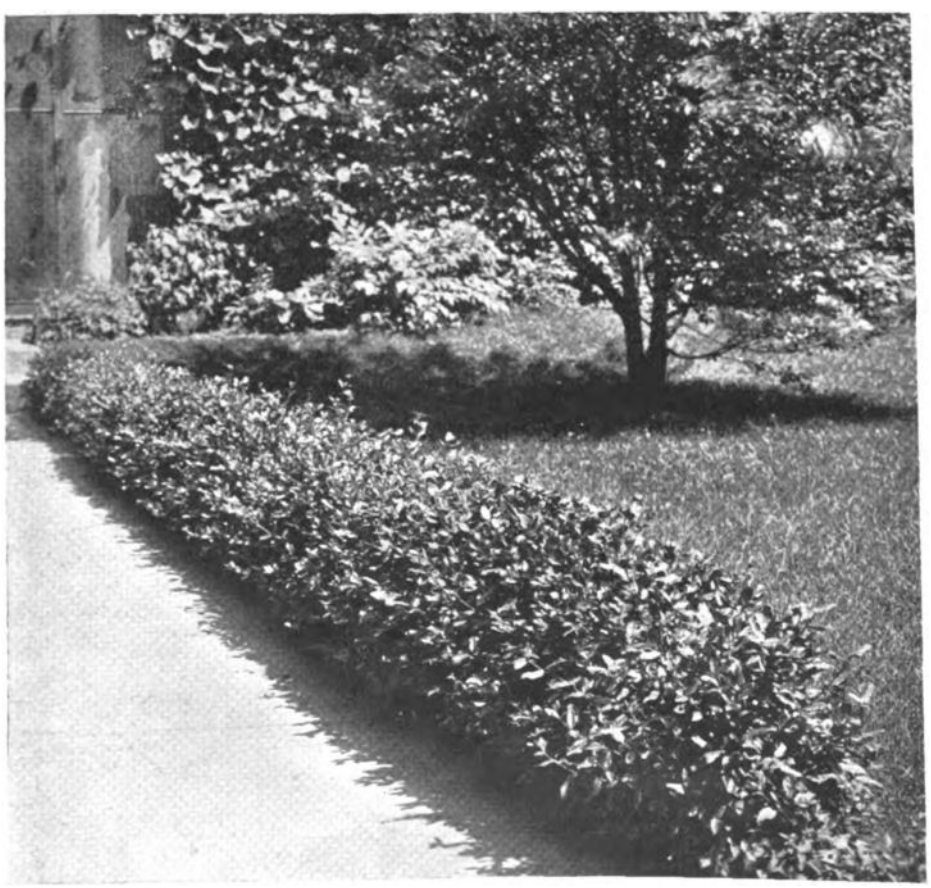
The main flower borders, C and B 4 will have all the best of the old border flowers: hollyhocks, irises, white and orange lilies, bellflowers, peonies, day lilies, Michaelmas daisies, lupins, cranesbills, phlox, lychnis, sunflowers, spiderwort and tall poppies; with crown anemones, pinks, pansies and thrift close to the path.

A small plan such as this is much the better for having some quite distinct feature. This will be given by the alley of cobnuts that carries on the line of the main path and ends in a well built summerhouse. In time the nuts will arch over and meet; meanwhile the shady path will be a delightful retreat in summer and the borders between the nuts and the path will be an exactly suitable place for a number of the spring flowers—daffodils, primroses, forget-me-nots and the Lent hellebores. These all flower before the nuts are fully in leaf; the hellebores begin quite early in March, and there is a succession of bloom till the middle of May. There will also be the old purple bulbous fumitory, seldom seen except in cottage gardens, and the pretty, quiet pink dog-tooth violet, and one of the garden forms of the wood anemone. These will all enjoy the sun of early spring and be thankful later for the shade of the nuts. At the back of the summerhouse there should be some elders; these handsome small native trees are seldom planted in gardens, though they are good both for flower and foliage, but from their usual association with farm buildings they are well in keeping with the scheme of the cottage garden.

THE PROBLEM OF THE HEDGE

A section of gardening that presents many difficulties to the amateur. As a hedge is a permanency, readers realise the difficulty of selecting suitable plants, and this article, giving a list of suitable hedge forming plants, may prove helpful to many.

WHEN planning the hedge it is important to bear in mind the purpose which one has in view. The hedge may be there to act as a boundary fence; on the other hand, it may be intended to screen some palings, or to divide one portion of the garden from another. Then, again, in the exposed garden a hedge may be set simply to give shelter to other plants that it is wished to grow. Where the hedge is to be used as a boundary fence there are no better subjects than whitethorn, beech and hornbeam. These, if planted when young and afterwards properly trimmed, will form a hedge that is practically impassable. The myrobalan or cherry plum (Prunus cerasifera) is sometimes used with good effect. When established this plant forms a hedge that is practically impenetrable, and it is very attractive in flower. In most localities hornbeam grows quickly and, with proper trimming, the hedge will not be thin at the bottom. A mixture of whitethorn and beech forms perhaps the thickest and most serviceable hedge. If this is cut in each year it will last for a very long while without becoming thin at the base. Where the hedge is employed to screen a fence, such subjects as box, privet, cherry laurel, thuya, Cupressus Lawsoniana, holly, New Zealand daisy bush (Olearia Haasti) and Cotoneaster Simsoni may be employed. The variegated forms of some of these shrubs, especially the kinds described as "golden," are extremely beautiful. The best effects are secured by mixing the varieties. For instance, a golden or green privet hedge will prove to be very attractive throughout the greater part of the year. Where the winters are not too severe, bay, laurustinus and fuchsia may be used, all with good effects. For the provision of shelter, hornbeam and yew are to be strongly recommended. Although deciduous, the hornbeam carries many of its old leaves until these are pushed off by the spring growth and so form an almost perfect wind screen. Probably the quickest shelter hedge is secured by planting a row of Lombardy poplars. These are headed off when they reach the required height, and will rapidly give a large measure of protection from rough winds. In very exposed situations it is often worth while planting the poplars to provide temporary shelter while the permanent hedge is growing.



ONE OF THE BEST PLANTS FOR FORMING A NEAT MINIATURE HEDGE OR EDGING IS EUONYMUS RADICANS OR ONE OF ITS VARIEGATED VARIETIES.

Miniature Hedges.

Miniature hedges are sometimes employed as permanent edgings to the flower borders. Of course, the old-fashioned box edging is nothing more than a hedge in miniature. A much prettier effect is secured by using Euonymus radicans and its varieties. Once the writer formed a very neat miniature hedge with baby oaks. Many seedling oak trees were collected and these were planted a few inches apart along the edge of a border. The tiny oaks were kept to the height of about 8ins., and they developed a very dense growth which was green in summer and, owing to the manner in which the dead leaves were retained, brown in winter.

The Importance of Preparing the Ground.

Seeing that hedge plants have to be on the ground for many years, the position selected should be well dressed with manure and trenched prior to planting. It is very important in setting a hedge that all the plants should be of about the same strength, so that they may all come away together and develop a uniform growth. It is sometimes, in the case of a boundary hedge, desirable to raise the actual site a foot or so, and in such cases a ditch may be dug on the outer side. Planting in double rows is to be recommended, and this is done so that the plants in one row alternate with those in the other. Where there is only a single row the plants should be a foot apart; in the case of a double row 18ins., and alternating, may be allowed. With a boundary hedge a wooden paling or a light strained wire fence will usually be required for three or four years after planting. At the end of this time most hedges will have formed a sufficiently thick growth to protect themselves.

In the fall of the year any existing hedges should be examined. Where there are very serious gaps it is worth while grubbing out the roots at the poor sections in the hedge and setting new plants. The new specimens should be as nearly as possible of the same height as the rest of the hedge. S. L. B.

Digitized by Google

THE BUSY MAN'S PAGE

Bush Fruit for the Small Garden.

FRUIT trees of all kinds can be planted within the next few weeks. Here is a selection of bush fruit which would form a suitable collection for the small garden. All the varieties, if given fair treatment, bear regular crops of good quality fruit.

CURRANTS :

BLACK.—*Baldwin, crops regularly ; Boskoop Giant, a large fruiting variety.*

RED.—*Comet, an early variety ; Raby Castle, a brightly coloured and late currant.*

WHITE.—*White Versailles, berries large, excellent cropper.*

GOOSEBERRIES :

RED.—*Lancashire Lad and Crown Bob, both varieties which resist goosberry mildew considerably.*

GREEN.—*Keepsake, early ; Langley Green, late ; two good flavoured varieties.*

YELLOW.—*Early Sulphur and Gunner, with roundish, oblong berries.*

RASPBERRIES :

SUMMER FRUITING.—*Hornet, a vigorous grower ; Superlative, heavy cropper, good flavour ; Lloyd George, almost perpetual fruiting.*

AUTUMN FRUITING.—*November Abundance, produces heavy crops of fine flavoured fruit ; Hailsham, bears fruit of enormous size, an excellent variety.*

STRAWBERRIES.—*Royal Sovereign, an early, free bearing variety ; The Duke, also fruits early, the flesh is firm and the flavour excellent ; Sir Joseph Paxton, one of the best main crop varieties, healthy and vigorous ; Laxton's Latest of All, a late large-fruiting variety.*

Labelling of Fruit Trees.

OPINIONS of gardeners vary as to the necessity of labelling. They are divided mainly into two camps—those who label everything and those who label nothing. To whichever camp readers of THE GARDEN belong, we would like to impress upon them the importance of labelling fruit trees. The amount of fruit that is sent to this office for naming is extraordinary ; indeed, we know from experience that even gardeners who may label their alpines or shrubs, consider that labelling fruit trees is a waste of time. That is not the case. Time and again readers may want to grow an apple or a pear similar to one that already crops magnificently with them. They often have no idea what the name of the fruit tree may be and so they write to THE GARDEN in desperation. Although it is usually possible to give the correct name from the fruit, yet there are occasions when a certain amount of doubt exists.

Autumn Manuring.

SOIL is frequently manured in autumn, the manure being dug in and left to form humus, the "goodness" of the manure permeating the ground by spring. A raw, fresh manure is distinctly good ; not only does the decomposition of such keep the soil warm, but decay reduces the bulk considerably, leaving the ground porous and sweet. Decay of all manurial matter into humus being a necessity, it stands to reason that slow-decaying matter like green leaves, freshly fallen leaves, shoddy, leather and other factory refuse, all such things in the "raw" state, should be dug in during autumn or winter, so that the process of decay may go ahead and be at least well advanced by spring. Lime, so essential also as a tonic and an indirect plant food, may be used at from ½lb. to 1lb. per square yard.

A Transplanting Tip.

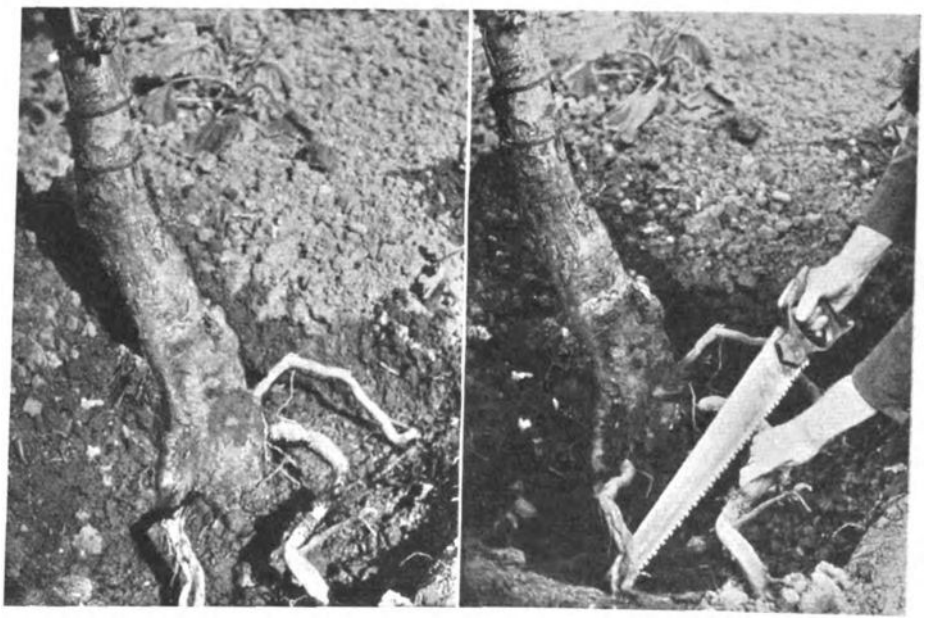
A DESIRE to shift a tree or shrub from one part of the garden often occurs, perhaps to a more suitable locality or, in the event of removal, to another garden some distance away. This cannot always be done with any guarantee of success, for under the best of care a tree will flag and die, especially in the case of evergreens, conifers, etc.

The method illustrated, however, is calculated, with ordinary care, to give very satisfactory results.

A few weeks before the time for removal, dig a trench all round the tree or shrub so as to expose the thickest roots without unduly disturbing the ball of soil or any of the fibrous roots. As a rule, when the tree is lifted the long deep roots suffer from being forcibly pulled up, and if cut often put back the progress of the tree long after it has been replanted. By exposing the roots, and severing them with a sharp knife or saw some time before the tree is removed from its original position, new fibrous rootlets which will readily take hold of the new soil are induced to be put forth around the cut.

After the roots are cut, the excavated soil is returned ; but the formation of roots will take place quicker and more surely if damp sand is placed around the cut part and a layer of leaves or rotten manure placed over before the soil is returned. It may be, in favourable weather, that the soil need not be filled in at all, rather allowing a sandy mulch that can be kept moist to take its place.

Transplanting must take place quickly. The new tender rootlets must not be unduly exposed, and, if the tree is to be carried some distance, the whole ball of roots must be bound up with damp sacking or other material.



EXCAVATE THE EARTH ON ONE SIDE OF THE TREE AND EXPOSE THE LARGE ROOTS THAT GO DOWN DEEPLY INTO THE SOIL. THOSE ROOTS THAT GROW DOWNWARDS SHOULD BE SAWN THROUGH, NEW FIBROUS ROOTS WILL THEN FORM AROUND THE CUT.

Flowers for Christmas.

LATE in October one should begin to think about the supply of flowers for the Christmas season. Roman hyacinths and other early-flowering bulbs should be well rooted by now, and these may be brought into light and warmth. Vigorous forcing in these cases is not necessary and, indeed, will often prove positively harmful to tulips and the paper-white narcissi. Such bulbs, if kept in the temperature of an ordinary living-room, will be in full beauty five or six weeks after removal from the place where they have been rooting. A few lilies of the valley are highly appreciated at Christmastime, and if one secures the retarded crowns, the culture is of the simplest. These grow best in fibre and, again, no great heat is needed. About six weeks from the actual planting of the crowns should be allowed. During the first half of this time it is best to keep the lilies of the valley in a subdued light. Any plants like primulas, cyclamen, etc., that seem heading up for bloom should be moved to positions in the greenhouse where they will get the maximum amount of sunshine. Out of doors the winter-flowering plants, like Christmas roses, Algerian irises, etc., should be given a little protection. Sheets of glass propped up on stakes will enable the flowers to develop much more finely than they would if exposed to the full effects of the weather.

Freshly Fallen Leaves.

THE leaves which are already falling plentifully from all deciduous trees are valuable gifts which the gardener can utilise in many ways. Placed in a heap in a corner where they are exposed to the weather, they rot and become leaf-mould in a year, or, in two or three years, a fine leaf-soil. Mixed directly with fresh manure as they are obtained, they increase the supplies of that valuable commodity and, practically without loss to the manure, become equally rich. Or, if placed in bags, boxes, wire netting crates or simply laid aside in heaps, they can be dug into the ground during autumn, winter or spring ; in such a case they decay slowly into a fine brown humus, one of the best forms of manurial mould. Still one more use ! They can be laid in a heap and kept moist with slops or manure wash ; they, in time, become even richer than farmyard manure and form a valuable natural manure of great value.

Digitized by Google

TALL PERENNIALS FOR PRESENT PLANTING

IT is now time to re-model or design herbaceous borders, so that all plans will be ready and planting can be carried out within the next few weeks. Planning is usually a question of personal taste, but there are certain principles upon which all mixed borders should be constructed. Besides careful colour combinations and contrasts, a well designed border should be properly graduated, and there should be a sufficient number of tall-growing perennials at the back in order to give height and character to the border. Tall plants for this purpose are plentiful, and a few of the best and most easily grown are mentioned here.

One of the earliest flowering tall herbaceous plants is the delphinium, and no border should be without this stately perennial. King of Delphiniums is one of the finest. It has large spikes of intense indigo blue flowers. Harry Smetham has rich deep blue semi-double flowers; Queen Mary is a light blue variety, 4ft. in height; Rev. E. Lascelles is a dark blue with a central white rosette. Capri is a soft sky blue; and Lamartine a true violet blue. Delphiniums are very effective when grown in circular beds by themselves.

Although lupins are known by all, many gardeners do not make the best use of them, nor do they plant the finest varieties. Some of the newer pink lupins, the rosy buffs and fawns and the clear yellow shades of the recent introductions, are great assets to the mixed border. Downer's Delight is, perhaps, the best of the carmine shaded varieties; Cross Roads is a pretty soft pink; Sunshine is the best of the yellows; Happiness a good purple variety; The Bride, a primrose lupin shaded with peach; and Saxe Blue, a variety with well formed spikes.

Coreopsis and gaillardias are both early-flowering gold-flowered perennials which bloom over a long period. Coreopsis lanceolata imbricata has clear bright yellow flowers, which are produced freely in any garden soil. The blanket flower (gaillardia) has many varieties. Ideal, Mrs. J. McKellar and The King are all good. Peonies and poppies make a brilliant show in the garden during the early summer months. Duchess de Nemours is a beautiful pure white peony; Purpurea Delasche is a deep crimson; Duchess of Teck, clear pink; and Lord Derby, a fine dark red. The Oriental poppies—Mrs. Perry, shrimp pink; Ethel Swete, soft rose; Lord Lambourne, orange scarlet; and Oriental King, crimson scarlet—should be tried.

THE LUPIN IS ONE OF THE MOST USEFUL AND EASILY GROWN OF ALL EARLY SUMMER FLOWERING PERENNIALS.

Herbaceous phloxes form another large group of perennials which will succeed practically anywhere. Frau Ant. Buchner is one of the finest whites; Elizabeth Campbell is a pretty salmon pink with a white eye; Baron von Dedem is a brilliant orange scarlet; Le Mahdi is dark violet-purple; and Comtesse de Jarnac, a variety with a large truss and variegated foliage. The bell flowers (campanulas) are graceful as well as robust in constitution. They need a sunny position in moderately rich soil. Among those which are suited for growing in a mixed border are C. lactiflora, C. latifolia and C. persicifolia and all its varieties. C. latifolia bears fine spikes of mauve, white or blue bell-shaped blooms; the bells of C. latifolia alba are pure white; while C. persicifolia alba is white, and Telham Beauty and Ryburgh Bells, both belonging to the latter class, are light blue in colour. All these grow from 3–4ft. in height.

Heleniums (sneezewort) and helianthus (sunflowers) provide innumerable gold and bronze flowers for the late summer and autumn border. Heleniums autumnale Riverton Beauty and pumilum magnificum will smother themselves with bloom. Useful sunflowers which are not coarse in habit are rigidus Miss Mellish, Monarch, and multiflorus Loddon Gold. These last few perennials are excellent for cutting. Asters are such a large class that they cannot be dealt with at all adequately here, but when sending in the plant order such varieties as Barr's Pink, Little Boy Blue, Anita Ballard, Royal Blue, Queen of Colwall and Amellus King George should not be forgotten.

Torch lilies and day lilies are becoming more popular and more widely grown. Among the torch lilies some of the finest are Orange Beauty, Corallina, Macowanii and Royal Standard. Give these a well drained position and a little protection during the winter, and they will bloom each year until October. The most suitable day-lilies for general purposes are H. flava major, Sir Michael Foster and aurantiaca. By the waterside or in the wild garden, day lilies are most attractive.

DELPHINIUMS ARE VERY EFFECTIVE WHEN MASSED IN CIRCULAR BEDS.

Digitized by Google

HERBACEOUS PHLOXES SHOULD BE GROWN IN EVERY GARDEN.

ONE OF THE BEST OF THE BELLFLOWERS. C. LATIFOLIA ALBA.

TALL PERENNIALS IN HERBACEOUS BORDERS SHOULD BE PLANTED IN BOLD CLUMPS.

Digitized by Google

THE MIXED BORDER

SOME OF ITS CHARMS AND ADVANTAGES

WHILE the herbaceous border will probably ever remain as one of the prides of such English gardens as appertain to those whom John Parkinson referred to as "Gentlemen of the better sort and quality," a great many of us have to be content with something less ambitious. But if that implies necessity and suggests that the herbaceous border reigns as a sort of gorgeously-apparalled Dives over other borders, my meaning is obscured. There are hosts of gardeners, it is true, who, from reasons of economy alone, cannot indulge in the orthodox herbaceous border, but there are as many, perhaps more, who do not wish to. It is these who find in the mixed border not a poor makeshift for the more opulent affair, but a border that makes its most pronounced appeal by reason of the fact that it is always interesting at any season of the year.

A mixed border may not cost less to stock than one of herbaceous perennials. That is a matter to be decided by individual ambition and taste. But it is always more permanent and the initial outlay covers a number of years instead of only one or two. It should never need the periodical digging-up and replanting which the other demands, for once it is furnished with suitable subjects most of these will, as suggested, go on indefinitely. In this respect, as in others, a border of the kind in view is a whole garden in itself, so that the older it grows the more beautiful will it become. Replacements will occasionally be necessary, here and there a plant may have to be divided. But its primary features will remain to mature under the hand of Time, the only influence which has ever been of any real avail in fostering that ripe and mellow sweetness which is the abiding charm of the best of our old English gardens. And yet, with all this, it is the mixed border above all others which enables us to treat each plant as an individual rather than as one of the many, and for that reason alone it deserves our fullest recognition and approbation.

Informality must be the keynote of a mixed border. At the same time some discretion must be exercised in seeing that sun-loving things are not put in the shade and *vice-versa*. Mistakes will always be made (I am continually undoing mine !), for one never quite knows what dimensions a shrub or plant will attain until tried, or how it will do in this spot or the other. Then there are some aggressive, pushful, bullying subjects which will have to be considered on their merits no less carefully than the sly and insidious which may work untold trouble when least expected. Nor must a sense of fitness and proportion go unobserved in selecting one's subjects. Few things are worse than a bush or plant which is too big for its accommodation, few things more heartrending than the necessity of having to cut down or remove at great risk of loss, a shrub which, having attained maturity, has grown out of all reasonable proportions with its neighbours. As for the blending of harmonious colours, or avoidance of discordant tones, this is not a matter of much concern here, for a mixed border is not, as a well known nursery catalogue puts it, "the Burlington Arcade in the Tie-Season." The planter of discretion will not invite Tropæolum speciosum to ascend a bush of Fuchsia globosa or harass his vision by the spectacle of Geranium armenum in mortal combat with a scarlet gladiolus.

Shrubs, both evergreen and deciduous, will generally make the best basis to work upon in making a mixed border. These should, for the most part, be flowering kinds and so selected that one may get something always in bloom throughout the year, an achievement by no means difficult. One or two thin-habited tall shrubs, or small trees, such as Cotoneaster Dielsiana or Styrax Wilsoni, will always make a delightful break in contour and afford light shade for such plants as appreciate it. Then there are roses, my own choice for the mixed border being a limited number of polyanthas, which are dwarf and neat and flower all summer, and such species as R. Moyesii, R. Hugonis, R. alpina and a few selected briars of the Penzance and Austrian class. But, in these, as with other subjects, every one will follow his own fancy.

The heaths are invaluable in a mixed border, for in foliage and flower they always strike a fresh and attractive note of contrast and one may get varieties that will bloom at any season from January to December. In their own way such sub-shrubby subjects as the romneyas and Lavatera Olbia are not less effective, and when we come to herbaceous things the planter will again have to follow his own inclinations in making his choice. Personally, I have a strong bias in favour of those which are out of the common and which are more or less permanent, improving rather than deteriorating as the seasons pass. Then a mention, however, brief, must be made of the early bulbs which, round about the shrubs, will do so much to cheer us through the tarrying winter with their glad news of spring. Nor need our mixed border be without its wood anemones and their alpine sisters, its hepaticas and hardy cyclamens, its primulas and saxifrages, liliums and irises, kniphofias and alliums, spiræas, gentians and verbascums, to name but a very few of the widely differing classes of plants which will help to endow the mixed border with that unfailing interest throughout the year which is its abiding charm. A. T. J.

WHAT OUR READERS SAY

BELLADONNA LILIES.

SIR,—Accounts from all parts of the kingdom, at any rate as far north as North Yorkshire, speak of the extraordinary amount of bloom on the bulbs of the lovely Amaryllis Belladonna this autumn. Surely there must be some special reason for it. Hitherto it has been considered that a hot summer, especially a hot June, was the predisposing cause, or that a mild winter caused strong and early growth and ripening. Such was not the case this season at any rate. The summer did not even begin till July was well "in," and the ground was exceptionally cold until late in July, so some other cause must be sought. The answer, I think, can be found in the actinic power of the sun this year, and I hope astronomers may be found to corroborate this statement. How much the absence of smoke may have helped I dare not say, but I remarked on the east and north-east coast of England that the actinic power of the sun's rays was most exceptional, so much so that I looked out for the effect it might have, and the result, I think, justifies these remarks. Others, I hope, may add their observations.—EDWARD H. WOODALL.

THE LORETTE SYSTEM OF PRUNING.

SIR,—I see in THE GARDEN for October 2nd that "G. C. O." wishes to get together some notes about the Lorette system of pruning. The following may therefore be of interest and use to him :

To convert all shoots into fruit-forming spurs is the chief attempt of the Lorette system of pruning. So, in trying this method the shoots are cut when the sap is moving, and not when the tree is dormant, as is the usual practice.

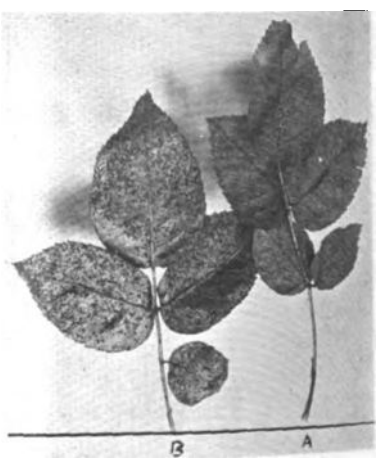
The best time to start this method of pruning is in the spring—April, May and June, but it may also be carried out in July, August and September.

In dealing with apples and pears, pruning will be done at different times, the apple receiving attention later than the pear.—BRYCE WILSON, *Durham*.

ROSE RUST.

SIR,—Rose rust (Phragmidium disciflorum) has been very common this summer, in some cases turning every leaf bright yellow underneath. This disease is one of the many rusts that attack plants, but, unlike the rusts that attack wheat and barberry, all the stages are on the one plant, in this instance the rose.

In the case of this rust, the most destructive stage is formed by the æcidial spores. These produce large bright orange lesions or injuries on the branches, petioles, and occasionally



THE TWO STAGES OF THE RED RUST DISEASE. THE SPRING AND WINTER SPORES.

on the buds and fruits. These orange spore-beds are sometimes nearly an inch long. They cause a good deal of distortion and swelling on the branches or other parts of the plant tissue. This is the most infectious stage. The myriads of spores alighting on fresh rose bushes start subsidiary infection. The next stage is small, round, pale orange spots on the underside of the leaf, little round lumps of the uredo spores. Finally, a black spore, the teleuto spore, appears on the underside of the leaf also, in little dots of an intense black. These can pass the winter on the dead leaves. In the spring, the black spore produces another smaller spore, that again infects the rose, or other roses, producing the yellow lesions of the æcidial stage.

The fungus also over-winters by means of a resting mycelium. The fungal threads can remain dormant in the plant tissue where the orange spots were, on the stem, etc., and again awake to activity in the spring and throw up quantities of the yellow æcidial spore. If the infection is only a leaf infection, the control is much simplified.

Control has to be based on these two facts, the teleuto-spore stage on the dead leaves

Digitized by Google

and the resting mycelium in the twigs. This resting mycelium is localised, not general.

All dead leaves should be collected and burnt in the autumn. At the present time all infected parts should be cut out, taking especial care to cut out any infection on the twigs and branches. These also must be burnt. If infected leaves or twigs are thrown on a rubbish heap, the spores can blow about and start another infection.

In case of any overlooked source of infection, the bushes should be sprayed with lime sulphur early in the spring (lime sulphur 1 gallon, water 49 gallons). The disease does not remain in the soil, and can only live in the tissues of a rose plant. It may occur on the wild rose. Dutch roses are rather often attacked.—N. L. ALCOCK.

GLADIOLUS LANGPRIM.

SIR,—We feel sure that it will be of interest to put on record, once for all, the origin of the hybrids resulting from crossing the species Gladiolus primulinus with large-flowered hybrid gladioli (G. gandavensis).

Sir Francis Fox sent us, and to the Royal Kew Gardens, in the year 1905, the first corms of G. primulinus, which were introduced into Europe. Mr. Townsend, who was in charge of the building of the Zambesi bridge in 1903, had collected these bulbs and had sent them to Sir Francis Fox, a partner in the firm which was building the bridge. Our Mr. James Kelway handed them at once to Mr. Field, the foreman of our gladiolus department, with instructions to grow them inside until the hardiness was known, and then ouside, and to cross them as soon as possible with the best varieties of the large-flowered section, the descendants of Souchet's varieties, which sprang from G. gandavensis. In 1922 the *Times* published a statement that the Dutch and American nurserymen were responsible for the production of this beautiful new race of gladioli. We wrote to the *Times* contradicting this, but the letter was not inserted. We then wrote to Sir Francis Fox, who, in his reply, substantiated the facts we give above, and added, "I do not think the Dutch growers had any for some years after. I regard you as having produced the earliest and most beautiful results." Messrs. Lemoine, the well known French raisers, raised a cross between G. primulinus and one of their Lemoinei section. We have seen these varieties, which are very similar to the well known Lemoinei hybrids in shape and, as well as very much smaller, are quite distinct from the section now so popular.

The corms sent to us by Sir Francis Fox in 1905, flowered in 1906 and were hybridised and used for hybridising. In 1912 the Royal Horticultural Society gave us an Award of Merit and their Silver Floral medal for our exhibit of flowers from the strain, and the National Gladiolus Society at the same show an Award of Merit for the hybrid variety which we had named Golden Girl.

The first hybrid varieties of this section which were ever catalogued were our Golden Girl, Ella Kelway, Josephine Kelway, Ralph, Friendship, Banshee and Elf. All these were offered to the public in 1913.

During the war, work on this new gladiolus naturally ebbed in the countries which were at war. Holland and America were able to go ahead with such material as they had, but we should like it known that it is due to Sir Francis Fox's kindness in sending us the species, and to our Mr. James Kelway, who supervised the work of crossing, that the credit of the inauguration of this now popular flower is due. The press in 1912 suggested that some special name be put to these gladioli, and we distributed them under the name of Gladiolus Langprim, Lang for Langport, Prim for primulinus.—KELWAY AND SON.

ASTER FARRERI.

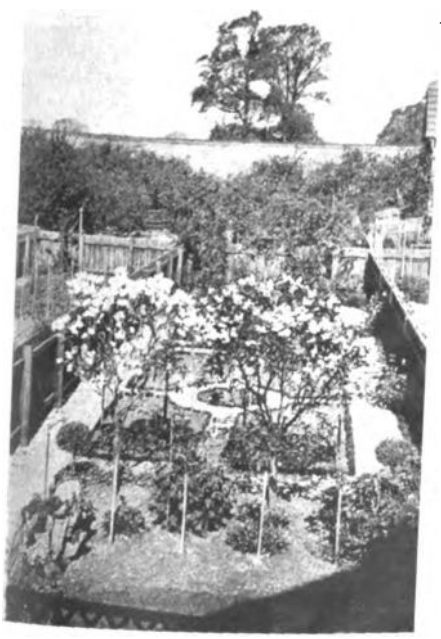
SIR,—I should be glad to learn from readers who have grown the fine Aster Farreri their experience of its character as a flowering plant in gardens. Here it flowers fairly well in dry soil close to a stone edging to a flower border. But I have learned from others, not only from those who have cultivated it themselves, but who have seen it in several other gardens, that it seldom flowers with them. According to Farrer, it appears to grow in grass and never on the high ridges. —S. ARNOTT, *Dumfries*.

AN INTERESTING PLANT.

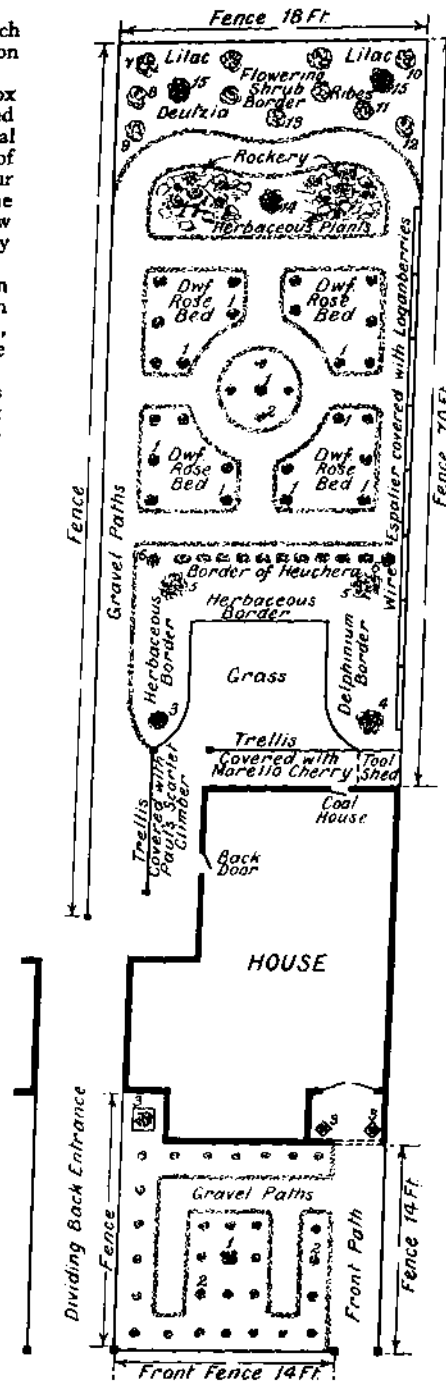
SIR,—I have some plants of what is known as "The Tree of Life," the culture of which is rather unusual, so a note on it might interest other readers. My employer sent me four leaves of this plant while on a visit to Bermuda and West Indies. I understand hedges of it grow out there. The leaves resemble the cacti tribe, and are fleshy and serrated. I was instructed to tie a piece of thread to the stem of each leaf and hang them up in the plant houses, when the young plants would grow from them. The leaves were hung up in different houses in March, and I found they started best in a heated pit, where young plants commenced growth in a month in a temperature of 60° or rather more. The leaves only got water on them with the syringing down of the pit. I cut out small plants from the leaf with a knife and put them into a box of compost of sifted leaves. After plants got away in growth I put them into 3in. pots with a compost of 2 parts loam to 1 part leaf-mould and sand, not in too fine a state. I now have plants in 5in. pots, and they are over a foot in height, and look fine and healthy. I started to feed with weak soot water and an occasional watering of liquid manure not too strong. I noticed the first break of leaves on stem were single, but have now increased to set of five leaves on top. I am informed the plant has a blue flower. I would be grateful if any reader can give me history of this plant together with the botanical name and proper culture, as I have just had to experiment in the latter case.—W. J. B.

THE JOY OF MAKING A NEW GARDEN.

SIR,—I have read with interest the articles by Miss Jekyll appearing in your valuable paper THE GARDEN, but I notice that up to the present all the proposed plans have been for gardens of fair dimensions. As you are aware there are hundreds of thousands of houses in this country the gardens to which, although varying in depth, are, in width, limited to the frontage of the houses. My own house is in this category, and I thought the enclosed plan and photograph may, perhaps, interest your readers, showing as they do what *can* be done with these small pieces of ground with very little trouble and small outlay. I would add that six months previous to the photograph being taken the ground—back and front—where not rough pasture was the builders' dump.—G. WYATT, *Huntingdon*.



A CHARMING GARDEN IN A SMALL SPACE.



The numbers refer to those given in the accompanying plan:
1.—*Standard roses*; 2.—*Dwarf roses*; 3.—*Pyramid box in tubs on stone slabs*; 4.—*Cupressus macrocarpa lutea*; 5.—*Standard lilac*; 6.—*Short standard bay trees*; 7.—*Berberis Darwinii*; 8.—*Ceratostigma*; 9.—*Berberis vulgaris*; 10.—*Berberis Wilsonæ*; 11.—*Viburnum Carlesii*; 12.—*Lavender*; 13.—*Dipelta floribunda*; 14.—*Standard Prunus*; 15.—*Standard Pyrus*.

Digitized by Google

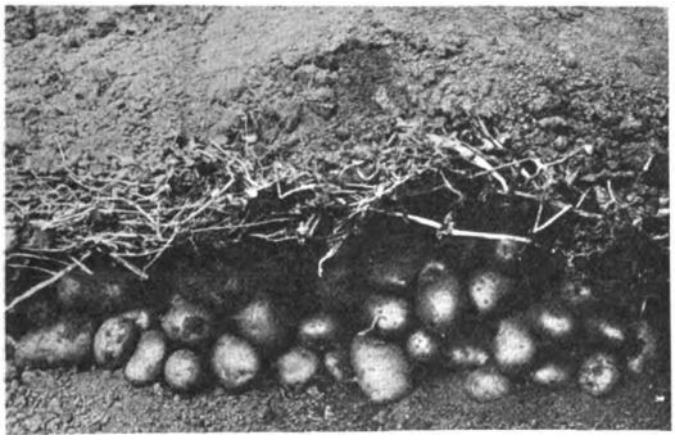
THE FRUIT AND KITCHEN GARDEN

Storing Potatoes.

THE clamp is undoubtedly the very best method of storing potatoes. The fact that the clamp is the usual means employed in the fields is no criterion that it is suited to the garden, for it has the advantage of being well in the open and on a large scale, and the loss of a few tubers here and there does not affect the value of the whole.

This is quite different with the gardener—he wants every one of his potatoes to keep sound until he is ready to use them; and it pays him, first, to make a really efficient clamp, and then, to store only sound and good-sized tubers.

A good, hard well drained bottom is needed on which to lay the tubers, to start with; next, the tubers themselves should be thoroughly dry before being placed in the clamp, and should be packed loosely in a triangular heap. As with everything else, a certain amount of air circulating between the potatoes is necessary. See that the layer of straw is perfectly dry and clean and quite free from anything that would decay. Potato haulm, if thoroughly dried in the sun, may be placed on top of the straw layer, and the earth that follows is best well pulverised



A POTATO CLAMP.
Showing a firm dry bottom, the tubers lying loosely, and the covering layers.

before being placed on top. This, again, ensures airiness without exposure and drainage without becoming unduly dry. Such a clamp never gets sodden in heavy rains and every drop of surplus water quickly finds its way to the lower level, where a further means of escape into the subsoil awaits it. The potatoes therein lie in an atmosphere that discourages and prevents decay, the premature formation of sprouts, and keeps the tubers in an eatable condition.

Never clamp a damaged potato or one that shows any sign of disease; it is better to put cut or damaged tubers in a small separate clamp for early use, rather than mix them with the sound potatoes.

A Simple Way to Enrich Poor Soils.

VEGETABLES are very hungry plants. To be successful with them their larder must be well stocked to begin with and, as required, replenished from time to time. The present is a good time to see about stocking the larder—the soil. As the leaves fall from the deciduous trees and shrubs, collect them and place all in a heap in a part of the garden where they can be dealt with by wetting and turning occasionally. As the heap is turned a sprinkling of common salt will help to keep them moist and thus hasten decay. All the leaves from the vegetable quarters and grass cut from the lawn and any banks should be treated in a similar way. After a few turnings some common garden soil should be added to the heaps, and if seaweed can be procured mix some of it with any strawy litter in hand. The seaweed will help to rot such litter sooner than any other material. As the work of digging proceeds put in some of this prepared manure at the rate of three barrowloads per square rod for all kinds of vegetables except root crops. For the benefit of the latter well rotted manure must be dug in or, better still, ground devoted to them next year that has been heavily manured this past summer for such crops as potatoes, celery and leeks.

Forcing and Propagating Seakale.

OCTOBER is a suitable time to commence lifting a few plants of this useful vegetable for forcing. The crowns may be left lying exposed on the ground for a few days, as they force better if they have been slightly frosted. Nothing is easier to force than seakale, all that is necessary being absolute darkness, and a temperature that never rises above 60° Fahr. It is well to begin with a temperature of 45° Fahr. and rise no higher than 55°. Later supplies are obtainable by inverting large pots over the roots in the open ground and heaping them around with hot manure or leaves. The space under the stages in greenhouses may be successfully used for forcing purposes, providing the front is covered in such a way as to exclude all light. Pack the roots fairly close together and work light soil between them. Water with a rose can when completed and afterwards as required. A fresh supply of roots should be put in each week to ensure a constant supply. In November a good batch of roots may be lifted, and after being exposed to frost they should be stood together and covered with a good layer of leaves, so that they are accessible in frosty weather.

Seakale can be easily raised from seed, but the quickest and best way is to procure some good "thongs" or root cuttings from a reliable source. These should be taken off the plants when they are lifted for forcing. They may be cut 1in. below the crown and should be 4ins. or 5ins. in length and as thick as a man's little finger. The thickest end will form the crown and should be cut straight across, but the lower end should be cut on the slant. Lay them in sand until March, when they may be planted on a deeply dug, well manured and exposed piece of ground. Plant in rows 2½ft. apart and 18ins. between the plants in the rows. Previous to planting, rub off all the buds except one at the crown. Promote growth by all possible means during the summer. Crowns that have been lifted and forced in heat are of no further value, but those that have been blanched outside by placing a seakale pot over them may be forced in this way for many years. It is one of the most useful of our vegetables.

Early Rhubarb.

AN early crop of rhubarb may be secured if a few roots are lifted, within the next few weeks and exposed on the surface for a few days. If during the period there are slight frosts at night, this will be an advantage; should the weather be very severe, protect the uprooted clumps with matting, dry fern or even newspapers. Afterwards the roots may be arranged on the floor of a shed, cellar or, better still, in a mushroom-house or structure where there is warmth. The interstices between the roots should be filled with light rich soil. If the roots are in a place where it is not dark, they should be covered with boxes, tubs or pots. Keep the soil rather moist, the actual amount of water varying according to the degree of heat in which the rhubarb is grown.

A Horse Radish Bed.

HORSE RADISH is so useful for culinary purposes that it is worth while devoting a small bed to its culture. Almost any situation which is not heavily shaded by trees and shrubs will suit the plant well. The soil should be fairly light, not only because this meets the needs of the horse radish best, but also on account of the fact that it is very difficult to dig up the roots on stiff ground. The best time for planting horse radish is from the end of October to March. In making new plantations the crowns may be planted a foot deep with a crowbar. Another way is to insert long, straight pieces of the roots, putting them in rows about 9ins. apart. Before planting, all small fibrous roots should be rubbed away: as long, straight stems without forks are the best. Never allow horse radish to stray into adjoining borders, as it will prove a most difficult plant to eradicate.

How to Treat Unfruitful Apple Trees.

UNFRUITFUL apple trees may sometimes be made fruitful by means of root pruning, especially if the trees show a tendency to run to wood. A trench cut at about 4ft. from the stem or trunk of the tree, and for about half way round, may be dug in the autumn or winter months, and the thick, descending roots cut off with a sharp knife or axe.

Leave the fibrous roots intact and take care not to bruise or break them, nor unduly expose them to the air.

Some apple trees may prove unfruitful owing to a lack of cross fertilisation. Single trees are frequently barren from this cause. The remedy is obvious. Obtain some pollen from apple blossoms on trees elsewhere. Use a camel hair brush to collect the pollen and to transfer it to the non-fruitful blossoms.

Cut off any blossoms that are beginning to fade, or are not quite in full bloom. Treated thus, the unfruitful trees may be made to yield a good crop of fruit, and to continue fruitful for many years afterwards.

A Select List of Fruit Trees for a Small Garden.

IN a small garden it is not possible to grow many trees of numerous kinds. The only way to include quite a large number for the space available is to plant, mainly, cordons. The next best plan is to prefer bushes, standards being the worst form of tree. The following list includes some of the best for amateurs starting a new garden; of course, few or many may be planted according to the size of the garden. *Apples, dessert:* Beauty of Bath, Lady Sudeley, James Grieve, King of the Pippins, Cox's

Digitized by Google

Orange Pippin and Allington Pippin. *Cooking:* Golden Spire, Stirling Castle, Lord Derby, Lane's Prince Albert, Newton Wonder, and Bramley's Seedling. *Pears:* Durondeau, Doyenne du Comice, Emile d'Heyst, and Williams' Bon Chrétien. *Plums:* Victoria, Jefferson Gage, River's Czar, Belle de Louvain, Kirke's Blue, Green Gage and Pond's Seedling for a very large fruit. *Cherries:* May Duke, Knight's Early Black, Bedford Prolific, Governor Wood and Morello. *Gooseberries:* Keen's Seedling, Leader, Speedwell, Rifleman, Telegraph, Whitesmith, Keepsake, Whinham's Industry and Crown Bob. *Currants, red:* New Red Dutch, Fay's Prolific and Raby Castle. *White:* Dutch, Transparent and White Versailles. *Black:* Baldwin's Champion and Black Grape. *Berries:* The British blackberry, the loganberry. *Fig:* Brown Turkey. *Grape:* Black Cluster, quite the best. *Medlar:* Nottingham. *Nuts:* Kentish Cob. The fruit trees should occupy parts of the garden where they will get the maximum amount of sunshine and not obstruct it from other crops much. Do not overcrowd; it is better to be content with fewer trees.

Weeds.

REMEMBER that weeds grow apace at this time of the year, and it is imperative that they should not be allowed to come to maturity. A head-gardener once told his outside assistants to pull up weeds or otherwise destroy them any time between special work that he had instructed them to do, rather than waste time, if he was not there at the moment to set them to do some other kind of work. We may all, in our own gardens, bear this in mind, and, during odd moments, set about the work of weed destruction. It is wonderful how clean we may keep our gardens if we, having ten minutes to spare, take the Dutch hoe, for instance, and hoe up the seedling weeds in the kitchen garden, under the gooseberry, raspberry or currant bushes or between the rows of winter greens. Every time the hoe is pushed about 1in. below the surface of the soil, perhaps three or four hundred weeds are killed. Then it may be that five minutes devoted to the pulling up of tap-rooted weeds, such as docks and dandelions, will prevent the seeding and spread of the pests to other quarters. Dry weather for hoeing and wet weather for hand-weeding should be the rule. Burn all seeding weeds found, then there will be an end to them all.

HINTS WORTH REMEMBERING

This is a further instalment of Hints that have been received from our readers in response to our request. There seems little doubt, judging from the numbers that have reached us, that this will prove a most useful feature of THE GARDEN *in future. We hope, therefore, that all our readers will assist to make this page as valuable as possible by sending in their Hints, the result of personal observation and trial, and so help the gardening public in general. Hints which will be specially considered as worthy of a prize will be those that are seasonable as well as interesting and apply particularly to duties that can be carried out in the garden at the present time.*

Half a guinea will be paid each week for the most useful or interesting hint sent in by a reader. Five shillings will be paid for all others published. Each must be sent in on a separate sheet and must not be more than 300 words in length.

THE HALF-GUINEA HINT

A Substitute Fuel for the Small Greenhouse.

The husks of beech nuts are falling fast now, and if these are gathered before the leaves fall and are stored in the dry will be useful as fuel later on. As we shall probably not be able to obtain fuel in any quantity for some time, the above will be found useful, especially if mixed with a small amount of coke or small coal.

I have already gathered three or four large barrowfuls, and hope to get some more. They burn well, emit a good heat and stoke easily with a shovel.—H. F.

Hints on Planting Shrubs.

If you intend to plant this autumn, or in early spring, any of the following shrubs, plant them direct from pots. Insist on pots when ordering; it is courting failure to plant daphnes, cistus, fancy brooms and some ceanothus taken direct from nursery lines. Ensure success with chimonanthus, chionanthus, eucryphias, enkianthus, osmanthus, Viburnum Carlesii, by following the same lines.—W. G.

Propagation of Campanula pyramidalis.

When removing old flowering plants of Campanula pyramidalis during October, cut away from each plant a few thick, long, fleshy roots. Cut transversely the thickest ends, trimming off the tapering ends in a slanting direction, to a length of 3ins. to 4ins.—*i.e.*, treat roots similarly to seakale thongs. Insert prepared roots in boxes of sandy soil. Keep in cold frame until March, when each root will have developed to a sturdy plant of four or more separate growths. Transplant each plant to border where intended to flower, or pot on for greenhouse flowering. If the above method is adopted annually, it will provide the border with its tall, graceful spikes of blue and white flowers during the months of June and July. I have proved that where roots are so treated better shaped plants are obtained. Every root produces an established plant. It is a quicker and more convenient way than seed sowing.—C. H.

Tying Raspberry Canes to Wires.

What a tedious job this is when one ties each cane separately. The following method, which I tried with great success last year, will be found to save hours of work: Get a ball of thread as used by saddlers, wind this on to a small or medium sized cotton reel. Then, having fastened the thread to the post at the end of the row, you place your first cane against the wire and give the thread a twist round the cane and wire; continue on in like manner all the way up the row. It is advisable to knot your thread to the wire, say, every twenty canes, in case of the thread breaking and so running loose all the length of the row. It is equally a saving of time when cutting away the old canes the following year.—G. W. G.

Growing Chrysanthemums in Pots and the Trapping of Earwigs.

To all who grow chrysanthemums in pots, staked with canes, and are troubled with earwigs: Get a piece of putty and fill the hole at the top of the cane with the putty, pressing it down with a piece of stick to the depth of ¼in.; this will dry hard in a few days, suffocating the earwigs that are inside the cane and preventing any more from entering, as the canes are a favourite hiding-place for earwigs during the daytime. Then place a piece of broad bean stalk or artichoke stalk, about 5ins. long, on the soil at the top of the pot. Go round every morning with a can of boiling water, shaking the earwigs out of the stalk into this.

Earwigs at this time of the year do a lot of damage to the plants, eating the heart and also the buds, often destroying the whole plant.—B. R.

Retaining Sweet Scabious for a Second Year.

When clearing "summer stuff" that has done duty during the season past, think twice before removing the sweet scabious. A true garden friend, not only is it still doing its best, by thrusting out fresh flowers, to beautify any modest corner where the seed has been thrown; but it will flower the second year, with a little care, yet more finely than the first. Even through such a winter as last, some plants which had already flowered well were kept under a south wall out of doors, the snow often standing on the pots. Replanted in good soil in May, they have already been blooming for two months, and show few signs of ceasing. It seems that "biennial," like "annual," is a misnomer for this plant, which is really a short-lived perennial. The colours from which to choose, when the moment comes for saving them, are singularly beautiful. Has any reader tried the experiment of keeping them a third year?—E. S.

How to Make Your Labels Show Up Clearly.

Many suggestions have been offered about the labelling of plants, but, use which label you wish, you cannot get a more lasting or better result than by using the "New" Stephens' Outdoor Ink. I have given this ink a thorough test, and find that for wood labels which have been painted and are perfectly dry it is much better than any indelible pencil which is in use so much now.

It would be a boon to many purchasers of plants if nurserymen used this ink to write their tickets with, which they usually attach on trees or plants before despatch, for having tried this on these tickets I find it is absolutely waterproof, and it can rain on the ticket for days and you can still read your variety of plant without the fear of the ink running and smearing all the ticket. It can also be used for zinc or celluloid labels equally as well, and is used in the ordinary way with a clean pen. I suppose many nurserymen will stock it, for I purchased mine from our local nurseryman.—W. A.

Saving the Cost of Besoms.

Save handles of worn besoms, carefully removing the peg holding the twigs. Procure all elm suckers, keeping them straight, tie in round bundles very tightly, cut off thick ends, leaving the twigs 3ft. long, and stack for future use.

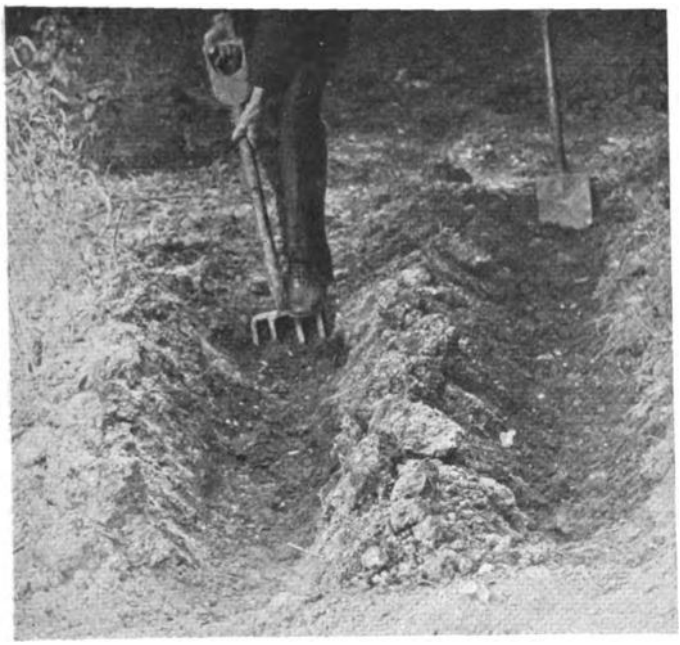
When brooms are required, pull the stick ends in as tight as possible with a piece of rope, fix with two pieces of wire, drive in handle, and secure all with a peg right through handle between the two wires. Different kinds of brooms can be made in this way by using thick or thin twigs from birch, elm, common broom, hazel, willow, etc. These, when well made, last out three of the bought variety.—H. M. B.

Digitized by Google

SPADEWORK: A MOST IMPORTANT GARDEN OPERATION

How to Treat Refractory Soils.

A STIFF hard clay, a chalk subsoil, and naturally wet ground are most difficult to manipulate and keep in good condition. In each case it is a question of digging the topsoil and subsoil, manuring and draining; but the labour entailed is always great and uninvitingly tedious. Here is a method that eliminates quite half the labour.



THROW UP THE SOIL IN LUMPS ON EITHER SIDE TO FORM A RIDGE.

First, fork up the ground and pile the lumps, just as they are, in a heap on either side as you proceed, thus making a ridge all along the line of digging, with a trench at the side, perhaps scattering some lime over the ridges.

Now place a layer of manure in the trench. Get into the trench and dig the bottom of it a spade deep, incorporating the manure. Leave the trench and the earth thus disposed during the remainder of the winter months.

PLACING MANURE IN THE TRENCH AND DIGGING IT IN.

In early spring it will be found an easy matter to knock these lumps to pieces and return the pulverised earth to the trench from which it was taken; and when all is level once more, go over the whole and give it a good surface digging. Here you have the very best medium for which one could wish in which to grow onions, parsnips, carrots, peas or sweet peas. The worst of soils can be made passable and even fertile by this combined action of the digger, the weather, and the length of exposure. —H. A. D.

The Soil and its Preparation for Planting Roses.

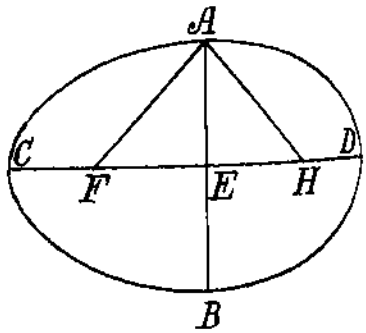
NOT only the soil, but the position in the garden must be duly considered before any roses are planted. Odd plants, of course, may be planted in various parts of the garden; and so planted often do fairly well. But we are now considering the more important question of a rose garden, or, at least, a rose border of good size. The position should be an open one sheltered from south-west winds, but not by high trees or shrubs or buildings too close to it. I will refer briefly to one rose garden that was surrounded by laurels and other kinds of shrubs and trees of laburnum, prunus and others of like growth. The garden was entered from two ways, north and south respectively, through openings in the shrubs, which formed a belt about 12ft. distant from the outside rose beds. When all the plants were young and first planted no doubt everything seemed to be all right, but later on the shrubs grew apace and produced roots in great numbers; these roots soon permeated the soil in the rose beds and robbed the plants to such extent that they barely existed. Lifting and replanting was useless, as the foreign roots were first again in the soil; feeding, too, benefited the shrubs more than the roses. The shelter plants should have been at least 30ft. distant. Where this space cannot be assured, then do away with any idea of protection from a living shelter. A somewhat greasy, rich loam—greasy when first wetted and pressed in the hand—is an ideal one for rose trees to grow in. The greasiness, however, must not emanate from any self-binding gravel that may be found 1ft. or so below the surface, as I have found such unsuitable for rose growing. A light, sandy soil is unsuitable, too, in itself, but such can be improved wonderfully by the addition of good, holding loam, which should be mixed with the top soil so that the roots will be benefited at once. A really sandy soil will not do at all by itself. Such sandy soils should be removed and replaced by good loam; this is the best way in the end.

A thorough preparation of clayey soils can only be ensured by trenching in the autumn, exposing throughout the winter to frosts while in a rough state, cropping in the summer with annuals or similar plants and then planting the roses the following November. But such patience cannot always be exercised, so we should, as an alternative, trench the ground early in the autumn.

There are cases where rose lovers have to deal with a gravelly soil—very gravelly—and the plants cannot be expected to do really well in such a rooting medium. The right thing to do is to take out the gravel, forming pits 18ins. deep and refilling with good loam. The trees are planted and, from time to time, odd soil, as it can be spared, is wheeled to the quarter and tipped on the surface, spread out thinly and allowed to remain there; more being added to it as it becomes available.—G. G.

CUTTING LAWN FLOWER BEDS.

A LAWN is often improved in appearance by putting flower-beds in it, but the removal of the turf, especially where curved edges are concerned, is not altogether relished by the amateur. The writer has found that the acutal cutting of the turf can be done just as efficiently and quickly by using a linoleum knife, costing about a shilling, as by employing a tool specially designed for the purpose.



In cutting out a circular patch first decide the centre, and drive in firmly a stout, round wooden stake. Then take a piece of cord and make two loops at the ends, one loop to hold the knife, the other to go over the stake. The loops should be quite loose to allow free movement both for the knife and around the stake. Care should be taken to see that the length of the cord, when one end is placed over the stake and the other over the knife, is equal to the radius of the circle it is desired to cut.

Holding the knife perpendicularly it will be found quite a simple matter to cut into the sod, leaving a clean, straight edge. If care is taken to keep the cord taut and horizontal and running freely in its loop around the stake, a perfect circle will result.

The cutting of an ellipse, which shape is often desirable, can be just as readily carried out if a little extra care is exercised.

Digitized by Google

Barr's Gold Medal Lupins.

BARR'S HYBRID LUPINS.

Lupins are among the most beautiful of Border Plants, maintaining a floral display from May to the end of September in a manner unequalled by any other hardy plant.

LUPINUS ARBOREUS (Tree Lupin), grand shrubby perennials for sheltered sunny positions, forming large bushes, crowded with terminal racemes of fragrant flowers, which may be gathered daily for a long time without diminishing the effect, ht. 3ft. to 5ft.

	Each s. d.
Bridesmaid, white and primrose changing to rose, fragrant	1 0
Golden Spire (Yellow Tree Lupin), fragrant golden-yellow flowers, prized for cutting, very free	1 0
Snow Queen (White Tree Lupin), beautiful pure white fragrant flowers	1 0
Sunset, yellow shaded old gold, very fragrant	2 6
Taplow Yellow, sprays 12 inches long of clear yellow flowers; the finest yellow Lupin yet raised	1

1 each of 6 beautiful Tree Lupins, 8s. 0d.

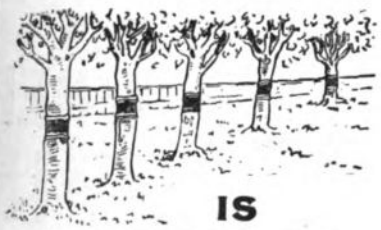
LUPINUS HYBRIDS, the result of crossing and inter-crossing **L. polyphyllus** and **L. arboreus varieties,** combining in many instances the characteristics of each parent. They are all very free-flowering and make valuable border plants. For these hybrids we have received an AWARD OF MERIT by the R.H.S. and the GOLD MEDAL OF THE NATIONAL HARDY PLANT SOCIETY. These beautiful new hybrids have been mostly raised at our Nurseries.

	Each s. d.
Captivation, soft blue and white	1 6
Chameleon, opening blue and yellow and changing to blue and white	1 0
Eastern Queen opening mauve and yellow, and passing to rosy buff and fawn	1 0
per doz. 10/6	
Kittiwake, lower petals delicate flesh pink, upper petals bright rose	2 6
Lady Constance, lower petals wistaria blue, upper petals shading to cream	2 0
Mauve Beauty, deep mauve passing to a beautiful silvery mauve	2 6

	Each. s. d.
Nelly, white tinted rosy mauve, on spikes 1½ft. to 2ft. in length, 4ft. per doz. 10/6	1 0
Primrose, delicate primrose flowers, upper petals of a deeper shade	2 6
Prince of Orange, very striking and floriferous, golden-buff shading to bright orange, fine spike	5 0
Queen of Sheba, lower petals violet, upper petals bright golden-yellow, 4 ft.	2 6
Rosy Gem, rosy mauve shot with yellow	1 0
Royal Purple, a handsome new variety	1 6
Ruby King, deep claret red, fine spike	1 6
Seraphine, mauve, shaded gold	1 6
Southern Belle, lavender and mauve, a beautiful colour combination,	1 6
Sunshine, bright golden-yellow	1 6
The Bride, soft primrose shaded delicate rosy peach, continuous bloomer,	1 0
Yellow Boy, golden yellow, upper petals of a deeper shade and passing off buff	1 6

1 each 12 beautiful Hybrid Lupins to name, 15s. 0d.; **1 each 6 beautiful Hybrid Lupins** to name, 7s. 6d.

BARR & SONS, 11 12, & 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2
Nurseries: TAPLOW, BUCKS.



IS IT WORTH 2d.

That is the cost per fruit tree for banding with

OSTICO

and one application will last throughout the season.

If your orchard yields more than 2d. worth of fruit per tree

OSTICO PAYS

8 oz. tin (for 10 trees)	1/6
1 lb. tin (for 20 ,,)	2/9
5 lb. tin (for 100 ,,)	12/6

Agents Everywhere.

CO OPER, MCDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, LTD.
BERKHAMSTED, HERTS.

OSTICO FOR BANDING TREES

Laxton's FRUIT TREES

CATALOGUES & CULTURAL HINTS GRATIS.
LAXTON BROS. BEDFORD.

Glass breaks!

USE
"WINDOLITE"
The practical
GLASS SUBSTITUTE
for all Garden Purposes.

LIGHT FLEXIBLE UNBREAKABLE

Easy to cut and fix. It keeps out cold and wet, but lets in all the light—even the Ultra Violet Rays which are stopped by glass.

Send **4/6** *for post free sample, 3 ft. by 2 ft.*

WINDOLITE (DEPT. C) 179/185, GREAT PORTLAND ST., LONDON, W.1

Digitized by Google

UNWIN'S SWEET PEAS

HAVE PROVED THEIR SUPERIORITY - COMPARE OUR PRICES & REMEMBER THERE ARE NO SWEET PEAS OF BETTER QUALITY

Sow in the Autumn for best results.
You will eventually grow Unwin's.
Why not THIS Season ?

FULL CATALOGUE
POST FREE

SPECIAL COLLECTION OFFER
The finest value ever offered in Sweet Peas
UNWIN'S EXHIBITION COLLECTION

W. J. Unwin.
Charming.
Grenadier.
Mauve Beauty.
Mrs. Tom Jones.
Matchless.
The Sultan.
Sybil Henshaw.
Powerscourt.
Youth.
Picture.
Constance Hinton.
Hebe.
Royal Purple.

3/9 for 25 seeds each of above 14 varieties.
2/- for 12 seeds each of above 14 varieties.
Postage 1½d. extra.

Two Books on Culture every Grower should read:
"THE SWEET PEA AND ITS CULTIVATION" and its 1927 "Supplement,"
By W. J. UNWIN

These books contain all the information the amateur needs, given in a simple, detailed and interesting manner, and illustrated by explanatory sketches. They have helped thousands to grow better Sweet Peas. Why not let them help you ? **Price 9d. the two (post free for 10½d.)**

W·J·UNWIN·F·R·H·S·· *Sweet Pea Specialist* · HISTON - *Cambs.*

SITUATIONS VACANT.

HEAD GARDENER WANTED for Italian Riviera. Must be energetic, experienced with sub-tropical plants and highly recommended. Comfortable cottage found. Reply, giving full experience, age and salary required, to LIEUTENANT-COLONEL C. BEDDINGTON, 26, Seymour Street, Portman Square, London, W.1.

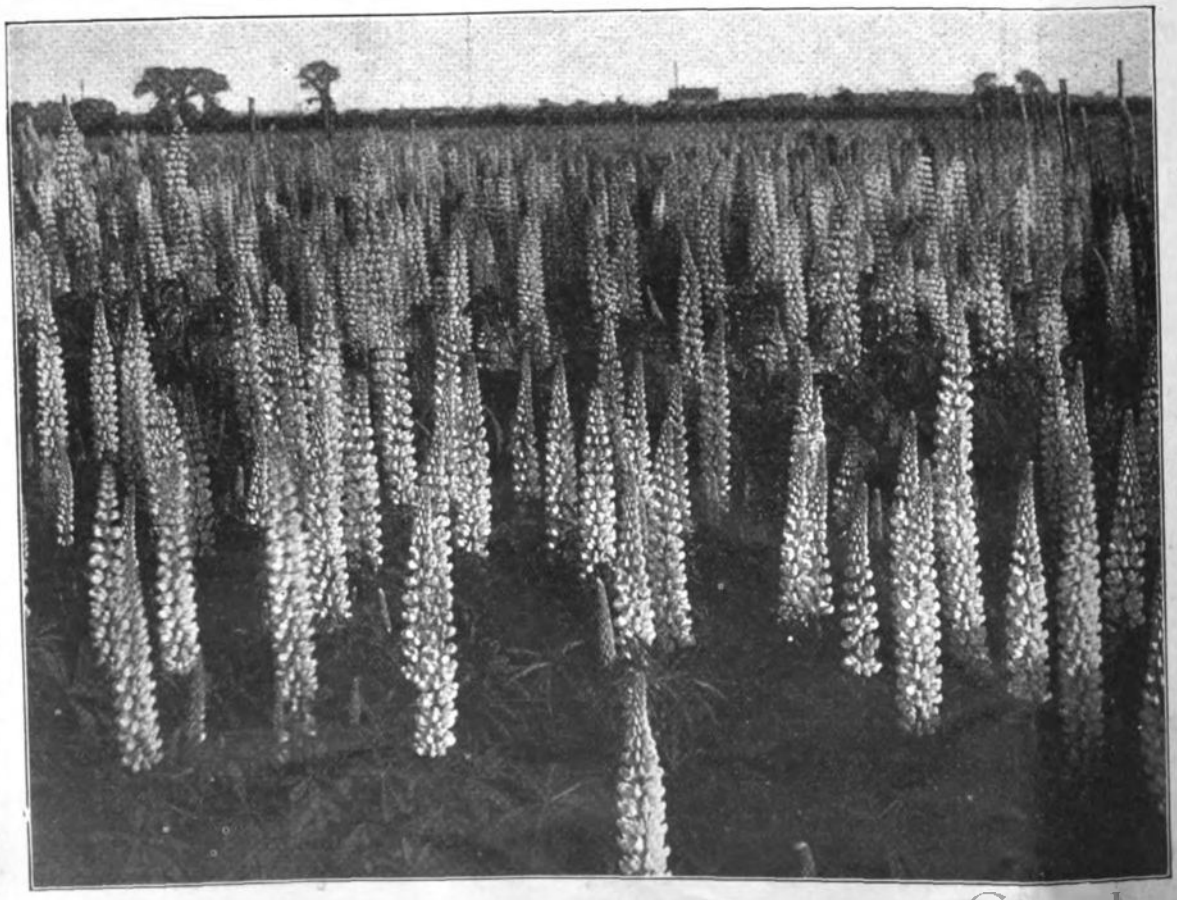
WANTED AT ONCE, FOREMAN, experienced in all branches of laying out gardens, only best references, good wages.—Apply MRS. LADENBURG, Derryquin, Sunningdale, Berks.

GARDENING FOR BEGINNERS

By E. T. COOK.

Coloured Plates and 200 Illustrations. 8th edition. 16/-.

Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.



THE
DOWNER LUPIN

Sometimes known as the SILENT LUPIN

RICH HARMONIOUS COLOURS

18/- doz.

APPLY FOR LIST

DOWNER
2, DRAYTON MANOR NURSERIES
CHICHESTER

Digitized by Google

First decide upon the length and width (the mathematician would call these the major and minor axes) the ellipse is to measure, and mark these by four pegs (A, B, C and D in the diagram). Then make two straight cuts in the turf joining AB and CD, the cuts crossing each other at the centre E. From A mark off two points F and H on CD, making the lengths AF and AH equal to CE. At the points F and H drive two stout round wooden stakes firmly into the grass. Make a loop in a cord and let the loop go loosely over the stake at F. Now stick the lino knife in the ground at A, and pass the cord from F round the knife at A, finishing the cord with another loop at H. If the knife is now taken from the ground and made to move in the angle of the cord, it will be found to describe the required curve of the ellipse.

Just a final word—it is desirable that the turf should be thoroughly damp (preferably after a heavy rain) when cutting is done to ensure a clean, sharp edge to the flower-bed.—J. W. H.

AN AUTUMN FRUIT SHOW

THE Royal Horticultural Society held on October 12th and 13th at Vincent Square a fruit show which consisted mainly of apple and pear exhibits. The show seemed to contradict the fact that this season has been a notoriously bad one for fruit, particularly apples, for the entries were surprisingly large in number and the hall was well filled with first-class fruit. Although fruit crops as a whole have been very poor in certain districts, pears must have cropped exceedingly well in some parts of the country, judging by the quantity and quality of pear exhibits which were staged.

A splendid collection, which included grapes, peaches and pears, was shown by the Duke of Newcastle. The pears exhibited were of enormous size, Pitmaston Duchess being the largest. Major F. J. B. Wingfield Digby had a smaller fruit collection. His grapes Alicante and Pear Souvenir du Congrès were both in good condition. The George Monro Memorial Cup was awarded to the Duke of Newcastle for the finest exhibit of grapes shown by an amateur. Gros Colmar was the best grown among the four varieties exhibited. Mrs. G. Tufton showed two well finished bunches of Alicante, and Mr. G. Mayer first prize large bunches of Prince of Wales and Lady Downe's Seedling. In size, colour and shade the bunches of Muscat of Alexandria shown by Lady Durning Lawrence were outstanding. The Duke of Newcastle won a first prize for a dish of Brown Turkey figs.

An exceedingly fine group of hardy fruits grown in the open air was exhibited by Major Wingfield Digby, for which he was awarded the Gordon-Lennox Challenge Cup. His apple varieties Bramley Seedling and Rev. W. Wilks and Pitmaston Duchess pears were in fine condition. A similar collection of hardy fruits won a first prize for Sir Charles Nall Cain. In this group the pear Marguerite Marillat was well ripened, and among the apples Bramley Seedling was of good colour.

Various market growers showed boxes of packed fruit. Dessert and culinary apples were packed in British standard boxes, while peach boxes were used for packing pears. In a few instances the grading could have been better, but on the whole the packing was well done. Lieut.-Colonel H. Lumley Webb exhibited prize-winning boxes of the dessert apple Benn's Red. The Hollesley Bay Labour Company had well packed boxes of Lane's Prince Albert, Allington Pippin and the pear Conference. Mr. C. L. Lewitt won a first prize for packing three peach boxes with the pear Doyenne du Comice. Four chip baskets packed with Black Alicante grapes won for Messrs. J. Almond and Sons a silver cup.

In the various divisions for distinct varieties of apples and pears there were a few varieties which always carried off the prizes. The pear Pitmaston Duchess, and Lane's Prince Albert, Warner's King, Newton Wonder, Bramley's Seedling, Cox's Orange Pippin and Charles Ross among the apples received many prizes and were the most popular varieties exhibited at the Show. Captain Drummond was successful in a number of classes. Lady Henry won first prizes for dessert and cooking apples. Annie Elizabeth was the best coloured variety in this particular collection. Mr. J. H. Loudon was another prize-winning exhibitor in several classes. Another very successful exhibitor in numerous classes was Mr. J. A. Stidston. In each case his fruit was large, even in shape and well coloured. Highly coloured specimens of Gascoyne's Scarlet were shown by Lady Knott. Mr. W. H. Myers won premier awards for a collection of apples; the Right Hon. Earl of Bessborough for Warner's King, Lord Derby, Ecklinville, Grenadier and others. Very excellent pears were shown by Lady Mary Morrison, the best varieties being Marguerite Marillat and Durondeau. Captain N. G. Chalmers Hunt had good specimens of the apple Rival: Mrs. Helsham Jones enormous Catillac pears; the Earl of Dunraven numerous well grown fruits, including highly coloured specimens of the apple Mère de Ménage. Allington Pippin was well shown among the dessert apples by Mr. F. J. Long; Major C. L. Gordon brought some fine apples from Scotland; the Earl of Coventry perfect specimens of Pitmaston Duchess pears; Sir William Lawrence good Margil apples; and Captain R. B. Brassey attractive fruits of the dessert apple Superb. Charles Ross and Bismarck were two of the best apple varieties shown by Mr. T. Sherrard; and among culinary apples Mr. F. C. Stoop's exhibit of King Edward won a premier award. Crawley Beauty and Golden Noble were two apples well shown by Sir Charles Nall Cain. There were numerous other prize-winning exhibitors, including Mrs. Austin, Mr. E. H. Sikes, Major Bibby, Mr. H. W. Henderson, Mr. C. R. Dunkey and Viscount Hambledon.

The Affiliated Societies Challenge Cup was won by the North Walsham District Horticultural Society.

There were many attractive trade exhibits. Messrs. Laxton Brothers staged a collection of apples and pears, including several of their fine new apple varieties. Lord Lambourne and the new highly coloured dessert apple Laxton's Superb, a late variety with a Cox's Orange flavour, were two of them. Messrs. T. Rivers had an excellent exhibit of apples in dishes and of pot-grown fruit. Peasgood's Nonsuch and Gascoyne's Scarlet shown by them were of remarkable size and colour and in perfect condition. Apples of many varieties were exhibited by Messrs. S. Spooner and Sons. Newton Wonder, Bismarck, Charles Ross and Allington Pippin were their best varieties.

Messrs. J. Cheal and Sons selected such varieties as King of Pippins, Chelmsford Wonder, Bismarck, Cornish Aromatic and Rival, all first-class varieties for the small garden.

A large and interesting exhibit was put up by Messrs. J. C. Allgrove. Pot fruit of all kinds, as well as dishes of apples, pears and plums, were on show. A pot-grown bush of Peasgood's Nonsuch was bearing a number of large and well coloured fruits, a bush of the plum President was carrying a good crop, and a dish of S. T. Wright was one of the best varieties which this firm had on show. The Barnham Nurseries had an extensive collection of pears and apples. There were numerous varieties exhibited suitable for both dessert and culinary purposes. Charles Ross, Baumann's Reinette, Adam's Pearmain and the good keeping apple Christmas Pearmain were a few of the varieties they selected. Some fine pears, such as Uvedale's St. Germain, Doyenne du Comice and Marie Louise d'Uccle were noticed among the fruit exhibit of Messrs. Daniel Brothers. Frontignan grapes (in several varieties), which are noted for their delicious musk flavour and which can be grown in a greenhouse without heat, were exhibited by Messrs. Bunyard. Pears and apples were also shown by them. Ellison's Orange, Ribston Pippin, Grenadier and Baumann's Red Winter Reinette were included in their collection.

Mère de Ménage, a dark crimson striped and flushed culinary apple, was among Mr. H. Hemsley's many varieties. Well grown specimens of Allington Pippin, Lane's Prince Albert and Williams' Bon Chrétien pear were also noted. Messrs. W. Hoopwood and Son chose, among others, the apples Annie Elizabeth, Wealthy, and Charles Ross for exhibiting with their fruit collection.

Other interesting features of the Show were a group of ornamental gourds shown by the Earl of Dunraven, and an enormous bunch of Black Alicante grapes weighing 37½lb. This bunch came from Belgium, and was exhibited by Messrs. Nash and Austin.

OUR SERVICE BUREAU

Though so many subjects are dealt with in each issue of THE GARDEN, *it must constantly happen that readers seek information which is not immediately available. In such circumstances they should make use of our Service Department. Through its medium each reader's own particular enquiry can be dealt with. No matter what the question is, there is always information available from a staff of expert contributors and consultants; and there is no charge for this. It is one of the additional means of service which* THE GARDEN *is glad to render to its readers.*

Also, there is the further convenience which the Service Department affords of supplying readers with data about anything that is advertised in the pages of the paper. Thus, on receipt of an enquiry, particulars will be sent of, say, half a dozen things about which the reader seeks information. The only stipulation is that a stamped addressed envelope and the coupon, that will always be found in each issue, shall be sent with the enquiry.

We would point out, however, that we cannot undertake to supply readers with plans and designs of gardens, but will willingly assist in giving suggestions for planting.

All communications should be addressed to the Service Department, THE GARDEN, *20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.*

We have selected the following enquiries, with their answers, as being of more general interest, and therefore worthy of publication.

How to Prune Forsythia suspensa.

I should be so glad of advice as to the pruning of Forsythia suspensa; it has, somehow, been overlooked, and is now a mass of rather weedy

Digitized by Google

shoots, though most of these seem to have indications of flower buds. Where I shortened back some long shoots last year, I now have a fork with two new shoots.—G. C. H., Pinhoe.

The time for pruning Forsythia suspensa is after it flowers, in early spring. If you prune it just now, you will cut off the wood which bears the flowers next spring. You will need to leave it as it is at present, then, next spring, shorten back all the shoots, taking out all the dead wood.

How to Kill Daisies on Lawns.

What is the best chemical to use to mix with sand in order to kill daisies on lawns? I have plenty of sand and propose to mix the chemical here myself, as I have a large extent to dress it would be too costly to buy lawn sand.—R. G. A., Cork.

Hand-weeding is the most effectual way of getting rid of coarse weeds and daisies. But you may mix nitrate of soda with the sand. Dissolve one ounce of the soda in one gallon of water and water the liquid on spread-out sand, one bushel of the latter. This is a safe strength to use. The sand, whether one bushel or ten, should be turned over twice after being so watered, allowed to dry in an open, dry shed, then applied. The nitrate will cause a strong growth of the coarser grasses.

A New Rose Garden.

I am making new rose beds, four large diamond-shaped ones outside and four smaller inside, two corner ones to be reds and two pinks, four inside to be yellow and cream. The locality is between Cheltenham and Gloucester, and the position a wet clay. Eight roses wanted for the two reds, I think of General McArthur and Hugh Dickson; two pinks, Caroline Testout; four yellow or cream, Golden Emblem, Melanie Soupert, Mme. Ravary. These roses all do well with me, but there may be better ones. One and a half to two dozen in a bed would be the number of roses I should use.—C. S. G.

General McArthur is certainly one of the best red roses, and if you can grow Hugh Dickson well, it is certainly the best crimson. It sometimes varies in colour, and throws out two long shoots, but probably your neighbourhood suits it to perfection. Caroline Testout is, without doubt, one of the best pinks. For your other one I should be inclined to use Mrs. Henry Morse. It is rather subject to mildew, but this is only serious if it is allowed to grow rank. For yellows or creams you should include two which you mention, Golden Emblem and Melanie Soupert. For the third we should suggest Christine, whose only fault is that it is rather a smaller rose than the others, and for the fourth we should suggest the Rev. F. Page Roberts, which never loses its colour, even in the strongest sun.

Pruning of Cordon Fruit Trees.

I should be much obliged if you would give me particulars as to the pruning of first-year cordon fruit trees. I have just planted some of these, apples and plums, on the top of a bank which is protected by the house from north and east, and to some extent by low walls from all quarters but south-west. Will it be necessary, either now or later, to stake the trees? If so, I presume stakes should be placed at once to avoid disturbance of the roots later.—M. D., Dublin.

Cordon fruit trees should not be pruned during the first year after planting. They should be allowed to become established before any proper pruning is done. Any damaged or very weak shoots may be removed now, but severe pruning should not be attempted until next year, when the leader should be shortened back to within 18ins. of the ground and all side growths should be spur pruned. These young cordons should be carefully staked at once. They can be trained in an upright or in an oblique position, and a strong stake should be placed near the base of each tree. Strips of sacking should be bound round each tree in two positions, and these tied to the stake. This will prevent any rubbing. From time to time during the winter these ties should be undone and readjusted, as the ground nearly always sinks after planting, and the trees would otherwise become "hung" to the stakes. The stakes should be made of strong, well seasoned wood, and the portion in the ground should be tarred, as these stakes will be permanent.

How to deal with Unsatisfactory Hollyhocks.

I shall be much obliged if you can tell me why I cannot grow hollyhocks successfully in my garden. The plants at first appear healthy and strong, but as soon as the flowers appear the leaves begin to wither and turn black, so that as soon as they are in full bloom the plants are practically without leaves. I am not growing any this year on this account. —M. G., Guernsey.

It would appear that your hollyhocks are attacked each year by the dreaded disease hollyhock rust. This is a fungoid disease which in some districts is very serious. The spore clusters of the fungus occur as hard brown warts on the underside of the leaves and as elongated streaks on the stems. The chief causes of the spread of this disease are the growing of hollyhocks for too long a period in the same situation and poor soil. Hollyhocks are "gross feeders," and the soil in which they are growing soon becomes impoverished. The hollyhock site should be changed every few years and the soil well enriched. The plants should be treated as biennials. All hollyhocks infected with hollyhock rust should be burnt and the ground treated with lime, and you should avoid planting in the same position for several years.

Plants for a Trellis.

I have just completed laying out a garden of a new house. It consists of a lawn with a border all round 3ft. wide. The boundary fence is raised up to 6ft. with trellis. Will you please suggest a suitable plant to cover the trellis? I would like privet, but am afraid that would affect the flowers which may be grown in the border.—E. K., Wembley.

We should suggest that you might plant a rambler rose on the trellis which you mention if the soil is at all suitable for rose culture. If you do not like a rose, why not try an evergreen clematis, such as C. Armandii? If you wish shrubby subjects, we should advise you to grow one or two pyracanthas, such species as coccinea do rather well.

Shrubs for Shady Positions.

I have a semi-circular plot at the front of my house next the road, measuring, roughly, 36ft. by 15ft. At one side of this outside my garden there is a large chestnut tree, and I find that while the one half of this plot grows herbaceous plants well, nothing will grow in the other half, not even the grass border, the division being very striking. Can you tell me what to do with this? The soil here is very dry and sandy. I thought of planting the whole bed with flowering and ornamental shrubs. Would this be advisable and, if so, what kind should I get, and when?—H. C., Weybridge.

Your suggestion of growing a border of ornamental shrubs under a chestnut tree is, we think, a good one. You will, however, require to be limited in your choice, and only plant such kinds as do well in half-shade. You might, under the circumstances, plant such kinds as sarcococca (an elegant little plant for such a position), Euonymus radicans variegatus and Hypericum calycinum. This latter plant is an exceedingly pretty little evergreen, and soon forms a most effective bank under trees. Butcher's broom, Ruscus aculeatus, is also another good one. These can be obtained this autumn and placed in position within the next few weeks. These are all low-growing plants and would do well in such a position as you mention.

Cleansing Fruit Trees.

On removing old grease bands from apple trees, which had been untouched for two seasons, a number of maggots and other insects were found eating into the bark. Would you kindly advise what to do to destroy these without further injury to the trees? Do you advise lime washing the trunks in place of grease-banding, is it as efficacious and, if so, when should this be done?—B. M. S., Whitstable.

We should suggest that you spray the trunks of your fruit trees with one of the caustic washes during the winter months after the trees have been pruned. This is the most effective means of clearing the trunks of the trees from all lichens which harbour the eggs of insects. Care must be taken in applying the wash, and it is advisable to wear gloves, as the burning action is rather strong. Grease bands should still continue to be put on, however, if there is any chance of attack from the winter moth.

Mildew on Peaches.

Would you be good enough to advise suitable treatment for a peach tree that has suffered from mildew for two seasons? The crop was exceptionally heavy this year, but, unfortunately, very few ripened completely on the tree. It is on a south wall and was thoroughly syringed with sulphur mixture during the growing season, and I thought something might now be done that may prevent the misfortune next year.—E. O., Dorset.

A peach tree which has suffered from mildew should be well washed with Gishurst's Compound at pruning time. When the pruning is finished and before the tree is tied up again scrub the tree all over with a solution of this compound, which contains soft soap, paraffin and sulphur. Gishurst's Compound is obtainable from any horticultural sundriesman. Use a soft scrubbing brush for the main branches and a soft camel-hair brush for the thin laterals. Take care to brush upwards always so that the buds are not rubbed off. During the growing season we advise you to spray your peach tree with a mild solution of lime sulphur.

A Hedge Plant for an Exposed Position.

I have a bank 4ft. wide and 4ft. high, 60yds. long, made in June, of subsoil from virgin land (house building), with a foot of top spit on it. It faces south, and backs my garden. The site is very windswept. Can you suggest hedge for top of this bank to grow 6ft. about? Or taller? I intend to plant an herbaceous border in front of bank. The bank is dry. I thought of Berberis stenophylla or Olearia macrodonta. Mahonia too low and heavy probably too dry for this. Escallonia macrantha might do.—E. T., Porlock.

You might try Cupressus macrocarpa in the situation which you mention. It is a plant which will reach fully 8ft. in height, is quick growing and will stand a fair amount of exposure. It soon makes a bushy hedge if planted when about 3ft. high at intervals of about 2ft. apart, and makes quite a graceful hedge also. Certainly Escallonia macrantha would make quite a desirable hedge, but Cupressus macrocarpa would suit your purpose better.

Digitized by Google

BULBS

We invite immediate application for our

BULB CATALOGUE,

nowing that the very fine uality of our bulbs enables s to offer exceptionally good alue for money.

Send for a copy of the BULB CATALOGUE at once.

Bakers

SEED AND FLOWER FARM

CODSALL

Near Wolverhampton

ice Plants that will Grow

Dianthus Lindsayii - - -	1/6 each.
Gentiana Farreri - - -	1/6 ,,
,, Sino-ornata - -	1/- ,,
Meconopsis quintuplinerva	5/- ,,

KELLEY, Alpine Specialist, CRIEFF

can only tackle them e at a time, BUT—

/ERMOL

LLS WORMS AND IOWS GOOD GRASS

VERMOL gets the lot.

rmol Products COMPANY

ST. MARY AXE NDON, E.C. 3

Teles.: 1869 and 1870.

Teleg.: Phosphorus, Phone, London."

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

"Rhododendrons for Everyone," by Capt. F. Kingdon Ward. Published by the *Gardeners' Chronicle*, Limited, price 3s. 6d. The rhododendron is no longer the plant of the specialist; it has become a commoner, suitable for all gardens, both big and little, and naturally with the increase in its popularity and its more extensive cultivation, there has arisen a demand for information in the growing of these shrubs. The present volume supplies the need to a certain extent. Much useful information is contained in the various chapters on garden rhododendrons, and rhododendrons in the wild, together with selected species and hybrids for general garden purposes. Although chapters on classification and distribution are mainly of interest to those who are enthusiasts, yet the beginner will find much useful information on the genus given in those chapters which will be valuable to him in the growing of the plants. It is necessary when dealing with such a large and widespread genus to evolve some concrete taxonomic basis on which to work and it is wise to give the beginner an idea of the system and its value to the grower. The beginner in rhododendrons will find the list of selected species and hybrids of great help in making a choice for his garden. The author has confined himself to species which are, on the whole, easily obtainable, which is a point of some importance.

The style is simple and lucid and essentially the author's own, so that the amateur will have no difficulty in understanding every page. It is well printed and remarkably free from errors in nomenclature. The eighteen illustrations are good in so far as they indicate, to some extent, the wide difference of size and form of the flowers of the various species, but a few reproductions of plants growing in gardens of this country would have been of more assistance to the lay reader, and give him an idea of the effects to be obtained by planting a few of the more common species in his garden. It is a helpful little book, inexpensive and one well suited to the needs of the amateur gardener.

"Violet Culture, for Pleasure and Profit," by F. E. Dillistone. Ernest Benn, Limited, price 2s. net. An instructive handbook, essentially practical in its outlook and information, which all amateurs should find of great assistance in the growing of violets, either on a commercial basis or in the private garden.

The 1927 National Gladiolus Show.

THE secretary of the Society writes to inform us that the Society has accepted the kind invitation of the Taunton Horticultural Society to hold the 1927 fixture in conjunction with their show.

Make your Garden Beautiful in Winter.

PLANTS TO GROW AND HOW TO GROW THEM.
Illustrated in Colour and Black and White.
By A. W. DARNELL. Price £1 1 0 Nett.

Publishers:—L. REEVE & CO., LTD.,
6, Henrietta St., Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

BEAUTIFUL BERBERIS

No other hardy shrub has quite the same attraction in Summer, Autumn, Winter and Spring as the many lovely varieties of Berberis, the following are a few of the most attractive.

concinna	..	1/6 each; 15/- dozen.
Darwinii	..	2/- each; 24/- dozen.
Irwinii	..	2/- each; 21/- dozen.
polyantha	..	1/6 each; 15/- dozen.
Prattii	..	1/6 and 2/6 each.
prulnosa	..	1/6 and 2/6 each.
staphiana	..	1/6 each; 15/- dozen.
stenophylla	..	2/- each; 24/- dozen.
Thunbergii	..	1/6 each.
virescens	..	1/6 each.
Wilsonii	..	1/6 each; 18/- dozen.

For other varieties see our Tree Catalogue posted free on application.

JOHN JEFFERIES & SON, LTD.,
Royal Nurseries, Cirencester.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

AUCTION SALES OF

BULBS

PROTHEROE & MORRIS

EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY at 67,68 Cheapside, London, E.C.2.

Write for Catalogues - Phone City 3656

BURBAGE ROSES

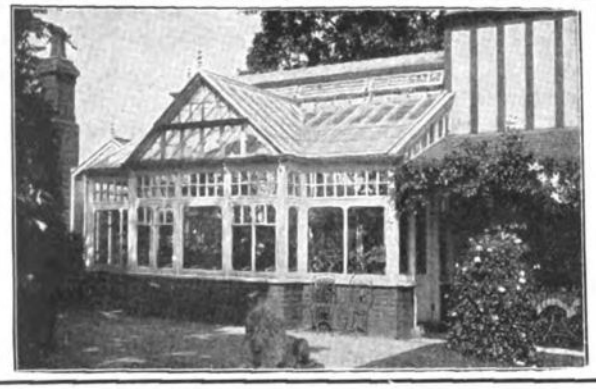
A collection of 12 of the best varieties. First size Trees, Guaranteed British Grown and true to name, for 12/6 Carriage Paid. - Cash with order.

Betty Uprichard	**Los Angeles**
Clarice Goodacre	**Independence Day**
Mrs. H. Morse	**Madame Butterfly**
Miss Willmott	**Mrs. Wemyss Quin**
Mrs. H. Stevens	**Gen. McArthur**
Walter C. Clarke	**Frau Karl Druschki**

THE BURBAGE NURSERIES LTD.,
Nr. Hinckley, Leicestershire.

Please mention this Paper.

Digitized by Google



FOSTER & PEARSON LIMITED

Established 1841

Please write for Estimates for durable Greenhouses, Boilers, etc., to

BEESTON NOTTS

LOWE & GIBSON,

Crawley Down, SUSSEX

New Border Carnations

If any of our Customers have not received our new list, we shall be happy to rectify the omission on receipt of a p.c. Every Carnation grower should - - send for a copy. - -

Special offers of June-flowering IRISES are made in the same catalogue.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Special cheap offer of FLOWERING BULBS suitable for naturalising purposes in Garden Walks, Drives, Plantations, etc.

F.O.R. Wisbech Station. Cash with order. Packing free.

	112lb.	56lb.	28lb.	14lb.
NARCISSI.				
Sir Watkin	80/-	42/-	22/-	12/-
Ornatus	80/-	42/-	22/-	12/-
Emperor	60/-	32/-	17/-	10/-
Horafieldi	60/-	32/-	17/-	10/-
Empress	60/-	32/-	17/-	10/-
Golden Spur	70/-	37/-	20/-	11/-
Victoria	60/-	32/-	17/-	10/-
Barrii Conspic.	40/-	22/-	12/-	7/-
White Lady	100/-	52/-	27/-	15/-
Van Zion (Old Yellow double Daff.)	40/-	22/-	12/-	7/-
Pheasant Eye	30/-	16/-	9/-	5/-
Princeps	30/-	16/-	9/-	5/-
Scilly Whites	30/-	16/-	9/-	5/-
Mixed Narcissus and Daffodil Bulbs	30/-	16/-	9/-	5/-
DARWIN TULIPS.				
Clara Butt	60/-	32/-	17/-	10/-
Inglescombe Yellow	60/-	32/-	17/-	10/-
Rev. E. W. Ewbank	60/-	32/-	17/-	10/-
Mixed Darwin Tulips	50/-	27/-	15/-	9/-

This is a very cheap way of buying. Worth double the money

Snowdrop Bulbs, Singles and Doubles,	Per 1,000	20/-
Hyacinths, Mixed	Per 100	30/-
Grape Hyacinths (Heavenly Blue)	Per 1,000	£2 & £3
Lilium candidum (Old Madonna Lily)	Per 100	£2
Crown Imperials	Per 100	£2
Dutch Iris (earlier than Spanish Iris), mixed	Per 1,000	£1 10s.
Dutch Iris (earlier than Spanish Iris), to name	Per 1,000	£2 & £3
Blue Bells	Per 1,000	£1 10s.

CROSS & CO.,

Elm Road House—WISBECH.

CYCLAMEN

The Finest Strain in the World.

There is nothing to equal these glorious plants for winter flowering.

Grand plants in 5-in. pots. Fine selection of colours. **25/-** and **30/-** per doz.

Blackmore & Langdon

BATH.

Special Autumn Offer

Order NOW for delivery in November.

12 Gooseberries
"WHINHAM'S INDUSTRY."
12 Black Currants
"SEABROOK'S" (Mite resisting).
12 Red Currants
"RABY CASTLE."

The above 36 strong, well-grown Fruiting Bushes for 20/- Carriage Paid for Cash with Order. Half the above numbers for 10/-

Descriptive Catalogue of Fruit Trees, Roses, Ornamental Trees and Shrubs, free on application.

The FOREST & ORCHARD NURSERIES, L
BUCKOVER, FALFIELD, GLOS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

For Present Use in the Garden

"FERRY BRAND"

Regd. *Trade Mark*

GARDEN MANURE
SOIL PEST DESTROYER

"FERRY" GARDEN MANURE gives back to the soil the Phosphates, Potash, Nitrogen and other foods that have been taken up by the growing plants during this year. It is the finest manure for general garden purposes. Apply at the rate of 2 to 3 ozs. per square yard.

14 lb., **3/6**; **28** lb., **6/-**; **56** lb., **11/6**; 1 cwt., **21/-**.

"FERRY" SOIL PEST DESTROYER sweetens and sterilises the soil and destroys pests, such as slugs, wireworms, caterpillars, ants, etc. Its use provides a quick, sure and reliable way of freeing your land from all insect pests. Apply 2 to 3 oz. per square yard.

14 lb., **3/6**; **28** lb., **6/-**; **56** lb., **11/6** **1** cwt., **21/-**.

ALL PRICES CARR. PAID TO NEAREST STATION FOR CASH WITH ORDER.

Agents wanted throughout England for "Ferry" Specialities.

The BRITON FERRY CHEMICAL AND MANURE CO., LTD. (Dept. E), Briton Ferry, S. Wales. (Est. 1886).

KNAP HILL NURSERY

WOKING, SURREY

(Late Anthony Waterer)

The Executors of the late HOSEA WATERER

have pleasure in offering

STANDARD TREES

in great variety, consisting of

LIMES, NORWAY MAPLES, ELMS, etc., etc.
EVERGREEN & DECIDUOUS SHRUBS, viz.:

Box—Green and Variegated, 3 to 8 ft.
Hollies—Common, 5 to 8 ft.; Variegated and Green varieties, 2 to 6 ft.
Thuiopsis borealis, 10 to 12 ft. Cupressus Lawsoniana, 12 to 14 ft. Cedrus atlantica glauca, very fine, 14 to 16 ft. Osmanthus, Phillyrœas, Spiræas, Lilacs, Viburnums, etc.

GOLDEN YEWS

A Magnificent Stock in all shapes and sizes from 2 to 10 ft.

PRIVET, Common and Oval-leaved.
QUICK and **HORNBEAM** for Hedges.
AZALEAS, in great varieyt, 2 to 5 ft.
RHODODENDRONS, without doubt the finest stock in the trade of named varieties, 2 to 6 and 8 ft.
HARDY HEATHS in great variety and a good general nursery stock.
Catalogues ready.

Enquiries and Inspection invited.

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING STATION, SURREY

THE DOG: MAN'S FIRMEST FRIEN

How to choose and care for him, by A. CROXTON SMI copy of this helpful booklet on the housing, breeding, and care of dogs will be sent post free on receipt addressed to The Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMIT Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

"THE GARDEN"

Climbing Ros

COMPETITION

Name.....

Address.....

.....

1 .....

2 .....

3 .....

4 .....

5 .....

6 .....

Coupon October

CUT OUT AROUND LINE.

Digitized by Google

HAVE YOU PROVIDED?

The United Horticultural Benefit and Provident Society

PROVIDES 27/- per week in illness for 1/1½; 18/- for 9d.; or 12/- for 6d., weekly contributions.

PROVIDES your dependents with £10, £15 or £20 at death, according to Scale.

PROVIDES you with a Savings Bank.

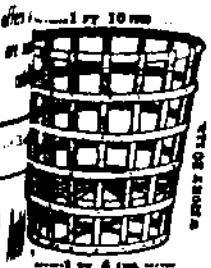
PROVIDES grants from Distress and Convalescent Funds.

PROFIT BY THE EXPERIENCE OF A MEMBER WHO HAS £150 TO HIS CREDIT

State Insured members of this Society may also Contribute to the private Section, and by so doing will add to their Benefits in accordance with the Scale they adopt.

A. C. HILL, Secretary, 35, Alexandra Road, WEST KENSINGTON, W.14

VULCAN GARDEN REFUSE INCINERATOR



Garden and household refuse reduced to ashes quickly, cleanly, with minimum amount of smoke. Will take a barrow load of rubbish at a charge.

British Manufacture.

PRICE EACH **10/-**

Carriage paid nearest Railway Station - 2 for 18/-

Larger size 2 for 22/6 **12/6**

"The incinerator arrived on Wednesday, and after two soaking nights I had no difficulty in ing a good fire from exposed material. I burnt up in sour what would have taken me all day with a bonfire."

THE LOSTOCK IRON BASKET WORKS, 1, Griffiths Lane, Lostock Gralam, nr. Northwich

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

HILL & SMITH, Ltd., BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS,

Makers of

IRON FENCING, HURDLES, GATES, WIRE, NETTING AND GARDEN IRONWORK

Other Products—Hay and Grain Sheds, Dutch Barns, Galvanized Corrugated Sheets and Structural Steelwork.

Catalogue free on mentioning this paper.

London: 900, Abbey House, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

WEED-DEATH NON POISONOUS POWDER **WEED KILLER**

SAFETY FIRST FOR ANIMALS AND PEOPLE

Non-caustic; colourless; no smells; kills the roots; superior to arsenical compounds.

TINS, 1/- 2/- 3/6 6/6 12/-
for 4 12½ 25 50 100 gals.

SPECIAL. For Parks and Recreation Grounds—in bulk.

ALSO

LETHORION FUMIGATOR

Improved Nicotine Cone

Certain destruction to all pests in glasshouses.

No. 1, for 1,000 cubic feet	.. ..	10d.
No. 2, ,, 1,500 ,, ,,	.. ..	1/3
No. 3, ,, 2,500 ,, ,,	.. ..	1/9

Sold by all Seedsmen and Nurserymen.

CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, LONDON, S.E.1

BY APPOINTMENT

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

The BEST and CHEAPEST

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

FANCY FERN PANS and BULB BOWLS from **4d.** each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.
Royal Potteries, BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by "ALPHOL"

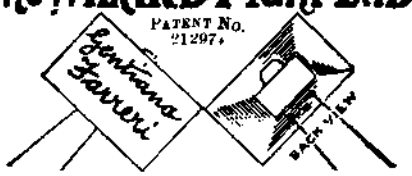
Sample 14 lb., 3/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

The WIZARD Plant LABEL

PATENT No. 21297



Made in Red Pottery, 3½ x 1½ ins., with rustless wires 12 in., 3/3 doz.; 7 in., 1/9 doz. 1 x 1 in., with wires 6 in., 1/6 doz. For tying on, 3/6 and 2/6 doz. Waterproof Ink, 9d. and 7½d. bot. Crow Quills, 2d. Postage extra

Highly commended by the R.H.S. at Wisley.

E. TORKINGTON NEW HALL . MAIDENHEAD

Even Birds

—to say nothing of slugs, snails, worms, and other soil-pests, shun crops protected with

SANITAS POWDER

Sprinkle on soil, dust on seeds, dust over trenches, put into drills. The saving is enormous. There is no poison in it. Get a 1/3 Tin to-day, or write to us for bulk quotations.

THE "SANITAS" CO. LTD.
LIMEHOUSE, LONDON, E.

The Service Bureau Coupon.

THE GARDEN, *October 23rd* 1926.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

This Coupon must accompany each enquiry along with a stamped addressed envelope.

See page 610

THE SERVICE DEPT., "THE GARDEN,"
20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2

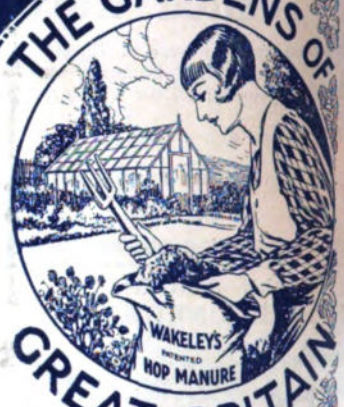
Digitized by Google

WAKELEY'S Celebrated Hop Manure

(PATENTED)

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

AS USED IN THE GARDENS OF GREAT BRITAIN



DIPLOMA AND MEDAL, ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION, 1912

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE, without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

Every ounce of Wakeley's Hop Manure is of value to the soil, supplying the necessary HUMUS in addition to the valuable plant food. Worthless rubbish is not added to make weight (as is the case of some artificial manures advertised).

Thousands do realise it, the proof of this is the constant flow of UNSOLICITED LETTERS received from time to time in praise of the wonderful results obtained at such a moderate cost (see Booklet for selection).

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.—Genuine Only in our Marked Bags containing Guaranteed Analysis.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.

CASH PRICES (including bags):

Small (about 1 bushel)	3/-
Large (about 4 bushels)	7/-
5 Large	33/9
10 Large	65/-
20 Large	120/-

Carriage paid by Pickford's or to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company; 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.

75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

Small Orchards

No matter how small or large the orchard, it pays to use Stictite Tree Banding Compound.

Winter Moth rises from the soil early in October or late September, and the females (being wingless), at once crawl up the tree trunks in order to deposit their eggs in the branches.

By banding the trees with Stictite in the autumn you can prevent the eggs being laid, and so avoid having to spray for the caterpillars in the spring.

1 lb. of Stictite will do 9 to 12 trees of about 8 in. diameter.

½-lb. 1/6 (post 6d.); 1-lb. 2/9 (post 6d.); 2-lb. 5/- (post 9d.); 4-lb. 10/- (post 9d.); 7-lb. 17/6 (post 1/-).

Greaseproof Paper, 5 ins. wide: 6 yds., 2d.; 12 yds., 3d.; 25 yds., 6d.; 50 yds., 9d.; 100 yds., 1/6; 200 yds., 2/6.

Write for Descriptive Folder.

Stictite is sold by Nurserymen, Seedsmen, Florists, Ironmongers, Chemists & Stores. If any difficulty, please write to Abol Limited, 9, Beltring, Paddock Wood, Kent.

Stictite

Recommended for Roses, Bulbs, all other Flowers and Fruit Trees.

The Helichrysa Permanent LABEL

Registered Trade Mark.

From 2/- per doz.

Write for circular and full particulars to:—

THE "HELICHRYSA" PERMANENT LABEL CO.

8, Rusthall Park, TUNBRIDGE WELLS

Patent 245842

"It warms my Greenhouse nicely at a cost of **about 2d. per day**, which I think very reasonable. I am a new beginner with a Greenhouse, and your

'HORSE SHOE' BOILER

took my fancy. I have not regretted my choice," writes Mr. F. G., Clifford, Boston Spa. 23/3/26

Cold weather comes soon. Write for particulars now

To CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD.,
Engineers, Southwark Street, S.E.1.

Please send me Booklet E "Making the Most of Your Greenhouse," and price of complete Outfit to suit *(span-roof) (lean-to) greenhouse..... long.....wide inside, side of *(wood) (brick).....thick.

Name.....

Address.....

*Strike out particulars not needed. Cut out and send by ½d. post.

Can be supplied from Immediate Stock

USED IN THE R.H.S. GARDENS

Wire: "Kinnell Borough London." 'Phone: Hop 0362 (3 lines)

CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., Ltd.

65, SOUTHWARK STREET, LONDON, S.E.1

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

GENERAL LIBRARY
UNIV. OF MICH.
NOV 10 1926

THE GARDEN

THE AMATEUR GARDENERS' PAPER

Vol. XC.—No. 2865 Saturday, October 30th, 1926 Price TWOPENCE

OUR NATIONAL FLOWER.

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
New Alpines and Perennials
Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
Specialists in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

T. J. EVANS & SON,
(G) WHIPLEY NURSERIES
WOOD STREET,
Nr. GUILDFORD.
Roses, Fruit Trees, Shrubs, etc. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD,
CHELSEA, S.W.
Bulb Catalogue Now Ready

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

H. PRINS
BULB AND PLANT GROWERS
WISBECH, CAMBS.
Bulb list free on application

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
LINCS.
Wood Destroyers Fertilizers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

TUBS FOR SHRUBS. WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 100 prizes. R.H.S. Medal. 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. — Price List from A. PRADAL, 26, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

XL ALL Specialities

Registered Trade Mark.

Have been the most popular Garden Requisites for the past 30 years.

XL ALL Liquid Nicotine Insecticide
provides the finest solution for spraying plants and fruit trees; perfectly safe to use on tender Spring growth.
Nothing to equal it for Apple Sucker, Fly and Caterpillars on Fruit Trees.
Fine for spraying Roses.

XL ALL Nicotine Vaporising Fumigator
either in Liquid or Cake, is still unsurpassed.

XL ALL Nicotine Fumigating Shreds
No apparatus required.

A New Introduction!
XL ALL Leaf Miner Insecticide
for Marguerites, Chrysanthemums, Cinerarias, etc. An infallible remedy.

SUPPLIES TO BE OBTAINED FROM SEEDSMEN, NURSERYMEN, SEEDSMEN AND FLORISTS

Please ask for small Pink Price List, giving particulars of the above, and many other XL ALL treasures.

Manufacturers:
G. H. RICHARDS LTD.,
234, Borough High St., London, S.E.

Chase Continuous Cloche

should be used through winter to protect Sweet Peas, Parsley, Lettuce, Curing Christmas Roses, etc.

Tent Shape, Size A, 12 for 18/-; 52 for 55
Barn Shape, No. 1, 6 for 18/-; 26 for 55

CHASE ALPINE CLIPS hold any glass to Alpine plants. 3/6 per doz.
Above prices include carriage to any railway station England and Wales, or part carriage elsewhere

SECTIONAL FRUIT RACKS build up to size. Each section contains 5 trays of 4 sq One section, 25/-; two sections, 45/- fo

Full particulars, Cloches, Clips, Racks: PART

CHASE CONTINUOUS CLOCHE, Chertsey, Su

DARWIN TULIPS FIRST QUALITY ONLY.

Illustrated list post free on application.

10/- orders post free, otherwise 9d. extra.

100 Darwin Tulips in 10 fine varieties - 8/6
50 " " 10 " " - 4/6

	100	Doz.
Baron de la Tonnaye, rose pink, margined blush	8/-	1/3
Clara Butt, salmon-rose	7/6	1/-
Douglas, wine red	8/6	1/2
Dream, large-flowered lilac	10/6	1/6
Esterpe, beautiful lilac	10/-	1/4
Farncombe Sanders, large fiery scarlet	10/6	1/6
Glow, vermilion scarlet	12/6	1/8
Harry Veitch, rich blood red	10/6	1/6
Loveliness, soft carmine rose	9/-	1/3
Madame Krelage, bright lilac rose, large	11/6	1/6
Margaret, silvery rose	8/6	1/2
Nauticus, purplish rose	9/-	1/3
Painted Lady, cream white, tinged heliotrope	9/6	1/4
Philip de Commines, large velvety maroon	11/-	1/6
Pride of Haarlem, brilliant rose scarlet	8/6	1/2
Rev. Ewbank, bright heliotrope	10/-	1/4
The Sultan, nearly black	7/6	1/-
Wm. Copland (Sweet Lavender), soft lilac	9/-	1/3
Zulu, deep velvety violet black, large	10/6	1/6
Darwin Tulips in finest mixture	6/-	10d.

Satisfaction Guaranteed or money refunded.

WILLIAM HELPS,
Bulb Merchant, **Woodford Green, Essex**

NEW MICHAELMAS DAISY
BARR'S PINK

The Finest Pink Michaelmas Daisy yet raised.

The flowers, which are semi-double, large and open, are of a bright rose-pink with showy gold and bronze central disc. Excellent as a cut flower, lasting well in water, and equally charming in artificial light as in daylight. The plant is of elegant and graceful habit, THE FINEST PINK MICHAELMAS DAISY YET RAISED; height, 4½ ft. Award of Merit at the R.H.S. Wisley Trials, 1925, and Silver-Gilt Banksian Medal at the R.H.S. Great Autumn Show, Holland Park, Sept. 21st, 1926.

Strong plants .. .. per doz., 25/-; each, 2/6
Extra large plants .. .. " 36/-; " 3/6

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.
Nurseries—BATH ROAD, TAPLOW, BUCKS.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

AT TO PLANT, WHEN TO PLANT? REES WILL TELL YOU. Catalogues beautifully illustrated with copious cultural notes are issued of the following: roses, fruit trees, herbaceous and alpine plants, rhododendrons, azaleas, evergreen, flowering, hedgemaking and screening shrubs; also "YOUR NEW GARDEN," a publication designed to assist economically the making of your new garden. Any of the above gladly sent free.—JOHN WATERER, SONS AND CRISP LIMITED, Twyford, Berks.

HIMALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODENDRONS, on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and Alpine Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write for catalogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

MCKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE. The original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See testimonials on back page.

JOHN DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., Tottenham Road, South Tottenham, N.15.—Conservatories, Winter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

HOUSES' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUNDIALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—MARSHALL & SON, 60, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

FENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Wattle Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE BOYLE BY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, Surrey.

BARGAINS' DUTCH BULBS. Quality at Moderate Prices. Descriptive Catalogue now running over 700 Named Varieties, including various Novelties. Also Cultural Directions, sent post free. Please mention this paper.—V. D. CLEMENTS & Co., 12, Stockton Gardens, Cheadham, London, N.17.

BORDER CARNATIONS.—200 varieties, 14 varieties, from 5/6; 50 in 50 ditto, from 25/-; carriage paid. Lists free. J. HAYWARD, Chace Gardens, Chase Road, Purbrook, Cosham, Hants.

CONIFERS, ROCK AND HERBACEOUS PLANTS, Dwarf Conifers and Shrubs, Bulbs for the Rock Garden, etc. New catalogue ready, post free.—SHEPPARDS, Fairhurst Nursery, Hollywood, Birmingham.

GLASS HORTICULTURAL, all sizes stocked; Rough Glass Plate for poultry houses. Ready Mixed Paints, Putty, Diamonds, etc.—BRITISH GLASS COMPANY, Dept. "G.N.," Glass Builders, Church Street, Liverpool.

LABELS.—Patent metal, so simple to write on; can't fade or break. Trial offer bargain; 100 with wire stakes, 50 tie wires, 1 pocket nail, 10/- free. The R.H.S. Garden, Chelsea. Lists.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

MARSKELL'S HOP MANURE.—Best substitute for stable manure, 56lbs., 4/-; cwt., 6/-. Times Guano, the all-round fertiliser, 56lb., 5/-; cwt. 8/6. Ground garden Lime, 56lb., 4/-; cwt., 6/-. Screened Gas Lime, cwt., 5/-. Soot, Bone Meal, Dog Manure, etc., supplied. Booklets free.—MARSKELL'S LTD., Canning Road, West Ham, E.15.

NOW IS THE TIME TO LOOK TO YOUR GARDEN. "THE HOME GARDEN BOOKS" deal with every branch of the art. Send for pamphlet C, post free, from THORNE-BUTTERWORTH, LIMITED, 15, Bedford Street, London, W.C.2

GARDEN FOR SALE, FREEHOLD. Recently started as Market Garden by old Swanley student. Well stocked with fruit trees. Pigstyes, garage, etc. Owner going abroad.—MELTHAM, Freshwater, Isle of Wight.

NECESSARY AUTUMN MANURING. Basic Slag and all kinds of Fertilisers. Many thousands of tons sold annually. Absolute lowest prices. Descriptive list free.—JAMES & GEO. H. MATTHEWS, Harold Wood, Essex. 'Phone, Romford 284.

THE VEITCHBERRY. The finest Hybrid Berry yet raised. The fruit is twice the size of a Raspberry, with a delicious flavour, and is splendid for dessert and culinary purposes. It is absolutely self fertile and therefore sets freely. Young plants 7/6 each, 84/- per dozen.—LAXTON BROTHERS, Nurserymen, Bedford.

RARE PRIMULA AND ALPINE SEEDS A large (2,000) collection. Also plants and rockery bulbs, list free.—REV. J. F. ANDERSON, Glen Hall, Leicester.

BARR'S GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS.—The finest sorts for Pots, Bowls, Exhibition, Flower Borders and to Naturalise. Descriptive Catalogue free.

BARR'S HYACINTHS, TULIPS, LILIES, CROCUSES, IRISES, etc., for Pots, Bowls and Flower Borders. Finest quality. Descriptive catalogue free.

BARR'S HARDY PERENNIALS, ALPINES, ROCK PLANTS, CLIMBERS, etc., for Autumn planting. Catalogue free.—BARR AND SONS, 11, 12 and 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx and perpetual habit. They flourish in the coldest parts of Britain. Extract, *The Times*: "Mr. Douglas is the leading raiser of this flower. His wonderful strain of new cloves is superb." Plant list is now ready.—J. DOUGLAS, Great Bookham.

JOIN THE BRITISH GLADIOLUS SOCIETY. Annual subscription, 5/-. Particulars from Hon. Sec., A. E. AMOS, 10, Bergholt Road, Colchester.

Yearly Subscription, Inland, 18s.; Foreign, 18s.
Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2.
Offices for Advertisements: 6–11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Notes of the Week	611
Plants at Their Best in Autumn	612
The Rose Garden	613
The Busy Man's Page	615
Flower Garden Notes	616
Are You Preparing for Next Year's Rock Garden?	617
The Making of a Small Rose Garden	618
Economical Heating	620
The Fruit and Kitchen Garden	621
What Our Readers Say	622
Shrubs for the Small Garden	623
Hints Worth Remembering	624
Nurseries of the British Isles—VI., Messrs. Laxton Brothers	624
Our Service Bureau	625

HEWITT'S HARDY PLANT CATALOGUE, free on application.

HEWITT'S DELPHINIUMS, famous the world over for their marvellous size and quality. Please write for our catalogues.

HEWITT'S BULBS.—The finest obtainable at reasonable prices. List free on application.

HEWITT'S ROSES.—Catalogues of all the finest and newest varieties, free on application.—HEWITT AND CO., LIMITED, Horticultural Specialists, Solihull, Warwickshire.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wirework of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

HERBACEOUS AND ROCK PLANTS. Dianthus neglectus, 8d.; Tiarella cordifolia, 6d.; Verbascum phoenicum, 6d.; Campanulas Everest and Snowdrift, 1/-. Autumn list ready, post free.—FLORA HARDY, Knockholt, Kent.

12 HARDY EVERGREEN AND FLOWERING SHRUBS in 12 different kinds, including Philadelphus, Weigelas, Diplopappus, Veronica, Cupressus, etc., fine young plants for 5/9. Carriage paid.—C. R. SHILLING, 6, Hartley Nursery, Winchfield, Hants.

FRUIT TREES, ROSES, HEDGE PLANTS, ETC., best quality, lowest prices. Catalogue post free, or state requirements and estimate sent.—Write C. R. SHILLING, 6, Hartley Nursery, Winchfield, Hants.

DULAUS are the largest dealers in Horticultural Books. If you are in need of volumes on any Horticultural or Botanical subject, write to DULAU & Co., LTD., 34, Margaret Street, London, W.1.

DOBBIES' FAMOUS BULBS, SCOTCH ROSES and **SWEET PEAS** for Autumn Sowing. Catalogues free on mentioning THE GARDEN.—DOBBIE AND Co., LIMITED, Edinburgh.

BATH'S HOME-GROWN BULBS.—New Illustrated Catalogue of the finest Narcissi, Tulips, etc., as supplied to the Royal Parks and Gardens, with full cultural directions, is now ready, and will be sent post free on application.—(Dept. H.), R. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BRAITHE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS—CHOICE TULIPS, etc. List on application.—THE WELSH BULB FIELDS, St. Asaph.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE!!!—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 89, Albert Street, Lytham.

ROCK PLANTS AND SHRUBS.—Over 300 varieties in stock. Descriptive Catalogue free. Also Herbaceous Plants and Roses.—HODSONS, LIMITED, 58, Castle Gate, Nottingham.

PRIMULA SECUNDIFLORA, the Crimson Sikkimensis. Heads of dangling crimson bells, for bog garden or cool rich soil. 12–18ins. high. Fine pot-grown plants, 9d. each; 3 for 2/6; 6 for 3/9; 12 for 7/6.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED, Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries Sawbridgeworth Herts.

PRIOR'S COLCHESTER ROSES, Fruit Trees, Gladioli, Dahlias, Carnations, Herbaceous. Catalogue containing cheap collections free.—D. PRIOR AND SON, LTD., Colchester.

KNIPHOFIA ERECTA.—The most beautiful, brilliant and interesting of the red-hot pokers. Free, parcel post, 18/- per doz.—GALVIN'S NURSERIES, Wexford.

YORK STONE PAVING, for Garden Paths and lily ponds; rectangular or crazy for rustic work; steps and wall coping; rockery.—GEO. VINT AND BROS., Stone Merchants, Idle, Bradford.

ALPINES AND HARDY ROCK PLANTS. 700 varieties. Catalogue free.—LEE, Alpine Gardens, Stonnford, Birmingham.

GARDEN IMPLEMENTS AND SUNDRIES. Write for Free Illustrated Catalogue from FINCH AND FLEMING, LIMITED, Soar Lane Mills, Leicester.

TO FLOWER NEXT SUMMER, 12 Hydrangeas, assorted carriage paid on receipt of 20/-. A real bargain.—TRESEDER AND CO., The Nurseries, Truro.

LOBELIA CARDINALIS QUEEN VICTORIA, brilliant scarlet, late flowering perennial, 1 doz., post free, for 10/-.—TRESEDER AND CO., as above.

LIME FOR THE GARDEN—Price delivered cash with order, 28lb., 3/6; 56lb., 5/-; 112lb., 8/-. Special quotations for large quantities. Real Cotswold Crazy Paving, Walling Stone, etc.—THOMAS TURNEY AND CO., LTD., Milk Street House, Cheapside, E.C.

CANTERBURY BELLS, mauve, rose and white, in separate colours, 5/- 100; Iceland Poppies, splendid strain, 5/- 100; Perennial Lupins, choice colours, pink, white, rose, mauve, etc., 9/6 100. Carriage paid. All strong plants.—C. R. SHILLING, 6, Hartley Nursery, Winchfield, Hants.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING—"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the imperishable Putty, 82/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/- post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

THE PLANTING SEASON

is fast approaching, and intending planters are advised to place their orders at the earliest possible date in order to secure early delivery.

THE BARNHAM NURSERIES LTD. offer a magnificent stock of

Fruit Trees - - Roses
Alpines - Hardy Perennials
Ornamental Trees & Shrubs
Hedge and Shelter Plants

- and will be glad to send - descriptive catalogues on application.

The BARNHAM NURSERIES Ltd.
BARNHAM, SUSSEX.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

CHEALS OF CRAWLEY

Have over FIFTY YEARS' Experience of GARDEN AND ESTATE PLANTING and General Improvements.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY ACRES of Nursery stocked with a First Class Collection of

Ornamental Trees - Shrubs
FRUIT TREES,
Herbaceous and Alpine Plants,
ROSES, DAHLIAS, and all Garden Requisites.

IT WOULD PAY YOU TO CONSULT THEM.
Catalogues of each Department and an Illustrated Pamphlet on Garden Design.

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.,
***The Nurseries,* CRAWLEY.**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Special Autumn Offer

Order **NOW** for delivery in November.

12 Gooseberries
"WHINHAM'S INDUSTRY."
12 Black Currants
"SEABROOK'S" (Mite resisting).
12 Red Currants
"RABY CASTLE."

The above 36 strong, well-grown Fruiting Bushes for 20/- Carriage Paid for Cash with Order. Half the above numbers for 10/-

Descriptive Catalogue of Fruit Trees, Roses, Ornamental Trees and Shrubs, free on application.

The FOREST & ORCHARD NURSERIES, Ltd.
BUCKOVER, FALFIELD, GLOS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THINK ! ! !

BEFORE YOU BUY YOUR

ROSE TREES

FRANK CANT & CO., Ltd.,
Braiswic Rose Nursery, COLCHESTER, England,

Have the Finest Stock of Trees grown on mixed soils to suit any garden and will be pleased to send, **Post Free**, Illustrated Catalogue which contains the descriptions of nearly 1,000 varieties and most useful **Information** concerning the cultivation of the Rose. We have won in Open Competition over **3,000 Premier Awards** for Roses, and have again won, for the **Third Time** in succession,

THE KING'S CUP (Presented by His Majesty King George V)
THE NATIONAL ROSE SOCIETY'S CHAMPIONSHIP CUP.

THIS WONDERFUL RECORD **PROVES**

FRANK CANT'S are the BEST and CHEAPEST in the LONG RUN.

Hollyhocks, 12 sep. colours, all double **3/6** doz.
Sweet Williams .. .. **2/-** ,,
Canterbury Bells, sep. colours .. **2/3** ,,

SARGEANT,

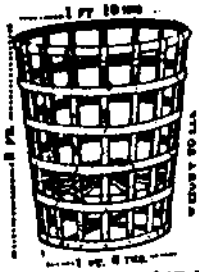
Beeches Nursery, CARSHALTON, SURREY

THE DOWNER LUPIN

is now known all the World over.
Apply for Lupin List; also Herbaceous and Alpine Catalogue.

DOWNER
2, Drayton Manor Nurseries, CHICHESTER

VULCAN GARDEN
REFUSE INCINERATOR



Garden and household refuse reduced to ashes quickly, with minimum amount of attention. Will take a barrow load of rubbish at a charge.

PRICE EACH **10/-**

Carriage paid nearest Station . 5 for 40/-
Larger size 2 for 22/6 **12/6**

"The instructor arrived on Wednesday, and after two evenings I had no difficulty in getting a good fire from exposed material. I have saved an hour what would have taken me all day with a barrow."

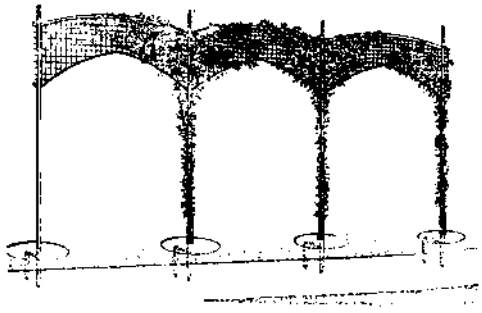
THE LOSTOCK IRON BASKET WORKS,
8/11, Griffiths Lane, Lostock Graiers, nr. Horwich

WOODEN ROSE SCREENS

may be effective in appearance but they are most unsatisfactory in practical use.

ADOPT OUR

IRON and LATTICE SCREENS



which are practically indestructible, and thus avoid disappointment and damage to your roses.

PRICES:

SCREENS, 6ft. by 3ft. deep, 20/- each.

STANDARDS, 9ft. high, 7/6 each

PAINTED

BARNARDS LTD., NORWICH

Digitized by Google

Allens' Roses

ENSURE SUCCESS!

Obtain a copy of our Catalogue before obtaining your Roses.

CONTENTS INCLUDE:

Frank descriptions of novelties, indicating improved forms—Select lists of roses for all purposes—Critical descriptions of over 500 varieties—Six colour plates—Cultural Hints—Rose diseases and their treatment, etc., etc.

SEND A CARD FOR IT TO-DAY.—A complete Handbook of Roses and their culture.

For a limited period and solely to circulate our catalogue we are offering our "Superb" collection of 12 fine Dwarf Roses as below for October delivery. Price **12/-**, *carriage paid. Cash with order.*

BETTY UPRICHARD, the finest rose in commerce; salmon and orange scarlet.
DIADEM, orange crimson suffused salmon.
ETOILE DE HOLLANDE, the finest, fragrant dark crimson rose.
HORTULANUS BUDDE, an effective crimson scarlet.
JAMES WALLEY, rich apricot and salmon.
JULES TABART, silvery salmon, copper centre.
MRS. BECKWITH, clear lemon yellow.
MRS. WEMYSS QUIN, intense lemon chrome.
SOUV. DE GEORGES PERNET, coppery pink.
SUNSTAR, orange tipped vermilion.
THE QUEEN ALEXANDRA, vermilion and old gold.
VANITY, new hybrid musk, large trusses of rose pink flowers.

All first-class varieties in finest quality plants.

STANDARDS IN FIRST QUALITY TREES.

	Each		Each
ADMIRATION	3/6	GOLDEN OPHELIA	3/6
ASPIRANT M. ROUYER	3/6	HADLEY	3/6
BETTY UPRICHARD	3/6	HAWLMARK CRIMSON	3/6
CAROLINE TESTOUT	3/6	HORTULANUS BUDDE	3/6
CHEERFUL	3/6	HUGH DICKSON	3/6
CHRISTINE	4/-	INDEPENDENCE DAY	3/6
CLARICE GOODACRE	3/6	K. OF K.	3/6
COVENT GARDEN	3/6	LADY HILLINGDON	3/-
CLOVELLY	4/-	LADY PIRRIE	3/6
ETOILE DE HOLLANDE	4/-	MME. ABEL CHATENAY	3/6
FRAU KARL DRUSCHKI	3/-	MME. EDOUARD HERRIOT	3/6
GENERAL McARTHUR	3/6	MABEL MORSE	4/-
GOLDEN EMBLEM	4/-	MME. BUTTERFLY	3/6

And numerous other varieties.

Orders for Standards under 15/- in value 1/- extra for packing and carriage.

WEEPING STANDARDS.

Fine specimen trees, 5ft. stems, 5/- each, 6ft. stems, 6/- each.

Alberic Barbier
Albertine
American Pillar
Blush Rambler
Dorothy Perkins
Emily Gray
Havering Rambler
Hiawatha
Jacotte
Leontine Gervaise
Paul's Scarlet Climber
Romeo
Sander's White
Sea Spray, etc., etc.

Order for Standards under 15/- in value 1/- extra for packing and carriage.

The "NORVIC" Collection of 12 Excellent Garden Varieties for 12/- carriage paid and packed free, cash with order only.

Capt. F. Ball, V.C.
Chas. K. Douglas
Clarice Goodacre
General McArthur
Golden Emblem
Hawlmark Crimson
Hortulanus Budde
Lady Pirrie
Los Angeles
Mme. Butterfly
Miriam
Mrs. Henry Bowles

The "NORFOLK" Collection of 12 fine Varieties, including the best of recent introduction, 15/- carriage paid and packed free for cash with order only.

Betty Uprichard
Etoile de Hollande
Emma Wright
F. J. Harrison
Lady Dixon Hartland
Lady Inchiquin
Lord Charlemont
Marcia Stanhope
Mabel Morse
Mrs. Beckwith
Ruth
The Queen Alexandra.

The "EXHIBITORS'" Collection of 12 Reliable Exhibition Varieties in selected plants, 14/- carriage paid and packed free for cash with order only.

Admiration
Argyll
Columbia
Constance Casson
Dean Hole
Dr. Joseph Drew
Earl Haig
Gladys Holland
H. V. Machin
Lady Dixon Hartland
Maud Cuming
W. E. Wallace.

The "MULBARTON" Collection of 12 Climbers (perpetual) for Walls, Pergolas, etc., for 15/- carriage paid and packed free, cash with order only. Any 6 for 8/-.

Climbing Lady Hillingdon
—— Chateau de Clos Vougeot
—— Liberty
Climbing Ophelia
—— Mme. Abel Chatenay
—— Mme. M. Soupert
Climbing H. V. Machin
—— Mrs. Aaron Ward
—— Caroline Testout
Climbing Mme. Edouard Herriot
—— Richmond
—— Liberty

Order now and ensure early delivery.

LIME. There is no necessity for you to be without the valuable assistance of lime in your garden. A remittance of 4/- will bring a 90lb. bag carriage paid to your nearest station. This lime is a particularly fine carbonate of lime of the highest quality and guaranteed analysis.

A. J. & C. ALLEN (DEPT. G), Nurserymen, NORWICH, NORFOLK

Digitized by Google

BULBS FOR NATURALISING

All Delivered Post Free at your door.

	per doz.	per 100	per 1,000
MUSCARIA HYACINTHS, Grape Hyacinths, blue	1/-	5/-	40/-
SNOWDROPS, earliest flowers of Spring	1/-	6/-	50/-
SPARAXIS, selected show mixtures, all colours	6d.	3/-	25/-
CROCUS, in finest mixed, all colours	1/-	4/-	35/-
SCILLA SIBIRICA, extra fine blue	1/-	9/-	80/-
NARCISSUS, all varieties and colours mixed	1/-	7/6	60/-
TULIPS, all varieties and colours mixed	1/-	7/-	30/-

(All the above for growing in Woodlands or Grass)

Full Illustrated List post free upon application.

H. PRINS (F.R.H.S.) *Flower Bulb Specialists,* **WISBECH, CAMBS.**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

CYCLAMEN

The Finest Strain in the World.

There is nothing to equal these glorious plants for winter flowering.

Grand plants in 5-in. pots. Fine selection of colours. **25/-** and **30/-** per doz.

Blackmore & Langdon
BATH.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

TURF

Cultivated and of Best Quality.

State quantity required and ask for quotation.

Large Yews for Sale

Wm. BIGNELL & SON,
48, North Road,
HIGHGATE, N.6

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Special cheap offer of FLOWERING BULBS suitable for naturalising purposes in Garden Walks, Drives, Plantations, etc.

F.O.R. Wisbech Station. Cash with order. Packing free.

	112lb.	56lb.	28lb.	14lb.
NARCISSI.				
Sir Watkin	80/-	42/-	22/-	12/-
Ornatus	80/-	42/-	22/-	12/-
Emperor	60/-	32/-	17/-	10/-
Horsfieldi	60/-	32/-	17/-	10/-
Empress	60/-	32/-	17/-	10/-
Golden Spur	70/-	37/-	20/-	11/-
Victoria	60/-	32/-	17/-	10/-
Barrii Conspic.	40/-	22/-	12/-	7/-
White Lady	100/-	52/-	27/-	15/-
Van Zion (Old Yellow double Daff.)	40/-	22/-	12/-	7/-
Pheasant Eye	30/-	16/-	9/-	5/-
Princeps	30/-	16/-	9/-	5/-
Scilly Whites	30/-	16/-	9/-	5/-
Mixed Narcissus and Daffodil Bulbs	30/-	16/-	9/-	5/-
DARWIN TULIPS.				
Clara Butt	60/-	32/-	17/-	10/-
Inglescombe Yellow	60/-	32/-	17/-	10/-
Rev. E. W. Ewbank	60/-	32/-	17/-	10/-
Mixed Darwin Tulips ..	50/-	27/-	15/-	9/-

This is a very cheap way of buying. Worth double the money

Snowdrop Bulbs, Singles and Doubles,	Per 1,000 20/-
Hyacinths, Mixed	Per 100 30/-
Grape Hyacinths (Heavenly Blue) ..	Per 1,000 £2 & £3
Lilium candidum (Old Madonna Lily) ..	Per 100 £2
Crown Imperials	Per 100 £2
Dutch Iris (earlier than Spanish Iris), mixed	Per 1,000 £1 10s.
Dutch Iris (earlier than Spanish Iris), to name	Per 1,000 £2 & £3
Blue Bells	Per 1,000 £1 10s.

CROSS & CO.,
Elm Road House——WISBECH.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE
JERSEY
FRUIT TREES ROSE TREES AND CARNATIONS

ARE PACKED FREE OF COST, AND DELIVERED CARRIAGE PAID

Before ordering, IT WILL PAY YOU to write for our Illustrated Catalogue and Planter's Guide, which contains Elaborate Instructions on the most profitable methods of cultivation, besides an article dealing with Insects and Fungoid Diseases, and is FREE TO ALL. It also gives particulars of our cheap

COLLECTIONS OF NEW ROSES
Exceptional Value. Unsurpassed Quality

ALL GUARANTEED BRITISH GROWN.

Fifty varieties illustrated in colours, direct from photographs

CORDON FRUIT TREES OUR SPECIALITY

Vast quantities of strong, healthy, fibrously-rooted Apples, on the broad-leaved Paradise. Pears, Plums, Peaches, Grape Vines and Strawberry Plants of superior quality.

The Jersey Nurseries, Ltd., (Late Le Cornu) **JERSEY**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

BURBAGE ROSES

A collection of 12 of the best varieties. First size Trees, Guaranteed British Grown and true to name, for 12/6 Carriage Paid. - Cash with order.

Betty Uprichard	Los Angeles
Clarice Goodacre	Independence Day
Mrs. H. Morse	Madame Butterfly
Miss Willmott	Mrs. Wemyss Quin
Mrs. H. Stevens	Gen. MacArthur
Walter C. Clarke	Frau Karl Druschki

THE BURBAGE NURSERIES LTD.,
Nr. Hinckley, Leicestershire.

Please mention this Paper.

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

THE "SOUTHWELL" COLLECTION
Twelve Varieties, Carriage and Packing Free - - **12/6**
With "ACME" Labels - **15/-**

Caroline Testout (H.T.) satiny rose.
Col. O. FitzGerald (H.T.) crimson.
Emma Wright (H.T.) pure orange.
Frau Karl Druschki (H.P.) pure white.
General MacArthur (H.T.) carmine.
Henrietta (H.T.) orange crimson.
Hugh Dickson (H.T.) brilliant crimson.
Independence Day (H.T.) orange apricot.
Madame E. Herriot (H.T.) coral red.
Ophelia (H.T.) salmon flesh.
The Queen Alexandra (H.T.) deep vermilion.
Ulrich Brunner (H.P.) cherry crimson.

Also FRUIT TREES, SHRUBS, ORNAMENTAL TREES, ALPINES & HARDY PLANTS
ALL HOME GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries. *Catalogue Free on Application.*

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LIMITED
Garden Specialists, SOUTHWELL, NOTTS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

GIBSON'S GARDEN GLORIES

15 Acres of Glorious ROSES, SHRUBS, FRUITS, Alpine and Herbaceous Plants, Lupins, etc.

NEW CATALOGUE FREE ON REQUEST

THE AMATEUR'S DOZEN DWARF ROSES.
Grand trees, all named, for 12/-, carriage paid. Betty Uprichard, Lady Ashtown, Mrs. Wemyss Quin, F. K. Druschki, Lady Hillingdon, Mme. E. Herriot (Daily Mail), Gen. MacArthur, Los Angeles, Mrs. J. Laing, Hugh Dickson, Mme. Abel Chatenay, Ophelia.

COLLECTIONS.
Carriage paid for cash.
12 Grand Alpines, all distinct, named, for 6/6; 25 distinct for 15/-.
12 Hardy Border Flowering Plants, named, for 6/-; 25 distinct for 14/-; 50 distinct for 30/-; 100, in 50 varieties, for 60/-.

LONICERA NITIDA
The New Hedge Plant.
This will take the place of Privet. It is quick growing, hardy, evergreen and elegant. Try a sample dozen at 5/-; 36/- per 100. Carriage paid for cash.

THE NEW CLIMBING ROSE
Phyllis Bide. Perpetual flowering. 2/- each.
Colour: Pale gold at base, flushed and shaded carmine pink, in long sprays.
3 for 5/9. Carriage Paid for Cash.

REGALE LUPINS
Most wonderful shades and colours ever seen. Strong plants, all shades, 10/- per dozen.

G. GIBSON & CO., Leeming Bar, BEDALE

reat Clearance Sale
OF ALL BULBS

make room for our huge consignment of

GLADIOLI

uch includes many Novelties, and all the best of of the older varieties.

A discount of 2/6 in the pound may be deducted from all Bulbs offered in our List, with the exception of Collections on front page.

ONGSTAFF & SONS
Gladioli Specialists
ear CHELSFIELD STATION, KENT
Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

pine Plants . . 500 varieties. All pot grown.
ardy Perennials . Comprehensive Collections Asters, Phlox, Iris, Delphiniums, Paeonies, Pyrethrums, etc.
reenhouse Plants. Specialities in Primulas, Cyclamen, Ferns, Begonias, Gloxinias, etc.
Catalogue on Request.
H. H. MAW & SON,
rlarwood Nurseries, PONTEFRACT
Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

NOW is the time to order

Michaelmas Daisies
(ASTERS)
for Autumn Planting

Our Exhibit of these seasonable and popular flowers at Holland Park Show was universally admired.

OUR COLLECTION is admitted to be the most complete and Up-to-Date, containing all the latest Novelties, together with the pick of the Best of the Older Varieties.

Customers who were unable to see them at the Show should send for our New Catalogue, Post Free.

W. WELLS, Junr.
Hardy Plant Nurseries, MERSTHAM, SURREY
Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Glassbreaks!

USE
'WINDOLITE'
The practical
GLASS SUBSTITUTE
for all Garden Purposes.

LIGHT FLEXIBLE UNBREAKABLE

Easy to cut and fix. It keeps out cold and wet, but lets in all the light—even the Ultra Violet Rays which are stopped by glass.

Send 4/6 for post free sample, 3 ft. by 2 ft.

WINDOLITE (DEPT. C) 178/185, GREAT PORTLAND ST., LONDON, W.1
Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

ROSES

For our LATEST and WELL TESTED PEDIGREE ROSES:

- - CECIL - -

MRS. BEATTY LADY WAKEFIELD

AND ALL OTHER KINDS,

See our Catalogue. *Sent Post Free on application.*

Benjamin R. CANT & SONS, Ltd.,
Dept A The Old Rose Gardens, COLCHESTER Estd. 1765.
Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

NEW HARDY CRIMSON BROOM

AT Chelsea Show (1925) the King said, "That red Broom is certainly very striking." This was the new crimson Broom "Dorothy Walpole," which received the unanimous Award of Merit from the R.H.S. as well as other distinctions in London and on the Continent. Plants have been sent to U.S.A., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, France, Holland, etc.

In the Field, *a well known ex-Curator of Kew Gardens wrote: "The richest coloured Broom known is one named 'Dorothy Walpole.' It is as hardy as the common Broom . . . and is very free-flowering . . . the colour is rich velvety crimson . . . more attractive than any of the coloured Brooms yet seen." The colour far surpasses Cytisus Dallimorei, and the growth is as vigorous as C. Andreanus; it requires no special treatment nor any kind of protection whatever—just a hardy shrub for ordinary garden soil in any part of the British Isles, however far north.*

A Vice-Chairman, Floral Committee, R.H.S., wrote: "Everyone who has seen my plant has been astonished at its warm glowing red"; and from a lady in Devon: "I am so delighted with the Broom 'Dorothy Walpole.' It has done splendidly and is like a sparkling gem in the garden—one mass of flower."

NEW SEASON'S PRICES.

Strong pot-grown plants now ready for planting out, to flower in May, 7/6 each. Carriage paid rates to any station in Great Britain or Ireland: One plant, carriage paid, 10/-; two plants, carriage paid, 18/6; three plants, carriage paid, 26/-; six plants, carriage paid, 49/6; twelve plants, carriage paid, 99/-.

Coloured illustration sent on application if THE GARDEN *is mentioned.*

Wm. Watson & Sons, Limited, Nurseries, Killiney, Co. Dublin.

PENNELLS' LINCOLN BULBS

Unsurpassed in quality, health and hardiness.

GIVE PERFECT SATISFACTION WHEREVER PLANTED.

¤

Very moderate in price.

¤

Illustrated Catalogue and Guide, BULBS AND FORCING PLANTS, Post Free.

¤

Pennell & Sons, Lincoln.

ESTABLISHED 1780.

Notes from Maidstone.

—

CAPE PLUMS.

This group of Plums is descended from Prunus salicifolia, a Chinese species, but the exports from South Africa during the winter have led to the name given above. Not hardy enough to fruit outside in this country, they are most interesting orchard house plants in pots or trained on walls, and we offer three varieties: Abundance (Burbank), golden yellow and red; Botan, garnet red—the best flavoured; and Shiro, golden yellow, of enormous size. All are rather early ripening. Bushes and Fans are 7/6 each.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd., The Royal Nurseries, Established 1796. Maidstone.

SPECIAL OFFER of FIRST-GRADE TREES and SHRUBS

LARGE ENOUGH FOR IMMEDIATE EFFECT

All wind resisters excepting the Acacias

SENT INEXPENSIVELY PER GOODS TRAIN AT LOWEST TREE-RATE

Packed Free for Cash with Order.

	Each
Acer Negundo, an elegant maple with pale green compound leaves, 8-12 ft.	3/6 and 6/6
Acer californicum, "The Californian Maple," very distinct and beautiful, 6-7ft.	3/6 ,, 4/6
Acer latum rubrum, the young growths are beautifully tinted red; butter yellow in the autumn, 8-10ft.	5/6 ,, 7/6
Acer platanoides (Norway Maple), beautiful large green leaves, turning golden yellow in the autumn, 8-12ft.	3/6 ,, 5/6
Acer plat. Schwedleri, the purple leaf variety; beautiful coppery foliage, April to November, 8-12ft.	6/6 to 10/6
Acer pseudo-platanus, "The Sycamore," a grand "wind screen," 8-16ft.	4/6 and 7/6
Acer pseudo-plat. purpurascens, "Purple Leaf Sycamore," 8-12ft.	5/6 ,, 7/6
Alnus cordata, very rapid growing, excellent for marshy areas and poor chalky soils, 12-15ft.	5/6 ,, 7/6
Alnus incana, "The Grey Alder," do. do. 14-16ft.	5/6 ,, 7/6
Betula japonica, rare Japanese species, one of the most beautiful of all silver barked trees, 8-10ft.	5/6 ,, 7/6
Crataegus prunifolia, "American Thorn," superb for flower, berry and autumn colour, 6-9ft.	4/6 ,, 5/6
Fraxinus americana, the American "White Ash," a distinct and noble tree of fast growth, 4-5ft.	2/6 ,, 3/6
Fraxinus excelsior, "The Common Ash," excellent for wind-swept and coastal situations, 9-12ft.	3/6 to 6/6
Juglans regia, "Walnut," 9-12ft.	7/6 ,, 10/6
Ostrya carpinifolia, the striking "Hop Hornbeam," 8-10ft.	5/6 and 7/6
Pterocarya stenoptra, new fast growing Chinese tree, with wonderful foliage, 9ft.	5/6
Poplars in great variety, 9-16ft.	3/6 to 10/6

Write for our special offer per dozen, 100 and 1,000.

	Each
Robinia, in a variety of colours. More commonly known as the "Acacia," one of the most elegant trees extant, 9-12ft.	5/6 and 7/6
Sophora japonica, the finest of the late autumn flowering trees, 8-10ft.	5/6 ,, 7/6
Ulmus, "Elms," in great variety, including americana, latifolia and nitens hybrids, 9-15ft.	4/6 to 7/6

A collection of one each of the above 20 trees, good specimens, for £5

SPECIMEN FIRS, PINES, ETC.

	Each
Pinus Banksiana, the American "Jack Pine," grows in poor sandy soils, 3-5ft.	3/6 and 5/6
Pinus densiflora, the Japanese "Red Pine," 3½ft.	4/6
Pinus excelsa, "The Himalayan Blue Pine," 3ft.	5/6
Pinus Strobus, "The Weymouth Pine," 3ft.	3/6
Picea alba, "The Giant White Spruce," 3-4ft.	3/6 and 5/6
Picea asperata, heavy specimens of this rare Chinese species, 4-5ft.	10/6 to 21/-
Picea obovata, "The Siberian Spruce," 4-5ft.	5/6 and 7/6
Picea pungens glauca, the "Blue Colorado Spruce," 1½ft.	5/6
Abies nephalensis, rare, 1½-2ft.	3/6 ,, 5/6
Abies numidica, rare, 3ft.	7/6
Abies concolor violacea, beautiful deepest blue foliage, 2ft.	7/6
Tsuga canadensis, the elegant "Canadian Hemlock Spruce," 3-4ft.	5/6

One each of the above 12 Conifers for **60/-**

12 Flowering Shrubs (Deciduous and Evergreen), in 12 varieties, 2-5ft.	doz., 12/-;	100	125/-
12 ,, ,, ,, ,, Choice newer varieties, 3-5ft.	doz., 36/-;	100	250/-

All to name, distinctly labelled, in beautiful variety, our selection of sorts.

Special Quotation per 100 and 1,000

HILLIER & SONS, West Hill Nurseries, WINCHESTER

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

VOL. XC.—No. 2865. OCTOBER 30, 1926. PRICE TWOPENCE.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

The Greater R.H.S.

THERE is nothing that shows the increased popularity of gardening better than the growth of the Royal Horticultural Society. From a small beginning 124 years ago it has now increased to the gigantic total of over 23,000, with every sign that year by year the membership will increase. That the prosperity of the premier horticultural society of the world is no whit behind its membership was shown on Tuesday, October 18th, when the President, Lord Lambourne, laid the foundation stone of the new hall behind the present building in Westminster. Details of the new building have already been given in the Press, so it is unnecessary to say more than that the floor space is 20,000 sq. ft., exactly double that of the present hall. This will relieve the congestion that has often occurred in the more popular fortnightly shows during autumn and spring. No one will deny that the Royal Horticultural Society is doing an enormous amount for our gardens, and that those who guide its destinies are worthy of the greatest praise for the work that they are doing for British horticulture.

Imperial Fruit Show, Holland Park Hall, London.

OCTOBER 29TH TO NOVEMBER 6TH.

AMATEUR gardeners and others interested in horticulture should not fail to pay a visit to the Imperial Fruit Show at Holland Park Hall. The fruit entered for competition at this exhibition, grown by the greatest experts in this country and in the Dominions and Colonies, represents the high-water mark in cultivation, and will prove of great interest to all growers of fruit, whether amateur or commercial. Well known firms of nurserymen, insecticide manufacturers and horticultural sundriesmen have taken stands at the Show and will be ready to give advice to all enquirers. The Ministry of Agriculture are staging a special exhibit. The Royal Horticultural Society have arranged for a special display of fruit, flowers and evergreens from their gardens at Wisley. The most prominent feature at the Show will be the combined exhibit of the great fruit-growing Dominions—Canada, Australia and South Africa—covering an area of over 3,000 sq. ft., under the auspices of the Empire Marketing Board. An interesting competition has been arranged for baked apple dumplings (using Empire fruit only), the entries in which will be staged daily at the show. Superb exhibits of fruit are being arranged by some of the greatest distributors in the United Kingdom. The Show is open from 10 a.m. to 9.30 p.m. daily.

Delayed Planting.

AT this season of the year, when early frosts often follow close on the heels of the drought of late summer, gardeners are inclined to be alarmed at their inability to plant, and also at the non-arrival of plants which they may have ordered. The truth of the matter is that weather, and not the date, is the deciding factor in planting. Owing to the long drought in some parts of the country, followed by a sudden frost, many nurserymen have been unable to lift plants for despatch. It really matters little when planting is done during the next few months, provided that the ground is not frosted or the soil too wet and water-logged. Even bulbs like daffodils, and particularly tulips, are all the better for being planted in open weather after the first touch of frost. The planting of all fruit trees, deciduous trees and shrubs and almost all herbaceous plants can be suitably accomplished in any open weather. If plants happen to arrive when the ground is too damp or frosted, they can be kept quite well for several days on the floor of a shed with their roots covered with straw or earth, so long as the roots are not allowed to get too dry. The vagaries of our climate are such that you cannot say that you will plant on such and such a date.

HAVE YOU

- ¶ *Pruned and trained your rambler roses?*
- ¶ *Lifted your dahlias which have shown signs of injury by frost?*
- ¶ *Replanted in a freshly prepared bed your lilies of the valley that have become overcrowded?*
- ¶ *Patched, weeded and top-dressed your lawn?*
- ¶ *Lifted (after flowering) a certain number of your border chrysanthemums? These, if cut back, boxed up and placed in a cold frame, will furnish cuttings in the spring.*
- ¶ *Prepared your ground ready for planting as soon as the weather permits, fruit trees, shrubs and herbaceous perennials?*
- ¶ *Completed the lifting and storing of your root crops?*
- ¶ *Repaired the woodwork of your arches and pergolas?*

Securing Chrysanthemum "Sports."

MANY fine forms of chrysanthemums have been secured from what are known as "sports." These arise in a curious way that is not very clearly understood. Now and again, for no very apparent reason, one stem of a chrysanthemum plant will develop flowers that are more or less distinct from those on the specimen as a whole. Of course, the variation may be very slight indeed, but, on occasion, something new and really striking may arise. Any grower of chrysanthemums may find a "sport" of merit on one or other of his plants, and it is useful to know that the variety can be easily propagated.

It is supposed that a "sport" has appeared on a chrysanthemum plant which is growing in a pot. After the novel flower has been examined, and perhaps shown to a few of one's gardening friends, it is just as well to pinch it off altogether. Now fill a box or a pan with light sandy soil. Raise this on bricks or a box of suitable height until it is just about on a level with the rim of the pot in which the chrysanthemum is growing. Now carefully pull over the stem which has borne the "sport" until you can get it down to a nearly horizontal position on the soil in the pan or box. To do this it may be needful to ease the roots at the base of the stem a little, as on no account must it be broken away from the parent plant. Then make little nicks with a knife on the part of the stem which will be close to the soil, cutting just below where the buds are to be seen at the base of the leaves. These cuts must be very slight indeed and should not be carried more than a third of the way through the stem. Next, peg the stem down on to the soil, using a number of small forked twigs for the purpose. Sprinkle a little soil very lightly round the positions where the leaf buds are. The new plants arise from these buds and they root freely in a temperature which does not fall below 45° Fahr. Even where no artificial heat is available, the establishment of the little plants is only a matter of time. Rather a close atmosphere favours speedy growth, and protection with a sheet of glass is helpful.

Digitized by Google

PLANTS AT THEIR BEST IN AUTUMN

Gardeners are always glad to receive information about plants that have been particularly noted in other gardens. Week by week plants that are really worth growing are described in this page.

Begonia Rex: A Greenhouse Plant of Tropical Luxuriance.

AMONG the indoor plants which have gradually slipped from their one-time popularity must be reckoned the handsome, richly coloured foliage begonias, but it is strange, indeed, that so beautiful, yet so good-natured and easily grown a plant as Begonia Rex should lose its hold upon the affections of anyone interested in a conservatory or a small greenhouse.

Few plants are more capable of sustaining friendly companionship with a miscellaneous assortment of plants, especially with such as prefer semi-shade rather than glaring sun, and a tolerably moist, rather than a hot, dry atmosphere.

With temperate orchids B. Rex is happily at home, while it thrives beautifully under the conditions that best suit fuchsias, and will give colour and variation of charm to a fernery. The question is constantly being asked by amateurs what they may safely and successfully grow under a grape vine, and it would be difficult to find a more suitable subject for the purpose than B. Rex, which, by the way, may be had in many variations of colour markings and size of leaf.

The plant shown in the illustration is one of a small batch which the writer rescued from a house which, through unavoidable circumstances, had been left unattended from February till May. Fortunately, it stood under a broken pane of glass in the roof, otherwise death for want of water would have been inevitable. When taken in hand the plant was a mere stump, with but one half-dead leaf and some very weak roots. It was shaken out and repotted in a compost of loam, a very little peat, some old mortar and sharp sand. The pot is 4½ins. in diameter and into the compost was mixed just about a teaspoonful of dried, pulverised sheep's manure. Watering was moderate at first, but the hard stump was moistened twice daily with a syringe. When leaves developed, water was given in increasing quantities, and syringing has been maintained throughout. The wonderful recuperative power of the plant is well demonstrated by the photograph taken on August 17th, which also shows the handsome character of the foliage.

The large leaf measures 15½ins. in length and just over 8ins. across its broadest part. Should not B. Rex be restored to popularity and widespread cultivation?

Ivy-Leaved Pelargonium Souvenir de Charles Turner.

RIGHT until frost actually ruined the plants, this large and particularly bright cerise-coloured variety bloomed on as most ivy-leaved pelargoniums do in July and August. That is its greatest point of merit, although in shape, substance, size and colour it leaves Mme. Crousse, Ryecroft Surprise, Galilea and other popular varieties behind.

Objection has sometimes been raised against Souvenir de Charles Turner on the ground that it is a lazy bloomer. It is late, as already remarked, and valuable on that account, but when it fails to flower freely in autumn it is due to cultural errors.

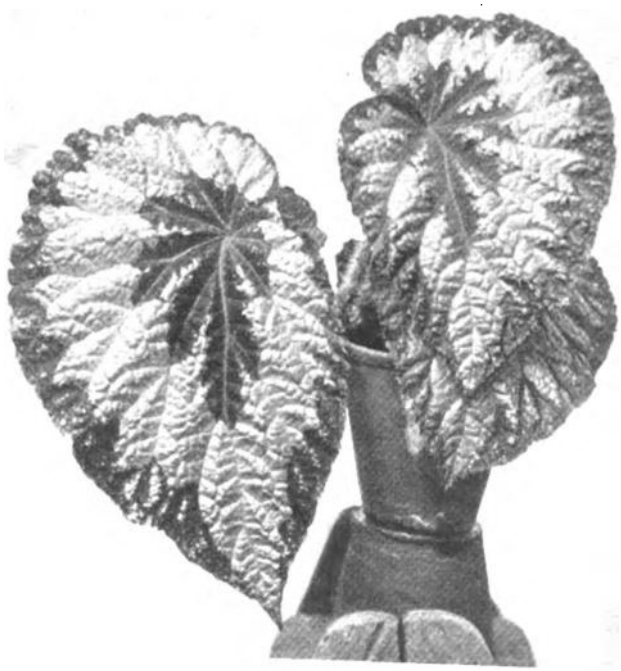
The plant must be given a restricted root-run; it is better adapted for pot culture than for bedding, and the pots should be small, well crocked and the soil should consist of strong loam with plenty of sharp grit and no leaf-mould. Under such treatment, and given plenty of light and air, there will be no need to complain of lack of bloom.

Cut-back plants of this variety may spend two seasons in pots of no more than 5ins. diameter, but the second season they require some feeding with liquid manure.

A Fine Purple-Leaved Filbert.

JUST as the leaves are clinging as in desperation to their branches, the colour of Corylus Avellana purpurea is particularly rich and of quite uncommon beauty. It is a shrub for prominent positions, in the garden as well as in the wilder shrubbery, for it can be kept to almost any desired dimensions, and still retain its pleasing habit of growth, and there is a lustre upon its purple foliage which nothing else can fully reproduce. Layering is a ready means of producing young stock, and it is also a means of extending the breadth of a single plant where spacious grounds demand massed effects. The ripened growths of the year which spring from the base of a plant cut hard back in February or March should be bent to the ground and held in position by strong wooden pegs. Gritty soil encourages rooting. Where the object is to increase the size of a clump a ring of layers may be pegged down all round the main stool and left to grow at will.

When young plants are required for removal they should be given a twelve-months' round, when they may be severed and will lift with plenty of fibrous roots. This purple-leaved variety, like all the filberts, will thrive on soil which is too harsh and stony for many shrubs of no greater beauty.



THE MAGNIFICENT FOLIAGE OF BEGONIA REX.

Euonymus Radicans Silver Queen.

IT is now, when colour is becoming scarce in the garden, that the cheery effects of which this accommodating little silver-leaved shrub is capable are brought forcibly home to us, for in each of four distinctly different styles it is growing with abundantly satisfactory results. I have it in the form of corner bushes, kept neat but not too precise in outline by the simple process of pinching out the points of growths whenever and wherever they threaten to run away.

It is noteworthy that visitors who are not expert in gardening matters invariably enquire the name of these little bushes, and ask if they could be grown in some position or other for which something effective but not large is required. The second purpose the plant amply fulfils is as an edging to a border occupied by flowering shrubs and a few perennials of permanent character such as peonies, incarvilleas, kniphofias and eremuri.

Planted when small, from a cutting bed, the roots were first put in at 18ins. apart, to spin out a limited number of plants over a border of considerable length. During the first season's growth every stem was pegged into line as soon as its length permitted, cheap, stout hairpins being used for the purpose. The joints all rooted where they touched the soil, and a continuous line of neat variegated foliage quickly resulted. Now it is merely a case of occasional trimming to maintain a most effective edging which sustains interest in the border when the perennials are underground and the shrubs bare.

The third mission of the same little worker is to tumble over the edge of a low retaining wall holding up the end of a made-up-to-level tennis court. Here it effectually hides the fact that the wall was constructed of ugly clinkers because they were the only cheap material ready to hand when the making of the tennis court was a sufficiently heavy expense. The final use of Euonymus radicans Silver Queen to which I will refer is as a pot plant to furnish a window sill when frost has finished the autumn show of ivy-leaved pelargoniums. Four cuttings in a 48-sized pot kept pinched until they throw lateral branches to envelop the pots completely right to their base provide plants for the purpose named which would be hard to beat. Any piece of growth with three joints and a growing point will make a cutting.

Chrysanthemum Phœnix.

THIS red-bronze chrysanthemum has been long enough now in cultivation to take its place among the tried and proved varieties, and for garden use it has few serious rivals. Whether massed in a bed, dotted about in clumps in the mixed border, or grown in a thin single line alongside a straight path through the kitchen garden, its neat habit, even growth, rigidity of stem and warm cheery colour combine to make it a real autumn treasure. It needs neither staking nor disbudding, neither is it one of the fair-weather varieties which collapse when there are either showers or successive fogs. As a flower for cutting it has exceptional merits, but at the moment we will be content to recognise its garden worth.

A. J. MACSELF.

Digitized by Google

THE ROSE GARDEN

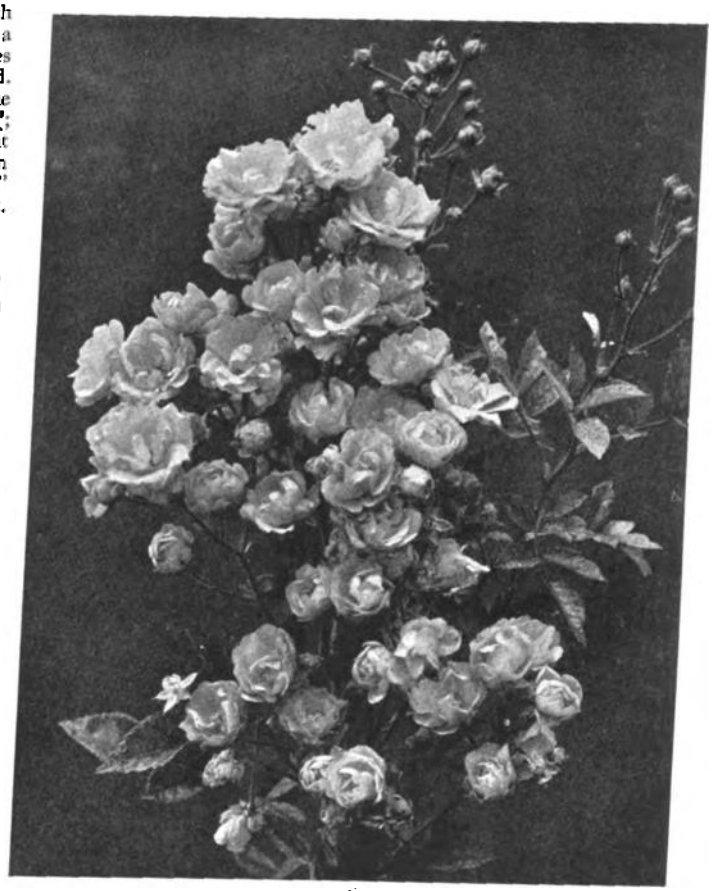
Dwarf Polyantha Roses.

I HAVE always looked upon dwarf polyantha roses as flowering shrubs, par excellence, for the small garden and yet I must admit they are only becoming popular very slowly. Their merits are many, but not the least is the fact that they flower profusely in fair weather and foul; in fact, it may safely be said that good bushes are smothered with blossom and this blossom persists with great freshness over a long period of time. They are capable, too, of many uses; I like them as an edging to a rose border; they make beautiful beds in themselves, however, and even as dot plants in a border they are excellent. Not often are they seen in a rock garden and yet a fine rockery which I visited the other day owed some of its charm to little rose dells where the polyanthas bloomed. There are many varieties of these polyantha roses, just too many to let a man be happy—without them all; new varieties find their way into commerce almost yearly and yet the good old kinds cannot be done without. No good collection, for example, would fail to include those fine old varieties Maman Levavasseur, Mme. N. Levavasseur, Perle d'Or, Perle des Rouges, Mrs. W. Cutbush, Orleans Rose, White Pet, Red Ridinghood, Snowstorm, Jessie and, perhaps, a few more. Of the newer kinds one must also get Coral Cluster, Edith Cavell, Carrie Koster, Comtesse du Cayla, Orange King, Dorothy Haworth, Reine Elizabeth, Resplendence, Chatillon and Baby Faureux. One does not see these fine little roses as standards very often nowadays; this is to be regretted for, fine as they are in the natural bush form, they are greatly enhanced in the standard and half-standard style. Beginners and amateurs who have not yet taken to these dwarf roses may, with confidence, select a few from the varieties I have enumerated. Any good catalogue will give the colours; they may be bought singly or, better, in numbers to "mass" or give greater effect.
—LANARKSHIRE.

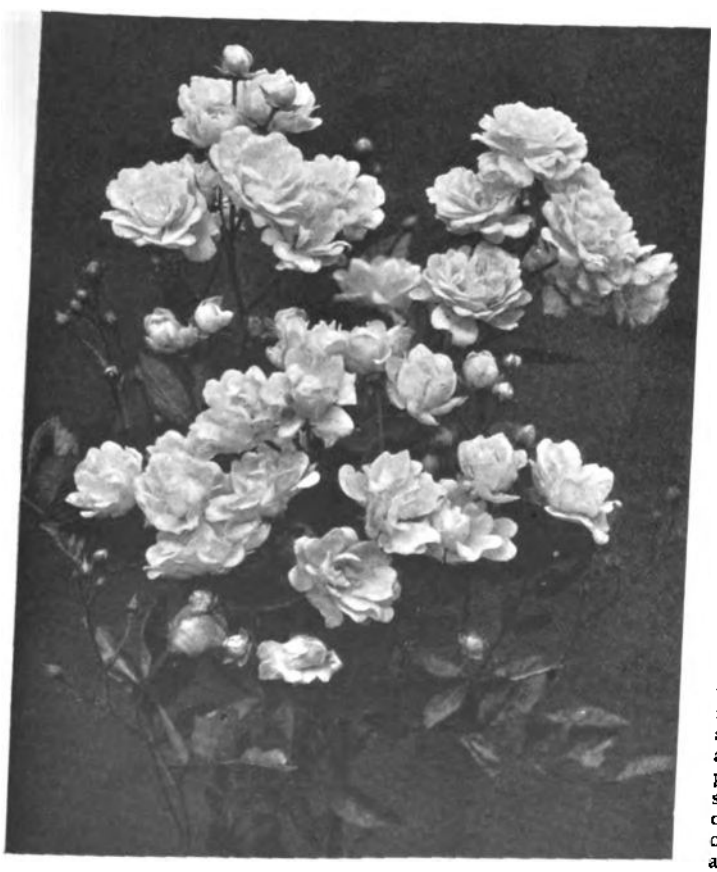
Planting Roses.

THE rose, leafless and possessing a few straggling roots, is not a very ornamental plant and it often gets poor treatment just at a time when it needs very careful handling. Of course, all growers cannot plant their roses just when they wish to, as circumstances will not always permit this to be done; but the ideal time extends from the last week in October to mid-December. Roses may be planted when the soil is dry enough, any time from November to March, but spring-planted roses need more attention than autumn-planted ones and even then, do not, as a rule, succeed as well. We presume that the soil is duly prepared at the right time and the plants ordered from the nurseryman. If the distance between nursery and garden is a short one, the roots will not dry considerably if the plants are not delayed in transit. But if they are or the journey is a long one, unpack at once and instantly immerse the roots and half the branches in a cistern or tub of water, leaving them there several hours. Make up a mixture of clay and water or stiff soil and water to the consistency of paint; dip the roots in this solution before planting and plant while the stuff is wet on the roots. I am sure that this is a desirable course, especially where light soils obtain. Standards and half standards should be staked as they are planted.

Although it is advisable to dip the roots in wet soil so that it will adhere to them, it is a good plan to have some fairly dry soil at hand so that a spadeful of it can be spread over the roots before any border soil is put on; this is very essential when the soil in the garden is rather wet. Do not plant in frozen soil nor when the air is frosty. Plant standards 30ins. to 36ins. apart, and dwarfs 24ins to 30ins. apart. Plant just the same depth as the roses were when growing in the nursery; look at the soil mark on the stem to ascertain this. Place a few shovelfuls of fine soil between the roots, then put on the final layer of soil and a surface mulch of short litter. Do not tread down the soil, allow it to settle gradually.—G. G.



ORLEANS ROSE PRODUCES CLUSTERS OF NEAT FLOWERS FOR MANY WEEKS.



CORAL CLUSTER IS ONE OF THE BEST OF THE DWARF POLYANTHA ROSES.

Mulching Rose Borders.

CONFLICTING advice is frequently received from gardeners, when guidance as to the proper procedure to follow out during winter is asked for. One man will tell you that frost ought to be allowed to ameliorate the soil and to kill soil pests; the other will state that frost may kill the bushes to the ground if they are not protected. After years of experience I have come to the conclusion that mulching of the finer bush roses is distinctly advisable; the stems are then protected and seldom suffer below the mulch level, even in the most severe weather. I find, however, that mulching with strong manure has an adverse effect on the soil, rapidly souring it and finally doing harm where it might be expected to do good; obviously, then, strong manure is inadvisable. Light, strawy or littery stuff, composed largely of straw or of peat litter with little manurial matter in it, is the best mulch to use, affording protection while

Digitized by Google

at the same time not acting deleteriously against the soil conditions. Ferns, bracken, rotten straw, spent hot-bed material also serve, the manurial elements being practically non-existent and the protective property strong in evidence. I have also tried ashes, old potting soil and earthing up; the first-mentioned is rather difficult to manage, the second material rapidly gets scattered by rains, wind and birds; while the earthing up, only possible in porous light soils, causes flooding and souring in a heavy retentive loam. Experience is a wise guide, and I have no hesitation in urging most readers to mulch their roses soon and to use some light protective covering which can be banked up round the bushes and in among the branches.—CLYDESDALE.

Roses in Gravelly Soil.

ROSES grown in a porous, gravelly medium are not always of first-class standard, the main reason being that such soil conditions are far from ideal in growing these fine flowers. The correct time to remove the disadvantage, or at least to render it a less potent cause of dissatisfaction, is when planting the bushes; such as have already been grown for some years, may quite well be lifted at this time and treated like new shrubs.

The best substance to use in order to have good roses is turf, and fairly fresh turf, too; in fact, it may be newly cut, but storage for a month or two is not in any way against it. Let holes be dug for the bushes, the subsoil may be left alone, as a rule. In the bottom of the hole put a good thick layer of turf, fill in with smaller pieces and plant the rose bushes in the centre of each, treading the turfy lumps firmly, very firmly, about the roots. That which comes into actual contact with the roots may be chopped up to "hen's egg size," but the rest need not be broken up, in any great degree. Spread a layer of fine soil over the surface.

Next best we hold to be that fine black mould obtained from decaying garden rubbish. In most gardens all soft rubbish is placed in a large heap and allowed to decay into a fine earthy matter; this, mixed with some of the soil underneath the heap, becomes a fine moisture-retaining compost, fairly rich and excellent for planting roses or for similar purposes. Dig a hole as above; if possible put turf in the bottom of it and then fill up with the black mould; plant firmly.

It may seem strange to some that we place manure third in the list. Manure has several disadvantages, not the least of which is that, in light, gravelly loam, it disappears much too quickly and the benefits originally derived from its presence cease. Cow or pig manure is undoubtedly best, and fairly fresh, too; do not let it come into actual contact with the roots, but let it be well mixed with the subsoil below the roses and again let some be added to the soil immediately over the roots. The layer of manure and soil immediately over the roots is all important for, under it, the soil remains moist and sappy for a very long time, even in droughts; it can, moreover, be renewed annually.

During summer, roses in gravelly soil not treated recently, must have a mulch; the mulch need never be unsightly, and it does not require to be a feeding mulch, otherwise the effect of the flowers is spoiled. Spent litter, peat, mushroom bed manure, hot-bed manure, lawn mowings, all serve the purpose well; not one of these is actual manure in the ordinary sense, but pleasant forms of mould, attractive rather than otherwise.—H. AITKEN.

Twelve of the Newer Roses.

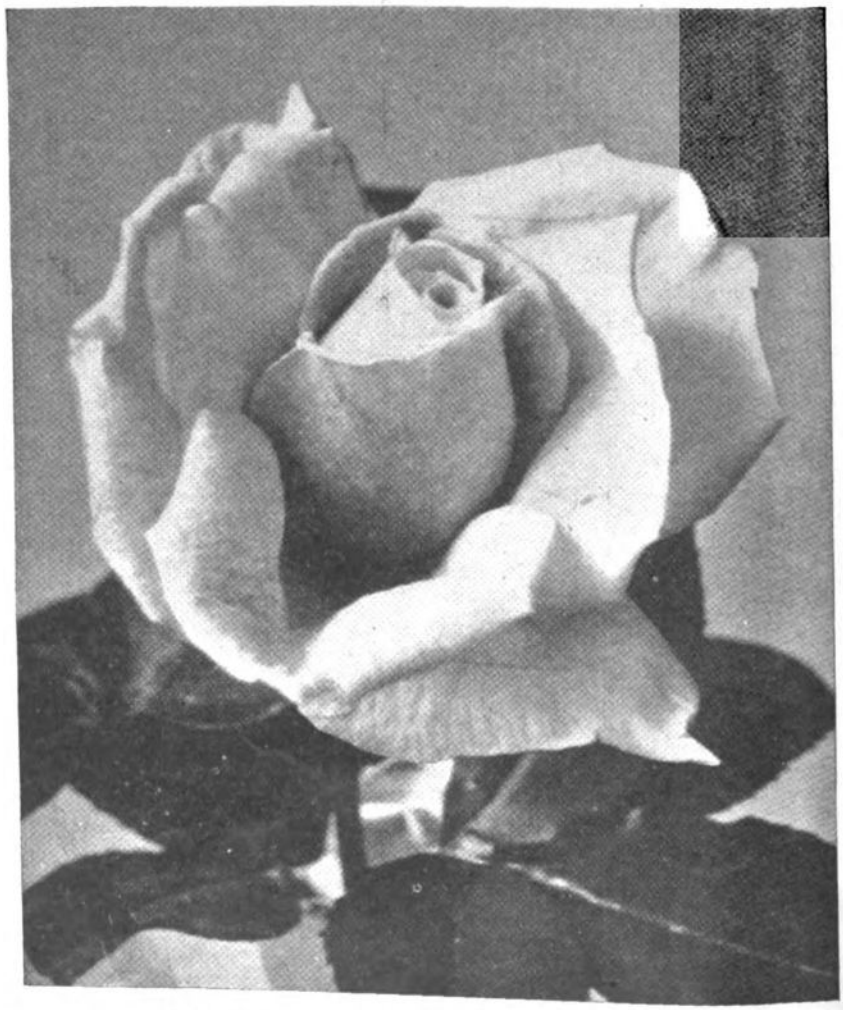
EACH year there are many introductions into the rose world, some of which stand the test of time, while others soon fade away to be heard of or seen no more. A number of the roses raised within the last four years are already becoming widely known and have surely come to stay, as they are proving of good constitution, resistant to mildew and black spot and most effective for garden decoration. Among these is Marcia Stanhope, a pure white bedding rose, which is free in habit. It is one of the most sweetly scented of all white roses and gives the best results when it is pruned lightly. Betty Uprichard is another rose whose popularity is increasing rapidly. Its blooms are medium in size and perfectly formed, with the inner face of the petal soft salmon pink, while the reverse surface is bright carmine pink. Betty Uprichard is a highly decorative rose, which, according to many reports, succeeds extremely well as a bedding rose in various districts all over the country.

Lady Inchiquin, a variety of brilliant orange cerise, has been introduced for several years and yet is not as well known as it deserves. Its chief attraction lies in its distinct and unique colour, but at the same time it has other points, such as sturdiness of growth and freedom of flowering, to recommend it. One of the best of the new roses for keeping its colour is Bedford Crimson, the 1924 winner of the Clay Cup, a challenge cup which is presented annually for the best rose with the true old rose scent raised during the current year. Bedford Crimson keeps its deep velvety crimson colour in all weathers, and a bed filled entirely with this variety when smothered with its fragrant blooms carried on long, stiff stems, is a beautiful sight. Two other good new crimson varieties are Scarlet Glory and Arthur Cook, the latter being the winner of the Clay Cup in 1925. Scarlet Glory is of a particularly lovely shade of vivid vermilion scarlet. It produces its flowers freely over a long period, and is fragrant as well as vigorous. The blooms of Arthur Cook are large and full, the foliage is mildew proof and bright green, and habit of the plant upright and free. This variety is especially suitable for massing.

A most attractive and outstanding introduction is Dainty Bess, a single-flowered hybrid tea. It bears a large truss of deep shell pink blooms, whose petals are prettily crinkled and waved. Each bloom has a conspicuous cluster of golden stamens. The reverse of the petals is of a deeper shade, and the flowers are even larger and more freely produced than in the case of K. of K., one of its parents. Dainty Bess is valuable for beds and borders, as well as for house decoration. Dame Edith Helen is one of the best of this year's roses and is a variety which shows great promise for garden decoration. Its constitution is claimed to be good, its foliage mildew proof, while the lasting quality of its blooms are certainly superior to the majority of recent introductions. It will remain fresh in water as long as a fortnight or more. The colour of this variety is bright, clear pink, the flowers large and substantial. Its fragrance cannot be doubted, for it was awarded the Clay Cup this year.

Among the new yellow roses are Mrs. Beatty, a pale yellow variety of perfect shape, whose growth is free and vigorous, and Roselandia, a deep yellow sport from Golden Ophelia. Roselandia has long pointed blooms, and dark, glossy green foliage. It is a variety which is most suited for growing under glass.

Two other roses which should be mentioned are Kirsten Poulsen, an orange scarlet dwarf polyantha, and Allan Chandler, a vivid scarlet pillar rose. M. P.



MRS. BEATTY, A BEAUTIFUL PALE YELLOW ROSE.

Digitized by Google

THE BUSY MAN'S PAGE

Plants for Hot Dry Soils.

HERE are a few plants which flourish in dry soils and enjoy a sun-baked position.

ACHILLEA PTARMICA THE PEARL (YARROW).—*A good border plant 2½ft. high which produces masses of small double white flowers in July and August.*

ALSTROEMERIA AURANTIACA.—*This beautiful Peruvian lily is very useful for establishing in a dry border. It bears orange flowers on 2ft. stems.*

ALYSSUM SAXATILE CITRINUM (MADWORT).—*An easily grown sulphur yellow dwarf plant suitable for carpeting, edging or clumps in the rock garden.*

ARMERIA BEE'S RUBY.—*A giant thrift with bright red flowers. It grows to a height of 1½ft. and blooms during June and July.*

CISTUS FLORENTINUS.—*A rock rose of dwarf and spreading habit. The flowers are large and snowy white.*

ERYNGIUM GIGANTEUM.—*The ivory thistle which produces flower bracts and stems of glistening ivory shade.*

HELIANTHEMUM COCCINEUM.—*A brilliant crimson-flowered sun rose suitable for a corner in the rock garden. The sun roses are all dwarf evergreen shrubs, and there are many varieties which are excellent for hot, dry soils.*

POLYGONUM VACCINIFOLIUM.—*A trailing knotweed of shrubby habit. It bears bright rose-coloured flowers in August and September. It grows about ½ft. high and is suitable for the rock garden.*

VERBASCUM PHŒNICEUM.—*A handsome mullein of 2½ft. high. It bears purple flowers on slender stems from June to August. This mullein is light and graceful in habit and can easily be raised from seed.*

Chrysanthemum Cuttings.

THERE is no doubt that the finest specimen plants of chrysanthemum are secured by starting the cuttings in November. Select only the very healthiest cuttings and plant singly in small pots of light soil. Then plunge these in fibre or similar material in an old hotbed where there is just sufficient heat to help forward the production of roots without encouraging too much top growth. In this position the young plants may be kept through the winter just slightly on the move, receiving plenty of air in mild weather and protected with mats during times of severe frost. The object in view should be to secure a sturdy, vigorous growth with the production of plenty of roots. Of course, autumn propagation of chrysanthemums means that one will have the plants on hand for a full year, but growers who try this method will usually consider that the results more than justify the amount of trouble involved.

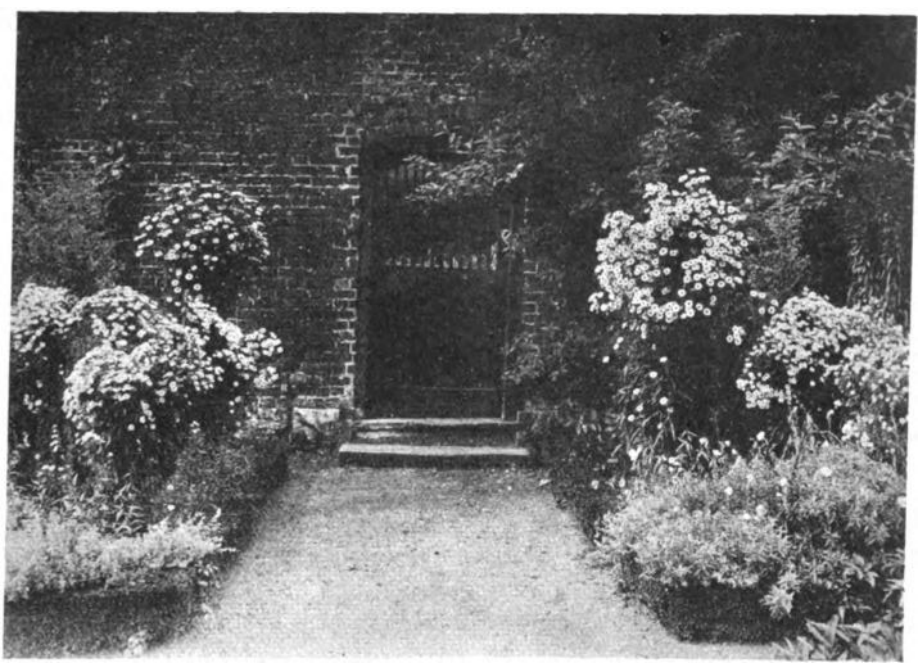
Prepare for Rough Weather.

IT is important at this time of the year that fruit trees, especially those that have been newly planted, are well secured. It is a very bad thing indeed when the wind not only shakes the trees, but the roots as well. Half-standards should be fixed to a post driven into the ground, the best tying material being a band of hay. If hay cannot be obtained, use tarred string, but protect the trunk against chafing with a narrow band of sacking. Bush fruit is secured to a shorter stake in the same way. For cordons erect at intervals stout posts and, from post to post, have lengths of three-stranded wire. Tie the stems of the trees to the wire with raffia. Trees on walls should be secured with nails having leaden flanges which can be turned over. If these are not used, ordinary nails and loops of cloth serve the purpose very well.

Michaelmas Daisies.

IN gardens of limited space, Michaelmas daisies are more likely to become a nuisance than a pleasure, because of their rambling and trespassing proclivities and the considerable amount of room they require. If neglect is added to these things, and the owner allows the plants to grow as they will, then Michaelmas daisies are far better left out of the calculations of the garden maker.

If properly cared for, however, these flowers—almost the last to bloom in the garden—will prove a valuable asset to even the small garden, providing as they do, with the chrysanthemum, helianthus and rudbeckia, a display in the autumn that no other plant gives.



MICHAELMAS DAISIES ALWAYS LOOK NEAT WHEN PROPERLY GROWN.

Where to plant is worth consideration. Never put Michaelmas daisies in the vicinity of less rampant subjects; keep them much to themselves. Plant them near to some object that will put a limit to root expansion in a backward direction—it is easy enough to control the front and sides. A brick wall is a good barrier; but do not plant them close up to the wall.

The next point is size. It may be a prevalent idea that the larger the clump the better the display. This is not so; as the illustration herewith shows. Six to twelve sturdy stems will produce a greater floral display than twenty or thirty strong and weak shoots mixed in a dense mass—the smaller stems should be removed early. It is a wise plan to take out deeply the central portion of each plant in alternate years, and fill the cavity with rich soil, and to divide the plants every third year, retaining the outside shoots only.

The final question of management is that of staking and tying. As soon as the plants are one foot in height, clear out the surplus shoots and tie those that remain each one to a 2ft. stake—thus will they grow straight. Later on, two or three tall stakes or canes may be added, and to these the tops of the stems may be secured just under the bunch of flower branches. Thus a neat, compact and columnar formation will be secured over which the mass of flowers will droop in lovely and artistic profusion.

Storing Dahlias.

THE dahlia is very tender and soon destroyed by frost. A good example of this tenderness has just been noted in one of the large London parks, where a magnificent bed of dahlias was blackened in a single night by a comparatively few degress of frost. The inexperienced amateur cultivator need not worry, however, if the leaves and top stems are blackened, because the tubers are at that time safe. But if the lower part of the stem is blackened, too, it may have a bad effect on the tubers. When the flowers have faded the grower should lift the plants and place them forthwith in a cool, dry shed. The stems should be cut off about 9ins. above the tubers and the name labels fastened securely to the top part of each tuber. Allow the tubers and any soil adhering to them just time to get dry—usually two days will be sufficient. In the meantime select the winter store quarters. There is no better place than a brick or stone-built shed where, having placed a thick pad of clean straw against the wall, the tubers can be arranged closely on the floor and then buried with fine, dry, sweet soil or sand. The final covering should be one of dry litter. Straw alone is not sufficient, as frost may penetrate, but it does not through straw and dry soil or sand. Boxes may be used, but they must be well covered in severe weather. Dry cellars are ideal places; in their case, too, dry sand should be packed round the tubers. It is important that air be excluded, then the tubers remain firm throughout the winter. In spring the cultivator expects to take cuttings from the tubers and, if the latter are stored in mouldy soil or under mouldy hay or straw, fungus grows and destroys the young shoots as they begin to grow.—G.

Digitized by Google

FLOWER GARDEN NOTES

A Pink Tree-Mallow.

LAVATERA OLBIA ROSEA is a rose pink form of the so-called tree-mallow. I have grown a considerable number of plants of it. It is a surprising thing to me that this subject is not more widely grown, particularly in gardens where space, or rather, lack of it, is not a matter of some consideration. In many gardens of all kinds which I have visited this year, the plant was, to all intents and purposes, unknown. I know of few plants or shrubs which have so long a period of flowering, and in circumstances where quick growth is desired few subjects can serve the purpose so well. Small plants some 12ins. or so in height when planted out in the spring become, in the course of a season's growth, large bushes some 5ft. tall and as much through, covered with blossoms. The plants start to flower quite early in the summer and continue to put forth new blossoms until the frost stops further growth.

A commendable point about this shrub is its tidiness; that is to say, the blossoms as they become spent simply die off and quickly wither away.

Lavatera Olbia rosea is not in the least particular as regards soil, and flourishes almost anywhere. I have in mind a fine belt of plants growing in what was virtually the edge of a gravel pit. The mass of colour thus produced was very effective indeed. I am inclined to think that the plant is rather more floriferous on soil of a gravelly nature than in one of a rich character. It is well to cut this lavatera back at the end of the flowering season.—H. C.

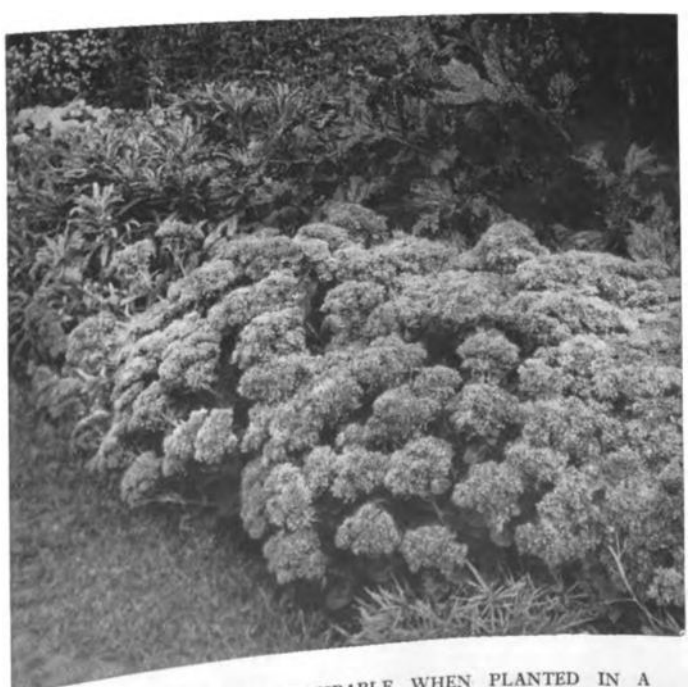
Moisture Loving Stonecrops.

ALTHOUGH the stonecrops, as a race, delight in dry, rocky places, a few must have a damp root-run if they are to be well grown. One of these is the late-flowering Sedum pulchellum. This beautiful species is never so happy as when at the brink of a pool or stream. In fact, it is so fond of moisture that Dr. R. Lloyd Praeger, the eminent authority on the genus, tells us he grows it in a pot plunged in a tub of water. The glaucous, linear leaves, often crimson-tipped, and the large inflorescences in rosy purple, of this stone-crop should be one of the most striking objects of our August-September gardens wherever the moist conditions essential to success can be afforded.

S. spectabile is one of those amiable long-suffering plants that will grow anywhere, but I have never seen it in such perfection as alongside a stream in a soil that is well drained yet always wet underneath. I have it, for example, where mimulus and Japanese irises flourish and there its enormous heads of a soft chalky pink, which go so well with the silvery sea-green of the foliage, make a magnificent show of colour throughout the later summer and autumn, and few flowers are more attractive to butterflies.

That much smaller species, S. ternatum, which produces a sparkling foam of white flowers in early summer, also delights in a cooler, damper soil than the majority of its race. The well known S. spathulifolium will do in the most arid conditions, but its fleshy rosettes do not, under such treatment, attain the size common to plants growing in better and damper soil nor do they bloom so well. On the other hand, those who are desirous of promoting leaf-colour in this charming species will probably find dry conditions more favourable.—A. T. J.

A ROSE PINK FORM OF THE TREE-MALLOW.



SEDUM SPECTABILE IS ADMIRABLE WHEN PLANTED IN A MOIST POSITION.

The Decorative Pyrethrums.

AMONG hardy perennials that bring a prodigality of flowers during late spring and early summer, pyrethrums occupy an important place in many gardens. Both single and double forms are worthy of culture when one takes into account the value of flowers for cutting. Rightly understood, they are plants an amateur can take in hand with every reasonable prospect of success, having long since established their right to be regarded as plants for a town garden. Pyrethrums do best when they are given a soil that is not too heavy nor too light, and this should be made rich by incorporating with it old rotted manure and decayed vegetable refuse. While some plant in autumn, there is a certain amount of risk attending it at this late period, and the wisest course to pursue is to do so in spring as new growth is pushing up. The position intended for them should be a sunny one, and between now and removal of the plants the ground should be got in good heart as suggested and left rough for a few months. Often one hears of pyrethrums dying off in winter, but most cases which have come under my observation have been due to their being planted in cold heavy soil, and in places that are badly drained. They are sun-lovers and give the best account of themselves when planted in warm positions. In the absence of manure, much can be done in improving the quality of the flowers by administering weak stimulants in liquid form and in spreading round the roots something that will conserve moisture—as leaves, for instance. The advantage of mulching is never more appreciated than if the summer be dry. Perhaps one of the most common mistakes amateurs are prone to make is to leave the clumps for several years without dividing them; but as they are rather quick in growth, it is unwise to put off taking them up and dividing after the second, or, in any case, the third year. Left to themselves, pyrethrums begin to degenerate in size of bloom, and though big flowers are not the aim, it is as well to avoid the opposite extreme, which must follow if division is neglected.

RAISING FROM SEED.

There is something to be said for raising pyrethrums from seed, which is comparatively easy; but the one who is bent on getting together a stock does not always realise that, among plants so raised, some will appear that vary little from those already in commerce; that really exceptionally good sorts are few and far between, and one must be prepared to wait a couple of years to distinguish which are actual prizes or otherwise.

Considering, however, that in most gardens not very many plants are wanted, it is, I think, more profitable to deal with a firm making pyrethrums something of a speciality, and select from their stock what one desires. The following varieties have proved worthy and may be safely relied upon:

Double.—Melton, crimson scarlet; White Aster; Empress Queen, blush pink; Ovid, rose; Aphrodite, white; M. Barral, crimson rose.

Single.—James Kelway, scarlet; Agnes Mary Kelway, rose pink; Mrs. Bateman Brown, crimson; Princess Marie, white; Hamlet, pink; Mrs. Langtry, flesh.—W. L.

Digitized by Google

ARE YOU PREPARING FOR NEXT YEAR'S ROCK GARDEN?

WHEN an open site has been chosen for the rock garden, and a plan marked out, however rough it may be, it will be necessary to excavate the soil at least a foot below the ground level. Where the subsoil is of a porous texture a foot will be ample, but if it is of a heavy, retentive nature, then it will be advisable to remove the soil to a depth of 18ins. When this is done the space is partly filled with clinker, small stones, or similar material, over which is placed a layer of turf, with the grass-side downwards. Where the position is low it may be expedient to put in a few land drains to carry off surplus water more quickly, for perhaps the most important factor in building a rock garden, however small, is thorough and efficient drainage.

This fact must be borne in mind throughout the period of construction, and if it is neglected at the beginning it cannot be remedied later on. Much, of course, will depend on the texture of the rocks and position of the site, and our object should be to see that the roots of the plants will be well supplied with moisture, and any water that the soil will not readily absorb can get away quickly. As the work proceeds and the rocks are set in position, further drainage can be added, but now it will be more in the way of small stones mixed with soil. No hard and fast rules can be laid down, but in forming a rock garden it can be noted the kind of plants which will eventually occupy certain stations and preparations made accordingly. Every pocket and crevice must be sufficiently drained, and this is accomplished by placing a liberal sprinkling of chippings with the compost in the crevices and pockets before the work is far advanced. When once the foundation of the rock garden has been laid so that the surplus water can get away without hindrance, there will be little difficulty in growing the great majority of alpines, providing due attention is paid to soil and position.

Various Soil Mixtures.

In a well constructed rock garden there will be a variety of positions for various alpines and these are known as pockets, chinks, crevices and fissures. Plants suitable for these positions and aspects can be selected, but after efficient drainage the next important thing is the rooting medium. In a short article it is not possible to deal with all the sections of plants for a rock garden and give their individual requirements, but much can be gleaned from a general survey of the usual mixtures employed. Pockets are made of different sizes and large enough to take several plants of the same kind, so as a rule a quantity of soil will be needed if the rock garden is a fairly extensive one. The soil best suited for the majority of alpines consists of ordinary loam three parts, and one part clean, wholesome leaf-mould, with a sprinkling of coarse sand, according to the texture of the loam. If the loam is poor in quality, then I would add a small portion of well decayed manure rubbed through a half-inch mesh sieve. That from an old mushroom bed is excellent, and a good substitute is a discarded hot bed. I often think that some of the more robust alpines are starved, and fail to give of their best because of an impoverished root run. Anything in the way of a clayey soil must be omitted, and good sharp river sand should be chosen whenever possible.

For plants enjoying a proportion of lime in the soil, a mixture of loam, leaf-mould, coarse sand and old mortar rubble in equal parts will be found useful. The lime rubble is obtained from any old dismantled building and it should be broken up and put through a quarter-inch mesh sieve. Another group of plants will not succeed if lime is present in the soil, and for these a mixture of peat, leaf-mould and sand is recommended. The peat is chopped up fairly fine and rubbed through a half-inch mesh sieve. Excepting for lime-hating plants I have little use for peat; it is poor stuff and if it remains in a sweet condition for any length of time it is always more or less dry, otherwise it absorbs much moisture and soon becomes a wet, sour mass in which no plants will thrive. A few plants will enjoy a mixture of good quality flaky leaf-soil and rough sand, such as Gentiana verna and similar subjects, and if a few small stones are judiciously placed between the plants the moisture will be retained and obviate the need for artificial water.

Although peat is not largely recommended, it is a necessity for placing in vertical fissures for such plants as ramondias and others that must be planted so that water will readily run off the crowns especially during the winter months. With some plants it may be expedient to add chippings, limestone or sandstone about the size of a filbert, but whatever is employed it should be thoroughly mixed together and be neither too wet nor dry when used.

The above mixtures I have used for the main or bulk of alpines, but with choice varieties, slight modifications have been made, and it has been found necessary occasionally to change the diet before the plant would succeed.

T. W. B.

MOST OF THE DIANTHUS FLOURISH WITH A SPRINKLING OF LIMESTONE CHIPPINGS ON THE SOIL SURFACE—

WHEREAS SUCH MOISTURE-LOVING PLANTS AS MANY PRIMULAS PREFER A SOIL WITH A LARGE PROPORTION OF HUMUS IN IT.

Digitized by Google

THE MAKING OF A SMALL ROSE GARDEN

Every reader of THE GARDEN *realises the importance of roses. Some may imagine that a small area is unsuited to the growing of this most popular of flowers. This article proves that this is not the case, and that roses will thrive exceedingly well in even the smallest garden.*

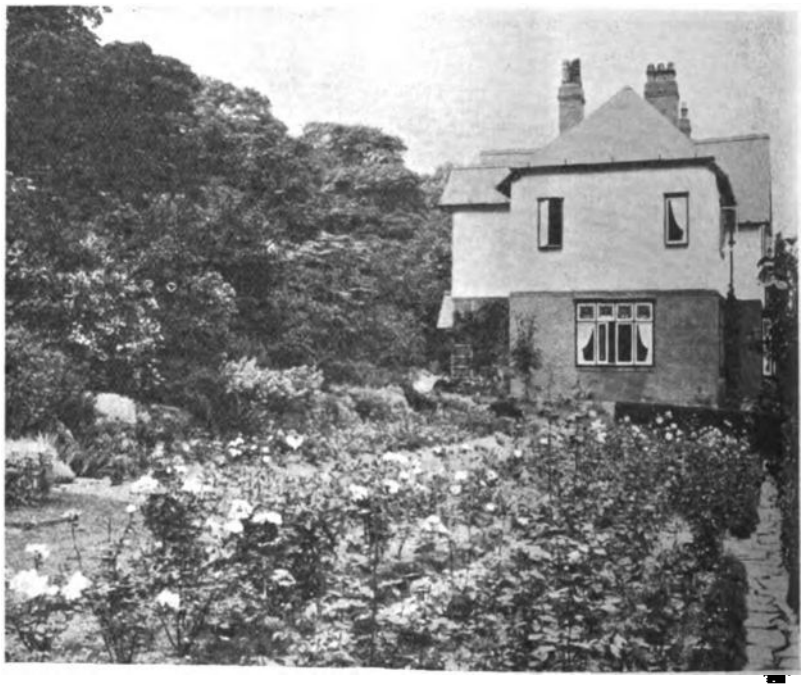
EVERYBODY loves roses, and everybody wants to do their best for the thing they love. Therefore all who have a garden wish to grow good roses in it. The setting aside of a part of their ground for the cultivation of roses, and such small plants as will associate with them, is, no doubt, the most satisfactory way from the point of view of the garden, as well as for the welfare of the rose.

The modern rose is so free-blooming, has such a long season of flowering, from June to November, its colours are so varied and brilliant, that it alone can furnish the space allotted to it with greater beauty than any other plant can do. If we are careful in our choice of varieties, we may add to the qualities already mentioned, loveliness of form in the individual rose, the finest of all scents, and abundance of foliage.

Up and down the country there are springing up countless small gardens, say of about quarter of an acre, and if their owners will make up their minds to spend a little money and a good deal of thought and work in selecting the best site and preparing the soil, there are few better places for a rose garden. For roses love new soil and they also love sunshine, and the majority of these gardens can give them both.

I once owned such a garden, on heavy, clay soil. We sacrificed a small lawn, too small to be really good for either tennis or croquet, and we cut our rose beds out of this lawn, digging out the soil 3ft. deep, putting in a drainpipe, then burning the clay, mixing it when it had turned to a sort of crumbling brick rubble, with the upper soil and with manure and leaf-mould and so refilling the bed.

In our present garden, high up on light gravelly soil, it is even more necessary than on the clay to dig out the bed fully 3ft. deep, to sift out the stones, keep the sifted soil for the top of the bed and get as much "top spit" dug from old pasture land as we can, chop it up and put it at the bottom of the bed and fill up with well rotted farmyard manure, if it is to be had, finishing with a surfacing of light, sifted soil.



A SMALL ROSE GARDEN IS ALWAYS EXCELLENT ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF A HOUSE.

In both these gardens we have grown good roses, but there is no doubt that on the lighter soil the plants require more manure and are less able to withstand a dry summer; they bloom, perhaps, more profusely, but the growth is not so strong, nor are the individual flowers so large as they are on the heavy Harrow clay. This experience has, however, taught us that given a fairly sunny site, not too windswept, roses can be well grown, whatever the natural soil of the locality may be.

WHERE SPACE IS AVAILABLE SOME OF THE GROUND SHOULD BE UTILISED FOR A SEPARATE ROSE GARDEN PLANNED IN A SEMI-FORMAL MANNER.

The Choice of a Site.

Make your rose garden, if possible, on the south side of your house. Though the borders round the house itself may afford a place for one or two climbing roses, they are not the best place for dwarf roses: they are apt to become too dry, and the roses grown in them seem peculiarly subject to green fly and mildew. This doubtless is because there is not a sufficient current of air. Moreover, especially in a small garden, one generally likes to keep these borders for early bulbs and wallflowers during the spring, and such sweet-scented, tender plants as tobacco plants, heliotropes, night-scented stock, mignonette and sweet alyssum, through the summer and early autumn.

Roses never look better than when surrounded with grass, therefore, if you have a small lawn, cut your beds or borders out of this. Those who prefer beds should make them round, oval, square or oblong, never in the shape of stars or crescents; each bed should, if possible, be planted with one variety, say of nine or twelve plants about 18ins. or 2ft. apart, according to the habit of the variety.

Borders of 5ft. or 6ft. wide, and as long as the ground will permit, with grass paths between of 3ft. or 4ft., look very well and are less trouble to keep in shape and need less time spent in mowing and edging. Three rows may be planted in a border 5ft. wide or four rows in a 6ft. border. These can be all easily reached for hoeing, pruning and general tending. In these borders the roses can be planted in groups of ten or twelve, the colours being carefully chosen in such a way that they add to one another's charm, that is to say, the soft pink of such roses as Caroline Testout should not be planted next to the brilliant cherry carmine of Betty Uprichard, or the terra cotta tints of Mme. Edouard Herriot, but should be separated

Digitized by Google

from them by some creamy variety, Mrs. David Mackee, Ophelia or Westfield Star. Almost all colours will associate with the deep crimson roses and none are more beautiful, though among the hybrid teas they are not so plentiful as they are among the old hybrid teas.

But the rosary in a small garden must consist principally of hybrid teas (and with these I include the so-called Pernet varieties), on account of their great freedom and continuity of bloom. In the heyday of the hybrid perpetual the month of August practically brought the rose season to an end, but, as I wrote at the beginning of this article, we can cut roses well into November. The polyantha pompons are also very free and continuous and make excellent little bedding roses, but where my space was limited I should keep the rosary proper for roses of finer form and scent. Should there be a small front garden, it may well be devoted to polyantha pompons and these make very neat, gay beds, taking the place of the ordinary bedding plants. If surrounded with an edging of some tufted viola of compact habit, Maggie Mott, Kitty Bell or White Swan, the beds will bloom from April to November. In the rosary, too, I would recommend edgings of violas. Nothing associates so well with roses and they revel in the rich soil.

Should it be desirable to divide the rosary from the rest of the garden, this may be done by means of dwarf hedges of the old pink China or the hybrid Bourbon Zéphirine Drouhin (one of the most fragrant of roses), trained horizontally. Or perhaps most charming of all, by the dwarf sweet briar. If taller hedges are needed, they may be formed of the hybrid rugosas or of the Penzance briars. If an evergreen hedge is wanted, nothing makes so beautiful a background for the brilliant tints of the roses as the dark, sombre yew. If this is used, it should be kept at some little distance from the rose beds, otherwise it will take too much of the nourishment provided for the roses. A beech hedge also is very attractive, with its soft, satiny green in spring and russet brown in autumn and winter. A series of interesting articles by Miss Jekyll on the making of small gardens has been appearing in THE GARDEN. Some of the designs suggested might be adapted for rose gardens.

Question of Cost.

It is difficult to estimate exactly the cost of making such a garden. The labour will be the first item and there is a good deal of labour in digging out and preparing soil, wheeling it away and wheeling in the compost which is to fill the beds. A jobbing gardener's wages in the neighbourhood of London would probably be about 10s. a day. Manure is expensive, 10s. to 12s. a load, and, moreover, it is hard to come by. Of course many artificial manures, such as Wakeley's Hop Manure, are excellent substitutes for ordinary manure. "Top spit," the most important ingredient of all, costs anything from 10s. to 15s. per load and may often be obtained locally where building is in progress.

For the fortunate people who live on a loamy soil, much of this labour and expense is unnecessary, but even they must see to it that the rose beds or borders are properly drained for roses dislike stagnant moisture at their roots.

As regards the plants themselves, the average cost is 1s. 6d. for the older and 2s. 6d. to 5s. for the newer varieties. These prices are for dwarf budded plants, from English nurserymen, and it is always worth while to buy British plants; they may cost a little more than the Dutch plants in the first instance, but they are far more satisfactory in the long run.

Suitable Varieties.

In conclusion I give a list of well tried hybrid tea varieties which have grown and flowered freely in my own garden and which have the right habit for grouping in beds and borders. I shall not include any single-flowered varieties, such as K. of K. or Isobel, because, lovely as they are, their blossoms are fleeting and in a small collection the roses with more staying power are preferable. On the other hand, I am omitting purely exhibition varieties, however exquisite their individual blooms may be. Though in varying degree all roses in this list have some fragrance, I will start with the crimsons, for the rose of roses is a red rose.

Crimson.—General McArthur, Etoile de Hollande, Mrs. Edward Powell, Richmond, C. E. van Rossem, Hortulanus Budde.

Pinks and Salmon Pinks.—Caroline Testout, C. E. Shea, Mrs. Henry Bowles, Mme. Butterfly.

Flesh Colour.—Mme. Léon Pain, Ophelia.

Coppery and Terra Cotta Shades.—Lady Pirrie, Mme. Edouard Herriot, Henrietta, Padre.

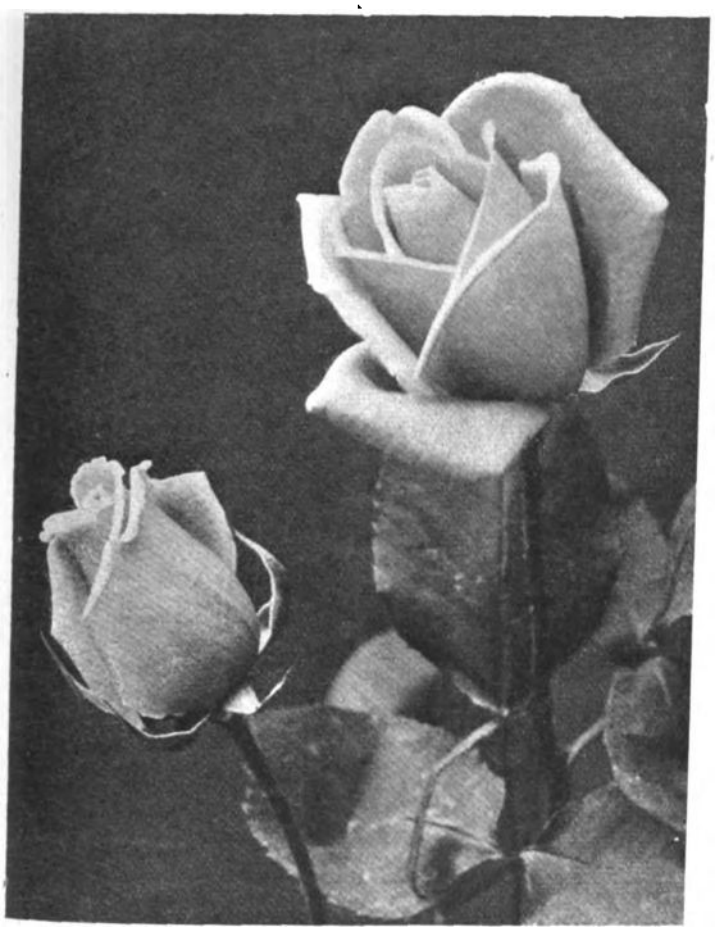
Cerise.—Betty Uprichard, Lady Inchiquin.

Apricot.—Los Angeles, W. F. Dreer.

Yellow and Orange.—Independence Day, Mabel Morse, Mrs. Dunlop Best.

White and Cream.—Marcia Stanhope, Mrs. David Mackie, Westfield Star, Mme. Jules Bouche.

WHITE LADY.



THE CLEAR PINK CHARLES E. SHEA.

INDEPENDENCE DAY, GOLDEN BLOOMS SHADED WITH APRICOT.

Digitized by Google

ECONOMICAL GREENHOUSE HEATING

Although no heating apparatus equals the boiler and pipe system adopted in most modern greenhouses, yet there are many other simple devices which can be made use of by the amateur to heat the greenhouse. This article which gives a few hints on how to conserve heat and utilise fuel to the best advantage should prove invaluable to all readers.

In the Heated Greenhouse.

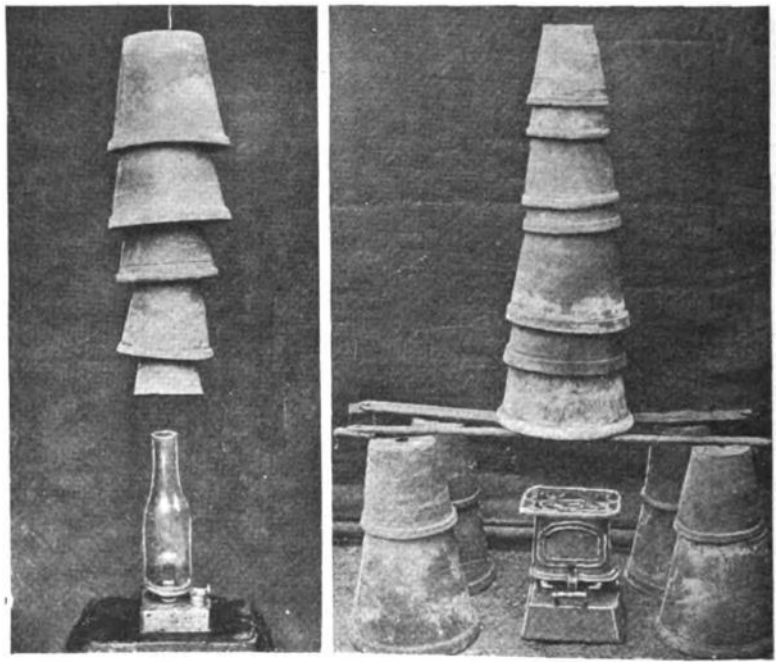
DURING the past few years the question of heating of our greenhouses and other plant structures has been a very serious one. Through the coming winter and spring the need for economy will be as great as at any time in recent years. After growing choice plants through the summer months and others for many years past, it may be, the cultivator does not like to lose them suddenly. The management of large boilers will be dealt with first. If the pipes have been properly arranged, there will be valves in the right place in every house. It may be that some houses—such as vineries and peach structures—can be left cold until next March. That being so, odd plants, now in them, should be taken to other houses and these should be filled, but not overcrowded. Thus the heat can be turned off the vineries and peach houses and confined to the others and so save fuel.

Except when there is actual frost, there will be no need to maintain a high temperature during the daytime in open weather, but the fire need not be drawn. The following routine work should be observed. Early in the morning open dampers and ashpit doors; put on a shovelful of fuel, in twenty minutes time the fire will be brighter and it is at this stage that all the ashes can be worked through the bars without putting out the fire, as might be the case if they were violently raked out the first thing. Then add a little more fuel, keep on full draught, directly the fire is again bright, feed with a certain quantity of dry fuel and finish with two shovelfuls of damped slack; regulate dampers. The fire, so treated, will ensure the pipes being nicely warmed throughout the day and not require any more fuel to maintain the heat. At sunset open out the fire again and get the pipes warm enough to ensure the temperature being at its maximum by nine o'clock, when, on a bright, flat-shaped fire place dry fuel and finish with wet slack. Give full draught for twenty minutes or so, then regulate dampers and ash-pit doors for the night. The heat in the pipes can be regulated by manipulating the valves to ensure the right temperatures for exotic plants and those for common greenhouse subjects. By bad management as much fuel may be burned in four days as would suffice for seven and maintain better temperatures where careful stoking was the rule.

In Small Houses.

SMALL glass structures are much more difficult to heat than large ones. Many pipes connected with a large boiler maintain the heat in a big house much more evenly than a few connected with a small boiler do in a small house. In the latter the heat soon rises to 80°; it also soon falls to 40° in cold weather if the boiler is "driven" or allowed to cool over a dust-choked fire.

Now, it is the small greenhouse, its pipes and boiler, on which it is desired to give a few hints. The slow combustion stoves or furnaces will consume coal, coke, cinders, slack and even ashes. A combination of these will prove very economical. The boilers are, mostly, fixed in the brick wall but without any brickwork to form flues, etc., as is the case with plain saddle and check-end saddle boilers. The boiler, being inside the greenhouse, emits heat equal to 6ft. to 10ft. of piping. It is always wise to light the fire or open dampers to allow a slow one to burn up again quite one hour before sunset so that the pipes will be warm by that time, thus preventing condensation of moisture on any blooms that are open in the house. Not only should heating be done with a view to warming the house, but also with that of driving out excessive moisture through the slightly opened top ventilators. When starting the fire do so properly, get a good hot glow as soon as possible, it is economical to do so; get heat from every ounce of fuel; a dull, slow fire consumes or spoils fuel without generating any appreciable heat on the boiler's surface. When the heat is approaching the maximum regulate the fire carefully. Do not choke the furnace with fuel at any time; a small quantity of fuel when it is required evenly spread out on the fire will soon cause the free circulation of water in the pipes. Always "bank-up" at night when the fire is bright, and use damp slack or ashes as a top thin layer on it. One part coal and slack to two parts well broken coke combine to form a good heat-engendering fuel. Ashes and rubbish fuel should, generally, be used when the fire is being driven a little, then it will all be consumed. If such be placed on a slow fire the latter will be put out, or nearly so, certainly it will be choked. Keep the ash-pit empty.



A SIMPLE DEVICE FOR HEATING THE GREENHOUSE.

When You Cannot Heat With Coal.

COAL, and coke too, are not only difficult to get at the present time, but they are also very expensive. Of course, until the weather becomes very severe, many tender plants in the greenhouse may be protected to an extent without the use of artificial heat. The old-fashioned plan of spreading newspapers over the specimens is not by any means to be despised. Then, in the unheated house, risk of damage by frost will be minimised if attention is paid to a few special points. Keep the soil in the pots very much on the dry side, as, in cold weather, all plants suffer much more if their roots are in damp earth. Keep the house as airy as possible. Although there may be a frost at night, there are usually some hours round about midday when it is quite mild, and then ventilation should be freely allowed. Where the air remains in a stagnant state in a house, it tends to become damp and chilled, and should a frost occur much greater harm will be done to the plants.

Sooner or later, however, there comes a time when, in the case of many delicate subjects, some kind of heat is essential if damage and loss are to be avoided. Stoves heated by paraffin oil lamps will, if carefully used, help much to tide one over the time of difficulty. In a small greenhouse or a conservatory, emergency oil heaters are not difficult to fix up. One which the writer has found really useful is formed of a large lamp and four flower-pots of varying size. The biggest of these pots might be about 14ins. in diameter, the next 12ins., and the remaining two 10ins. and 8ins. Thus, when in an inverted position the pots can be fitted one above the other. The lamp is placed on the floor, and, on either side, bricks are arranged. The large pot is placed over the lamp and the others are piled up above it. It is a good plan to have a tin tray of water on the pot that is uppermost to prevent the heat from being too dry. This arrangement will give out quite a fair amount of heat that will serve to keep the frost at bay. Another plan is carried out with a stove of the well known "Beatrice" type. Here a large biscuit tin is filled with sand and placed on the top of the stove. The sand is all the better if it is kept moist as far as possible. In some cases it might be worth while buying one or other of the excellent oil heaters that are specially made for greenhouses. The best of these are fitted with a hot-water system and, being portable, they can be moved to any part of the house where warmth is specially needed.

Fumes from lamps do not seem specially harmful to plants, *always providing the burners are kept clean.* It is an excellent plan to boil all lamp burners in a hot soda solution once a week. Then, each day, run a cloth over the wicks to remove the black crust that has formed. When once a wick has been found to burn with a regular flame it will not require any further trimming with scissors. It is most important to take precautions against smoking. A few hours of a smoky lamp in a greenhouse will do a very great deal of damage. Lamp flames tend to go up slightly half an hour or so after lighting, and, on this account, it is a good plan to turn the wick somewhat lower than its best before leaving it for the night.

Digitized by Google

THE FRUIT AND KITCHEN GARDEN

Planting Currants and Gooseberries.

THE earlier the planting of currants, both red, white and black, is carried out the better. In this way new roots are formed at once, and, if the bushes are of good size, there will be every reason for expecting a crop in the following season. Currants are vigorous plants, likely to produce large quantities of roots and, on this account, they do best in good, rich loam, 2ft. or more in depth and rather on the heavy side. The bush form is invariably adopted in the case of black currants and also for the chief crop of the red and white kinds. A space of from 5ft. to 6ft. should be allowed between the bushes in open quarters. In a district where the soil is very light, positions with a south aspect should be avoided, as here there is a great risk that the fruit will shrivel or ripen prematurely and, in any case, it is likely to be inferior to that from bushes grown in more shaded localities. Red and white currants are often grown on walls with a northerly aspect. In such situations the crop will hang until November, but it cannot, of course, be expected to have the flavour of that more exposed to the sun. Bush currants are sometimes planted alternately with pyramid apple or pear trees by the sides of walks; currants that have been trained as pyramids are particularly well adapted for such positions.

GOOSEBERRIES.

Gooseberries thrive in any good garden soil, but this should, preferably, be of rather moist nature. For growing really fine fruit there is nothing to equal a rich loamy soil which has been deeply dug and enriched with well decayed manure. One cannot well have the situation too open for gooseberries, and where the position is even slightly shaded the fruit is nearly always inferior in size and flavour. In planting the bushes a distance of 5ft. should be allowed between each, and there is no harm in using the intervening space for some other crops until the gooseberries become established. As has been described with currants, late crops of gooseberries may be secured by planting against a north wall. The bushes may be set out in the ordinary way or, if desired, the shoots can be trained against a wall. When employed to cover a north wall the fan system of training may be adopted, or the plants can be inserted when young 9ins. apart and three perpendicular shoots conducted from each at equal distances. Gooseberries grown on north walls, although late in ripening, often provide a more reliable crop than is secured from the bushes in the open. In the bleaker parts of the country this plan is not to be recommended, and here the gooseberry bushes should be given full exposure to the south.

THE SOIL.

The soil should be on the dryish side, as it is then more easily worked. On no account should planting be done when the ground is wet and sticky. At such times it is best to defer the actual planting and to "heel" the bushes in until the conditions improve. Of course, there may come a time when planting simply has to be done, whatever the state of the soil. Here it is really a good plan to dig the holes out two or three days ahead of the actual planting, breaking up the bottom of the opening well and passing the removed soil through the fork as often as possible. Plant to the depth of the soil mark on the main stems of the bushes and spread the roots out thoroughly. Sprinkle a thin layer of soil lightly over the roots and finish by treading in the final covering. As a rule bushes of currants and gooseberries do not require any staking. It is well, however, to watch the bushes and, if these show signs of being unduly blown about, some support should be given.

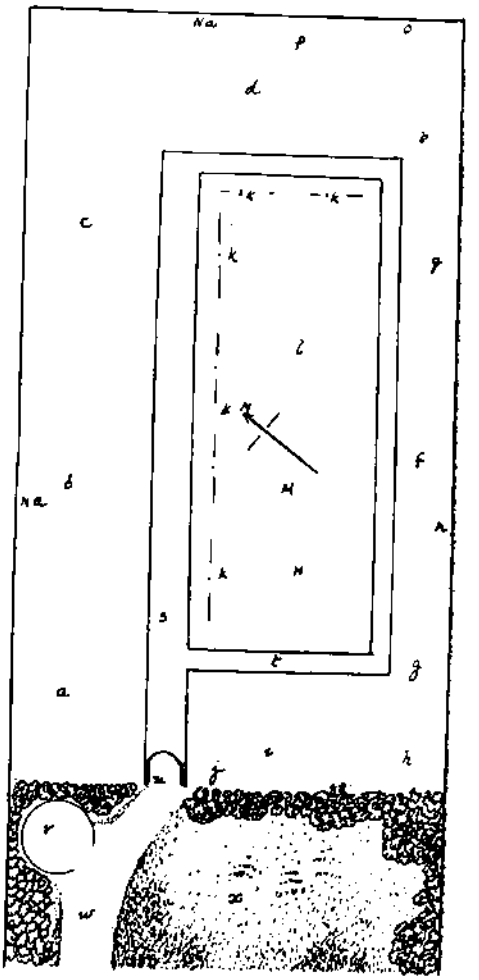
Lettuce and Parsley.

IT is never a difficult matter to get lettuce plants safely transplanted in the spring if we leave out the trouble arising from slug attacks. In the autumn, if the weather is very dry and cold, the most successful way is to transplant lettuces on slightly raised ridges on a very warm—a south aspect—border or at the foot of a wall. It is excessive moisture that does the most harm in winter. In convenient places the plants can be temporarily covered in very frosty weather. The soil should be rich, deep and firm. Winter parsley is valuable. Many cultivators, no doubt, found it difficult to raise July seedlings owing to the dry weather. But if plants are scarce, thin out the available seedlings to 9ins. apart and transplant the spare specimens in a sheltered border now.

The Small Fruit Garden.

HOW TO ARRANGE IT TO THE BEST ADVANTAGE.

CERTAIN kinds of fruits may be grown more extensively than others according to the requirements. The plan shows how a small garden may be planted to the best advantage with a representative collection; a few trees of each, some in warm positions and others in cool ones to prolong the supply as much as possible. Espaliers are provided for on the south side of the broad path so that their shadow will be cast on the path and not on any valuable border space. *a* shows black currants; *b*, gooseberries; *c*, early strawberries; *d*, early raspberries; *e*, late raspberries; *f*, late black currants; *g*, a medlar; *h*, a mulberry; *i*, late strawberries; *k*, *k*, *k*, *k*, *k*, espalier pears; *l*, apples



(bush-shaped); *m*, white currants; *n*, red currants; *na*, *na*, pears; *o*, plums; *p*, loganberries; *q*, cherries; *r*, late plums; *s*, broad path in front of warm early border; *t*, narrow paths to economise space; *u*, arch; *v*, summer-house in flower-garden portion; *w*, path leading from dwelling-house to the fruit garden; *x*, lawn.

Storing Fruit.

THIS has been a good pear season, and it is worth while to keep the fruits under proper conditions. Do not pile the fruits one on the other just anyhow, place them upon a shelf that is perfectly dry and likely to remain so. The atmosphere of the storing place should be decidedly cool and airy, frost and damp proof; a warm, close atmosphere is fatal.

Again, the fruits need *air* all around them, and when lying upon the wooden shelf quite a third of the fruit gets no air and is liable to decay. Placing the apples or pears upon a thin layer of clean, dry straw—not hay—ensures the admission of air to the undersides of the fruits. No apple or pear should touch its neighbour. By this method the fruits will keep sound and juicy without any suspicion of decay until they shrivel up with old age.

The late-maturing kinds of apples, and those pears that have to be gathered while still in a hard state, can be kept well into the spring under these conditions.

APPLES STORED ON STRAW ON A SHELF.

Digitized by Google

WHAT OUR READERS SAY

SOWING SEEDS OF PRIMULAS.

Candelabra and Sikkimensis sections.

SIR,—If success is to be attained in the propagation of these most useful sections of primula, the most important factor to bear in mind is that the genus as a whole loves moisture, particularly the sections mentioned. Included are the following:

(*a*) *Candelabra Section.*—Yellow flowers—P. Bulleyana, P. Cockburniana, P. serratifolia, P. helodoxa; purple flowers—P. Beesiana, P. glycosma, P. Poissonii, P. pulverulenta, P. Wilsoni.

(*b*) *Sikkimensis Section.*—Yellow flowers—P. sikkimensis, P. microdonta, P. Florindæ; purple flowers, P. secundiflora, P. vittata, P. microdonta violacea.

Where large numbers of young plants are required and space is limited, the old system of sowing in pot and pan can be discarded and the more up-to-date and easy method adopted that of sowing in a cold frame. Bearing in mind that moisture plays a very important part in the germination of seeds and after-growth of the young plants, it is necessary that a layer of some moisture-retaining substance should be included in the preparation of the frame. Above the drainage, sphagnum moss or well rotted manure, preferably the latter, as it will be of use when the roots penetrate to that depth, should be placed to a depth of 6ins. A compost consisting of loam, leaf-soil and sand, is added 4ins. to 5ins. deep, the level of which should be about 6ins. from the glass at the front of the frame. Two methods may be adopted for sowing seeds: (1) In drills; or (2) broadcast; but it should be borne in mind that, in whichever way, the seeds must be sown thinly and evenly, otherwise the young plants will be drawn and have a tendency to damp off. The covering should be of the lightest possible, the golden rule for all seeds being that they should be covered to their own depth. Watering must be done with a fine rose to prevent washing away the seeds, and the frame should be kept closed until germination takes place. Seeds may be sown now or in the spring.—A. McC.

THE DECORATIVE MICHAELMAS DAISY.

SIR,—I am sending an illustration of my Michaelmas daisies, Nancy Ballard, which may be of interest to readers of your very valuable paper THE GARDEN. The asters have been, and are still, a very wonderful display, and are very valuable at this season. The flowers are large, compact and clear, and provide the most charming decorative effects in the garden.—(Mrs.) E. A. BROOMHEAD, *Aylesbury, Bucks.*

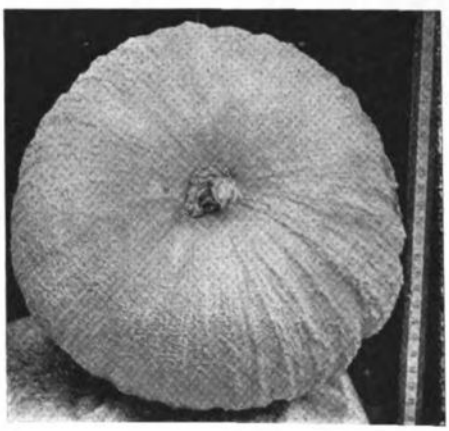
ASTER NANCY BALLARD IN A READER'S GARDEN.

HOW TO KEEP PLANT LABELS READABLE.

SIR,—On page 589 "N. D." gives a good way of keeping wood labels legible, but wood labels rot. The late secretary of the Royal Horticultural Society (Mr. W. R. Dykes) told me what he found most satisfactory was a zinc label with about 1in. of the top bent over at a right angle and the name or a number written on the upper surface and varnished. The label could not rot or sink in the ground out of sight, and ever since I have used zinc labels in that way.—V. C.

A RECORD PUMPKIN.

SIR,—We send herewith an illustration of a record pumpkin grown by one of our customers, which is exhibited in our Regent Street Garden Shop.



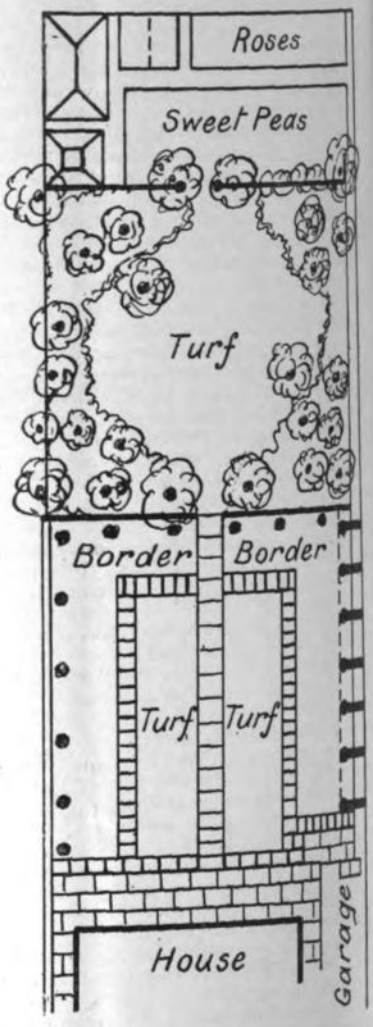
A MAMMOTH PUMPKIN.

The extraordinary weight and measurement are as follows, weight 114lbs.; girth, 74ins.—JAMES CARTER AND CO.

THE JOY OF MAKING A NEW GARDEN.

SIR,—As you ask for reader's ideas on garden-planning, I venture to send you an alternative suggestion for the back garden planned by Miss Jekyll on page 551. Miss Jekyll's designs have always been beyond criticism to me, but this particular one I find, as an ardent flower-lover, a little too utilitarian. Personally, with a comparatively small area at my disposal, I would sacrifice the remainder of the fruit left me by the birds and the bacterial pests for flowers most of the year. Also, being a keen badminton player, I could not devote to what is *not* an outdoor game in England a piece of otherwise invaluable ground quite inadequate in size for any serious attempt to play the game when I might have bulbs and flowering shrubs and green grass to charm my eye.

I should divide the ground as shown in the sketch, shielding the service path to the north with a pergola of natural wood covered with climbing plants and roses, as far as the junction of glade and sunk garden. The "mounds" should help to raise the borders round the little formal garden, a cupressus hedge forming an evergreen background to the border plants; while the adjoining 50ft. of ground should be laid out as a little grassy glade planted with groups of flowering shrubs and such



apple trees giving profusion of blossom in spring and brightly coloured fruit in autumn, and as many bulbs in as many varieties as could be squeezed in.

The remaining 25ft. would be devoted to a small cold house, two frames, a small shed, and all the rest to roses and sweet peas for cutting, with perhaps a couple of rows of edible peas and small salading—if room could be spared!

The dry walling round the borders would be bright with rock plants in their season, and the wide turf borders and paved path leading to the glade should give dignity to the view from the house. The borders must be carefully planted for profusion of flowers from June to October, so that there might be something of interest somewhere all the year round (even though it be æsthetic and not gastronomical!).—C. E. A.

ORCHIDS FOR AMATEURS.

SIR,—I often wonder why more orchids are not grown by small amateur gardeners, having just seen a group in a small house full of flower of the "Lady's Slipper," Cypripedium insigne. I can assure all those with small houses, that they are as easily grown as "geraniums," in fact, they need hardly any attention. I have a small batch of plants that were potted in small pieces of

Digitized by Google

pot broken up with moss, mixed with a part of rough turf two years ago. They are at present in bud and will last until nearly the end of the year. Watering has not been carried out as it should be and as for diseases I find they are immune. During the great war the house had no heat and very little attention, so growers need not be afraid of the "coal bill."

As a cut flower they will last in water for nearly three weeks. So I am writing to persuade readers of THE GARDEN to buy a plant and see if they can kill it with fair treatment. I believe there are other hybrids well worth growing, such as C. Maudiæ.—H. M. B.

SHRUBS FOR THE SMALL GARDEN

SMALL berried shrubs for autumn colour are often a problem in the average garden where many of the berberis and cotoneasters grow to too large a size. One, however, that is eminently satisfactory is Pernettya mucronata, so long as the soil is free from lime and is fairly moist. It is a stiff, dwarf-growing evergreen with tiny white flowers that are followed early in autumn by deep purple berries. As it rarely grows more than 3ft. in height, it will be seen how valuable this plant is. Various hybrids also exist with white, pink and red berries.

The philadelphus, or mock orange, is so important for its free-flowering qualities that no one can afford to leave it out of the garden, even though it grows into a big bush. Still, with care taken in its placing, it is a most suitable and charming shrub for all gardens. It can be grown as a corner plant where size is not a matter of the greatest importance. It is, however, too coarse a grower for the middle of a herbaceous border. Remember that it is not so much the height of a well grown specimen that counts but its girth and the spread of its crown. The modern hybrids are vast improvements on the older species. Two that can be thoroughly recommended are Virginal, a vigorous grower with large, fragrant, white flowers, and Boule d'Argent, a free-flowering double white.

One of the most important shrubs for all gardens is the shrubby cinquefoil, or Potentilla fruticosa, and its varieties. Why this useful late summer and early autumn flowering shrub is not universally popular is beyond comprehension. It is free-flowering over a long period when few shrubs are in flower; it is absolutely hardy; it is a neat grower up to 3ft. in height; its saucer-shaped flowers are most attractive. All forms are good, most of them a clear lemon to butter yellow, and one is white, Potentilla Veitchii. They require no attention beyond the cutting out of some of the old wood each year.

Flowering cherries and flowering crab apples are always a problem. Their number is now legion. The choice is largely a matter of space available, and if in doubt it is always as well to see a full-grown specimen in a nursery or at Kew before making your choice, as it is a pity to plant a fine variety that has to be hacked out in a few years because it is too large. Where small trees can be grown, it is probable that the two most useful species are Prunus Pissardii with its dark coppery foliage and pink flowers and Pyrus floribunda and its variety atrosanguinea, the former with pink flowers and darker buds, the latter of a deep red.

A FINE FLOWERING SPECIMEN OF PRUNUS PISSARDII.

A close relative of the thorn is the pyracantha, and here we have another excellent suggestion for wall shrubs. They are evergreen and neat in growth, while they are among the most brilliant berried shrubs that we possess. The two best for ordinary purposes are undoubtedly Pyracantha angustifolia with large clusters of orange yellow berries and Lalandei with fruit that is almost an orange-scarlet. Provided that the soil is fairly deep, they will thrive under almost any conditions if given the shelter of a wall.

For a piece of waste ground where the soil is poor there is nothing to equal the flowering currant, Ribes sanguineum. The importance of this remarkable flowering shrub is hardly realised, although it has been in cultivation for over a century. It grows too large for the border or garden proper, but it is so hardy, so floriferous and of such easy growth that it is admirable for ground that may otherwise be difficult to fill. It is particularly suited to the East Coast, where year after year it will make a gay show in April with its various tints of red according to variety.

One of the unique shrub effects in the garden is gained by a small group of the lavender cotton, Santolina chamæcyparissus, which is so attractive owing to its greyish white foliage and its round balls of yellow flowers. As it never exceeds 2ft. in height, it is useful as a foreground shrub. If anything it prefers dry poor soil where it can get a maximum of sun, and for this reason it is valuable where other plants may not grow. It flowers profusely in July. Another plant that has no objection to dry conditions, although it should not be planted in full sun, is the skimmia, which is rather like a laurel in its foliage, but has pleasant little white flowers and usually bears a fine crop of scarlet berries. They are, in fact, like an improved and dwarfer laurel, and for this reason are useful in small gardens for many purposes for which the laurel is too coarse a grower. The best species are Skimmia Fortunei and S. japonica with rather larger leaves. Both have fragrant flowers.

The spiræa and the lilac are so important and such large groups that they will have special notes to themselves in a following issue. Although the viburnums as a whole are too large for the small garden, yet there are one or two that are so important that they cannot be left out of a list of suitable shrubs. The first is the snowball tree, the sterile form of our ordinary guelder rose. This is not only valuable for its masses of creamy white flowers in summer, but the leaves are often well coloured in autumn.

Last of all is the wistaria, probably the finest climbing plant in the world, with its long racemes of mauve-lilac flowers that are produced so freely during early summer. For porches or pergolas, or even trained over an iron umbrella, there is hardly a plant to touch it. It is better for being planted in a sunny position, but on no account must it be allowed to suffer from drought.

The only plant which can approach it is the Sweet Water Vine, which looks so effective when draping an iron or, better still, a wooden support or bracket in the house wall.

Nothing could be of more simple culture, and its beauty in autumn with its rich colourings will well repay its inclusion. E. C.

THE BRILLIANT BERRIES OF PERNETTYA MUCRONATA.

Digitized by Google

HINTS WORTH REMEMBERING

This is a further instalment of Hints that have been received from our readers in response to our request. There seems little doubt, judging from the numbers that have reached us, that this will prove a most useful feature of THE GARDEN *in future. We hope, therefore, that all our readers will assist to make this page as valuable as possible by sending in their Hints, the result of personal observation and trial, and so help the gardening public in general. Hints which will be specially considered as worthy of a prize will be those that are seasonable as well as interesting and apply particularly to duties that can be carried out in the garden at the present time.*

Half a guinea will be paid each week for the most useful or interesting hint sent in by a reader. Five shillings will be paid for all others published. Each must be sent in on a separate sheet and must not be more than 300 words in length.

THE HALF GUINEA HINT.

A Good Method of Growing Asters.

In using perennial asters as a background for herbaceous borders which cannot be deeply cultivated year by year, I have found the following method both successful and economical: Being gross feeders and well doers, when properly grown they need yearly division. Each autumn the old roots are dug up and holes 15ins. square and 1ft. deep are opened out on the same sites, and two spadefuls of good rotten manure placed at the bottom. The old soil is used to fill up the holes and three single crowns from the old root planted in the form of a triangle. So treated the young crowns will produce in the following season strong branching stems, sometimes as thick as a forefinger and carrying a multitude of perfect blooms.—S. H.

A Remedy for Woolly Aphis.

At this time of the year, when the summer pruning is finished, this pest is easily seen on any apple trees subject to an attack. Various remedies have been suggested by fruit-growers, but I have found none so effectual as the following mixture: Mix two-thirds of paraffin with one-third of creosote, or Stockholm tar, and apply this to the infected parts with an ordinary paint brush. The young wood should be only lightly brushed, but old wood may be more heavily painted, where the aphis is in crevices. This not only kills the insects, but heals the wounds, and appears to prevent any future attack in the same parts.—F. I. L.

Propagation of Greenhouse Chrysanthemums.

In November, December and January, as blooms fade, remove from pots and plant in reserved sheltered space in kitchen garden. In April, dig up roots, tear off the side shoots. Each a well rooted plant. Place in nursery bed, stop as necessary, in September pot up, and after three weeks put in a greenhouse. This well proved method resulted in hardy well shaped plants, of perfect foliage, with blooms of exhibition size, with the minimum of labour. This method evoked the commendation of the late Rev. W. Wilks, President of the R.H.S.

The ordinary method of detaching and inserting in sand in greenhouse is in no manner comparable, involving considerably more attention, with far less satisfactory results.—E. M. W.

A Home-Made Garden Frame.

It might interest your readers to know how a very useful and cheap three-light lean-to garden frame can be made, using breeze blocks for the sides and divisions (3in. blocks, 36ins. by 12ins., can be cut with cold chisel), joining the blocks with a mixture of cement and sand (about 1 to 3), small deep holes made near the edges of each block to take clamps made of strong wire, cemented in. The pieces of 3in. by 1in. wood, to form the frame, are bedded in cement mixture and nailed on to the breeze. Brush over inside and out with a thick, creamy coat of cement mixture. Paint all woodwork. Three glazed garden lights bought from a much-advertising firm complete an excellent and lasting job. This frame is used for propagating plants, has to be always kept wet, and is, therefore, superior to one with wooden sides.—E. T.

Thalictrum dipterocarpum.

This seems to be a rather difficult plant to grow successfully. I had a batch of these under my charge in a Gloucestershire garden which everybody admired who saw them. The tallest plant reached a height of 6ft. I examined the border afterwards to see what the subsoil was, and found that it was nothing but brick-ends and mortar rubble. The top soil, which was only 10ins. or 12ins. deep, was enriched with cow manure.—F. W. D.

To Prevent the Ravages of Sawfly Caterpillars on Gooseberries.

In the spring sow broad beans at intervals of about 18ins. to 2ft. apart between all the gooseberry bushes. I have never yet known this preventive measure to fail.—C. E. W.

Storing of Onions.

To prolong the keeping of onion bulbs place them in a moderately hot oven for a few hours until the outer scale leaves become quite brittle. When thoroughly dry they should be stored in a wire netting cage, suspended from the roof of an outhouse to allow a good circulation of air to pass freely among the bulbs.—S. G.

NURSERIES OF THE BRITISH ISLES.—VI

MESSRS. LAXTON BROTHERS, BEDFORD.

THE UNFADABLE AND FRAGRANT ROSE BEDFORD CRIMSON.

THERE is a well known saying that an army marches on its stomach—in the same way, a garden to prove itself to be something more than a fleeting thing of beauty must have a solid foundation of fruit and vegetables at the back of it. This is particularly necessary in these days, when even the most ornamental things should have something of economic value behind them. There are many fruits and vegetables on which gardeners of the British Isles can pride themselves, among them strawberries and peas, and for the introduction of many of the most noted varieties of both of them we have to thank the firm of Laxton Brothers of Bedford.

Experiments with Peas.

It is not generally known that Mr. Thomas Laxton, the father of the present head of the firm, began experimenting in plant breeding almost simultaneously with the famous Mendel. So long ago as 1858 he started breeding the garden pea and carried out several experiments at the suggestion of Charles Darwin. An early experiment was crossing a round white early with a tall Maple, or coloured field pea. Actually it has been proved that in 1867 he was independently recording similar work to that being done by Mendel. The first certificate granted him was in 1865 for his pea "Supreme," the origin of the famous Telephone class. Between that date and his death in 1893, numerous

A HEALTHY YOUNG APPLE GROWN FROM EXCELLENT STOCK.

Digitized by Google

THE VEITCHBERRY

(NEW HYBRID FRUIT)

Raised by crossing the November Abundance Raspberry by a Blackberry

This new Hybrid Berry we claim to be the best of all the berries yet raised. The fruit is the colour of a well-ripened Mulberry—about twice the size of an ordinary Blackberry or Raspberry. The flavour is delicious. The fruit is sweet and has the combined flavour of the Raspberry and the Blackberry. The one great advantage of this berry is that it is self-fertile, and sets all its fruits perfectly—and it does not need to be planted near any other berry to cross-pollinate it. It is a strong grower, semi-erect, and needs only a stake to support it. It can also be trained on a fence. The Berry throughout has the characteristics of both its parents. Its period of ripening is after the raspberries are over and before the blackberries are ripe. It is delicious stewed, and makes a splendid jam.

Prices : Strong Plants, 7/6 each ; 84/- per dozen.

LAXTON BROTHERS . BEDFORD

A WARNING

SOUND healthy fruit does not grow upon Scabby trees. To ensure a productive crop next season remove all moss, lichen and loose bark, the breeding places of all insect pests.

Spray your orchard NOW with Cooper's WINTER SPRAY FLUID. It effectively kills moss and lichen, removes loose bark, thoroughly cleanses and reinvigorates the trees.

Non-Poisonous. *Does Not Burn.*

COOPER'S WINTER SPRAY FLUID

("Commended" by the Royal Horticultural Society of Great Britain)

½ pint ..	1/6	½ gall. ..	5/9
1 ,, ..	2/3	1 ,, ..	9/6
1 quart..	3/3	2 ,, ..	18/-
5 galls. ..	38/6		

1 gall. makes 100 galls. mixture

OF ALL AGENTS

COOPER, MCDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, LTD. BERKHAMSTED.

Ryders

Wonderful Wind-flowers.

Harbinger of Spring Anemones.

Ryders have pleasure in introducing to the gardening public the most wonderful group of Anemones that exists. A coloured plate in the catalogue gives some idea of their glorious beauty. They are hybrids of the grand old scarlet Wind-flower. All the cardinal colours and innumerable art shades are represented. They are in bloom long before any other Anemones, flowering as they do from February, when there are scarcely any flowers in our gardens, to the end of May. They are as hardy as anything known, succeed everywhere and bloom most abundantly; are delightful as cut flowers. They should be grown in every garden.

Price per dozen, 2/6; 50, 9/6; 100, 18/- carriage paid.

RYDERS BULB CATALOGUE which contains a coloured plate of these wonderful Wind-flowers in addition to numerous other coloured and black and white illustrations sent post free on request.

RYDER & SON (1920 LTD.)
SEED & BULB SPECIALISTS. **St. Albans.**

CLEAN CROPS ARE GOOD CROPS

Health calls for cleanliness

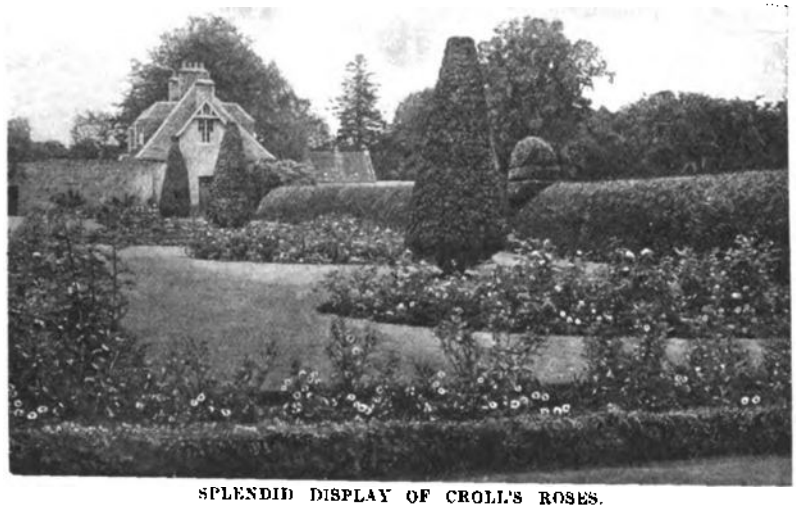
INSECT and fungoid pests attack plants and trees—poor crops naturally follow.

Before full yields can be obtained, real plant health is necessary. *This calls for quite unusual cleanliness.* Only a thorough system of plant hygiene cleanses trees and plants, controls the pests, and makes good gardening possible.

BEGIN now to safeguard crops. Chemically sound cleansing agents that have been proved successful by trade growers are now available for every garden. For your own plants' sake adopt this quite unusual cleanliness

CARBO
BRITISH WINTER WASH
for all trees
STEROLE
SOIL STERILISER
from your dealer

BUGGE'S INSECTICIDES LTD
WESTCOMBE HILL LONDON S.E.3



SPLENDID DISPLAY OF CROLL'S ROSES.

ROSES

All Rose Lovers should have

CROLL'S : ROSE : ANNUAL

COPY POST FREE TO ALL

D. W. Croll
ROSE SPECIALISTS
LTD.
DUNDEE

OUR OFFER OF BUSH ROSES

for general garden decoration.

CRIMSON—
Col. O. Fitzgerald
Covent Garden
General McArthur
George Dickson
Red Letter Day

FLAME and ORANGE—
Emma Wright
Gorgeous
Independence Day
Los Angeles

WHITE—
British Queen
Frau Karl Druschki

CORAL RED—
Betty Uprichard
The Daily Mail

BICOLOR—
The Queen Alexandra

PINK—
Lady Ashtown
Elsie Beckwith
Madame A. Chatenay
Mrs. H. Morse
Ophelia

YELLOW—
Christine
Golden Emblem
Lady Hillingdon
Margaret D. Hamill
Madame M. Soupert

One each of above 24 vars., **25/-**
Any 18 of above varieties, **19/-**
Any 12 of above varieties, **13/6**
Any 6 of above varieties, **7/6**

Carriage and Packing Free.
— Cash with Order. —

A most Interesting

FRUIT TREE CATALOGUE

FREE and POST FREE

THIS Catalogue nicely produced and well printed, contains a valuable host of useful hints on FRUIT TREE CULTURE—for Amateur and Professional. Herein will be found all the best and most popular Fruits for all purposes, alphabetically arranged for ready reference. A feature has been made of interesting Chats on soils, situations, and fertilisers; in fact, it is a valuable book, which should be in the hands of all those who possess a Garden or Fruit Farm, large or small. Sit down now, while the matter is fresh in your mind, and write for your free copy.

KING'S ACRE ROSES

THE King's Acre Nurseries—famous since 1785 for the stamina and vigour of their roses—have hardy and reliable

Bushes and Ramblers

in a wonderful, almost endless variety, which they are offering at prices considered by experts and amateurs to be beyond competition.

Alphabetically arranged Rose Catalogue, replete with reliable information, FREE ON REQUEST.

AWARDED 95 GOLD MEDALS.

KING'S ACRE NURSERIES, LTD., HEREFORD

Established 1785. ∴ NURSERIES—140 ACRES.

SPECIAL VALUE IN COLLECTIONS OF FRUIT TREES AND ROSES

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING, SURREY
(Late Anthony Waterer)

The Executors of the late HOSEA WATERER have pleasure in offering

STANDARD TREES

In great variety, consisting of

LIMES, NORWAY MAPLES, ELMS, etc., etc.
EVERGREEN & DECIDUOUS SHRUBS, viz.:

Box—Green and Variegated, 3 to 8 ft.
Hollies—Common, 5 to 8 ft.; Variegated and Green varieties, 2 to 6 ft.
Thuiopsis borealis, 10 to 12 ft. Cupressus Lawsoniana, 12 to 14 ft. Cedrus atlantica glauca, very fine, 14 to 16 ft. Osmanthus, Phillyreas, Spiræas, Lilacs, Viburnums, etc.

GOLDEN YEWS
A Magnificent Stock in all shapes and sizes from 2 to 10 ft.

PRIVET, Common and Oval-leaved.
QUICK and **HORNBEAM** for Hedges.
AZALEAS, in great variety, 2 to 5 ft.
RHODODENDRONS, without doubt the finest stock in the trade of named varieties, 2 to 6 and 8 ft.
HARDY HEATHS in great variety and a good general nursery stock.
Catalogues ready.

Enquiries and Inspection invited.

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING STATION, SURREY

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

IF YOU DESIRE VALUE AND APPRECIATE QUALITY

Please send for my new Catalogue of
ROSES . DELPHINIUMS
and my famous new
PYRETHRUMS
Magnificent Plants. Very Reasonable Prices.

H. ROBINSON, Dept. G.
Victoria Nursery, Burbage, Hinckley.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

BEAUTIFUL BERBERIS

No other hardy shrub has quite the same attraction in Summer, Autumn, Winter and Spring as the many lovely varieties of Berberis, the following are a few of the most attractive.

concinna	..	1/6 each; 15/- dozen.
Darwinii	..	2/- each; 24/- dozen
Irwinii	..	2/- each; 21/- dozen
polyantha	..	1/6 each; 15/- dozen.
Prattii	..	1/6 and 2/6 each.
pruinosa	..	1/6 and 2/6 each.
staphiana	..	1/6 each; 15/- dozen.
stenophylla	..	2/- each; 24/- dozen.
Thunbergii	..	1/6 each.
virescens	..	1/6 each.
Wilsonii	..	1/6 each; 18/- dozen.

For other varieties see our Tree Catalogue posted free on application.

JOHN JEFFERIES & SON, LTD.,
Royal Nurseries, Cirencester.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

awards of merit and first-class certificates were awarded him. Although few peas are now issued under the name of Laxton, this does not mean that this pioneer firm has given up the raising of new garden peas. They prefer, however, to sell the crop outright, and they only supply peas to the wholesale market. When we visited the nursery we saw a most interesting range of experiments in a four-podded pea, which certainly looks promising enough for the future. It is to be hoped that in a very few years they will succeed in fixing the strain, which should make a valuable addition to our best croppers.

Raising Strawberries.

Among amateurs the name of Laxton is most closely associated with the raising of strawberries, for which this firm is supreme. When one knows that Royal Sovereign is a product of this firm, there is little more that can be said about them as strawberry raisers. On our visit, luckily in the strawberry time, we had a chance to examine the care with which selection in strawberries is carried out. Row upon row of seedlings were ticketed and starred and double starred and treble starred. Every point for and against is carefully examined and docketed. The result is most interesting and proves that strawberry tasting is a science, like tea tasting. Every conceivable variety of strawberry was being tested, and it was interesting to note that not one out of a whole row of American bred strawberries could hold a candle to even the most mediocre of English varieties. Even the tyro could distinguish by tasting the worth of Messrs. Laxton's new strawberry, The Duke, which is, in fact, an improved Royal Sovereign. The flesh was particularly firm and the flavour delicious. The trials are narrowed down to such an extent that many seedlings which a novice would unhesitatingly class as a first-rate berry were marked for discarding.

The nursery covers so many acres that it was impossible to see it all in one afternoon, but we were much interested in the long ranges of new crosses in apples, pears and plums, particularly in the series with Cox's Orange Pippin as one parent. This series should produce some admirable varieties in the future. All the trees appeared to be fine growers and many of them carried an excellent crop of apples, most of which showed their strong relationship to Cox's Orange. Bedford has a hard climate and no gardener in any part of the British Isles can doubt of the substance of the fruit trees sent out by this firm. Another most interesting feature was the row upon row of various types of raspberries and hybrids between the raspberry and the bramble, such as the comparatively new Veitchberry, that combines all the flavour of both parents. We were shown how difficult is the work of crossing these two fruits owing to the high percentage of unfertile progeny that ensues as the result of crossing. In every branch of fruit culture this nursery shows to what a fine art this most interesting branch of gardening has risen. Acre upon acre was to be seen of bushes, standards, half-standards, fan-trained, cordons, all in the most excellent condition and worthy of all that is best in fruit culture.

Lately, Laxton Brothers have produced many fine new roses, among them the famous Bedford Crimson, that was awarded the Clay Cup in 1924 for sweet scent. It is a magnificent crimson rose, that in addition to its other merits, does not fade, for at the time of our visit we saw an acre of it in full sun, whether in bud or full bloom, not a bloom showed a sign of that blue tinge that is such a drawback to so many crimsons. Another worthy rose was a new single polyantha called Laxton's Pink Delight, most free flowering and of a charming shade of pink.

ONE OF MESSRS. LAXTON'S FINE EXHIBITS OF STRAWBERRIES.

OUR SERVICE BUREAU

Though so many subjects are dealt with in each issue of THE GARDEN, *it must constantly happen that readers seek information which is not immediately available. In such circumstances they should make use of our Service Department. Through its medium each reader's own particular enquiry can be dealt with. No matter what the question is, there is always information available from a staff of expert contributors and consultants; and there is no charge for this. It is one of the additional means of service which* THE GARDEN *is glad to render to its readers.*

Also, there is the further convenience which the Service Department affords of supplying readers with data about anything that is advertised in the pages of the paper. Thus, on receipt of an enquiry, particulars will be sent of, say, half a dozen things about which the reader seeks information. The only stipulation is that a stamped addressed envelope and the coupon, that will always be found in each issue, shall be sent with the enquiry. We would point out, however, that we cannot undertake to supply readers with plans and designs of gardens, but will willing assist in giving suggestions for planting.

All communications should be addressed to the Service Department, THE GARDEN, *20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.*

We have selected the following enquiries, with their answers, as being of more general interest, and therefore worthy of publication

A Flowering Shrub for the Front Garden.

I require a flowering shrub for my front garden, which faces due west and measures about 12ft. by 4ft. There will be nothing else in the garden, and I should want a fairly bushy plant which would not exceed 5ft. in height when fully grown. What would you suggest?—T. W. J., Leicester.

We suggest that in your front garden you plant either a philadelphus, such as P. Virginale or P. Voie Lactee, or a deutzia. Both are much the same in general habit and flower decoration. They make bushy plants and are quite effective in May and June. In addition, they are easily kept and little pruning is required. The only thing is that all dead wood should be removed before the winter months.

Shrubs and Flowers for an Old-Fashioned Garden.

I have a fairly big garden, both front and rear and also side, which I am turning mainly into lawn. There will be a rose garden and a long perennial border, but I wish to put down a good few flowering shrubs and evergreens. Could you give me any advice as to what shrub would go best with a Tudor house—some of the old-fashioned kind, to give the right effect? I wish the garden to fit in with the house.—M. M., Belfast.

The following list of shrubs would be suitable: Daphne Mezereum; andromeda; Berberis Darwinii; box, euonymus, honeysuckle, lilac, magnolia, philadelphus, prunus, pyrus in variety, ribes, azaleas, spiræa, almond, holly, laurustinus, weigelia, aucuba, buddleia, hydrangea, fuchsias, veronica, escallonia and rhododendrons if the soil is free from lime.

You should include in your list of plants for the herbaceous border, lavender, St. John's wort, deutzias, spiræas, Anemone alba and A. japonica, sunflowers, columbine, saxifraga, campanulas, foxgloves, Solomon's seal, iris, dielytra, delphiniums and pyrethrums. They would tend to give an old-world appearance to your garden.

Remedies for Pear Scab.

I would be much obliged if you could tell me what is wrong with my pear tree. It crops very well, but the fruit always splits, so that most of the pears are useless, as they will not ripen. The soil here is a very poor granite gravelly one—I fear not at all suitable for fruit trees. I would be very grateful if you could tell me anything I could do to improve the fruit.—K. S., Dumfries.

The pears you send are attacked by the pear scab disease, which causes the skin to

Digitized by Google

crack and harden when the scabs are formed. It is a prevalent complaint in many gardens. It may be remedied, however, by spraying in springtime with Bordeaux mixture. Spray once just before the petals open in spring and a second time a few days after the petals have all fallen. This will keep the fruit clean, if the spraying is thorough and a good brand of Bordeaux mixture is used. The disease is carried over from year to year in the wood of the tree, however, and at the winter pruning all diseased shoots should be cut clean away. If the tree crops well in most years there can be nothing wrong with the soil, and probably all the assistance the tree needs is a good mulch of farm or stable manure laid over the roots in February or March each year.

Quick-Growing Hedge Plants.

Will you tell me which would be the best to purchase, to make a thorny, impenetrable hedge—quickthorn, or Myrobella plum? As it is for a new house, I want something that will grow quickly. Can you tell me which would be the quickest growing and most suitable for an ornamental hedge upon a bank surrounding a crazy-paved garden, also for a background to a herbaceous border 150ft. in length and 12ft. wide—Thuya Lobbii, Lonicera nitida or Cupressus macrocarpa? We shall not be in occupation until March. Will that be too late for planting, or what time would you recommend.—E. A. H., Basingstoke.

We should suggest that you plant quickthorn to make a thoroughly impenetrable hedge. It grows fairly rapidly and, in addition, gives quite an attractive effect to the garden.

In the other position, we suggest that you plant Cupressus macrocarpa, about 18ins. to 2ft. apart. It makes an exceedingly graceful hedge, and is a very rapid grower, and also does well in the majority of situations. You could either plant Cupressus macrocarpa now, or wait until April next year.

Evergreen Flowering Shrubs for Poor Soils.

Will you be kind enough to give me the names of four or five evergreen *flowering shrubs, of fairly uniform shape and not too expensive? The border in which I propose to plant same is in a sunny position, but the soil is light, very poor quality, and with ballast subsoil.—H. W. F., Grays, Essex.*

The following are the names of six good evergreen flowering shrubs, inexpensive and of average height: Berberis Darwinii, B. stenophylla, Escallonia langleyensis, Choisya ternata (this should not be planted in too exposed a situation, it does particularly well against a wall), Osmanthus Delavayi (quite a charming small shrub, with most sweetly scented white flowers), Olearia Haastii and Carpentaria californica.

Climbers for Pillars and Arches.

I have a raised terrace path having eight larch poles placed about 4ft. apart to form a screen. The poles have simple cross members connecting them, with angle struts, and the recess for the seat will be roofed over with lighter poles in the form of a pergola. I shall be glad if you will kindly advise me as to the choice of suitable climbers to clothe the screen and cover the top of the pergola, giving the full name of the varieties suggested. I should like at least three climbing roses, and these I should suggest placing on poles Nos. 3, 4 and 5 to form a good "roof" over the seat, and where their branches will not impede progress along the path. My own scheme is: 3, American Pillar; 4, Alberic Barbier; 5, Tea Rambler—all old favourites of mine. The other five poles which have had to be placed close to the path seem to call for "non-thorny" subjects, such as honeysuckles, clematis, etc., and I should like to see Clematis Jackmannii on pole No. 6, and a paler mauve one on pole No. 2 (? name of a good variety). If it is thought that these clematis would be insufficient to clothe the poles properly, what else could be planted in addition? And what could I use on poles Nos. 1, 7 and 8? I saw Vitis vinifera purpurea at Waterers', and it seems a nice thing for the purpose. Kindly let me have your criticism and advice. Note: the soil is ordinary heavy loam on yellow clay, and the screen gets plenty of sun except in the winter months, when it is shaded by the house. In another part of the garden I have an arch built on the same lines as the screen. The side supports of the arch are 2ft. wide, so I think I could use two plants to each side. My suggestion is one rose on each side—say, Shower of Gold and Hiawatha—and two more clematises, but I hardly know whether this would be harmonious. Another idea was to use Polygonum baldschuanicum on one side, with another plant that would afford a good colour scheme if the flowering period was the same.—F. O., Hendon.

The varieties of roses you name are quite good ones for the purpose. Of other climbers plant Clematis Jackmannii on pole No. 6, certainly; C. Marcel Moser on pole No. 2; C. paniculata on pole No. 8; Jasmine officinale on pole No. 1; and Honeysuckle fragrantissima on pole No. 7. It would be advisable to plant Vitis vinifera purpurea and Solanum jasminoides for training over the garden seat or arbour, also. The two roses you name will do nicely for the arch, or the polygonum or Ceanothus dentatus.

Fragrant Roses for Trellises.

Will you please advise me as to the choice of two roses to cover trellis fixed on back wall of house to a height of 9ft. or 10ft.? Wall faces south-east. I want fragrant roses, with as long as possible period of blooming. One should be yellow, as Gloire de Dijon, Maréchal Niel or Mme. Jules Gravereaux. Would any of these be suitable? The other red—Paul's Scarlet. Is this fragrant, and would it do on the wall? Or perhaps you can tell me some thing more suitable.—F. N. N., Kingsbury.

The two varieties we recommend for the trellis are Gloire de Dijon and climbing Château de Clos Vougeot or, if the colour of the latter is considered too dark, try Grüss an Teplitz. Paul's Scarlet Climber is not a fragrant rose, nor is Mme. Jules Gravereaux so fragrant as the other varieties mentioned.

Shrubs for Autumn Colour.

In my border, facing south-west, I have Berberis Thunbergii, Cornus alba and, nearer the front, Berberis Wilsonæ. In the opposite border, facing north-east, Berberis Aquifolium and Leycesteria formosa are growing.

Will you please quote me another suitable variety for the former border, and two or three varieties for the latter? I require the shrubs primarily for autumnal effect, in foliage or berries, and to average about 4ft. or 5ft. in height. The situation is fairly open, but my subsoil is clayey.

I found your article on "Autumn Tints" in a recent issue very interesting, but am in doubt as to which to plant, as I am ignorant of the average height reached by the different varieties. Presumably these shrubs can be planted any time from October to the end of March, given suitable weather.

Will you also please state whether Acer Negundo and Prunus Pissardii are difficult to grow?—D. F. T., South Tottenham.

We should suggest that you might include one or two additional berberis, namely, B. Darwinii, which makes a shapely bush and can be kept to a height of 4ft. to 5ft., or B. yunnanense. Viburnum Opulus, either the common one which is native to this country, carrying bright red berries, or the variety fructu-luteo, with yellow-orange berries, would be suitable. Both of these grow to a height of 5ft. Then comes Euonymus latifolius and europæus. Cornus sanguinea makes a most brilliant show in autumn, especially if given a moist position, and, since your subsoil is of a clayey nature, this should do well.

Prunus Pissardii and Acer Negundo are not difficult plants to grow. Acer Negundo should not be given too exposed a position. Prunus Pissardii will thrive fairly well in any position. It looks best more or less as a background to smaller plants. It generally reaches a height of about 12ft. These evergreen shrubs which have been mentioned should be planted forthwith. The deciduous kinds are best planted any time during the present month when the weather is open.

Plants for Concrete Walls.

Near Sevenoaks I have a concrete cottage (hard cement outside), and wish to beautify it by plants which will not eat into or cling to the cement, and cause cracks. The walls are due north, south, east and west. Nails may not be driven into the walls.

Would you be kind enough to suggest the most suitable plants which will grow to a height of 10ft. or more, and mention upon which wall they should be?

I should like a pyracantha, if suitable, and should be glad to know where I can procure one with red (*not orange*), *almost crimson berries.—C. R., Bromley, Kent.*

We should suggest a few of the following shrubs would be suitable to plant for wall decoration round your cottage: Pyracantha coccinea Lalandei (bright crimson berries), Cotoneaster horizontalis or Simonsii, Escallonia langleyensis (for south or west wall), Choisya ternata (for south or west wall), Tamarisk (for south or west wall), Ceanothus rigidus or thyrsiflorus, and Cydonia japonica (for north wall).

If any of the walls of your cottage are particularly expansive, then we should suggest that you grow a large growing plant, such as Wistaria chinensis or Magnolia grandiflora, but only plant these where there is sufficient space for their expansion.

Trees for a Narrow Garden.

I have a narrow garden, 21ft. wide, with fruit trees along one side. For about 30ft. along the other side I desire to plant a few trees to meet the following requirements:

(1) To screen the garden somewhat. One to be 12ft. to 15ft. high when fully grown and evergreen. The others 10ft. to 12ft. high and either evergreen or deciduous. (2) Trees that will branch out more like fan-shaped fruit trees, so as not to overhang the garden. (3) Ornamental, i.e., with flowers or berries, etc. (4) With branches starting, say, 4ft. from the ground so that I may plant flowers in the border between them.

I do not know whether these requirements are impossible of fulfilment, but if you could give me any assistance I shall be grateful. If trained fruit trees would do for some, that would suit me. I should perhaps add that the soil is heavy clay and the situation ten miles north-west of London.—T. W. T.

The best tree for your purpose is Prunus Pissardii, which grows to an average height of 12ft. to 15ft. It is quite attractive in flower and fruit, and is a good colour both in spring and in autumn. It does not branch until it reaches a height of 3ft. to 4ft., and would be a suitable subject for under-planting with more dwarf-growing plants. It also makes quite an effective screen. Robinia Kelseyi, a charming small spring-flowering tree, with rose-pink pea-shaped blossom, would also be suitable for your purpose.

Digitized by Google

STEWARTS Roses

STEWARTS Choice Shrubs

STEWARTS Rhododendrons, Azaleas and Ericas

STEWARTS Climbing Plants

STEWARTS Fruit Trees

STEWARTS Bulbs

STEWARTS Alpine & Herbaceous Plants

STEWARTS Landscape Gardening

Hardy stock grown under the best possible conditions for safe removal.

Descriptive catalogues and full particulars on application.

D. STEWART & SON, Ltd., Ferndown Nurseries, Wimborne, Dorset.

Telephone: FERNDOWN 5. Telegrams: STEWART, FERNDOWN.

ıur garden for le coming year

–what to do now–

Send for a copy of "Your New Garden," an informative booklet published by Waterer's.

The booklet is filled with useful cultural notes and helpful suggestions. *Free to amateur gardeners.*

Write to the address below and obtain a copy for your personal use.

John Waterer Sons & Crisp Ltd

The Nurseries, Twyford, Berks

City Showrooms - 44, London Wall, E.C.
Shrub Nurseries - Bagshot, Surrey

For bulbs, plants, and seeds of tested strain

Small Orchards

No matter how small or large the orchard, it pays to use Stictite Tree Banding Compound.

Winter Moth rises from the soil early in October or late September, and the females (being wingless), at once crawl up the tree trunks in order to deposit their eggs in the branches.

By banding the trees with Stictite in the autumn you can prevent the eggs being laid, and so avoid having to spray for the caterpillars in the spring.

1 lb. of Stictite will do 9 to 12 trees of about 8 in. diameter.

½-lb. 1/6 (post 6d.); 1-lb. 2/9 (post 6d.); 2-lb. 5/- (post 9d.); 4-lb. 10/- (post 9d.); 7-lb. 17/6 (post 1/-).

Greaseproof Paper, 5 ins. wide: 6 yds., 2d.; 12 yds., 3d.; 25 yds., 6d.; 50 yds., 9d.; 100 yds., 1/6; 200 yds., 2/6.

Write for Descriptive Folder.

Stictite is sold by Nurserymen, Seedsmen, Florists, Ironmongers, Chemists & Stores. If any difficulty, please write to Abol Limited, 9, Beltring, Paddock Wood, Kent.

Stictite

FLOWERS ALL THE SUMMER

Nothing gives a longer flowering period and lasts so many years without replanting as

Cutbush's Gold Medal

DWARF PERPETUAL FLOWERING

Polyantha Roses

Constantly in flower from June to November. Make perfect beds and are splendid for cutting.

Strong Plants in Leading Sorts **1/3** each, **14/-** per dozen.

Golden Salmon—A Splendid New Sort, Golden Salmon Colour.

Locarno—Our New Deep Orange Scarlet

FULL DESCRIPTIVE LIST POST FREE.

WM. CUTBUSH & SON, LTD.

The Nurseries, BARNET, HERTS.

Digitized by Google

SOME COOKING APPLES WORTH PLANTING

This is a list of good cooking varieties which amateurs may find useful when making a selection for planting next month.

Early Victoria (*Emneth Early*).—This codlin apple is one of the best early cookers. It is of rather irregular shape, but tapers up towards the eye, which is small. The growth is rather weak, but it is a heavy cropper. Last year we saved a lot of small fruits; they were too small to sell as cookers—and kept them until November, when they had assumed a good golden tinge, and found a ready local sale for eating—not exactly good-flavoured, but they were sweet, and when small boys are the customers, quantity and sweetness come before flavour.

Ecklinville Seedling.—In my opinion the best early cooker. Although usually classed as later than Early Victoria, the fruits swell early, and usable fruits may be picked in late July. Rather flattish in shape, with a broad base, it takes on a slight flush in late summer. The growth is fairly strong, but, unfortunately, it is liable to canker. It is our most regular cropper.

Stirling Castle.—A cooking apple which is largely grown on account of its heavy cropping powers. If grown on Paradise stock (we have some on Malling Type II), it is liable to fruit so heavily that very little growth is made. A medium-sized fruit, round in shape, it is in season until October or early November. It is a weak grower, and I should prefer to have it on a strong growing stock.

Lord Derby is not such a regular cropper as Stirling, but is a good cooker and must be classed as one of the twelve best. It is a strong grower, producing large oblong dark green fruits.

Lane's Prince Albert.—Useful, as it keeps till Christmas and even later. Makes a very sprawling tree, but is not a strong grower. A heavy cropper (we have picked a good crop from it this year), it is a conical fruit, medium to large in size, and with a bright flush on the sunny side. If only one cooker is to be grown, I think this would be the most useful.

Warner's King.—A distinct and useful cooking apple which will keep until February. A strong grower which is sometimes attacked by canker, it is popular on account of its size and cooking qualities. The fruit has a very broad base with russet stripes radiating from the stalk cavity.

Bismarck.—Quite a moderate grower, but a grand cooker. Distinctly conical in shape, this apple is a good red colour on the exposed side. The growth is rather spreading, and it is one of the heaviest croppers, keeping till February. This variety is rather subject to scab.

Newton Wonder.—The peculiarity of this strong-growing, free-cropping variety is that a large percentage of the large-eyed roundish fruits have a lump at the base of the fruit from which the stalk emerges. It will keep quite late in the New Year, is very heavy, and changes to a yellowish colour at Christmas-time. Often the whole of the apple is covered with a deep red flush. This apple is sometimes quoted as being suitable for dessert in March, but I have not found the flavour good enough for dessert purposes.

Bramley's Seedling.—The last and latest, but by no means the least of the cookers. This variety has, commercially, been planted more extensively than any cooking apple during recent years. A first-class cooker of irregular shape, it is a good cropper, a strong grower, and comparatively disease-free. Please do not confuse this apple with Crimson Bramley, which is not such a good cropper.

N. D. H.

How to Treat Garden Refuse.

IN both town and suburban gardens the question of suitably disposing of refuse—that resulting from decayed vegetable matter, weeds and other material of a like nature—is a difficult one in many instances. Where fires—garden smother fires—are allowed it simplifies matters considerably. I only know of two satisfactory methods of getting rid of garden refuse in an economic way, namely, by burning and burying in the soil. Hard matter, such as prunings, may be burned and the resultant ashes used in the borders; it is the only way, as hard wood, and even green twigs, should not be dug into the soil. Weeds and other succulent refuse may be buried, but not in the ordinary way. I prefer to treat all such refuse before burying it in the garden borders. The following plan can be carried out with good results. When the ground is being cleared of the accumulated rubbish the woody portion should be collected and kept by itself for that time, then be converted into ashes at the first opportunity. Keep the wood ashes dry by storing them, when cold, in bags or boxes in a cool, dry shed. They are excellent for tomatoes and generally, but especially for mixing with composts for seedlings in boxes and for seed-beds in the spring. The soft or succulent refuse, such as weeds and cabbage leaves, tree and shrub leaves, should be placed in a heap and salt sprinkled freely on each layer. Allow the heap to remain undisturbed for one month, then turn the rubbish, adding more salt. Three turnings should be the maximum when the prepared rubbish will be fit to dig into the ground as a manure for vegetable crops.

Daffodils
Antirrhinums
Wallflowers
Kochias
Ixias
Nemesias
Schizanthus

of

Cyclamen
Hyacinths
Eschscholtzias
Lilies
Sweet Peas
Erythroniums
Anemones

for the best in Seeds and Bulbs

QUALITY COUNTS

Pleased to send

Illustrated Catalogues Free

ALFRED DAWKINS

17 years Manager, Seeds and Bulbs Department
. MESSRS. JAMES VEITCH & SONS . .

408, KING'S RD., CHELSEA, S.W.10

'Phone: Kensington 5518.

Proprietors {Alfred Dawkins
A. Donald Blaxhill

ALLGROVE'S

ROSES

Rosa Moyesii and Fargesii (*True*)

Exceptionally fine stocks of standard, climbing and dwarf :: roses of all varieties ::

Full descriptive catalogues of roses, fruits and herbaceous plants

Free on application

J. C. ALLGROVE

:: The Nurseries ::
LANGLEY, BUCKS.

GARDEN LOVERS

Write For Catalogues of
PROTHEROE & MORRIS
HORTICULTURAL SALES
MONDAY · WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY
67 68 Cheapside, London EC2 Phone City 3626

Rare Himalayan & Chinese Rhododendrons

IN HYBRIDS AND SPECIES.

A large stock of beautiful Hybrids raised at "Goldsworth," early and late flowering, [illegible] healthy plants, in various colours. The best have been grafted and can be supplied early under numbers. Also an assortment of stock rare and scarce plants, and a large general nursery stock. Area over 300 acres.

The Exors. of
WALTER CHARLES SLOCOCK
Goldsworth Old Nursery, WOKING, SURREY
Station—Woking (Southern Railway). [illegible]
Lists on application. *Mention "The Garden"*

RARE DAFFODILS

PLANTING STOCK.

Cleopatra, 3/-; Miss Willmott, 3/-; Ingles 3/-; Bonfire, 3/-; Mimi, 3/-; Flame, 3/-; of Bedford, 2/-; Blackwell, 2/-; Red Beacon Early Surprise, 1/-; Lord Kitchener, 1/-; S 6/-; Queen of Spain and W. P. Milner, 6d.

ALL PER DOZEN.

Mixed Daffodils for scattering among Shrubbery Woodlands, 10/- per 1,000.

Special offer of Early Flowering Tulips in large Top Si Cramoise Brilliant, Fred Moore, Murillo, Prince of 2/6 per 100, Post Free.

Descriptive Illustrated Catalogue sent on re

MONTGOMERY CRAWFORD
Highfield Bulb Farm, Saracole, AYR

Digitized by Google

BULBS

We invite immediate application for our

BULB CATALOGUE,

nowing that the very fine uality of our bulbs enables s to offer exceptionally good alue for money.

Send for a copy of the BULB CATALOGUE at once.

Bakers
SEED AND FLOWER FARM
CODSALL
Near Wolverhampton

bice Plants that will Grow

Dianthus Lindsayii - - -	1/6 each.
Gentiana Farreri - - -	1/6 „
„ Sino-ornata - -	1/- „
Meconopsis quintuplinerva	5/- „

KELLEY, Alpine Specialist, CRIEFF

e can only tackle them ne at a time, BUT—

VERMOL

ILLS WORMS AND ROWS GOOD GRASS

VERMOL gets the lot.

ermol Products COMPANY

1 ST. MARY AXE ONDON, E.C. 3

Teles. { ... 1869 and 1870.
Telegs. { "Phosvos, Phone, London."

BOOK REVIEW.

Many of our readers will be pleased to learn of the re-issue of two of Miss Gertrude Jekyll's gardening works, namely, "Wood and Garden" and "House and Garden," by Messrs. Longman's, Green, at the price of 10s. 6d. net each. These volumes first appeared in 1899 and 1900 respectively, and were among the first gardening books in what might be termed the Revivalist period of gardening which led to the overthrow of Victorian ideas of stiff and formal gardening and the establishment of gardening as a pastime for the many and not, as was formerly the case, a pleasure of a few. Miss Jekyll, already well known to all readers of THE GARDEN by her simple articles on various aspects of gardening which appear in these pages from time to time, is one of our greatest amateur gardeners, and by her past efforts, enthusiasm and love of gardening, has done more to popularise the simple type of gardening than probably anyone, with the exception of Mr. William Robinson. Her books on gardening are all written in a clear, simple and homely way, and yet contain a perfect mine of practical information on the growing of flowers and their arrangement in the garden, together with suggestions as to planning and planting a garden, which all amateurs will find of the greatest assistance in their gardening problems. The secret of her success is that she writes as an amateur, with a fine appreciation and understanding of all the little difficulties that beset the amateur gardener. The popularity of the two present volumes is unquestionable, since their first appearance they have been revised and reprinted on several occasions. The present issues should prove every bit as helpful as those which have gone before; and with the ever increasing army of garden lovers there is a distinct need for two volumes such as these, dealing with the intimate aspects of gardening, and more especially since they are written by one who is an acknowledged expert on English gardens and gardening. Both volumes are profusely illustrated by clear and picturesque half-tone illustrations, many of which are helpful in themselves.

Chelsea Show 1928.

IN commemoration of the prospective inauguration of the New Hall in 1928, the Council of the Royal Horticultural Society has decided to offer a 100-guinea challenge cup for specialised groups, the subject of exhibition and allotted space of which will be varied from year to year.

The subject chosen for 1928 is "Stove and Greenhouse Plants," with a group space of 300 square feet, and it is hoped that by giving this early notice, amateur and trade exhibitors will make a special effort to stage comprehensive groups and the cultivation of these ornamental and interesting plants will be generally encouraged.

The prizes offered will be First Prize, 100-guinea Challenge Cup and £30; Second Prize, Large Silver Cup and £20; and Third Prize, Small Silver Cup and £10.

TRADE NOTE.

READERS will recall our drawing attention some time ago to spade boot cleaners which were put on the market by Mr. C. Van Der Byl. Owing to the popularity of these and at the request of many customers Mr. Byl has now adapted the specially shaped scraper blade for motor cars. It is fitted with two steel brackets so that it can be screwed on under the running-board of motor cars. This device will enable the motorist to free his boots or shoes of every particle of mud before entering the car. The scraper can be fitted by any garage at a cost of 4s. 6d. inclusive, and it should prove a boon to all sportsmen, farmers and keen horticulturists who are frequently visiting gardens and nurseries.

PULHAM'S
FOR ROCK, FORMAL, JAPANESE GARDENS
71 NEWMAN ST. LONDON W.

EUREKA WEED KILLER
LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" Lawn Sand, Sulphate, Nodding, Insecticides, Fungicides, Sprays and other Chemicals for Gardens. See List. Please ask your Agent for the Eureka Article—They are always satisfactory. If any difficulty in obtaining, we send direct, carriage paid.
TOMLINSON & HAYWARD LTD LINCOLN

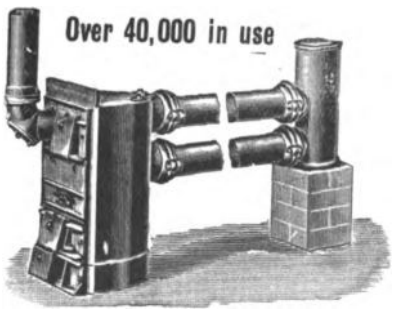
Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

BIRDS' BATHS, - SUNDIALS, - VASES, Etc., in Imperishable, Reconstructed Stone.
Write for Booklet E1.

CRAZY & SQUARED PAVING
DWARF WALLING.
ROCKERY STONE,
Direct from Quarries.
Write for Booklet E2.
THE RHYMNEY QUARRIES,
18, Ludgate Hill, E.C.4

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE LOUGHBOROUGH BOILER
Over 40,000 in use



The high reputation of this Boiler for efficiency and economy is still unrivalled
Easy to fix, easy to manage, and most economical in fuel, it is the ideal Boiler for the Amateur's Greenhouse
Price Lists and Estimates for complete apparatus on application
MESSENGER & CO., LTD. LOUGHBOROUGH LEICESTERSHIRE
LONDON OFFICE: 122, VICTORIA ST., S.W.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

By Appointment.

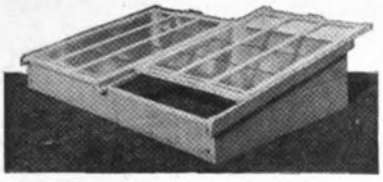
BOULTON & PAUL
GARDEN FRAMES

**High grade, solidly built.
Renowned for durability
strength and simplicity.**

Delivered ready painted and glazed with 21 oz. English glass, complete with bolts. Can be put together in a few minutes by any amateur.

TYPICAL EXAMPLES

No. H. 77

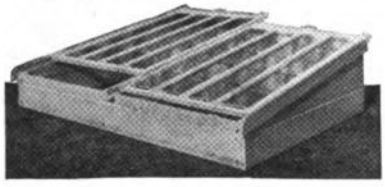


VIOLET OR BORDER FRAME.
Supplied with Sliding or Hinged Lights.
Cash Prices:

1-Light Frame (sliding)	3ft. by 4ft.	£1	15	0
2-Light Frame ,,	6ft. by 4ft.	£2	19	0
3-Light Frame ,,	9ft. by 4ft.	£4	4	0
1-Light Frame (hinged)	3ft. by 4ft.	£2	2	0
2-Light Frame ,,	6ft. by 4ft.	£3	15	0
3-Light Frame ,,	9ft. by 4ft.	£5	7	0

Can be seen at our London Showroom.

No. H. 75



MELON AND CUCUMBER FRAME.
Cash Prices:

1-Light Frame, 4ft. long by 6ft. wide	£3	10	0
2-Light Frame, 8ft. long by 6ft. wide	£5	13	0
3-Light Frame, 12ft. long by 6ft. wide	£7	15	0

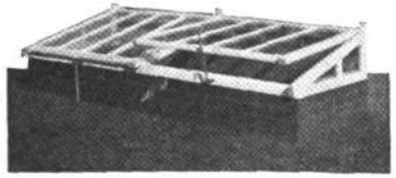
Can be seen at our London Showroom.

No. H. 74

BEDDING-OUT FRAME.
Cash Prices:

4ft. long by 6ft. wide	£7	3	0
8ft. long by 6ft. wide	£10	18	0
12ft. long by 6ft. wide	£14	13	0

No. H. 62



LEAN-TO FRAME FOR BRICKWORK
Cash Prices:

10ft. long by 3ft. wide by 1ft. 9ins. high at back, above wall	£5	19	0
15ft. long by 3ft. wide, ditto	£8	7	0
10ft. by 4ft. by 2ft. at back	£8	5	0
15ft. by 4ft. by 2ft. at back	£10	5	0

Carriage paid to most stations in England and Wales. Packing extra, but allowed for if returned.

For other designs and sizes ask for Catalogue No. 744, Examples of B. & P. Greenhouses, Poultry Houses, Motor Houses, Shelters and Kennels, may be seen at our London Office and Showroom, 135-7, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4.

Boulton & Paul Ltd
Telegrams BOULTON NORWICH NORWICH Telephone NORWICH 85 (5 lines)
LONDON OFFICE 135-137 QUEEN VICTORIA ST EC
Telegrams Boulogne Cent London Telephone 9642 Cent

Be sure you visit the

IMPERIAL FRUIT SHOW

Holland Park Hall
LONDON

Oct. 29th to Nov. 6th, 1926

Exhibits by Fruit Growers, Nurserymen, Royal Horticultural Society, Horticultural Sundriesmen, Ministry of Agriculture. Expert advice on Fruit Growing.

Open 10 a.m. to 9.30 p.m. ADMISSION 1/- (Inc.)

WEAR ABSOLUTELY WATERPROOF STEELS

Cost less than leather, wear 3 to 6 times longer, are lighter, easier, stronger. Eliminate repair bills. Stop foot troubles. Prevent Colds Rheumatism, Corns, Bunions, Keep feet warm and dry in snow, rain, mud, slush. Never change shape—comfortable always. Free Boot Book tells all. Write To-day.

N. M. RUTHSTEIN, 12, Steeleries, Northampton

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by **"ALPHOL"**
Sample 14 lb., 3/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

BY APPOINTMENT

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

The BEST and CHEAPEST

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

FANCY FERN PANS and BULB BOWLS from **4d.** each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.
Royal Potteries, **BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM**

ROBINSON'S
FAMOUS
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ROSES
ARE UNSURPASSED.

All strong hardy grown plants. Before ordering, send for my new catalogue post free

T. ROBINSON
: PORCHESTER NURSERIES :
NOTTINGHAM

Continued from page iii.

A FEW THOUSAND MIXED BULBS FOR SALE (Double Whites, Ornatus, Pheasant's Eye, Jonquil, Daffodils, Trumpet Daffodils) 20/- 1,000. Also 600 bulbs, mixed, Clara Butt and Rev. Ewbank, 40/-1,000. Calstock.—THARSIS, Calstock, Cornwall.

AMATEUR'S COLLECTION OF PERENNIALS.—Surplus plants, all exhibition varieties, 18 for 5/-; also rockery plants, 18 for 5/-.—OLIVER, "Berlin," Lane, Ickenham, Uxbridge.

PORTWAY'S
Coke Breaker

Break your Coke to make your Stove remain alight longer.

As Shown - 45/-
OR
On Stand - 65/-
Of all Ironmongers.

MAKERS:
C. PORTWAY & SON,
Tortoise Works,
HALSTEAD, ESSEX.

Digitized by Google

CLAY'S LONDON FERTILIZER TRADE MARK

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then, together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices :—

Tins 10d. and 1/6
and in **Branded and Sealed Bags :**
7 lbs. - **3/6** 14 lbs. - **6/-**
28 lbs. - **10/-** 56 lbs. - **18/-**
112 lbs. - **32/-**

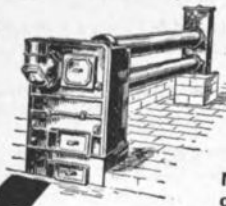
or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers, etc. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**

WILLMOTT
Rival Plant Stake
(Patented No. 183779).
As used in Royal Botanic Gardens London and Cambridge.
For all plants. WILL NOT ROT, WEAR OUT OR BREAK.
Sample of eight sizes,
2/- car. pd. United Kingdom.
4/- Overseas.
J. GREENWOOD, F.R.H.S., Proprietor
BRACKNELL, Berks.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*



Paying Points about "STOURBRIDGE" Greenhouse Boilers

No. 6.
Nothing to get out of order.

Write at once for special price. State size of house. Address Dept. 3.

J. & W. WOOD LTD Stourbridge

KINNELL'S COKE CRUSHER FROM STOCK

Reduces Fuel to the correct size for long burning

Carriage paid to Stations in England and Wales

Small Crusher for Wall - 20/-
Ditto on Wrought Stand - 40/-
Large Crusher for Wall - 40/-
Ditto on Wrought Stand - 60/-
Strong Coke Pan 10/- extra

Large Crusher breaks 1 cwt. & small one 42 lb. in 20 minutes

CHAS. P. KINNELL & Co LTD
65, 65A Southwark St. London, S.E.1

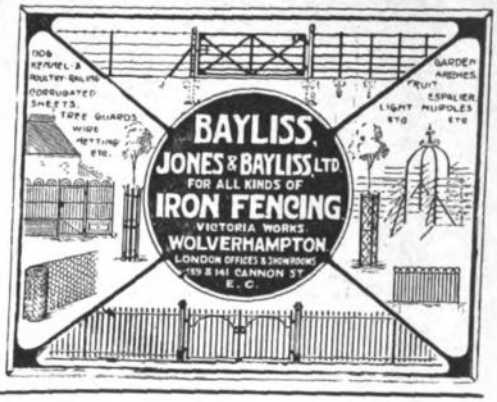
In stockyard paddock, field and garden wear Boots* that have Uppers of "Beva" Waterproof Leather.

*Look for the "Beva" on the looping.

THE LEADING GLASSHOUSE FUMIGANT.

Autumn and Winter Wash

(Corry's). For Fruit Trees, NON-POISONOUS NON-CAUSTIC, Destroys APPLE AND PEAR SCAB, CANKER and American Blight.
1 Pt., **1/6**; 1 qt., **2/6**; ½ gal., **4/9**; 1 gal., **8/6** From Seedsmen.
CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1



The Service Bureau Coupon.

THE GARDEN, *October 30th*, 1926.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

This Coupon must accompany each enquiry along with a stamped addressed envelope.

See page 625.

THE SERVICE DEPT., "THE GARDEN,"
20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2

"It warms my Greenhouse nicely at a cost of **about 2d. per day,** which I think very reasonable. I am a new beginner with a Greenhouse, and your

'HORSE SHOE' BOILER

took my fancy. I have not regretted my choice," writes Mr. F. G., Clifford, Boston Spa. 23/3/26

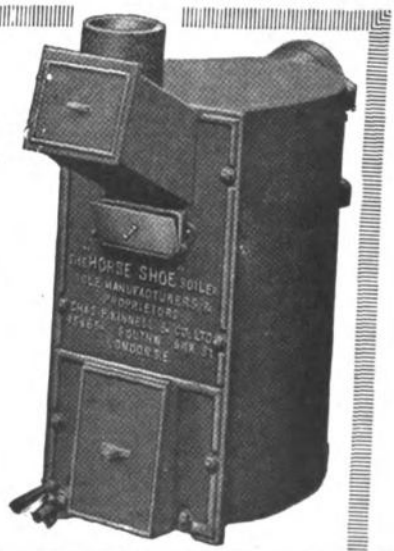
Cold weather comes soon. ***Write for particulars now***

To CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD.,
Engineers, Southwark Street, S.E.1.
Please send me Booklet E "Making the Most of Your Greenhouse," and price of complete Outfit to suit *(span-roof) (lean-to) greenhouse..... long..... .....wide inside, side of *(wood) (brick).....thick

Name.....

Address.....

*Strike out particulars not needed. Cut out and send by ½d. post.



Can be supplied from Immediate Stock
USED IN THE R.H.S. GARDENS
Wire : **"Kinnell-Boroh-London."** 'Phone : **Hop 0362** (3 lines)
CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., Ltd.
65, SOUTHWARK STREET, LONDON, S.E.1

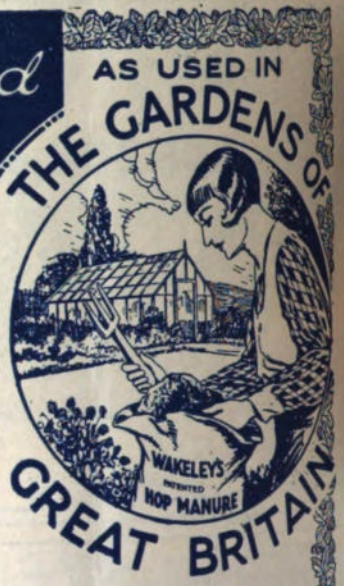
Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

WAKELEY'S *Celebrated* Hop Manure

(PATENTED)

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE



DIPLOMA AND MEDAL, ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION, 1912.

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE, without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.
Every ounce of Wakeley's Hop Manure is of value to the soil, supplying the necessary HUMUS in addition to the valuable plant food. Worthless rubbish is not added to make weight (as is the case of some artificial manures advertised).
Thousands do realise it, the proof of this is the constant flow of UNSOLICITED LETTERS received from time to time in praise of the wonderful results obtained at such a moderate cost (see Catalogue for selection).

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.—Genuine only in our Marked Bags, containing Guaranteed Analysis.

A BEAUTIFUL FREE CATALOGUE.—Giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of post card.

CASH PRICES (including bags): Small (about 1 bushel), **3/-**; large (about 4 bushels), **7/-**; 5 large, **33/9**; 10 large, **65/-**; 20 large, **120/-**.

WAKELEY'S GARDEN SUNDRIES

WAKELEY'S COMPOST

For the improvement of Garden Soils.

Prepared in three grades. No. 1 for use on light, No. 2 for med., and No. 3 for heavy soils. (Cow Manure can be added if stated on order.)
2 bush. bags, **7/6**; 4 bags, **29/-**; 10 bags, **70/-**

WAKELEY'S CHEMICAL MANURES

Wakeley's Empire Fertiliser,
for general garden use.
Analysis: Ammonia 4%, Phosphate 24%, Potash 10%

	14lb.	28lb.	56lb.	1 cwt.
pure 2%.	3/9	6/6	13/-	22/-
Sulphate of Ammonia ..	3/9	6/6	12/-	22/6
Super Phosphate 30% ..	1/6	2/9	4/6	8/6
Basic Slag 30%	1/6	2/9	4/3	8/-
Sulphate of Potash 90%	3/9	6/6	12/-	22/6
Kainit	1/6	2/9	4/3	7/6
Nitrate of Soda	3/3	5/6	10/6	20/-
Pure English Bone Meal	2/8	5/-	8/6	16/-
Sulphate of Iron ..	3/9	6/6	12/-	22/6

WAKELEY'S GROUND GARDEN LIME

Caustic or Quick Lime, *not Powdered Chalk.*

Invaluable for Rich and Heavy Soils, also as Exterminator of Soil Pests.
Prices (including bags):
Bushel bag, **4/6**; ½ bushel, **3/-**

WAKELEY'S LAWN SAND

Eradicates Weeds and Promotes Growth of Finer Grasses.
7 lb., **2/6**; 14 lb., **4/6**; 28 lb., **8/-**; 56 lb., **14/-**; cwt., **25/-**.

GARDEN EDGING, FLOWER POTS, CANES, STICKS, LABELS, STAKES, STRING, HESSIAN & GARDEN NETTING at carriage paid prices.

A good selection of **GARDEN VASES, Etc.**

	14lb.	28lb.	56lb.	1 cwt.
Tonk's Rose Manure	4/9	8/6	15/9	30/-

WAKELEY'S SUPER-WHITE LIME

EXTRA FINELY GROUND
Invaluable for Light or Poor Soils, and as a Dressing for Mossy Lawns.
Also for use in Poultry Runs.
Prices (including bags):
14lb., **2/6**; 28lb., **3/6**; 56lb., **4/6**; 1 cwt., **7/-**

WAKELEY'S POTTING SOILS, Etc.

HIGHEST GRADE.

	Bshl. bag.	2 bshls.
Brown Fibrous Peat	4/-	7/-
Leaf Mould	3/-	5/-
Mixed Potting Soil	3/6	6/3
Yellow Fibrous Loam (Surrey) ..	3/3	5/-
Coarse Silver Sand (Bedford) ..	4/3	7/6
Cow Manure	3/6	5/6

Short Horse Manure Bag (about cwt.), **3/9**; 4 bags, **14/-**; 10 bags, **32/6**

All above prices Carriage Paid for Cash by Pickford's or to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company. 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain. 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY'S SPECIALLY SELECTED CRAZY PAVING.

	Per Ton.
1in. thick (Approximate covering capacity 16 sq. yards) ..	55/-
1¼ " " " " " 12 " ..	52/6

WAKELEY'S SPECIALLY SELECTED ROCKERY STONE Per Ton. **37/6**
WAKELEY'S SPECIALLY SELECTED BRICK BURRS per c. yd. **37/6**

Delivered to your address, ex. stock, in loads of 25 cwts., or 1½ yards and upwards, within a radius of 10 miles of Bankside. Add 1/- per ton per mile for distances beyond. Special prices for larger quantities taken direct from truck.

WAKELEY'S SELECTED BULBS

HYACINTHS

	Each.	Doz.
Early White Roman	7d.	6/-
Prepared Miniatures for early forcing (Bismarck, L'Innocence, Garibaldi and Moreno)	7d.	6/-
First size—Bismarck, Garibaldi, Queen of Pinks	9d.	8/6
Marie and La Francaise ..	8d.	7/6
L'Innocence	10d.	9/6

HYACINTHS FOR BEDDING

	Doz.	100
Single Red and Pink	4/6	34/-
" Light Blue	4/6	32/6
" Dark Blue	4/6	32/6
" White, Pure	4/6	34/-
" Blush, White	4/6	32/-

SINGLE MIXED, ALL COLOURS
a good mixture 4/- 30/-

SINGLE TULIPS

	Doz.	100
Crimson King, good bedding ..	1/6	10/6
Fred Moore, orange, shaded scarlet	1/9	12/6
Keizerskroon, bright red, yellow edge	3/6	25/-
Prince of Austria, orange scarlet .	2/3	16/-

DARWIN TULIPS

Baron de la Tonnaye, bright rose .	1/8	10/-
Clara Butt, soft salmon rose ..	1/-	7/6
Glow, vermilion	1/9	12/6
La Candeur, white	1/9	12/6
Rev. Ewbank, heliotrope ..	1/6	10/6

DOUBLE TULIPS

Couronne d'Or, orange-yellow ..	2/3	16/-
Murillo, blush-white	1/9	12/-

LATE MAY FLOWERING

Picotee, white with pink edge ..	1/3	9/-
Inglescombe Pink, salmon rose ..	1/6	10/-

DAFFODILS & NARCISSI

	Doz.	100
Double—Van Sion	1/6	10/6
Trumpets—Emperor, Empress, Golden Spur, and Horsfieldii ..	2/-	14/6
	1/3	8/6
Princeps	2/6	17/6
Victoria—Giant form of Horsfieldii	1/3	9/-
Various—Barrii Conspicuus ..	1/9	12/6
Incomparabilis, Sir Watkin	8d.	5/-
Pheasant's Eye		

VARIOUS BULBS

Crocus, yellow .. .. from	1/-	7/6
" mixed, all colours ..	9d.	5/-
Iris, Spanish, mixed	6d.	3/-
Scilla sibirica	1/-	7/6
Snowdrops, single	9d.	5/-
" double	1/-	7/3
Winter Aconites	4d.	2/3

Carriage and packing free. Write for Illustrated Autumn Catalogue of Bulb Bowls. Full list of bulbs, etc. Sent free on application.

WAKELEY'S BULB FIBRE.

For growing bulbs in fancy bowls without drainage. Containing finest ingredients, shell and charcoal. Prices (including bags) ½ gallon, **1/-**; 1 gallon, **1/3**; peck, **2/-**; ½ bushel, **3/-**; bushel, **4/-**

WAKELEY BROS. & Co., Ltd. 75a, BANKSIDE LONDON, S.E.1

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

NOV 18 1926

THE GARDEN

THE AMATEUR GARDENERS' PAPER

Vol. XC.—No. 2866 Saturday, November 6th. 1926 Price TWOPENCE

SOME OF THE FINEST OF MODERN ANNUAL ASTERS.

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
New Alpines and Perennials
Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
Specialists in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

T. J. EVANS & SON,
(G) WHIPLEY NURSERIES
WOOD STREET,
Nr. GUILDFORD.
Roses, Fruit Trees, Shrubs, etc. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD,
CHELSEA, S.W.
Bulb Catalogue Now Ready

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

H. PRINS
BULB AND PLANT GROWERS
WISBECH, CAMBS.
Bulb list free on application

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
LINCS.
Weed Destroyers Fertilizers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

TUBS FOR SHRUBS.
WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 100 prizes. R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. — Price List from A. PRADAL, 26, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

Winter cleansing

Three parts of the battle is starting with clean trees. They are easily rid of egg deposits, bark-clinging pests, etc. in the dormant season by occasional spraying with XL ALL. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen and florists.

XL ALL WINTER WASH
(Non-Poisonous)
G. H. RICHARDS LTD.,
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
R. 207. Monomark: BCM/XLALL

A noted Rosarian declared

"LADY SYLVIA"

The New H.T. Rose
to be the most beautiful variety ever seen

THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY gave it an AWARD OF MERIT in the Spring of this year, and the NATIONAL ROSE SOCIETY a CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Colour :—Shell pink with an underton sheen of apricot, suffused with mellow shades of prawn pink merging to rich salmon pink

STRONG PLANTS, ex 4 inch POTS **5**/- each, **55**/- dozen.

Delivery March to June. All orders taken in strict rotation. Carr. paid, Cash with Order

The home of "ROSELANDIA" the best Yellow Rose yet raised.

STRONG PLANTS, ex 4 inch POTS **2/6** each, **27/6** dozen.

WALTER STEVENS (HODDESDON), LTD.
Roselands Nursery, Hoddesdon, Herts.

Chase Continuous Cloches

should be used through winter to protect Sweet Peas, Parsley, Lettuce, Cuttings Christmas Roses, etc.

Tent Shape, Size A, 12 for 18/-; 52 for 55/-
Barn Shape, No. 1, 6 for 18/-; 26 for 55/-

CHASE ALPINE CLIPS hold any glass over Alpine plants. 3/6 per doz.

Above prices include carriage to any railway station England and Wales, or part carriage elsewhere.

SECTIONAL FRUIT RACKS build up to any size. Each section contains 5 trays of 4 sq. ft. One section, 25/-; two sections, 45/- f.o.r.

Full particulars, Cloches, Clips, Racks: Direct

CHASE CONTINUOUS CLOCHE, Chertsey, Surrey

DARWIN TULIPS FIRST QUALITY ONLY.

Illustrated list post free on application.

10/- orders post free, otherwise 9d. extra.

100 Darwin Tulips in 10 fine varieties - 8/6
50 " " 10 " " - 4/6

	100	Doz.
Baron de la Tonnaye, rose pink, margined blush	9/-	1/3
Clara Butt, salmon-rose	7/6	1/-
Douglas, wine red	8/6	1/2
Dream, large-flowered lilac	10/6	1/6
Euterpe, beautiful lilac	10/-	1/4
Farncombe Sanders, large fiery scarlet	10/6	1/6
Glow, vermilion scarlet	12/6	1/6
Harry Veitch, rich blood red	10/6	1/6
Loveliness, soft carmine rose	9/-	1/3
Madame Krelage, bright lilac rose, large	11/6	1/6
Margaret, silvery rose	8/6	1/2
Nautilus, purplish rose	9/-	1/3
Painted Lady, cream white, tinged heliotrope	9/6	1/4
Philip de Commines, large velvety maroon	11/-	1/6
Pride of Haarlem, brilliant rose scarlet	8/6	1/2
Rev. Ewbank, bright heliotrope	10/-	1/4
The Sultan, nearly black	7/6	1/-
Wm. Copland (Sweet Lavender), soft lilac	9/-	1/3
Zulu, deep velvety violet black, large	10/6	1/6
Darwin Tulips in finest mixture	6/-	10d.

Satisfaction Guaranteed or money refunded.

WILLIAM HELPS,
Bulb Merchant, **Woodford Green, Essex**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Barr's Gold Medal Daffodils

STRONG SELECTED BULBS FOR NOVEMBER PLANTING.

Awarded SEVENTY-TWO GOLD MEDALS and THREE SILVER CHALLENGE CUPS.

FLOWER BORDER COLLECTION, 6 each,	18 sorts	..	30/-
" "	3 "	18 "	.. 15/-
POT CULTURE "	6 "	20 "	.. 40/-
" "	3 "	10 "	.. 10/6
BOWL CULTURE "	6 "	15 "	.. 25/-
" "	3 "	15 "	.. 12.6
FLOWER BORDER MIXTURE..per 100, 21/-; per doz..			3/-
MIXTURE of all kinds for naturalising, per 1,000, 95/-; 100.			10/6
TRUMPET DAFFODILS, MIXED, per 1,000, 160/-; 100.			17/6
MIXTURE of CHALICE CUP and STAR NARCISSI only, for naturalising .. .. per 1,000 110/-; 100.			12/-

Descriptive Catalogue Free.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13 KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

E THE FIRST STEP towards a successden and write to Waterers. Catalogues, beautifully ed, with copious cultural notes are issued of the follow-toses and Fruit Trees, Bulbs, Herbaceous and Alpine Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Evergreen, Flowering, Hedge- and Screening Shrubs, any of which will be gladly sent e.—JOHN WATERER, SONS AND CRISP, LIMITED, Twyford,

ALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODEN-S, on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write alogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

KELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE. Original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See on back page.

DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., ice Road, South Tottenham, N.15. — Conservatories, Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

DS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUN-S, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—ON, 17, Eccleston Street, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

CING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE EY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere,

DER CARNATIONS. — 200 varieties, 4 varieties, from 6/6; 50 in 50 ditto, from 25/-; carriage Lists free. J. HAYWARD, Chace Gardens, Stakes Road, ook, Cosham, Hants.

INES, ROCK AND HERBACEOUS TS, Dwarf Conifers and Shrubs, Bulbs for the Rock n, etc. New catalogue ready, post free.—SHEPPARDS, urst Nursery, Hollywood, Birmingham.

SS HORTICULTURAL, all sizes stocked; Glass Plate for poultry houses. Ready Mixed Paints, Diamonds, etc.—BRITISH GLASS COMPANY, Dept. "G.N.," rs Buildings, Church Street, Liverpool.

BELS.—Patent metal, so simple to write nail; can't fade or break. Trial offer bargain; 100 with akes, 50 tie wires, 1 pocket nail, 10/- free. The R.H.S. them. Lists.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

SKELL'S HOP MANURE.—Best sube for stable manure, 56lbs., 4/-; cwt., 6/-. Times Guano, ll-round fertiliser, 56lb., 5/-; cwt., 8/6. Ground garden 56lb., 4/-; cwt., 6/-. Screened Gas Lime, cwt., 5/-. Slag, cwt., 6/6. Packed in bags and carriage paid. All sers, etc., supplied. Booklets free.—MASKELL'S LIMITED, ton Road, West Ham, E.15.

W IS THE TIME TO LOOK TO YOUR DEN. "THE HOME GARDEN BOOKS" deal with every h of the art. Send for pamphlet C, post free, from THORN-BUTTERWORTH, LIMITED, 15, Bedford Street, London, W.C.2.

CESSARY AUTUMN MANURING. Basic Slag and all kinds of Fertilisers. Many thousands ons sold annually. Absolute lowest prices. Descriptive let free.—JAMES & GEO. H. MATTHEWS, Harold Wood, c. 'Phone, Romford 284.

E VEITCHBERRY.—The finest Hybrid y yet raised. The fruit is twice the size of a Raspberry, a delicious flavour, and is splendid for dessert and culinary oses. It is absolutely self fertile and therefore sets freely. ng plants 7/6 each, 84/- per dozen.—LAXTON BROTHERS, erymen, Bedford.

CONOPSIS INTEGRIFOLIA, M. WAL-HILL, 8/6 per dozen to clear. Primula sikkimensis, P. erulenta, P. Beesiana, P. Bulleyana, P. Moorcana, P. ata (new), P. japonica, P. Inverleith Hybrid. Two year plants to clear at 10/6 per doz. Price Lists on application. season's seed now available.—WM. T. HUNT, Primula wer, 4, Northcote Street, Edinburgh.

OCKERY STONE.—The most beautiful is rry Ironstone; sample bags, 2/6. Excellent Crazy Paving, icultural Lime and Red Loam Sand. Enquiries invited.—D WATKINS, Coleford, Glos.

PRESSUS LAWSONIANA, THUJA bil, Golden Privet, 7/6 doz. carr. paid. Choice varieties of oneaster, Pyracantha, Berberis, Buddleia, Deutzia, Forsythia, gela and other Shrubs, from 1/- each.—STEVENS, Barriffs, ericay, Essex.

MERICAN LILIES.—L. Parryi, 2/6 ea.; L. dalinum, 9d. ea., 8/- doz.; L. columbianum, 1/- ea., 10/-.—THE LILY GARDENS, Bellevue, Wash., U.S.A.

BARR'S GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS.—The finest sorts for Pots, Bowls, Exhibition, Flower Borders and to Naturalise. Descriptive Catalogue free.

BARR'S HYACINTHS, TULIPS, LILIES, CROCUSES, IRISES, etc., for Pots, Bowls and Flower Borders. Finest quality. Descriptive catalogue free.

BARR'S HARDY PERENNIALS, ALPINES, ROCK PLANTS, CLIMBERS, etc., for Autumn planting. Catalogue free.—BARR AND SONS, 11, 12 and 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx and perpetual habit. They flourish in the coldest parts of Britain. Extract, *The Times*: "Mr. Douglas is the leading raiser of this flower. His wonderful strain of new cloves is superb." Plant list is now ready.—J. DOUGLAS, Great Bookham.

JOIN THE BRITISH GLADIOLUS SOCIETY. Annual subscription, 5/-. Particulars from Hon. Sec., A. E. AMOS, 10, Bergholt Road, Colchester.

Yearly Subscription, Inland, 13s.; Foreign, 13s.
Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2.
Offices for Advertisements: 6–11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
The Imperial Fruit Show	627
Plants at Their Best in Autumn	628
What Can be Done in Town Gardens	629
The Joy of Making a New Garden	630
Flower Garden Notes	631
Autumn Treatment of Rambler Roses	632
The Busy Man's Page	633
Some Modern Chrysanthemums	634
The Fruit and Kitchen Garden	636
Flowers Under Glass	637
What Our Readers Say	638
Hints Worth Remembering	639
How to Grow Good Raspberries	640
Behind the Scenes	641
Service Bureau	642

HEWITT'S HARDY PLANT CATALOGUE, free on application.

HEWITT'S DELPHINIUMS, famous the world over for their marvellous size and quality. Please write for our catalogues.

HEWITT'S BULBS.—The finest obtainable at reasonable prices. List free on application.

HEWITT'S ROSES.—Catalogues of all the finest and newest varieties, free on application.—HEWITT AND CO., LIMITED, Horticultural Specialists, Solihull, Warwickshire.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wirework of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

HERBACEOUS AND ROCK PLANTS. Dianthus neglectus, 8d.; Tiarella cordifolia, 6d.; Verbascum phœnicum, 6d.; Campanulas Everest and Snowdrift, 1/-. Autumn list ready, post free.—FLORA HARDY, Knockholt, Kent.

12 HARDY EVERGREEN AND FLOWERING SHRUBS in 12 different kinds, including Philadelphus, Weigelas, Diplopappus, Veronica, Cupressus, etc., fine young plants for 5/9. Carriage paid.—C. R. SHILLING, 6, Hartley Nursery, Winchfield, Hants.

FRUIT TREES, ROSES, HEDGE PLANTS, ETC., best quality, lowest prices. Catalogue post free, or state requirements and estimate sent.—Write C. R. SHILLING, 6, Hartley Nursery, Winchfield, Hants.

CATALOGUE No. 146 ready shortly, contains many books of the greatest interest to all horticulturists and gardeners. Post free on application to DULAU & CO., LTD., 34, Margaret Street, London, W.1.

DOBBIE'S FAMOUS BULBS, SCOTCH ROSES and SWEET PEAS for Autumn Sowing. Catalogue free on mentioning THE GARDEN.—DOBBIE AND CO., LIMITED, Edinburgh.

BATH'S HOME-GROWN BULBS. — New Illustrated Catalogue of the finest Narcissi, Tulips, etc., as supplied to the Royal Parks and Gardens, with full cultural directions, is now ready, and will be sent post free on application.—(Dept. E.), R. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE!!!—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 800 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Ablert Street, Lytham.

ROCK PLANTS AND SHRUBS.—Over 300 varieties in stock. Descriptive Catalogue free. Also Herbaceous Plants and Roses.—HODSONS, LIMITED, 68, Castle Gate, Nottingham.

PRIMULA SECUNDIFLORA, the Crimson Sikkimensis. Heads of dangling crimson bells, for bog garden or cool rich soil. 12–18ins. high. Fine pot-grown plants, 9d. each; 3 for 2/6; 6 for 3/9; 12 for 7/6.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED, Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

PRIOR'S COLCHESTER ROSES, Fruit Trees, Gladioli, Dahlias, Carnations, Herbaceous. Catalogue containing cheap collections free.—D. PRIOR AND SON, LTD., Colchester.

KNIPHOFIA ERECTA.—The most beautiful, brilliant and interesting of the red-hot pokers. Free, parcel post, 18/- per doz.—GALVIN'S NURSERIES, Wexford.

YORK STONE PAVING, for Garden Paths and lily ponds; rectangular or crazy for rustic work; steps and wall coping; rockery.—GEO. VINT AND BROS., Stone Merchants, Idle, Bradford.

ALPINES AND HARDY ROCK PLANTS. 700 varieties. Catalogue free.—LEE, Alpine Gardens, Stechford Birmingham.

GARDEN IMPLEMENTS AND SUNDRIES. Write for Free Illustrated Catalogue from FINCH AND FLEMING, LIMITED, Soar Lane Mills, Leicester.

TO FLOWER NEXT SUMMER, 12 Hydrangeas, assorted carriage paid on receipt of 20/-. A real bargain.—TRESEDER AND CO., The Nurseries, Truro.

LOBELIA CARDINALIS QUEEN VICTORIA, brilliant scarlet, late-flowering perennial, 1 doz., post free, for 10/-.—TRESEDER AND CO., as above.

LIME FOR THE GARDEN. — Price delivered cash with order, 28lb., 3/6; 56lb., 5/-; 112lb., 8/- Special quotations for large quantities. Real Cotswold Crazy Paving, Walling Stone, etc.—THOMAS TIERNEY AND CO., LTD., Milk Street House, Cheapside, E.C.

AMATEUR'S COLLECTION OF PERENNIALS.—Surplus plants, all exhibition varieties, 18 for 5/-; also rockery plants, 18 for 5/-.—OLIVER, "Revile," Long Lane, Ickenham, Uxbridge.

CANTERBURY BELLS, mauve, rose and white, in separate colours, 5/- 100; Iceland Poppies, splendid strain, 5/- 100; Perennial Lupins, choice colours, pink, white, rose, mauve, etc., 9/6 100. Carriage paid. All strong plants.—C. R. SHILLING, 6, Hartley Nursery, Winchfield, Hants.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING.—"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 8/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

BULBS FOR NATURALISING

All Delivered Post Free at your door.

	per doz.	per 100	per 1,000
MUSCARIA HYACINTHS, Grape Hyacinths, blue	1/-	5/-	40/-
SNOWDROPS, earliest flowers of Spring	1/-	6/-	50/-
SPARAXIS, selected show mixtures, all colours	6d.	3/-	25/-
CROCUS, in finest mixed, all colours	1/-	4/-	35/-
SCILLA SIBIRICA, extra fine blue	1/-	9/-	80/-
NARCISSUS, all varieties and colours mixed	1/-	7/6	60/-
TULIPS, all varieties and colours mixed	1/-	7/-	60/-

(All the above for growing in Woodlands or Grass)

Full Illustrated List post free upon application.

H. PRINS (F.R.H.S.) *Flower Bulb Specialists,* **WISBECH, CAMBS**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

CYCLAMEN

The Finest Strain in the World.

There is nothing to equal these glorious plants for winter flowering.

Grand plants in 5-in. pots. Fine selection of colours. **25/-** and **30/-** per doz.

Blackmore & Langdon
BATH.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

TURF

Cultivated and of Best Quality.

State quantity required and ask for quotation.

Large Yews for Sale

Wm. BIGNELL & SON,
48, North Road,
HIGHGATE, N.6

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Rare Himalayan and Chinese
RHODODENDRONS
in Hybrids and Species

A large stock of beautiful Hybrids raised at "Goldsworth," early and late flowering. Clean healthy plants, in various colours. The best have been grafted and can be supplied correctly under numbers. Also an assortment of other rare and scarce plants, and a large general nursery stock. Area over 300 acres.

The Exors. of
WALTER CHAS. SLOCOCK
Goldsworth Old Nursery, WOKING, SURREY.
Station: Woking (Southern Railway) 1 mile.
Lists on application. Mention THE GARDEN

Our New List of
CHRYSANTHEMUMS
for 1927 is NOW READY
containing all the finest and most desirable varieties. Free on application to:—
KEITH, LUXFORD & CO.
Chrysanthemum Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

BURBAGE ROSES

A collection of 12 of the best varieties. First size Trees, Guaranteed British Grown and true to name, for 12/6 Carriage Paid. - Cash with order.

Betty Uprichard	Los Angeles
Clarice Goodacre	Independence Day
Mrs. H. Morse	Madame Butterfly
Miss Willmott	Mrs. Wemyss Quin
Mrs. H. Stevens	Gen. McArthur
Walter C. Clarke	Frau Karl Drusohki

THE BURBAGE NURSERIES LTD.,
Nr. Hinckley, Leicestershire.
Please mention this Paper.

FRUIT TREES
ROSES

Alpine Plants **Hardy Perennials**

Ornamental Trees and Shrubs
can be successfully planted NOW.

The BARNHAM NURSERIES, Ltd.,
offer an immense stock of healthy, well-grown trees . . in great variety . .

Descriptive Catalogues on application.

The BARNHAM NURSERIES, Ltd.,
BARNHAM, Sussex.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

CHEALS OF CRAWLEY

Have over FIFTY YEARS' Experience of GARDEN AND ESTATE PLANTING and General Improvements.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY ACRES of Nursery stocked with a First Class Collection of

Ornamental Trees - Shrubs
FRUIT TREES.
Herbaceous and Alpine Plants
ROSES, DAHLIAS, and all Garden Requisites

IT WOULD PAY YOU TO CONSULT THEM.
Catalogues of each Department and an Illustrated Pamphlet on Garden Design.

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
The Nurseries, **CRAWLEY.**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Special Autumn Offer

Order NOW for delivery this month.

12 Gooseberries
"WHINHAM'S INDUSTRY."
12 Black Currants
"SEABROOK'S" (Mite resisting).
12 Red Currants
"RABY CASTLE."

The above 36 strong, well-grown Fruiting Bushes for 20/- Carriage Paid for Cash with Order. Half the above numbers for 10/-

Descriptive Catalogue of Fruit Trees, Roses, Ornamental Trees and Shrubs, free on application.

The FOREST & ORCHARD NURSERIES, Ltd.
BUCKOVER, FALFIELD, GLOS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

GIBSON'S GARDEN GLORIES

NEW CATALOGUE FREE ON REQUEST

15 Acres of Glorious ROSES, SHRUBS, FRUITS, Alpine and Herbaceous Plants, Lupins, etc.

THE AMATEUR'S DOZEN DWARF ROSES.
Grand trees, all named, for 13/-, carriage paid. Betty Uprichard, Lady Ashtown, Mrs. Wemyss Quin, F. K. Druschki, Lady Hillingdon, Mme. E. Herriot (Daily Mail), Gen. McArthur, Los Angeles, Mrs. J. Laing, Hugh Dickson, Mme. Abel Chatenay, Ophelia.

COLLECTIONS.
Carriage paid for cash.
12 Grand Alpines, all distinct, named, for 6/6; 25 distinct for 15/-.
12 Hardy Border Flowering Plants, named, for 6/-; 25 distinct for 14/-; 50 distinct for 30/-; 100, in 50 varieties, for 60/-.

LONICERA NITIDA
The New Hedge Plant.
This will take the place of Privet. It is quick growing, hardy, evergreen and elegant. Try a sample dozen at 5/-; 35/- per 100. Carriage paid for cash.

THE NEW CLIMBING ROSE
Phyllis Bide. Perpetual flowering. 2/- each.
Colour: Pale gold at base, flushed and shaded carmine pink, in long sprays.
3 for 5/6. Carriage Paid for Cash.

REGALE LUPINS
Most wonderful shades and colours ever seen. Strong plants, all shades, 10/- per dozen.

G. GIBSON & CO., Leeming Bar, BEDALE

Great Clearance Sale
OF ALL BULBS
make room for our huge consignment of
GLADIOLI
which includes many Novelties, and all the best of the older varieties.
A discount of 2/6 in the pound may be deducted from all Bulbs offered in our List, with the exception of Collections on front page.

LONGSTAFF & SONS
Gladioli Specialists
Near CHELSFIELD STATION, KENT

THE DOWNER LUPIN
is now known all the World over.
Apply for Lupin List; also Herbaceous and Alpine Catalogue.
DOWNER
Drayton Manor Nurseries, CHICHESTER

Michaelmas Daisies
For all the latest and most beautiful varieties, see the Raiser's List.
ERNEST BALLARD, Colwall, MALVERN

A UNIQUE OFFER OF
NEW & RARE
RHODODENDRONS
including many of the late Mr. Reginald Farrer's, and the Messrs. E. H. Wilson's & G. Forrest's and Capt. Kingdon Ward's New Chinese Species; Himalayan and other varieties from private collections, consequently they are not grown in our Nurseries.
Many of the species have not before been offered, all are on own roots, and are of unusual quality and bushiness.
Some of the Species we can supply by the Dozen and 100 and shall be pleased to quote SPECIAL RATES for a quantity.
New, rare, and common Trees and Shrubs in over 4,000 species and varieties.
WRITE FOR DESCRIPTIVE PRICE LISTS.
Hillier & Sons, Tree Specialists, **Winchester.**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

A most interesting
FRUIT TREE CATALOGUE
FREE and POST FREE
THIS Catalogue nicely produced and well printed, contains a valuable host of useful hints on FRUIT TREE CULTURE—for Amateur and Professional. Herein will be found all the best and most popular Fruits for all purposes, alphabetically arranged for ready reference. A feature has been made of interesting Chats on soils, situations, and fertilisers; in fact, it is a valuable book, which should be in the hands of all those who possess a Garden or Fruit Farm, large or small. Sit down now, while the matter is fresh in your mind, and write for your free copy.

KING'S ACRE ROSES
THE King's Acre Nurseries — famous since 1785 for the stamina and vigour of their roses—have hardy and reliable
Bushes and Ramblers
in a wonderful, almost endless variety, which they are offering at prices considered by experts and amateurs to be beyond competition.
Alphabetically arranged Rose Catalogue, replete with reliable information, FREE ON REQUEST.

AWARDED 95 GOLD MEDALS.
KING'S ACRE NURSERIES, LTD., HEREFORD
Established 1785. ∴ *NURSERIES—140 ACRES.*
SPECIAL VALUE IN COLLECTIONS OF FRUIT TREES AND ROSES

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

PLANT SMITH'S ROSES. Hardy Scotch Grown.
UNSURPASSED FOR HARDINESS AND FIBROUS ROOTS. FROM 12/- DOZEN.
SILVER CUPS GAINED 1922-3-10-11-12-25, NATIONAL ROSE SOCIETY'S ANNUAL, LONDON, 1926.
Also FRUIT TREES, SHRUBS, FOREST TREES.
Send for Catalogues with prices, free on application.
GIVE US A TRIAL ORDER.
THOMAS SMITH & SONS, STRANRAER. *Est.* 1861.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES
THE "SOUTHWELL" COLLECTION
Twelve Varieties, Carriage and Packing Free - - **12/6**
With "ACME" Labels - **15/-**

Caroline Testout (H.T.) satiny rose.
Col. O. FitzGerald (H.T.) crimson.
Emma Wright (H.T.) pure orange.
Frau Karl Druschki (H.P.) pure white.
General McArthur (H.T.) carmine.
Henrietta (H.T.) orange crimson.
Hugh Dickson (H.T.) brilliant crimson.
Independence Day (H.T.) orange apricot.
Madame E. Herriot (H.T.) coral red.
Ophelia (H.T.) salmon flesh.
The Queen Alexandra (H.T.) deep vermilion.
Ulrich Brunner (H.P.) cherry crimson.

Also FRUIT TREES, SHRUBS, ORNAMENTAL TREES, ALPINES & HARDY PLANTS
ALL HOME GROWN TREES.
Support British Industries. *Catalogue Free on Application.*
H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LIMITED
Garden Specialists, SOUTHWELL, NOTTS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

Allens ROSES

ENSURE SUCCESS!

Obtain a copy of our Catalogue before obtaining your Roses.

CONTENTS INCLUDE:
Frank descriptions of novelties, indicating improved forms—Select lists of roses for all purposes—Critical descriptions of over 500 varieties — Six colour plates — Cultural Hints — Rose diseases and their treatment, etc., etc.

SEND A CARD FOR IT TO-DAY—A complete Handbook of Roses and their culture.

For a limited period and solely to circulate our catalogue we are offering our "Superb" collection of 12 fine Dwarf Roses as below for October delivery. Price **12/-**, *carriage paid. Cash with order.*

BETTY UPRICHARD, the finest rose in commerce; salmon and orange scarlet.
DIADEM, orange crimson suffused salmon.
ETOILE DE HOLLANDE, the finest, fragrant dark crimson rose.
HORTULANUS BUDDE, an effective crimson scarlet.
JAMES WALLEY, rich apricot and salmon.
JULES TABART, silvery salmon, copper centre.
MRS. BECKWITH, clear lemon yellow.
MRS. WEMYSS QUIN, intense lemon chrome.
SOUV. DE GEORGES PERNET, coppery pink.
SUNSTAR, orange tipped vermilion.
THE QUEEN ALEXANDRA, vermilion and old gold.
VANITY, new hybrid musk, large trusses of rose pink flowers.

All first-class varieties in finest quality plants.

STANDARDS IN FIRST QUALITY TREES.

ADMIRATION	3/6
ASPIRANT M. ROUYER	3/6
BETTY UPRICHARD	3/6
CAROLINE TESTOUT	3/6
CHEERFUL	3/6
CHRISTINE	4/-
CLARICE GOODACRE	3/6
COVENT GARDEN	3/6
CLOVELLY	4/-
ETOILE DE HOLLANDE	3/-
FRAU KARL DRUSCHKI	3/-
GENERAL McARTHUR	3/6
GOLDEN EMBLEM	4/-
GOLDEN OPHELIA	3/6
HADLEY	3/6
HAWLMARK CRIMSON	3/6
HORTULANUS BUDDE	3/6
HUGH DICKSON	3/6
INDEPENDENCE DAY	3/6
K. OF K.	3/6
LADY HILLINGDON	3/-
LADY PIRRIE	3/6
MME. ABEL CHATENAY	3/6
MME. EDOUARD HERRIOT	3/6
MABEL MORSE	4/-
MME. BUTTERFLY	3/6

and numerous other varieties.

WEEPING STANDARDS.

Fine specimen trees, 5ft. stems, 5/- each, 6ft. stems, 6/- each.

Alberic Barbier	Hiawatha
Albertine	Jacotte
American Pillar	Leontine Gervaise
Blush Rambler	Paul's Scarlet Climber
Dorothy Perkins	Romeo
Emily Gray	Sander's White.
Havering Rambler	Sea Spray

etc., etc.

Order for Standards under 15/- in value 1/- extra for packing and carriage.

ORDER NOW AND ENSURE EARLY DELIVERY.

A. J. & C. ALLEN (DEPT. G)
Nurserymen, NORWICH, NORFOLK

NEW HARDY CRIMSON BROOM

AT Chelsea Show (1925) the King said, "That red Broom is certainly very striking." This was the new crimson Broom "Dorothy Walpole," which received the unanimous Award of Merit from the R.H.S. as well as other distinctions in London and on the Continent. Plants have been sent to U.S.A., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, France, Holland, etc.

In the Field, *a well known ex-Curator of Kew Gardens wrote: "The richest coloured Broom known is one named 'Dorothy Walpole.' It is as hardy as the common Broom . . . and is very free-flowering . . . the colour is rich velvety crimson . . . more attractive than any of the coloured Brooms yet seen." The colour far surpasses Cytisus Dallimoreí, and the growth is as vigorous as C. Andreanus; it requires no special treatment nor any kind of protection whatever—just a hardy shrub for ordinary garden soil in any part of the British Isles, however far north.*

A Vice-Chairman, Floral Committee, R.H.S., wrote: "Everyone who has seen my plant has been astonished at its warm glowing red"; and from a lady in Devon: "I am so delighted with the Broom 'Dorothy Walpole.' It has done splendidly and is like a sparkling gem in the garden—one mass of flower."

NEW SEASON'S PRICES.

Strong pot-grown plants now ready for planting out, to flower in May, 7/6 each. Carriage paid rates to any station in Great Britain or Ireland: One plant, carriage paid, 10/-; two plants, carriage paid, 18/6; three plants, carriage paid, 26/-; six plants, carriage paid, 49/6; twelve plants, carriage paid, 99/-.

Coloured illustration sent on application if THE GARDEN *is mentioned.*

Wm. Watson & Sons, Limited, Nurseries, Killiney, Co. Dublin.

Notes from Maidstone.

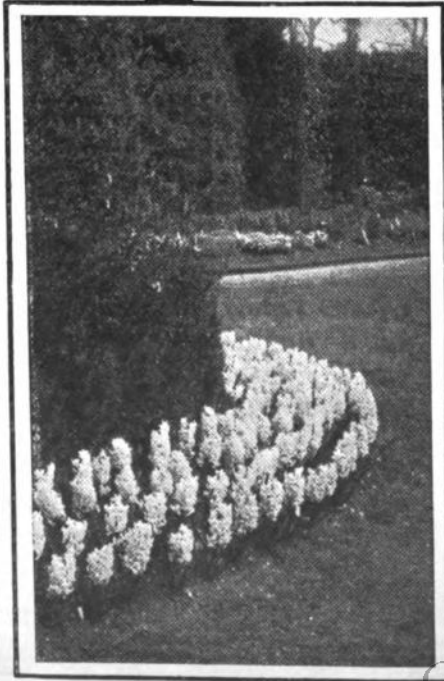
MYROBALANS and MIRABELLES.

These two plums are often confused. The Myrobalan (Prunus cerasifera) when first introduced into Europe was thought to be the source of the dried fruits known as Myrobalans, so largely imported into Europe in the Middle Ages for medicinal uses, hence the name was applied quite wrongly to the plum. There is no better fruit for bottling, and we offer the Red and Yellow varieties, extra stout Standards, at 7/6 each.

The Mirabelle is a miniature gage of delicious flavour and making an unequalled preserve, Half Standards at 7/6 each.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd., The Royal Nurseries, Established 1796. Maidstone.

Bulbs



A BORDER OF BRILLIANT COLOURS.

BEAUTIFY YOUR SPRING GARDEN NOW

By Planting—

Sutton's Border Hyacinths
In separate colours or mixed
5/- per doz., **35/-** per 100

Sutton's Daffodils and Narcissi
8/6 per 100, **80/-** per 1,000

Sutton's Darwin Tulips (mixed)
12/6 per 100, **120/-** per 1,000

Write for "SUTTON'S BULBS FOR 1926," Post Free.

Sutton & Sons
Bulb Specialists
READING.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

Vol. XC.—No. 2866. NOVEMBER 6, 1926. Price Twopence.

THE IMPERIAL FRUIT SHOW

THIS Show, which opened last Friday at Holland Park Hall and remains open until November 6th, comes at a most opportune time, when public interest is centred on Imperial affairs, with the meeting of the Empire Conference. Every year, since its inauguration as an annual event, it has shown increasing vigour and vitality and the general display at Holland Park on the present occasion equals, if it does not surpass all the previous exhibitions. All interested in fruit production and the subsidiary branches of the industry, should not fail to pay a visit.

That the way to strength lies in co-operation is fully exemplified by the many and divers trade exhibits which are staged at the Show. All branches of the industry are represented and it is difficult to determine which, if any, is the most important. Each is necessary for the production of first grade fruit such as is displayed. This year, the largest group display is under the wing of the Empire Marketing Board, in which are to be found all our Dominion exhibits. This exhibit forms a part of a larger scheme to popularise our Dominion products and in this case particularly to encourage the home market to rally in support of British and Empire-grown fruit. This exhibit undoubtedly shows the many sources of supply and the wealth of fruit production in the different parts of our Empire. South Africa stages one of the most attractive exhibits at the Show in the display of oranges, grape fruits, pine-apples and dried fruits. The citrus industry in the Cape becomes of more importance every year, as their table of exports testifies. Last year the exports in fresh fruit totalled over two and a half million boxes. Now the Dominion is taking up pineapples for canning purposes and a flourishing subsidiary industry seems assured, as the products are good. Canada supplies a magnificent apple exhibit, grown and supplied by three of the leading provinces, Ontario, British Columbia and Nova Scotia. The apples shown in three or four commercial varieties, are staged in standard boxes packed for market, or in fancy baskets. A rather novel exhibit comes from Australia in a display of currants, raisins and sultanas in baskets. Various brands of canned fruit are also shown. From Jamaica comes a representative collection of fruit products in bananas and grape fruits, while the latter also appear from the Gold Coast with oranges, pineapples, and other citrus fruits. The fruit industry in the Gold Coast is a comparatively new one and with increased facilities for marketing and transport is assured of building up a successful future. This comprehensive exhibit also includes a wide range of British canned fruits, arranged under the auspices of the National Food Canning Council, which is engaged in arousing public interest in the work of the various British canning firms. This is a most interesting exhibit from more than one point of view. It will do much to stimulate the growing of various kinds of fruits in this country, in that it creates a ready market for such fruits as strawberries, raspberries, loganberries, plums, damsons, etc., and in addition it offers to the public British grown fruit in practically natural form, available over the whole year. It is undoubtedly a branch which will do much to increase and popularise fruit growing in these islands once the products become more widespread.

There are many interesting and attractive trade exhibits from our leading wholesale firms in this country engaged in the marketing of fruit products, while allied branches are represented by the sundry exhibits of insecticides and fungicides, by such firms as Messrs. McDougalls. The amateur gardener should pay particular attention to these displays, since every year the careful tending of the fruit crop, however small, becomes of increasing necessity and the improved methods of spraying with up-to-date materials should be noted for future use. The sections devoted to competitive fruit classes are always of considerable interest and once again these serve to show the supremacy of home-grown produce. Even in such a bad apple year as we have experienced, the exhibits of this fruit are almost up to standard. The fruit packed in standard boxes or barrels is in fine condition and the colour, size and grading leave nothing to be desired in the marketing of produce. These exhibits from the various counties of England certainly show that the home country can produce good fruit and that those engaged in its production and distribution are alive to the need of marketing it in a suitable way.

The scientific exhibits, illustrating the research work which is being carried on at East Malling, Long Ashton and Campden Fruit Research Stations, forms an important feature of the Show, which all interested in fruit should notice. All the various problems connected with fruit culture and the preservation of fruit are dealt with, while attention is also directed to the many diseases met with and the necessary remedial measures to be undertaken so that healthy fruit crops may be made possible.

HAVE YOU

¶ *Made preparations for protecting your frames and tender plants during frosty weather?*

¶ *Taken into a cold greenhouse or frostproof shed your tub plants, such as hydrangeas, bay or agapanthus (African lily), which have stood out of doors during the summer?*

¶ *Protected from cold and wet by covering with pieces of glass your tender, hairy-leaved rock plants?*

¶ *Dressed with ground lime at the rate of 40z. per sq. yd. any mossy portions of your lawn?*

¶ *Pruned, cleaned and top-dressed your peach trees?*

¶ *Protected your autumn cauliflowers by snapping and bending over the surrounding leaves?*

¶ *Examined your potato store, removing all potatoes showing signs of decay?*

RESULT OF CLIMBING ROSE COMPETITION.

OUR Climbing Rose Competition has been very popular with our readers. The result of the vote is as follows:

1.—Dorothy Perkins.

2.—American Pillar.

3.—Alberic Barbier.

4.—Paul's Scarlet Climber.

5.—Excelsa.

6.—Hiawatha.

Remarkably few votes separated the first two, while the fourth and fifth were also close. No reader gave the list in proper order, but two gave the correct roses. The first prize is awarded to Miss E. V. Bray, 44, Fordington Road, Highgate, London, N.6; the second to Mr. W. T. Little, 16, Ludlow Street, Penarth, Glam. The third prize is awarded to Mr. D. L. Don, 53, Church Street, Caversham, Berks, who was next in order of merit.

The illustration in colour on the front cover has been supplied by Messrs. Sutton and Sons, of Reading, and shows some of the modern varieties of annual asters raised by this firm.

For this month's Competition see page 641

Digitized by Google

PLANTS AT THEIR BEST IN AUTUMN

Gardeners are always glad to receive information about plants that have been particularly noted in other gardens. Week by week plants that are really worth growing are described in this page.

Chrysanthemum Horace Martin.

ALTHOUGH the trade catalogues usually quote August and September as the flowering period of this chrysanthemum, I have contrived to keep a good supply of it going from the early days of September until the time of writing these notes, and even yet (the last week in October), several plants are well burdened with excellent flowers. It seems to me that chrysanthemums in October are a greater treasure than in August, and although, admittedly, we have had an exceptionally good autumn, it is worth while even to risk a possible collapse of a few plants for what may certainly be considered an even chance of securing a fine late show.

The method by which my late display was secured is perfectly simple. Cuttings were taken as soon as the old stools provided them, and in May some of the plants were transferred to a border with a south-western aspect, and others were placed near the wall of the house, facing north-west, and sheltered from east winds by a projecting porch. When the plants had made some growth in their new quarters—by mid-June—they were, with the exception of two in each batch, cut back to less than 6ins. from the ground, and thus made to produce entirely new branches.

The four mentioned were simply pinched at the points of the shoots and, of course, broke quickly. These plants gave me the first supply of bloom, and the south-west border came in to maintain a supply throughout September, those on the cooler house-border, which received only afternoon and evening sunshine, brought up the rear for an October show.

There is a distinct advantage in the choice of aspect for this batch, for during the latter half of October, when frosts occurred, the plants were screened from morning sunshine and by syringing early in the morning with cold water, a gradual thaw was ensured on two or three occasions, leaving the flowers undamaged by frost.

Horace Martin is not a new variety, but it is one of the best of yellow chrysanthemums for outdoor culture.

Violet Lloyd George.

THIS violet, under frame culture, is a flower of no particular season, but it is to be appreciated very highly for the steady persistency with which it will yield its fine blossoms during the departing autumn and advancing winter. It is not a matter of affording it heat, for in common with the rest of its family, it resents artificial warmth; the secret of heavy cropping lies in building up strong, robust plants.

The majority of failures with frame violets are due, in the first place, to late propagation, and in the second place, to covering with glass plants which have not been long enough in the frame beds to be well enough rooted to respond to the inducement to put forth flowers. The production of really good winter-flowering plants is a two-season's job. The propagation should be taken in hand during April or May, and if the young plants can be transplanted to the frames the following autumn, the lights should only be used for the purpose of sheltering them from inclement weather, and should be removed on all favourable occasions, always allowing ventilation when covering is necessary. The summer following should be devoted to feeding and strengthening the plants in readiness for a good cropping season the ensuing winter.

Of all varieties Lloyd George produces the finest and most substantial flowers, the centre being strikingly attractive. It is also a most obliging variety in the readiness with which it responds to judicious coaxing into bloom at this period of the year.

The "Chinese Lantern."

NOW that the foliage has fallen, the bright flame red of the larger of the two popular kinds of the "Chinese Lantern" (Physalis Franchetti) provides a splash of very attractive colour. Where there is a fairly large mass it is worth while leaving some stems to blaze away as long as they will, and it will be some time yet before they flicker out and leave the spot dull and colourless, but one can scarcely do this when only a few are grown, because they are so valuable for indoor decoration.

THE POPULAR "CHINESE LANTERN."
Admirable for indoor decoration.

It has rather surprised me to learn from various friends that they experience difficulty in growing Physalis Franchetti, but in some cases I have discovered that the long white roots have been planted perpendicularly in the ground. This is an error; the best plan is to open a trench 6ins. deep, level the bottom and lay the roots thinly along it. If the soil is inclined to be heavy, scatter some sharp grit among the roots, cover with soil and use any manure available as a mulch. It will do more good above than below the roots.

A Shrubby Veronica for the Rockery.

IN porous, sandy soil, made tolerably moist by incorporation of rough fibrous peat, Veronica salicornioides now wears the appearance of a particularly compact, bright golden conifer. It is very serviceable on the rockery, where something is required to vary the effect of prostrate alpines. It is a plant which seldom flowers, but that is of small account, its beauty and serviceability rest in its shrubby character and pleasing tints of yellow and bronzy green.

One cultural hint that may save disappointment in establishing purchased plants is, bury all bare stems by pegging down and packing gritty compost in between the growths right up to the fresh green growths. The buried stems will emit fine fibrous roots, and the whole clump will soon become a dense mass of beautiful fresh growth.

Dahlia Dazzle.

IT was a good name to give this miniature peony-flowered dahlia, for its colour is really dazzling when a gleam of October sunshine catches its gently waving flowers, which are borne in a crowd well above the foliage of a compact, bushy plant. Dazzle is vivid scarlet, the neat flowers having two rows of petals and a small golden disc. It came to me from Dickson and Robinson, Manchester, and is altogether a grand little flower.

A First-rate Garden Aster.

DESPITE the recently acquired wealth of beauty and variety which abounds in the modern Michaelmas daisies, we cannot afford to abandon so elegant and delightful a plant as Aster Tradescantii, for the simple reason that when practically all the rest have faded away, and become just so much fodder for the garden bonfire, this extremely graceful, pure white flower comes into its own, and provides material which demands no skill in arranging as cut flower decorations.

Aster Tradescantii should be lifted every spring, the growths being pulled carefully apart and planted singly, for it is thus that full development and blossoms of good size are secured.

A Fine British Fern.

CONNOISSEURS of British ferns will not be alarmed at the ponderous name of this real treasure, (Polystichum aculeatum pulcherrimum Bevis var.) for even in a family so rich in choice varieties as the polystichums there is none to outclass this pulcherrimum of Bevis.

Its graceful fronds are outlined with marvellous precision, and the tint of green, fresh and pleasing to the eye, is rendered the richer by a wonderful sheen as glistening as polished jade. The plant makes wonderful fronds, and at this season of the year, with growth completed and fronds undamaged by rough weather, it is more imposing and superb than many of the much esteemed exotics of the stove.

The Merryweather Damson.

Not yet has the full significance and value of this treasure among fruits been realised. The old types and varieties of damsons were trees to plant as wind screens around orchards, with the hope that some time fruit might appear; but it was certainly making poor use of garden space to plant trees of the ordinary damsons which generally delay fruiting until fifteen to twenty years of age, and seldom bear crops two years in succession.

The Merryweather is a marvel by comparison. I have seen a respectable show of fruit on a three year old "feathered" tree; I have seen the same trees crop heavily for four successive years, and in point of size the fruit bears more resemblance to the Orleans plum than to the common damson, but the distinctive flavour is well preserved. Plant the Merryweather Damson is sound advice.

A. J. MACSELF.

Digitized by Google

WHAT CAN BE DONE IN TOWN GARDENS

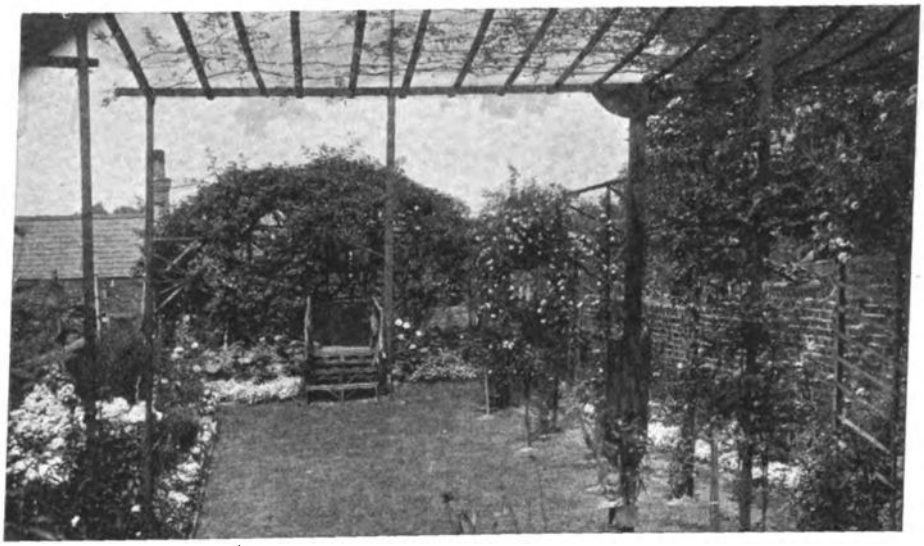
Many people imagine that plants will not grow in or near a large town, and for that reason design a garden containing more stone than plants. Such is not the case, however, as these three examples prove, taken as they are from different parts of London. All these are charming gardens with a wealth of bloom over the greater part of the year. If many amateurs who have hitherto been unsuccessful in their attempts will follow on the lines suggested here, the establishment of a pleasant little town garden will only be a matter of time.

STRICT town gardening is in a class by itself, but in many instances merges unconsciously into suburban gardening. To a certain extent, the difference between the two lies in the wider choice of plants which exists for the latter and not the former. Conditions in a town are generally different from those met with in the suburbs. There may be a lack of sunshine, which must of necessity govern the selection of plants and their arrangement and must, to a certain extent, influence the actual design. Still, the main object in every case should be to grow flowers and grass. A small well kept lawn is one of the greatest assets to any garden, and nowhere is it of more importance than in a town garden. Even although it may prove difficult to establish, persevere with it until the grass responds. Give the lawn the sunniest position there is, because it is an impossibility to produce a good lawn without sunshine. Arrange the garden on simple lines. The simpler it is, the more effective it will be. Many people advocate the placing of vases here and there in a town garden, but they are unnecessary in such a small space, and, moreover, lend that formal appearance which is cold and uninviting, a point to be avoided, especially in a small town garden.

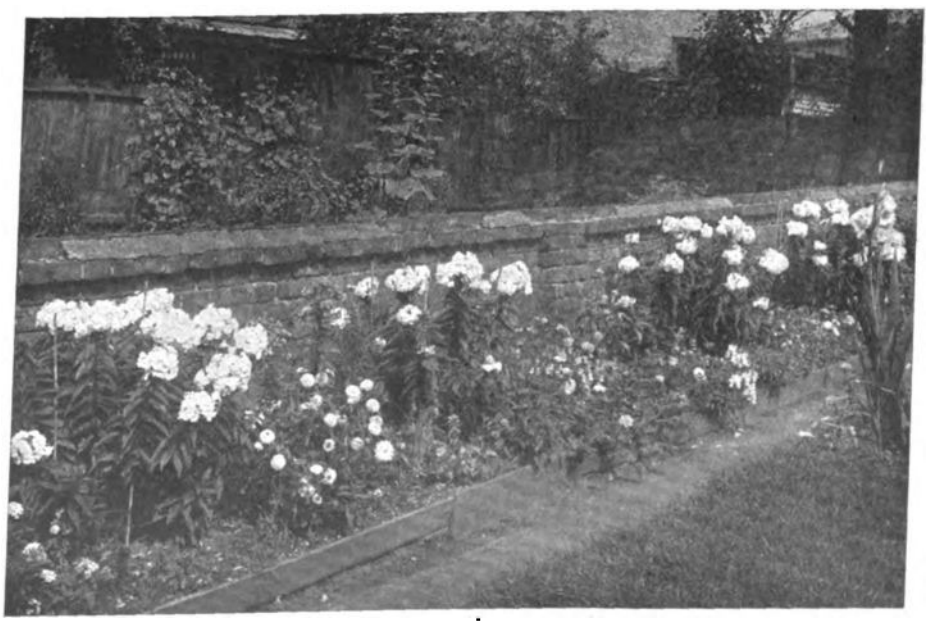
The first of these illustrations shows a pleasant garden in one of the suburban districts of London—in West Norwood, where residents are, on the whole, freer from the defects of the town than the majority. This garden has not the disadvantage of being closely surrounded with high walls of dull brick and mortar, or yet by the presence of houses immediately beside it. For that reason the owner has been allowed more freedom in his treatment of the ground and in the selection of his plants. The garden is of an average size, such as is owned by the majority of amateurs in the outlying districts of a large town. It is 100ft. long and 30ft. wide. The general arrangement is a most effective one, as can be seen from the illustration. The border plants are well grouped with regard to their height, and dwarf, compact growers, such as candytuft, blue lobelia and alyssum make up the edging, while in the rear ranks the taller-growing annuals and perennials complete an attractive scheme. Among the plants contained in the border are gladioli, phloxes of various colours, delphiniums, gaillardias, Canterbury bells, sweet williams, geums, antirrhinums, Michaelmas daisies, coreopsis (so excellent for all town gardens), chrysanthemums, scabious and roses of various kinds. The plants are all first-rate herbaceous subjects and respond well to cultivation in small spaces. They are all plants which the amateur need have no hesitation in including in any border planting scheme, and this autumn, when renovation work is being carried out and additions are being made to the border, plant a few of these, if they are not already represented, so that next year the colour display will be considerably enhanced.

The second illustration is of a small but well kept garden in south-east London, of some 70ft. long and 30ft. wide. Here, again,

A WELL ARRANGED HERBACEOUS BORDER IN A TOWN GARDEN.



A TOWN GARDEN IN WHICH ROSES PREDOMINATE.



PHLOXES RESPOND WELL TO TOWN CONDITIONS AND SHOULD BE IN EVERY TOWN GARDEN.

Digitized by Google

full use has been made of the space at the owner's disposal, and quite a host of good garden plants are housed within its limits. The owner shows a preference for roses, and on the pergola seen in the illustration many varieties of rambler roses are grown, including Hiawatha, Coronation, Blush Rambler and Albéric Barbier. In addition, many of the latest bedding varieties are grown, and such sorts as General McArthur, Ophelia, William Allen Richardson and Mme. Abel Chatenay do particularly well in this district. Quite a number of decorative herbaceous subjects have been planted to make up what is a most attractive garden.

The last garden illustrated is situated in North London, and not very far from the City. As can be seen, it is chiefly a town garden, being surrounded by houses or walls on its four sides. It is the standard type of a town garden, and receives a limited amount of sunshine owing to its walled-in position. For that reason the owner has been limited in his choice of plants and has restricted his selection in the main to phloxes, scabious and coreopsis.

The phlox responds excellently to the conditions met with here and every year magnificent heads of bloom are displayed over a period from July until September. Where any reader has a garden in a similar situation and desires a plant to give as much show and colour as possible, then the phlox is to be recommended. It does well in light soil and does not require much sunshine. In addition it is easily grown and easily propagated by cuttings or division, which makes it a plant to be valued by the keen amateur.

THE JOY OF MAKING A NEW GARDEN

BY GERTRUDE JEKYLL.

This article, with accompanying plan, suggests a design and method of planting up an area slightly larger than those previously dealt with.

THE ground on which this house stands is greater in extent than some that have lately been considered, and the house is higher in worth or rental. The gate of the path to the front door is close to that of the garage. Tradesmen enter by the garage gate and have an easy route to the kitchen door. The main house door faces nearly west and the principal window on that side looks out on to a good mass of flowering plants, backed by shrubs. If the segment of a circle here shown can have a complete backing of laurustinus, the flowers will have the best possible background; with rather taller shrubs to fill up to the hedge next to the road. The same, or other shrubs, mostly evergreen, will form a screen on the frontier side opposite the garden door. The house on that side should have a Clematis montana, which in time will cover the whole wall. Close against the house foot the planting should be mostly of small shrubs of the rosemary and lavender type and size, with solid angles of box or laurustinus.

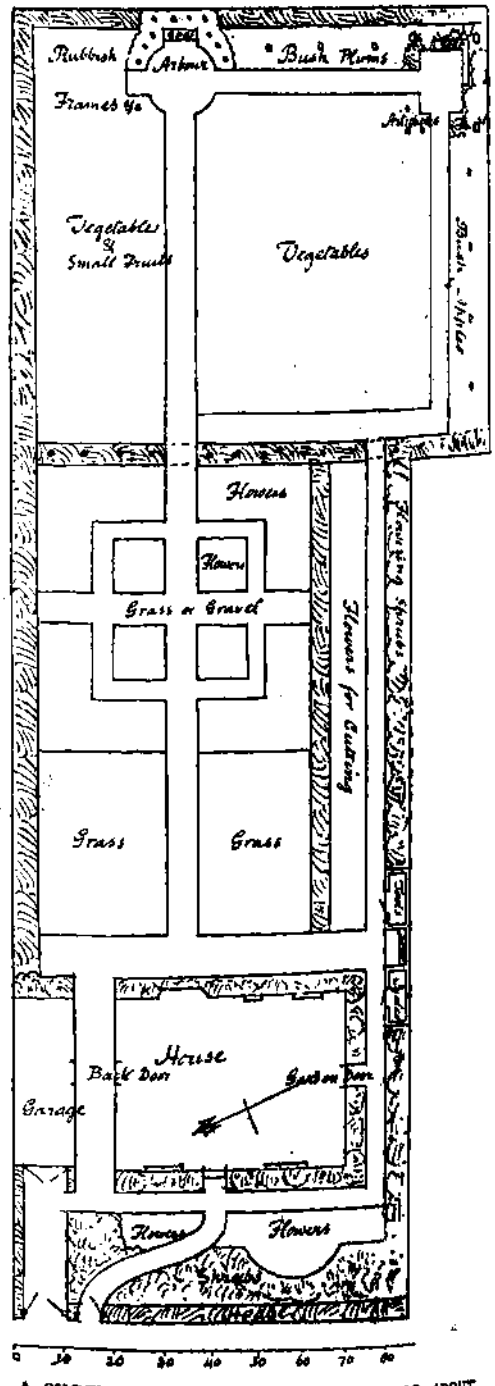
A wide path in front of the house is always desirable. A little range of useful sheds is shown at the southern end. An open space in the middle with a seat will be welcome in summer; another seat for a winter sun-trap can easily be notched into the hedge at the other end of the path, though not shown in the plan. The sheds can be framed of wood on three courses of brick, and can be cheaply roofed with corrugated iron, which requires a very slight pitch; the front and sides should be of elm weather-boarding, which soon turns to a silvery grey. A few battens across the corrugated iron and a couple of plants of the native Clematis Vitalba, will soon hide the iron roof. A front gutter will carry rainwater to a butt, handy for watering the flower border.

A main path down the garden from the principal sitting-room window passes first through a grass lawn and then to a small rectangular parterre. It is optional whether to have this with gravel paths, in which case the beds would be bordered with thin stone on edge, or, preferably, with dwarf box; or whether to have the whole on grass, with the two spaces marked "grass" in one, and doing away with the dividing path. As a matter of design this is the better way and gives a comfortable feeling of less complication. The surrounding hedges can be partly of evergreen and partly of deciduous flowering shrubs, either green holly or oval-leaved privet, with lilacs, guelder-rose and ribes. The hedge next the vegetable ground can be all of rambling roses on posts, rising from a continuous hedge of box, trimmed to something like 3ft. 6ins. high. A light chain, fixed with a staple to the top of each post and allowed to sag about 9ins. down between each post, will guide the roses into hanging garlands.

A border of useful hardy plants, marked "Flowers for cutting," and the flowering shrubs opposite will give a pleasant alternative way to the lower garden

If this is used for vegetables it may none the less have some pleasant features, such as the arbour, with its circular front space and with some slight wooden framework to support a vine, Virginia creeper, jasmine and early Dutch honeysuckle. The square also, with a seat at the south-east angle, is planned for three good shade trees, such as planes, with a square cut green box at the angles opposite the outer trees and a back filling of either common or broad-leaved laurel. There has been some feeling of objection to laurels in gardens of late, that I hope is now being overcome. I wish to point out that the laurel is one of the most beautiful and generally useful of our hardy evergreens. It has, in fact, only fallen into disrepute on account of its merits, because its docile and long suffering character has enabled it to be put to ignoble uses. In this corner if it is planted about 2ft. from the back of the seat, it can be let grow 10ft. high and the upper branches that come forward can be trimmed into a complete hood over the seat. A group of three globe artichokes, one of the handsomest of garden plants, will screen most of the vegetable ground from those using the seats.

If the owners would rather depend on the greenhouse for their supply of vegetables, and wish to give their whole space to pleasure-ground, the larger space marked "Vegetables" would come delightfully as a square green lawn with 10ft. wide flower borders outside and a grassy way out on all four sides. The narrower space marked "Vegetables and small fruits," would make a pretty garden for children.



A SUGGESTED LAY-OUT FOR AN AREA OF ABOUT HALF AN ACRE WITH THE FRONT OF THE HOUSE HAVING A WESTERN ASPECT.

Digitized by Google

FLOWER GARDEN NOTES

Sweet Williams.

IT is questionable whether sweet williams have ever been more popular than they are to-day, and this is due in a large measure to the introduction of sorts in comparatively recent years which have gained for them a deal of notice. I refer to Sutton's Pink Beauty and Sutton's Scarlet. They created a mild sensation when they were first shown by the firm, and it was not long before they became familiar tenants in many gardens. Like some other old-fashioned plants that were highly prized by florists of a former generation, sweet williams bring much pleasant colour to a garden in early summer, and they are ideal plants for an amateur to take in hand, for the reason that they are perfectly hardy, require no protection of any sort, and will grow in any fairly good soil. They like an open, sunny situation, and are to be looked upon as plants suitable for town and suburban gardens. The time of their blooming is also the period when these biennials can be sown. It should be in a bed in the open that is exposed to the sun, and when the young plants have developed their second leaf, no time should be lost in transplanting them 6ins. or 8ins. apart. In the autumn they will be ready for transference to their final quarters. In doing this, it will be found that the best display is secured if they are grouped —say, three or four plants, giving them about a foot apart. Sweet williams can also be propagated from cuttings, and these should be taken after the plants have done flowering, but as a general rule it is best to treat them as biennials and sow seed every year for blooming the following. There is no gain in permitting old plants to remain on hand, as young ones flower much better.—W. F.

Some Forms of Alumroot.

SEVERAL very fine varieties of Heuchera sanguinea are sold nowadays and growers who love a refined, graceful and free-blooming type of plant may with great pleasure secure a few. Walkeri is one of the best, a rich crimson and very free; Edge Hall is rose coloured; Pluie de Feu, a fiery red; grandiflora, a large-flowered red; and Rosamond, a coral pink—all of them delightful. The species gracillina is also good; the graceful panicles of rose tinted small flowers are of high decorative value. The popular brizoides is better known for its foliage, a prettily marked evergreen, but I like better a variety of it known as Elsie, in which the flowers are a much more distinct and striking colour. Of others I prefer Nellie, an effective spike for table decoration; Red Indian, too, must not be omitted, because nothing else in the garden has that peculiar colour; Zabeliana, another rich rosy-red of great beauty; lucida and erubescens, both fairly good whites, light, feathery and fine in vases; Heucheras like a light loam and will be found to do well in a sunny border or in the rock garden. —LANARKSHIRE.

Pinks in the Modern Garden.

THERE is scarcely any plant in the garden of lowly growth the culture and propagation of which are so simple, or one that is hardier and yields so lavishly its deliciously sweet-scented blossoms as the homely pink. Said a friend to me a few months ago, "You see, I have planted pinks as an edging; they have been glorious, and give no trouble, except to strike what cuttings I want." Exactly; that is where pinks count to-day. Provided the ground is dug where they are wanted to grow, and a little sand is incorporated with it, should it be at all heavy, one may dibble in the cuttings as soon as the flowering season is over. Cuttings are best taken at a joint where the wood is ripest, pinching off the tips of the leaves, and planting firmly. In arranging for an edging of plants near the pathway, it is important that the soil should be well dug, as very often there it is sad and heavy. Especially is this so in borders that may be fringed with spring-flowering bulbs, where, for fear of disturbing them, the soil is seldom interfered with. One advantage about pinks is that for a couple of seasons it is seldom necessary to molest them. In country gardens, pinks have ever been favourites, but they are not the special perquisites of the country, for in both suburban and town gardens the veriest tyro may succeed with them if he will only start on the lines suggested. Once cuttings have been put in and commence to grow, they need no protection; cold weather will not hurt them, and very severe frosts take little toll from them. Let me warn the new grower of allowing his plants to continue for years without working up a fresh stock. Young plants flower the best, and should be dealt with from the point of individual plants and not permitted to develop into miniature beds or "rings," which invariably means that they take up room belonging to other plants in the borders. It is when pinks are allowed to go their own way for years that the centre of the bed or "ring" begins to show sign of canker. Only from healthy, vigorous plants should one attempt to take cuttings.

Their Place in the Modern Garden.—The modern gardener is alive to the importance of growing plants to yield plenty of flowers for cutting. He will never do wrong in including pinks in his arrangements. Sorts of comparatively recent introduction are now available and have been the means of focussing attention on some of the older forms.

Varieties.—In old sorts much esteemed, one thinks of Mrs. Sinkins, a very popular one, rich in perfume and yielding flowers in plenty. It is a white, worthy of inclusion in any garden. Other good whites are Her Majesty, Albino and Fimbriata, Ernest Ladhams (blush white with carmine centre), Homer (red with dark zones) and Sam Barlow (white with centre of claret), all good.

Laced Pinks, loved of the old florists, have a more limited patronage. One thinks of old stalwarts like The Rector (white and rose) and Old Chelsea (rose and red).

Allwoodiis.—No collection of pinks to-day, however, can be considered complete if it does not include Allwoodii. The colours are delightful, the flowers are so dainty and charming, and so very freely borne withal, over a longer season than most pinks bloom, that it is a foregone conclusion they have come to stay, particularly so when we remember how hardy they are. Every year many more are won over and captivated by their beauty, so that their culture is largely on the increase. One does not need to give a long list of the sorts now in cultivation, as many hardy plantsmen stock them to-day.

The following are but a fraction of the varieties. Some are among the earlier introductions, and their prettiness warrants their retention: Peggy, mauve maroon; Lottie, salmon self; Rufus, bright rose; Maud, delicate salmon pink; Dorothy, deep rose pink; John, deep rose and maroon; Susan, pale lilac, dark centre; Eleanor, white and pink.—W. LINDERS LEA.

PINKS ARE AMONG THE FINEST OF OUR PLANTS FOR GENERAL EFFECT IN THE GARDEN.

The Shrubby Jerusalem Sages.

WE might, I consider, make more use of the phlomises, or Jerusalem sages, as they are generally of bold and uncommon appearance and add considerably to the effect of a garden when properly placed. Of the various species in cultivation some are shrubby and others herbaceous, and it is generally conceded that Phlomis fruticosa is the finest of the shrubby ones. Its hardiness is sometimes called in question, and there is no doubt that it may be tender in very cold localities. In the south-west of Scotland, even a good distance from the sea, it is hardy enough, and I have grown it successfully in a poor soil in a rather dry situation well exposed to the sun. It may be confidently recommended for southern gardens. It is a most distinct plant at all times. It forms a bush some 3ft. or 4ft.

Digitized by Google

high, as a rule, although I have seen it a little more than the latter height. It has large leaves, covered with a peculiar rusty down, which gives the plant a character of its own. Then it bears whorls of large yellow flowers, foliage and flower associating well and combining to produce the effect alluded to above. It may be employed either in the herbaceous or the shrubbery border, and in either it is quite a good plant. It should not, however, be crowded up by other plants of much the same or greater height, and it looks best rising through some low carpeting subject. It flowers during June, July and August. I may add that it does not appear to transplant readily when of any size.—S. ARNOTT.

The Decorative Bear-berry.

FOR covering unsightly corners or large stones on a rock garden this plant is recommended. It is a native of this country, being found in the north of England and Scotland, but a very fine form of this species is known as Arctostaphylos californica, which hails from western America. It is a trailing evergreen of somewhat vigorous growth, with small, leathery leaves and white flowers which appear during July and August. Its chief beauty, however, will be found in the red berries, which are freely produced, and they are exceptionally bright from September onwards. To be seen to the best advantage it should be planted on an elevated position, when its long, trailing, evergreen growths will gracefully drape a rugged and perhaps an ugly rock. It is also well adapted for covering isolated stones on the outskirts of the rock garden. This plant is readily increased from cuttings, layers and seeds.—B.

A White-Berried Shrub.

IN Hymenanthera crassifolia we have a shrub which attains a height of 4ft. to 5ft., and often twice as much through owing to its low-growing habit. It is most conspicuous among berried shrubs on account of its white berries. These are produced in profusion, and remain on the plant during the autumn and well into the winter months. The branches are rather stiff and somewhat angular, these being covered with ash-coloured bark, while the inconspicuous flowers are brownish in colour. The leaves are thick and leathery, about ½in. long and very numerous. It is, however, its beauty as a berried shrub that makes it noteworthy, and it is interesting to know that it belongs to the Natural Order Violaceæ, therefore is a relation of the pansy and viola. This plant is quite hardy, and can be increased by cuttings or seeds. It is a native of New Zealand, and was introduced about 1875.—T. W. B.

Wallflowers: The Most Effective Way of Planting.

IN most gardens where plants for a spring display are grown, wallflowers are now looked upon as not the least important, their diversity of colour coupled with their sweetness gaining for them hosts of admirers. Opinions differ, possibly, as to what is the best plan to adopt in November when the bulk of plants are removed to their final quarters, but it seems to me, if one desires the most pleasing and effective results, this is only obtained when they are planted out in groups of separate colours. From a mixed packet of seed one can have plants, vigorous and with half the trouble in keeping each colour group to itself, but for the sake of trouble it is worth while ensuring the charm and distinctness in a garden by growing varieties by themselves.

For a number of years I have followed the colour grouping plan, and as the wallflowers bloom contemporarily with May-flowering tulips, which are also planted in little colonies of one colour, the result, to me, is much more satisfactory than any mixed arrangement could possibly be. The sorts I have planted this autumn are Purple Queen, Faerie Queen, Eastern Queen, interspersed between glowing colours of Blood Red, Cloth of Gold, Sutton's Orange Bedder, and Sutton's Fire King. The last named is one of the most vivid tinted wallflowers of recent years and never fails to excite the admiration of those seeing it for the first time. If I am asked to describe its exact colour, I suppose I should have to say that it is an orange red, but that would give a poor and inadequate idea, as, seen with the sunlight streaming upon it, the spikes of bloom are a warm, glowing mass—a fire colour, if you will. To see it at its finest it is undoubtedly the best plan to plant out in groups, and my long experience with these, the sweetest of spring flowers, prompts me to say the same about the older sorts too.—W. LINDERS LEA.

AUTUMN TREATMENT OF RAMBLER ROSES

ALTHOUGH it is generally known that rambler roses should have some of their old growths cut out in autumn, there are quite a number of novices who seem to be uncertain how to proceed with this work.

It will not do to treat all ramblers alike. There are practically two distinct types, those of the multiflora group, such as the old Crimson Rambler and Blush Rambler, and those of the Wichuraiana group, such as Albéric Barbier.

With the multiflora group it is best to cut out most of the old wood each year, as they produce finer trusses of blossom on the rods or growths made during the current summer. It may not be practicable to do this the first year, unless the plant has made good new shoots, but as the plants age then there will be no difficulty. It sometimes happens that an old growth will produce a young vigorous shoot some 3ft. or 4ft. from the base, in which case it would be folly to cut away the old growth.

In dealing with the Wichuraiana hybrids, perhaps I should explain that these are readily recognised by their longer and more slender growths, very willowy in appearance, and usually having lovely glistening foliage. The two and three year old growths of this tribe are frequently in a very healthy condition, and there can be no excuse to cut them away excepting for want of space. For instance, one may see a house or wall completely covered with a single plant of Albéric Barbier, and the plant seems so full of vitality that it would be folly to curb its activity by removing old wood. As soon as there appears a sign of deterioration or weakness in growths springing from the old wood, then this latter must be cut away. It is when ramblers are growing upon arches or pergolas that strict watch must be kept upon them, or we find there will be no young shoots produced from the base, and very soon we shall have an unsightly tree. To guard against this, it should be a practice to cut away the old wood freely, especially that which emanates from the base of the plant. By so doing we encourage new shoots to maintain the juvenile condition of things. One should not cut away an old growth if by so doing a bare space is left. There are

A WELL GROWN RAMBLER ROSE.

some of the Wichuraiana roses, such as Paul's Scarlet and American Pillar, that more nearly resemble the multiflora group in their somewhat rigid habit, and to these we must apply the more drastic cutting out of old wood. In removing this old wood, cut down as close to the ground as possible then in course of time we shall be rewarded by fine strong basal shoots that will carry on the flowering.

It should be remembered that finer trusses of bloom are obtained from the new shoots retained, and it is unnecessary to have too many of these shoots on one plant. Three or four good strong rods produce a finer display than a whole host of small twiggy shoots.

This thinning-out process may be done at once—in fact, it is a good plan to carry it out as soon as the flowering of each particular variety is finished. Although that is not always practicable owing to more urgent claims on our time, the earlier it is done in autumn the better; then the young growths retained are assisted in their ripening by the more abundant air and sunshine admitted to them.

I should point out that the amateur must not make the mistake of cutting the lateral growths now. This must be done in March. If an old growth or two are retained, having good strong laterals, these laterals, if cut back in March, will yield far finer trusses than if left long or even unpruned, as is too often the case. If there was a more severe pruning of these lateral growths we should see far less mildew and insect pests which despoil so many ramblers in the average garden.

When rambler roses are budded upon tall briars to form "weeping" or "shower" roses, their pruning should be on similar lines. As soon as flowering is over, cut back old wood close to the crown of the tree. Probably by this time the new growths are not fully developed, but by late autumn they will have grown abundantly in length. W. E.

Digitized by Google

THE BUSY MAN'S PAGE

Dual-Purpose Apples.

HERE is a short selection of apple varieties which are suitable for dessert as well as culinary purposes.

Annie Elizabeth.—This variety is not so well known as it should be. Generally classed as a cooker, it is quite good for dessert purposes in April and May. A strong, upright grower and a regular cropper. The fruit is large, round, oblong and of golden yellow colour when ripe, with a bright flush on the exposed side.

Beauty of Kent.—The fruit is large, conical, striped red on a yellow ground. The flesh is tender and with an acid flavour. It is a strong grower and a good cropper. Season November–March.

Blenheim Orange.—One of the best known of all apples. It is sometimes shy bearing when young. It is a strong grower and makes huge spreading trees. The colour is yellow, striped and flushed with red and russet. Season November–January.

Charles Ross.—Although a cooker, it will keep for dessert at Christmas-time. Only very large or malformed fruit should be used in the kitchen. The flesh is tender, sweet and of good flavour.

Cox's Pomona.—A large flat apple, streaked and flushed red. One of the most prolific of apples. Its season is from October to February.

Duchess of Oldenburgh.—This is quite a useful variety for culinary or dessert purposes. It is an early apple, its season lasting from August to September. The striped fruit is handsome, but rather small. This variety bears well.

Gascoyne's Scarlet.—Large, oblong, attractive fruit of rich crimson. The flesh is tender and crisp. Season December–February.

Newton Wonder.—This variety is most useful in the kitchen, but can be used for dessert in March. The fruit is of medium size, round, flushed and striped with scarlet. Very heavy cropper, strong and vigorous grower. Flesh crisp and acid. Season, December–May.

The Window Garden.

DURING the rapidly shortening hours of daylight from November onward, window plants need all the light they can get, but due protection must be given from frost if it is likely to be severe. A few sheets of newspaper make a good frost shield, if placed between the plants and the glass. Paper is also useful to give some protection from cold draughts when the window is open.

Airing is necessary. Even in the coldest weather the plants should have a little fresh air. In very mild weather the plants may be given a shower bath, in the form of a fine spray. Palms and other foliage plants may be lightly sponged.

During very severe frost, it is advisable to remove tender flowers from the window and place them on a chair, or on the floor, with some tissue paper thrown over them. With such treatment at night and by keeping the plants as near the glass as can be done with safety during the day, a very choice selection of fine window plants may easily be grown.

Watering at this season must be done with care and attention. Only when the plants are really in need of water should any be given during frosty weather. Stagnant water must not be allowed to stand in the saucers. Watering is best done during the early part of the day and tepid water should always be used. In potting use a good fibrous loam, with some fine peat or leaf mould, well rotted manure, and just enough sand to suit the soil used.—J. W.

Crocuses in Grass.

EVEN the middle of November is not too late to plant many of the spring-flowering bulbs, and as these can often be procured at a cheaper rate now than earlier in the season, larger quantities can be afforded.

To secure the best effect in grass, crocuses should be scattered in handfuls and planted

CROCUSES ESTABLISHED IN GRASS.

where they fall, carefully replacing the turf after planting. By following this method a natural effect is obtained. Plant 4ins. deep, and if it is possible to place some good soil in the holes along with the corms so much the better. One colour by itself, or, at the most, two together, is to be preferred to a general mixture of shades. Crocuses should only be planted where there is no objection to leaving the grass unmown until after the foliage has died away.—T. H. E.

A Good Bedding Arrangement.

THE following is a good plan for obtaining a continuity of bloom with a minimum expenditure of labour and cash.

Prepare a bed in the autumn by deeply digging and if the soil is of a light nature, work in a good layer of well rotted manure, if of a heavy texture, use some lighter material, such as strawy manure or leaf soil. Any time before December plant bulbs of Spanish iris at a distance of 9ins. apart, and either in the autumn or spring according to the locality and situation, plant a carpeting of violas. Yellow violas go well with blue iris or *vice versa*. Choose a suitable opportunity between mid-March and mid-April and plant corms of the beautiful primulinus hyb alternately with the iris.

The iris make a splendid sho then follows a brief period whe have the field to themselves an gladioli give of their best. The iris should be allowed to die down they may then be used success H. E.

Double White Arabis Pot Plant.

UNTIL the advent of the dou arabis, the idea of potting u sort for bringing into bloom ea thought of, but A. albida fl. pl spikes of bloom lends itself to and if subjected to the shelter of one may have the flowers in adva out of doors. Young plants from cuttings last spring after th had bloomed will be found co potting up forthwith. Any li suffice and the better plan is to p a cold frame or cold greenhous have established themselves. forcing this arabis is not s anything like a great heat woul object; rather is it better to lu into bloom by introducing them warmth. The spikes come a under glass, and may, if need them more erect, be tied to thin which is all the support requi should be kept on a shelf not from the glass, and not allowed water once the buds show.—W

Reviving Frosted P

EVEN where great care is e possible that, now and th have to deal with a frosted pla dejected the specimen may look times safe to assume that it Save in extremely cold weathe rarely killed outright by one fros if the subject is left alone, or t wrong way, it will almost certai if the right measures are pro there is no reason why it should One has heard of people who t a frosted plant by giving it This brings about a too rapi the cell contents, with results t trous. A safe plan is to soak t pot with the coldest water If this is only a few degrees a point, so much the better. D to make the soil thoroughly sprinkle water freely over the put the plant in a cool place, s house, where there is no actual In most cases, after a few hou men will be showing definite si

Plants that have been frost certain amount of care afterw account should they be allowed a second freezing, as they are th difficult to recover. If possibl there is a definite recovery, rem into a warm growing atmosphe may get the better of the sodd pot. Do not attempt to cut th until a week or so after the free time it will be possible to rem that the frost has actually de of these should be removed as, remain, rotting trouble will s affected parts, and this may healthy parts. Of course, in s cutting may have to be very practically the whole of the ground has to be removed. part of the stem is untouched, men will often grow with gre later date.—L. B.

Digitized by Google

rid gladioli

w in June,
h the violas
d later the
and gladioli
naturally as
ve years.—

as a

ble form of
p the single
rly was not
with erect
pot culture,
a greenhouse
nce of those
propagated
e old plants
nvenient for
ght soil will
lace them in
e until they
The idea of
ggested, as
d defeat the
re the plants
n to a slight
pure white
be to keep
dwarf sticks,
red. Plants
far removed
to want for
F.

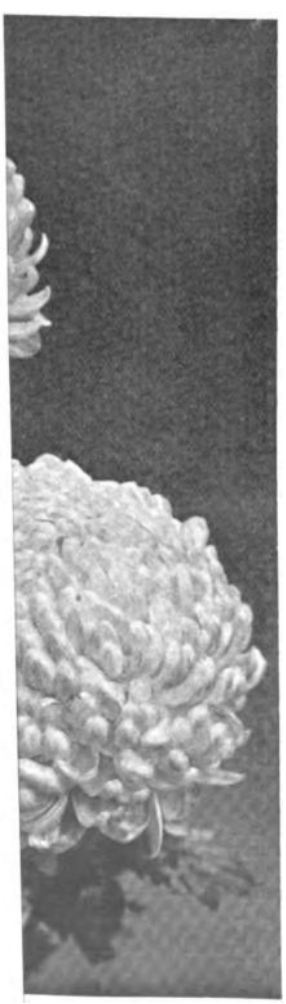
Plants.

kercised it is
en, one may
ht. However
, it is some-
is not dead.
r, plants are
t. Of course,
reated in the
nly die; but
mptly taken,
not be saved.
ried to revive
warm water.
l thawing of
hat are disas-
he soil in the
you can get.
bove freezing
not hesitate
wet, and also
foliage. Now
ich as an out-
risk of frost.
rs, the speci-
gns of revival.
ed require a
ards. On no
to experience
en much more
ic, as soon as
ove the plant
re, so that it
en soil in the
e plant about
zing. By this
ove any parts
stroyed. All
if allowed to
art from the
spread to the
me cases the
drastic and
plant above
If the main
such a speci-
t vigour at a

OF BABY JACK, A SMALL-FLOWERED SINGLE VARIETY. ERS FREELY DURING NOVEMBER. IT SHOULD BE . GREENHOUSE TREATMENT

SOME MODERN CHR

Few of our autumn or winter flowering plants give such a long display of bloom or are so useful as the chrysanthemums. Early border varieties first show their bloom in August, mid-season types are at their best in the cold greenhouse during October and November, while in a warm greenhouse the last flowers of the late-flowering Japanese varieties do not fade until the second or third week in January. Modern varieties are almost as varied in form as the dahlia, and these newer introductions are of clear, bright self colours, as well as combinations of most artistic shades of bronze and gold, rosy mauve and purple, and apricot yellow and rose. Early-flowering types, which consist of both single and double varieties, will bloom outside from August onwards. Among the doubles are Lichfield Bronze, Nina Blick (orange red), Phœnix (scarlet bronze), Pluie d'Argent (white), September Yellow, Pink Profusion and Harvester (amber). A few good early-flowering singles are Niobe (yellow), John Woolman (pink); Shrapnel (terra-cotta), Doreen Woolman (flame), and Stanley Baldwin (deep crimson).



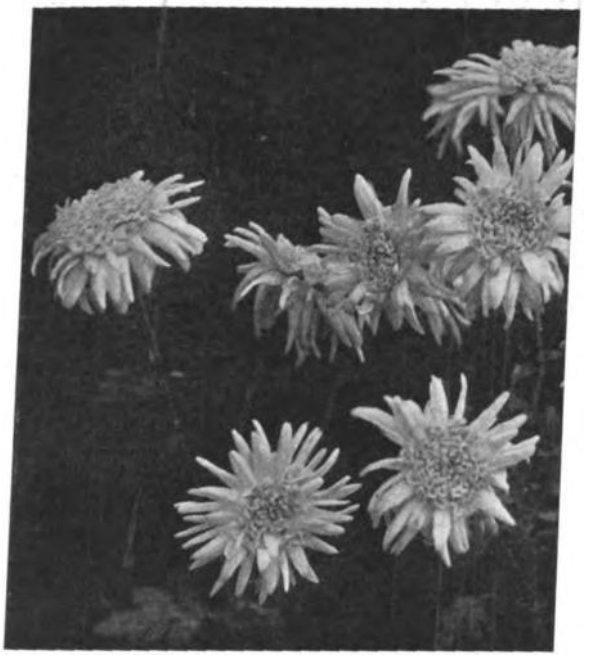
IUM OF PERFECT FORM.

MARGUERITE CLARKE, A DAINTY ROSE PINK POMPON.

Digitized by Google

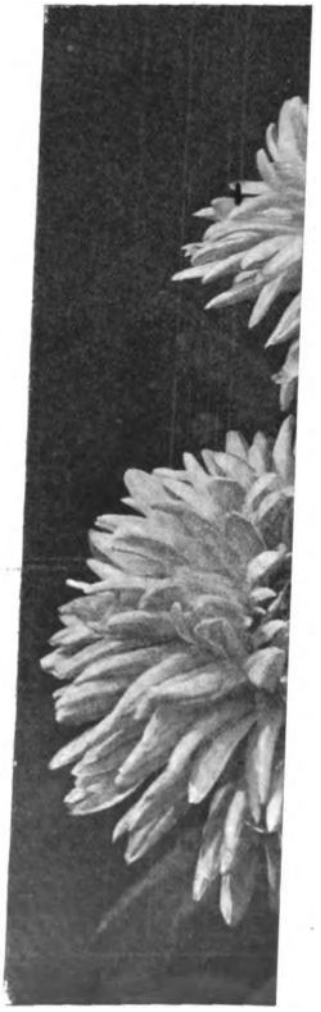
OME CHRYSANTHEMUMS

Early pompons, with their dainty little button-like flowers, are also suitable for a border outside. The next chrysanthemums to flower are the mid-season decorative varieties. These are best grown out of doors during the summer months and then lifted and planted in a cold greenhouse. Cranfordia is a well known bronzy yellow, Source d'Or a terracotta, and these, with Yellow Moneymaker and Uxbridge Pink, are all easily grown. From November onwards chrysanthemums in heated houses begin to bloom. Decorative Japanese varieties, which can be grown for large blooms or left as sprays, form the largest class. New varieties, such as Aldyth, Harmony and The Wizard are striking in colour. Some of the modern single varieties are of immense size, with long reflexed petals, and are remarkably wide in colour range. Baby Jack is one of the small-flowered kinds, R. Blyth, Molly Godfrey and Charming are three of the best large-flowered varieties. Incurved varieties and large exhibition varieties, with their huge heavy heads of bloom, need careful culture and always attract considerable attention.



A BEAUTIFUL ROSY MAUVE ANEMONE-FLOWERED S
THE RECENT INTRODUCTIONS OF THIS TYPE ARE M
FOR CUTTING IN SPRA

MRS. W. E. CATLOW, A LARGE-FLOWERED SINGLE.



JAPANESE VARIETIES

Broad B

THE broa
that is
and cold wi
There is or
should gua
moisture.
logged, soi
colour and
the spring.
should be
in, preferal
early crops
aspect bord
to devote a
from these
a long sup
Failing a n
in the oper
but trench
it from 6in
depth of
course, find
7ins. apart
the latter
beds in wet
3ins. deep.
in red lea
Sow early
form tiny
when the
sprinkle dr
ensure dryn
the soil cru

After the

SO many
that ha
is more or
form of red
condition t
down" aft
needs a h

PLACING
AROUND

vitality. I
gets a rest,
than its enc
ment of n
soil may or
ment, but
he assists
extra food.
of well rott

Digitized by Google

THE FRUIT AND KITCHEN GARDEN

eans.

d bean plant is fairly hardy, , it will withstand much frost nds, and thrives in a heavy loam. e weak point and the cultivator d against it, namely, stagnant Grown in such, practically water- l the plants assume a yellow fail to set their earliest flowers in The plants are deep-rooting and grown in trenched ground and ply, a warm position to ensure of pods. Where warm, south- lers are available it is advisable small plot to broad beans, then nd the plants in the open quarters ply of beans will be obtained. aturally warm border, sow seeds n parts of garden or allotment, the soil and heavily manure s. below the surface to a total 6ins., as the roots will, in due all the manure. Sow the seeds n double rows in shallow trenches, being formed on slightly raised soils, and cover the seeds almost Damp the seeds and roll them d where rats are troublesome. sorts and draw up some soil to idges on both sides of the row young plants appear. Later, y ashes among the plants, they ess and prevent the frosts making st like cement.

Fruit is Gathered.

people forget the fact that a tree as borne a heavy crop of fruit less exhausted and needs some uperation—that it is in a similar that of the human who is "run r a spell of hard work and who liday and good food to restore

A MULCH OF STRAWY MANURE THE ROOTS OF A FRUIT TREE.

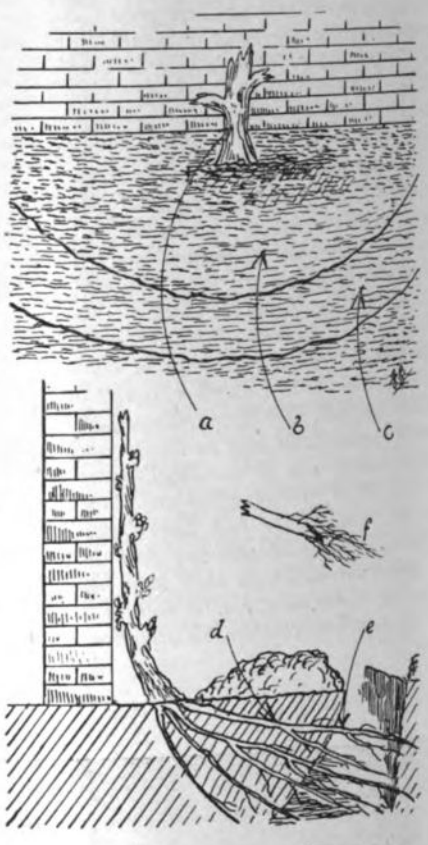
n the case of the tree it never for no sooner has the fruit matured rgies are centred upon the develop- ext season's fruiting buds. The may not provide adequate nourish- the fruit grower will be wise if recuperation by giving the tree This is best effected by a mulch ed manure or a mixture of strawy material, poultry or other manure, soot and wood-ashes. It is true that the leaves fallen from the tree have provided Nature's mulch, but the tree will be all the better for the additional manurial material. Old soot and ashes from the smudge fire can be beneficially applied alone and lightly forked into the soil for a few feet around the tree, especially where there are plenty of leaves to dig in as well.

The Earliest Peas.

THE treatment of these is very much like that of the broad bean, but the young plants need more care in their raising and general treatment, through a severe winter. For this reason a brief separate note is devoted to their culture. In some gardens the soil is, naturally, a heavy, cold, clayey loam. Where such obtains, the cultivator must go to a little extra trouble in procuring rotted leaf-soil and such as is turned out of pots and plant boxes. All this material should be collected and passed through a 1in. mesh sieve. The ordinary garden soil is prepared in the usual way, but where the rows of peas are to be, it should be raised about 3ins. above normal level. Open out shallow drills quite 6ins. wide; scatter a layer of sifted compost in the drill, sow the seeds—after rolling them in red lead—1in. apart, cover them 2ins. deep and place a layer of ashes, not too fine, on the surface. Just bury them from sight with the sifted soil before adding the garden loam. Draw up soil to each drill and forthwith stick the rows, using, at this stage, only the dwarf sticks. Later on, if the frosts are severe after the plants are well up, stick also with a few evergreen branches, especially on the north and east sides. Only early round-seeded varieties should be sown, as even the earliest wrinkled-seeded sorts will rot in the soil. Of course, the warmest spot in the garden is not too good for our few rows of early peas.

Preparing Specimen Fruit Trees on Walls for Lifting and Root-Pruning

FRUIT trees, in some soils, grow normally and bear fruits freely without any special attention being devoted to them. Others grow slowly and require good feeding, while there are some that make very strong growth and do not fruit satisfactorily. Space on walls is too valuable to be wasted and so every specimen fruit tree occupying such space should be so managed that it will be a profitable one. Owing to the fact that nearly all the roots grow at right angles from the wall, root-pruning should not prove to be a difficult operation. Operation it is, and there is only one right way of carrying it out. November is a suitable month in which to do the work, but it may be commenced late in October. If growers, who intend to root-prune some of their unsatisfactory trees, will carefully examine the accompanying sketches the latter will be helpful to them. The stem of tree at 1ft. above soil level, *a*, measures 4ins. across, it is, perhaps, ten years old. The distance from the wall to the edge of the proposed trench should be approximately 3ft., shown at *b*. The width of the trench, *c*, should be 18ins. to allow the workman ample space to move in. At *d*, the roots are shown growing in a downward direction, and almost fibreless. When the trench is being opened—in a slanting direction under the roots—the strongest, shown at *e*, should be cut off with the aid of a sharp knife. All small, or fibrous roots bared must be retained intact and be kept moist while they are exposed to the air. Immediately the root cutting is finished the trench should be filled up with the original soil taken out and some nice gritty loam added. In the case of all stone fruits it will be beneficial to the trees if some old mortar rubble is also mixed with the soil. Failing mortar rubble, use half a bushel of slaked and cooled lime, dried and broken, so that it can be evenly mixed with the soil generally. Make the new soil



very firm by treading as it is put into the trench. The ends of the cut-back roots should afterwards become furnished with fibrous ones in great numbers as shown at *f*, then the grower can readily feed his trees and so cause them to form fruit buds and fine fruits. If any specimen trees are to be lifted and replanted in a new position it is best to trench round them this autumn; sever some of the strongest roots and refill the trench. Next autumn the tree may be successfully moved.

The Morello Cherry.

THE Morello cherry is a tree which grows luxuriantly, more particularly in sites that are not suitable for the general run of fruit trees. It is invariably advocated as a suitable tree for north aspects; it also does exceedingly well in east borders which are often looked upon as hopeless for fruits. The fruits of the Morello are of an acid nature and not readily attacked by feathered marauders, so that it is a fairly safe crop where growers are troubled with these voracious pests. When planting the trees about this time do not omit to trench the ground to a good depth and to bury plenty of leaf-mould and soft rubbish in the second spit; also give a fair dressing of good manure or manure substitute to the upper spit. Lime the ground well also. Chalk or carbonate of lime is better than quicklime, but slaked lime weathered for a few days can be used. Lime is most essential to this fruit. Established trees repay kindly treatment in regard to annual manuring. Small trees from the nursery will carry fruit the first year, but this should be picked off to get good growth established.

Digitized by Google

FLOWERS UNDER GLASS

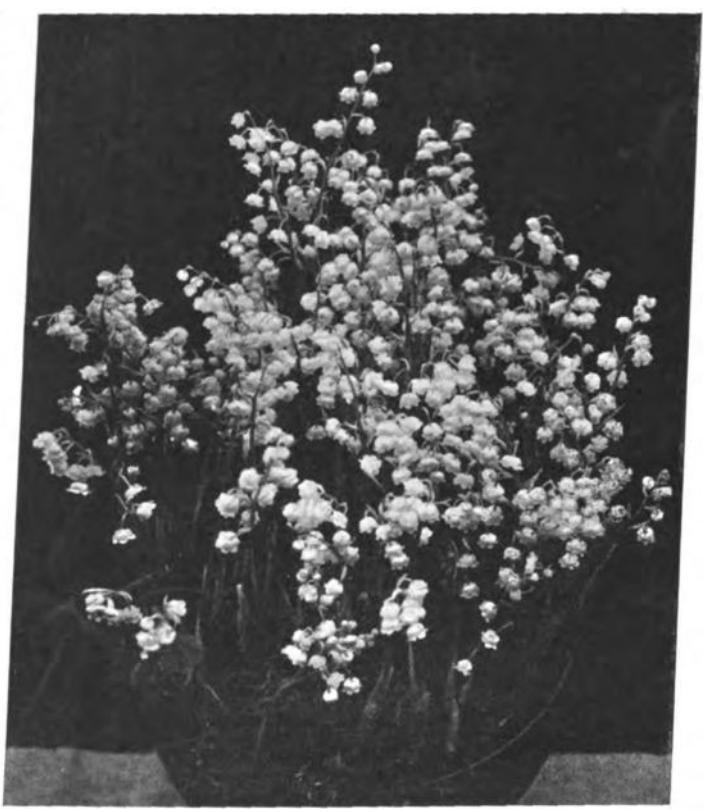
Growing Retarded Lilies of the Valley.

QUITE a number of people hardly realise the ease with which retarded lily of the valley "crowns" (as the roots are called) may be grown. Of course, these roots, which would in the natural way have grown last spring, have been kept back in a refrigerator and will rapidly break into flower and leafage even in the temperature of an ordinary living room. A few of these retarded crowns form an interesting addition to the room garden and with ordinary care, success is certain.

For many years the writer has grown a few batches for Christmas, and a few hints from his personal experience may be helpful. The crowns may be grown in soil, but fibre is cleaner and quite as satisfactory. Pots are better than bowls on account of the free drainage which they give to the plants. Spread the thick roots out as much as possible when planting, and allow the pink shoots at the top to be quite clear of the fibre. If the fibre is moist at the start, do not give any water for a few days. Keep the pots in some well shaded place for ten days or a week. If the temperature is well maintained the crowns will by this time have started. Then the plants can be removed to a lighter position, but it is a mistake to stand them in a sunny window. Lilies of the valley are naturally shade lovers, and they are apt to be rather stunted and poor when the light is very strong.

As the lilies grow, more water will be required. Always give this lukewarm, as absolutely cold water will impose a severe check on the plants. The way in which the lilies develop their flowers and foliage is almost magical, and those who have not grown retarded crowns before will be surprised and pleased.

If planting for any special occcasion, such as Christmas, some thought should be given to the time which is to be allowed for growth. In a living-room it is easy to have the lilies in full beauty six weeks from the time of planting, and often the period is several days less than this. One thing is to be guarded against, and that is never allow the lilies to be exposed to draughts or really cold air. The writer used to remove his lilies to the kitchen during the night, as here the temperature was sure to be well maintained.—S. L. B.



A BOWL OF LILIES OF THE VALLEY MAKES ONE OF THE MOST CHARMING OF INTERIOR DECORATIONS.

Violets in Frames.

IT cannot be said that the culture of violets in frames outside the profesional domain finds many adherents. Amateurs, I think, rather begrudge giving them such a shelter, preferring to use their frames for wintering half-hardy plants that will serve them another summer. In view of the simple requirements of these exquisitely scented flowers, it is a pity that more do not make an attempt to provide accommodation during their period of blooming, for that is practically all they ask in the way of glass protection. Then, again, one meets with those who persist in looking upon them as less than hardy, and so when they have removed their clumps to frames, forget to give them abundance of air whenever the weather serves, and, consequently, damping off takes place rapidly, and their view about growing violets in frames undergoes a change and they become disheartened. This is not an imaginary picture, but one which may be seen almost every season. It is well perhaps at this date to refer briefly to methods which, if carried out, lead to success. Runners of violets should be taken in April from crowns that have flowered. These should be planted in a bed 12ins. or even 18ins. apart in soil in which some well rotted manure and leaf-mould has been incorporated. It is important to note that the best position is on the north side of the garden, but not necessarily among other flowering plants, as one can often find a spot between vegetables that will serve admirably, as, for instance, between rows of runner beans or peas, where sufficient shade is secured.

In shifting the clumps in September as much soil as is possible should be lifted also in order to disturb the roots as little as possible, and after giving them a soaking of water, shade ought to be afforded them should the weather be sunny, the main idea being to avoid a check. A free current of air both top and bottom in frames where violets are located is essential, and in watering the plants it should be done in the morning, at the same time removing all dead and decaying leaves, stirring the surface of the bed and so avoiding the continuance of damp. In a rainy period when the lights are kept on the question of ventilation must not be overlooked, and a little sulphur dusted about the plants will act as an astringent and do much towards keeping the plants free from damping off. For the encouragement of the tyro, however, who may be disheartened at seeing some of his plants losing their leaves owing to damp, it may be said that violets have such recuperating powers that new leaves soon follow, and though blossoms may be retarded for a time, they come eventually. In the spring, when flowers have gone, the work of propagation should be got on with, selecting the first runners. While plants are in frames all such runners should be discouraged during the blooming season.

Sorts worth recommending are: *Doubles.*—Comte de Brazza, white; Marie Louise, mauve; Neapolitan, lavender blue; and Mrs. J. J. Astor, pale rose. *Singles.*—La France, violet blue; Princess of Wales, purple blue; White Czar; and Admiral Avellan, reddish mauve.—CLAREMONT.

Storing Summer Bedding Plants for the Winter.

WHEN we look at our flower borders from time to time during the summer months we do not always think about the winter treatment of many of the plants.

Such kinds as zonal pelargoniums may be safely laid in in a cold frame or even at the foot of a wall or fence for a few days and be quite safe there if covered at sunset each day. In the meantime the pot-grown plants can be dealt with. In these days when many beds are made to resemble groups of plants, formerly seen so placed in our greenhouses, the subjects are mostly retained in their pots intact. So it is only necessary to lift the pots from the soil. Many will have produced roots through the drainage holes in the pots or over the rims. Such roots will be sacrificed in due time; do not remove them at the time of lifting. Usually, these plants may be placed in a shed for a week or so. Each morning syringe the pots and protruding roots. Mostly the plants will be those of fuchsias, lemon-scented verbena, scented-leaved geraniums, abutilons, heliotrope, plumbago and bougainvillea. If convenient, transfer the abutilons and heliotrope to a greenhouse temperature as soon as possible. Then there are the bulbs and tuberous-rooted subjects; these should be lifted with both tops and some soil adhering to them. At once place them in boxes in rows, laying down all tubers facing one way, the tops in the opposite direcion. The ideal place for these plants for about one month is a peach-house with plenty of ventilation, a cold frame, also freely ventilated and matted at night, or an open, dry shed where mats can be placed on the tubers at night. In the meantime the energetic worker is engaged in completing the planting of the beds with bulbs and spring-flowering subjects. He should then turn his attention to the temporarily stored plants and tubers. Zonal pelargonium leaves and stems soon decay if overcrowded, so these should be dealt with first. Strip off all the large leaves, shorten the roots, have some dry soil sifted, crock some large pots, place quite half a dozen old plants in a 9in. pot and fill up with the fine soil. Treat the fuchsias, verbena and bougainvillea, also the plumbago, in a similar way, fewer plants to a pot if necessary. Water thoroughly once, then store in a peach-house. Very little water will be needed during the winter months.

Digitized by Google

WHAT OUR READERS SAY

PERENNIAL SCABIOUS.

SIR,—"E. S." asks if any reader has tried the experiment of keeping scabious for a third year. In this garden, on the Sussex coast, I have come to look upon the scabious as quite good perennials and I have several plants which are now five years old and are still going strong. However, after the third year the root stock becomes woody and is apt to rot during a wet winter like the last. The old plants start to flower at the end of June and, in a favourable season, continue well into November. When going over the borders in autumn, I cut down the plants to within about 8ins. from the ground and leave them where they are, forking around them and keeping a look-out for self-sown seedlings, which, when found, are transplanted.

Some time ago a correspondent threw doubts on the perennial qualities of Geum Mrs. Bradshaw. I have some plants of this which are more than ten years old and which are the picture of health; with me it is one of the most reliable of perennials. On the other hand on this ground, a somewhat heavy loam, I can never rely on a lupin after the second year, unless divided and planted in fresh ground.—H. R. HANNAY, *East Sussex.*

A VARIETY OF BEAUTIFUL HABIT.

THE MODERN DELPHINIUM.

SIR,—In the issue of THE GARDEN, dated October 9th, on page 567, there appears an illustration of a Delphinium which you describe as "The Stately Delphinium." I cannot resist sending you the two accompanying illustrations of what I should describe as "Modern Delphiniums."

The first variety illustrated is known as Welsh Fairy, a blue self with a small black eye. The plant has a fine habit, and there appears to be a great deal of "wire" in the composition of the stem of this plant as in a primulinus gladiolus. It will blow about with the wind and will come back to the same place without breaking. The second plant carries violet flowers with a soft brown eye. It has a good habit but the "pips" are not sufficiently large.—WATKIN SAMUEL, *Wrexham.*

ERICA ST. KEVERNE AS AN EDGING.

SIR,—In your issue of October 16th you recommend Erica St. Keverne as an edging plant, a suggestion which, I am sure, has only to be acted on to be appreciated by many who have never thought of heaths in this connection.

I have vivid memories (alas, thirty odd years old), of the gardens of Carradale House, Argyllshire, the extensive paths of which were edged with a close-growing white Erica vagans and anything more delightful and durable for the purpose I have not seen since.

St. Keverne or Mrs. D. F. Maxwell, both of which do well here, would add the charm of their excellent colour, but getting stock quickly enough is my trouble.—GEORGE L. CRAIG, *Thongsbridge.*

THE TREE OF LIFE.

SIR,—When I was in the West Indies I picked some branches of the tree of life, left them lying about, without water, in my cabin coming home, and then picked off some leaves and laid them on the mantelpiece. They all started to grow well, making quite good shoots without water. I then potted them and grew them like geraniums, but mine never flowered. A friend who was with me, after potting, put hers in a stove, and the heat made them flower splendidly and very effective they were. I do not know the correct name, it is always known as the Tree of Life in the Barbadoes.—N. S. C., *Godstone.*

DOUBLE POLYANTHUS AND DOUBLE PRIMROSES.

SIR,—For some time past there has been steadily growing an awakening of interest in old-world plants and more especially in the old-fashioned primroses and polyanthus—learnedly classified, and usually many absent, under the head of primulas. I venture to write on this subject as Ireland was the home of many old-time favourites and is now nearly the last stronghold of many of them, owing, I think, to our soft, mild climate. I have been able to

A PLANT OF GOOD HABIT, BUT THE "PIPS" ARE NOT SUFFICIENTLY LARGE.

make a small collection and it may be of interest to describe some of them. First, I hold the least important, but nevertheless quaint and interesting, Hose-in-Hose, with one flower tube inside. Another of these in primroses I have is white (or rather cream), and one, a clear yellow. I know of a red also. Of Hose-in-Hose polyanthus I have a brown and greyish, laced brown and yellow, bronze and yellow and a purple laced silver. Of double polyanthus I have Tortoiseshell, which is a bright brown and yellow; Rex Theodore, dark brown and yellow; and Harlequin. I think there is not much difference, if any, between Rex Theodore and Harlequin. Curiosity is a pink and yellow and very pretty; Prince Silver Wings, a purple, silver laced and I believe very rare now; Dercloughi has not yet bloomed with me. Of the double primroses, Mme. Pompadour, that lovely velvety crimson, is the most sought after and the hardest to increase, being a very slow grower. A. de Moullin, is a bunch primrose, deep violet. Marie Crousse is also a violet-edged white, and another is the old mauve primrose, also called the evening primrose, because all purples look better in the evening light. French Grey describes itself, as does also Double Sulphur and Double White. [illegible] is a deeper, slightly [illegible]

Latest Yellow I still look for. Burgundy is reddish purple, almost crimson. Sanguinaria plena and Sanguinea plena may be the same. Paddy is an old Irish red. There is an old Irish green; I only know one vendor of it, and this green I have not yet got. Now as to culture. I find they thrive and bloom better if divided soon after blooming and before the soil becomes too dry, also give a good soaking when planting. If divided much later, the plant breaks up into more divisions, but neither thrives nor blooms as well. I work in some peat mould round the plants and find they like it.—E. D. H.

ASTER FARRERI.

SIR—I have been very successful with Aster Farreri. I grow it near the top of a rockery bank, very dry; it flowers and spreads well. I have had to divide it again and again as it runs into its neighbours. It likes good leaf-mouldy soil. No doubt it is far the best of the asters. A. alpinus is half the size and does not flower as freely. I find, of the rather bigger ones, Thomsoni is most satisfactory, about a foot high, very neat and looks well in the rockery, and is useful as a late flowerer.—N. S. C., *Godstone.*

SIR,—Your correspondent, S. Arnott, may be interested to hear that Aster Farreri flowers here profusely at the foot of a dry wall with direct south aspect, high up on the hillside and about 500ft. above sea level. It is planted in good loam in the wall itself.—E. H. RASPIN, *Ilkley, Yorks.*

AMARYLLIS BELLADONNA.

SIR,—My experience here this season with Amaryllis Belladonna has been the same as Mr. Woodall's. I have never before seen such a wealth of these lovely and fragrant flowers, but I can offer no explanation of the cause. Our cold soil last winter was anything but favourable for its growth and weather conditions right up to September seemed far from ideal for ripening the bulbs, but may have enabled them to rest more completely than usual. We have two forms of this amaryllis here, one having broad petals of a light colour, blooming through September, the other, with narrower petals of a deeper rose, blooming later. I photographed fine groups of this on October 17th and in one case four immature spikes were to be seen rising from one bulb. Two days later they were destroyed by 10 degrees of frost. I enclose one of these photographs for your inspection.—H. C. WOOD, *Lingfield.*

A FINE GROUP OF AMARYLLIS BELLADONNA FLOWERING IN OCTOBER.

HOLLYHOCK DISEASE.

SIR,—In reference to your reply to "M. G., Guernsey" (THE GARDEN, October 23rd), on the subject of this horrible disease, may I say that my experience tends to contradict the theory that growing too long on the same site is a contributing factor. Ten or twelve years ago I planted an irregular piece of my garden with single hollyhocks, grown from seed obtained from healthy plants in a garden twenty miles away. The light soil was manured but not heavily. For the first two or three seasons nearly all the plants were very badly diseased, some killed outright and those that lived and flowered, terribly disfigured by the blotched and blackened leaves. But as I specially wanted hollyhocks in this situation for the sake of their decorative effect, I left them there and each year since the disease has become less, until, although never entirely absent, it has been negligible for the last two seasons and I have had a splendid show of bloom. The plants seed themselves freely, some die off each winter and are replaced by the young ones and they are given a top-dressing of stable manure every year.—R. E. H., *Bath.*

HINTS WORTH REMEMBERING

This is a further instalment of Hints that have been received from our readers in response to our request. There seems little doubt, judging from the numbers that have reached us, that this will prove a most useful feature of THE GARDEN *in future. We hope, therefore, that all our readers will assist to make this page as valuable as possible by sending in their Hints, the result of personal observation and trial, and so help the gardening public in general. Hints which will be specially considered as worthy of a prize will be those that are seasonable as well as interesting and apply particularly to duties that can be carried out in the garden at the present time.*

Half a guinea will be paid each week for the most useful or interesting hint sent in by a reader. Five shillings will be paid for all others published. Each must be sent in on a separate sheet and must not be more than 300 words in length.

THE HALF-GUINEA HINT

How to Insure Peonies Against Frost.

When tidying up the herbaceous border, do not cut off all the old stalks and leaves of peonies. Turn down five or six stalks with leaves outward, thus forming a tent 9ins. or 10ins. above the plant's growing centre. Tie round with bass. This insures the spring buds against frost, an important point in northern gardens, and is not unsightly. When the pushing buds are inconvenienced and no longer need it, remove the cover. Few who adopt this plan will regret it.—C. H.

A Charming Variegated Rose Border.

To increase the charm of beautiful coloured roses by contrast of other colours I planted borders of roses in two rows, giving a little more space between them than usual. Between the rose bushes I planted dwarf Delphinium chinense (Blue Butterfly) and blue gladioli in the following manner: every two spaces one delphinium alternating with one group of three gladioli. Especially good roses for this purpose are Sunstar, Mme. E. Herriot, Captain Ronald Clark, Hortulanus Budde, K. of K., Irish Fireflame, Isobel, Mrs. Haworth and Queen Alexandra. In early summer the cobalt blue delphinium blossoms form a very artistic contrast to the red shoots and leaves of the roses as well as to the colours of the flowers. The gladioli should be planted late that they may flower with the roses in autumn. Such borders are very harmonious and a striking feature for all visitors.—M. L. W.

An Easy Way to Increase Violas.

Those who are too busy to take viola cuttings will find the following an easy way of increasing violas: Mould up the centre of an old plant with a mixture of half leaf-mould and sand. In about a month most of the growths will have rooted in the compost. The whole plant can then be dug up and easily divided and replanted. Although September is the best month for this, it can be done from now until January, leaving the replanting until March.—R. M.

How to Make Lawn Sand.

Lawn sand is a mixture which is employed to assist the growth of grass on a lawn and at the same time to keep down weeds. The active ingredient of these sands is either sulphate of ammonia or sulphate of iron. Some "sands" contain as much as 30 per cent. of the former. Sulphate of iron mixtures are more useful for killing weeds and giving the grass a rich colour than for uses as a manure. These sands can be bought in prepared form with full directions for use. A good lawn sand can be made by mixing ½lb. of sulphate of iron (known as "copperas"), 1½lb. of sulphate of ammonia and 10lb. to 15lb. of any kind of sand. grind the chemicals into a fine powder and mix thoroughly. The cost of this quantity excluding the cost of the sand will be about 7½d., and it will prove a rich manurial substance which is able to kill daisies and other weeds. Spread it evenly over the lawn at the rate of 2 oz. to 4 oz. per square yard, or dust some into the heart of each weed to kill it.—G. ROBINSON.

Mealy Bug on Grapes.

The grower who has his vines infested with mealy bug during the summer and autumn months is greatly annoyed and troubled to see these pests getting into the bunches of grapes. As the berries begin to colour it is not safe to use the usual method of eradicating the pest and many bunches are spoilt by the time they are fit for the table. A method I have adopted with great success is to tie a piece of cotton wool loosely round the stem of each bunch of grapes. The mealy bug cannot get over or through the wool, which also acts as a trap. About once a week soak the cotton wool with methylated spirits, which will destroy all the bugs which have become entangled in the wool. The above procedure will help to tide over the trouble until the crop is cleared, when more drastic measures can be taken.—P. E. E.

Digitized by Google

Home-made Mats for Protecting Frames, etc.

These may easily be made by anyone having bracken or straw at hand and some stout string or cord. A handy size mat is 5ft. to 6ft. long and 2ft. to 2ft. 6ins. wide. To make this procure seven stakes 2ft. to 3ft. long and drive three of them into the ground about 10ins. apart and three more opposite them 6ft. away. One of these sets may be driven down till only 9ins. or so is left, but it will be found convenient if the other set is 18ins. or more out of the ground. Three lengths of cord are now required about 14ft. long. Attach one end of each piece of cord to each of the taller stakes, pass round the corresponding shorter stakes and fasten with a single knot, then back to the other end where all three cords are attached to the remaining stake, which acts as a handle to raise and lower the warp of the mat. The straw or bracken should be prepared in long thin bundles, then while one assistant alternately raises and lowers the handle above and below the standing cords, another assistant places the bundles of straw or bracken in between the cords. The mat should be "packed" occasionally so as to make it compact and even. When the warp is full the cords are untied from the stakes and corresponding ends securely fastened off.—W. M. W.

How to Preserve Runner and Kidney Beans for Winter Use.

I have for many years preserved runner and kidney beans in the following manner, and they come out fresh and are very much appreciated as a vegetable when others are scarce in the dead of winter. Get a large earthenware vessel and cover the bottom with about an inch of cooking salt, then lay a row of beans on the salt, cover up with salt, then another row of beans, and so on until you fill your vessel, covering the last row with about 2ins. of salt. Store in a cool, dry place. Before cooking the beans steep them about one hour, and this takes the salt out of them.—W. T. S.

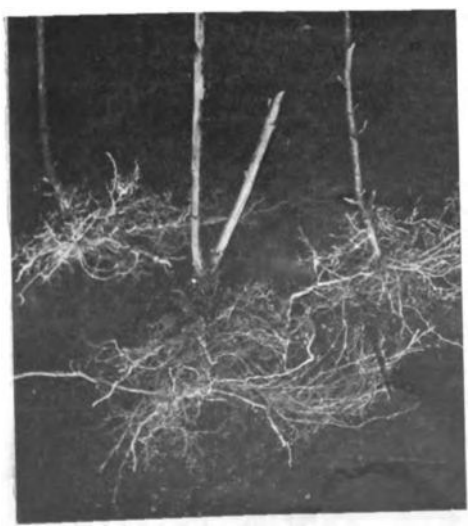
How to Grow Good Raspberries

THIS may appear to be quite a simple operation to many people. The raspberry is of so vigorous a nature that it rapidly recovers from the shock of ill-treatment. It is not like an apple or other fruit tree, or even a rose bush in this respect, for these will succumb even in the case of good treatment, so far as planting is concerned. The raspberry, then, is so accommodating that little trouble need be taken with planting? Oh, no! If this policy be followed—well, the raspberry will survive, grow, bear fruit; but compare the fruit with that of the properly planted, well grown canes, and the lesson it teaches will be startlingly obvious.

The point of that lesson is: If you want strong, thick canes, with a strong rooting system, that defies drought, bearing large, fleshy fruits in maximum quantities—give the best site and cultivation possible. If you are content with indifferent growth, the dying off of the canes just as the fruit begins to ripen, and the poor quality of the fruit that survives—just push the roots into the soil at any spot that may happen to be vacant or convenient and let nature do the rest.

There are undoubtedly thousands of canes planted under these latter conditions; whereas if only a little more attention and care were given there would be a vastly different result.

To obtain a good quantity of large fruits it is not necessary to plant a large number of canes. It is safe to say that if twenty-five canes were planted in the space usually given up to fifty, many more raspberries would be the result and the weight of the fruit doubled. We plant our raspberry canes too close to each other.



The raspberry possesses a mass of fibrous roots which call for special treatment and care.

The tips of the raspberry canes may be trimmed off just above the top horizontal wire used for training purposes.

In support of this I may mention that a certain part of my garden now used for vegetables, evidently used to be a raspberry plantation, for in two places raspberry shoots have appeared from pieces of root left there. These were left alone for the first year and the crops sown around them. The second year they bore fruit of a very large size. There is a row of raspberries of the same variety not far away from these individual plants, and from the latter two can be gathered more and finer berries each year than can be obtained from four or six in the orthodox row. This argues well for (1) a good site, (2) proper planting, (3) plenty of room, (4) good cultivation.

The raspberry cane possesses a large mass of fibrous roots, which occupy the top 6ins. of the soil, in addition to a few tap roots that go down deeper. It is the fibrous mass that matters to the cultivator, for on the healthy condition of these depends the production of fruit. In planting, these roots should be spread out in all directions; none must be doubled under, twisted, broken or bruised. It will pay to work some really good soil among these roots when planting, and planting must not be too deep—shallower in heavy soils than in those of a light nature. Plant firmly and with as much space as can be afforded between the plants. Just here are matters that should be considered. Once planted and established, it is unwise to interfere with the roots in the way of cultivating the soil; therefore, raspberries should have a site that is practically their own, and under such circumstances the rows, if more than one, may be closer together. It is a good plan to have two short rows rather than one long one, because a mulch can be placed between the rows, which will both benefit the roots and keep them well in that space, and help in preventing trespass upon the ground on the other side. The roots, being so near the surface, are very susceptible to feeding at all times—with artificial manures, rotted stable manure, liquid manure and a mulch of manure leaves and vegetable refuse in summer. The surface soil may be pricked up lightly with a fork, and the manures worked into the soil, but not so deeply as to disturb the roots.

Should the roots trespass and sucker canes are thrown up where they are not wanted, do not dig up the roots and tear them away, rather cut the roots through with a sharp spade or a knife.

The canes may be shortened a little after planting and as it is not advisable to allow fruiting to take place the first season, the canes should be cut down close to the ground in the spring—this will encourage strong, thick canes to shoot up, which will bear fruit well the next year. All thin shoots should be removed entirely at all times. As the fruiting canes progress in height they should be secured to horizontal strands of wire or to tall canes. Each autumn, every shoot that has borne fruit must be cut out close to the ground and the new canes trained in their place.—H. A. Day.

The cutting out of old wood close to the ground after fruiting is over.

Digitized by Google

FRUIT TREES

Grown on Selected Stocks. Kept free from diseases and pests. Transplanted and cultivated to produce fibrous surface roots. Lifted and packed with special care.

The above are a few of the advantages we offer and which account for the success attained by planting our trees.

Illustrated list and guide post free.

3 year old apple Rev. W. Wilks.

PENNELL & SONS, Lincoln. Est. 1780.

It Pays to Spray

YOUR trees will bear more and better fruit if freed from insect pests, moss, lichen, and other harmful growths.

Now is the time thoroughly to cleanse and re-invigorate the trees by spraying with

COOPER'S

WINTER SPRAY FLUID

("Commended" by the Royal Horticultural Society of Gt. Britain.)

NON-POISONOUS. DOES NOT BURN

Half Pint ...	1/6
1 „ ...	2/3
Quart ...	3/3
Half Gal. ...	6/9
1 „ ...	9/6
2 „ ...	18/-
5 „ ...	55/6

1 Gall. makes 100 Mixture.

OF ALL AGENTS.

Cooper, McDougall & Robertson, Ltd.
BERKHAMSTED. J 5917

Glassbreaks!

USE

'WINDOLITE'

The practical

GLASS SUBSTITUTE

for all Garden Purposes.

LIGHT FLEXIBLE UNBREAKABLE

Easy to cut and fix. It keeps out cold and wet, but lets in all the light—even the Ultra Violet Rays which are stopped by glass.

Send 4/6 for post free sample, 3 ft. by 2 ft.

WINDOLITE (DEPT. C) 178/185, GREAT PORTLAND ST., LONDON, W.1

Indispensable in the Garden.

THOMSON'S MANURES

On the market for over 50 years, they still hold first place for QUALITY and RESULTS. They are safe, sure and lasting. The direct result of many years' practical experience in gardening, they stand unrivalled at the present day for all Garden Crops.

Prices:—**VINE, PLANT AND VEGETABLE MANURE**—a Perfect Food—1 cwt., 30/-; 56 lb., 16/-; 28 lb., 9/-; 14 lb., 5/-; 7 lb., 3/-; tins, 1/3 and 9d. **SPECIAL TOP DRESSING MANURE**—an excellent stimulant—56 lb., 17/-; 28 lb., 9/6; 14 lb., 5/6; 7 lb., 3/-; tins, 1/3. Carriage paid on 28 lbs. and up.

WRITE FOR OUR BOOKLET—POST FREE ON REQUEST.

SOLD BY NURSERYMEN AND SEEDSMEN EVERYWHERE.

Or from Sole Makers, WM. THOMSON & SONS, LTD., TWEED VINEYARDS, CLOVENFORDS, SCOTLAND

LONICERA NITIDA . .

The New Hedge Plant.

THE GARDEN says:—
"Lonicera nitida supplies all the requirements for an evergreen hedge. It is completely hardy and of rapid growth."

This little known but extremely beautiful plant makes a dense hedge. The foliage is deep rich glossy green, with a bronzy tint in winter. It can be clipped to almost any dimensions and is not fastidious as to soil. We have a very fine stock of plants.

Height.		Price per 100
2 - 2½ ft.	-	£7 10 0
2½ - 3 „	-	£10 0 0
3 - 3½ „	-	£12 10 0
3½ - 4 „	-	£15 0 0

CATALOGUE POST FREE.

John Waterer Sons & Crisp Ltd

TWYFORD——BERKS

CLEAN CROPS ARE GOOD CROPS

Plant hygiene underground

ROOT disease robs you of your crops. Sprays don't touch it. But here's the new treatment that allows you to get to the root. Cleanse the roots now with STEROLE. Fork it into the ground around fruit trees and plants. Kill American Blight, Apple Blossom Weevil, Wireworm, Slugs, Woodlice.

Save your Apples!

Remember American Blight goes to the roots in winter. STEROLE cleans the roots. Spray trees with CARBO — the supreme British Winter Wash—but don't forget the roots. STEROLE kills root pests.

Get

STEROLE

from your dealer

—if you have any difficulty, apply to the makers.

BUGGE'S INSECTICIDES LTD

WESTCOMBE HILL LONDON S.E.3

TAS/Bu.11.

Digitized by Google

SPECIAL OFFER of FIRST-GRADE TREES and SHRUBS

LARGE ENOUGH FOR IMMEDIATE EFFECT

All wind resisters excepting the Acacias

SENT INEXPENSIVELY PER GOODS TRAIN AT LOWEST TREE-RATE

Packed Free for Cash with Order.

	Each
Acer Negundo, an elegant maple with pale green compound leaves, 8-12 ft.	3/6 and 6/6
Acer californicum, "The Californian Maple," very distinct and beautiful, 5-7ft.	3/6 ,, 4/6
Acer lætum rubrum, the young growths are beautifully tinted red: butter yellow in the autumn, 8-10ft.	5/6 ,, 7/6
Acer platanoides (Norway Maple), beautiful large green leaves, turning golden yellow in the autumn, 8-12ft.	3/6 ,, 5/6
Acer plat. Schwedleri, the purple leaf variety; beautiful coppery foliage, April to November, 8-12ft.	6/6 to 10/6
Acer pseudo-platanus, "The Sycamore," a grand "wind screen," 8-16ft.	4/6 and 7/6
Acer pseudo-plat. purpurascens, "Purple Leaf Sycamore," 8-12ft.	5/6 ,, 7/6
Alnus cordata, very rapid growing, excellent for marshy areas and poor chalky soils, 12-15ft.	5/6 ,, 7/6
Alnus incana, "The Grey Alder," do. do. 14-16ft.	5/6 ,, 7/6
Betula japonica, rare Japanese species, one of the most beautiful of all silver barked trees, 8-10ft.	5/6 ,, 7/6
Crataegus prunifolia, "American Thorn," superb for flower, berry and autumn colour, 6-8ft.	4/6 ,, 5/6
Fraxinus americana, the American "White Ash," a distinct and noble tree of fast growth, 4-5ft.	2/6 ,, 3/6
Fraxinus excelsior, "The Common Ash," excellent for wind-swept and coastal situations, 9-12ft.	3/6 to 6/6
Juglans regia, "Walnut," 9-12ft.	7/6 ,, 10/6
Ostrya carpinifolia, the striking "Hop Hornbeam," 8-10ft.	5/6 and 7/6
Pterocarya stenoptra, new fast growing Chinese tree, with wonderful foliage, 9ft.	5/6
Poplars in great variety, 9-16ft.	3/6 to 10/6

Write for our special offer per dozen, 100 and 1,000.

	Each
Robinia, in a variety of colours. (More commonly known as the "Acacia," one of the most elegant trees extant, 9-12ft.	5/6 and 7/6
Sophora japonica, the finest of the late autumn flowering trees, 8-10ft.	5/6 ,, 7/6
Ulmus, "Elms," in great variety, including americana, latifolia and nitens hybrids, 9-15ft.	4/6 to 7/6
A collection of one each of the above 20 trees, good specimens, for £5	

SPECIMEN FIRS, PINES, ETC.

	Each
Pinus Banksiana, the American "Jack Pine," grows in poor sandy soils, 3-5ft.	3/6 and 5/6
Pinus densiflora, the Japanese "Red Pine," 3½ft.	4/6
Pinus excelsa, "The Himalayan Blue Pine," 3ft.	5/6
Pinus Strobus, "The Weymouth Pine," 3ft.	3/6
Picea alba, "The Giant White Spruce," 3-4ft.	3/6 and 5/6
Picea asperata, heavy specimens of this rare Chinese species, 4-5ft.	10/6 to 21/-
Picea obovata, "The Siberian Spruce," 4-5ft.	5/6 and 7/6
Picea pungens glauca, the "Blue Colorado Spruce," 1½ft.	5/6
Abies nachalimensis, rare, 1½-2ft.	3/6 ,, 5/6
Abies numidica, rare, 3ft.	7/6
Abies concolor violacea, beautiful deepest blue foliage, 2ft.	7/6
Tsuga canadensis, the elegant "Canadian Hemlock Spruce," 3-4ft.	5/6

One each of the above 12 Conifers for 60/-

12 Flowering Shrubs (Deciduous and Evergreen), in 12 varieties, 2-5ft. dos., 12/-; 100, 125/-

12 ,, ,, ,, ,, Choice newer varieties, 3-5ft. dos., 30/-; 100, 250/-

All to name, distinctly labelled, in beautiful variety, our selection of sorts.

Special Quotation per 100 and 1,000

HILLIER & SONS, West Hill Nurseries, WINCHESTER

GARDEN LOVERS

Write for Catalogues of
PROTHEROE & MORRIS'
· HORTICULTURAL SALES ·
MONDAY · WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY
67, 68 Cheapside, London E.C.2. Phone: City 3856

NOW is the time to order

Michaelmas Daisies

(ASTERS)

for Autumn Planting

Our Exhibit of these seasonable and popular flowers at **Holland Park** Show was universally admired.

OUR COLLECTION is admitted to be the most complete and **Up-to-Date**, containing all the **latest Novelties**, together with the pick of the **Best** of the **Older Varieties.**

Customers who were unable to see them at the Show should send for our New Catalogue, Post Free.

W. WELLS, Junr.
Hardy Plant Nurseries, MERSTHAM, SURREY

KNAP HILL NURSERY

WOKING, SURREY

(*Late Anthony Waterer*)

The Executors of the late
HOSEA WATERER
have pleasure in offering

STANDARD TREES

In great variety, consisting of

LIMES, NORWAY MAPLES, ELMS, etc., etc.
EVERGREEN & DECIDUOUS SHRUBS, viz.:

Box—Green and Variegated, 3 to 8 ft.
Hollies—Common, 5 to 8 ft.; Variegated and Green varieties, 2 to 6 ft.
Thuiopsis borealis, 10 to 12 ft. Cupressus Lawsoniana, 12 to 14 ft. Cedrus atlantica glauca, very fine, 14 to 16 ft. Osmanthus, Phillyreas, Spiræas, Lilacs, Viburnums, etc.

GOLDEN YEWS

A Magnificent Stock in all shapes and sizes from 2 to 10 ft.

PRIVET, Common and Oval-leaved.
QUICK and **HORNBEAM** for Hedges.
AZALEAS, in great variety, 2 to 5 ft.
RHODODENDRONS, without doubt the finest stock in the trade of named varieties, 2 to 6 and 8 ft.
HARDY HEATHS in great variety and a good general nursery stock.
Catalogues ready.

Enquiries and Inspection Invited.

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING STATION, SURREY

THE

JERSEY

FRUIT TREES
ROSE TREES
AND
CARNATIONS

ARE PACKED FREE OF COST, AND DELIVERED CARRIAGE PAID

Before ordering, **IT WILL PAY YOU** to write for our Illustrated Catalogue and Planter's Guide, which contains **Elaborate Instructions** on the most profitable methods of cultivation, besides an article dealing with **Insects** and **Fungoid Diseases**, and is **FREE TO ALL.** It also gives particulars of our cheap

COLLECTIONS OF NEW ROSES
Exceptional Value. Unsurpassed Quality

ALL GUARANTEED BRITISH GROWN.

Fifty varieties illustrated in colours, direct from photographs

CORDON FRUIT TREES OUR SPECIALITY

Vast quantities of strong, healthy, fibrously-rooted Apples, on the broad-leaved Paradise. Pears, Plums, Peaches, Grape Vines and Strawberry Plants of superior quality.

The Jersey Nurseries, Ltd.,
(Late Le Cornu)

JERSEY

RHODODENDRON SEEDLINGS

for SALE on the

COBHAM HALL ESTATE, KENT.

TENDERS invited for several thousand strong PONTICUM RHODODENDRON SEEDLINGS from 6 inches to 12 feet high.

Tenders to be sent by Wednesday, 10th November, 1926, addressed to—

Messrs. H. & R. L. COBB,
Cathedral Chambers, ROCHESTER

Digitized by Google

BEHIND THE SCENES

The Last Clearing up of Garden Rubbish.

THERE is no season in the year when the accumulation of garden rubbish is so great as in the late fall. Of course, the foliage from most deciduous trees, and especially that of the oak, elm, beech and lime, will, in course of time, form excellent leaf-mould, which will be of great value to the gardener. Foliage of this kind should be stacked in a mass, which is turned occasionally so that the rain may get at all parts and hasten decomposition. Much of the garden rubbish will have to be destroyed, and this includes leaves from evergreens (these do not make good leaf-mould), weeds, and practically all the waste material from the flower and vegetable garden. Any refuse from the vegetable plot should certainly be burned without delay, as this is extremely likely to harbour pests of one kind or another.

In the burning up of garden rubbish the gardener is confronted with rather a difficult problem. Whatever the nature of the material may be, the slower the process of combustion the better, if one is simply considering the value of the resulting ashes. With a slow fire more carbon or charcoal is preserved in the refuse, and this is a valuable constituent in the ashes. Thus, if the fire can be arranged in some out-of-the-way corner where it will not annoy anyone with its smoke, a quick fire is undesirable. Get a good body of fire going with sticks and dry material, and then add the garden rubbish. Such a fire will continue smouldering (and smoking) for many hours, or even days, and in the end ashes rich in valuable plant foods are secured. This is the ideal method of dealing with garden refuse, but it is one which is difficult to carry out in the neighbourhood of towns.

MAKING THE FIRE.

Where the amount of refuse is comparatively small, the following is a good plan to adopt. Get three or four empty fruit cans or any smaller kinds of tin. With a tin-opener, work out a number of holes all over the cans, making these of a good size. Now arrange the cans (inverted) on the site where it is proposed to have the fire. Over the cans scatter a thickish layer of paper or any dry material. A few pieces of wood on the top will help to establish a better fire. Set the mass alight and, when it is burning strongly, place the refuse lightly on the flaming area. Do not put too much at the start, but feed the fire every now and then with the rubbish. The perforated cans at the base ensure a free passage of air which keeps the fire burning briskly, and it is amazing how easy it is to burn up even green refuse in this way. Where a large amount of rubbish must be dealt with it is better to form a special incinerator. Bricks can be laid in four layers in the form of a square; the bricks are placed so that there are ample openings for the admission of air on all sides. With this device a very large amount of garden refuse of all kinds may be burned up in a remarkably short time and, if the fire is kept going brightly, without a considerable amount of smoke. It is, of course, easy when, for any reason, the fire becomes dead, to push sticks or any dry material into the openings between the bricks. In some cases it is undoubtedly worth while to purchase one of the special incinerators for garden refuse which are now on the market. These enable one to destroy garden refuse with a minimum of trouble and annoyance.

In whatever manner the refuse is burned up, try to make one job of it if possible. Smoke from garden bonfires is decidedly unpleasant, especially when this finds its way into houses. Never start a garden fire on a very windy day, for then much of the burning stuff will blow about. Tend the fire right up to the end, until everything is reduced to ashes, as it is annoying to have to deal with a quantity of half burned material.

A FIRE MAKES A FERTILISER.

As has been indicated, by the burning of garden refuse one not only destroys a lot of rubbish, but, at the same time, a valuable fertiliser is secured. Bonfires in the garden should always be set going in dry weather, not only because they burn better, but on account of the fact that it is a mistake to let the ashes get wet. Potash is the chief fertilising property contained in the ashes that come after the burning of waste sticks, prunings, weeds, etc. If the ashes are exposed, the potash is largely washed out and the value for fertilising purposes is lost to a considerable extent. When the fire has burned out and the ashes have cooled, they should be collected and stored in a dry place until required for use. Fruits and vegetables appreciate the ashes derived from burning garden refuse, and the material is also valuable for mixing with potting soil. Always the addition of vegetable ashes will prove very helpful to a strawberry bed. In the kitchen garden the ashes may be employed in connection with onions, carrots, beet and potatoes. Work the ashes lightly into the soil and the first heavy shower of rain will ensure that the potash they contain is carried downwards. Lawns that are thin or patchy may also be treated to a dressing of the ashes, and often the result is surprisingly good.—LEONARD BASTIN.

THIS MONTH'S COMPETITION

THIS month's competition is one that should appeal to all gardeners. Which are the Six Best Michaelmas Daisies? Each gardener will have his own ideas on the subject. The point is, which are the six Michaelmas daisies that will get the greatest number of votes. The result will not only be interesting but will help all readers to make their choice for this season's planting.

LIST OF PRIZES.

FIRST.—Three of each of the six best Michaelmas daisies as voted by readers of THE GARDEN.

SECOND.—Two of each of the six best Michaelmas daisies.

THIRD.—One of each of the six best Michaelmas daisies.

In the case of ties the prizes will be divided.

RULES.

1.—A list of your choice of the six best Michaelmas daisies to be sent in in order of preference on the coupon to be found on page iv. of this week's issue of THE GARDEN. A coupon will also be found in next week's issue.

2.—No reader may win more than one prize, but they may send in any number of lists, provided that they are written on the special coupon to be found in this and the next issue.

3.—Coupons must reach this office not later than Wednesday, November 17th.

4.—Envelopes must be marked "Competition."

5.—The popular vote will be final and no correspondcene will be entered into over this competition.

6.—The result will be announced in the issue of THE GARDEN, December 4th.

7.—The Editor's decision on all points is final.

Matting for Frames.

IN time of frost the protection of frames is indispensable, and even hot-beds are all the better for some covering. Many gardeners do not realise the extent to which even a few hours of frost will damage or retard tender plants. On this account a supply of mats for spreading over the frames should always be at hand. For the purpose the well known Archangel mats, made from the soft, tough inner bark of the common lime tree, are probably the best. These mats are often sold in two qualities, heavy and light, and usually measure about 7ft. by 3½ft. Often the Archangel mats are received in rather a rough state, though they are none the worse for that if they are given a little preparation before use. The rough pieces of bark round the edges should be pulled away and the ends of the strands tied three and four together. This will very much lengthen the life of the mats, which will otherwise wear badly from the edges. Somewhat more expensive than the Archangel mats are those made of Welsh grass. These are very durable, and probably, in the long run, they are worth the extra money. Quite serviceable mats for frames can be made at home on a frame from straw.

PROTECTION BY DAY.

Of course, it is only in very keen weather that frames will be required to be protected by day as well as by night. Usually the mats will only be placed on the frames at sundown when there is a risk of frost, and these should be removed as the temperature rises in the morning. It is a great mistake to throw the mats in a heap, as is sometimes done. Quite likely they are thoroughly damp through the melting of the hoar frost which they have collected. Mats should always be hung up on a wall or a fence so as to dry them as much as possible. A thoroughly wet mat over a frame will have a terribly chilling effect and, in severe frost, will be of no value at all as a protection.

Keep the Sticks and Stakes.

BEAN poles and pea sticks, as well as any stakes used in the flower garden, should be stacked on one side for examination. Of course, those that are broken will not be of much use, and these can be added to the fire. In the case of all the sound ones, clean away any soil from the base and then leave in the open on a fine day, so that they may become quite dry. Then sort them carefully into the different sorts and sizes, and tie up into bundles. Store in a shed where the rain cannot get at them. It is a great mistake to leave bundles of sticks and stakes out of doors all the winter, as many of them are sure to rot. The gardener will find it really worth while taking care of these accessories in the garden and so avoiding the expense of having to buy a fresh lot next season.—B. W

Digitized by Google

OUR SERVICE BUREAU

Though so many subjects are dealt with in each issue of THE GARDEN, *it must constantly happen that readers seek information which is not immediately available. In such circumstances they should make use of our Service Department. Through its medium each reader's own particular enquiry can be dealt with. No matter what the question is, there is always information available from a staff of expert contributors and consultants; and there is no charge for this. It is one of the additional means of service which* THE GARDEN *is glad to render to its readers.*

Also, there is the further convenience which the Service Department affords of supplying readers with data about anything that is advertised in the pages of the paper. Thus, on receipt of an enquiry, particulars will be sent of, say, half a dozen things about which the reader seeks information. The only stipulation is that a stamped addressed envelope and the coupon, that will always be found in each issue, shall be sent with the enquiry. We would point out, however, that we cannot undertake to supply readers with plans and designs of gardens, but will willingly assist in giving suggestions for planting.

All communications should be addressed to the Service Department, THE GARDEN, *20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.*

We have selected the following enquiries, with their answers, as being of more general interest, and therefore worthy of publication.

Roses that have Failed.

Can you advise me about roses. My beds are cut out of gravel, 3ft. deep and filled in with manure and soil (loamy clay) in alternate bands. This was first done five years ago. The first three years the blooms were exquisite and three good crops each year were obtained. After each blooming period rose fertiliser was added. Pruning was done twice per year and in cutting blooms they are taken with a good stalk and cut. Last year some of the beds which had all sunk below the level of the lawn were added to, the trees being taken out and replanted. My present trouble is that few of the roses show any growth, many have died, many are most unhealthy, with no leaves, and this pertains even in replacements.
The varieties are (bed of each):
Mrs. Henry Morse.—No deaths, fairly good, bloomed well, bed made up last autumn.
Christine.—Also made up, fairly good show, but no growth now and unhealthy.
Golden Emblem.—Very poor, no growth and few blooms, bed made up.
Los Angeles.—Nearly all dead, including replacements, bed raised.
Col. Oswald Fitzgerald.—Poor as Golden Emblem.
Queen Alexandra.—As Golden Emblem, bed not touched.
Red Letter Day.—Fair, but not so healthy as before.
Irish Singles.—Four varieties in very large bed, poor, no growth.
Madame Butterfly and Ophelia.—Bed not touched, bloomed very well, but no growth.
Miss Van Rossen.—Unhealthy, bed not touched.
In seeking for the cause I am reminded that last year we put sewage water pumped from cesspool. Is it possible that has affected all the beds, as you will see some have been made up and some not, and yet all have suffered more or less. As a contrast, some odd standards pushed into the gravel with no care have been exquisite. It is not mildew or fly. Kept syringed and spring growth this year was fresh and good. Could I have your kind advice?—V. T., Much Hadham, Herts.

Judging from your very clear description of the rose beds and their treatment, it is most likely the sewage water that has destroyed the roots, especially if the sewage was not well diluted with clear water, and then applied immediately after a watering of the soil with clear water. In the circumstances we advise you to lift and replant the roses this autumn, adding some fresh soil to each bed. The varieties are choice ones and deserve the trouble being taken with them.

Replanting Rose Beds.

I desire to replant my rose beds. Would you recommend when the bushes are lifted, just forking the soil over and replanting or would you let it settle down for, say, a fortnight, heeling the bushes in, and then replanting. The soil is a particularly heavy clay and quite unmanageable when the rains come, and there would be a risk in the latter method (which on lighter soils, I think, would be the better one). As I am introducing a few new plants, I presume it would be best to incorporate some lime with the soil to sweeten it for their reception. I find that new plants introduced among old ones invariably do not do well on account of the soil being too rich for a start.—J. L., Shipston-on-Stour, Worcs.

It is certainly advisable to let the soil in your rose beds settle down before replanting. We should advise you to dig it over now, and order your roses in a fortnight or three week's time. If you put in lime, it must be very old, and the more lime you add, of course, the longer your ground will have to remain fallow before you plant the roses. If you could get a little old mortar rubble and dig it well in, it will certainly help to break up your clay.

Climbing Roses for Pillars.

Will you please advise me by giving names of some climbing roses suitable for pillars, 6ft. to 8ft. in height, hybrid teas preferred. Would any of the following be suitable? Climbing General McArthur, Liberty, Richmond, Lady Hillingdon, Mme. Mélanie Soupert, W. A. Richardson, Caroline Testout, Colcestria, Lady Ashtown.—C. C., Dereham, Norfolk.

The climbing forms of most roses may be relied upon to furnish pillars 6ft. to 8ft. in height. The following hybrid tea varieties are to be especially recommended. Florence H. Veitch, bright crimson; Grüss an Teplitz, crimson, very free flowering; Lady Waterlow, pale salmon blush; Sarah Bernhardt, shades of scarlet and crimson; J. B. Clark, scarlet crimson, with dark flushing and Climbing Paul Lede, yellow and rose. From your list we should prefer Climbing Liberty, Climbing Lady Hillingdon, Climbing Caroline Testout and Climbing Lady Ashtown.

When to Apply Manure and Lime.

I want to put stable manure and lime in my garden, but I have been told that a few weeks should elapse between both, that is if I put the stable manure first. My garden was meadow-grass until last year and the soil is clay. I should be very much obliged if you will kindly tell me what is the right thing to do.—H. F., Wembley Park.

It is, on the whole, better to apply the farmyard manure and the lime at separate intervals. The stable manure should be put in first, and after an interval of two or three weeks the ground should be dressed with lime, not necessarily dug in, but left scattered over the surface of the ground, and with the gradual weathering, due to wind and rain, the lime will soak into the soil. The ground should be left to lie fallow for the winter.

A Climbing Rose for a Wall.

I require a climbing rose for a house wall (concrete) facing practically due west. Can you recommend a hardy type which will bloom over a long period of the year, and will it be necessary to trellis the wall?—H. P., Leeds.

We should suggest that you plant Rose William Allen Richardson against the west wall of your house. This deep orange-yellow rose produces its flowers for many weeks and is a vigorous grower. It would be advisable to put up some form of trellis, either wire or square oak. This should be placed close to the wall, and the rose growths trained neatly to it. The roses would grow more satisfactorily against the trellis than against concrete, and it is far easier and quicker to train the trees if trellis is used.

Evergreen for a Screen.

Will you kindly recommend an evergreen flowering bushy shrub, with berries in autumn, suitable to plant as a screen (not a hedge) for south-east Scotland in a south exposure? It would require to grow about 5ft. or 6ft. high. Would Pyracantha coccinea be suitable, and what kind of flower has it?—M. Y., Melrose.

We should suggest that you plant Berberis stenophylla for the purpose of the screen you have in view. It is very bushy, reaching 7ft. or 8ft. in height, and is very decorative with its long arching branches, which in spring are a mass of golden yellow flowers and in autumn are covered with bright red berries. Pyracantha coccinea would also prove quite effective, but it is really more suitable as a wall plant.

Root Mediums for Gentians.

Would you please supply me with particulars of how to make a good gentian bed? Peat is not obtainable in this neighbourhood, but I have a quantity of leaf-mould. The sand in this district contains a high percentage of lime. I should like to grow most of the well-known gentians, e.g., GG. sino-ornata, Farreri, acaulis, Purdomi, etc., and shall be greatly obliged if you will supply me with particulars.—D. P., Cornwall.

There is really no need to go to the trouble of preparing special beds for your gentians. This was thought necessary in the past when little was known about the cultivation of different species. On the whole the beds should be made early in the year. Gentiana sino-ornata does well in a bed of a mixture of peat, sand and leaf-soil which should go down to a depth of one to 1ft. in order to give the roots a moist root-run. It might be advisable to incorporate a little manure with the soil, as this gives an additional holding capacity, which is useful in the summer for retaining moisture which is so necessary for the gentians. Gentiana verna requires a little different treatment. Where this species is to be grown, the soil should be dug out to a depth of about 2ft., placing rough stone at the bottom, and filling with loam, leaf-soil, some moss peat and mortar rubble. Gentiana bavarica does well in a sandy compost which is kept fairly moist. G. Farreri is a very difficult to establish in some gardens. The ground should be prepared and dug out to a depth of 2½ft. and filled with loam, leaf-soil and a little peat, supplying at the same time good drainage in the form of loose stones. GG. acaulis and septemfida do well with fairly ordinary treatment such as a mixture of loam, leaf-soil and little peat.

BULBS

We invite immediate application for our

BULB CATALOGUE,

knowing that the very fine quality of our bulbs enables us to offer exceptionally good value for money.

Send for a copy of the BULB CATALOGUE at once.

Bakers

SEED AND FLOWER FARM

CODSALL

Near Wolverhampton

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

YOU DESIRE VALUE AND APPRECIATE QUALITY

Please send for my new Catalogue of

ROSES - DELPHINIUMS

and my famous new

PYRETHRUMS

magnificent Plants. Very Reasonable Prices.

H. ROBINSON, Dept. B,

Victoria Nursery, Burbage, Hinckley.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

BEAUTIFUL BERBERIS

No other hardy shrub has quite the same attraction in Summer, Autumn, Winter and Spring as the many lovely varieties of Berberis, the following are a few of the most attractive.

Lincinna	..	1/6 each; 15/- dozen.
Darwinii	..	2/- each; 24/- dozen.
Darwinii	..	2/- each; 21/- dozen.
Polyantha	..	1/6 each; 15/- dozen.
Prattii	..	1/6 and 2/6 each.
Pruinosa	..	1/6 and 2/6 each.
Saphiana	..	1/6 each; 15/- dozen.
Stenophylla	..	2/- each; 24/- dozen.
Thunbergii	..	1/6 each.
Prescens	..	1/6 each.
Wilsonii	..	1/6 each; 18/- dozen.

For other varieties see our Tree Catalogue posted free on application.

JOHN JEFFERIES & SON, LTD.,

Royal Nurseries, Cirencester.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing*

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

"Winter Blossoms from the Outdoor Garden," by A. W. Darnell. (L. Reeve and Co., Limited, 21s.). Gardening books which collate and collect scattered information are always valuable, since they present in limited space a ready reference, useful for amateur and professional gardeners alike. The present work is one of such a kind, and forms a valuable addition to horticultural literature.

It is a volume of a unique kind, in so far as it describes over 350 species of plants, exclusive of hybrids and varieties, which blossom during the winter months in gardens in the British Isles. Nearly all the plants described are hardy, a few requiring shelter in exposed and northern situations. It is more than usually interesting since the subject of winter flowers is one which has become of late years of increasing importance, and it is the ultimate aim of the majority of gardeners to have bloom in winter as well as during the more hospitable seasons of the year.

The information contained in the pages is most certainly up to date and the number of species described which are only of comparatively recent introduction, shows the author's intimate knowledge of what is happening in the horticultural world. All kinds of plants are included: shrubs, trees, rock and alpine plants, bulbous plants and irises, and so on. The descriptions are written in a simple and lucid way, all technical terms, which generally harass the amateur, being omitted or simplified. With the simplification, however, there has been no loss of accuracy. In addition to these descriptions, details are given of the plants in their native habitats and cultural directions are given in every case for the raising and growing of the plants in one's own garden. Altogether it is a most interesting and helpful book, supplying a vast amount of information in a limited and convenient space, admirably arranged, on a subject which all true gardeners have close at heart.

All amateurs will find the illustrated preface on "Plant Propagation" of great assistance when they come to the raising of their own stock of plants. It is an aspect of gardening which is rather scantily dealt with in most other books and for that reason it is more than usually welcome in this one.

The line illustrations, also done by the author, are exceedingly well executed, as are several of the coloured reproductions, while the book is well printed. One or two errors occur in plant nomenclature, but on the whole the book is remarkably free from blemish.

"The Cultivation of Citrus Fruits," by H. Harold Hume. (Macmillan and Co., 21s. net.) A comprehensive treatise on the growing and cultivation of citrus trees.

"Modern Gardens," British and Foreign, with a Commentary by Mr. P. S. Cane. (The *Studio*, price 7s. 6d. net.)—A collection of illustrations of gardens throughout the world, showing the different types of garden design peculiar to the country. In the preface Mr. Cane gives a history of gardens pertaining to these different countries, with notes on the selection of sites for a garden and its planning and planting.

"A Simple Guide to Rock Gardening," by Sir James L. Cotter. (The Sheldon Press, price 2s. 6d.)—An admirable little book for the amateur gardener who wishes to take up rock gardening. Many useful hints are given on the cultivation and treatment of rock plants, and a number of lists of plants suitable for different positions in the rock garden are given which should prove most serviceable to those who find the selection of rock plants for various positions somewhat difficulty. All kinds of plants are dealt with—alpines, bulbs, irises, shrubs, orchids and so on—so that the amateur will find all his needs catered for in the compass of this small book.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

SWEET PEAS

OUR UNIQUE LIST OF SWEET PEAS IS NOW READY

The Most Comprehensive Issued

All Available Novelties Offered

MAY WE POST YOU A COPY?
A POST CARD COMMANDS IT!

G. H. MACKERETH, LTD.,

The Sweet Pea Clearing House,

ULVERSTON, LANCS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

NO COUNTRY HOUSE OR GOLF CLUB - - IS COMPLETE WITHOUT - -

THE "SPADE" BOOT CLEANERS

THE SPADE SCRAPER removes all mud from just those parts of the boot which the ordinary fixed scraper cannot touch. There is a curve or angle to fit every odd corner.

THE SPADE BRUSH *entirely supersedes the old type because:* It is raised off the damp ground on 3 little feet; and you can get the toe and sides of the boot well under the bristles, which extend beneath the brush.

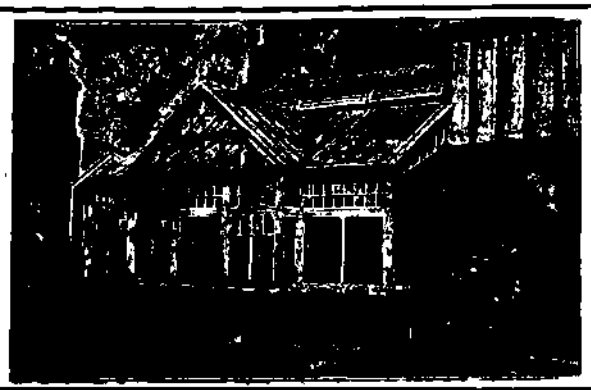
Scraper, **10/3**; Brush, **25/6**; or the pair for **35/-** carr. paid.

From your Bootmaker, Gunmaker or Ironmonger, or direct from "SPADE SCRAPERS" (Dept. G), WAPPENHAM . TOWCESTER . NORTHANTS.

Ask your garage to fit the car pattern Spade Scraper under the step of your car. Price 4/6 inclusive.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google



FOSTER & PEARSON LIMITED

Established 1841

Please write for Estimates for durable Greenhouses, Boilers, etc., to

BEESTON NOTTS

"The fairest flowers of the season are our carnations."—SHAKESPEARE.

CARNATIONS

FOR EVERY GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE

By Montagu C. Allwood.

With a Foreword by Lord Lambourne, President of the R.H.S.

224 *pages.* 79 *illustrations.*

Just Published - 12s. 6d. net.

For a detailed prospectus of this new and standard book, write to the Publicity Manager, Book Dept., COUNTRY LIFE, 20, Tavistock St., W.C.

Special cheap offer of FLOWERING BULBS suitable for naturalising purposes in Garden Walks, Drives, Plantations, etc., or for Cut Flowers.

F.O.R. Wisbech Station. Cash with order. Packing free.

	112lb.	56lb.	28lb.
NARCISSI.			
Sir Watkin	90/-	48/-	25/-
Ornatus	80/-	42/-	22/-
Emperor	60/-	32/-	17/-
Horsfieldi	60/-	32/-	17/-
Empress	60/-	32/-	17/-
Golden Spur	70/-	37/-	20/-
Victoria	60/-	32/-	17/-
Barrii Conspic.	40/-	22/-	12/-
White Lady	100/-	52/-	27/-
Van Zion (Old Yellow double Daff.)	46/-	22/-	12/-
Pheasant Eye	30/-	16/-	9/-
Princeps	30/-	16/-	9/-
Bolly Whites	30/-	16/-	9/-
Mixed Narcissus and Daffodil Bulbs	30/-	16/-	8/-
DARWIN TULIPS.			
Clara Butt	60/-	32/-	17/-
Inglescombe Yellow	60/-	32/-	17/-
Rev. E. W. Ewbank	60/-	32/-	17/-
Mixed Darwin Tulips	50/-	27/-	15/-

This is a very cheap way of buying. Worth double the money.

Snowdrop Bulbs, Singles and Doubles, Per 1,000
Hyacinths, Mixed Per 100
Grape Hyacinths (Heavenly Blue) Per 1,000
Lilium candidum (Old Madonna Lily) Per 100
Crown Imperials Per 100
Dutch Iris (earlier than Spanish Iris), mixed Per 1,000
Dutch Iris (earlier than Spanish Iris), to name Per 1,000
Blue Bells Per 1,000

CROSS & CO.
Elm Road House—WISBE

GRASS SEED

The Commissioners of His Majesty's Works, &c., are prepared to receive Tenders before 11 a.m. on Tuesday 23rd November, 1926, for the supply of GRASS SEED to the Royal Parks.

Forms for Tender, &c., may be obtained on application to the Contracts Branch H.M. Office of Works, King Charles Street, London, S.W.1

Hollyhocks, 12 sep. colours, all double
Sweet Williams
Canterbury Bells, sep. colours

SARGEANT,
Beeches Nursery, CARSHALTON, SURRE

For the Planning of Gardens

Colour Schemes for The Flower Garden
By GERTRUDE JEKYLL. 100 Illustrations and plans. 15s. net

Planning and Planting of Little Gardens
By G. DILLISTONE. Illustrated. 6s. net

Herbaceous Borders for Amateurs
By R. V. G. WOOLLEY. Illustrated. 5s. net

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," Ltd., 20, Tavistock St., Covent Garden, W.C.2.

"THE GARDEN"
Michaelmas Daisies
COMPETITION

Name.....
Address.....
.....
1.....
2.....
3.....
4.....
5.....
6.....

GIVE OUT

Digitized by Google

HAVE YOU PROVIDED?

The United Horticultural Benefit and Provident Society

PROVIDES 27/- per week in illness for 1/1½; 18/- for 9d.; or 12/- for 6d., weekly contributions.

PROVIDES your dependents with £10, £15 or £20 at death, according to Scale.

PROVIDES you with a Savings Bank.

PROVIDES grants from Distress and Convalescent Funds.

PROFIT BY THE EXPERIENCE OF A MEMBER WHO HAS £150 TO HIS CREDIT

State Insured members of this Society may also Contribute to the private Section, and by so doing will add to their Benefits in accordance with the Scale they adopt.

A. C. HILL, Secretary, 35, Alexandra Road, WEST KENSINGTON, W.14

For Present Use in the Garden

FERRY BRAND

Trade Mark

GARDEN MANURE
SOIL PEST DESTROYER

"FERRY" GARDEN MANURE gives back to the soil the Phosphates, Potash, Nitrogen and other foods that have been taken up by the growing plants during this year. It is the finest manure for general garden purposes. Apply at the rate of 2 to 3 ozs. per square yard.

14 lb., 3/6; 28 lb., 6/-; 56 lb., 11/6; 1 cwt., 21/-.

"FERRY" SOIL PEST DESTROYER sweetens and sterilises the soil and destroys pests, such as slugs, wireworms, caterpillars, ants, etc. Its use provides a quick, sure and reliable way of freeing your land from all insect pests. Apply 2 to 3 ozs. per square yard.

14 lb., 3/6; 28 lb., 6/-; 56 lb., 11/6 1 cwt., 21/-.

ALL PRICES CARR. PAID TO NEAREST STATION FOR CASH WITH ORDER.

Agents wanted throughout England for "Ferry" Specialities.

The BRITON FERRY CHEMICAL AND MANURE CO., LTD. (Dept. E), Briton Ferry, S. Wales. (Est. 1886).

HILL & SMITH, Ltd.,
BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS,

Makers of

IRON FENCING, HURDLES, GATES, WIRE NETTING AND GARDEN IRONWORK

Other Products—Hay and Grain Sheds, Dutch Barns, Galvanized Corrugated Sheets and Structural Steelwork.

Catalogue free on mentioning this paper.

London: 359, Abbey House, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

WEED-DEATH NON POISONOUS POWDER WEED KILLER

SAFETY FIRST FOR ANIMALS AND PEOPLE

Non-caustic; colourless; no smells; kills the roots; superior to arsenical compounds.

TINS, 1/- 2,- 2/6 5/6 12/- for (12½ 25 50 100 gals.

SPECIAL. For Parks and Recreation Grounds—in bulk.

ALSO

LETHORION FUMIGATOR

Improved Nicotine Cone

Certain destruction to all pests in glasshouses.

No. 1, for 1,000 cubic feet .. .. 10d.
No. 2, „ 1,500 „ „ 1/3
No. 3, „ 2,500 „ „ 1/9

Sold by all Seedsmen and Nurserymen.

CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, LONDON, S.E.1

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED

by "ALPHOL"

Sample 14 lb., 3/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

The WIZARD Plant LABEL

PATENT No. 212974

Made in Red Pottery, 3½ x 1½ ins., with rustless wires. 12 in., 9/3 doz.; 7 in., 1/6 doz. 14 x 1 in., with wires 6-in., 2/6 doz. For tying on, 1/6 and 1/8 doz. Waterproof Ink, 6d. and 7½d. bot. Crow Quills, 2d. Postage extra.

Highly commended by the R.H.S. at Wisley.

E. TORKINGTON - NEW HALL - MAIDENHEAD

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND. SCHLFUME, INSECTICIDES, FUNGICIDES, SPRAYS AND OTHER CHEMICALS FOR GARDENERS. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA LINE—THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY. IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT, CARRIAGE PAID.

TOMLINSON & HAYWARD Ltd LINCOLN

Even Birds

—to say nothing of slugs, snails, worms, and other soil-pests, shun crops protected with

SANITAS POWDER

Sprinkle on soil, dust on seeds, dust over trenches put into drills. The saving is enormous. There is no poison in it. Get a 1/3 Tin to-day, or write to us for bulk quotations.

THE "SANITAS" CO. LTD.
LIMEHOUSE, LONDON, E.

Service Bureau Coupon.

THE GARDEN, *November 6th*, 1926.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

This Coupon must accompany each enquiry ong with a stamped addressed envelope.

See page 642.

THE SERVICE DEPT., "THE GARDEN," 7, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2

Digitized by Google

WAKELEY'S *Celebrated* Hop Manure

(PATENTED)

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

AS USED IN THE GARDENS OF GREAT BRITAIN

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL, ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION, 1912

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE, without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

Every ounce of Wakeley's Hop Manure is of value to the soil, supplying the necessary HUMUS in addition to the valuable plant food. Worthless rubbish is not added to make weight (as is the case of some artificial manures advertised).

Thousands do realise it, the proof of this is the constant flow of UNSOLICITED LETTERS received from time to time in praise of the wonderful results obtained at such a moderate cost (see Booklet for selection).

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.—Genuine Only in our Marked Bags containing Guaranteed Analysis.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.

CASH PRICES (including bags):

Small (about 1 bushel)	3/-
Large (about 4 bushels)	7/-
5 Large	33/9
10 Large	65/-
20 Large	120-

Carriage paid by Pickford's or to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company; 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.

75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

"Auto-Shreds" did it!

I just burnt them on the ground and they thoroughly fumigated my plants. The judge wanted the name of the stuff that kept my flowers so insect-free. I told him "Darlington's AUTO-SHREDS." At all seedsmen they cost

No. 1. (To fumigate 10,000 cubic feet.) For tender or ordinary plants. 6/-

No. 2. 10,000 c.f.) Ordinary plants 4/6

No. 3. (1,000 c.f.) Ordinary or tender plants ... 1/-

No. 4. (2,500 c.f.) do. 1/9

W. DARLINGTON & SONS, LTD., HACKNEY, LONDON, E.8.

Recommended for Roses, Bulbs, all other Flowers and Fruit Trees.

The Helichrysa Permanent LABEL

Registered Trade Mark.

Write for circular and full particulars to:—

From 2/- per doz.

THE "HELICHRYSA" PERMANENT LABEL CO.

8, Rusthall Park, TUNBRIDGE WELL

Patent 145862

BY APPOINTMENT

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

The BEST and CHEAPEST

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

FANCY FERN PANS and BULB BOWLS from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD BANKEY & SON, LTD.

Royal Potteries, BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

"It warms my Greenhouse nicely at a cost of **about 2d. per day**, which I think very reasonable. I am a new beginner with a Greenhouse, and your

'HORSE SHOE' BOILER

took my fancy. I have not regretted my choice," writes Mr. F. G., Clifford, Boston Spa. 23/3/26

Cold weather comes soon. Write for particulars now

To CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD.,
Engineers, Southwark Street, S.E.1.

Please send me Booklet E "Making the Most of Your Greenhouse," and price of complete Outfit to suit *(span-roof) (lean-to) greenhouse..... long.....wide inside, side of *(wood) (brick).....thick.

Name.....

Address.....

*Strike out particulars not needed. Cut out and send by 1d. post.

Can be supplied from Immediate Stock

USED IN THE R.H.S. GARDENS

Wire: "Kinnell-Boroh-London." 'Phone: Hop 0362 (3 lines)

CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., Ltd.

65, SOUTHWARK STREET, LONDON, S.E.1

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

NOV 23 1926

THE GARDEN

THE AMATEUR GARDENERS' PAPER

Vol. XC.—No. 2867 Saturday, November 13th. 1926 Price TWOPENCE

THE LOVELY FLAME FLOWER, TROPÆOLUM SPECIOSUM

PERIODICAL ROOM
GENERAL LIBRARY
UNIV. OF MICH.

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
New Alpines and Perennials. Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
Specialists in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

T. J. EVANS & SON,
(G) WHIPLEY NURSERIES
WOOD STREET,
Nr. GUILDFORD.
Roses, Fruit Trees, Shrubs, etc. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD,
CHELSEA, S.W.
Bulb Catalogue Now Ready

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

H. PRINS
BULB AND PLANT GROWERS
WISBECH, CAMBS.
Bulb list free on application

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
LINCS.
Weed Destroyers Fertilizers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

TUBS FOR SHRUBS. WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 100 prizes. R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. — Price List from A. PRADAL, 26, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

DARWIN TULIPS

FIRST QUALITY ONLY.

Illustrated list post free on application.

10/- orders post free, otherwise 8d. extra.

100 Darwin Tulips in 10 fine varieties - 8/6
50 " " 10 " " - 4/6

	100	Doz.
Baron de la Tonnaye, rose pink, margined blush	9/-	1/3
Clara Butt, salmon-rose	7/6	1/-
Douglas, wine red	8/6	1/2
Dream, large-flowered lilac	10/6	1/6
Euterpe, beautiful lilac	10/-	1/4
Farncombe Sanders, large fiery scarlet	10/6	1/6
Glow, vermilion scarlet	12/6	1/8
Harry Veitch, rich blood red	10/6	1/6
Loveliness, soft carmine rose	9/-	1/3
Madame Krelage, bright lilac rose, large	11/6	1/6
Margaret, silvery rose	8/6	1/2
Nautilus, purplish rose	9/-	1/3
Painted Lady, cream white, tinged heliotrope	9/6	1/4
Philip de Commines, large velvety maroon	11/-	1/6
Pride of Haarlem, brilliant rose scarlet	8/6	1/2
Rev. Ewbank, bright heliotrope	10/-	1/4
The Sultan, nearly black	7/6	1/-
Wm. Copland (Sweet Lavender), soft lilac	9/-	1/3
Zulu, deep velvety violet black, large	10/6	1/6
Darwin Tulips in finest mixture	6/-	10d.

Satisfaction Guaranteed or money refunded.

WILLIAM HELPS,
Bulb Merchant, **Woodford Green, Essex**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

For indoor pests

Fumigation need not be troublesome. XL ALL Fumigating Compound in the lamp or vase XL ALL Shreds smouldering by themselves on the floor—and the job is done, cleanly and completely. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen, florists and chemists.

XL ALL FUMIGATING COMPOUND
(Liquid or Cake)
XL ALL FUMIGATING SHREDS

G. H. RICHARDS LTD.,
Gold Medal Award, Imp. Fruit Show.
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
R. 196. Monomark: BCM/XLALL

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing*

THE DOWNER LUPIN

is now known all the World over.

Apply for Lupin List; also Herbaceous and Alpine Catalogue.

DOWNER
2, Drayton Manor Nurseries, CHICHESTER

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing*

Michaelmas Daisies

For all the **latest** and **most** beautiful **varieties**, see the Raiser's List.

ERNEST BALLARD, Colwall, MALVERN

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing*

Chase Continuous Cloches

should be used through winter to protect Sweet Peas, Parsley, Lettuce, Cuttings, Christmas Roses, etc.

Tent Shape, Size A, 12 for 18/-; 52 for 55/-
Barn Shape, No. 1, 6 for 18/-; 26 for 55/-

CHASE ALPINE CLIPS hold any glass over Alpine plants. 3/6 per doz.

Above prices include carriage to any railway station in England and Wales, or part carriage elsewhere.

SECTIONAL FRUIT RACKS build up to any size. Each section contains 5 trays of 4 sq. ft. One section, 25/-; two sections, 45/-. f.o.r.

Full particulars, Cloches, Clips, Racks: Dept. 7.

CHASE CONTINUOUS CLOCHE, Chertsey, Surrey

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing*

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

THE "SOUTHWELL" COLLECTION

Twelve Varieties, Carriage and Packing Free - - **12/6**
With "ACME" Labels - **15/-**

Caroline Testout (H.T.) satiny rose.
Col. O. FitzGerald (H.T.) crimson.
Emma Wright (H.T.) pure orange.
Frau Karl Druschki (H.P.) pure white.
General McArthur (H.T.) carmine.
Henrietta (H.T.) orange crimson.
Hugh Dickson (H.T.) brilliant crimson.
Independence Day (H.T.) orange apricot.
Madame E. Herriot (H.T.) coral red.
Ophelia (H.T.) salmon flesh.
The Queen Alexandra (H.T.) deep vermilion.
Ulrich Brunner (H.P.) cherry crimson.

Also FRUIT TREES, SHRUBS, ORNAMENTAL TREES, ALPINES & HARDY PLANTS

ALL HOME GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries. *Catalogue Free on Application.*

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LIMITED
Garden Specialists, SOUTHWELL, NOTTS.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

THE FIRST STEP towards a successful... and write to Waterers. Catalogues, beautifully ... with copious cultural notes are issued of the following... Fruit Trees, Bulbs, Herbaceous and Alpine ... Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Evergreen, Flowering, Hedging and Screening Shrubs, any of which will be gladly sent ... JOHN WATERER, SONS AND CRISP, LIMITED, Twyford.

MALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODENDRONS ... on their own roots, Shrubs, Herbaceous and ... plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write ... catalogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

HOPLEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE. ... original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See ... back page.

DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., ... Road, South Tottenham, N.15.—Conservatories, ... Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

... BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUN- ... NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—... 17, Eccleston Street, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

...NG.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and ... Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE ... UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere.

...ER CARNATIONS.—200 varieties, ... varieties, from 6/6; 50 in 50 ditto, from 25/-; carriage ... lists free. J. HAYWARD, Chace Gardens, Stake's Road, ... Cosham, Hants.

...IES, ROCK AND HERBACEOUS ... Dwarf Conifers and Shrubs. Bulbs for the Rock ... etc. New catalogue ready, post free.—SHEPPARDS, ... Nursery, Hollywood, Birmingham.

...S HORTICULTURAL, all sizes stocked; ... Glass Plate for poultry houses. Ready Mixed Paints, ... Tarmac 1s. etc. BRITISH GLASS COMPANY, Dept. "G.N.," ... Buildings, Church Street, Liverpool.

...LS.—Patent metal, so simple to write ... can't fade or break. Trial offer bargain: 100 with ... 50 tie wires, 1 pocket nail, 10/- free. The R.H.S. ... Lists.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

...ELL'S HOP MANURE.—Best substitute ... or stable manure, 56lbs., 4/-; cwt., 6/-. Times Guano, ... ound fertiliser, 56lb., 5/-; cwt., 8/6. Ground garden ... lb., 4/-; cwt., 6/-. Screened Gas Lime, cwt., 5/-; ... ag, cwt., 6/6. Packed in bags and carriage paid. All ... s, etc., supplied. Booklets free.—MASKELL'S LIMITED, ... Road, West Ham, E.15.

...IS THE TIME TO LOOK TO YOUR ... N. "THE HOME GARDEN BOOKS" deal with every ... of the art. Send for pamphlet C, post free, from THORNTERWORTH, LIMITED, 15, Bedford Street, London, W.C.2.

...SSARY AUTUMN MANURING. ... asic Slag and all kinds of Fertilisers. Many thousands ... sold annually. Absolute lowest prices. Descriptive ... free.—JAMES & GEO. H. MATTHEWS, Harold Wood, ... 'Phone, Romford 284.

...VEITCHBERRY.—The finest Hybrid ... ct raised. The fruit is twice the size of a Raspberry, ... delicious flavour, and is splendid for dessert and culinary ... s. It is absolutely self-fertile and therefore sets freely. ... plants 7/6 each, 84/- per dozen.—LAXTON BROTHERS, ... men, Bedford.

...ONOPSIS INTEGRIFOLIA, M. WAL- ... 8/6 per dozen to clear. Primula sikkimensis, P. ... lenta, P. Beesiana, P. Bulleyana, P. Mooreana, P. ... (new), P. Japonica, P. Inverleith Hybrid. Two year ... ts to clear at 10/6 per doz. Price Lists on application. ... ason's seed now available.—WM. T. HUNT, Primula ... 4, Northcote Street, Edinburgh.

...KERY STONE.—The most beautiful is ... Ironstone; sample bags, 2/6. Excellent Crazy Paving, ... tural Lime and Red Loam Sand. Enquiries invited.—... VATKINS, Coleford, Glos.

...RESSUS LAWSONIANA, THUJA ... Golden Privet, 7/6 doz. carr. paid. Choice varieties of ... ster, Pyracantha, Berberis, Buddleia, Deutzia, Forsythia, ... and other Shrubs, from 1/- each.—STEVENS, Bartiffs, ... sy, Essex.

BARR'S GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS.—The finest sorts for Pots, Bowls, Exhibition, Flower Borders and to Naturalise. Descriptive Catalogue free.

BARR'S HYACINTHS, TULIPS, LILIES, CROCUSES, IRISES, etc., for Pots, Bowls and Flower Borders. Finest quality. Descriptive catalogue free.

BARR'S HARDY PERENNIALS, ALPINES, ROCK PLANTS, CLIMBERS, etc., for Autumn planting. Catalogue free.—BARR AND SONS, 11, 12 and 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx and perpetual habit. They flourish in the coldest parts of Britain. Extract, *The Times*: "Mr. Douglas is the leading raiser of this flower. His wonderful strain of new cloves is superb." Plant list is now ready.—J. DOUGLAS, Great Bookham.

JOIN THE BRITISH GLADIOLUS SOCIETY. Annual subscription, 5/-. Particulars from Hon. Sec., A. E. AMOS, 10, Bergholt Road, Colchester.

Yearly Subscription, Inland, 13s.; Foreign, 13s.
Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2.
Offices for Advertisements: 6–11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Notes of the Week	643
Plants that Should Not be Neglected	644
Lilacs for the Small Garden	645
Climbing Plants for Old Tree Stumps	646
The Flower Garden	647
A Selection of Pears for the Amateur	648
Busy Man's Page	649
Hardy Plants for Small Gardens	650
The Fruit and Kitchen Garden	652
What Our Readers Say	653
Trellis and How to Make It	655
Hints Worth Remembering	656
Our Service Bureau	656
THE GARDEN *Crossword*	657
Chrysanthemum Show	658

HEWITT'S HARDY PLANT CATALOGUE, free on application.

HEWITT'S DELPHINIUMS, famous the world over for their marvellous size and quality. Please write for our catalogues.

HEWITT'S BULBS.—The finest obtainable at reasonable prices. List free on application.

HEWITT'S ROSES.—Catalogues of all the finest and newest varieties free on application.—HEWITT AND CO., LIMITED, Horticultural Specialists, Solihull, Warwickshire.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wirework of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

HERBACEOUS AND ROCK PLANTS. Dianthus neglectus, 8d.; Tiarella cordifolia, 6d.; Verbascum phoeniceum, 6d.; Campanulas Everest and Snowdrift, 1/-. Autumn list ready, post free.—FLORA HARDY, Knockholt, Kent.

RARE PRIMULA AND ALPINE SEEDS from large (2,000) collection. Also plants and rockery bulbs. Lists free.—REV. O. F. ANDERSON, Glen Hall, Leicester.

AMERICAN LILIES.—L. canadense, L. Grayi, L. philadelphicum, L. superbum, 1/- each, 10/- per doz.—THE LILY GARDENS, Bellevue, Wash., U.S.A.

CATALOGUE No. 146, ready shortly, contains many books of the greatest interest to all horticulturists and gardeners. Post free on application to DULAU & CO., LTD 34, Margaret Street, London, W.1.

DOBBIE'S FAMOUS BULBS, SCOTCH ROSES and SWEET PEAS for Autumn Sowing. Catalogue free on mentioning THE GARDEN.—DOBBIE AND CO., LIMITED, Edinburgh.

BATH'S HOME-GROWN BULBS.—New Illustrated Catalogue of the finest Narcissi, Tulips, etc., as supplied to the Royal Parks and Gardens, with full cultural directions, is now ready, and will be sent post free on application.—(Dept. E.). R. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE!!!—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

ROCK PLANTS AND SHRUBS.—Over 300 varieties in stock. Descriptive Catalogue free. Also Herbaceous Plants and Roses.—HODSONS, LIMITED, 58, Castle Gate, Nottingham.

PRIMULA SECUNDIFLORA, the Crimson Sikkimensis. Heads of dangling crimson bells, for bog garden or cool rich soil. 12–18ins. high. Fine pot-grown plants, 9d. each; 3 for 2/6; 6 for 3/9; 12 for 7/6.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED, Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

PRIOR'S COLCHESTER ROSES, Fruit Trees, Gladioli, Dahlias, Carnations, Herbaceous. Catalogue containing cheap collections free.—D. PRIOR AND SON, LTD., Colchester.

KNIPHOFIA ERECTA.—The most beautiful, brilliant and interesting of the red-hot pokers. Free, parcel post, 18/- per doz.—GALVIN'S NURSERIES, Wexford.

YORK STONE PAVING, for Garden Paths and lily ponds; rectangular or crazy for rustic work; steps and wall coping; rockery.—GEO. VINT AND BROS., Stone Merchants, Idle, Bradford.

ALPINES AND HARDY ROCK PLANTS. 700 varieties. Catalogue free.—LEE, Alpine Gardens, Stechford, Birmingham.

GARDEN IMPLEMENTS AND SUNDRIES. Write for Free Illustrated Catalogue from FINCH AND FLEMING, LIMITED, Soar Lane Mills, Leicester.

TO FLOWER NEXT SUMMER, 12 Hydrangeas, assorted, carriage paid on receipt of 20/-. A real bargain.—TRESEDER AND CO., The Nurseries, Truro.

LOBELIA CARDINALIS QUEEN VICTORIA, brilliant scarlet, late flowering perennial, 1 doz., post free, for 10/-.—TRESEDER AND CO., as above.

LIME FOR THE GARDEN.—Price delivered cash with order, 28lb., 3/6; 56lb., 5/-; 112lb., 8/-. Special quotations for large quantities. Real Cotswold Crazy Paving, Walling Stone, etc.—THOMAS TIERNEY AND CO., LTD., Milk Street House, Cheapside, E.C.

AMATEUR'S COLLECTION OF PERENNIALS.—Surplus plants, all exhibition varieties, 18 for 5/-; also rockery plants, 18 for 5/-.—OLIVER, "Revilo," Long Lane, Ickenham, Uxbridge.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING. —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt. kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

BULBS FOR NATURALISING

All Delivered Post Free at your door.

	per doz.	per 100	per 1,000
MUSCARIA HYACINTHS, Grape Hyacinths, blue	1/-	5/-	40/-
SNOWDROPS, earliest flowers of Spring	1/-	6/-	50/-
SPARAXIS, selected show mixtures, all colours.. ..	6d.	3/-	25/-
CROCUS, in finest mixed, all colours	1/-	4/-	35/-
SCILLA SIBIRICA, extra fine blue	1/-	9/-	80/-
NARCISSUS, all varieties and colours mixed	1/-	7/6	60/-
TULIPS, all varieties and colours mixed	1/-	7/-	60/-

(All the above for growing in Woodlands or Grass)

Full Illustrated List post free upon application.

H. PRINS (F.R.H.S.) ***Flower Bulb Specialists,*** **WISBECH, CAMBS**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

A most interesting

FRUIT TREE CATALOGUE

FREE and POST FREE

THIS Catalogue, nicely produced and well printed, contains a valuable host of useful hints on FRUIT TREE CULTURE for Amateur and Professional. Herein will be found all the best and most popular Fruits for all purposes, alphabetically arranged for ready reference. A feature has been made of Interesting Chats on soils, situations, and fertilizers; in fact, it is a valuable book, which should be in the hands of all those who possess a Garden or Fruit Farm, large or small. Sit down now, while the matter is fresh in your mind, and write for your free copy.

KING'S ACRE ROSES

THE King's Acre Nurseries—famous since 1785 for the stamina and vigour of their roses—have hardy and reliable

Bushes and Ramblers

in a wonderful, almost endless variety, which they are offering at prices considered by experts and amateurs to be beyond competition.

Alphabetically arranged Rose Catalogue, replete with reliable information, FREE ON REQUEST.

AWARDED 95 GOLD MEDALS.

KING'S ACRE NURSERIES, LTD., HEREFORD

Established 1785. ∴ *NURSERIES—140 ACRES.*

SPECIAL VALUE IN COLLECTIONS OF FRUIT TREES AND ROSES

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

PLANT SMITH'S ROSES. Hardy Scotch Grown.

UNSURPASSED FOR HARDINESS AND FIBROUS ROOTS. FROM 12/- DOZEN.

SILVER CUPS GAINED 1908-9-10-11-12-25.
NATIONAL ROSE SOCIETY'S MEDAL, LONDON, 1926.

Also FRUIT TREES, SHRUBS, FOREST TREES.

Send for Catalogues with prices, free on application. GIVE US A TRIAL ORDER.

THOMAS SMITH & SONS, STRANRAER. *Est.* 1861.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Barr's Gold Medal Daffodils

STRONG SELECTED BULBS FOR NOVEMBER PLANTING.

Awarded SEVENTY-TWO GOLD MEDALS and THREE SILVER CHALLENGE CUPS.

FLOWER BORDER COLLECTION, 6 each, 18 sorts ..						30/-
,, ,, ,,	3	,,	18	,,	..	15/-
POT CULTURE ,,	6	,,	20	,,	..	40/-
,, ,, ,,	3	,,	10	,,	..	10/6
BOWL CULTURE ,,	6	,,	15	,,	..	25/-
,, ,, ,,	3	,,	15	,,	..	12/6
FLOWER BORDER MIXTURE..per 100, 21/-; per doz.,						3/-
MIXTURE of all kinds for naturalising, per 1,000, 95/-; 100,						10/6
TRUMPET DAFFODILS, MIXED, per 1,000, 160/-; 100,						17/6
MIXTURE of CHALICE CUP and STAR NARCISSI only, for naturalising .. .. per 1,000 110/-; 100,						12/-

Descriptive Catalogue Free.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13 KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2

FRUIT TREES ROSES

Alpine Plants **Hardy Perennials**

Ornamental Trees and Shrubs

can be successfully planted NOW.

The BARNHAM NURSERIES, Ltd.,

offer an immense stock of healthy, well-grown trees . . in great variety . .

Descriptive Catalogues on application.

The BARNHAM NURSERIES, Ltd., BARNHAM, Sussex.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

PLANTING SEASON

GEO. JACKMAN & SON

WOKING NURSERIES, SURREY

ESTABLISHED OVER A CENTURY

INVITE INSPECTION OF THEIR LARGE AND VARIED STOCK OF ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBS, ROSES, CLIMBERS, FRUIT AND FOREST TREES, HERBACEOUS AND ALPINE - - PLANTS . .

200 ACRES OF STOCK TO SELECT FROM. CATALOGUES FREE ON APPLICATION.

Special Autumn Offer

Order NOW for delivery this month.

12 Gooseberries "WHINHAM'S INDUSTRY."
12 Black Currants "SEABROOK'S" (Mite resisting).
12 Red Currants "RABY CASTLE."

The above 36 strong, well-grown Fruiting Bushes for 20/- Carriage Paid for Cash with Order. Half the above numbers for 10/-

Descriptive Catalogue of Fruit Trees, Roses, Ornamental Trees and Shrubs, free on application.

The FOREST & ORCHARD NURSERIES, Ltd. BUCKOVER, FALFIELD, GLOS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

GIBSON'S GARDEN GLORIES

15 Acres of Glorious ROSES, SHRUBS, FRUITS, Alpine and Herbaceous Plants, Lupins, etc.

NEW CATALOGUE FREE ON REQUEST

THE AMATEUR'S DOZEN DWARF ROSES.
Grand trees, all named, for 13/-, carriage paid. Betty Uprichard, Lady Ashtown, Mrs. Wemyss Quin, F. K. Druschki, Lady Hillingdon, Mme. E. Herriot (Daily Mail), Gen. McArthur, Los Angeles, Mrs. J. Laing, Hugh Dickson, Mme. Abel Chatenay, Ophelia.

COLLECTIONS.
Carriage paid for cash.
12 Grand Alpines, all distinct, named, for 6/6; 25 distinct for 15/-.
12 Hardy Border Flowering Plants, named, for 6/-; 25 distinct for 14/-; 50 distinct for 30/-; 100, in 50 varieties, for 60/-.

LONICERA NITIDA
The New Hedge Plant.
This will take the place of Privet. It is quick growing, hardy, evergreen and elegant. Try a sample dozen at 5/-; 35 - per 100. Carriage paid for cash.

THE NEW CLIMBING ROSE
Phyllis Bide. Perpetual flowering. 2/- each.
Colour: Pale gold at base, flushed and shaded carmine pink, in long sprays.
3 for 5/9. Carriage Paid for Cash.

REGALE LUPINS
Most wonderful shades and colours ever seen.
Strong plants, all shades.
10/- per dozen.

G. GIBSON & CO., Leeming Bar, BEDALE

DARWIN TULIPS

Finest Value ever Offered
5/- per 100

Baron Tonnaye	Pride of Haarlem
Clara Butt	Professor Balfour
Farncombe Sanders	Rev. Ewbank
Inglescombe Yellow	Salmon King
Margaret	The Falcon

Large Bulbs of Finest Quality.
Ask for Special List of other Bulbs.

LONGSTAFF & SONS
Bulb Growers, Importers and Merchants.
Near CHELSFIELD STATION, KENT

Sweet Williams, scarlet, pink or crimson 2/- doz.
Chrysimum Golden Gem, really brilliant 2/6 doz.
Chrysimum pulchellum, very compact 2/9 doz.
See page x. of last issue.

SARGEANT,
Roseches Nursery, CARSHALTON, SURREY

Special cheap offer of FLOWERING BULBS suitable for naturalising purposes in Garden Walks, Drives, Plantations, etc., or for Cut Flowers.

F.O.R. Wisbech Station.

	Cash with order.	56lb.	28lb.	14lb.
NARCISSI.	112lb.			
Sir Watkin	80/-	42/-	22/-	12/-
Croesus	80/-	42/-	22/-	12/-
Emperor	60/-	32/-	17/-	10/-
Horsfieldi	60/-	32/-	17/-	10/-
Empress	60/-	32/-	17/-	10/-
Golden Spur	70/-	37/-	20/-	11/-
Victoria	60/-	32/-	17/-	10/-
Barrii Conspic.	40/-	22/-	12/-	7/-
White Lady	100/-	52/-	27/-	15/-
Mixed Narcissus and Daffodil Bulbs	30/-	16/-	9/-	5/-
DARWIN TULIPS.				
Clara Butt	60/-	32/-	17/-	10/-
Inglescombe Yellow	60/-	32/-	17/-	10/-
Rev. E. W. Ewbank	60/-	32/-	17/-	10/-
Mixed Darwin Tulips	50/-	27/-	15/-	9/-

This is a very cheap way of buying. Worth double the money

Snowdrop Bulbs, Singles and Doubles,	Per 1,000	20/-
Hyacinths, Mixed	Per 100	30/-
Grape Hyacinths (Heavenly Blue)	Per 1,000	£2 & £3
Lilium candidum (Old Madonna Lily)	Per 100	£2
Crown Imperials	Per 100	£2
Dutch Iris (earlier than Spanish Iris), mixed	Per 1,000	£1 10s.
Dutch Iris (earlier than Spanish Iris), to name	Per 1,000	£2 & £3
Blue Bells	Per 1,000	£1 10s.

CROSS & CO.,
Elm Road House——WISBECH.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

FLORA HARDY,
KNOCKHOLT - - KENT

To clear, offers large plants of **GEUM LADY STRATHEDEN,** lovely double orange, companion plant to Mrs. Bradshaw and Verbascum Phœniceum (see THE GARDEN, p. 374, July 3rd), both at 5/- doz.

LIST FREE ON APPLICATION.

Our New List of
CHRYSANTHEMUMS
for 1927 is NOW READY
containing all the finest and most desirable varieties. Free on application to:—
KEITH LUXFORD & CO.
Chrysanthemum Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts

ROSES

BUY WITH CONFIDENCE

We Guarantee all our Rose Plants to be Home Grown and Hardy

Place Your Order Now

All Rose Lovers should have

CROLL'S : ROSE : ANNUAL

COPY POST FREE TO ALL

D. W. Croll
ROSE SPECIALISTS
LTD.
DUNDEE

OUR OFFER OF BUSH ROSES
for general garden decoration.

CRIMSON—
Col. O. Fitzgerald
Covent Garden
General McArthur
George Dickson
Red Letter Day

WHITE—
Mrs. H. Stevens
Frau Karl Druschki

BICOLOR—
The Queen Alexandra

PINK—
Caroline Testout
Lady Ashtown
Madame A. Chatenay
Mrs. H. Morse
Ophelia

FLAME and ORANGE—
Emma Wright
Gorgeous
Independence Day
Los Angeles

CORAL RED—
Betty Uprichard
The Daily Mail

YELLOW—
Christine
Margaret D. Hamill
Lady Hillingdon
Golden Emblem
Madame M. Soupert

One each of above 24 vars., **25/-**
Any 18 of above varieties, **19/-**
Any 12 of above varieties, **13/6**
Any 6 of above varieties, **7/6**

Carriage and Packing Free.
— Cash with Order. —

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

NEW HARDY CRIMSON BROOM

AT Chelsea Show (1925) the King said "That red Broom is certainly very striking." This was the new crimson Broom "Dorothy Walpole," which received the unanimous Award of Merit from the R.H.S. as well as other distinctions in London and on the Continent. Plants have been sent to U.S.A., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, France, Holland, etc.

In the Field, *a well known ex-Curator of Kew Gardens wrote: "The richest coloured Broom known is one named 'Dorothy Walpole.' It is as hardy as the common Broom . . . and is very free-flowering . . . the colour is rich velvety crimson . . . more attractive than any of the coloured Brooms yet seen." The colour far surpasses Cytisus Dallimorei, and the growth is as vigorous as C. Andreanus; it requires no special treatment nor any kind of protection whatever—just a hardy shrub for ordinary garden soil in any part of the British Isles, however far north.*

A Vice-Chairman, Floral Committee, R.H.S., wrote: "Everyone who has seen my plant has been astonished at its warm glowing red"; and from a lady in Devon: "I am so delighted with the Broom 'Dorothy Walpole.' It has done splendidly and is like a sparkling gem in the garden—one mass of flower."

NEW SEASON'S PRICES.

Strong pot-grown plants now ready for planting out, to flower in May, 7/6 each. Carriage paid rates to any station in Great Britain or Ireland: One plant, carriage paid, 10/-; two plants, carriage paid, 18/6; three plants, carriage paid, 26/-; six plants, carriage paid, 49/6; twelve plants, carriage paid, 99/-.

Coloured illustration sent on application if THE GARDEN *is mentioned.*

Wm. Watson & Sons, Limited, Nurseries, Killiney, Co. Dublin.

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING, SURREY
(*Late Anthony Waterer*)

The Executors of the late
HOSEA WATERER
have pleasure in offering

STANDARD TREES

in great variety, consisting of

LIMES, NORWAY MAPLES, ELMS, etc., etc.
EVERGREEN & DECIDUOUS SHRUBS, viz.:

Box—Green and Variegated, 3 to 8 ft.
Hollies—Common, 5 to 8 ft.; Variegated and Green varieties, 2 to 6 ft.
Thuiopsis borealis, 10 to 12 ft. Cupressus Lawsoniana, 12 to 14 ft. Cedrus atlantica glauca, very fine, 14 to 16 ft. Osmanthus, Phillyreas, Spireas, Lilacs, Viburnums, etc.

GOLDEN YEWS
A Magnificent Stock in all shapes and sizes from 2 to 10 ft.

PRIVET, Common and Oval-leaved.
QUICK and **HORNBEAM** for Hedges.
AZALEAS, in great variety, 2 to 5 ft.
RHODODENDRONS, without doubt the finest stock in the trade of named varieties, 2 to 6 and 8 ft.
HARDY HEATHS in great variety and a good general nursery stock.
Catalogues ready.

Enquiries and Inspection invited.

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING STATION, SURREY

Allens ROSES

To-Day's Opportunity Ensures Next Summer's Delight

The present time is ideal for planting roses. The following selections are comprised of tip-top quality plants at a moderate price.

DO NOT DELAY—
STOCKS ARE NOT HEAVY

Our **"Supreme" Collection** of 12 Dwarf Roses in first-rate varieties, carriage paid, for **13/6** cash with order.

Betty Uprichard, coppery salmon.
Hortulanus Budde, vermilion scarlet.
Admiration, cream washed vermilion.
Elsie Beckwith, rose pink.
Huguette Vincent, cerise pink.
Lady Pirrie, coppery salmon.
Lord Charlemont, deep crimson.
Lamia, orange.
Mabel Morse, the grand new golden yellow.
Florence L. Izzard, pure buttercup yellow.
Sensation, rich velvety crimson.
Souv. de Georges Pernet, coppery pink.

No rubbish. All first quality maidens on Briar Stocks.

Our **"Standard" Collection,** any 3 of the following selected Standards, **10/-** carriage paid; any 6, **19/-**; any 12, **36/-**

Betty Uprichard, coppery salmon.
Los Angeles, coral rose.
Mme. Edouard Herriot ("Daily Mail" rose).
John Russell, new, deep crimson overlaid black.
The General, crimson, an advance on Hugh Dickson.
Mrs. C. V. Haworth, cinnamon cerise.
Elizabeth Didden, rose pink.
Crimson Columbia, a crimson form of Columbia.
Sensation, rich velvety crimson.
Mrs. Beckwith, lemon yellow, fine form.
Elsie Beckwith, rose pink.
Lord Charlemont, deep crimson.
Snow Queen, the indispensable white for standards.

WEEPING STANDARDS, in extra fine quality trees, 5-6ft. in height, price **6/-** each, carriage paid: **Fernand Rabier, White Dorothy, Yvonne, Havering Rambler, Papa Gouchault, Sodenia, Hiawatha, Leontine Gervaise, Chatillon Rambler.**

"Pet" Collection of Polyantha Roses. 12 fine varieties, including our novelty **Rufus,** the finest scarlet rose in this section, carriage paid, **12/-,** cash with order.

Alice Amos, cherry pink, white eye.
Diana, orange tipped carmine.
Dorothy Howarth, coral rose pink.
Ebloulssante, velvety crimson.
Ideal, dark scarlet.
La Reine Elizabeth, dark red.
Lady Reading, rosy pink.
Leonie Lamesch, coppery red.
Orange King, new deep orange.
Rochette, cherry red.
Tip Top, delightful double blooms, yellow tipped rose.
Rufus, the finest scarlet, unaffected by weather.

BUY FROM THE GROWERS, ALL GUARANTEED first quality plants from our Norfolk rose grounds.

SEND A CARD FOR OUR CATALOGUE TO-DAY.

A. J. & C. ALLEN (DEPT. G)
Nurserymen, NORWICH, NORFOLK
Established 1869.

Notes from Maidstone.

MYROBALANS and MIRABELLES.

These two plums are often confused. The Myrobalan (Prunus cerasifera) when first introduced into Europe was thought to be the souce of the dried fruits known as Myrobalans, so largely imported into Europe in the Middle Ages for medicinal uses, hence the name was applied quite wrongly to the plum. There is no better fruit for bottling, and we offer the Red and Yellow varieties, extra stout Standards, at 7/6 each.

The Mirabelle is a miniature gage of delicious flavour and making an unequalled preserve, Half-Standards at 7/6 each.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd., The Royal Nurseries, Established 1796. Maidstone.

TITTENHURST
Rhododendron

JOHN WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD. beg to announce that in this fine collection they still have for disposal examples of the best hybrids raised at Tittenhurst, Sunningdale, which are priced as follows:

Doncaster × **Aucklandii roseum superbum** each 3ft. to 6ft., from **63/-** to **105/-**
White Pearl × **Aucklandii roseum superbum** 2½ft. to 4ft., from **42/-** to **63/-**
H. M. Arderne × **Aucklandii roseum superbum** 3ft. to 4ft., at **42/-**
Cynthia × **Aucklandii roseum superbum** .. .. 3ft. to 4ft., at **42/-**
Luscombeanum × **Ivoryanum** 3ft. to 4ft., at **42/-**
Mrs. Thistleton Dyer × **Standishii** 2ft. to 3½ft., from **21/-** to **42/-**
Helen Schiffner × **Mrs. Charles Butler** 3½ft. to 4½ft., at **42/-**
Other fine crosses, from **7/6** to **21/-**

A number of fine specimen plants of **kewense** and **Gill's Hybrids,** from **63/-** upwards.

Apply to—
F. GOMER WATERER, Esq.,
John Waterer, Sons & Crisp LIMITED
The Nurseries, BAGSHOT, SURREY

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

VOL. XC.—No. 2867. NOVEMBER 13, 1926. PRICE TWOPENCE.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THIS MONTH'S COMPETITION

LIST OF PRIZES.

FIRST.—Three of each of the six best Michaelmas daisies as voted by readers of THE GARDEN.

SECOND.—Two of each of the six best Michaelmas daisies.

THIRD.—One of each of the six best Michaelmas daisies.

In the case of ties the prizes will be divided.

RULES.

1.—A list of your choice of the six best Michaelmas daisies to be sent in in order of preference on the coupon to be found on page x. of this week's issue of THE GARDEN. A coupon will also be found in last week's issue.

2.—No reader may win more than one prize, but they may send in any number of lists, provided that they are written on the special coupon to be found in this and the last issues.

3.—Coupons must reach this office not later than Wednesday, November 17th.

4.—Envelopes must be marked "Competition."

5.—The popular vote will be final and no correspondence will be entered into over this competition.

6.—The result will be announced in the issue of THE GARDEN, December 4th.

7.—The Editor's decision on all points is final.

The Importance of Labelling.

LABELLING is one of the problems of the garden. It is also a subject on which many gardeners hold strong views. On the one side are those who consider labels as the ugliest of all things in the garden; on the other are those, many of them specialists, who believe that everything should be labelled. The truth is that labelling is most important up to a point, but that there is a happy mean that should be aimed at.

If a garden notebook is kept, there is little need to label vegetables, annuals and other short-lived plants, provided that the number of varieties grown of one plant is not large. On the other hand, wooden labels are usually used in the seed boxes and it is little trouble to remove them when the plants are set in their final positions. More important are the more uncommon alpines and herbaceous plants, for many of these have long names that are difficult to memorise. Also, you must remember that the less common the plant the more will you be asked its name. Fruit and trees and shrubs are the most important of all, for these live long, and everyone knows by experience how difficult it is to remember varieties. You may wish to order fresh supplies, or a neighbour may admire something that you possess. How frequently does it happen that you are unable to tell him the name and then you have to take the trouble to send away a specimen for the correct name. Some nurserymen recognise the importance of correct labelling and send a permanent label with the plants; many more do not. But we should like to impress on all our readers that correct and permanent labelling pays.

That gardeners are beginning to realise its importance is proved by the numbers of various classes of labels that are now on the market. For seed pans or short-lived plants there is nothing to beat the ordinary wooden tally, or, still better, the celluloid tally, that can be used over and over again. More permanent labels are those made of pottery, on which you write with indelible ink, and very excellent and inoffensive they are, particularly in the rock garden, and the old-fashioned zinc label, which has the disadvantage of oxidising and becoming almost unreadable in time. The most expensive and the most permanent are cast metal labels and a most excellent kind where the lettering is fired on to white, buff or green porcelain. Either of these kinds will stand up against all weathers for many years, and in the case of permanent plants are the cheapest in the long run.

HAVE YOU

¶ *Examined your bulbs which are now standing in pots covered with ashes? Those which have made about 2ins. of growth should be removed to a cold frame.*

¶ *Finished the lifting of your dahlias and planted your bulbs?*

¶ *Examined the fruit in your store room and removed any specimens showing signs of decay?*

¶ *Given your fruit trees a dressing of basic slag at the rate of 4oz. per square yard?*

¶ *Added more grease to the grease-bands on your fruit trees?*

¶ *Dusted with flowers of sulphur any plants in the cold greenhouse which are attached with mildew? All diseased leaves should be removed and the atmosphere should be kept as dry as possible?*

¶ *Inserted cuttings of gooseberries and currants?*

The Flame Flower: Tropæolum speciosum.

THIS magnificent climber is a native of Chile and like so many Chilean plants it grows particularly well in Scotland. Gardeners in the south sometimes find it difficult to manage, though on the other hand one may occasionally see it in English gardens flourishing quite as well as ever it does north of the Tweed. The root of the flame flower is long and white and fleshy, rather like the root of the bellbind. It goes questing about just below ground and throws up its slender climbing shoots wherever it can find a bush or hedge to support it. The plant can be grown up a wall or a fence if given strings, wire or some such support to cling to. Let it find its own way up. Never attempt to "train" it. Existing wall climbers, such as cotoneaster or ceanothus, make an ideal support. Never does Tropæolum speciosum look so effective as when rambling over a yew hedge, the rigid lines and sombre colour of which make a splendid foil to the lightness and brilliance of the flame flower. The climbing growths of flame flower may usually be regarded as annual, though the roots are perennial, but we have known the top growth to endure a mild winter and start off into fresh growth in spring from where they left off the previous autumn. Not content with its glory of apple-green and flaming scarlet, T. speciosum produces seeds of exquisite beauty. These are about as large as peas and of a wonderful turquoise blue. They hang in twos and threes exposed in the bursting capsules. The chief points to remember are that it prefers some living host on which to ramble, that it likes its roots cool in the shade of its host and its branches trailing out into the light and air. It may be planted in autumn or spring.

Digitized by Google

PLANTS THAT SHOULD NOT BE NEGLECTED

Gardeners are always glad to receive information about plants that have been particularly noted in other gardens. Week by week plants that are really worth growing are described in this page.

Trollius Orange Globe.

THIS is but one of the globe flowers which are very serviceable and free-flowering at that early period of summer when there is so often a gap or break between the real spring flowers and summer's multitude, but Orange Globe is decidedly one of the varieties which should not be lightly passed by, whether one aspires to possession of a representative collection or has room only for a few plants and wants these to be extra good. The illustration suffices to show how uncommonly effective the flowers and foliage of this trollius are, and its colour is as brilliant as real orange can be. The one thing these plants enjoy, and must have in order to do thoroughly well, is a good depth of well worked soil, and so long as it is well worked it is all the better for being strong and heavy. If the soil is light and dry a liberal addition of spongy, moisture-holding material will be of great advantage. Peat is useful, but all things considered I am disposed to think a fairly liberal dressing of hop manure is more beneficial to trollius than anything. The hops supply the loose, fibrous humus-forming substance to which the roots can cling, and the chemical treatment to which Wakeley's Hop Manure is subjected, gives just the additional tonic and nourishment that plants of the character of trollius require. It is not too late to plant trollius now for next season's display, if good, well rooted clumps are planted and the crowns can be just covered with loose, dry leaves. The best time to divide old clumps for increase of stock is as soon as the flowers have faded.

Other varieties which will prove highly decorative and useful are TT. Gold Cup, Ledebouri, Canary Bird and giganteus.—A. J. M.

The Dalmatian Toadflax.

A GOOD border linaria, L. dalmatica, deserves to be better known. It is offered by most hardy plant dealers, either in the typical variety or the finer L. dalmatica macedonica. It grows about 2½ft. in height, and has erect spikes of large yellow flowers, touched with orange. It is not difficult to grow in ordinary soil, and, although it runs slightly, is not unduly aggressive. A variety, called L. macedonica Nymph, has cream-coloured flowers, but I do not consider this any gain, although some appreciate it highly. L. dalmatica may be increased by seeds or division. It likes a sunny place in the border, when it will flower well.

A Useful Prostrate Shrub.

THIS shrub (Cotoneaster humifusa) was introduced by Wilson from China in 1900, and subsequently by Farrer if not others, as C. Dammeri radicans. It is a most ornamental and useful little shrub. Being perfectly prostrate its network of slender branches and willow-like, evergreen leaves make an admirable covering for the face of a sloping rock or bank, but it will also prove a first-rate carpeter on the flat, either in the open or beneath woodland trees and shrubs. The white flowers, which are ¼in. wide and held on upright stalks, are followed by coral-red fruits which look like so many holly berries scattered about the ground. At the same time the older of the dark green, glossy leaves assume bright tints of orange, so that the effect is one that blends very delightfully with the hues of autumn. C. humifusa seems to grow equally well in sun or shade, but an open position is doubtless more favourable to flowers and fruit. It is perfectly hardy, absolutely drought-proof when established, and a plant will in a few seasons cover several square yards. The trailing branches layer themselves as they proceed, and any of their rooted pieces afford an easy means of increase.

Rose Mermaid.

WHATEVER may be one's opinion of single roses in general, I can scarcely conceive of anyone seeing a plant of Mermaid with some of its large, broad-petalled suphur yellow blossoms fully expanded and others in various stages of development, without being moved to exclaim upon its remarkable beauty. The foliage of this rose is sumptuous and provides the most perfect background for the pure, clean and cool looking blossoms. One may admire a plant climbing orthodox fashion up a wall, but an infinitely grander sight is to see a plant which has stolen its way between the balustrade of a terrace and tumbled over the face of the retaining wall. That is when this delightful rose displays all its charms, and wherever such a position is available, there certainly should be a plant of Mermaid. I have seen it clambering over a rough old hawthorn, creating a picture of bewitching beauty and I have seen rows of plants on a nursery growing prostrate on the ground, where it is still lovely. I can imagine the glorious effect that might be produced by a clever artist provided with some flowers and foliage of Mermaid and a broad black bowl.

ORANGE GLOBE, ONE OF THE BEST VARIETIES OF TROLLIUS FOR GARDEN DECORATION.

Viola lutea.

OUR native mountain pansy is a plant of singular charm and one that is by no means beneath the gardener's notice. It is an underground spreader and, being a paint that is vigorous enough to contend with the rank sod of its moorland home, it must be used with discretion. It undoubtedly enjoys a cool, but light loam and I have found it an admirable subject for carpeting the ground beneath thin shrubs, for waterside banks, open places in the woodland and heath garden. This comely little pansy will hybridise freely with V. comuta and others. Personally, I like the type best, but the half-breed off-spring are usually very floriferous and interesting. Division is the only reliable method of propagation with V. lutea if it is to be kept true, and its mass of roots affords ample material.

Phlox Laphami.

IT is a queer garden that cannot, with advantage, accommodate a few plants of this really beautiful plant, with its slender stems and pretty lavender flowers. It is always good, whether on a rockery, in the mixed border, or occupying a small circular bed entirely to itself. The plant likes good feeding and responds generously to liberal treatment. Young plants grown from cuttings taken in spring and rooted in sharp, gritty soil in a frame, will produce a limited number of strong, well spread heads or trusses of bloom, but a plant two or three years old will yield a mass of bloom and continue to throw up new growths and flower heads for months.

A Monarch Among Perennial Asters.

HE would be a bold man who would say of any one Michaelmas daisy, "This is the best of the whole family"; but one needs no great courage to declare that Aster Amellus King George is a monarch among the tribe and a hardy border plant of highest merit. There is an air of quality and neatness about the Amellus type of asters which appeals to many who are disposed to look upon the rest of Michaelmas daisies with something akin to contempt, and, although by no means the only good Amellus variety, King George is unquestionably one of the very finest. Nearly every exhibitor of asters at Holland Park Show had a group of King George on his stand, and many spectators remarked on the great beauty of colour and form of this fine variety.

The great secret of securing maximum quality in Michaelmas daisies is to plant single crowns either annually or every second year, and this applies as much to the Amellus section as to the Novi-Belgii. It is not always wise to disturb the plants after flowering, for late autumn planting is attended with some risk where plants have soft, succulent crowns and foliage, and spring planting affords ample time for healthy crowns to develop into fine sturdy plants for September flowering. Over-rich soil is by no means necessary or even desirable for freshly divided asters of the Amellus class; the plants are far better grown hard until the latter end of July, when liberal feeding from the surface may be commenced and carried on judiciously until the first flowers open. A. J. M.

Digitized by Google

LILACS FOR THE SMALL GARDEN

THE present day race of garden lilacs is the progeny of the purplish-mauve and white varieties of Syringa vulgaris, the wild lilac of the mountainous regions of eastern Europe. No definite record appears to exist of its first introduction to British gardens, but we know it to have been cultivated for more than three hundred years. There is no more popular hardy shrub grown in our gardens to-day, and with perhaps the single exception of the rhododendron, no shrub has been more markedly improved by the hybridist. As the names indicate, a large proportion of the best hybrids in cultivation to-day have been raised in France, and new varieties are still being raised.

The lilac is a shrub that grows and flowers freely equally well in large and small gardens, provided the position is open and sunny. Too often we see lilac bushes crowded and given scant attention in the mixed shrubbery border. Complaints of lilac bushes not flowering are by no means infrequent. This can usually be traced to a large number of suckers being allowed to grow from the base eventually forming a tangled mass of weak branches. A second cause may be neglect to cultivate and manure the ground, while a third reason may be that the position is unsuitable, though this is unlikely if planted in a sunny spot for the lilac is really an accommodating shrub. Given a little attention lilac bushes are good shrubs for town and suburban gardens.

THE SOIL AND POSITION.

While lilacs will grow and flower in most cultivated garden soils, there is a marked improvement in the beauty of the bushes when the ground is a deeply cultivated medium loam, with a good addition of decayed manure, when trenching the soil previous to planting. A heavy, wet ground is the least satisfactory. When this is the only possible position, put plenty of builder's rubble in the bottom spit when trenching the ground, mix in freely light sandy loam, or coarse grit, and raise the soil above the normal level. Light, dry soils can be improved by adding plenty of heavy top-spit pasture loam and decayed cow manure.

The need for planting in open sunny positions has already been indicated, whether in beds, borders or as lawn specimens. The beautiful lawn specimens sometimes seen obviously point the moral to allow the bushes ample space to grow when planted in shrubbery borders.

A mulching of well decayed manure, applied immediately after flowering and when new shoots are developing, is beneficial. A good method to adopt is to vary this with bone meal in alternate years.

PROPAGATION.

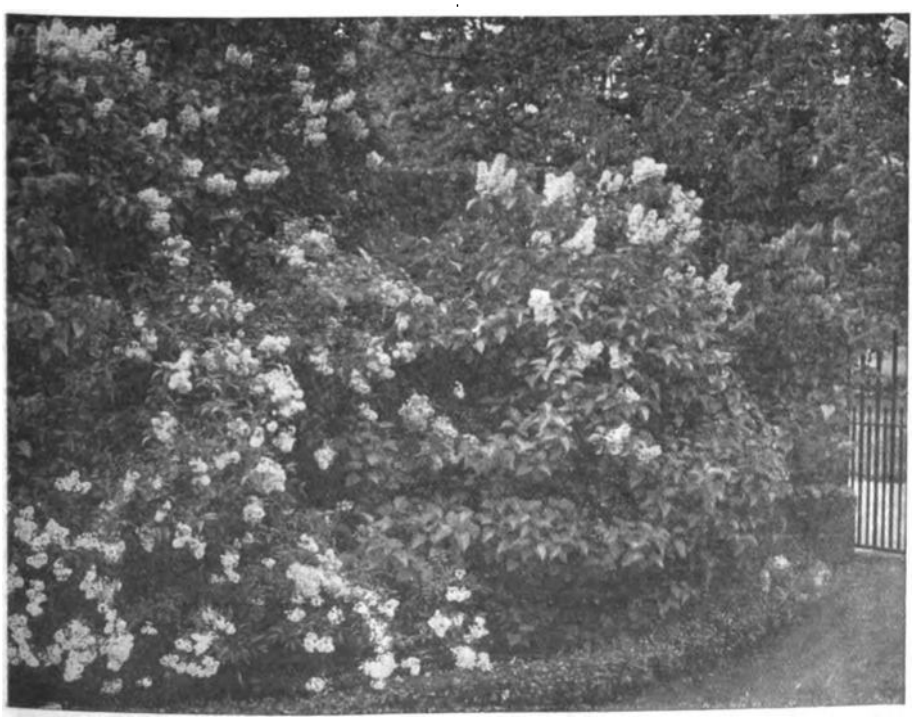
Some comment on the best methods of increasing lilacs will be looked for in these notes, though my recommendation is to purchase plants from a nursery. Whether propagated by layeringor cuttings several years must elapse before the bushes flower. The grafting of new varieties is practised, but this has the undoubted drawback of suckers, which must be persistently removed, whereas, if the bush is on its own roots a sucker or two will help to maintain the vigour of an old bush.

PRUNING.

Though a relatively simple business, this is one of the most important details in the successful blooming of lilac bushes. Too often it is neglected, or pruning is done in winter, cutting off the flower buds, instead of in early summer, immediately after flowering.

On fading, remove the flower trusses and thin the young shoots where crowded, discarding those which are thin and weak. This throws the energy of the bush into the development of a number of strong, healthy growths, which ripen well and mostly mature flower buds, because of the open character of the branches plenty of light and air can reach the shoots.

A SMALL BUSH LILAC OF GRACEFUL HABIT.



LILAC BUSHES ARE EXCELLENT SHRUBS FOR THE FRONT GARDEN, ALONG THE PATH.

CHOICE OF VARIETIES.

The present day race of lilacs are noteworthy for the size of the inflorescences, the large individual blooms and the remarkably rich and varied range of colouring from the purest white to deep wine crimson. It is a matter of personal fancy whether the single-flowered, or the double-flowered sorts are favoured, both have hosts of admirers.

The older varieties, like Marie Legraye, white, and Charles X, purplish lilac are beautiful and should be included in a large collection, but they cannot be included to-day in a limited selection of the best ten or twelve sorts for outdoor cultivation. Because of their freedom of flowering these two sorts are still unsurpassed for cultivation in pots to decorate the greenhouse in early spring.

Single Varieties.—Captain Boltet, purple lilac; Congo, dark red; Hugo Koster, purplish crimson; L'Oncle Tom, dark crimson; Mme. Francesque Morel, violaceous pink; Mont Blanc, a magnificent single white lilac; Pasteur, claret red; Reaumur, dark carmine; Saturnale, bluish mauve; Souvenir de Louis Spath, vinous crimson.

Double Varieties.—Charles Joly, dark red; Condorcet, lavender; Lemoinei flore pleno, pale mauve; Mme. Abel Chatenay, milk white, late flowering; Mme. Casimir Perier, creamy white; Michael Buchner, lilac; Miss Ellen Willmott, pure white; President Fallieres, rosy mauve shaded lilac; President Grevy, bluish lilac; Virginite, pale mauve pink. A. O.

Digitized by Google

CLIMBING PLANTS FOR OLD TREE STUMPS

IN nearly every case it is worth while leaving the stump of an old tree, for, with careful treatment, this can be converted into an object which will add considerably to the effect of the garden. By planting suitable climbers and ramblers the stumps may be rendered extremely beautiful, especially if they are in an open position where there is plenty of sun and air. Before doing anything in the way of planting round the stump it is essential to prepare the soil well, as this is almost certain to be in a very impoverished state. By far the best plan is to take out the old soil altogether to the depth of about 2ft. all round the trunk and to fill in with a mixture of good loam, leaf-mould and well rotted manure. The trench should be opened at a distance of about a foot from the tree all round, and it might be a couple of feet in width. Generally speaking, it is wise not to plant the climbers too close to the stump as these can always be trained in the desired direction when they start to grow.

Practically all the Wichuraiana and rambler roses are eminently suitable for tree stumps. Of the former one might specially mention Edmund Proust, a fine carmine; Jersey Beauty, yellow; Gardenia, cream; May Queen, coral pink; Paradise, pink and white; and Paul Transon, rose. Among the ramblers there is a very big choice, but the following have been found to do particularly well on tree stumps: Dorothy Perkins, pink, and the White Dorothy; Excelsa, fine shade of red; Hiawatha, crimson; Minnehaha, bright pink; and Albéric Barbier, yellow buds with white flowers.

Lovely effects are certain when the stumps are planted with some of the many fine varieties of clematis. Where the stump has not a very full exposure one might do worse than plant the wilding Traveller's Joy (C. Vitalba), but most people will probably prefer the more handsome garden forms. Among the best are the following, but the list is very far from complete: Clematis grata, white flowers (early autumn); C. montana, white flowers (May); C. Flammula, enormous numbers of small fragrant whitish blooms which are produced in the late summer; and C. Jackmannii, the familiar purple form that blossoms in July and August.

Then there are the honeysuckles, which may be planted in variety. Specially worthy of notice is Lonicera gigantea superba, which in favourable circumstances will grow with great rapidity and produce its large yellow flowers in abundance. Almost as good is L. Hildebrandti, with buff-coloured flowers which turn reddish. Both these honeysuckles were formerly thought to be somewhat tender, but they have proved to be hardy at least in the south. For quick results one cannot well equal the polygonums, especially P. baldschuanicum. This is such a rampant grower that in an incredibly short time it will clothe an old stump and mount up to a considerable height. The display of creamy white flowers continues well into the fall, and in sunny positions the fruit cases often turn an attractive crimson colour.

Other plants which have been noticed as doing well on tree stumps include several species of actinidia. All of these are good, but perhaps the best is A. chinensis, the young growths of which are covered with red hairs. The foliage is large and the yellow flowers are succeeded by berries. Then there is the common Virginian creeper (Ampelopsis hederacea), which is, of course, glorious in the autumn. That splendid convolvulus (calystegia) in both the pink and white forms is a very handsome subject, and on account of its scarlet berries Celastrus scandens is also worthy of note. The hop is a quick grower and the form with golden leaves is always attractive. Many varieties of ivy are suitable for tree stumps, but more distinctive evergreens are to be found among the hardy smilax like S. aspersa and S. rotundifolia. Most of the hardy vines are good, and the following are specially worthy of note: Vitis Brandt, V. Coignetiæ purpurea, V. Henryana, V. purpurea and V. Thunbergii.

L. B.

RAMBLER ROSES ARE EMINENTLY SUITABLE FOR A COVERING.

CLEMATISES, OF WHICH C. MONTANA RUBENS IS ONE OF THE BEST VARIETIES, MAKE A DECORATIVE COVERING FOR TREE STUMPS.

Making Climbers Cling on Smooth Surfaces.

SMOOTH walls or wooden structures do not offer very good surfaces for ivy and other climbing plants. The difficulty is even greater in the case of a sheet-iron fence, which, however it is treated, always presents rather an unsightly appearance. Even if the climbing plants get a start, it often happens that the young growths hang downwards and find the greatest difficulty in getting a hold. By coating the surface with a preparation, which is easily made, it is a simple matter to provide the plants with a surface to which they can cling readily.

Into a pail put four handfuls of cement and half the amount of sand. Now, while stirring with a stick, add water until a mixture about the thickness of rather stiff batter is secured. If the mixture has been made too slack, add a little more cement and sand to stiffen it. This is now applied with a brush to the surface over which it is wished to have the climbers. Apply one coat and, after this has dried, give a second, and even a third. Ivy and all other creepers will be found to cling readily to the surface thus secured, and it is not harmful in any way to the most delicate plant. Where, for any reason, it is thought that the wash will appear unsightly before it is covered by the climbing plants, employ just enough for each year's growth.

It should be remembered that climbing plants should be given a little support at the start, as if they are allowed to straggle about on the ground much energy will be wasted.

Digitized by Google

FLOWER GARDEN NOTES

Dwarf Phloxes for Rock Garden and Border.

THE best of dwarf phloxes suitable for the rock garden, wall garden or the front of borders are forms of P. subulata introduced to this country over a hundred years ago. So beautiful are they that the late Reginald Farrer says, in "The English Rock Garden," "the day that saw the introduction of P. subulata ought indeed to be kept as a horticultural festival." This is high praise, but deserved, especially when we consider the group as a whole.

P. subulata is dwarf, rather prostrate in habit, about 6ins. high, and the plant forms a compact evergreen mass which is pleasing at all seasons. The small leaves are awl-shaped and numerous. During May and June the plants are masses of flowers; in fact, it is not possible to see the foliage for bloom. Carpets over rocks and down walls 2ft. or 3ft. across are delightful, and no rock garden can afford to be without them. As an edging to the ordinary flower border they are ideal.

The flowers of P. subulata are rose-coloured with a dark eye, and of the numerous varieties mention should be made of G. F. Wilson, a beautiful, free-growing plant with delicious lavender blue flowers. Another fine mossy-habited phlox is Moerheimi, a deep rose pink, the compact Nelsoni, with white flowers except for the pink eye which to many is an additional charm; nivalis, a pure white; and lilacina, electric blue; but perhaps the finest and best of all is Vivid. Here we have a plant not quite so robust as many varieties, but it is unsurpassed with its warm salmon rose or flesh pink flowers, to which no written description can do full justice. No difficulty, however, will be experienced in growing these plants, and no doubt there are several other varieties in commerce that can vie with the above.

Any ordinary soil will suit them, but if it is of a rather retentive nature a quantity of sharp sand and a little leaf-soil should be added. The position is almost immaterial, and except in dense shade, I would not hesitate to plant them anywhere.

Once the plants are purchased it is an easy matter to keep a healthy stock, and after the flowering period—say, in July—the young shoots, made into cuttings, will readily form roots if placed in a cold frame or under a handlight. Sandy soil is needed, also shade from strong sunlight until they are rooted, when the lights can be removed. By the following spring good flowering examples will be available for transferring to their final quarters. No garden lover will regret adding these charming subjects to his collection. —T. W. B.

A COMPACT AND FREE FLOWERING PLANT OF PHLOX SUBULATA NELSONI, WHICH EVERY AMATEUR SHOULD GROW IN HIS ROCK GARDEN OR AS A BORDER EDGING.

Notes on the Plant Order for the Autumn.

ALTHOUGH it may be stormy and wet out of doors, interest in the garden does not diminish. At the end of the growing season there comes an excellent opportunity for reviewing what has happened during the past year. A careful study of any plant catalogues which can be secured will be found to be most helpful. The majority of these are far more than mere lists of plant names and will well repay a careful study. It is wise, before making any decisions, to think well about the habits and requirements of the plants in question. Often a special variety of a plant will give much better results than the original type and, in many cases, the additional cost is hardly worth bothering about. When in any doubt as to whether certain plants would be likely to be a success in the garden, it is always worth writing to THE GARDEN or the firm with which one has decided to deal. In doing so, be careful to give as complete particulars as to soil, local climate and general conditions as possible. Usually the grower will be able to give valuable suggestions as to the best subjects for special positions such as the very shady border or the dry sunny bank. Before despatching the final list check it several times to make certain that it is correct. Plant orders should be despatched as soon as possible, for at this time of the year there is a great demand for plants.

WHEN THE PLANTS ARRIVE.

It is always an exciting moment when the plant order is delivered. Naturally, it is well, as soon as possible, to check the goods, as, although most firms handle orders with great accuracy, there is always a chance that some error may have arisen. Open the packages methodically; remember the plants are living things and that roots and shoots are often easily damaged unless treated with care. Keep a sharp look-out for the labels, as it is easy to get these separated from the specimens, and it is most annoying to find that you have a number of plants without any names at all. Where the order is a large one it may not be possible to get everything planted quickly, or for some other reason there may be delay in setting the plants in their permanent quarters. Proper planting is of such supreme importance that it is far better to defer the business until there is plenty of time rather than to do it carelessly, in a hurry. The roots will come to no harm if they are placed out on the floor of a shed, and, after being sprinkled with water, covered with matting or similar material. Fruit trees, ornamental trees, roses, shrubs, etc., should be packed closely together in a shallow trench and then lightly covered with soil. Never, on any account, allow the roots of plants to be exposed to the drying action of the air save for a very short while. Small roots shrivel and die within an hour or so unless they are surrounded by moisture, and, if this happens to any extent, a serious check to the plant as a whole is the result. Any roots that have been damaged in lifting, or on the journey, should be cleanly cut through beyond the injured portion with a sharp knife.

The ground in any situation should be well prepared in advance of planting. Of course, the wise gardener, even before he despatches his order, will have given attention to this business. Matters should be so far advanced that, on the day when the actual planting is to be done it only remains to dig the holes in which the subjects are to be inserted. The plants can then be taken a few at a time and quickly inserted in the positions where they are to remain.—S. L. BASTIN.

Hirsute Chrysanthemums.

IT has been said that the miracle of to-day becomes the commonplace of to-morrow, and certainly the introduction many years ago of hirsute, or hairy-petalled, chrysanthemums, if not regarded quite in the light of a miracle, at least created a sensation, and there were those sanguine enough to predict for them a great future. In those days I was connected with an association which made a practice of obtaining for its members every year a few of the latest novelties, and it fell to my lot to have a share in the growing for exhibition plants of Louis Boehmer, a mauve pink, the petals of which were hairy and were favourably commented upon at the time. If my memory does not lead me astray, I think the following season saw the advent of a white sport of this variety. Then followed such varieties as Princess Henry (pink), Hairy Wonder (reddish bronze) and E. F. Taggart (yellow). It is seldom that one meets with any of them to-day, and one may search the lists of the principal growers of chrysanthemums in vain for them. It is a pity that they were allowed to drop, but, like many other sorts, one recalls to mind hirsute varieties which appeared only for a little time. One point concerning them I well remember—that to have best results only crown buds were worth considering, as on the terminals these hairy

Digitized by Google

wonders were less of a wonder. Is it possible that some grower of the old school of chrysanthemum fever days, reading this note, still retains interest in and grows them?—W. F.

A Good Sea Holly.

SOME confusion exists among gardeners regarding the true Eryngium planum, one of the sea hollies. It is less common in gardens than several other species, and some have called E. alpinum by the name of planum, on account of its basal leaves being undivided. But the two plants are quite distinct. While E. alpinum has large heads of inflorescence, those of E. planum are small. The basal leaves of E. alpinum are also much larger than those of E. planum and are prettily serrated. The colour of E. alpinum is also considerably brighter blue than that of E. planum, and it is, altogether, of much greater beauty. Yet the smaller headed E. planum, which has been in our gardens since 1596 at least, is not to be despised, and, as its inflorescence can be dried for winter decoration like that of E. alpinum, it may be useful in other ways than as a border plant. It grows about 3ft. high, but more frequently about 2ft., and is interesting as well as pretty, owing to its being an umbelliferous plant of real garden value. It may be grown in ordinary garden soil and generally flowers in July, August and early September, according to the district.—S. ARNOTT.

Five Interesting Delphiniums.

MOST gardeners associate the name delphinium with tall spikes of handsome blue flowers in the July garden, and though this is quite correct in nine cases out of ten, there are delphiniums which exhibit other colours no less attractive.

All the delphiniums are easily raised from seed, and those who have been reckless enough to experiment with a few twopenny packets of seed of some of the different species of this family are looking forward to seeing their seedlings flower next year.

Belonging to the buttercup family the seedlings bear a strong family likeness to the crowroots, so much so that it is quite easy carefully to prick out an occasional buttercup among a batch of seedling delphiniums.

Perhaps one of the most interesting of the less common delphiniums is D. nudicaule. In common with the blue perennial hybrids, this plant will flower the first year, if the seeds are sown early enough in the spring. It throws up a loose spike of scarlet flowers some 12ins. high, and though at first sight one would hesitate to pronounce it a delphinium at all, on closer examination it is seen to possess the same blunt spur which has given these plants their name, which means "dolphin," because this spur was supposed to bear a resemblance to a dolphin's head.

Another red delphinium worth growing is D. cardinale, which flowers in August and is a native of California, which is also the home of D. nudicaule.

If these scarlet delphiniums are somewhat new to some of us, surely a yellow delphinium may also be classed as a novelty. D. sulphureum is a perennial with spikes of yellow flowers some 3ft. high.

D. chinense or grandiflorum is a dwarf species with dark blue flowers, eminently suited to the rock garden. It comes from Siberia, the home of several other species, and it was one of the progenitors of our blue garden hybrids.

D. cashmirianum is another good dark blue species from Kashmir, which only attains a height of some 15ins. and should therefore find a place among rock plants.

E. CAHEN.

A SELECTION OF PEARS FOR THE AMATEUR

JARGONELLE.—One of the earliest pears, and for that reason I must include it. It is suitable for a wall, but the growth is rather too weak and spreading for a bush. Not a very regular cropper, and must be eaten as soon as picked, as it will not keep. A medium-sized fruit, rather long and of a greenish colour sometimes with a faint flush.

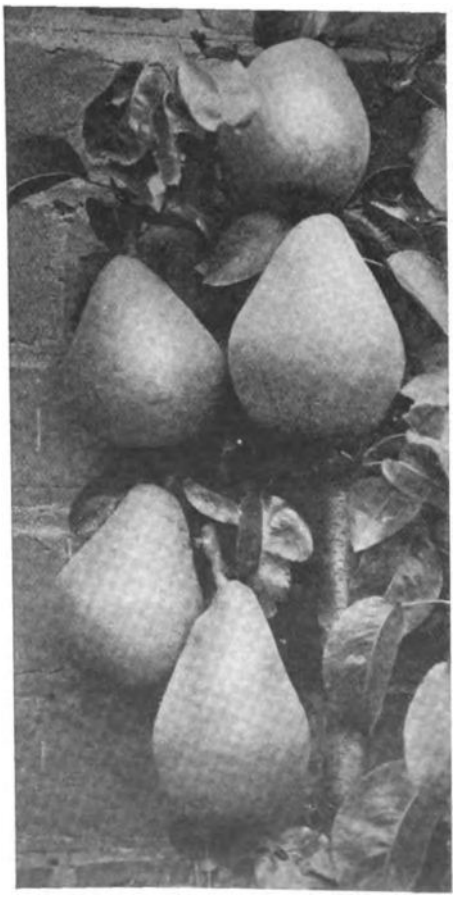
Williams' Bon Chrétien.—Need I say a lot about the ever-popular William (the American Bartlet)? A tree of medium vigour, which needs careful pruning when grown on the free or extension system, it has one great fault, it is very subject to scab. The fruits are of medium size and ripen in September.

Doyenne Boussoch.—This pear does not seem to be well known, and although not of first-class flavour, it is of good appearance and, above all, is a most regular cropper. I have not seen this pear grown as a bush, but as a standard it is most useful, as one can always depend on it bearing unless, of course, we have a very bad spell of weather at flowering time. The fruit is roundish, of medium size and of a lovely golden yellow colour when ripe, sometimes having a red flush. This pear cooks well before ripe. It ripens during October, but will in some years keep till November.

Maréchal de la Cour (Conseilleur de la Cour).—Another mid-season pear, ripening in October. Of vigorous growth, this pear is to be recommended on account of its regular cropping habit. The flavour is not of the best, but it is quite good. The fruit has a narrow waist, is pale yellow in colour and russeted, quite a nice-looking fruit and, speaking from a grower's standpoint, sells well.

Conference.—This pear is sometimes called Ladies' Fingers on account, I suppose, of its very long, thin fruits. Ripening just after the preceding variety, it is a good pear, very resistant to scab, a prolific cropper and a well flavoured fruit. The skin is rather tough and needs to be removed if the fruit is to be really enjoyed. An upright-growing variety, the weight of fruit often brings the branches down so that the clusters of the distinct long fruits hang well below the leaves. I should recommend every amateur to have a bush of this variety.

Beurré Hardy ripens at the end of October. A fine-flavoured pear of good size, Beurré Hardy lives up to its name, and is hardy and a regular cropper. On referring to Bunyard's Hand List of Hardy Fruits, I find that this pear was named after a Mr. Hardy. However, it is hardy by name and by nature. A "lumpy" shaped fruit, if I may be excused such an expression, has a russety skin and is often irregularly shaped, not enough, however, to detract from its appearance.



LUSCIOUS FRUITS OF THE PEAR DOYENNE DU COMICE GROWING ON A WALL.

Louise Bonne of Jersey.—This pear ripens at the end of October. Of small size and a greenish yellow colour, with a dark flush, its flavour is very good—I think "honey sweetness" describes it best. The skin is quite smooth and sometimes shiny, with conspicuous dots. Not a very strong grower and inclined to spread, I would not class this as one of the most regular croppers. However, it is well worth its place on account of its fine flavour.

Durondeau.—A really handsome fruit, which is in season at the end of October and into early November. Large and with a long tapering neck, this variety often has a shallow gulley along one side of its fruit. The flavour is good and it is a good cropper. Brown in colour when quite ripe and covered with small dots, this pear is easily remembered and well worth growing. Its fault is that it is rather subject to scab.

Doyenne du Comice.—The aristocrat among pears. The fruits are of medium size, "dumpy" in shape and of exquisite flavour. A yellow-coloured pear with a slight russet, it is of moderate growth and makes a good bush. It suffers in cold springs and well repays the shelter of a wall.

Marguerite Marillat.—An enormous pear, ripening in mid-October. The flavour is distinct, but cannot be classed as the best. Rather oblong in general outline, but often misshapen, it is a good cropper and is very popular for exhibition. When ripe it is of a rich deep yellow colour with a red flush on the exposed side. This pear must be handled very carefully, as it bruises very quickly and the dark reddish brown bruise soon shows on this brightly tinted pear.

Emile d'Heyst.—A most distinct tree. The leaves curl upwards and show the whitish under sides, making a vivid contrast to the very shiny upper leaf surface. A very spreading grower, this makes a good bush or standard. Being very hardy, it is satisfactory as a standard in the Midlands. It ripens in early November and then changes from a dull green to light yellow, covered with tiny russet dots. The flavour is good and the fruits of medium size.

Catillac.—The best stewing pear. It will keep until April, and is large and roundish in shape. It makes a rather spreading tree and is a fairly regular cropper. The green fruits are at present very hard, but after Christmas it is fine for cooking. N. D. H.

Digitized by Google

THE BUSY MAN'S PAGE

Hardy Perennials for Cutting.

PERENNIALS which are suitable for cutting as well as garden decoration are a great asset, particularly to the busy man. Where possible a border should be set aside for them, so that the beauty of the general herbaceous border is not interfered with by cutting flowers for the house. Here are a few which can be planted this autumn. They are all hardy and easily grown.

ASTER ANITA BALLARD.—*Cornflower blue. September. 5ft. One of the best of the Michaelmas daisies.*

CHRYSANTHEMUM MAXIMUM MAYFIELD GIANT.—*Snow white. August. 4ft. A large-flowered Shasta daisy.*

COREOPSIS GRANDIFLORA, PERRY'S VAR.—*Rich golden yellow. June to September. 2ft.*

ERIGERON B. LADHAMS.—*A rose pink fleabane. June to September. 2ft.*

GAILLARDIA MRS. J. MCKELLAR.—*Crimson-scarlet, with gold band. June to September. 2½ft. This blanket flower is highly decorative.*

HELENIUM AUTUMNALE RIVERTON GEM.—*Red and gold. August to October. 4ft.*

Treatment of the Fire Bush.

IT is very noticeable as one travels about, that the many wall plants of this popular climbing shrub vary in a remarkable manner in regard to the quantities of berries carried. Questioned as to why plants in evident robust health do not carry berries, the jobbing gardener usually declares "it's the season"; or if it happens that another plant within sight is carrying an abundance of its coral beads, then it is the soil that is to blame. In the majority of cases it is the jobbing gardener's shears that should really be blamed, for they are far too frequently used as ruthlessly as they are on an overgrown hedge. It is wrong to cut back all the growths of Cratægus Pyracantha to a level-faced frontal as even as the wall behind the plant. The secret of berries lies in knife or secateur pruning, cutting out the densest short growths and tying in long, vigorous young shoots during the summer growing season, just spurring these same growths the following early spring. My practice with the plant is not to confine pruning to one particular season, but to thin out a few both old and young growths as they tend to become crowded, doing some tying in at the same time, and then remove entirely old branches that have borne heavily, filling in the space with young wood.

Hedge Trimming.

A NEATLY trimmed hedge is a splendid set-off to a garden. Many hedges are spoilt from want of proper and seasonable clipping and trimming. It is generally when hedges are young that they are permitted to run riot and grow out of shape. If the hedge has been well planted, and is growing well, it will not be at all difficult to keep it in proper form, if trimmed carefully once or twice a year with the shears or hedgebill. The shears makes the better job, especially in the trimming of privet or beech, but an expert at plying the hedgebill will make an admirable job, nevertheless. For the first few years the young growth should be cut fairly hard in, especially on the sides. If the young hedge looks thin and irregular, it must be cut well down to induce a thicker growth.

The late autumn is doubtless the best time to trim hedges, but they may also be trimmed during the summer, though not quite so severely as in the autumn. The hedge is clipped more easily if done before the wood gets ripe and hard. The hedge looks neater, too, and is in less danger of being broken down with falls of snow, than when the trimming is delayed until winter comes.

A Protection for Young Trees.

IN many districts rabbits and hares cause considerable damage to young fruit trees, and young ornamental trees, by gnawing away the bark. This they are specially addicted to do during spells of frosty weather, when other food is difficult to obtain, and it is most annoying to see promising young stock spoilt in this manner. The following method has proved an effective protection.

Take equal quantities of fresh cow dung and good stiff clay. Mix well together and add water until the whole is of the consistency of a smooth cream. Then add to each bucketful a good tablespoonful of tincture of asafœtida and stir well together. This latter is a vile smelling liquid obtainable from the druggists. Apply the mixture with a brush to the trees up to a distance of 2½ft. from the ground and repeat two or three times during the winter. For bushy subjects, such as cytisus, make the mixture a little thinner and apply with a syringe. See that the work is done well.

Decorative Spring Bedding.

THIS is the time of year when attention must be given to planting for next year's spring garden, and in this connection we would draw attention to the planting of tall Darwin tulips in association with forget-me-nots. The accompanying illustration, shows the decorative effect which is to be obtained by this pleasant combination. Seven different varieties are used in this bedding scheme namely, King Harold, purple red; Mme. Krelage, deep rose; Farncombe Sanders, rosy scarlet; Pride of Haarlem, carmine rose; Victoire d'Oliveira, dark red; William Pitt, dark scarlet; and Clara Butt, salmon pink. Six of these are fully 4ft. high and the handsome blooms look exceedingly well against the blue carpet of the forget-me-nots.

A MOST EFFECTIVE SCHEME FOR SPRING BEDDING IN A SMALL GARDEN. TALL DARWIN TULIPS AND FORGET-ME-NOTS.

Before Using Fertilisers.

TOO many gardeners seem to regard manures as universal "cure-alls" which are sure to lead to almost magical results when applied. Before actually using manure of any kind it always pays to think over the following points:

However good the manure may be it will never take the place of proper cultivation.

The more thorough the culture the less should be the need for manure.

Do not go on applying manure without bearing in mind the fact that it may be largely wasted if the land is deficient in lime. As a rule lime should be applied to the garden every three years.

Unless a plant is really healthy it will not benefit by the application of manure.

Light, warmth, air and water are more needful than ever when a plant has been manured.

Never let manure come directly in contact with the roots of a plant.

It is really harmful to seedlings and cuttings to apply manure.

Manure is not needed by plants that are flowering or fruiting as then growth is almost stationary.

Give the manure on the principle of "a little and often," as the roots can only absorb a certain amount at a time. One cannot cram any crops in the way that the poultry keeper fattens up his birds.

Simplified Bulb Growing.

FOR many years I have been interested in the growing of hyacinths, daffodils, tulips and other bulbs in sphagnum moss, or failing this, moss from old walls, which is a splendid substitute. Leaf-mould is also a suitable rooting medium and gives good results. These materials are clean to use, simple to manage and completely successful from every standpoint.

A little charcoal or small pieces of lime rubble may be mixed with either the moss or leaf-mould, but this is not essential. The most important point to remember is always to see that either the moss or leaf-mould is sufficiently moist. When a large number of any particular bulbs has to be grown, I use boxes 3ins. or 4ins. deep and 18ins. long by 12ins. wide. At the bottom of these I place (if leaf-mould is used), rough rotted leaves, with a covering of finer mould. I then embed the bulbs, almost touching each other, in this layer and fill up to the neck of every bulb with more leaf-mould. The boxes are placed upon each other in tiers of seven or eight, in any safe place, covering the top one by inverting an empty box over it. I leave the boxes untouched for some weeks, until they show signs of growing by a profusion of roots pushing out of the bottoms of each box. The boxes are then exposed to the light and transferred to a warmer atmosphere. The same method is used with moss, but in this case, when the roots have filled the box or boxes, a strong pair of scissors will cut up the moss into squares with whatever number of bulbs one wishes to have in any pot, pan, dish or bowl. With leaf-mould a trowel or hand fork will divide them just as one wishes. Having grown thousands of all types of bulbs as described, without a failure. I pass this method on as one of the very simplest and surest means of growing bulbs.—A. G.

Digitized by Google

HARDY PLANTS FOR SMALL GARDENS

Many amateurs find it difficult to make a selection of hardy plants for stocking their garden and to determine where to plant the particular kinds. The following list of subjects, together with their flower colours and height, may prove helpful when a choice is made this autumn. All are plants which call for no special care in cultivation.

IN acquiring plants for suburban gardens to-day, the trend lies in the direction of those which not only beautify but are of service for providing flowers for cutting over as long a period as possible, and this is one of the reasons, I think, why those of a hardy character are so much in evidence.

The time has gone by when the display consisted mainly of those which, owing to their fleeting character, were only tenants for a few months and then died off. In hardy plants we have a wide selection that will make the garden gay, and most of them, at any rate, improve with keeping. The approach to winter may not be opportune for getting in some of them, but we can, at least, be making our plans, preparing the ground, and selecting what we desire. The difficulty, if there be one, is not in finding what will be suitable, but in limiting our choice from the many available, consistent with the size of our garden. For the benefit of anyone scanning these notes and who may have in view the inclusion of hardy plants in his garden, I have drawn up a list of plants that may be relied upon to do well in a suburban garden, indicating those which prefer shade or a partially shaded position, and those which are best accommodated in a sunny position. Those marked * are specially useful for supplying flowers for cutting, while those marked thus, †, will grow freely on chalky soils.

THE ORANGE PERUVIAN LILY (A. AURANTIACA) IN FRONT OF A SUNNY SOUTH WALL.

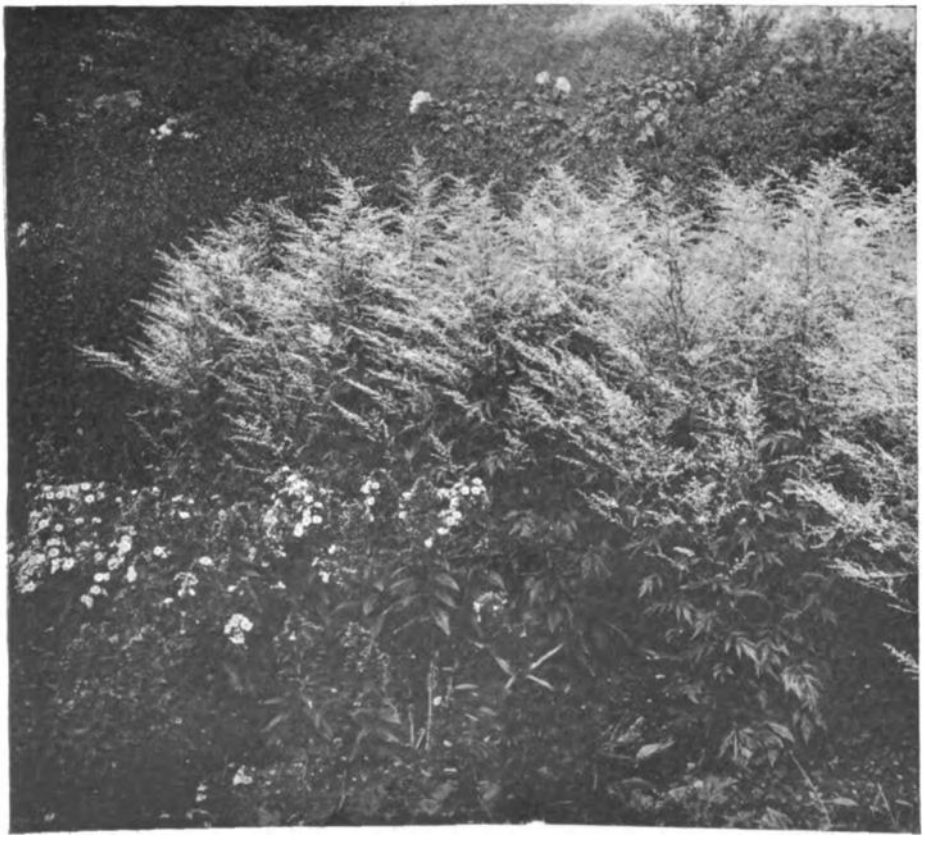
SHADY POSITION.

Name	*Colour*	*Height* Ft.
†Veronica gentianoides	Blue	.. 1½
*Trollius asiaticus ..	Orange	.. 2
T. europæus	Yellow	..2–3
Meconopsis cambrica ..	Yellow	.. 1
Hemerocallis aurantiaca	Orange	.. 3
H. fulva	Copper	.. 3

Name.	*Colour.*	*Height* Ft.
*Anemone japonica ..	Rosy pink	.. 2½
A. alba	White	.. 3
Dicentra spectabilis ..	Rosy crimson	3
*Iris germanica in variety	Various	.. 3
Aquilegia hybrids ..	Various	.. 2
Thalictrum	Various	..3–6
*Peonies	Various	..3–5
Solidagos, various ..	Yellow	..3–5
Funkias (plantain lilies)	Various	.. 1½
Michaelmas daisies (sun or shade) ..	Various	..3–6

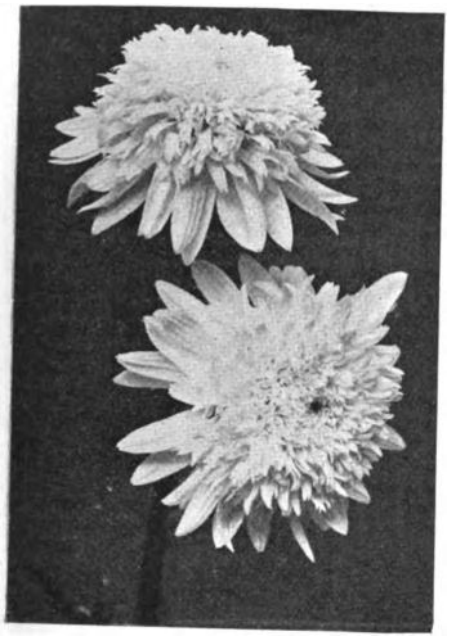
SUNNY POSITION.

*Doronicum plantagineum excelsum ..	Yellow	.. 1½
*Chrysanthemum maximum King Edward ..	White	.. 3
*Helenium pumilum ..	Golden yellow	2½
Alstroemeria, various ..	Yellow, orange, red, etc.	.. 3
†Geum Mrs. Bradshaw	Crimson	.. 1
Campanulas, various ..	Blue and white	..3–6
Heucheras, various ..	Pink, white, crimson	.. 2
Lobelia cardinalis ..	Scarlet	.. 3
*Pyrethrums, double and single	Various	.. 2
Lupins	Various	.. 5
Sidalcea Listeri ..	Pink	.. 3
*Rudbeckias, various ..	Orange and yellow	.. 2
Artemisia lactiflora ..	Creamy white	4–5
*Gaillardias	Orange, yellow, crimson	.. 2
†Achilleas (yarrows) ..	Various	.. 2
†*Gypsophila paniculata	White	.. 3
*Statice (sea lavender) ..	Rose and pink	2–3
*Eryngiums (sea hollies) various	Blue	2–3
Delphiniums, various	Blue, purple, violet	3–5
Kniphofias (red-hot pokers), various ..	Yellow, red, crimson, coral	3–5



THE FEATHERY SPRAYS OF ARTEMISIA LACTIFLORA ARE MOST DECORATIVE WHEN MASSED IN CLUMPS IN THE BORDER.

Digitized by Google

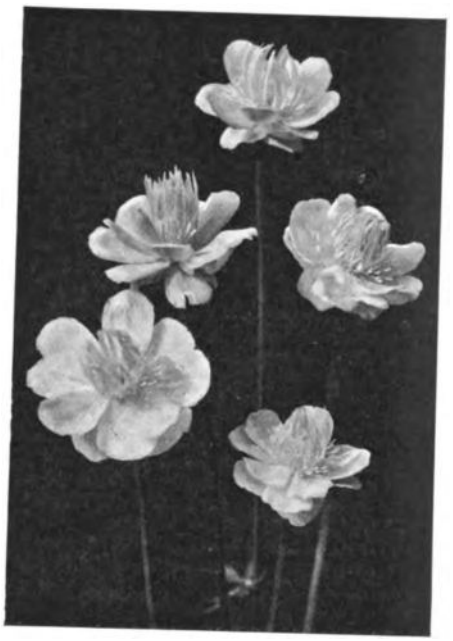


PYRETHRUM VICTORIA.

Name	*Colour*	*Height Ft.*
Lythrum roseum (loosestrifes)	Rosy purple	3–5
Agrostemma coronaria hybrida	Rosy crimson	2–3
*Phloxes in variety ..	..	2–3
†Linum perenne ..	Blue ..	2

Some of the plants, like doronicums, commence to bloom quite early in spring, while Michaelmas daisies, starting in August, linger until late in autumn.

A MODERN VARIETY OF LONG-SPURRED COLUMBINE.

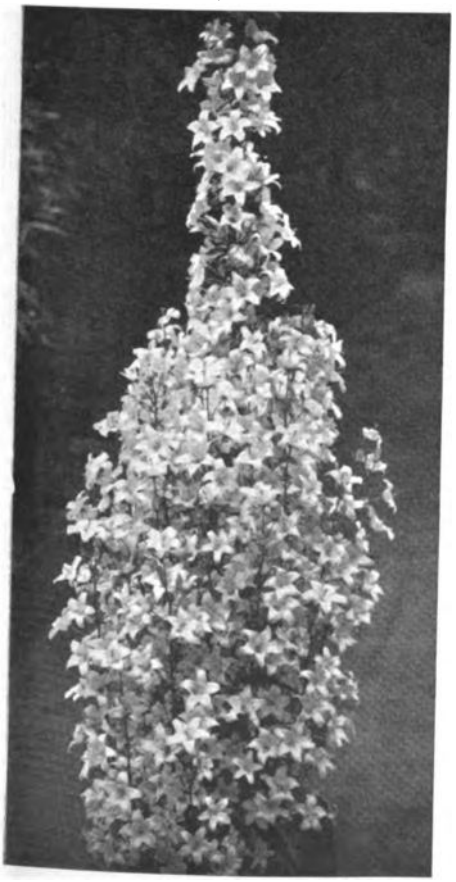


TROLLIUS GOLDEN QUEEN.

Plants that are deep rooters, like alstroemerias (Peruvian lilies), should have their crowns covered with 4ins. of soil.

Gypsophilas have deep fleshy roots and, once established, will go for years and do well if planted in soil in which lime is found. If it is known to be deficient, then old mortar rubble should be incorporated with the soil at the time the roots are planted.

I should not hesitate in planting many of the subjects enumerated in November, providing the ground is ready.



THE TALL GRACEFUL SPIKES OF CAMPANULA PYRAMIDALIS.

THE LOOSESTRIFES DO WELL IN A MOIST SITUATION.

ANEMONE JAPONICA IS EXCELLENT FOR A SHADY POSITION.

Digitized by Google

THE FRUIT AND KITCHEN GARDEN

Storing Turnips During the Winter.

IT is a fact that turnips will keep very well for a considerable time if allowed to remain in the beds in which they grow; but this is not always convenient, for the ground may be wanted for some other crop, or it may be necessary to give it a good digging for that purpose. Turnips can be stored in sheds and other buildings, but by being heaped together there is danger of one unsound root setting up trouble among the good ones, as with other root vegetables; it is, therefore, preferable to store turnips in the open ground where there is more room.

One way of storing turnips so that there is no possibility of contamination by any bad roots, and ensuring that no turnip touches its neighbour, is to earth up the turnips in the beds without removal therefrom; this especially applies to light or sandy soils—it would not be advisable in heavy or wet ground.

In the latter circumstances it would be better to take out a trench a foot or less deep, and place the turnips in a row as if they were actually growing, with ample space between each root. Then cover the roots by filling in the trench with sand or light soil, and there may be substituted leaves, litter or straw, with a light covering of soil to keep it in place.

Under both systems the turnips will keep sound and fresh, and can be got at easily when required. Cut the tops first of all—not too close, or it may induce sprouting.

These remarks apply to swedes, and may be extended to kohl rabi, winter radishes and, perhaps, carrots. —H. A. DAY.

How to Obtain Early Peas.

IN order to have peas at the earliest possible opportunity next summer, seed must be sown in autumn and as early in the month of November as possible. If the ground was richly manured for the previous crop no more manure is required, as is the case when peas are grown on old celery or autumn cabbage ground; if the soil is not rich, some manurial matter may be dug in, and dug in fairly deeply. In exposed sites a sunk seed-bed is best, *i.e.*, the seeds are to be sown in the bottom of a drill, not on the top, the side ridges protecting the seedlings from strong winds. On the level a board on edge or twiggy stakes inserted alongside serve the same purpose. Again, there must be a "run" for water, because water stagnating round the plants in winter is highly inimical to their free and continuous development. Round-seeded varieties are, as a rule, more hardy.

There are many who find that, even with thick sowing and protection to the seedlings, outside sowings are not always profitable. The only alternative is to sow in frames and to keep the plants there until the really severe weather of winter is past. I have tried sowings from which the seedlings were taken one by one and dibbled in the borders outside; I have also sown seed in boxes and in shallow metal or clay gutters from which the seedlings were transplanted with the ball of soil intact. The most suitable plan I have found is to sow the seeds six to twelve in each pot and then to plant out at 12ins. or 18in. intervals in spring intact. This plan is economical in time and space; the clumps spread when they begin to grow outside and the crop is always good. A sandy loam without any manure is the best compost to use, and when the seedlings are an inch or two high, ample ventilation must be given in the frame. —LANARKSHIRE.

Rotation of Crops.

THE intensive system of horticulture in vogue everywhere to-day demands a scientific rotation of cropping, in order to secure maximum results from minimum expense, labour and soil area. The first advantage lies in economy of manurial matter; different plants take up different food salts from the soil, and these in ever varying proportions; shallow plants tap surface contents of the soil only, while deep rooters reach right down to the subsoil. Healthier plants are also ensured, for it is recognised that, unless in a few exceptional circumstances, continuous cropping with one plant soon brings about deterioration, while plant diseases and insect pests secure a firm hold and make greater ravages on the crop. Thirdly, bacterial action is stimulated by a change of crop; only lately has this fact been securely established, and it explains many benefits formerly recognised but only vaguely understood. For many years, too, it has been known that certain crops prepare and, at times, enrich the land for other crops; rotation takes advantage of this, whereas cropping repeatedly with one crop ultimately urs the osland and reduces fertility.

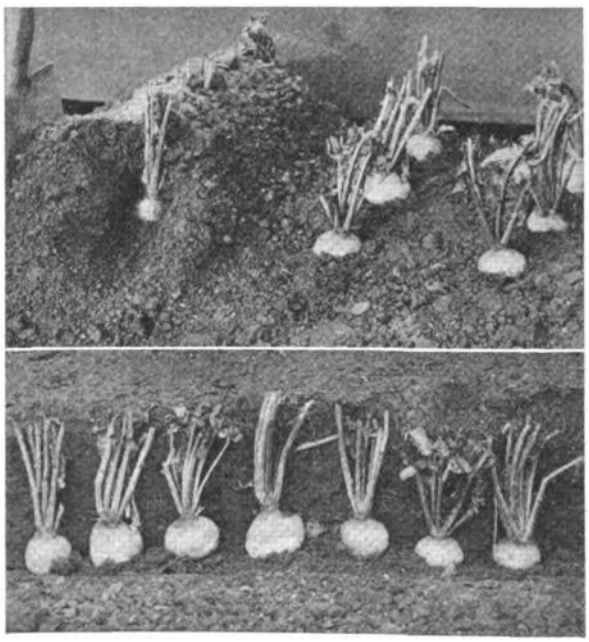
In the average garden a long rotation is not possible; probably a three-year rotation will prove the most acceptable, and we give here one system which has proved of the very highest advantage and profit. The ground is divided into three parts, figuratively and not by hedges or paths; in one plot is grown Selection A, in the second Selection B, and in the third Selection C. Next year Selection A is grown on the second plot instead of the first, B is grown in the third plot and C in the first. In the third year A is grown in the third plot, B in the first and C in the second.

Selection A.—Early potatoes followed by endive and lettuce; mid-season potatoes; late potatoes; early turnips in succession early cabbages, cauliflowers and sprouts.

Selection B.—Shallots, spring onions, winter onions and onion sets; parsnips; beet; carrots; parsley; the seed-bed for annuals, biennials, etc. In this case little, if any, manure is needed, except for the onion crops.

Selection C.—Beans of all kinds; marrows; peas; celery; leeks (after spinach); late peas; lettuce and salads. Some of these crops need a lot of manure; others need just a little.

In all cases, of course, catch crops can be raised on vacant soil, while, often, a winter or spring crop may be had before tender stuff is ready to be planted out in spring. The pod-bearers in C and the richly manured celery and leeks prepare the ground well for parsnips, carrots, etc. The latter, which get no manure, are followed by deep-rooting crops which need manure in plenty. The lime dressing so essential to good gardening, would come in best as soon as Selection B was harvested, a third being treated each year in this way and the whole every three years.—CLYDESDALE.



An easy method of keeping turnips during the winter is either to earth the soil over them or to store in trenches with a covering of light soil.

Propagating Globe Artichokes

GLOBE artichokes only continue to yield produce worth having up till they are three years old, thus fresh plants must be propagated in order to keep the stock young. This is best done by means of suckers, these being found to develop freely round the old plants. They may be detached from the parent plants about now, or from mid-March to mid-April. Provided it is intended to carry out the work this autumn, one way to proceed is to scrape away the soil from around the old plants and then to slice off the suckers with the aid of a sharp knife so that each one has a piece of the main stock attached. Although not essential, provided the suckers possess a piece of the old stem, the endeavour should be to have some roots adhering also. Having secured the required number of cuttings, replace the soil firmly round the old crowns. Another way is to lift an old root or two as necessary and separate into pieces, each with a sucker. Now pot up the suckers singly into small pots of good, light soil, give a watering and then plunge the pots to the rim in ashes in a cold frame for the winter. Keep the frame close for a week, but subsequently admit air freely on all favourable occasions. Then when the proper time comes in spring the young plants may be hardened off, turned out of the pots and planted into permanent quarters. Globe artichokes require well prepared ground, thus as a favourable opportunity offers during the coming winter, the sites should be deeply worked and a liberal dressing of manure applied in readiness for the reception of the young plants. Leave the surface as rough as possible until ready to make the final preparations for planting. —T. W. O.

Rhubarb.

DURING the winter the rhubarb border ought to be deeply dug and a fair proportion of manure or manurial substitutes, like shoddy, wool fibre, etc., incorporated in the soil near the crowns. Artificials never give quite so good results as humus-forming natural products. At the same time, too, large roots may be cut down. Probably the best plan is to lift the clumps entirely and to replant strong "buds" from the outside, keeping the rest for forcing purposes. While rhubarb may be grown for very many years on the same site, a change every five years is distinctly beneficial.

Digitized by Google

Failing a change, the roots may be lifted, the soil trenched and manured and the roots replanted on the same site. Growers of rhubarb know well how a root lifted and inverted so that the roots are exposed to all weather conditions for a month always has a tendency to come into growth more readily and more strongly after replanting or in a forcing pit. I invariably do this to get an outside crop a few weeks earlier than it might otherwise be, and all roots intended for forcing are treated in the same way. Whenever deterioration sets in, betrayed by the production of thin weak stalks and by a loss of quality, the best plan is to discard the roots at once.

New stock can be raised from seed easily or readily purchased. Most growers prefer varieties with nice red stalks, like The Sutton, Paragon, Linnæus, St. Martin's, Victoria and others. A few prefer the green kinds and those which have monster stalks, like the Monarch, Robson and so on. Victoria, possessing both properties, is a good variety for the small garden. The newer Perpetual rhubarb has a longer season than any of the others. In all cases when stock is raised from seed, see that the small amount needed is obtained from first-class stock.—LANARKSHIRE.

Renovating Fruit Trees.

MANY small orchards and plantations of fruit trees are well kept and in a fruitful condition, but there are far too great a number that have been neglected and allowed to fall into decay. Some are beyond hope, but others may be restored to fruitfulness if prompt attention is given.

Where it is a case of old age, stunted growth and injury from animals and other causes, it is really not worth trying to restore such trees to fruitfulness. But if unfruitfulness is caused by faulty pruning, lack of pruning, bad cultivation or neglect of insect pests and fungus, then, with care, they may be restored to a fruitful state.

Renovation includes manuring, pruning, cleaning, eradicating insect pests and fungus, summer spraying, winter washing and good all-round cultivation.

The proper treatment for overcrowded plantations and orchards is to dig up every alternate tree to give ample room for the permanent trees. The treatment is drastic it is true, but it is the only way to have healthy and fruitful trees.

Many fruit trees fail through neglect of winter pruning. Some growers believe that standards can look after themselves. Although their treatment is not the same as cordons and bushes, which are spur-pruned, the work of thinning their heads—that is to say, removing crossing branches, cutting out from the centre of the trees the strong growths, shortening branches of a spindly growth, that are unable to bear a crop without breaking—should be carried out yearly. Sun and air can then play upon all parts, resulting in well ripened and nicely finished fruits. After pruning, all neglected fruit trees should be sprayed with a caustic soda solution to cleanse the trees from moss and lichen, which harbour insect pests.

In cases where winter pruning has not been practised for some years, the heads become thickets, with little, if any, fruiting wood. Apples, pears and plums, not too much crowded, may be carefully thinned. Another cause of unfruitfulness is insufficient manuring, the trees assuming a poverty-stricken appearance, with poor growth and leaves of a yellow colour. Frequently is this state of affairs to be found in grass orchards. Grass should be cleared away from around the base of each tree and a mulch of well rotted manure applied. Grease-banding must not be neglected.—F. H.

Old Wall Trees.

WALLS form a valuable asset to a garden, and as wall space is so precious it should not be wasted—left uncovered or covered with worthless trees. The latter may be trees of choice varieties of fruits, but if the trees are in a bad condition they should be thoroughly renovated or replaced by young stock. I once heard a very able gardener say "I would much sooner undertake the renovation of old vines than plant young ones." Being young myself at that time, I thought much about what he said. Since then I have renovated many vines and planted many young ones, and after nearly forty years' experience I do not hesitate to say I would much prefer to plant young vines. The same remark applies to wall trees. If the trees have been neglected they can, certainly, be "pulled round" again with care; but if the branches are very old and diseased or the roots are in similar state, then remove all roots and branches and plant young trees after thoroughly overhauling the soil and preparing it for their reception. There are numerous specimens, old, but favourites, in our gardens and the owners do not like to dispense with them. Well, in such cases, we should have in readiness a nice lot of fibrous loam and rotted manure, also lime for the special benefit of stone fruits. Begin now to take out the original soil, exposing the roots, and replace it with the prepared compost—three parts loam to one part manure, with one peck of lime per tree for stone fruits. Well work the soil round and under the roots, notching the latter in places and making all the new soil very firm. Then water and apply a substantial mulch. Dress and clean the branches, cutting out decaying parts, rectify errors in overcrowding, lay in new wood where advisable, and make good the face of the wall where it is damaged.—G. G.

WHAT OUR READERS SAY

A NOVEL ROSE BED.

SIR,—This little suggestion may be useful to anyone who wants in a corner of their lawn a rose bed that is a little out of the common. There are four outer posts all connected to a centre one by wooden chains. The centre post is 1ft. higher than the outer ones. Rambler roses are trained up these posts, and in the beds underneath hybrid teas are grown. The wooden chains are made from fir: holes are drilled the length of the drill and then each piece of chain is sawn off, and the whole threaded on stout galvanised wire.

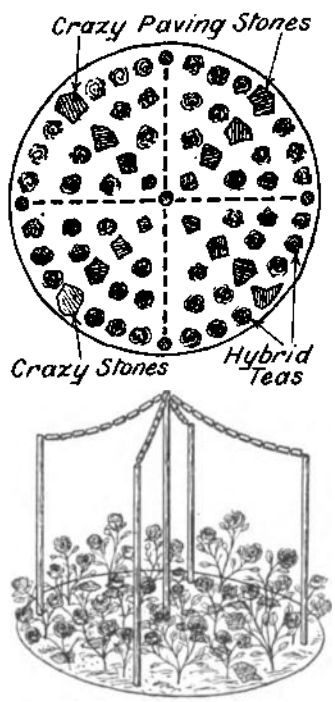
The bed should have a good camber.—S. WHITING.

PACKING COLLECTED PLANTS.

SIR,—I have just had brought to my notice an enquiry in THE GARDEN about how to pack alpine plants for sending home when collecting abroad. Unfortunately, I have not the letter by me, but the writer asked for my experience in this matter, and I am very happy to comply.

In these days of uncertain posts, I never send my plants home from the Alps, but always bring them home with me. I tried sending by Grande Vitesse in 1919, but the plants took three weeks on the way, and, although they had taken little harm, I have not repeated the experiment since.

In the days when one could send by post, I removed all soil from the roots of the plants, packed with a little almost dry moss, and sent in air-tight biscuit tins. At the present time my plan is to remove every scrap of soil from the roots; in some cases I even wash the plants free from soil, and then leave them exposed until the surplus moisture has dried off them. Next, I roughly sort them into their various kinds, arrange them in



bundles with a very little moss round the roots, wrap tightly in newspaper, then pack them as tight as they will go in whatever I have taken to carry them in. Sometimes I have used a suit-case and sometimes a canvas hold-all—one of those green canvas pillow-cases used for soiled linen. I should like to emphasise the very dry state in which I pack the plants, my theory being to keep them practically dry and practically air-tight, so that no evaporation goes on and no fermentation.

The downfall of most amateurs is that they simply cannot resist "just sprinkling the poor dears" with a little water when packing, with the result that 90 per cent. of the "poor dears" emerge at the other end in a state of very smelly putrefaction.

When collecting I usually let my plants accumulate for several days. Remove the soil superficially at the time of collecting, and save up for a big morning's packing at intervals, when I do the final cleaning away of soil.

During the intervals between collecting and packing, the plants usually reside in a compact heap covered with damp towels, on my bedroom floor. By this method I can successfully bring home plants and keep them going for a fortnight, and even three weeks, and I think I am right in saying that I do not lose more than an average of 5 per cent.

The method of treatment on arrival in England is, I think, quite as important as the treatment during transit. What I do with the majority of the plants is to heel them in in a bed of pure silver sand, beneath which is a stratum of leaf-mould or other nourishment. The plants are kept shaded and close for a week or so, and then gradually they are hardened off. They soon plump up, and before long begin to root into the silver sand,

Digitized by Google

and as they begin to sit up and take notice, they are dealt with and either planted out or potted.

Occasionally, when I have seen some very special variety of a plant I have been tempted to dig it up with a little sod of soil complete, with the idea of bringing it home undisturbed, but this method has almost always proved a failure, and time after time special forms have come through, even when quite tiny scraps, when treated and packed like the others.

I never hesitate to collect either fibrous-rooted plants or bulbs in full flower, and I always think the plants are far easier to move when in growth than when dormant.

I hope these hints may help to keep at any rate, a proportion of the plants which are annually dug up by enthusiasts in the Alps, from the deadly sponge-bag method of packing.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, *Stevenage.*

MICHAELMAS DAISIES.

SIR,—The photograph conveys some faint impression of the massed beauty of a border of these, the last outdoor flowers of the year. It fails to give an adequate representation of the length of the right-hand bed, which is exactly 100ft., the plants four deep and all staked outwards with four or more canes, so as to afford the fullest possible flowering surface.

Starworts bloom so late in the season that it is scarcely possible to grow them among other herbaceous plants, in that they would present merely a green blank in the colour scheme. Instead I devote a side walk to their display, but use the fore-front of the border for stocks, nemesias, clarkias and other annuals which can be pulled up before the daisies get into their stride.

This year the drought has rendered heavy watering necessary during the month of September, and, even so, mildew has attacked certain of the plants, while a few others have wilted and been replaced, a safe operation which in no way interferes with the flowering, provided a sufficient ball of soil is lifted with the roots.

One of the chief charms of Michaelmas daisies is the attraction which they have for butterflies. 1926 has been a Small Tortoiseshell year. The wonted wealth of the Red Admirals and Peacocks has failed, but Commas have visited the border in fair numbers. The verge at the foot of the daisies is ordinary thrift, from which the dried flower husks have long since been shorn.—R. H.

THE BEAUTY OF A MASSED BORDER OF MICHAELMAS DAISIES.
The perennial asters are unsurpassed for garden decoration in autumn.

A DOUBLE WHITE DELPHINIUM

SIR,—Some years ago I started with the fascinating hobby of raising delphiniums. The improvements noted from year to year were remarkable, but for a long time the much sought after white double delphiniums refused to make their appearance. Last season however, they appeared and they are even much finer than I had expected, considering the white varieties existing to-day in commerce. I enclose a few pictures of the best seedlings. (1) is a lovely milky white with a large brown centre, a plant of graceful habit and strikingly decorative when planted between blue delphiniums. (2) showed only a few flowers in its first flowering season, but they were of remarkably large size and with several rows of clear white petals. (3) forms very regular white flowers with two rows of broad, flat petals. Another of similar shape is a slightly blushed white of alabaster-like beauty. There are also a few seedlings with dark metallic buds, which, on opening, are a delicately whitish blue mauve. The individual flower pictures are exact natural size.—P. WILHELM.

A FLOWER OF REMARKABLE SIZE WITH SEVERAL ROWS OF CLEAR WHITE PETALS.

THREE TYPES OF NEW SEEDLINGS OF DOUBLE WHITE DELPHINIUMS.

ROSES IN BLEAK AND POOR SITUATIONS.

SIR,—With so many new houses being built, and therefore gardens being made—and what is a garden without roses?—I feel that my experiences of the last two years may be helpful to others whose gardens, or gardens to be, are similarly situated. My own garden is 1,000ft. above sea level in a sandstone district, the surrounding country being hard and wild with no trees growing except in the valleys, and we are fully exposed to all gales except from the east. I have a clump of cerastium planted on a slope which is growing up the slope owing to these winds. A still day is rarely experienced. The soil is one spit of poor sandy loam and then gravel, and yet I have had a wonderful time with roses, having had roses since the second week in June, and am still cutting (October 16th). All gardeners do not live in favoured districts, and it seems to me that too little is written in the gardening Press for people who have conditions similar to my own to contend with and who have to fight for every bloom they get. How often is one told to take cuttings of this, that and the other "now they have finished flowering" when the things are only just showing bud. And when one thinks of the number of people who, having no experience, follow the advice given to the letter, with poor results and so get into the frame of mind which says "You can't get anything to grow in this district," one is forced to the conclusion that all writers of seasonal instructions should specify South, Midlands, etc. At

Digitized by Google

certain seasons of the year I and my friends work three to four weeks behind the times given in the standard works.

To return to roses. When this house was to be built I had all the turf stripped off and stacked from the land actually covered by the building, and then twelve months after, when preparing my rose-beds, I took out all the soil and gravel to a depth of 2ft. and filled up with the turf (chopped up, of course) and cow manure to within 4ins. of the level required, some of the fine soil being replaced as being absolutely necessary to satisfactory planting. My roses are thus literally grown in the fat of the land. Another point. When cutting, cut with long stems to a good fat eye and be rewarded with a good strong shoot which soon flowers.

There is good and bad in most things, and the good in a situation like this is that I never have to use a syringe (indeed, I have not got one), disease being non-existent and green fly easily dealt with by the finger and thumb.—A. H., *Halifax*.

TRELLIS AND HOW TO MAKE IT

THERE are several forms of trellis in ordinary use. Ordinary expanding trellis is shown at Fig. 1, interlaced diamond at Fig. 2, ordinary square at Fig. 3 and interlaced square at Fig. 4. The expanding form shown at Fig. 1 is sold in widths

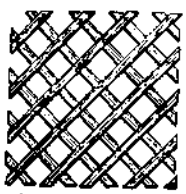


FIG. 1.

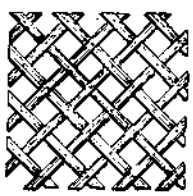


FIG. 2.

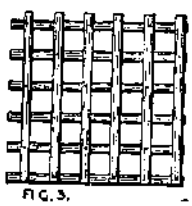


FIG. 3.

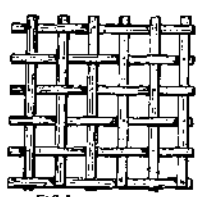


FIG. 4.

of 1ft. 2ft. and up to 6ft., opening out to 12ft. For use with the trellis, grooved top and bottom boards and posts grooved on both sides are obtainable. With the necessary material, usually about 1in. by ¼in., trellis is easily made as shown at Fig. 5. The spacing, which is generally 3ins., is effected by means of a grooved block of 1in. wood, 3ins. wide and about 18ins. long, as at Fig. 5A. The nails should be ¾in. long, driven right through the wood and then hammered over on the other side, with the nail head placed on an iron block or flat iron.

Unless trellis is well supported it is very liable to damage, and when used for fences, posts should be erected at every 3ft. with stout cross rails. An example of a simple trellis fencing is shown at Fig. 6. The upright posts are 2ins. by 2ins. and the rails 2ins. by 1in., preferably 1½ins. The rails are let into the upright posts so that the front surfaces are flush, the trellis being then nailed on direct. A much stronger form of fencing is shown at Fig. 7. The posts should be 2½ins. by 2½ins., the rails 2ins. by 1in., let in on both sides, and then the trellis, which is firmly held by the rails, is capped by a grooved top railing as indicated in section.

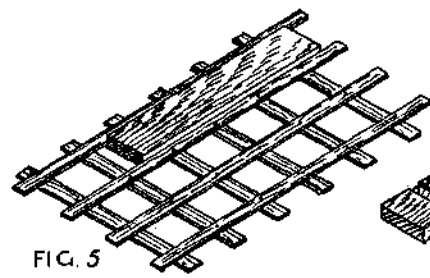


FIG. 5.

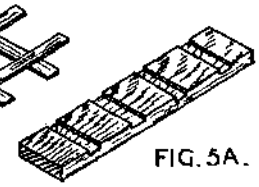


FIG. 5A.

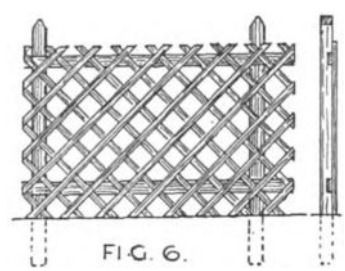


FIG. 6.

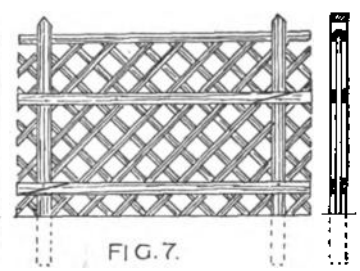


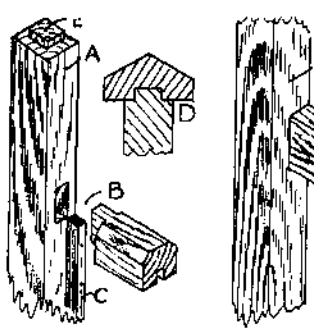
FIG. 7.

When trellis is used to increase the height of existing fences, it is advisable to use the material as panels with some square trellis in between, as shown at Fig. 8. The large panels should be about 6ft. by 3ft. and the small panels about 2ft. This kind of fencing can be built with stock material with very little difficulty, and looks much more effective than plain lengths of the expanding trellis nailed to uprights and rails. The square trellis shown at Fig. 9 is quite effective when arranged as a fence or division between one part of the garden and another. The meshes should be about 4ins. with 1in. by ¼in. material, but a larger mesh can be arranged if stouter material is used.

The various joints required in securing the rails to the posts are shown at Fig. 10, A indicating an upright post. The method used in fitting the grooved top rail is shown at B, the narrow strip at C being a fillet to support the edges of the trellis instead of using a grooved upright. The capping shown at D forms a neat finish to the uprights, the latter being cut at the top as at E. Rails are let in as at F, the groove being ¼in. deep, as at G. The method of joining lengths of railing is shown at H. The strip at J is used when the trellis is nailed to the inside of the rails to form panels. A method of using capping is shown in the section at K; L represents the rail and M the trellis.

Trellis work to be attached directly to the house for training roses should be made on a framework, as at Fig. 11. The framing should be joined at the corners with the lapped halving joint, as at Fig. 12, and then attached to the wall by holdfasts. The trellis is nailed on to the framing after it is fixed to the wall. Trellis fitted in this way can be removed with very little trouble. An alternative form of trellis for walls is shown at Fig. 13. It can be made on a separate framework or attached to uprights.

New wood should be coated with a preservative. Creosote is in common use, but there are several proprietory preservatives which are equally good and obtainable in colours. Paint can be used, but it will be found somewhat expensive and it is doubtful if it is as effective as a good stain.



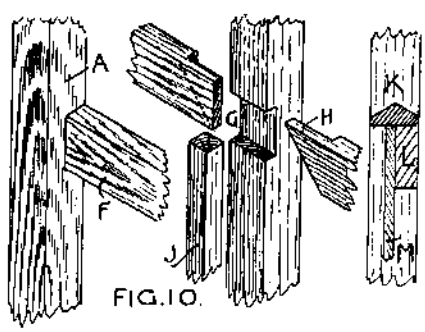


FIG. 10.

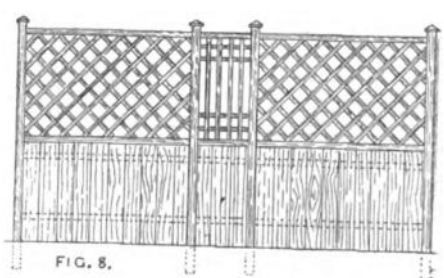


FIG. 8.

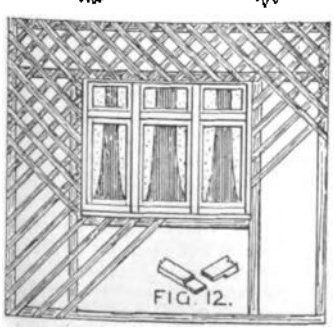


FIG. 12.

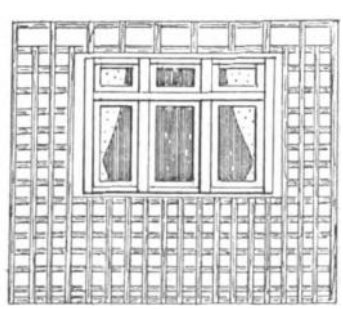


FIG. 11.

FIG. 13.

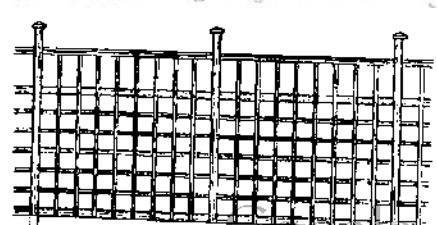


FIG. 9.

Digitized by Google

HINTS WORTH REMEMBERING

Half a guinea will be paid each week for the most useful or interesting hint sent in by a reader. Five shillings will be paid for all others published. Each must be sent in on a separate sheet and must not be more than 300 words in length.

THE HALF GUINEA HINT.

Planting Rose Trees.

Now that the season for planting is at hand, I wish to suggest a point frequently overlooked, that is, the importance of letting the roots rest on a firm surface which, after being well dug or stirred, should be trodden thoroughly. Most people tread the surface when the tree is planted, but forget that the loose earth covering the roots, having no firm foundation, cannot be pressed closely to them, as it should be. In addition, I would say: do not plant in frosty weather; do not let any manure—even if rotten—come in contact with the roots; and do not plant too deeply, just enough to cover the collar at least 1in. but not more than 2ins. A piece of string tied round the collar with loose ends of an inch will serve as a useful guide. Lastly, make the hole sufficiently wide so that the roots can be spread out as far as possible, and your careful planting will ensure success.—A. H. C.

Training Rambler Roses.

When training rambler roses on arches I find it a good plan to stretch a piece of wire netting over the top of the arch. This should be attached to the woodwork of the arch by means of wire. It prevents the shoots from falling through the top in summer and adds much to the neatness of the arch.—W. B.

How to Make Delicious Marrow Chunks.

Four pounds of marrow, 2lbs. of sugar, ½lb. of preserved ginger, two lemons. Cut the marrow in pieces about 1½ins. square. Put on the fire in a jelly pan with just enough water to cover. Bring to the boil, then drain away water. Return the chunks to the pan with 1½ pints of water and boil ten minutes. Strain again, keeping the water. Put water on with sugar and juice of lemons to make syrup. When boiling put in chunks and ginger, cut also in squares, and boil for half an hour, or until marrow is clear. Put in wide jars and cover at once.—M. D.

Treatment of Herbaceous Perennials.

After cutting down the stems of these, the remaining portions are often left to decay, unless they are blown down by the wind. In the interval the stumps—at least those that are hollow—are filled with water, which, in the event of frost, becomes frozen, the probable result being that injury is inflicted on the crowns. Though it is not suggested that the stumps should forcibly be removed, it is an advantage to clear them off as soon as they can be parted readily from the base. The gaps left will fill with soil during rain, thus affording protection to the crowns. If severe weather is expected, they should be filled up without delay. I consider this an important item in the cultivation of border plants, and make a point never to overlook it.—MENDIP.

A Use for Black Currant Prunings.

Black currant prunings make excellent shelter for sweet peas during the winter. If the prunings are trimmed and pushed thickly into the soil around the peas they afford partial shelter against wind and frost. They also afford supports up which the peas can climb. In addition they may form strongly rooted black currant plants ready to be transplanted by the time the sweet peas are dead.—J. H. B.

Cuttings of Lithospermum.

Those who have trouble to strike Lithospermum prostratum should keep a plant in a greenhouse in a pot and take the cuttings from the plant when about 2½ins. to 3ins. long and put them in a warm house. Then they will root quite easily, and the tips from these if taken will also root without trouble. I usually strike the cuttings in plain sand all through the summer.—W. J. V.

The Winter Jasmine.

It is well worth while remembering how freely the yellow winter jasmine (J. nudiflorum) will reproduce itself by means of self-layered branches. Even if these are merely lying on the surface of the ground, they will root freely, and form nice little plants in a year or two. A well established bush is almost sure to have anything from six to twenty-four of these young plants growing round it, and they may be severed and moved to more desirable quarters.

Early this year I moved about eighteen new plants formed in this way, and I see there are now at least another half-dozen trailing shoots that have commenced to root.—B. D. S.

The Pruning of the Rambler Rose.

Great mistakes are often made when pruning rambler roses, by leaving too many old branches in the bush. Young ramblers, when planted the first season, should have all the weakest growths cut out close to the ground, and the next season several young strong growths will appear; this will enable the grower to cut out old branches left from its first season's growths. By the fourth season there will be sufficient young growths, so as to enable one to cut out all old branches and tie nothing but new branches in.

Pruning in this way, you have always got a good strong healthy rambler and large trusses of blooms. They also require liberal soakings of manure water or soap suds from the wash tub.

When training ramblers to posts or rustic archways, I always find white string the best, as tar string always seems to burn the young growths.—B. R.

Silver Leaf on Plum.

I had a plum tree very badly affected by silver-leaf, and I cut it back to within a foot of the stock, removed all soil off roots, gave it a very liberal supply of soot and mortar rubble and fresh soil on the roots. The following autumn I moved it again, giving it plenty of soot and mortar rubble, and it has not shown any sign of silver-leaf since.—H. S. B.

OUR SERVICE BUREAU

Though so many subjects are dealt with in each issue of THE GARDEN, *it must constantly happen that readers seek information which is not immediately available. In such circumstances they should make use of our Service Department. Through its medium each reader's own particular enquiry can be dealt with. No matter what the question is, there is always information available from a staff of expert contributors and consultants; and there is no charge for this. It is one of the additional means of service which* THE GARDEN *is glad to render to its readers.*

Also, there is the further convenience which the Service Department affords of supplying readers with data about anything that is advertised in the pages of the paper. Thus, on receipt of an enquiry, particulars will be sent of, say, half a dozen things about which the reader seeks information. The only stipulation is that a stamped addressed envelope and the coupon that will always be found in each issue shall be sent with the enquiry. We would point out, however, that we cannot undertake to supply readers with plans and designs of gardens, but will willingly assist in giving suggestions for planting.

All communications should be addressed to the Service Department, THE GARDEN, *20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.*

We have selected the following enquiries, with their answers, as being of more general interest, and therefore worthy of publication.

Manure for Sweet Peas.

Can you tell me what manures to use for sweet peas and in what proportion. I cannot get horse, cow or pig manures. I thought of putting Wakeley's Hop Manure at the bottom of the trench, but I do not know what kinds to use above that, or whether the manuring should be done now or in the spring.—A. J., Thornton Heath.

Wakeley's Hop Manure would be excellent mixed with the soil from 6ins. below the surface to a depth of 18ins., during the time that the trenches are being prepared for the next year's crop. While the soil is in a fairly dry state this autumn is the best time to do this work. Six ounces of basic slag per square yard should also be forked into the top 12ins. of soil. Next year, when the plants are about 4ins. to 9ins. and growing freely, apply 2 oz. of superphosphate of lime per yard run of row during showery weather, and repeat this operation one month later. Keep the stimulant off the plants.

Wintering Chrysanthemums in a Cold House.

I have a collection of seventy Japanese and incurved chrysanthemums, but my greenhouse has been dismantled of its heating apparatus by a former tenant. So I am now faced with the problem of heating it or losing my plants. I intend leaving this house next year, consequently I do not wish to instal an expensive heating apparatus. I have a good oil stove used for heating bedrooms, and shall be grateful if you will advise me if this will be suitable for greenhouse or if I must procure some other apparatus. I have a dozen plants of Salvia Harbinger, and shall be glad if you will advise me how to treat them to enable me to get a good supply of plants for spring.—T. P. S., Leicester.

If the chrysanthemum pots are well packed in old newspapers and mats are placed over the suckers growing in the pots, you can winter them without any artificial heat in the greenhouse. Of course, the mats must only be put on while frost prevails. In early spring root cuttings—about February 20th.

The salvias you will have difficulty with; damp is their enemy as well as frost. The

Digitized by Google

Rare Himalayan and Chinese

RHODODENDRONS

in Hybrids and Species

A large stock of beautiful Hybrids raised at "Goldsworth," early and late flowering. Clean healthy plants, in various colours. The best have been grafted and can be supplied correctly under numbers. Also an assortment of other rare and scarce plants, and a large general nursery stock. Area over 300 acres.

The Exors. of

WALTER CHAS. SLOCOCK

Goldsworth Old Nursery, WOKING, SURREY.

Station: Woking (Southern Railway) 1 mile.

Lists on application. *Mention* THE GARDEN

Glass breaks!

USE

'WINDOLITE'

The practical

GLASS SUBSTITUTE

for all Garden Purposes.

LIGHT FLEXIBLE UNBREAKABLE

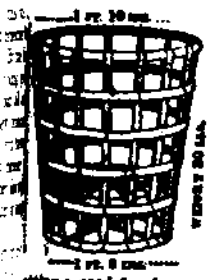
Easy to cut and fix. It keeps out cold and wet, but lets in all the light—even the Ultra Violet Rays which are stopped by glass.

Send 4/6 for post free sample, 3 ft. by 2 ft.

WINDOLITE (DEPT. C) 179/185, GREAT PORTLAND ST., LONDON, W.1

VULCAN GARDEN

REFUSE INCINERATOR



Garden and household refuse reduced to ashes quickly, cleanly, with minimum amount of smoke. Will take a barrow load of rubbish at a charge.

British Manufacture.

PRICE EACH **10/-**

Carriage paid nearest Railway Station - 2 for 15/-

Larger size 2 for 22/6 **12/6**

"The incinerator arrived on Wednesday, and after two soaking nights I had no difficulty in getting a good fire from exposed material. I burnt up in an hour what would have taken me all day with a bonfire."

THE LOSTOCK IRON BASKET WORKS, 11, Griffiths Lane, Lostock Graham, nr. Northwich

---

IF YOU DESIRE VALUE AND APPRECIATE QUALITY

Please send for my new Catalogue of

ROSES - DELPHINIUMS

and my famous new

PYRETHRUMS

Magnificent Plants. Very Reasonable Prices.

H. ROBINSON, Dept. B,

Victoria Nursery, Burbage, Hinckley.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

SWEET PEAS

OUR UNIQUE LIST OF SWEET PEAS IS NOW READY

The Most Comprehensive Issued

All Available Novelties Offered

MAY WE POST YOU A COPY? A POST CARD COMMANDS IT!

G. H. MACKERETH, LTD.,

The Sweet Pea Clearing House,

ULVERSTON, LANCS.

It Pays to Spray

YOUR trees will bear more and better fruit if freed from insect pests, moss, lichen, and other harmful growths.

Now is the time thoroughly to cleanse and re-invigorate the trees by spraying with

COOPER'S

WINTER SPRAY FLUID

("Commended" by the Royal Horticultural Society of Gt. Britain.)

NON-POISONOUS. DOES NOT BURN

Half Pint ...	*1/6*
1 " ...	*2/3*
Quart ...	*3/3*
Half Gal. ...	*5/9*
1 " ...	*9/6*
2 " ...	*18/-*
5 " ...	*38/6*

1 Gall. makes 100 Mixture.

OF ALL AGENTS.

Cooper, McDougall & Robertson, Ltd.

BERKHAMSTED.

LONICERA NITIDA . .

The New Hedge Plant.

THE GARDEN says:—
"Lonicera nitida supplies all the requirements for an evergreen hedge. It is completely hardy and of rapid growth."

This little known but extremely beautiful plant makes a dense hedge. The foliage is deep rich glossy green, with a bronzy tint in winter. It can be clipped to almost any dimensions and is not fastidious as to soil. We have a very fine stock of plants.

Height.		Price per 100
2 - 2½ ft.	-	£7 10 0
2½ - 3 "	-	£10 0 0
3 - 3½ "	-	£12 10 0
3½ - 4 "	-	£15 0 0

CATALOGUE POST FREE.

John Waterer Sons & Crisp Ltd

TWYFORD—BERKS

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

CLEAN CROPS ARE GOOD CROPS

Those dog-in-the-manger trees

YOU really can't afford them. Fruit trees that don't bear take too much room, and keep light and air from other crops.

Yet this dead loss can be turned into a highly profitable crop by quite unusual cleanliness.

That merely means a thorough cleansing of the tree when it is dormant. This season, trees treated with CARBO last winter have been bent down with fruit, where unsprayed trees have failed completely.

Now is the time to destroy moss, lichens, hibernating insects. Kill the eggs of Aphis, Apple Sucker and Caterpillar. Save next season's fruit crop. CARBO is put up in convenient quantities for the smallest garden as well as the largest. Get CARBO now. It costs so little to spray with this supreme winter wash—and saves so much.

CARBO WINTER WASH

2/6 per quart tin
6/- per gallon can

From your dealer—if you have any difficulty apply to the makers.

BUGGÉ'S INSECTICIDES LTD

WESTCOMBE HILL LONDON S.E.3

TAS/Bu.13.

Digitized by Google

Tropæolum speciosum

(THE FLAME FLOWER)

See Illustration on Front Cover.

Strong open ground roots for immediate planting.

3 for 1/3 6 for 2/6 12 for 5/-

Carriage Paid for Cash with Order on mentioning THE GARDEN.

CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED

Six Hills Nursery :: STEVENAGE :: HERTS

THE PLANTING SEASON IS IN FULL SWING

Why not choose one of the following Collections and ensure having a good show in **your** garden next summer:

12 DELPHINIUMS
in 12 distinct varieties **24/-**

12 MICHAELMAS DAISIES
in 12 choice varieties - **15/-**

12 ROCK PLANTS
in 12 choice varieties - **10/-**

Box and Carriage Free

Send for our Descriptive Catalogue, post free

W. WELLS, Junr.
Hardy Plant Nurseries
MERSTHAM : SURREY

For the Planning of Gardens

Colour Schemes for The Flower Garden
By GERTRUDE JEKYLL. 100 Illustrations and plans. 15s. net

Planning and Planting of Little Gardens
By G. DILLISTONE. Illustrated. 6s. net

Herbaceous Borders for Amateurs
By R. V. G. WOOLLEY. Illustrated. 5s. net

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," Ltd., 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2

A Simple Guide to
ROCK GARDENING
By SIR JAMES L. COTTER. 2s. 6d. net.

SURVEYING FOR EVERYONE.
By A. FRANCON WILLIAMS, F.R.S.G.S. With Diagrams and Maps. 3s. 6d. net. A very simple guide to the elements of surveying.

CLAY, AND WHAT WE GET FROM IT.
By ALFRED B. SEARLE. With Illustrations. 3s. 6d. net. An interesting book describing clay from all points of view.

THE SHELDON PRESS,
NORTHUMBERLAND AVENUE, LONDON, W.C.2
And of all Booksellers. Lists post free.

THE
JERSEY
FRUIT TREES ROSE TREES AND CARNATIONS

ARE PACKED FREE OF COST, AND DELIVERED CARRIAGE PAID

Before ordering, **IT WILL PAY YOU** to write for our Illustrated Catalogue and Planter's Guide, which contains **Elaborate Instructions** on the most profitable methods of cultivation, besides an article dealing with **Insects** and **Fungoid** Diseases, and is **FREE TO ALL.** It also gives particulars of our cheap

COLLECTIONS OF NEW ROSES
Exceptional Value. Unsurpassed Quality.
ALL GUARANTEED BRITISH GROWN.

Fifty varieties illustrated in colours, direct from photographs

CORDON FRUIT TREES OUR SPECIALITY

Vast quantities of strong, healthy, fibrously rooted Apples, on the broad-leaved Paradise, Pears, Plums, Peaches, Grape Vines and Strawberry Plants of superior quality.

The Jersey Nurseries, Ltd., (Late Le Cornu)
JERSEY

CHEALS OF CRAWLEY

Have over FIFTY YEARS' Experience of GARDEN AND ESTATE PLANTING and General Improvements.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY ACRES
of Nursery stocked with a First Class Collection of

Ornamental Trees - Shrubs
FRUIT TREES,
Herbaceous and Alpine Plants,
ROSES, DAHLIAS, and all Garden Requisites.

IT WOULD PAY YOU TO CONSULT THEM.

Catalogues of each Department and an Illustrated Pamphlet on Garden Design.

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.,
The Nurseries, **CRAWLEY.**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

BURBAGE ROSES

A collection of 12 of the best varieties. First size Trees, Guaranteed British Grown and true to name, for 12/6 Carriage Paid. - Cash with order.

Betty Uprichard	**Los Angeles**
Clarice Goodacre	**Independence Day**
Mrs. H. Morse	**Madame Butterfly**
Miss Willmott	**Mrs. Wemyss Quin**
Mrs. H. Stevens	**Gen. MacArthur**
Walter C. Clarke	**Frau Karl Druschki**

THE BURBAGE NURSERIES LTD.,
Nr. Hinckley, Leicestershire.
Please mention this Paper.

Digitized by Google

oil stove, properly managed, would help considerably. A great deal depends on weather conditions. You can, however, raise the salvias from seed sown in February. The plants resulting would flower from July onwards. Cuttings are rooted in spring, not in the winter.

A Magnolia which Rarely Flowers.

I have a magnolia on the front wall of my house which has been planted twenty years, but rarely has any flowers. It appears quite healthy, and is about 15ft. high. The wall faces south. I should be glad if you can suggest something to induce it to flower. I have given it occasional applications of fertilisers, without effect. It has never had more than three flowers in a season—the last two years not any. This town it about eighty miles north of London. Is it necessary or desirable to protect it with matting during the winter?—E. M., Peterborough.

We should think that, in order to bring your magnolia into flower, it might be advisable to give a light pruning, and so bring the stem portion into balance with the root system. A good part of any old and dead wood which is on the bush should be removed, also some of the new wood should be shortened. At the same time it might be desirable to dig up the soil round the roots and find out if anything is attacking the plant there. Ease up the soil around the plants and slightly shorten one or two of the longer roots, which will stimulate the growth of a more fibrous root system.

If the winters are very severe it might be advisable to cover the plant with sacking; but, at the same time, as it is planted on a south wall, we should think that this would be unnecessary.

How to Rid the Soil of Wireworm.

Could you advise me how to get rid of wireworms in a flower bed. We are very bothered with them.—K. W., Oltey.

The most effective method of ridding the soil of wireworms is by trapping the pest, or by dressing the ground with a soil fumigant. The wireworms can be trapped by means of pieces of potato, carrot or turnip. Push a pointed stick into the bed and then bury the traps 3ins. in the soil. Examine the traps daily. A material known as "Vaporite" is an excellent soil fumigant. Directions for its application are given with the material. Sprinkling soot over the surface and lightly forking it in is also helpful.

Plants for a Woodland Garden.

I am adding to my garden by taking in part of an adjoining wood. This wood consists of overgrown copsewood, being chiefly large stools of edible chestnut and ash, the sticks of which are 20ft. to 40ft. high, with a tree here and there, left at previous cuttings, 9in. to 12ins. diameter. There are also some nice holly bushes 10ft. to 15ft. high, and the ground is full of bluebells, wood anemones and a few primroses. The soil is very dry, fine, hungry yellow sand, 12ft. to 14ft. deep, overlying strong yellow clay.

I am proposing to convert this piece of land, which is some third of an acre in extent, into a semi-wild woodland garden, and with this view I am cutting down the copsewood, but leaving the best-shaped and largest sticks, irregularly spaced about 12ft. apart, to grow into timber, and also, of course, leaving the hollies. And then, from time to time, as opportunity offers, I propose thinly planting the ground with suitable flowers and flowering shrubs or, possibly, sowing flower seeds.

If any advice or useful hints could be given as to the best methods to pursue and the most suitable plants to use in carrying out these proposals, I should be greatly obliged.—A. W., Canterbury.

Twelve feet apart is close to leave the sweet chestnut stick to grow for timber. As they grow it will be necessary to reduce the number considerably, or they will entirely cover the ground in a few years.

As primroses grow freely, plant also liberally polyanthus and Primula japonica varieties.

Daffodils, snowdrops, chionodoxas, eranthis and the larger Spanish bluebells would be useful bulbs to plant. Also try Liliums giganteum, Martagon and pyrenaicum and colchicums.

Scatter about seeds of foxgloves, Œnothera biennis, verbascums, Epilobium angustifolium, Lythrum salicaria, Calendula officinalis, larkspurs, Lychnis coronaria and honesty.

Perennials to naturalise include lythrum, epilobium, Saxifraga cordifolia, S. umbrosa, Solomon's Seal, lily of the valley and Michaelmas daisies.

Among shrubs the following are worth trying: Berberis vulgaris and some of the hybrids which are readily raised from seed, Spiræa japonica, Symphoricarpus racemosus, Kerria japonica and the double variety flore pleno, Cotoneaster frigida, Berberis (Mahonia) Aquifolium and Hypericum calycinum.

Gumming in Peach Trees.

I have a peach tree, Faranti et Moira, planted in 1921, fruiting for the first time this year, and now showing lots of vigorous and young branches. It has developed resin in the stem and bark, not too terribly. Is it the beginning of the end? If not, what can I do and when?—L. Y., Oporto.

No doubt the disease known as "gumming" has set in on the young peach trees. Although this is not the easiest of trouble to combat, we do not think it means the end of the tree. In the first place, it will be best to cut away those branches showing the "gumming" on the bark, and to paint such branches as are left with lead paint. Then we advise lifting the tree and root pruning in November. Cut back the coarse, lateral and downward striking roots to little more than half their original length. Then replant, but the border should be attended to also. Cold, wet soil, undrained, or soil that lacks lime, predisposes the tree to this trouble. See that the drainage is well-nigh perfect and work in plenty of broken mortar rubble. If possible, take out some of the old soil and replace it with fresh loam. No manure should be added, though applications of bone meal or basic slag will do good. The lifting and pruning should check growth and the renovating of the border should result in the tree making short, healthy growths that will escape "gumming."

"THE GARDEN" CROSSWORD

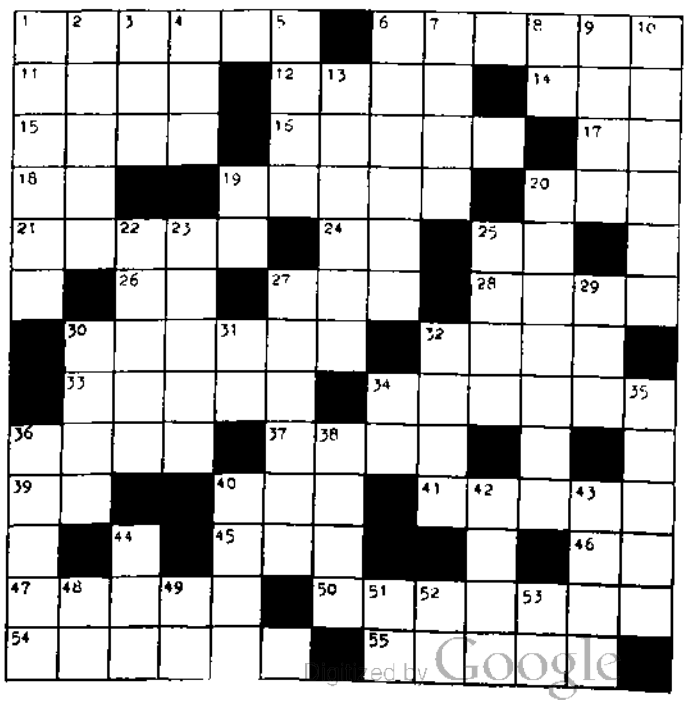
A Prize of Two GUINEAS will be given to the first correct solution opened on the morning of Thursday, November 18th. If no correct solutions are sent in, this prize will be awarded to the first in order of merit that is opened.

ACROSS.

1 Blossoms.
6 Rich, showy and fragrant flower.
11 What every gardener needs.
12 A weed.
14 Mineral rock.
15 Capable.
16 Blundered.
17 Exists.
18 North-east (abbr.).
19 To plant.
20 Employ.
21 Unexpanded flower-bud of the clove tree.
24 Otherwise.
25 The thing mentioned.
26 Rhode Island (abbr.).
27 Purchase.
28 Plant from which seven-eighths of the world's sugar is extracted.
30 A nurseryman.
32 Flower of the carnation group.
33 Shrub with a flower usually of a light purple colour.
34 Lichens.
36 An elevated tableland.
37 Scythe's cutting-edge should be this.
39 Indefinite article.
40 A seed-vessel.
41 Dig.
45 East-nor'-east (abbr.).
46 Intelligence Dept. (abbr.).
47 Striped animal resembling a pony.
50 Stinging plants.
54 Glowing coals.
55 Perforated nozzles of watering-cans.

DOWN.

1 Arm of a tree.
2 Plant identification tag.
3 Lubricant.
4 A number.
5 A stalk.
6 O.R.R.E.R.Y.
7 Genus of grasses with hollow, jointed stem.
8 Stop!
9 The fleur-de-lis, or flag-flower.
10 Sandy tract devoid of vegetable matter.
13 Shady retreat in a garden.
19 Eye (Scot.).
20 Any implement used in gardening.
22 Species of iris, the root of which is used in perfumes.
23 Genus of plants of which the violet is a species.
26 Wading bird related to the stork.
27 To motion with the hand.
29 Protract or lengthen.
30 Narrow valley worn by a river.
31 Western Australia (abbr.).
32 Ducks' playground.
34 The one solving this puzzle.
35 Germs of plant life.
36 Indian corn.
38 The first garden.
40 An orchard fruit.
42 Small lizards.
43 Competes.
44 Flow back, as a tide.
48 Thirteenth letter of alphabet.
49 Regarding.
51 Edward Rex (abbr.).
52 Towards.
53 The (Fr. masc.).



Digitized by Google

THE CHRYSANTHEMUM SHOW

THE great popularity of the "golden flower" continues unabated. There was a queue of members and visitors waiting outside the Royal Horticultural Hall, Westminster, on the opening day of the Annual Show of the National Chrysanthemum Society, and quite early in the afternoon it required considerable perseverance to go round the exhibits, so dense was the throng of interested persons.

We would suggest to the executive of this special flower society that they would do well to enforce the R.H.S. rule prohibiting smoking in the hall. Unfortunately, of late, the tendency seems to be to countenance smoking in the hall on the occasion of these special shows, over which the R.H.S. has no control. We are not alone in considering this to be a great mistake and not in the best interests of the societies. At one time, during the early afternoon of the first day of this magnificent chrysanthemum show, there was an appreciable haze of smoke hanging over the flowers, thus destroying part of the first impressions of the general effect which, otherwise, was wholly admirable. Even in the present year of grace there is a considerable number who dislike tobacco smoke, and we met several such, considerable patrons of horticulture, who shortened their intended stay solely on account of the smoking.

The regular visitor to flower shows at the R.H.S. Hall usually first inspects the newest sorts, and on the present occasion there was a fair variety awaiting attention. During the morning the society's Floral Committee had sat in judgment on a great many new varieties and awarded ten first-class certificates. To the lover of grace and beauty in flowers the variety Fifi stood out above all the others, and yet it was the smallest of all the new ones. It was seen at its best in the most charming group arranged by Messrs. Cragg, Harrison and Cragg. They have raised many delightful chrysanthemums of most types—we do not, at the moment, recall any of the large exhibition Japanese—but none, to our mind, more charming than this real pink variety which makes such graceful sprays.

We have brought away from the Chrysanthemum Show special memories of four varieties. These are Fifi, just mentioned; Mrs. R. Harris, a large rich yellow single of great beauty, in the magnificent "Display of Singles" so well arranged by Mr. F. J. Yarrow's gardener; West Hall Gem, another single, but with rather broader florets of exquisite colouring which at one moment seemed to be a rosy terra cotta and the next appeared to be a rosy fawn with a suggestion of buff apricot. This fascinating variety was shown with eight other splendid vases of singles by Mr. F. C. Stoop. The fourth is an anemone-centred single in the excellent collection of Messrs. Keith Luxford and Co. At present it is an unnamed seedling. The attractive cushion of central florets is tipped with gold and surrounded by long, flattish, bright crimson florets. The colouring is very uncommon in this type of chrysanthemum and if only it can be fixed in a flower with fuller ray florets it should be very valuable.

While the above are the varieties which most impressed us, they by no means exhaust the beauties of the Show. Mr. H. J. Jones set up another of his magnificent collections which won him the large gold medal. His tall stands of specimen blooms, pricked out with green leaves of the sweet chestnut at each stand, separated by a perfectly grown plant of the graceful fern-like Acacia robusta were magnificent. Along the front he had gilt baskets containing delightful colour schemes. Mona Davis and James Baxter, an association of mauve and wine crimson; A. B. Hudd, a medium-sized Japanese variety of crimson colouring, blended well with the single yellow variety Mrs. R. F. Felton; Primrose Poiteau, with the thread-like florets of Pink Tokio and an occasional blush-coloured pompon variety were even more charming; while several shades of pink made another desirable basket.

Lady McNaughten sent from Sandhurst Lodge, Berks, some exceptionally well grown plants of Jean Pattison, Phyllis Cooper, Susan and other varieties which made a handsome group. These monsters were single plants and, we understand, were not quite a year old. Another exhibit, which departed from the general, was the interesting collection of pompon varieties staged by Mr. J. W. Hussey of Exeter. It made an attractive display, and among the many varieties there was a vase of Baby, the tiniest chrysanthemum imaginable.

Twenty-five or so years ago Mr. W. Beckett, gardener to the Hon. Sir John Ward, who had been a noted exhibitor of chrysanthemums for a number of years, ceased to exhibit. This year Sir John wished him to test his skill again with the result that he won a number of first prizes with superb collections of exhibition blooms. Viscount Hambledon, Lady Annaly, Colonel Brassey and Mr. R. L. V. Sherwood were also very successful exhibitors.

The various decorative classes added much to the general effect of the Show, but it was freely commented upon that the most successful arrangements were those with the monster blooms and autumn foliage. It may be that these take the judge's eye best, but it would have been thought that the decorators possessed the skill to make pretty vases with the singles and the smaller Japanese blooms.

New Chrysanthemums.

AQUITANIA.—A large, rounded Japanese variety which, no doubt, will be greatly valued by exhibitors. The rolled florets intercross gracefully, much in the same manner as in the best cactus dahlias. The colour is a bright chestnut and the gold reverse shows at the tips. First-class certificate to Mr. H. Woolman.

CARINTHIA.—An incurving Japanese variety of the best exhibition type. The broad light chestnut florets show much of their golden reverse. First-class certificate to Mr. H. Woolman.

EVERLASTING.—We admired the substantial merits of this medium sized, rounded single last year, when it was first shown. The ray florets are much, velvety crimson colour. There is a narrow yellow zone and the flowers have small discs. First-class certificate to Messrs. Keith Luxford and Co.

FIFI.—This is a most charming little Japanese variety of real bright pink colour. It makes decorative sprays of bloom and the raisers say it is very easy to grow. First-class certificate to Messrs. Cragg, Harrison and Cragg.

IOLANTHA.—Several large vases, illustrated the value of this medium sized Japanese variety, which is of soft pink colour. First-class certificate to Messrs. Cragg, Harrison and Cragg.

LADY FINLAY.—This is a particularly good white Japanese variety, said to be a seedling from Queen Mary, but it has narrower florets and more graceful habit, while being equally large. First-class certificate to Lady Finlay, Warfield Grove, Berks.

MISS MARY POWELL.—A medium sized single of rounded form and yellow colour, freely stippled with terra cotta. First class certificate to Mr. H. Woolman.

MRS. M. DUNKELS.—A large Japanese variety with broad drooping florets of dark plum purple. First-class certificate to Lady Finlay.

THALIA.—An exhibition Japanese variety with broad florets of rich chestnut colour showing an old gold reverse. First-class certificate to Messrs. Keith Luxford and Co.

YELLOW MAJESTIC.—This is a pale yellow counterpart of the well known large exhibition variety.—First-class certificate to Mr. H. Woolman.

FLUE DUST FOR FLOWER BORDERS.

HAVE you ever thought of making use of flue dust for your flower borders? If not, I would strongly urge it being done as flue dust proves a material of extreme value alike for existing flower borders and those which are in course of preparation.

Flue dust as sold is generally available in two distinct forms, *i.e.*, the fresh variety which has only been a day or two out of the flues, and the old aired variety which has been exposed to the influence of the atmosphere, but not to the action of rain, for a varying period, generally not less than a month in duration.

As goes without saying, the fresh variety is far and away more active than the older aired form. Sometimes it proves too active to be forked into the borders close to the roots of established subjects on account of the poisonous cyanogen and other similar compounds which are present. The aired form, however, has to a very great extention these somewhat dangerous chemicals, either by oxidation or by a simple process of evaporation, and it may be recommended, therefore as being the better of the two for established borders, while the fresh flue dust is undoubtedly miles ahead of the other for use when the sites are being prepared.

The colour of the two samples is as a rule very similar, but the aired variety has less odour and at times has been shown to be rather less soluble in water. The exact composition of any particular sample of either kind of flue dust can only obviously be obtained by submitting it to analysis and on account of the expense of this operation I do not recommend it.

The fresh flue dust is the most valuable for freeing the soil from different undesirable forms of insect life, but even very old flue dust has a markedly deterrent action, and this can safely be enhanced by mixing it with from 5 to 10 per cent. of crude naphthalene, obtainable as a rule very easily from gas works or coke oven companies.

Both forms of flue dust contain substantial quantities of potash, and this proves a most valuable fertiliser for our flowers. Where flue dust is employed either as an autumn dressing to established borders or in the preparation of new ones, it is unnecessary to apply any kainit or other potash containing stimulants, as is generally done. One can also save any wood-ashes which would otherwise be used, and employ these in other ways.

Old flue dust can be mixed with a variety of other slow-acting fertilisers for application to flower borders in the autumn. Bone meal is a common addition, the proportions being two parts dust to one of the meal. Basic or reverted superphosphate can also be added, good proportions being three parts dust to a single part of the basic or reverted fertiliser. Horn dust can also be added, but on account of its bulky nature one part of it will be quite sufficient to mixing with nine or ten parts of flue dust, while leather dust, which is also valuable for flower growing, can be mixed with it in similar proportions. The best rate of application is about a handful of flue dust per square yard.

E. T. ELLI-

Digitized by Google

BULBS

e invite immediate applica-
tion for our
ULB CATALOGUE
owing that the very fine
ality of our bulbs enables
to offer exceptionally good
ue for money.

Send for a copy of the BULB CATALOGUE at once.

Bakers
SEED AND
FLOWER FARM
CODSALL
Near Wolverhampton

HARDY FLOWERING SHRUBS

here is always room for a few more
owering Shrubs in a garden.

Althæa Frutex

Ve have an unsurpassed collection of
ILACS, BERBERIS, PHILADELPHUS,
ROOMS, etc., etc., for particulars of
hich see our illustrated Catalogue, post free.

ENNELL & SONS, LINCOLN *Estab. 1780.*

OBITUARY

Mr. WILLIAM SPINKS.

WE regret to announce the death of Mr. William Spinks, who for some considerable time was in charge of the landscape department of Messrs. Hewitt's, Solihull, Birmingham.

Mr. Spinks was born in 1844 and may be rightly called one of the "old school" of horticulturists. His original training was at a nursery in the eastern counties, from where he moved to the R.H.S. gardens at Chiswick, where he was successful in obtaining the Chiswick Certificate. From there he moved to Chantilly, where he was given an appointment under the Duc d'Aumale—this was about 1870. Having gained a wide knowledge of horticulture, he took the position of Superintendent of Aston Lower Grounds (Birmingham), under the control of Mr. Quilter. From there he was engaged as manager of Hans Niemans' nurseries at Harborne Road, Edgbaston, which soon after became controlled by Hewitt and Co., Solihull. He laid the foundation of the present firm's garden architecture department and took an active part in the firm's business up to about five years ago, when, on account of his great age, he was forced to relinquish his duties.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

"Aims and Methods in the Study of Vegetation," edited by A. G. Tansley and T. F. Chipp. Published by the British Empire Vegetation Committee and Crown Agents for the Colonies, price 12s. 6d. A most interesting handbook intended for all practical workers throughout the Empire. In its pages can be found accounts of methods of investigating natural vegetation both scientifically and practically. The volume is largely the outcome of proposals put forward at the Imperial Botanical Conference in 1924. Many gardeners and, indeed, those who are at all interested in the economic aspects of botany and horticulture, will find the book both valuable as a work of reference and instructive.

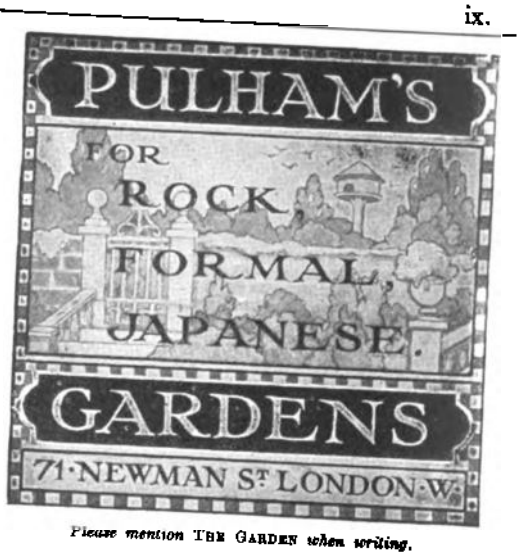
"Beautiful Flowers and How to Grow Them," by Horace J. Wright and Horace P. Wright. T. C. and E. C. Jack, price 10s. 6d. This is a new and revised edition of this excellent amateur gardeners' guide to flower culture. It is comprehensive in its scope, dealing with greenhouse subjects as well as all hardy plants. The chapter on flowers for the suburban garden all keen amateurs will find of considerable assistance when they come to the selection of plants for the furnishing of their suburban garden. The whole book is written simply and clearly and well illustrated by numerous well executed colour plates and line drawings, these latter to illustrate practical points. That there has been the necessity for a new and revised edition speaks well for the popularity of this book, and this present edition bids fair to outstrip its predecessor, since it is, if anything, more helpful to the man who gardens himself and in a small way.

NEW CARNATIONS.

Raisers' Descriptions.

Name, KATHLEEN. Registered by Messrs. Stuart Low and Co., Bush Hill Park. Seedling. Mauvy rose. Size 5ins. Perpetual malmaison, sturdy grower.

Name, MAUVE DAWN. Registered by Mr. H. J. Heath, Haligrove Gardens, Bagshot. May Day × Mrs. C. H. Cutbush. Rosy mauve. Size 3ins. Fragrance slight clove. Habit and stem strong and erect. Calyx perfect.



Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

A UNIQUE OFFER OF
NEW & RARE RHODODENDRONS

including many of the late **Mr. Reginald Farrer's**, and the **Messrs. E. H. Wilson's & G. Forrest's** and **Capt. Kingdon Ward's New Chinese Species; Himalayan** and other varieties from private collections, consequently they are not grown in our Nurseries.

Many of the species have not before been offered, all are on **own roots**, and are of unusual quality and bushiness.

Some of the Species we can supply by the Dozen and 100 and shall be pleased to quote SPECIAL RATES for a quantity.

New, rare, and common Trees and Shrubs in over 4,000 species and varieties.

WRITE FOR DESCRIPTIVE PRICE LISTS.

Hillier & Sons, Tree Specialists, **Winchester.**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

TURF

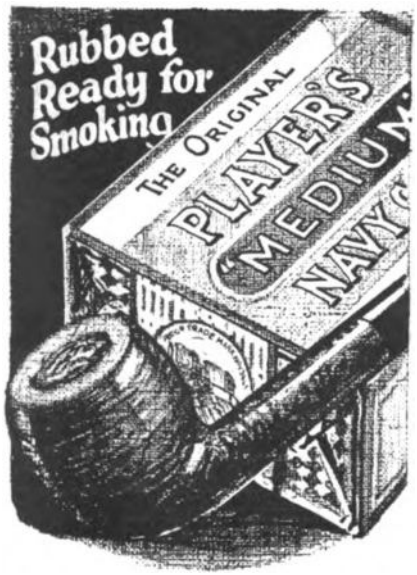
Cultivated and of Best Quality.

State quantity required and ask for quotation.

Large Yews for Sale

Wm. BIGNELL & SON,
48, North Road,
HIGHGATE, N.6

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*



Smokers may now enjoy all the delightful flavour of the original PLAYER'S Navy Cut without the trouble of rubbing it up.

PLAYER'S
"MEDIUM"
Navy Cut

PLAYER'S NAVY CUT
REGD No 154011
RUBBED READY FOR SMOKING

P 1313

Continued from page iii.

FIBROUS YELLOW TURF LOAM.—Catalogue free.—A. B. JOHNSTONE, Cranleigh.

WHOLESALE MANUFACTURERS OF chemically treated Beech Leaves for export. Correspondence invited.—NORSKE BINDERIARTIKLER, Larvik, Norway.

THE NATIVE PLANT NURSERIES will henceforth be known as "THE WILD GARDEN NURSERIES," Rockbeare, Exeter, and will continue to specialise in hardy native and other subjects for naturalising in Wild Garden, Woodland, etc. List free.

THE GARDEN DOCTOR : Plants in Health and Disease, by F. J. CHITTENDEN, V.M.H., freely illustrated, 7.6 net, by post 8/-. A prospectus of this practical book will be sent post free on application to The Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2

The Amateur Series

RHODODENDRONS FOR AMATEURS

By E. H. M. COX. *Editor of* THE GARDEN. Demy 8vo. Illustrated. 5s. net.

BULBS FOR AMATEURS

By the Rev. JOSEPH JACOB. Demy 8vo. Illustrated. 5s. net.

HERBACEOUS BORDERS FOR AMATEURS

By R. V. GIFFARD WOOLLEY. Demy 8vo. Illustrated. 5s. net.

ORNAMENTAL TREES FOR AMATEURS

By W. J. BEAN. Demy 8vo. Illustrated 5s. net.

SHRUBS FOR AMATEURS

By W. J. BEAN. *Curator of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.* Demy 8vo. Illustrated. 5s. net.

A combined Prospectus will be sent on application.

"Country Life," Ltd., 20, Tavistock St., Covent Garden, London, W.C.2

THOSE ODD JOBS

Learn how to do them Yourself

THE HOUSE DOCTOR

By R. Randal Phillips

2/6 NET

"COUNTRY LIFE" LIBRARY, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2

"THE GARDEN"

Michaelmas Daisies

COMPETITION.

Name.....

Address.....

.....

1 .....

2 .....

3 .....

4 .....

5 .....

6 .....

Coupon, November 13

CUT OUT AROUND LINE

A BOULTON & PAUL GREENHOUSE

Tenant's Fixture.

SPAN-ROOF GREENHOUSE. No. 49a.

With this compact, inexpensive Greenhouse, you can grow flowers that cannot be reared out-of-doors. It will double the interest and pleasure of gardening. Easily erected in 90 minutes. Size 10 by 8 ft. In six sections, with bolts for easy erection. Painted one coat. Glass cut to size and packed in boxes

£18 : 10 : 0

If glazed at works and painted two coats, packed in close cases to prevent damage,

£22 : 7 : 0

Gutters and Boiler not included.

Carriage paid to most stations in England and Wales. Prices for heating and stages sent on application Prices given for additional lengths.

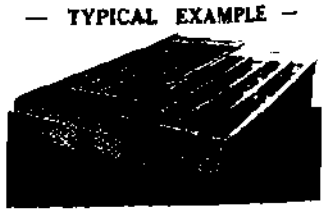
WRITE FOR FREE BOOKLET No. 743 WHICH TELLS YOU ALL ABOUT THIS GREENHOUSE

BOULTON & PAUL GARDEN FRAMES

High grade, solidly built. Renowned for durability, strength and simplicity.

Delivered ready painted, and glazed 21oz. English glass, complete with bolts. Can be put together in a few minutes by any amateur.

— TYPICAL EXAMPLE —



No. H.75. MELON AND CUCUMBER FRAME.

CASH PRICES.

1-Light Frame, 4ft. long by 6ft. wide .. £3 10 0
2-Light Frame, 8ft. long by 6ft. wide .. £5 13 0
3-Light Frame, 12ft. long by 6ft. wide .. £7 15 0

Carriage paid to most stations in England and Wales. Packing extra but allowed for if returned

Other Designs and Sizes from 35/.

Ask for Catalogue No. 744.

Trays for Storing Potatoes and Fruit a Speciality. Ask for Leaflet G.196.

Examples of B. & P Greenhouses, Garden Frames, Motor Houses, Shelters, Poultry Houses and Kennels may be seen at our London Office and Showroom, 135-7, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4.

Boulton & Paul Ltd.

Telegrams BOULTON NORWICH **NORWICH** Telephone NORWICH 8 51 (3 lines)

LONDON OFFICE 135-137 QUEEN VICTORIA ST. E.C.
Telegrams Boutique Cent London Telephone 4642 Cent

Digitized by Google

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then, together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices :—

Tins 10d. and 1/6
and in **Branded and Sealed Bags :**
7 lbs. - **3/6** 14 lbs. - **6/-**
28 lbs. - **10/-** 56 lbs. - **18/-**
112 lbs. - **32/-**

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers, etc. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by **"ALPHOL"**
Sample 14 lb., 3/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE WALTON GREENHOUSE
PRICE £15. 12. 0
BUY IT OUT OF INCOME

The "Walton" Sectional Greenhouse can be erected in 30 minutes with the aid of 16 bolts only, no nails, hammer or saw required, all parts guaranteed to fit. Size 12ft. by 8ft., price £15 12 0. Carr. paid to your station. Send for catalogue giving full particulars.

Out of income' terms if required

This BOOK FREE

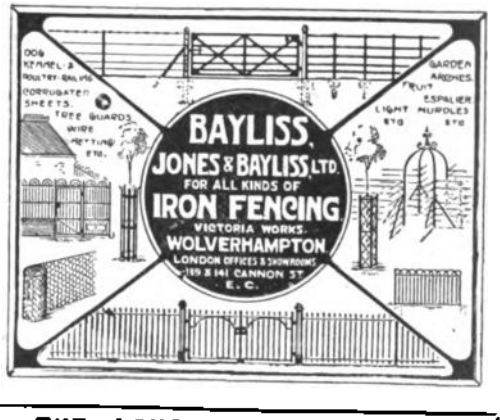
E. C. WALTON & CO., Muskham Works, Sutton-on-Trent, NEWARK. (Works adjoin Crow Park Station, L.N.E.R.)
Manchester Office: 41, Corporation Street.

GARDEN LOVERS
Write for Catalogues of
PROTHEROE & MORRIS'
· HORTICULTURAL SALES ·
MONDAY · WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY
67 68 Cheapside, London E.C.2. Phone City 3856

EUREKA WEED KILLER
LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" Lawn Sand. Sulphate, Nicotine, Insecticides, Fungicides, Sprays and other Chemicals and Sundries. See List. Please ask your agent for the Eureka Article—They are always satisfactory if any difficulty in obtaining, we send direct, Carriage paid
Only Address TOMLINSON & HAYWARD Ltd. LINCOLN

BIRDS' BATHS, - SUNDIALS, - VASES, Etc., in Imperishable, Reconstructed Stone.
Write for Booklet E1.

CRAZY & SQUARED PAVING
DWARF WALLING.
ROCKERY STONE.
Direct from Quarries.
Write for Booklet E2.
THE RHYMNEY QUARRIES,
18, Ludgate Hill, E.C.4



The Service Bureau Coupon.

THE GARDEN, *November 13th*, 1926.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

This Coupon must accompany each enquiry along with a stamped addressed envelope.

See page 656.

THE SERVICE DEPT., "THE GARDEN," 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2

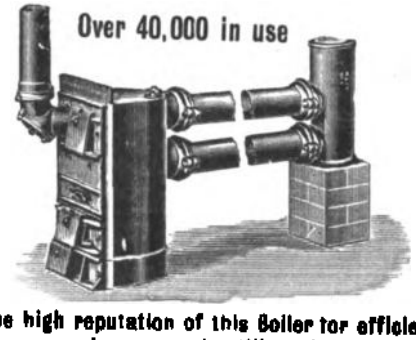
PORTWAY'S
Coke Breaker

Break your Coke to make your Stove remain alight longer.

As Shown - 45/-
OR
On Stand - 65 -
Of all Ironmongers.

MAKERS:
C. PORTWAY & SON,
Tortoise Works,
HALSTEAD, ESSEX.

THE LOUGHBOROUGH BOILER
Over 40,000 in use



The high reputation of this Boiler for efficiency and economy is still unrivalled

Easy to fix, easy to manage, and most economical in fuel, it is the ideal Boiler for the Amateur's Greenhouse

Price Lists and Estimates for complete apparatus on application

MESSENGER & CO., LTD. LOUGHBOROUGH LEICESTERSHIRE
LONDON OFFICE: 122, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

Digitized by Google

WAKELEY'S *Celebrated* Hop Manure

(PATENTED)

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL, ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION, 1912

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE, without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

Every ounce of Wakeley's Hop Manure is of value to the soil, supplying the necessary HUMUS in addition to the valuable plant food. Worthless rubbish is not added to make weight (as is the case of some artificial manures advertised).

Thousands do realise it, the proof of this is the constant flow of UNSOLICITED LETTERS received from time to time in praise of the wonderful results obtained at such a moderate cost (see Booklet for selection).

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.—Genuine Only in our Marked Bags containing Guaranteed Analysis.

Just a post card, and our Catalogue of Bulbs and Garden Sundries at carriage paid prices will be sent free.

CASH PRICES (including bags):

Small (about 1 bushel)	3/-
Large (about 4 bushels)	7/-
5 Large	33/9
10 Large	65/-
20 Large	120/-

Carriage paid by Pickford's or to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company; 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.

75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

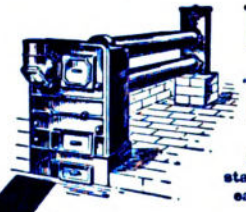
THE LEADING GLASSHOUSE FUMIGANT.

Autumn and Winter Wash

(Corry's) For Fruit Trees, NON-POISONOUS NON-CAUSTIC, Destroys APPLE AND PEAR SCAB CANKER and American Blight.

1 Pt., 1/6: 1 qt., 2 6: ½ gal., 4 9: 1 gal., 8/6 From Seedsmen

CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1



Paying Points about "STOURBRIDGE" Greenhouse Boilers

No. 7.

All parts are standardised and easily replaced.

Write at once for special price. State size of house. Address Dept. 3.

J. & W. WOOD LTD Stourbridge

KINNELL'S COKE CRUSHER

FROM STOCK

Reduces Fuel to the correct size for long burning

Carriage paid to Stations in England and Wales

Small Crusher for Wall	20/-
Ditto on Wrought Stand	40/-
Large Crusher for Wall	40/-
Ditto on Wrought Stand	60/-

Strong Coke Pan 10/- extra.

Large Crusher breaks 1 cwt. & small one 42 lb. in 20 minutes

CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO LTD

65, 65A Southwark St. London, S.E.1

BY APPOINTMENT

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

The BEST and CHEAPEST

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

FANCY FERN PANS and BULB BOWLS from 4d. each

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.

Royal Potteries BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

"It warms my Greenhouse nicely at a cost of about 2d. per day, which I think very reasonable. I am a new beginner with a Greenhouse, and your

'HORSE SHOE' BOILER

took my fancy. I have not regretted my choice," writes Mr. F. G., Clifford, Boston Spa. 23/3/26

Cold weather comes soon. Write for particulars now

To CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD., Engineers, Southwark Street, S.E.1.

Please send me Booklet E "Making the Most of Your Greenhouse," and price of complete Outfit to suit *(span-roof) (lean-to) greenhouse..... long.....wide inside, side of *(wood) (brick).....thick.

Name.....

Address.....

*Strike out particulars not needed. Cut out and send by ½d. post.

Can be supplied from Immediate Stock

USED IN THE R.H.S. GARDENS

Wire: "Kinnell-Boroh-London." 'Phone: Hop 0362 (3 lines)

CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., Ltd.

65, SOUTHWARK STREET, LONDON, S.E.1

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London W.C.2.

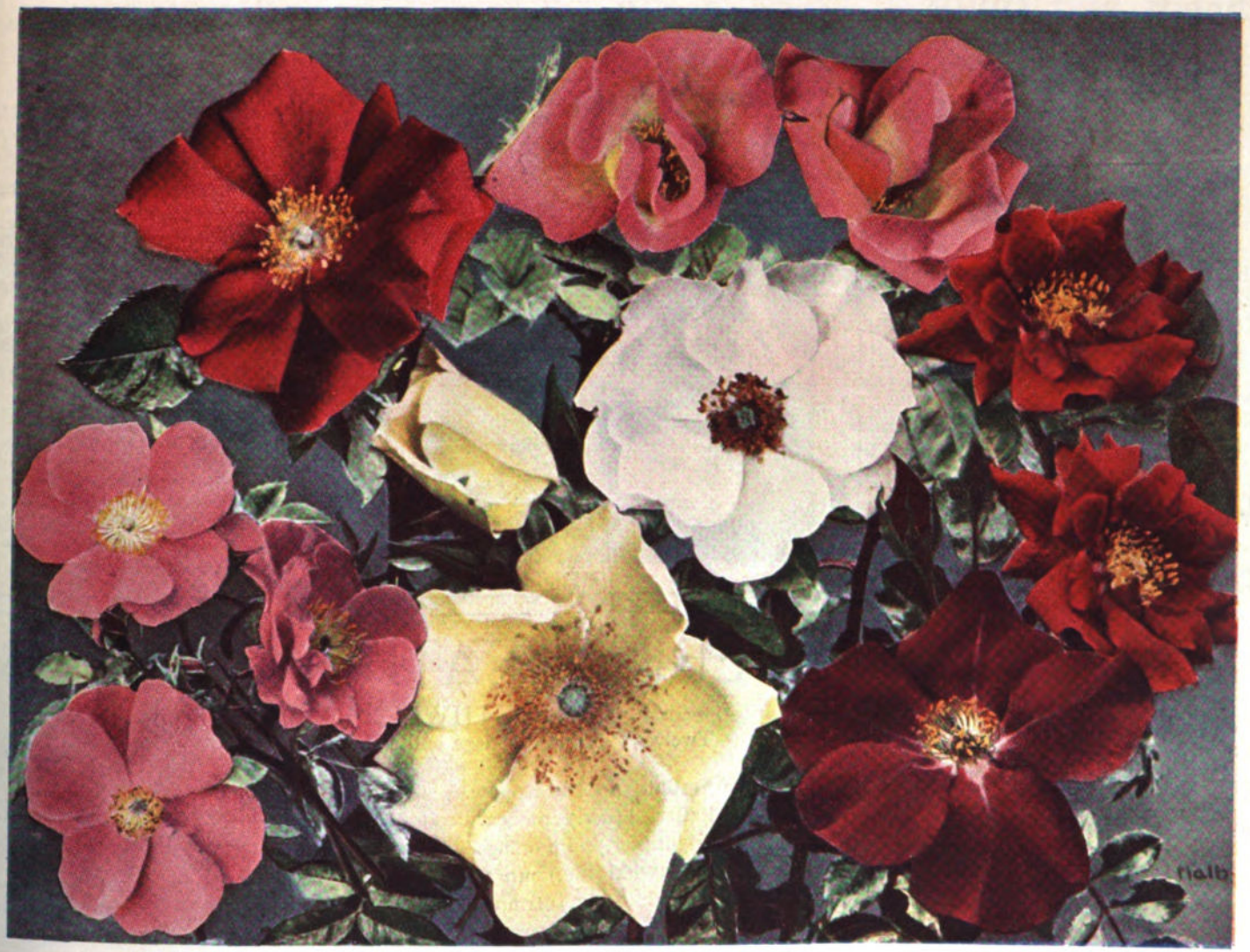
NOV 29 1926

THE GARDEN

THE AMATEUR GARDENERS' PAPER

Vol. LX. No. 2868 Saturday, November 20th. 1926 Price TWOPENCE

PERIODICAL ROOM GENERAL LIBRARY UNIV. OF MICH.



SOME SINGLE ROSES SHOULD BE PLANTED IN EVERY GARDEN.

All Roses can be planted in open weather during the next month or two.

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
New Alpines and Perennials
Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
Specialists in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

T. J. EVANS & SON
(G) WHIPLEY NURSERIES
WOOD STREET
Nr. GUILDFORD
Roses, Fruit Trees, Shrubs, etc. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD,
CHELSEA, S.W.
Bulb Catalogue Now Ready

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

H. PRINS
BULB AND PLANT GROWERS
WISBECH, CAMBS.
Bulb list free on application

H. E. MOXON
BULB IMPORTER
ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH
Bulbs for Bedding

TUBS FOR SHRUBS. WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 100 prizes. R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. — Price List from A. PRADAL, 26, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

Beauty of Outline
is one of the characteristics of the wonderful New Rose

"LADY SYLVIA"

Colour :—Shell pink with an underlying sheen of apricot, suffused with mellow shades of prawn pink merging to rich salmon pink.
AWARD OF MERIT, R.H.S., 1926.
CERTIFICATE OF MERIT, N.R.S., 1926.
STRONG PLANTS, ex 4 inch POTS **5/-** each, **55/-** dozen.
Delivery March to June. All orders taken in strict rotation. Carr. paid, Cash with Order.
The home of "ROSELANDIA" the best Yellow Rose yet raised.
STRONG PLANTS, ex 4 inch POTS **2/6** each, **27/6** dozen.

WALTER STEVENS (HODDESDON), LTD.
Roselande Nursery, Hoddesdon, Herts.

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925

MRS. LADENBURG
"DERRYQUIN"
SUNNINGDALE, BERKS.
Undertakes laying out New Gardens Construction of Rockeries and Alterations. Plans and Estimates Free.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
LINCS.
Weed Destroyers Fertilizers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

Prune in safety!

For large cuts on fruit trees, and all vine pruning operations, this Styptic is essential to ensure quick, disease-free healing. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen and florists.

XL ALL STYPTIC

Q. H. RICHARDS LTD.,
Gold Medal Award, Imp. Fruit Show.
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
R. 222 Monomark: BCM/XLALL.

Continued from page iii.

50,000 WALLFLOWERS. — Dwarf grown bushy transplanted plants, grown on the chalk hills of Hampshire which makes them very hardy. Blood Red, Golden Yellow Primrose and others, Ruby Gem, Ivory White, Vulcan, Easter Queen, Purple Queen or Mixed, 50 2/-, 100 3/6, 200 6/6, 500 12/6, 1,000 27/6, free.—SLOCOMBE LEIGH, Broughton, Hants.

GARDEN LABELS.—The "A G" patent porcelain Label, always clean and legible. Permanency guaranteed 30 years. Lists corrected.—E. AND A. GILBERT, 7A Bath Street, Birmingham.

BULB CLEARANCE SALE.—20,000 mixed Tulips and Mixed Daffodils, Narcissus, good flowering sizes 3/- 100, 25/- 1,000. Carriage paid.—STOW AND OTTEWELL, Boston.

AMATEUR'S COLLECTION OF PERENNIALS, surplus plants, all exhibition varieties, choice flowers 18 for 5/-; rockery plants, 18 for 5/-. Carriage paid.—F. OLIVE, "Revillo," Long Lane, Ickenham, Uxbridge.

Chase Continuous Cloches

should be used through winter to protect Sweet Peas, Parsley, Lettuce, Cuttings, Christmas Roses, etc.

Tent Shape, Size A, 12 for 18/-; 52 for 55/-
Barn Shape, No. 1, 6 for 18/-; 26 for 55/-

CHASE ALPINE CLIPS hold any glass over Alpine plants. 3/6 per doz.

Above prices include carriage to any railway station in England and Wales, or part carriage elsewhere.

SECTIONAL FRUIT RACKS build up to any size. Each section contains 5 trays of 4 sq. ft. One section, 25/-; two sections, 45/- f.o.r.

Full particulars, Cloches, Clips, Racks: DEPT. 7.

CHASE CONTINUOUS CLOCHE, Chertsey, Surrey

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

THE "SOUTHWELL" COLLECTION

Twelve Varieties, Carriage and Packing Free - - **12.6**
With "ACME" Labels - **15/-**

Caroline Testout (H.T.) satiny rose.
Col. O. FitzGerald (H.T.) crimson.
Emma Wright (H.T.) pure orange.
Frau Karl Druschki (H.P.) pure white.
General McArthur (H.T.) carmine.
Henrietta (H.T.) orange crimson
Hugh Dickson (H.T.) brilliant crimson.
Independence Day (H.T.) orange apricot.
Madame E. Herriot (H.T.) coral red.
Ophelia (H.T.) salmon flesh.
The Queen Alexandra (H.T.) deep vermilion.
Ulrich Brunner (H.P.) cherry crimson.

Also FRUIT TREES, SHRUBS, ORNAMENTAL TREES, ALPINES & HARDY PLANTS
ALL HOME GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries. ***Catalogue Free on Application.***

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LIMITED
Garden Specialists, SOUTHWELL, NOTTS.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

THE FIRST STEP towards a successful... and write to Waterers. Catalogues, beautifully ... with copious cultural notes are issued of the follow... and Fruit Trees, Bulbs, Herbaceous and Alpine ...hododendrons, Azaleas, Evergreen, Flowering, Hedge... Screening Shrubs, any of which will be gladly sent ...—JOHN WATERER, SONS AND CRISP, LIMITED, Twyford,

...LAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODEN... on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and ...lants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write ...gues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

...ELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE. ...riginal and only substitute for Stable Manure. See ...n back page.

DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., ... Road, South Tottenham, N.15. — Conservatories, ...ardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

...S' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUN... NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.— ..., 17, Eccleston Street, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

...ING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.— THE UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere,

...DER CARNATIONS. — 200 varieties, ...varieties, from 6/6; 50 in 50 ditto, from 25/-; carriage ...lists free. J. HAYWARD, Chace Gardens, Stakes Road, ...k, Cosham, Hants.

...NES, ROCK AND HERBACEOUS ...S, Dwarf Conifers and Shrubs, Bulbs for the Rock ... etc. New catalogue ready, post free.—SHEPPARDS, ...rst Nursery, Hollywood, Birmingham.

...S HORTICULTURAL, all sizes stocked; ... Glass Plate for poultry houses. Ready Mixed Paints, ...Diamonds, etc.—BRITISH GLASS COMPANY, Dept. "G.N.," ... Buildings, Church Street, Liverpool.

...ELS.—Patent metal, so simple to write ...ell; can't fade or break. Trial offer bargain; 100 with ...es, 50 tie wires, 1 pocket nail, 10/- free. The R.H.S. ...m. Lists.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

...KELL'S HOP MANURE.—Best sub... for stable manure, 56lbs., 4/-; cwt., 6/-. Times Guano, ...-round fertiliser, 56lb., 5/-; cwt., 8/6. Ground garden ...6lb., 4/-; cwt., 6/-. Screened Gas Lime, cwt., 5/-. ...lag, cwt., 6/6. Packed in bags and carriage paid. All ...rs, etc., supplied. Booklets free.—MASKELL'S LIMITED, ...n Road, West Ham, E.15.

... IS THE TIME TO LOOK TO YOUR ...EN. "THE HOME GARDEN BOOKS" deal with every ... of the art. Send for pamphlet C, post free, from THORN... ...UTTERWORTH, LIMITED, 15, Bedford Street, London, W.C.2.

...ESSARY AUTUMN MANURING. ... Basic Slag and all kinds of Fertilisers. Many thousands ...s sold annually. Absolute lowest prices. Descriptive ...t free.—JAMES & GEO. H. MATTHEWS, Harold Wood, ...'Phone, Romford 284.

... VEITCHBERRY.—The finest Hybrid ... yet raised. The fruit is twice the size of a Raspberry, ... delicious flavour, and is splendid for dessert and culinary ...ses. It is absolutely self-fertile and therefore sets freely. ...g plants 7/6 each, 84/- per dozen.—LAXTON BROTHERS, ...rymen, Bedford.

...CONOPSIS INTEGRIFOLIA, M. WAL... ...II, 8/6 per dozen to clear. Primula sikkimensis, P. ...rulenta, P. Beesiana, P. Bulleyana, P. Mooreana, P. ...ta (new), P. japonica, P. Inverleith Hybrid. Two year ...lants to clear at 10/6 per doz. Price Lists on application. ...season's seed now available.—WM. T. HUNT, Primula ...er, 4, Northcote Street, Edinburgh.

...CKERY STONE.—The most beautiful is ...ry Ironstone; sample bags, 2/6. Excellent Crazy Paving, ...ultural Lime and Red Loam Sand. Enquiries invited.— ... WATKINS, Coleford, Glos.

...PRESSUS LAWSONIANA, THUJA ...ll, Golden Privet, 7/6 doz. carr. paid. Choice varieties of ...neaster, Pyracantha, Berberis, Buddleia, Deutzia, Forsythia, ...rels and other Shrubs, from 1/- each.—STEVENS, Bariffs, ...ricay, Essex.

BARR'S GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS.— The finest sorts for Pots, Bowls, Exhibition, Flower Borders and to Naturalise. Descriptive Catalogue free.

BARR'S HYACINTHS, TULIPS, LILIES, CROCUSES, IRISES, etc., for Pots, Bowls and Flower Borders. Finest quality. Descriptive catalogue free.

BARR'S HARDY PERENNIALS, ALPINES, ROCK PLANTS, CLIMBERS, etc., for Autumn planting. Catalogue free.—BARR AND SONS, 11, 12 and 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx and perpetual habit. They flourish in the coldest parts of Britain. Extract, *The Times*: "Mr. Douglas is the leading raiser of this flower. His wonderful strain of new cloves is superb." Plant list is now ready.—J. DOUGLAS, Great Bookham.

JOIN THE BRITISH GLADIOLUS SOCIETY. Annual subscription, 5/-. Particulars from Hon. Sec., A. E. AMOS, 10, Bergholt Road, Colchester.

Yearly Subscription, Inland, 13s.; Foreign, 13s.
Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2.
Offices for Advertisements: 6–11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Notes of the Week	659
The Shrub Garden	660
The Joy of Making a New Garden	661
The Flower Garden	662
Plums and Cherries for Present Planting	664
The Busy Man's Page	665
Are You Paying Attention to Your Home-grown Fruit Supply?	666
Look After Your Soil	668
Some Plants for a Damp Spot	669
What Our Readers Say	669
How to Make a Garden Arch	671
Hints Worth Remembering	672
Nurseries of the British Isles.—VII: Messrs. Hewitt's of Solihull	672
Our Service Bureau	673

HEWITT'S HARDY PLANT CATALOGUE, free on application.

HEWITT'S DELPHINIUMS, famous the world over for their marvellous size and quality. Please write for our catalogues.

HEWITT'S BULBS.—The finest obtainable at reasonable prices. List free on application.

HEWITT'S ROSES.—Catalogues of all the finest and newest varieties free on application.—HEWITT AND CO., LIMITED, Horticultural Specialists, Solihull, Warwickshire.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GAR... DENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wirework of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

THE NATIVE PLANT NURSERIES will henceforth be known as "THE WILD GARDEN NURSERIES," Rockbeare, Exeter, and will continue to specialise in hardy native and other subjects for naturalising in Wild Garden, Woodland, etc. List free.

ORDER TENNIS COURT FENCING NOW. —Complete enclosure 120ft. by 60ft. for one Court, 9ft. high, with Iron Standards, Gate, Strand Wires, ready for erection, £34. Carriage paid to stations in England and Wales. Other sizes in proportion. Write for special leaflet to Dept. FP/G., BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Riverside Works, Norwich.

CATALOGUE No. 146, ready shortly, contains many books of the greatest interest to all horticulturists and gardeners. Post free on application to DULAU & CO., LTD., 34, Margaret Street, London, W.1.

DOBBIE'S FAMOUS BULBS, SCOTCH ROSES and SWEET PEAS for Autumn Sowing. Catalogue free on mentioning THE GARDEN.—DOBBIE AND CO., LIMITED, Edinburgh.

BATH'S HOME-GROWN BULBS. — New Illustrated Catalogue of the finest Narcissi, Tulips, etc., as supplied to the Royal Parks and Gardens, with full cultural directions, is now ready, and will be sent post free on application.—(Dept. E.), R. H. BATH, LIMITED, The Floral Farms, Wisbech.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools: a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

ROCK PLANTS AND SHRUBS.—Over 300 varieties in stock. Descriptive Catalogue free. Also Herbaceous Plants and Roses. — HODSONS, LIMITED, 58, Castle Gate, Nottingham.

PRIMULA SECUNDIFLORA, the Crimson Sikkimensis. Heads of dangling crimson bells, for bog garden or cool rich soil. 12–18ins. high. Fine pot-grown plants, 9d. each; 3 for 2/6; 6 for 8/9; 12 for 7/6.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED, Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

PRIOR'S COLCHESTER ROSES, Fruit Trees, Gladioli, Dahlias, Carnations, Herbaceous. Catalogue containing cheap collections free.—D. PRIOR AND SON, LTD., Colchester.

KNIPHOFIA ERECTA.—The most beautiful, brilliant and interesting of the red-hot pokers. Free, parcel post, 18/- per doz.—GALVIN'S NURSERIES, Wexford.

YORK STONE PAVING, for Garden Paths and lily ponds; rectangular or crazy for rustic work; steps and wall coping; rockery. — GEO. VINT AND BROS., Stone Merchants, Idle, Bradford.

ALPINES AND HARDY ROCK PLANTS. 700 varieties. Catalogue free.—LEE, Alpine Gardens, Stechford, Birmingham.

TO FLOWER NEXT SUMMER, 12 Hydrangeas, assorted, carriage paid on receipt of 20/-. A real bargain.—TRESEDER AND CO., The Nurseries, Truro.

LOBELIA CARDINALIS QUEEN VIC... TORIA, brilliant scarlet, late flowering perennial, 1 doz., post free, for 10/-.—TRESEDER AND CO., as above.

LIME FOR THE GARDEN. — Price delivered cash with order, 28lb., 3/6; 56lb., 5/-; 112lb., 8/-. Special quotations for large quantities. Real Cotswold Crazy Paving, Walling Stone, etc.—THOMAS TIERNEY AND CO., LTD., Milk Street House, Cheapside, E.C.

FIBROUS YELLOW TURF LOAM.— Catalogue free.—A. B. JOHNSTONE, Cranleigh.

"APEX" FISH MANURE.—The Perfect Plant Food. Write to-day for descriptive pamphlet to—J. C. WHITNEY AND CO., 2/3, Eldon Street, London, E.C.2.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 6/6 each carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

BULBS FOR NATURALISING

All Delivered Post Free at your door.

	per doz.	per 100	per 1,000
MUSCARIA HYACINTHS, Grape Hyacinths, blue	1/-	5/-	40/-
SNOWDROPS, earliest flowers of Spring	1/-	6/-	50/-
SPARAXIS, selected show mixtures, all colours..	6d.	3/-	25/-
CROCUS, in finest mixed, all colours	1/-	4/-	35/-
SCILLA SIBIRICA, extra fine blue	1/-	9/-	80/-
NARCISSUS, all varieties and colours mixed	1/-	7/6	60/-
TULIPS, all varieties and colours mixed	1/-	7/-	60/-

(All the above for growing in Woodlands or Grass)

Full Illustrated List post free upon application.

H. PRINS (F.R.H.S.) ***Flower Bulb Specialists,*** **WISBECH, CAMBS**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

A most Interesting

FRUIT TREE CATALOGUE

FREE and POST FREE

THIS Catalogue, nicely produced and well printed, contains a valuable host of useful hints on FRUIT TREE CULTURE for Amateur and Professional. Herein will be found all the best and most popular Fruits for all purposes, alphabetically arranged for ready reference. A feature has been made of interesting Chats on soils, situations, and fertilizers; in fact, it is a valuable book, which should be in the hands of all those who possess a Garden or Fruit Farm, large or small. Sit down now, while the matter is fresh in your mind, and write for your free copy.

KING'S ACRE ROSES

THE King's Acre Nurseries—famous since 1785 for the stamina and vigour of their roses—have hardy and reliable

Bushes and Ramblers

in a wonderful, almost endless variety, which they are offering at prices considered by experts and amateurs to be beyond competition.

Alphabetically arranged Rose Catalogue, replete with reliable information, FREE ON REQUEST.

AWARDED 95 GOLD MEDALS.

KING'S ACRE NURSERIES, LTD., HEREFORD

Established 1785. ∴ NURSERIES—140 ACRES.

SPECIAL VALUE IN COLLECTIONS OF FRUIT TREES AND ROSES

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

PLANT SMITH'S ROSES. Hardy Scotch Grown.

UNSURPASSED FOR HARDINESS AND FIBROUS ROOTS. FROM 12/- DOZEN.

SILVER CUPS GAINED 1908-9-10-11-12-25.
NATIONAL ROSE SOCIETY'S MEDAL, LONDON, 1926.

Also FRUIT TREES, SHRUBS, FOREST TREES.
Send for Catalogues with prices, free on application.
GIVE US A TRIAL ORDER.

THOMAS SMITH & SONS, STRANRAER. *Est.* 1861.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Barr's Gold Medal Daffodils

STRONG SELECTED BULBS FOR NOVEMBER PLANTING.

Awarded SEVENTY-TWO GOLD MEDALS and THREE SILVER CHALLENGE CUPS.

FLOWER BORDER COLLECTION,	6	each,	18	sorts ..	30/-
,, ,, ,,	3	,,	18	,, ..	15/-
POT CULTURE ,,	6	,,	20	,, ..	40/-
,, ,, ,,	3	,,	10	,, ..	10/6
BOWL CULTURE ,,	6	,,	15	,, ..	25/-
,, ,, ,,	3	,,	15	,, ..	12/6
FLOWER BORDER MIXTURE.. per 100, 21/-; per doz.,					3/-
MIXTURE of all kinds for naturalising, per 1,000, 95/-; 100,					10/6
TRUMPET DAFFODILS, MIXED, per 1,000, 160/-; 100,					17/6
MIXTURE of CHALICE CUP and STAR NARCISSI only, for naturalising .. .. per 1,000 110/-; 100,					12/-

Descriptive Catalogue Free.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13 KING STREET COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2

Buy British Bulbs!

OUR **GLADIOLI** are grown in our own Nurseries, on limestone land, which gives them their wonderful vigour. Each bulb will throw from two to five fine spikes of bloom. Far superior to imported stuff.

We offer the following **Primulinus** varieties, all top-size bulbs, guaranteed true to name:—

Juno, very strong grower, beautiful soft pink.
Souvenir, the best yellow gladiolus; extra.
Vanessa, lovely salmon-orange.
Rosaura, deep rose pink.
Hermione, delightful shade of orange.
Niobe, rich terra cotta.

The above **6** varieties, **100** of each for **£2.** Carriage paid for cash with order.

This offer holds good till December 31st.

Sample 100, including all the above, separately named, **10/-.** Full instructions sent with each order. Money returned if not satisfactory.

WHITAKER & WILSON,
Gladiolus Specialists,
Riverside Nurseries, COLLINGHAM, near LEEDS

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

PLANTING SEASON

GEO. JACKMAN & SON

WOKING NURSERIES, SURREY

ESTABLISHED OVER A CENTURY

INVITE INSPECTION OF THEIR LARGE AND VARIED STOCK OF ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBS, ROSES, CLIMBERS, FRUIT AND FOREST TREES, HERBACEOUS AND ALPINE PLANTS

200 ACRES OF STOCK TO SELECT FROM. CATALOGUES FREE ON APPLICATION.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE GARDEN DOCTOR: Plants in Health and Disease, by F. J. CHITTENDEN, V.M.H., freely illustrated. 7/6 net, by post 8/-. A prospectus of this practical book can be sent post free on application to The Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.

THE DOWNER LUPIN is now known all the World over.
Apply for Lupin List; also Herbaceous and Alpine Catalogue.
DOWNER
2, Drayton Manor Nurseries, CHICHESTER

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Michaelmas

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing*

Digitized by Google

GIBSON'S GARDEN GLORIES

15 Acres of Glorious ROSES, SHRUBS, FRUITS, Alpine and Herbaceous Plants, Lupins, etc.

NEW CATALOGUE FREE ON REQUEST

TERMS.—Orders of 5/- and over carriage paid for cash with order. Add 6d. with less amounts.

THE AMATEUR'S DOZEN DWARF ROSES.
Grand trees, all named, for 13/-, carriage paid. Betty Uprichard, Lady Ashtown, Mrs. Wemyss Quin, F. K. Druschki, Lady Hillingdon, Mme. E. Herriot (Daily Mail), Gen. McArthur, Los Angeles, Mrs. J. Laing, Hugh Dickson, Mme. Abel Chatenay, Ophelia.

COLLECTIONS.
Carriage paid for cash.
12 Grand Alpines, all distinct, named, for 6/6; 25 distinct for 15/-.
12 Hardy Border Flowering Plants, named, for 6/-; 25 distinct for 14/-; 50 distinct for 30/-; 100, in 50 varieties, for 60/-.

LONICERA NITIDA
The New Hedge Plant.
This will take the place of Privet. It is quick growing, hardy, evergreen and elegant. Try a sample dozen at 5/-; 35/- per 100. Carriage paid for cash.

THE NEW CLIMBING ROSE
Phyllis Bide. Perpetual flowering. 2/- each.
Colour: Pale gold at base, flushed and shaded carmine pink, in long sprays.
3 for 5/6. Carriage Paid for Cash.

REGALE LUPINS
Most wonderful shades and colours ever seen. Strong plants, all shades.
10/- per dozen.

G. GIBSON & CO., Leeming Bar, BEDALE

DARWIN TULIPS

Finest Value ever Offered
5/- per 100

Baron Tonnaye	Pride of Haarlem
Clara Butt	Professor Balfour
Farncombe Sanders	Rev. Ewbank
Inglescombe Yellow	Salmon King
Margaret	The Sultan

Large Bulbs of Finest Quality.
Ask for Special List of other Bulbs.

ONGSTAFF & SONS
Bulb Growers, Importers and Merchants.
ear **CHELSFIELD STATION, KENT**

HARDY SCOTCH GROWN FRUIT TREES and FRUIT BUSHES

Buy direct from the Actual Growers. This season we have a grand stock of healthy, well-grown **TRANSPLANTED TREES AND BUSHES.**
Write for Catalogue.
STORRIE & STORRIE
he Nurseries, Glenearse, **PERTHSHIRE**

CHEALS OF CRAWLEY

Have over FIFTY YEARS' Experience of GARDEN AND ESTATE PLANTING and General Improvements.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY ACRES
of Nursery stocked with a First Class Collection of

Ornamental Trees - Shrubs
FRUIT TREES,
Herbaceous and Alpine Plants,
ROSES, DAHLIAS, and all Garden Requisites.

IT WOULD PAY YOU TO CONSULT THEM.
Catalogues of each Department and an Illustrated Pamphlet on Garden Design.

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.,
The Nurseries, **CRAWLEY.**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Our New List of
CHRYSANTHEMUMS
for 1927 is NOW READY
containing all the finest and most desirable varieties. Free on application to:—
KEITH LUXFORD & CO.
Chrysanthemum Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

BURBAGE ROSES

A collection of 12 of the best varieties. First size Trees, Guaranteed British Grown and true to name, for 12/6 Carriage Paid. - Cash with order.

Betty Uprichard	Los Angeles
Clarice Goodacre	Independence Day
Mrs. H. Morse	Madame Butterfly
Miss Willmott	Mrs. Wemyss Quin
Mrs. H. Stevens	Gen. McArthur
Walter C. Clarke	Frau Karl Druschki

THE BURBAGE NURSERIES LTD.,
Nr. Hinckley, Leicestershire.
Please mention this Paper.

Xmas Gifts!

Why not give your Friends ROSES this Christmas?

We can supply 12 First Quality British grown plants, our selection, for the sum of **12/-** Carriage Paid, Cash with Order, and will forward to reach destination a few days before Christmas. Half quantity **6/6**

Our Illustrated Catalogue sent post free on application.

BENJAMIN R. CANT & SONS, Limited
Dept. A
Estd 1765 **The Old Rose Gardens, COLCHESTER**

FRUIT TREES
ROSES

Alpine Plants **Hardy Perennials**

Ornamental Trees and Shrubs
can be successfully planted NOW.

The BARNHAM NURSERIES, Ltd.,
offer an immense stock of healthy, well-grown trees . . in great variety . .
Descriptive Catalogues on application.
The BARNHAM NURSERIES, Ltd.,
BARNHAM, Sussex.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

NEW HARDY CRIMSON BROOM

AT Chelsea Show (1925) the King said "That red Broom is certainly very striking." This was the new crimson Broom "Dorothy Walpole," which received the unanimous Award of Merit from the R.H.S. as well as other distinctions in London and on the Continent. Plants have been sent to U.S.A., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, France, Holland, etc.

In the Field, *a well known ex-Curator of Kew Gardens wrote: "The richest coloured Broom known is one named 'Dorothy Walpole.' It is as hardy as the common Broom . . . and is very free-flowering . . . the colour is rich velvety crimson . . . more attractive than any of the coloured Brooms yet seen." The colour far surpasses Cytisus Dallimorei, and the growth is as vigorous as C. Andreanus; it requires no special treatment nor any kind of protection whatever—just a hardy shrub for ordinary garden soil in any part of the British Isles, however far north.*

A Vice-Chairman, Floral Committee, R.H.S., wrote: "Everyone who has seen my plant has been astonished at its warm glowing red"; and from a lady in Devon: "I am so delighted with the Broom 'Dorothy Walpole.' It has done splendidly and is like a sparkling gem in the garden—one mass of flower."

NEW SEASON'S PRICES.

Strong pot-grown plants now ready for planting out, to flower in May, 7/6 each. Carriage paid rates to any station in Great Britain or Ireland: One plant, carriage paid, 10/-; two plants, carriage paid, 18/6; three plants, carriage paid, 26/-; six plants, carriage paid, 49/6; twelve plants, carriage paid, 99/-.

Coloured illustration sent on application if THE GARDEN *is mentioned.*

Wm. Watson & Sons, Limited, Nurseries, Killiney, Co. Dublin.

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING, SURREY
(*Late Anthony Waterer*)

The Executors of the late HOSEA WATERER have pleasure in offering

STANDARD TREES

In great variety, consisting of

LIMES, NORWAY MAPLES, ELMS, etc., etc.
EVERGREEN & DECIDUOUS SHRUBS, viz.:

Box—Green and Variegated, 3 to 8 ft.
Hollies—Common, 5 to 8 ft.; Variegated and Green varieties, 2 to 6 ft.
Thuiopsis borealis, 10 to 12 ft. Cupressus Lawsoniana, 12 to 14 ft. Cedrus atlantica glauca, very fine, 14 to 16 ft. Osmanthus, Phillyreas, Spiræas, Lilacs, Viburnums, etc.

GOLDEN YEWS
A Magnificent Stock in all shapes and sizes from 2 to 10 ft.

PRIVET, Common and Oval-leaved.
QUICK and **HORNBEAM** for Hedges.
AZALEAS, in great variety, 2 to 5 ft.
RHODODENDRONS, without doubt the finest stock in the trade of named varieties, 2 to 6 and 8 ft.
HARDY HEATHS in great variety and a good general nursery stock.
Catalogues ready.

Enquiries and Inspection Invited.

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING STATION, SURREY

Allens ROSES

To-Day's Opportunity Ensures Next Summer's Delight

The present time is ideal for planting roses. The following selections are comprised of tip-top quality plants at a moderate price.

DO NOT DELAY—STOCKS ARE NOT HEAVY

Our **"Supreme" Collection** of 12 Dwarf Roses in first-rate varieties, carriage paid, for **13/6** cash with order.

Betty Uprichard, coppery salmon.
Hortulanus Budde, vermilion scarlet.
Admiration, cream washed vermilion.
Elsie Beckwith, rose pink.
Hugusette Vincent, cerise pink.
Lady Pirrie, coppery salmon.
Lord Charlemont, deep crimson.
Lamia, orange.
Mabel Morse, the grand new golden yellow.
Florence L. Izzard, pure buttercup yellow.
Sensation, rich velvety crimson.
Souv. de Georges Pernet, coppery pink.

No rubbish. All first quality maidens on Briar Stocks.

Our **"Standard" Collection,** any 3 of the following selected Standards, **10/-** carriage paid; any 6, **19/-**; any 12, **36/-**

Betty Uprichard, coppery salmon.
Los Angeles, coral rose.
Mme. Edouard Herriot ("Daily Mail" rose).
John Russell, new, deep crimson overlaid black.
The General, crimson, an advance on Hugh Dickson.
Mrs. C. V. Haworth, cinnamon cerise.
Elizabeth Didden, rose pink.
Crimson Columbia, a crimson form of Columbia.
Sensation, rich velvety crimson.
Mrs. Beckwith, lemon yellow, fine form.
Elsie Beckwith, rose pink.
Lord Charlemont, deep crimson.
Snow Queen, the indispensable white for standards.

WEEPING STANDARDS, in extra fine quality trees, 5–6ft. in height, price **6/-** each, carriage paid: **Fernand Rabier, White Dorothy, Yvonne, Havering Rambler, Pape Gouchault, Sodenia, Hiawatha, Leontine Gervaise, Chatillon Rambler.**

"Pet" Collection of Polyantha Roses. 12 fine varieties, including our novelty **Rufus,** the finest scarlet rose in this section, carriage paid, **12/-,** cash with order.

Alice Amos, cherry pink, white eye.
Diana, orange tipped carmine.
Dorothy Howarth, coral rose pink.
Eblouissante, velvety crimson.
Ideal, dark scarlet.
La Reine Elizabeth, dark red.
Lady Reading, rosy pink.
Leonie Lamesch, coppery red.
Orange King, new deep orange.
Rodhatte, cherry red.
Tip Top, delightful double blooms, yellow tipped rose.
Rufus, the finest scarlet, unaffected by weather.

BUY FROM THE GROWERS. ALL GUARANTEED first quality plants from our Norfolk rose grounds.

SEND A CARD FOR OUR CATALOGUE TO-DAY.

A. J. & C. ALLEN (DEPT. G)
Nurserymen, NORWICH, NORFOLK
Established 1860.

Notes from Maidstone.

COOKING APPLES.

All Apples may be cooked, but not all are edible. Some are pasty and flavourless, others brown and woody. We can thoroughly recommend Golden Noble for autumn use, this cooks a clear amber yellow, and Thomas Rivers, in use till December, of unique fragrance. Of these, beside the usual forms, we have some extra large pyramids, 6ft. high and well developed, at 15/- each.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd., The Royal Nurseries, Established 1796. Maidstone.

TITTENHURST
Rhododendron

JOHN WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD beg to announce that in this fine collection they still have for disposal examples of the best hybrids raised at Tittenhurst, Sunningdale, which are priced as follows:

Doncaster × **Aucklandii roseum superbum** 3ft. to 6ft., from **63/-** each. to 105/-
White Pearl × **Aucklandii roseum superbum** 2½ft. to 4ft., from **42/-** to 63/-
H. M. Arderne × **Aucklandii roseum superbum** 3ft. to 4ft., at 42/-
Cynthia × **Aucklandii roseum superbum** .. .. 3ft. to 4ft., at 42/-
Luscombeanum × **Ivoryanum** 3ft. to 4ft., at 42/-
Mrs. Thistleton Dyer × **Standishii** 2ft. to 3½ft., from **21/-** to 42/-
Helen Schiffner × **Mrs. Charles Butler** 3½ft. to 4½ft., at 42/-
Other fine crosses, from 7/6 to 21/-

A number of fine specimen plants of **kewense** and **Gill's Hybrids,** from **63/-** upwards.

Apply to—
F. GOMER WATERER, Esq.,
John Waterer, Sons & Crisp
LIMITED
The Nurseries, BAGSHOT, SURREY

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

VOL. XC.—No. 2868. NOVEMBER 20, 1926. PRICE TWOPENCE.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

The Arrival of Plants.

A READER has told us his experience of ordering a number of plants from two different firms. The one sent no acknowledgment of his order. He heard nothing further until one morning half an hour after he had left for work the plants were dumped on his doorstep by the railway company. The other sent a postcard on the day of despatch announcing that the plants had been sent off with a little note added of instruction what to do if the plants could not be planted at once owing to inclement weather or other causes. It is needless to say with which of these two firms our reader is more pleased. One showed itself to be helpful—and also a good business concern; the other did not. However, the reason for this note is not to discuss business qualifications but to impress on readers that they should make arrangements for the reception of plants in case of their absence. More often than not plants will arrive when it is impossible to deal with them at once. They may have been several days on rail, or the temperature may be below freezing. At any rate it is important that they are taken care of at once lest they come to harm. Many cases occur every year of valuable plants being left in their wrappers a week or more after their arrival, and then the nurseryman or the soil or the weather is blamed if they do not succeed. Suggestions have been made in these pages during the last few weeks on how to deal with plants on their arrival. It is the duty of every gardener to see that these are carried out without delay.

Our Post Bag.

THE Editorial staff of THE GARDEN has been amazed at the many spontaneous letters of appreciation that reach us every day. Our post bag has increased by leaps and bounds, and almost every letter, on whatever subject it may be written, includes a sentence that shows how much readers appreciate THE GARDEN. There can be nothing so interesting as our post bag. We get letters on every conceivable gardening subject, even on matters so far afield as moss on thatch and the best varieties of gold fish for a small lily pond. These letters are not only interesting in themselves, but also because they show how widely spread are the ramifications of gardening. Each week we try to give as much space as possible to correspondence, but even then it is far short of the space that would be filled if we printed all the letters received. We hope that such readers as do not see their interesting epistles printed in our correspondence columns will realise that we have to choose material that is of interest to the greatest number of our readers. Large though our post bag is, we would welcome still more letters, for this is the best way of creating that close co-operation so necessary between readers and paper.

An Enquiry.

SEVERAL readers have asked us our opinion as to how much ground one man can cultivate successfully working in the evenings when there is sufficient light and at week-ends. This has been a difficult question to answer, as, of course, it depends on local conditions. Soil is an important factor, for a man can dig a much larger area if it is light and sandy than in a heavy clay. Most important of all is the class of garden. If the owner is an enthusiast over herbaceous plants, perhaps a considerable portion of the area under cultivation will be laid out in beds and borders, a form of gardening that takes up a great deal of time if it is to be satisfactory. But, given an ordinary garden where a fair proportion of vegetables and fruit is grown, and the rest is given over to the cultivation of flowers—which may be called an average garden—how much can be cultivated by one man in his spare time? Will readers tell us their experience?

HAVE YOU

¶ *Overhauled your rockery? All decaying leaves should be removed, the surface soil lightly stirred and any exposed roots covered with a top-dressing of prepared compost.*

¶ *Examined the cuttings of your violas, pansies, antirrhinums, etc., which are in frames? Keep them well ventilated and prevent damping.*

¶ *Pruned your greenhouse climbers, such as Plumbago capensis (leadwort)?*

¶ *Trimmed your hedges of hornbeam, beech or privet?*

¶ *Examined and, if necessary, renewed the stakes of your standard roses, shrubs and fruit trees?*

¶ *Taken cuttings of gooseberries and currants?*

¶ *Lifted and stored in the same way as beetroot your scorzonera and salsify?*

In Praise of Single Roses.

ROSES which are single possess a charm and grace of their own. They have already a host of admirers, and as each year goes by they are grown in even greater numbers. There are single hybrid tea roses suitable for bedding, single climbers for post and pillar, and rose species which produce beautiful single blooms in great profusion when left to themselves in the wild garden or hedgerow. These roses need no special attention; they should be planted, pruned and fed with the same care as other roses.

Hybrid tea varieties which are single look most effective when massed in beds by themselves. On our front cover a few of the best of the bedding varieties are illustrated. At the top of the picture towards the right is Isobel, a carmine red variety flushed with orange scarlet, which grows freely and produces its blooms continuously. On the extreme right is Red Letter Day, a glowing scarlet crimson semi-double variety. It is one of the most decorative of bedding roses. The pure white rose in the centre of the picture is Innocence, a most beautiful single rose, with large blooms and attractive clusters of deep yellow stamens. Its growth is strong and upright and its foliage mildew-proof. Vanity is the rose pink semi-single variety at the bottom left-hand corner. This is one of the hybrid musk roses, and, although suitable for bedding, it is more effective when grown as a large bush. The scarlet variety at the top of the picture is Allen Chandler, a climbing hybrid tea, which is an excellent pillar rose. The large-flowered rose with pale sulphur petals and deep amber stamens is Mermaid, another climbing variety. It is one of the most attractive varieties of its class, and it flowers for many weeks when grown on a wall or trellis.

There are numerous other fine single varieties, such as Irish Elegance, Irish Fireflame, Mrs. Oakley Fisher, Vesuvius, and Dainty Bess (a new salmon pink rose with pretty crinkled petals), as well as such species as Moyesii and hugonis. Some of these should be planted in every rose garden.

Digitized by Google

THE SHRUB GARDEN

This is the time of year when the selection and planting of flowering shrubs is of immediate interest. Their ease of cultivation makes them economical for everyone, while their beauty makes them as valuable in a small garden as in a large one.

THE SHRUBBY SPIRÆAS.

IN most gardens the spiræas find a place in beds and borders of mixed shrubs, with an occasional lawn bed of half-a-dozen or more plants of one variety and a single specimen or two. A representative selection of a dozen distinct spiræas is sufficient in itself to make a most distinct and interesting border, or large bed. They range in height from about 1ft. in the case of S. bullata to about 20ft. to 25ft. in height in S. Lindleyana, which varies according to the method of pruning. Very few families of hardy shrubs provide such a long flowering season, in this case eight months—beginning with S. Thunbergii in February or early March—with an abundance of blossoms throughout the spring and summer, concluding in September and October with, among others, S. Menziesii var. triumphans and S. japonica var. Anthony Waterer. Except for one with pale yellow blossoms, S. acutifolia, the spring-flowering spiræas have white blossoms, but in summer and autumn varying shades of pink, rose, purple and red, with several good white-flowered kinds, provide ample variety of colour.

SPIRÆA LINDLEYANA MAKES A MOST DECORATIVE BORDER SHRUB.

Positions for Planting.

Spiræas are fitted for many positions in the garden, either in a shrubby border or bed. Though we often meet with them growing in half shade and sheltered positions, they are essentially sun-loving shrubs.

The plants really require no great consideration as regards soil, but before beginning to plant it is advisable to trench the ground 2ft. deep, adding plenty of well decayed manure and heavy pasture loam if the ground is light. Spiræas generally are lovers of a moist root run, which means that the ideal soil is a deep, well cultivated and moderately heavy moist loam. On light soils and in dry positions mulchings of decayed manure and decomposed garden refuse are very beneficial applied during early summer. Bone meal is a useful manure to sprinkle over the ground and fork in when cleaning the surface soil among the spiræas in late winter.

Pruning.

In considering this phase of spiræa culture we find that the plants almost divide themselves into two distinct groups, requiring different treatment, namely those which blossom in spring on the growths of the previous year, and those which flower in summer and autumn on the new shoots of the season. No definite system of pruning is required by the spring-flowering spiræas, but each year, when the blossoms fade in May or early June, as the case may be, look over the bushes and if crowded with branches, thin them by removing portions of old worn out branches, or any very weak wood, and shorten extra long shoots, if the bushes require shaping. The summer and autumn flowering spiræas are the section which benefit by regular pruning, in fact, when this work is left undone, their full beauty is never seen. February is a good time for pruning. In the case of the group represented by S. salicifolia, begin by cutting out old worn out shoots down to the ground or back to vigorous young growths, remove all weak wood and shorten the strong young shoots to about half their length. S. Lindleyana and its allies require somewhat similar pruning, though as they form very large bushes the actual cutting differs in detail. The essential points are to discard old worn-out and thin wood to encourage vigorous, healthy growths.

A Good Dozen.

A good dozen forming a representative selection is as follows: given approximately in the order of flowering, providing a season of blooming from late February until early October. To include S. Thunbergii, growing 3ft. to 5ft. high and producing small white flowers in February and March, I have made it a baker's dozen. S. arguta, white, 5ft. to 8ft.; S. prunifolia var. flore pleno, double white, 6ft. to 8ft.; S. Van Houttei, white, 3ft. to 6ft.; S. Veitchii, white, 9ft. to 12ft.; S. bracteata, white, 4ft. to 8ft.; S. canescens, white, 6ft. to 8ft.; S. ariæfolia, creamy white, 8ft. to 12ft.; S. salicifolia var. paniculata, white, 3ft. to 6ft.; S. japonica var. Anthony Waterer, red, 2ft. to 2½ft.; S. Lindleyana, white, 12ft. to 20ft.; S. Margaritæ, pink, 3ft. to 5ft.; S. Menziesii var. triumphans, purplish rose, 5ft. to 6ft. For large gardens increase the selected dozen to twenty with S. Henryi, S. Douglasii, S. bella, S. japonica var. Bumalda, S. brachybotrys, S. bullata and S. japonica var. glabrata. The heights given are only approximate, so much depends on the amount of pruning. A. O.

TREES AND SHRUBS FOR THE SEASIDE GARDEN.

IN the garden near the sea the most important thing is shelter from the force of the strong winds that sweep inland from the ocean. Happily there is quite a good selection of trees and shrubs which will give the needful protection, and the planter finds no difficulty in dealing with any position that he may be called upon to plant. The first thing to be done is thoroughly to prepare the site by trenching and deepening the soil. More often than not, near to the coast, the soil is shallow and inferior and it is very desirable to improve this and also to make it deeper. In making alterations it is sometimes possible to deepen the side of the garden that is most exposed or to raise a mound against the wind. When this can be done the creation of good shelter for the land as a whole is a comparatively easy task.

One may assume that a mound has been raised on the side of the land most exposed to the winds from the sea. This should have a natural, easy outline and on its outer edge it is an excellent step to plant the common gorse thickly. On the inner side a mixture of wych elm and Austrian pine (Pinus austriaca) might suitably be planted. The elms should be pruned so as to make them grow densely and as the trees develop some thinning will be needed. Of course, at the start, thick planting is essential so that the trees may give a good amount of shelter to one another. Other trees and shrubs which might be used in the formation of the protective belt will be found in the following list of species, all of which will flourish in very exposed positions, providing thay are closely planted at the start: Euonymus japonicus, Tamarix gallica (a most valuable subject for forming screens), Escallonia macrantha, phillyreas, barberries, cotoneasters, evergreen oak (Quercus Ilex), elders, the sea buckthorn (Hippophæ rhamnoides), hollies, willows, common juniper, Rosa spinosissma, R. rubiginosa and R. rugosa. In addition to the Austrian pine, P. Laricio and P. Pinaster are good subjects for any position on the coast.

Having created a belt of trees and shrubs that are able to withstand the wind many things may be planted inside it which it would otherwise be difficult, and perhaps impossible,

Digitized by Google

to grow in a seaside garden. Gardeners who have been used to living inland will be surprised at the wide variety of tender subjects which can be grown almost in any coast locality. The large body of water gives to the climate a mildness, most marked in the south and west, but also in evidence even on the east coast. In these situations hardy plants, as well, always providing that they can be sheltered from the wind, grow with a luxuriance that is rarely seen at inland stations. —L. B.

THE JOY OF MAKING A NEW GARDEN

BY GERTRUDE JEKYLL.

THE house and garden now shown are on the Hampshire coast. The house is built and there had been some kind of laying out of the ground, but which proved unsatisfactory. The present plan is its substitution. The entrance from the main road passes through a wide bank; the dotted line shows the existing foot of the bank just outside the gate; this will be much improved by a little further cutting away on both sides, as shown by the hard line. Within the gate the entrance road at present meanders up to the garage in a bad line that can have no justification; and the path to the front door has the same kind of weak, wavering character. A straight road to the garage, and a simple curve to the path leading to the house front will remedy these defects. A good lawn space in front of the house is desired, and this is now planned; the stretch of lawn being only broken by the path leading to a seat on a paved step, closely enclosed by a suitable evergreen. Had it been inland, this would have been of yew; but here it is tempting to use the green Euonymus japonicus that does so well near the sea. This path continues past the west side of the house and goes farther in the same line through the middle of the kitchen garden, so giving an unbroken vista through the whole length of the ground and increasing its apparent extent.

The hand-gate to the front is just within the double entrance gate, a little way clear of the foot of the bank that shelters the garden from the main road. It passes through clumps of shrubs to right and left which give a sense of pleasant repose and retirement. Then, on arriving at the end of the curve, the main lawn is seen on the right, and the flower border, B, and the planting next to the house on the left. There is already a bird-bath, not very well placed; this will come well standing on a square paved shallow step, notched into the flower border, and will be conveniently seen from one of the windows on the south front. For the sake of symmetry there should be a corresponding treatment in the other bed of the same paved square, and any ornament or stone vase for a plant, that, for height and general aspect, will make a suitable fellow to the bird-bath.

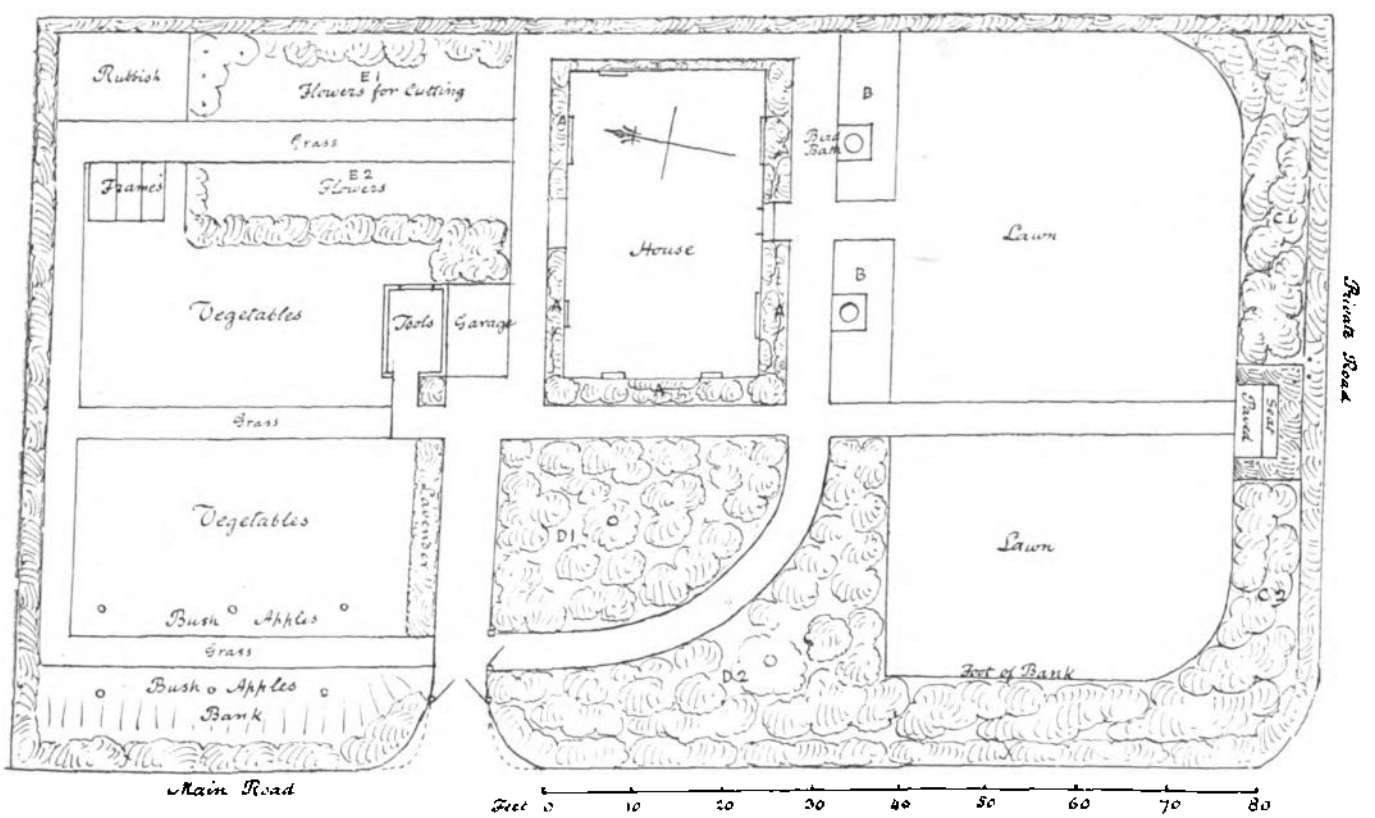
Planting Round the House.

The planting in A, all round the house, should be mainly of small bushy evergreens, rosemary and lavender, with China roses between. It would look well to have a Fuchsia Riccartoni trained up on each side of the door, and perhaps a myrtle on the west wall. Something solid, such as laurustinus or box, is to be advised at the angles, as these dense bushes serve to stop the wind that always seems to try to rush in cold blasts round the outer walls of a house. A clematis montana would cover the whole of the eastern wall and would probably return round the angles. If a continuous hedge is required along the eastern side it could well be all of Euonymus japonicus, rising to something higher, such as guelder rose and ribes, where it meets the end of the flower border E I. At any rate, there should be a good group of guelder rose or of something solid, like holly, at the end of E I, to screen off the rubbish place.

Shrubs for General Garden Purposes.

There is no more useful shrub than the common tamarisk (Tamarix gallica) that does so well anywhere near the sea, and it is a lovely thing both in flower and foliage. Atriplex Halimus is another good sea shrub, silvery grey, more or less evergreen. The hardy fuchsias, F. gracilis and F. Riccartoni, can be used freely. Veronica Traversii, should be largely planted, also sea buckthorn (hippophæ). Escallonia macrantha is invaluable, also Olearia Haastii, and Aucuba japonica will also stand well. These evergreens, with the always useful Euonymus japonicus, should form the main plantings in the entrance shrub clumps and the outer banks and shrub borders. The plan indicates the general way of grouping, with from three to six in a group. Among these evergreens various deciduous shrubs will come well. Blackthorn and dogwood (Cornus sanguineus) towards the outer edges, and inside, the two beautiful kinds of berberis, B. Darwinii and B. stenophylla, with the ever useful B. Aquifolium. Roses are not always successful near the sea; they dislike the salt-laden winds. But a notable exception is R. spinosissima and the whole range of Scotch briars that are derived from it; also sweet briar. Box-thorn or tea tree (Lycium chinense), that is so good for training over arbours, is a true seaside plant. It would trail down among the shrubs at the foot of the banks.

Carnations and pinks generally should be in the borders. Carnations grow vigorously and colour well, but in many cases have a curious habit of losing their scent by the sea.



Digitized by Google

THE FLOWER GARDEN

Early-Flowering Chrysanthemums

THE stools of the early varieties should be lifted now, and those required for propagation should be trimmed and placed in boxes or pots of sandy soil and stood in a cold frame. Keep them rather on the dry side until growth begins, when more ventilation and water should be given. Sturdy young basal shoots from these stools form good cuttings, which should be inserted in pots and grown on under cool conditions. If your stock has deteriorated in any way, or you wish to include some of the more modern varieties in your collection, here is a selection from which to make a choice :

AUSTRALIAN GOLD, *when disbudded, will make a fine large flower on a good stiff stem. Of a very rich golden buff, the flowers are incurved at the tips. Its season is August.*

BRONZE EARLY BUTTERCUP *has broad incurving petals of a chestnut bronze on the inside with gold reverse. Flowering in September.*

CRANFORD *is a fine variety, with golden yellow sprays, growing 4ft. high ; it will begin to bloom in mid-August and continue through September.*

CRANFORD CREAM, *shading to a primrose centre, is also excellent for sprays in mid-September.*

CRIMSON CIRCLE, *which blooms during August and September, is good for sprays or disbudding; it does not burn nor damp. Its reflex petals are of a deep rich blood red crimson.*

DICK BARNES, *a rich Burgundy, for sprays in September, is also good.*

GOLDFINDER *is, in the opinion of many, the best early yellow, whether for sprays or finer treatment.*

HARVESTER *is good, its yellow being shaded with bronze.*

ILLUMINATOR, *a lovely salmon shade with a bright gold centre ; it will disbud or make sprays.*

LICHFIELD PEACH (*peach pink*) *disbuds well and has good stiff stems.*

PHŒNIX, *a very bright scarlet bronze which has come to stay, will bloom from July till October. This variety is honoured by the market men, who certainly know the best.*

PINK DAME *will make sprays and has a very long season.*

PINK DELIGHT, *of good habit, will disbud, a lovely shell pink.*

RED ALMIRANTE, *a sport from Almirante, is good for sprays or single blooms.*

REINE DES BLANCS, *a white sort from, and an improvement on, that old favourite Roi des Blancs.*

SANCTITY *is certainly well to the forefront for white sprays in September.*

SALMON PROFUSION, *owing to its most fascinating colour and freedom of flowering, will be one of the most sought after of early chrysanthemums.*

SEPTEMBER GLORY, *when disbudded, with its large, well formed flowers of a brilliant orange bronze, will take a lot of beating, and is also very useful as a border plant when left to carry all the blooms it will.*

MRS. JACK PEARSON *is another very early bronze for sprays or disbudding.*

One word of advice to the older grower of chrysanthemums : Do not be afraid to discard old varieties or old stocks. The best cuttings are to be obtained from rested stock grown for the purpose.

Protecting Roses.

WHEN the weather seems likely to be very severe, the more delicate roses, like the teas, should certainly have some protection, otherwise they are sure to suffer badly. Of course, anything like coddling should be avoided, as this will cause the bushes to develop a tender constitution and also to start a premature growth in the spring—a habit which many of these roses are very prone to follow without any protection at all. Probably the best kind of protection is found in a few branches of fir, beech, birch, gorse and similar light boughs or twigs. Any of these are excellent to stick into the soil among the more tender of the dwarf roses. These will give ample protection against the winds and, after all, it is the frosty breezes that do more harm to roses than a still cold atmosphere. There is another great advantage of using such material instead of bracken or other litter. The latter is very untidy and also affords very much less protection just at the time when it is most wanted. Wet weather beats it down and it remains in a sodden state round the base or the most vital parts of the plants. Also, it is very troublesome to collect in the spring. The boughs are quite tidy and do not collect the wet. They answer a protective purpose all through the season and, when the spring comes, will still be playing a useful part in shielding the spring growth. For standard roses a few branches may be tied round the heads of the plants. All dwarf bushes should have the surrounding soil drawn up towards their base to a depth of at least 6ins. This is a very great protection, for it guards the most vulnerable part of the plant. Even should the weather be so severe that the tops of the plants are killed, the portion under the soil will remain unharmed, and this will produce many useful growths in the spring.

A PLANT FOR A SHADY SITUATION, RODGERSIA PINNATA.

A Fine Foliage & Flowering Plant.

FOR its foliage alone Rodgersia pinnata is a treasure invaluable, but when a plant is well established its soft, cheery flesh-tinted flowers, growing in spikes of as much as four and sometimes even five feet in height, are of wonderful beauty. The illustration conveys a good idea of the form of these flower spikes and shows also the beautiful veining of the foliage, but it cannot reveal the unique splendour of the rich copper-coloured foliage, which carries a gloss which reminds one of highly burnished metal.

Rodgersia pinnata should be provided with a recess where its growths may be shielded from rough winds and from the scorching heat of a summer midday's hottest sunshine. The screen may be of dark-leaved evergreen shrubs, so long as they are not rank growers, with ravenous roots, but I have seen very pleasing effects when a bay is formed by big boulders of rock at the foot of a rock bank facing west.

Deep digging, rubble drainage buried well below the roots, and a compost of peat and fibrous loam, admirably suits this plant, which should be given ample space for development at the outset (3ft. or 4ft. is not too much per plant), and thenceforward let it remain undisturbed. There is no objection to putting in a few roots of Anemone apennina or some erythroniums, snowdrops or Iris reticulata to prevent the wide area being bare when the foliage of the rodgersia cannot hide the soil. I have also seen liliums interplanted with fine effect.

The Alpine Flax.

LINUM ALPINUM, the alpine flax, is one of the alpine flora which have been in cultivation for many years, but which continue to retain their popularity despite the many novelties which have come to us from various quarters of the globe. It comes very near our own native Linum perenne, but is much dwarfer, and, with its prostrate, dwarf habit (it is only about 6ins. high) and its wonderfully large flowers, it looks very pleasing in the rock garden, although at home it is often to be found on grassland. The flowers are large for the slender, graceful, prostrate stems, and are of a delightful pale china blue, varying slightly in individual plants, and giving rise to a few varieties not usually in commerce. The flowers are produced in long succession, and this adds to the worth of this little plant. It loves a deep though poor and well drained soil in full sun, and is quite at home on the slopes and terraces of the rock garden. Plants can commonly be obtained in pots from nurseries dealing in hardy and alpine plants, and if in pots can be turned out at any time. Established plants may be divided, and a stock of

Digitized by Google

L. alpinum is soon raised from seeds, sown under glass in spring. Few rock gardens of any size are complete without a good clump or two of the attractive alpine flax.

Stonecrops for the Rock Garden.

THE genus sedum (stonecrops) includes many of the most attractive plants for the rock garden, and yet, with the exception of a few of the commoner species, it is quite inadequately represented in most gardens. This is a strange fact, since the majority of the species are perfectly hardy and the only conditions for which they ask are full exposure to sun, and light, well drained soil.

One of the chief points in their favour is that they are mostly evergreen, the foliage in many cases becoming beautifully tinted in the late summer and remaining so until fresh growth is made in the spring.

A few brief notes in regard to the best of them may be found useful. Perhaps gardeners will think that our native S. acre, which covers the stone walls of Gloucestershire and other counties with its bright golden flowers, is too common to bring into their gardens; but there are two varieties of it which should find a place, namely, S. acre aureum and S. acre majus (Maweanum), the former having pale yellow foliage in the early spring and the latter being a larger-growing form of the type.

The best grey-foliaged species is S. dasyphyllum, which is a real treasure, making compact mounds covered with tiny white flowers in the early summer. The soil should be specially well drained in this case, otherwise it is apt to disappear in the winter. S. Douglasii is rarely seen, although it is easy to grow and quite one of the best. It is about 6ins. high and its growth is somewhat woody. The foliage turns reddish in autumn and its bright yellow flower-heads are borne in June. A very distinct species is S. Ewersii, and, though hardly one of the best, it blooms at a useful time. The flowers are pink, produced in late summer, and the leaves are thick, flat and glaucous. The silver variegated form is much more desirable. An excellent paving plant is S. lydium. Its masses of green and red foliage are always a joy to look upon, but its flowers are rather inconspicuous, being very pale pink. Quite one of the best red-leaved species is S. oreganum with its succulent oval foliage and bright yellow flowers. We now come to S. pulchellum, which differs from its relations in having a liking for plenty of moisture during the growing season. The foliage is bright green during the summer, turning reddish in the autumn or when starved. The flower-heads are large and branching, with rosy mauve flowers. S. sexangulare is a very dwarf neat grower having golden flowers and is excellent as a paving plant. The sedum which no garden should be without is S. spathulifolium purpureum. It has greyish foliage in spring, turning bright red in autumn and winter and bearing handsome heads of golden yellow flowers in June. In conclusion, we come to S. spurium. There are a number of varieties in cultivation. One should select a good deep pink form, such as rubrum. It is a rampant grower and needs to be kept in bounds, but it is too good to be omitted. The foliage is green and rather large, colouring slightly in autumn.

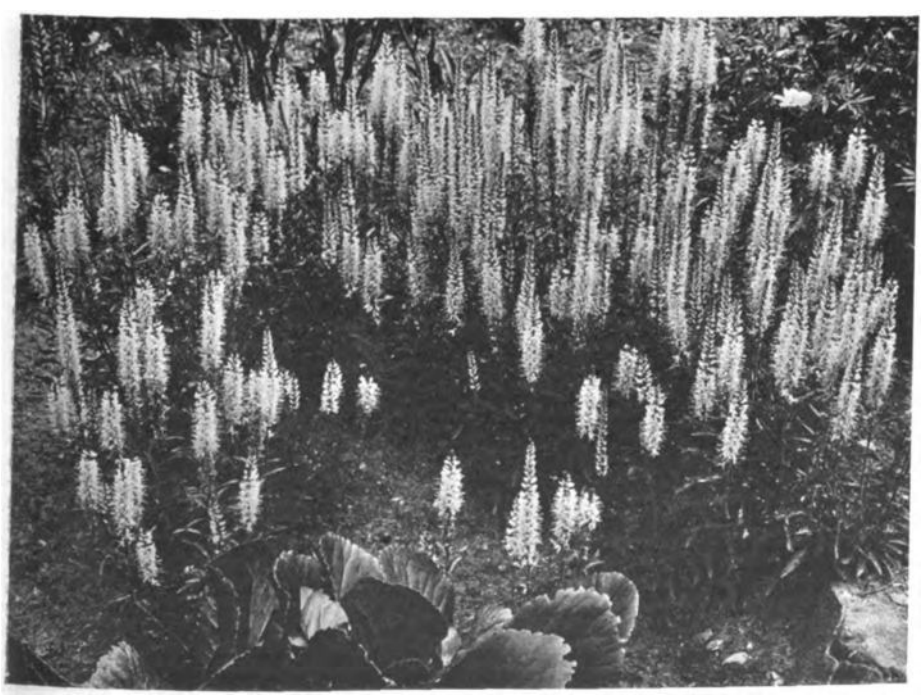
While this list could be greatly extended, the chief pearls of the genus will be found in it, and to increase it would be to make it difficult to select a small collection of choice and easily grown varieties.

SEDUM SPATHULIFOLIUM IS ONE OF THE BEST OF THE STONECROPS.

A Spike-Flowered Speedwell.

IT is in just such clumps or colonies as that shown in the illustration that Veronica spicata alba will reveal its full charm. Often one sees a solitary plant carrying one or two slender spikes, dainty and beautiful in themselves, but not quite bold enough really to make a striking display. In a mass, as our illustration shows, we get that striking display and still retain the extremely elegant and dainty appearance of the flowers. It is an easy matter to acquire stock for a good sized colony, for not only will strong roots split up for the making of several plants, but cuttings taken when the young growths are about 3ins. long will root readily enough in sharp, gritty soil. This plant, like the majority of veronicas will grow in any tolerably good soil and in almost any situation; it ranks in fact among the best of the shade enduring flowers and at the same time is a good dry-weather plant.

The way to secure the best results is to lift, divide and transplant every third year in a patch of soil that has had some manure worked into it two or three months before planting.



VERONICA SPICATA ALBA IS A FINE SPEEDWELL FOR THE BORDER.

The Goat's Beard.

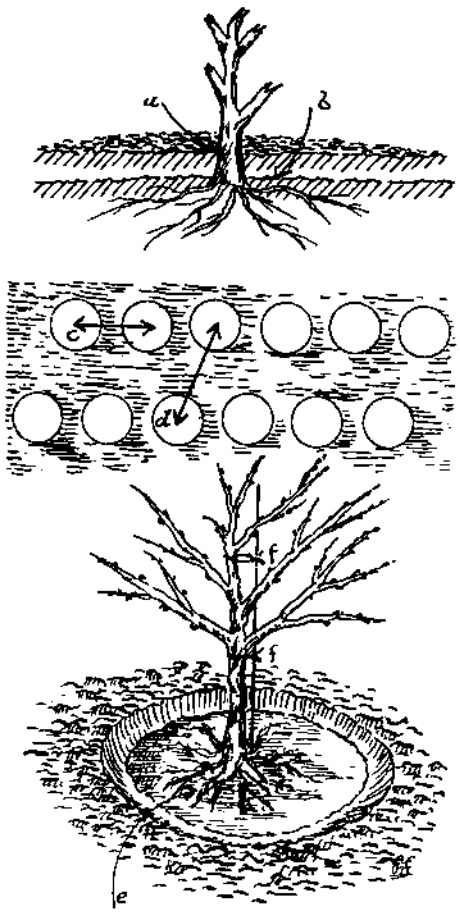
THIS easily grown flower should be planted by the waterside; here it will show off its handsome foliage and flowers to perfection. It is a tall, shrub-like perennial, growing from 3ft. to 6ft. high; its leaves are long, pinnate and rounded at the base; the flowers are creamy white on long spikes, very erect. The Goat's Beard is most decorative and has a long period of flowering. We have seen it planted with the red bergamot (Monarda didyma), a most striking and pleasant association. Spiræa Aruncus is propagated by seed and root division; the latter should be done in early autumn, then the plants establish themselves before the winter.

Digitized by Google

PLUMS and CHERRIES for PRESENT PLANTING

Fruit Tree Planting.

IT is not always possible to plant fruit trees in the autumn, but where it can be done, weather and other conditions being suitable, there is no doubt about it being a much better time than the spring. After autumn planting there are rains to settle the soil firmly round the roots, but after spring planting there is often a dry spell of weather and the soil remains very loose, in spite of treading, round the roots. Of course, it is absolutely necessary to plant in spring sometimes, and, when this is done, extra care should be taken to place very fine soil next to the roots, to firm well and surface mulch freely. In other matters do the detail work just the same as when autumn planting is carried out. All our trees should be grown, where possible, in an open quarter, but sheltered from the south and south-west winds—such shelters will be dealt with in a future issue of THE GARDEN. It is not enough that a hole should be made, the roots of the tree crammed into it and covered with soil. When a tree is once planted it is a difficult matter to do much to the soil about the roots afterwards. Everything possible should be done to prepare the soil before any trees are planted. A tree rarely succeeds straight away if its roots are "puddled-in," so it is important that the soil be fairly dry at the time, then it can be readily worked in about all the roots, large and small ones. Furthermore, the soil can be well firmed by treading; but treading, when the soil is in a pasty condition, would result in much harm. Often, the enquiry comes, "How deep ought trees to be planted?" A true guide is to note the depth that the tree was planted in the nursery, this can be ascertained by looking at the soil mark on the stem. Always have the soil covering the roots about 4ins. higher than the surrounding surface, to allow for them settling down to the normal level. At *a*, the depth is too great; at *b*, the correct depth to plant and cover the roots as shown. In block or plantation planting the trees should be arranged as shown at *c* and *d*, respectively; then they will receive the maximum amount of light and air. The hole should be made large enough to contain the roots in a spread-out form and their tips remain free from touching the sides, as shown at *e*. Before the soil is placed on the roots the supporting stake should be fixed and the main stem neatly fastened to it in two places, *f*, *f*. Even a bush tree should be so staked. Then finish the work by applying a mulch.



Best Plums.

THE prunus family requires a soil impregnated with lime and not too heavily charged with nitrogenous food. A deep, loamy soil is not so necessary in the case of plums as, say, apples and pears, as top-dressing with bone meal and short stable manure will greatly assist productiveness. These remarks allude to restricted systems, *i.e.*, bush, double cordons and fan-shaped trained trees. Summer pruning and washing and elimination of inside growth will greatly assist the well being of the tree and extend its life.

The following varieties will be found to suit most gardens, not only for free clean growth, but cropping qualities as well, the writer being acquainted with each and all.

Denniston's Superb Gage.—A first rate dessert plum, equal in flavour to and rather more vinous than Greengage. Ripe in the middle of August. Fruit, medium size, short, oval; skin pale yellowish green, marked with a few purple thin blotches and dots, and covered with bloom. Flesh yellow, firm, rich and sugary, adhering to the stone. Bush, double cordon or fan-shaped trees are best.

River's Early Prolific.—A variety of merit, answering equally for dessert or cooking purposes. Fruit small, roundish, coming into season during July; flesh yellowish, sweet and vinous, free stone. This valuable plum is now sought after by all commercial plum growers and was introduced by Mr. Rivers in 1866. All systems of training will suit the cultivation of Early Prolific.

Belle de Louvain.—A large culinary plum, coming to use about the end of August. Fruit very large and oval in shape, colour reddish purple, covered with a rich bloom; flesh yellow, firm, adhering closely to the stone; flavour good, does splendidly on a west aspect and very fruitful as a bush.

Czar.—A cooking plum, medium to large roundish, almost black, with a thin blue bloom. Very prolific and a reliable tree in all forms, a first-rate plum for the amateur, owing to its annual bearing proclivities.

Monarch.—This grand plum, raised by Messrs. Rivers, has proved one of their very best introductions, the fruits being of high quality and perfect in shape. Fruit large, oval, rich dark purple, fruit standing wet weather better than any other plum I know. All systems of cultivation will suit this late plum, coming in season in early October.

Belgian Purple.—Fruit medium sized, roundish, skin deep purple, covered with blue bloom, flesh greenish, juicy and sweet, very prolific and most useful for the amateur.

Pond's Seedling.—Fruit very large and oval shaped, skin dark red, with blue bloom, flesh yellowish, rayed with white and briskly flavoured, adhering to the stone. Ripe in the middle of September or thereabouts, very fertile and a splendid wall plum.

Purple Pershore.—A remarkably productive plum, most useful for bottling, preserving or daily use in season. Flesh yellow and of good quality. Makes a perfect half-standard or bush.

Victoria.—So well known, that comment is needless. The pity of it and more's the pity this excellent plum is so subject to silver leaf.

Gisborne's.—An excellent cooking plum, while the trees will bear themselves to death, it being so productive. Skin greenish yellow, changing to amber, with a few crimson spots and numerous russet dots interspersed. Flesh yellow, firm and briskly acid, free stone, coming to ripe in the middle of August.

Blue Rock.—A variety ripening in August, crop densely and worthy of extended cultivation. Fruit medium, round, dark purple, flesh yellow, juicy and sweet, and a variety of great excellence.

Reine Claude de Bavay Gage.—Fruit large, roundish and flattened at both ends. Skin yellowish green, sprinkled with dark red dots and covered with a delicate white bloom. Flesh yellow, tender, melting and very juicy, with a rich sugary flavour, free stone. Ripe in the end of September to middle of October. Growth moderate, hardy and fertile.

Best Cherries.

ONE of the most luscious fruits known, yet so seldom met with in the amateur's garden. I presume there are reasons for this scarcity of planting, probably owing to attacks of cherry aphis, gumosis and sterility.

Cherries require a soil heavily charged with lime, and root action, should be undisturbed.

Selection of varieties is of great value and it is wise to plant two or more varieties to enable cross fertilisation, this being a decided factor towards a successful crop.

A west or south-west aspect is favourable to their well being, while summer pruning and cleaning of the trees during the summer all tend towards a profitable issue.

The following sorts will be found useful for the small garden:

Waterloo.—A large, dark purple fruit, raised by Mr. T. A. Knight in 1815 and named a few weeks after the occurrence of the battle of Waterloo. Skin thin, dark purple, mottled with brownish red and becoming almost black when fully ripe. Flesh red and darker in colour near the stone, tender, juicy, with a rich, delicious flavour and excellent in every way. Free grower and a good bearer, coming into season from mid to end of June.

Knight's Early Black.—Fruit large, obtuse heart-shaped, skin nearly black when fully ripe, flesh dark purple, tender, juicy and sweet, richly and highly flavoured. The tree is healthy in growth and most productive in company with other varieties.

Napoleon Bigarreau.—A large heart-shaped fruit with a brilliant scarlet cheek on a pale yellow ground, very handsome and taking. Flesh firm, juicy and sweet, in season in August, tree vigorous, hardy and prolific. A splendid wall fruit in company with others to enable fertilisation.

Black Heart.—A cherry of great antiquity, and still one of the best. Fruit large, heart-shaped, flesh dark purple, firm, sweet and delicious, growth vigorous and productive.

Governor Wood Bigarreau.—Large heart-shaped fruit, in season in July. Fruit pale yellow with a light red flush, flesh tender, sweet and juicy. An excellent cherry for the garden or orchard house.

Kentish Bigarreau.—A very old variety of great value, of medium size and extremely productive. Fruit pale yellow, with bright red cheek, flesh white, juicy and sweet. A good grower and crops immense on all systems of training. For one variety this can be thoroughly recommended.

Digitized by Google

THE BUSY MAN'S PAGE

Black Currants.

THESE succeed best in well dug, cool, moist soil. A position in partial shade is often very satisfactory. At the time of planting—which can be carried out during open weather from now until early spring—a moderate dressing of well decayed farmyard manure should be thoroughly worked into the soil. The bushes should be planted 5ft. apart each way. By planting a selection of suitable varieties, the fruiting season can be prolonged considerably. During the summer a mulching of rotted manure is most beneficial.

BALDWIN. — *Heavy and regular cropper. Fruit is sweet, firm and hangs late.*

BLACK CHAMPION.—*Early. Large, somewhat acid berries, bunches long.*

BOSKOOP GIANT.—*An early variety. The largest black currant with a long bunch. Growth is free and spreading and the fruit is tender and juicy. A good variety for all positions.*

DANIEL'S SEPTEMBER.—*A fine new disease-resistant variety which ripens three or four weeks later than any other black currant. The bunches are long and the fruit jet black. It is a strong grower and a heavy cropper.*

SEABROOK'S BLACK.—*One of the best black currants. It is resistant to big bud, very prolific, vigorous and crops remarkably well. A mid-season variety.*

How Frost Benefits the Ground.

THE thorough breaking up of the soil is of the greatest importance to every gardener. A great deal of this disintegration is secured by digging and other processes, but it should not be forgotten that there are powerful natural agents which play a very helpful part in the business. Water, especially in conjunction with frost, plays a very big part in bringing the soil to a state in which plants will flourish. When the moisture in the soil freezes it expands and tears the clods of earth asunder. Thus, after a severe frost, the ground is always seen to be covered with fine mould. Land which is unoccupied during the winter, especially heavy soil, should always be ridged up or hoed into drills as for potato growing. This allows free play for frost and lets the cold penetrate the ground in all directions. If possible, let the ridges run north and south, so that, in addition to the frost, sun and air may get at all parts. These natural agents working together on the soil bring it into an excellent condition.

Destroying a Tree Stump.

WHEN a tree has been sawn down it is often a difficult matter to remove the stump and roots. By far the quickest way of getting rid of the stump is to burn it up in the following manner: With an augur bore several holes as deeply as possible in the stump. A slower way of getting out the holes is to burn them out with a red hot poker. All the holes are then filled with paraffin. As the oil soaks into the wood the holes are refilled, and this is done on several occasions. After three or four days the stump will, to a large extent, be heavily impregnated with oil. Now collect a quantity of dry stuff and pile this lightly right over the stump. Set the mass alight and soon the oil-soaked stump is blazing away merrily. The burning process will go on for some time, and in the end the whole of the stump and most of the roots will be reduced to ashes. It will now be quite a simple matter to clear the ground, and the ashes which have come with the burning of the stump should be scattered over the ground and dug in on account of their fertilising properties.

The Many-Petalled Kingcup.

CALTHA POLYPETALA, the many-petalled kingcup, has been long enough in our gardens for its value to be properly appraised, and it must be said that it is a plant of great merit. It is effective in every way. Its tall habit, its large handsome leaves, and its noble cups of golden yellow borne throughout the summer, all give it an undeniable claim as being among the plants well to the front in the garden where there is some moisture to sustain its growth and satisfy its tastes. It grows to about 3ft. high, a sufficient height to put it well above the other kingcups. Then, the leaves are no less than a foot across; while the stout stems bear their handsome golden yellow single flowers all summer through.

Caltha polypetala, like its kindred kingcups, is a moisture-lover, and, given a good place by the side of a stream or pond, where its roots can reach the water it so much desires, it will give splendid results and produce a capital effect. Propagation is performed by division.

THE GOLDEN BLOSSOM OF THE MANY-PETALLED KINGCUP.

A Chrysanthemum Hint.

WHERE accommodation for all the late-flowering chrysanthemums cannot be found in the glasshouse the following plan is to be highly recommended. Select the sunniest wall in the garden and here arrange the plants with care, letting the tall ones be placed behind and the short ones in front. Not only may chrysanthemums in pots be so placed, but late varieties in the garden that are threatened with the bad weather may also be lifted and transplanted along the base of the wall. The developing flowers may be protected by putting a few boards against the wall. Another plan is to drive nails in the wall and to these attach pieces of matting or old sacks, the other side of the material being fixed to uprights which have been driven into the front of the border. The protective covering will be most needed at night, and on mild, sunny days it may be removed for a few hours round about noon. When the weather is cold and wet the protection may be left on throughout the day. Chrysanthemums treated in this way may be nursed through many weeks of bad weather, and it is often possible to keep up the display until well into December.

Preservatives for Wood S

IN the case of all wood support have to remain in the soil for it is a real economy to employ som tive so as to arrest the process which sooner or later would rot completely. For this purpose handiest thing to use is gas ta gallon or so of the tar out in th placing the can over a small fire is conveniently built up round which the can is rested. When thoroughly hot paint the wood about 6ins. above the ground level tar-covered parts of the sticks in a sand and then put them on one sid

Stockholm Tar and Its

THE fungus spores which cause of wood usually find an entra some wound or bruise caused by winds of winter or possibly pruning. To prevent trouble a there is nothing so good as Sto

a small quantity of which shou kept handy. Every time a wou paint a little tar over it and le it will do no harm and will su destroyer of fungoid spores. excellent plan to follow in the and fruit trees which are ofte to canker. Where there is from rabbits paint a little of th tar over the lower parts of t fruit trees and shrubs.

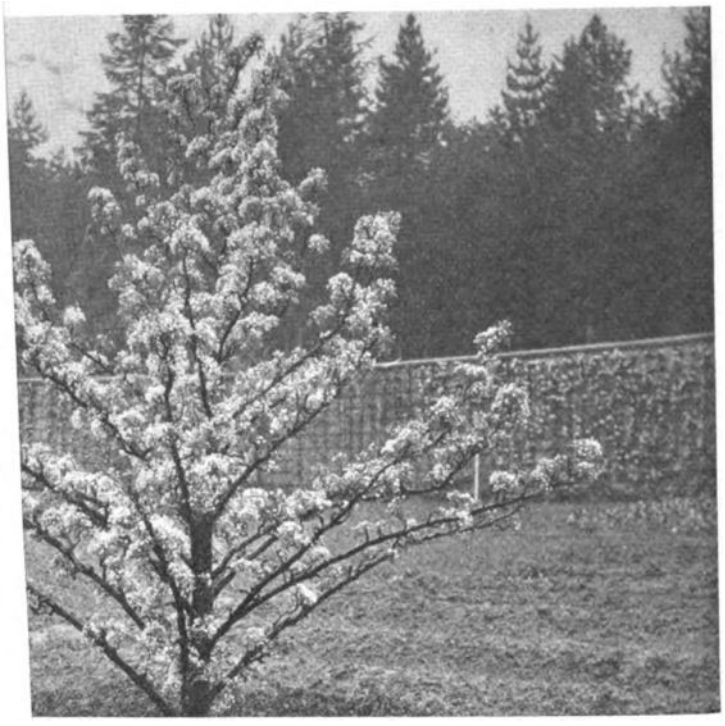
How to Deal with Garden

During autumn days gard accumulates rapidly, and althoug can be burnt and the ash—wh valuable plant food in the form dug into the soil, the most pro dealing with it is to allow it to r to the soil the humus thus fo small garden there is little spa a rubbish heap, which will take before it is sufficiently decayed rubbish should be "Adcoized." "Adco," is a great help; it no rotting to take place far more in untreated heaps, but turns ga into synthetic manure. Disea such as cabbage stumps infec root, fruit prunings attacked diseases or insect pests, should on the rubbish heap, but sho at once in an incinerator.

Digitized by Google

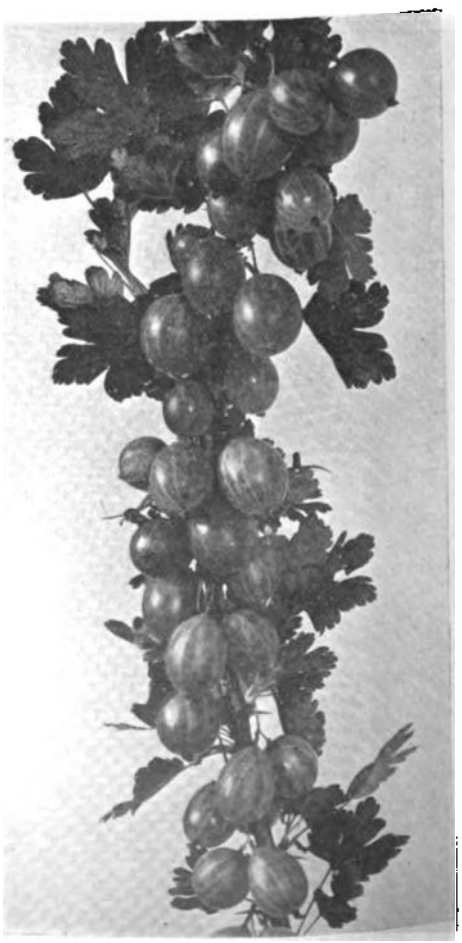
E YOU PAYING ATTENTION TO Y

These illustrations are not p
mouths water, though they
rather are they given the
in the paper to show reade
ordinary gardeners in o
way of growing fruit. T
to be done in the fruit ga
is the important question
ing, as well as combati
worth trouble and patien
year. On these two pa
forms of fruit trees in bl
cultivation. We are told
we can add, grow more f
Your fruit trees and



D-TRAINED TREE COVERED WITH FLOWER BUDS.

CE ON THE WALL.



A WELL FRUITED GOOSEBERRY BRANCH.

A BLACK CUR

upports.
s that will
some time
e preserva-
of decay,
the wood
quite the
. Heat a
e open by
The fire
brick on
the tar is
thinly to
. Roll the
little coarse
e to dry.

Use.
the rotting
nce through
the rough
by careless
the start
ckholm tar,

d always be
nd is noticed
ve it there;
rely act as a
This is an
case of roses
h so subject
any trouble
e Stockholm
he trunks of

Rubbish.
den rubbish
this rubbish
ich contains
of potash—
fitable way of
pt and return
rmed. In a
e to conceal
some months
and so the
This material,
it only causes
rapidly than
rden rubbish
sed material,
ted by club-
by fungoid
not be placed
uld be burnt

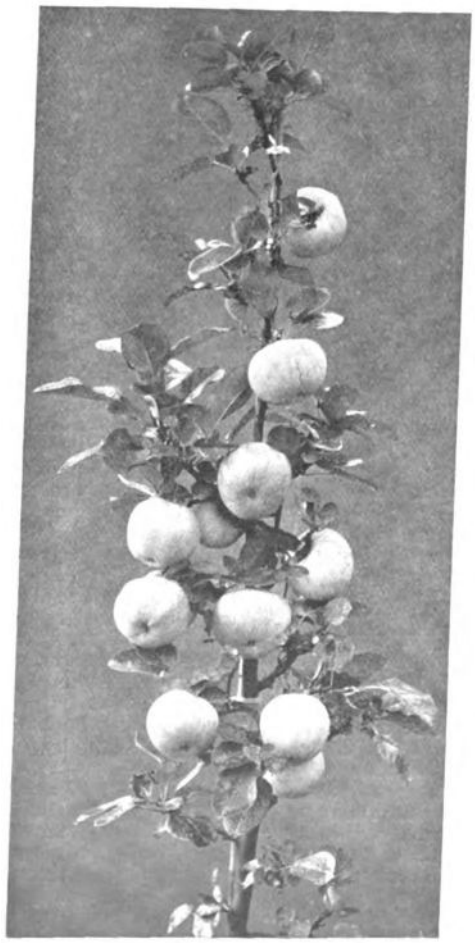
Digitized by Google

TENDOUR HOME-GROWN FRUIT SUPI

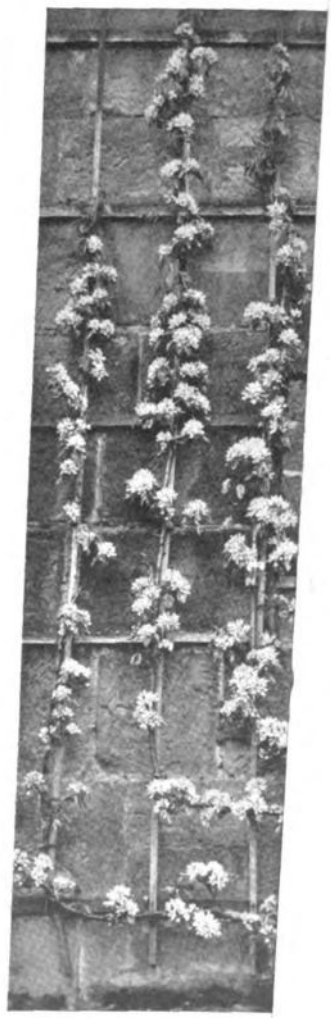
inted to make readers' nay have this result ; ost important position what can be done by inary gardens in the re is always something m. At this season it stocking and plant- winter pests. Fruit is at all seasons of the will be found various and the results of good at more fruit. To this and tend it carefully. ishes will repay you.

WHAT YOU SHOULD AIM AT IN THE F

DEN WITH BERRIES.



WHAT A YOUNG APPLE CAN DO.



THE GRIDIRO

Forks a

QUITE
are fo
these it pa
the best fo
satisfactor
flattened t
too sharp.
less likely
rounded t
merely a r
be of the
a fork the
right hand
left lower
can revers
work. Re
learn to us
is not nat
sional cha
the fatigue
be used in
always wo
be much e
always eco
without sa
a fork for
and for s
spreading
useful for
is much le
a trowel.
not be too
will last as
cared for.
keep it so
is an excel
dirt, to rub
course, co
should no
below the

Draining

SOILS fr
drain a
sour ; so,
is consider
in all atte
the garde
militates
equally ess
orthodox
to lead a
slope, or t
is broad.
drain every
are necessa
may be ad
one part an
it ; every c
attention,
needed whe
excessive.
In a le
have a slo
may be ab
or 3½ft. at
is 2ft. to 3
retentive lo
Field dra
in diameter
can order
strike a bar
quantity ;
builder or
cannot be
fill in part
even with
together.
the outlet
to flow aw
ditch, or in
dig a deep

Digitized by Google

LOOK AFTER YOUR SOIL

At this time of year the correct treatment of the soil itself is most important. If your plants are to succeed, then the soil must be suitably prepared for their reception.

nd Spades.

he most useful tools in the garden rks and spades, and when buying ys to make sure that one is getting rm of these implements. The most type of digging fork is one with ines and with points that are not This tool will be strong, but is to damage roots than one with nes and very sharp points. It is natter of choice whether the handle ox or the crutch pattern. In using general practice is to have the on the top of the handle and the lown near the prongs. Some people the positions and do just as good ally, it is rather a good plan to e a fork in both ways, even if one rally ambidexterous, for an occa- nge over will very much reduce of digging. Wherever a fork can stead of a spade, for turning, it is th while doing so. The work will asier and the best gardener should nomise labour where he can do so rificing efficiency. Always employ digging among plants in borders uch operations as lifting roots, manure, etc. A hand-fork is most dealing with small plants, and it ss likely to cause root injury than A spade, to be really handy, should heavy. A moderately light spade long as a heavy one if it is properly Once a spade is really bright by housing it in a dry place. It lent plan, after cleaning away the the blade with an oiled rag. Of mmon sense dictates that a spade be used where roots are just surface.

Soils.

om which water does not readily way are cold and more or less for that reason, good drainage ed to be one of the first essentials mpts to increase the fertility of ; moreover, stagnant soil-water gainst healthy bacterial action, ential to intensive gardening. The method of draining a garden is rain through it, along the line of vo or even three, when the garden In wet districts there might be a 12ft.; in porous loam, if drains ry, they may be 18ft. apart. It vantageous to lead a drain down d to run a few branch drains into ise is one which demands individual and yet no expert knowledge is re the area to be dealt with is not el garden the drain itself must e. The trench at the beginning out 2ft. in depth, sloping to 3ft. he other end. The normal trench ft. deep, the less depth in heavy am. ins are a foot long and about 3ins. ; knowing the length, the gardener ufficient from dealers, or he may gain with some farmer ordering a or even a nurseryman, a house- a jobbing gardener. If drain tiles secured, dig the usual trench and ly with clinkers, stones, tins, or bunches of twigs tied firmly a point to note in all cases is that s free enough to allow the water ay; it may lead into a sewer, a o another drain. In difficult cases, hole, fill in with stones, and lead the drain into this. In very small gardens of a damp nature, a deep hole may be dug just now; into it is cast the winter's accumulation of stones, tins and all sorts of rubbish. Covered with turf in spring, this may be hidden with soil, but it continues to act as a drainage hole and materially dries up the surrounding ground. In lawns, round fruit trees and elsewhere the process known as "holing," in which fairly deep holes are made with a crowbar or fork, is well worthy of adoption, as it has the power of drying and sweetening the ground where it is carried out.

Stacking Turf.

WHEN opening up a new plot of ground there is often a considerable amount of rough turf to be removed. This may be of no use for lawn making, but, if it is of a fibrous nature, it should be carefully cut to the depth of 3ins. or 4ins. and stacked. The reason for this is that such turf forms the best possible potting soil on account of the rich store of plant food which it contains. Turf is stacked for greater convenience, as it is not always an easy matter to cut it just as it is needed, and then it improves enormously with keeping. If closely stacked one can smother out most of the weeds and also discourage many insect and other pests. Still further, stacked turf may be rendered even more valuable by the incorporation of manure. The best time for the cutting and stacking of turf is in the latter part of the year. It does not matter much what is the shape of the stack so long as the upper part will throw off most of the rain. To enrich it put a layer of well decayed manure between each layer of turves. This will do away with the necessity of adding manure to the potting mixture. Leaf-soil which is about a year old might also be worked in with advantage. If insects and grubs are seen to be wriggling about, dust the turves freely with soot or lime and so destroy them.

Manures for the Garden.

FARMYARD MANURE.

THIS term may include that of horse, cow and pig manure. Poultry manure is sometimes mixed with the other manures of the farmyard, but generally it is placed in a heap by itself. For garden purposes cow and horse dung are no doubt the best. Littery stable manure is the best sort of heating material for a hot-bed, but well rotted cow dung is the most suitable for digging into flower and vegetable plots and for general manuring purposes. Pig dung is good for roses and for general cropping; but it is unsuitable for a turnip crop, especially where there is a tendency to anbury, or finger-and-toe, by reason of its acidity or sourish condition.

POULTRY MANURE.

This manure, when dried and seasoned, is about as good as guano. It is too rich to use generally on a liberal scale, but may be applied in good measure to those gross-feeding crops of the cabbage tribe, leeks, etc. It should always be well rotted so as to make sure of any seeds it may contain being destroyed. If mixed with decayed compost, such as turves, leaves and other herbage, poultry manure makes a good fertiliser for any kind of crop. It may also in such form be incorporated in potting composts.

Poultry manure may be utilised in the production of littery material for a hot-bed. Dissolve the poultry manure in tubs of water, adding as much liquid manure as can be collected from other sources. Get ready a heap of straw, well mixed with green herbage, leaves, etc. Pour the liquid manure thus prepared over the heap of straw, which, by the way, should be piled in a kind of pit well bottomed with clay. When the heap is fairly well saturated, throw some old bags or other material over the top to keep the hot vapour in and the rain out. When the heap has fermented sufficiently, turn it over on a dry position and sprinkle a little more liquid manure over the successive layers. Turn the heap a few more times until it is in a condition to make a hot-bed.

How to Renew Soil with the Least Damage to Plants.

THIS is a subject that requires care and discretion, but at the same time it presents no difficulties to the plant lover.

Once a year the whole of the rock garden should be gone over carefully and the roots of the plants top-dressed with fresh soil to provide nourishment for the following season of growth, and such work can be performed during the latter part of the year, excepting, of course, frosty weather, and also in spring. All dead growth must be removed and a little of the old soil picked out with a small hand fork or zinc label, without any injury to the roots. This refers to the stronger-growing subjects. The weaker brethren with less vigorous roots must not be treated so severely, while others with plenty of live roots on the surface will not require any of the soil being removed, but just top-dressed with new material. Great care must be taken to obviate any harm coming to the centre of the plants, and the depth of the compost will depend on the subject top-dressed. For instance, rock roses would benefit by a generous application, while for androsaces and such like a mere sprinkling of the leaf-mould and sand mixture would suffice. Whenever fresh soil is given it must be made fairly firm, otherwise it will not be of any advantage to the plants. In every rock garden a few alpines at least will be found in anything but a thriving condition, and in such cases it is advisable to lift the plants and replace the old soil with new before replanting, or remove them to another station. The latter method often proves the most satisfactory. With fissures and crevices the work of top-dressing needs a little more patience, and in some instances no additional soil will be necessary. Take the ramondias and Saxifraga longifolia, if the fissures were well packed with proper soil at the time of planting, nothing more need be done for two or three seasons. If the soil has become sour, and therefore not conducive to free root action, as much as possible should be picked out, and replaced with other soil. When doing this a small rammer will be useful, because in such positions the soil must be made firm and with a little practice it will be found quite easy to pack a fissure or crevice so that the plants will be quite happy. In renewing soil without any undue disturbance or injury to the plants, the left hand must be made to do its share of the work, by taking care of the top of the plant. It can hold the growth on one side, or prevent the small evergreen shoots from being damaged. At the same time the right hand will be carefully picking out the old impoverished soil and placing the new mixture in position. In this way the work will be accomplished with a minimum of damage, and in due course the result of one's labour will be apparent.

Digitized by Google

SOME PLANTS FOR A DAMP SPOT

FEW small gardens can boast of anything in the way of a stream or pond, but in many there is a damp place—even if only the result of the recurrent overflow of a tank—in which plants that only drag out a miserable existence in an ordinarily dry border, will take a new lease of life. All the cimicifugas—of which racemosus and cordifolia are the best known—for instance, do most satisfactorily where they can get a little moisture at the root and, if possible, a little shelter from the midday sun, rarely reaching their full height of 5ft. or so, or opening their long creamy white spikes properly under other conditions. Physostegia virginianum is another plant which flags badly in hot weather in dry soil; the lilac-pink blossoms of this, borne in branching spikes, are very pretty and have the advantage of being admirable for cutting. There is a white variety but this seems less free-flowering and even more resentful of drought than the type. The herbaceous spiræas—the tall Aruncus and the lower-growing filipendula and palmata—all thrive best in a damp corner, as do their kindred, the astilbes, of which Davidii is imposing for the back row, although its colour, crimson purple, does not appeal to everybody. The hybrids, said to be the result of crosses between A. Davidii and S. japonica and S. astilboides (of which there are fourteen or fifteen named varieties in white and various shades of pink), are effective, but are not always absolutely hardy in cold districts and are better suited, perhaps, for pot work. Thalictrum glaucum and Senecio tanguticus are two other plants that revel in a little moisture. Both are six-footers in quarters they like and the golden yellow spires of the latter are showy (and good for cutting) in late August and September, but it is a terrible encroacher and needs careful watching. The great orange coloured umbels of another member of the groundsel family, S. Clivorum, are handsome enough to make amends for its ugly coarse foliage, but it has a fatal

A PATCH OF POLYGONUM AFFINE WITH REDDISH PINK FLOWER SPIKES.

attraction for slugs and snails, unfortunately. There are, it is almost unnecessary to say, several species of iris suited to a damp spot, but none is more beautiful in a large background group than the giant I. ochroleuca, the white and gold flowers of which not only last a long time individually, but will continue to succeed each other to the number of four or five on each stem, whether growing or cut and in water.

Among the plants of medium height that will thrive in the damp corner are the trolliuses, europæus (lemon yellow), asiaticus (orange), and their hybrids, of which Empire Day is perhaps the richest in colour; the day lilies, especially the tawny Hemerocallis fulva and the pale yellow, sweet-scented H. flava, rarely absent from old gardens; Cardamine pratense fl. pl., the double Lady's Smock; and Polygonatum macrophyllum (one of the Solomon's Seals). Lobelia cardinalis would supply a welcome touch of brilliant colour, but in all but the very warmest parts of the country it must be lifted before the winter, which is tiresome. The gorgeous scarlet Lilium chalcedonicum is quite hardy, however. Damp is not generally considered essential to the well being of this fine lily, but it certainly likes it and if in a dry border it is apt to be disfigured by its leaves yellowing before the flower opens. It has two drawbacks—it does not increase rapidly, hence its comparatively high price, and it often gets eaten off by slugs directly it appears above ground. Another suitable plant of good colour is Monarda didyma, but it must not be overlooked that its crimson will clash with scarlet.

For the front of the damp patch there are the reddish pink Polygonum affine, Mimulus luteus and M. cardinalis (doubtfully hardy this, however); the two blue flowered plants Anchusa myosotidiflora and Omphalodes cappadocica; Myosotis palustris (for the wettest place), and, if there is peat in the soil, the beautiful wood lilies (trilliums), with their delicate white or pink flowers. If a trailer is wanted, there is the ever useful Lysimachia Nummularia, the golden-starred trails of which look their prettiest veiling an old tree stump or a heap of rockery stones.

R. E. HEAD.

WHAT OUR READERS SAY

ROSE K. OF K.

SIR,—I am surprised that K. of K. is not more recommended for rose gardens. With me it is very strong growing, the bloom lasts well on the tree and unusually long indoors. By artificial light the colour is wonderful, even a half dead one lights up into a gorgeous red such as I have seen on no other. A great part of its night beauty is due to the delicate bloom on its petals.—M. RUTHERFORD, *Cambridge*.

A USEFUL PLANT FOR THE AMATEUR.

SIR,—The accompanying illustration depicts a flowering spike of the garland flower (Hedychium Gardnerianum), which is one of the sweetest, cool house flowering plants in cultivation. Its generic name is derived from the Latin words, *hedys*, sweet and *chion*, snow; alluding to the sweet scented, snow white flowers of some of the species.

This species was introduced into this country over 100 years ago and specimens of it may be found in all the best gardens in the land. It is, however, essentially a plant for the amateur who has only a slightly heated greenhouse. In fact in the southern parts of England it is reputed to be hardy in sheltered spots.

H. Gardnerianum grows to the height of about 4ft. and the top of each shoot is surmounted with an enormous spike of large, fragrant flowers of a clear lemon yellow colour, against which the reddish stamens show up in great contrast. The requirements of this plant are of the simplest. It should be planted in a large pot or tub, or in a prepared border in the greenhouse or conservatory. As it is a prolific growing plant it must be provided with a rich compost, consisting of two parts of loam, one of leaf-mould and half a part of well decayed manure. Potting should take place in March or April and a liberal supply of water provided as the growth becomes vigorous. After flowering, water must gradually be withheld, so that the soil is kept in a dry state during the winter.—G. F. GARDINER.

THE GARLAND FLOWER.

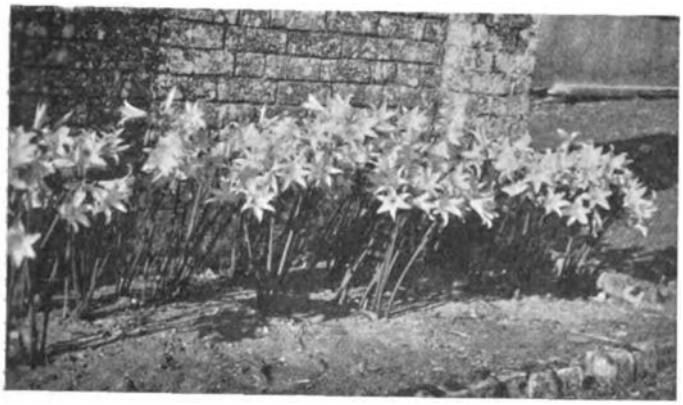
LIME-LOVING LILIES.

SIR,—On page 542, in a friendly endeavour to help "Ignoramus" to an understanding of the way of lilies, "Ignotus" wrote that, with the exception of a few species which he enumerated, the great majority of lilies are definite haters of chalk and lime.

As this rather sweeping generalisation may deter some of the many who garden on limy soil from attempting the cultivation of lilies, I venture to suggest to "Ignotus" that his dictum needs some qualification, and the inclusion in his list among lime-tolerant lilies of all the European species—LL. chalcedonicum, pyrenaicum, pomponium, croceum, bulbiferum, carniolicum, Martagon and Szovitzianum, as well as testaceum and umbellatum.

Of Japanese lilies which tolerate lime, L. Hansonii is easy to manage, and among the many American lime-loving or lime-tolerant

Digitized by Google



A ROW OF BELLADONNA LILIES.

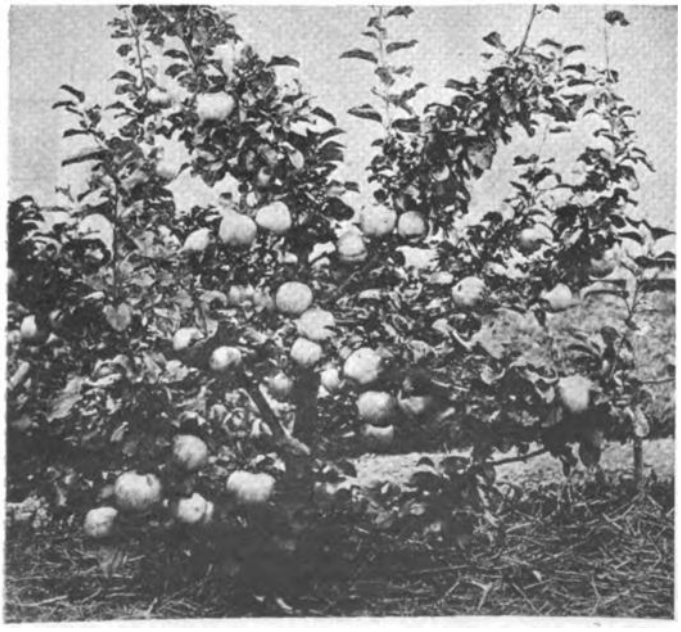
species, L. pardalinum is surely within the power of the novice.—A. GROVE.

THE PROBLEM OF THE HEDGE.

SIR,—In an article on the above in the issue of October 23rd there are mentioned various substitutes for the conventional dwarf box edging. Last autumn, wanting to plant such a miniature hedge, I was advised by a local gardener to try Santolina instead. The plants were put in about 9ins. apart, and in the spring, when new growth started, they were clipped to about 4ins. from the ground. Since then they have been allowed to grow into a very attractive hedge 10ins. high by 12ins. thick and about 50ft. long, crowning a low terrace wall. Of course, three or four clippings during the season and not permitting flower buds to form, are necessary to produce good results.—L. PETTITT, *Bournemouth.*

APPLE REV. W. WILKS.

SIR,—Although it is upwards of twenty years since this variety was introduced, it cannot be said to have found its way into the gardens of the average small grower to any great extent. It is hard to say why this is so; for it is a truly fine kitchen apple of more than usual fertility. The apples are large, noticeably so, and good cookers; while the habit of the tree is dwarf and strong growing. The season of this variety is October to November, and anyone requiring a reliable culinary apple will not be disappointed with a trial planting. —C. T., *Ampthill.*



A GOOD COOKING APPLE, REV. W. WILKS.

AMARYLLIS BELLADONNA.

SIR,—I am enclosing a photograph to show the extraordinary free-flowering of the belladonna lilies this autumn, as mentioned by Mr. Woodall on page 604. The original bulbs in the photograph, ten in number, were brought from Colombia, South America, in 1920. They have flowered well each year, usually throwing about thirty spikes; but this year they have exceeded all expectations and thrown the remarkable number of 105 spikes.—E. HAYWARD, *Wimborne.*

STORING APPLES ON STRAW.

SIR,—In your valuable paper an illustration appears on page 621, October 30th, showing the storing of apples on straw on a shelf. Now, Sir, if there is a fruit which can be tainted by foreign matter it is the apple. Last week a friend gave me a James Grieve apple, but I am sorry to say it was uneatable owing to it having been very much tainted with straw—dry straw having been used to protect bulbs from frost in the fruit room. Apples tainted with straw always remind me of "fresh Irish eggs."

Apples to be stored should not be placed in a room where any foreign matter is kept, not even among straw, if the natural flavour of the fruit is to be preserved. Fruit room shelves are best made of stone or slate, or a coating of clay about an inch thick placed on the wooden shelves. Stone slabs or clay keep the temperature cool and sweet. The best kept apples I ever tasted for flavour were those which had been stored in an unused ice-house under the ground level—GEO. STUART.

SKIMMIA JAPONICA.

SIR,—In recommending Skimmia as suitable for a small garden (page 623), "E. C." would have done well to point out that, whereas Skimmia Fortunei is hermaphrodite, ensuring a crop of dull red berries on every bush, S. japonica is dicecious and none of its brilliant scarlet fruit can be borne on a solitary bush. It is essential that there should be a male staminate plant placed near the female pistillate plant, else there will be no display.—HERBERT MAXWELL, *Monreith.*

A SLUG COLLECTION.

SIR,—I thought perhaps it might be of some interest to your readers who have been troubled with slugs in their gardens to know the number I have destroyed in my garden between April 11th and September 17th of this year. I kept a record each day, and the aggregate amounted to 30,370. In addition, my gardener killed a large number, but no record was kept of the quantity he accounted for. Among the above number there were about six different kinds, but the small black ones predominated.—W. E. O. WILLIAMS, *Chepstow.*

WHAT CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED IN A YEAR.

SIR,—The enclosed photograph of my garden was taken just one year from the time I took possession of it, when it looked to many a hopeless mass of heavy, clayey soil, just as the builders had left it; however, being a keen amateur gardener myself, I felt confident that with the aid of your valuable paper and a little hard work I could get it in order. Having ultimately decided on my scheme, I proceeded to excavate and level certain portions, as the land had a considerable incline towards the house, but I overcame this difficulty by forming two steps, utilising the mounds, one each side, for a rock garden, under which I dug sump holes for drainage. The concrete vases I built up on two large flower pots bolted together and cemented over and stood on a rough brick base, the stones of the rockwork abutting them on either side; immediately at the top of the steps is a gravel walk which winds round on the right-hand side and through the archway, where it divides a small fruit garden on the one side and a vegetable garden on the other. Good wide herbaceous borders are formed on both sides of the flower garden, reserving the centre part for a small lawn, with narrow rose beds cut out in the turf; a grass verge also winds round on the one side with the path. The rose arch is quite a substantial one which I erected and planted with climbers the first winter. I may say that I had absolutely no help with the work, everything being done by myself in my spare time. I was fortunate, however, in securing a fair stock of perennials from some of my gardening friends when they were dividing them, and the roses I purchased elsewhere; thus I managed during the first year to make quite a presentable little garden and I am quite satisfied with the results of my labour.—GEO. W. HALL, *Eltham.*

A PLEASANT LITTLE GARDEN A YEAR AFTER FORMATION.

Digitized by Google

MICHAELMAS DAISIES.

SIR,—The opening paragraph on Michaelmas Daisies in the issue for October 30th, page 615, is calculated to deter the man with little time and a small garden from planting these delightful autumn flowers. Though some of these perennial asters are rampant growers, there are many of the best modern varieties that may be planted without the slightest fear of their becoming a nuisance.

Here are a few I have grown and can recommend: Mons, Brightest and Best, Royal Blue, Blue Gem, Anita Ballard, Ethel Ballard, Rachel Ballard, Purple Emperor, Snowball, Dick Ballard, Little Pink Lady and Little Boy Blue. These give a good selection of colour, and all form compact roots; indeed, some are rather slow to increase. All may be left for two years, and other plants in the vicinity will not be smothered by runners from the original plant.—B. A. BARRETT, *Thames Ditton.*

A GOOD PHILADELPHUS.

SIR,—May I put in a plea for Philadelphus Purple Eyes for a small garden. It is so neat, floriferous and delicately fragrant that I think it should be better known. Here it does well in rather heavy loam in a somewhat cold position.—C. M. A. P., *Newbury, Berks.*

HOW TO MAKE A GARDEN ARCH

THE garden arch shown in Fig. 1 is made of substantial material and the method of construction is not beyond the capabilities of the average amateur woodworker or handyman. Although the arch is dimensioned for a path of 3ft. 6ins., the width can be altered

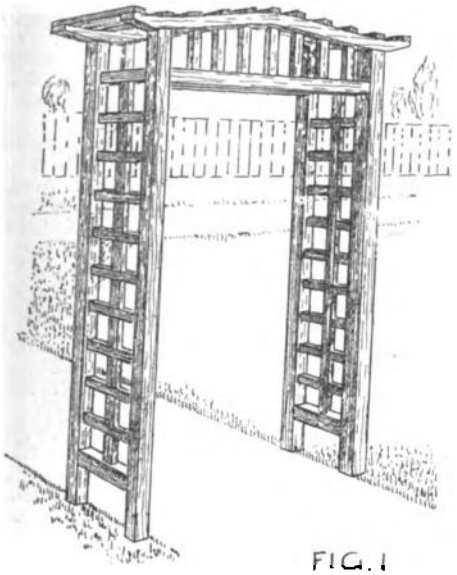


FIG. 1

without interfering with the construction. The uprights and principal cross-bars are of 2in. by 2in. material, of which 50ft. run will be required in lengths sufficient to cut four 8ft. 6in. posts. The shaped top can be cut from one 4ft. 9in. by 6½in. by 2in. piece, or two 4ft. 9in. by 4in. by 2in. pieces. The remainder of the stuff is 2in. by 1½in., 75ft. run being sufficient to allow for a little waste. The wood, preferably oak—though deal, on account of cost and ease of working, may be substituted — should be obtained machine-planed to the sizes given; but if it is a little smaller, due allowance must be made in marking out.

First cut off the four posts A to 8ft. 6ins.; mark off 1½ins. at the top and 1ft. 9ins. from the bottom. These marks should be made on all four pieces at the same time as they lie side by side. From the top mark set off 8ins. to give the position of the top of the two sets of top bars B and C, and mark off 2ins. below the mark and 2ins. above the bottom mark to give the length of the mortises marked *b*, *c* and *d* in Fig. 3. Next set out the eight mortises in between; these are 2ins. long and spaced out equally as indicated at *e*. The two bars at B are cut to 3ft. 8ins. long, with tenons 1in. long at each end, as at Fig. 3. The side bars at C and D are cut from the 2in. by 2in. stuff to 16ins., with tenons 1in. long and the inner bars E cut to the same length from the 2in. by 1½in. material. The width of the tenons for all the joints is ⅓in., so gauge lines this distance apart can be made on the ends of all the pieces B, C, D and E. The upright pieces each side, shown at F, are cut from the 2in. by 1½in. stuff to a length of 5ft. 9ins., the tenons on the ends are 1in. long and are fitted in mortises cut in the bars C and D. The eight grooves as shown in Fig. 3 are 2ins. wide and ⅛in. deep, similar grooves being cut in the cross-bars E. The easiest method of marking them out is to fit all the short bars in between the upright posts, place the long strip F in position across them, and mark each joint separately.

In order to make the construction quite clear, enlarged details of the joints are given in Fig. 4. The correct method of cutting the tenons is shown at T, and it will be seen

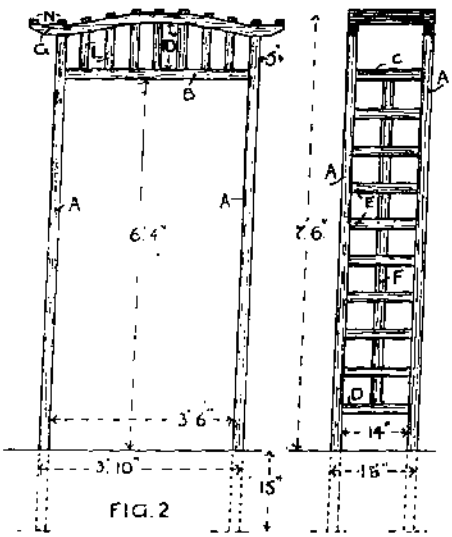


FIG. 2

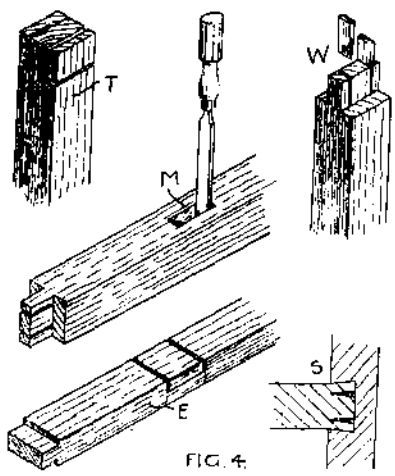


FIG. 4

that the saw cuts are made on the waste side of the lines. The method of cutting the mortises is shown at M; the bevelled side of the chisel should be on the outside of the cut until the finishing cuts, when it should be on the inside. Beginning from the centre, work from each side of it in turn, gradually removing a wedge-shaped hollow. The finishing cuts will not be difficult after the waste has been removed. The method of cutting out the grooves for the pieces marked E and F is shown at E, care being taken not to saw beyond the marked lines and to cut half the thickness of the wood away.

The shaped top, G, can be cut out with a bow-saw and finished with a spokeshave or drawknife, the method of marking out the wood being shown at H in Fig. 5. The wood should be 4ft. 9ins. long, 6½ins. wide and 2ins. thick, the rise of the curve being 2ins. If a bowsaw is not available, an alternative method is shown at J; in this case each shape is cut from wood 4ins. wide. The method of sawing with a handsaw is shown at K, the final shaping being done with a spokeshave. The top pieces should be placed in position on the top of the posts and then the short uprights of 2in. by 1½in. wood marked off to length, allowing for 1in. tenons at each end.

The best method of securing the joints is shown at S, two narrow wedges being fitted in at the edges of the tenons. The tenons are cut down as shown at W, so that wedges, cut to the length of the tenon, can be inserted. The inside of the mortises are widened out at the base to allow for the spread of the tenon. There is no need to wedge the tenons on the strips E, F and L, but all the other joints should be done. The framing should be glued together, first the side frames complete, then the cross-bars B, and finally the shaped top G and the short uprights L. The strips N across the top are all 18ins. long and cut from the 2in. by 1½in. wood; they can be nailed in position. The bottom 15ins. of the upright posts, A, should be coated with melted pitch, and the rest of the wood either varnished or coated with a wood preservative.

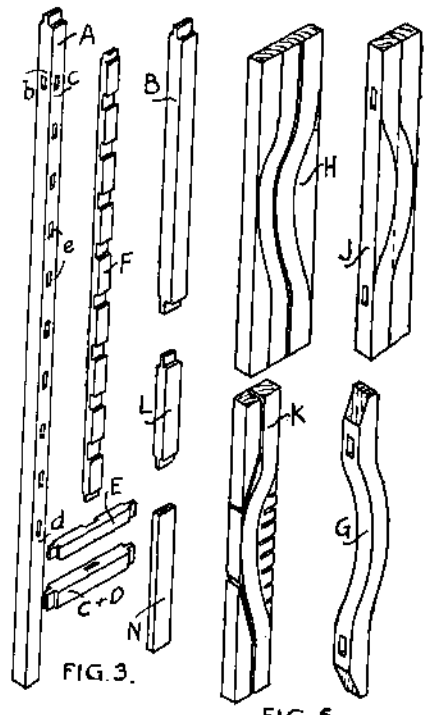


FIG. 3.

FIG. 5.

Digitized by Google

HINTS WORTH REMEMBERING

Half a guinea will be paid each week for the most useful or interesting hint sent in by a reader. Five shillings will be paid for all others published. Each must be sent in on a separate sheet and must not be more than 300 words in length.

THE HALF GUINEA HINT.

To Destroy Nettles, Bindweed and Groundash.

A good way to destroy the above is to spread weekly lawn mowings over the ground infested, covering all growth as it appears in this way. The writer successfully destroyed beds of nettles, bindweed and groundash practically in one season. The bindweed was a mass nearly smothering a plantation of gooseberries. After one season all the weed left was easily forked out. This ground was cleared fifteen years ago and no bindweed has appeared since. This method also manures the ground to a great extent.—G. J. W.

A Pot Propagator for Cuttings.

A simple but efficient propagator for cuttings which are difficult to root, or seeds which are difficult to germinate, may be made as follows. Place a small pot, inverted and filled with moist fibre, inside a large one, fill in with soil until the smaller pot is covered and then plant the cuttings in two rings or one ring, according to size. Place the whole arrangement inside a still larger pot or box and pack moist fibre loosely round it. A glass can be laid on top. The increased wall area obtained by this propagator and the moisture on the outside of the porous pots, serve to draw or urge the formation of roots. The moist fibre preserves the correct humidity without the evil effects of too frequent watering and the most delicate and difficult plants can be grown quite easily.—G. R.

Propagation of Primula denticulata.

It is not generally known that this primula can be propagated from root cuttings. Pieces of root about 2ins. long should be inserted in pots of sandy compost with the tops level with the soil and placed in a moderate heat. This can be done now or in the spring and by the end of the first season quite large plants will have been produced. Where more than one bud is produced on a root they should be reduced to one.—L. T.

An Extra Half Guinea.

A hint well worth remembering at this season is that a year's subscription to THE GARDEN is a most suitable Christmas gift for your gardening friends. Not only will it provide them with pleasure, but will prove of immense practical use.—BRENDON P. MANSFIELD, 9, *Montrose Terrace, Ranelagh, Dublin.*

[We quite agree with this excellent suggestion It is well worth an extra half guinea.—ED.]

Propagating Perpetual Carnations.

This is the method I have found most successful with cuttings. Take good healthy growths from old plants. Strip off lower leaves, cut just below a joint with sharp knife, then split through joint, until you come to the next. I put cuttings in pure river sand, put through fine riddle if too coarse. Fill up as many thumb pots as required to hold three cuttings in each. Water sand previous to putting in cuttings, if too dry, as holes are easier made. Make holes round edge of pots with unsharpened end of pencil, as it makes a firm bottom for cuttings. Open split in cuttings with point of knife and insert in sand before putting in pots, and make cuttings quite firm. Label all pots and water and then put in propagating frame with very gentle bottom heat, and keep fairly close for a few days. Water only when required and open frame in mornings to dry up excessive moisture. I find cuttings root in about three weeks or a month. As soon as rooted pot up singly in thumb pots in good, fibrous loam and a dash of sand. I find that whereas nearly full percentage root in sand with cuttings split, I have been disappointed with cuttings cut just below a joint and in pure sand.—W. J. B.

A Firing Hint.

When sawing wood save all the sawdust possible (keep dry) and when sufficient has been saved, mix an equal quantity of clay or sticky loam and coal or coke dust, well wet and mix like mortar. Make a few moulds, 4ins. by 4ins. by 3ins. deep, with no bottoms and ram in the above mixture, leaving it to dry. These, when removed from the moulds, form bricks, which, if placed on the fire at night will keep the fire going until morning.

If tar is mixed with the above, this will make a good burning fuel for daytime use. It is advisable not to use the poker too much, also to warm the tar before mixing. These mixed with tar are also good for household use, care must be taken to pick out all stones.—H. M. B.

How to Get Early Greens.

Instead of pulling up the roots after savoy cabbage has been cut, strip off any decayed leaves and cut across each way of the top of the stalk and in a very short time they will begin to shoot out for greens. I have found them to be ready some time earlier than the curly or other greens. It is a great help if one has a small garden and being early they are over much before the spring planting.—T. W.

NURSERIES OF THE BRITISH ISLES.—VII

MESSRS. HEWITTS OF SOLIHULL.

THERE are hundreds of nurseries scattered up and down the British Isles which grow excellent plants for the general garden, and yet are unknown outside their immediate neighbourhood. The chief reason for this is that they do not specialise in any particular plant or group of plants. Once they begin to specialise their field automatically widens until they are known far and wide as growers of some special plant or plants.

A good example of this growth of a firm from a localised concern to one that is known throughout the country is Messrs. Hewitts of Solihull, Warwickshire. It is an old firm and was much respected in the neighbourhood; it was well known, also, in the district, for it owned several seed and flower shops in Birmingham. Only a very few years ago it changed ownership, when the policy was altered and, in addition to their local trade, they began to specialise in several well known plants, among them delphiniums.

As soon as one enters the nurseries one realises the importance that this firm places in delphiniums for the garden. A few years ago they were able to purchase the entire stock of some of Mr. Watkin Samuel's best delphiniums of the famous Wrexham strain. Although still to be classed as novelties and therefore, expensive, Messrs. Hewitt's are busily engaged in propagating them in

BEDS OF NEW SEEDLING DELPHINIUMS AT THE SOLIHULL NURSERIES.

Digitized by Google

BERING tare Himalayan and Chinese

HODODENDRONS

in Hybrids and Species

A large stock of beautiful Hybrids raised at "Goldsworth," early and late flowering. Clean healthy plants, in various colours. The best have been grafted and can be supplied correctly under numbers. Also an assortment of other rare and scarce plants, and a large general nursery stock. Area over 300 acres.

e Exors. of

ALTER CHAS. SLOCOCK

sworth Old Nursery, WOKING, SURREY.

tion: Woking (Southern Railway) 1 mile.

ts on application. *Mention* THE GARDEN

Glass breaks!

USE

'WINDOLITE'

The practical

GLASS SUBSTITUTE

for all Garden Purposes.

LIGHT FLEXIBLE UNBREAKABLE

Easy to cut and fix. It keeps out cold and wet, but lets in all the light—even the Ultra Violet Rays which are stopped by glass.

Send 4/6 for post free sample, 3 ft. by 2 ft.

WINDOLITE (DEPT. C) 179/185, GREAT PORTLAND ST., LONDON, W.1.

IT'S WALTON FOR

GREENHOUSES

"Walton" Sectional Greenhouse erected in thirty minutes—16 bolts only needed—no nails, hammer or saw required. Fit guaranteed. Size 12 ft. by 8 ft., price £18 12 0. Carr. paid to your station. Send for catalogue. *"Out of income" terms if required.*

Manchester Office: 41, Corporation Street.
(Works adjoin Crow Park Station, L. & N.E.R.)

E. C. WALTON & Co MUSKHAM WORKS NEWARK.

39th YEAR

Mrs. PYM'S FAMOUS PLANTS

AT VERY MODERATE PRICES.

Send for Catalogue of Choice Hardy Perennial Plants, Hardy Climbers, Flowering Shrubs, for Rockeries, Crazy Paving, Borders, Beds, Greenhouse, etc. Plant now for success. Prompt despatch. Correctly named. Carefully packed, and guaranteed to arrive in excellent condition. Carriage paid.

Mrs. PYM, F.R.H.S.,
10, Vine House, Woodston, PETERBOROUGH

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

SWEET PEAS

OUR UNIQUE LIST OF SWEET PEAS IS NOW READY

The Most Comprehensive Issued

All Available Novelties Offered

MAY WE POST YOU A COPY?
A POST CARD COMMANDS IT!

G. H. MACKERETH, LTD.,
The Sweet Pea Clearing House,
ULVERSTON, LANCS.

It Pays to Spray

YOUR trees will bear more and better fruit if freed from insect pests, moss, lichen, and other harmful growths.

Now is the time thoroughly to cleanse and re-invigorate the trees by spraying with

COOPER'S

WINTER SPRAY FLUID

("Commended" by the Royal Horticultural Society of Gt. Britain.)

NON-POISONOUS. DOES NOT BURN

Half Pint ...	1/6
1 " ...	3/3
Quart ...	3/3
Half Gal. ...	5/9
1 " ...	9/6
2 " ...	18/-
5 " ...	38/6

1 Gall. makes 100 Mixture.

OF ALL AGENTS.

Cooper, McDougall & Robertson, Ltd.
BERKHAMSTED.

LONICERA NITIDA . . The New Hedge Plant.

THE GARDEN says;—
"Lonicera nitida supplies all the requirements for an evergreen hedge. It is completely hardy and of rapid growth."

This little known but extremely beautiful plant makes a dense hedge. The foliage is deep rich glossy green, with a bronzy tint in winter. It can be clipped to almost any dimensions and is not fastidious as to soil. We have a very fine stock of plants.

Height.		Price per 100
2 - 2½ ft.	-	£7 10 0
2½ - 3 "	-	£10 0 0
3 - 3½ "	-	£12 10 0
3½ - 4 "	-	£15 0 0

CATALOGUE POST FREE.

John Waterer Sons & Crisp Ltd

TWYFORD——BERKS

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

CLEAN CROPS ARE GOOD CROPS

Now control American Blight

ROOT disease robs you of your crops. Sprays don't touch it. But here's the new treatment that allows you to get to the root. Cleanse the roots now with STEROLE. Fork it into the ground around fruit trees and plants. Kill American Blight, Apple Blossom Weevil, Wireworm, Slugs, Woodlice.

Save your Apples!

Remember American Blight goes to the roots in winter. STEROLE cleans the roots. Sprays trees with CARBO — the supreme British tar-oil Wash—but don't forget the roots. STEROLE kills root pests.

STEROLE

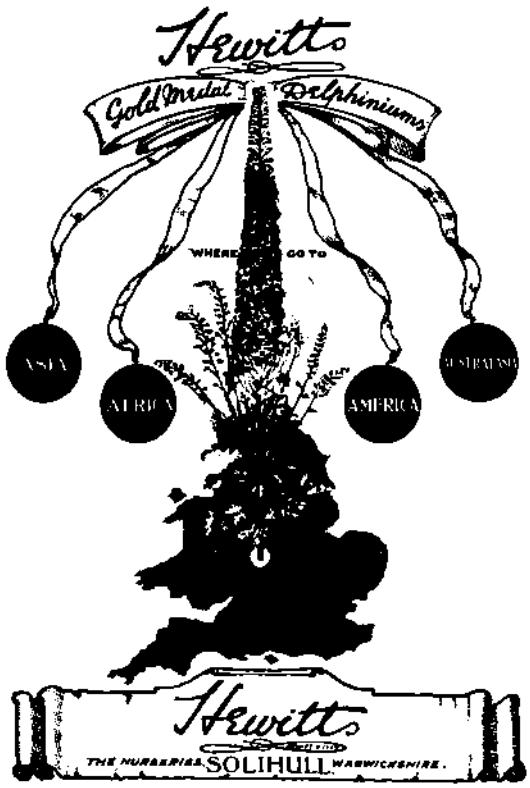
7 lbs. 2/6; 28 lbs. 6/6; ½-cwt. 9/-; 1 cwt. 15/-

from your dealer
—if you have any difficulty, apply to the makers.

BUGGÉ'S INSECTICIDES LTD
WESTCOMBE HILL LONDON S.E.5

TAS/Bu.15.

Digitized by Google



YOU

WANT

THE BEST

Delphiniums

WE

HAVE

THEM!

OUR WELL-KNOWN STRAIN OF DELPHINIUMS has been the talk of all the leading Flower Shows this year. If you have not seen them, please write for our Catalogues—they will interest you. TO BRING THEM WITHIN REACH of all interested, we offer one each of our novelties—Coquette, Monarch of Wales and Violet Queen—catalogued at 24/-, for 15/-, cash with order.

HEWITT & CO., Ltd.,
The Nurseries, Solihull,
WARWICKSHIRE.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Special Autumn Offe

Order NOW for delivery this month.

12 Gooseberries
"WHINHAM'S INDUSTRY."
12 Black Currants
"SEABROOK'S" (Mid-season).
12 Red Currants
"RABY CASTLE."

The above 36 strong, well-grown Fruiting Bushes for 20/- Carriage Paid for Cash with Order. Half the above number for 10/-

Descriptive Catalogue of Fruit Trees, Roses, Ornamental Trees and Shrubs, free on application.

The FOREST & ORCHARD NURSERIES, LTD.
BUCKOVER, FALFIELD, GLOS.

THE PLANTING SEASON IS IN FULL SWING

Why not choose one of the following Collections and ensure having a good show in your garden next summer:

12 DELPHINIUMS
in 12 distinct varieties 24/-

12 MICHAELMAS DAISIES
in 12 choice varieties - 15/-

12 ROCK PLANTS
in 12 choice varieties - 10/-

Box and Carriage Free

Send for our Descriptive Catalogue, post free

W. WELLS, Junr.
Hardy Plant Nurseries
MERSTHAM : SURREY

THE JERSEY FRUIT TREES, ROSE TREES AND CARNATIONS

ARE PACKED FREE OF COST, AND DELIVERED CARRIAGE PAID

Before ordering, IT WILL PAY YOU to write for our Illustrated Catalogue and Planter's Guide, which contains Elaborate Instructions on the most profitable methods of cultivation, besides an article dealing with Insects and Fungoid Diseases, and is FREE TO ALL. It also gives particulars of our cheap

COLLECTIONS OF NEW ROSES. Unsurpassed Quality. Exceptional Value.

ALL GUARANTEED BRITISH GROWN.

Fifty varieties illustrated in colours, direct from the grower.

CORDON FRUIT TREES OUR SPECIALTY.

Vast quantities of strong, healthy, fibrously-rooted Apples, on the broad-leaved Paradise. Pears, Plums, Peaches, Grape Vines and Strawberry Plants of superior quality.

The Jersey Nurseries, Ltd., JERSEY
(Late Le Cornet & Co.)

Indispensable in the Garden.

THOMSON'S MANURES

On the market for over 50 years, they still hold first place for QUALITY and RESULTS. They are safe, sure and lasting. The direct result of many years' practical experience in gardening, they stand unrivalled at the present day for all Garden Crops.

Prices:—**VINE, PLANT AND VEGETABLE MANURE**—a Perfect Food—1 cwt., 30/-; 56 lb., 16/-; 28 lb., 9/-; 14 lb., 5/-; 7 lb., 3/-; tins, 1/3 and 9d. **SPECIAL TOP DRESSING MANURE**—an excellent stimulant—56 lb., 17/-; 28 lb., 9/6; 14 lb., 5/6; 7 lb., 3/-; tins, 1/3. Carriage paid on 28 lbs. and up.

WRITE FOR OUR BOOKLET—POST FREE ON REQUEST.

SOLD BY NURSERYMEN AND SEEDSMEN EVERYWHERE.

Or from Sole Makers, WM. THOMSON & SONS, LTD., TWEED VINEYARDS, CLOVENFORDS, SCOTLAND

Digitized by Google

sufficient quantities to bring down the price to the limits of every gardener, and there is no doubt that they will succeed, for all that the writer has seen are worthy of being called great delphiniums. When we visited the nursery we saw row after row of the three that have already been propagated in quantity. The most striking, in our opinion, was Monarch of Wales, magnificent rows of plants with perfect spikes of that rich dark glow that comes from bright blue guard petals and a deep reddish mauve centre with a distinct white eye. The whole effect was so rich and glowing that it made it, in our eyes, a most notable plant. Coquette was another that took our fancy, enormous spikes of pale violet with blue markings and a dark bee-like eye. The third was Queen Mauve, a late variety and just bursting into bloom at the time of our visit, but such a fine mauve self and with such fine spikes that we could see what a garden plant it makes.

The great feature of the Wrexham delphiniums is the tapering spike and loose formation of their flowers. There is nothing tight and stiff about their appearance. We noticed this in Messrs. Hewitts' seedling beds, and particularly in one of their new seedlings, aptly named Advancement, which is one of the most magnificent garden flowers that we have yet seen. Unfortunately, it is not yet in commerce. The length of spike was nearly 6ft., of which 5ft. was in full flower. The guard petals are a clear electric blue with a pale mauve centre. The bottom of the flower spike was over a foot in diameter; and yet, with all its size, there is no more graceful delphinium. The flowers are beautifully spaced and are not too few to make the spike look ragged or too many to make it into a floral monstrosity. It has size and refinement, a very rare combination.

Solihull seems to suit delphiniums admirably. The cultivation that we saw was excellent, not only of the rarer and more expensive varieties, but also of such favourites as Mrs. Townley Parker, Blue Boy and Norah Ferguson; but the Wrexham delphiniums are the glory of the garden, and in time they will undoubtedly become everybody's plant.

It is not only with delphiniums that Messrs. Hewitts are coming to the fore. Roses are being grown more and more by this firm, and those that we saw were admirable specimens that showed what care had been taken over their cultivation. Then, gladioli and astilbes are other specialities. This firm believes in the future of the primulinus hybrid as being more refined in appearance than the large-flowered, popular though the latter is. Their collection of astilbes is very complete and proves that this plant is increasing in popularity every year. This is only a tithe of the plants grown. There are fine collections of general herbaceous plants and shrubs to look at if you have the time. This is a most interesting nursery to visit. It is not too large, and so the directors can superintend personally everything that goes on. Also, the soil and climate are similar to those of many thousands of gardens; so conditions are equal, and gardeners may rest assured that the plants are given ordinary treatment. This makes them succeed in any garden.

A NURSERY BED OF DELPHINIUM MONARCH OF WALES, A MOST STRIKING VARIETY.

OUR SERVICE BUREAU

Though so many subjects are dealt with in each issue of THE GARDEN, *it must constantly happen that readers seek information which is not immediately available. In such circumstances they should make use of our Service Department. Through its medium each reader's own particular enquiry can be dealt with. No matter what the question is, there is always information available from a staff of expert contributors and consultants; and there is no charge for this. It is one of the additional means of service which* THE GARDEN *is glad to render to its readers.*

Also, there is the further convenience which the Service Department affords of supplying readers with data about anything that is advertised in the pages of the paper. Thus, on receipt of an enquiry, particulars will be sent of, say, half a dozen things about which the reader seeks information. The only stipulation is that a stamped addressed envelope and the coupon, that will always be found in each issue, shall be sent with the enquiry. We would point out, however, that we cannot undertake to supply readers with plans and designs of gardens, but will willingly assist in giving suggestions for planting.

All communications should be addressed to the Service Department, THE GARDEN, *20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.*

We have selected the following enquiries, with their answers, as being of more general interest, and therefore worthy of publication.

A Remedy for Pear Scab.

As a constant reader of THE GARDEN *for over twenty years I should be much obliged if you would tell me of a sure remedy for black spot on the fruit of pear trees.—J. W. R., Leatherhead.*

The black spotting on pear fruits is, of course, caused by the pear scab fungus disease, and the remedy for this is spraying with Bordeaux mixture in spring. Spray with this, once just before the petals unfold, and a second time when the petals have all fallen. This disease is wintering on the wood of the trees, and you can recognise infected shoots by the blistering of the bark. Such shoots should be cut away at pruning time. We should recommend you to buy a good brand of Bordeaux mixture for the spraying rather than attempting to make it at home, for its efficiency depends upon the scientific accuracy with which the wash is prepared.

How to Deal with Ferns Attacked by Scale.

I enclose the frond of a fern attacked by scale. The fern is grown in a large pot kept indoors. It has been repotted once or twice, all attacked fronds cut off and treated with turpentine, but the scale keeps reappearing. What should I do with it? What is the name of the fern, and is it hardy? If so, I propose to plant it out. Can I safely add some Vaporite to its soil?—C. A. W., Stevenage.

The fern sent for our inspecion is Pteris tremula, a greenhouse species, and not hardy in this country. The only way to keep the scale in check is by frequent spongings, using soft soap dissolved in warm water for this purpose, but it will require constant attention. Unfortunately, scale is a serious pest on many plants in this country. You could add Vaporite to the potting soil, but it would not be wise to use it for a week or so after mixing with the soil. If you give it directly to the plants, you would probably injure the roots; in any case, it does not seem necessary, as it will not prevent the scale.

How to Treat a Steep Bank.

My new house stands some 8ft. above the level of the front garden, and faces north-east and is slightly sheltered. Would a dry wall be successful in this position? If made, the wall would be about 20ft. from the house front and parallel to the house, and would get morning sun, but would be in the shade late in the afternoon. My frontage to a road is 60ft. If you do not think a dry wall would be a success, kindly suggest another treatment. I want to keep away from a grass bank. The bank is too steep for the mower. Kindly suggest best stone for a dry wall and, roughly, the amount I would require, i.e., a wall 60ft.

Digitized by Google

long and, say, 6ft. high. I had thought of planting the bank with shrubs so as to conceal the house, and construct a rockery in the garden below. Then one side —60ft.—would be open to the road. I am enclosed on both sides by tall chestnut trees—almost woods.—C. U., Canterbury.

Rather than the dry wall and rockery below, we suggest that the bank is treated as a rock garden which would run out, generally, half way along the level portion of the garden. Adjoining the road there should be a shrubbery border 7ft. to 9ft. wide to provide privacy and shelter from the north-east winds. Between this border and the outcroppings of the rockery there should be grass, with an occasional low-growing shrub. The line of the bank should be broken at irregular intervals, and this would provide soil for filling the angle, to prevent an undesired hiatus.

American Gooseberry Mildew and How to Check It.

Could you name anything which acts as a real check to American gooseberry mildew? Are there any varieties which show less inclination to become affected?—G. G., Bangor, North Wales.

The best means of checking the spread of the American gooseberry mildew is to spray the bushes at the onset of the disease, in early summer, with the Ammonium Poly Sulphide wash, commonly known as the "A.P.S." wash. A reliable brand of this is made by Messrs. Murphy and Son, Limited, The Cedars Laboratory, Mortlake, S.W.14. There are no varieties that are immune to this disease and few less susceptible than others, but Cousen's Seedling, sometimes known as Sandwich Yellow, seems far less liable to attack than do most others. This variety is a large golden-berried sort and among the latest to ripen; quite worthy of a place in any garden. You should note that another remedial measure for the mildew is to "tip" the shoots in early autumn each year. It is mostly the tips of the shoots that are attacked, and it is a good plan to go over the bushes in early September and cut off the top 2ins. or 3ins. of every shoot on a mildewed bush. If the "tipping" is left later, the spores of the disease fall to the ground and infect the soil, from which source re-infection takes place in spring. Regular "tipping" and thorough spraying with the A.P.S. wash, as required, will not fail to keep the disease in check.

Manure for Fruit Trees.

I should be much obliged for advice with regard to manure for apple trees, also pears. The trees are young standard ones, planted in 1918. Is it best to give them manure in autumn or spring? One has the choice between horse manure, poor stuff nowadays, or bone meal, or hop manure, or guano, but which of these is most suitable? How and when are they best applied, and in what quantities?—P. T., Streatham.

Just what will be the best manures to apply to the apple and pear trees depends rather upon the soil and the vigour of the trees. As your garden soil is poor and heavy, we would first suggest the application of lime. Slaked lime, applied at the rate of about ½lb. per square yard, will be best, and it might be forked lightly into the top soil towards the end of the month. Horse manure will hardly be required on such land, except as a surface mulch for the trees. Phosphates will no doubt be lacking in the soil and we should advise an immediate dressing of basic slag at the rate of about 6oz. per square yard of ground about the trees. This is cheaper than bone-meal and much more suitable for your land. Then, if the trees are not growing well and are stunted in growth, we would also apply a dressing of sulphate of ammonia, in March, at the rate of about 2 oz. per square yard, but if they are growing healthily and fairly strongly, this dressing will be unnecessary. The surface mulch of horse manure should be laid on the soil round the trees some time in late April or early May, and should be gradually worked into the soil toward the end of summer. Later, when the trees are cropping, a dressing of kainit every few years, at the rate of about 4 oz. per square yard will help them along. It should go on in late winter. The guano is a very variable manure and unless the trees are very weakly in growth we would not advise its application. As a general rule, young standards require little in the way of manure, and until they commence to fruit heavily a biennial dressing of basic slag and a summertime mulch of manure will usually supply their needs.

Plums and Silver Leaf.

I have had some plum trees grubbed up and burnt, which were affected with "silver leaf," and wish to plant new ones in the same place against a wall. Would the new trees be liable to infection by being planted in the same place?—B. T., Bembridge, Isle of Wight.

If it is possible to plant the new plum trees between the positions that were occupied by the diseased trees—now grubbed—then it would be by far the safest plan to adopt. The danger of the new trees becoming infected through the soil, or from pieces of old root left behind is, actually, very slight indeed, but it is hardly worth while taking that small risk, even. If it is impossible to avoid planting on the site of the old trees, then we recommend that the old soil be taken out where each tree is to be planted, to a depth of 2ft. or 3ft. or so, and replaced with fresh, or good soil taken from another part of the garden. Care should be taken to leave no pieces of root in the soil when grubbing, and it would be as well to incorporate a fair dressing of lime in the soil border. You will know that the silver leaf disease can only spread from dead wood and can only enter healthy tissues through a wound or abrasion of some kind or other, so that if care is taken the new trees should be in no danger of contracting the disease.

How to Remove Old Tree Stumps.

I shall be glad if you will kindly give me directions for getting rid of old tree stumps without digging them out, which takes such a long time. Some of the stumps are rather rotten, others the wood is quite hard.—K. S., Turriff, N.B.

Where the stump is partly decayed and is beginning to crack, there is no better plan than to pour into the openings a pint or more of paraffin. This rapidly soaks into the wood and, on the following day, a fire should be set going of any dry rubbish on the top of the stump. In quite a short while the stump and most of the big roots will have been reduced to ashes. If the stump is not rotten, but the wood has had time to get rid of its sap, the following is the best method of procedure: Get some old pieces of sheet iron and bend them round to form a rough chimney. The iron may be held in place by a few stout stakes and the lower part of the chimney should be rested on two or three bricks, so that there is a space between it and the top of the stump. Bore a few holes in the stump and then pour in paraffin. Set the oil-soaked wood on fire and a very fierce blaze will start roaring up the chimney. this will continue until the greater part of the stump has been destroyed.

When a tree has only just been cut down, the stump will naturally contain a great deal of sap. In such a case, if complete destruction of both stump and roots is desired, the method known as "slow-fire" is strongly to be recommended. Here bore a hole in the centre of the stump one or two inches in diameter and about 18ins. deep. Put into this about a couple of ounces of saltpetre and then fill up with water, finally plugging closely. Leave for as long as possible, several weeks or even longer is not too much, and then take out the plug and fill up the hole with paraffin. Ignite the wood at the top of the opening and the stump will smoulder away without any fierce burning. The burning will continue until every part which was penetrated by the saltpetre solution has been consumed. The fresher the wood the greater is the success of this plan, as the more sap there is in the wood the more widely is the saltpetre solution distributed.

Lonicera nitida as a Hedge Plant.

I should be very much obliged if you can tell me whether a hedge of Lonicera nitida is likely to grow well on gravel soil in a situation exposed to south-west gales, protected from east and north winds. I believe it makes a good hedge and grows fast.—W. M., Leics.

Lonicera nitida is an excellent hedge plant, and should grow well in the position which you suggest for it. If possible, fair-sized plants should be obtained, in order that a close hedge may be formed fairly rapidly. The individual plants should be put in about 2ft. 6ins. to 3ft. apart.

Treatment of Lilium Regale When Young.

I should be glad if you would advise me as to the treatment of some small bulbs of Lilium Regale. I have several hundred of these bulbs grown from seed sown last February. The bulbs are now about the size of a cherry with strong fleshy roots. I have taken a few of them up and dried them off. Is it best to do this and replant in the spring or leave them in the ground until the spring and then replant? They will have to be replanted some time as, of course, they are in a nursery bed fairly close together.—A. T. M., Leatherhead.

It was a mistake to lift the small bulbs of Lilium regale and dry them off, as they are too small to stand drying off. You should put them in boxes of light sandy soil and keep them in a cold frame all the winter, keeping them on the dry side until spring, when you may plant them outdoors. Leave the other seedlings undisturbed until spring, transplanting them before they commence to grow. Prepare a special site for them, working in plenty of well decayed leaf-soil. If you can plant them where you wish them to remain you should get the best results, for most liliums resent being moved, especially when the bulbs have attained some size.

How to Make an Asparagus Bed.

Will you please tell me how to make an asparagus bed, when to plant, etc.?—H. S. P., Brondesbury, N.W.

When the weather is fine and the soil dry enough, the latter should be trenched at least 2ft. 6ins. deep. If the ground is level, form beds 5ft. wide to accommodate three rows of plants. Provide alleys between the beds each 18ins. wide. Raise the beds a little by taking soil from the alleys. Plant as soon as the soil is dry enough to work nicely in March. Put in two year old plants about 1ft. apart in the rows and cover the crowns with soil 4ins. deep. Water, allow free growth all summer, and do not cut any "grass" the first year. Feed mainly from the surface.

Digitized by Google

BULBS

e invite immediate applica-
tion for our
ULB CATALOGUE
owing that the very fine
ality of our bulbs enables
to offer exceptionally good
ue for money.

Send for a copy of the BULB CATALOGUE at once.

Bakers
SEED AND FLOWER FARM
CODSALL
Near Wolverhampton

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

PENNELLS' LINCOLN ROSES

dded upon selected briars, well tivated under the hardiest con-ons, are famous for the splendid results they give.

Illustrated list of Roses, Clematis and Climbing Plants post free.

Independence Day.

NNELL & SONS, Lincoln
Established 1780.

PROPRIETARY MANURES.

Quick-Acting Stimulants.

WITH nearly all compound manures their constituents and directions for use are given by the manufacturers, and purchasers should duly note such directions and follow them carefully. All of these manures are carefully prepared, too, tested and recommended for certain plants and crops. I do not intend to refer to these manures further now. But there are several quick-acting stimulants which, rightly used, are very beneficial to plant life and, wrongly used, prove deadly because they destroy the roots. Sulphate of ammonia is very commonly used in our gardens. It is a valuable stimulant if used for pot plants when the latter have fairly well filled the soil in the pots with roots. Used in a dry state a small teaspoonful to a 9in. or 10in. pot will be sufficient. In a liquid form ½oz. to 3 gallons of water. When potatoes are planted, 1 oz. per 3yds. of row, and a similar application just before the potatoes are earthed up will do nicely. Rarely is it necessary to apply more than three dressings to any plant in one season. One application is enough for chrysanthemums. Peaty soils, and others practically devoid of lime, are not rooting mediums in which sulphate of ammonia can be profitably used. It readily dissolves and quickly becomes a soluble plant stimulant. Nitrate of soda is, perhaps, quicker in its effect on plant life. It is not retained in the soil and should be used in small quantities several times rather than in strong doses seldom. One pound per 50 sq. yds. will be sufficient. For dwarf and runner beans it is very good, adding to the colour and tenderness of the pods as well as promoting rapid growth of stem, leaf and pod. Nitrate of potash should be more freely used—in weak doses, of course—for indoor greenhouse and conservatory plants in pots and borders. For tomatoes it is very useful and helps in the high colouring of the fruits. Sulphate of potash can be similarly used, also wood ashes in a dry state. Phosphate of potash, applied in liquid form, at the rate of 1 oz. to 3 gallons of water, will do a lot of good to vines, peaches, apricots, nectarines under glass and to fruit trees outside. When used for pot-grown plants the strength should be reduced to half.—G. G.

PUBLICATION RECEIVED.

"Research and the Land." (Published by H.M. Stationery Office, price 2s. 6d.)—A popular review of the whole field of scientific research in agriculture and horticulture in the United Kingdom. This work summarises and presents in an interesting form all the technical investigations that have been carried out during the past four or five years at research institutes and other centres where research is conducted. It is a book which all who are interested in the land should possess.

R.H.S. EXAMINATIONS.

THE examinations of the Royal Horticultural Society will be held in 1927 as follows:

Written Examinations.—General Examination (Seniors and Juniors), Wednesday, March 23rd. School Teachers Examination (Preliminary and Honours), Saturday, March 26th. National Diploma (Preliminary and Final), Saturday, May 7th.

Practical Examinations. — Teachers' Honours, Friday, June 17th and possibly also Thursday, June 16th. National Diploma, Preliminary, Tuesday June 21st and Wednesday, June 22nd. Final, Thursday, June 23rd and Friday June 24th.

All entries, except those for the National Diploma, should be made on the form in the syllabus, obtainable from the Secretary of the Royal Horticultural Society.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

A UNIQUE OFFER OF
NEW & RARE . RHODODENDRONS

including many of the late **Mr. Reginald Farrer's**, and the **Messrs. E. H. Wilson's & G. Forrest's** and **Capt. Kingdon Ward's New Chinese Species; Himalayan** and other varieties from private collections, consequently they are not grown in our Nurseries.

Many of the species have not before been offered, all are on own roots, and are of unusual quality and bushiness.

Some of the Species we can supply by the Dozen and 100 and shall be pleased to quote SPECIAL RATES for a quantity.

New, rare, and common Trees and Shrubs in over 4,000 species and varieties.

WRITE FOR DESCRIPTIVE PRICE LISTS.

Hillier & Sons, Tree Specialists, **Winchester.**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

TURF

Cultivated and of Best Quality.

State quantity required and ask for quotation.

Large Yews for Sale

Wm. BIGNELL & SON,
48, North Road,
HIGHGATE, N.6

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

British Made

ABOLENE

Tar Oil

Winter Wash

Clears Tree Trunks of Moss and Lichen and destroys Insects' Eggs and Fungus Spores

Abolene is thoroughly reliable and efficient. Easy and safe to use. Supplied in small sizes to suit owners of only two or three trees.

Pint ..	1/6
Quart ..	2/4
½ gallon ..	3/8
1 gallon ..	6/–

Write for Descriptive Folder

Abol Limited, 9 Beltring, Paddock Wood, Kent.

EXTRAORDINARY SPECIAL OFFER

North Country Gold Medal Phloxes

12 Distinct Varieties, **12/-**

6 Distinct Varieties, **6/6**

Carriage Paid from

E. F. FAIRBAIRN & SONS

EDENTOWN NURSERIES

CARLISLE

Est. 1852. LIST FREE

PLAYER'S "Medium" Navy Cut Tobacco (Rubbed Ready for Smoking) is identical in quality with PLAYER'S Plug Navy Cut, but it is put up in a form which saves the Smoker trouble in preparation.

PLAYER'S "MEDIUM" Navy Cut

RUBBED READY FOR SMOKING

A GROWING HABIT

and a very sensible one is to give your friend, especially a friend overseas, a year's subscription to one of the best weekly periodicals.

It means fifty-two kind remembrances of you, and fifty-two remembrances of England.

There is no paper so representative of England and none so welcome abroad as

COUNTRY LIFE

80/- a year abroad. *60/- to Canada*

20, TAVISTOCK ST., COVENT GARDEN, LONDON W.C.2

Special cheap offer of FLOWERING BULBS suitable for naturalising purposes in Garden Walks, Drives, Plantations, etc., or for Cut Flowers.

F.O.R. Wisbech Station. Cash with order. Packing free

	112lb.	56lb.	28lb.	14lb.
NARCISSI.				
Sir Watkin	80/-	42/-	22/-	12/-
Ornatus	80/-	42/-	22/-	12/-
Emperor	60/-	32/-	17/-	10/-
Horsfieldi	60/-	32/-	17/-	10/-
Empress	60/-	32/-	17/-	10/-
Golden Spur	70/-	37/-	20/-	11/-
Victoria	60/-	32/-	17/-	10/-
Barrii Conspic.	40/-	22/-	12/-	7/-
White Lady	100/-	52/-	27/-	15/-
Van Zion (Old Yellow double Daff.)	40/-	22/-	12/-	7/-
Pheasant Eye	30/-	16/-	9/-	5/-
Princeps	30/-	16/-	9/-	5/-
Scilly Whites	30/-	16/-	9/-	5/-
Mixed Narcissus and Daffodil Bulbs	30/-	16/-	9/-	5/-
DARWIN TULIPS.				
Clara Butt	60/-	32/-	17/-	10/-
Inglescombe Yellow	60/-	32/-	17/-	10/-
Rev. E. W. Ewbank	60/-	32/-	17/-	10/-
Mixed Darwin Tulips	50/-	27/-	15/-	9/-

This is a very cheap way of buying. Worth double the money

Snowdrop Bulbs, Singles and Doubles, Per 1,000 20/-

Hyacinths, Mixed .. .. Per 100 30/-

Grape Hyacinths (Heavenly Blue) Per 1,000 £2 & £3

Lilium candidum (Old Madonna Lily) .. Per 100 £2

Crown Imperials .. .. Per 100 £2

Dutch Iris (earlier than Spanish Iris), mixed Per 1,000 £1 10s.

Dutch Iris (earlier than Spanish Iris), to name Per 1,000 £2 & £3

Blue Bells .. .. Per 1,000 £1 10s.

CROSS & CO.,

Elm Road House——WISBECH.

ALL TRANSPLANTED

GEUM Mrs. Bradshaw, Lady Stratheden } 4/- doz. *Carr. paid*

Forget-me-nots, Giant Daisy (Bellis monsbrosa) 9d. doz., 1/- doz. *Carr. paid.*

SARGEANT,

Beeches Nursery, CARSHALTON, SURREY

Digitized by Google

HAVE YOU PROVIDED?

The United Horticultural Benefit and Provident Society

PROVIDES 27/- per week in illness for 1/1½; 18/- for 9d.; or 12/- for 6d., weekly contributions.

PROVIDES your dependents with £10, £15 or £20 at death, according to Scale.

PROVIDES you with a Savings Bank.

PROVIDES grants from Distress and Convalescent Funds.

PROFIT BY THE EXPERIENCE OF A MEMBER WHO HAS £150 TO HIS CREDIT

State Insured members of this Society may also Contribute to the private Section, and by so doing will add to their Benefits in accordanee with the Scale they adopt.

A. C. HILL, Secretary, 35, Alexandra Road, WEST KENSINGTON, W.14

"BECO" ROSE BOWL HORNLESS LOUD-SPEAKER

Of beautiful appearance. Gives perfect tone whether empty or filled with water and flowers.

Nickel Plate. £5 : 5 : 0 — Oxydised Silver. £5 : 17 : 6 — Antique Copper. £5 : 17 : 6

Full particulars on application to

DARLINGTON & SONS, Ltd. LONDON FIELDS STATION, E.8

GARDEN LOVERS

Write for Catalogues of

PROTHEROE & MORRIS'

· HORTICULTURAL SALES ·

MONDAY · WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY

67 68 Cheapside, London E.C.2. Phone: City 3656

GARDEN DESIGN is best dealt with in planning and Planting of Little Gardens," by G. DILLISTONE, by post, 6/6. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," ITED. 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND. SOILFUME. NICOTINE, INSECTICIDES, FUMERS, SPRAYS, AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES—THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT, CARRIAGE PAID.

Only Address: TOMLINSON & HAYWARD L^TD LINCOLN.

HILL & SMITH, Ltd.,

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS,

Makers of

IRON FENCING, HURDLES, GATES, WIRE NETTING AND GARDEN IRONWORK

Other Products—Hay and Grain Sheds, Dutch Barns, Galvanized Corrugated Sheets and Structural Steelwork.

Catalogue free on mentioning this paper.

London: 300, Abbey House, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

VULCAN GARDEN REFUSE INCINERATOR

Garden and household refuse reduced to ashes quickly, cleanly, with minimum amount of smoke. Will take a barrow load of rubbish at a charge.

British Manufacture.

PRICE EACH **10/-**

Carriage paid nearest Railway Station · 2 for 18/-

Larger size 2 for 22/6 **12/6**

"The incinerator arrived on Wednesday, and after two soaking nights I had no difficulty in getting a good fire from exposed material. I burnt up in an hour what would have taken me all day with a bonfire."

THE LOSTOCK IRON BASKET WORKS, 8/11, Griffiths Lane, Lostock Gralam, nr. Northwich.

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by **"ALPHOL"**

Sample 14 lb., 3/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

For Present Use in the Garden

FERRY BRAND

Regd. *Trade Mark*

GARDEN MANURE SOIL PEST DESTROYER

"FERRY" GARDEN MANURE gives back to the soil the Phosphates, Potash, Nitrogen and other foods that have been taken up by the growing plants during this year. It is the finest manure for general garden purposes. Apply at the rate of 2 to 3 ozs. per square yard.

14 lb., 3/6; 28 lb., 6/-; 56 lb., 11/6; 1 cwt., 21/-.

"FERRY" SOIL PEST DESTROYER sweetens and sterilises the soil and destroys pests, such as slugs, wireworms, caterpillars, ants, etc. Its use provides a quick, sure and reliable way of freeing your land from all insect pests. Apply 2 to 3 oz. per square yard.

14 lb., 3/6; 28 lb., 6/-; 56 lb., 11/6 1 cwt., 21/-.

ALL PRICES CARR. PAID TO NEAREST STATION FOR CASH WITH ORDER.

Agents wanted throughout England for "Ferry" Specialities.

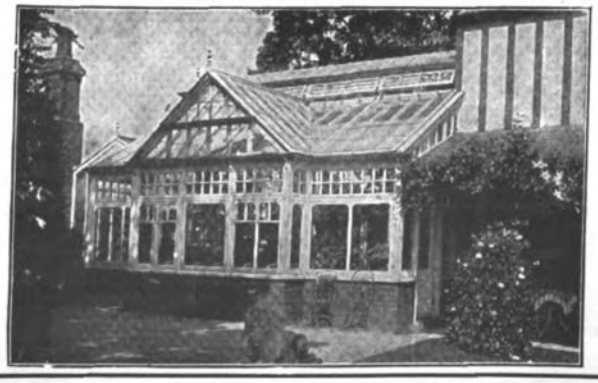
The BRITON FERRY CHEMICAL AND MANURE CO., LTD. (Dept. E), Briton Ferry, S. Wales. (Est. 1886).

The WIZARD Plant LABEL

Made in Red Pottery, 2½ x 1½ ins., with rustless wires. 12 in., 2/3 doz.; 7 in., 1/9 doz. 1½ x 1 in., with wires 6 in. 1/6 doz. For tying on. 1/6 and 1/6 doz. Waterproof Ink, 9d. and 7½d. bot. Crow Quills, 2d. Postage extra

Highly commended by the R.H.S. at Wisley.

E. TORKINGTON · NEW HALL · MAIDENHEAD



FOSTER & PEARSON LIMITED

Established 1841

Please write for estimates for durable Greenhouses, Boilers, etc., to

BEESTON NOTTS

The Service Bureau Coupon.

THE GARDEN, *November 20th*, 1926.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

This Coupon must accompany each enquiry along with a stamped addressed envelope.

See page 673.

THE SERVICE DEPT., "THE GARDEN," 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2

Digitized by Google

WAKELEY'S Celebrated Hop Manure

(PATENTED)

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

AS USED IN THE GARDENS OF GREAT BRITAIN

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL, ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION, 1912

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE, without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

Every ounce of Wakeley's Hop Manure is of value to the soil, supplying the necessary HUMUS in addition to the valuable plant food. Worthless rubbish is not added to make weight (as is the case of some artificial manures advertised).

Thousands do realise it, the proof of this is the constant flow of UNSOLICITED LETTERS received from time to time in praise of the wonderful results obtained at such a moderate cost (see Booklet for selection).

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.—Genuine Only in our Marked Bags containing Guaranteed Analysis.

Just a post card, and our Catalogue of Bulbs and Garden Sundries at carriage paid prices will be sent free.

CASH PRICES (including bags):

Small (about 1 bushel)	3/-
Large (about 4 bushels)	7/-
5 Large	33/9
10 Large	65/-
20 Large	120/-

Carriage paid by Pickford's or to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company; 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD.

75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

WEED-DEATH NON POISONOUS POWDER WEED KILLER

SAFETY FIRST FOR ANIMALS AND PEOPLE

Non-caustic; colourless; no smells; kills the roots; superior to arsenical compounds.

TINS. 1/- 2.- 3/6 6/6 12/-
for 4 12½ 25 50 100 gals

SPECIAL. For Parks and Recreation Grounds—in bulk

ALSO

LETHORION FUMIGATOR

Improved Nicotine Cone

Certain destruction to all pests in glasshouses.

No. 1, for 1,000 cubic feet	10d.
No. 2, „ 1,500 „ „	1/3
No. 3, „ 2,500 „ „	1/9

Sold by all Seedsmen and Nurserymen.

CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, LONDON, S.E.1

Recommended for Roses, Bulbs, all other Flowers and Fruit Trees.

The Helichrysa Permanent LABEL

Registered Trade Mark.

From 2/- per doz.

Write for circular and full particulars to:—

THE "HELICHRYSA" PERMANENT LABEL CO.
8, Rusthall Park, TUNBRIDGE WELLS

Patent 254077

BY APPOINTMENT

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

The BEST and CHEAPEST

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

FANCY FERN PANS and BULB BOWLS from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List

RICHARD BANKEY & SON, LTD.
Royal Potteries BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

"It warms my Greenhouse nicely at a cost of **about 2d. per day**, which I think very reasonable. I am a new beginner with a Greenhouse, and your

'HORSE SHOE' BOILER

took my fancy. I have not regretted my choice," writes Mr. F. G., Clifford, Boston Spa. 23/3/26

Cold weather comes soon. Write for particulars now

To CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD.,
Engineers, Southwark Street, S.E.1.

Please send me Booklet E "Making the Most of Your Greenhouse," and price of complete Outfit to suit *(span-roof) (lean-to) greenhouse..... long..... .....wide inside, side of *(wood) (brick).....thick.

Name.....

Address.....

*Strike out particulars not needed. Cut out and send by id. post.

Can be supplied from Immediate Stock

USED IN THE R.H.S. GARDENS

Wire: "Kinnel-Borob-London." 'Phone: Hop 0362 (3 lines)

CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., Ltd.
65, SOUTHWARK STREET, LONDON, S.E.1

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

DEC 3 1926

THE GARDEN

THE AMATEUR GARDENERS' PAPER

Vol. XC.—No. 2869 Saturday, November 27th, 1926 Price TWOPENCE

GAILLARDIAS ARE INVALUABLE FOR CUTTING AND FOR THE HERBACEOUS BORDER.

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
New Alpines and Perennials
Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
Specialists in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

T. J. EVANS & SON
(G) WHIPLEY NURSERIES
WOOD STREET
NR. GUILDFORD
Roses, Fruit Trees, Shrubs, etc. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD,
CHELSEA, S.W.
Bulb Catalogue Now Ready

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

H. E. MOXON
BULB IMPORTER
ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH
Bulbs for Bedding

TUBS FOR SHRUBS. WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 100 prizes. R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. — Price List from A. PRADAL, 26, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

Special Autumn Offer

Order **NOW** for delivery this month.

12 Gooseberries
"WHINHAM'S INDUSTRY."
12 Black Currants
"SEABROOK'S" (Mite resisting).
12 Red Currants
"RABY CASTLE."

The above 36 strong, well-grown Fruiting Bushes for 20/- Carriage Paid for Cash with Order. Half the above numbers for 10/-

Descriptive Catalogue of Fruit Trees, Roses, Ornamental Trees and Shrubs, free on application.

The FOREST & ORCHARD NURSERIES, Ltd. BUCKOVER, FALFIELD, GLOS.

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
Landscape Gardeners. Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925

MRS. LADENBURG
"DERRYQUIN"
SUNNINGDALE, BERKS.
Undertakes laying out New Gardens Construction of Rockeries and Alterations. Plans and Estimates Free.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
LINCS.
Weed Destroyers Fertilizers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

Perfect lawns!

It is essential to remove worms now if lawns are to be perfect next year. These two preparations are produced by us after special study of the problem. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen and florists.

XL ALL LIQUID WORM COMPOSITION (poisonous).
XL ALL WORM KILLING POWDER (non-poisonous).

G. H. RICHARDS LTD.,
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
R. 226. Monomark: BCM/XLALL

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing*

Continued from page iii.

50,000 WALLFLOWERS. — Dwarf grown bushy transplanted plants, grown on the chalk hills of Hampshire which makes them very hardy. Blood Red, Golden Yellow, Primrose and others, Ruby Gem, Ivory White, Vulcan, Harbinger Queen, Purple Queen or Mixed, 50 2/-, 100 3/6, 200 6/6, 500 15/- 1,000 27/6, free.—SLOCOMBE LEIGH, Broughton, Hants.

GARDEN LABELS.—The "A G" patent porcelain Label, always clean and legible. Permanency guaranteed 30 years. Lists corrected.—E. AND A. GILBERT, 71 Suffolk Street, Birmingham.

BULB CLEARANCE SALE.—20,000 [illegible] Tulips and Mixed Daffodils, good flowering sizes, 25/- 1,000. Carriage paid.—STOW AND OVERTON, Bicester.

AMATEUR'S COLLECTION OF PERENNIALS, surplus plants, all exhibition varieties, choice [illegible] 18 for 5/-; rockery plants, 18 for 5/-. Carriage paid.—[illegible] "Revllo," Long Lane, Ickenham, Uxbridge.

ALPINES, ROCK AND HERBACEOUS PLANTS, Dwarf Conifers and Shrubs, Bulbs for the Rock Garden, etc. New catalogue ready, post free.—SHEPPARD'S, Shawhurst Nursery, Hollywood, Birmingham.

LABELS.—Patent metal, so simple to write on by a nail; can't fade or break. Trial offer bargain; 100 with 50 stakes, 50 tie wires, 1 pocket nail, 10/- free. The R.H.S. use them. Lists.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

MASKELL'S HOP MANURE.—Best substitute for stable manure, 56lbs., 4/-; cwt., 6/-. Thirty Guineas the all-round fertiliser. 56lb., 6/-; cwt., 8/6. Ground carbonate lime, 56lb., 4/-; cwt., 6/-. Screened Gas Lime, cwt., 2/6. Basic Slag, cwt., 6/6. Packed in bags and carriage paid for fertilisers, etc., supplied. Booklets free.—MASKELL'S LIMITED, Dirleton Road, West Ham, E.15.

KNIPHOFIA ERECTA.—The most beautiful and brilliant and interesting of the red-hot pokers. Free, [illegible] post. 18/- per doz.—GALVIN'S NURSERIES, Wexford.

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

THE "SOUTHWELL" COLLECTION

Twelve Varieties, Carriage and Packing Free - - **12/6**
With "ACME" Labels - **15/-**

Caroline Testout (H.T.) satiny rose.
Col. O. FitzGerald (H.T.) crimson.
Emma Wright (H.T.) pure orange.
Frau Karl Druschki (H.P.) pure white.
General McArthur (H.T.) carmine.
Henrietta (H.T.) orange crimson
Hugh Dickson (H.T.) brilliant crimson.
Independence Day (H.T.) orange apricot
Madame E. Herriot (H.T.) coral red.
Ophelia (H.T.) salmon flesh.
The Queen Alexandra (H.T.) deep vermilion
Ulrich Brunner (H.P.) cherry crimson.

Also FRUIT TREES, SHRUBS, ORNAMENTAL TREES, ALPINES & HARDY PLANTS
ALL HOME GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries. *Catalogue Free on Application.*

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LIMITED
Garden Specialists, SOUTHWELL, NOTTS.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

THE FIRST STEP towards a successful... and write to Waterers. Catalogues, beautifully illustrated, with copious cultural notes are issued of the following: ...ses and Fruit Trees, Bulbs, Herbaceous and Alpine Plants, Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Evergreen, Flowering, Hedging and Screening Shrubs, any of which will be gladly sent on request.—JOHN WATERER, SONS AND CRISP, LIMITED, Twyford, ...

LAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODENDRONS on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and Alpine Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write for catalogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

ELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE. ...riginal and only substitute for Stable Manure. See ...on back page.

DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., ...e Road, South Tottenham, N.15.—Conservatories, Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

...S' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUN- ...NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—...S. 17, Eccleston Street, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

...ING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, ...

...ER CARNATIONS.—200 varieties, ...varieties, from 6/6; 50 in 50 ditto, from 25/-; carriage ...lists free. J. HAYWARD, Chace Gardens, Stakes Road, ...k, Cosham, Hants.

...S HORTICULTURAL, all sizes stocked; ...Glass Plate for poultry houses. Ready Mixed Paints, ...Diamonds, etc.—BRITISH GLASS COMPANY, Dept. "G.N.," ...Buildings, Church Street, Liverpool.

...IS THE TIME TO LOOK TO YOUR ...N. "THE HOME GARDEN BOOKS" deal with every ...of the art. Send for pamphlet C, post free, from THORN...TERWORTH, LIMITED, 15, Bedford Street, London, W.C.2.

...SSARY AUTUMN MANURING. ...Basic Slag and all kinds of Fertilisers. Many thousands ...sold annually. Absolute lowest prices. Descriptive ...free.—JAMES & GEO. H. MATTHEWS, Harold Wood, ...'Phone, Romford 284.

VEITCHBERRY.—The finest Hybrid ...yet raised. The fruit is twice the size of a Raspberry, delicious flavour, and is splendid for dessert and culinary ...es. It is absolutely self-fertile and therefore sets freely. ...plants 7/6 each, 84/- per dozen.—LAXTON BROTHERS, ...rmen, Bedford.

...KERY STONE.—The most beautiful is ...Ironstone; sample bags, 2/6. Excellent Crazy Paving, ...tural Lime and Red Loam Sand. Enquiries invited.—...WATKINS, Coleford, Glos.

...GAIN GARDEN WIRE!!—Ideal for ...fruit trees, tomatoes, arches, repairing fences, tying ...ores of other uses. Strong, flexible, and waterproof ...d. Special prices small lots, or 19/6 mile. Samples ...GREENS, 413, Albert Street, Lytham.

...RESSUS LAWSONIANA.—1½ ft. to 2ft., ...2ft. to 3ft., 9/- doz. Laurel rotundifolia, 1ft. to 1½ft., ...1½ft. to 2ft., 6/- doz. Splendidly grown hardy Scotch ...Carriage paid. C.W.O. Catalogue of Shrubs, Roses, ...on request.—BARR & SON, Dumfries.

...GOLDEN CLEMATIS (C. TANGUTICA). ...climber with countless large golden flowers. Hardy. ...ous pot-grown plants, 1/6 each, 3 for 3/6, 6 for 7/-, carriage ...packing extra.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED, Six Hills ...y, Stevenage, Herts.

...EN-WINGED ORCHIS (ORCHIS ...O). Plant now for rich purple spikes in grass or rock ...next May. Tubers, 8/9 doz., post free.—WILD GARDEN ...RIES, Rockbeare, Exeter.

...S SEASON'S CHOICE PRIMULA SEED. ...la Beesiana, P. Bulleyana, P. capitata, P. japonica, P. ...rulenta, P. sikkimensis, P. Veitchii, to clear, 1/- per pkt. ...spata, P. Edina, p. Lichiangensis, P. Mooreana, 1/6 per ...P. Barnadica, P. La Lorraine, P. Ville de Nancy, 2/- per ...-WM. HUNT & SONS, 4, Northcote Street, Edinburgh.

BARR'S GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS.—The finest sorts for Pots, Bowls, Exhibition, Flower Borders and to Naturalise. Descriptive Catalogue free.

BARR'S HYACINTHS, TULIPS, LILIES, CROCUSES, IRISES, etc., for Pots, Bowls and Flower Borders. Finest quality. Descriptive catalogue free.

BARR'S HARDY PERENNIALS, ALPINES, ROCK PLANTS, CLIMBERS, etc., for Autumn planting. Catalogue free.—BARR AND SONS, 11, 12 and 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

THE DOUGLAS CLOVES AND HARDY BORDER CARNATIONS are famous throughout the world. Glorious scent, stiff stems, perfect calyx and perpetual habit. They flourish in the coldest parts of Britain. Extract, *The Times*: "Mr. Douglas is the leading raiser of this flower. His wonderful strain of new cloves is superb." Plant list is now ready.—J. DOUGLAS, Great Bookham.

JOIN THE BRITISH GLADIOLUS SOCIETY. Annual subscription, 5/-. Particulars from Hon. Sec., A. E. AMOS, 10, Bergholt Road, Colchester.

Yearly Subscription, Inland, 13s.; Foreign, 13s.
Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2.
Offices for Advertisements: 6-11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Notes of the Week	675
Planning and Planting a Small Border	676
Shrubs for Dry Banks	677
In the Greenhouse	678
Flower Garden Notes	679
Cut Flowers in Winter	680
Gardening Without a Gardener	681
Climbing Roses for Pergola or Pillar	682
The Fruit and Kitchen Garden	684
What Our Readers Say	685
Nurseries of the British Isles.—VIII, The Hardy Plant Nurseries, Merstham	686
Hints Worth Remembering	688
Weeds on Lawns	688
THE GARDEN *Crossword.—II*	689
Service Bureau	690

HEWITT'S HARDY PLANT CATALOGUE, free on application.

HEWITT'S DELPHINIUMS, famous the world over for their marvellous size and quality. Please write for our catalogues.

HEWITT'S BULBS.—The finest obtainable at reasonable prices. List free on application.

HEWITT'S ROSES.—Catalogues of all the finest and newest varieties free on application.—HEWITT AND CO., LIMITED, Horticultural Specialists, Solihull, Warwickshire.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wirework of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

ORDER TENNIS COURT FENCING NOW. Complete enclosure 120ft. by 60ft. for one Court, 9ft. high, with Iron Standards, Gate, Strand Wires, ready for erection, £34. Carriage paid to stations in England and Wales. Other sizes in proportion. Write for special Leaflet to Dept. FP/G., BOULTON & PAUL, LIMITED, Riverside Works, Norwich.

AUSTRIAN PINE, DOUGLAS FIR, SCOTS PINE. Stout well shaped trees. Also Fruit Trees in great variety. Write for descriptive catalogue.—THE FOREST & ORCHARD NURSERIES, LIMITED, Milbury Heath, Failfield, Glos.

THE SCENT OF FLOWERS. By Dr. F. A. Hampton. Crown 8vo., 6/- net.; post free, 6/3. An invaluable book on scent, including scented roses and other flowers for the garden. From all Booksellers, or direct from the Publishers, DULAU & CO., LTD., 34, Margaret Street, London, W.1.

DOBBIE'S FAMOUS BULBS, SCOTCH ROSES and SWEET PEAS for Autumn Sowing. Catalogue free on mentioning THE GARDEN.—DOBBIE AND CO., LIMITED, Edinburgh.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE!!!—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, loguns, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 1cwt. per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

ROCK PLANTS AND SHRUBS.—Over 300 varieties in stock. Descriptive Catalogue free. Also Herbaceous Plants and Roses.—HODSONS, LIMITED, 58, Castle Gate, Nottingham.

PRIMULA SECUNDIFLORA, the Crimson Sikkimensis. Heads of dangling crimson bells, for bog garden or cool rich soil. 12-18ins. high. Fine pot-grown plants, 9d. each; 3 for 2/6; 6 for 3/9; 12 for 7/6.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED, Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

PRIOR'S COLCHESTER ROSES, Fruit Trees, Gladioli, Dahlias, Carnations, Herbaceous. Catalogue containing cheap collections free.—D. PRIOR AND SON, LTD., Colchester

YORK STONE PAVING, for Garden Paths and lily ponds; rectangular or crazy for rustic work; step and wall coping; rockery.—GEO. VINT AND BROS., Stone Merchants, Idle, Bradford.

ALPINES AND HARDY ROCK PLANTS. 700 varieties. Catalogue free.—LEA, Alpine Gardens, Stechford, Birmingham.

TO FLOWER NEXT SUMMER, 12 Hydrangeas, assorted, carriage paid on receipt of 20/-. A real bargain.—TRESEDER AND CO., The Nurseries, Truro.

LOBELIA CARDINALIS QUEEN VICTORIA, brilliant scarlet, late flowering perennial, 1 doz., post free, for 10/-.—TRESEDER AND CO., as above.

LIME FOR THE GARDEN.—Price delivered cash with order, 28lb., 5/6; 56lb., 5/-; 112lb., 8/-. Special quotations for large quantities. Real Cotswold Crazy Paving, Walling Stone, etc.—THOMAS TIERNEY AND CO., LTD., Milk Street House, Cheapside, E.C.

FIBROUS YELLOW TURF LOAM.—Catalogue free.—A. B. JOHNSTONE, Cranleigh.

GARDENERS, RICH AND POOR (especially poor!) should get the Fairseat Autumn Sales List. It offers a host of good things at practically pre-war prices. Postal business a speciality.—FAIRSEAT NURSERIES, Wrotham, Kent.

RARE PRIMULA AND ALPINE SEEDS from large (2,000) collection. Also plants and rockery bulbs. Lists free.—REV. J. F. ANDERSON, Glen Hall, Leicester.

NEW CHRYSANTHEMUMS.—Catalogue of 700 varieties, also Dahlias, etc., now ready.—J. W. COLE AND SON, Westwood Nurseries, Peterborough.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt. kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each; carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

The Wonderful Mystery Lily

Grows to 16 inches on Mantelpiece During Winter without Soil or Water

***Only* 1/-**

Here is a great novelty that will brighten your home this Winter. It is one of the greatest wonders of the world of Flowers. Simply place the bulb in a dry warm position on your mantelpiece. Its growth and the giant gorgeously spotted blossom of this **MONARCH OF THE EAST** Mystery Lily will be a daily wonder for you and your family, and for every visitor to your home. After blooming is finished, plant out in garden or pot, and it will grow and produce lovely foliage. Only **1/-** each, 6 for **5/6**, 12 for **10/-**.

Postage 6d. extra on all orders. Full descriptive Bulb Catalogue of all Plants and Roots free.

H. PRINS, *Prize Bulb Specialist*, Dept. G., WISBECH.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE **JERSEY** FRUIT TREES ROSE TREES AND CARNATIONS

ARE PACKED FREE OF COST, AND DELIVERED CARRIAGE PAID

Before ordering, **IT WILL PAY YOU** to write for our Illustrated Catalogue and Planter's Guide, which contains **Elaborate Instructions** on the most profitable methods of cultivation, besides an article dealing with **Insects and Fungoid Diseases**, and is **FREE TO ALL.** It also gives particulars of our cheap

COLLECTIONS OF NEW ROSES
Exceptional Value. Unsurpassed Quality

ALL GUARANTEED BRITISH GROWN.

Fifty varieties illustrated in colours, direct from photographs

CORDON FRUIT TREES OUR SPECIALITY

Vast quantities of strong, healthy, fibrously rooted Apples, on the broad-leaved Paradise. Pears, Plums, Peaches, Grape Vines and Strawberry Plants of superior quality.

The Jersey Nurseries, Ltd., (Late Le Cornu) **JERSEY**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Rare Himalayan and Chinese

RHODODENDRONS

in Hybrids and Species

A large stock of beautiful Hybrids raised at "Goldsworth," early and late flowering. Clean healthy plants, in various colours. The best have been grafted and can be supplied correctly under numbers. Also an assortment of other rare and scarce plants, and a large general nursery stock. Area over 300 acres.

The Exors. of

WALTER CHAS. SLOCOCK

Goldsworth Old Nursery, WOKING, SURREY.

Station: Woking (Southern Railway) 1 mile.

Lists on application. *Mention* THE GARDEN

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

PLANT SMITH'S ROSES. Hardy Scotch Grown.

UNSURPASSED FOR HARDINESS AND FIBROUS ROOTS. FROM 12/- DOZEN.

SILVER CUPS GAINED 1908-9-10-11-12-25.
NATIONAL ROSE SOCIETY'S MEDAL, LONDON, 1926.

Also **FRUIT TREES, SHRUBS, FOREST TREES.**
Send for Catalogues with prices, free on application.
GIVE US A TRIAL ORDER.

THOMAS SMITH & SONS, STRANRAER. *Est.* 1861.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

BULBS FOR NATURALISING

STRONGEST SELECTED BULBS FOR PRESENT PLANTING.

Chionodoxa Luciliæ, brilliant blue flowers, white centre	Per 1,000	75/-	Per 100	8/-
Spanish Iris, splendid mixture from named sorts	,,	50/-	,,	5/6
Ornithogalum nutans (Star of Bethlehem)	Per 100	8/6	Per doz.	1/3
Scilla, English Blue Bells	Per 1,000	45/-	Per 100	5/-
,, **Hispanica La Belle**, silvery lavender bells	,,	—	,,	12/6
,, **Mixed Wood Hyacinths**	,,	50/-	,,	5/6
Tulips, Mixed May-flowering	,,	90/-	,,	9/6

DAFFODILS FOR NATURALISING.

Mixture of all sorts Daffodils and Narcissi	Per 1,000	80/-	Per 100	8/6
Mixture of Chalice Cup and Star Narcissi	,,	90/-	,,	9/6
Mixture of Poets Narcissi	,,	80/-	,,	8/6
1,000 in 10 fine showy named sorts		120/-		
500 in 10 fine showy named sorts		63/-		

Descriptive List of Surplus Spring-flowering Bulbs sent free on application.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 & 13 KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2

A B. & P. GREENHOU

IS A GOOD INVESTMEN

No. H47a LEAN-TO GREENHOUSE

Of neat appearance and sound constru this House is made specially for placing a sunny wall facing South, South-La South-West.

Size 10 by 7ft. in four sections, with bulbs, re-erection. Painted one coat. Glass cut and packed in boxes

£15 : 0 : 0

If glazed at works, painted two coats, pa close cases to prevent damage

£19 : 6 : 0

Carriage paid to most stations in Englan Wales. Prices for heating and stages on application Prices given for additional

WRITE FOR FREE BOOKLET No. 743 TELLS YOU ALL ABOUT THIS GREENH

BOULTON & PAUL

GARDEN FRAM

High grade, solidly built. Renowned for durability strength and simplicity

Delivered ready painted, and glazed 21oz. glass, complete with bolts. Can be put toge a few minutes by any amateur.

— TYPICAL EXAMPLE —

No. H.75. MELON AND CUCUMBER FRA CASH PRICES.

1-Light Frame, 4ft. long by 6ft. wide ..
2-Light Frame, 8ft. long by 6ft. wide ..
3-Light Frame, 12ft. long by 6ft. wide ..

Carriage paid to most stations in Englan Wales. Packing extra but allowed for if

Other Designs and Sizes from 35

Ask for Catalogue No. 744.

Trays for Storing Potatoes and Fru a Speciality. Ask for Leaflet G.190.

Examples of B. & P. Greenhouses, Garden Fra Motor Houses, Shelters, Poultry Houses and Sh may be seen at our London Office and Showroo 135-7, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4.

Boulton & Paul Ltd

Telegrams BOULTON NORWICH **NORWICH** NORWICH 660

LONDON OFFICE 135-137 QUEEN VICTORIA ST. E.C. Telegrams Boulquar Cent London Telephone 4642 Cen

Digitized by Google

GIBSON'S GARDEN GLORIES

15 Acres of Glorious ROSES, SHRUBS, FRUITS, Alpine and Herbaceous Plants, Lupins, etc.

NEW CATALOGUE FREE ON REQUEST

Orders of 5/- and over carriage paid for cash with order. With less amounts, 6d. extra.

rand Collection of 30 Dwarf Climbing and Hybrid Sweet Briar Roses for 30/-:—

Choice Dwarf Roses for 6/-.
ity Upriohard, carmine.
vent Garden, rich red.
roline Testout, pink.
ly Mail, coral red to prawn red.
o. Dickson, dark crimson.
s. W. Quin, yellow.

6 Dwarf Roses for 6/-.
General MacArthur, red.
Lady Pirrie, coppery salmon.
Mme. A. Chatenay, carmine.
Mme. Ravary, yellow.
Ophelia, flesh shade.
F. K. Drusohki, white.

6 Climbing Roses for 7/6.
Alberic Barbier, yellow to white.
Dorothy Dennison, flesh pink.
Excelsa, crimson.
Emily Gray, yellow.
Conrad F. Meyer, silvery rose.
Mme. A. Carriere, white.

6 Climbing Roses for 7/6.
Cl. Ophelia, flesh pale.
Dorothy Perkins, pink.
Hiawatha, crimson, white eye.
Paul's Scarlet Climber, good.
Garbe Rose, bright pink.
Paradise, large pink.

6 Hybrid Sweet Briars for 7/6.
All have the Briar Scent, large flowered and different shades.
Amy Robsart, Brenda, Flora McIvor, J. Deans, Lady Penzance, Lord Penzance.

The whole of the above **30 Roses** will be supplied, correctly named, packing free and carriage paid for **30/-** for cash.

REGALE LUPINS
Most wonderful shades and colours ever seen
Strong plants, all shades. **10/-** per dozen.

LONICERA NITIDA
The New Hedge Plant.
Splendid bushy well rooted plants. It is also good for forming edgings instead of box for borders.
2/6 per dozen; **20/-** per 100.

THE NEW CLIMBING ROSE
Phyllis Bide. Perpetual flowering. **2/- each.**
Colour: Pale gold at base, flushed and shaded carmine pink, in long sprays. **3 for 5/9**

G. GIBSON & CO., Leeming Bar, BEDALE

FREESIAS

(Pure White, Fine for Pots)

LARGEST BULBS OBTAINABLE,
per 100, 4/6; 500 for **20/-**

	Per 100	Per 500
onodoxa, Fine Bulbs	3/6	15/-
gigantea	5/-	20/-
las, Lovely Blue	4/6	20/-
Largest	6/6	30/-
wdrops, Sound Bulbs	2/6	10/-
Top Size	3/6	15/-
scari, Heavenly Blue	2/6	10/-
um, neapolitanum	3/6	15/-

GLADIOLUS, EARLY FLOWERING
nbld for house decoration, 100 Corms in 5 varieties for **5/-**

Ask for Special List.

ONGSTAFF & SONS
Gladioli Specialists,
ear CHELSFIELD STATION, KENT

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

The Half-Crown Garden Books

A new series. Thoroughly practical, well printed and illustrated. The first two are now ready.

VEGETABLE GROWING By GEORGE GARNER
ROCK GARDENING By WALTER IRVING

2s. 6d. net each.

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

TWO STERLING NOVELTIES

ASTER QUEEN MARY.

Flowers of a rich blue. "Climax" like in habit. Height 4-5 feet. Mid. September. **5s.** each. (Delivery now.)

GYPSOPHILA BRISTOL FAIRY.

Pure double white. Flowers 3 times the size of the ordinary double gyp. Height 4 feet. **7s. 6d.** each. (Delivery in Spring.)

OUR CATALOGUE, POST FREE ON RECEIPT OF POSTCARD, IS VERY COMPREHENSIVE AND IS A HANDY REFERENCE BOOK.

The following two collections make Ideal Gifts and are of excellent value:—

12 Michaelmas Daisies, in 12 distinct kinds, all Novelties (including Queen Mary), **27s. 6d.** carriage paid.

12 Delphiniums, in 12 distinct choice varieties, **30s.** carriage paid.

W. WELLS, JUN., *Hardy Plant Nurseries, MERSTHAM, SURREY.*

WATERER'S SHRUBS

FOR

Every Purpose & Every Garden

Our beautifully illustrated 80 page catalogue contains details of :—

Rhododendrons and azaleas.
Evergreen and flowering shrubs.
Hedgemaking and screening shrubs.
Climbing plants.
Shrubs for covering walls and buildings.
Shrubs for planting in or near towns.
Shrubs for planting in the shade.
Shrubs for the rock garden.
Winter and early spring-flowering shrubs.
Berry bearing and ornamental fruiting shrubs.
Shrubs for winter bark effect.
Gold and Silver variegated shrubs, and many other interesting features.

Please write for a copy, it is post free.

John Waterer Sons & Crisp Ltd

TWYFORD——BERKS

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Michaelmas Daisies

For all the **latest** and **most** beautiful varieties, see the Raiser's List.

ERNEST BALLARD, Colwall, MALVERN

PLANTING SEASON

GEO. JACKMAN & SON

WOKING NURSERIES, SURREY

ESTABLISHED OVER A CENTURY

INVITE INSPECTION OF THEIR LARGE AND VARIED STOCK OF ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBS, ROSES, CLIMBERS, FRUIT AND FOREST TREES, HERBACEOUS AND ALPINE - - PLANTS - -

200 ACRES OF STOCK TO SELECT FROM. CATALOGUES FREE ON APPLICATION.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Allens ROSES

To-Day's Opportunity Ensures Next Summer's Delight

The present time is ideal for planting roses. The following selections are comprised of tip-top quality plants at a moderate price.

DO NOT DELAY— STOCKS ARE NOT HEAVY

Our "Supreme" Collection of 12 Dwarf Roses in first-rate varieties, carriage paid, for 13/6 cash with order.

Betty Uprichard, coppery salmon.
Hortulanus Buisde, vermilion scarlet.
Admiration, cream washed vermilion.
Elsie Beckwith, rose pink.
Huguette Vincent, cerise pink.
Lady Pirrie, coppery salmon.
Lord Charlemont, deep crimson.
Lamia, orange.
Mabel Morse, the grand new golden yellow.
Florence L. Izzard, pure buttercup yellow.
Sensation, rich velvety crimson.
Souv. de Georges Pernet, coppery pink.

No rubbish. All first quality maidens on Briar Stocks.

Our "Standard" Collection, any 8 of the following selected Standards, 10/- carriage paid; any 6, 19/-; any 12, 36/-

Betty Uprichard, coppery salmon.
Los Angeles, coral rose.
Mme. Edouard Herriet ("Daily Mail" rose).
John Russell, new, deep crimson overlaid black.
The General, crimson, an advance on Hugh Dickson.
Mrs. C. V. Haworth, cinnamon cerise.
Elizabeth Didden, rose pink.
Crimson Columbia, a crimson form of Columbia.
Sensation, rich velvety crimson.
Mrs. Beckwith, lemon yellow, fine form.
Elsie Beckwith, rose pink.
Lord Charlemont, deep crimson.
Snow Queen, the indispensable white for standards.

WEEPING STANDARDS, in extra fine quality trees, 5–6ft. in height, price 6/- each, carriage paid: **Fernand Rabier, White Dorothy, Yvonne, Wavering Rambler, Pape Gouchault, Sodenia, Hiawatha, Leontine Gervaise, Chatillon Rambler.**

"Pet" Collection of Polyantha Roses. 12 fine varieties, including our novelty **Rufus**, the finest scarlet rose in this section, carriage paid, 12/-, cash with order.

Alice Amos, cherry pink, white eye.
Diana, orange tipped carmine.
Dorothy Howarth, coral rose pink.
Ebioulesants, velvety crimson.
Ideal, dark scarlet.
La Reine Elizabeth, dark red.
Lady Reading, rosy pink.
Leonie Lamesch, coppery red.
Orange King, new deep orange.
Rodhatte, cherry red.
Tip Top, delightful double blooms, yellow tipped rose.
Rufus, the finest scarlet, unaffected by weather.

BUY FROM THE GROWERS, ALL GUARANTEED first quality plants from our Norfolk rose grounds.

SEND A CARD FOR OUR CATALOGUE TO-DAY.

A. J. & C. ALLEN (DEPT. G)

Nurserymen, NORWICH, NORFOLK

Established 1869.

Notes from Maidstone.

COOKING APPLES.

All Apples may be cooked, but not all are edible. Some are pasty and flavourless, others brown and woody. We can thoroughly recommend Golden Noble for autumn use, this cooks a clear amber yellow, and Thomas Rivers, in use till December, of unique fragrance. Of these, beside the usual forms, we have some extra large pyramids, 6ft. high and well developed, at 15/- each.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd., The Royal Nurseries, Established 1796. Maidstone.

KNAP HILL NURSERY

WOKING, SURREY

(Late Anthony Waterer)

The Executors of the late HOSEA WATERER have pleasure in offering

STANDARD TREES

In great variety, consisting of

LIMES, NORWAY MAPLES, ELMS, etc., etc.
EVERGREEN & DECIDUOUS SHRUBS, viz.:

Box—Green and Variegated, 3 to 8 ft.
Hollies—Common, 5 to 8 ft.; Variegated and Green varieties, 2 to 6 ft.
Thuiopsis borealis, 10 to 12 ft. Cupressus Lawsoniana, 12 to 14 ft. Cedrus atlantica glauca, very fine, 14 to 16 ft. Osmanthus, Phillyreas, Spiræas, Lilacs, Viburnums, etc.

GOLDEN YEWS

A Magnificent Stock in all shapes and sizes from 2 to 10 ft.

PRIVET, Common and Oval-leaved. **QUICK** and **HORNBEAM** for Hedges. **AZALEAS**, in great variety, 2 to 5 ft. **RHODODENDRONS**, without doubt **the finest stock in the trade** of named varieties, 2 to 6 and 8 ft. **HARDY HEATHS** in great variety and a good general nursery stock.

Catalogues ready.

Enquiries and Inspection invited.

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING STATION, SURREY

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

VOL. XC.—No. 2869. NOVEMBER 27, 1926. PRICE TWOPENCE.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

Garden Crops for Next Season.

THE importance of looking forward to the seasons when garden crops will yield their produce cannot be overestimated, since it is by no means difficult to obtain a practically unbroken supply of certain varieties all the year round by the exercise of judicious foresight in making successional sowings and planting out seedlings in batches at different times in varying aspects.

Systematic cropping also is of great importance, and arrangements should now be made for the ensuing season's crops. A good idea is to make a plan by marking out on a sheet of paper the quarters or divisions of the garden. This very much simplifies matters when the actual sowing and planting takes place. The plots can be manured and treated exactly as their requirements demand, and in the long winter evenings this plan-making is a good form of recreation to the man who is fond of his garden.

A kitchen garden can be made both productive and attractive, be it either small or large, by some thought and perseverance. It is not the man who has the best garden that always wins prizes, but the one who studies his crops from start to finish. There are plenty of good growers who could win prizes, but on account of neatness and love of method they do not like interfering with their crops, which they must do if they exhibit.

Of course, in plotting and planning for his spring planting the gardener will be guided to a great extent by the nature of the crops he is clearing off the ground at the present time. Where he has grown his celery would be a capital place for green peas or a root crop, such as carrots, turnips or radishes. Having decided on this, he can save himself a lot of labour by a systematic method of lifting the celery. To do it properly and leave the ground in an even and workable state, commence at one end of the row and, level down the soil at the sides of the celery with a fork, at the same time digging or forking the ground over. The celery should be lifted with a fork, and the manure in the trench should be spread out on the surface to be forked in again. By doing this the ground is left in a clean and healthy state, and in fit condition for the next crop.

Light crops, as lettuce, early peas and early cauliflowers, may well follow the roots, and such quick-growing subjects as lettuce, radishes and summer spinach may come after the first early potatoes. Little or no manure will be necessary on these plots. The space allotted to turnips must be well enriched before again cropping it—a good dressing of soot or lime is very beneficial after such crops.

Every gardener should scheme out the whole of his ground if he wants to make the best of the space at his command, and cultivators who would secure the best results ought not to overlook the following simple facts, *i.e.*, lands which are heavy, tenacious and turn up lumpy should be surface forked when fairly dry some days after they are first dug and have been exposed. Light, sandy or stony soils are best dug a few weeks before crops are committed to them, so that they settle down and, by natural cohesion, make a sufficiently firm bed for root growth. Moreover, for small seeds the surface of the ground cannot be too finely broken.

A Gladiolus Guide Book.

SUCH is the title of a fourteen page booklet which reached us from Canada a few weeks ago. The first page contains the Index, from which we find that such matters as "Best Varieties by Colour Sections," "Notes on Culture," "Gladiolus Diseases," and "The Present and Future Gladiolus," are some of those dealt with in its pages.

Dean Herbert, who was an enthusiastic cultivator of the gladiolus, wrote, in 1820: "I am persuaded that the African Gladioli will become great favourites with florists, when their beauty in the open border, the facility of their culture, and the endless variety which may be produced from seed by blending the several species, are fully known."

Notwithstanding that Dean Herbert wrote the above over a hundred years ago, the writer of this booklet states: "Improvement of the Gladiolus is only well begun and I confidently predict that the next few years will see such grace and refinement added to this popular flower as to rival the Iris and the Orchid in beauty of form and colour."

The best varieties list is a feature which will appeal not only to the novice, but also to the older gladiolus growers. It is well up to date and is arranged in no fewer then twenty-four colour sections. Then we have the general variety list, and here again we are helped in our selection for special purposes, such as Exhibition, Commercial, Garden or Landscape, the best in each section being given five marks: thus, we have the variety A. W. Hunt marked, for exhibition, 4; commercial, 5; and garden, 5. The gladiolus for landscape purposes may be said to be a very recent use, therefore we may quote from page 7: "These are of medium height, with small or medium flowers in bright or strong colours and with a long blooming period." The varieties receiving full marks in this section are Alice Tiplady, Anna Eberius, Butterboy, E. J. Shaylor, Golden Gleam, Mr. Mark, Orange Brilliant, Souvenir and Sulphur Glow.

The notes on gladiolus diseases are prefaced by the statement: "Gladiolus has been so little troubled by disease that growers have become careless and we now have, more or less infection as the result."

A full page of notes on culture brings this very useful list to an end, and it only remains to us to mention that it is from the pen of Professor J. W. Crow, Simcoe, Ontario, Canada.

HAVE YOU

¶ *Protected your tea roses with some light litter?*

¶ *Staked securely your newly planted trees and shrubs?*

¶ *Trained, pruned and nailed up all creepers on walls?*

¶ *Pruned your apricots and cherries?*

¶ *Cleared away the faded stalks of your late-flowering herbaceous perennials and given your border a dressing of bone meal at the rate of 4 oz. per square yard?*

¶ *Examined and cleaned out your land drains and soak-aways?*

¶ *Sprayed with caustic soda solution your moss-covered fruit trees?*

¶ *Applied a soil fumigant to soil infested with wireworm and leather jacket grubs?*

The Crossword Prize.

THE prize of Two Guineas offered to the reader who sent in the correct solution to THE GARDEN Crossword Puzzle No. 1, which appeared in our issue of November 13th, has been awarded to MRS. BOULTON, Chorleywood Lodge, Nr. Watford, Herts, whose solution was the first correct one to be opened, and to whom a cheque for that amount has been sent.

Digitized by Google

PLANNING AND PLANTING A SMALL BORDER

This border plan and the accompanying planting suggestions will be found suitable for a space such as may be found in many villa gardens throughout the country.

FOR some time I have been trying to puzzle out a more or less satisfactory method of planting the small border so often found in villa gardens.

It is comparatively easy to deal with a border 10ft. to 15ft. in width and 80ft. to 100ft. or 150ft. in length, because there is room for mass and colour planting, as well as a varied choice of material. But the restricted area of the villa border calls for an equally restricted scheme of planting, necessitating heart-rending sacrifices of fugacious favourites, if the ground is to be kept furnished for the summer season, and not entirely unsightly for the rest of the gardening year.

I have come to the conclusion that the main groupings in a border, roughly 8ft. by 40ft., must be of such plants as keep their character to a great extent all through the year, interspersed with those flowering subjects which hold their bloom for some weeks in succession; anything of a less lasting nature must be found a place elsewhere.

In the first class I include chiefly grey-leaved plants and shrubs, such as Santolina incana, pinks, helianthemum, Stachys lanata, Dwarf lavender (although this looks somewhat woe-begone in wet weather) and some of the artemisias: in the latter class, delphiniums (absolutely indispensable), Linum perenne, hollyhocks, Michaelmas daisies, Iris pallida, erigerons, anthemis, or Coreopsis verticillata, polyantha roses and a few annuals. Certain bulbs, such as Madonna lilies and May-flowering tulips, should certainly be included. All these plants and bulbs are hardy, will grow anywhere with the minimum of care, and are inexpensive: the only "doubtfuls" being the hollyhocks and the lilies, both more liable to disease than any of the others.

The accompanying planting plan gives an idea of the scheme: but where there are double borders the colouring in the second one could be varied by using different varieties of the flowering plants shown in No. 1, also by replacing some of the grey foliage by small specimens of carefully chosen gold privet and other herbs and plants with yellow leafage.

I regard Santolina incana as the most useful of the "backbone" plants. It is good-natured always—save for a very brief period when cut back in the spring—well furnished, thrifty, tidy, and oblivious to the vagaries of the weather in its personal appearance. Next to this I place Stachys lanata, although, like the dwarf lavenders, Munstead, Wargrave and Nana, it does not look absolutely happy in saturating rains: but it provides such velvety white leaf masses that it cannot be done without.

Both the silvery artemisias I know as A. Ludviciana and A. Palmeri are graceful need no introduction from my pen. The silver thyme is delightful in leaf, flower and fragrance.

The one helianthemum mentioned is Rodanthe, which makes a close mound of grey foliage smothered with large salmon pink flowers for several weeks in succession, and provides a welcome mass of this rather scarce colour. Iris pallida takes its place among these furnishing plants by virtue of its lovely orchid flowers and handsome, sword-like, lasting leaves.

The flowering groups are chiefly composed of the "daisy" type of plant, because no other family seems to bloom so profusely or continuously. Erigeron Quakeress and Anthemis E. C. Buxton remain in flower for nearly three months, while Linum perenne makes an excellent third, with the added merit of differing growth and blossom.

I could not bring myself to leave Lilium candidum out of any ground I had to plant, be it only a square yard or a million; but others may be harder-hearted and dispense in early leafage and later inflorescence: while Pink Her Majesty or Allwoodii Harold with this somewhat capricious beauty. The other bulbs I should tuck in wherever possible would be the Darwin tulips Clara Butt and Mrs. Moon, both charming in colour, long-lasting, accommodating and cheap.

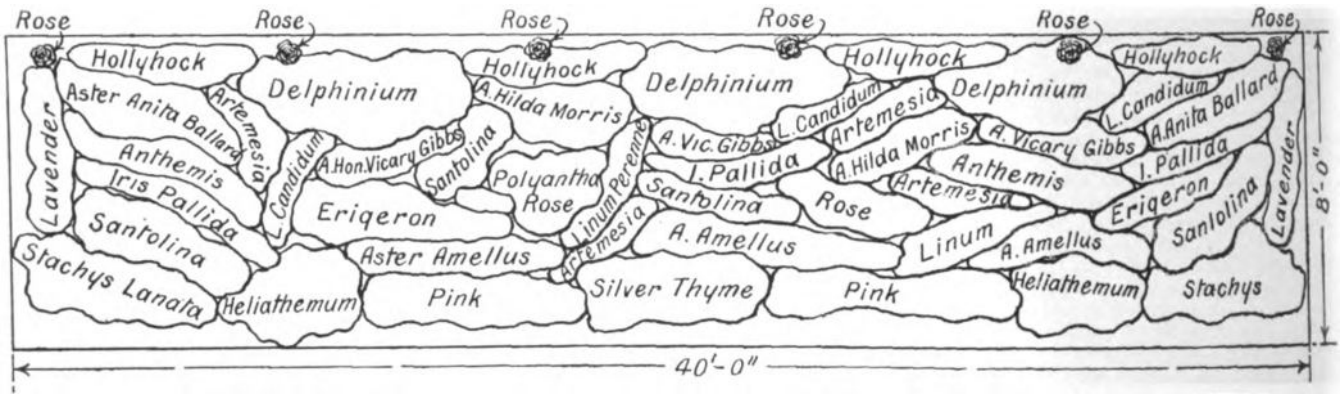
Among the taller subjects I have included clumps of hollyhocks, although here lies very possible disappointment owing to "rust": but it is worth while trying to persuade these stately beauties to grace the garden with their lovely frilly faces: and for late summer flowering those charming perennial asters, Anita Ballard and Hilda Morris (the latter not new, but most excellent).

Asters Amellus Beauty of Ronsdorf and King George are indispensable for second-row planting: they are compact, of medium height, and bear quantities of large mauve and purple daisy flowers. A. ericoides Hon. Vicary Gibbs should be planted in front of the delphiniums to cast its delicate mauve veil before their derelict remains.

I hesitate to name varieties of these self-same delphiniums. So much depends on personal inclination and depth of purse: but for myself, I think Willy O'Breen, Amos Perry and Smoke of War pleasant both to the eye and the pocket. If one is lucky enough to have a duplicate border waiting to be filled, well! there is an opportunity for wider choice lurking in every catalogue.

The rose pillars are of the nature of a problem, as the flowering period of the Wichuraiana and multiflora roses is too brief, and the pillar roses somewhat erratic in their climbing capacities. Climbing Mme. Abel Chatenay and Climbing Ophelia flower continuously with me, and so do the Dijon teas. Emily Gray is charming where it flourishes, and Mermaid might be tried in a congenial climate. The Garland rose is excellent and might be combined with Clematis Flammula. I should choose the polyantha roses Coral Cluster and Juliana for the beauty of their soft salmon colouring in the border itself.

I have mentioned annuals to fill the smaller gaps. Of these I should include a soft salmon antirrhinum, such as Rose Doré, the forget-me-not-like blue nemesia, the lemon African marigold and the pink and mauve annual scabious, according to the height required, and where they will best fit into the general colour scheme.



It will be noticed that the colour scheme is on the same restricted scale as the variety of plants: but there is no room in such a small space for flowers of red, bright yellow or purple colouring, although this entails the sacrifice of the many good plants bearing them.

C. E. A.

THE VARIEGATED ARABIS.

THE old form of Arabis albida, with downy leaves and bearing in spring and early summer such a profusion of white flowers as to be known familiarly as "Snow on the Mountain," has been so often recommended as suitable for a rock garden that one scarcely likes to utter a word of deprecation concerning it. This much can be said, however: that, unless it is kept strictly within bounds, it is apt to become more of a nuisance than otherwise, usurping space which of right belongs to choicer and better plants; but as a plant for draping a rough stone wall, it has, like the aubrietia, its uses. I have noticed those who commence planting a rock garden often plant the arabis as a first tenant, but after a time dispense with it; and the only conclusion I can come to is that its almost irrepressible habit has led to it being superseded. My experience of the variegated form of arabis is somewhat different, as I find it to be rather more compact of growth and not given to rambling to the same extent as the older sort, and I wonder whether I am alone in my surmise that it is more useful in a garden because of this? It makes a convenient edging for a border; may be used as a foreground for bulbs; strikes easily from cuttings after it has flowered, if inserted in sandy soil; and, what is equally important to be noted, I think, is "cheerful-looking" at all seasons, if I may use such a term, owing to its variegated foliage.—CLAREMONT.

Digitized by Google

SHRUBS FOR DRY BANKS

Many readers have dry banks in their gardens which they may have some difficulty in treating satisfactorily. In this article they will gain much information on what to plant where the soil is arid and watering a difficulty.

IT has been my lot for a good many years to deal with very dry, sloping ground and banks of poor soil. Owing to the contour of the land, trenching and manuring were practically impossible. The shrubs had to be put direct into the soil with a minimum of preparation, and watering was out of the question. Yet, a great measure of success has been attained, largely due to a selection of the right subjects.

The brooms and genistas all rank high as dry land subjects and with them the planter can scarcely go wrong, provided he takes due note of the sizes of the various species and selects according to the area of the space to be covered. Members of the Cytisus group which I have found most suitable where nothing very tall is desired, include the beautiful C. præcox, C. purgans, one of its parents, with flowers of a very rich yellow and deliciously fragrant; C. nigricans, for late blooming; the prostrate C. decumbens, C. Beani and C. kewensis. In taller kinds one may indulge his fancy to almost any extent in the various forms and hybrids of the C. scoparius set. C. albus, the white broom, is a singularly lovely species, easily raised from seed.

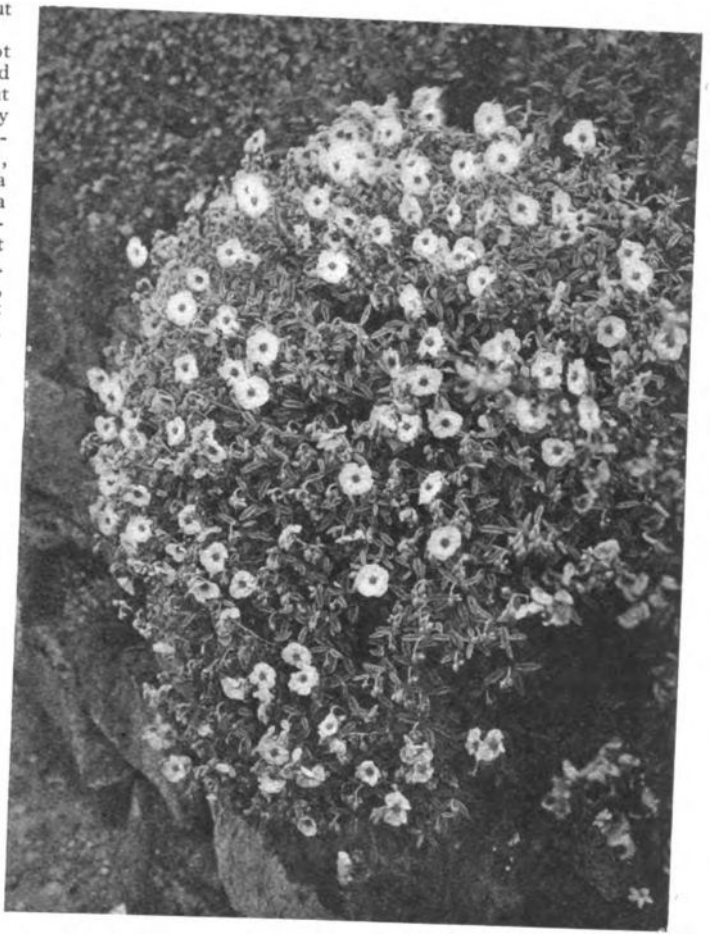
Genistas.

Genista cinerea and G. virgata are, perhaps, the best of the taller kinds in their genus, most elegant, silvery-leaved shrubs which are clouded with golden-yellow blossoms in early summer. G. tinctoria in all its forms is invaluable for late flowering, the dwarf, double-flowered variety being excellent for grouping with such more or less prostrate kinds as G. sagittalis, G. pilosa, G. hispanica (this is better than G. germanica), and others of which the lists are eloquent. Near to these come the double gorse, one of the most magnificent shrubs known for the purpose in view. Though all the above have a reputation for moving badly I never find any difficulty in planting from pots, in which they are usually supplied. As for the taller kinds, if these are put in fairly young, say 2ft. high, they will rarely fail if the main stem is cut back about half way at the time.

The heaths are not generally considered dry ground plants, but Erica cinerea certainly does well in most sun-burned, rocky places, and both Calluna vulgaris and E. carnea can be tried wheresoever conditions are not quite so severe. The first mentioned, notably such excellent varieties as E. c. rosea, atrosanguinea and the dwarf coccinea, I have established under most arid conditions, care being taken to plant deep (that is, well up to the foliage), and a little leaf-mould being put around the roots to give them a start. Where the slopes are steep these and other dwarf shrubs are planted in holes made more or less laterally, and if their first summer should be hot and dry some bracken or hedge brushings are strewn over them to help to retain moisture.

Rock and Sun Roses.

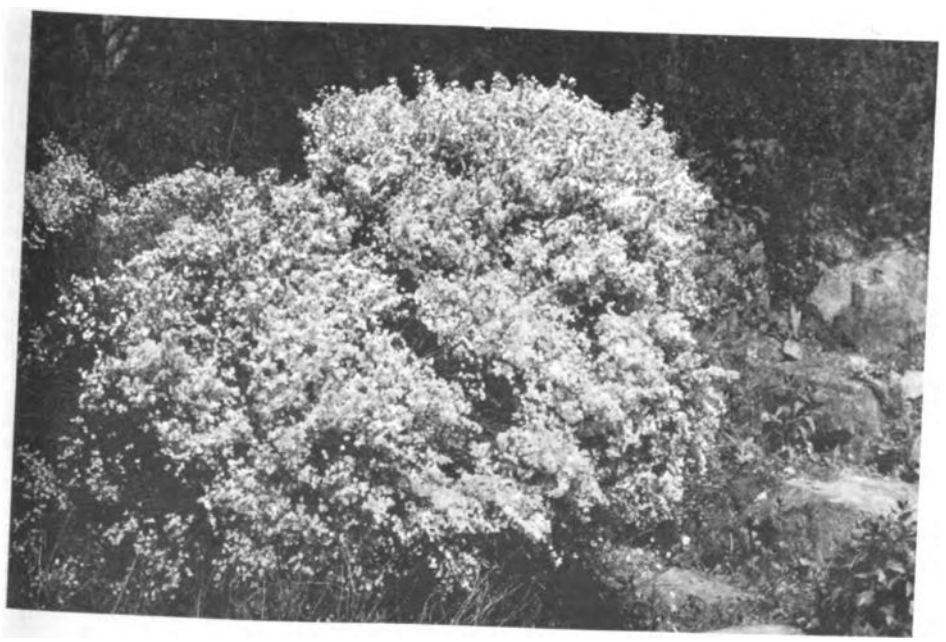
All the cistuses and helianthemums are good subjects for sun-beaten, thin soil, and those whose climate will allow them to grow these charming shrubs need not hesitate in making a wide choice. Of the former C. cyprius and C. Loreti are the hardiest and best of the medium-sized kinds and these are generally long-lived and vigorous. Then come the lavenders and rosemary.



SUN ROSES ARE INVALUABLE FOR DRY BANKS.

Whether associated with the bell-heather, the lesser brooms or anything else of kindred nature, there can be nothing lovelier on a sunny, hot slope than the Burnet roses (Rosa spinosissima). These include the Scotch roses in various colours, the little bronzy type species with fragrant cream or pink flowers, var. lutea which grows to 3ft. and bears large blooms of a full-toned yellow and others. R. alpina, with pea-green foliage, thornless branches and crimson blossoms, is also a most useful and engaging little rose of 3ft. to 4ft. for the present purpose. Nor can we omit our own sweet briar, and where something bigger is desired, the Ramanas roses (R. rugosa) will prove very amenable even in exceedingly dry and sandy, or rocky, conditions. Associated with these last, Spartium junceum is a well tried, fine old shrub of the utmost reliability in the driest of places, especially if planted as seedlings and cut half way back when about 2ft. high. The trailing roses of the Wichuraiana class are excellent for covering banks, many of them retaining the prostrate habit of the type,

All the more or less procumbent cotoneasters, especially C. congesta, C. humifusa, C. adpressa and the flat growing forms of C. horizontalis, are admirable subjects for steep banks of dry, poor soils. They grow fast and in addition to their natural beauty of form and foliage, afford striking autumn tints of berry and leaf. A. T. JOHNSON.



CYTISUS PURGANS, A WEALTH OF SWEETLY SCENTED GOLDEN FLOWERS.

Digitized by Google

IN THE GREENHOUSE

Roof Plants in Conservatories.

I DARESAY that many readers of THE GARDEN will have noticed how plants were growing under the glass roofs of conservatories when visiting their friends. Quite 90 per cent. are allowed to cover the whole of that portion of the roof allotted to them. It is too true that roof plants are so treated—to their own detriment as well as the plants growing in the body of the structure. The reason is natural growth, and lack of formal training. But there must be a certain amount of formal training in a confined space when we are dealing with large-growing kinds of plants. Much the best plan is to train the main stems at so many feet apart to strong wires or rods and to allow the small, or side, lateral shoots some freedom, which takes away any formal appearance as a whole. The system is somewhat similar to that of grape vine training. Climbers so treated generally thrive well and also the plants growing under them—light and shade being well balanced. There is no better time than the present for making arrangements for the furnishing of the roofs of conservatories, and these hints should be borne in mind by the inexperienced when carrying out the work. Afterwards, when it is necessary to prune, tie or clean the climbers, their proper arrangement will enable the owner to attend to all the details easily, and the work will be a pleasure rather than an irksome duty. New plants should be planted in good fibrous loam, this forming the bulk of the compost. A small proportion of leaf-soil will be suitable for the majority of these plants and peat for a few. The following are lovely roof plants: jasminum, Bougainvillea glabra, plumbago (white and blue), heliotrope, tacsonia (passion flower), Lapagerias rosea and alba, Cobæa scandens and the variegated variety.—G. G.

Forcing Azaleas and Rhododendrons.

WELL grown plants bear many flowers and they have a charming effect in a conservatory or greenhouse during the early spring months. By well grown plants I mean those specimens that have been grown in pots at least one year. Azalea mollis, and also A. indica, may be potted and forced at once, but the plants, afterwards, owing to the undue strain put upon them, take a long time to regain their normal condition. The plants, prior to being subjected to heat, are usually kept on a bed of ashes, outside, with ashes tightly packed between the pots to prevent the latter and the roots inside them being unduly frozen. When first introduced to a forcing temperature the latter should be a mild one—about 55 to 60 degrees. Indeed, only in exceptional cases is it necessary to have a much higher temperature. An ideal temperature and atmosphere will be found in a newly started vinery. But all growers of these flowers do not possess a vinery. First, be sure that the drainage is free and the ball of soil thoroughly moistened through with clear water. Clear water is the safest to apply till the flowers have faded. It should be remembered that the new shoots of these plants appear as the buds develop and finish their growth, almost by midsummer. Established plants should be repotted, if they need it, soon after the flowers have faded, so that they can be syringed and treated under glass till they are removed to frames and then the open air again late in June. The next batch of flower buds form from the latter date on suitable shoots.—HANTS.

Winter Treatment of Perpetual Carnations.

OUT of much tribulation have the growers in northern districts learned that the perpetual tree carnation can only be grown successfully by striking the cuttings in early autumn. Winter cuttings, by reason of their surroundings, become etiolated and lack the robust ripeness that a cutting capable of making a good plant should have, and are a bother and a disappointment from first to last.

The cuttings put in by late September should now be sufficiently well rooted to require their first potting. There are various opinions expressed regarding a suitable soil for this potting; and a visit to some of the most eminent growers does not enlighten us much, as there we find them using a composition consisting of the residue from large fires in which a considerable quantity of soil would be burnt.

The efficacy of this medium is beyond question, but we do not all have it at hand. Fortunately, something quite simple has been found to give good results. This consists of equal parts of the best loam procurable, sharp sand, and leaf-mould with a dash of old lime rubble and all in a finely divided state. I still recommend leaf-mould, despite the oft-reiterated warnings that this addition is anathema to carnations.

For the first potting use clean 2½in. diameter pots; lightly work in the mixture, taking especial care that the plant is not set too deeply in the pot. Place the plants on a shelf near the glass in a warm house, watering carefully until roots appear through the new compost. In from four to five weeks roots make their appearance, and preparations should be made for repotting as the plants are not favoured by being too long in the heated structure.

In this case, 3½in. diameter pots will be found a suitable size, affording just sufficient room for new soil to keep the roots moderately active for the winter months. Yet it is not enough to retain a superabundance of water and induce a water-logged condition of the soil. The soil mixture for use in this potting contains the same ingredients as last, with the proviso of more loam and less leaf-mould, with the materials in a rougher state after mixing. The necessity of good drainage is too obvious to be insisted on; while firm potting is essential, supporting each plant with a neat stake.

The situation is again a shelf near the glass, a temporary fixture in the carnation house, where the plants make a slow and sturdy growth; and as a preventive of ills, give a light dusting of 2 parts sulphur to 1 part lime.

Early in the New Year the plants will be from 6ins. to 8ins. high, when the points should be nipped clean out to induce the plants to "break." Pinching at this height will usually supply enough side growths to form a good plant and, apart from adventitious flowering shoots, little more pinching is necessary.

Repotting as required into larger pots and gradually acclimatising the plants to out-of-door conditions as the season advances, with only overhead protection, and staking when needed, are routine work.

It is important to remember that the judicious use or otherwise of the watering can, especially at this season, will determine the ultimate fate of the plants for good or ill. The fibrous root system developed under semi-dry conditions: the narrow, sharp-pointed, rather succulent leaves with a smooth, waxy surface, capable of restricting transpiration, all point to the necessity of careful watering in the cultivation of these desirable flowers.—WM. MCCARRELL.

BOUGAINVILLEA GLABRA, A MOST VALUABLE AND DECORATIVE GREENHOUSE CLIMBER.

Primroses in Pots.

ALTHOUGH one would not wish to lift primrose roots from beds or borders, where they have been planted to give a spring effect, it is a good plan to pot up any roots which can be spared. These, if lifted with care during November, can be relied upon to break into flower in mid-winter and give a welcome promise of brighter days to come. The roots selected should be as sturdy as possible and these require somewhat careful potting in a soil of good quality. Pay special attention to the matter of drainage as, although primroses like plenty of moisture, they are impatient of a water-logged soil. Of course the roots may be kept in a cold greenhouse, but much better results are secured if the plants can have a little warmth. A position in a declining hot bed stimulates a free growth and, in such conditions, flowers and foliage are freely produced. In growing these early primroses, free ventilation is important, as, when the atmosphere is stagnant, there is a great danger of the blooms damping off. This plan is well worth adopting with the ordinary primrose, but the coloured forms and the polyanthus varieties will be found to be just as amenable to the treatment.—S. L. BASTIN.

Digitized by Google

FLOWER GARDEN NOTES

Some Fritillarias.

THERE is something peculiarly fascinating in these quaint and decidedly pretty plants, and it is a matter for regret that representative collections are not more numerous; for the many and varied species are, for the most part, accommodating plants and capable of creating interesting and very beautiful effects in the rock garden and woodland. The Crown Imperial (F. Imperialis) and the indigenous F. Meleagris are two well known and well loved plants and should stimulate an interest in their congeners from California, eastern Europe and Asia, and one of the most lovely is F. pudica, a lovely plant but 6ins. to 9ins. high and bearing, usually, a solitary, but occasionally twin, bell of clear bright yellow, a plant of unusual interest and beauty and worthy of a conspicuous station in the rock garden.

F. recurva, from California, sometimes proves a little fastidious and prefers a hot and dry position in a sheltered spot; many will prefer to grow the easier F. coccinea, of the same bright red colouring as recurva and, indeed, a delightful plant.

F. pyrenaica, from the Pyrenees, has plum-coloured bells, reflexed, the inside of olive green, and it is, moreover, of the easiest cultivation in border or rockery, where, also, its quaint companion, F. ruthenica, with drooping bells of almost black, will be quite at home. Other quaint and somewhat sinister species are F. camchatcensis, with pyramidal spikes of purplish black flowers, from eastern Siberia; F. lanceolata, dull purple, from north-west America; F. glauca, with broad greenish white bells from California; and F. Thunbergii, with greenish and pale bells purple, from China and Japan.

F. pallidiflora is a noble plant, varying in height from 9ins. to 2ft., according to the conditions under which it grows; it enjoys a half-shaded situation, with a soil rich in humus, and in early spring its large yellow flowers, beautifully chequered inside, are a garden delight and should long ago have obtained for this plant greater popularity than it has hitherto enjoyed.

F. aurea, with black and yellow flowers, is a fine and pretty plant and is easily managed; a dwarf plant from Cilicia. Very quaint is the sombre F. acmopetala, from Asia Minor, with drooping bells of purple and green on stems rather more than a foot in height; it is a good plants for border or rockery.

There are many more species and varietal forms of these charming plants, and all who grow some of them crave for more, as the fascination and charm with which most bulbous plants are pregnant are especially strong in these unique, quaint and withal very beautiful subjects. For the rock garden, thin woodland or the border of choice bulbs and plants, they are ideal, and the greater part of them are exceedingly happy under pot culture, and, so grown, are interesting and lovely adornments of the cool glasshouse during the days of early spring.—RALPH E. ARNOLD.

THE FAVOURITE SNAKESHEAD FRITILLARY.

CROWN IMPERIALS SHOULD BE GROWN IN EVERY GARDEN.

A Hardy Cyclamen.

NESTLING in a little recess with boulders perpendicularly built up behind the bed to ward off biting winds, Cyclamen cilicicum is in good form, and shows buds enough to ensure continuation of bloom for several weeks to come. The whiteness of its petals is enhanced by the rich purple of the base of the flower, and the foliage, too, just gives the foundation over which the flowers show up to fine effect. Sometimes one hears complaints that the cyclamen are too difficult, but under fair treatment they will thrive and increase in effectiveness year by year. Too often the start is made with imported corms of uncertain age, collected and buffeted about until dried to the extreme, and when such corms are planted in soil which holds a deal of moisture, it is small wonder they fail.

Infinitely better would it be to start with a few pot roots which have been properly grown in a British nursery, and with such stock the only further need is to provide good drainage, some old lime rubble, a good turfy loam and a little fibrous peat. During the flowering period the soil may, with advantage, be covered with half an inch of coconut fibre, but when the last of the flowers has faded a couple of inches of loose, flakey oak-leaf mould may be spread over the entire bed, covering the corms as well as the soil.

When once a stock of cyclamen has been established it will be plain sailing to produce fresh stock, for one needs but to watch the ripening of the seed pods and sow seeds immediately they are thoroughly ripened to ensure success.

Crock pots to the half-way line, covering the crocks with the fibre of peat siftings.

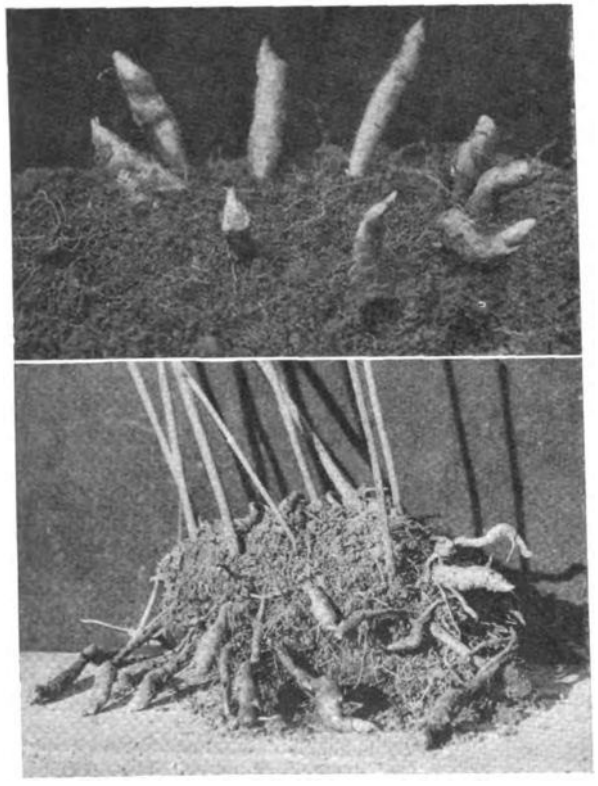
Digitized by Google

Use a compost of equal parts sifted loam and peat, with sharp sand and charcoal to keep it open. Scald the soil with boiling water after filling the pots, and sow the seeds next day, covering a little more than a quarter-inch with a similar compost. A cool house is best for germinating the seed, but a frame, kept close, will be satisfactory. When the seedlings make second leaves pot them off in thumb pots, using similar compost to that advised for seed sowing. Plant out when growing nicely and thenceforward leave the roots undisturbed.

Although generally recommended for rock work, the cyclamen are very suitable companions for wood anemones, around the roots of trees.

Keeping Perennial Sunflowers in Check.

THOSE who grow the perennial sunflowers know well their trespassing character and the great difficulty there is in keeping the plants within bounds of the space allotted to them.



A CLUMP OF TUBERS AS REMOVED FROM THE SOIL AND REPLANTED SEPARATELY AFTER DIVISION.

One may dig around the plants, for instance, and in doing so cut off one of the tubers; this may be unnoticed until a new plant is seen growing in a spot where it is least wanted—for every bit of tuber will grow into a new plant. Again, attempts may be made to divide the clump of roots, or even remove it from the ground entirely, but sure enough a little piece will be left behind to assert itself later on, or be carried or dropped upon another part of the garden, where it will soon establish a vigorous colony of rambling roots.

Such a plant needs a special system of culture. Left to itself for one season only, one clump of tubers would take possession of several square feet of ground, and in time the sunflowers would dominate the whole garden. A study of the illustration showing a clump removed from the ground will demonstrate its powers of increase, for each tuber, small and great, will form a root system of its own after travelling a considerable distance underground.

The best way to check its activities is to remove the clump from the ground each year as soon as flowering is over and the stems begin to wither; in doing so, every vestige of root and tuber must be taken out, and the soil deeply dug. Then all the largest tubers should be pulled from the mass of roots, and the remainder thrown upon the rubbish heap to be burnt.

The tubers should be replanted a few inches below the surface of the ground. The number used depends upon the size the new clump is to be. Each tuber will send up a stem, so it is easy to judge the eventual effect.

A neat group can be made by planting the tubers in a circle, with a stout stake in the centre to which the stems may be secured later on, and which will, therefore, grow up straight.

The result of this treatment is very tall stems and large flowers, so useful for cutting in the late autumn, because of selection of the best tubers each year; and there is no annoying trespassing upon the space occupied by other flowers in the border.—H. A. D.

The Variegated Monkshood.

SOME years ago it was decreed by those who govern nomenclature of plants by incessantly altering the names of old favourites that what we had long called AconitumNapellus bicolor should be called Aconitum variegatum. It is not a happily chosen name, because "variegatum" causes one instantly to think of variegated foliage. This plant has normal green foliage, but blue and white flowers, and bicolor is the recognised appellation for flowers which partake about equally of two distinct colours. The old name sticks to this plant, and is the best name. The fact that it reproduces itself true from seed may indicate that it is not a mere form or variety of Aconitum Napellus, but it could still be called A. bicolor.

Whatever its name, it is a really good plant, and the way to see it at its best is to divide and plant single crowns about a foot apart in groups of anything from half a dozen to a score of pieces. Provide a well nourished, porous soil, and give an annual summer mulch of some littery manure. Repeat the division before the plants become crowded.

A Yellow-flowered Peony.

YELLOW is not frequent in the peony tribe, but Pæonia Wittmanniana is a particularly pleasing flower with clear, clean-looking, sulphur yellow blossoms on plants of comparatively dwarf stature.

It is worthy of inclusion in the most select collections, and is also one that may well form a prominent feature of herbaceous borders even where no other peony is grown. It is essential, as with the rest of the tribe, to select a spot where the plants may be left undisturbed for a period of several years, for that is the secret of securing satisfactory results where a plant may not produce a good bloom until it has completed a couple of seasons' growth. With its handsome foliage which can be made to act as a protection to numerous half hardy subjects, and its decorative flowers it is a plant to grow.

CUT FLOWERS IN WINTER

CUT flowers are doubly welcome in the house during the dull days of winter, and as blossoms are somewhat scarce at this season it pays to take care of those one does secure. Here are a few hints, all of which have been proved to be very useful in making cut blooms retain their freshness for as long as possible.

Up to Christmas, chrysanthemums are largely used, and one very important point is to see that the stalks actually under water are stripped of foliage. If the leaves are allowed to remain they will have a souring effect on the water, which will make the flowers fade quickly. With chrysanthemums, and all flowers with somewhat woody stalks, it is a good plan to pare away the rind for an inch or so at the bottom of the stem. Flowers with more or less succulent stems, as is the case with so many of the forced bulb blooms, should always have their stalks cut on the slant. When the stalks are cut straight across, as is usually done, this part rests closely on the bottom of the vase, and it is most difficult for the flower to draw up enough moisture to keep it going.

How to Treat Flowers on Arrival.

It is a very great mistake to arrange flowers in vases straight away. They will last much longer if, before being introduced into a warm room, they are placed in jars of water which are stood in a cool place. Many people recommend that the water in the vases should be changed each day, and this is really a good plan. The flowers seem to benefit by the re-arrangement, for then any faded ones can be removed. It is always a bad thing to leave a fading flower in a vase, as this will quickly have an effect on the others. Undoubtedly, the addition of certain substances to the water in which the flowers are placed helps the absorption of moisture. Even a pinch of salt is better than nothing, and flowers are found to last a surprisingly long time if a tiny lump of camphor is put into each vase.

Cut flowers in a room should never be allowed to stand in direct sunshine. This will cause them to wilt more quickly than anything else. Blossoms also fade quickly when kept on mantelshelves or in positions near to the fireplace. If it is desired to have vases of flowers in these situations, do not leave them there for more than a few hours at a time, afterwards giving them spells in other parts of the room. At the end of the day it is an excellent plan to remove all the vases from the rooms and group them in a cool place, such as on a scullery floor.

Reviving Wilted Blooms.

When flowers are abundant in the summer one hardly troubles about reviving those that are wilted. In the winter blossoms are so precious that they should never be thrown away until it is quite certain that there is no hope of their picking up. The hot-water treatment will usually give surprising results in the case of flowers that show signs of fading. Into a bowl pour scalding hot water to the depth of about an inch. Cut a tiny section from the ends of the stalks, and then put into the hot water. Remove the bowl to a cool, dark place and leave for a few hours. The blossoms will now seem to have taken on a new lease of life, and in many cases they will be almost as good as when they were fresh. The part of the stalk that was actually in the water will be pulpy, and this should be cut away before the blossoms are put into the vases once more.

LEONARD BASTIN.

Digitized by Google

GARDENING WITHOUT A GARDENER

Phloxes and Pyrethrums for Every Garden.

THESE handsome perennials thrive well in almost any soil, provided the site is deeply dug and well manured previous to planting. They are both excellent plants for a herbaceous border and are capable of giving a wealth of bloom. The gaily coloured daisy-like flowers of the pyrethrum are produced during early summer; the early varieties of herbaceous phloxes come into flower in July, and the late varieties continue until September. The following is a short list of some of the brightest and best:

PHLOXES.

ANTONIN MERCIE.—*Mauve with a creamy white eye.*
BARON VON DEDEM.—*Brilliant orange scarlet.*
DEUTSCHLAND.—*Large truss of vivid orange red.*
ELIZABETH CAMPBELL.—*Soft salmon pink with a white centre.*
FRAU ANT. BUCHNER.—*Pure white, large truss.*
JOSEPHINE GERBEAUX.—*Cherry red, edged white.*
LA NEIGE.—*Pure white.*
LE MAHDI.—*Dark purple violet.*
MRS. M. VAN HOBOKEN.—*Soft self pink.*
MRS. RUTGERS.—*Light rosy lilac with lighter eye; enormous truss.*
WILLIAM RAMSEY.—*Deep glowing purple, late flowering.*

PYRETHRUMS.

BEATRICE KELWAY.—*Cherry rose, single.*
HAMLET.—*Soft pink, single.*
J. N. TWERDY.—*Crimson tipped golden yellow, double.*
LA NEIGE.—*White with a pale mauve centre, double.*
LANGPORT SCARLET.—*Brilliant scarlet, single.*
QUEEN MARY.—*Clear pink, double, fine for cutting.*

A Decorative St. John's Wort.

AMONG the dwarf hypericums suitable for the rock garden and retaining walls, H. polyphyllum is certainly the best and the most reliable. It has much the same habit as H. olympicum, but is smaller and more compact in growth. The glaucous opposite leaves are on semi-prostrate stems 5ins. to 8ins. in length, and the bright golden yellow flowers are about the size of a half-crown. These are produced in clusters of two or three at the end of the shoots, and the prominent golden stamens are not the least attractive part of the blossoms. A specimen with fifty or more flowers opening at the same time in June is a remarkable and wonderful sight, for this delightful St. John's wort is very floriferous.

The subject of this note is not particular in regard to position, providing it is given a light and sunny spot. A crevice or fissure would be excellent, or a chink where the graceful shoots could spread over a rock or stone, while in a wall it would be seen to advantage. It will thrive in any well drained soil, and a heavy rooting medium can be improved by adding old mortar rubble, grit or stone chippings. Young growths made into cuttings will readily form roots during August and September if placed in sandy soil and set in a cold frame. In two years they make nice flowering specimens. —T. W. B.

The Common Rest-Harrow.

A WELL known seaside plant in many places is Ononis fruticosa, and some few people may be found who grow it in their gardens. But, wherever it has been tried, the allied but very distinct O. rotundifolia, the round-leaved rest-harrow, is greatly appreciated for its beauty and distinctness. It has to be admitted, however, that it is not quite so hardy as we should like, and that, in severe winters, it may be killed. Happily, it is easily raised from seeds, and self-sown seedlings often spring up near the old plants and stand the winter much better than they. O. fruticosa loves a dry soil and a sunny position. It grows from 12ins. to 18ins. high and has very pretty rounded leaves and rose pink vetch-like flowers. This ononis is truly a charming though not a showy plant, deserving to be considered fully in adding more hardy flowers to the rock garden. It may be easily raised from seeds or propagated by cuttings.

Daphne Mezereum.

A valuable early-flowering shrub for small gardens.

ALL flowers that reveal their beauty at the beginning of the year are welcome, but none more so than those which bring in their train perfume. Among dwarf hardy flowering shrubs which belong to this precious order, the daphnes are not the least valued. The most popular is D. Mezereum, which seldom exceeds more than 3ft. in height, its closely studded buds on erect shoots, broadening into rich purple, before the end of January in mild winters. The blossoms precede the time of the opening of leaves, and I think the fragrance of this old favourite accounts for it being found in many gardens. It does well in town and suburban gardens too, and it is well understood that, if only the sprays of buds are taken into the warmth of a room and placed in water, they, like the winter jasmine, soon open. The culture of this daphne is not at all difficult, otherwise we should not find it growing in so many different localities throughout the country. To ensure its success, however, it ought to be given the advantage of a rich, deep and, above all, a well drained soil, and an open situation, away from overhanging trees. During the heat of summer, when other things in flower claim our time, daphnes are liable to suffer from dryness at the roots; but those who can picture in their mind's eye a garden in winter, with its bareness, will see to Daphne Mezereum does not lack fo as to endanger its chance of bringing bri in January, when one may expect to loo flowers appearing, and be full of co the weeks which succeed. It need or no pruning of any account.

Dahlias and Tulips in Alter Displays.

NOW that the frost has brought the fl of the dahlias to a sudden e another season, there should be as litt as possible in lifting the tubers an drying, storing them in a dry, fro place. If this job is left over inde apart from the risk of a sudden seve damaging the tubers themselves, if t left in the ground much later, the s tend to become more sodden as days thus making the lifting and drying difficult and messy business than if i in hand at once.

The soil in which my dahlias are g

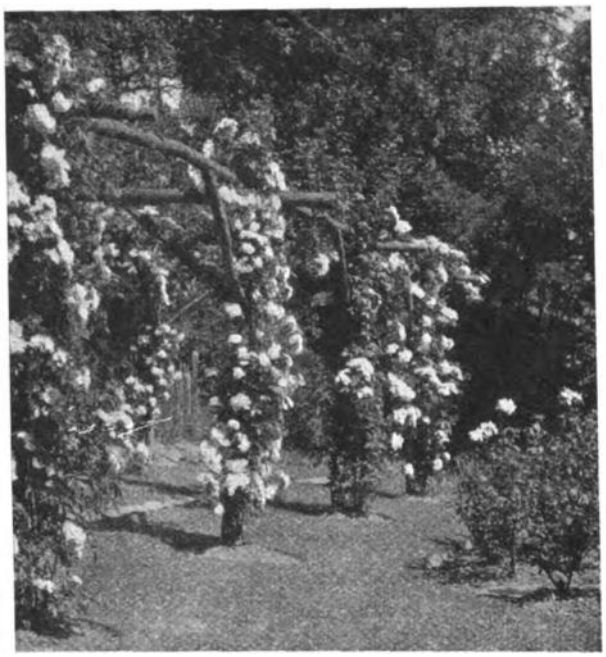
A BOLD CLUMP OF THE DWARF WHITE PHLOX LA NEIGE.

a heavy loam, which is decidedly un to work after a few days rain. I hav that by using plenty of lime at the planting—both when the dahlia is pla afterwards, spread round the colla plant—the tubers come up very muc and drier than otherwise would be t Incidentally the lime checks the depr of slugs.

One large formal bed surrounded paving was filled with dahlias of the n peony type; most of the varieties of are particularly decorative in growth suitable for the purpose indicated. N the dahlias are removed the ground dug over, rotten manure, lime a ashes incorporated therewith, and th bed prepared for planting with Darwi In this particular bed, dahlias and tul alternated in this way for the last fe and the results have been particular fying. The soil has plenty of heart addition of manure and ashes, with the lime, above mentioned, is in maintaining good displays of each —H. H. C.

Digitized by Google

CLIMBING ROSES ARE ADMIRABLY S



CLOTHE A WOODEN PERGOLA AND MAKE A MOST EFFECT THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER.

Many readers, though they a ramblers, may experience difficul may be shown off to the be two pages will be found a li suitable for almost every gar able plants there need be no f remain unclothed for long, a that a good show of flowers first season and this will incre If the various classes are ramblers, wichuraianas, climbi noisettes, the flowering season until well on into the autumn for a few of these charming

DRAPING A BRICK PILLAR.

RAMBLERS WILL TRANSFORM AN OLD WORN OUT APPLE

Digitized by Google

E ADMIRABLY SUITED FOR PERGOLA OR PILLAR

lmire climbing roses and
lty in deciding how they
advantage. On these
w suggestions which are
n. With these invalu-
r that pillars or pergolas
they grow so rapidly
ll be produced even the
se in quantity each year.
own, such as multiflora
hybrid teas and climbing
ll be from early summer
Surely there is room
plants in your garden.

ANOTHER METHOD OF TRAINING RAMBLERS IS UP POST AND LOW CHAINS ALONG WHICH THE ROSES FIND

OR PEAR TREE WITH THEIR CLUSTERS OF BLOSSOM.

A WEEPING STANDARD IN THE CO

Some of th

THE
well r
as reg
a heav
not re
trench
next
soils t
dressi
manu
In the
necess
crop.
stated
good t
seeds
those
finally
work t
When
soil ac
trench
soil, b
top mi
dressir
soil fo
in a r
not be
want
freely.
have
all the
if som
to Ch
a plea
plants
the su
never
soil wi
time.—

Club

IT is
dis
and-to
when
are pu
any bu
cabbag
weeds,
The a
the so
infecte
root, l
ing th
Amate
and w
reject
roots,
Even
a very
manne
slaked
sufficie
the ro
leave t
out in
Soil
remov
plants
a very
those
always
merely
fact th
by all
these
all ov
proced
and ro
stump
The
happie

Digitized by Google

THE FRUIT AND KITCHEN GARDEN

Use peat oper fillin cove with best kept seed in that grov root

A wor pani of tr

Kee in

TH and

Hints on the Treatment

e Onion Bed.

cultivator who has to deal with a light, andy soil, can grow early, small and pened bulbs, but he cannot compete, rds size, with the one who possesses y or clayey loam. The sandy soil does tain nutriment long and beyond being ed now, should not be treated, before March, for the year's crop. In such he best way to feed is to apply surface gs and surface feeding with liquid e from June to the end of August. case of heavy soils some extra work is ry in preparing them for next year's Although such are the best soils, as above, they must be attended to in ime and made ready for the reception of or plants in spring. The plants are mainly raised in boxes under glass and transplanted in April. It is unwise to he soil while it is in a wet, sticky state. it can be manipulated without much hering to the tools, get the ground ed quite 3ft. deep, break up the sub- ut leave it below, and from bottom to x manure with the soil; also a liberal g of wood ashes and burnt soil. The rming the top 1ft. layer should be left ough state, that is, the lumps should broken; avoid a close surface as we he air, frosts and rains to penetrate Ground treated in this way may not neat appearance, but in the spring umps will crumble to powder, especially e lime has been scattered on it prior ristmas. The cultivator will find it sure to prepare the surface for young or for seeds. The time to deal with face soil is when drying winds prevail, on a day following a night frost or the ll retain its pasty condition for a long G. G.

Root or Finger-and-Toe."

a fact that the troublesome fungoid ease known as club root or finger- e, is often introduced into the garden ots of wallflowers, cabbage plants, etc., rchased. This trouble never affects t cruciferous plants, such as the turnip, e, wallflowers and certain common like charlock and shepherd's purse. pores, which can remain dormant in l for many years, are carried about by d roots or soil. Just one affected ft in the soil, is quite capable of spread- e disease throughout a whole plot.

A CL ur gardeners who buy their cabbages allflowers in small lots, should always any specimen which, by the malformed shows signs of having the disease. the If the plants appear to be healthy, it is to t wise plan to treat them in the following Our. Mix in a pail a handful each of and lime, soot and soil, finally adding this nt water to make a creamy paste. Stir seeots of the plants round in this and even wan them in it for a little while before setting into the soil.

mad from which infected plants have been remed ought not to grow any cruciferous sure for three or four years at least. Keep to a sharp look out for weeds, especially drop a cruciferous nature. These should whe be pulled up and burned and not of r left to rot away. As a matter of Sue risk of infection is greatly increased cultowing the roots to decay as, when one dry, the spores of the fungus are spread of ser the place. It is a very harmful the ure to allow cabbage plants to remain gard in the ground, as even a few decaying a ck may infect wide areas of soil.

dem fungus which causes the trouble is tubest in an acid soil and, on this account, fresh organic manure and certain acid artificials should not be used where club root is feared. Lime may be freely employed, for this is one of the best antidotes to acidity and therefore is likely to prevent the spread of finger-and-toe trouble. It is a good plan to dress soil with gas lime immediately after removing the crop. When the pest is known to be present the ground infested should be dressed at the rate of about 3lb. of quicklime to each square yard. Soils naturally rich in lime are almost invariably free from the fungus that causes club root.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

Forcing Rhubarb Out of Doors.

AN easy and most convenient method of forcing rhubarb in the permanent beds is here illustrated. Some stout stakes—bean poles, or wood cut from the hedge or lopped from trees—are inserted in the ground around the rhubarb root or roots, forming

AN ECOMONICAL METHOD OF FORCING RHUBARB.

a circle. Around this palisade is then massed rotted manure and leaves, and over this any leafy material from the garden—grass cuttings, weed refuse, etc. The rhubarb is thus enclosed in a hot-bed, which may be piled up as high as the stakes will accommodate it, and the shoots soon respond to the warmth. As the weather gets very cold a mat or other protection may be thrown over the top of the stakes, especially when heavy rainfall or snow occurs.

Early rhubarb may also be obtained without the use of manure, which is, nowadays, a precious material. A mixture of leaves, grass and other light vegetable refuse could be similarly piled up against the stakes, which, if it does not generate heat, will form a very warm protection and induce an early crop of welcome "sticks."—H. A. D.

Protecting Late Cauliflowers.

PROBABLY the actual foliage of a cauliflower is not more likely to be damaged by frost than that of any other of the cabbage tribe. When sharp weather comes it is the white "flower" that suffers, and this may be so affected that it turns brown and finally rots away. Towards the end of November, at the latest, the grower should certainly take steps to protect any cauliflower that may still remain. The old-fashioned plan of breaking a few of the leaves a little so that these cluster over the centre of the plant fails to an extent because it does not prevent the moisture reaching the curd, as the white part is properly called. The curd always suffers much more from frost if it happens to be wet when the temperature falls below freezing point. A far better way is to gather the outer leaves of the plant together and then tie securely towards the top so that a regular canopy is formed over the heart of the cauliflower. This tying up should always be done when the curd is dry. Of course, where it is wished to clear the ground on which the cauliflowers have completed their growth, they may be lifted. Get them right up with a fork by the roots and then hang head downwards in any dark cool place. Here they will remain in good condition for quite a long while, though they should be used as soon as the leaves show signs of turning yellow.—L. B.

Winter Pruning the Bush Apple.

WINTER pruning may commence at any time after the leaves have fallen in autumn, but it is best to avoid pruning in the dead of winter, and if it has been found impossible to prune in late autumn or early winter it is best left until the middle of winter is passed.

The object of pruning a bearing tree is to help it to produce a good set of fruit in the immediate season and induce the formation of an ample number of fruit buds for the following season's crop.

First remove dead branches and branches which are rubbing or crossing. It is also desirable to remove branches which are diseased, *e.g.*, cankered, provided that the amount of cutting required is not excessive. Where a lot of cutting is necessary it is best to perform this operation in several years, removing one branch each year and training in new growths to fill in the space.

The branches should be sawn off as near the main limb as possible and the cut smoothed over with a sharp knife close to the limb and the wound dressed with some preparation such as Stockholm tar. This enables the wound to heal quickly and prevents the entry of fungus spores.

The next step is the removal of shoots or branches whose presence is undesirable owing to their position, to admit light and air to the centre of the bush.

For the purposes of pruning we may recognise three types of growth:

(1) *Leaders.*—One year old wood which forms the leading shoots of the main branches of the bush.

(2) *Laterals.*—One year old wood springing from axillary buds on spurs or branches.

(3) *Spurs.*—Condensed shoots of varying age upon which most of the fruit is borne.

The ideal bush is one that has all its branches well furnished with spurs, yet is vigorous enough to produce shoots for further growth.

The greater the vigour of the tree the less severe the cutting, as hard pruning vigorous shoots tends to produce the development of fresh shoot growth.

Leaders of the more vigorous-growing varieties, such as Bramley's Seedling, Newtown Wonder, etc., should have a few inches at the tip removed; moderate growers, as Cox's Orange Pippin, Worcester Pearmain, etc., should be reduced one-third; while weak growers, such as Lane's Prince Albert, may be shortened one-half. Always cut the leaders to an outside bud, unless the natural habit of the variety is spreading, *e.g.*, Lane's, when the cut should be made to a bud pointing inward. The cut should

Digitized by Google

be a sloping one, commencing from the side opposite the bud and about a quarter of an inch above it, cutting upwards. Lateral growths of less than 5ins. should remain unpruned, and in some cases—*e.g.*, Worcester Pearmain, where fruit is often borne at the ends of slightly longer shoots—they may be left longer, but should be cut back the year following. Fruit buds can be distinguished from wood buds, as they are much plumper and more oval, wood buds being narrow and pointed. Cut back the laterals of the more vigorous sorts to about five good buds, and of the weaker sorts to two or three buds.—H. B.

Black Currant Mite.

THE attack of this serious pest on black currant bushes is characterised by the abnormal size and roundness of the buds on the twigs, in consequence of which the disease is often referred to as "Big Bud." Swollen buds may be present in large numbers, or they may be few and accompanied on the same twig by normal sized, healthy ones, but in all cases, where such enlarged buds are present at all, practically the same danger exists.

Apart from their size, these enlarged buds show no external signs of being unhealthy or diseased, and even if cut open in winter they do not, as a rule, differ very markedly in their interior from healthy buds, except, perhaps, for a certain paleness of colour when examined by the naked eye. As spring approaches, however, the central portions of these buds become withered, brown and dead-looking, and a process of drying-up takes place, beginning at the centre of the bud and proceeding outwards. These buds do not unfold in the spring, or if a few of them happen to do so, they only produce feeble and sickly shoots, with no fruit; in most cases they persist for some time and remain as dried-up and dead structures on the older wood.

A very large number of whitish grub-like creatures are to be found inside the swollen buds, which are too small to be seen with the naked eye; these are known as gall-mites. The presence and activities of these mites at first stimulates the buds to increased growth, so that they become enlarged above the normal size, also destroying the structures within the bud. The mites produce eggs inside, so that rapid multiplication of their numbers takes place within the buds.

Chiefly in April and May the mites migrate from the swollen buds and, crawling over twigs, enter the new buds which are being formed in the axils of the newly-produced leaves. Here they live and multiply and hence cause a further production of swollen buds, consequently, in a season or two, practically the whole of the buds on a bush may become affected and the bush rendered useless.

This pest has most probably been spread over the country by the distribution and planting of cuttings from affected bushes on which swollen buds were present. The very greatest care should, therefore, be taken when obtaining fresh stocks of black currants to see that the new plants are absolutely free from this pest, and even go to the trouble of having a guarantee.

Spraying and dusting affected bushes fail to give results of any practical value. Seeing that for the greater part of their lifetime the mites are safely housed within the interior of affected buds, and can only be destroyed by them while in the act of migration from bud to bud.

When the attack is but slight its progress may be delayed by carefully cutting off and burning during the winter every single twig which bears a swollen bud, but in practically all cases the best method of procedure is to grub up and burn every affected bush in its entirety.—H. S. PATTON.

WHAT OUR READERS SAY

FLOWERS FOR A WOODLAND GARDEN.

SIR,—Your correspondent who has taken in part of a copse into his garden has a delightful opportunity, but let me warn him to be very careful in introducing Symphoricarpus racemosus, as suggested on page 657 of THE GARDEN for November 13th. In fact, it is better left out of the scheme. I, unfortunately, suffer from a hedge of it, not on my own property. It wanders in for many yards and is impossible to exterminate, tough underground stems sending up suckers everywhere. It has absolutely ruined a small rock garden in its vicinity. Its flower is quite inconspicuous, and its berries too scattered to produce any sort of effect.—M. R., *Cambridge.*

HEUCHERA TIARELLOIDES.

SIR,—Some fine varieties of Heuchera were noted in a recent issue of THE GARDEN, and these are now well known to most garden lovers. The most brilliant include sanguinea, Pluie de Feu and Fusee; but with us, on a light sandy soil, they make very poor growth in a dry summer, such as the recent one. Planted on a well manured north border, shaded by a hedge, they do much better. One variety worthy of special attention is Heuchera tiarelloides, which is a cross between a hybrid heuchera and Tiarella cordifolia, introduced by Lemoine. It is a most vigorous grower, making a compact plant with foliage of a pale green, and brown markings, and retains its freshness throughout the winter. The blooming period commences in May and lasts several weeks, during which time the plant gives an abundance of spikes of pale flesh-coloured flowerets, developing to a deep pink, thus producing an extremely pretty effect. There is also a pure white form of it which should be included in any collection.—F. L., *Bournemouth.*

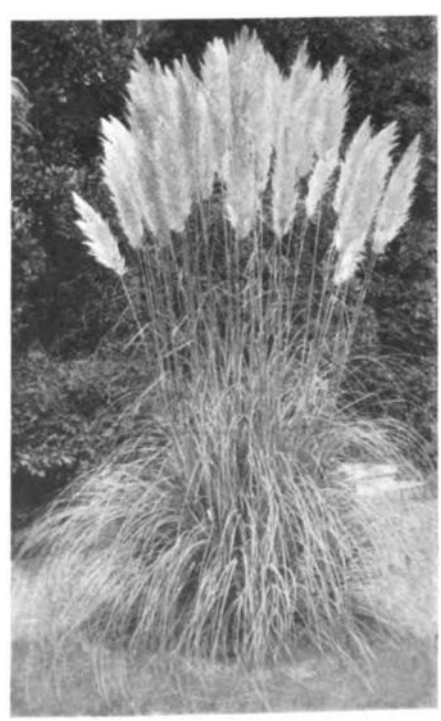
PROPAGATION OF THE WITCH HAZEL.

SIR,—It appears fairly obvious that the plant referred to by your correspondent, "W. J. B.," on page 605, is Bryophyllum pinnatum, a plant of easy culture in any good garden soil. "E. C.," on page 596, says of Hamamelis that, unfortunately, they are rather difficult to propagate, but I have always found it very easy to graft them on seedlings of H. virginiana under glass early in the year and bushy plants 2ft. high are procured by the end of September.—WM. H. JUDD, *Arnold Arboretum.*

PAMPAS GRASS FOR GARDEN DECORATION.

SIR,—I thought the accompanying illustration of a clump of pampas grass might interest many readers of THE GARDEN, and encourage them to grow it as a decorative plant.

A friend of mine gave me the clump of pampas grass two years ago, and it has made the wonderful growth shown in the illustration. It is over 9ft. high and has forty spikes. It has been admired by many visitors to the garden.—S. E. TATTERSHALL, *Orpington.*



A CLUMP OF PAMPAS GRASS MAKES AN ADMIRABLE GARDEN DECORATION.

DUAL PURPOSE APPLES.

SIR,—I notice that in my list of dual purpose apples THE GARDEN for November 6th, I omitted one apple which I should have placed first on the list and that is The Queen. This variety is a most consistent and heavy cropper with me and is really one of those apples which, when one is making out a short list, should be classed as indispensable.

Although classed in many catalogues as a cooker, I have found it being sold (and for a good price), as a dessert variety. Its season overlaps that of Worcester Pearmain. The flavour is rather acid, but it is quite good for dessert—especially on a hot day when a sharp apple is very welcome.

Rather large and flat, the skin is yellow with red stripes almost covering the sunny side of the fruit. Growth is inclined to be spreading and care is needed when pruning to preserve a good shape. The only fault of the variety seems to be a great susceptibility to apple scab, which I am combating with Bordeaux mixture.—N. D. H.

CHRYSOBACTRON OR BULBINELLA HOOKERII.

SIR,—Still more largely grown as chrysobactron, rather than under its authoritative name of Bulbinella Hookerii, this pleasing plant remains none too plentiful, although introduced from New Zealand as far back as 1850. It is rather difficult to account for its comparative scarcity, though it is by no means a rare plant. I am of opinion that want of moisture at the roots is sometimes accountable for its demise, as there appears no other reason, seeing that it is admittedly hardy in all parts of the United Kingdom. In dry, sandy soils it frequently dies out, while in those which are of rather moist character it appears to flourish and be a long-liver. Its height is generally about a foot in our gardens, but it is said to be sometimes up to 3½ft. in stature. It has long, narrow leaves and spikes of yellow flowers. These are very

Digitized by Google

bright and effective, especially when there are several plants in a group. There are two forms of B. Hookerii in existence, although the taller and finer one with blooms with broader segments appears to be really rare. I first came across this form in the garden of a now departed keen gardener in Falkirk, where it was grown beside the smaller form and showed its undoubted superiority, but I have not seen this variety for a very long time. B. Hookerii may be raised from seeds or increased by careful division of established plants. By the way, has B. Rossii never yet come into cultivation in this country? It is said to be much finer.—S. ARNOTT.

HINTS ON PACKING PLANTS.

SIR,—As a postscript to Mr. Clarence Elliott's note on the packing of plants collected abroad on page 653 of THE GARDEN, I suggest that after washing the roots and wrapping *these* in *just* damp moss (or damp paper), wrap up well in waxed paper (such as confectioners use), and post them in envelopes as *letters*. Sent thus they arrive in excellent condition for Mr. Elliott's sand and leaf soil further method.—C. M. B., *Whitwell*.

ASTER ELEGANS.

SIR,—The accompanying illustration of a border of asters growing in my garden may be of interest to a few of your readers. The aster is the single variety elegans, with rich dark foliage and large flowers fully 3ins. or 4ins. across. It looks most effective and is, moreover, an easily grown plant and worthy of more extensive cultivation.—M. S., *Ecclesall, Sheffield*.

AN EFFECTIVE BORDER OF ASTER ELEGANS.

ROSE MERMAID.

SIR,—"A. J. M." attributes many virtues to the beautiful Rose Mermaid, and he does not exaggerate; but he has omitted to mention what, to my mind, is its greatest value. Whereas most roses must have sun, Mermaid will grow and flourish with a northern aspect. I have a plant on a wall facing north and the lack of sun seems to increase the wonderful "varnish" of the foliage, which, with this aspect, is mainly a reddish bronze. It blooms late in the summer, over a period of many weeks. If "A. J. M." will float a few of the shining leaves, with two or three flowers (cut before the bees have visited and spoilt the glory of the golden anthers), in a wide black or deep blue bowl, he will agree there is little left to be desired from a point of beauty. Can anyone inform us as to the parentage of this rose and to whom we are indebted for it?—GWENDOLYN ANLEY, *Woking*.

POPPIES IN NOVEMBER.

SIR,—As a regular reader of THE GARDEN I think the following will be interesting. Can any of your readers beat it? To-day, November 11th (Remembrance Day), a perfect bloom of a Soldier Poppy, Papaver orientale, was picked in a garden in Truro.—ARTHUR P. NORTH.

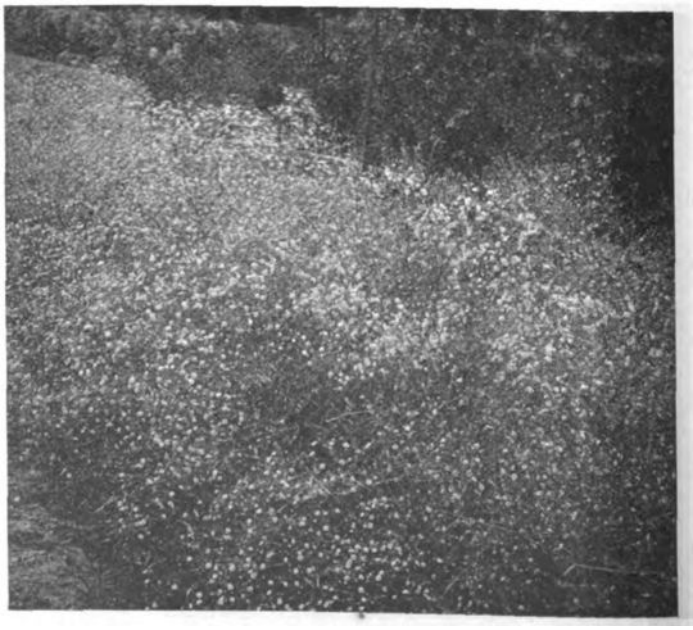
NURSERIES OF THE BRITISH ISLES.—VIII

THE HARDY PLANT NURSERIES, MERSTHAM.

AMONG our more youthful British nurseries which have secured for themselves an honoured place in the horticultural world, the Hardy Plant Nurseries at Merstham, Surrey, the business of Mr. W. Wells, junior, is one of the most outstanding examples. Since 1919 the progress has been rapid, until now it has become one of our leading nurseries devoted to the raising and growing of hardy plants. Reared in a horticultural family of considerable repute, Mr. Wells, junior, decided to break away from the old-fashioned methods and devote himself to the growing of plants which he thought would become popular. He has been correct in his surmise, and there is little doubt that his perseverance, energy and hard work during the last fifteen years have done much to popularise various types of our hardy flowers. Every year sees an addition to the grounds at Merstham, situated on the main road to Brighton and now the present area is close on 20 acres. As additions are made the virgin ground is hand trenched—an expensive operation, but one in which Mr. Wells thoroughly believes and which certainly seems to justify the extra labour if one has regard to the high quality of the material produced. On the occasion of our visit another five acres were being hand trenched and will be ready to be planted up in spring.

One point which will strike the visitor to these nurseries is the excellent arrangement and the general neatness and tidiness of the grounds. The plants are all robust, clean and healthy. There is almost an entire absence of weeds, so much so that some parts of the grounds have every appearance of a private garden. On the whole, there is a decided air of efficiency and well-being, which are not only reflected by the condition and quality of the plants growing in the nursery, but also by the staff themselves. Although only really established some thirteen years ago, the record of the firm is already famous. They have taken a foremost place in the production of many new varieties of various types of hardy plants, all of which are of considerable merit as garden plants. Mr. Wells himself would seem to have a *flair* for "spotting" plants that will appeal to the amateur gardener, after which he sets to work to develop and improve them, and finally to make them popular, not only in the gardens at home but also overseas. The popularity of Gentiana Farreri was, in the first instance, due to the keen interest taken in the plant by Mr. Wells, who raised large stocks of it. At Merstham the gentians do particularly well, and one can see rows of beds of GG. sino-ornata, Farreri, septemfida, Lagodechiana, acaulis, verna and other less well known species, such as pyrenaica. The plants are all in the best of health, fat and robust-looking, and certainly give a good account of themselves when flowering. To ensure the health and vigour of the stock plants on which he works Mr. Wells collects nearly all the European species himself when he is on holiday abroad. No special care is taken with the plants. Some grow in a sheltered border, others out in the open. Some grow in fat loamy soil; others, again, in medium soil with only a trace of lime, as Mr. Wells is not an ardent believer in lime for any of the species.

Delphiniums are also widely grown at the Nurseries, and during the last few years Mr. Wells has added a number of varieties



A BORDER OF THE FEATHERY GYPSOPHILA BRISTOL FAIRY.

Digitized by Google

to the list which have already become popular. At the height of the season somewhere about 100,000 plants are to be seen flowering in the Nurseries. Among the novelties raised at Merstham are the following: Mary Wells, of an electric blue colour; Mrs. W. Wells, with rosy mauve flowers rather loosely carried; Joan, a rich deep blue, which received an award of merit from the R.H.S., and Mrs. H. Kaye, award of merit, R.H.S.

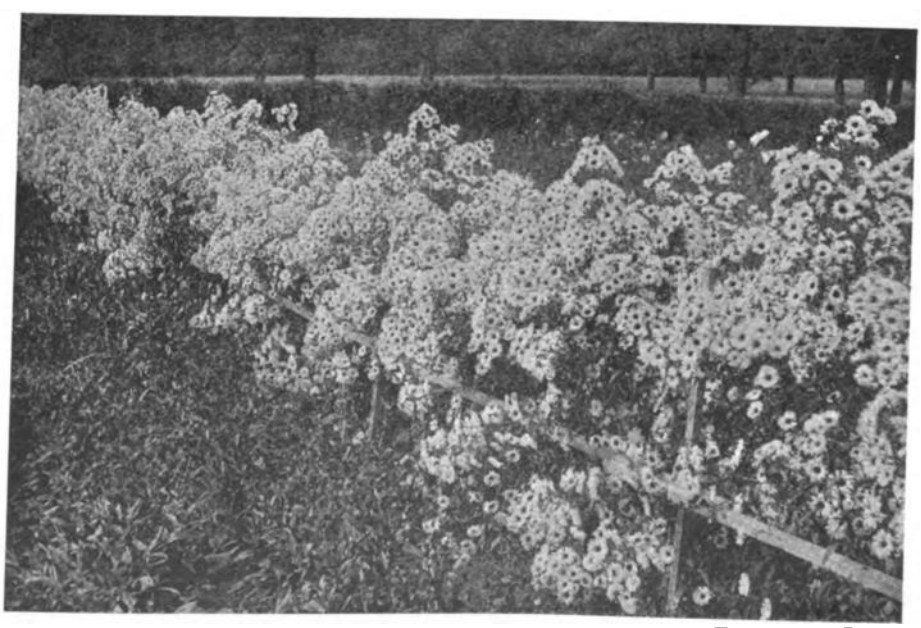
Although Mr. Wells has achieved success in the growing and raising of delphiniums, it is with another race of hardy flowers, the perennial asters or Michaelmas daisies, that he has established his reputation as a specialist grower of hardy plants. On the occasion of our visit, the beds were a haze of colour—all shades of blue, through purples and mauves to deep pink. The planting of the beds has been done most skilfully, so that the visitor will see at a glance the characteristics, colour and habit of one variety standing out boldly, and not just appearing here and there in ill-defined groups. A selection can be made much more easily from such an arrangement than if all the varieties were grown alongside one another. It is impossible to detail anything like a representative list of the varieties to be seen. All the sections are represented, some by a few sorts, others by many; and the one variety which stood out head and shoulders above its neighbours was Aster Queen Mary, a real find. It is agreed by experts that it is the best of the Novi-Belgii yet raised, which, in other words, means it is one of the finest of our garden Michaelmas daisies. The flowers are large and shapely, some 2½ins. across, carried in rather attractive loose pyramidal clusters, and are of a delicate lavender blue shade which seems to blend with it a trace of pink, brought out in the sunlight. It is a first-rate flower, as the accompanying illustration of a bed of it will show, and, moreover, it lasts for a long time in bloom, fully three weeks. The extraordinary range in Michaelmas daisies can be well seen at Merstham. Varieties can now be had to suit almost any position in the garden border. There are dwarfs like Little Boy Blue for the front, medium sorts for the middle, and giants like Climax and Queen Mary for the rear rank. It is a hardy plant for the amateur gardener if there is one.

This year, by the introduction of a new double gypsophila known as Bristol Fairy, Mr. Wells has presented British gardens with a plant for which we have long been seeking. It is one of the most notable breaks we have seen for some years, and it bids fair to become one of the leading hardy plants of the future, not only as an inmate of gardens, but also as a first-rate market plant for interior decoration. This variety has all the elegance and appearance of the old double white variety, although its flowers are at least three times the size. It reaches a height of some 4–5ft. when growing outdoors, and it is perfectly hardy. It can be had in flower for about nine months in the year, and the flowers, on the whole, do not go off into that dingy yellow, but remain a pure white—unless, of course, the plant happens to grow in a soot-laden atmosphere. All the stock is being raised at Merstham, and Mr. Wells is so interested in the plant that he carries out the propagation of it himself. It is hoped that if a sufficient stock is raised, plants will be ready for distribution by next spring.

Any number of other hardy plants are grown, as well as a considerable number of alpines, including many of the Chinese and European primulas, which seem to do particularly well. The amateur will find many points of interest in the nursery, one being the method of plunging in beds adopted by Mr. Wells—principally for easy removal of the plants, but most certainly one which the plants like, judging by their health and vigour.

A BED OF SIDALCEA SUSSEX BEAUTY—A MASS OF ROSE PINK BLOSSOM.

GENTIANAS SEPTEMFIDA AND LAGODECHIANA GROWING IN ASSOCIATION.



ASTER QUEEN MARY AT THE MERSTHAM NURSERIES.

Digitized by Google

HINTS WORTH REMEMBERING

Half a guinea will be paid each week for the most useful and interesting hint sent in by a reader. Five shillings will be paid for all others published. Each must be sent in on a separate sheet and must not be more than 300 words in length.

THE HALF GUINEA HINT.

Strong and Lasting Pergola Posts.

The work of making a rustic fence or a pergola is generally carried out about this time of year, and a simple but effective way of building either of those structures is given here. Take out holes about a yard deep, place flags at the bottom, and on these stand large drain-pipes, collar down. Cement around the drain-pipe and just over the collar. When the cement is set put back the soil into the holes around the pipe. Then get your posts, place them in the drain-pipes, and fill up each pipe to the top with cement. The rims of the pipes should stand 6ins. above ground level. These posts will form an excellent foundation for the fence or pergola, and in a day or two, when the cement is quite firm, the crosspieces can be attached. I built one of these lines nine years ago, 23yds. long, 9ft. high, and not a nail put in since, and it has to hold a tremendous weight. —W. M.

Brightening a Dull Place.

My back-yard was the usual *cul de sac* from the back-door to the end of the outbuildings, paved because its aspect forbade all hope of growing anything there. My wife's remark as she placed out her house plants one day gave me an idea, which eventually developed into a definite scheme, the result of which exceeded my most sanguine expectations.

A number of boxes were made, mostly from grocers' empties, their size approximately 12ins. square by 9ins. deep. Some feet, 1in. thick, were fixed on the bottoms, holes were bored in the bottoms for drainage, and the outsides were painted.

A variety of hardy shrubs, such as box, retinosporas, privet, euonymus, green and variegated, were obtained and potted up in 8in. or 9in. pots. These were then plunged in the garden to become established. When established they were taken, as needed, and put in the boxes, a layer of mixed crocks and ashes, 1in. deep, being put in the bottom of each box first. With the pots in position, the surrounding space was filled up with fine ashes lightly rammed and made firm.

With a duplicate set of established potted plants on hand, it became a simple matter to brighten up the back-yard, the plants being changed at intervals of a week or so, those having done duty on the yard being returned to the garden to recuperate.

Flowering plants were used occasionally, but were of no further use after blooming; their use, however, was pleasing, and gave the evergreens a longer period in their garden quarters.—G. W. S.

Kniphofias: Preventing Crowns Decaying.

One of the surprises to those growing kniphofias—for the first time possibly—is that, although reputed to be quite hardy, they sometimes die off by spring. This is not altogether the experience of the tyro, either, for even with "old hands" failure occurs now and again. Not infrequently the cause is decay of crowns in consequence of the plants being left to themselves, and snow and wet reaching the centres they rot off. A remedy, which is very simple, is to place three stout stakes to each plant, tying up some of the long leaves to each. This is better than placing only one stake to a plant, and "bunching" the foliage to it, as the former method carries off the water to the outside of the clump.

Only stout stakes should be used, and thin sticks or canes left out of the arrangement, as they become loose through having no "purchase." In the spring, the old, worn-out foliage can be cut away and the stakes removed, there being no longer any need for the screen.—C.

A Cheap Insecticide.

A cheap insecticide for practically all sorts of blight and grub in the garden can be made from permanganate of potash. A quarter-pound of the crystals dissolved in boiling water will make a few gallons of solution. This solution can be kept in bottles, and when required for use must be diluted with cold water until it becomes the colour of red wine. I have found this a good insecticide for freeing loganberries from the grub frequently found in the fruit. Apply by lightly dressing the ground with the crystals in the vicinity of the plant in early autumn, or by watering the ground with the diluted solution in the autumn and again in February or March. It is also exceptionally good for spraying roses for grub and rust; also for keeping the celery fly from attacking celery.—I. F. F.

Moving Trees and Shrubs.

When it is desired to transfer certain trees and shrubs to another part of the garden, a difficulty is sometimes experienced in carrying out the removal single-handed without displacing more of the soil from the roots than is desirable. Small trees and shrubs often have a considerable amount of soil adhering to the mass of roots with which they are furnished, and their future success largely depends on the care exercised when dealing with them in the circumstances referred to. A plan that may be adopted with complete success is to work a shovel underneath the roots, after lifting them, and, if properly balanced, the whole ball may safely be drawn along the ground the required distance, by means of the handle. The weight will prevent the shovel slipping from underneath.—J. C.

WEEDS ON LAWNS: THEIR ERADICATION

BEFORE commencing the removal of weeds from a lawn, the thoughtful custodian will, with great advantage to the success of the work to be carried out, consider the following: (1) the cause of the weeds being present in the grass sward, (2) their prevention from again establishing themselves after removal, both in an established lawn or a prospective new one, and (3) how best to eradicate the weed pests now established and, most important of all, ensure that their places be taken by suitable grass plants, which alone make the perfect lawn. So we may consider weeds from the following angles of view, *i.e.*, cause, prevention and eradication.

Causes.

The cause of their presence can be traced to many reasons and, in the case of an established or new lawn, every *constant* effort ought to be employed in preventive work. Thus, it is essential to use only grass seed free from weed seeds, and when sowing, err on the side of a heavier amount than a lesser, because any bare place on a lawn will, unless grass seed is utilised, produce weed plants either from weed seeds, which are in all soils, or by forming a seed bed for wind-blown pests to establish themselves. Also, scythe or root out weed pests growing near a lawn before they seed. A frequent reason for weeds appearing is the application of compost dressings—now, such preparations generally contain a large proportion of soil and on test or examination, will be found infested with weed seeds, which will find ideal conditions on the lawn for their development. That sterilisation of the soil will deal with this is too large a subject to consider at the moment. Here is a little point so often overlooked—why is not a regular examination of the sward made so that on the first appearance of the intruder, then in its small or embryo stage, its removal is easy and certain? Weeds do not become rapidly established. In the case of a new lawn it is an excellent scheme to construct it in summer when the soil moves easily

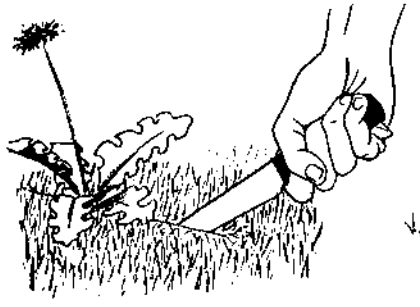


FIG. 1.

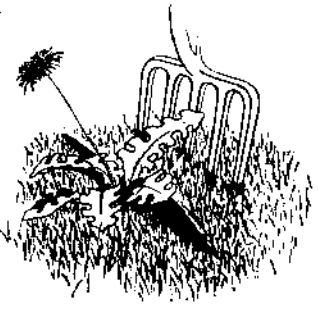


FIG. 2.

FIG. 3.

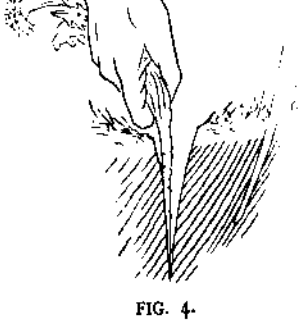


FIG. 4.

Digitized by Google

and any weed plants can clearly be detected and removed clear of the site, or better still, sent away to a recognised distant dump instead of remaining in any form near the lawn. Again, how frequently is a bare part of the lawn returfed with, to all appearance, excellent turf obtained from some distance, which looks, on delivery, free from weeds, but, nevertheless, when growing weather conditions arrive new varieties of weeds appear in our lawn, and how we wish (if close observation has been kept), that we had seeded the bare place thickly with reliable seed or exchanged it with a good piece of turf from the side of the area and then seeded the worn material in its new quarters. This goes to prove that the best preventive is to obtain and maintain a lawn consisting of a thick plant of suitable grasses.

Their Removal.

The removal or eradication of weeds from any lawn demands a methodical and well thought-out scheme of work if success is to be obtained; for example, if you wander indiscriminately over the sward selecting the largest plants, merely cutting off the tops, it will mean, in all probability, that a stronger weed plant will be in evidence next year. This proves that it is essential to remove all weeds with complete roots to stop their subsequent stronger development. It has, first of all, to be decided whether hand weeding or the use of a chemical weed eradicator is demanded and this will depend on the number and size of weeds and their proportion to the amount of useful grasses. Generally it is found that where large weeds, such as dandelions and plantains, are present they will require removal by hand and afterwards the weed eradicator applied to the smaller ones, such as daisies and pearlwort. Now, the removal or killing out of weeds is not the only thing required if we intend to obtain a good lawn—the vacated places must be sown with grass seed or other weeds will, in due season, appear, having germinated from the seeds deposited by the deposed occupant, hence we see that it is possible to have many weeds where only one was previously growing, and, while the grass seed sown will not, perhaps, completely foil this, still it does, in conjunction with the regular observation, minimise the danger. Another important item is that if a hole is the result of the removal of a large weed, such hole requires filling with a mixture of grass seed and sand, which latter should be of the deeply dug inland type. Where a small piece of turf is thickly infested with weeds, it may be best to cut it out and replace—if in the centre of the lawn—with turf from the side and seed the resultant bare patch. Frequently the decision arrived at is to remove all the turf from a weedy lawn and sow it afresh—in such cases the gravest consideration must be given to the fact that the weeds have seeded into the soil and will germinate with the grass seed; therefore, only do this as a last resource.

Various Weeds.

A weed requiring the greatest care in its removal is the common dandelion (Taraxacum Dens-leonis), and the accompanying diagrams clearly show a method practised with the greatest success. The knife ought to be of stiff steel, about 9ins. long and very sharp. Diagram I shows two cuts outwards from the plant, II and III the garden fork slightly raising the cut, which opens, allowing, as IV, the plant to be taken out with the complete root. In many cases during the autumn this pest has a small display of leaves, giving the impression that it is only a small plant, but careful eradication, as above, will often expose a thick root, which in spring would produce a large specimen. The following undesirable plants are frequently found in weedy lawns: Plantago Coronopus (buck's-horn or star plantain), which is frequently introduced by using seaside sand—it roots very deeply, because of its long tap root; other plantains are Plantago lanceolata (rib grass or hardheads), and P. major (common plantain). Achillea millefolium (yarrow, milfoil) can only be gradually removed by raking up and mowing off closely. Ranunculus repens (creeping crowfoot, creeping buttercup), and R. bulbosus (common buttercup), both require digging out. Clovers such as Trifolium repens (white Dutch clover) can be gradually checked by raking and close mowing; T. minus is amenable to hand weeding. When not too strongly established the following can be effectively removed by using weed eradicator: Rumex Acetosa (common sorrel), Sagina procumbens (pearlwort), Bellis perennis (common daisy), Cerastium arvense (mouse ear chickweed) and moss.

We may, conclude by remembering that observation, regular and correct cultivation, and not relying on a preparation of a chemical nature alone, will give the grasses the opportunity of making the perfect lawn they so richly deserve. JAMES MACDONALD.

"THE GARDEN" CROSSWORD—II

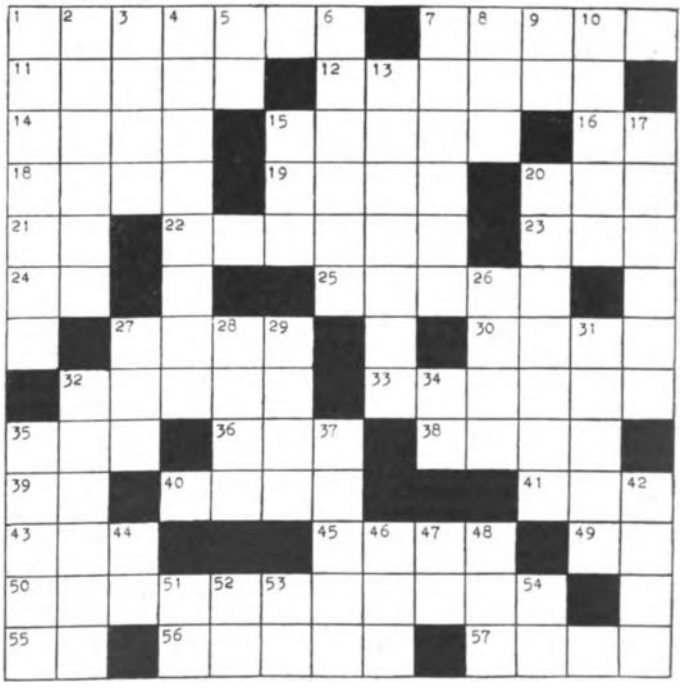
Two Prizes of ONE GUINEA will be given to the first two correct solutions opened on the morning of Thursday, December 2nd. If no correct solutions are sent in, these prizes will be awarded to the first two in order of merit that are opened. All envelopes must be marked "Crossword" on the outside and addressed to THE GARDEN, 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, London, W.C.2. No other communication must be enclosed in this envelope.

ACROSS.

1 Vegetable rich in iron.
7 Fruit used in wine-making.
11 Part of flower on which carpels stand.
12 Any small area.
14 Minute particle of matter.
15 A dried plum.
16 North Carolina (abbr.).
18 Part of a lion and horse.
19 Parched.
20 Well known timber tree.
21 Plural suffix.
22 Tone again.
23 A cereal grain.
24 New Hampshire (abbr.).
25 Plants of the cabbage kind.
27 The wild plum.
30 Hindmost.
32 Earth displaced by worms.
33 A crude hut.
35 Hawthorn blossom.
36 Shade of brown.
38 Used for roasting meat.
39 An alternative.
40 A rake (not the garden variety).
41 Used for watering gardens.
43 Ornamental vase.
45 Plant of the milkweed family.
49 Concerning.
50 Lythrum.
55 Doctor of Theology (abbr.).
56 Umbelliferous plant used in cordial-making.
57 A false step.

DOWN.

1 Male organs of a flower which produce pollen.
2 Alkali obtained from plant ashes.
3 Commonest metal.
4 Figures.
5 Like.
6 Machine for covering seeds sown.
7 Breed.
8 Fish eggs.
9 Aluminium (symbol).
10 A hardy bedding plant.
13 Pernicious.
15 A light blow.
17 Small stone fruit.
20 A mineral poison.
26 Snare.
27 Utter.
28 Another form of "Ottar."
29 Linked with "mess of pottage."
31 Fragrant oil of the damask rose.
32 A garden vegetable.
34 High school (abbr.).
35 Soil rich in decayed matter.
37 Birds' retreats.
42 A turnip (Scot.).
44 A negation.
46 Mineral rock.
47 Third note (tonic sol-fa)
48 Rear of a ship.
51 South Africa (abbr).
52 A beheaded hen.
53 Seventh note of scale.
54 Goes with 'im.



Name .....

Address .....

Solution to "The Garden" Crossword No. 1.

ACROSS.

1 Blooms, 6 Orchid, 11 Rain, 12 Tare, 14 Ore, 15, Able, 16 Erred, 17 Is, 18 N.E., 19 Embed, 20 Use, 21 Clove, 24 Or, 25 It, 26 R.I., 27 Buy, 28 Beet, 30 Grower, 32 Pink, 33 Lilac, 34 Mosses, 36 Mesa, 37 Keen, 39 An, 40 Pod, 41 Delve, 45 E.N.E., 46 I.D., 47 Zebra, 50 Nettles, 54 Embers, 55 Roses.

DOWN.

1 Branch, 2 Label, 3 Oil, 4 One, 5 Stem, 6 Orrery, 7 Reed, 8 Ho!, 9 Iris, 10 Desert, 13 Arbour, 19 Ee, 20 Utensil, 22 Orris, 23 Viola, 25 Ibis, 27, Beckon, 29 Eke, 30 Glen, 31 W.A., 32 Pond, 34 Me, 35 Seeds, 36 Maize, 38 Eden, 40 Pear, 42 Efts, 43 Vies, 44 Ebb, 48 Em, 49 Re, 51 E.R., 52 To, 53 Le.

Digitized by Google

OUR SERVICE BUREAU

Though so many subjects are dealt with in each issue of THE GARDEN, *it must constantly happen that readers seek information which is not immediately available. In such circumstances they should make use of our Service Department. Through its medium each reader's own particular enquiry can be dealt with. No matter what the question is, there is always information available from a staff of expert contributors and consultants; and there is no charge for this. It is one of the additional means of service which* THE GARDEN *is glad to render to its readers.*

Also, there is the further convenience which the Service Department affords of supplying readers with data about anything that is advertised in the pages of the paper. Thus, on receipt of an enquiry, particulars will be sent of, say, half a dozen things about which the reader seeks information. The only stipulation is that a stamped addressed envelope and the coupon, that will always be found in each issue, shall be sent with the enquiry. We would point out, however, that we cannot undertake to supply readers with plans and designs of gardens, but will willingly assist in giving suggestions for planting.

All communications should be addressed to the Service Department, THE GARDEN, *20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.*

We have selected the following enquiries, with their answers, as being of more general interest, and therefore worthy of publication.

How to Get Rid of Elm Tree Roots.

Outside our high kitchen garden wall we have a row of small elm trees almost touching the wall. We find the roots are coming right under the wall and damaging our peach and plum trees on the inside of the wall, besides dripping on them in wet weather. We want to cut the trees down, and I wonder if there is any way of killing the roots by inserting poison of some sort into them. This has been suggested to me, but I do not know if it is possible.—D. C., Godalming.

The only effective way of dealing with the elm tree roots is by grubbing them up completely. Sometimes it is advised to treat their roots either with nitric acid or saltpetre, poured into the bole of the tree, but on the whole these are of little or no avail. The trees should be cut down, and then the roots dug out. It involves considerable hard work, but the killing of the roots is assured.

A Neglected Vegetable Garden.

I have just taken over an allotment which has been tilled, but has since been neglected for some time, and now is covered with growth, grass, etc. I should be glad if you would advise me how to work it. I am a novice, and would like to make use of the growth as a manure. How should I proceed? I contemplate growing vegetables chiefly, and should like to know what could be planted during the autumn. The soil is pretty good, situation Morden. Do you think manure would be required other than the growth mentioned; if so, manure being difficult to procure, could you advise a substitute? I should be glad if you could name the vegetables that are suitable for planting now and onwards.—H. R.

Cut or peel off all surface growth and burn when dry, returning the ashes to the soil in a dry state next spring. You may heap the rubbish if you prefer this treatment of it, and scatter lime or salt on each layer, using the material as a manure next spring. Wakeley's Hop Manure will do a lot of good and take the place of manure as obtained from animals. Only cabbages, and also Brussels sprouts, can be profitably planted now. Get the ground ready for spring cropping.

Green Tomato Jam.

I have tried many times to get a recipe for green tomato jam that will stay a delicate green colour and not turn a dingy brown Can you supply this recipe? I should be extremely grateful for this yet one more helpful thing which your paper supplies.—R. H., Westmorland.

A very good recipe for making tomato jam is the following: Slice the fruits, allowing for every pound of tomatoes 1lb. of sugar, and to every 2lb. of sugar and fruit the grated rind and juice of one lemon. Put the tomato slices into a deep bowl, scattering the sugar between the layers, and leave all night. When boiling, add the lemon juice and lemon rind, and cook until the mixture clings to the spoon. A good way to keep the pretty green colour is to add a little green vegetable colouring when the preserve is nearly cold, before potting. This can be purchased at any good stores.

Shrubs for a North Wall.

You were kind enough to advise me recently as to shrubs for wall decoration, and I am acting on your advice. The north wall of my cottage in Kent is now the chief difficulty—a great blank space of concrete and cement. The soil is lower greensand made fertile, elevation 700ft. above sea-level and somewhat exposed. Would the Wistaria chinensis thrive on the north wall? The roots could be on the east or west side, and it is the higher part of the north wall which I specially wish to cover. Would wistaria need fixing to the wall, or would it cling, or how should it be trained up? I do not wish any disturbance of the cement or opportunity for a crack to occur. Would the ceanothus train well without fixing to the wall?—C. R., Bromley.

Regarding climbers for a north wall, the best self-clinging flowering climber we can recommend is Hydrangea scandens. Alternative foliage climbers are ivy and Ampelopsis Veitchii. Wistaria requires very strong supports to fix it to a wall. Ceanothus also must be firmly fastened. The best way to deal with a wall of this kind is to drive in large pins with eyeholes at intervals, through which lines of galvanised wire can be threaded. Any damage in fixing can be made good at once by a bricklayer before tying in the creepers.

Grubs in Garden Peas.

I shall be much obliged if you can give me some advice about grubs in table peas. Last year all my crops were spoiled by maggots within the pods. There appeared no sign of entrance from outside the pod, which suggests that eggs were deposited in the pea flower. The later sowings were worse than the earlier; not a pod escaping. The soil here is clay with a little chalk. Grubs also attacked the gooseberry bushes, but in this case eating the leaves. Perhaps the same treatment would eradicate both pests.—M. R., Bembridge, Isle of Wight.

You are correct as to the grubs entering the pod at the flowering stage. It is at this stage that the beetles pair and deposit the eggs in the flower, and the grubs are hatched inside the pods. Sprinkle Sanitas powder freely about the rows of the flowering plants to keep off the beetles. A light sprinkling on the plants, too, will be beneficial. Present treatment consists of trenching, throwing up the soil in big lumps to let in frost and rains, as the pea weevil lodges in the soil during the winter.

What to Plant in a Small Sunk Garden.

I want to make a sunken garden in a space 12ft. by 25ft. at the back of my house, which, with the one next door (east of mine) shades the plot from sunshine at 3 p.m. in midsummer and at 10 a.m. now. It faces east and south, and has house walls on the north and west sides. Ferns will do, I know; but I shall be grateful for suggestions as to suitable treatment and plants.—J. T., South Woodford.

In the circumstances we feel that a simple design would be the most satisfactory, and suggest, assuming that the garden will be entered by steps from the house on the longer side, that you have a border 2ft. 6ins. wide, lay imitation York paving on the remainder and place two figures or tubs on it—one at either end, midway from the side of the steps to the border. There might be an occasional shrub, such as Buxus balearica, euonymus, Daphne Blagayana, Gaultheria Shallon, G. procumbens, Erica carnea, osmanthus and yucca in the border. The most suitable herbaceous plants include Anemone japonica, Campanula lactiflora, epimedium, Dicentra spectabilis, hemerocallis (all sorts), Polygonum affine, Cimicifuga simplex, funkias, trilliums and German irises. The best alpines are Anemone Hepatica, Astilbe simplicifolia, Calceolaria polyrrhiza, Gentiana asclepiades, iberis, Linnea borealis, Oxalis enneaphylla, various primulas and primroses, mossy saxifrages and Viola cornuta.

A most interesting
FRUIT TREE CATALOGUE
FREE and POST FREE

THIS Catalogue, nicely produced and well printed, contains a valuable host of useful hints on FRUIT TREE CULTURE for Amateur and Professional. Herein will be found all the best and most popular Fruits for all purposes, alphabetically arranged for ready reference. A feature has been made of interesting Chats on soils, situations, and fertilizers; in fact, it is a valuable book, which should be in the hands of all those who possess a Garden or Fruit Farm, large or small. Sit down now, while the matter is fresh in your mind, and write for your free copy.

KING'S ACRE ROSES

THE King's Acre Nurseries—famous since 1785 for the stamina and vigour of their roses—have hardy and reliable
Bushes and Ramblers
in a wonderful, almost endless variety, which they are offering at prices considered by experts and amateurs to be beyond competition.

Alphabetically arranged Rose Catalogue, replete with reliable information, FREE ON REQUEST.

AWARDED 95 GOLD MEDALS.
KING'S ACRE NURSERIES, LTD., HEREFORD
Established 1785. ∴ *NURSERIES—140 ACRES.*
SPECIAL VALUE IN COLLECTIONS OF FRUIT TREES AND ROSES

Digitized by Google

PULHAM'S
FOR
ROCK,
FORMAL,
JAPANESE.
GARDENS
71·NEWMAN ST LONDON·W.

CME IMPERISHABLE METAL LABELS

Made of Zinc. Non-Rusting. No Writing Required.

ve been sold without complaint for over 50 years. Bright sed letters on a black background. Named Labels supplied for all plants from 2/6 per dozen.

Catalogues and Labels may be obtained from all leading Nurserymen, or from

JOHN PINCHES

Crown Buildings, Crown St., Camberwell, S.E.5

'ARDY COTCH ROWN **FRUIT TREES and FRUIT BUSHES**

Buy direct from the Actual Growers. This season we have a grand stock of healthy, well-grown **TRANSPLANTED TREES AND BUSHES.**

Write for Catalogue.

STORRIE & STORRIE

ie Nurseries, Glencarse, PERTHSHIRE

It Pays to Spray

YOUR trees will bear more and better fruit if freed from insect pests, moss, lichen, and other harmful growths.

Now is the time thoroughly to cleanse and re-invigorate the trees by spraying with

COOPER'S

WINTER SPRAY FLUID

("Commended" by the Royal Horticultural Society of Gt. Britain.)

NON-POISONOUS. DOES NOT BURN

Half Pint	...	1/6
1 "	...	2/3
Quart	...	3/3
Half Gal.	...	5/9
1 "	...	9/6
2 "	...	18/-
5 "	...	38/6

1 Gall. makes 100 Mixture.

OF ALL AGENTS.

Cooper, McDougall & Robertson, Ltd.

BERKHAMSTED.

Glass breaks!

USE

"WINDOLITE"

The practical

GLASS SUBSTITUTE

for all Garden Purposes.

LIGHT FLEXIBLE UNBREAKABLE

Easy to cut and fix. It keeps out cold and wet, but lets in all the light—even the Ultra Violet Rays which are stopped by glass.

Send 4/6 for post free sample, 3 ft. by 2 ft.

WINDOLITE (DEPT. C) 179/185, GREAT PORTLAND ST., LONDON, W.1.

For mud & marshland mire & meadow wear Boots* with Uppers of "Beva" Waterproof Leather.
*Look for the "Beva" on the looping.

Our New List of

CHRYSANTHEMUMS

for 1927 is NOW READY

containing all the finest and most desirable varieties. Free on application to:—

KEITH LUXFORD & CO.

Chrysanthemum Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

Lawns

On receipt of a postcard we will send gratis and post free a new illustrated booklet,

"LAWNS"

giving full particulars regarding the improvement of weed-infested turf and the making of new lawns by sowing

GRASS SEED

in conjunction with

LAWN FOOD.

MacDonald

GRASS SPECIALIST,

HARPENDEN.

RHODODENDRON SEEDLINGS

for SALE on the

COBHAM HALL ESTATE, KENT.

TENDERS invited for several thousand strong PONTICUM RHODODENDRON SEEDLINGS from 6 inches to 2 feet high.

Tenders to be sent in by Friday 10th December, 1926, addressed to—

Messrs. H. & R. L. COBB,

Cathedral Chambers, ROCHESTER

CLEAN CROPS ARE GOOD CROPS

CARBO now—fruit next year.

IT'S not reasonable to expect crops from pest-ridden trees. Now is the time to kill moss, lichens and hibernating insects. Destroy the eggs of Apple Sucker, American Blight, Aphis and Caterpillar before they become active and multiply. Secure next year's fruit by letting the trees break into growth in spring naturally, freed from the crippling effects of biting and sucking insects.

Natural growth restored

This new health and vigour is secured by cleanliness. Cleanse trees now with CARBO — the supreme British tar-oil Wash—tested, safe, non-poisonous, non-corrosive.

CARBO TAR-OIL WASH

2/6 per quart tin.
6/- per gallon can.

From your dealer—if you have any difficulty apply to the makers.

BUGGÉ'S INSECTICIDES LTD

WESTCOMBE HILL LONDON S.E.3

TAS/Bu.17.

Digitized by Google

BULBS

We invite immediate application for our

BULB CATALOGUE

knowing that the very fine quality of our bulbs enables us to offer exceptionally good value for money.

Send for a copy of the BULB CATALOGUE at once.

Bakers
SEED AND FLOWER FARM
CODSALL
Near Wolverhampton

ALL TRANSPLANTED

GEUM Mrs. Bradshaw, Lady Stratheden } 4/- doz. *Carr. paid*

Forget-me-nots and **Giant Daisy** (Bellis monstrosa) **9d.** doz., **1/-** doz. *Carr. paid.*

SARGEANT,
Beaches Nursery, CARSHALTON, SURREY

THE DOWNER LUPIN
is now known all the World over.
Apply for Lupin List; also Herbaceous and Alpine Catalogue.
DOWNER
2, Drayton Manor Nurseries, CHICHESTER

CHEALS OF CRAWLEY

Have over FIFTY YEARS' Experience of GARDEN AND ESTATE PLANTING and General Improvements.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY ACRES of Nursery stocked with a First Class Collection of

Ornamental Trees - Shrubs
FRUIT TREES,
Herbaceous and Alpine Plants,
ROSES, DAHLIAS, and all Garden Requisites.

IT WOULD PAY YOU TO CONSULT THEM.
Catalogues of each Department and an Illustrated Pamphlet on Garden Design.

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.,
The Nurseries, **CRAWLEY.**

NEW CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

ON Monday, November 15th last, the Floral Committee of the National Chrysanthemum Society considered the merits of twenty-nine new seedlings and selected the following for the first-class certificate :

AUTUMN TINTS.—This very large exhibition Japanese variety has been shown in groups several times of late. The flattish florets, which droop lightly, are of uncommon fawn colouring, which becomes tinted with rose with age. Shown by Messrs. Keith Luxford and Co.

GRENADIER.—A large-flowered single of brilliant crimson colour with a small disc. Shown by Mr. H. Shoesmith, jun.

MISS DOROTHY CAPP.—A pure white single of large size and possessing substantial florets. Shown by Mr. H. Woolman.

GOLDEN SEAL.—A splendid large single of excellent form and rich buttercup yellow colour. Shown by Mr. H. Woolman.

RED MAJESTIC.—This excellent sport from the well known large exhibition variety was seen in several leading exhibits at the recent show The red colour is very bright. Shown by Mr. H. J. Jones.

RITA.—A large single of graceful habit and bright chestnut colour with a golden shade around the zone and golden tips to the florets. Shown by Mr. H. Shoesmith, jun.

LADY BRUNTON.—A large Japanese variety of compact habit, though the flattish florets droop, and golden bronze colouring. Shown by Messrs. Keith Luxford and Co.

SCYTHIA.—An exhibition variety with long, drooping and loosely incurving florets of soft amber colour. Shown by Mr. H. Woolman.

W. RENSHAW.—Although not sufficiently large for the exhibitor, this Japanese variety has considerable decorative value. The flattish florets droop gracefully and recurve at the tips. The colour is a fascinating rosy apricot. Shown by Messrs. Keith Luxford and Co.

PUBLICATION RECEIVED.

A new and much enlarged edition of that exhaustive and standard work on garden design, "The Art and Craft of Garden Making," by Thos. A. Mawson (Messrs. B. T. Batsford, Limited, price £3 15s. net,) has just been announced and constitutes the fifth edition of this work since its first appearance about twenty-five years ago. During these years it has grown from a comparatively small manual into a volume of imposing size and now may be accepted as an encyclopædic work on the design of gardens. Full advantage has been taken by the author since the appearance of the fourth edition to rearrange and overhaul all the text and illustrations and to bring it into line with modern ideas and developments. At the same time, much new material has been added in the form of new examples of modern design of gardens laid out by the author during the last few years. Nearly all the earlier illustrations are retained and have been greatly added to in the present edition, giving the volume a wider scope. The work is illustrated very fully from water-colours, photographs, sketches, plans and measured drawings, all of which are particularly well executed. The volume is well and clearly printed and handsomely bound and would make an excellent Christmas gift for any of one's gardening friends who have large and extensive gardens or pleasure grounds. This last edition, undoubtedly, is as near perfection as any work on garden design could be.

Special cheap offer of FLOWERING BULBS suitable for naturalising purposes in Garden Walks, Drives, Plantations, etc. or for Cut Flowers.

F.O.R. Wisbech Station. Cash with order. Packing free.

	112lb.	56lb.	28lb.	14lb.
NARCISSI.				
Sir Watkin	80/-	42/-	22/-	12-
Ornatus	80/-	42/-	22/-	12-
Emperor	60/-	32/-	17/-	10-
Horsfieldi	60/-	32/-	17/-	10-
Empress	60/-	32/-	17/-	10-
Golden Spur	70/-	37/-	20/-	11-
Victoria	60/-	32/-	17/-	10-
Barrii Conspic.	40/-	22/-	12/-	7-
White Lady	100/-	52/-	27/-	15-
Van Zion (Old Yellow double Daff.)	40/-	22/-	12/-	7-
Pheasant Eye	30/-	16/-	9/-	5-
Princeps	30/-	16/-	9/-	5-
Scilly Whites	30/-	16/-	9/-	5-
Mixed Narcissus and Daffodil Bulbs	30/-	16/-	9/-	5-
DARWIN TULIPS.				
Clara Butt	60/-	32/-	17/-	10-
Inglescombe Yellow	60/-	32/-	17/-	10-
Rev. E. W. Ewbank	60/-	32/-	17/-	10-
Mixed Darwin Tulips	50/-	27/-	15/-	9-

This is a very cheap way of buying. Worth double the money.

Snowdrop Bulbs, Singles and Doubles,	Per 1,000 20/-
Hyacinths, Mixed	Per 100 20/-
Grape Hyacinths (Heavenly Blue)	Per 1,000 £2 & £3
Lilium candidum (Old Madonna Lily)	Per 100 £2
Crown Imperials	Per 100 £2
Dutch Iris (earlier than Spanish Iris), mixed	Per 1,000 £1 10s.
Dutch Iris (earlier than Spanish Iris), to name	Per 1,000 £2 & £3
Blue Bells	Per 1,000 £1 10s.

CROSS & CO.,
Elm Road House—— WISBECH.

BURBAGE ROSES

A collection of 12 of the best varieties. First size Trees, Guaranteed British Grown and true to name, for 12/6 Carriage Paid. Cash with order.

Betty Uprichard	Los Angeles
Clarice Goudaere	Independence Day
Mrs. H. Morse	Madame Butterfly
Miss Willmott	Mrs. Wemyss Quin
Mrs. H. Stevens	Gen. MacArthur
Walter C. Clarke	Frau Karl Druschki

THE BURBAGE NURSERIES LTD.,
Nr. Hinckley, Leicestershire.
Please mention this Paper.

FRUIT TREES
ROSES
Alpine Plants
Hardy Perennials
Ornamental Trees and Shrubs
can be successfully planted NOW.

The BARNHAM NURSERIES, Ltd.,
offer an immense stock of healthy, well-grown trees . . in great variety . .
Descriptive Catalogues on application.
The BARNHAM NURSERIES, Ltd.,
BARNHAM, Sussex.

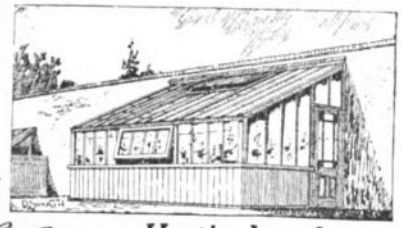
Digitized by Google

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

DAVID SWAIN & CO.

Amateur Greenhouses and Garden Frames

Write for List.



Horticultural Builders

101, Sussex Road, HOLLOWAY, N.7

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Your Gardening Friend

uld most appreciate the choice new Broom admired by H.M. King at Chelsea, and given a unanimous Award of Merit the R.H.S., as well as highest distinctions on the Continent. e New Crimson Broom "Dorothy Walpole" is the most markable variety ever seen—colour rich velvety crimson—is as hardy and vigorous as the common Broom of the hillsides d will flourish in ordinary garden soil in any part of the itish Isles, however far north.

Strong pot-grown plants now ready for planting out, to ver in May, 7/6 each. Carriage paid rates to any station Great Britain or Ireland: One plant, carriage paid, 10/-; plants, carriage paid, 18/6; three plants, carriage paid, /-; six plants, carriage paid, 49/6; twelve plants, carriage id, 99/-.

Coloured illustration sent on application if THE GARDEN *mentioned.*

Wm. Watson & Sons, Limited, Nurseries, Killiney, Co. ublin.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

DOBBIE'S SCOTCH-GROWN ROSES

These succeed where others fail; Send at once for a Catalogue

Please name this Paper

OBBIE & CO., LTD. urserymen :: EDINBURGH

XMAS GIFTS?

Why not give your Friends ROSES this Christmas?

We can supply 12 First Quality British grown plants, our selection, for the sum of **12/-** Carriage Paid, Cash with Order, and will forward to reach destination a few days before Christmas. Half quantity **6/6**

ur Illustrated Catalogue sent post free on application.

ENJAMIN R. CANT & SONS, LIMITED,

Dept. A,

td. 1765. **The Old Rose Gardens, COLCHESTER.**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

AT this season of the year one's thoughts run to presents for family and friend. Have readers thought of the pleasure that a gardening present will bring to anyone who is interested in plants and gardens? Nowadays the fashion has come in to give something useful as a present, an admirable idea, and what could be more useful than something for the garden? It can take any form from a fertiliser to a tree, but whatever it is you may be sure that it will be welcomed by a gardener. After all a garden is little different from a bookshelf; in the one you collect plants, in the other books. The best Christmas present we can suggest for a gardening friend, one which will be most useful and one which will afford him much pleasure the whole year round, is that of a year's subscription to THE GARDEN.

General Purpose Gifts.

THE gardener, like anyone else, will welcome gifts of a general nature, as well as those applying to his particular hobby, and what would be a more suitable present than a pipe or a box of cigarettes? Almost every gardener is a smoker. Indeed, smoking adds greatly to the joy of gardening and to the discussions which centre round this plant and that plant on a summer's evening. It is not an expensive gift and one which is sure to be appreciated. There are any number of brands of tobacco and cigarettes as choice, but smokers are conservative in their tastes and it is on the whole better to restrict your gift to such a well known brand as Players. If your friend is not a smoker, then a gift of another kind, which is both novel and useful. A novel present is generally more appreciated, especially if it can be made to serve a useful purpose. Rather a novel present will be found in the Spade Boot Scraper. It is especially useful where there are many visitors to the garden, as it ensures that no mud or dirt adheres to the boots or shoes on entering the house. It can be fitted near the entrance of the house in a prominent position so that visitors will not pass it by. Fitted with a scraper on one side and a brush on the other of an upright standard, it is a neat little asset to any garden and is sure to be much valued. A variation of this type of scraper has recently been put on the market, which will make a useful present to any of one's gardening friends who are motorists. It is a scraper to be fitted on the footboard of the car to ensure that no mud is taken into the car. Still another present which a lady gardener will much appreciate is a mat for kneeling on when weeding and doing odd gardening jobs. There is one mat, known as the Kneel on Air Mat which is excellent for this purpose. It is exceedingly comfortable to work on. It is a present which is both novel and useful and one which will be greatly valued by any of your gardening friends. Then, again, all gardeners will find a use for a gardening diary for next year, and there is no more useful one published than the "R.H.S. Gardeners' Diary." It is invaluable to all interested in the garden, containing weekly instructions of seasonable work to be done, and many gardening hints. It is inexpensive and makes an ideal Christmas gift.

Trees, Shrubs and Fruit.

TREES and shrubs make welcome presents, all the more so as they are lasting and will call to mind the donor for many a year to come. It may be that you know the taste of the individual to whom you wish to give the gift; in that case your selection will be

THIS Verse Stone makes a beautiful addition to the Crazy Path, Rockery, Conservatory, or Lawn.

Dimensions (approx.) 16 in. by 10 in. by 2 in.
Verse inlaid in Bronze Letters.

21/- *Carriage Paid.*

Cheques and P.O.'s crossed.

Special Verses, Quotations or Memorial Inscriptions to order,

CONWAY & COOPER (Dept. D), Montrose Works. Harwood Street, SHEFFIELD

A **BIRDS' BATH** makes an ideal **XMAS GIFT**

SUNDIALS, VASES, Etc, in Imperishable Reconstructed Stone. Illus. Catalogue E.I. on request.

CRAZY & SQUARED PAVING

DWARF WALLING. ROCKERY STONE, Direct from Quarries. *Write for Booklet E2.*

THE RHYMNEY QUARRIES, 18, Ludgate Hill, E.C.4

A Superb Gift Book

GARDENS for SMALL COUNTRY HOUSES

BY

GERTRUDE JEKYLL AND SIR LAWRENCE WEAVER

Fifth Edition. ***25s.*** *net.*

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LTD., 20, Tavistock Street, London, W.C.2

THE "SPADE" BOOT CLEANERS

Make Ideal Xmas Gifts.

THE SPADE SCRAPER removes all mud from just those parts of the boot which the ordinary fixed scraper cannot touch. There is a curve or angle to fit every odd corner.

THE SPADE BRUSH *entirely supersedes the old type because:* It is raised off the damp ground on 3 little feet; and you can get the toe and sides of the boot well under the bristles, which extend beneath the brush.

Scraper, **10/3**; Brush, **25/6**; or the pair for **35/-** carr. paid.

We are also the inventors of the **CAPTIVE TENNIS BALLS MACHINE** for practising strokes. Price **37/6.**

"SPADE SCRAPERS" (Dept. G.), WAPPENHAM, TOWCESTER, NORTHANTS.

Ask your garage to fit the car pattern Spade Scraper under the step of your car. Price 4/6 inclusive.

Digitized by Google

SUNDIALS
VASES
BIRDBATHS

Garden Figures in Lead and Stone.

The "WYCOMBE" Birds' Bath and Pedestal, 2ft. 6in. high, in Reconstructed Stone, **£3 : 19 : 6**

Write for interesting Booklet of Garden Ornaments (G), post free.

SANDERS & CO.,
Sundial House,
365, EUSTON ROAD, LONDON, N.W.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

TO BE PUBLISHED ALMOST IMMEDIATELY

Farrer's Last Journey
UPPER BURMA, 1919-20
By E. H. M. COX

Demy 8vo. with 28 illustrations from photographs by the author.

All lovers of the writings of the late Reginald Farrer will delight in this account of Farrer's expedition of botanical exploration to the wilds of Upper Burma. It has been written by his companion of the first year, and in it will be found not only descriptions of this paradise of flowers, but also long extracts from Farrer's letters and articles. It is a book for all who are interested in any branch of horticulture.

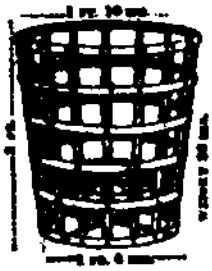
18/- net from all booksellers, or **18/9** post free from the publishers—

DULAU & CO., LTD.
34, 35, 36, MARGARET STREET, LONDON, W.1

IT WILL MAKE AN ADMIRABLE CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR YOUR GARDENING FRIENDS

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

VULCAN GARDEN REFUSE INCINERATOR



Garden and household refuse reduced to ashes quickly, cleanly, with minimum amount of smoke. Will take a barrow load of rubbish at a charge.

British Manufacture.
PRICE EACH 10/-

Carriage paid nearest Railway Station - 2 for **18/-**
Larger size 2 for **22/6** **12/6**

"The incinerator arrived on Wednesday, and after two soaking nights I had no difficulty in getting a good fire from exposed material. I burnt up in an hour what would have taken me all day with a bonfire."

THE LOSTOCK IRON BASKET WORKS,
8/11, Griffiths Lane, Lostock Gralam, nr. Northwich.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

COTTAGES. **Their Planning, Design & Materials.**

By SIR L. WEAVER. **15s.**

400 *pages.* *New edition just published.*

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LTD.,
20, Tavistock Street, London, W.C.2.

KINNELL'S COKE CRUSHER FROM STOCK

Carriage paid to Stations in England and Wales

Reduces Fuel to the correct size for long burning

Small Crusher for Wall - 40/-
Ditto on Wrought Stand - 45/-
Large Crusher for Wall - 45/-
Ditto on Wrought Stand - 60/-
Strong Coke Pan 10/- extra

Large Crusher breaks 1 cwt. of small one 42 lb. in 20 minutes

CHAS. P. KINNELL & Co LTD
65, 65A Southwark St. London, S.E.1

easy. He may lack a particular apple or pear that will suit him, or it may be a shrub or tree for some special spot in the garden that still remains to be filled. Best of all, however, is a surprise gift of some admirable tree or shrub of which he may be in ignorance, for there is an added pleasure in growing something unknown and untried, the pleasure of expectation. Think of what you have seen out of the way in some garden or another that appeared to you to be a worthy plant and give it as a present to someone whom you know will appreciate it.

It is impossible to give individual suggestions in a note of this length, but there could be no plant more acceptable to those living in lime-free soils than a fine hybrid rhododendron or some new azalea, for here are plants that are glorious in their colour. Others that would make an admirable gift are several heaths, flowering cherries, an ornamental maple, viburnums, berberis or some conifer like Cedrus atlantica glauca, or a dwarf Juniperus hibernica for the rock garden. Then we must not forget our national flower, the rose. Some variety or species that a friend or relation may lack makes a most acceptable gift, for every one grows roses and all appreciate their beauty. Although a tree or shrub cannot be tied up in tissue paper and decked with ribbons, or, indeed, plunged into the Christmas stocking, yet they do make admirable gifts.

Garden Furniture.

ARE you thinking of buying some piece of garden furniture for one of your gardening friends? If so, here are a few suggestions. A garden seat is mentioned first as being the most useful of all pieces of furniture. The very best are made in well seasoned teak wood, such as that taken from old battleships, and one can rely on the finest workmanship being used in the making of seats of this wood. The cheapest teak seat of 4ft. 6ins. in length costs about 3 guineas. Tables, benches, folding and arm chairs are all made to match and one of the most attractive of presents is a garden suite which consists of a square table and a set of four armchairs. The chairs fit compactly round the table. These suites take up very little room, are solid, well made and need no painting or varnishing to protect them from the weather. Plain oak seats are also obtainable.

White painted seats, tables and chairs are most attractive. One of 4ft. 6ins. long, made in the old English style, costs 70s. Semi-circular seats are rather out of the ordinary and therefore might make a greater appeal. Besides the types of chairs and tables already mentioned, light and portable garden chairs and lustre furniture made of osier might meet with high approval. The latter kind of furniture is ideal for the week-end cottage, or for carrying about from one part of the garden to another. Its brown colour harmonises well with its surroundings in the garden, it does not need varnishing and is very inexpensive, in fact a set of four armchairs and a table can be purchased for the small sum of 45s.; while £7 will buy a summerhouse which can be erected within a few minutes. There is a special children's summerhouse and small-sized chairs and tables, which would be received with great joy by any child. They are so light that quite a small child can move them about.

Some of the most comfortable of all garden chairs are those made of sea grass; they are soft, pliable and do not possess that habit of creaking every time they are moved. Most of these chairs are made so that they fold up and so can be stored away in a small space. Your gardening friends could not fail to appreciate one of the comfortable sea-grass armchairs, the cost of which is about £2. Another idea is a tent umbrella, or even a deck chair. Any one of these pieces of garden furniture will surely be greatly appreciated, for they are novel as well as useful.

WINTER BLOSSOMS FROM THE OUTDOOR GARDEN.

Make Your Garden Beautiful in Winter.

PLANTS TO GROW AND HOW TO GROW THEM
Illustrated in Colour and Black and White.
By A. W. DARNELL.
Price **£1 : 1 : 0**
Publishers: L. REEVE & CO., LTD.,
6, Henrietta St., Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

"BECO" ROSE BOWL HORNLESS LOUD-SPEAKER

Of beautiful appearance. Gives perfect tone whether empty or filled with water and flowers.

Nickel Plate. **£5 : 5 : 0**
Oxydised Silver. **£5 : 17 : 6**
Antique Copper. **£6 : 17 : 6**

Full particulars on application to
W. DARLINGTON & SONS, Ltd. LONDON CHRISTMAS

Chase Continuous Cloches

should be used through winter to protect Sweet Peas, Parsley, Lettuce, Cuttings, Christmas Roses, etc.

Tent Shape, Size A, 12 for 18/-; 52 for 55/-
Barn Shape, No. 1, 6 for 18/-; 26 for 55/-

CHASE ALPINE CLIPS hold any glass over Alpine plants. 3/6 per doz.

Above prices include carriage to any railway station in England and Wales, or part carriage elsewhere.

SECTIONAL FRUIT RACKS build up to any size. Each section contains 5 trays of 4 sq. ft. One section, 25/-; two sections, 45/-. f.o.s.

Full particulars, Cloches, Clips, Racks: Dept. 2.

CHASE CONTINUOUS CLOCHE, Chertsey, Surrey.

THE "SUFFIELD" ROSE PILLAR

Just a suitable present for a Rose Grower.

8 ft. high 21
10 ft. high 24

Carriage paid on three.

Digitized by Google

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then, together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices :—

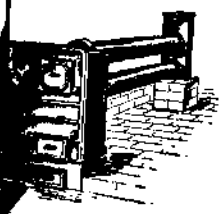
Tins 10d. and 1/6
and in Branded and Sealed Bags :

7 lbs.	- 3/6	14 lbs.	- 6/-
28 lbs.	- 10/-	56 lbs.	- 18/-
112 lbs.	- 32/-		

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers, etc. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**



Paying Points about "STOURBRIDGE" Greenhouse Boilers

No. 8. Will last a gardener's life time.

Write at once for special price. State size of house. Address Dept. 3.

W. WOOD LTD Stourbridge

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND, SOILFUME, NICOTINE, INSECTICIDES, FUNGERS, SPRAYS AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES—THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY. IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT. CARRIAGE PAID.

TOMLINSON & HAYWARD LTD LINCOLN

READY.—Fifth Edition, Much Enlarged *taining 440 pages, illustrated by 514 Plans, tches and Photographs, together with five full plates in colour. Crown folio (size 15ins. by s.), bound in art canvas gilt. Price £3 15s. net.*

ne Art and Craft Garden Making

THOMAS H. MAWSON, F.L.S.
sisted by E. PRENTICE MAWSON, F.R.I.B.A.

HE Fifth Edition of this encyclopædic standard work may claim to be the most complete com- idium of garden design ever published. Its vey of the subject is attractively presented, ducting the reader through the whole range of den design and features, summarising the inite outcome of half a century's practical ex- ience. The examples illustrated have been ected from a wide range, and while old gardens England, Italy and France are not neglected, majority are of modern design showing general outs, the house in relation to the garden, rraces, Gateways, Drives, Avenues, Garden ouses, Water Treatment, Rock and Water rdens, Tree and Shrub Grouping. The list of ees, Plants and Shrubs comprises 50 pages; e Index contains over 700 references.

STRATED PROSPECTUS FREE ON APPLICATION

Published by

T. BATSFORD, LTD.,
94. High Holborn, LONDON.

British Made
ABOLENE
Tar Oil
Winter Wash

Clears Tree Trunks of Moss and Lichen and destroys Insects' Eggs and Fungus Spores

Abolene is thoroughly reliable and efficient. Easy and safe to use. Supplied in small sizes to suit owners of only two or three trees.

Pint	..	1/6
Quart	..	2/4
½ gallon	..	3/8
1 gallon	..	6/-

Write for Descriptive Folder

Abol Limited, 9 Beltring, Paddock Wood, Kent.

BY APPOINTMENT

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

The BEST and CHEAPEST

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

FANCY FERN PANS and BULB BOWLS from **4d.** each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List

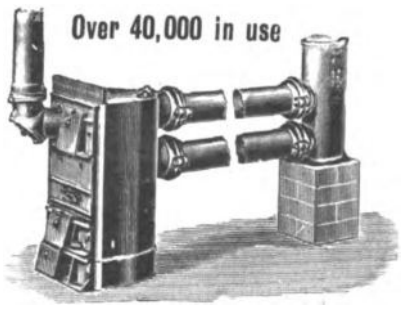
RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.
Royal Potteries, BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

GARDEN LOVERS

Write for Catalogues of
PROTHEROE & MORRIS'
· HORTICULTURAL SALES ·
MONDAY · WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY
67 68 Cheapside, London E.C.2. Phone City 3856

THE LOUGHBOROUGH BOILER

Over 40,000 in use



The high reputation of this Boiler for efficiency and economy is still unrivalled

Easy to fix, easy to manage, and most economical in fuel, it is the Ideal Boiler for the Amateur's Greenhouse

Price Lists and Estimates for complete :: apparatus on application ::

MESSENGER & CO., LTD. LOUGHBOROUGH LEICESTERSHIRE
LONDON OFFICE: 122, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

The Service Bureau Coupon.

THE GARDEN, *November 27th*, 1926.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

This Coupon must accompany each enquiry along with a stamped addressed envelope.

See page 690.

THE SERVICE DEPT., "THE GARDEN,"
20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2

Digitized by Google

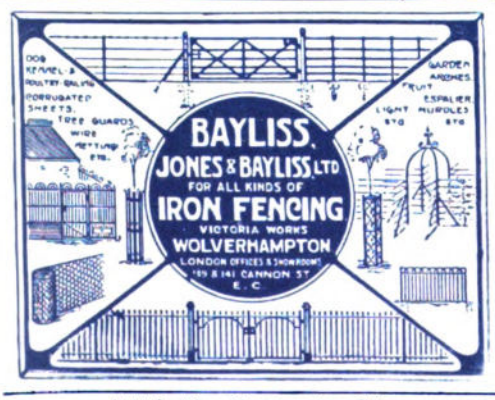
"All ready to put into your pipe—*that's handy!*"

PLAYER'S "Medium" Navy Cut Tobacco (Rubbed Ready for Smoking) comes as a great convenience to those Smokers who prefer their tobacco "rubbed up" before filling the pouch.

PLAYER'S
"MEDIUM"
Navy Cut

PLAYER'S NAVY CUT
REGD No 134011.
RUBBED READY FOR SMOKING

P 1316



WAKELEY'S Celebrated (PATENTED) HOP MANURE
THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY
RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7 - carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

A beautiful Free Booklet giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. GENUINE ONLY IN OUR MARKED BAGS, CONTAINING GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

Cash Prices including bags: Small (about 1 bushel), 3/- ; Large (about 4 bushels), 7/-; 5 Large 33/9
10 Large, 65/- 20 Large, 120/-

Carriage Paid to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company. 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

"Walton" Sectional Greenhouse erected in thirty minutes—16 bolts only needed—no nails, hammer or saw required. Fit guaranteed. Size 12 ft. by 8 ft., price £15 12 0. Carr. paid to your station. Send for catalogue. "Out of income" terms if required.
Manchester Office: 41 Corporation Street.
(Works adjoin Crow Park Station, L. & N.E.R.)

E.C. WALTON & Co MUSKHAM WORKS NEWARK.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE LEADING GLASSHOUSE FUMIGANT.

Autumn and Winter Wash

(Corry's) For Fruit Trees, NON-POISONOUS, NON-CAUSTIC, Destroys APPLE AND PEAR SCAB CANKER and American Blight.
1 Pt., 1/6; 1 qt., 2/6; ½ gal., 4/9; 1 gal. 8/6 From Seedsmen

CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

PORTWAY'S
Coke Breaker

Break your Coke to make your Stove remain alight longer.

As Shown - 45/-
OR
On Stand - 65/-

Of all Ironmongers.

MAKERS:
C. PORTWAY & SON,
Tortoise Works,
HALSTEAD, ESSEX.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by "ALPHOL"
Sample 14 lb., 5/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

"It warms my Greenhouse nicely at a cost of **about 2d. per day**, which I think very reasonable. I am a new beginner with a Greenhouse, and your

'HORSE SHOE' BOILER

took my fancy. I have not regretted my choice," writes Mr. F. G., Clifford, Boston Spa. 23/3/26

Cold weather comes soon. ***Write for particulars now***

To CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD.,
Engineers, Southwark Street, S.E.1.
Please send me Booklet E "Making the Most of Your Greenhouse," and price of complete Outfit to suit *(span-roof) (lean-to) greenhouse..... long.....wide inside, side of *(wood) (brick).....thick.

Name.....

Address.....

*Strike out particulars not needed. Cut out and send by ½d. post.

Can be supplied from Immediate Stock

USED IN THE R.H.S. GARDENS

Wire: "Kinneli-Boroh-London." 'Phone: Hop 0362 (3 lines)

CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., Ltd.
65, SOUTHWARK STREET, LONDON, S.E.1

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

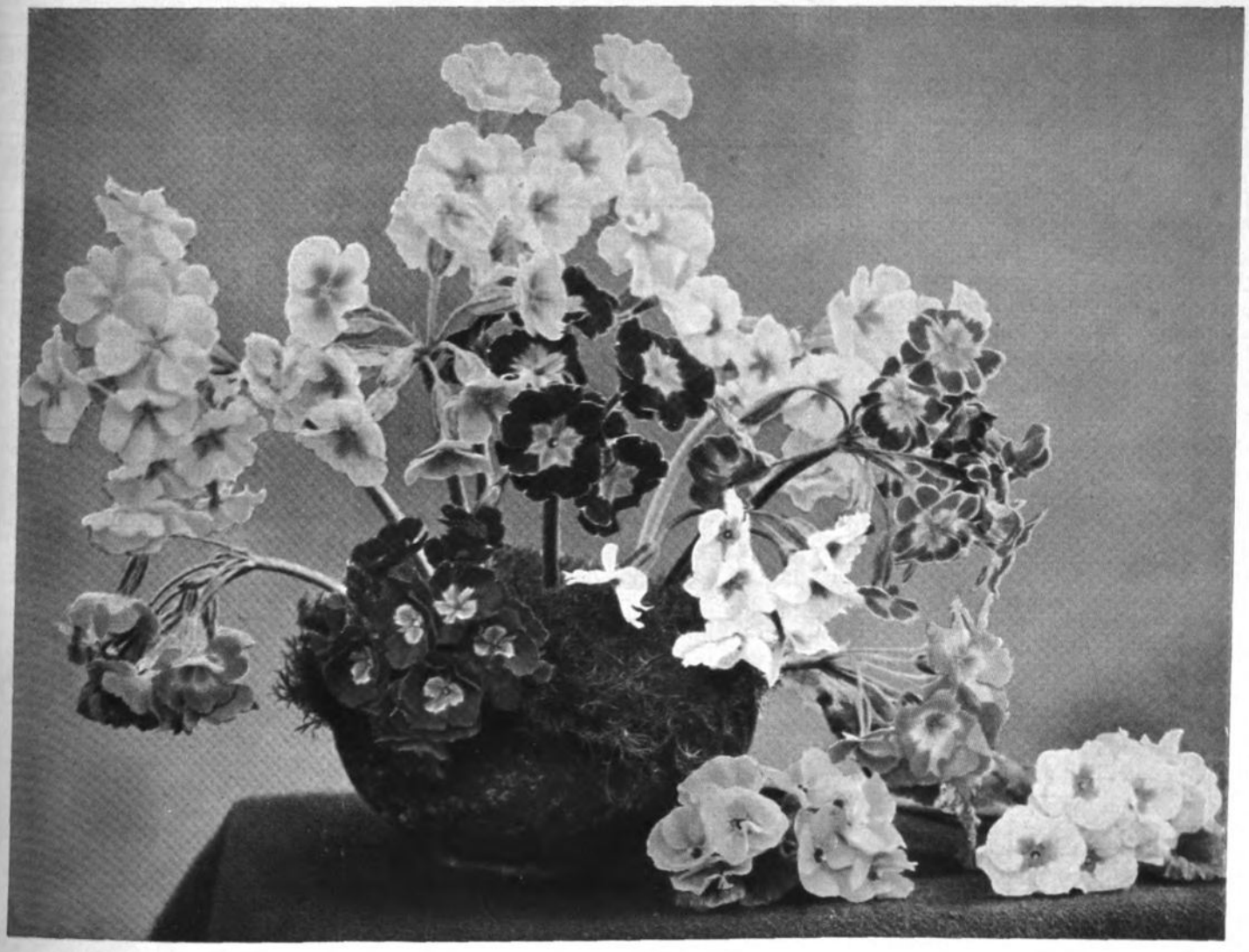
Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

THE AMATEUR GARDENERS' PAPER

Vol. XC.—No. 2870 Saturday, December 4th, 1926 Price TWOPENCE

PERIODICAL ROOM GENERAL LIBRARY UNIV. OF MICH.



FOR WINTER AND EARLY SPRING EFFECT IN OUR GARDENS THE POLYANTHUS PRIMROSES ARE UNSURPASSED. WITH THEIR WIDE RANGE OF COLOUR AND HABIT, OWING TO THEIR COMPLEX ANCESTRY THEY ALWAYS PRESENT A GAY APPEARANCE IN THE SPRING GARDEN.

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
New Alpines and Perennials
Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
Specialists in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

T. J. EVANS & SON
(G) WHIPLEY NURSERIES
WOOD STREET
Nr. GUILDFORD
Roses, Fruit Trees, Shrubs, etc. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD,
CHELSEA, S.W.
Bulb Catalogue Now Ready

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

H. E. MOXON
BULB IMPORTER
ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH
Bulbs for Bedding

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925

MRS. LADENBURG
"DERRYQUIN"
SUNNINGDALE, BERKS.
Undertakes laying out New Gardens Construction of Rockeries and Alterations. Plans and Estimates Free.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
LINCS.
Weed Destroyers Fertilizers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

TUBS FOR SHRUBS. WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 100 prizes. R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. — Price List from A. PRADAL, 26, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

THE ROSE
YOU WILL LOVE
"LADY SYLVIA"

Colour :—Shell pink with an underlying sheen of apricot, suffused with mellow shades of prawn pink merging to rich salmon pink.
AWARD OF MERIT, R.H.S., 1926.
CERTIFICATE OF MERIT, N.R.S., 1926.
STRONG PLANTS, ex 4 inch POTS
5/- each, 56/- dozen.
Delivery March to June. All orders taken in strict rotation. Carr. paid, Cash with Order.
The home of "ROSELANDIA" the best Yellow Rose yet raised.
STRONG PLANTS, ex 4 inch POTS
2/6 each, 27/6 dozen.
WALTER STEVENS (HODDESDON), LTD.
Roselands Nursery, Hoddesdon, Herts.

Perfect cleansing

The stringent ordeal of competition has not affected XL ALL Winter Wash. It remains incomparable. Use it now on every tree, and be free of pests next year.

XL ALL WINTER WASH

G. H. RICHARDS LTD.
224, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
R. 224. Monomark: BCM/XLALL

Continued from page iii.

50,000 WALLFLOWERS. — Dwarf [illegible] bushy transplanted plants, grown on the chalk hills of Sussex, which makes them very hardy. Blood Red, Golden Yellow, Primrose and others, Ruby Gem, Ivory White, Yellow Queen, Purple Queen or Mixed, 50 2/-, 100 3/6, 500 15/-, 1,000 27/6, free.—SLOCOMBE LEIGH, Broughton, Hants.

BULB CLEARANCE SALE.—20,000 [illegible] Tulips and Mixed Daffodils, good flowering size; 1,000 25/- 1,000. Carriage paid.—STOW AND OTHNOR, Ipswich.

AMATEUR'S COLLECTION OF PERENNIALS, surplus plants, all exhibition varieties, choice sorts, 18 for 5/-; rockery plants, 18 for 5/-. Carriage paid.—Fowler, "Revilo," Long Lane, Ickenham, Uxbridge.

ALPINES, ROCK AND HERBACEOUS PLANTS, Dwarf Conifers and Shrubs, Bulbs for the Garden, etc. New catalogue ready, post free.—SHAWHURST, Shawhurst Nursery, Hollywood, Birmingham.

LABELS.—Patent metal, so simple to use by a nail; can't fade or break. Trial offer [illegible]; 50 stakes, 50 tie wires, 1 pocket nail, 10/- free. The R.H.S. use them. Lists.—WEBSTER'S, Wilberlee.

MASKELL'S HOP MANURE.—Best substitute for stable manure, 56lbs., 4/-; cwt., 6/-. The all-round fertiliser, 56lb., 5/-; cwt., 8/6. Ground lime, 56lb., 4/-; cwt., 6/-. Screened Gas Lime, etc., Basic Slag, cwt., 8/6. Packed in bags and carriage paid. fertilisers, etc., supplied. Booklets free.—MASKELL'S LTD., Dirleton Road, West Ham, E.15.

KNIPHOFIA ERECTA.—The most beautiful, brilliant and interesting of the red-hot pokers. Five sent post. 18/- per doz.—GALVIN'S NURSERIES, Wexford.

THE DOG: MAN'S FIRMEST FRIEND. How to choose and care for him, by A. CROXLEY SMITH. A copy of this helpful booklet on the housing, breeding and care of dogs will be sent post free on receipt of 1d. addressed to The Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," LTD., Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

THE "SOUTHWELL" COLLECTION
Twelve Varieties, Carriage and Packing Free - - 12/6
With "ACME" Labels - - 15/-

Caroline Testout (H.T.) satiny rose.
Col. O. FitzGerald (H.T.) crimson.
Emma Wright (H.T.) pure orange.
Frau Karl Druschki (H.P.) pure white.
General McArthur (H.T.) carmine.
Henrietta (H.T.) orange crimson.
Hugh Dickson (H.T.) brilliant crimson.
Independence Day (H.T.) orange apricot.
Madame E. Herriot (H.T.) coral red.
Ophelia (H.T.) salmon flesh.
The Queen Alexandra (H.T.) deep vermilion.
Ulrich Brunner (H.P.) cherry crimson.

Also FRUIT TREES, SHRUBS, ORNAMENTAL TREES, ALPINES & HARDY PLANTS
ALL HOME GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries. *Catalogue Free on Application.*

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LIMITED
Garden Specialists, SOUTHWELL, NOTTS.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

T TO PLANT, WHEN TO PLANT?—ERS WILL TELL YOU. Catalogues beautifully d with copious cultural notes are issued of the following: Roses, Fruit Trees, Herbaceous and Alpine Plants, ndrons, Azaleas, Evergreen, Flowering, Hedge-making ening Shrubs; also "Your New Garden," a publication to assist economically the making of your new garden. le above gladly sent free.—JOHN WATERER SONS AND IMITED, Twyford, Berks.

LAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODEN- on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and lants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write ogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

ELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE. riginal and only substitute for Stable Manure. See on back page.

DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., Road, South Tottenham, N.15. — Conservatories, Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

3' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUN- NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.— 17, Eccleston Street, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

ING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request. — THE UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere,

ER CARNATIONS. — 200 varieties, varieties, from 6/6; 50 in 50 ditto, from 25/-; carriage ists free. J. HAYWARD, Chace Gardens, Stakes Road, Cosham, Hants.

S HORTICULTURAL, all sizes stocked; lass Plate for poultry houses. Ready Mixed Paints, lamonds, etc.—BRITISH GLASS COMPANY, Dept. "G.N.," Buildings, Church Street, Liverpool.

IS THE TIME TO LOOK TO YOUR N. "THE HOME GARDEN BOOKS" deal with every f the art. Send for pamphlet C, post free, from THORNTHWORTH, LIMITED, 15, Bedford Street, London, W.C.2.

SSARY AUTUMN MANURING. asic Slag and all kinds of Fertilisers. Many thousands sold annually. Absolute lowest prices. Descriptive free.—JAMES & GEO. H. MATTHEWS, Harold Wood, 'Phone, Romford 284.

VEITCHBERRY.—The finest Hybrid et raised. The fruit is twice the size of a Raspberry, elicious flavour, and is splendid for dessert and culinary . It is absolutely self-fertile and therefore sets freely. plants 7/6 each, 84/- per dozen.—LAXTON BROTHERS, men, Bedford.

ERY STONE.—The most beautiful is ronstone; sample bags, 2/6. Excellent Crazy Paving, ural Lime and Red Loam Sand. Enquiries invited.— ATKINS, Coleford, Glos.

AIN GARDEN WIRE!!—Ideal for uit trees, tomatoes, arches, repairing fences, tying res of other uses. Strong, flexible, and waterproof Special prices small lots, or 10/6 mile. Samples REENS, 413, Albert Street, Lytham.

ESSUS LAWSONIANA.—1½ ft. to 2ft., t. to 3ft., 9/- doz. Laurel rotundifolia, 1ft. to 1½ft., ft. to 2ft., 6/- doz. Splendidly grown hardy Scotch arriage paid. C.W.O. Catalogue of Shrubs, Roses, request.—BARR & SON, Dumfries.

GOLDEN CLEMATIS (C. TANGUTICA). climber with countless large golden flowers. Hardy. s pot-grown plants, 1/6 each, 3 for 3/9, 6 for 7/-, carriage king extra.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED, Six Hills, Stevenage, Herts.

SEASON'S CHOICE PRIMULA SEED. Beesiana, P. Bulleyana, P. capitata, P. japonica, P. ienta, P. sikkimensis, P. Veitchii, to clear, 1/- per pkt. ata, P. Edina, p. Lichiangensis, P. Mooreana, 1/6 per Barmanica, P. La Lorraine, P. Ville de Nancy, 2/- per M. HUNT & SONS, 4, Northcote Street, Edinburgh.

BARR'S SURPLUS Spring-Flowering Bulbs — Daffodils, Tulips, Hyacinths, Chionodoxas, Early Scillas, Bulbous Irises, Wood Hyacinths, etc. Bulbs in splendid condition at *greatly reduced prices*. List on application.

BARR'S SURPLUS HARDY PLANTS for Flower Border and Rock Garden, including Asters, Irises, Delphiniums, Hemerocallis, Paeonies, Saxifragas, Helianthemums, etc., etc. List on application.—BARR & SONS, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

JOIN THE BRITISH GLADIOLUS SOCIETY. Annual subscription, 5/-. Particulars from Hon. Sec., A. E. AMOS, 10, Bergholt Road, Colchester.

Yearly Subscription, Inland, 13s.; Foreign, 13s.
Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2.
Offices for Advertisements: 6-11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
The Notes of the Week	691
The Joy of Making a New Garden	692
The Importance of Drainage in the Garden	692
Trailing Plants Worth Growing	693
Empire Bulbs	694
Ferns in the Rock Garden	694
Hints on Path-making	695
The Flower Garden	696
Gardening Without a Gardener	697
Success With Rhododendrons	698
The Fruit and Kitchen Garden	700
The Winter Spraying of Fruit Trees	701
What Our Readers Say	701
In the Greenhouse	703
Facts About Fertilisers	704
Hints Worth Remembering	705
THE GARDEN *Crossword.—III*	705
Our Service Bureau	706

DON'T YOU THINK?—It is by no means strange that garden lovers who want "something better" in their gardens turn to Hewitt's. All phases considered—Seeds, Bulbs, Delphiniums, Roses and Shrubs—it would be extraordinary if they didn't. What a difference a few pence make. Get the habit and join the crowd who go Hewitts'. Catalogues free from HEWITT AND CO., LTD., Solihull, Warwickshire.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wirework of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 168. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

ORDER TENNIS COURT FENCING NOW. Complete enclosure 120ft. by 60ft. for one Court, 9ft. high, with Iron Standards, Gate, Strand Wires, ready for erection, £34. Carriage paid to stations in England and Wales. Other sizes in proportion. Write for special Leaflet to Dept. FP/G., BOULTON & PAUL, LIMITED, Riverside Works, Norwich.

AUSTRIAN PINE, DOUGLAS FIR, SCOTS PINE. Stout well shaped trees. Also Fruit Trees in great variety. Write for descriptive catalogue.—THE FOREST & ORCHARD NURSERIES, LIMITED, Milbury Heath, Falfield, Glos.

SAVED FROM THE ENCROACHING BUILDER.—1,000 Green-winged Orchis (O. Morio). Better in your grass or rock garden than under his bricks and mortar. 3/9 doz., 24/- 100.—WILD GARDEN NURSERIES, Rockbeare, Exeter.

GARDENERS, RICH AND POOR (especially poor!) should get the Fairseat Autumn Sales List. It offers a host of good things at practically pre-war prices. Postal business a speciality.—FAIRSEAT NURSERIES, Wrotham, Kent

NEW CHRYSANTHEMUMS.—Catalogue of 700 varieties, also Dahlias, etc., now ready.—J. W. COLE AND SON, Westwood Nurseries, Peterborough.

THE SCENT OF FLOWERS. By Dr. F. A. Hampton. Crown 8vo., 6/- net.; post free, 6/3. An invaluable book on scent, including scented roses and other flowers for the garden. From all Booksellers, or direct from the Publishers, DULAU & CO., LTD., 34, Margaret Street, London, W.1.

DOBBIE'S FAMOUS BULBS, SCOTCH ROSES and SWEET PEAS for Autumn Sowing. Catalogue free on mentioning THE GARDEN.—DOBBIE AND CO., LIMITED, Edinburgh.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools: a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE!!!—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 1s/6 per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

ROCK PLANTS AND SHRUBS.—Over 300 varieties in stock. Descriptive Catalogue free. Also Herbaceous Plants and Roses. — HODSONS, LIMITED, 58, Castle Gate Nottingham.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

PRIOR'S COLCHESTER ROSES, Fruit Trees, Gladioli, Dahlias, Carnations, Herbaceous. Catalogue containing cheap collections free.—D. PRIOR AND SON, LTD., Colchester

A GARDEN EVER IN BLOOM is easily and economically achieved by planting my Hardy Herbaceous Roots. Fully illustrated list post free. Satisfaction guaranteed or cash refunded in full on return of plants.—H. E. POLLARD, Nurseries, Evesham.

YORK STONE PAVING, for Garden Paths and lily ponds; rectangular or crazy for rustic work; steps and wall coping; rockery. — GEO. VINT AND BROS., Stone Merchants, Idle, Bradford.

ALPINES AND HARDY ROCK PLANTS. 700 varieties. Catalogue free.—LEE, Alpine Gardens, Stechford, Birmingham.

TO FLOWER NEXT SUMMER, 12 Hydrangeas, assorted, carriage paid on receipt of 20/-. A real bargain.—TRESEDDER AND CO., The Nurseries, Truro.

LOBELIA CARDINALIS QUEEN VICTORIA, brilliant scarlet, late flowering perennial, 1 doz., post free, for 10/-.—TRESEDDER AND CO., as above.

FIBROUS YELLOW TURF LOAM.—Catalogue free.—A. B. JOHNSTONE, Cranleigh.

SIXPENCE EACH, HARDY EVERGREEN AND FLOWERING SHRUBS. Arbor Vitæ, Mountain Ash, Berberis, Sweet Briars, Horse Chestnuts, Cupressus, Diplopappus, Forsythia, Guelder Rose, Deutzias, Laburnum, Larch, Laurels, Lavender, Lilacs, Maple, Scarlet Oak, Olearia, Philadelphus grandiflorus, Poplars, Rosemary, Spiræa, Scotch Fir, Veronica Traversii, Weigelias, Golden Willow, Hops. All strong and well rooted. Orders of 5/- and over carriage paid.—C. R. SHILLING, 6, Hartley Nursery, Winchfield, Hants.

LLOYD GEORGE RASPBERRY, Finest kind grown, large crimson fruit. Bears from June to October continuously. Strong canes, 50 for 5/9; or 10/9 100. Carriage paid.—C. R. SHILLING, 6, Hartley Nursery, Winchfield, Hants.

ALUMINIUM METAL LABELS, BRIGHT, rustless, everlasting. Any names embossed in large capital letters, for labelling Trees, Roses, etc., unequalled: 10d. doz. 50 for 3/-, or 5/9 100, post free. Write names required plainly —C. R. SHILLING, 6 Hartley Nursery, Winchfield, Hants.

SEED POTATOES.—50 varieties, Scotch and English Grown, certified stocks for immediate despatch for early boxing. Send for list.—CROSS AND CO., Elm Road House, Wisbech.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING —"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon carr. extra. "Plastine," the imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

Barr's Cash Clearance Sale of SURPLUS SPRING FLOWERING BULBS

FOR THE FLOWER BORDER:—

	100	doz.
DAFFODILS, Choice Flower Border Mixture	12/6	1/9
EARLY SINGLE TULIPS, Rainbow Mixture	6/6	1/-
GRAND DARWIN TULIPS, Splendid Mixture	7/-	1/-
ENGLISH BULBOUS IRISES, Mixed	9/6	1/4
SPANISH IRISES, Splendid Mixture	3/6	6d.
BORDER HYACINTHS, Choice Mixture	25/-	3/6

FOR NATURALISING IN GRASS, Etc.:—

DAFFODILS AND NARCISSI, Mixed	Per 1,000	65/-	Per 100	7/-
SINGLE CHALICE-CUP NARCISSI, Mixed	,,	65/-	,,	7/-
COTTAGE TULIPS, Mixed	,,	55/-	,,	6/-
ENGLISH BLUE BELLS	,,	25/-	,,	3/-
SCILLA, Wood Hyacinths, Mixed	,,	30/-	,,	3/6

Surplus List of other beautiful Spring-flowering Bulbs post free.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 and 13 KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2

☞ No connection with any other firm of the same name.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

PLANT SMITH'S ROSES. Hardy Scotch Grown.

UNSURPASSED FOR HARDINESS AND FIBROUS ROOTS. FROM 12/- DOZEN.
SILVER CUPS GAINED 1908-9-10-11-12-25.
NATIONAL ROSE SOCIETY'S MEDAL, LONDON, 1925.

Also FRUIT TREES, SHRUBS, FOREST TREES.
Send for Catalogues with prices, free on application.
GIVE US A TRIAL ORDER.

THOMAS SMITH & SONS, STRANRAER. *Est.* 1861.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

GARDEN LOVERS

Write for Catalogues of
PROTHEROE & MORRIS'
HORTICULTURAL SALES
MONDAY · WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY
67, 68 Cheapside, London E.C.2. Phone: City 3856

Our New List of CHRYSANTHEMUMS for 1927 is NOW READY

containing all the finest and most desirable varieties. Free on application to:—

KEITH LUXFORD & CO.
Chrysanthemum Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

TO ENSURE EXCELLENT ROSES NEXT SEASON USE

"APEX"
(Regd.)
Fish Manure
The Perfect Plant Food

PRICES: CARRIAGE PAID
7 lb. Bags 3/6 each 14 lb. Bags 5/6 each
28 lb. Bags 9/- each 56 lb. Bags 15/- each
112 lb. Bags 27/- each

Write to-day for Descriptive Pamphlet to—

J.C. WHITNEY & CO.
Eldon Street House,
2/3, Eldon Street, LONDON, E.C.2
Telephone: LONDON WALL 1118 Telegrams: WHITNEYMER, AVE, LONDON

THE DOWNER LUPIN
is now known all the World over.
Apply for Lupin List: also Herbaceous and Alpine Catalogue.
DOWNER
2, Drayton Manor Nurseries, CHICHESTER

BURBAGE ROSES

A collection of 12 of the best varieties. First size Trees, Guaranteed British Grown and true to name, for 12/6 Carriage Paid. - Cash with order.

Betty Uprichard	Los Angeles
Clarice Goodacre	Independence Day
Mrs. H. Morse	Madame Butterfly
Miss Willmett	Mrs. Wemyss Quin
Mrs. H. Stevens	Gen. MacArthur
Walter C. Clarke	Frau Karl Druschki

THE BURBAGE NURSERIES LTD.,
Nr. Hinckley, Leicestershire.
Please mention this Paper.

On the Making of Gardens.

The Gardens of Italy. By A. T. BOLTON. Large folio. 400 Illustrations. 3 Gns.

Gardens for Small Country Houses. By Sir L. WEAVER and G. JEKYLL. Large quarto. 25s.

Colour Schemes for the Flower Garden. By G. JEKYLL. 100 Illustrations. 15s.

Gardening for Beginners. By E. T. COOK. Coloured Plates and 200 Illustrations. 8th edition. 16s.

Wall and Water Gardens. By G. JEKYLL. 17s. 6d.

The Planning and Planting of Little Gardens. By G. DILLISTONE. 6s.

Shrubs for Amateurs. By W. J. BEAN. 5s. net.

The Rock Garden. By E. H. JENKINS. 7s. 6d.

For any of the above books, or for a full prospectus, write to "COUNTRY LIFE," *20, Tavistock St., Covent Garden, London.*

THE NEW COMPLETE LIST
of
GARDEN BOOKS
published by "Country Life"
is
NOW READY

FREE ON APPLICATION TO THE PUBLISHERS
20, TAVISTOCK ST., COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2

The Seaside Planting of Trees and Shrubs

By Alfred Gaut, F.R.H.S. 28 Illustrations. 5/- net. By post, 5/6.

"Country Life" Library, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

HILL & SMITH, Ltd.,
BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS,
Makers of
IRON FENCING, HURDLES, GATES, WIRE NETTING AND GARDEN IRONWORK

Other Products—Hay and Grain Sheds, Dutch Barns, Galvanized Corrugated Sheets and Structural Steelwork.

Catalogue free on mentioning this paper.

London: 300, Abbey House, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

Chase Continuous Cloches

should be used through winter to protect Sweet Peas, Parsley, Lettuce, Cuttings, Christmas Roses, etc.

Tent Shape, Size A, 12 for 18/-; 52 for 55/-
Barn Shape, No. 1, 6 for 18/-; 26 for 55/-

CHASE ALPINE CLIPS hold any glass over Alpine plants. 3/6 per doz.

Above prices include carriage to any railway station in England and Wales, or part carriage elsewhere.

SECTIONAL FRUIT RACKS build up to any size. Each section contains 5 trays of 4 sq. ft. One section, 25/-; two sections, 45/-, f.o.r.

Full particulars, Cloches, Clips, Racks: Dept. 7,

CHASE CONTINUOUS CLOCHE, Chertsey, Surrey.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

GIBSON'S GARDEN GLORIES

15 Acres of Glorious ROSES, SHRUBS, FRUITS, Alpine and Herbaceous Plants, Lupins, etc.

NEW CATALOGUE FREE ON REQUEST

Orders of 5/- and over carriage paid for cash with order. With less amounts, 6d. extra.

rand Collection of 30 Dwarf, Climbing and Hybrid Sweet Briar Roses for 30/-:—

Choice Dwarf Roses for 6/-.
...tty Uprichard, carmine.
...vent Garden, rich red.
...roline Testout, pink.
...ly Mail, coral red to prawn red.
...e. Dickson, dark crimson.
...s. W. Quin, yellow.

6 Dwarf Roses for 6/-.
General MacArthur, red.
Lady Pirrie, coppery salmon.
Mme. A. Chateney, carmine.
Mme. Ravary, yellow.
Ophelia, flesh shade.
F. K. Druschki, white.

6 Climbing Roses for 7/6.
Alberic Barbier, yellow to white.
Dorothy Dennison, flesh pink.
Excelsa, crimson.
Emily Gray, yellow.
Conrad F. Meyer, silvery rose.
Mme. A. Carriere, white.

6 Climbing Roses for 7/6.
Cl. Ophelia, flesh pale.
Dorothy Perkins, pink.
Hiawatha, crimson, white eye.
Paul's Scarlet Climber, good.
Gerbe Rose, bright pink.
Paradise, large pink.

6 Hybrid Sweet Briars for 7/6.
All have the Briar Scent, large flowered and different shades.
Amy Robsart, Brenda, Flora McIvor, J. Deans, Lady Penzance, Lord Penzance.

The whole of the above 30 Roses will be supplied, correctly named, packing free and carriage paid for 30/- for cash.

REGALE LUPINS
Most wonderful shades and colours ever seen
Strong plants, all shades. 10/- per dozen.

LONICERA NITIDA
The New Hedge Plant.
Splendid bushy well rooted plants. It is also good for forming edgings instead of box for borders.
2/6 per dozen; 20/- per 100.

THE NEW CLIMBING ROSE
Phyllis Bide. Perpetual flowering. 2/- each.
Colour: Pale gold at base, flushed and shaded carmine pink, in long sprays. 3 for 5/9

G. GIBSON & CO., Leeming Bar, BEDALE

FREESIAS

(Pure White, Fine for Pots)

LARGEST BULBS OBTAINABLE,
per 100, 4/6; 500 for 20/-

	Per 100	Per 500
...lenodoxa, Fine Bulbs	3/6	15/-
... gigantea	5/-	20/-
...illas, Lovely Blue	4/6	20/-
... Largest	6/6	30/-
...owdrops, Sound Bulbs	2/6	10/-
... Top Size	3/6	15/-
...uscari, Heavenly Blue	2/6	10/-
...illum, neapolitanum	3/6	15/-

GLADIOLUS, EARLY FLOWERING
...endid for house decoration, 100 Corms in 5 varieties for 5/-
Ask for Special List.

LONGSTAFF & SONS
Gladioli Specialists,
...ear CHELSFIELD STATION, KENT
Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

ADCO

TURNS
GARDEN REFUSE
INTO
...YNTHETIC FARMYARD MANURE

1 cwt. of ADCO makes from two to three tons of manure according to the class of rubbish treated.
...OO Accelerator 28 lb. 4/6. 56 lb. 8/-. 1 cwt. 15/-
...andard ADCO 28 lb. 6/-. 56 lb. 11/6. 1 cwt. 20/-
...rriage Paid to nearest Goods Station. Cash with order.
Stocked by all Seedsmen, Harrods Ltd., etc. Write for full particulars.

ADCO LTD, 40 HARPENDEN, HERTS.

THE
JERSEY
FRUIT TREES ROSE TREES AND CARNATIONS

ARE PACKED FREE OF COST, AND DELIVERED CARRIAGE PAID

Before ordering, **IT WILL PAY YOU** to write for our Illustrated Catalogue and Planter's Guide, which contains Elaborate Instructions on the most profitable methods of cultivation, besides an article dealing with Insects and Fungoid Diseases, and is **FREE TO ALL.** It also gives particulars of our cheap

...OLLECTIONS OF NEW ROSES
...xceptional Value. Unsurpassed Quality
ALL GUARANTEED BRITISH GROWN.
...ny varieties illustrated in colours, direct from photographs
...ORDON FRUIT TREES OUR SPECIALITY
Vast quantities of strong, healthy, fibrously rooted Apples, on the bread-leaved Paradise. Pears, Plums, Peaches, Grape Vines and Strawberry Plants of superior quality.

The Jersey Nurseries, Ltd., (Late Le Cornu) **JERSEY**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

A most Interesting
FRUIT TREE CATALOGUE
FREE and POST FREE

THIS Catalogue, nicely produced and well printed, contains a valuable host of useful hints on FRUIT TREE CULTURE for Amateur and Professional. Herein will be found all the best and most popular Fruits for all purposes, alphabetically arranged for ready reference. A feature has been made of interesting Chats on soils, situations, and fertilizers; in fact, it is a valuable book, which should be in the hands of all those who possess a Garden or Fruit Farm, large or small. Sit down now, while the matter is fresh in your mind, and write for your free copy.

KING'S ACRE ROSES

THE King's Acre Nurseries—famous since 1785 for the stamina and vigour of their roses—have hardy and reliable
Bushes and Ramblers
in a wonderful, almost endless variety, which they are offering at prices considered by experts and amateurs to be beyond competition.

Alphabetically arranged Rose Catalogue, replete with reliable information, FREE ON REQUEST.

AWARDED 95 GOLD MEDALS.
KING'S ACRE NURSERIES, LTD., HEREFORD
Established 1785. ∴ *NURSERIES—140 ACRES.*
SPECIAL VALUE IN COLLECTIONS OF FRUIT TREES AND ROSES

EMPIRE GROWN
Lilies and Miscellaneous Bulbs
Perennials & Alpines. Catalogues free
PERRY'S Hardy Plant Farm, ENFIELD

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

COTTAGES. Their Planning, Design & Materials.

By SIR L. WEAVER. 15s.

400 *pages.* *New edition just published.*

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LTD., 20, Tavistock Street, London, W.C.2.

Messrs. **CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LTD., Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage,** beg to announce that the following have been judged as winners in their CHILDREN'S GARDEN COMPETITION.

JUDGES:—*Mrs. Marion Cran and the Editor of "THE GARDEN."*

1st PRIZE—MISS ELIZABETH MITCHELL, Pallinsburn, CORNHILL-ON-TWEED.

2nd PRIZE—MISS JEAN SEDDON BROWN, Bank Hall, TARLETON, Near PRESTON.

3rd PRIZE—MASTER PETER COTTON, 55, The Green, KEW, SURREY.

Consolation Prizes—

Miss Muriel A. Arber, 52, Huntingdon Road, Cambridge; Miss Joan M. Ashworth, Crossways, Bebington, Cheshire; Master George E. Ayshford, 5, Nether Park, London, N.3; Miss Betty Bourke, Monyerower, Maidenhead; Miss Gabrielle H. Caffin, Highlands, Harpenden, Herts; Miss Grizelda Dewar, Danesbury House, Welwyn, Herts; Miss Ruth Elliott, Pipp's Farm, Needham Market, Suffolk; Master Dixon Henderson, Longhurst, Grange Cotts, Morpeth, Northumberland; Miss Anna Shore, 8, Madingley Road, Cambridge; Miss Margaret Stirling, Keir, Dunblane, Perthshire; Miss Cecilia Waring, Lennel, Coldstream; Miss S. Wood, Grey Gables, Kettering.

Rare Himalayan and Chinese
RHODODENDRONS
in Hybrids and Species

A large stock of beautiful Hybrids raised at "Goldsworth," early and late flowering. Clean healthy plants, in various colours. The best have been grafted and can be supplied correctly under numbers. Also an assortment of other rare and scarce plants, and a large general nursery stock. Area over 300 acres.

The Exors. of
WALTER CHAS. SLOCOCK
Goldsworth Old Nursery, WOKING, SURREY.
Station: Woking (Southern Railway) 1 mile.
Lists on application. *Mention* THE GARDEN

Digitized by Google

WATERER'S SHRUBS

FOR

Every Purpose & Every Garden

Our beautifully illustrated 80 page catalogue contains details of :—

Rhododendrons and azaleas.
Evergreen and flowering shrubs.
Hedgemaking and screening shrubs.
Climbing plants.
Shrubs for covering walls and buildings.
Shrubs for planting in or near towns.
Shrubs for planting in the shade.
Shrubs for the rock garden.
Winter and early spring-flowering shrubs.
Berry bearing and ornamental fruiting shrubs.
Shrubs for winter bark effect.
Gold and Silver variegated shrubs, and many other interesting features.

Please write for a copy, it is post free.

John Waterer Sons & Crisp Ltd

TWYFORD——BERKS

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Michaelmas Daisies

For all the latest and most beautiful varieties, see the Raiser's List.

ERNEST BALLARD, Colwall, MALVERN

PLANTING SEASON

GEO. JACKMAN & SON

WOKING NURSERIES, SURREY

ESTABLISHED OVER A CENTURY

INVITE INSPECTION OF THEIR LARGE AND VARIED STOCK OF ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBS, ROSES, CLIMBERS, FRUIT AND FOREST TREES, HERBACEOUS AND ALPINE - - PLANTS - -

200 ACRES OF STOCK TO SELECT FROM. CATALOGUES FREE ON APPLICATION.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Allens ROSES

To-Day's Opportunity Ensures Next Summer's Delight

The present time is ideal for planting roses. The following selections are comprised of tip-top quality plants at a moderate price.

DO NOT DELAY— STOCKS ARE NOT HEAVY

Our "Supreme" Collection of 12 Dwarf Roses in first-rate varieties, carriage paid, for 13/6 cash with order.

Betty Uprichard, coppery salmon.
Hortulanus Budde, vermilion scarlet.
Admiration, cream washed vermilion
Elsie Beckwith, rose pink.
Huguette Vincent, carise pink.
Lady Pirrie, coppery salmon.
Lord Charlemont, deep crimson.
Lamia, orange.
Mabel Morse, the grand new golden yellow.
Florence L. Izzard, pure buttercup yellow.
Sensation, rich velvety crimson.
Souv. de Georges Pernet, coppery pink.

No rubbish. All first quality maidens on Briar Stocks.

Our "Standard" Collection, any 3 of the following selected Standards, 10/- carriage paid; any 6, 19/-; any 12, 38/-

Betty Uprichard, coppery salmon.
Los Angeles, coral rose.
Mme. Edouard Herriot ("Daily Mail" rose).
John Russell, new, deep crimson overlaid black.
The General, crimson, an advance on Hugh Dickson.
Mrs. O. V. Haworth, cinnamon cerise.
Elizabeth Didden, rose pink.
Crimson Columbia, a crimson form of Columbia.
Sensation, rich velvety crimson.
Mrs. Beckwith, lemon yellow, fine form.
Elsie Beckwith, rose pink.
Lord Charlemont, deep crimson.
Snow Queen, the indispensable white for standards.

WEEPING STANDARDS, in extra fine quality trees, 5–6ft. in height, price 8/- each, carriage paid: **Fernand Rabier, White Dorothy, Yvonne, Havering Rambler, Pape Gaushault, Sodenia, Hiawatha, Leontine Gervaise, Chatillon Rambler.**

"Pet" Collection of Polyantha Roses, 12 fine varieties, including our novelty **Rufus**, the finest scarlet rose in this section, carriage paid, 12/-, cash with order.

Alice Amos, cherry pink, white eye.
Diana, orange tipped carmine.
Dorothy Howarth, coral rose pink.
Ebloulssante, velvety crimson.
Ideal, dark scarlet.
La Reine Elizabeth, dark red.
Lady Reading, rosy pink.
Leonie Lamesch, coppery red.
Orange King, new deep orange.
Rodhatte, cherry red.
Tip Top, delightful double blooms, yellow tipped rose.
Rufus, the finest scarlet, unaffected by weather.

BUY FROM THE GROWERS, ALL GUARANTEED first quality plants from our Norfolk rose grounds.

SEND A CARD FOR OUR CATALOGUE TO-DAY.

A. J. & C. ALLEN (DEPT. G)

Nurserymen, NORWICH, NORFOLK

Established 1869.

Notes from Maidstone.

COOKING APPLES.

All Apples may be cooked, but not all are edible. Some are pasty and flavourless, others brown and woody. We can thoroughly recommend Golden Noble for autumn use, this cooks a clear amber yellow, and Thomas Rivers, in use till December, of unique fragrance. Of these, beside the usual forms, we have some extra large pyramids, 6ft. high and well developed, at 15/- each.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd., The Royal Nurseries, Established 1796. Maidstone.

KNAP HILL NURSERY

WOKING, SURREY

(*Late Anthony Waterer*)

The Executors of the late HOSEA WATERER have pleasure in offering

STANDARD TREES

In great variety, consisting of

LIMES, NORWAY MAPLES, ELMS, etc., etc.

EVERGREEN & DECIDUOUS SHRUBS, viz.:

Box—Green and Variegated, 3 to 8 ft.
Hollies—Common, 5 to 8 ft.; Variegated and Green varieties, 2 to 6 ft.
Thuiopsis borealis, 10 to 12 ft. Cupressus Lawsoniana, 12 to 14 ft. Cedrus atlantica glauca, very fine, 14 to 16 ft. Osmanthus, Phillyreas, Spireas, Lilacs, Viburnums, etc.

GOLDEN YEWS

A Magnificent Stock in all shapes and sizes from 2 to 10 ft.

PRIVET, Common and Oval-leaved. **QUICK** and **HORNBEAM** for Hedges.

AZALEAS, in great variety, 2 to 5 ft.

RHODODENDRONS, without doubt the finest stock in the trade of named varieties, 2 to 6 and 8 ft.

HARDY HEATHS in great variety and a good general nursery stock.

Catalogues ready.

Enquiries and Inspection invited.

KNAP HILL NURSERY WOKING STATION, SURREY

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

VOL. XC.—No. 2870. DECEMBER 4, 1926. PRICE TWOPENCE.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

The Gardener's Log-Book.

PROBABLY most gardeners keep a note-book of some sort, though there are many who would scorn to admit it. That being so, it would be just as well to put this on an organised and systematic basis, which can best be done by keeping a diary. Although the New Year of the calendar does not represent the beginning of the gardening year, it seems to be as good a time for starting a diary as any. The gardener who relies on his memory alone is often at a disadvantage as compared with the man who can refresh his memory from his diary and can thus be quite positive on the point in question.

A diary should contain primarily a record of the daily work performed, but if it contained nothing else it would be of little value. In many cases the record of one day would be but a repetition of the doings of the previous day, and this would be neither instructive nor interesting.

Beyond a record of the daily happenings the diary should show all that is done in the garden, and all observations on the progress of the crops. It should be a daily bulletin of the condition of the garden, so constructed as to form a complete history.

In a well kept diary it should be possible to trace any one subject from the preparation of the soil to the end of the season of use of that particular vegetable or flower. This is rendered more easy if the diary is indexed, which is no very easy matter. It is useful in order to be able to refer quickly to a particular subject, to leave margins on either side of the sheets and to mark in them the names of the fruit, vegetables and flowers dealt with in the body of the diary. One can then more easily see by glancing through the book any particular item.

A well kept diary should show: when the soil was prepared, the crop that preceded it, the method of preparation, the kind and amount of manure used, the date of seed-sowing, the variety sown, the amount of seed used, the time when the seedlings first appeared above the surface, the times of hoeing, thinning and top-dressing, the pests encountered, the method of controlling them, the success or otherwise attending this, the date when the first dish was available, also the last and any other item of work done; together with many observations made during the course of growth. In the flower garden there would be still greater scope for the record of observations, such as the colours, the heights, the habits, of the different varieties, and a wealth of valuable information which no book could give, and which none but a superhuman brain could hold, in a readily accessible form.

The keeping of a log-book is no easy matter, if it be posted up religiously every day. During the winter there is no difficulty, but during the busy months of spring and summer it is likely to be regarded as a drudgery. It should be no more of a drudgery for the gardener to keep a diary than for a business man to keep his books. Never on any account let it slide for as much as one day, for a diary with omissions is of no real value in the future.

Wet Weather and Drainage.

THIS wet autumn has proved conclusively the value of efficient drainage in the garden. Those that are well drained are workable after one or two days without rain, while it may be weeks before those that lack drainage are in a fit state to work; in fact, quite a large percentage of gardens at the present moment might be called water-logged. It is true that heavy soils, particularly clay, are difficult to drain, but readers should make every effort to accomplish it. It is easier to conserve moisture in dry weather by mulching and efficient hoeing, than to remove surplus moisture that undoubtedly does harm to many plants. The roots become sodden with constant soaking and so become an easy prey to fungus and insect pests.

In small gardens the actual laying of drains is not only troublesome and expensive, but there is an added difficulty in that it is often impossible to find a suitable outlet for the surplus water. When actual drainage is difficult or impossible, a great deal can be done towards mitigating the collection of too much moisture in another season by intensive cultivation of the soil, particularly in new gardens. This should be done to a considerable depth so that the earth near the surface, in which most plants root, can be thoroughly broken up and loosened. In any case we cannot impress too strongly on our readers the importance of drainage in the garden. It means much to the well-being of your plants.

HAVE YOU

- *Cleared out all dead and decaying wood from your shrubbery and raked over the soil?*
- *Protected your autumn sown beans and peas by drawing up a ridge of soil round them, and dusted them with soot?*
- *Pruned your grape vines and renovated your exhausted vine borders?*
- *Lifted the roots of your late border chrysanthemums and placed them in a frame?*
- *Protected with hand lights your Christmas roses?*
- *Renewed the labels in your rock garden and herbaceous borders?*
- *Lifted the remainder of your cauliflowers and placed them in a cool shed? They may otherwise be spoiled by hard weather?*
- *Started to propagate by cuttings your greenhouse chrysanthemums?*

RESULT OF THE NOVEMBER "GARDEN" COMPETITION.

THE Michaelmas Daisy Competition has obviously proved popular among many of our readers from the number of entries sent in. The number of varieties mentioned, no fewer than 117, is astounding, but there is no doubt about the voting on which are the six most popular. They are:

King George.
Climax.
Little Boy Blue.
Barr's Pink
Anita Ballard.
Perry's White.

Over fifty votes separate the first from the second and over thirty between the second and third, but the first four are close in comparison to the drop between the fourth, fifth and sixth. Many readers may be interested to know the next six in order of merit. They are: Nancy Ballard, Beauty of Colwall, Ethel Ballard, King of Belgians, Snowdrift, Sam Banham. It will be noticed that several of the varieties are comparatively new which proves how quickly merit in Michaelmas daisies is recognised.

No reader gave the first six. The first prize of three plants of each of the first six is awarded to Mrs. W. J. Stewart, 46, Dunbar Road, Birkdale, Southport, who gained top marks. The second prize winner is Miss M. Mason, Leighton, Parkgate, Cheshire. The third prize is divided between Mrs. Mack, Swanmore, Bishop's Waltham, Hants, and Mrs. F. J. Roskruge, Bosvean, St. Ives, Cornwall. To all the prizewinners the plants will be despatched in due course.

Digitized by Google

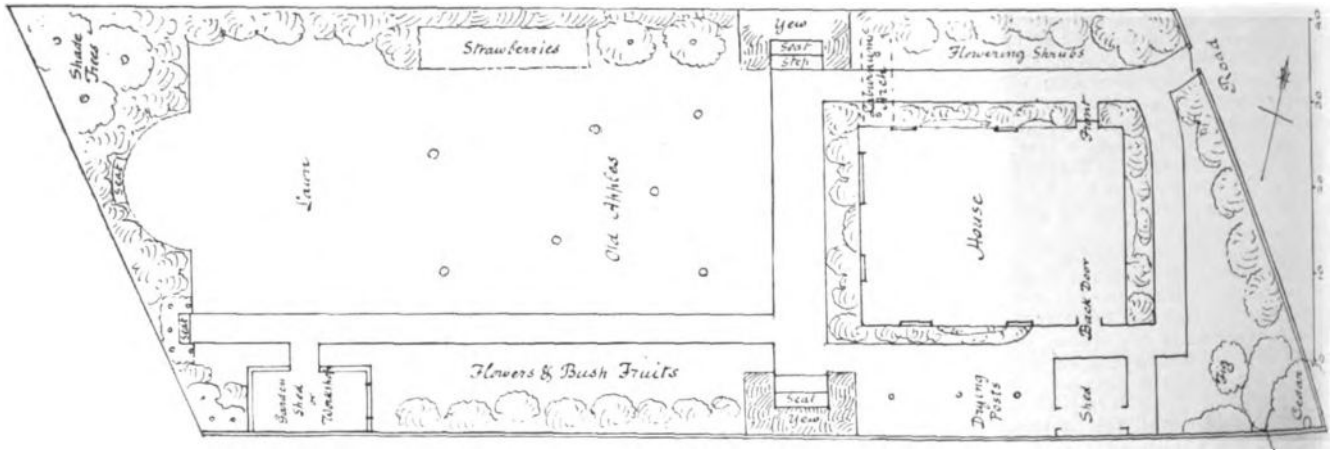
THE JOY OF MAKING A NEW GARDEN

BY GERTRUDE JEKYLL.

A HOUSE is building on one of the usual narrow-shaped plots near a small country town in lower mid-Sussex. A 6ft. wall encloses the land next to the road and a 5ft. wall is the boundary on the south side. At the south-east corner there is a cedar, and near it a standard fig, both shading the ground a good deal and presenting one of the most frequent, and often considered insoluble, problems to the planter—that of knowing what is likely to thrive under such conditions. One of the things most willing to do well in such shade is Berberis Aquifolium, though not actually up to the bole of the cedar, and the common holly will thrive under the outer branches. Then, in such a place as the foot of the wall, near the entrance to the shed, is just the position for the common male fern (Lastrea Filix-mas). For a continuation of planting against the front wall nothing can be better than laurustinus, and for suitable flowers between that and the house there are columbines, foxgloves, phloxes and Solomon's seal, all thankful for some shade. The spaces beyond the shed will be handy for some drying posts and lines, and the place is well screened from observation. The entrance path takes a little turn just inside the gate, where laurustinus could well be planted on both sides, followed by a continuation of flowering shrubs to show from those of the living-room windows that are on that side. A pleasant incident can here be made by planting two standard, laburnums trained to form an arch over the path; giving a long vista through to the farther ground.

On the garden side it is always desirable to have one wide path with some definite ending, such as the seats at each end, closely sheltered by a planting of yew. These, when well grown, can in time be trained to form a complete hood over the seats, one of which will be pleasant for summer shade and the other for a winter suntrap. It much helps good effect and is also well for dryness underfoot, if the seats stand on a low step, about 4ins. above ground.

The place was formerly a kitchen garden and some old apple trees remain. The owner is partly disabled and cannot do heavy digging. He therefore wishes to retain the apples and to let the ground beneath them and the space beyond be a quiet lawn. The semi-circular shaping at the end will give an effect of refinement and good design. A seat here will be in complete shade and will give a pleasant view of the grassy space and the old apples. Beyond the boundary at this end is a grove of trees. If three good trees for shade are planted in the north-west angle with a shrub planting, fairly tall, at the back of the seat, mostly evergreen, the dividing fence will be concealed and the farther trees will look as if they belong to the place. From the seat in the semi-circle, forwards for about 30ft., the grass should be kept mown; under the apples it should be left uncut till the middle of June to allow of having planted in the grass groups and drifts of daffodils, fritillarias and bluebells, with their near relatives, the Spanish squills, whose foliage would be ripe by the middle or end of the month; then another cutting about the middle of September, will leave the grass fairly short for the time of apple gathering. A bed for strawberries is desired and is shown in the most suitable place. The path on the south side of the lawn already exists. Across this path from the apples will be the place for some flowers for cutting and for enjoyment, perhaps grouped with some small fruit bushes. Some such structure as the garden shed may be in future contemplation; in any case, some place for tools is wanted, and the corner beyond would be a convenient rubbish place. An arbour of the useful tea-tree (Lycium chinense) will make a fitting ending to the path.



THE IMPORTANCE OF DRAINAGE IN THE GARDEN

AN excess of water is sometimes a potent reason for a soil being unproductive. Among other things it lessens its capacity for holding air, and at the same time renders the necessary gaseous exchanges more difficult, and the plants suffer from an insufficiency of free oxygen.

Water-logged soils have been rendered productive and many others have had their fertility increased by drainage. In carrying off the superfluous water the soil becomes drier and consequently warmer, allowing seed to be sown earlier and the produce harvested sooner. It enables freer access of air to the soil, increased root activity and greater ease in working. The details of how I drained a certain garden may be of interest to readers.

It was found, by the use of "boning-rods," that the difference in levels between extreme points in this garden only allowed of a fall of 4ft. in 230yds. A straight-edge 15ft. in length had a small block of wood 1in. in depth nailed to its edge. Fireclay pipes 4ins. in diameter were used for the main central drain, and the straight-edge with the spirit level were used on every fifth tile put down. A double-branched fireclay pipe was put in at every 18ft. to admit flow from branch drains. These were 3in. diameter tile drains.

The minimum depth of these was not less than 2ft. 6ins., to allow of trenching the soil 2ft. The fall at the deep end varied according to depth of main drain, and each drain had a covering of rubble or ashes over the tiles. By leaving the lower end of the system open a rainstorm assured us of the efficiency of the work done.

Many and ingenious are the methods of drainage employed in allotments where permanence of holding is not assured, and in most cases giving effective results. The area given over to allotments I have in mind was a stiff, low-lying clay which it required little knowledge to know would be benefited by drainage.

The work was undertaken with great enthusiasm animated by the reflection that once the job was done the rest would be comparatively easy and good crops result. There being no natural outlet for the disposal of superfluous water, the task of drainage was neither easy nor pleasant, as a considerable amount of excavation had to be done.

In most cases the formation of a "sump" to collect the drainage water was the sinking of a large water-barrel at the lowest or most out-of-the-way corner in the allotment. The utility of such a proceeding was evident in a situation where water was required to be brought some distance when needed.

The plan of drainage mostly favoured was the "herringbone" pattern—a main central drain with short offsets. And the average depth of drain level was not less than 2ft. and not more than 3ft., to lessen the work of excavation and allow of trenching the soil. The material used for drainage was of various kinds, but "clinkers" seemed to be favoured, being got at little cost from a neighbouring dump. These were roughly sieved and the largest placed in the bottom, with the fine on top to form the drain.

One ingenious "holder" had been able to procure a number of small cylindrical cases used for packing shells, out of which he knocked the ends and used these in place of tiles. Another made use of some creosoted boards sawn into suitable lengths and placed in triangular form in the drains. A little space was left between each of the side boards to allow the water to find its way into the drain.

WM. MCCARRELL.

Digitized by Google

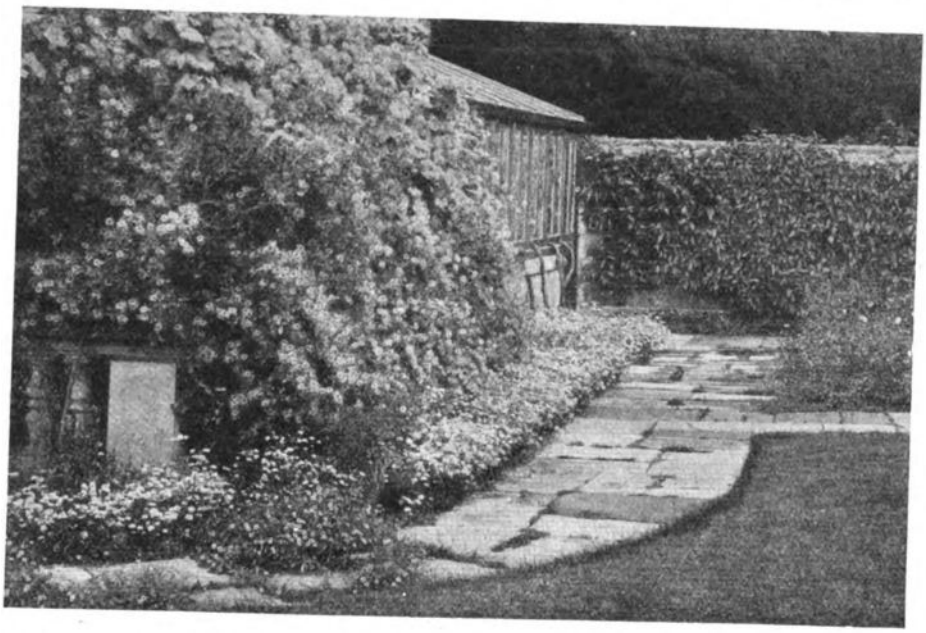
TRAILING PLANTS WORTH GROWING

Free use should be made of those plants which have a creeping or trailing habit. Some are admirable for the rockery while others again are eminently suited to form edgings to path or border.

PLANTS which have a procumbent or trailing habit have a place in every well ordered garden, and when properly grown and established, are not the least pleasing feature. In hardy subjects we have those which are eminently suitable for rockeries, stone walls, window-boxes and vases. Most of them are free in growth, so that the young plant of one year has so developed by the following season as to cover most, if not all, the space assigned it. All can be put in their quarters in spring. For the rock garden or rockery I suggest:

Helianthemums (sun roses) in various colours. Three good sorts are roseum multiplex (double rose), Golden Queen (yellow single) and apenninum (single white).

Saponarias (soapworts), trailers of rapid growth, and are never better served than when, at planting out time, pieces of rock or stone are provided for them to roam among. S. ocymoides splendens has large rosy crimson flowers. There is a white and a pink form also.



CANDYTUFT (IBERIS) MAKES AN ATTRACTIVE DWARF EDGING.

AUBRIETIAS ARE SUITABLE EITHER FOR PATCHES IN THE ROCK WALL OR FOR EDGINGS.

Alpine Phloxes are very attractive when they can be given a "promontory" in the rock garden over which the shoots can depend. Prolific with their blooms, they will last in good condition from April for a couple of months. Setacea (fleshy pink flowers), atro-lilacina (deep lilac) and nivalis (white) are representative of this interesting section.

The above plants never do better than when given a fairly light soil in which sand is found, and the position should be a sunny one. Propagation can be effected from cuttings after flowering, or, which is more simple, a few of the shoots layered and then cut away in the autumn when rooting has taken place.

Gypsophilas.—These are both lime and sun lovers, and in planting them care should be taken to incorporate with the soil old mortar rubble should it be deficient in lime. G. cerastoides, a true trailer bearing a profusion of white and violet streaked flowers; G. repens, also a white; and G. rosea, a pink form, is attractive.

Lithospermum prostratum (Heavenly Blue) blooms most profusely for several months from the middle of May. Likes a sandy peaty soil and the sun, but is not averse to a partially shaded position.

Aubrietias (rock cresses), very popular everywhere, filling various positions in a garden and, once established, bloom abundantly, whether grown on a rockery and allowed to ramble or in the crevices of a stone wall, they are a sight in spring, and never fail to charm. Of the many beautiful sorts to-day are Dr. Mules (violet-purple), Fire King (crimson), deltoides cilicica (pale blue) and Daisy Hill (crimson). Gritty soil, a well drained and sunny place best suits the rock cresses. Easily propagated from cuttings after flowering.

Corydalis lutea.—A fitting plant for the chinks and crevices of a stone wall or sloping bank, flowers yellow and borne in profusion throughout the summer.

Iberis (candytuft).—An old garden favourite. A prostrate-growing shrub-like plant never better placed than on a raised position on a rockery. I. correæfolia has heads of pure white flowers.

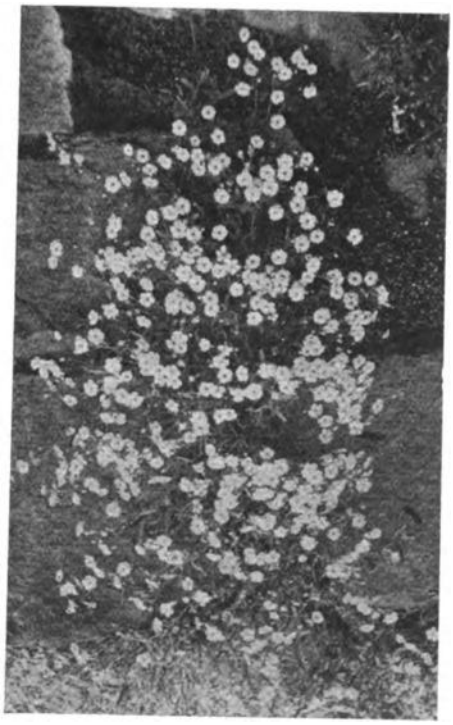
Verbena chamædrifolia.—Flowers of a telling scarlet during many weeks in the summer. Loves a sandy soil and a sunny position. Not hardy in every locality, but is worth trying.

Silene maritima fl. pl.—This is noted for its dense spreading foliage, which carpets the ground The blossoms, borne in profusion, studded among the leaves, are like those of a small double white pink. It flowers from June to September, and propagation may be effected by division of roots. Spring is the best time to plant. A sunny position is essential.

For a shady place, *Veronica repens*, one of the dwarfest of the speedwells, should not be overlooked; It is suitable for moist positions. Flowers are bluish white.

This is but a small selection of plants of a trailing habit which amateurs making a beginning will find little, if any, difficulty in succeeding with, and all of them bloom most freely.

W. F.



THE DAINTY GYPSOPHILA REPENS GROWING HAPPILY OVER A DRY WALL.

Digitized by Google

EMPIRE BULBS

THE STRIKING ADVANTAGES OF A NEW ENTERPRISE.

BRIEF reference has already appeared in print concerning "Empire bulbs," which have on various recent occasions figured both in the "dry bulb" and the flowering state in Mr. Amos Perry's exhibits at the Royal Horticultural Society and elsewhere. The time is opportune for something more than casual mention of the fact that liliums and other choice subjects are flowering from bulbs received from far-off New Zealand, for the experiments thus far conducted have shown results which not only justify an immediate extension of operations on the lines of Empire trading in bulbs, but have already revealed possibilities of extending the flowering season of some of our choicest and most desirable bulbous flowers to an extent of far-reaching importance to British horticulture.

An excellent example is afforded by that most serviceable and beautiful flower Lilium Regale, which, happily, is one possessed of a constitution and good nature which enables the inexperienced amateur, as well as the expert, to grow it with success.

A consignment of Lilium Regale from New Zealand reached Mr. Perry's nursery in June. The bulbs were in excellent condition and were immediately planted in the open. Although these bulbs were quite dormant in June, when our established bulbs were in full growth, and even in bud, the warm condition of the soil and atmosphere started them so rapidly into growth that by the latter end of September and early days of October the plants carried a brave display of fine trumpet flowers. It is a matter of real importance that the opening up of this new source of supply of bulbs thus enables us to prolong the season of the lily, and adds to the variety and charm of our flower borders right through autumn's waning days.

Another excellent lilium which has always been classed among the difficult gems of this glorious family, L. Wallichianum superbum, arrived in May, and this also has grown with quite unaccustomed vigour and flowered at the beginning of October.

The crux of the matter is this—bulbs from our customary sources of supply have reached us in midwinter. They required immediate planting, but our soil at that season is at its coldest temperature and our weather at its worst. Prolonged storage weakens vitality, and winter planting involves hardship upon the bulbs and even serious risk of loss through decay. The May arrival of the New Zealand bulbs finds our soil in most favourable condition, and atmospheric conditions fast approaching the ideal; hence rapid, unchecked growth, and successful flowering just when we are glad of variation from perennial asters and chrysanthemums.

Australia, too, is taking a part in the Empire production of bulbs, and Mr. Perry has flowered a series of watsonias, the beauty of which excels any preconceived notion of this chaste flower. Watsonia Ardernei and W. rosea are both lovely flowers, but in the series referred to there are superb varieties which embrace buff, apricot and flesh pink, real salmon and the shade we have of late grown accustomed to term "prawn red." These varieties, all from one source in Australia, bear the familiar names of Australian towns, and a trio of the best are Melbourne, Sydney and Perth.

There is a wonderful future for these flowers when they become known and reasonably plentiful. It need only be remarked that in addition to glorifying the garden in autumn these Empire bulbs will provide new material with which to embellish conservatories and greenhouses even until Christmas, and the commercial producer of choice cut flowers will surely find great utility in these subjects, which, with a little exercise of skill, he will be able to bring into service at a time of short supplies without the necessity of a deal of artificial heat. L. A.

FERNS IN THE ROCK GARDEN

MOST of the dwarf hardy ferns are naturally rock haunting species, and when one considers that fact, together with the peculiar charm of these plants, it is the more surprising that the rock gardener does not make more use of them. Practically all of them delight in shady crevices where comparatively few flowering plants will prosper. They are very easily grown, absolutely slugproof and the evergreen species are not less delightful in winter than they are in summer.

The spleenworts are among the most attractive of the smaller ferns, and the common kind (Asplenium trichomanes) is as pretty as any. This likes shade, but it is by no means averse to a good deal of sun. As for the little wall rue (A. ruta muraria), this will thrive in the hottest of walls, and the much taller, very elegant, black spleenwort (A. nigra), will also do well in quite sunny aspects. The scaley spleenwort (Ceterach officinarum) another native, is an allied species of the utmost charm, making compact rosettes of its olive green, blunt-lobed fronds which are felted with orange-brown on their under sides. This fern has a distinct partiality for old mortar and a cool site.

A favourite rock-garden fern with me is Cysopteris fragilis. It makes tufts of daintily-cut, pale green fronds about 6ins. high and soon becomes naturalised. Those who aim at a winter effect in planting ferns will do well to note that C. fragilis is, unlike the spleenworts, quite deciduous, but the delicate beauty of its spring fronds makes full amends for this. A cool chink among the most dwarf kinds should also be found for the hoary little Woodsia ilvensis, which seems to be more easily procured from the nursery than its mountain home. Nor can Allosorus crispus, the beautiful parsley fern, be overlooked. This is not really difficult to please if given a diet of a very little old leaf-mould and a generous helping of broken-up slate. Press its roots into this on a north side, place a stone on them, almost covering the crown.

A PLEASANT ASSOCIATION OF FERNS AND RAMONDIA.

and the parsley-fern will generally respond quite cheerfully.

That familiar native Blechnum spicant, ranks high as a rock garden fern, for its bright, evergreen narrow fronds, a foot or more in length, droop in a most graceful manner and there is scarcely a spot in which it will not do well. There are many crested and other varieties of this in the lists, but in this regard it has to give place to the popular hart's tongue whose varieties are innumerable. This latter is also an ideal rock garden fern, clinging to a vertical crevice with the greatest tenacity, and when growing in such impoverished conditions it rarely gets too big even for quite small gardens. With me the hart's tongue "seeds" freely both in sun and shade. It is delightful with ramondias, Linaria pallida and other lovers of sunless spots and it is practically evergreen.

The common polypody, which is at its best in the winter, is by no means to be despised, and both P. calcareum and P. cambricum are well worth a choice place. As for P. Dryopteris, our comely little oak fern, this is so refined and elegant that its gentle fronds of 4ins. to 5ins. are exquisite growing on the flat along with, say, Anemone Hepatica, or some other early bloomer which is never disturbed. P. Phegopteris, the beech fern, has much of the same delightful and tender grace and, like the foregoing, should be screened from hot sun.

For carpeting, care being taken that it does not overrun less robust and more precious things, Lomaria alpina is a little fern of the utmost value. It makes a dense mat of its deep green, short, leathery fronds, and these, both in spring and autumn, are suffused with a flush of bronze-red. In the Klondike variety of Adiantum pedatum, we have a really hardy and most beautiful maidenhair which should be given a "pocket" roomy enough to allow elbow room of 18ins. or so with some shelter from cutting springs winds. A pretty effect may be achieved by planting this lovely species at the back of the space with a colony of oak fern in front of it.

The best compost for these rock-garden ferns is old black leaf-soil with a little sand mixed through it. Planting should be done with a rather light hand, the bed or crevice being somewhat loose and friable. Any pressure needed at the roots is best attained by placing on the latter, when partly covered, a few pieces of sandstone or porous brick. Most ferns seem to enjoy broken-up slate and if this is used with the leaf-mould in place of sand so much the better.

A. T. JOHNSON.

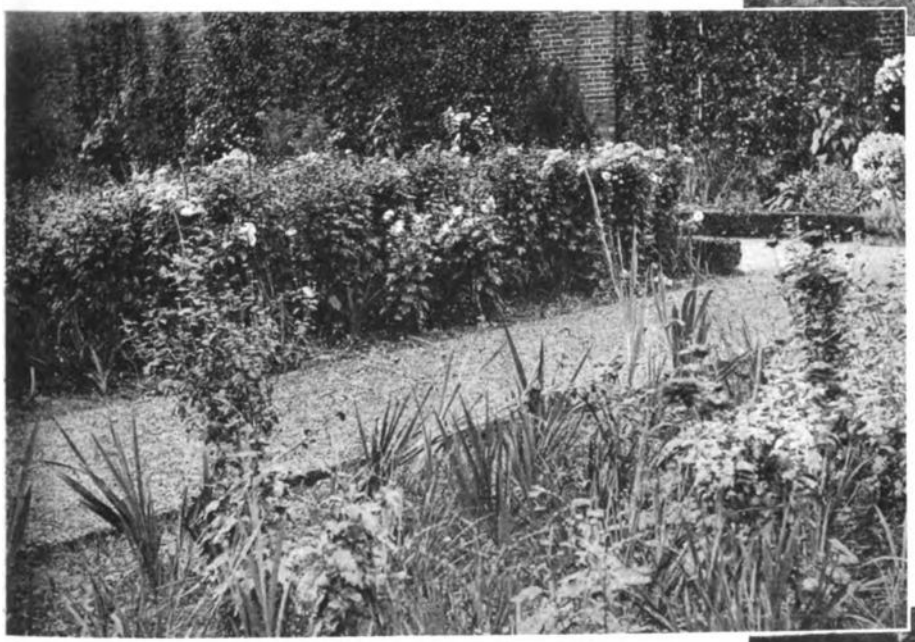
Digitized by Google

HINTS ON PATH-MAKING

This is the time of renovation and remodelling of the garden. Garden paths call for attention and treatment, and the following suggestions on the making and decoration of one or two different kinds may prove helpful.

THOSE who are garden-making may find the following hints on paths useful. In my neighbourhood gravel is difficult to obtain and expensive; the making of paths, therefore, presents difficulties. A good hard path right through the kitchen garden was necessary, and I, therefore, made one of available material—rubbish, crocks, stones, etc.—and covered it all with cinders and ashes. In September of last year I opened a drill down each side and inserted cuttings, with heels, of santolina (lavender cotton), closed the drill and pressed the soil firmly. In the spring I planted pansies 2ft. apart down each side. Every cutting took root and the "Santolina Path" has been one of the pleasures of the year—the ash-coloured path bordered with a misty greyness bespangled with purples and bronzes has been really beautiful, and one great advantage is that slugs do not apparently like the scent. The plants have grown so well that two shearings have been necessary to keep the border close and shrubby. The path is long and has 170 plants each side; I am now busy with other similar edgings—all from three plants at 6d. each bought two years ago.

Another path that had to be made was one over grass. Gravel would have been ugly besides making two more edges to be cut. I therefore made cement blocks (sand, cement and water) 3ins. thick, shaped them in seed-boxes, and sunk them in the grass, corner to corner as seen in the illustration. The result is useful in all weathers, and the grey stone in the green grass effective in all lights. E. G.



NOTHING CAN BE MORE EFFECTIVE IN ANY GARDEN THAN A GRASS WALK WITH BORDERS ON EITHER SIDE.

The Value of the Grass Path.

AS a path on which to walk, grass has a definite value in being one of the most permanent and easily kept—that is, if it is well laid in the first instance. I would like to emphasise the importance of the latter proviso. A grass path must have a well drained yet firm foundation—perhaps more so than any other style of pathway considering the fact that turf is a most porous material, holding water to a large extent; yet, if well drained, turf is as substantially dry to walk upon as stone or gravel may be. To ensure this a firm foundation is also essential, and a very level surface.

Given these conditions and the grass kept very short, the grass path will be found as convenient to walk upon after a spell of wet weather as any other kind. There is no more unpleasant moisture in a grass path than there is in one made of gravel, in this connection.

A drain is essential, and, upon this, well rammed material, preferably also of a nature that facilitates escape of water. Then the perfectly level surface must be made, upon which turves are laid or soil placed and seeds sown.

There is one important advantage concerning drainage about a grass path, and that is the fact that it can be elevated above the surrounding garden and be kept isolated therefrom, the sides of the path, cut perpendicularly, forming a sort of ditch between path and garden into which all surplus moisture quickly drains, keeping the path actually "high and dry." This also prevents encroachment of grass upon the garden soil—one of the great nuisances attending a grass pathway.

A grass path should be made up of the finest grasses, either in turf or by means of sown seeds; and the mower should be well employed and a close velvety surface encouraged. It will be found that, unless heavy traffic goes over the path—the grass will not wear badly under the tread of many feet if it is kept in good condition by cutting and rolling, and is given a good start by not being put into use for a considerable time after it is made up. Otherwise, the grass path should be left out of calculation altogether, for it will be a failure. H. A. D.

A PATH OF CEMENT BLOCKS SUNK IN THE LAWN IS BOTH NOVEL AND ATTRACTIVE.

A HARD-WEARING PATH OF CINDERS AND ASHES SUITABLE FOR THE KITCHEN GARDEN.

It can be made most decorative by the planting of suitable edging plants, such as santolina, as in this case.

Digitized by Google

THE FLOWER GARDEN

Sternbergias.

IT is rather curious that with all that is written about bulbs at this time of the year, one hardly ever sees a reference to the sternbergias. You may search the ordinary bulb catalogues in vain for a mention of them. Rarely does one come across them in the gardens of one's friends. Though I am not going to pretend that they are plants of any very particular beauty, they have an interest all their own. It is recorded that Clusius and Parkinson cultivated several of them in times long gone by.

They were named after Count Sternberg, a German botanist, and have flowers which resemble the crocus or the colchicum, yellow in colour and about the same size as the colchicums, but much firmer in texture than these and therefore more able to withstand the vicissitudes of our uncertain climate. Sternbergia lutea is Parkinson's "Great Autumn Daffodil," and it throws up its large yellow flowers together with its big leaves in the autumn. This species grows in profusion in the sheltered valleys of Palestine and on this account it has been suggested that they may possibly be "the lilies of the field" to which reference is made in the Bible. Then there is S. colchiciflora, which also flowers in the autumn, but has the additional attraction of fragrance. It comes to us from the Crimea, where it grows in such abundance round about the shores of the Bosphorus that it is said positively to perfume them when in bloom. Though most of the sternbergias are autumn flowering there is one species, S. Fischeriana, which produces its flowers in spring and is worth mentioning on this account.

Sternbergias do not appear to be difficult things to grow, though they require to be well established to bloom well in our gardens.—EDWARD CAHEN.

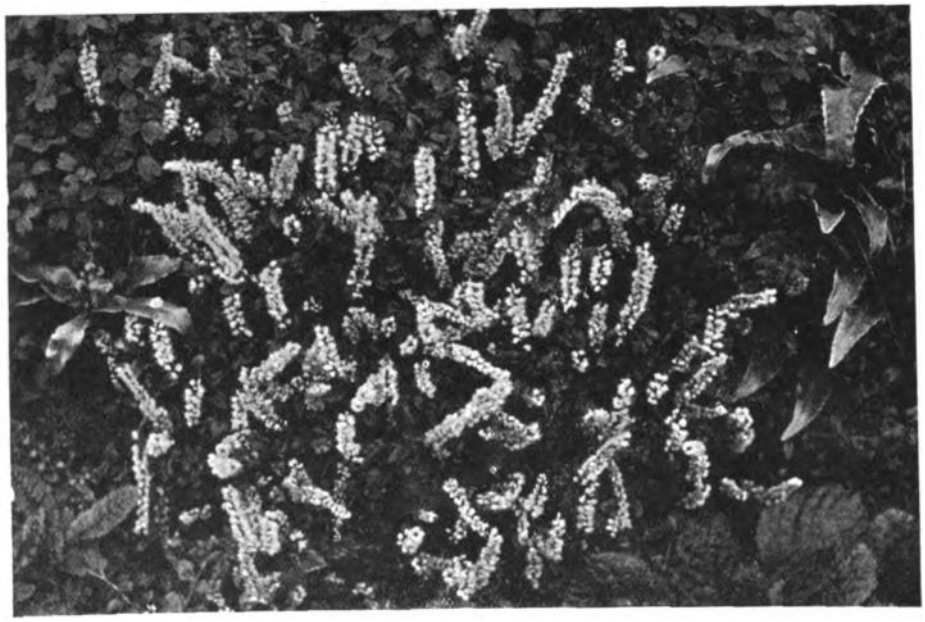
The Prickly Heath.

THE varieties of Pernettya mucronata or prickly heaths are dwarf evergreen shrubs of a few feet in height, and they are among the best of the berry-bearing plants to be found in a garden. For this reason they deserve consideration. The ornamental sprays of white berries which are freely produced are decidedly handsome. Furthermore, birds do not appear to take them. In addition to the form bearing white berries, there are others with red berries, and various shades of pink, altogether an interesting group. Among them will be found atrococcinea, atropurpurea, lilacina, nigra and alba.

They are quite hardy, and will thrive in soil free from lime. As a rule, the rooting medium is, to a certain extent, prepared for them by adding peat and leaf-mould in liberal quantities. A sunny position should be chosen. These plants can be increased by division and cuttings, methods recommended for choice forms; but if one is not particular in this direction, seeds offer a ready and interesting means of increasing the stock of these fine shrubs. Moreover, there is a possibility of raising improved varieties from seeds; but it ought also to be borne in mind that many will be inferior to those already in commerce.—T. W. B.

A Late-Flowering Rock Plant.

THE genus polygonum is a large one, but few are of any use for the rock garden, and, no doubt, the best of the family is P. vaccinifolium. Well grown examples are most effective in the early autumn, and it will continue to bloom for many weeks in spite of bad weather, which renders it a decided acquisition to the rock garden. Of neat trailing habit, it is a joy at all times, and, owing to its easy culture and rapid growth, it is an ideal subject for draping the largest rocks; in fact, few plants can equal it for this purpose. In such a position it can be viewed at its best, especially in the autumn, when the leaves and stems assume the most beautiful tints of red and crimson. It produces spikes of bright rose-coloured flowers, the tiny individual blossoms somewhat resembling the heaths in shape. When planted to cover a rock or bank, all the most desirable attributes of P. vaccinifolium are brought out, whereas on the flat ground they would be lost to a great extent.—B.



OF NEAT TRAILING HABIT AND WITH BRILLIANT AUTUMN COLOURING POLYGONUM VACCINIFOLIUM IS A DECIDED ACQUISITION TO ANY ROCK GARDEN.

Parker's Yarrow.

I SUPPOSE, by the rules adopted by those who prefer always to use "common" or popular names for plants, it is correct to write "Parker's Yarrow" for Achillea filipendulina Parker's variety; at any rate, it will serve the purpose of aiding me in emphasising the point that this is a very much finer plant than the ordinary Achillea filipendulina. There is a striking appearance of power in this plant as it holds up its solid-looking and somewhat massive flower-heads, defying wind, rains or scorching sun, and the strong pungent odour strengthens that first impression that here is a powerful plant.

There are those who believe that the odour of this achillea has disinfectant influence, and that infectious diseases are rendered less contagious where the atmosphere is laden with the aroma of the plant. If that is so it would be well worth while to plant great belts of it around isolation hospitals and sanatoriums, and even if there is more fancy than reality in the attribution of virtue to the plant, we have this much to the good—that auto-suggestion is itself a great factor in grappling with disease. Furthermore, we might plant many a worse subject on the broad open spaces which generally surround these frequently bleakly exposed institutions. Not many plants will endure such exposure with equal indifference, and it is when planted in bold masses that Parker's yarrow fully reveals its uncommon beauty.

It is a plant which pays for division every third year, and if it is mulched with manure during the spring preceding its autumn lifting and replanting there will be sufficient young surface roots to ensure successful transplanting.

Unlike many herbaceous plants, it is just as well to lift and transplant at the latter end of November or beginning of December (soil conditions being reasonably favourable) as to disturb in September or October, because development of new crowns is going on apace right through September, and lifting them puts a check upon that development.

The flowering period extends from early June to September, the quantity of late blooms being increased by cutting early flower stems low to ground.—A. B.

Oxalis for Growing Under Trees.

THERE is no more delightful oxalis for woodland than the bright rose pink form of our own wood-sorrel (Oxalis Acetosella), which will hold its own among such native herbage as the latter puts up with. This pretty little plant, one is glad to note, reproduces itself by seed and thus soon becomes naturalised, but it has not the sometimes aggressive vigour of the type. O. oregana is much like the rosy wood-sorrel, but at least twice as large in flower and leaf, a hardy, handsome and easy species. There are two forms of this American, with light and dark pink flowers respectively, and they will be in bloom for the greater part of the season.

O. obliqua, with its big, olive green, tin trefoils, each bearing broad crescents of purple, and tall flower stems terminating in cowslip-like heads of lilac, is another fine species for an open spot. Anywhere else this plant can be a dreadful pest, but it is well worth a place where it can do no harm, the foliage alone is distinctly attractive and it dies off a rich orange.

O. floribunda (rosea) is too much of a sun-lover for woodland culture, but its white variety is, oddly enough, very amenable to life in shade or partial sun. Nothing, not even drip, damps the cheerfulness of this useful little plant which, from spring to autumn, will maintain an unbroken succession of its ivory-white flowers.—A. T. J.

Digitized by Google

GARDENING WITHOUT A GARDENER

Hardy Ferns Indoors.

TOWARDS the end of the year it is worth while lifting a few clumps of hardy ferns and potting these up for growth indoors. Dig up the clumps with care, taking pains to disturb the roots as little as possible. Remove any fronds which may have remained over from the summer and put the ferns into pots filled with any common soil. Leave the crown of each clump quite clear of the soil, which should be rammed down well and not come to within 2ins. of the rim of the pot. For about a week keep the fern roots in a rather dark, cool place. Then bring them into the light and warmth of a living-room. Water should be given plentifully and the amount must be increased as soon as the fronds begin to come up. In a well warmed room the ferns grow with great rapidity, and it is not long before some very fine specimens will have been secured. The fronds are rather more delicate than those produced in the ordinary way and are always of a peculiarly vivid green. It is most important not to allow the ferns to become dry, and then they will remain fresh and beautiful for some weeks. Finally, the clumps may be returned to their original positions, when they will be found to be little the worse for their experience. Suitable subjects for this treatment are the common male and lady ferns and almost any of our native species.

Watch the Antirrhinums.

OLD plants of antirrhinum are well worth leaving in the border, as these will come into flower at an early date next season and maintain a wonderful profusion of bloom for a long time. They are perfectly hardy and are scarcely ever killed even by severe frost. Like most plants, they have a weak spot, and that is their extreme dislike to excessive dampness in the soil. Where the plants are growing in a light and well drained soil they carry through the winter well, even if the cold is severe. On heavy ground, after long spells of rain, antirrhinums often suffer badly, and it is not at all an uncommon thing for large numbers to die. In such situations it is really a good plan to lift the plants and place them in a cold frame where one is sure the drainage is good. Failing this, removal to some border with a south exposure where conditions will naturally be drier is to be recommended. Lift the plants with as little root disturbance as possible, and leave them in their new quarters until warm spring weather arrives.

Poppy Anemones in Winter.

ESTABLISHED poppy anemones, and even those which have been newly planted, have a habit of starting into vigorous leafage in mid-winter if the conditions are mild. Quite commonly, soon after the appearance of the leaves, flower buds begin to appear. Often the flowers open out, but, owing to the damage done by rain and wind, they are of little value. It is really worth while giving these venturesome blooms some protection, as then they will not be much inferior to those which are produced in the spring. The buds may be sheltered by means of hand lights, but it is better to use pieces of glass. Sheets of glass may be supported by four little stakes at the corners a few inches above the developing buds. In mild weather the anemones will benefit by the air which freely circulates under the glass. Should the conditions suddenly become cold and frosty, pack a little straw or any dry litter round the outer edge of the glass. In this way a miniature frame is formed in which the anemones will open perfectly.

When the Winter Jasmine is Most Effective.

THERE should be no garden without at least one plant of the winter jasmine (Jasminum nudiflorum). Even the worst of British weather seems unable to prevent this plant from displaying its bright yellow flowers. The winter jasmine is excellent for training up walls and fences, and, although it is happiest where the aspect is south or west, it will succeed quite well when facing the bleaker quarters. As the winter jasmine flowers before its foliage is developed, a much better effect is secured if the shoots are allowed to trail among ivy or some other evergreen foliage. Very pleasing effects can be secured by planting the jasmine in conjunction with ivy round an old tree stump, or, if this is not available, a framework of wire netting. In quite a short while the ivy entirely hides the support and during the winter provides a pleasant background for the flowering sprays of the jasmine.

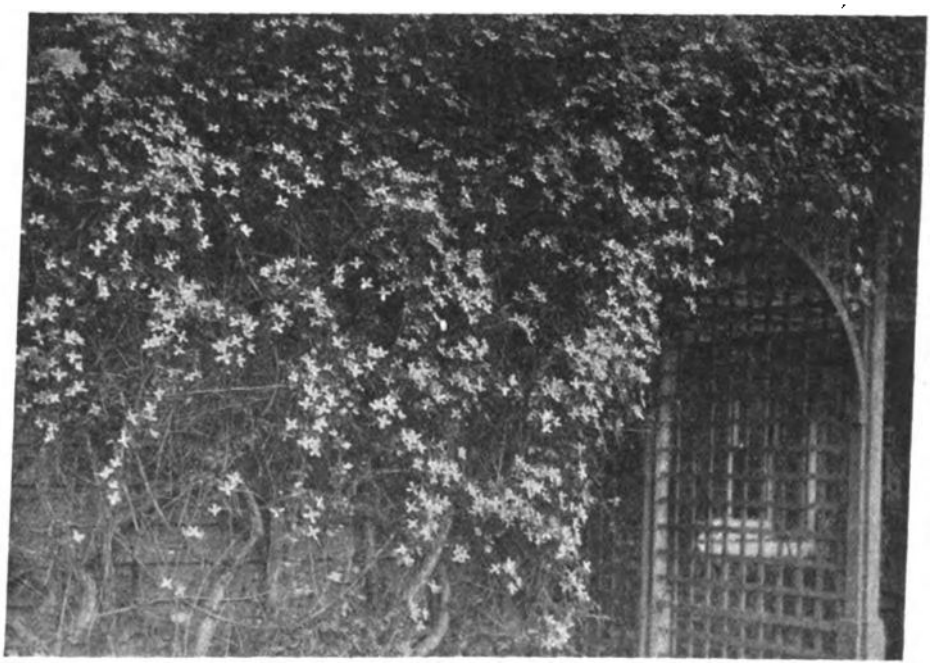
Fighting the Damp.

MANY perfectly hardy garden plants suffer badly from the excessive dampness which is often a feature of the British winter. The effect is specially noticeable in the case of those specimens which keep a certain amount of green foliage above ground, like foxgloves, campanulas, etc. Here, after weeks of rain, the foliage starts to rot and the trouble may end by spreading to the main stem of the plant and causing its death. It is a very good plan to examine such plants at intervals and carefully remove any foliage that has started to decay. Another step to be taken is an occasional light forking of the soil in the neighbourhood of the plants. This will allow a certain amount of air to pass into the soil and tend to reduce the excessive moisture.

Clematis montana.

A MOST useful and ornamental climber for late spring or early summer effect is Clematis montana. A plant, once established, will quickly cover a large area with a multitude of white starry blossoms each year. The mountain clematis loves to ramble over a wide and tall expanse of trellis, and makes a perfect bower when trained over a garden shelter or an archway above a seat. On the house wall (trained to trellis) and over the porch entrance it is equally beautiful.

Although vigorous, its habit is not too rampant, and it is easily kept within bounds by yearly pruning, which should take place after flowering is over towards the end of summer. When wanted to cover a large area quickly and permanently the main stems should be trained in and allowed to grow, only the laterals being cut back each year. This clematis gives little or no trouble, and could be grown in conjunction with a later-flowering climber to produce a long blossoming season. It is very welcome, however, in providing a show when few climbing plants are in bloom.



THERE IS NO MORE DECORATIVE PLANT FOR DRAPING A DOORWAY THAN CLEMATIS MONTANA.

A Shrub for Spring and Autumn Effect.

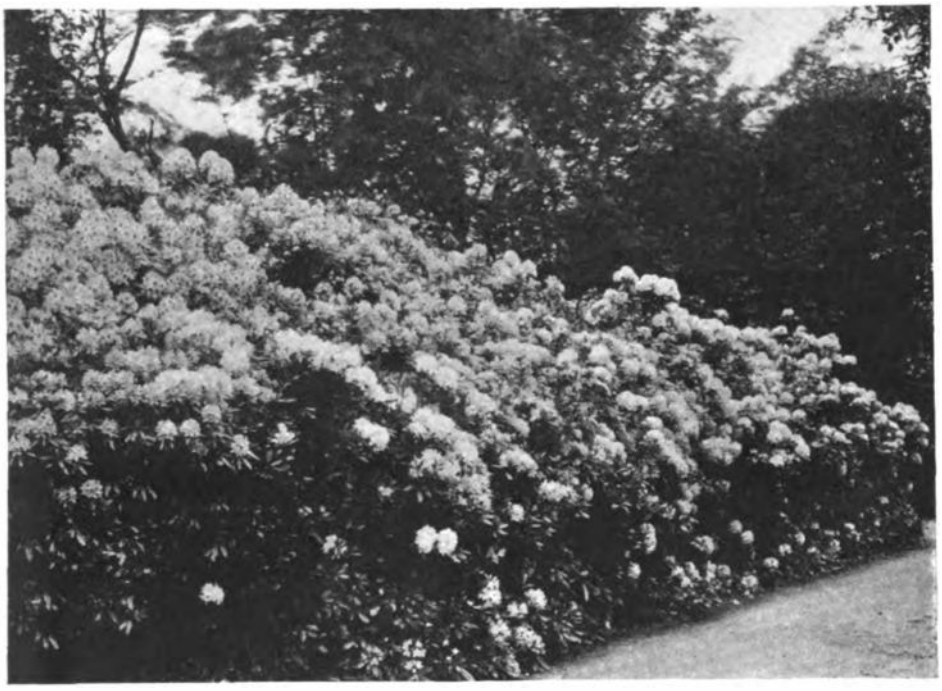
Amelanchier canadensis (*The Service Berry.*)

WHERE one has a limited space in the garden and cannot plant shrubs for autumn effect only, then the above shrub will prove most useful. Being a shrub of easy culture, preferring if anything a fairly dry spot, the lovely white flowers open early in April before its deep green leaves unfold. These are followed by crimson fruits, popularly known in Canada as service berries. The autumn colouring of this shrub is a very attractive red, the leaves lasting on the trees long into the autumn. No doubt in the Midlands and the North it would require a sheltered position on account of its early flowers.

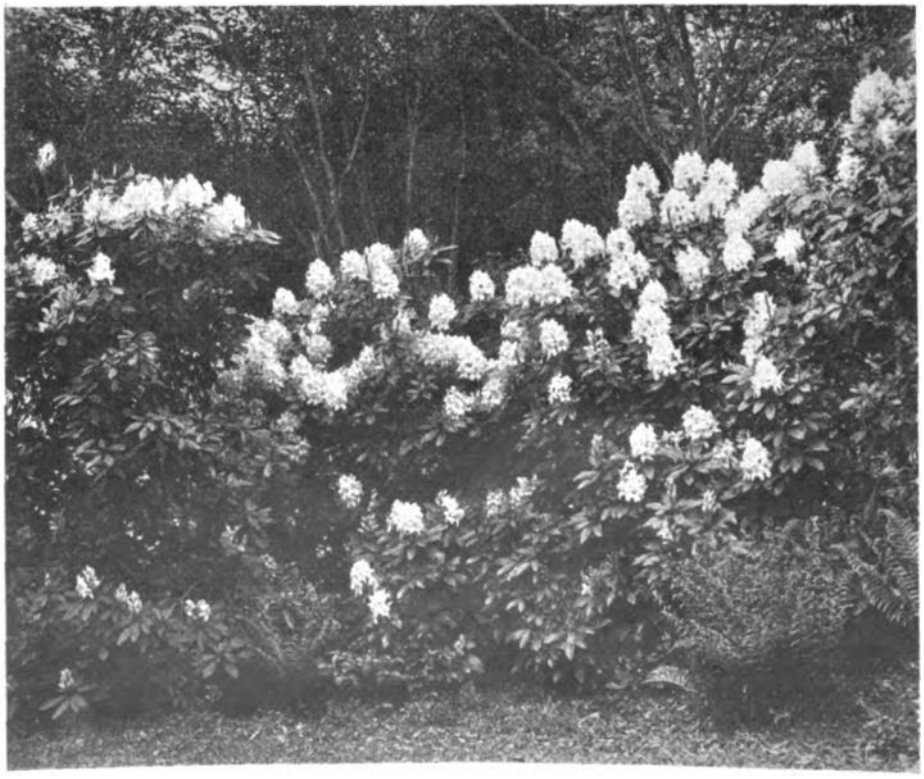
Digitized by Google

SUCCESS WITH RHODODENDRONS

WHATEVER class of rhododendron is grown, its ultimate success as a flowering shrub depends on two main factors—its situation and care in planting. Popular though these magnificent flowering shrubs are, they would become still more so if gardeners would only realise that, while the majority of hybrids and many species are absolutely hardy, the difference between a bushy healthy plant and a struggling tattered shrub is usually caused by the poor selection of site for the latter and insufficient care in planting. Many rhododendron hybrids have no objection to sun, but all rhododendrons, no matter what species or variety, dislike wind. Let us classify what they prefer in the way of situation.



A FINE BANK OF OLD RHODODENDRON HYBRIDS GROWING IN NEARLY FULL SUN.



GEORGE HARDY IS AN EXCELLENT HYBRID THAT OPENS PALE PINK AND TURNS TO ALMOST PURE WHITE.

1. SHELTER FROM WIND.—A necessity for all rhododendrons.
2. SUNSHINE.—(*a*) Full sunshine will do no harm to most of what are called hardy hybrids, such plants as Pink Pearl, Cynthia, Cunningham's White and so on, though it must be realised that even these will produce larger foliage and flowers if they are shaded for an hour or two from the midday sun.
   (*b*) Half sunshine for most species and for the more aristocratic hybrids such as Loder's White and Mangles.
   (*c*) Well shaded, at the most two hours sunshine in summer for big-leaved rhododendrons such as Falconeri.
3. SOIL.—All gardeners know that absence of lime is a necessity. It is stated occasionally that some rhododendrons will grow in lime, but they are never really satisfactory. So many other shrubs will succeed admirably that it is a waste of time to try to grow rhododendrons. They will grow in all lime-free soils. If it is on the heavy side the soil should be lightened by sand, gravel and humus either in the form of peat or leaf-mould. In all cases the drainage must be good.
4. EXPOSURE.—It is better to grow rhododendrons where they are sheltered from the early morning sun, as flower buds are most likely to be cut in frosty mornings in spring if they are exposed to the sun before the frost has lifted. A westerly exposure is best of all.

If you keep these few hints in mind, most rhododendrons that are suitable for an ordinary garden will not grumble at the situations you choose for them.

Planting.

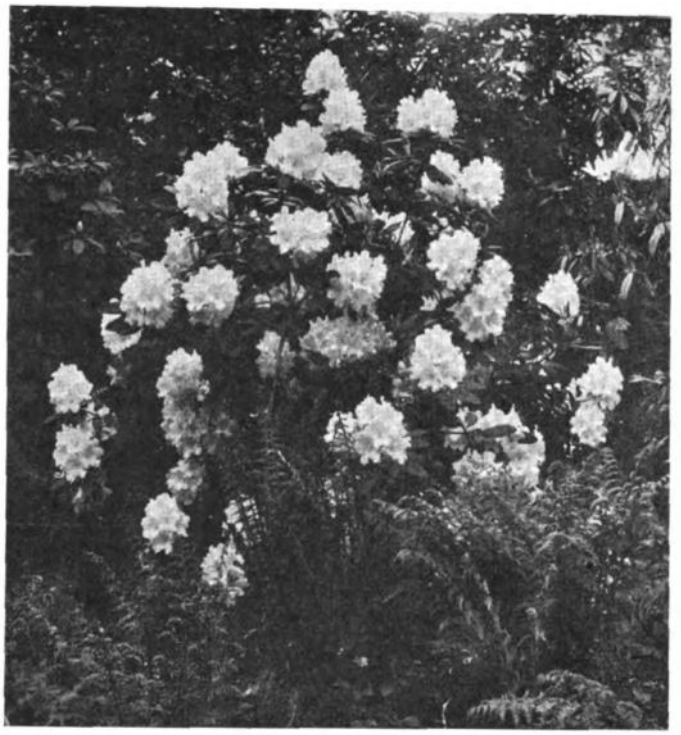
It must be remembered that rhododendrons are shallow rooters. The roots are fibrous and reach up towards the surface of the soil for moisture and nourishment, which means that they should not be planted too deeply, a very common error which is not conducive to the formation of good plants. A hole at least a yard in diameter and 18ins. deep should be dug and the soil loosened with a fork below that. A good proportion of humus is a necessity for their well-being, so soil and leaf-mould mixed in equal proportions should be used to fill up the hole again so that the depth is not too great and the roots are not too deep in the ground. The soil need not be trodden in. Before the plant is placed in position, it should be turned over and the fibrous roots loosened and teased out and old soil removed; this means that fresh roots will be formed quickly, an important point. When the plant is in position the roots should be spread out and just covered with more soil and leaf-mould, which then can be firmly trodden in. This should result in a saucer-shaped depression being left around the plant, which will be found most useful for the annual spring mulch of old leaves, coarse leaf-mould or peat moss litter, which is strewn lightly around the plant. This mulch is not only an excellent feeding and rooting medium, but keeps the soil by the roots cool and moist during even the driest weather. This annual mulch, indeed, is a necessity in all cases, and will improve the plants enormously. The reason for the stress being laid on the use of humus is that rhododendrons are starved in many gardens. In their native habitat they live

Digitized by Google

in soil that is almost entirely composed of leaf-mould or peat, and it is just this humus that is so often denied them.

Twelve Good Hybrids for the Small Garden.

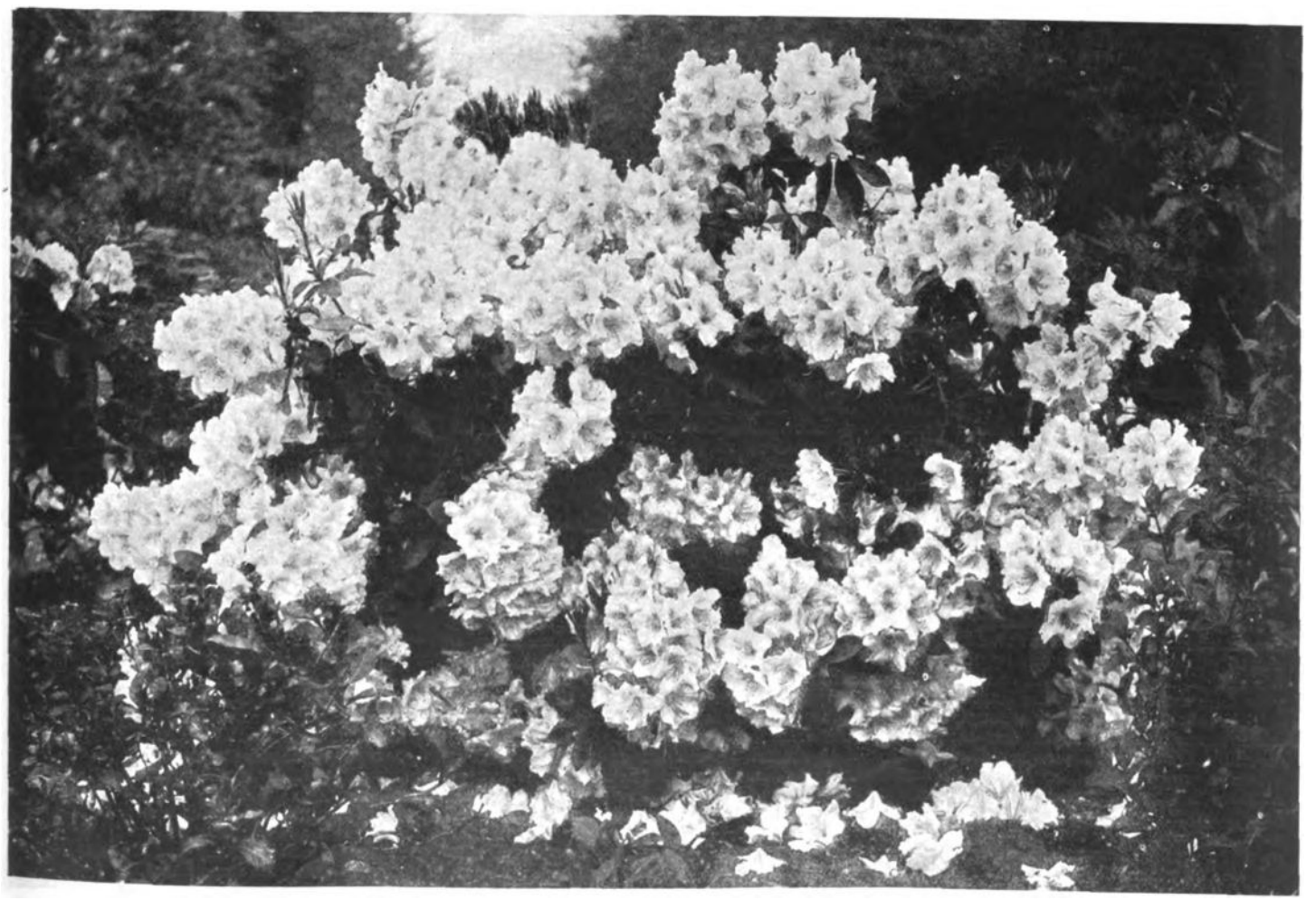
The small garden can rarely give situations suitable for many of the rhododendron species, and for the more tender hybrids that must have shade and shelter. On the other hand, hybrids of strong constitution exist in sufficient quantities for ample choice to be made. It must be remembered that when rhododendrons are well grown, they take up a considerable amount of room, and that ample space is necessary for them to flower abundantly and for their beauty to be fully seen. They are, however, easily transplanted, and so one plant can be removed out of a clump to allow for the expansion of others. Here are twelve good hybrids that are suitable for all gardens, large or small. Most popular of all is Pink Pearl, and rightly so, for its constitution, colour and free flowering habit are all admirable qualities. It flowers in May and bears large trusses of a fine pink. Almost as good, with trusses as large as the latter, is Alice, but the colour is deeper. The third pink that should be grown is Corona. In this the buds are deep rose, and as the flower ages every shade of pink is shown. These three plants can be grown together without any clashing of colour.



ALTHOUGH EXOTIC LOOKING THIS LOVELY HYBRID, LODER'S WHITE, IS ABSOLUTELY HARDY.

Of reds one of the best is a comparatively new variety, the Earl of Athlone. The trusses are large and are of an intense shade of blood crimson. It is exceedingly free flowering in May, year after year, and flowers when quite young. Other good reds are Bagshot Ruby, which is well named and flowers in May; Doncaster, a bright red, in May and June; and Ascot Brilliant, a red-crimson, and rather earlier in flower, usually in April. In whites we find Loder's White, one of the best of all hardy hybrids with enormous trusses of the purest white. It is the largest flowered rhododendron for ordinary gardens. George Hardy opens pale pink and turns almost pure white as the flowers grow older. As a purple you cannot better Royal Purple, a very deep and pure shade; while for a yellow there is Cunningham's Sulphur, a pale lemon and not a fast grower, but very free flowering and charming.

E. H. M. Cox.



PINK PEARL IS ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR OF ALL RHODODENDRONS. IT IS A GOOD GROWER, VERY FLORIFEROUS AND OF A WONDERFUL COLOUR.

Digitized by Google

THE FRUIT AND KITCHEN GARDEN

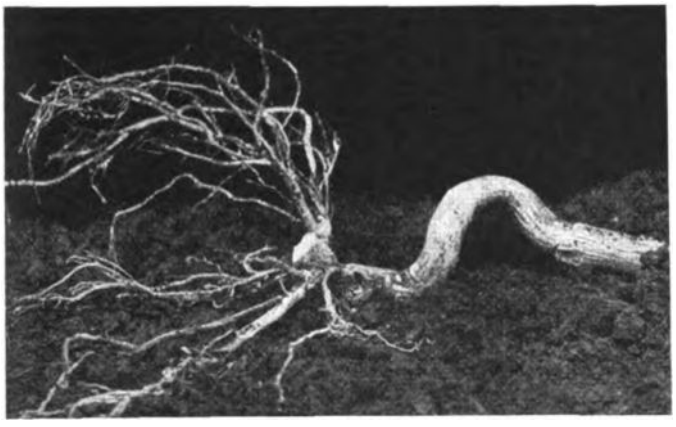
Root Pruning.

THIS is a strenuous operation that no one wants to undertake unless assured of beneficial results; therefore it is best to be quite certain that root-pruning is really needed before attempting to mutilate a flourishing root system. If the tree is bearing well, let it alone.

Some trees, however, require systematic root-pruning. A tree of any sort, planted on a rich subsoil or one that is very retentive of moisture, such as clay, is encouraged to send long, thick roots downwards to a great depth; this induces growth of a mass of shoots and leafage to the detriment of fruit production. The tree flourishes and expands, but bears little fruit.

Its activities must be checked. It is of little or no use to prune the branches or shoots, for the vigorous tree promptly repairs the damage by producing a greater number of thickly placed shoots, thus leaving matters worse than before the pruning took place.

A more severe check must be given, and this is best accomplished by attacking the thick roots. It is well to note that as soon as a root is severed in two, like the branch above, it immediately sets to work to repair the damage; but in this case it is a beneficial action, because around the cut part a mass of fibrous roots is formed, and these, being necessarily near the surface, receive light, air and equable moisture which induce fruit formation instead of rank growth. Moreover, these roots can be artificially fed by the fruit-grower, which is an advantage in the way of stimulating fruit production. It will be readily understood that this cannot be the case with the long thick root deeply embedded in the subsoil.



A MASS OF FIBROUS ROOTS ARE FORMED ROUND THE CUT PORTION OF THE THICKENED ROOT.
These add considerably to the fruitfulness of the tree.

It is well, then, to take in hand a rank-growing tree that persistently produces shoot and leaf instead of fruit; and, in order not to put too great a check upon the tree, it is advisable to treat one half of the roots one year and the remainder the next season.

Take out a deep trench a couple of feet wide around the tree on one side. Dig carefully, and do not injure any *fibrous* roots. When a stout root that *has a downward tendency* is laid bare, saw it in two about a foot from the trunk of the tree. It is not necessary to remove the cut portion of the root, but if it is easily drawn out or a portion cut off, so much the better. Serve similar roots in the same manner, and replace the soil, or put a richer, leafy, sandy soil in its place. Fibrous roots will soon form, and if these are judiciously fed from time to time, an appreciable difference in the way of increased fruit production will be the result. Pears, figs, peaches and vigorous kinds of apples are often in need of root-pruning, wall trees and standards especially.—H. A. D.

Best Apricots.

SOIL well dressed with chalk will be found most genial to the well-being of the apricot, arresting the too prevalent annoyance of persistently dying branches. Oxfordshire appears to give better results from apricot growing than most other counties.

Large Early.—Fruit medium size, skin pale orange on the shaded side, bright orange and spotted red next the sun, slightly downy. Flesh deep orange, rich, juicy, free stone, ripening end of July and beginning of August. Introduced to commerce about 1875.

Moor Park.—A best-of-all variety and known since the seventeenth century. Fruit large, roundish and compressed on the sides, giving the fruit an irregular form. Skin pale yellow on the shaded side and deep orange, clouded with brownish red next to the sun. Flesh deep reddish orange, very juicy, rich and vinous, free stone. A fruit of great excellence, ripening in August and beginning of September. A south-east aspect is the best for this apricot, firm planting and attention to the pinching of surplus growth during the summer. Mention of this variety was made about the year 1784, and is still very much in favour.

Shipley.—A very free setting sort and perfectly hardy, raised at Blenheim about the middle of last century. Fruit large, oval, skin deep yellow. Flesh yellow, rich and juicy. Ripe end of July, making excellent preserves.

Hemskerk.—Large, early, with a greengage flavour, round, flattened on the sides. Skin yellow on the shaded side and reddish next the sun. Flesh bright orange, tender, rich, and juicy, ripening beginning of August. The tree is hardy and very prolific and not so liable to gum and die off in a manner so prevalent among the apricot family.—G. L.

The Loganberry.

THIS is not a difficult fruit to grow where there is ample space for the extension of the branches. It is not a suitable plant for a very small garden unless the rambling shoots can be trained over a trellis so that they will form a much-needed screen during the summer months. It is the result of a cross between the raspberry and blackberry and is nicely flavoured when the fruits are ripened in a sunny position. They are not appreciated by everybody as a dessert, but are useful for jam making. The soft or immature tips should be pinched or cut off now and the old canes shortened in the case of newly-planted specimens. Older established plants should be treated just the same as raspberries. The loganberry is a gross feeder and soon extracts practically all nourishment from the soil. Those contemplating the planting of young specimens should take some extra care in the preparation of the soil, trenching it 2ft. deep and enriching the top portion with well rotted manure and, after the work of planting is finished, top-dress with a layer of littery manure 4ins. thick. To increase the stock, suckers, similar to those of the raspberry, or layering of the tips of longer shoots, will answer the purpose. In large gardens long rows of plants may be trained to poles, tall stakes or wires fixed to strong stakes. To avoid unpleasantness with the plant, good training is advised and the present is a suitable time to arrange the main shoots to their supports.—G. G.

Making Potatoes and Roots Secure for the Winter.

THESE are, mostly, now in store, either in clamps or in sheds. But very often the cultivator does not pay enough attention to the covering material. In mild winters it is only necessary to put on thin layers, but if hard weather comes, we should be prepared. Throughout the country, headlands, hedges and banks have been trimmed recently and, although the trimmings may consist of small brambles, coarse grasses and creeping weed foliage, all should be heaped and kept dry in readiness for placing over potato and root clamps in the open air if severe frosts come. It is really wonderful how well the dried rubbish acts as a frost excluder, especially when it is kept dry. Indoors, straw and short litter can be used and there should always be a good thickness of such material between the potatoes and outside walls.

Many amateurs do not possess any straw, nor are they able to procure it for storing their beet and carrots. To meet such cases, store up the dry ashes and mix them with dry sand or dust-dry garden soil and pack the roots in the mixture. So treated the roots will be quite safe from moderately severe frosts, and, in case of prolonged frosts, more dust-dry soil can be heaped on. It is very important that the material be kept dry.—HANTS.

Hotbeds from Leaves.

IT is a mistake to suppose that stable litter is absolutely essential for the making of a hotbed. Quite a good bed can be formed from leaves alone, and although the heat will not be so great as that produced by manure, yet it will have considerable lasting properties. If a variety of leaves can be secured so much the better, for the different sorts vary somewhat in the time taken to start fermentation. Thus the giving out of a mild heat is extended over a considerable period.

Much depends on preparing the heap of leaves for the hotbed. Heap the leaves up in some odd corner and turn and shake the pile about every other day for a week or a little longer. If any part seems at all dry water should be given freely. At the end of the period named the material will be ready for the making of the hotbed. The leaves may be placed inside any permanent pit which has been opened out to the depth of at least 2ft. 6ins. Where the hotbed is to be made on the surface of the ground the thickness of the layer must be from 3ft. to 4ft. apart from the necessary filling of the frame. The leaves should also extend for a distance of 3ft. on all sides of the frame. It is most important that the whole mass should be firmly and evenly trodden to secure against any one part settling together closer than another and for securing a uniform heat throughout.

Even a hotbed made of leaves should not be used straight away. During the first three days allow rather a free ventilation, at the end of which time the bed will be ready for use. Where it is desired to propagate cuttings or seeds a layer of soil from 6ins. to 9ins. deep may be spread on the surface of the leaves. Pots with plants may be plunged right into the bed.

Digitized by Google

THE WINTER SPRAYING OF FRUIT TREES

An important operation which should be carried out during the next few weeks.

THE spraying of fruit trees is an operation which is often neglected by the amateur. That it is important really goes without saying, when one thinks of the multitudes of insect pests and fungus diseases which attack our trees and injure them in some way, either by disfiguring or ruining the fruits, eating the leaves, which are the actual food manufacturers of the plant, or crippling the shoots.

There is no comparison between a tree which is allowed to care for itself and a tree which is properly sprayed and pruned. The one may give us a good crop of usable fruit occasionally, while the other will give us good crops of first quality almost every year.

At present I intend to deal only with spraying fluids for use during the dormant season, when, of course, we are able to use much more powerful solutions than is possible when the foliage is on the trees.

The first consideration is to cleanse the trees from the covering of moss and lichen which is to be found on the stems and which harbours so many insect pests and their eggs.

One of the best cleansing washes we have, and certainly the most simple one to mix, is a plain *Caustic Soda Wash*. This is prepared by dissolving one or two pounds of caustic soda in ten gallons of water. This is a powerful solution and as it has strong caustic properties, care must be exercised in using it. Rubber gloves should be worn and the face smeared with vaseline. Old clothes should, of course, be worn. When young trees are being sprayed, one pound of caustic soda in ten gallons of water will be strong enough and it is advisable only to use the 2 per cent. solution on old trees.

Strong Paraffin Emulsion is used during the winter when apple scale is troublesome. This wash also has some effect on insect's eggs, but is not entirely satisfactory as an egg-destroying wash. This mixture is made by boiling one to two pounds of soft soap in a gallon or so of water and stirring in one gallon of paraffin while the solution is boiling. If stirred briskly for a while the paraffin will emulsify in the boiling soap solution. This strong solution should be made up to eleven gallons with water before use.

Where it can be obtained, soft water, rather than hard water, will be found much better for the mixing of these washes, in that it ensures a more efficacious spray.

Lime-Sulphur is another substance which is recommended for winter spraying, especially when fungus diseases prove troublesome. Being a difficult compound to make up satisfactorily, it is advisable to buy the ready-made proprietary article. Firms which manufacture large quantities of this compound have greater opportunities of preparing properly made lime-sulphur than has the man who only makes up a gallon or so in his garden.

The Tar Oil Washes.—The carbolineum or tar oil sprays form a new class of winter washes which will be found most effective. The first of these was introduced to this country five or six years ago. Since then many English insecticide manufacturers have placed brands of tar oil emulsions on the market. Several good makes are advertised in THE GARDEN. During the last three or four years extensive trials of these "carbolineum" washes have been made and from my own observations I can safely say that this type of wash is far before anything we previously had.

As far as cleansing the bark is concerned, these washes are as effective as caustic soda and they are a decided advance when we consider their action on insect pests. By systematic and regular spraying all the insect and fungus pests found in the trees will be destroyed in a short time.

This class of wash does not seem to injure the face and hands, but at the same time it should not be allowed to touch the skin if it can be avoided. A good plan is to wear goggles and to put some vaseline on the face to ensure perfect protection.

I must just add a word of warning regarding the use of carbolineum spray fluids. Use them as early in the new year as possible, in any case no later than February, otherwise the buds of the trees may drop. N. D. H.

WHAT OUR READERS SAY

AN ORNAMENTAL GRASS.

SIR,—I first saw that ornamental grass Spartina cynosuroides growing in Mr. G. H. Dalrymple's nursery at Bartley. I have not seen it anywhere else or in any catalogue. It grows to 6ft. high, broad, arching, emerald green foliage, edged with yellow. In August the flower-heads appear. It is a most attractive variety and ought to be seen more often. I have a large bed in my water garden and this autumn it turned a most lovely golden colour, and after all these heavy rains it is quite as beautiful to-day (November 16th). I think it likes a fairly moist soil, but seems happy anywhere.—MARQUE THURSBY, *New Forest*.

AMARYLLIS BELLADONNA.

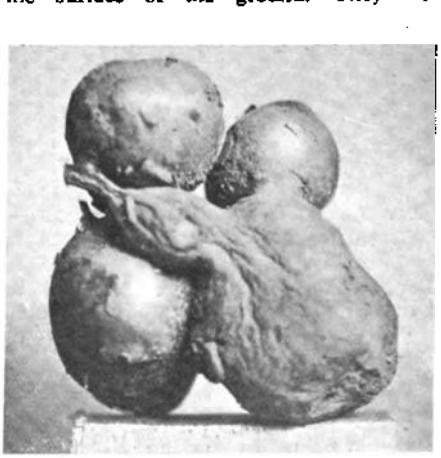
SIR,—The experiences of Mr. Woodall and Mr. Wood with Amaryllis Belladonna this season are most interesting to me. With us here I have never seen such a wonderful show of bloom. In a batch of 2yds. square I counted seventy spikes, some of them 3ft. in length, and very strong and fully developed. They have never flowered the like before. In some seasons I have had but just one or two spikes, and those very poor. Nothing was done to the bed other than a light top-dressing of soil. A row running at the foot of a south wall also flowered profusely only planted three years ago.—J. S. HIGGINS, *Llanwnda, Carnarvon*.

A SLUG COLLECTION.

SIR,—Referring to Mr. Williams' account in your issue of November 20th, I am tempted to send you my record over a similar period. My garden has a clay subsoil and nearly three-quarters of an acre in extent, and must have been greatly neglected in the past, as an entirely new herbaceous border of 120ft. was almost completely eaten up by the early spring. By means of orange and grape fruit skins placed along the borders and beds I collected 41,049. The skins were examined each morning before 6 a.m. and again after sunset. I can strongly recommend this method of collection to those who do not mind the hand-picking remedy.—CHAS. F. FAULKNER, *Cheshire*.

A POTATO FREAK.

SIR,—The accompanying illustration of a curiosity in potatoes may be of interest to readers of THE GARDEN. The potatoes were of the Epicure variety, and grew on the surface of the ground. They were



A POTATO CURIOSITY.

discovered among the dead leaves of a potato plant when the crop was dug. I should like to add that these potatoes were photographed just as they grew, and not joined by any artificial means. The matchbox they are placed on happened to be the most convenient thing handy, and one pin was used to secure them in position.—E. F. LAWRENCE, *Hamble*.

FIRST-CLASS DESSERT APPLES.

SIR,—Those who appreciate a first-class dessert apple would undoubtedly put Cox's Orange Pippin at the head of the list. I have always thought Cox's Orange the only apple worth eating and that it takes a lot of beating. I recently had the opportunity of tasting Laxton's Superb. It is well named, for the flavour is equal to Cox's Orange. The raisers, Messrs. Laxton, state that it follows Cox's Orange, but the fruit I ate was straight off the tree on November 1st and it was quite ripe, but no doubt the district and season would account for this. Given all things equal, I dare say Cox's Orange would hold its own, but as it is selfsterile and liable to disease, it is not everybody who can grow it, nor will it grow anywhere. Superb, being self fertile, and free from those diseases that Cox's Orange is liable to, should enable and encourage everyone to grow it. The trees I saw were growing beside the same number of Cox's Orange of the same age and planted at the same time. The Superb each carried a good crop of fruit. The Cox's Orange did not carry a single fruit. I write merely as an apple eater and not as a fruit expert. And to those who appreciate Cox's Orange and cannot grow it, I suggest trying Laxton's Superb. I don't think they will be disappointed.—POMME.

THE SIBERIAN PEA-TREE.

SIR,—Although one rarely sees this shrub, Caragana arborescens, planted to any great degree, it has much to commend it. Firstly, for its hardiness it is useful for exposed positions; secondly, its yellow pea-shaped flowers, which are borne in profusion in May, continue for a long period; thirdly, its quick growing and responsiveness to hard pruning. It seems to thrive anywhere

Digitized by Google

in well drained soil, and is easily propagated by seed.

C. pygmæa, another species is only 1ft. in height and makes a good shrub for the rock garden. In Canada Caragana arborescens is used extensively as a hedge plant, and seemed very useful in this way. The caragana comes from parts of Asia.—R. MOORE, *Thorpe Hall, Essex.*

AN APPRECIATION.

SIR,—Not only the chrysanthemum and dahlia world, but also all those interested in general horticulture, will feel the tragic death of Mr. Harry Woolman, of the Sandy Hill Nurseries, Shirley, Birmingham, which occurred in the disastrous railway accident at Rotherham. Many striking tributes have already been paid by those associated with him. As an amateur I should like to add my appreciation of his work. During his life, while engaged, along with his brother, in the business established by his father, he did much to popularise the chrysanthemum and dahlia and to bring them within the scope of the ordinary amateur's garden. He gave to our gardens many excellent varieties which will long remain among the best garden sorts and only this year he gained numerous awards at various autumn flower shows for new varieties he was exhibiting for the first time. He was always interested in the problems of the amateur relating to the culture of his favourite flowers and always eager to give freely of his help and guidance out of the vast store of practical knowledge which he had gained during his life.

His interests were catholic and he took an active part in many horticultural societies and in this way greatly strengthened and furthered the cause of flower growing in this country. Lovers of chrysanthemums and dahlias have not only lost a friend, but also a helpful and guiding colleague.—T.

[We have been asked to insert the following letter of thanks from Messrs. H. and J. Woolman: "Mr. H. Woolman sen. and Mr. J. Woolman take this opportunity of thanking all kind friends and customers for their many expressions of sympathy in the tragic loss of Mr. Harry Woolman as a result of the terrible railway accident at Rotherham. They feel that a deep debt of gratitude is owing to all for their kind expressions and floral tributes, and would ask all to accept this intimation of their sincere thanks. The business will be carried on as before by Mr. H. Woolman sen. and Mr. J. Woolman."—ED.]

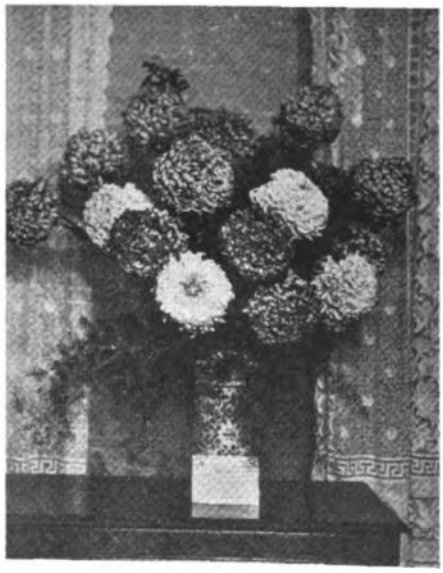
EARLY-FLOWERING CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

SIR,—The select list of early-flowering chrysanthemums given on page 662 of your issue of November 20th is very interesting. I have grown, in the neighbourhood of London, practically all the varieties you mention; but I would recommend, above, all a variety you do not mention—the deep maroon Wembley. The plant is very vigorous, the blooms are large and freely produced and the flowering period is exceptionally long. Although my cuttings were not planted out until the 20th of May, I picked the first bloom of Wembley about the end of August and the last on November 18th. September Glory, Mrs. Jack Pearson, Bronze Early Buttercup, Dick Barnes and Phœnix have also done very well indeed and bloomed continuously for about the same period as Wembley. Phœnix is a fine variety, though with me the later blooms have been very much smaller than the early ones. The other varieties mentioned have maintained their size throughout. I think that THE GARDEN has recently improved almost beyond recognition, and I recommend it to my friends with real enthusiasm.—E. T. THISTLETHWAITE, *Barnet.*

PRIZE-WINNING CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

SIR,—I am enclosing two illustrations of a vase of chrysanthemums which may be of interest to your many readers of THE GARDEN. Both vases were awarded first prizes at the National Chrysanthemum Society's recent show. The vase of Japanese varieties include the following sorts, W. Rigby, Mrs. Drabble, Queen Mary and H. E. Converse, of which the largest specimen measures nearly 11ins. across; and the singles are Sweet Auburn,

A PRIZE WINNING VASE OF SINGLE CHRYSANTHEMUMS.



A WELL ARRANGED VASE OF THE MOP-HEADED JAPANESE VARIETIES.

Glorious, Bertha Fairs, Mrs. Loo Thomson. Both vases were grown by G. Richardson, Tulse Hill, London.—F. J. HEATH, *Brixton Hill.*

THE CULTIVATION OF A SMALL GARDEN.

SIR,—On light, easy-working soil in Oxfordshire I found 20 rods not too heavy a task to cultivate after leaving my regular employment at 5 p.m. (Saturday afternoons at 1 o'clock). I grew potatoes early and late, and produced about 6cwt. to 8cwt. for use; onions, carrots, beet, parsnips six rows of each across the piece of land, which were sufficient for our use. I manured for potatoes and followed with greens, peas four rows across, also gooseberries, currants, raspberries, loganberries twelve trees of each; celery usually one row and such crops between as marrows, lettuce, etc. At the end I always had the children's garden, about 20ft. by 18ft. On this we grew sufficient flowers to keep us going and at the same time giving great pleasure to the children. Winter greens followed early potatoes, dug first week in July. This provided us with garden produce for ten months of the year.

On coming to Essex clay soil I found a great difference. Ten to fifteen rods were sufficient to undertake, that is, ten for allotment such as above, and five rods of such flowers as roses, carnations, sweet peas, phlox, etc., with annuals between and a piece of grass 30ft. by 40ft. This, I find, employs me on the average two hours per night with an occasional Saturday afternoon from April to October. A plan which will be found to save much time and labour in small gardens is that of ridging up all vacant land after removal of crops as recommended in a recent issue of THE GARDEN. This is the secret of a good start in spring.—H. M. BUTLER, *Woodford Bridge, Essex.*

SIR,—In answer to the enquiry in THE GARDEN for November 20th, *re* the amount of ground that can be cultivated, I have an allotment of 10 rods which I cultivate year in and year out. The ground is rather on the heavy side, as it is close to a river, which supplies a ditch that runs parallel with my ground. A twentieth part I use for perennials, and the rest for annuals and vegetables. During the winter months I turn over the whole of my ground, working Saturday afternoons only. When light evenings are here I utilise four or five for the garden, and I can safely say that I have no weeds growing, although the adjoining allotments are, in some cases, overgrown with them. My success in keeping weeds down is due to using the hoe freely. There have been occasions when I have made work, there being nothing really necessary to do. Besides the allotment I have a very large aviary of foreign birds to care for at my home. I think, myself, that 12 rods can be cultivated with ease providing that the soil is not composed of too much clay. If the soil consists principally of clay, then 6 to 8 rods is quite sufficient —F. J. STEVENS, *Lower Tooting.*

THE IMPORTANCE OF LABELLING.

SIR,—With reference to the article on "The Importance of Labelling" in the issue of THE GARDEN for November 13th, the paragraph referring to the oxidising of zinc labels I consider misleading to those uninitiated, and I think should be corrected. The paragraph I refer to reads as follows "and the old-fashioned zinc label which has the disadvantage of oxidising and becoming almost unreadable in time." Later in the same paragraph reference is made to cast labels being the most permanent. I do not know of any cast garden label that is not made of zinc. In addition our Acme label is made of stamped zinc. My point is that anyone reading your article on labels and reading your paragraph *re* the oxidising of zinc, would naturally infer from it that all zinc labels become oxidised and illegible, and would therefore refrain from buying cast zinc labels. You are correct in stating that zinc oxidises when exposed to the weather. Everything is affected in time in one way or another by exposure to weather, but it is the fact of there being raised letters to our labels (both cast and stamped) that ensures their legibility for all time.—TRISTAN PINCHES.

[Through inadvertance it might be supposed in the note refered to that cast zinc labels oxidised in the same way as the old zinc labels which were written on in ink. This is not the case.—ED.]

Digitized by Google

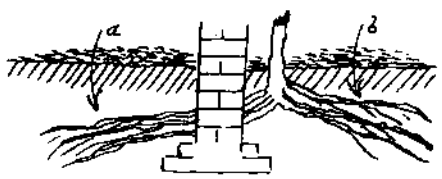
IN THE GREENHOUSE

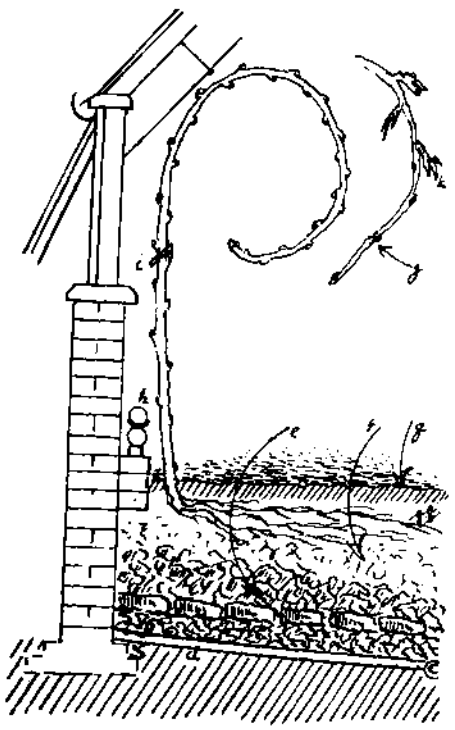
Present Treatment of Pot-Grown Strawberries.

AMATEUR cultivators like growing strawberries in pots and even a few dozen plants will yield several dishes of very fine fruits if they are well managed. Usually, the pots are taken straight to the greenhouse shelves, which are dry and near the roof glass. In such positions, at this time of the year, new roots are slow in growth and it is important that they be active when the crowns of the plants begin to grow. Take the plants to a frame first and plunge the pots to their rims in a mild hot-bed. In a fortnight new roots will have grown about half an inch long; then place the pots on the surface of the bed for three days before taking them to the greenhouse. At intervals of ten days, or so, plunge pots in the hot-bed and, in this way, maintain a succession of ripe berries until the outdoor ones are available. This is a better plan than having all the berries under glass ripening at the same time. Only use clear water until the berries have formed then begin to feed with weak doses of liquid manure and concentrated foods.

Planting Young Vines.

THE accompanying sketch shows how a new border should be constructed and young vines planted. It is never advisable to have the bottom of a border below the wall foundations; rather build up somewhat above the normal level of the ground, having the border partly below and partly above the ground level, except in cases where there is a border outside the vinery as well as inside the house, as shown at *a* and *b* in the diagram. If convenient, put down a cement base, shown at *d*, and in a slightly





inclined plane, so that all surplus water will be conveyed away by drain laid at *c*. On a rubble base lay whole turves, *e*, grass side downwards, then the main bulk of the compost, *f*, on which the roots are neatly spread out and covered with 4ins. of soil, as shown at *g*. A few bricks, laid in cement, will support the pipes shown at *h*, the heat from them warming the cold air as it enters the house before it reaches the tender foliage. If the young cane is cut back before the second week in January there will not be much danger of loss of sap from bleeding. It should be cut off at the point *i*. If pruning back cannot be done by the time named, then it is best to depress the young vine as shown, and when the buds begin to grow to rub them off while very small down to the point *i*. At *j* the method of disbudding a young vine is shown. The denuded portion of the young rod can be cut away at midsummer or the following autumn.—G. G.

Forcing Mint.

FRESH mint is appreciated in every household. There is no difficulty in obtaining nice green leaves where greenhouses or frames are available. The new shoots must be obtained from divided roots or, more correctly, runners which resemble those of the objectionable couch grass. Mint luxuriates in a moist soil and where a little aritficial heat can be used very quick growth results. A bed of soil about 9ins. deep is better than a box or a pot, but failing a bed, make use of boxes at least 7ins. deep or pots 9ins. across. Use a rich compost; rotted manure in the bottom of the pot, box or bed and also rotted manure, burnt soil and a few wood ashes mixed with the general compost. A rather heavy loam is better than a light, sandy one. Firm the compost by hard pressing down with the fingers; lift old roots, disentangle them and lay in the strongest, quite flat, 1in. apart, covering with 2ins. of soil. One thorough watering should be given directly the planting is finished and afterwards the soil must be kept in a consistent state of moisture. If the roots of mint are allowed to get very dry the stems become wiry, hard and the leaves small and subject to red spider attack.

Peaches and Nectarines.

THE trees growing under glass should be cleaned and the branches and shoots tied to the wires by the end of December. It is never safe to meddle much with the branches in the way of cleaning after mid-January, as the sap begins to move and the buds to swell at an early date. If possible, the structure in which the tree or trees grow should be ventilated to the full and this can be readily done if the trees are the sole occupants. In calm weather, frosty or not, open ventilators and doors wide. After the structure and the trees have been cleaned, tie the main branches out, evenly, first; then the young shoots not closer together than 4ins., 6ins. would be better. The last work to attend to will be the application of rotted manure, old mortar rubble and fibrous turf, chopped, as a top-dressing 3ins. deep, and a final watering, making sure that the soil in the bed is thoroughly moistened down beyond the point where the roots go.

Propagating Chrysanthemums.

CULTIVATORS wish to avoid spoiling their plants and to grow strong specimens—such that will bear, in due course, fine large blooms of great depth and solidity for exhibition or sturdy specimens that will bear from nine to thirty medium-sized flowers for purely decorative purposes. Both are obtained by growing the plants from the cutting to the blooming stage without unduly subjecting them to a strong heat or a too confined atmosphere. The chrysanthemum is a cool temperature plant.

By this is meant that it thrives in frosty weather, there is no ordinary plant that does, but frost will not kill it, although severe weather stops, or retards at least, the growth. So we must, while not coddling the plant, keep it free from actual frost in the propagating house. We should be busy now preparing and inserting the bulk of the cuttings of all late-November to Christmas flowering varieties. Some growers use up the old ball-soil from the current year's final potting. It is best to refrain from doing this, to use instead quite new loam, that is, loam that has been cut and stacked at least six months. Two-thirds of such loam and one-third of well rotted leaf-soil will form a sweet, ideal compost for the cuttings, especially if some old mortar rubble can be mixed with it instead of sand. Neither bone meal, soot nor any other artificial manure should be used in the soil for the cuttings. Wait until the first potting, then use some judiciously. Deep, narrow pots are best for rooting single cuttings in and a box or a small frame on a greenhouse stage will answer. The temperature of the house should range from 40° to 50° during the depth of the winter, although several degrees lower or higher, according to the weather conditions, will not do any harm.

The old roots should be kept in a cool, light house, and dry atmosphere. Where cuttings unduly crowd thin out the weakest. The best cuttings are those severed at soil level from suckers growing through the soil in the pot. These suckers should not be pulled up and inserted whole, as shown at *a*, but they should be cut off at *b*; cuttings with flower-buds growing on them at *c*,

Digitized by Google

and those growing from the old stems, *e*, also having buds, should be avoided. The right cutting is shown at *f*, and if the lowest leaf, *g*, and the stem is severed as shown at *h* it will be ready for insertion. Plunge the pots in ashes or coconut fibre *i*, to prevent undue dryness, and ventilate one hour daily at *j*. Remove the cuttings when roots are as advanced as shown at *k*, *k*.

Bringing on the Freesias.

FREESIAS which were planted in August should now be growing strongly. Many people fail with freesias because they do not realise that these plants greatly dislike a high temperature when in growth. Only a very moderate heat is permissible, and this is most usefully employed just when the flower buds first of all appear. As a matter of fact, freesias are nearly hardy, and, if they can be protected from severe frost, will grow quite as well in a frame or an unheated greenhouse. Naturally, in such places, one cannot expect very early flowering. When freesias are growing actively they simply must have plenty of water, and it is rather a good plan to let this be just off the chill. Any neglect in the matter of watering will cause the leaves to turn yellow and flower buds to shrivel up. Whenever the weather is favourable, air should be admitted freely. Then one cannot well keep the plants in too light a position. The top shelf of a greenhouse where they will be close to the glass is best for the plants. When freesias are grown in rooms where, by the way they often do very well, they should be kept in front of a sunny window.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

FACTS ABOUT FERTILISERS

THE proper application of suitable manures is an important feature in the routine of the garden. Fertilisers used in a careless manner will often do little good and, in some instances, might really produce harmful results. Here are a number of points which it is well to bear in mind when the value of any particular manure is under consideration. For the purpose of convenience the fertilisers are classed in three groups—animal, vegetable and mineral, the latter including the purely chemical fertilisers.

Animal Manures.

Horse and Cow Manure.—In many country districts, and even, at times, in towns, horse and cow manures are easy to get. The former is, of course, of a heating nature, and, on this account, is extensively employed for the making of hot-beds. Owing to the opening effect which horse manure has on the soil, it is more suitable for a heavy than a light ground. Never put it in a fresh state close against the roots of plants, and when employed for potting mixtures it is well to use it after it has lost most of its heat, as would be the case if it had been taken from an old hot-bed. Cow manure is of a cold, sticky nature and may be worked into a light soil with great advantage. To form a liquid stimulant cow manure is very useful, and the best way is to put some into a bag and then stir this about in a tub of water until a deep brown liquid is secured. In use this can be diluted until it is the colour of tea of moderate strength.

Pig and Sheep Manure.—Both of these are very useful and may be dug straight into the soil without the least risk. In the case of a light soil do not work too much straw or bedding into the ground with the manure; on heavy land a certain amount of the bedding material will help to open up the land. Sheep manure may be used in the making of liquid fertiliser as described in the case of cow manure. Well dried sheep manure is often mixed with potting composts with good results, but do not use it in a fresh state.

Poultry Manure.—This is a very powerful fertiliser and should be used with great care, otherwise serious injury to crops may result. Quite the best plan is to mix it with equal parts of ashes and sand, adding if possible, a very little quicklime. Spread this mixture evenly over the surface of vacant ground. If used for potting composts, double the quantity of sand or soil mixed with the poultry manure. Even then it should not be employed in a fresh state, but should be heaped up for some time until the whole mass has changed into a mould. This may then be mixed with the potting soil, allowing about a 5in. potful to each bushel.

Guano.—When genuine, guano is extremely rich in plant foods. To make sure that you are getting real guano it is wise to buy from one or other of the well known firms. In recent years the supply of really high-grade guano has decreased and there is much inferior stuff about. Guano may be spread on soil, the rate of application being from 1 oz. to 3 oz. per square yard. Whether the smaller or larger amount should be used depends on the quality of the guano, and this the grower should ascertain. Guano is best given to pot plants in liquid form (½ oz. should be dissolved in 1 gallon of water). The fertiliser should never be applied more than once a week, and not at all until the plants have practically filled the pots with roots.

Bones.—Gardeners should not overlook the value of bones as fertilisers. These are very rich in phosphates, which are, of course, extremely useful in connection with fruit culture. The bone-meal which one can buy is, obviously, more soluble and, therefore, quicker in action than the actual bones themselves. None the less, bones, so long as they are not too big, are always worth working into the ground, and it is remarkable to see the way in which the roots cling round them. Small fragments of bones may be used with great advantage in the case of pot plants. Large pieces should not be used, as these tend to harbour soil pests.

Vegetable Manures.

Garden Rubbish.—Most kinds of garden rubbish have a considerable fertilising value. It is a good plan when taking out trenches to throw all rubbish that will decay harmlessly into the bottom. Cabbage stumps, tree clippings and any strong perennial weeds should not be used for this purpose. The trench can be filled to within about 6ins. of the top and, after a thorough treading down, the material is covered in with soil. Another way of using garden rubbish is to pile it up in a heap and then scatter lime over it, turning it frequently until the whole mass has well rotted.

Leaf-soil.—Leaf-soil is a rich fertiliser and is also useful on account of its power of retaining moisture. If there is potting to be done a heap of decaying leaves should always be kept on hand. This should be stirred now and again and, as the months pass by, excellent mould can be sifted from the mass. Throw back that portion which does not pass through the sieve. It pays to dig as many leaves as possible into the open ground and thereby secure a considerable enrichment of the soil. Oak, beech and horn-beam leaves are the best, but the foliage from any deciduous trees is not to be despised.

Lawn Grass.—Where lawns are mown once a week during the season it is a good plan to leave the clippings on the grass. If this is not done lawn clippings may be spread on to soil and finally dug in with advantage.

Green Manures.—When ordinary fertiliser cannot be obtained soil may be greatly improved by sowing a green manure, at almost any time when the land is unoccupied. Mustard, rye grass or clover are suitable; these should be dug in before they flower. Often it is not possible in a small garden to spare the land for this treatment, but the soil is greatly enriched by the process.

Seaweed.—Those who live near the coast should realise that, in seaweed, they have a really useful maure. Very often the amount of salt in it renders it somewhat unsuitable for placing straight away on the land. The best method of preparation is to form a heap of alternate layers of seaweed and soil, each about 6ins. deep, with a light dusting of lime over each layer. After a few months turn the mass over and when it seems fairly decomposed spread it on the land. Seaweed will benefit any vegetable crop, but is especially useful in the case of asparagus.

Mineral Manures.

Coal and Wood Ashes.—Coal ashes have practically no value as fertilisers, but they are of service when, in small quantities, dug into heavy soil. Pure wood ashes, on account of the large amount of potash they contain, are really useful. Dig them straight into the soil or mix with the soil used in potting. Never leave ashes about in the rain, as this tends to lessen their fertilising value. When sifting wood ashes, remove any lumps of charcoal that may be brought to light, and carefully put these on one side. Small lumps of charcoal may be usefully worked into the soil used for potting, and it is especially beneficial in the case of chrysanthemums. Where there is plenty of charcoal it is an excellent plan to put some just over the layer of crocks that are used in connection with the drainage of the pot.

Soot.—Soot is most useful, both as a fertiliser and as an insecticide. It may be dusted over the ground at the rate of 1 bushel for every 3 or 4 square rods, when the land is vacant or after sowing. It is good for almost any vegetable or fruit crop, and may be employed as a liquid manure for pot plants.

Lime.—Lime tends to act more as an agent in the soil rather than as a fertiliser in itself. However rich land may be in plant foods, most crops starve if there is a deficiency of lime in the soil. Generally speaking, it should be part of the routine of the garden to dress vegetable land with lime every three years. The lime should be used in a slaked state, and there is no need to dig it in deeply, as it has a tendency to sink. Gas lime is not so useful as ordinary lime, but it has greater powers as an insect destroyer.

Mortar Rubble.—Those who garden on heavy ground should not lose an opportunity to secure mortar rubble. This not only contains certain fertilising elements, but it is also extremely useful for opening up the soil. Mortar rubble may be mixed with potting soils with advantage. Pass through a ¼in. sieve before use.

Salt.—Salt certainly has a manurial value, but it should be used with care, as an excessive quantity may easily kill a plant. It is well to mix the salt with sand in equal parts and to scatter this over the soil at the rate of about 2lb. per rod. Used in this way the salt helps the crops—especially cabbages and asparagus—and, still further, checks weed growth.

(*Continued on page viii.*)

Digitized by Google

HINTS WORTH REMEMBERING

Half a guinea will be paid each week for the most useful or interesting hint sent in by a reader. Five shillings will be paid for all others published. Owing to the number of hints which are sent in, we desire that, in future, each hint should be sent in on a post card, and should be limited to 150 words. Payment for these hints is made on the 7th of each month following publication. Responsibility for the accuracy of these hints must rest with the contributors.

THE HALF-GUINEA HINT

Rambler Roses on Poles.

This is a good method, I find, for the training of rambler roses on poles. After taking down the roses and cutting out the old growths and weak shoots not required, I lay out new shoots on the ground, to get them into their different lengths. I then commence with the shortest shoot and twine it round the poles, and follow on with the longer lengths, so that each keeps the other in position. The longest shoot is kept secure by putting a piece of tarred twine round the post. If some of the shoots do not seem secure enough, a piece of twine may be put lower down. I think this is a quicker method than putting bands of twine round poles and tying each shoot individually, as it saves a great amount of twine when a large number of roses have to be dealt with on poles, and it is much more natural-looking. It is best to use the tarred twine, as it is not affected by weather conditions. When roses are trained by this method it is just a case of cutting the twine when roses have to be taken down again, and they come away quite easily.—W. J. B.

How to Tie Small Trees and Shrubs to their Supports.

Strong gales are often experienced at this time of the year, and a lot of damage is done to standard rose trees, half-standard rose trees, small shrubs and also small trees by simply tying them with naked string to their supports. The trees get blown backwards and forwards, causing the string to cut into the bark of the tree, bruising the stem of the tree and causing it to bleed. The result is death to the tree, or canker. Get a piece of old water hose-piping, cut it into pieces 1in. long, then cut down one side of it, pull it open, then slip it on to the stem of the tree or shrub. This will form a rubber band. Tie the string twice round the band, then fasten it strongly to its support. This will prove valuable to all.—B. R.

Mealy Bug on Vines.

This pest is by no means easy to eradicate once it has got a good foothold. The best method I have found yet is, after thoroughly cleaning the house with soft soap and paraffin, removing all loose bark from the rods, then wash them with a solution of XL-All Insecticide, double strength, finally painting them over with painter's knotting. This, when dry, forms a thin glaze, starving any insects that may be hidden under the bark. The rods, being shiny, show up any stray insects that may be lurking about in the spring, when they can be touched with a brush dipped in methylated spirit.—F. D.

A Raspberry Manuring Hint.

When manuring your raspberries, bear in mind that they like heavy but well drained soil; therefore, pig manure is just the thing for them. The biggest raspberries I have ever seen were grown on the site of a year-old pig manure dump. The good thing about pig manure for mulching is that it does not dry and become a husk as quickly as cow and horse manure. A good artificial for raspberries is basic slag, but there is no need to get it on before January. No good is done by early applications being washed away by the autumn and winter rains. Further, I am told that basic slag is considered now to be much quicker in action than it was formerly thought to be.—S. P.

Dish of Rhubarb on New Year's Day.

Get an old barrel (an apple barrel does well) and put it in a corner of your greenhouse or toolshed. Lift a good crown of rhubarb and place this into the barrel; give a good watering and cover up by placing a bag over the top of the barrel. Keep the crown moist by watering occasionally. I have done this for years and always had my dish on the first day of the year.—W. T. S.

A Remedy for Rough Hands.

To keep the hands from becoming rough during frosty weather, take chopped beeswax 4 oz., olive oil 2 fluid oz., place in an oven until melted; when cool enough to handle, roll into a ball and use by rubbing lightly over the hands after washing.—S. G.

Killing Wireworms.

Now that all the root crops are lifted and stored, many will look round to find a suitable means of getting rid of wireworm. An old plan and a very good one is to slay him with kindness. Insert among your plants tempting lumps of linseed cattle-cake as big as walnuts, just lightly buried in the earth. He will feed greedily on this until his jacket becomes over-distended. What follows is better imagined than described: but there is no more wireworm. Many remedies are advocated, but this is the simplest.—W. A. W.

"THE GARDEN" CROSSWORD—III

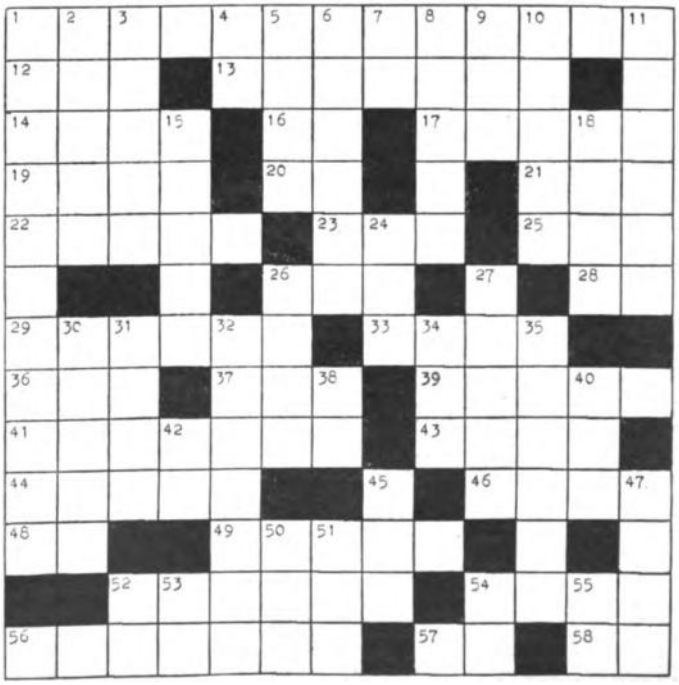
Two Prizes of ONE GUINEA will be given to the first two correct solutions opened on the morning of Thursday, December 9th. If no correct solutions are sent in, these prizes will be awarded to the first two in order of merit that are opened. All envelopes must be marked "Crossword" on the outside and addressed to THE GARDEN, 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, London, W.C.2. No other communication must be enclosed in this envelope.

ACROSS.

1 Composite plant of the ox-eye daisy family.
12 An affirmative.
13 Plant of the crowfoot family.
14 Employs.
16 Neuter pronoun.
17 Insect in the caterpillar state.
19 A vein containing metallic ore.
20 A subaltern (abbr.).
21 Reserves (abbr.).
22 To implant.
23 A meadow (var.).
25 The sweet potato.
26 Slippery fish.
28 Sixth musical note.
29 Kind of clayey rock.
33 Lichen.
36 A South American potato-like plant.
37 Garden vegetable.
39 Drug extracted from the white poppy.
41 Hardiest.
43 Another name for "corolla."
44 A berry-bearing shrub.
46 Require.
48 Railway (abbr.).
49 Name applied to several varieties of plum (pl.).
52 Annual plant, bearing pulse used for food.
54 Decayed vegetable matter used for fuel.
56 A liqueur prepared from anise seed.
57 Accomplish.
58 Pronoun.

DOWN.

1 Variety of cabbage.
2 A very fine green tea.
3 Hollow, jointed plant-stems.
4 South Australia (abbr.).
5 The indigo plant.
6 A stinging weed.
7 Trade Mark (abbr.).
8 An evergreen shrub much in evidence at Christmas.
9 Girl's name.
10 An English wild-cherry.
11 Unwholesome vapours arising from putrescent matter.
15 Germs of plant-life.
18 Calves' flesh.
24 A shade tree.
26 Bad potatoes have them.
27 The trembling poplar.
30 Frigidly.
31 An aromatic plant.
32 Ornamental stand for holding flowers.
34 Boo (reversed).
35 "Bladder Campion" or "Catchfly."
38 Preposition.
40 A Mexican India-rubber tree.
42 That is.
45 Same as 26 across.
47 A palm fruit.
50 Consumed.
51 Dig (reversed).
52 A Chinese mile.
53 Plural suffix.
54 Italian river.
55 Forenoon.



Name .....

Address .....

Digitized by Google

OUR SERVICE BUREAU

Though so many subjects are dealt with in each issue of THE GARDEN, *it must constantly happen that readers seek information which is not immediately available. In such circumstances they should make use of our Service Department. Through its medium each reader's own particular enquiry can be dealt with. No matter what the question is, there is always information available from a staff of expert contributors and consultants; and there is no charge for this. It is one of the additional means of service which* THE GARDEN *is glad to render to its readers.*

Also, there is the further convenience which the Service Department affords of supplying readers with data about anything that is advertised in the pages of the paper. Thus, on receipt of an enquiry, particulars will be sent of, say, half a dozen things about which the reader seeks information. The only stipulation is that a stamped addressed envelope and the coupon, that will always be found in each issue, shall be sent with the enquiry. We would point out, however, that we cannot undertake to supply readers with plans and designs of gardens, but will willingly assist in giving suggestions for planting.

All communications should be addressed to the Service Department, THE GARDEN, *20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.*

We have selected the following enquiries, with their answers, as being of more general interest, and therefore worthy of publication.

How to Treat Soils Infected with Club Root.

I shall be much obliged if you will kindly advise me how to treat soil badly infected with club root. Our kitchen garden is on ground that was used as allotments during the war and then allowed to go out of cultivation. For the second year running we find it impossible to grow any sort of cabbage. The ground has been trenched and treated with lime and the plants put in were healthy at the time of planting.—B. E. B., Lindfield, Sussex.

The only effective way of treating ground which is infected with club root, is by digging the soil over at once, leaving it in the rough state and applying a good, heavy dressing of lime. The ground should be allowed to lie fallow during the winter, and the lime allowed to wash in. Next year, no cruciferous crops, such as cabbages, cauliflowers, broccoli, etc., should be grown in this ground, but potatoes may be grown. This is about the only way of getting rid of this troublesome disease.

Treatment of Coltness Gem Dahlia.

I have just lifted my Coltness Gem dahlia. I am surprised at the size of the tubers. Shall I have to plant the whole bunch next year, or do I split them into separate units? Could I start them in a cold frame, and at what time of next year? I have stored them in a box of dry soil.—K. G., Barnsley.

Keep frost from the dahlias. You may plant the tubers intact, or start the new growth in a frame and divide the tubers; or you can start the new growth so and take off some of the young shoots when about 4ins. long, root them in sandy soil in a gentle heat and plant the old tubers too. Place them in the cold frame at the end of February.

Black Vine Weevil and How to Destroy It.

You have been so kind as to give me valuable advice on previous occasions that I venture to ask you can I use carbon bisulphide among roots of vines to destroy the larvæ of the black vine weevil without injuring the roots? I am not actually plagued with them, as they do not visibly affect my vines or grapes, but the larvæ get into fern roots, begonia bulbs, etc., and do a lot of damage, and I am thinking I may destroy all the larvæ by injecting bisulphide in the borders.—W. C., Guernsey.

You may use carbon bisulphide; it will destroy all insects in the soil. Make holes with a small stick about 1ft. deep and 2ft. apart, and pour into each hole 1 oz. of the liquid bisulphide. Fill up each hole made with fine soil. Keep lighted matches, candles or other lights away, or there may be a serious accident, as the liquid is very inflammable.

Levelling Uneven Ground.

The article on digging and trenching in your issue of October 16th touches upon the subject of levelling uneven ground. I am just now engaged upon the clearing of part of my garden with a view to making a full size grass tennis court, and by the time the transplanting of fruit trees and evergreens is complete the ground will be a series of hills and hollows, and I am told by my friends that I will never attain the necessary levelness for a tennis court without professional assistance, which I cannot afford. Can you give me any guidance as to how large area levels are obtained? I fear trusting to the eye alone will not give us the real levelness for a tennis court. We have stripped the place of all old grass intending to dig all over and sow with the best lawn grass seed next spring. What would be the best time to dig and to what depth should we dig? The soil is clay and fairly quick drying except at one end close to a high wall, and the place generally gets plenty of sun. I have already derived much helpful information from your Service Bureau columns as to lifting, dividing and transplanting, and I shall be grateful for any hints you can give me as to the best method of obtaining lawn levels.—S G., Dublin.

You need not despair of getting your ground properly levelled. First fill in soil to level individual holes, thoroughly treading the soil as each thin layer is put in. Have the soil, at the finish of this part of the work, about 3ins. higher than the normal level—the part not dug up—then begin at one corner, using pegs, straight-edge board and spirit level, and level to the other corners, driving in pegs for the purpose of resting the straight-edge on them; but level so that one end will be 2ins. or so higher than the opposite one. This is done to prevent water ever lodging on the surface. Fill up with soil to the tops of all the pegs before drawing out any of them. Dig an ordinary depth only now, or soon. From time to time fill up any hollows forming.

Plants for a Narrow Bed by a Wall.

Would hypericums prosper in a very narrow bed of light soil against the wall? It would get no sun until midday, but from that hour onwards it would be baked in the summer. As the bed consists of a very narrow strip between a wall and a brick path, I intend to plant an ampelopsis at one end and an early-flowering climber, such as Jasminum nudiflorum, at the other, filling up the rest of the space with a low-growing evergreen able to make the most of the situation. There is plenty of soil in depth but very little in width.

Can you tell me the name of a deciduous plant to form a hedge 2ft. or 3ft. high, for light soil, transparent enough to let winter sun through to early spring flowers and thick enough later on to protect them from being burnt up in August?—R. S. G. E., Colombes (Seine), France.

Hypericum will probably suit the position you mention exceedingly well. Such species as H. patulum Henryi or Moserianum will probably be the most suitable. These shrubs are not too vigorous growing and do not require a great amount of space.

We should suggest that for your hedge you try either hornbeam or beech. These can be kept at a height of about 3ft. if properly trimmed every year. Hornbeam might prove better than beech, in that you want the hedge to be open in winter. Hornbeam will give adequate protection from the sunlight in the summer, when it is fully clothed with the leaves.

Climbing Shrubs for a Porch.

Having recently, and to my delight, "discovered" THE GARDEN, I am taking advantage of your Service Department to learn the following: What climbing shrubs could be grown one on either side of my doorway? Would it be necessary to erect a trellis, or could they be trained to the bare wall? Please give in brief, if possible, the habits of your suggested shrubs. In the remaining part of the bed I propose to plant a small variegated laurel—one on either side. Would this be detrimental to the healthy growing of the climbers?—P. C., Woodford Green, Essex.

We suggest two bushes of Pyracantha coccinea Lalandei for the position which you mention. This is an evergreen shrub carrying very neat, small, shiny green leaves whose beauty is greatly added to in autumn by enormous clusters of bright, shiny red berries. It is a shrub which does particularly well against a wall, being of a bushy and upright habit. It is a particularly accommodating plant, and generally is not difficult to establish. Another good climber which looks very effective against an archway is Forsythia intermedia spectabilis, which in early spring is covered with clusters of golden yellow flowers. It is deciduous, and looks rather bare in winter. In spring the yellow flowers come before the leaves. Still another useful climber is to be found in the jasmine, J. nudiflorum. Many of the ceanothus, such as C. thyrsiflorus or rigidus, are very neat-habited climbing shrubs with their rather attractive bluey green leaves and tight clusters of deep blue flowers. This list will probably help you to select one or two plants.

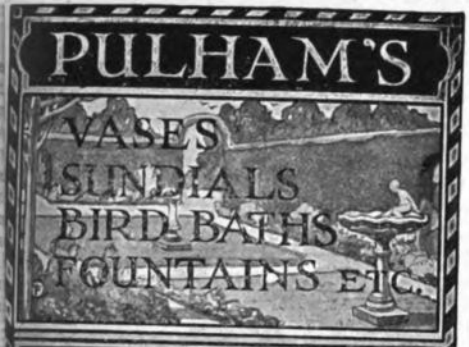
Pruning of Cordon Fruit Trees.

I have just bought and planted a cordon apple, pear and plum tree; they are four years old and are about 9ft. high; also a bush apple and plum tree. Shall I have to prune them now or in the spring, and shall it have to be the leading upright spur? I have also two apple bush trees and a cherry tree, planted last spring; they have made good growth. How shall I prune them? I only started gardening last spring, and I have found your paper very useful and well worth the money since I started to get it some time this summer.—E. H. W., Yorkshire.

The newly planted cordon apple, pear and plum trees should be pruned a few weeks after planting. At 9ft. high they seem very tall for their age and probably have been let run a little too high in past seasons. However, the pruning now required is to shorten the leading or extension shoot on each by about one-third and to cut back all other young side shoots to two or three bottom buds. The bush apple and cherry trees require similar treatment, each branch being treated as a cordon—that is, the leading young shoot on each branch should be shortened by about one-third and all side shoots on them cut back to two or three buds at the base. With these bushes, aim to keep the centres open and free from crossing growths and the branches evenly spaced, so that the tree is balanced and shapely.

Digitized by Google

PULHAM'S



GARDEN ORNAMENTS

71 NEWMAN ST LONDON W.

ME IMPERISHABLE METAL LABELS

lade of Zinc. Non-Rusting. No Writing Required.
e been sold without complaint for over 50 years. Bright
d letters on a black background. Named Labels supplied
for all plants from **2/6** per dozen.
talogues and Labels may be obtained from all leading Nurserymen, or from

JOHN PINCHES
Crown Buildings, Crown St., Camberwell, S.E.5

ARDY **FRUIT TREES and**
OTCH **FRUIT BUSHES**
OWN

Buy direct from the Actual Growers. This season we have a grand stock of healthy, well-grown **TRANSPLANTED TREES AND BUSHES.**
Write for Catalogue.

STORRIE & STORRIE
Nurseries, Glencarse, PERTHSHIRE

It Pays to Spray

YOUR trees will bear more and better fruit if freed from insect pests, moss, lichen, and other harmful growths.

Now is the time thoroughly to cleanse and re-invigorate the trees by spraying with

COOPER'S
WINTER SPRAY FLUID

("Commended" by the Royal Horticultural Society of Gt. Britain.)

NON-POISONOUS. DOES NOT BURN

Half Pint	...	1/6
1 "	...	2/3
Quart	...	3/3
Half Gal.	...	5/9
1 "	...	9/6
2 "	...	18/-
5 "	...	38/6

1 Gall. makes 100 Mixture.

OF ALL AGENTS.

Cooper, McDougall & Robertson, Ltd.
BERKHAMSTED.

SUTTON'S SEEDS

Warning

We wish again to call attention to our Registered Pedigree-Quality Seal, and to warn purchasers throughout the United Kingdom against buying Seeds described as "Sutton's" which have never been supplied by us from Reading. Every packet of "Sutton's Seeds" will in future bear this seal, and none is genuine without it.

SUTTON'S VEGETABLE SEEDS.
SUTTON'S FLOWER SEEDS.
SUTTON'S LAWN GRASS SEEDS.

Complete descriptive price lists will be found in "Sutton's New Garden Seed Catalogue," now in course of preparation. This will be posted to our customers shortly and garden lovers not on our regular mailing list should send their names and addresses at once so that a copy may be sent them on application.

SUTTON & SONS
The King's Seedsmen
READING

THE GARDEN DOCTOR: Plants in Health and Disease, by F. J. CHITTENDEN, V.M.H., freely illustrated, 7/6 net, by post 8/-. A prospectus of this practical book will be sent post free on application to The Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C. 2

PREPARE NOW
For Next Summer.

Regd. *Trade Mark*

GARDEN MANURE
SOIL PEST DESTROYER

"FERRY" GARDEN MANURE gives back to the soil the Phosphates, Potash, Nitrogen and other foods that have been taken up by the growing plants during this year. It is the finest manure for general garden purposes. Apply at the rate of 2 to 3 ozs. per square yard.

14 lb., **3/6**; **28** lb., **6/-**; **56** lb., **11/6**; 1 cwt., **21/-**.

"FERRY" SOIL PEST DESTROYER sweetens and sterilises the soil and destroys pests, such as slugs, wireworms, caterpillars, ants, etc. Its use provides a quick, sure and reliable way of freeing your land from all insect pests. Apply 2 to 3 oz. per square yard.

14 lb., **3/6**; **28** lb., **6/-**; **56** lb., **11/6**; **1** cwt., **21/-**.

ALL PRICES CARR. PAID TO NEAREST STATION FOR CASH WITH ORDER.

Agents wanted throughout England for "Ferry" Specialities.

The BRITON FERRY CHEMICAL AND MANURE CO., LTD. (Dept. E), Briton Ferry, S. Wales. (Est. 1886).

CLEAN CROPS ARE GOOD CROPS

New plant hygiene

THE slug is a great destroyer — and, hidden in the soil by day, he carries on his depredations largely immune from attack *till you discover* HELICIDE.

HELICIDE is the liquid soil cleanser which can be used without harm to growing plants. Not only does it destroy slugs. It is the prime agent in securing clean, healthy turf, free from worm casts.

Worms in the lawn!

HELICIDE is the ideal wormkiller. Far cheaper than powders, it is easier to apply, and more effective too. Write now for full particulars. 1 pint makes 40 Gallons of Liquid.

USE HELICIDE

Pint tins	- **1/9**
Quart tins	- **3/-**
Gallon cans	- **7/6**

From your dealer—or apply to the makers.

BUGGE'S INSECTICIDES LTD
WESTCOMBE HILL BIL LONDON S.E.3

TAS/Bu.18.

Digitized by Google

BULBS

We invite immediate application for our

BULB CATALOGUE

knowing that the very fine quality of our bulbs enables us to offer exceptionally good value for money.

Send for a copy of the BULB CATALOGUE at once.

Bakers
SEED AND FLOWER FARM
CODSALL
Near Wolverhampton

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

ALL TRANSPLANTED

GEUM Mrs. Bradshaw, Lady Stratheden 4/- doz. *Carr. paid*

Forget-me-nots and **Giant Daisy** (Bellis monstrosa) **9d.** doz., **1/-** doz. *Carr. paid.*

SARGEANT,
Beeches Nursery, CARSHALTON, SURREY

Special Autumn Offer

12 FRUITING BUSHES selected from the varieties below for **40/-**, Carriage paid for Cash with Order, or **6 FRUITING BUSHES** for **22/6**, Carriage paid for Cash with Order.

ALLINGTON PIPPIN
ARTHUR TURNER
BEAUTY OF BATH
BLENHEIM ORANGE
BRAMLEY SEEDLING
BISMARCK
COX'S ORANGE PIPPIN
ECKLINVILLE SEEDLING
JAMES GRIEVE
GASCOYNE'S SCARLET
LANE'S PRINCE ALBERT
MAIDSTONE FAVOURITE
GLADSTONE
KING OF PIPPINS
RIVAL

Write for our Descriptive Catalogue and particulars of other Collections, gratis, on receipt of Card.

The FOREST & ORCHARD NURSERIES, Ld.
WILBURY HEATH, FALFIELD, GLOS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

FACTS ABOUT FERTILISERS

(*Concluded from page 704.*)

Nitrate of Soda.—This fertiliser is especially useful for promoting leaf growth, and it may be usefully employed in the case of all members of the cabbage tribe. Nitrate of soda may be applied at the rate of 3lb. per square rod, dividing the quantity into two applications with an interval of six or eight weeks. If the chemical is applied to vacant ground it is well to sow a crop of mustard, which is subsequently dug into the land. Nitrate of soda, being very soluble, is readily washed away by heavy rains and the roots of the mustard crop help to keep it in the soil.

Sulphate of Ammonia.—This does not act so quickly as nitrate of soda, but, being a nitrogenous manure, it may be applied for the same purpose and in a similar manner. When sulphate of ammonia is employed as a liquid fertiliser it is much quicker in action and may be employed at the rate of 2 oz. to each 3 gallons of water.

Superphosphates.—This is especially fine for tomatoes where a little may be sprinkled on the surface of the soil just after the setting of the fruit. It is much better to apply a small quantity about every ten days rather than to put a bigger amount at one time. On the open ground, where superphosphates can be highly recommended for the kitchen garden crops, it should be applied at the rate of 5lb. or 6lb. per rod. If possible, apply in the early spring, as this will bring the best results.

Kainit.—This is a potassic salt which is highly useful for vegetable crops. It should always be applied to the open ground in the autumn. A suitable rate of application would be 5lb. per rod. Neither kainit nor any of the three preceding fertilisers should be allowed to come in contact with foliage, as they are likely to have a burning action.

S. LEONARD BASTIN.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

We have received from Messrs. Little and Ballantyne, nurserymen and seedsmen to H.M. the King, Carlisle, a copy of their annual catalogue of nursery stock, which we commend to the perusal of intending purchasers of plants of all descriptions. Among the screen plants we observe very prominently their new poplar Populus generosa, which as a quick-growing plant bids fair to supersede all others for screening purposes. Topiary work, too, for the small garden is profusely illustrated, roses, ornamental shrubs and fruit trees are conspicuous features, and it certainly is a list that ought to be in the hands of every gardener.

Messrs. A. J. and C. Allen, Bowthorpe Road Nurseries, Norwich.—A comprehensive rose catalogue in which the roses are well classified and carefully described. Interesting notes are given on novelties of 1926 and on the recent improvements and failures in the rose world.

Messrs. Austin and McAslan, Glasgow.—Two catalogues, one of alpines, herbaceous and other hardy plants, including a good collection of herbaceous peonies; the other of coniferæ, ornamental trees and shrubs, rhododendrons, hedging plants and fruit trees.

Messrs. J. Forbes, Hawick, Scotland.—An extensive list of alpine and herbaceous plants. Numerous uncommon plants are listed, as well as good collections of primulas, saxifrages and auriculas. A planting plan of a herbaceous border is given.

Messrs. D. and W. Croll, Limited, Dundee.—An interesting and useful illustrated garden booklet, which is full of information, has been received from this firm. The hints on the planting and management of roses should prove of service to all amateurs. Roses, perennials, shrubs and nursery stock are listed.

FRUIT TREES ROSES

Alpine Plants **Hardy Perennials**

Ornamental Trees and Shrubs

can be successfully planted NOW.

The BARNHAM NURSERIES, Ltd.,
offer an immense stock of healthy, well-grown trees . . in great variety . .

Descriptive Catalogues on application.

The BARNHAM NURSERIES, Ltd.,
BARNHAM, Sussex.

CHEALS OF CRAWLEY

Have over FIFTY YEARS' Experience of GARDEN AND ESTATE PLANTING and General Improvements.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY ACRES of Nursery stocked with a First Class Collection of

Ornamental Trees - Shrubs
FRUIT TREES,
Herbaceous and Alpine Plants,
ROSES, DAHLIAS, and all Garden Requisites.

IT WOULD PAY YOU TO CONSULT THEM.
Catalogues of each Department and an Illustrated Pamphlet on Garden Design.

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.,
The Nurseries, **CRAWLEY.**

THE PLANTING SEASON IS IN FULL SWING

Why not choose one of the following Collections and ensure having a good show in your garden next summer:

12 DELPHINIUMS
in 12 distinct varieties **24/-**

12 MICHAELMAS DAISIES
in 12 choice varieties - **15/-**

12 ROCK PLANTS
in 12 choice varieties - **10/-**

Box and Carriage Free

Send for our Descriptive Catalogue, post free.

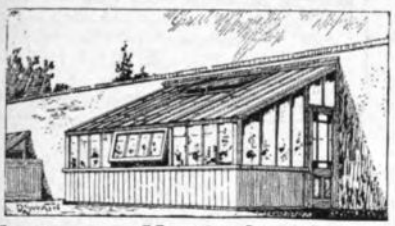
W. WELLS, Junr.
Hardy Plant Nurseries
MERSTHAM : SURREY

Digitized by Google

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

DAVID SWAIN & CO.

Amateur Greenhouses and Garden Frames — Write for List.



Horticultural Builders

101, Sussex Road, HOLLOWAY, N.7

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Your Gardening Friend

Would most appreciate the choice new Broom admired by H.M. the King at Chelsea, and given a unanimous Award of Merit by the R.H.S., as well as highest distinctions on the Continent. The New Crimson Broom "Dorothy Walpole" is the most remarkable variety ever seen—colour rich velvety crimson—is as hardy and vigorous as the common Broom of the hillsides and will flourish in ordinary garden soil in any part of the British Isles, however far north.

Strong pot-grown plants now ready for planting out, to flower in May, 7/6 each. Carriage paid rates to any station in Great Britain or Ireland: One plant, carriage paid, 10/-; two plants, carriage paid, 18/6; three plants, carriage paid, 25/-; six plants, carriage paid, 49/6; twelve plants, carriage paid, 99/-.

Coloured illustration sent on application if THE GARDEN *mentioned.*

Wm. Watson & Sons, Limited, Nurseries, Killiney, Co. Dublin.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

XMAS GIFTS?

Why not give your Friends ROSES this Christmas?

We can supply 12 First Quality British grown plants, our selection, for the sum of **12/-** Carriage Paid, Cash with Order, and will forward to reach destination a few days before Christmas. Half quantity **6/6**

Our Illustrated Catalogue sent post free on application.

BENJAMIN R. CANT & SONS, LIMITED,
Dept. A,
Estd. 1765. **The Old Rose Gardens, COLCHESTER.**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

SUNDIALS VASES BIRDBATHS

Garden Figures in Lead and Stone.

The "WYCOMBE" Birds' Bath and Pedestal, 2ft. 6in. high, in Reconstructed Stone,
£3 : 19 : 6

Write for interesting Booklet of Garden Ornaments (G), post free

SANDERS & CO.,
Sundial House,
365, EUSTON ROAD, LONDON, N.W.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

WE have already drawn attention to the suitability of garden requisites as gifts at Christmas time and as it is a topic of some interest we enlarge still furtheron our list of suggested items. Really enthusiastic gardeners will welcome and value a present, however small, which will help them in their garden during the coming year or add to its beauty. There is no lack of choice and no doubt many of our readers will think of more novel and useful gifts than we suggest here. There is only one point which we might stress and that is that the gift should be a useful one.

Seeds.

AT this time, with the arrival of seed catalogues by every post, and the making of a selection for one's own garden, why not choose a few packets of choice annuals for your friends? The gift is not an expensive one, yet, on the other hand, it indicates your appreciation of your friend's effort, as a gardener, which your friend, in return, will value. Select those kinds which you think will suit conditions in your friend's garden and varieties which you are almost sure he does not grow, but which he has probably expressed some hope to try on some previous occasion. No matter what kind of a garden your friend may have, or in which branch of gardening he may be interested, a few packets of summer-flowering annuals will not come amiss. You can select those sorts which make good edging plants, or those which make a blaze of colour in the rock garden, or again those which will add beauty and colour to the permanent border. If your friend has a greenhouse your choice may be wider by the inclusion of a few half hardy and tender kinds to provide him with a bright display in the early spring months in his house. Do not confine your gifts to flower seeds, but include a few packets of vegetable seeds if your friend goes in for vegetable culture and what keen gardener does not? A few packets of tomato seed, seeds of a new variety of culinary pea, such as that excellent variety Giant Stride, or some up-to-date variety of carrot, turnip, cabbage and so on will be welcome. The selection is endless.

Garden Etceteras.

THERE are any number of items which for convenience sake may be grouped as garden etceteras, any one of which will make an admirable gift to a gardening friend. These include such gardening requisites as tools, gardening gloves, a small frame, a length of hose, a sprayer, a collection of plant labels, netting for the support and protection of wall fruit trees, a load of gravel or sand, a bale of peat moss litter, a bag of artificial fertiliser or a tin of spraying material. The range covers a wide field and each will form a useful gift which is not expensive. What gift can be more suitable than a fork or spade? Both are necessary in any garden and they are articles of general use. If your friend is amply supplied, then a pair of secateurs for pruning his trees, shrubs and roses. This is a gift which will be greatly valued, as it is a tool which the ordinary gardener does not purchase until his stock of plants demands the use of secateurs for quickness in pruning and not the old-fashioned slow method of knife pruning. A small hand fork for weeding purposes will always find service in any garden and it makes an inexpensive gift. There are many manures from which to select, but select general purpose fertilisers.

THIS Verse Stone makes a beautiful addition to the Crazy Path, Rockery, Conservatory, or Lawn.

Dimensions (approx.) 16 in. by 10 in. by 2 in.
Verse inlaid in Bronze Letters.

21/- *Carriage Paid.*

Cheques and P.O.'s crossed.

Special Verses, Quotations or Memorial Inscriptions to order.

CONWAY & COOPER (Dept. D), Montrose Works, Harwood Street, SHEFFIELD

Charming Xmas Gifts
OF
HILLIER'S ROSES

All Colours. True to Name. Our Selection.

12 Bush Roses **10/-**; 50 for **40/-**
12 Standards for **36/-**
12 Climbing Roses **12/-**; 50 for **45/-**
12 Rose Species, including New Choice Chinese Hybrids **15/-**; 50 for **50/-**

Carriage Paid and Packed Free for Cash with Order.
(Our Customers can have them entered.)

HILLIER & SONS Rose Specialists **Winchester**

DOBBIE'S SCOTCH-GROWN ROSES

These succeed where others fail;
Send at once for a Catalogue

Please name this Paper

DOBBIE & CO., LTD.
Nurserymen :: EDINBURGH

Gift Books for Lovers of Gardens

YE SUNDIAL BOOKE. By HENSLOW. Including the History of the Sundial and Sketches of over 360 existing Sundials. Over 420 pages. Published 21s. net. Some copies offered, brand new, at 11s. 3d., post free.

BOOK OF THE GREENHOUSE. By TALLACK (a practical gardener of wide experience). With special chapter on the little town greenhouse. 19 full-page illustrations. Published at 3s. 6d. Offered, practically new, at 1s. 11d., post free.

THE ROSE ENCYCLOPÆDIA. By HENSLOW. History; Poetry; Plans and Planting Schemes; Descriptive List (86 pages) of Roses in commerce. Freely illustrated. Published 12s. 6d. net. Offered, new, at 5s. 3d., post free.

AMATEUR'S BOOK OF THE DAHLIA. By STOUT (an extremely successful amateur expert). History; Cultivation; Hybridizing. Illustrated. Published 10s. 6d. Offered, new, at 6s. 9d., post free.

Above sent on approval. Quote Offer 95.

FOYLES FOR BOOKS
On every Conceivable Subject
119-125 Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.2

One of the most appreciated Christmas presents is a year's subscription to "The Garden."

Digitized by Google

A Permanent Xmas Present for your Garden

"Sussex" Birds' Bath & Sundials

Reduced Prices.

"Sussex" Birds' Bath, Usual Price £4 — 37/6

"Sussex" Sundials - Height 3 feet. — 37/6

Solid Brass 8in dial - 12/6 extra. Made of reinforced imperishable stone. Usual Price, £4

Sent on approval against cash.

Send to Durrington, Worthing, for Illustrated Catalogue of Beautiful Garden Ornaments.

Everlasting & Original Presents

"Sussex" Garden Ornaments Co., (Dept. G), DURRINGTON, WORTHING.

London Showrooms:

40/42, OXFORD STREET, W.1.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

TO BE PUBLISHED ABOUT DECEMBER 7th

Farrer's Last Journey

UPPER BURMA, 1919-20

By E. H. M. COX

Demy 8vo. with 28 illustrations from photographs by the author.

All lovers of the writings of the late Reginald Farrer will delight in this account of Farrer's expedition of botanical exploration to the wilds of Upper Burma. It has been written by his companion of the first year, and in it will be found not only descriptions of this paradise of flowers, but also long extracts from Farrer's letters and articles. It is a book for all who are interested in any branch of horticulture.

18/- net from all booksellers, or 18/9 post free from the publishers—

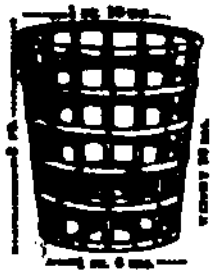
DULAU & CO., LTD.

34, 35, 36, MARGARET STREET, LONDON, W.1

IT WILL MAKE AN ADMIRABLE CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR YOUR GARDENING FRIENDS

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

VULCAN GARDEN REFUSE INCINERATOR



Garden and household refuse reduced to ashes quickly, cleanly, with minimum amount of smoke. Will take a barrow load of rubbish at a charge.

British Manufacture.

PRICE EACH 10/-

Carriage paid nearest Railway Station - 2 for 19/-

Larger size 2 for 22/6 12/6

"The incinerator arrived on Wednesday, and after two soaking nights I had no difficulty in getting a good fire from exposed material. I burnt up in an hour what would have taken me all day with a bonfire."

THE LOSTOCK IRON BASKET WORKS, 8/11, Griffiths Lane, Lostock Gralam, nr. Northwich.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE "SPADE" BOOT CLEANERS

Make Ideal Xmas Gifts.

THE SPADE SCRAPER removes all mud from just those parts of the boot which the ordinary fixed scraper cannot touch. There is a curve or angle to fit every odd corner.

THE SPADE BRUSH *entirely supersedes the old type because:* It is raised off the damp ground on 3 little feet; and you can get the toe and sides of the boot well under the bristles, which extend beneath the brush.

Scraper, 10/3; Brush, 25/6; or the pair for 35/- carr. paid.

We are also the inventors of the CAPTIVE TENNIS BALL MACHINE for practising strokes. Price 37/6.

"SPADE SCRAPERS" (Dept. G.), WAPPENHAM, TOWCESTER, NORTHANTS.

The "Spade Scraper" Pocket Pipe Cleaner will shortly be on sale at Tobacconists, etc.

Ask your garage to fit the car pattern Spade Scraper under the step of your car. Price 4/6 inclusive.

A year or two ago one of our readers wrote to say that the most useful gift he had received at Christmas was a load of farmyard manure. That is a sensible and very useful gift, but nowadays very difficult to procure and the next best is a gift of a substitute, such as Wakeley's Hop Manure. Then come all the chemical fertilisers, the nitrogenous group, of which sulphate of ammonia is probably the most serviceable for general purposes, the phosphates, superphosphates, the potash group and so on. Each plays its part in adding to the fertility of the garden and to the success of the fruit, flowers and vegetables.

Books.

HAVE you ever thought of giving a book on horticulture as a Christmas gift to a gardening friend? It is one of the most suitable of all gifts. It may take many forms. It may be an epitome of gardening or horticulture, a book that can be in constant use as a work of reference when any doubts or difficulties spring up. At least one such work should be on every gardener's bookshelf, for no one is so expert that he can hope to know or remember everything. It may be a book on some particular branch of gardening or on some special plant in which you know that the gardener to whom it is to be presented is interested. Dozens of useful books of this class exist at moderate prices. It may be a book on gardens in general, a book that is not only full of useful information, but is also charming to read through during the long winter evenings or during days when there is not much to look at in the garden. Whatever the book may be, you may rest assured that it will be useful and appreciated by the recipient. It helps the imagination and also the knowledge and lore of the gardener, besides giving opportunity for discussing the subject on which it is written during many happy hours on long winter evenings. Although a gardening book may not be such a good teacher as experience, yet they should run hand in hand. In fact, a gardening book makes an admirable Christmas gift.

Bird Baths and Garden Ornaments.

ONE of the most acceptable of all Christmas gifts to one of your gardening friends would be a bird bath or garden ornament. These ornaments (provided they are well chosen) add beauty and interest to any garden. There are bird baths of all shapes and sizes, made in York stone, Bath stone, artificial stone and pottery and their prices vary likewise, ranging from the small sum of 10s. 6d. for shallow, dish-like bird baths, to £10 and onwards for pedestal bird baths. What would be more appreciated than a lawn bird bath of circular design with a small ornament, such as Pan or a kingfisher, placed in the centre of it! The tall pedestal bird baths, which cost about £3 to £5 would be gladly received by anyone who has a formal rose garden or a terrace in front of his house. A sundial, a small statue and several stone vases or pots are other suggestions for presents. Among these one could select a few large square stone flower pots (they cost £2 onwards), which could be used for tub plants, such as hydrangeas, fuchsias, bay trees; or vases for the corners of a balustrade; or long rectangular troughs which look so effective when filled with bedding plants; or a small figure for the centre of a lily pool. Some of these small statues which are now on the market, are quite inexpensive and although they are made of artificial stone, the material which is used in their construction does not suffer from the effects of frost. Lead figures cost considerably more than those made of stone, but on the other hand they last indefinitely and look well in any type of garden. Some people would be delighted with one of the quaint little stone animals which are now being made; squirrels, frogs, lizards, rabbits, etc.

Make Your Garden Beautiful in Winter.

PLANTS TO GROW AND HOW TO GROW THEM

Illustrated in Colour and Black and White.

By A. W. DARNELL.

Price £1:1:0

Publishers: L. REEVE & CO., LTD., 6, Henrietta St., Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.

Useful Xmas Presents

OF

HILLIER'S FRUIT TREES

Beautiful 4-year old Fruiting Trees

BUSH APPLES, PEARS & PLUMS

In choice varieties, true to name

6 Trees for 20/- 3 for 10/-

Carriage paid and packed Free for Cash with Order

(Our Customers can have them entered)

Hillier & Sons, Fruit Specialists Winchester

THE "SUFFIELD" ROSE PILLAR

Just a suitable present for a Rose Grower.

8 ft. high 21/6

10 ft. high 24/6

Carriage paid on three.

BARNARDS Ltd. NORWICH

A Superb Gift Book

GARDENS for SMALL COUNTRY HOUSES

BY

GERTRUDE JEKYLL AND SIR LAWRENCE WEAVER

Fifth Edition. 25s. net.

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LTD. 20, Tavistock Street, London, W.C.2

"BECO" ROSE BOWL HORNLESS LOUD-SPEAKER

Of beautiful appearance. Gives perfect tone whether empty or filled with water and flowers.

Nickel Plate. £5:5:0 — Oxydised Silver. £5:17:6 — Antique Copper £6:17:6

Full particulars on application to

W. DARLINGTON & SONS, Ltd. LONDON FIELDS STATION, E.9

Digitized by Google

HAVE YOU PROVIDED?

The United Horticultural Benefit and Provident Society

PROVIDES 27/- per week in illness for 1/1½; 18/- for 9d.; or 12/- for 6d., weekly contributions.

PROVIDES your dependents with £10, £15 or £20 at death, according to Scale.

PROVIDES you with a Savings Bank.

PROVIDES grants from Distress and Convalescent Funds.

PROFIT BY THE EXPERIENCE OF A MEMBER WHO HAS £150 TO HIS CREDIT

State Insured members of this Society may also Contribute to the private Section, and by so doing will add to their Benefits in accordance with the Scale they adopt.

A. C. HILL, Secretary, 35, Alexandra Road, WEST KENSINGTON, W.14

DS' NESTING BOXES, BATHS
dials, Vases and all Garden Ornaments

Have BLUE TITS instead of GREEN FLY in your GARDEN.

NESTING BOXES

are intended for WILD BIRDS that build in holes. Provide the birds with lodgings, and they will board themselves off your garden pests, and give you constant entertainment with their pretty ways.

Price 4s. 6d. Postage 1/3

ey like a BATH

It need not be h. and c.

MORANT BIRDS' BATH

mperishable Artificial Stone)

t 27 ins., Diameter 16 ins.

Price £2 : 15 : 0

ogue (No. 4a) of Birds' Baths, ials, Vases, Nesting Boxes, etc., post free.

HUR H. MOORTON, LTD.
, Eccleston Street, S.W.1.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Get a "NEVERBEND"

There may be better Spades and Forks, but we have never seen them.

Thousands of "NEVERBEND" Spades and Forks are sold each season through the recommendations of thoroughly satisfied users—here is one of them.

Obtained through Ironmongers and Tool Dealers only, and made by :—

SPEAR & JACKSON, LTD. :: SHEFFIELD

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" Lawn Sand, Soilfume, Nicotine, Insecticides, Fumers, Sprays and other Chemicals and Sundries. See List. Please ask your agent for the Eureka Articles—They are always satisfactory. If any difficulty in obtaining, we send direct, carriage paid.

Only Address: TOMLINSON & HAYWARD Ltd. LINCOLN

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by "ALPHOL"

Sample 14 lb., 3/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Cranmer St. Liverpool

WIZARD Plant LABEL

PATENT NO. 212974

ade in Red Pottery, 2½ x 1½ ins., with rustless wires, in., 2/8 doz.; 7 in., 4/8 doz. 1½ x 1 in., with wires 6 in., 6 doz. For tying on 1/6 and 2/6 doz. Waterproof k, 9d. and 7½d. bot. Crow Quills 2d. Postage extra

Highly commended by the R.H.S. at Wisley.

RKINGTON - NEW HALL - MAIDENHEAD

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Indispensable in the Garden.

THOMSON'S MANURES

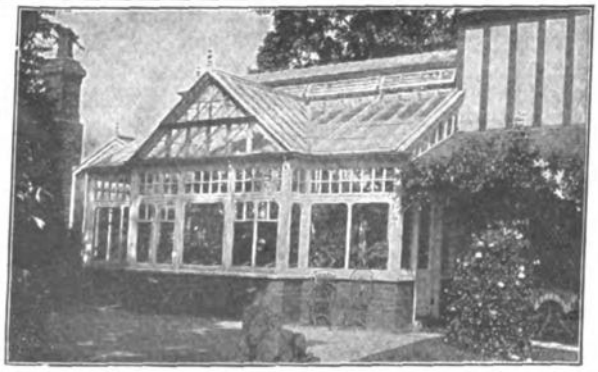
On the market for over 50 years, they still hold first place for QUALITY and RESULTS. They are safe, sure and lasting. The direct result of many years' practical experience in gardening, they stand unrivalled at the present day for all Garden Crops.

Prices :—**VINE, PLANT AND VEGETABLE MANURE**—a Perfect Food—1 cwt., 30/-; 56 lb., 16/-; 28 lb., 9/-; 14 lb., 5/-; 7 lb., 3/-; tins, 1/3 and 9d. **SPECIAL TOP DRESSING MANURE**—an excellent stimulant—56 lb., 17/-; 28 lb., 9/6; 14 lb., 5/6; 7 lb., 3/-; tins, 1/3. **Carriage paid on 28 lbs.** and up.

WRITE FOR OUR BOOKLET—POST FREE ON REQUEST.

SOLD BY NURSERYMEN AND SEEDSMEN EVERYWHERE.

Or from Sole Makers, WM. THOMSON & SONS, LTD., TWEED VINEYARDS, CLOVENFORDS, SCOTLAND



FOSTER & PEARSON LIMITED

Established 1841

Please write for estimates for durable Greenhouses, Boilers, etc., to

BEESTON NOTTS

ıe Service Bureau Coupon.

HE GARDEN, *December 4th* 1926.

ame .....

ddress .....

.....

ıis Coupon must accompany each enquiry ıng with a stamped addressed envelope.

See page 706.

THE SERVICE DEPT., "THE GARDEN,"
, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2

Digitized by Google

British Made

ABOLENE

Tar Oil Winter Wash

Clears Tree Trunks of Moss and Lichen and destroys Insects' Eggs and Fungus Spores

Abolene is thoroughly reliable and efficient. Easy and safe to use. Supplied in small sizes to suit owners of only two or three trees.

Pint	..	1/6
Quart	..	2/4
½ gallon	..	3/8
1 gallon	..	6/–

Write for Descriptive Folder

Abol Limited, 9 Beltring, Paddock Wood, Kent.

WEED-DEATH NON POISONOUS POWDER WEED KILLER

SAFETY FIRST FOR AN MALS AND PEOPLE

Non caustic; colourless; no smells; kills the roots; superior to arsenical compounds.

TINS, 1/- 2.- 3/6 6/6 12/- for 4 12½ 25 50 100 gals

SPECIAL. For Parks and Recreation Grounds—in bulk

ALSO

LETHORION FUMIGATOR

Improved Nicotine Cone

Certain destruction to all pests in glasshouses.

No. 1, for 1,000 cubic feet	.. ..	10d.
No. 2, ,, 1,500 ,, ,,	.. ..	1/3
No. 3, ,, 2,500 ,, ,,	.. ..	1/9

Sold by all Seedsmen and Nurserymen.

CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, LONDON, S.E.1

BY APPOINTMENT

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

The BEST and CHEAPEST

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

FANCY FERN PANS and BULB BOWLS from **4d.** each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD.

Royal Potteries, BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

GOLD MEDAL ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION

WAKELEY'S Celebrated HOP MANURE

(PATENTED)

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DO YOU REALISE IT?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 21 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

A beautiful Free Booklet giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. GENUINE ONLY IN OUR MARKED BAGS, CONTAINING GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

Cash Prices, including bags: Small (about 1 bushel), 3/- Large (about 4 bushels), 7/-. 5 Large, 33/9 10 Large, 65/-: 20 Large, 120/-

Carriage Paid to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company. 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

"Auto-Shreds" did it!

I just burnt them on the ground and they thoroughly fumigated my plants. The judge wanted the name of the stuff that kept my flowers so insect-free. I told him "Darlington's AUTO-SHREDS." At all seedsmen they cost

No. 1. (To fumigate 10,000 cubic feet.) For tender or ordinary plants. 6/-

No. 2. (10,000 c.f.) Ordinary plants 4/6

No. 3. (1,000 c.f.) Ordinary or tender plants .. 1/-

No. 4. (2,500 c.f.) do. 1/9

W. DARLINGTON & SONS, LTD., HACKNEY, LONDON E.8

THE WALTON GREENHOUSE

PRICE £15.12.0

BUY IT OUT OF INCOME

The "Walton" Sectional Greenhouse can be erected in 30 minutes with the aid of 16 bolts only, no nails, hammer or saw required. All parts guaranteed 6ft. Size 12ft. by 8ft., price £15 12 0. Carr. paid to your station. Send for catalogue giving full particulars.

Out of income terms if required

This BOOK FREE

E. C. WALTON & CO., Nunkham Works, Sutton-on-Trent, NEWARK. (Works adjoin Crow Park Station, L.N.E.R.)

Manchester Office: 41, Corporation Street.

Recommended for Roses, Bulbs, all other Flowers and Fruit Trees.

The Helichrysa Permanent LABEL

Registered Trade Mark

Write for circular and full particulars to:—

From 2/- per doz.

THE "HELICHRYSA" PERMANENT LABEL CO.

8, Rusthall Park, TUNBRIDGE WELLS

Patent 254077

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing*

"It warms my Greenhouse nicely at a cost of **about 2d. per day**, which I think very reasonable. I am a new beginner with a Greenhouse, and your

'HORSE SHOE' BOILER

took my fancy. I have not regretted my choice," writes Mr. F. G., Clifford, Boston Spa. 23/3/26

Cold weather comes soon. *Write for particulars now*

To CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD., Engineers, Southwark Street, S.E.1.

Please send me Booklet E "Making the Most of Your Greenhouse," and price of complete Outfit to suit *(span-roof) (lean-to) greenhouse..... long.....wide inside, side of *(wood) (brick).....thick.

Name.....

Address.....

*Strike out particulars not needed. Cut out and send by ½d. post.

Can be supplied from Immediate Stock

USED IN THE R.H.S. GARDENS

Wire: "Kinnell-Boroh-London." 'Phone: Hop 0362 (3 lines)

CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., Ltd.

65, SOUTHWARK STREET, LONDON, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

DEC 23 1926

THE GARDEN

THE AMATEUR GARDENERS' PAPER

Vol. XC.—No. 2871 Saturday, December 11th, 1926 Price TWOPENCE

PERIODICAL ROOM GENERAL LIBRARY UNIV. OF MICH.

THE TOMATO IS ONE OF THE CHOICEST OF OUR VEGETABLES AND SHOULD BE GROWN BY EVERY AMATEUR. ALMOST EVERY KIND OF GLASSHOUSE CAN BE USED FOR ITS CULTURE WHICH IS IN NO WAY DIFFICULT. IN MANY CASES, THE PLANTS RESPOND WELL TO OUTDOOR CULTIVATION IF GIVEN A SHELTERED SITUATION. SEEDS OF MANY OF THE MORE UP TO-DATE VARIETIES SHOULD BE OBTAINED AND SOWN DURING THE NEXT FEW WEEKS.

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
New Alpines and Perennials
Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
Specialists in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

T. J. EVANS & SON
(G) WHIPLEY NURSERIES
WOOD STREET
Nr. GUILDFORD
Roses, Fruit Trees, Shrubs, etc. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD,
CHELSEA, S.W.
Gladioli List Now Ready

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

H. E. MOXON
BULB IMPORTER
ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH
Bulbs for Bedding

TUBS FOR SHRUBS. WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 100 prizes. R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. — Price List from A. PRADAL, 26, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

Chase Continuous Cloches

should be used through winter to protect Sweet Peas, Parsley, Lettuce, Cuttings, Christmas Roses, etc.

Tent Shape, Size A, 12 for 18/-; 52 for 55/-
Barn Shape, No. 1, 6 for 18/-; 26 for 55/-

CHASE ALPINE CLIPS hold any glass over Alpine plants. 3/6 per doz.

Above prices include carriage to any railway station in England and Wales, or part carriage elsewhere.

SECTIONAL FRUIT RACKS build up to any size. Each section contains 5 trays of 4 sq. ft. One section, 25/-; two sections, 45/-, f.o.r.

Full particulars, Cloches, Clips, Racks: DEPT. 7,
CHASE CONTINUOUS CLOCHE, Chertsey, Surrey

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925

MRS. LADENBURG
"DERRYQUIN"
SUNNINGDALE, BERKS.
Undertakes laying out New Gardens Construction of Rockeries and Alterations. Plans and Estimates Free.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
LINCS.
Weed Destroyers Fertilizers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

Killing Power!

The insecticidal efficiency of our indoor nicotine preparations is known to be exceptionally high. They are especially *thorough*. Test the truth of expert opinion for yourself. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen, florists and chemists.

XL ALL FUMIGATING COMPOUND
XL ALL FUMIGATING SHREDS

G. H. RICHARDS LTD.
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
R. 216. Monomark: EOM/XLALL.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Continued from page iii.

50,000 WALLFLOWERS. — Dwarf grown bushy transplanted plants, grown on the chalk hills of Hampshire, which makes them very hardy. Blood Red, Golden Yellow, Primrose and others, Ruby Gem, Ivory White, Vulcan, Master Queen, Purple Queen or Mixed, 50 2/-, 100 3/6, 200 6/6, 500 15/-, 1,000 27/6. free.—SLOCOMBE LEIGH, Broughton, Hants.

ALPINES, ROCK AND HERBACEOUS PLANTS, Dwarf Conifers and Shrubs, Bulbs for the Rock Garden, etc. New catalogue ready, post free.—SHEPPARD, Shawhurst Nursery, Hollywood, Birmingham.

LABELS.—Patent metal, so simple to write by a nail; can't fade or break. Trial offer bargain; 100 with 50 stakes, 50 tie wires, 1 pocket nail, 10/- free. Sample 1/6 The R.H.S. use them. Lists.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

MASKELL'S HOP MANURE.—Best substitute for stable manure, 56lbs., 4/-; cwt., 6/-. Three Guineas the all-round fertiliser, 56lb., 5/-; cwt., 9/6. Ground garden lime, 56lb., 4/-; cwt., 6/-. Screened Gas Lime, cwt., 5/- Basic Slag, cwt., 6/6. Packed in bags and carriage paid. All fertilisers, etc., supplied. Booklets free.—MASKELL'S LIMITED, Dirleton Road, West Ham, E.15.

KNIPHOFIA ERECTA.—The most beautiful, brilliant and interesting of the red-hot pokers. Free, parcel post. 18/- per doz.—GALVIN'S NURSERIES, Wexford.

SIXPENCE EACH, HARDY EVERGREEN AND FLOWERING SHRUBS.—Arbor Vitæ, Mountain Ash, Berberis, Sweet Briars, Horse Chestnuts, Cupressus, Diplopappus, Forsythia, Guelder Rose, Duetzias, Laburnum, Larch, Laurels, Lavender, Lilacs, Maple, Scarlet Oak, Olearia, Philadelphus grandiflorus, Poplars, Rosemary, Spiræa, Scotch Fir, Veronica Traversii, Weigelias, Golden Willow, Hops. All strong and well rooted. Orders of 5/- and over carriage paid.—C. R. SHILLING, 6, Hartley Nursery, Winchfield, Hants.

LLOYD GEORGE RASPBERRY, Finest kind grown, large crimson fruit. Bears from June to October continuously. Strong canes, 50 for 5/9; or 10/9 100. Carriage paid.—C. R. SHILLING, 6, Hartley Nursery, Winchfield, Hants.

ALUMINIUM METAL LABELS, BRIGHT, rustless, everlasting. Any names embossed in large capital letters, for labelling Trees, Roses, etc., unequalled; 10d. doz. 50 for 3/-, or 5/9 100, post free. Write names required plainly. —C. R. SHILLING, 6 Hartley Nursery, Winchfield, Hants.

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

THE "SOUTHWELL" COLLECTION

Twelve Varieties, Carriage and Packing Free - - **12/6**
With "ACME" Labels - **15/-**

Caroline Testout (H.T.) satiny rose.
Col. O. FitzGerald (H.T.) crimson.
Emma Wright (H.T.) pure orange.
Frau Karl Druschki (H.P.) pure white.
General McArthur (H.T.) carmine.
Henrietta (H.T.) orange crimson.
Hugh Dickson (H.T.) brilliant crimson.
Independence Day (H.T.) orange apricot.
Madame E. Herriot (H.T.) coral red.
Ophelia (H.T.) salmon flesh.
The Queen Alexandra (H.T.) deep vermilion.
Ulrich Brunner (H.P.) cherry crimson.

Also FRUIT TREES, SHRUBS, ORNAMENTAL TREES, ALPINES & HARDY PLANTS
ALL HOME GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries. *Catalogue Free on Application.*

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LIMITED
Garden Specialists, SOUTHWELL, NOTTS.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

TAKE THE FIRST STEP TOWARDS A successful garden and write to Waterers. Catalogues, beautifully illustrated, with copious cultural notes, are issued of the following: Roses and Fruit Trees, Bulbs, Herbaceous and Alpine Plants, Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Evergreen, Flowering, Hedge-making and Screening Shrubs—any of which will be gladly sent post free.—JOHN WATERER, SONS AND CRISP, LIMITED, Twyford, Berks.

HIMALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODENDRONS, on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and Alpine Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write for Catalogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE.—The Original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See advert. on back page.

WM. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., Lawrence Road, South Tottenham, N.15. — Conservatories, Winter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

BIRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUNDIALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—DOORTON, 17, Eccleston Street, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

FENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Garden Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request. — THE STANLEY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, Surrey.

BORDER CARNATIONS. — 200 varieties, 12 in 14 varieties, from 6/6; 50 in 50 ditto, from 25/-; carriage paid. Lists free. J. HAYWARD, Chace Gardens, Stakes Road, Purbrook, Cosham, Hants.

GLASS HORTICULTURAL, all sizes stocked; rough Glass Plate for poultry houses. Ready Mixed Paints, Putty, Diamonds, etc.—BRITISH GLASS COMPANY, Dept. "G.N.," Coopers Buildings, Church Street, Liverpool.

NOW IS THE TIME TO LOOK TO YOUR GARDEN. "THE HOME GARDEN BOOKS" deal with every branch of the art. Send for pamphlet C, post free, from THORNTON BUTTERWORTH, LIMITED, 15, Bedford Street, London, W.C.2.

THE VEITCHBERRY.—The finest Hybrid Berry yet raised. The fruit is twice the size of a Raspberry, with a delicious flavour, and is splendid for dessert and culinary purposes. It is absolutely self-fertile and therefore sets freely. Strong plants 7/6 each, 84/- per dozen.—LAXTON BROTHERS, Nurserymen, Bedford.

ROCKERY STONE.—The most beautiful is Quarry Ironstone; sample bags, 2/6. Excellent Crazy Paving. Agricultural lime and Red Loam Sand. Enquiries invited.—REED WATKINS, Coleford, Glos.

BARGAIN GARDEN WIRE ! !—Ideal for peas, fruit trees, tomatoes, arches, repairing fences, tying and scores of other uses. Strong, flexible and waterproof covered. Special prices small lots, or 19/6 mile. Samples free.—GREENS, 413, Albert Street, Lytham.

CUPRESSUS LAWSONIANA.—1½ft. to 2ft., 1/6; 2ft. to 3ft., 9/- doz. Laurel rotundifolia, 1ft. to 1½ft., 1/6; 1½ft. to 2ft., 6/- doz. Splendidly grown hardy Scotch trees. Carriage Paid. C.W.O. Catalogue of Shrubs, Roses, etc., on request.—BARR AND SON, Dumfries.

ONE OF FARRER'S BEST SHRUBS, BUDDLEIA NANHOENSIS, a miniature only 3-4 feet high. Plumes of purple blossom. 1/6 each. 3 for 3/9. 6 for 7/-. Carriage and Packing extra.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED, Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

RARE PRIMULA AND ALPINE SEEDS from large (2,000) collection. Also plants and rockery bulbs. Lists free.—REV. J. F. ANDERSON, Glen Hall, Leicester.

THIS SEASON'S CHOICE PRIMULA SEED. Primula Beesiana, P. Bulleyana, P. capitata, P. japonica, P. pulverulenta, P. sikkimensis, P. Veitchii, to clear, 1/- per pkt. P. crispata, P. Edina, P. Lichiangensis, P. Mooreana, 1/6 per pkt. P. Barmanica, P. La Lorraine, P. Ville de Nancy, 2/- per pkt.—WM. HUNT AND SONS, 4, Northcote Street, Edinburgh.

BARR'S SURPLUS Spring-Flowering Bulbs—Daffodils, Tulips, Hyacinths, Chionodoxas, Early Scillas, Bulbous Irises, Wood Hyacinths, etc. Bulbs in splendid condition at *greatly reduced prices*. List on application.

BARR'S SURPLUS HARDY PLANTS for Flower Border and Rock Garden, including Asters, Irises, Delphiniums, Hemerocallis, Pæonies, Saxifragas, Helianthemums, etc., etc. List on application,—BARR & SONS, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

JOIN THE BRITISH GLADIOLUS SOCIETY. Annual subscription, 5/-. Particulars from Hon. Sec., A. E. AMOS, 10, Bergholt Road, Colchester.

Yearly Subscription, Inland, 12s.; Foreign, 13s.
Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2.
Offices for Advertisements: 6-11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Notes of the Week	707
Scented Flowers for Your Garden	708
The Rock Garden	709
Some Climbers for Arches and Pillars	710
The Flower Garden	711
Some Border Chrysanthemums Worth Growing	712
The Busy Man's Page	713
Plants for Growing Under Trees	714
December in the Greenhouse	716
What Our Readers Say	717
The Fruit and Kitchen Garden	719
Trapping Mice	720
Worms in Pots	720
Hints Worth Remembering	721
Our Service Bureau	721
THE GARDEN *Crossword.—IV*	x

DON'T YOU THINK?—It is by no means strange that garden lovers who want "something better" in their gardens turn to Hewitt's. All phases considered—Seeds, Bulbs, Delphiniums, Roses and Shrubs—it would be extraordinary if they didn't. What a difference a few pence make. Get the habit and join the crowd who go Hewitts'. Catalogues free from HEWITT AND CO., LTD., Solihull, Warwickshire.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wirework of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

ORDER TENNIS COURT FENCING NOW. Complete enclosure 120ft. by 60ft. for one Court, 9ft. high, with Iron Standards, Gate, Strand Wires, ready for erection, £34. Carriage paid to stations in England and Wales. Other sizes in proportion. Write for special Leaflet to Dept. FP/G., BOULTON & PAUL, LIMITED, Riverside Works, Norwich.

AUSTRIAN PINE, DOUGLAS FIR, SCOTS PINE. Stout well shaped trees. Also Fruit Trees in great variety. Write for descriptive catalogue.—THE FOREST AND ORCHARD NURSERIES, LIMITED, Milbury Heath, Falfield, Glos.

GARDENERS, RICH AND POOR (especially poor!) should get the Fairseat Autumn Sales List. It offers a host of good things at practically pre-war prices. Postal business a speciality.—FAIRSEAT NURSERIES, Wrotham, Kent.

NEW CHRYSANTHEMUMS.—Catalogue of 700 varieties, also Dahlias, etc., now ready.—J. W. COLE AND SON, Westwood Nurseries, Peterborough.

THE SCENT OF FLOWERS. By Dr. F. A. Hampton. Crown 8vo., 6/- net.; post free, 6/3. An invaluable book on scent, including scented roses and other flowers for the garden. From all Booksellers, or direct from the Publishers, DUTAU & CO. LTD., 34, Margaret Street, London, W.1.

DOBBIE'S 1927 CATALOGUE AND GUIDE, 144 pages, 229 Illustrations; free to all readers. Please mention "THE GARDEN," when writing.—DOBBIE & CO., LTD., Edinburgh.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools: a perfect fertiliser, no solids: no open filters; perfectly automatic: everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

ROCK PLANTS AND SHRUBS.—Over 300 varieties in stock. Descriptive Catalogue free. Also Herbaceous Plants and Roses. — HODSONS, LIMITED, 58, Castle Gate, Nottingham.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

PRIOR'S COLCHESTER ROSES, Fruit Trees, Gladioli, Dahlias, Carnations, Herbaceous. Catalogue containing cheap collections free.—D. PRIOR AND SON, LIMITED, Colchester.

A GARDEN EVER IN BLOOM is easily and economically achieved by planting my Hardy Herbaceous Roots. Fully illustrated list post free. Satisfaction guaranteed or cash refunded in full on return of plants.—H. E. POLLARD, Nurseries, Evesham

YORK STONE PAVING, for Garden Paths and lily ponds; rectangular or crazy for rustic work; steps and wall coping; rockery.—GEO. VINT AND BROS., Stone Merchants, Idle, Bradford.

TO FLOWER NEXT SUMMER, 12 Hydrangeas, assorted, carriage paid on receipt of 20/-. A real bargain.—TRESEDER AND CO., The Nurseries, Truro.

LOBELIA CARDINALIS QUEEN VICTORIA, brilliant scarlet, late flowering perennial, 1 doz., post free, for 10/-.—TRESEDER AND CO., as above.

FIBROUS YELLOW TURF LOAM.—Catalogue free.—A. B. JOHNSTONE, Cranleigh.

RARE ALPINE LINARIA SEED — Var. flavum, delicate yellow, height 4ins., 1/-. Var. navadensis, most lovely deep crimson, Spanish dwarf linaria. Wonderful grown in a mass, 1/6.—TORKINGTON, Maidenhead.

LOAMS FROM OLD HAMPSHIRE PASTURE or Woodland, rich and full of fibre, heavy or sandy. Quotations free on rail Chandler's Ford Station.—HILLIER AND SONS, Nurserymen, Winchester.

FOXGLOVES.—For the Wild Garden; D. ambigua, maculata superba, ochroleuca, or Yellow Hybrids; 5/6 doz., D. sibirica, 8/- doz., D. purpurea (Common Foxglove) 2/- doz., 11/- 100; All post free.—WILD GARDEN NURSERIES, Rockbeare, Exeter.

LIME FOR THE GARDEN. — Price delivered cash with order, 28lb., 3/6; 56lb., 5/-; 112lb., 8/-. Special quotations for large quantities. Real Cotswold Crazy Paving, Walling Stone, etc.—THOMAS TIERNEY AND CO., LTD., Milk Street House, Cheapside, E.C.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING.—"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSONS, AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

Barr's Cash Clearance Sale of SURPLUS SPRING FLOWERING BULBS

FOR THE FLOWER BORDER:—

	100	doz.
DAFFODILS, Choice Flower Border Mixture	12/6	1/9
EARLY SINGLE TULIPS, Rainbow Mixture	6/6	1/-
GRAND DARWIN TULIPS, Splendid Mixture	7/-	1/-
ENGLISH BULBOUS IRISES, Mixed	9/6	1/4
SPANISH IRISES, Splendid Mixture	3/6	6d.
BORDER HYACINTHS, Choice Mixture	25/-	3/6

FOR NATURALISING IN GRASS, Etc.:—

DAFFODILS AND NARCISSI, Mixed	Per 1,000	65/-	Per 100	7/-
SINGLE CHALICE-CUP NARCISSI, Mixed	,,	65/-	,,	7/-
COTTAGE TULIPS, Mixed	,,	55/-	,,	6/-
ENGLISH BLUE BELLS	,,	25/-	,,	3/-
SCILLA, Wood Hyacinths, Mixed ..	,,	30/-	,,	3/6

Surplus List of other beautiful Spring-flowering Bulbs post free.

BARR & SONS, 11, 12 and 13 KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.2

☞ No connection with any other firm of the same name.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

PLANT SMITH'S ROSES. Hardy Scotch Grown.

UNSURPASSED FOR HARDINESS AND FIBROUS ROOTS. FROM 12/- DOZEN.
SILVER CUPS GAINED 1908-9-10-11-12-25.
NATIONAL ROSE SOCIETY'S MEDAL, LONDON, 1926.

Also FRUIT TREES, SHRUBS, FOREST TREES.
Send for Catalogues with prices, free on application.
GIVE US A TRIAL ORDER.

THOMAS SMITH & SONS, STRANRAER. *Est.* 1861.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Our New List of
CHRYSANTHEMUMS
for 1927 is NOW READY
containing all the finest and most desirable varieties. Free on application to:—
KEITH LUXFORD & CO.
Chrysanthemum Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

THE DOWNER LUPIN
is now known all the World over.
Apply for Lupin List; also Herbaceous and Alpine Catalogue.
DOWNER
2, Drayton Manor Nurseries, CHICHESTER

PLANTING SEASON

GEO. JACKMAN & SON
WOKING NURSERIES, SURREY

ESTABLISHED OVER A CENTURY

INVITE INSPECTION OF THEIR LARGE AND VARIED STOCK OF ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBS, ROSES, CLIMBERS, FRUIT AND FOREST TREES, HERBACEOUS AND ALPINE PLANTS

200 ACRES OF STOCK TO SELECT FROM. CATALOGUES FREE ON APPLICATION.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

EMPIRE GROWN
Lilies and Miscellaneous Bulbs
Perennials & Alpines. Catalogues free
PERRY'S Hardy Plant Farm, ENFIELD

Michaelmas Daisies
For all the latest and most beautiful varieties, see the Raiser's List.
ERNEST BALLARD, Colwall, MALVERN

THE DOG: MAN'S FIRMEST FRIEND.—How to choose and care for him, by A. CROXTON SMITH. A copy of this helpful booklet on the housing, breeding, feeding and care of dogs will be sent post free on receipt of 11d. addressed to The Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

FRUIT TREES ROSES

Alpine Plants — Hardy Perennials

Ornamental Trees and Shrubs
can be successfully planted NOW.

The BARNHAM NURSERIES, Ltd.,
offer an immense stock of healthy, well-grown trees in great variety
Descriptive Catalogues on application.
The BARNHAM NURSERIES, Ltd.,
BARNHAM, Sussex.

BURBAGE ROSES

A collection of 12 of the best varieties. First size Trees, Guaranteed British Grown and true to name, for 12/6 Carriage Paid. - Cash with order.

Betty Uprichard	Los Angeles
Clarice Goodacre	Independence Day
Mrs. H. Morse	Madame Butterfly
Miss Willmott	Mrs. Wemyss Quin
Mrs. H. Stevens	Gen. McArthur
Walter C. Clarke	Frau Karl Druschki

THE BURBAGE NURSERIES LTD.,
Nr. Hinckley, Leicestershire.
Please mention this Paper.

THE
JERSEY
FRUIT TREES ROSE TREES AND CARNATIONS

ARE PACKED FREE OF COST, AND
DELIVERED CARRIAGE PAID

Before ordering, IT WILL PAY YOU to write for our Illustrated Catalogue and Planter's Guide, which contains Elaborate Instructions on the most profitable methods of cultivation, besides an article dealing with Insects and Fungoid Diseases, and is FREE TO ALL. It also gives particulars of our cheap

COLLECTIONS OF NEW ROSES Unsurpassed Quality
Exceptional Value.
ALL GUARANTEED BRITISH GROWN.
Fifty varieties illustrated in colours, direct from photograph.

CORDON FRUIT TREES OUR SPECIALITY
Vast quantities of strong, healthy, fibrously rooted Apples, on the broad-leaved Paradise. Pears, Plums, Peaches, Grape Vines and Strawberry Plants of superior quality.

The Jersey Nurseries, Ltd., (Late La Corna) **JERSEY**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE GARDEN DOCTOR: Plants in Health and Disease, by F. J. CHITTENDEN, F.L.S., freely illustrated. 7/6 net, by post 8/-. A prospectus of this practical book will be sent post free on application to The Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.

CHEALS OF CRAWLEY

Have over FIFTY YEARS' Experience of GARDEN AND ESTATE PLANTING and General Improvements.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY ACRES of Nursery stocked with a First Class Collection

Ornamental Trees - Shrubs
FRUIT TREES.
Herbaceous and Alpine Plants
ROSES, DAHLIAS, and all Garden Requisites

IT WOULD PAY YOU TO CONSULT THEM
Catalogues of each Department and an Illustrated Pamphlet on Garden Design.

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
The Nurseries, CRAWLEY.

Digitized by Google

GIBSON'S GARDEN GLORIES

15 Acres of Glorious ROSES, SHRUBS, FRUITS, Alpine and Herbaceous Plants, Lupins, etc.

NEW CATALOGUE FREE ON REQUEST

Orders of 5/- and over carriage paid for cash with order. With less amounts, 6d. extra.

Grand Collection of 30 Dwarf, Climbing and Hybrid Sweet Briar Roses for 30/-:—

6 Choice Dwarf Roses for 6/-.
Betty Uprichard, carmine.
Covent Garden, rich red.
Caroline Testout, pink.
Daily Mail, coral red to prawn red.
Geo. Dickson, dark crimson.
Mrs. W. Quin, yellow.

6 Dwarf Roses for 6/-.
General MacArthur, red.
Lady Pirrie, coppery salmon.
Mme. A. Chatenay, carmine.
Mme. Ravary, yellow.
Ophelia, flesh shade.
F. K. Druschki, white.

6 Climbing Roses for 7/6.
Alberic Barbier, yellow to white.
Dorothy Dennison, flesh pink.
Excelsa, crimson.
Emily Gray, yellow.
Conrad F. Meyer, silvery rose.
Mme. A. Carriere, white.

6 Climbing Roses for 7/6.
Cl. Ophelia, flesh pale.
Dorothy Perkins, pink.
Hiawatha, crimson, white eye.
Paul's Scarlet Climber, good.
Gerbe Rose, bright pink.
Paradise, large pink.

6 Hybrid Sweet Briars for 7/6.
All have the Briar Scent, large flowered and different shades.
Amy Robsart, Brenda, Flora McIvor, J. Deans, Lady Penzance, Lord Penzance.

The whole of the above 30 Roses will be supplied, correctly named, packing free and carriage paid for 30/- for cash.

REGALE LUPINS
Most wonderful shades and colours ever seen
Strong plants, all shades. 10/- per dozen.

LONICERA NITIDA
The New Hedge Plant.
Splendid bushy well rooted plants. It is also good for forming edgings instead of box for borders.
2/6 per dozen; 20/- per 100.

THE NEW CLIMBING ROSE
Phyllis Bide. Perpetual flowering. 2/- each.
Colour: Pale gold at base, flushed and shaded carmine pink, in long sprays. 3 for 5/9

G. GIBSON & CO., Leeming Bar, BEDALE

FREESIAS

(Pure White, Fine for Pots)

LARGEST BULBS OBTAINABLE,
per 100, 4/6; 500 for 20/-

	Per 100	Per 500
Chionodoxa, Fine Bulbs	3/6	15/-
,, gigantea	5/-	20/-
Scilla, Lovely Blue	4/6	20/-
,, ,, Largest	6/6	30/-
Snowdrops, Sound Bulbs	2/6	10/-
,, Top Size	3/6	15/-
Muscari, Heavenly Blue	2/6	10/-
Allium, neapolitanum	3/6	15/-

GLADIOLUS, EARLY FLOWERING
splendid for house decoration, 100 Corms in 5 varieties for 5/-
Ask for Special List.

LONGSTAFF & SONS
Gladioli Specialists,
Near CHELSFIELD STATION, KENT

WEEPING STANDARD ROSES
on Polyantha Stems.
(No Suckers).

***Alberic Barbier.**—Creamy white.
American Pillar.—Bright pink.
Dorothy Dennison.—Blush pink.
***Dorothy Perkins.**—Clear pink.
Elise Robichon.—Lilac rose and yellow.
Emily Gray.—Orange yellow.
Evangeline.—Single, white tinted lavender.
Excelsa.—Bright red.
Francois Guillot.—Pure white.
***Hiawatha.**—Single, crimson.
Jean Guichard.—Salmon and carmine pink.
Lady Gay.—Cherry pink.
La Perle.—Creamy white.
***Paul Transon.**—Large rosy-coloured flowers.
Pinson.—Chamois yellow to flesh white.
Sander's White.—Pure white.
***Wichmoss.**—Sprays of small "White Bath" moss-like flowers. Wichuraiana type.

On 2-3ft. stems 3/6 each.
,, 3-4ft. ,, 5/- ,,
,, 4-5ft. ,, 7/6 ,,
,, 5-6ft. ,, 10/6 ,,

Only those marked * of the latter size.

T. SMITH,
Daisy Hill Nursery, NEWRY.

Special Autumn Offer

12 FRUITING BUSHES selected from the varieties below for **40/-**, Carriage paid for Cash with Order, or
6 FRUITING BUSHES for **22/6**, Carriage paid for Cash with Order.

ALLINGTON PIPPIN
ARTHUR TURNER
BEAUTY OF BATH
BLENHEIM ORANGE
BRAMLEY SEEDLING
BISMARCK
COX'S ORANGE PIPPIN
ECKLINVILLE SEEDLING
JAMES GRIEVE
GASCOYNE'S SCARLET
LANE'S PRINCE ALBERT
MAIDSTONE FAVOURITE
GLADSTONE
KING OF PIPPINS
RIVAL

Write for our Descriptive Catalogue and particulars of other Collections, gratis, on receipt of Card.

The FOREST & ORCHARD NURSERIES, Ld.
MILBURY HEATH, FALFIELD, GLOS.

HARDY SCOTCH GROWN **FRUIT TREES and FRUIT BUSHES**

Buy direct from the Actual Growers. This season we have a grand stock of healthy, well-grown **TRANSPLANTED TREES AND BUSHES.**
Write for Catalogue.

STORRIE & STORRIE
The Nurseries, Glencarse, PERTHSHIRE

The Seaside Planting of Trees and Shrubs

By Alfred Gaut, F.R.H.S. 28 Illustrations. 5/- net. By post, 5/6.

"Country Life" Library, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2

THE PLANTING SEASON IS IN FULL SWING

Why not choose one of the following Collections and ensure having a good show in your garden next summer:

12 DELPHINIUMS
in 12 distinct varieties **24/-**

12 MICHAELMAS DAISIES
in 12 choice varieties - **15/-**

12 ROCK PLANTS
in 12 choice varieties - **10/-**

Box and Carriage Free

Send for our Descriptive Catalogue, post free

W. WELLS, Junr.
Hardy Plant Nurseries
MERSTHAM : SURREY

A most interesting
FRUIT TREE CATALOGUE
FREE and POST FREE

THIS Catalogue, nicely produced and well printed, contains a valuable host of useful hints on FRUIT TREE CULTURE for Amateur and Professional. Herein will be found all the best and most popular Fruits for all purposes, alphabetically arranged for ready reference. A feature has been made of interesting Chats on soils, situations, and fertilizers; in fact, it is a valuable book, which should be in the hands of all those who possess a Garden or Fruit Farm, large or small. Sit down now, while the matter is fresh in your mind, and write for your free copy.

KING'S ACRE ROSES

THE King's Acre Nurseries—famous since 1785 for the stamina and vigour of their roses—have hardy and reliable
Bushes and Ramblers
in a wonderful, almost endless variety, which they are offering at prices considered by experts and amateurs to be beyond competition.

Alphabetically arranged Rose Catalogue, replete with reliable information, FREE ON REQUEST.

AWARDED 95 GOLD MEDALS.
KING'S ACRE NURSERIES, LTD., HEREFORD
Established 1785. ∴ NURSERIES—140 ACRES.
SPECIAL VALUE IN COLLECTIONS OF FRUIT TREES AND ROSES

Digitized by Google

WATERER'S SHRUBS

FOR

Every Purpose & Every Garden

Our beautifully illustrated 80 page catalogue contains details of :—

Rhododendrons and azaleas.
Evergreen and flowering shrubs.
Hedgemaking and screening shrubs.
Climbing plants.
Shrubs for covering walls and buildings.
Shrubs for planting in or near towns.
Shrubs for planting in the shade.
Shrubs for the rock garden.
Winter and early spring-flowering shrubs.
Berry bearing and ornamental fruiting shrubs.
Shrubs for winter bark effect.
Gold and Silver variegated shrubs, and many other interesting features.

Please write for a copy, it is post free.

John Waterer Sons & Crisp Ltd

TWYFORD——BARKS

Allens ROSES

Final Offer for Autumn Planting.

"NOVELTY" Collection of 12 grand NEW ROSES, Carriage paid 14/-, cash with order. Immediate dispatch.

BETTY UPRICHARD, coppery salmon.
LADY INCHIQUIN, startling cerise.
SHOT SILK, cerise overshot salmon, the rose of the year.
LORD CHARLEMONT, deep crimson.
MABEL MORSE, grand new golden yellow.
ADMIRATION, cream washed vermilion.
ANGELE PERNET, sunset orange, the startling new variety from France.
ELIZABETH DIDDEN, pink.
HORTULANUS BUDDE, vivid vermilion.
SOVEREIGN, golden yellow.
INNOCENCE, single white, golden centre.
SOUV. DE H. A. VERSCHUREN, buttercup yellow.

With the above collection will be given **SOUV. DE CLAUDIUS DENOYEL,** the deep red, richly fragrant, semi-climber.

Fully illustrated Catalogue with six coloured plates post free on request.

BUY FROM THE ACTUAL GROWERS.

A. J. & C. ALLEN (DEPT. G)
Nurserymen, NORWICH, NORFOLK
Established 1869.

Notes from Maidstone.

COOKING APPLES.

All Apples may be cooked, but not all are edible. Some are pasty and flavourless, others brown and woody. We can thoroughly recommend Golden Noble for autumn use, this cooks a clear amber yellow,. and Thomas Rivers, in use till December, of unique fragrance. Of these, beside the usual forms, we have some extra large pyramids, 6ft. high and well developed, at 15/- each.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd., The Royal Nurseries, Established 1796. Maidstone.

SEEDSMEN BY APPOINTMENT

A Section of Carters Exhibit of Vegetables, Dundee, 1926
Awarded 2 Gold Medals

8 Gold Medals awarded to Carters Vegetables during 1926

VEGETABLES OF QUALITY

THE recent articles in the Press regarding the health-giving qualities of various kinds of Vegetables should emphasize the importance of growing only the best varieties.

Carters strains of Choice Vegetable Seeds have never been better than they are to-day; this is brought about by selecting only the best varieties; thus maintaining the high standard of quality so necessary for culinary purposes.

CARTERS NEW & ENLARGED CATALOGUE
"GARDEN & LAWN," 1927
contains no less than 21 Novelties of Vegetables and Flowers
Post Free

Carters TESTED SEEDS
Seedsmen to H.M. the King
RAYNES PARK, LONDON, S.W.20

Digitized by Google

VOL. XC.—NO. 2871. DECEMBER 11, 1926. PRICE TWOPENCE.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

The 1927 Daffodil Show at Vincent Square.

THIS April fixture, so eagerly looked forward to by all daffodil enthusiasts, will next year embrace a number of new features which will still further commend the occasion to those who mark the date (as one marks "Chelsea") as one of *the* outstanding events of the year.

Hitherto the "man in the street" (and the lady in her home) has been bewildered by the seemingly endless array of varieties grouped by experts to form striking and harmonious general exhibits. It is most difficult under such conditions for the ordinary person to form any idea as to how any given individual variety would look set among familiar home backgrounds. Next year we are to have two classes for "cut flowers," *e.g.*, a bunch of flowers shown *as* a bunch of flowers, for comparison and competition with other bunches of any other variety—not three chosen flowers against somebody else's three chosen flowers of the same technical classification. This is a good beginning. We hope to see the feature well patronised and extended in future years. It is just the thing to interest and attract amateur growers. The market grower is also to be catered for more liberally by the inclusion of classes for packed boxes of (1) trumpet varieties, (2) Leedsii varieties, (3) coloured varieties, and (4) poets. In addition, there will be similar classes for smaller quantities of each. In the past there has been all too little interest displayed in these classes for market growers. It is a very good move to encourage growers to pack well and attractively so that the boxes arrive at destination in first-class condition; but if the R.H.S. would earn the undying support of market growers, let them conceive a class to encourage *buyers*, *e.g.*, the best boxful for 5s., 10s. or 20s., carriage paid to destination. Buyers would be amazed if they knew the value our British growers can give. Frequently growers receive less than one halfpenny a bunch for flowers that are retailed at 6d. and over.

When the Snow Comes.

GENERALLY speaking, snow is to be regarded as beneficial to plant life in that it forms a fine protection against frost. Under a few inches of rather loose snow plants suffer little or no harm, even from a frost that may be very severe indeed. Now and again snow does act hurtfully to small plants, and the trouble generally arises in this way. A fall of snow is followed by a slight thaw, and this is then succeeded by a frost. As a result there is formed a continuous surface crust of ice which completely envelops the plants. If this crust remains for some days the plants may suffer badly owing to the fact that they are quite unable to get any air. When the snow finally disappears there is little to be seen save a few rotten leaves where the plants should be. Hard crusts of snow should not be allowed to remain unbroken over any plant. Much may be done to break up the mass by inserting the sharp point of a fork at intervals and moving the fragments about a little where this can be safely done. Generally it is a mistake to remove the pieces of ice altogether, as quite likely parts of the plants may be frozen right into them, and if the chunks are wrenched away serious damage will result.

Evergreen trees and shrubs of all kinds are liable to serious injury from snow, which breaks or distorts their branches. Deciduous trees are much less likely to suffer, as the snow cannot collect to any great extent on the bare branches. The greatest risk occurs when snow falls in calm weather with the temperature just about at freezing point. All evergreens may then suffer badly, but those which are most likely to be harmed are the spruces and others with horizontal branches. Here the leaves are so arranged as to offer a considerable surface on which the snow can lie. Damage may be prevented by shaking the branches with a pole while the snow is still loose. If the branch shows signs of beginning to yield, shake the snow off and support the bough by suitable means. Where there has been an actual breakage smooth off the wound as much as possible and then treat it with Stockholm tar. When snow melts under the action of bright sunshine it will often damage the foliage of laurels, etc. Here it is an excellent plan to go round and shake the shrubs vigorously so as to get away as much of the snow as possible.

HAVE YOU

- ¶ *Renewed your annual subscription to* THE GARDEN?
- ¶ *Lifted and prepared your seakale for forcing?*
- ¶ *Inserted cuttings of your perpetual carnations?*
- ¶ *Rolled, renovated and killed all weeds on your garden paths and walks?*
- ¶ *Pruned your gooseberry bushes?*
- ¶ *Top-dressed your apple and pear trees with a dressing of basic slag at the rate of 4oz. per square yard?*
- ¶ *Taken into a warm greenhouse your early bulbs, such as Roman Hyacinths and Paper White Narcissi?*
- ¶ *Fumigated your greenhouse with nicotine compound in order to keep down insect pests?*
- ¶ *Removed runners, as well as dead and decaying leaves from your strawberry plants?*

Zinc Labels.

A CORRESPONDENT has been kind enough to send us several examples of the old zinc label which he uses in his garden with great success. By boring holes in them and attaching stout wire, he raises the actual labels above the ground. The labels are carefully cleaned with emery paper, written on with a quill pen, and then varnished all over with transparent varnish. The labels are allowed to stand a week before placing in the garden. From the samples sent, which our correspondent tells us have been in use for several years, it is obvious that his method is simple, economical, and practically everlasting. In addition, no corrosion or oxidising of the lettering takes place owing to the varnish. Some of our readers may like to label their plants in this way.

The Crossword Prizes.

THE two prizes of One Guinea each offered to the readers who sent in the first correct solutions opened to THE GARDEN Crossword No. 2, which appeared in our issue of November 27th, have been awarded to

Mrs. Yonge,
Wanboro' Lane,
Cranleigh, Guildford.

and

Mr. Gillies,
62, Carleith Quadrant,
Glasgow, Scotland.

To each of whom a cheque for that amount has been sent.

Digitized by Google

SCENTED FLOWERS FOR YOUR GARDEN

IT will add greatly to the amenities of a garden if a portion of it can be devoted entirely to sweet-scented plants. Whether it is large or small, such a plot should be, if possible, enclosed by a hedge or wall; but if this is impracticable, it should be at least definitely divided from the rest of the garden even if only by a trellis. If there is a hedge it may be of lavender, rosemary or sweet briar, the latter being either the common sort or the more showy—but perhaps less fragrant—Penzance varieties. The briars, of course, have the undoubted disadvantage of being deciduous, but nothing is more delicious than their odour after a summer shower. In the mildest parts of the country the myrtle makes a beautiful evergreen hedge, but in the colder districts it cannot be grown safely save against a south wall, and the same may be said of Lippia odorata, the lemon-scented verbena. Other scented shrubs suitable for walls are the winter-flowering honeysuckles, Lonicera Standishii and L. fragrantissima; Chimonanthus fragrans; Veronica salicifolia, the long spikes of which are redolent of honey; Ribes sanguineum, the flowering or Indian currant; Philadelphus coronaria (syringa), Choisya ternata, Calycanthus floridus (delightfully spicy), Osmanthus Delavayi and Viburnum fragrans. Not all these are customarily reckoned among wall shrubs, but if they can be allowed plenty of room and are judiciously pruned they may be grown as such. For the trellis, if there is one, or to clothe poles in front of the hedge or wall, there are honeysuckles (the varieties of Lonicera Periclymenum), Jasminum officinale, Clematis Flammula, Lathyrus grandiflorus (the sweetest of the everlasting peas) and, of course, roses, among the most fragrant of which are tea ramblers Mme. Alfred Carrière, Gloire de Dijon and Climbing La France, although the last named is not always a satisfactory grower. Hugh Dickson may be added to the list; it is not precisely a climber, but it is quite suitable for a trellis and its perfume is very fine.

There should be borders within the garden in which are to be planted the rose-scented double Chinese peonies, Monarda didyma Cambridge Scarlet, Melissa officinale (balm), Œnothera speciosa grandiflora (the sweet white evening primrose), Hesperis matronalis fl. pl. (sweet rocket), Mirabilis multiflora (marvel of Peru), Allwoodii pinks and double stocks. Interspersed between these should be big groups of Lilium candidum, Hemerocallis flava, the scented day lily, and Iris florentina, with, near the front, patches of the double poets or gardenia-flowered narcissus, most strongly perfumed of its kind and the one that dislikes disturbance most. If rosemary and lavender are not grown as hedges, they must find their place in the borders. There are several dwarf varieties of lavender which are suitable for the situation, but the rosemary bushes will have to be replaced by young ones every three years or so or they will become too large. Daphne Mezereum, both purple and white varieties—although the latter is apt to be short-lived—is another little shrub which should not be omitted from any list of scented plants.

As an edging plant for the borders there is nothing better than either the old fringed white or the pheasant's eye pink, but the annual Alyssum maritimum Little Dorrit is a neat grower, and its perfume, if not strong, is very pleasant, while to many persons the smell of that admirable "edger," Nepeta Mussini, is agreeable, although not I admit, to myself.

In the centre of the garden there should be a bed—or beds—of bush and half-standard roses, all specially chosen for their scent. These may be underplanted for spring effect with Campanelle jonquils, single and double, and scented tulips, such as the early Yellow Prince and the May-flowering Ellen Willmott, macrospila, Primrose Beauty and La Merveille, which in summer should be succeeded by a carpeting of heliotrope, mignonette or one of the scented leaved pelargoniums. A summer-house draped with wistaria and roses should, if possible, be a feature in the garden. Failing this, there must be a seat and close to it there should be beds filled with the old crimson clove-scented carnation combined with Nicotiana affinis, backed with roses Maiden's Blush, cabbage and Rivers' musk—all three famous for their sweetness—and edged with the night-scented stock, Matthiola bicornis. The perfume of these plants will make the seat a very pleasant resting-place on a summer's evening. The nicotiana and stocks are, of course, annuals.

If there is a corner of the garden that, although by no means in deep shade is screened from the sun during the hottest hours of the day, a bed of lilies of the valley may be made there, and, in a rather shadier place, one of violets. And, finally, if the paths are paved, thymes—crimson, golden, silver and the varieties of our native Serpyllum—should be grown in the crevices between the stones, where, as Lord Bacon says, they will "perfume the Aire most delightfully . . . being Trodden upon and Crushed."

THE DWARF WHITE SPIRES OF THE DOUBLE-FLOWERED SWEET ROCKET, HESPERIS MATRONALIS.

SOME FRAGRANT PLANTS.

Alyssum maritimum (annual)	Nicotiana affinis (annual)
Heliotrope	Œnothera speciosa grandiflora
Hemerocallis flava	Pæonia sinensis fl. pl.
Hesperis matronalis fl. pl.	Pink Allwoodii
Iris florentina	P. Pheasant's Eye
Lilium candidum	P. Crimson Clove
Malva moschata alba	P. Fringed White
Martynia fragrans (annual)	Stocks, double (biennial)
Matthiola bicornis (annual)	Thymus argenteus
Melissa officinale	T. aureus
Mignonette (annual)	T. coccineum
Mirabilis multiflora	T. Serpyllum (and varieties)
Monarda didyma	Tulip Yellow Prince
Narcissus poeticus, double	T. Ellen Willmott
N. odorus campanelle, double and single	T. macrospila
	T. La Merveille
	T. Primrose Beauty.

FRAGRANT SHRUBS AND CLIMBERS.

Calycanthus floridus	L. Standishii
Chimonanthus fragrans	Myrtus communis
Choisya ternata	Osmanthus Delavayi
Clematis Flammula	Philadelphus coronaria
Daphne Mezereum	Rosmarinus officinalis
Lathyrus grandiflorus	Ribes sanguineum
Lavender	Veronica salicifolia
Lippia citriodora	Viburnum fragrans.
Lonicera fragrantissima	
L. Periclymenum (and varieties)	

R. E. HEAD.

Lavender: Its Uses and Propagation.

LAVENDER is easy to grow and one of the easiest shrubs to propagate, as, once rooted, cuttings will form large bushes in three years time, and yield a profitable crop of flowers.

Lavender vera is the best type to grow. Another type, with green leaves and deeper blue flowers, is Felgate Blue, and a dwarf type is Munstead Dwarf, but neither of the latter is valuable for cropping as they lack the scent and essential oil of L. vera.

A good lavender hedge may be produced by buying small plants in the spring and planting alternately in a double row, with 2ft. between each plant. This will form a thick hedge in two years time, which will only need the flowers cutting and lightly trimming. If you already have an old bush, and wish to produce a hedge from it, in early autumn cut it back, leaving only about 6ins. of the old wood; before winter sets in stubby growth will have formed from the cut portions. No flowers will be produced the following year, but by August the bush will be covered with long fresh shoots; when these are ripe detach them from the bush, leaving a heel on each, pinch out the growing point and plant in sand in a trench. After one good watering they will need nothing but weeding during the following year, and by September they will have struck and formed well shaped bushes, suitable for planting out as described above.

As long as flowers are needed bushes should only be lightly trimmed into shape, as heavy pruning stops flowering the following year, and produces new growth.

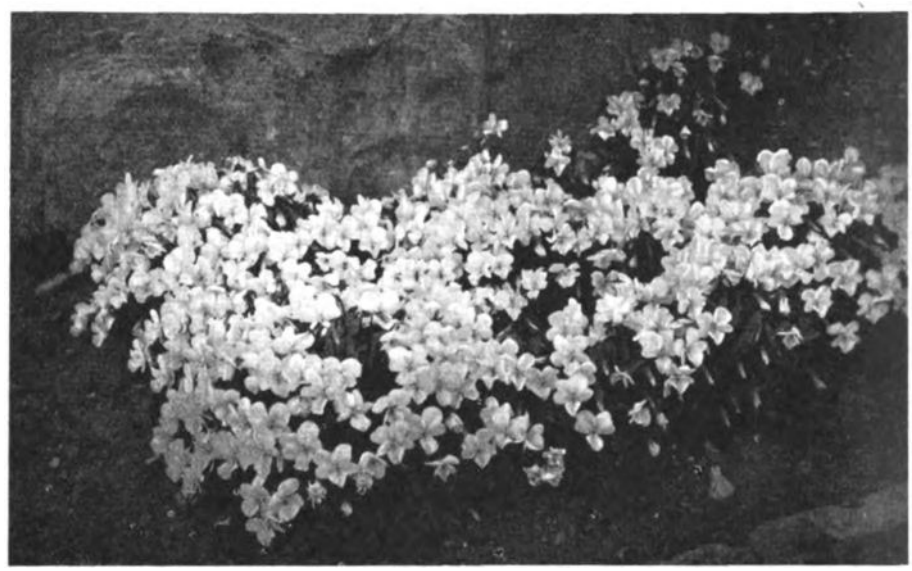
The purposes for which lavender is used vary greatly. The essential oil, produced after distillation, forms the perfume known as lavender water.

Digitized by Google

THE ROCK GARDEN

The Small Rock Garden.
The Problem.

ROCK gardening has now become a highly specialised form of horticulture, and I fancy that the beginner, starting with a small piece of rockwork and no experience, must feel bewildered by the multiplicity of plants which are on offer. He generally has to make his choice either from catalogues or at shows, and neither of these sources is very satisfactory, for one does not get a fair idea of a plant's capacities for good or ill, either from a line of print of from a small specimen in a 3in. pot. A flower show, indeed, on account of the crowd and the artificial nature of the display, is an unfavourable place in some ways for good judgment: and as for the lengthy catalogues of nowadays, filled with all sorts of treasures, the beginner cannot see the wood for the trees. In these notes I conjure up an enthusiastic beginner, whose experience and whose rock garden are equally small (the latter, say, 12ft. to 15ft. by 6ft. to 8ft.—these figures are the Editor's suggestion), and the notes which follow are for his benefit. I do not propose to suggest how his bit of rock garden should be constructed: that is a different question; but the plants which I shall suggest are all easy hardy perennials which will grow wherever they are given a fair chance. And a fair chance chiefly means a reasonable amount of sunlight and a well drained soil.



A ROCK PLANT OF REAL MERIT, VIOLA GRACILIS ALBA.

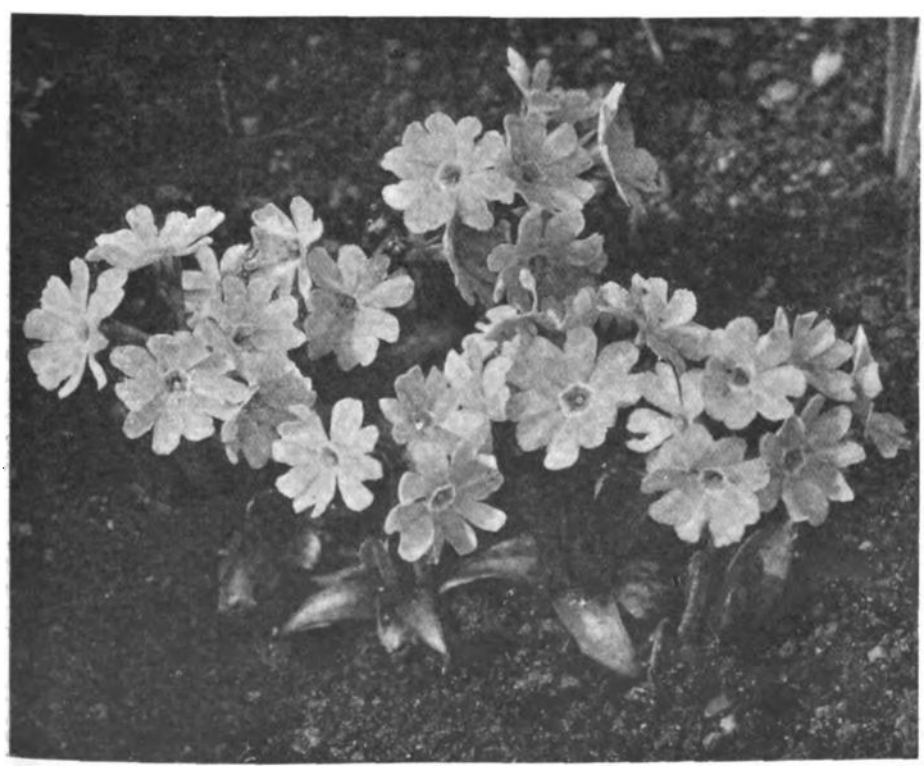
How to Select Your Plants.

Now, what kinds of plants are the most suitable and most desirable for the very small rock garden? The choice is determined by (1) size: they must not grow inconveniently large, or be so small as to be insignificant; (2) constitution: they must not be difficult to grow, whether on account of tenderness, special requirements or sheer cussedness; and (3) attractiveness: they must be bright and pleasing, whether by reason of flower or foliage or, better still, of both. Perhaps the remainder of the first instalment of these notes can best be devoted to pointing out a few of the plants which are *not* suitable. Among the rock garden plants which would soon become rather large are some of the pinks, especially the many garden varieties (many of the *species* are quite small and neat). Then the candytufts, iberis, form clumps which would ultimately be quite too large for our purpose; and the same applies to the more vigorous mossy saxifrages and aubrietias. That common but excellent rock plant, Arabis albida, had better give place to choicer and less rampant things. But more to be avoided are the many rock plants which creep, sending out roots as they run on or below the ground; for most of these spread with great rapidity and are often difficult or almost impossible to eradicate. Many of them are lovely, but in the very small rock garden they are sure to smother their neighbours, and there are plenty of lovely things one can grow instead of them. These dangerous plants include all the periwinkles, epimediums, acænas and cotulas, the woodruff (Asperula odorata), many of the geraniums and hawkweeds (hieracium), the crosswort (Crucianella stylosa), the waldsteinias, Coronilla varia, the New Zealand epilobiums (E. Hectori, etc.), Helxine Solierolii, the creeping kinds of toadflax (Linarias repens, pallida, hepaticæfolia), and of sedums (SS. reflexum, rupestre, anopetalum, sexangulare, album), Zauschneria californica, and so on.

As to plants which are in one way or another rather difficult, and are better left alone till some experience in planting and tending has been gained, the following may be suggested: Soldanellas, raoulias, schizocodon, conandron, lewisias, the smaller androsaces, and most of the primulas and gentians. These look very tempting at the shows, where one often sees abundance of flourishing plants *grown by expert nurserymen*; but they are mostly rather dear and difficult, and the beginner will do better to stick for a while to easier things. But not for ever. Never venture, never win.

R. LLOYD PRAEGER.

(To be continued.)



THE DAINTY PRIMULA ROSEA, ONE OF THE MOST ATTRACTIVE OF ITS RACE AND ONE OF THE EASIEST TO GROW.

An Attractive Rock Garden Violet.

THERE is no more delightful little plant for the rockery than the lovely Viola gracilis, with the habit and vigour of V. cornuta but much neater in its blossoms and richer in its colour. It does not ask for any particular care in cultivation, but grows readily in a light and open soil, which is enriched with manure. It can be propagated by cuttings like an ordinary bedding pansy. The white form alba is particularly charming as are also its various velvet purple varieties.

Primula rosea.

GARDENERS of all kinds must feel that there is an immense satisfaction in the fact that one of the loveliest of primulas ever grown is one of the easiest. In P. rosea, a Himalayan alpine, we have a species which will thrive in shallow water, in bog or in any

Digitized by Google

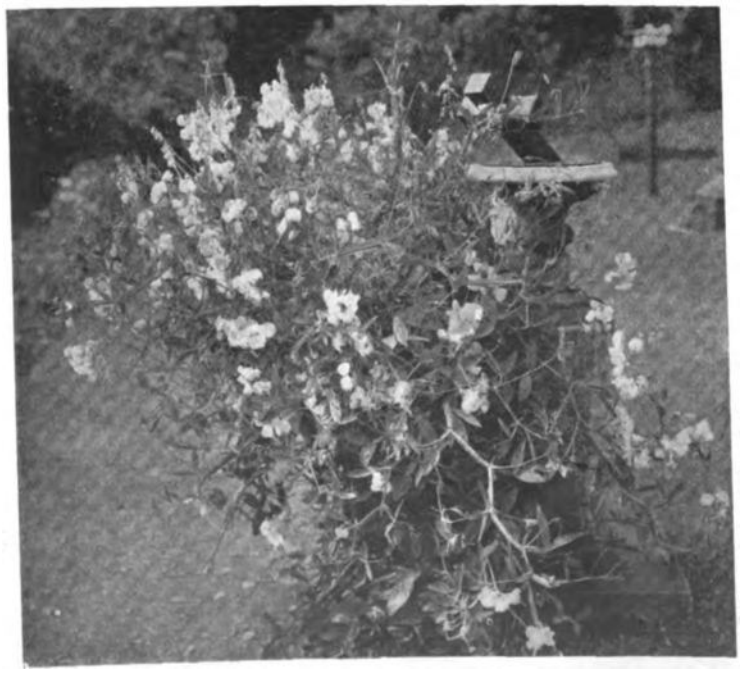
cool border or rock garden soil that is enriched and rendered more retentive of moisture by the addition of a little old cow manure. It is, moreover, not particular as to aspect, while in hardiness and vigour it can rival our own common primroses. P. rosea makes a moderate sized tuft of its narrow, glossy leaves. These almost entirely disappear in winter, but at the first peep of spring the crown becomes studded with those brilliant knobs of ruby crimson which precede the uprising flower stems. The latter grow to some 6ins. or more in height and terminate in a cluster of large yellow-eyed blossoms of a most entrancing shade of rosy carmine and these prevail for many weeks. Few plants, especially waterside plants, are so welcome and so cheerful in early spring as the lovely blooms of P. rosea, and I do not think they ever look so delightful as when associated with the cool, clean blue of Omphalodes cappadocica. P. rosea is found in many forms, these differing in the size and shade of colouring. All are delightful, but those who desire the most brilliant will find such varieties as splendens and grandiflora superba in every way admirable. Planting may be done at any time during autumn and winter and propagation is easily effected by division, preferably during late summer. J.

SOME CLIMBERS FOR ARCHES AND PILLARS

ON the whole I think that, next to the rose—with which it is not proposed to deal in these brief notes—the clematis is the most popular climber for an ordinary garden arch, especially in its large-flowered forms. And nothing can be more effective, particularly if a white and a mauve or purple variety are planted on each side of the arch, one of either colour being of the early-flowering patens type and the other of the later lanuginosa to ensure a succession of bloom. Marcel Moser and Mrs. G. Jackman may be planted side by side, for instance, and Lord Londesborough and Mme. van Houtte or Lady Caroline Neville. Clematis montana may be grown with its reddish pink variety, but C. Flammula with its clouds of sweet-scented white blossoms looks best alone. All the members of the lonicera family are admirable for clothing arches, especially those of rather light construction. The best known is the very fragrant red and yellow Dutch honeysuckle, but L. flava is equally pretty (but not quite so hardy), and best of all is L. sempervirens with its fine scarlet trumpets. This last, however, needs a very warm and sheltered situation. The Japanese honeysuckle, L. aurea reticulata, is hardly sufficiently important to be used alone, but if the seeds of such annuals as Convolvulus major, Lathyrus sativus azureus (both blue) or a scarlet nasturtium are sown at its foot and they are allowed to climb up through the gold-spangled foliage of the honeysuckle, the effect will be charming. The half-hardy perennial Tropæolum tuberosum may be substituted for the annual nasturtium as being less likely to strangle its host, but it is a less vigorous grower.

The perennial Lathyrus latifolius will cover an arch well, the most popular varieties being Pink Beauty and White Pearl. Lathyrus rotundifolius is less well known, but its racemes of small rose red flowers are borne in the greatest profusion, and it will grow 12ft. or more in a season. Lathyrus grandiflorus, which bears very large rose-purple flowers in pairs, is seldom seen except in old gardens, but it looks exceedingly pretty if allowed to ramble over and through an ivy—say, the large-leaved Hedera Ragneriana, the quaint Dutchman's pipe, Aristolochia Sipho or one of the vines. Of these last, Vitis Coignetiæ and V. vinifera purpurea are the most desirable by reason of their rich autumnal colouring. The well known Virginia creepers, Vitis (ampelopsis) quinquefolia and V. inconstans, are too commonplace to be worth consideration, but V. Henryii and V. heterophylla are rather less hackneyed. The giant convolvulus, Calystegia sylvatica, will drape a light arch very successfully, especially if combined with its pink variety, but it is indisputably a dangerous thing to admit into a garden because of its encroaching tendencies and the thug-like way in which it will strangle its neighbours.

Among other good ornamental climbers are the actinidias, especially A. Kolomikta with white flowers and A. arguta with yellow. These are hardy, but like a good rich but not heavy soil. Then there are Polygonum baldschuanicum, which has feathery, pinky white flowers borne in immense numbers; Passiflora cœrulea and its white variety Constance Elliott, Solanum jasminoides (neither this nor the passion flower is hardy except in a very mild district), and, of course, Wistarias chinensis and multijuga, the beauty of which is familiar to all. Solanum crispum, the purple flowers of which are so like those of the potato, is generally grown as a wall shrub, but it can be easily trained over an arch. It is quite hardy and will bloom more or less throughout the whole summer, but it must be cut hard back after flowering. Forsythia suspensa (the golden bell tree), Garrya elliptica and Kerria japonica can all be used similarly, but these must be pruned sparingly and with discretion. The single kerria is far less widely grown than its double variety, but it is really prettier both as to habit of growth and flower, its only fault being the shortness of its blooming season. SOMERSET.



A FINE PLANT OF THE EVERLASTING PEA, LATHYRUS LATIFOLIUS.

CLEMATIS MRS. JACKMAN GROWING OVER AN ARCH.

Eradicating Pests in Arches and Pergolas.

ONE great objection to arches, poles, pergolas and such-like things in the open garden is the tendency they have to form ideal winter quarters for many different kinds of pests. Every crack, every piece of loosened bark, every open joint may be the winter quarters of pests of some kind in a dormant state. To make such erections quite safe it is always a good plan to wash them down every autumn or winter. First of all, however, roses or other shrubs should be loosened and all bark which can come away readily ought to be taken off and burned. A good erection may then be worthy of a coat of varnish or paint, which not only kills all pests but prevents them returning there again. A wood preservative like creosote or a similar proprietary liquid may be used. Care in such a case is necessary not to allow the caustic fluid to drip over shrubs or plants near at hand, nor may the shrub itself be retied in position until some time has elapsed. Failing treatment by either of the above methods, a useful liquid to use is paraffin oil or, even better, a mixture of paraffin oil and petrol. This liquid, painted on with a brush, penetrates into all interstices and effectively kills pests. CLYDESDALE.

Digitized by Google

THE FLOWER GARDEN

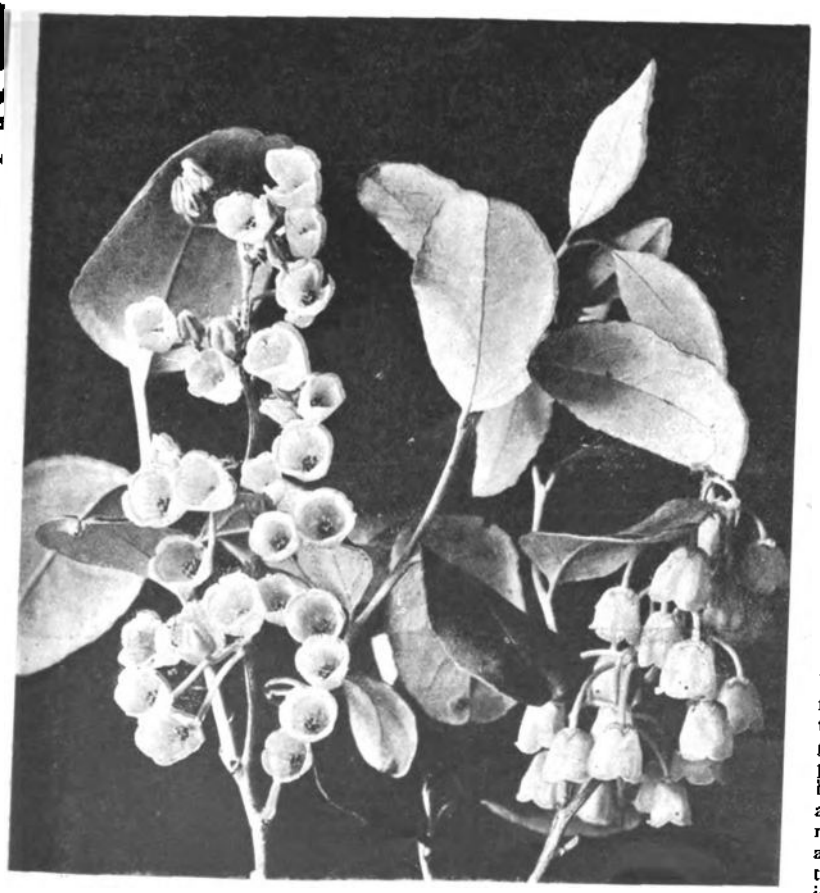
A Climbing Knot-weed.

THE beautiful Polygonum baldschuanicum is, for some reason or other—perhaps it is handicapped by its terrific name!—less often seen than it deserves. It is rather slow starting into growth after planting, but, once established, it will go ahead rapidly and reach a great height in a very short time. It is not as suitable for an arch or pole as for a pergola or veranda; but to see it at its best it should be allowed to climb over some useless tree. In the writer's garden it was planted some few years back at the foot of a tall pear tree too ancient to bear fruit, and this it has now completely draped, hanging in festoons from the topmost branches. When covered with the feathery, pinkish white flowers, which it bears in immense profusion, it is a lovely sight. It is said to be September-blooming, but I find it begins to flower about the end of July and continues until the early autumn. I believe it is usually propagated by grafting upon cuttings of its own roots, but it can be also grown from seed or from layers quite easily.—R. E. H.

A Beautiful Free-flowering Shrub.

THIS beautiful and free-flowering American shrub is still seldom seen in gardens, although the type was introduced to this country in 1801 under the name of Andromeda cassinifolia. The variety pulverulenta is an improvement on Z. speciosa; it flowers more freely, and the individual blooms are larger, while its young stems and foliage are powdered with white. The glaucous leaves render it quite distinct from the type.

The plant under notice is nearly sub-evergreen, and will attain a height of 4ft. to 5ft. It is a lovely shrub and, owing to its white, drooping flowers, is often referred to as the lily of the valley bush, a description which fits it admirably. The flowers are produced in axillary clusters on the previous year's wood, and the shrub is usually at its best in late June or early July. This is a shrub that should find a home in every garden where there is space, and it should be borne in mind that peaty soil is not necessary, but is advisable, so see that the loam is made light and is well drained. Leaf-mould can be added with advantage.



THE BEAUTIFUL WHITE BELLS OF ZENOBIA PULVERULENTA.

A Useful Wall Plant.

THERE is no more useful and beautiful flowering shrub for walls or corners of buildings than the ceanothus. This shrub is much hardier than is generally supposed, and we have used it with success where roses and other climbers have failed owing to cold aspect and other drawbacks. The plant in the accompanying illustration is the variety Gloire de Versailles, which is not usually planted on walls. This variety, however, is most suitable, especially if given a corner site where it has a little more than ordinary space. The photograph was taken late in October, and shows the plant flowering for the third time this year; in fact, this particular corner of the house (aspect south-east) has been a haze of lovely lavender blue almost continuously throughout the summer. I prune it back in the spring, and it is then allowed to grow freely during the remainder of the year. All the varieties of ceanothus do well and grow very freely in seaside districts.—H. JENKINS.

CEANOTHUS GLOIRE DE VERSAILLES AS A CORNER WALL SHRUB.

The Culture of Lily of the Valley.

ONE of the most delightful corners of the garden during the spring months is the lily of the valley bed, but, alas! in how many places are the plants seen to be dwindling, while the flowers are very mediocre, hence this note of warning and advice.

When a bed or border of this favourite flower is left undisturbed for a number of years, the quality and quantity of the spikes deteriorate. Directly this is noticed, say, every three or four years, a bed should be lifted, the plants divided and replanted. At the same time a portion of the flowering crowns could be selected for pot culture. By growing the plants in borders with aspects north, east and west the flowering period is prolonged. The beds should be dug deeply, at the same time incorporating decayed manure and leaf-mould. When the ground has been made firm, replanting can be done. Clumps of five or six crowns are placed 6ins. apart, and then no further disturbance will be needed for several years. Old beds may be mulched with rotten manure or leaf-mould.

Many will prefer the old or smaller variety of lily of the valley, while others may enjoy that known as Fortin's. This is a giant variety, no doubt the finest form of all. The bells are pure white and extra large, while the stalks are also stout and a good length. Planting of the crowns should take place when the ground is dry enough for such work to be performed.

An Attractive Dwarf Shrub.

ONE frequently thinks that the value of shrubs of dwarf growth is not too well recognised by a great number of those who possess small gardens, included in which are rockeries for the cultivation of alpine plants. There is no doubt that the presence of a greater number of these little shrubs would increase the beauty and interest of the garden. One small shrub which is not by any means too plentiful is Bryanthus erectus, said to be a bigeneric hybrid raised in Edinburgh. It is only from 8ins. to 10ins. high when fully grown and is most attractive on account of its neat foliage and its pinkish flowers. It is by no means troublesome to cultivate, and the stock prescription of a soil such as suits what are called "American plants" will please it. A nice sandy loam, with the addition of some peat, is appreciated by this little shrub, which thrives quite well in sun. It ought not to suffer from drought in dry weather, and where there is a danger of this, a thorough soaking of clear water should be administered in good time.

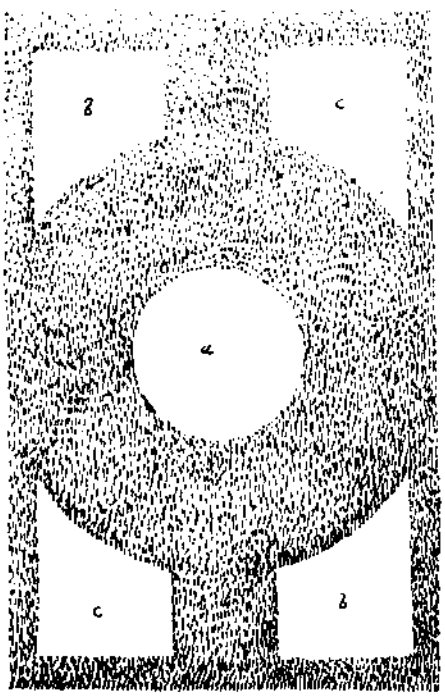
Bryanthus erectus is by no means plentiful in nurseries, but is obtainable from some. It is best procured in pots and planted out in spring or autumn, preferably the former, although, if in pots, it may be removed

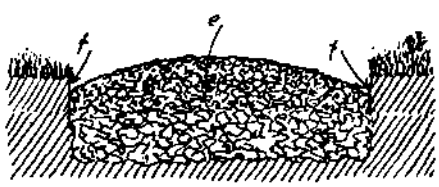
Digitized by Google

from these at any time without breaking the ball of soil.

Making Flower Beds on a New Lawn.

SOME lovers of flower gardens form the new beds on their new lawns before they sow the seeds where seed-sowing is preferred to turfing. This is not advisable,





as it can only be carried out at all satisfactorily when boards or iron hoops are used to retain the soil edge firm; and, furthermore, it is a difficult matter to obtain a well balanced design where geometrical designs are required. Where turves are laid there need not be any trouble with the edges nor with the effort to obtain a true design, as the edges of the new turves can be cut as freely and as truly as when cutting out beds on an established lawn. The whole space need not be covered with the new turves, but the latter should be laid well covering the edges of each proposed bed, and underneath this particular band of turves the soil should be well trodden down so that, when the edging iron is inserted, a clean cut will result, leaving a firm, straight edge and not one that caves in like the sides of a brook. A simple design for flower-beds on a small lawn is shown at *a*, *b*, *b*, *c*, *c*, respectively. A rule, a straight-edge, handy plank, a line and several pegs will enable the workman to mark out the respective beds, whether one isolated or a number of them. At *d* the soil is shown deeply dug; at *e* finer soil forms the planting portion and the proper height of the soil of the bed above the seed-raised grass. It is at *f*, *f*, that difficulties may arise, and to prevent the edges falling inwards the soil of the border should be almost as high up as to touch the grass. The following year a firmer edge can be made. Do not place any soil from a bed on the young grass but in a wheel-barrow.

Two Choice Anchusas.

THE anchusas belong to the borage family, and two forms of A. italica call for notice, namely, Opal and Dropmore. The former has soft sky blue flowers, and the latter flowers of the finest blue. Both are admirable plants for the herbaceous border where a bold mass of a subject 4ft. to 5ft. high is needed. To keep up a supply of plants a few should be propagated annually, and the best and usual method is root cuttings. At this season the borders are usually dug over, and old roots of anchusa which bloomed freely this last season may be lifted and the thong-like roots retained. These are cut into 4in. to 6in. lengths, and are then placed thickly in boxes of light sandy soil for the winter. If a cold frame is available, the box can be stood inside, otherwise it should be afforded a sheltered position from excessive rain. In the spring crowns and growths will have formed, when the cuttings are transferred to their flowering quarters.

Anchusas can be raised from seeds, but root cuttings form the only means of perpetuating named varieties. Seedlings vary considerably in colour.

SOME BORDER CHRYSANTHEMUMS WORTH GROWING

WITHOUT doubt the chrysanthemum is one of the most popular flowers of autumn. It is perfectly hardy and its cultivation is a comparatively simple matter.

The old idea of treating these plants as ordinary herbaceous perennials ought not to be practised. Formerly the plants were left for two or three years, then considered done, new cuttings taken or new plants bought. The new and better way is to take up the old plants from which cuttings are required and plant them in a frame in autumn. Throughout the winter air is given on every favourable day and in early spring the plants are top-dressed with sandy soil. When the new shoots are 2ins. long they may be taken as cuttings and if the frame is kept closed and the soil moist, they soon root and after being hardened off, may be planted out of doors —some time in June.

There are a few amateurs who still treat border chrysanthemums in the old way and complain because they have no greenhouse in which to grow the large blooming late varieties. Large blooms may be grown outside, however, if just a little more care and attention are given to cultivation. It is very disappointing to have good blooms cut down by early frosts in autumn and for this reason a border out of the way, that is a portion where some light framework covered with muslin may be fixed without making the front garden look unsightly, should be chosen. Here you may grow many up-to-date varieties. There are any number of varieties which can be grown by the novice and a selection can easily be made from trade catalogues.

Varieties.

Those who desire quantities of bloom for table decoration could have nothing better than September White or Shirley Blush. Both are wonderful croppers and the fact that the former is grown for market proves its worth as a white for cutting. Shirley Blush comes almost pure white on many soils, but is a good flower bearing huge crops of bloom. It does best disbudded. This is a plant of comparatively recent introduction. Those who grow border chrysanthemums for cut bloom should also grow Harvester. Deep yellow in colour, heavily shaded with orange bronze, it bears huge crops of beautiful blooms. Another variety of recent introduction is Bronze Early Buttercup, a large flower of good proportions, rich shade of bronze chestnut, with golden reverse; gives good crops, from twelve to eighteen blooms per plant. Wembley is another newer variety. Dark crimson in colour, with broad reflexing petals; by disbudding huge flowers can be obtained.

Other early varieties are Shirley Bronze and Sunburst; these are also new. This list is by no means complete and as the selection of plants is really a matter of personal taste, the gardener must consult the growers' lists for varieties. The varieties mentioned may be easily grown by the gardener who has had little experience of chrysanthemum growing. The object of these notes is to point out to those who do not already know, that so long as one is content to have early chrysanthemums—from August onwards—he can produce blooms that will vie with any grown indoors later on. The early chrysanthemum comes into bloom just when the evenings begin to come dark and when flowers outdoors are scarce and are then much appreciated for table decoration. I do not disparage inside grown chrysanthemums; I grow more than the border varieties; lack of space outdoors is the reason. Those who have no greenhouse will be well advised to carry out the suggestions given above and provide some light protection from frost to prolong the bloom outdoors. It may seem venturesome to write about these flowers now,

SEPTEMBER WHITE, A BEAUTIFUL VARIETY FOR TABLE DECORATION.

but "gardening" consists of anticipation, so make your choice now of what you will grow next autumn.

No mention has been made of single varieties, but the lists give plenty of suitable kinds, Shrapnel, orange terra cotta, is fairly new. Older varieties are to be found in the growers' lists.

T. HOWARTH HEAPS.

Digitized by Google

THE BUSY MAN'S PAGE

Rotation in the Flower Garden.

MOST people give consideration to the question of rotation in connection with vegetable crops. It should be realised that a similar system is highly desirable also where flowering plants are concerned. Roughly speaking, no position should contain the same kind of plant more often than once in four years. Even in the case of herbaceous borders, which do not admit of a regular rotation, some kind of scheme should be adopted and always the results are worth while. It will be found that the plants benefit very much by a change of position and, if the roots are lifted every third year, the soil is not exhausted to the extent which is often the case. The removal may simply be a mere change of site for the individual plants; for example, the Michaelmas daisies might change places with the sunflowers. In this way the removal of all the plants to another border is avoided. Rose bushes, too, are improved by being transplanted into a new position. Where a fresh situation is not available, re-set the bushes in the same hole with plenty of fresh, rich compost. Of course, in the case of woody plants of slow growth, any system of rotation must be extended over a long period, as, in many cases, the specimens take some years to settle down.

Seasonable Garden Work.

THE root pruning of fruit trees that have been making gross growth should be completed and the planting of young trees not done in November deferred to February or early March. Pruning of wall, standard and bush trees should be undertaken, also of black and red currants, as time admits. If raspberries have not been seen to, old canes and weaklings should be cut out, regulating vigorous canes to five or six per root. Chrysanthemum stems may now be cut down. In frosty weather manure should be wheeled on to vacant ground and room made for it in portions to be dug. Digging should be commenced whenever the ground is in favourable condition, all leaves should be swept up and dug in or placed in a heap to decay, if required to be used for potting. A few stools of Christmas roses should be lifted and placed in boxes or pots and taken inside, where there is a greenhouse. Frames that contain bedding out plants, pentstemons, calceolarias, violas, etc., should be given free ventilation in mild weather.

Repairing Broken Pots.

POTS of good size are rather expensive and it is a very wasteful habit to throw these on one side should they become broken. When, as usually happens, the pot is only broken into two pieces, it may be quite well repaired. Get some cement and silver sand and mix these materials, using equal quantities of each with water. Do not make the preparation too slack. Slightly damp the broken surface of the pot and then apply a thin layer of cement. Press the parts well together and scrape away any surplus cement with a knife. The cement sets quickly and the pot will be ready for use in a few hours.

Enriching Soil near Evergreens.

FEW amateurs realise the extent to which evergreen shrubs will impoverish the soil. It is often noticed that plants growing in proximity to these shrubs show a progressive decline in vigour, and this is due to the fact that they are simply being starved out. The effect is commonly to be seen in the case of a bed of lilies of the valley which, in course of time, may give such poor results that the owner concludes that the position does not suit them. The bad state of the soil is the sole cause of the trouble and this may be easily remedied. Open up holes over the surface of the ground, and into these work well decayed manure. Another way is to scatter over the soil a layer of leaves, lightly covering these with soil of good quality. If they can be obtained, oak leaves are the best for this purpose, as they carry fewer pests than other kinds of foliage, but almost any leaves from deciduous trees will be better than nothing.

Christmas Roses.

THE beautiful flowers of the Christmas rose are often largely spoiled through being splashed with mud during rainy weather. The common plan of protecting the plants with lights or sheets of glass is not necessary if the ground in the proximity of the specimens is covered with straw manure. This will entirely prevent the throwing back of those mud spots which sully the whiteness of the blooms. The manure, also, has a wholesome and stimulating effect on the plants, which encourages them to develop their flowers freely.

CHRISTMAS ROSES SHOULD BE PROTECTED WITH A LAYER OF STRAWY MANURE ROUND THE PLANTS TO KEEP THE FLOWERS WHITE AND PURE.

Roses as Garden Screens.

THREE years ago a new garden was started and the necessity for evergreen screens presented itself. It was decided to try Albéric Barbier roses grown on trellis.

By the end of the first year the screens were lightly covered. This year half the growth has had to be cut away, so thick have the roses become.

The situation is clay soil and very exposed. The growth has been most satisfactory, the flowering starting early and continuing throughout the year, the profusion of beautiful yellow-white roses on the rich varnished green foliage making a charming picture. Curiously, the aphis affects this plant very little. This summer, when the neighbouring American Pillars and others were brown with an aphis attack, the Albéric Barbiers were so little affected as to leave the leaf unspoiled.

Usually this rose is grown on a wall, and it was with some doubts that it was planted on a trellis in the open in this instance. The result has been most gratifying. As an evergreen for winter screens it has been a success.

When You Order Seeds and Plants.

SEEDS, plants and bushes, etc., should be selected with care. Take into consideration the character of your soil when ordering seeds and fertilisers. Send in your orders early. Delay in ordering may result in a serious delay in getting the seeds sown. Do not choose the cheapest of seeds, nor of anything else for the garden. From well tested seeds you should have over 95 per cent. that will germinate and grow. You can sow more thinly and with confidence when using good seeds. That means a saving, in fact, for ½oz. of good seed may cover more ground than 1 oz. of a less satisfactory kind.

When your seeds arrive, do not allow them to become bad, either by keeping them in a damp place or in a drying heat. Plants, also, should be taken care of when they arrive. Do not allow them to lie in any odd place, with roots exposed, but lay them at once in fresh soil. A still better plan would be to set out the plants in a vacant space of ground in such a way that they could be lifted (when required for planting), with a nice ball of soil at their roots. Fruit trees and bushes should also be laid in a shallow trench with roots well covered with sandy soil until they can be planted.

Moss on Paths.

DURING damp weather moss is very likely to appear on paths, especially where the walks are somewhat shaded. One of the simplest and most effective ways of dealing with the moss is to brush it away, if it is not firmly established, with a stubby besom and afterwards give the path a good rolling. In this way a path may be kept free from moss and, in addition, the development of weed seedlings is kept down.

A Cold Weather Hint.

WHEN doing work out of doors with a hammer and nails one's hands often get uncomfortably cold. Here is a little idea which will help a lot on such occasions. Put the nails to be used in a tin canister and then stand this in an oven for a while. When the tin and nails are well heated, take them out of doors. The warm nails wil prevent the fingers from getting numb.

Digitized by Google

PLANTS FOR GROWING UNDER TREES

Many gardeners are occasionally in doubt what to plant under trees and other shady places. In the following article a selection of both useful and attractive plants will be found. They will grow in most shady places except under beech trees.

THE average amateur who wishes to brighten up the shade of trees with flowering and other plants could hardly do better than start away with a few ferns. These are always delightful, and they form an admirable background for most subjects. I need scarcely enter into the question of kinds, but where the space is limited such good sorts as Adiantum pedatum, Klondike variety, the oak-fern, harts-tongue, Blechnum spicant, Onoclea sensibilis and the Ostrich-feather fern (Struthiopteris germanica) should be among the chosen.

Grouped in with the above I can recommend the single-flowered orange form of the Welsh poppy, the lemon yellow type plant being safer in larger areas and the wild garden. Where there is a little sunlight, that elegant woodlander, Aquilegia formosa, should be introduced; and another columbine for which I have a deep regard in such conditions is the old English large-flowered white. Scillas one must always have, both S. nutans (the plant we call "blue-bells" when we wish to make Scotsmen angry) and S. hispanica in pure white, rose and various shades of blue-purple. These do very well in quite sunless places, and as they are practically over before the ferns are fully developed, they may be grouped with them. As an alternative you may plant, more or less together, any of these scillas and Solomon's Seal.

Primroses, as we all know do not ask much sun, and these, in their various colours—not forgetting the lovely blues, delight in the company of deciduous trees. So does Anemone Hepatica, and where will you find a more charming plant for giving bright bouquets of blue, white and rose among mossy rocks or stumps, than these?, The autumn-flowering cyclamens make excellent companion plants for the foregoing and, for that matter, may be worked in among such anemones as those of the nemorosa class: A. trifolia, a dainty alpine version of our own windflower; A. apennina, and others of their delectable race.

The Wood-Sorrels.

There is no more bewitching little plant for shady woodland retreats than the carmine rose form of our own wood-sorrel, and once this has been established it will naturalise freely. Oxalis oregana, which is a good deal larger, is also pink and good, and so is O. adenophylla and before leaving these smaller things I must not forget to mention the dog's tooth violets, snowdrops, spring and autumn crocuses, daffodils, ornithogalums and colchicums. But bulbous plants which do well in shade which is not too dense are so many that a special article might be allotted to them alone. So, to pass on, let me remind the reader of the milk white rays of Sanguinaria canadensis,

THERE ARE FEW MORE CHARMING PLANTS FOR A SHADY SITUATION UNDER TREES THAN OUR WOOD SORRELS. THIS IS OXALIS ADENOPHYLLA.

an ideal woodland plant; let me suggest some patches of Omphalodes cappadocica and verna, and of their relations, the intensely blue Anchusa myosotidiflora and the chastely elegant Borago laxiflora, which loves to swing its opal bells among ferns and woodland herbage.

The best of the lungworts must be included, for they will flower with the winter aconites, and Pulmonaria azurea in its finest forms is a really strong, clear blue. Gentiana asclepiadea, so easily raised from seed and always to be included in a list of woodland plants, will give us a variety of colours from deepest indigo to palest azure and white during the later months of the season. Lily of the valley must not be forgotten here; and then there are the cimicifugas, of which C. simplex is one of the best of smaller stature for our purpose here. The trilliums will do in the densest shade where the soil is rich, free and cool, and in addition to the Christmas rose (Helleborus niger) there are many hellebores, especially in the orientalis section, which are first-rate shade subjects for growing with ferns and other rather bolder things. White foxgloves always look delightful under such conditions, and few who have not tried it realise how well Campanula grandis looks in thin woodland shade. C. lactiflora, especially the selected varieties which are not too tall, is also most attractive, this being a native of some of our densest woods.

Dicentra formosa and D. eximia should both be grown in woodland shade, their elegant glaucous leafage being followed by hyacinthine heads of purple and rose. Corydalis cava, more especially the white form, C. cava alba, which looks like a Roman hyacinth and smells nearly as sweet, I must always have in some shady nook where it will gleam forth every dawning year, early among the earliest. The foam flower, Tiarella cordifolia, is quite indispensable, its wine tints of autumn being by no means the least of its pretty

THE WILLOW GENTIAN, G. ASCLEPIADEA, IS ALWAYS TO BE INCLUDED IN A LIST OF WOODLAND PLANTS.

Digitized by Google

attributes. Galax aphylla will enjoy any cool, leafy spot, put up snow white spikes in early summer and embellish the rich green of its round glossy leaves with crimson throughout the dead months. All the periwinkles are useful woodland shade plants, care being taken with the placing of Vinca major, which is apt to be rather too robust in some soils. V. difformis for autumn-spring flowering is very charming, and the little fellows (V. minor) in their infinite variety thoroughly appreciate the light shade of deciduous trees and flower from February to June. Under similar trees which are fairly tall Erica carnea has often proved an excellent subject. It makes drifts of rosy carmine under some of my old oaks from December to May. Indeed, I know of only one other shrub of similar stature which is equally pleasing, though it cannot rival the heather in brilliance, and that is Polygala chamæbuxus purpurea.

THE LOOSE STARRY SPRAYS OF TIARELLA CORDIFOLIA.

This comely little alpine milkwort, with its myrtle green, box-like leaves, is hardly ever out of flower. It will do in deeper shade than the heath, and throughout the spring and early summer, and again in autumn, its beautiful green carpet is adorned with a galaxy of golden keeled, purple-winged butterfly flowers.

This list might be much extended, but, having been offered a few suggestions, the reader should be able to gather something of the line to take in making his selection. I will only add that few plants will do much good if put directly into virgin woodland soil. The latter is often impoverished and full of roots. Some cultivation will, therefore, have to be carried out before planting, the extent to which this is necessary being decided by the nature of the soil. Trenching is, of course, out of the question, but by deeply digging the parts to be planted, loosening the subsoil and adding some old manure or vegetable compost, a most uncongenial soil can easily be made suitable for any of the subjects mentioned here.

A. T. JOHNSON.

PRIMROSES AND POLYANTHUSES WILL BRIGHTEN MANY A DULL SHADY CORNER.

WINDFLOWERS (ANEMONES) CARPETING THE GROUND UNDER LOW-GROWING TREES.

THE LUNGWORTS, OF WHICH PULMONARIA AZUREA IS A GOOD REPRESENTATIVE, MAKE FINE EARLY FLOWERERS AND BOLD PATCHES OF BLUE IN A SHADY CORNER.

Digitized by Google

DECEMBER IN THE GREENHOUSE

A Note on Bulbs Growing in Pots and Bowls.

IT may not be out of place, to pass along a few hints to those in whose hands the culture of bulbs is not always an unqualified success. First, as to moisture. Hyacinth roots and, indeed, all bulb roots demand that there shall be no lack of moisture, but it must not be sour. Remember that in all bulbs the leaves and all of the flowers down to the last pollen anthers are all fully formed in every detail within the bulbs before you plant them and a constant supply of pure moisture, warmth and light in due season is all that is necessary to produce the flower spike and leaves. With bulbs in pots or bowls we are not interested in the *growth* and increase of the roots for future years. If you like to buy coconut fibre decorated with mother-o'-pearl or oyster shell, there is no objection to the mixture, but it does not in itself provide any food or nourishment to the bulb, nor is it necessary to do so. The function of the fibre is the purely mechanical one of supporting the bulb in position and maintaining by its spongelike nature a supply of moisture and oxygen. Well drained soil, moss, sand or gravel perform the same function and are equally suitable so long as means are provided to keep the moisture from going sour or stale. Sourness can be avoided by adding a little charcoal, which has the property of absorbing the harmful humours.

Hyacinths in the Dark.

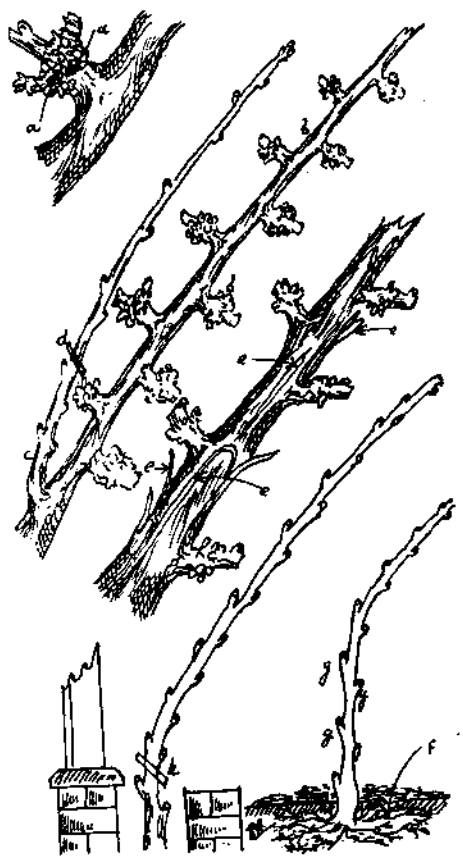
A common failing is to bring hyacinths out of the dark too soon. Everything depends on the extent of the root action, which must be well advanced to ensure success. The point to make sure of, before bringing the bulb to the light, *is that the flower spike is out of the bulb.* Never mind how many days or weeks it has been in the dark. When the bulb first begins to grow in the dark a white triangular spike forms on the top. This is the time *to leave it alone*, not to bring it out into the light. If you are in too great a hurry the result will be that the flower spike will remain in the bulb or at least be no better than a squat and misshapen dwarf. This result may also be caused by swamping the bulb with water or allowing the roots to become dry. The bulb should remain in the dark until the spike is at least 2½ins. to 3½ins. long, when a distinct fattening will be noticeable in its upper portion and there will be a thinner neck formed at the lower portion close to the bulb. This indicates that the flower has come out of the bulb and the pot may now be removed to the light in safety.

Tulips in Pots.

Tulips are not easy subjects for pots, but best results will follow if the following rules are borne in mind. All tulips in pots must be allowed to root well in cool quarters. Then bear in mind the nature of your subjects. There are very many kinds of tulips. The Duc van Thol and *some* other early varieties are naturally *very* dwarf. Therefore, in order to get good results you must (after they are well rooted and before bringing them to the light), subject them to *top* heat in order to draw up the top. This can be done in a warm, dark cupboard and they should be kept there until you can see the colour of the flower in the bud. The leaves will be yellow; never mind that. At this stage bring them right out into the light—no half and half measures or your plants will become spindly weaklings. Now, Darwin tulips—like Clara Butt, Wm. Copland, Pride of Haarlem, and Farncombe Sanders, etc.—are naturally very tall and if you follow this treatment you will be fairly sure to ruin them. The object will be to keep the top growth short and so, in order to get them early, they must have warmth at the roots and all possible light and air overhead right from the start. In an unheated greenhouse in full light they will flower in early April. With bottom heat they can, with care and skill in ventilation, be brought into flower in early February. To attempt to grow tulips in pots in an ordinary living room is to court failure. Daffodils, on the other hand, are easy subjects. Get them well rooted first in the cool—this is the essential part—then bring them within the window of the living room close to the light and turn them round to the light a every day as they grow.—H. G. LONGFORD.

Notes on Vines.

THERE are many old vines in the country; some are profitable, others are not; some can be renovated very easily, while others are not worth troubling about, young vines being much better in their places. The old vine that is not worth renovating is shown in the sketch at *a*, *a*. It will be observed



that, on the old spur, there are some round marks showing where, in years gone by, shoots were cut off. There has been so much of this cutting out of shoots that the spur has, in consequence, become blocked, as it were, and sap cannot freely flow through to sustain, much less invigorate, the shoot for the current year. So a vine of this description is not worth keeping. But one, as shown at *b*, *b*, which has not such hard, gnarled spurs, may be renovated, and to this end the cultivator should retain a nice promising basal shoot, such as is shown at *c*. The first autumn, that is, next autumn, if a young cane is retained, so in the spring of that year—1927—the young shoot should be cut off as shown at *d*. In the early part of the year all the young shoots growing from the lower spurs on the old rod must be removed while they are small. The following year—1928—the old rod should be cut out and the young one trained in its place. In the meantime, the border will require attention, too. The top soil should be removed, baring the nearest roots and some good lumpy, turfy and fibrous loam put on in its place, adding a 7in. potful of bone-meal or finely ground bones to every barrow-load.

Old rods need annual cleaning, but not a scraping. Simply remove all loose bark as shown at *e*, *e*, *e*, *e*.

Young Vines.

I like to get all vine-planting done early in January at the latest. Young vines should be allowed to start growth naturally—that is, without the aid of fire-heat, just that of a carefully ventilated vinery. The pruning of the young vines should be done at the end of December. If not pruned then, there will be danger of excessive bleeding if the cutting back is delayed, so it would be wiser to plant and not cut back at all in such cases, but, directly new shoots grow, to disbud from the point of the young rod downwards to the desired point or bud. Then the denuded portion of the rod can be cut away about midsummer or retained intact until the autumn, the young leader being tied to it during the summer. The making of the border should receive every attention; be well drained and composed of fibrous turves cut into pieces about 4ins. square, and forming a border 24ins. deep and 4ft. wide the first year. Spread out the roots as shown at *f*, and take great care of the buds or "eyes" marked *g*, *g*, *g*, as the top one should form the new leading cane, the two below being trained to right and left respectively. Cover the roots 4ins. deep. At *h*, the point to which the cane should be cut back is shown. It is opposite the bottom part of the front glass, so that the new shoots will have the benefit of the light in due course. —G. G.

Cleaning Greenhouse Plants in Mid-winter.

THERE is no better time than this for thoroughly cleaning the stems and leaves of many kinds of greenhouse plants. The latter have, mostly, completed their growth, the bark and the leaves are firmer than at any other season and are not so liable to injury. Rather stronger doses of insecticides can be applied and, furthermore, there is, as a rule, more time to use them, because there is not so much work of another kind that presses for attention. Perhaps that pest, mealy bug is the worst to get rid of and Gishurst Compound is one of the most useful of washes for the purpose of eradication. Amateurs can safely use it if they comply with the directions. Fir tree oil used to be a favourite wash of hundreds of gardeners. It was of a milky nature and grand for cleansing the leaves of the more tender greenhouse and stove plants. A small and a medium-sized sponge will be required, also a small brush with a pointed handle for use in the axils of leaves and branches. All water used should be a little warmer than the temperature of the house, and rainwater is preferable to hard well or tap—water. The plants on the roof should be dealt with first, then those trained on pillars, and the stage plants last. Before any actual cleaning of roof and pillar plants is done they should be pruned if they need it, and the prunings taken out forthwith. Established plants should be loosened from their supports so that all foreign matter can be cleared away too, and the eyes of wire pins brushed with pure paraffin, the woodwork with a stronger solution of the insecticide being used at the time.

Pot-grown plants should be laid on their sides on soft mats or sacks, then drippings

Digitized by Google

insecticide will not run down the main stem to the roots in the soil. First of all clear away any insects and foreign matter lodging in the axils of the leaves and branches, then sponge the under sides of the leaves before you clean the top side. Ornamental-leaved plants, such as crotons and dracænas, should be syringed with clear, tepid water after sponging and while the plants are still on their sides. Turn over the plants once or twice to make the cleansing thorough. Finish the work by removing the thin, top crust of soil from the pots and wash the latter. Only sponge smooth-leaved plants not any with soft, hairy surfaces like coleus plants. Scale is a troublesome pest and I advise two cleansings in the case of plants infested with it. Old brown looking scales are full of young ones and when the old ones are bruised, the young scale is spread over the branches. Directly they become dry they adhere to the bark again and in spring grow rapidly, that is why I advise two cleanings and two syringings the same day.—G. G.

Plants in Foggy Weather.

THERE is no doubt that a spell of fog, particularly that kind which is likely to be experienced in the neighbourhood of large towns, has a very harmful effect on indoor plants. The stagnant atmosphere, heavy with moisture, the total absence of sunshine and the fact that the fog is laden with smoke particles all tend to arrest the healthy development of vegetation. The results are most evident in the case of such specimens as may be coming into bloom at this season, such as pelargoniums, carnations, primulas, cinerarias, etc. Here a day or so of bad fog will cause dropping of buds so that all hope of a fine show of blossom may be shattered. Maidenhair ferns, and other ferns, will often suffer very badly indeed from the smoke-laden atmosphere. The harmful effects are seen not only on those subjects in greenhouses and frames, but are just as much in evidence in the case of house plants.

While the fog lasts a certain amount of harm seems inevitable, but a good deal may be done to mitigate the evil by careful attention to a few points. Steps should be taken to keep the fog out as much as possible, and on these occasions ventilation must practically cease. Without a doubt the less active plants are over a foggy period the more likely they are to escape injury. Thus it is a really good plan to keep the temperature rather low providing no risk from actual cold is incurred. Suspend all watering, even if this means allowing the plants to get very much on the dry side. Keep a sharp look out for any decaying parts on the specimens and remove at once. Rotting trouble, due to the attacks of minute fungi, is very likely to spread rapidly in foggy weather.

When the fog disappears everything should be done to encourage the plants to resume active growth. When the weather is mild ventilation should be free and if any additional heat is available this can be usefully employed.

WHAT OUR READERS SAY

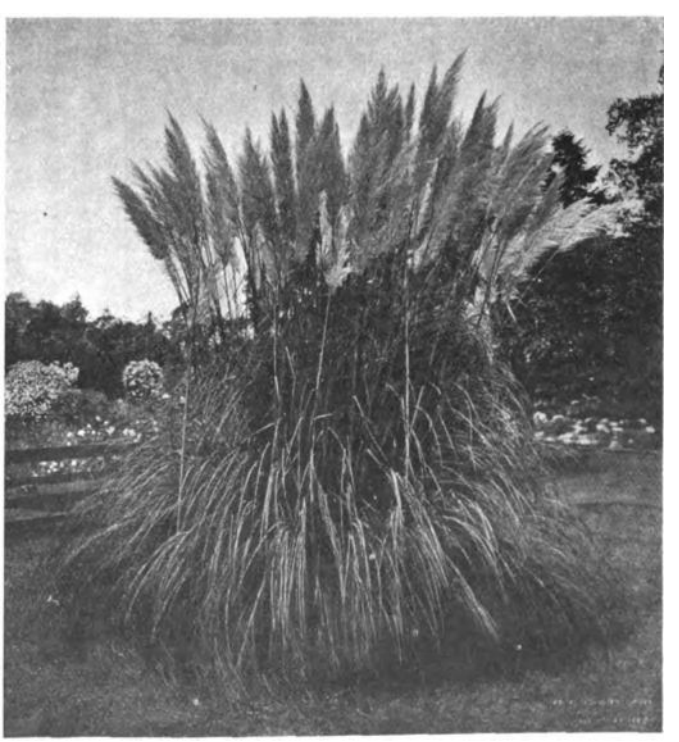
STORING APPLES ON STRAW.

SIR,—I should like to ask your correspondent, Mr. George Stuart, this question: Supposing a person has a few pounds of choice apples and wished to store them, say, till Christmas, from the time they are gathered in October. There is no fruit room, no stone or slate shelves, and certainly no messing about with clay; an ice-house or refrigerator or any kind of cooling apparatus unavailable and impossible. What is the alternative?

Surely it is a *dry shelf* covered with a thin layer of *clean straw*. And the state of mind of the person who uses anything but clean, *fresh* straw for the purpose of storing fruit is too bad for hope of redemption!—H. A. DAY.

A HANDSOME PAMPAS CLUMP.

SIR,—I do not know if your readers would be interested to see the accompanying illustration of a very fine pampas grass I have in my small garden here. It is certainly the finest specimen I myself have seen anywhere. I planted it about nine years ago when about 2ft. high. I made a hole about 3ft. to 3½ft. deep and put in about a hundredweight of manure at the bottom and then some good garden soil. Since then I have given it no more manure of any sort, but have carefully pulled out all the grass shoots which have turned brown about May. I measured it in October and the plumes, of which there were 133, measured 11ft. in height and the clump of grass was 12ft. across. The photograph was taken on October 1st this year.—C. M. WOLSELEY, *Sutton Green, nr. Guildford.*



THE GRACEFUL FEATHERY PLUMES OF PAMPAS GRASS.

ROSE MME. ALFRED CARRIERE.

SIR,—I am surprised that I can find no mention of Mme. Alfred Carrière among the many roses recommended in your paper. I planted this rose on the veranda of my east front, having learnt many years ago it was one of the few suited for this position; probably the advice was found in your columns. It is free growing, almost evergreen and a constant bloomer, and it has that rare gift, a delicious fragrance. I should give it a place in the first rank of climbing roses.—"HEDGERLEY," *Stoke Poges.*

ROSE MERMAID.

SIR,—In reply to Mrs. Anley's enquiry as to the origin and parentage of the Rose Mermaid, I may say that this rose was a hybrid of Rosa bracteata and a tea rose seedling. It was produced by Wm. Paul and Son in 1918.—G. ST. CLAIR FEILDEN.

ROSES IN SOUTH DERBYSHIRE.

SIR,—Although it is a far cry from northern Ireland to South Derbyshire, I think, perhaps, a few notes on roses in this district may be of interest. I am acquainted with practically all the varieties mentioned by Mr. Cecil M. Bailey in a recent note, and have grown most of them with more or less success.

General McArthur is a universal favourite and appears to flourish anywhere. Another rose that can be recommended is Mrs. Bryce Allen, carmine rose; the blooms are borne on strong stems and sweetly scented. The Queen Alexandra rose is freakish in colour, clashes with every other variety and produces many imperfect blooms, and, therefore, is not worth growing in a small collection.

Betty Uprichard and Mrs. Henry Morse are two of my favourites, the latter displaying remarkable lasting properties and seems to be very loath to shed its petals; it should certainly be in all rose gardens, notwithstanding its liability to mildew.

Los Angeles has taken a great hold upon rosarians in this district and has all the attributes claimed for it by the nurserymen. Another of the same variety, which can also be strongly recommended, is W. F. Dreer, which is charming for bedding or cutting.

Lady Pirrie, Chatenay, Butterfly and Ophelia are all popular, and I have yet to see a more perfectly shaped rose than the latter, although Mme. Butterfly, which is a sport from Ophelia, takes the palm for colour.

Gorgeous is rightly named and, unlike Mr. Bailey, I should include it in all collections, although I am not sure how it would fare in a town garden. I was recently looking at this rose with the rays of the setting sun falling upon it, and, involuntarily, one was constrained to describe it as gorgeous.

Harry Kirk I have grown for years, and although I appreciate its many charming qualities, the fact that it so quickly fades is, to my mind, a fault which prevents it taking high rank as a yellow; but its fragrance, together with its freedom in flowering, makes it a useful acquisition.

Mabel Morse, Christine, Golden Emblem, Florence L. Izzard, are all beautiful yellows, but the two latter are liable to die back, and they are the only two roses I have not succeeded in growing at the first attempt. So far as colour is concerned, Souvenir de Claudius Pernet is the most striking yellow rose, but it is very difficult to get a perfect bloom owing to its habit of balling badly, and it is essentially a fair-weather rose.

Clarice Goodacre, biscuit chrome, is one of the best varieties here; perfectly shaped

Digitized by Google

blooms on strong upright stems freely produced. Although it suffered severely during the winter, it has thrown up some wonderfully strong shoots with a mass of bloom.

Isobel, Irish Fireflame, Red Letter Day, K. of K. and Old Gold are all good singles or semi-singles, the first-named being especially vigorous and full of flower.

Noblesse, apricot and primrose, can be recommended and is very effective with its large-leafed foliage.

A rose that does remarkably well here is Gladys Holland, buff shaded orange-yellow, which has very large blooms of good lasting quality.

One of the most successful roses this year is the flame-coloured Independence Day, which has been prolific in blooms and a source of never-failing delight.

Lady Hillingdon, deep apricot yellow; Sunburst, cadmium yellow; Sunstar, orange edges and veined vermilion; Margaret Dickson Hamill, straw colour; Henrietta, coral salmon; Mme. E. Herriot, coral red; Donald Macdonald, orange carmine; and Mrs. Frank Bray, coppery ecru (the two latter being buttonhole roses), are all good varieties; while one of the most reliable is M. Paul Lede, with its large cinnamon pink blooms and dark shiny foliage.

Of the newer varieties nothing has pleased me more than Shot Silk, but as this is its first season with me it is too early to express a decided opinion upon it, although it gives promise of being worthy of being included in any rose garden and one that will be in great demand, its colour, bright cherry cerise over-shot with salmon orange, making it wonderfully effective. — R. C., *Alvaston, Derbyshire.*

A VEGETABLE ROOF GARDEN.

SIR,—It may be of interest to your readers to hear of a very successful and useful roof garden owned by one of my neighbours. It is a flat, lead roof and the owner devotes all his time to growing vegetables. Runner beans are grown in boxes against the walls, which are on some parts of the roof, and so well do they grow and fruit that he is able to supply his own family and the family of his son with as many beans as they wish. Round the more open sides of the roof garden tomatoes are planted and are a very profitable crop. At least 80lbs. of fruit is gathered every year. Not only are they able to eat and cook as many as they want, but a quantity of excellent tomato sauce is made for winter use. Lettuce, marrows and cabbages are also grown, some in tubs. The boxes are about 12ins. or 14ins. deep and a little broader. The soil is changed every year.

A tank in a corner, which is filled from a pipe from a tap in the house, supplies all the water needed and an old sack filled with manure is kept in the water, which, although London tap water, becomes softened and of the same temperature as the air through exposure, and this helps very much to make this roof garden so successful. Fresh vegetables are so good and if it is possible to grow them oneself, such an improvement upon those which are bought and they cost so little in comparison. I fear only a few persons have roofs upon which they could make even a small garden, but where it can be done it repays with interest all the work expended upon it and is an idea well worth adopting if space and conditions permit.—B. E. S.

THE CULTIVATION OF A SMALL GARDEN.

SIR,—In answer to the enquiries of your readers as to how much ground an amateur can cultivate successfully, I find that my garden of 25ft. by 200ft. takes all my spare time. I have a small garden in front of the house about 20ft. deep. This is surrounded by a box hedge, stone path to front door and grass path around flower-beds. This garden I plant in a formal manner with wallflowers, bulbs, etc., for a spring show, and later on with antirrhinums for a summer display. I have planted about 250 wallflowers raised from seed. The

A READER'S GARDEN WHICH HAS BEEN MOST SUCCESSFUL.

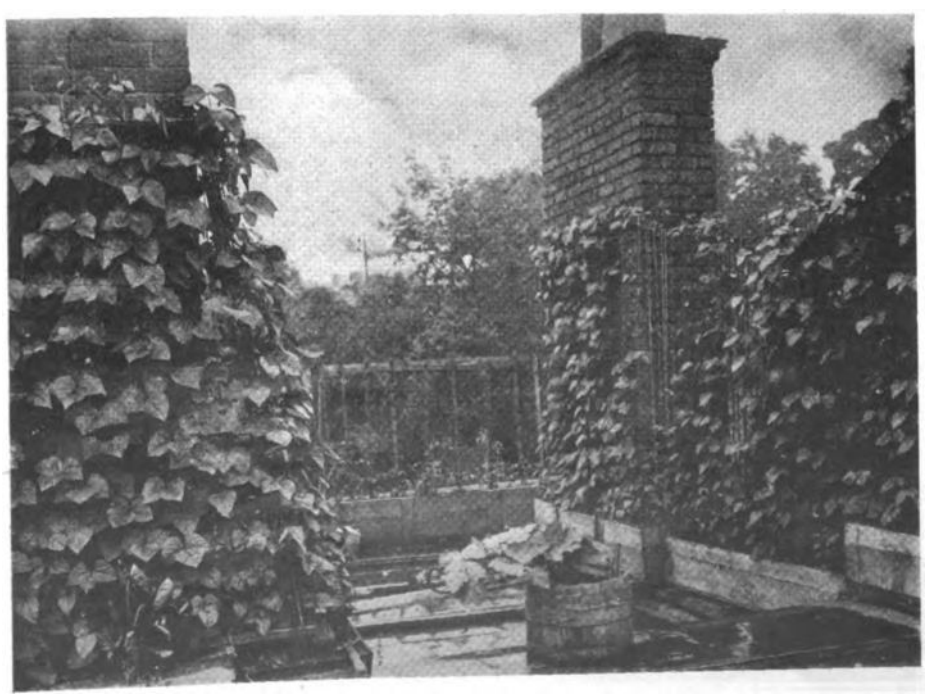
antirrhinums I usually buy from a nurseryman. The garden behind the house is about 150ft. in depth. I have a fair-sized piece of turf about 60ft. long with borders on either side for herbaceous and other plants. (I have just planted out 100 Cheiranthus Allioni grown from seed.) At the end of the grass I have a small fruit garden of cordon and bush apples, currants, raspberries and gooseberries. This takes up about 40ft. The remaining 50ft. is used for vegetables, seed bed, reserve plot for plants, etc. I have ramblers on the fences and two arches which are seen from the house. Cordon currants, cordon gooseberries and raspberries on the farther ones. I do not arrive home until 7 p.m. (3 p.m. Saturdays). I think with the variety of things I cultivate that it would be impossible to keep a very much larger garden as neat and trim as I think it should be. I enclose a photograph of my garden, taken in the summertime. This may be of interest showing what can be done with a long, narrow plot. I may add that the garden was entirely planned and made by myself out of a piece of ploughed land.—W. H. W., *Croxley Green, Herts.*

CLUB ROOT OR FINGER AND TOE.

SIR,—I was much interested in reading the note under the above heading in THE GARDEN, page 684. Perhaps my experience some years ago with land infested with slime fungus may be of interest to readers of THE GARDEN.

The ground selected for treatment was deeply dug about the first week in December and a dressing of quick-lime applied on the surface at the rate of five stones to the rod. In extreme cases double the quantity could be used without injurious effects. After lying for about six weeks the ground was lightly forked over about 3ins. deep, following which a dressing of kainit was applied at the rate of 7lb. to the rod. In the ensuing summer splendid crops of peas, beans, potatoes, etc., were produced, and the following year brassicas were entirely free from club root.

It is a good plan to make periodical applications of lime on light, sandy soils, such as we have to deal with in this neighbourhood—say every three years—and omitting the usual dressing of manure. Lime may also be applied to heavy land with advantage, as it possesses the dual property of making heavy land porous and lighter, and light land heavier and more retentive.—C. NIPPARD, *Bournemouth.*



A SATISFACTORY AND USEFUL METHOD OF VEGETABLES GROWING ON A ROOF.

Digitized by Google

THE FRUIT AND KITCHEN GARDEN

Chinese Artichokes.

STACHYS TUBERIFERA is the correct name of this artichoke. The tubers are small whorled or corkscrew formed, very prolific and quite hardy. The tubers are at their best now and may be lifted from the border as required for use. If it is necessary to lift the crop the tubers should be laid on a cool base in any shed, but covered with sand to exclude light and air. Light discolours them and air causes them to shrivel, then the tubers are useless for cooking. Care should be taken to pick out every tuber or broken tuber as, if left in the soil they will grow again the following year and become very troublesome. As this vegetable will thrive in all ordinary garden soils, those cultivators who have difficult soils to deal with should plant a few rows of tubers in the spring. They will answer well if planted 9ins. apart in rows 18ins. asunder and covered 2ins. deep, then the crop may be left there and used as required from for three years before they are lifted for replanting in another part of the garden. The tubers should be boiled just the same as potatoes and served with roast beef or poultry. If, after boiling, they are nicely browned in fat before a clear fire, they are quite crisp and a delicious food.—G. G.

Forcing Seakale.

THE forcing of seakale may be undertaken at any time now, and is quite simple even to the veriest novice. However, I have preferred to illustrate my remarks by the addition of a few simple diagrams which I hope will be helpful. The forcing may be done in pots, boxes or in any other kind of enclosure, and a good position for it in any case is beneath the staging of a greenhouse. This method I have shown in Fig. 1. It will be seen that the seakale is planted in a box. This is set beneath the staging and a layer of leaves is put in the bottom. Then a layer of soil is added and the seakale roots are arranged at a few inches apart in the soil, the crowns being about 2ins. out of the soil. After a good watering and a reasonable time being allowed for the draining away of the surplus moisture, the top of the box is placed so as to exclude the light entirely. There must be sufficient room in the box for the tops of the seakale to grow freely. In this sketch also I have shown how asparagus may be forced over the seakale by growing this in a box-like enclosure on the staging.

Another good method of growing seakale for forcing is to use those large pots which are now becoming free from the chrysanthemums. That is shown in Fig. 2. The principle is precisely the same as in the case of growing it in boxes. A large crock is placed over the drainage hole in the bottom of the pot, and is followed by a layer of leaves. Some soil is added, and then the roots are arranged in precisely the same way as in the boxes. A good watering is given as before, and the other pot is inverted over the first when the tops have dried somewhat. A piece of moss is stuffed into the hole in the covering pot, or a piece of slate is placed over it. Adjoining this sketch is shown the root as it is dug from the plot. The smaller roots are cut away as shown by the black lines and these are used for making cuttings for forming a new plantation; as also shown, they are cut with a straight cut at the top and an oblique one at the bottom. The reason for this is that one may more easily know the difference between the top and bottom when they are bundled up like asparagus and plunged in soil, ashes or sand outside till they can be planted in the spring.

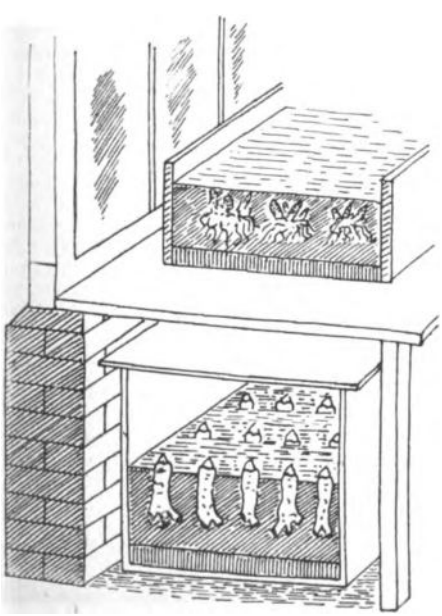


FIG. 1.

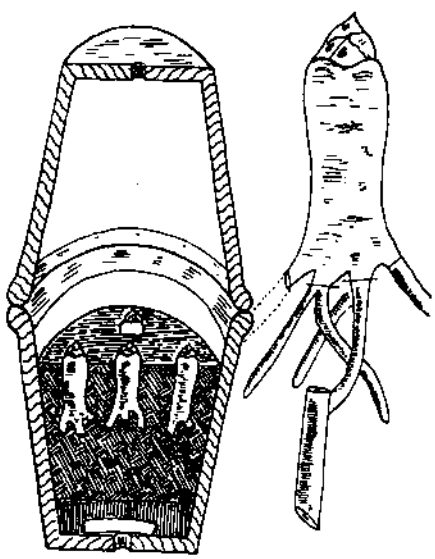


FIG. 2.

I have also included a sketch, Fig. 3, showing the way seakale is forced on the plantation without lifting it. It may be covered with special seakale pots, but anyone who has not these pots would be foolish to buy them, as the forcing can be quite as well done with the aid of boxes. The plantation is cleaned and the bottomless boxes are placed over several clumps. The top is then put on, as it will have to be kept on to keep the seakale dark, though movable when it is desired to examine the seakale or to cut it. In order to get the seakale in use more quickly, some stable manure or fallen leaves are piled up over and around these boxes, as shown in the illustration. The box is, of course, covered on all four sides, the one side being shown open in the sketch in order the better to show how the work is carried out.

In order to ensure a succession of seakale, some roots should be brought into the greenhouse every week or fortnight, and in the open several clumps should be covered at a time. If more convenient all the roots which are likely to be needed for forcing may be potted or boxed up at one time, keeping them in a cold frame or a cold shed till it becomes necessary to bring them into heat. The final sketch shows the manner of cutting the seakale. When cut in this way some more growths will be thrown up which will prove useful, though much thinner than those at first produced.—W. F. R.

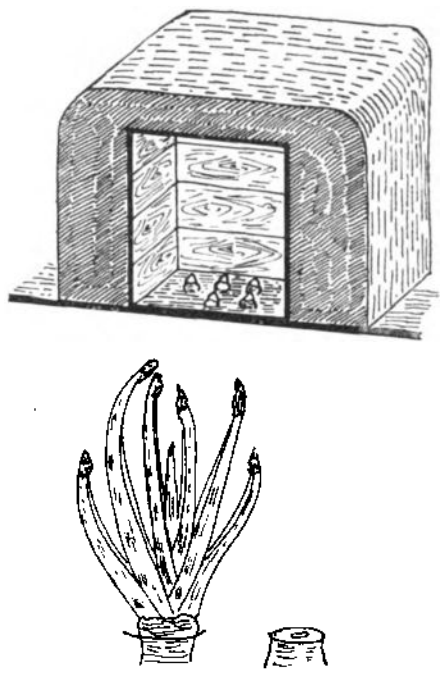


FIG. 3.

Self-Fertility and Self-Sterility of Apples.

IT sometimes happens that we find in our gardens an apple tree which every year produces a tremendous show of blossom yet fails to set fruit or at any rate only a few fruits. It is likely that this yearly show of blossom, with no fruit, is due to the absence of another variety of apple, flowering at the same time, to act as a pollinising agent.

The apple flower is termed hermaphrodite, *i.e.*, it has both the female organs (stigmas) and male organs (stamens—upon which the pollen is borne), present in the same flower, yet in spite of this no fruit is formed. A variety which cannot use its own pollen for the purposes of fertilisation is said to be self-sterile.

Apple varieties may be divided into three classes :—

I.—*Self-sterile*.—Where no fruit is set by fertilising with its own pollen, *e.g.*, Cox's Orange Pippin, Royal Jubilee and King's Acre Pippin.

II.—*Partially Self-fertile*.—Where few fruits are set by self-pollination, but not sufficient to produce a crop. This class includes Worcester Pearmain, Beauty of Bath, James Grieve, Lane's Prince Albert, Newtown Wonder, etc.

III.—*Self-fertile*.—Varieties which will give a good crop when self-pollinated, *viz.*, Rev. W. Wilks, Ribston Pippin, Rival, Duchess of Oldenburg, etc.

It will be seen from a study of the above varieties, that to obtain a good set of fruit it is necessary, in a large number of cases, for more than one variety to be planted or to be found in the neighbouring vicinity, so that bees and other insects which act as pollen carriers may cross pollinate the trees. Cross pollination is the transference of the pollen of one variety to the stigma (female organ) or another in order that fertilisation may take place.

Digitized by Google

FACTORS AFFECTING THE SELECTION OF VARIETIES.

It has been found that different varieties of apples blossom at different times, and there is a difference of six weeks between the first variety to blossom and the last variety to blossom. On an average the period of blossoming of a single variety is eighteen days, so that it is possible for the blossoms of one variety to have fallen before another comes out. The effective period of blossoming *i.e.*, the period during which the pollen of a variety may be used for cross-pollinating, may be taken as nine days, two days before full blossom and seven days after. Thus, when we are selecting varieties to plant together in order that cross-pollination may take place, it is necessary to choose those varieties whose effective blossoming periods overlap by at least four days. We rarely find two varieties whose effective blossoming periods coincide.

There are three methods which may be employed to secure cross-pollination.

I—*Interplanting of Varieties.*—In an orchard or plantation it is seldom advisable to plant too large a block of any single variety, even a self-fertile variety. Cross-pollination always gives better results than self-pollination. Every fourth row should consist of a variety which will act as a cross-polleniser in order to secure the best results. However, it is not always desirable to take out an entire row, so it may happen that it is better to top-graft a number of the less profitable trees in the orchard with the variety for pollenising.

II.—*Grafting in a Variety.*—In a garden there may not be room to plant another tree, so in this case one of the branches of the tree may be cut back and scions of a variety which blossoms about the same time grafted in. It is best to get a variety whose vigour is about the same as that of the tree into which it is grafted. This will ensure, when grown, a sufficient quantity of pollen available for the bees, etc., to work upon.

III.—*The Tin Can Method.*—This method consists of taking a number of tins, two or three per tree, filling them with water, and placing in them branches of a variety bearing flowers when the tree is in full bloom and hanging them in the tree. This method is not so desirable as I or II, as it entails getting the variety for cross pollinating and keeping the tins filled with water while blossoming lasts.

Any variety which is in blossom at the same time as another will successfully cross-pollinate it. Up to the present no record of inter-sterility among apples has been found.

The following are varieties suitable for use together to secure cross pollination owing to the overlapping of their effective blossoming periods :

1.—Cox's Orange Pippin with Beauty of Bath or Stirling Castle or Bramleys.

2.—Bramley with Newtown or Lane's Prince Albert.

3.—Allington with Worcester Pearmain or James Grieve.

4.—Warner's King with Stirling Castle.

Any variety in Group 1 will act as an effective polleniser for any other variety in that group, etc. H. D. BENNETT.

TRAPPING MICE

GARDENS and glasshouses are frequently much overrun by mice, and not everyone knows how effectually to trap these little pests. The wood mouse (Mus sylvaticus) is the largest of the species, and is seldom seen in the daytime, unless disturbed from its home underground or from any old bags lying about or stored away. But at nights this little animal is very much alive, and first comes to peas and beans sown in the garden. When the grapes are ripe in the glasshouse in some way the mice get in and nibble at many bunches of fruit. Similarly, they are very much to the front in the fruit room; in fact, they seem to have an uncanny way of finding their way in everywhere. Their plan of action is to go to the ripest apples, cut them in pieces in every direction, make a most filthy mess, and then, mostly, to eat only the ripe pips of the apples. The remainder is left in a sodden heap of apple pulp. The old-fashioned straw beehive, or skep, is a famous spot for the wood mouse to make its home. Especially is this so in cottage gardens, when an old bag or two is thrown over the hive for the winter and perhaps a broken pan over them to keep out the wet. This is a much favoured residence for this mouse; at times it gets into the hives and clears up the honey.

In sowing peas and beans some gardeners pour a little oil on the seed and shake them up so that they may be wet all over; then sprinkle some red lead powder over the lot until they are covered completely. This is generally enough to check the mice, but trapping must sometimes be resorted to. A sunk jar (Fig. 1) is a very simple and effective trap. Sink the jar nearly level with the surface of the ground, half fill with water, well grease the inner ledge with lard or dripping, letting it hang on in lumps, and place corn, grease, etc., close to the jar. The mice, attracted by these morsels, will, while "licking the platter clean," slip over the greasy edge into the watery depths below. Another effective trap is shown in Fig. 2. A piece of slate or board is placed flat upon the ground; two sticks, each with a slit in the top, are forced into the ground on either

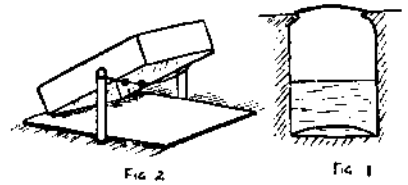
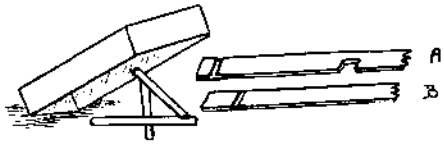


FIG. 2 FIG. 1



side; next two sprouting peas or beans are strung upon a piece of well greased thread, the peas being about an inch apart, and the thread, with a knot at each end, passed down the slits so as to hang loosely. A brick is then placed on the slate at one end and allowed to rest on the thread, which its weight will render taut. Its height then should be 2ins. to 3ins. The mice, attracted by the grease and peas, gnaw through the thread in their endeavour to eat the bait, with the result that they are crushed to death by the brick. Another trap is shown in Fig. 3. It is known as the figure of four trap, and is composed of three sticks and a brick or tile. The sticks should be flat, about an inch broad and one-eighth thick; the horizontal one should be about 8ins. long, the other two about half that length. The upright one is plain; the horizontal stick is pointed at one end to hold the bait (cheese, lard or fat), has a deep notch cut in its side about half its length, and another cut in the flat surface near the other end (Fig. A). The remaining stick has a notch cut in the flat side about ¾in. from one end, and the other end thinned down slightly (Fig. B). To set the trap, place the plain stick upright next the short one, with the notch resting on the top of the upright, and then the horizontal stick in such a manner that the notch in its side fits the upright and the slanting stick rests in the notch on its face. The brick is then placed so that its weight falls on the free end of the slanting stick. The mouse in nibbling the bait upsets the balance of the trap and brings down the brick upon itself. Mouse clams or gins may also be baited with a cobnut tied on the bridge of the clam with fine wire; if tied on with thread or twine the mouse bites this asunder.

A strange fact about the wood mouse is that the rougher the night (wind or rain), the more likely it is to be caught than on a still, fine night.—R. E. DAVIES, *Oswestry.*

Worms in Pots.

EARTHWORMS should never be tolerated in pots, for these will damage the roots as they force their way through the soil and also tend to stop up the drainage hole at the bottom. The presence of earthworms in pots is usually indicated by the casts which appear on the surface of the soil. Often the worms can be secured by giving the pot a sharp tap at the side with a piece of wood. This makes the worms come to the surface of the soil, when they should be at once seized before they have time to escape. Earthworms are very quick when alarmed, and there should be no hesitation in grabbing those that do appear. When this plan does not succeed the ball of earth should be carefully removed from the pot. If this is done quickly it is quite likely that the worms can be detected at the bottom or sides of the soil, from which positions they can be pulled away. Here again the worms may prove too quick for one, and on the ball being removed from the pot they will retire to the centre of the mass. A very sure way of clearing out all the worms when other plans have failed is on the following lines: Heat some water to a temperature of about 120° Fahr. Care should be taken to see that the water is not hotter, or damage to the roots might result. At this temperature there is not the least fear of doing any harm. When the soil is rather dry, water the plant with the warm water, and this will send the worms either to the top of the soil or else to the sides of the ball of earth. The worms are not in any hurry to go back into the warm soil and can be easily secured.

Worms in pots are such a nuisance, and will often do so much harm before their presence is suspected, that it is important to take steps to keep them out of the pots. Small worms may be easily overlooked in potting soil, and a sharp look-out should be kept so that these can be thrown aside. Some gardeners mix a little soot with the soil used, which will make the tiny worms anxious to get away as soon as possible. From the point of view of the plant, soot is useful, for it is a valuable fertiliser. Never stand pots on loose soil or on any other free matter through which the worms can work their way up into the pots. A firm bottom of coal ashes is the best standing ground for pots, as it is impossible for a worm to force its way through this material. Pots in which strawberry runners are being rooted are particularly liable to be attacked by worms. Here it is an excellent plan to place a few ashes under each pot. This will generally keep the worms from penetrating even when the pots are half sunk in the soil. Of course, when the pots are completely sunk the worms may crawl over the edge. In such cases surround-ing the pots with rings of ashes will keep the worms at a distance. Ashes, whether in a wet or dry state, are very much disliked by worms and form one of the most effective barriers known.—L. B.

Digitized by Google

HINTS WORTH REMEMBERING

Half a guinea will be paid each week for the most useful or interesting hint sent in by a reader. Five shillings will be paid for all others published. Owing to the number of hints which are sent in, we desire that, in future, each hint should be sent in on a post card, and should be limited to 150 words. Payment for these hints is made on the 7th of each month following publication. Responsibility for the accuracy of these hints must rest with the contributors.

THE HALF GUINEA HINT.

Christmas Decoration: A Poppy-Head Idea.

Evergreen foliage, or autumn-tinted leaves and berries are extremely decorative in the house when fresh flowers are scarce. If the sprays of leaves and berries are painted over with ordinary shellac, the leaves last indefinitely and do not dry up, neither do the berries swell and burst with the heat of the room as is generally the case. One of the prettiest effects I have ever seen, were some above treated leaves falling in graceful sprays from an old earthenware jug. Giving a bright touch of colour and enhancing the green, were some large poppy heads, which are treated as follows. (The heads are bought for 1½d. each at any chemists.) Place in boiling water and if whole, when dry, paint over with poster paint, or gild. If open—as some usually are—cut where soft between the ribs of the head. Cut off the crown and place it with a pin inside. Put fingernail under the ribs and pull gently, snapping away soft flesh of poppy. The extremely pretty result is stamens. Allow to dry and paint over with poster paint, or gilt, or the two may be used in artistic combination. Push a stick of privet or any likely wood in stem. This mode of winter decoration is uncommon and beautiful, while the heads last for years without losing their freshness.—C. E.

Roses on Their Own Roots.

Having been successful for several years in raising roses for my garden from cuttings at this time of year, it occurred to me that the method would be welcomed by the readers of THE GARDEN. Take cuttings of rose shoots which have flowered this year and are well ripened, and cut them in lengths of 6ins. or 8ins. Cut off a short piece from the top and cut level to a bud at the other end. Now dig a narrow trench, the back of which should be firm, and put the cuttings against this side about 2ins. or 3ins. deep and 3ins. apart. Put some sand around the cuttings, fill in the soil and press very firmly with the foot. If all goes well these cuttings will make nice little plants in a year's time and can be transplanted. I may add any kind of rose will root.—G. J. W.

Dried Fowl Manure for Potting.

Potting composts can be considerably enriched by the addition of a small percentage of guano or some other all-round manure. A good "home-made" guano may easily be collected from the fowl-houses, and this will furnish a sufficient supply for the needs of the potting bench. Fowl droppings are a very rich manurial substance, but pigeon manure is even better.

Collect the substance before it is allowed to cake or get trampled together; when dry, store it in bags in any dry position. When thoroughly dry it will not smell in the slightest degree; but should the drying process not be complete, a little gypsum, a very cheap lime compound, will keep down the odour and at the same time enrich the manure. When the guano is dry it can easily be passed through a riddle and rendered suitable for potting purposes. Never use this manure if it contains sawdust. As a result of using this manure splendid plants have been obtained by the writer.—W. A. W.

A Use for Old Venetian Blinds.

Venetian blinds are now out of date for windows, but they may still often be found reposing on the floor of attics or may be picked up cheaply at auction sales. The laths of these can be put to many uses in the garden. Cut in two they make excellent boxes for the sprouting of seed potatoes, the thicker laths at top and bottom being used where strength is required. They are also capable of being used for light trellis-work for roses or climbers in unexposed positions. The laths, though thin, are wonderfully strong, and if kept well painted they last a surprising number of years. The writer has used them, too, for the formation of hurdles for the protection of tender shrubs in winter. Packed with straw, bracken or gorse, they keep off frost excellently. Frames of these laths with scrim tacked on may be placed against espalier fruit trees in spring during the critical nights when blossoms are setting. The present month is a seasonable one for the formation of these structures. Other uses may occur to the reader.—L. D. W.

A Useful Tool for Lifting Turves.

Those who wish to cut some turves from the lawn for relaying and do not possess a specially made tool for the purpose, will find the following a very efficient tool. Get a Dutch hoe (solid type), which must be sharp and in good condition, put in a fairly stout handle from 4ft. to 5ft. in length, according to the comfort of the user, a steady pushing action must be used and it will be found that the thinness of the blade, and also the crank, will make it a comparatively easy job to cut turves perfectly even, which is so necessary when they are wanted for relaying purposes.—W. E.

Repairing Grass Edges.

From various causes the edges of lawns and borders are apt to lose their even outline, and as the defect is most noticeable there is a general desire to repair it effectively. If small pieces of turf are used they will not remain long in position, and if the difficulty is overcome by using pegs, the job is rarely satisfactory. The best and only reliable method is to remove a square of turf, including the damaged part, and turn it round so that the straight edge is outside. The broken portion can then be repaired with a little fresh turf, if necessary, and the object in view accomplished with complete satisfaction.—C. J. C.

Hints on Planting Fruit Trees.

On clay soils, the roots of trees often suffer from lack of air and have no power to resist dry seasons. A good way is to take out a hole, 2ft. 6ins. to 3ft. deep and nearly twice in width, then place a layer of hedge clippings or similar material 6ins. deep, with a layer of soil of similar depth, then another layer of clippings and soil, then plant the tree in the usual way. Fruit trees thus planted I find make wonderful headway and resist diseases so well that readers should try this way with a tree on heavy clay soils and watch results.—H. M. B.

OUR SERVICE BUREAU

Though so many subjects are dealt with in each issue of THE GARDEN, *it must constantly happen that readers seek information which is not immediately available. In such circumstances they should make use of our Service Department. Through its medium each reader's own particular enquiry can be dealt with. No matter what the question is, there is always information available from a staff of expert contributors and consultants; and there is no charge for this. It is one of the additional means of service which* THE GARDEN *is glad to render to its readers.*

Also, there is the further convenience which the Service Department affords of supplying readers with data about anything that is advertised in the pages of the paper. Thus, on receipt of an enquiry, particulars will be sent of, say, half a dozen things about which the reader seeks information. The only stipulation is that a stamped addressed envelope and the coupon, that will always be found in each issue, shall be sent with the enquiry. We would point out, however, that we cannot undertake to supply readers with plans and designs of gardens, but will willingly assist in giving suggestions for planting.

All communications should be addressed to the Service Department, THE GARDEN, *20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.*

We have selected the following enquiries, with their answers, as being of more general interest, and therefore worthy of publication.

Dwarf Shrubs for a Shady Border.

I have a bed, about 14ft. by 6ft., planted with bush roses, but since a pergola covered with rambler roses has been put up on the south-west side of bed, the roses do not flourish, the bed being partly shaded. Also, a wall on the north and east sides of bed is near, which makes it, I think, too airless for roses. I think of moving the roses to a more open position, and ask your advice as to what I could plant in this bed; it runs north-west and south-east, and is sheltered from all cold winds, rather heavy, clayish soil, a damp climate, subject to droughts in spring and early and late frosts. I should like some dwarf flowering shrubs for centre of bed, something fragrant and showy?—G. D. J., Llandovery.

We suggest that you plant four plants of Philadelphus Lemoinei erectus at the back and three plants of P. microphyllus in front would be most suitable for your purpose. P. microphyllus is very fragrant, and, if preferred, you could have seven plants o this variety instead of four of P. Lemoinei erectus.

Aquatics for a Small Tank.

I have two small tanks sunk in the ground in a rock garden and wish to plant a water lily in one. There is, I believe, a certain variety of nymphæa particularly suitable for this purpose and shall be glad if you can tell me the name of it and the best method of planting. Also, is there any other aquatic plant suitable for the other tank? The tanks are about 2ft. 6ins. in diameter and about 2ft. deep.—B. H. B., Cambridge.

Varieties of nymphæas suitable for growing in the small tank which you mention are the

Digitized by Google

following: N. candida, N. Laydeckeri fulgens, N. Pygmæa alba. All these are suitable for tub culture and are obtainable from Messrs. Perry, Hardy Plant Farms, Enfield, Middlesex, from whom information regarding their culture will only too willingly be given.

Other aquatic plants suitable for growing in tanks are: Aponogeton distachyon; Menyanthes trifoliata; Calla palustris. These must only be grown in shallow water, and must have some soil in which to root, as they really might be considered, properly speaking, as marsh plants, rather than pure aquatics. The only aquatics which are suitable for culture in tanks are a few, such as the following: Callitriche verna; Elodea densa; Ranunculus aquatilis.

Climbers for a Fence.

I have bought a new house near Harrow, with a garden 270ft. by 30ft., heavy clay soil, open stake fencing, one facing north-east, the other south-west. Would you be so good as to advise me what evergreen climbing plants will succeed on these fences, to form a screen? I propose to plant also a Climbing Ophelia rose and Gloire de Dijon.—F. H., Highgate.

We would suggest the following for the various positions you mention:

North-east Fence.—Jasminum officinale, J. nudiflorum, Pyracantha Lalandei, Ceanothus thyrsiflorus, Escallonia langleyensis, Rose Albéric Barbier.

South-west Fence.—Ceanothus dentatus, Escallonia rubra, Pyracantha angustifolia, Cotoneaster Henryana, Trachalospermum japonica.

Low-Growing Shrubs for Walls.

I desire to plant shrubs near the walls of my house for the purpose of hiding from view the lower portion of rain-water pipes and the gullies into which they discharge. One wall faces south and the other west, while the subsoil is clay. I should be glad if you would advise me as to suitable shrubs. They should be evergreen (flowering preferred), not exceeding about 3ft. in height when fully grown, and bushy.—H. R., Middlesex.

It is difficult to suggest wall shrubs which do not grow more than 3ft. in height. Almost all wall shrubs attain a height greater than this, but, of course, many of them can be kept in check by regular pruning and cutting back. We should suggest for your south wall one or two species of ceanothus, such as thyrsiflorus, rigidus or dentatus; tamarix, which should be given a fairly sandy soil if possible; Cotoneaster horizontalis; Pyracantha coccinea Lalandei; Escallonia langleyensis, E. Philippiana; Olearia Haasti and Potentilla fruticosa both make bushy shrubs and should be planted near the wall, but they are not what one might term proper wall shrubs. They will both serve very well for the purpose you mention, also Berberis Darwinii. The majority of these, however, need to receive a regular cutting if they are to be kept at a height of 3ft.

Training Cordon Apple Trees.

I have several young apple trees with one straight stem of about 4ft. in length. These have just been planted, and I should like to grow them on as cordons. Will you kindly let me know the procedure?—G. W. G., Berks.

The training of single cordon apple trees is quite a simple procedure. If the trees are about 4ft. high at planting, all the pruning required after planting will be to cut back all side shoots to two buds at the base. There is no need to shorten the "leader" or extension shoot at all. At each subsequent winter pruning, cut back all side shoots to two buds, and if the young extension shoot at the top grows longer than 1½ft., cut it back to this length. Later, you will need to cut the "leader" shoot harder, for it will quickly fill the allotted space. Should you find growth is very vigorous, lift the tree in October, prune back the coarse roots and then replant. The trees should be pruned in summer as well as in winter, the summer work consisting of pinching back all side shoots to about five leaves from the base, these being further shortened at the winter operation, as described. Winter prune each year as soon as the leaves fall, and summer prune in late July. The trees would be best planted at an angle of about 45 degrees, and can be placed 2ft. or more apart in the row or against the wall or fence. They should be trained to a wire trellis, or to bamboo canes tied to wires, stretched taut between firmly planted end posts.

How to Get Rid of Cabbage Butterflies.

For two years my kitchen garden here has been plagued with the common white butterfly, with the result that many of my cauliflowers and broccoli have been destroyed and many others rendered uneatable by the attacks of the caterpillar. Can you suggest any means of preventing this? Possibly by dusting the young plants next summer with something which will prevent the butterflies from laying their eggs upon them a remedy might be effected.—S. M., Gloucestershire.

As it is better not to use a poisonous spray on green vegetables, the usual caterpillar poisons are not available for the treatment of this pest, and it is necessary to depend on less efficient insecticides, which, nevertheless, can be quite effective if thoroughly applied. The following solutions can be tried with some success:

Soap, 1½–2 oz.; water, 1 gallon; but if the water is hard, use 2 oz. of soap.

Common salt, 2 oz.; water, 1 gallon. This solution has been in use for a long time, and appears to give good results.

If these do not prove sufficiently effective, naphthalene emulsion is worth a trial. Slaked lime in powder form, or a mixture of lime and soot, are useful for dusting on the plants when damp. These remedial measures should be undertaken as soon as the earliest signs of attack appear, and subsequent washings given according to the spread of the disease.

A Screen for the Kitchen Garden.

I would be much obliged if you would advise me as to the following: I want a hedge that will grow to 8ft. or 10ft. high to shelter my kitchen garden, which is very exposed on the north and east sides and close to the sea, but as it is small, only about 12 or 14 rods, I want something that has not spreading surface roots and does not impoverish the surrounding ground. I thought of either beech or hornbeam as suitable, but should be glad if you will inform me as to which is the better of the two, or if there is anything superior kindly let me know, but please take cost into consideration, as I do not want anything too expensive. The soil is a medium red loam, situation 307ft. above sea and about 300 to 400yds. from cliff edge.—C. A. B., Teignmouth.

We should certainly advise you to plant Cupressus marcocarpa as a hedge to shelter your kitchen garden. Although beech and hornbeam are both suitable, cupressus is an evergreen plant, and will provide most shelter in the winter months, especially in an exposed situation. It is a fairly rapid grower and will soon reach a height of 8ft. to 10ft., and it is not a particularly gross feeder. Plants can be obtained 2ft. to 3ft. high and planted at a distance of about 2ft. apart. Plants of this size can generally be obtained at a cost of about 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d. each, but there is often a reduction in price when a large quantity is ordered. As well as making a most effective hedge, it is very decorative all the year round.

Pruning Climbing Roses.

Can you advise how much to prune Climbing Lady Hillingdon on a house wall? In five years it has made splendid growth, reaching the roof and making strong growths, too many to tie in. It flowers well, but is never a mass of bloom like Gloire de Dijon. Aspect south-east, sheltered by bay windows. It is top-dressed with farmyard manure every spring.—B. M. B., Towcester.

Before doing any pruning to your roses, it would be well to consider the possibilities of laying-in young shoots from the base, so as to have a succession of young wood to take the place of the older which, a few years hence, will cease to yield satisfactory blooms. Generally, vigorous climbing roses throw up some strong shoots. The strongest should be retained full length to furnish the upper part of the wall. Two or three of the next best should be shortened sufficiently to make shoots to cover the lower portion of the wall. Any weakly shoots should be entirely removed. The surplus growths, which cannot be tied in, should be pruned fairly hard back to the main stems, much in the same manner as is done with standard roses. This pruning and the shortening all the young shoots should be done early next March.

Shrubs for Under Beech Trees.

I shall be much indebted to you for your advice as to what is the best shrub or bush for growing under trees. I have two large trees (chestnut and beech) in front of the house between it and the road, and nothing will apparently grow between them and beneath their branches, which touch each other. The space I wish to block out runs to a height of about 15ft., and I should like something bushy and, above all, quick growing. Perhaps you could suggest one or two suitable shrubs for the purpose.—C. M., Birkenhead.

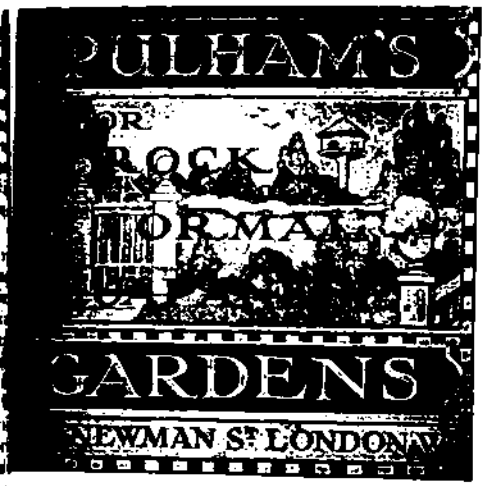
We should suggest that the following are suitable shrubs for growing under trees: Mahonia Aquifolium, a low-growing and spreading plant, evergreen and reaches a height of about 1ft. The Rose of Sharon (Hypericum calycinum), another low-growing plant of rather a spreading habit, and most effective when studded with its sulphury yellow rose-like flowers. It does particularly well in a shady position under trees. Sarcococca is another suitable plant, also evergreen, and carries white flowers during the summer months. It is excellent for a shady bank under trees. As well as shrubs, you might also plant a few daffodils or bluebells, which would have a decorative effect in spring.

How to Treat Unhealthy Auriculas.

I should be so much obliged if you can tell me what treatment to give my auriculas. They were planted last autumn, but have not flowered. They grow up a good, strong green in the centre, but when they have about six leaves the outside leaves go spotty and yellow. None of my other plants suffer this way, but it is always difficult to get flowers in London. I enclose some of the outside leaves.—J. P., London, S.W.1.

The appearance of the leaves of your auricula plants denotes an attack by an aphis—root aphis Trama auriculæ. The only effective way of dealing with the pest is to lift all the plants, carefully washing away the soil with soft soap solution, and replant in another border, which has been dressed with Vaporite. The best plan would be to make the new border ready and burn the Vaporite in the soil a week, or so, before you lift and clean the plants. Instructions will be found with the Vaporite, which can be obtained from any good horticultural sundriesman.

Digitized by Google



DOBBIE'S

Catalogue and Guide to Gardening

144 *Pages*—229 *Illustrations.*

Send to-day mentioning **"The Garden"** and you shall have a copy free per return post.

DOBBIE & CO., Ltd.

Seedsmen and Florists to H.M. the King

EDINBURGH

Buy with Confidence

MODERATE IN PRICE

Grampian Grown Seed Potatoes

D. W. Croll Ltd. DUNDEE

IDEAL IN SIZE

SUPREME IN QUALITY

ORDER NOW

All Certified Class I Scotch.
Dressed through 2in. and on 1¼in. Riddles.

EARLIEST VARIETIES.

	14lb.	56lb.	112lb.
The Cherub ..	3/6	12/-	22/-
*Di Vernon	2/9	10/-	17/6
Duke of York ..	2/9	10/-	17/6
Eclipse	2/3	8/-	14/-
Epicure	2/-	7/-	12/6
Sharpe's Express ..	2/3	8/-	14/-
*Witchhill	2/9	10/-	17/6

SECOND EARLY VARIETIES.

	14lb.	56lb.	112lb.
*Arran Comrade ..	2/3	8/-	14/-
British Queen ..	2/-	7/-	12/6
*Katie Glover ..	2/3	8/-	14/-
*King George ..	2/3	8/-	14/-
*Great Scot	2/3	8/-	14/-
*The Ally	2/6	9/-	16/-

MAIN CROP VARIETIES.

	14lb.	56lb.	112lb.
Arran Chief	2/-	7/-	12/6
*Kerr's Pink	2/-	7/-	12/6
King Edward ..	2/-	7/-	12/6
*Majestic	2/6	9/-	16/-
*The Bishop ..	2/9	10/-	17/6
Up-to-Date	2/3	8/-	14/-
*White City ..	2/9	10/-	17/6

* Denotes immune variety.

Many other varieties in stock, prices gladly given.

TERMS.—**Net Cash with Order, packing free. We pay Carriage to any Station in Great Britain when the following amounts are added to remittance Total weight ordered 14lb., add 1/5; 28lb., 1/9; 56lb., 2/6; 84lb., 3/3; 112lb., 4/-.**

Detailed Catalogue willingly sent, post free to all.

Please mention Paper.

D. W. Croll Ltd. *Seed Growers* DUNDEE

KNAP HILL NURSERY

WOKING, SURREY

(*Late Anthony Waterer*)

The Executors of the late HOSEA WATERER

have pleasure in offering

STANDARD TREES

in great variety, consisting of

LIMES, NORWAY MAPLES, ELMS, etc., etc.

EVERGREEN & DECIDUOUS SHRUBS, viz.:

Box—Green and Variegated, 3 to 8 ft.
Hollies—Common, 5 to 8 ft.; Variegated and Green, varieties, 2 to 6 ft.
Thuiopsis borealis, 10 to 12 ft. Cupressus Lawsoniana, 12 to 14 ft. Cedrus atlantica glauca, very fine, 14 to 16 ft. Osmanthus, Phillyræas, Spiræas, Lilacs, Viburnums, etc.

GOLDEN YEWS

A Magnificent Stock in all shapes and sizes from 2 to 10 ft.

PRIVET, Common and Oval-leaved.
QUICK and **HORNBEAM** for Hedges.
AZALEAS, in great variety, 2 to 5 ft.
RHODODENDRONS, without doubt the finest stock in the trade of named varieties, 2 to 6 and 8 ft.
HARDY HEATHS in great variety and a good general nursery stock.

Catalogues ready.

Enquiries and Inspection invited.

KNAP HILL NURSERY

WOKING STATION, SURREY

It Pays to Spray

YOUR trees will bear more and better fruit if freed from insect pests, moss, lichen, and other harmful growths.

Now is the time thoroughly to cleanse and re-invigorate the trees by spraying with

COOPER'S

Winter Spray Fluid

("Commended" by the *Royal Horticultural Society of Gt. Britain.*)

NON-POISONOUS.	DOES NOT BURN.
Half Pint	1 6
1 Pint	2 3
Quart	3 3
Half Gal.	5 9
1 Gal.	9 6
2 ,, ...	18 -
5 ,, ...	38 6

1 Gal. makes 100 Mixture.

OF ALL AGENTS.

Cooper, McDougall & Robertson, Ltd.

BERKHAMSTED. J5917

CLEAN CROPS *ARE* GOOD CROPS

Those dog-in-the-manger trees

YOU really can't afford them. Fruit trees that don't bear take too much room, and keep light and air from other crops.

Yet this dead loss can be turned into a highly profitable crop by quite unusual cleanliness.

That merely means a thorough cleansing of the tree when it is dormant. This season, trees treated with CARBO last winter have been bent down with fruit, where unsprayed trees have failed completely.

Now is the time to destroy moss, lichens, hibernating insects. Kill the eggs of Aphis, Apple Sucker and Caterpillar. Save next season's fruit crop. CARBO is put up in convenient quantities for the smallest garden as well as the largest. Get CARBO now. It costs so little to spray with this supreme winter wash—and saves so much.

CARBO WINTER WASH

2/6 per quart tin
6/- per gallon can

From your dealer—if you have any difficulty apply to the makers.

BUGGE'S INSECTICIDES Ltd.

WESTCOMBE HILL LONDON S.E.3

TAS/Bu.13.

Digitized by Google

High Grade
Conservatories
and
Glasshouses

For all classes of Horticultural Work consult Boulton & Paul, and so be sure of obtaining correct design, combined with first-class quality and workmanship. Expert representative sent on request to interview clients and prepare schemes.

Ask for Catalogue No. 741

BOULTON & PAUL
GARDEN FRAMES

High grade, solidly built.
Renowned for durability strength and simplicity.

Delivered ready painted, and glazed 21oz. English glass, complete with bolts. Can be put together in a few minutes by any amateur.

— TYPICAL EXAMPLE —

No. H.75. MELON AND CUCUMBER FRAME.
CASH PRICES.

1-Light Frame, 4ft. long by 6ft. wide .. **£3 10 0**
2-Light Frame, 8ft. long by 6ft. wide .. **£5 13 0**
3-Light Frame, 12ft. long by 6ft. wide .. **£7 15 0**

Carriage paid to most stations in England and Wales. Packing extra but allowed for if returned.

Other Designs and Sizes from 35/-
Ask for Catalogue No. 744.

Examples of B. & P. Garden Frames, Greenhouses, Motor Houses, Shelters, Poultry Houses and Kennels may be seen at our London Office and Showroom, 135-7, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4.

Boulton & Paul Ltd
Telegrams BOULTON NORWICH **NORWICH** Telephone NORWICH 85(5 lines)
LONDON OFFICE 135-137 QUEEN VICTORIA ST. E.C.
Telegrams Boutique Cent London Telephone 4642 Cent

SERVICE BUREAU.—*Continued.*

Protecting Delphiniums.

I have planted eight very fine delphiniums in my garden and wish to protect them from frost and insects. Will you kindly let me know how to treat them if covered with peat or sand? The soil was prepared some weeks ago.—F. A., Highbury.

The best method of protecting delphiniums in the winter is to apply a dressing of sand over and around the dormant crowns. This prevents the attack of slugs and snails, which are extremely partial to the delphinium. If bracken can be obtained, a few of the fronds might be spread over the plants as a slight protection against frost, but the sand should certainly be procured, as it acts as a deterrent against slugs.

How to Grow Apples and Pears in Pots.

Would you let me know how to proceed with growing apple and pear trees in pots, what compost to use, size of pots, etc.?—H. G. A., Somerset.

A 12in. pot is the usual size needed for apple or pear trees, although very young trees, as bought, might well go into a size smaller. Potting should be done in autumn, and a suitable compost to use consists of 4 parts of turfy loam, 1 part decayed manure and ½ part finely broken mortar rubble, along with a 6in. potful of bone-meal to each barrow-load. This should be turned several times before use. The pots should be well drained by placing crocks, etc., over the drainage hole, and the trees must be firmly potted, a wooden rammer being used. Pot-grown apples and pears can stand out of doors from June until February, inclusive, being taken into the house only to bring them on earlier and to safeguard the blossom. They are by no means difficult to manage successfully, though close attention must be given to the top-dressing, watering, syringing, summer and winter pruning, and re-potting, as this becomes necessary every other year.

Pruning a Young Apple.

Will you please advise me on correct pruning in the following case? A bush apple, Ellison's Orange, was planted December, 1915, the tree at that time being five years old and worked on the Doucin Paradise. In February, 1926, I cut the leading shoots back by about half; they were about 3ft. long and I reduced them to 18ins. or so. This year the buds I cut back in February have only made about 1in. or 2ins. of extension growth. Shall I leave the tree unpruned this winter?—A. M., Bridport, Dorset.

We think it most unwise to leave the Ellison's Orange bush tree unpruned this year. It is surprising that it has made so little new growth. We think your best plan will be to cut back beyond the short extension growths made to a plump, healthy-looking bud just below this; that is, to about an inch or so below where you cut last January. It is no use leaving the short extension growths intact or cutting to the base of them, for this is useless growth to leave. If you cut below this, however, to the topmost healthy bud, then strong growth will undoubtedly follow. We would further recommend you to lay a mulch of stable or farmyard manure over the tree roots next February as an additional inducement to make good growth next summer.

NEW CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

NO fewer than seventeen new chrysanthemums were submitted to the Floral Committee of the National Chrysanthemum Society on November 30th last, when they gave awards to seven of them.

Aloma.—This is probably the largest incurved chrysanthemum in cultivation, and while the florets are not quite so regularly disposed as those of the most desired exhibition varieties, the rounded, bright straw-yellow blooms have great decorative value. First-class certificate. Shown by Messrs. Keith Luxford and Co.

Crimson Dawn.—A handsome single of bright ruby crimson colour with a narrow golden zone and a small disc. First-class certificate. Shown by Mr. H. J. Jones.

Delightful.—An exceedingly useful single white variety of compact, rounded form and substantial florets, which last well when the flowers are cut. Shown by Mr. H. J. Jones.

Dora.—A large single of uncommon fawn-peach colour which will appeal to private gardeners more than the market grower. Shown by Mr. H. Shoesmith, junr.

Guardsman.—A handsome large single with three rows of bright crimson florets. First-class certificate. Shown by Mr. H. Shoesmith, junr.

Mrs. W. Turnham.—A large single of great substance, but carrying too many rows of florets to be first class. The tips recurve gracefully, the disc is small and the colour is a rich crimson. Commended. Shown by Viscount Hambledon, Greenways, Henley-on-Thames.

Ruddigore.—A splendid Japanese variety of the best market size and form. The rolled, graceful florets are of a glowing chestnut colour. First-class certificate. Shown by Messrs. Cragg, Harrison and Cragg.

Valerie.—This is one of the most useful singles that has been raised lately. The flowers are of Mensa type, the florets have plenty of substance and are of reddish terra-cotta colouring, flushed with rose dore. First-class certificate. Shown by Messrs. Keith Luxford and Co.

BOOK REVIEWS.

IF there is one book which has influenced English gardening and gardens to an extent, it is surely "The English Flower Garden," by William Robinson, first published in 1883 by John Murray. Its popularity and usefulness are by no means on the wane, as can be judged by the fact that it has gone through thirteen editions and that another has just been published at a price of 24s. net.

In the present edition the text has been thoroughly revised and the subject matter brought up-to-date, in keeping with the many new introductions of good all-round garden plants from various parts of the world, notably from the East, during the last twenty years. Much valuable information is given on the behaviour of many of these new plants, including herbaceous and shrubby subjects, in the gardens at home and the positions best suited to their culture, so that the experimenter with these new arrivals will find something of interest and instruction in the pages. Some of the newer sections such as that devoted to primulas and meconopses, are not completely up-to-date, but on the whole they cover those representatives of the genera which are finding their way into general cultivation in this country. The information given on the individual species is as accurate as it is possible to be, since the majority of the plants have only been under observation for a comparatively short time and their behaviour under varying climatic conditions and the soils of varying compositions is as yet not known. For example, P. Forrestii is stated as "not hardy in the open in England." Up till recently this was thought to be true, but now further experiments with the species show it to be hardy in our western and southern districts, and even in the north if it is given a position in the rock garden or wall which it likes. It is not so much a question of hardiness with this plant as one of situation. But this is a minor point considering the amount of material in the book and may well be overlooked since it is of

Digitized by Google

intended as a book for the specialist, but rather as a valuable guide to the general gardener, who is a lover and grower of flowers. As such, it is an excellent book, which will remain for some time as the standard work on the subject.

We are to some extent in sympathy with the opinions expressed in the Preface to this edition regarding the use of English names for flowers and the more modern practice of employing the Latin form. The whole question is an involved and difficult one and cannot be dismissed lightly. There is much to be said on both sides, but from the amateur gardener's standpoint more publicity ought to be given in trade catalogues, books and other publications to revive the usage of English names. If such a course be followed it will be found to have a more stimulating influence on gardening in this country and bring it away from the hands of a comparative few to within the reach of the many.

It is unfortunate that additions have not been made to the list of illustrations, as the book would have gained considerably in value. Nowadays, with the rapid advance and progress in floral photography, woodcuts are out of fashion and although they are admirable in every way, yet a half-tone illustration teaches more. Still, with their inclusion the volume would have lost much of its old-world atmosphere, which has characterised it throughout all its editions.

For those gardeners who do not know it, it is a book worth obtaining, and for those who have a copy of an old edition, the present one is worth putting in its place, since it is entirely up-to-date and alive to all the problems of present-day gardening.

Readers of THE GARDEN may recall a series of articles under the title of "John Richard Anderson: His Garden Diary," by Dion Clayton Calthrop, which appeared in our issues a number of months ago. To those who enjoyed reading them we would draw attention to a small volume, "A Diary of an Eighteenth-century Gardener" by Dion Clayton Calthrop (Williams and Norgate, 7s. 6d. net), which has just been published. The book contains a number of the articles which appeared in THE GARDEN, with considerable additions, and the whole presents a most charming picture of gardening life and pleasure in the eighteenth century. The volume is decorated with well executed line drawings by Eleanor Brockdale.

There are few modern books on the subject of Herbs which deal explicitly with the number of our herbs and their uses and a recent publication, "Herbs of Healing," by Edward Step (Hutchinson and Co., 10s. 6d. net), will therefore be welcomed by all those interested on that account. In its pages the author, well known as the writer of several reliable handbooks on various aspects of native plant life, has endeavoured to describe a number of our native plants which are reputed to have medicinal properties. The majority of these are simple herbs of the field, but a few woody plants of medicinal importance are included. In each case the qualities and uses of the herb are described simply and accurately and then follows a clear and concise description of the plant and its habitat. Unfortunately, there is no mention made of garden cultivation, which is to be regretted, as many would have welcomed suggestions on how to grow these simple plants in their own garden. The keen gardener, however, should find the information available on soil and position of the plant when growing wild of great help when he turns to garden culture. Instruction, interest and not a little amusement are combined in its pages. It would seem that many of these herbs have a kind of supernatural magic about them and may be taken internally or externally as a perfectly safe cure for all ailments. Certainly the therapeutic value of many is well established; but others have fallen into disrepute, largely by the importation of exotic plants in which the active principle is present in large and more easily obtainable quantities. The book is well illustrated by some seventy-six illustrations from photographs by the author. The majority of these are clearly reproduced and certainly show the nature of the plants in the living state, which will be an aid to any who collect herbs either for drying purposes or home cultivation.

"The Story of the Plants," by Grant Allen. (Hodder and Stoughton, 2s. 6d. net.) This is a new and fully revised edition of this popular little work, which is now to be included in the Peoples' Library. That it has proved popular is evidenced by the appearance of this second edition. It is written in a simple and charming manner, yet accurate in all its information.

Trees probably by reason of their majesty, age and character, have come to be surrounded with a certain air of mystery and fascination and it is always interesting to read of their ancient lineage and to learn something of this web of romance which has been woven around them. In this connection, a volume, which has just reached us, "The New Book of Trees," by Marcus Woodward (A. M. Philpot, Limited, 12s. 6d. net), is most illuminating and instructive. Much scattered information has been gathered together by the author and presented in the form of a most interesting and unique story, which will make a strong appeal to all tree lovers. The author has tried, and most successful he has been, to give not only the bare scientific descriptive outline relating to our various trees, but also to present a picture of the trees as individuals, with their ever changing expressive moods and character. To do so faithfully necessitates an intimate knowledge of facts, which the author undoubtedly possesses, and the result is a pleasant, readable book, full of information. There is no attempt to introduce scientific technicalities, although simple botanical introductions are to be found at the head of each chapter, giving a short, lucid description of the subject and its uses. Then follows something of the romantic history of the tree and references and extracts from literature. In this way the book makes a wide appeal to the lover of trees, the scientific forester and botanist, the landowner and, above all, to the lover of folklore and nature.

The illustrations, which are all well executed woodcuts and line drawings, illustrate forcibly, but rather harshly in some cases, the essential characters and details of each tree. It is an admirable book and is certain of appreciation by those who love trees, and who among us does not?

TRADE NOTE.

TO those readers who are on the look-out for novelties for table decoration we would draw attention to the new "Beco" rose bowl, manufactured by Messrs. W. Darlington and Sons, Limited, which, as well as being, an attractive bowl for holding flowers, is also the very latest design in loud-speakers. We are not wireless experts, but it appears to be an instrument which is exceedingly efficient and gives a volume of sound sufficient to satisfy the most critical wireless "fan."

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

Messrs. S. McGredy and Son, Portadown, North Ireland.—A rose catalogue which should interest every rosarian. Several fine new roses which have been raised by this firm are listed.

Messrs. Harrison and Sons, St. James Street, Leicester.—Novelties and specialities in vegetable seeds, including their excellent Brussel sprout, "XXX," which produces particularly heavy crops of large, firm buttons.

BULBS

We invite immediate application for our

BULB CATALOGUE

knowing that the very fine quality of our bulbs enables us to offer exceptionally good value for money.

Send for a copy of the BULB CATALOGUE at once.

Bakers
SEED AND FLOWER FARM
CODSALL
Near Wolverhampton

ALL TRANSPLANTED
GEUM Mrs. Bradshaw, Lady Stratheden 4/- doz. *Carr. paid*
Forget-me-nots and Giant Daisy (Bellis monstrosa) 9d. doz., 1/- doz. *Carr. paid.*
SARGEANT,
Beeches Nursery, CARSHALTON, SURREY

DOBBIE'S
SCOTCH-GROWN ROSES
These succeed where others fail;
Send at once for a Catalogue
Please name this Paper
DOBBIE & CO., LTD.
Nurserymen :: EDINBURGH

A BIRDS' BATH
makes an ideal
XMAS GIFT
SUNDIALS, VASES, Etc, in Imperishable Reconstructed Stone. Illus. Catalogue E.I. on request.

CRAZY & SQUARED PAVING
DWARF WALLING.
ROCKERY STONE,
Direct from Quarries.
Write for Booklet E2.
THE RHYMNEY QUARRIES,
18, Ludgate Hill, E.C.4

Digitized by Google

On the Making of Gardens.

The Gardens of Italy. By A. T. BOLTON. Large folio. 400 Illustrations. 3 Gns.

Gardens for Small Country Houses. By Sir L. WEAVER and G. JEKYLL. Large quarto. 25s.

Colour Schemes for the Flower Garden. By G. JEKYLL. 100 Illustrations. 15s.

Gardening for Beginners. By E. T. COOK. Coloured Plates and 200 Illustrations. 8th edition. 16s.

Wall and Water Gardens. By G. JEKYLL. 17s. 6d.

The Planning and Planting of Little Gardens. By G. DILLISTONE. 6s.

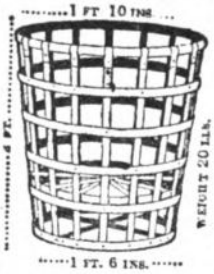
Shrubs for Amateurs. By W. J. BEAN. 5s. net.

The Rock Garden. By E. H. JENKINS. 7s. 6d.

For any of the above books, or for a full prospectus, write to "COUNTRY LIFE," 20, *Tavistock St., Covent Garden, London.*

THE "STANLEY" CLEFT
CHESTNUT PALE FENCING
FOR THE GARDEN AND GENERAL PURPOSES.
Strong, Durable, Easily Erected and Economical.
Prices and designs from the Manufacturers:
THE STANLEY UNDERWOOD Co. Ltd.
48, SHOTTERMILL,
HASLEMERE, SURREY.
And at PADDOCK WOOD STATION KENT.

VULCAN GARDEN REFUSE INCINERATOR



Garden and household refuse reduced to ashes quickly, cleanly, with minimum amount of smoke. Will take a barrow load of rubbish at a charge.
British Manufacture.
PRICE EACH **10/-**
Carriage paid nearest Railway Station - 2 for 18/-
Larger size 2 for 22/6 **12/6**

"The incinerator arrived on Wednesday, and after two soaking nights I had no difficulty in getting a good fire from exposed material. I burnt up in an hour what would have taken me all day with a bonfire."
THE LOSTOCK IRON BASKET WORKS,
8/11, Griffiths Lane, Lostock Gralam, nr. Northwich.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

RAIN means wet feet unless your Boots have Uppers of "Beva" WATERPROOF LEATHER.

Look for the 'Beva' on the looping

MANURES.—The most complete little on the subject is "The Manual of Manures," by H. 4/5; by post, 4/9. Published at the Offices of "LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden

ACME IMPERISHABLE METAL LA
Made of Zinc. Non-Rusting. No Writing Re
Have been sold without complaint for over 50 years. raised letters on a black background. Named Labels for all plants from 2/6 per dozen.
Catalogues and Labels may be obtained from all Nurserymen, or from
JOHN PINCHES
3, Crown Buildings, Crown St., Camberwell,

"THE GARDEN" CROSSWORD—IV

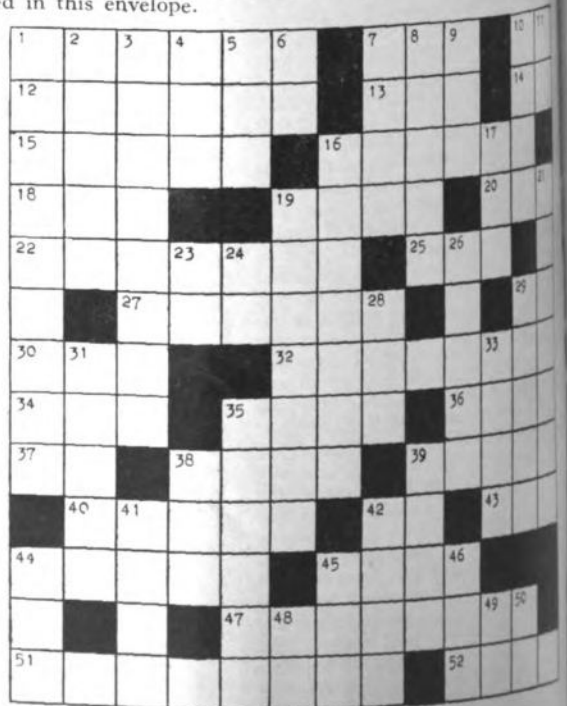
Two Prizes of ONE GUINEA will be given to the first two correct solutions opened on the morning of Thursday, December 16th. If no correct solutions are sent in, these prizes will be awarded to the first two in order of merit that are opened. All envelopes must be marked "Crossword" on the outside and addressed to THE GARDEN, 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, London, W.C.2. No other communication must be enclosed in this envelope.

ACROSS.

1 The love-apple.
7 Scotsman's "two."
10 The one solving this problem.
12 The pineapple.
13 A route.
14 Inside.
15 A simpleton.
16 Fruit resembling a lemon.
18 A deity.
19 Hobnobs with onions.
20 Road Transport Company (abbr.).
22 Implants firmly.
25 Plant known as "Herb of Grace."
27 Plant whose flowers yield a valuable tincture for bruises, etc.
29 South-west (abbr.).
30 To bore or weary.
32 Carrot-like vegetables.
34 By birth.
35 Embryo flowers.
36 Exterior covering or coat of a seed.
37 For example.
38 A tempestuous wind.
39 Take the Scotch out of "macaroni."
40 Indian corn.
42 A chopping tool (var.).
43 The catmint plant.
44 Food supplied to the Israelites in the wilderness.
45 A savory dish of meat and vegetables.
47 Umbelliferous plant, the roots and seeds of which are used in making gin, bitters, etc.
51 A fragrant species of rose.
52 A biennial species of the onion family.

DOWN.

1 Variety of orange.
2 One a day keeps everyone away.
3 Plant with narcotic properties.
4 Girl's name meaning "grace."
5 Scottish river.
6 Old style (abbr.).
7 Small shoot of a tree.
8 What most plants need regularly.
9 Scottish town.
10 An aromatic plant producing an odoriferous oil.
11 A beheaded hen.
16 A waterfall.
17 Unrefined metal.
19 Appendage at the base of certain leaves resembling a small leaf.
21 Beautiful and fragrant species of primrose.
23 Else.
24 Upon.
26 Pert. to the ulna.
28 Art (Latin).
29 A thorn.
31 A seed-capsule.
33 Present in many vegetables.
35 An Eastern market-place.
38 A spirit distilled from grain and flavoured with juniper berries.
39 Angle between the upper side of a branch and the trunk.
41 Garden insects.
42 To the lee side.
44 —— 's the word!
45 Beheaded swine.
46 A lubricant.
48 A denial.
49 Cerium (symbol)
50 A diphthong.



Name .....

Address .....

Solution to "The Garden" Crossword No. 2.

ACROSS.

1 Spinach, 7 Grape, 11 Torus, 12 Areola, 14 Atom, 15 Prune, 16 N.C., 18 Mane, 19 Arid, 20 Ash, 21 Es, 22 Retone, 23 Rye, 24 N.H., 25 Worts, 27 Sloe, 30 Rear, 32 Casts, 33 Shanty, 35 May, 36 Tan, 38 Spit, 39 Or, 40 Roue, 41 Can, 43 Urn, 45 Soma, 49 Re, 50 Loosestrife, 55 D.T., 56 Anise, 57 Trip.

DOWN.

1 Stamens, 2 Potash, 3 Iron, 4 Numerals, 5 As, 6 Harrow, 7 Gender, 8 Roe, 9 Al, 10 Pansy, 13 Ruinous, 15 Pat, 17 Cherry, 20 Arsenic, 26 Trap, 27 Say, 28 Otto, 29 Esau, 31 Attar, 32 Carrot, 34 H.S., 35 Mould, 37 Nests, 42 Neep 44 No, 46 Ore, 47 Mi, 48 Aft, 51 S.A., 52 En, 53 Si, 54 Er.

Digitized by Google

CLAY'S LONDON FERTILIZER TRADE MARK

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then, together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices :—

Tins 10d. and 1/6
and in **Branded and Sealed Bags :**
7 lbs. - 3/6 14 lbs. - 6/-
28 lbs. - 10/- 56 lbs. - 18/-
112 lbs. - 32/-

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers, etc. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**

Paying Points about "STOURBRIDGE" Greenhouse Boilers

No. 9. Far superior to, and cheaper than, gas or oil.

Write at once for special price. State size of house. Address Dept. 3.

E. W. WOOD LTD Stourbridge

THE NEW COMPLETE LIST *of*

GARDEN BOOKS -

ublished by "Country Life" *is*

NOW READY

EE ON APPLICATION TO THE PUBLISHERS, , TAVISTOCK ST., COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2

SITUATION VACANT.

SERY MANAGER.—Wanted by a pro- e firm in a large way of business, an energetic and enced man with a good knowledge of Florist Flowers and l Nursery Stock, Forest Trees excepted. Full particulars, ential, in the first instance to Box 2, THE GARDEN Office, outhampton Street, Strand, London, W.C.2.

he Service Bureau Coupon.

HE GARDEN, *December 11th* 1926.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

his Coupon must accompany each enquiry ong with a stamped addressed envelope.

See page 722.

THE SERVICE DEPT., "THE GARDEN," , Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2

KINNELL'S COKE CRUSHER FROM STOCK

Carriage paid to Stations in England and Wales

Reduces Fuel to the correct size for long burning

Small Crusher for Wall - 20/-
Ditto on Wrought Stand - 40/-
Large Crusher for Wall - 40/-
Ditto on Wrought Stand - 60/-

Strong Coke Pan 10/- extra

Large Crusher breaks 1 cwt. & small one 42 lb. in 20 minutes

CHAS. P. KINNELL & Co LTD
65.65A Southwark St. London. S.E.1

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND, SOILFUME, NICOTINE, INSECTICIDES, FUMERS, SPRAYS AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES – THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT, CARRIAGE PAID.

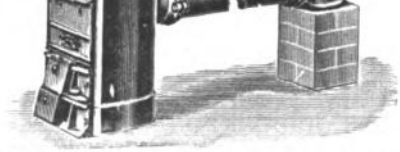
Only Address: TOMLINSON & HAYWARD LTD LINCOLN.

GARDEN LOVERS

Write for Catalogues of
PROTHEROE & MORRIS'
· HORTICULTURAL SALES ·
MONDAY WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY
67 68 Cheapside, London EC2 Phone City 3856

THE LOUGHBOROUGH BOILER

Over 40,000 in use



The high reputation of this Boiler for efficiency and economy is still unrivalled

Easy to fix, easy to manage, and most economical in fuel, it is the ideal Boiler for the Amateur's Greenhouse

Price Lists and Estimates for complete :: apparatus on application ::

MESSENGER & CO., LTD. LOUGHBOROUGH LEICESTERSHIRE
LONDON OFFICE : 122, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

"BECO" ROSE BOWL HORNLESS LOUD-SPEAKER

Of beautiful appearance. Gives perfect tone whether empty or filled with water and flowers.

Nickel Plate. £5 : 5 : 0
Oxydised Silver. £5 : 17 : 6
Antique Copper. £5 : 17 : 6

Full particulars on application to

W. DARLINGTON & SONS, Ltd. LONDON FIELDS STATION, E.8

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

British Made

ABOLENE

Tar Oil

Winter Wash

Clears Tree Trunks of Moss and Lichen and destroys Insects' Eggs and Fungus Spores

Abolene is thoroughly reliable and efficient. Easy and safe to use. Supplied in small sizes to suit owners of only two or three trees.

Pint .. 1/6
Quart .. 2/4
½ gallon .. 3/8
1 gallon .. 6/-

Write for Descriptive Folder

Abol Limited, 9 Beltring, Paddock Wood, Kent.

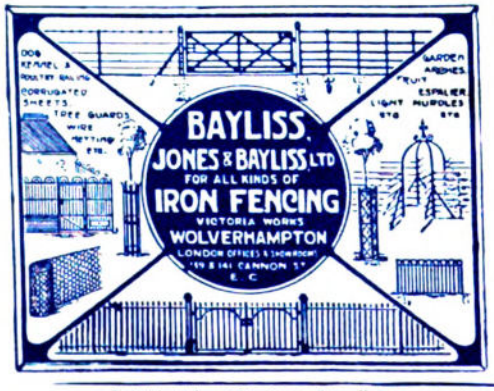
Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Digitized by Google

Smokers may now enjoy all the delightful flavour of the original PLAYER'S Navy Cut without the trouble of rubbing it up.

PLAYER'S
"MEDIUM"
Navy Cut

PLAYER'S NAVY CUT. REGD No 134011.
RUBBED READY FOR SMOKING
P 1313

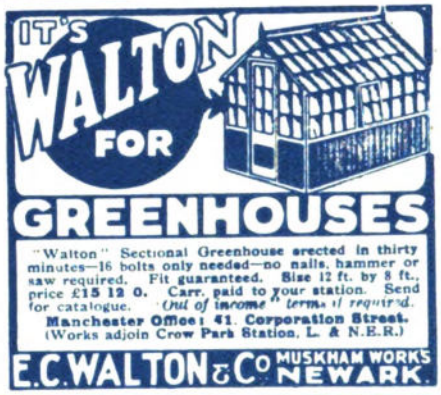


MEDAL ROYAL INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION

WAKELEY'S Celebrated PATENTED HOP MANURE
THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY
RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DO YOU REALISE IT?
A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7/- carriage paid to your door (if within 25 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE without any of the defects of the latter: it gives better results, is easy and clean to use.
A beautiful Free Booklet giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.
BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. GENUINE ONLY IN OUR MARKED BAGS, CONTAINING GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.
Cash Prices, including bags: Small (about 1 bushel), 3/- : Large (about 4 bushels), 7/- : 5 Large 33/9
10 Large, 65/- : 20 Large, 120/-
Carriage Paid to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company. 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.
WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*



"Walton" Sectional Greenhouse erected in thirty minutes—16 bolts only needed—no nails, hammer or saw required. Fit guaranteed. Size 12 ft. by 8 ft., price £15 12 0. Carr. paid to your station. Send for catalogue. *"Out of income" terms if required.*
Manchester Office: 41, Corporation Street.
(Works adjoin Crew Park Station, L. & N.E.R.)
E. C. WALTON & Co MUSKHAM WORKS NEWARK.

THE LEADING GLASSHOUSE FUMIGANT.

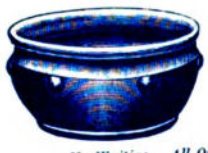
Autumn and Winter Wash

(Corry's) For Fruit Trees, NON-POISONOUS NON-CAUSTIC, Destroys APPLE AND PEAR SCAB CANKER and American Blight.
1 Pt., 1/6; 1 qt., 2/6; ½ gal., 4/9; 1 gal. 8/6 From Seedsmen.
CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.
BY APPOINTMENT
The BEST and CHEAPEST

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.



FANCY FERN PANS and BULB BOWLS from 4d. each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD SANKEY & SON, LTD
Royal Potteries, BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by "ALPHOL" Sample 14 lb., 3/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers. "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to
Garden Supplies, Ltd., Granmor St. Liverpool

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

"It warms my Greenhouse nicely at a cost of about 2d. per day, which I think very reasonable. I am a new beginner with a Greenhouse, and your

'HORSE SHOE' BOILER

took my fancy. I have not regretted my choice," writes Mr. F. G., Clifford, Boston Spa. 23/3/26

Cold weather comes soon. *Write for particulars now*

To CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD.,
Engineers, Southwark Street, S.E.1.
Please send me Booklet E "Making the Most of Your Greenhouse," and price of complete Outfit to suit *(span-roof) (lean-to) greenhouse..... long.....wide inside, side of *(wood) (brick).....thick.
Name.....
Address.....
*Strike out particulars not needed. Cut out and send by ½d. post.

Can be supplied from Immediate Stock
USED IN THE R.H.S. GARDENS
Wire: "Kinnell-Boroh-London." 'Phone: Hop 0362 (3 lines)
CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., Ltd.
65, SOUTHWARK STREET, LONDON, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

PERIODICAL ROOM
GENERAL LIBRARY
UNIV. OF MICH.
JAN 6 1927

THE GARDEN

THE AMATEUR GARDENERS' PAPER

Vol. XC.—No. 2872 Saturday, December 18th, 1926 Price TWOPENCE

FREESIAS ARE AMONG THE MOST CHARMING OF ALL PLANTS FOR INDOOR DECORATION, EITHER FOR THE CONSERVATORY OR FOR THE HOUSE. THE SOFT SHADES OF COLOUR AND THE INIMITABLE GRACE AND POISE OF THEIR FLOWERS MAKE THEM AMONG THE MOST VALUABLE INDOOR PLANTS THAT WE POSSESS. THEIR SUCCESSFUL CULTIVATION IS SO SIMPLE, AND THE RESULTS SO INVALUABLE, THAT NO GARDENER WHO HAS A GREENHOUSE SHOULD BE WITHOUT AT LEAST A POT OR TWO OF THESE CHARMING PLANTS FOR INDOOR DECORATION.

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
New Alpines and Perennials
Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
Specialists in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogues Free.

T. J. EVANS & SON
(G) WHIPLEY NURSERIES
WOOD STREET
Nr. GUILDFORD
Roses, Fruit Trees, Shrubs, etc. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD,
CHELSEA, S.W.
Gladioli and Lilium List Now Ready

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

H. E. MOXON
BULB IMPORTER
ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH
Bulbs for Bedding

DICKSON'S
"Hawlmark"
BELFAST
New Sweet Pea Brochure Free.

WEBB & SONS, LTD.
THE KING'S SEEDSMEN
STOURBRIDGE
Vegetable, Flower and Lawn Seeds, Bulbs, Manures, Turf Preparations for 1927

Chase Continuous Cloches

should be used through winter to protect Sweet Peas, Parsley, Lettuce, Cuttings, Christmas Roses, etc.

Tent Shape, Size A, 12 for 18/-; 32 for 55/-
Barn Shape, No 1, 6 for 18/-; 26 for 55/-

CHASE ALPINE CLIPS hold any glass over Alpine plants. 3/6 per doz.

Above prices include carriage to any railway station in England and Wales, or part carriage elsewhere.

SECTIONAL FRUIT RACKS build up to any size. Each section contains 3 trays of 4 sq. ft. One section, 25/-; two sections, 45/-, f.o.r.

Full particulars, Cloches, Clips, Racks: DEPT. 7,
CHASE CONTINUOUS CLOCHE, Chertsey, Surrey

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925

MRS. LADENBURG
"DERRYQUIN"
SUNNINGDALE, BERKS.
Undertakes laying out New Gardens Construction of Rockeries and Alterations. Plans and Estimates Free.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
LINCS.
Weed Destroyers Fertilizers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

Winter pest

By reason of its characteristic action on the insect, and because of its safety to plants at all stages, there is no more thorough and dependable insecticide than XL ALL for all seasons. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen, florists and chemists.

XL ALL NICOTINE LIQUID INSECTICIDE

G. H. RICHARDS LTD.
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
B. 283. Monomark: BCM/XLALL

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Continued from page iii.

50,000 WALLFLOWERS. — Dwarf ... bushy transplanted plants, grown on the chalk hills of ... which makes them very hardy. Blood Red, Golden ... Primrose and others, Ruby Gem, Ivory White, Tom ... Queen, Purple Queen or Mixed, 50 2/-, 100 3/6, 200 6/- ... 1,000 27/6. free.—SLOCOMBE LINDS, Broughton, Hants.

ALPINES, ROCK AND HERBA... PLANTS, Dwarf Conifers and Shrubs, Bulbs for ... Garden, etc. New catalogue ready, post free.—... Shawhurst Nursery, Hollywood, Birmingham.

LABELS.—Patent metal, so simple ... by a nail; can't fade or break. Trial offer bargain: ... 50 stakes, 50 tie wires, 1 pocket nail, 10/- free. ... The R.H.S. use them. Lists.—WESTON'S, Wilmslow.

MASKELL'S HOP MANURE.—Best ... stitute for stable manure, 56lbs., 4/-; cwt., 6/-. ... the all-round fertiliser, 56lb., 5/-; cwt., 8/6. ... lime, 56lb., 4/-; cwt., 6/-. Screened Gas Lime ... Basic Slag, cwt., 6/6. Packed in bags and carriage ... fertilisers, etc., supplied. Booklets free.—MASKELL ... Dirleton Road, West Ham, E.15.

KNIPHOFIA ERECTA.—The most ... brilliant and interesting of the red-hot pokers. ... post. 18/- per doz.—GALVIN'S NURSERIES, Wexford.

LIME FOR THE GARDEN.—... livered cash with order, 28lb., 3/6; 56lb., ... Special quotations for large quantities. Real Carved ... Paving, Walling Stone, etc.—THOMAS THEOBALD AND ... Milk Street House, Cheapside, E.C.

TUBS FOR SHR... WIRE BOUND PATENT ... prices. R.H.S. Medal, 1925. ... shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. ... decorative. — Price List from J. ... 26, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

THE "SOUTHWELL" COLLECTION

Twelve Varieties, Carriage and Packing Free - - 12/6
With "ACME" Labels - 15/-

Caroline Testout (H.T.) satiny rose.
Col. O. FitzGerald (H.T.) crimson.
Emma Wright (H.T.) pure orange.
Frau Karl Druschki (H.P.) pure white.
General McArthur (H.T.) carmine.
Henrietta (H.T.) orange crimson
Hugh Dickson (H.T.) brilliant crimson.
Independence Day (H.T.) orange apricot.
Madame E. Herriot (H.T.) coral red.
Ophelia (H.T.) salmon flesh.
The Queen Alexandra (H.T.) deep vermilion
Ulrich Brunner (H.P.) cherry crimson.

Also FRUIT TREES, SHRUBS, ORNAMENTAL TREES, ALPINES & HARDY PLANTS

ALL HOME GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries. *Catalogue Free on Application.*

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LIMITED
Garden Specialists, SOUTHWELL, NOTTS.

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN.

OUR GARDEN WILL BE MUCH BETTER if you buy from Waterers. Bulbs, Hardy Perennials and Alpine Plants. Fruit Trees, Roses and Shrubs for every purpose in every garden, are available in stock of the very finest quality. Please write for catalogues. One is issued for each department. JOHN WATERER, SONS AND CRISP, LTD., Twyford, Berks.

HIMALAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODENDRONS, on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and Alpine Plants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write for Catalogues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE. The Original and only substitute for Stable Manure. See advt. on back page.

W. M. DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD., Lawrence Road, South Tottenham, N.15.—Conservatories, Winter Gardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

BIRDS' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUNDIALS, NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.—DORTON, 17, Eccleston Street, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

FENCING.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and Garden Screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE HANLEY UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere, Surrey.

ORDER CARNATIONS.—200 varieties, in 14 varieties, from 6/6; 50 in 50 ditto, from 25/-; carriage paid. Lists free. J. HAYWARD, Chace Gardens, Stakes Road, Purbrook, Cosham, Hants.

GLASS HORTICULTURAL, all sizes stocked; rough Glass Plate for poultry houses. Ready Mixed Paints, Putty, Diamonds, etc.—BRITISH GLASS COMPANY, Dept. "G.N.," Queen's Buildings, Church Street, Liverpool.

THE VEITCHBERRY.—The finest Hybrid Berry yet raised. The fruit is twice the size of a Raspberry, with a delicious flavour, and is splendid for dessert and culinary purposes. It is absolutely self-fertile and therefore sets freely. Strong plants 7/6 each, 84/- per dozen.—LAXTON BROTHERS, Fruit Growers, Bedford.

ROCKERY STONE.—The most beautiful is Quarry Ironstone; sample bags, 2/6. Excellent Crazy Paving. Horticultural lime and Red Loam Sand. Enquiries invited.—FRED WATKINS, Coleford, Glos.

BARGAIN GARDEN WIRE ! !—Ideal for Hops, fruit trees, tomatoes, arches, repairing fences, tying and scores of other uses. Strong, flexible and waterproof Galvered. Special prices small lots, or 19/6 mile. Samples free.—GREENS, 413, Albert Street, Lytham.

NEW OF FARRER'S BEST SHRUBS, BUDDLEIA NANHŒNSIS, a miniature only 3-4 feet high. Panicles of purple blossom. 1/6 each. 3 for 3/9. 6 for 7/-. Carriage and Packing extra.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED, Hillfields Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

NOW IS THE TIME TO LOOK TO YOUR GARDEN. "THE HOME GARDEN BOOKS" deal with every branch of the art. Send for pamphlet C, post free, from THORNTON BUTTERWORTH, LIMITED, 15, Bedford Street, London, W.C.2.

NEW CHRYSANTHEMUMS.—Catalogue of new varieties, also Dahlias, etc., now ready.—J. W. COLE AND SON, Westwood Nurseries, Peterborough.

FOR SALE, LARGE TREES AND SHRUBS various kinds, also, Shrubs suitable for hedging, Hollies, etc. Rhododendrons, large and small.—Apply Box 6, THE GARDEN Office, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, London, W.C.2.

NORTH-WEST AMERICAN Alpine and other plants, bulbs and seeds; many not before in cultivation. Catalogue of 300 kinds ready.—J. C. BENNETT, R.M.D.3, Victoria, B.C., Canada.

BUSHELS OF LABELS bought with names that are wasted! To write Webster's metal by nail on the spot label; each hangs or stands at will: some push in soil. Get a lot. 10/-, see page ii.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon.

SEED POTATOES.—50 varieties, Scotch and English Grown, certified stocks for immediate despatch for early planting. Send for list.—CROSS AND CO., Elm Road House, Wisbech.

BARR'S SURPLUS Spring-Flowering Bulbs—Daffodils, Tulips, Hyacinths, Chionodoxas, Early Scillas, Bulbous Irises, Wood Hyacinths, etc. Bulbs in splendid condition at *greatly reduced prices*. List on application.

BARR'S SURPLUS HARDY PLANTS for Flower Border and Rock Garden, including Asters, Irises, Delphiniums, Hemerocallis, Paeonies, Saxifragas, Helianthemums, etc., etc. List on application.—BARR & SONS, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

JOIN THE BRITISH GLADIOLUS SOCIETY. Annual subscription, 5/-. Particulars from Hon. Sec., A. E. AMOS, 10, Bergholt Road, Colchester.

Yearly Subscription, Inland, 12s.; Foreign, 12s.
Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2.
Offices for Advertisements: 8-11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Notes of the Week	723
How to Make Your Front Garden Attractive	724
Japanese Maples Worth Planting	724
The Rock Garden	725
Orchids of Easy Cultivation	726
Bell Flowers for the Garden	727
The Flower Garden	728
The Busy Man's Page	729
Flowering Shrubs for House Decoration	730
The Fruit and Kitchen Garden	732
What Our Readers Say	733
December in the Greenhouse	735
Hints Worth Remembering	736
Miscellaneous Notes	737
Our Service Bureau	738
THE GARDEN *Crossword.—V.*	x

JOIN THE ELITE and go to Hewitts the horticultural specialists who have made such a sensation throughout the country with their

DELPHINIUMS AND GLADIOLI.—You will be well advised to write for our catalogues of Seeds, Delphiniums, Roses and Gladioli. We offer only one quality—the best! May we add your name to our large list of delighted customers?—HEWITT'S, Solihull, Warwickshire.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wirework of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

ORDER TENNIS COURT FENCING NOW. Complete enclosure 120ft. by 60ft. for one Court, 9ft. high, with Iron Standards, Gate, Strand Wires, ready for erection, £54. Carriage paid to stations in England and Wales. Other sizes in proportion. Write for special Leaflet to Dept. FP/G., BOULTON & PAUL, LIMITED, Riverside Works, Norwich.

AUSTRIAN PINE, DOUGLAS FIR, SCOTS PINE. Stout well shaped trees. Also Fruit Trees in great variety. Write for descriptive catalogue.—THE FOREST AND ORCHARD NURSERIES, LIMITED, Milbury Heath, Falfield, Glos.

GARDENERS, RICH AND POOR (especially poor!) should get the Fairseat Autumn Sales List. It offers a host of good things at practically pre-war prices. Postal business a speciality.—FAIRSEAT NURSERIES, Wrotham, Kent.

HAVE YOU BOUGHT YOUR COPY OF "FARRER'S Last Journey"? by E. H. M. Cox. Demy 8vo. Fully illustrated. 18/- from all booksellers, or 18/9 post free from the publishers, DULAU AND CO., LIMITED, 34-36, Margaret Street, London, W.1.

DOBBIE'S 1927 CATALOGUE AND GUIDE, 144 pages, 229 illustrations; free to all readers. Please mention "THE GARDEN," when writing.—DOBBIE & CO., LTD., Edinburgh.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, loams, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

ROCK PLANTS AND SHRUBS.—Over 300 varieties in stock. Descriptive Catalogue free. Also Herbaceous Plants and Roses.—HODSONS, LIMITED, 58, Castle Gate, Nottingham.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES, Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

PRIOR'S COLCHESTER ROSES, Fruit Trees, Gladioli, Dahlias, Carnations, Herbaceous. Catalogue containing cheap collections free.—D. PRIOR AND SON, LIMITED, Colchester.

WELLS' CATALOGUE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS, now ready. Post free on application. Please note change of address.—HAROLD WELLS, Peaslake, Gomshalls Surrey.

A GARDEN EVER IN BLOOM is easily and economically achieved by planting my Hardy Herbaceous Roots. Fully illustrated list post free. Satisfaction guaranteed or cash refunded in full on return of plants.—H. E. POLLARD, Nurseries, Evesham.

YORK STONE PAVING, for Garden Paths and lily ponds; rectangular or crazy for rustic work; steps and wall coping; rockery.—GEO. VINT AND BROS., Stone Merchants, Idle, Bradford.

TO FLOWER NEXT SUMMER, 12 Hydrangeas, assorted, carriage paid on receipt of 20/-. A real bargain.—TRESEDER AND CO., The Nurseries, Truro.

LOBELIA CARDINALIS QUEEN VICTORIA, brilliant scarlet, late flowering perennial, 1 doz., post free, for 10/-.—TRESEDER AND CO., as above.

FIBROUS YELLOW TURF LOAM.—Catalogue free.—A. B. JOHNSTONE, Cranleigh.

COMMON FOXGLOVES.—To brighten your Woodland or Banks. 11/- per 100; post free.—THE WILD GARDEN NURSERIES, Rockbeare, Exeter.

LOAMS FROM OLD HAMPSHIRE PASTURE or Woodland, rich and full of fibre, heavy or sandy. Quotations free on rail Chandler's Ford Station.—HILLIER AND SONS, Nurserymen, Winchester.

IRIS RETICULATA BULBS, 11/-; smaller, 6/6 100. Cash with order.—HUTLEY, Maldon, Essex.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING.—"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSONS, AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

ROSES

Buy with Confidence

THE BEST PLANTS from THE BEST NURSERIES

SPECIAL OFFER:

12 LOVELY ROSES for 13/6

Carriage and Packing Free for Cash with Order. Detailed Catalogue willingly sent post free to all.

D. W. Croll & Son

Rose Growers, DUNDEE.

Continued from page iii.

SIXPENCE EACH, HARDY EVERGREEN AND FLOWERING SHRUBS.—Arbor Vitæ, Mountain Ash, Berberis, Sweet Briars, Horse Chestnuts, Cupressus, Diplopappus, Forsythia, Gualder Rose, Deutzias, Laburnum, Larch, Laurels, Lavender, Lilacs, Maple, Scarlet Oak, Olearia, Philadelphus grandiflorus, Poplars, Rosemary, Spiræa, Scotch Fir, Veronica Traversii, Weigelias, Golden Willow, Hops. All strong and well rooted. Orders of 5/- and over carriage paid.—C. R. SHILLING, 6, Hartley Nursery, Winchfield, Hants.

LLOYD GEORGE RASPBERRY, Finest kind grown, large crimson fruit. Bears from June to October continuously. Strong canes, 50 for 5/9; or 10/9 100. Carriage paid.—C. R. SHILLING, 6, Hartley Nursery, Winchfield, Hants.

ALUMINIUM METAL LABELS, BRIGHT, rustless, everlasting. Any names embossed in large capital letters, for labelling Trees, Roses, etc., unequalled; 10d. doz., 50 for 3/-, or 5/9 100, post free. Write names required plainly, —C. R. SHILLING, 6 Hartley Nursery, Winchfield, Hants.

ACME IMPERISHABLE METAL LABELS

Made of Zinc. Non-Rusting. No Writing Required.

Have been sold without complaint for over 50 years. Bright raised letters on a black background. Named Labels supplied for all plants from 2/6 per dozen.

Catalogues and Labels may be obtained from all leading Nurserymen, or from

JOHN PINCHES

3, Crown Buildings, Crown St., Camberwell, S.E.5

SITUATIONS VACANT.

NURSERY MANAGER.—Wanted by a progressive firm in a large way of business, an energetic and experienced man with a good knowledge of Florist Flowers and General Nursery Stock, Forest Trees excepted. Full particulars, confidential, in the first instance to Box 2, THE GARDEN Office, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, London, W.C.2.

SECOND GARDENER REQUIRED, thoroughly experienced. Excellent cottage provided. Write stating age, wages and experience.—Box 304, SAMSON CLARK AND CO., LIMITED, 57, Mortimer Street, W.1.

THE FLORAIRE NURSERIES

(H. CORREVON, PROPR.)

Chêne-Bourg, near GENEVA (Switzerland).

The OLDEST FIRM for ALPINE PLANTS.

ALPINE PLANTS

Grown from seed and acclimatised for English Gardens.

SEEDS Of all Alpines, Shrubs and Perennials, for Rock Garden, Herbaceous Border, &c.

The most complete collection including many rarities not to be had elsewhere.

APPLY FOR CATALOGUE.

Our New List of CHRYSANTHEMUMS for 1927 is NOW READY

containing all the finest and most desirable varieties. Free on application to:—

KEITH LUXFORD & CO.

Chrysanthemum Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND, SOLUBLE NICOTINE, INSECTICIDES, FUNGICIDES, SPRAYERS AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES—THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY. IF ANY DIFFICULTY OR ODD WRONG, WE SEND DIRECT, CARRIAGE PAID.

TONLINSON & HAYWARD LTD. LINCOLN

THE DOWNER LUPIN

is now known all the World over.

Apply for Lupin List; also Herbaceous and Alpine Catalogue.

DOWNER

2, Drayton Manor Nurseries, CHICHESTER

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

ADCO

TURNS

GARDEN REFUSE

INTO

SYNTHETIC FARMYARD MANURE

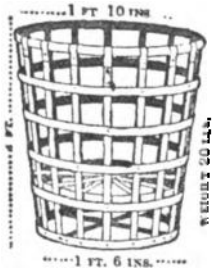
1 cwt. of ADCO makes from two to three tons of manure according to the class of rubbish treated.

ADCO Accelerator 28 lb. **4/6**, 56 lb. **8/-**, 1 cwt. **15/-**
Standard ADCO 28 lb. **6/-**, 56 lb. **11/6**, 1 cwt. **20/-**
Carriage Paid to nearest Goods Station. Cash with order.

Stocked by all Seedsmen, Harrods Ltd., etc. Write for full particulars.

ADCO LTD., 40 HARPENDEN, HERTS.

VULCAN GARDEN REFUSE INCINERATOR



Garden and household refuse reduced to ashes quickly, cleanly, with minimum amount of smoke. Will take a barrow load of rubbish at a charge.

British Manufacture.

PRICE EACH 10/-

Carriage paid nearest Railway Station - 2 for 18/-

Larger size 2 for 22/6 **12/6**

"The incinerator arrived on Wednesday, and after two soaking nights I had no difficulty in getting a good fire from exposed material. I burnt up in an hour what would have taken me all day with a bonfire."

THE LOSTOCK IRON BASKET WORKS, 9/11, Griffiths Lane, Lostock Graiam, nr. Northwich.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE NEW COMPLETE LIST

of

GARDEN BOOKS

published by "Country Life"

is

NOW READY

FREE ON APPLICATION TO THE PUBLISHERS, 20, TAVISTOCK ST., COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2

PREPARE NOW

For Next Summer.

"FERRY" BRAND

Regd. Trade Mark

GARDEN MANURE

SOIL PEST DESTROYER

"FERRY" GARDEN MANURE gives back to the soil the Phosphates, Potash, Nitrogen and other foods that have been taken up by the growing plants during this year. It is the finest manure for general garden purposes. Apply at the rate of 2 to 3 ozs. per square yard.

14 lb., **3/6**; **28** lb., **6/-**; **56** lb., **11/6**; **1** cwt., **21/-**.

"FERRY" SOIL PEST DESTROYER sweetens and sterilises the soil and destroys pests, such as slugs, wireworms, caterpillars, ants, etc. Its use provides a quick, sure and reliable way of freeing your land from all insect pests. Apply 2 to 3 ozs. per square yard.

14 lb., **3/6**; **28** lb., **6/-**; **56** lb., **11/6**; **1** cwt., **21/-**.

ALL PRICES CARR. PAID TO NEAREST STATION FOR CASH WITH ORDER.

Agents wanted throughout England for "Ferry" Specialities.

The BRITON FERRY CHEMICAL AND MANURE CO., LTD. (Dept. E), **Briton Ferry, S. Wales.** (Est. 1880).

Michaelmas Daisies

For all the **latest** and **most** beautiful varieties, see the Raiser's List.

ERNEST BALLARD, Colwall, MALVERN

THE

PERFECT GIFT

for your gardening friends is a

GARDENING BOOK

Appreciated, decorative, always in use

GARDENS *for* **SMALL COUNTRY HOMES**
By GERTRUDE JEKYLL. Coloured Frontispiece and many hundred illustrations.

COLOUR SCHEMES *for* **THE FLOWER GARDEN**
By GERTRUDE JEKYLL. New edition.

HERBACEOUS BORDERS *for* **AMATEURS**
By R. V. G. WOOLLEY. Illustrated.

CARNATIONS *for* **EVERY GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE**
By M. C. ALLWOOD. Just published. 12s. 6d.

WALL AND WATER GARDENS
By GERTRUDE JEKYLL. With more than 200 illustrations. 17s. 6d.

GARDENING *for* **BEGINNERS**
By E. T. COOK. The most up-to-date complete gardening handbook in existence. 8th edition. 16s.

All the above are "COUNTRY LIFE" books and may be had of any bookseller or from the Publishers, 20, Tavistock Street, London, W.C.2

Digitized by Google

CHEALS OF CRAWLEY

Have over FIFTY YEARS' Experience of GARDEN AND ESTATE PLANTING and General Improvements.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY ACRES of Nursery stocked with a First Class Collection of

Ornamental Trees - Shrubs

FRUIT TREES,

Herbaceous and Alpine Plants,

ROSES, DAHLIAS, and all Garden Requisites.

IT WOULD PAY YOU TO CONSULT THEM.

Catalogues of each Department and an Illustrated Pamphlet on Garden Design.

CHEAL & SONS, LTD.,
The Nurseries, **CRAWLEY.**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

BURBAGE ROSES

A collection of 12 of the best varieties. First size Trees, Guaranteed British Grown and true to name, for **12/6** Carriage Paid. - Cash with order.

Betty Uprichard	Maud Cumming
Clarice Goodacre	Independence Day
Mrs. H. Morse	Souv. de Georges Pernet
Lyecourt	Mrs. Wemyss Quin
Mrs. H. Stevens	Gen. McArthur
W. C. Clarke	Frau Karl Druschki

THE BURBAGE NURSERIES LTD.,
Mr. Hinckley, Leicestershire.

Please mention this Paper.

PLANTING SEASON

GEO. JACKMAN & SON

WOKING NURSERIES, SURREY

ESTABLISHED OVER A CENTURY

INVITE INSPECTION OF THEIR LARGE AND VARIED STOCK OF ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBS, ROSES, CLIMBERS, FRUIT AND FOREST TREES, HERBACEOUS AND ALPINE PLANTS

200 ACRES OF STOCK TO SELECT FROM. CATALOGUES FREE ON APPLICATION.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

A most Interesting

FRUIT TREE CATALOGUE

FREE and POST FREE

THIS Catalogue, nicely produced and well printed, contains a valuable host of useful hints on FRUIT TREE CULTURE for Amateur and Professional. Herein will be found all the best and most popular Fruits for all purposes, alphabetically arranged for ready reference. A feature has been made of interesting Chats on soils, situations, and fertilizers; in fact, it is a valuable book, which should be in the hands of all those who possess a Garden or Fruit Farm, large or small. Sit down now, while the matter is fresh in your mind, and write for your free copy.

KING'S ACRE ROSES

THE King's Acre Nurseries—famous since 1785 for the stamina and vigour of their roses—have hardy and reliable

Bushes and Ramblers

in a wonderful, almost endless variety, which they are offering at prices considered by experts and amateurs to be beyond competition.

Alphabetically arranged Rose Catalogue, replete with reliable information, FREE ON REQUEST.

AWARDED 95 GOLD MEDALS.

KING'S ACRE NURSERIES, LTD., HEREFORD

Established 1785. ∴ *NURSERIES—140 ACRES.*

SPECIAL VALUE IN COLLECTIONS OF FRUIT TREES AND ROSES

EMPIRE GROWN

Lilies and Miscellaneous Bulbs

Perennials & Alpines. Catalogues free

PERRY'S Hardy Plant Farm, ENFIELD

THE

JERSEY

FRUIT TREES
ROSE TREES
AND
CARNATIONS

ARE PACKED FREE OF COST, AND
DELIVERED CARRIAGE PAID

Before ordering, **IT WILL PAY YOU** to write for our Illustrated Catalogue and Planter's Guide, which contains **Elaborate Instructions** on the most profitable methods of cultivation, besides an article dealing with **Insects and Fungoid** Diseases, and is **FREE TO ALL.** It also gives particulars of our cheap

COLLECTIONS OF NEW ROSES
Exceptional Value. Unsurpassed Quality

ALL GUARANTEED BRITISH GROWN.

Fifty varieties illustrated in colours, direct from photographs

CORDON FRUIT TREES OUR SPECIALITY

Vast quantities of strong, healthy, fibrously rooted Apples, on the broad-leaved Paradise. Pears, Plums, Peaches, Grape Vines and Strawberry Plants of superior quality.

The Jersey Nurseries, Ltd.,
(Late Le Cornu)

JERSEY

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE GARDEN DOCTOR: Plants in Health and Disease, by F. J. CHITTENDEN, V.M.H., freely illustrated, 7/6 net, by post 8/-. A prospectus of this practical book will be sent post free on application to The Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C. 2

Special Autumn Offer

12 FRUITING BUSHES selected from the varieties below for **40/-**, Carriage paid for Cash with Order, or
6 FRUITING BUSHES for **22/6**, Carriage paid for Cash with Order.

ALLINGTON PIPPIN
ARTHUR TURNER
BEAUTY OF BATH
BLENHEIM ORANGE
BRAMLEY SEEDLING
BISMARCK
COX'S ORANGE PIPPIN
ECKLINVILLE SEEDLING
JAMES GRIEVE
GASCOYNE'S SCARLET
LANE'S PRINCE ALBERT
MAIDSTONE FAVOURITE
GLADSTONE
KING OF PIPPINS
RIVAL

Write for our Descriptive Catalogue and particulars of other Collections, gratis, on receipt of Card.

The FOREST & ORCHARD NURSERIES, Ld.
MILBURY HEATH, FALFIELD, GLOS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Fogwills GREAT ONION GROWING Competition

The following Prizes are offered for the **HEAVIEST AND BEST SHAPED TWO ONIONS** grown from **Fogwills Guildford Champion Onion Seed,** supplied during 1927. The price of the Onion Seed is **2/-** per packet, post free.

FIRST PRIZE - £4 and Gold Medal
SECOND PRIZE - £2 and Silver Medal
THIRD PRIZE - £1 and Bronze Medal

For full particulars see our 1927 Catalogue of "Best-Result" Seeds post free on request.

FOGWILLS 130, FRIARY ST., *Estd. over 70 years.* **GUILDFORD**

Waterer's
Alpine & Herbaceous
PLANTS

Our beautifully illustrated catalogue tells you how to prepare your border, how to plant, stake, and trench, and other useful information. Also full details of our magnificent collections of

IRISES, DELPHINIUMS,
LUPINS, CAMPANULAS,
MICHAELMAS DAISIES,
HARDY FERNS,
SHRUBS for the Rock Garden,
BOG and WATER PLANTS
for Spring planting, and all other subjects worth growing.

Please write for a copy, we will gladly send one post free. We pay carriage on all orders of £1 to any station in England and Wales and on orders of £2 to any station in Scotland.

John Waterer Sons & Crisp Ltd

TWYFORD——BERKS

FRUIT TREES
ROSES

Alpine Plants **Hardy Perennials**

Ornamental Trees and Shrubs
can be successfully planted NOW.

The BARNHAM NURSERIES, Ltd.,
offer an immense stock of healthy, well-grown trees . . in great variety . .
Descriptive Catalogues on application.
The BARNHAM NURSERIES, Ltd.,
BARNHAM, Sussex.

New Gold Medal Rose Trees
(TEA and HYBRID TEAS)
The following Splendid Set of New Roses 12/- per doz.; 6/9 per ½-doz.

Angele Pernet, deep reddish apricot
Agnes Glover, deep crimson
Betty Uprichard, salmon pink
Capt. K. Stewart, crimson scarlet
Mabel Morse, golden yellow
Doris Treyler, amber yellow
F. J. Harrison, cardinal red
Marcia Stanhope, pure white
Mrs. C. Coolidge, orange yellow
Shot Silk, cherry pink and orange
Annie Laurie, clear flesh pink
Blush Queen, beautiful soft pink

These Roses are budded on seedling briar and my own growing.

D. HARRISON, *Rose Grower,*
Handley Road, AYLESTONE PARK, LEICESTER

Notes from Maidstone.

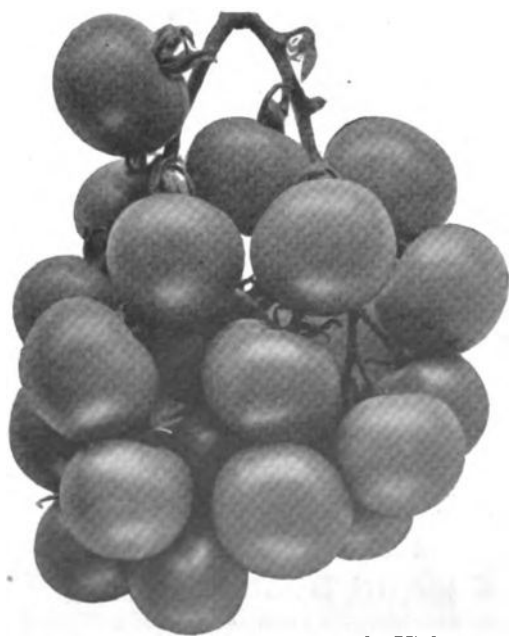
COOKING APPLES.

All Apples may be cooked, but not all are edible. Some are pasty and flavourless, others brown and woody. We can thoroughly recommend Golden Noble for autumn use, this cooks a clear amber yellow, and Thomas Rivers, in use till December, of unique fragrance. Of these, beside the usual forms, we have some extra large pyramids, 6ft. high and well developed, at 15/- each.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd., The Royal Nurseries, Established 1796. Maidstone.

SEASON 1927 SEEDSMEN BY APPOINTMENT

CARTERS EPICURE
THE FINEST
TOMATO



Carters Vegetables 1926 Awarded the Highest possible Award at Shrewsbury, Gold Medal Chelsea, Two Gold Medals Dundee.

INTRODUCED SINCE THE FAMOUS SUNRISE

This new Tomato has proved itself of exceptional merit, being particularly thick fleshed and containing very few seeds. The trusses average 8 to 10 fruits of very even size. We know of no variety which produces such a high percentage of even-sized fruits, it being quite exceptional to find any either larger or smaller than the normal type. Per packet, 2/6 and 3/6

CARTERS
New and Enlarged
CATALOGUE
Post Free.

Carters TESTED SEEDS

Seedsmen to H.M. The
RAYNES PARK, LONDON, S.W.20

Digitized by Google

THE GARDEN

VOL. XC.—No. 2872. DECEMBER 18, 1926. PRICE TWOPENCE

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

Crowded Planting of Shrubs.

READERS of THE GARDEN frequently send us planting plans for publication in our pages or for criticism and advice. While those which deal with herbaceous planting are usually excellent and show both imagination and knowledge of plants, those which deal with shrub borders in detail show the reverse. The commonest method appears to be to design the planting plan of a shrub border as if it was devoted to herbaceous plants with the space allowed for each shrub so limited that it is obvious that in a very few years the shrub border would become a tangled thicket with plants growing into each other, a hopeless state of affairs almost impossible to remedy.

This method of planning a shrub border is thoroughly unsound, for it must be remembered that half the beauty of shrubs lies in their form and habit, a beauty that is entirely lost by injudicious and overcrowded planting. One such plan has been sent in recently, that of a little formal garden, excellent and simple in design, but one which would prove a lamentable failure in practice, for one reason and one alone, that the shrub border which surrounds the garden is horribly overcrowded. Here are a few examples: Two standard crabs John Downie one behind the other, and yet the border is only 4ft. 8ins. wide; two standard mays, one Philadelphus Virginal, one Æsculus machrostacha and one lilac in 52 square feet; two standard crabs, one forsythia and one Buddleia magnifica in 40 square feet; and so on. In no single case would a plant have a chance of showing its true form after two or three years' growth; the entire border would soon be a jungle.

The truth is that at the start too sparse planting is infinitely preferable to that which is too close. If the border looks bare during the first year or two annuals may be sown or easily grown herbaceous flowers planted in the bare patches to make a temporary show. The perfect shrub border is rarely seen, and when it is it will be found that the branches of adjoining plants do not interlace. Examine the habits of your shrubs, and the more graceful they are the more room you should allow them. It is always better to overestimate the amount of room they will take up in a few years than to underestimate it.

Question Nights.

A CORRESPONDENT has sent us a report of the Question Night of the Dundee Horticultural Society. This is an admirable innovation that other horticultural societies might well copy. Many societies rely on outside help, such as lecturers, for filling their evening meetings during the winter. In their way garden lectures are useful, in that the lecturer is often a stranger who will deal with gardening outside the particular district in which he is lecturing, thus broadening the outlook of the members and giving them useful hints about plants or horticultural practice which are not in common usage in their particular district; but even more interesting is the fact that an evening meeting was crowded to hear questions and answers on local subjects instituted by the members themselves. This proves that the Dundee Horticultural Society is in a very healthy condition.

The opening question was how the Society could help or encourage the occupiers of the garden city houses to keep their gardens. This was obviously an auspicious start, for the debate was keen and the debaters showed much sound common sense. Other matters debated were such interesting subjects as the correct methods of keeping apples, the deterioration of the constitution of the potato, and that the present-day gardener was as efficient as his predecessor. All were subjects of great local interest, and it will also be seen that many of the subjects were of great national importance, such as that dealing with potatoes. Doubtless the members left with the pleasant feeling that the evening had been profitably spent.

HAVE YOU

¶ *Renewed your annual subscription to* THE GARDEN *?*

¶ *Repaired your old seed-boxes and made as many new ones as you will require ?*

¶ *Overhauled, cleaned and thoroughly oiled your mowing machine ?*

¶ *Completed the pruning and winter spraying of your fruit trees ?*

¶ *Started all constructional alterations in your garden ?*

¶ *Repointed and tied in bundles your pea and bean sticks ?*

¶ *Top-dressed with bone-meal and wood ashes your wall fruit trees ?*

¶ *Transferred from the plunging ground to a warm greenhouse your pots of early bulbs?*

The Frame Ground.

IN many gardens a well sheltered corner is set apart as a frame ground, where frames can be arranged so that mats, litter and other material can be placed on them in the winter to exclude frosts from plants growing in them. Here, all such litter is confined and kept apart from the open garden. In some gardens a single frame only is possessed. In all cases it is important that the necessary protecting material be placed in a dry quarter ready for use when frosts come. At this time all cold frames should be occupied with lettuce, cauliflowers, parsley or endive, or made ready for the gentle forcing of chicory, rhubarb and, later on, asparagus. In cold frames plants are often lost in the winter time from the evil effects of damp. There is not any fire heat in the frame to expel moisture, so the proper thing to do is to take off the glass lights on very fine days and to tilt them when the weather is moderately dry. Even at night and when the glass is covered with mats or straw, a tiny opening for ventilation at the top is advisable, such opening being protected by the overhanging mats or straw. If the young plants, above referred to, are not already placed in the frames, no time should be lost in planting them. They should be planted in a firm bed, not in loose compost, watered once and then only if the soil becomes very dry to guard against excessive moisture.

The Crossword Prizes.

THE two prizes of One Guinea each, offered to the readers who sent in the first correct solutions opened to THE GARDEN Crossword No. 3, which appeared in our issue of December 4th, have been awarded to

Miss M. E. Kenyon,
Park House,
Cheadle Hulme, Cheshire,

and

Mrs. E. Hunking,
3, South View, Conway Road,
Pontypool, Mon.

To each of whom a cheque for that amount has been sent.

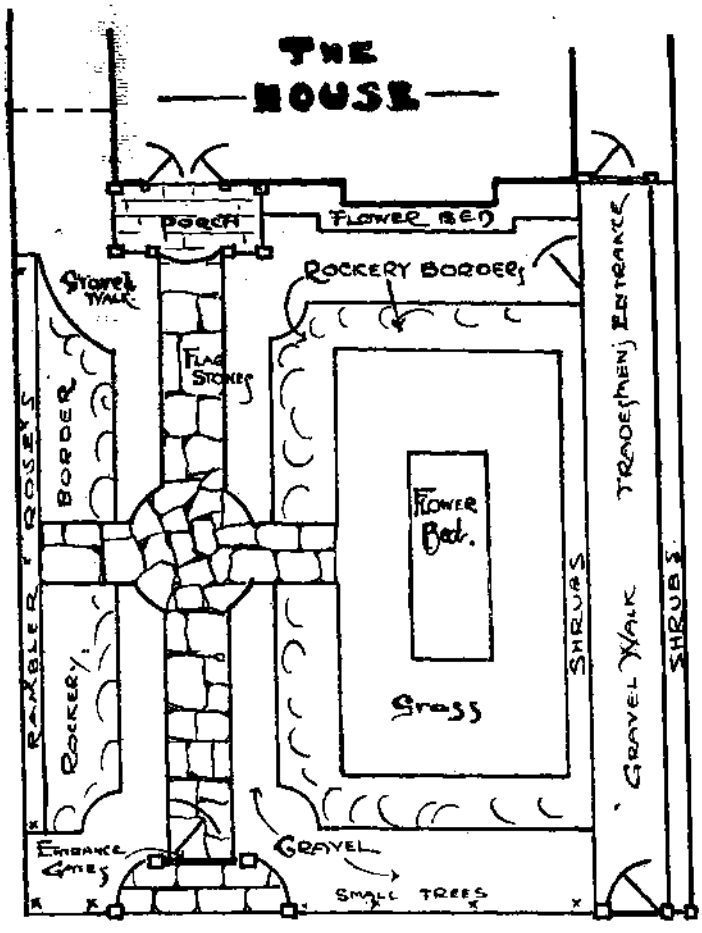
We are indebted to Messrs. Carter's, of Raynes Park, for the use of the illustration of Tomatoes, which appeared on the front cover of our last issue. The illustration was that of Tomato Sunrise, a modern variety.

Digitized by Google

HOW TO MAKE YOUR FRONT GARDEN ATTRACTIVE

This is a point of considerable interest to many readers, and the following suggestions as how best to treat a small area may prove helpful.

ONE thing that adds greatly to the general appearance of a house is an attractive front garden; it does not matter where it is situated, or the size of it; but it is the arrangement that counts so much. How often do we hear a remark passed that some particular house looks nice. Probably the house in question is just one of many others of the same type, but the owner happens to be a garden enthusiast and realises that it is worth his while to make it bright. This can be done in various ways according to one's taste and leisure time available: I know a front garden near here, kept up solely by the lady occupants of the house, whose hedges of shaped golden privet and topiary work of box are really works of art, the neatness and symmetry of which surpass anything I have yet seen. Clipped shrubs certainly look very well if arranged with discretion, but can easily be overdone in small villa gardens. They entail much laborious clipping to keep in shape, to say nothing of the clearng up afterwards.



A SUGGESTED DESIGN FOR A SMALL FRONT PLOT WHICH WILL PROVIDE AN INSTRUCTIVE GUIDE AT SMALL COST.

The rockery border, in my opinion, always looks bright and showy in the front of a house, and it is being adopted more than ever, as such a wide variety of plants can be incorporated therein to make it gay for a long period by the use of perennials, biennials and annuals. Even in the depth of winter it never looks bare, as a large percentage of the foliage is evergreen until the spring appears, when many gems of beauty and colour relieve the situation.

At a dividing or boundary fence something is often needed. Unless absolute seclusion is desired, when a hedge of some sort would be planted, an excellent idea is to fix narrow panels of square mesh trellis (squares about 1oins. by 4ins.), not more than 2ft. wide and 6ft. high, as an ornamental arrangement for training suitable rambler roses. These trellis pillars should be placed at intervals of about 8ft. and connected at the top by light iron chains or ropes, which form festoons between the pillars and should be allowed to hang quite slack, when the roses will gradually be trained along, forming beautiful garlands. If two chains can be used, one hanging about 9ins. lower at the centre, a much better effect is produced. This idea, if erected above a dwarf fence of chestnut, or a low evergreen hedge, not only looks very graceful, but the ramblers can be kept within limited bounds, the sunshine and air being allowed to enter freely.

Another attractive addition for the front of a house or bungalow is wall trellis—not the common oil-shop stuff, but square mesh panels, made specially and properly spaced out and fixed slightly away from the wall. Here again a colour scheme is necessary. For light brickwork, rough-cast or cement walls, nothing blends better than a brown wood-preservative as a coating. If, on the other hand, the walls are of red brick, or brick of a dark colour, the woodwork is better painted white, as a contrast is essential to give relief and the proper effect. Many plants can be grown with success on such trellis, but one must be guided by the aspect of the site and the wall space available. The evergreen foliage of many wall plants looks very graceful on a suitable background and relieves the monotony of a bare wall. Well designed entrance gates also make a vast difference to the appearance of a house, and whenever you are ordering a new one give preference to something original. Simplicity of design, consistent with strength, often gives more pleasing results than something unnecessarily ornamental. A solid oak gate with an appropriate name-plate that is in harmony with its surroundings always suggests good taste of the owner and helps to form a dignified and artistic entrance.

Once inside the gate, the first thing that strikes one is the condition of the forecourt. If this is badly drained and, consequently, full of puddles, no matter how attractive the other part of the garden may be the pathway seems to engage most attention. Forecourts are, of course, constructed in various ways, according to the size and style of the house. If, however, it can be carried out in some quaint design in brick or stone flags, even if only a centre walk, with clean gravel on either side, a good dry path is ensured and a good effect produced, besides giving impression and tone to the whole lay-out.

GEO. W. HALL.

JAPANESE MAPLES WORTH PLANTING

WHEN planting trees in a small garden, a careful selection has to be made, mainly because, in a restricted space, comparatively small-growing specimens are desired with the maximum attractiveness and beauty. During the last fifty years a large number of acers, or maples, have reached our gardens from Japan; some of these are of great beauty, and now that they are thoroughly acclimatised they grow as readily, if not so rampantly, as the only native species. Neat and pretty at all times, they seem to us specially attractive when the buds open out in spring, and again when they assume their autumn colours at the end of the season; some species take on very pretty tints at the latter time—yellow, orange, brown and red predominating. We ought to say here that, opening out as they do early in the year, they must not grow on a site too freely exposed to cold winds at that time; nevertheless, they do best in an open site when not crowded out by other things. When once in growth they need no more attention than is given to other trees.

A Selection of Varieties.

Acer japonicum, in varieties, is commonly offered by nurseries; the leaves are large, green and with shallow segments. Two very fine varieties of this are commonly seen—macrophyllum, with small dainty foliage, and vitifolium, with spreading lobes, fanlike in appearance. Aureum, a sub-species, has golden foliage, of circular shape; laciniatum is much more deeply lobed and the segments narrower, a very pretty kind also. More popular than japonicum are the varieties of palmatum which are common everywhere, both in pots and in the open. The type itself has seven lobes; the varieties are badly named, however, no fixed rule being apparent in their nomenclature. Among the best are roseum (margined pink), septemlobum, dissectum (very finely cut up), atro-dissectum (dark maroon, variegated white), atro-purpureum (deep maroon, drooping), atro-purpureum variegatum (maroon on crimson), involutum (too delicate for the open), Aochun-shiki (green, variegated yellow) and others. Many other species and varieties are offered nowadays; it is impossible to distinguish them in popular notes—they have to be seen to be known—but among the best are reticulatum (netted yellow), scolopendrifolium (narrow, red lobes), Tsumagaki (green, tipped brown), versicolor (red, variegated green and white), Oshin-beni (small maroon leaves), pictum album (white variegated), filicifolium (fern-leaved), etc. An odd firm offers one or other of two really Japanese curiosities—Megane, in which two stems are trained into some open shape and four different varieties grafted on these; or Dantaiga, a plain shrub consisting of several kinds grafted on a common stock; personally, I do not like this, but they are real curiosities. Seeds of the more common sorts are sold, but, I am afraid, not in small packets. Occasionally the markets are overwhelmed with stocks of these Japanese maples from Holland and Germany at this time, and fine specimens can be obtained quite reasonably—CLYDESDALE.

Digitized by Google

THE ROCK GARDEN

The Beginner's Small Rock Garden.

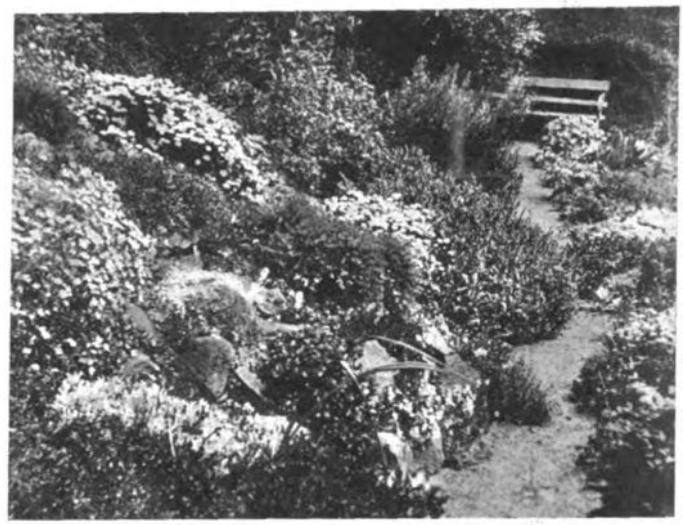
THE chief difficulty about the very small rock garden is the unequal rate of growth of the different plants, in consequence of which the smaller are often smothered by the larger. On sloping ground plants spread downwards much more rapidly than upwards, so a first rule is to plant the larger things below and the smaller things higher up. What are these larger things? Many of the most showy of the rock plants are too vigorous for the really small rock garden and should either not be used at all, or, if used, planted at the base of the slope, where they can expend their energy in spreading over the adjoining grass or path without doing any harm. In this category come Arabis albida, Alyssum saxatile and Aubrietia deltoidea and their many varieties—all grand showy things, but dangerous where space is very limited. To these must be added most of the mossy saxifrages and rock roses, and the larger pinks, etc. This is rather horrifying, as the plants mentioned are among the easiest and brightest of all rock plants; but a word of warning regarding them is necessary where the very small rock garden is concerned. Other plants which, though excellent, are a bit large and smothery for our present purpose, are Lithospermum intermedium, Othonnopsis cheirifolia, Polygonum Brunonis. I mention only one or two examples.

Small Sized Plants.

Now for a short selection of plants of more reasonable size, which will give a fair variety as regards flower, foliage, habit and time of flowering. The smaller achilleas are valuable on account both of their white flowers and their grey foliage. A. argentea and A. umbellata are among the best. Artemisia sericea and A. pedemontana have lovely silvery foliage, though their bloom is inconspicuous. Androsace sarmentosa and A. lanuginosa are the easiest of their charming genus. Armeria maritima Laucheana is a charming dark red sea pink. The aubrietias are too precious to be entirely excluded, but care should be taken to get some of the less rampant forms, such as Fire King. Small campanulas of course, we must have, such as garganica, Portenschlagiana, pusilla and the precious pulla. Then the erodiums are very pleasing plants with a long flowering period; E. Manescavi is somewhat large, and E. trichomanefolium or E. macradenum is more suitable. A bit of "Gentianella" (Gentiana acaulis) is, of course, indispensable, but it may or may not flourish with you. One of the orange-scarlet geums, G. Heldreichii or G. Borisii, adds a touch of vivid colour. Then there are the invaluable phloxes (P. subulata vars)—inclined to ramp a bit, but easily restrained and furnishing lovely sheets of white, lilac and pink. The smaller potentillas are neat growers, P. nitida being a particularly choice thing.

Stonecrops Worth Growing.

Sempervivums, with their little spiny rosettes are neat and characteristic. There is little use in recommending them by name, for in gardens the names are in hopeless confusion, but two of the best, which are usually correctly named, are S. calcareum and S. arachnoideum. Some of the sedums are neat and showy and unlike some of their kind, do not spread unduly; such are, for instance, S. Ewersii, S. kamtschaticum (which has an attractive variegated variety), S. Sieboldii, S. Ellacombianum. Silene Schafta is especially valuable because it flowers in August, when the rock garden is inclined to be very dull. The pinks are by no means all spreaders; Dianthus carthusianorum, D. sylvestris and D. neglectus are very well behaved and each has its own charm. Then Hypericum Coris and H. olympicum make neat little bushes which at flowering time are a sheet of gold. Blue is always a precious colour in the garden, and here the phyteumas help out the campanulas; P. hemispherica and P. Scheuchzeri are pleasant and neat. A delightful subject for any dry crack is Villadenia triloba, otherwise known as Erigeron mucronatus; it forms a little bush covered with pink and white daisies which continue from spring until autumn frosts put an end for the season to its activities.



AN ATTRACTIVE ROCK GARDEN PATH, UNOBTRUSIVE AND IN KEEPING WITH THE SIZE AND DESIGN OF THE GARDEN.

Dwarf Shrubs.

Most rock garden shrubs are rather too vigorous for the very small rock garden, but if a few are desired, the following will give a great variety of habit and colour. Cytisus Beanii, Hedera Helix vars. conglomerata and minima (two very quaint dwarf ivies), Juniperus communis compressa (a regular Noah's Ark tree), Spiræa Hacquetii and S. decumbens, and Veronica Bidwillii.

R. LLOYD PRAEGER.

(To be continued.)

ONE OF THE EASIEST AND MOST CHARMING OF THE ANDROSACES, A. SARMENTOSA.

Rock Garden Paths.

AN important feature of the rock garden is its paths: so important that a well made and beautifully furnished rock garden may be greatly marred by the ill designed or otherwise unsuitable paths which serve it. Here I do not propose to decide what such a path should be like in all cases, for so much depends upon the scope of the rock garden and other incidents. But in making a few suggestions I would first of all advise the novice on the look-out for guidance to be careful to avoid making the width of his walks out of proportion to the area he is concerned with. Where the rock garden is quite a moderate affair, a mere track of stepping-stones, such as in larger gardens may be used to link up the main walks, is often enough. But even when we come to more spacious areas I would always prefer to err to the narrow side in making the paths.

In the illustration the belt of rock garden to the left of the path is 10–15ft. wide, that on the other being much narrower. Here the path shown originally averaged about 2ft. in width, but the plants, which have encroached in a pleasing, natural manner from both sides, have so reduced it that it now does not average more than 1ft. That, in my opinion, is ample. It serves its purpose, it is in keeping with its surroundings, and strikes the eye as an attractive yet unobtrusive part of the whole.

Digitized by Google

This path, it will be noted, runs almost straight. This was decided by the nature of the ground, no other way being practicable. But there is no reason why such a path should not be more or less straight, the ground being level. Indeed, a good many reasons might be given by way of showing that a path which winds and wiggles to no purpose may be anything but right and appropriate. The path's first duty is to "get there" in the easiest possible way consistent with its environment. Take the sheep-track on a moor as an object lesson. Such a track has a definite objective, and, while its course is, from point to point, straight, it only bends this way or that to avoid an outcrop of rock or a hummock of heather. Thus we have a path which justifies itself in every detail in so far as lay-out is concerned. Should the rock garden have a steep pitch, then, of course, your path, following the line of least resistance, would take a circuitous route so as to ease the grade, and in this instance again the sheep track is a reliable guide.

It is not necessary to state here that a formal edging of plant or stone is altogether out of place in the rock garden proper. Plant and boulder must always unite in forming a bordering so natural and diverse that the line where the rock garden ends and the path begins is practically imperceptible.

One word as to the surfacing of the path. Here, again, much will be decided by the conditions, but in a general way my own preference leans towards the path which is constructed as nearly as possible of the same material as the rock garden itself. That is to say, it may be of coarse gravel or stony soil beaten firm, with here and there a few inlaid stones to break the uniformity. If weeds or dampness are troublesome this surface may be covered with fine gravel or grit if something soft to the feet can be procured; but if there is one thing I heartily abhor in a path of this sort it is granite or flint chips, which crunch and grind like granulated sugar under one's feet. I would rather have a plain, hard earth path than that; and when this is partly or wholly covered by such plants as thymes, cotulas and the like, there is something to be said for the idea. Inlaid flat stones, as I have suggested, are not to be despised, whether placed as stepping-stones or dropped in, as it were, by accident; but paving of any manifestly artificial sort, especially when "crazy," should be *taboo*. Something of this nature may be advantageous in conjunction with the small rock garden of a suburban villa which constitutes a part only of the garden, but even here I would rather have old porous bricks laid in than slabs.

A. T. JOHNSON.

ORCHIDS OF EASY CULTIVATION

CYMBIDIUMS have much to recommend them; their freedom of flowering and good constitution render them especially suitable for an ordinary greenhouse in which a minimum temperature of 50° can be maintained. If the temperature should fall a little below this figure, the plants will take no harm provided that rational treatment in other respects is the order of the day.

General Culture.

The plants succeed in ordinary pots large enough to accommodate the occupant comfortably, but over-potting must be guarded against. It must be realised from the start that cymbidiums are terrestrial plants like the majority of the cypripediums, and as distinct from the great majority of orchids, therefore it will be readily understood that terrestrial orchids require a very different rooting medium from the epiphytes, one with more "body" in it, for they do not obtain the same amount of sustenance from the atmosphere as do dwellers in trees.

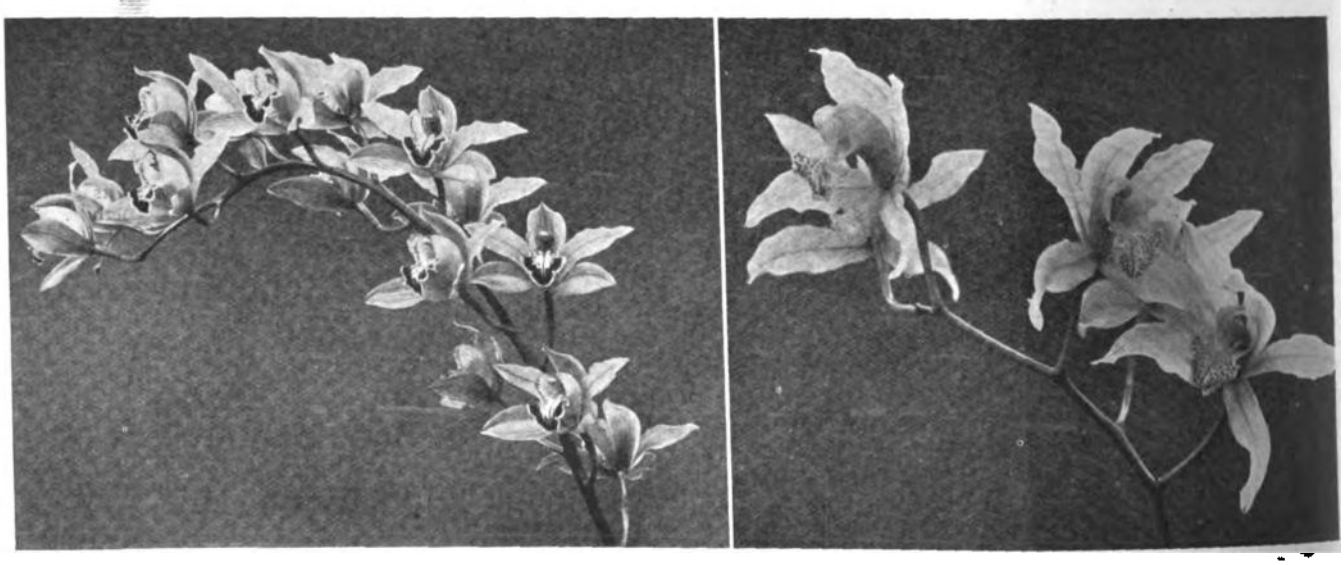
A good compost for cymbidiums is three parts fibrous loam to one part osmunda fibre or good orchid peat, the former for preference. To this should be added a few crushed crocks, some sharp sand, a few nodules of charcoal and some sphagnum moss. The pots should also be surfaced with a few live heads of the latter. The surface moss is a great help in watering, for should it take on a white and dried appearance it is a sure indication that the plant requires water.

The drainage of the pots must be perfect, and rather more "crocks" should be used than for most plants.

Moisture and Ventilation.

Careful watering is one of the essentials to successful culture. An intelligent study of the plants themselves will lead to good watering, and it is well to remember that the plants are far happier when on the "dry" side than when they have their roots surrounded by soddened soil, a condition leading to rotten roots and inevitable ill-health.

Atmospheric moisture, supplied by damping down the paths and other surfaces of the structure and by syringing between and over the plants, must be applied in quantities to coincide with the outside weather conditions, knowledge which ordinary intelligence will readily supply. The same remarks apply to ventilation, and here it may be well to state that orchids, and more especially cymbidiums, do not enjoy a stuffy atmosphere. They require, and must have, an abundance of fresh air, supplied intelligently and chiefly from the top of the house. Side ventilators must be used with the utmost care, for cold draughts are harmful. There is no set season for potting, but as the majority of cymbidiums flower in early spring and summer, and as the most suitable time for re-potting is soon after flowering, the greater part of the work will become due during the spring—April and May. Here it should be stated that annual repotting is not always required, nor is it always advisable. The plant will tell you when it is ready. In plain, everyday language, when the growths have reached the edge of the pot, it will require a little more room but not too much, for cymbidiums do not flower so well if the root-run is too generous.



CYMBIDIUMS PROVIDE MOST ATTRACTIVE FLOWERING SPRAYS FOR GREENHOUSE DECORATION.

Species to Grow.

The species should most certainly be grown, and in Lowianum, giganteum, Traceyanum, eburneum and insigne we have some superlatively good plants. The present-day interest in cymbidiums, however, lies in the host of lovely hybrids obtained from these old species. Their number is legion, their forms and colours are such as to appeal to all tastes. There are pink and red shades, yellows, greens, browns and whites, but almost all possess the arched spike and long grass-like foliage, the attributes of a great decorative plant.

Some of these hybrids are expensive, others are reasonable; some, again, are comparatively cheap, and my advice to a prospective grower is to visit the establishment of any well known orchid firm when the plants are in flower and to make a point of seeing some of the exhibits at the leading shows. "To see is to believe," and is better than any stereotyped description.

RALPH E. ARNOLD.

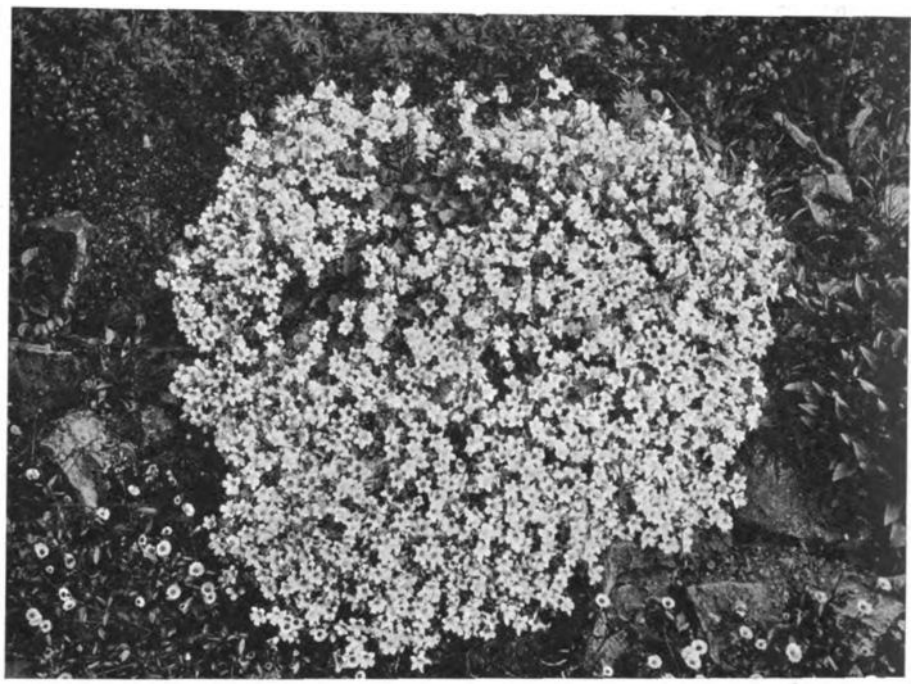
Digitized by Google

BELL FLOWERS FOR THE GARDEN

A FEW GOOD BORDER VARIETIES.

THE family of campanulas is a large one and among the host of good things will be found several suitable for the herbaceous border. One of the best is C. persicifolia, the peach-leaved bellflower, which grows about 2ft. high. The blue flowers, which are large and somewhat flat, are produced in long spikes, which make them valuable as cut blooms, while for embellishing the flower garden they are in the front rank. There is also a white variety which is even more desirable than the type. The different forms have all the characteristics of C. persicifolia except the flowers, and in the case of Moerheimii, they are semi-double and white, and this must be put down as one of the best. A counterpart of this is humosa, a semi-double blue. This is a decided acquisition and both grow about 2½ft. in height. A giant among the peach-leaf harebells is the grand Telham Beauty; the plants when well grown reach 3ft. to 4ft. in height, having long, wiry stems which are clothed with large, bell-shaped flowers of delightful pale china blue. This plant does not require staking, a remark which applies to most if not all of the persicifolia section. The Lissadell variety is another gem, with beautiful silvery lilac blossoms, freely produced. Another form with light lilac flowers is Fairy Queen.

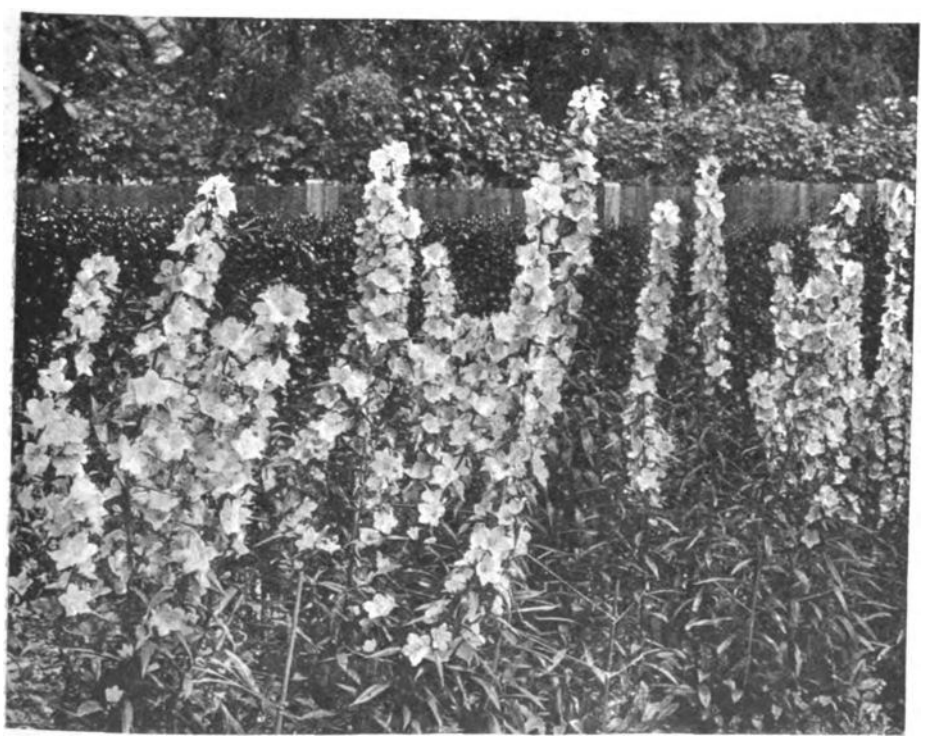
All those mentioned are excellent garden plants, easily grown and will afford a maximum of beauty from June to September, with a minimum of trouble. Another point in their favour, they are not aggressive, and will not encroach on their neighbours, but to keep them in fine fettle, division must be resorted to about every third year, and this is best accomplished at this season. Another method is to take cuttings of the side shoots immediately after flowering, growing them in a spare piece of ground until the following planting season. An interesting and profitable pastime is raising seedlings of C. persicifolia. A packet of seed will produce a quantity of healthy plants of average merit.



A TUFT OF CAMPANULA PORTENSCHLAGIANA IN THE ROCK GARDEN.

Other Tall Campanulas.

ALL the peach-leaved campanulas should be supported by branching twigs inserted among the flower-stems before they exceed a few inches in height. Campanula latiloba (syn. grandis) was a greater favourite in the past than it is at present, and few old gardens are without big clumps of it. It is not as attractive as persicifolia and its tendency to spread about makes it something of a nuisance, but it is a useful plant for semi-shade. Campanula glomerata is a worse sinner in the matter of encroaching than C. latiloba, but its masses of deep violet flower-heads on their sturdy 2ft. stems are beautiful in sunshine. One of the most effective of all the border campanulas is lactiflora, which grows 4ft. or more in height and produces quantities of big, loose panicles of flowers. In the type these are pale, milky lavender, but there is a variety of a deeper colour as well as a white one. C. latifolia is also good in the border. Its height is about 3ft. and its colour a deep lavender, but it is not very happy in soil containing much lime. The bell-shaped flowers of the seldom-seen C. alliarefolia are of a rather dingy white, but the plant is worth growing if a damp, slightly shaded place is available. It is intolerant of drought, and will be stunted and miserable-looking unless it has moisture at the root. The garden varieties of our native harebell, C. rotundifolius, are tall enough for the border, and their delicate blue is very pretty. In sharp contrast to the fragile little harebell is the chimney campanula, C. pyramidalis, with splendid lavender-blue or white spikes.



CAMPANULAS ARE ALWAYS USEFUL IN THE BORDER. THEY ARE TALL, GRACEFUL AND FULL OF FLOWER.

A Rock Garden Campanula.

IN spite of its long name (C. Portenschlagiana) this is an old and pretty plant, generally met with in gardens as C. muralis. It is an excellent subject for the rock garden, where it can be allowed to cover a large stone, while for retaining walls it has no equal. Along the front of a border it is quite at home, in fact there are a lot of places where this common plant would thrive and be a joy to the owner throughout the summer months. Of a trailing habit, the plants are free flowering, the light blue-purple blossoms being erect or nearly so, stand well above the exquisite small leaves.—T. W. B.

Digitized by Google

THE FLOWER GARDEN

The Globe Daisies.

THE globularias are a small genus of evergreen—almost sub-shrubby—alpines which, if not among the most showy, are certainly of more than average interest on the rock garden. The species generally met with is G. cordifolia, of compact prostrate habit, with numerous heads of pretty blue flowers. It forms a dense carpet and attains a height of about 3ins., the small glabrous leaves are spoon-shaped, and a well grown plant will be covered with flower-heads in May and June. There are two somewhat rare varieties, *viz.*, alba with white flowers, and rosea, a pink-flowered form a counterpart of the type except colour.

The true G. nana is the smallest of all. It is found growing on the sunny face of the rocks in the Pyrenees, and this gives a clue to its requirements in this country. It is a pretty subject for covering stones, where it forms a thick carpet about an inch high. The lavender heads of flowers are produced from May to August.

G. incanescens has beautiful grey-blue foliage, and is less rampant than G. cordifolia, which warrants it a choicer position on the rock garden. It hails from the Pennine Alps, and forms compact tufts of small leaves, with heads of blue flowers.

G. vulgaris is freer in growth than many of the species, and produces globular heads of pale blue flowers, while G. trichonantha has long, shiny foliage and balls of blue flowers. The latter is tufted and somewhat shrubby in habit.

All the kinds can be increased by seeds, division of the larger carpets and by layers. The globularias are well worth consideration from the rock gardener, and a mass of G. cordifolia several feet square with its myriads of fluffy, globular heads of blue flowers is, indeed, a glorious sight, and is one that will compel admiration from all flower-lovers. They all enjoy the sunshine, although they will succeed in partial shade, neither do they object to a rather dry position. There are many places on the rock garden where they would find a congenial home nestling against some warm stone with a rooting medium of loam, leaf-mould and grit. Lime rubble may be added with advantage, because they are often found growing wild on calcareous formations.

T. W. B.

ONE OF THE BEST OF THE GLOBE DAISIES, GLOBULARIA INCANESCENS.

The Christmas Daisy.

THIS is the very latest of all the asters (A. grandiflorus) to flower—hence its name of Christmas daisy—and, unfortunately, though perfectly hardy, its flowers are often spoilt by frost while still in bud. For this reason it is not very popular; but when the season is sufficiently favourable to permit it to bloom it is so attractive that it makes amends for many disappointments. It forms a sturdy, compact little bush 2½–3ft. in height, and its flowers, which are fairly large, are a rich violet-purple in colour. They are admirable for cutting, as they last a long time in water. The Christmas daisy should be given the most sheltered spot available, against a south wall for choice, and at the first indication of anything approaching a severe frost it should be screened by a light awning of thin canvas or some similar material stretched on bamboos. The roots need no protection.—R. E.

Preparing for Next Year's Annuals Indoors and Out.

ANNUALS, both hardy and half-hardy, occupy much space in our gardens in these times, and rightly so, for they are inexpensive and yield sheaves of flowers over a very long period if properly treated. We should take just as much trouble with the annuals as we do with our roses, carnations and chrysanthemums, because they deserve it. It is because annuals can be so easily grown that they are, to some extent, neglected. There is a vast difference between the plants carelessly grown and those really cultivated. Many persons take much pride in growing fine asters and many fail to grow them satisfactorily because the plants die suddenly just when they reach the flowering stage; many also die in their seedling stage. It is a fungus that causes the mischief. Now, growers should obtain some good fibrous loam at once and sterilise it by burning. This can be easily done by making a trench on sloping ground 1ft. wide and 1ft. deep. Place a sheet of iron over the trench, light a fire at lower end and thoroughly heat thin layers of compost placed on the iron sheet. Then store the compost in a cool, dry shed until it is required in spring for the seed-sowing. The plot of ground in which the asters are to be planted next summer should be well limed now. Of course, the sterilised compost will be available for sowing seeds of stocks, clarkias, zinnias, larkspurs, lavateras and other annuals in boxes and pots in spring. All annuals now in boxes or in frames should be guarded against excessive damp, as their tender stems soon succumb to it. Where rotted manure will not be available for the summer planting, as much leaf-soil and decayed vegetable matter as possible should be collected during the winter, turned from time to time with sprinklings of lime put on while doing this, so that the whole mass will be in the right condition for digging into the borders in April. Boxes in which seedlings are to be raised in should be lime-washed now, then stored in a dry shed until required.—G. GARNER.

An Attractive Daphne.

DAPHNE BLAGAYANA is one of the most delightful of small creeping shrubs for the rock garden. It is not showy, it is true, nor has it the attractions of D. Cneorum or D. rupestris, but it has charms of its own which they cannot share. No one of the other daphnes named can serve as a substitute for D. Blagayana, nor, for that matter, can it take the place of the others. It stands by itself, a low, creeping shrub, delighting to send its branchlets among the stones and giving us among them the fragrant, creamy white flowers in early spring. So far as sun or shade goes, it does not appear to mind, but it must have stones about it, and the best plants I have ever seen have been treated to what, by a stretch of the imagination, might be called a "mulch" of stones, among which it can ramble, and whose coolness would seem to afford health and vigour to this attractive plant. Although a native of limestone regions, where it rambles in the screes, or moraines, yet it does not demand that the stones we may pile on it should be limestone. Any other will do as well, but if happiness, health and floriferousness are demanded the stones must be supplied. As the plant grows, heap on the stones and the reward will be great and satisfying. Then the branches will root into any soil between the stones, and can be cut off and planted apart when increase is wanted. The soil may be of peat or loam, but it should have plenty of stones.—S. ARNOTT.

Digitized by Google

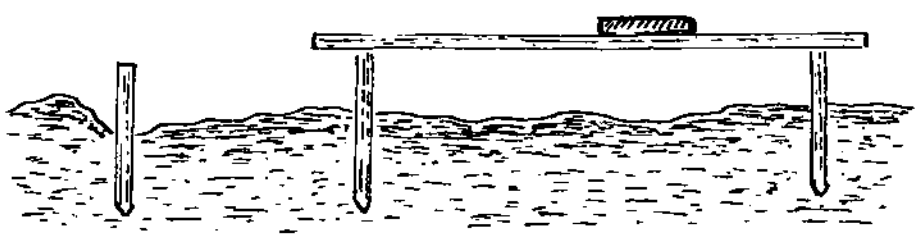
THE BUSY MAN'S PAGE

The Birds and the Fruit Trees.

FROM the end of December and onwards into the New Year fruit growers' troubles commence with respect to birds. Long before there is any sign of movement on the part of the gooseberries, red currants, pears and plums they attract the attentions of certain birds, especially bullfinches, which, by the way, are far more common in many districts than is often supposed. Evidence of destruction is seen in the remnants of buds which are found strewn under trees and bushes. To prevent the serious destruction of the buds there is, perhaps, no better way than to syringe the branches with soapy water and, while the buds are still wet, dust lime or soot on to them. This makes the buds distasteful to the birds; but, in the case of large trees of plum and pear, the application would be a somewhat difficult matter. Here the birds may be scared away by tying some fluttering rags in various parts of the tree. If the rags can be of blue cloth so much the better. Some tests which have been carried out show that birds have a great dislike to the colour blue. Although the fact is well established, the reason why birds avoid blue is quite unknown. It is well, in the case of currants and gooseberries, to delay the pruning for as long a time as possible.

Simple Ways of Levelling Ground

WHEN the piece of ground is comparatively small and it is merely a question of levelling after rough digging, there is nothing so handy as a rake. If the area is considerable and the land is naturally uneven at the start, it is needful to adopt a more reliable method of securing a uniform surface. Practically any area which is likely to be met with in an ordinary garden can be levelled with the use of pegs. Each peg should be about a foot or 15ins. in length, with a good point at one end. Start by hammering a peg into the soil for three-quarters of its length at some place where the desired level of the surface can be easily obtained. A starting point can often be found in the base of a house or wall. Now drive another peg into the ground 6ft. from the first and rest across the top of the pegs a long strip of wood on its edge. By placing a spirit level on the top of this, one can soon determine whether the tops of the pegs are level. Where a proper spirit level is not available quite a good substitute is found in a small narrow bottle. This should be not quite filled with water, and then, when the bottle is corked and placed on its side, the air bubble will give indications of the level, or otherwise, of the surface. If the tops of the pegs are not level it is a simple matter to hammer them down until the right position is secured. Another peg is now driven into the ground about 6ft. away and the levelling process between this and one or other of the first two pegs is carried out. Eventually a series of pegs will have been driven into the ground at regular intervals, the tops of which are all level. The ground, which has been previously dug to a suitable depth, is then worked up until all the pegs stand up to an equal height above the ground. As an example, if the first peg is 4ins. above the soil, then the others may be marked as a guide to the adjustment of the level.



HOW TO OBTAIN ACCURACY IN LEVELLING.

When Ferns Get Too Large.

THERE are two aspects of an outdoor fern —both ornamental. One concerns the young and small stage and the other the established plant of great age. When young, ferns of any kind are useful on the rockery and in odd shady corners, but it needs a large space and woodland conditions to accommodate large ferns; the latter, therefore, often become unsuited to the garden and cover too much space with their enormous fronds.

When this state becomes imminent, the large roots should be lifted from their places in the autumn. It will then be seen that some portion of the root-stock is no longer contributing to the health of the plant, and may be cut away entirely. Then it will be noticed that there are two or more distinct divisions in the root, each having a group of embryo fronds. These sections should be pulled apart, roots being carefully retained in all cases, and these will form new plants, greatly reduced in size, and may be replanted as such. By this means, ferns can be kept to reasonable size, at the same time giving a welcome increase of stock.

Growing the Christmas Tree.

OFTEN the question arises whether the neat little spruce fir which has helped so much in the Christmas festivities is worth planting in the garden. Everything depends on the condition of the root stock which is attached to the tree. If, as sometimes happens, practically all the roots have been cut away, it is only waste of time to try to grow the tree. When the grower has lifted the tree with a fair amount of roots attached there is no reason at all why, with a little care, the young spruce should not be established. Much depends on the proper planting of the Christmas tree, for, if it is dumped down into ordinary garden soil, it probably will not succeed in getting a foothold. Open up a somewhat larger hole than is actually required and, except in very light soils, partially fill the opening with a mixture of sand and leaf-mould in equal parts. Where the soil is naturally light, leaf-mould should be worked into the ground to provide a suitable rooting medium. Tread the soil round the tree, firmly planting it to the depth indicated by the mark on the stem. Always give the fir support with a strong stake, as, without this, the tree is sure to rock about during rough weather and then there is very little chance of its ever becoming established.

The Value of Trenching.

TO maintain the fertility of soil, if crops of first quality be desired of either fruit, flowers or vegetables, it is essential that portions of ground be trenched or double dug annually to attain this object. No amount of manuring can equal deep cultivation, or act as a substitute. Trenching makes for freer drainage, the outlet of injurious acids and the inlet of light and air and the purification of the soil, and more food available to plants. A good layer of garden refuse such as weeds, leaves, pea haulm, stems of herbaceous plants, should be placed in the bottom of the trench, with a good dressing of manure or Wakeley's Hop Manure near the top spit. The conditions thus afforded of coolness and moisture, favourable to the vigorous and healthy root growth of plants, enables them to come through periods of summer droughts as good crops and little impaired.

DIVIDING LARGE FERN ROOTS. EACH SECTION WILL FORM A NEW PLANT.

Mistletoe: How to Grow It.

A PLANT of mistletoe is an interesting feature in the garden, and there is no evidence that it does any harm to its host, which is most commonly an apple tree. With a little care there is no reason why a plant of mistletoe should not be established on an apple tree. One very important point is that the seed should be properly matured before it is sown. The fruits are not ripe until the end of February, and the best way is to take a well berried sprig from the Christmas decorations and put this into a jar of water. Keep the whole thing in a cool light room and change the water every week or ten days. The berries will then ripen as well as if they were attached to the growing plant. When the time comes for sowing the seed select a clean young branch on an apple tree. Then a few of the berries may be rubbed on to the underside of the branch where there is little risk of the seeds being eaten by birds or washed away during rain. No cut of any sort is required, and the seeds will adhere by means of the glutinous substance with which they are surrounded. During the first season only two green cotyledons or seed leaves are produced. Even the second year growth is comparatively slow; but when once the plant is really established, mistletoe grows rapidly and it may be cut freely when required. It is well to get several seedlings established, as the male and female flowers are on different plants and, naturally, it is only the latter which will produce berries.

Digitized by Google

FLOWERING SHRUBS for HOUSE DECORATION

Where a small greenhouse is available, all amateurs should undertake the forcing of a few suitable flowering shrubs such as those suggested in the following article. They provide a most attractive display of blossom at a period when colour is lacking for interior decoration.

AT this season of the year there is often a difficulty in keeping up a display of flowers for the decoration of the house and conservatory. In the following list will be found shrubs that may very easily be brought into flower with but little expense of fire-heat, providing they are properly cared for and well set with buds. Among the shrubs enumerated will be found a great variety of colour in the flowers, also an adaptability of shape and form to suit even the most exacting of tastes.

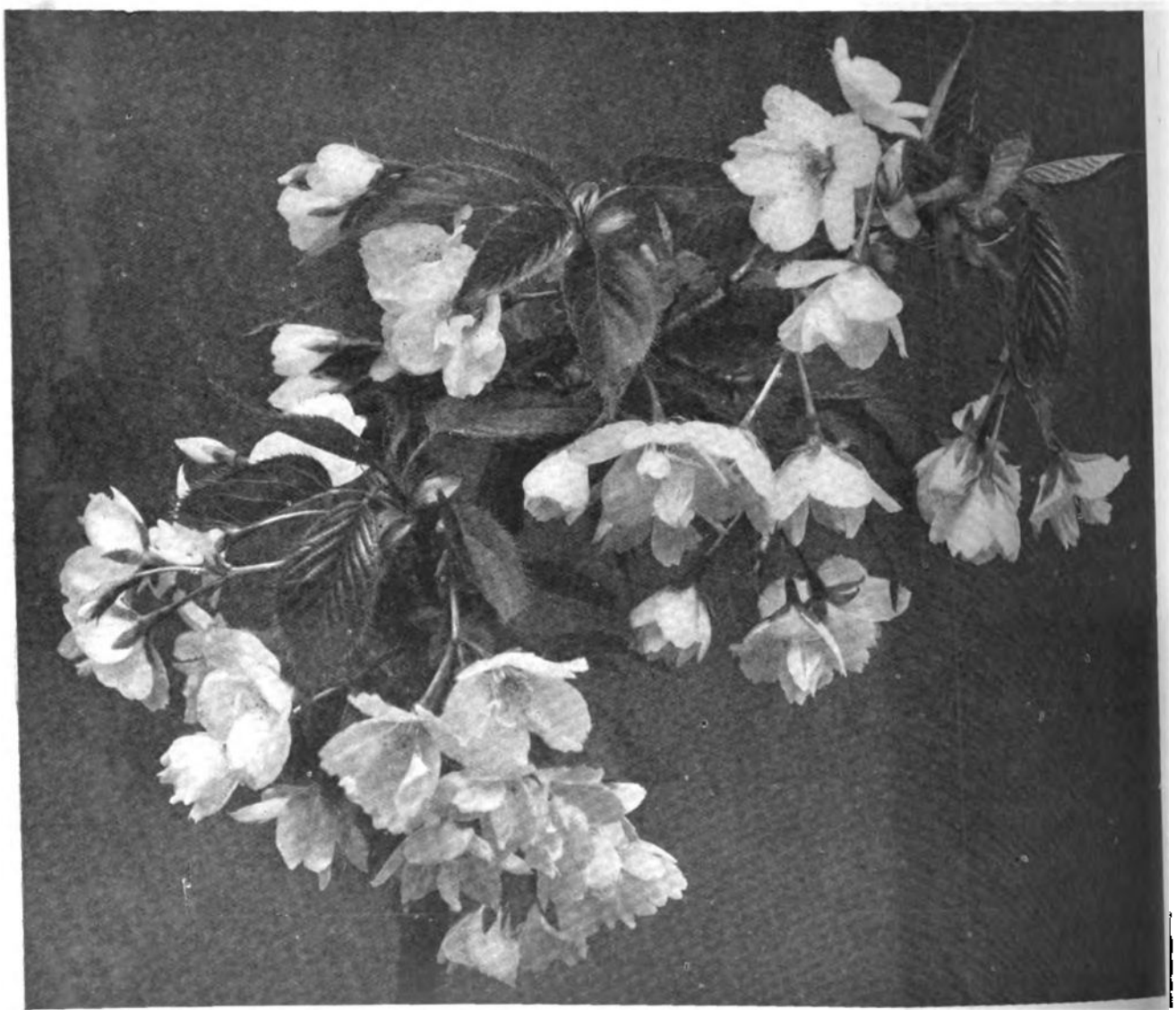
and Rosa Mundii. This latter is a grand variety for early work, being compact in growth and of a pleasant shade of colour, also exceptionally early. R. Cunningham's White and many others.

Prunus in variety.—P. triloba fl. pl., double rose, P. sinensis fl. pl. alba, and rosea pleno, are a trio especially useful for 6in. and 8in. pots for furnishing, being erect in habit of growth. The double cherries, Cerasus Pseudo-cerasus, James H. Veitch, double rose; C. serrulata, double white; and other varieties.

Viburnums plicatum and the newer Carlesii, that is very sweetly scented, are always attractive in flower.

Some of the dwarf forms of philadelphus, such as Lemonei hybrids, are very free flowering. Virginale, Bouquet Blanche and Avalanche are three good ones.

A few standards of Wistaria sinensis interspersed here and there are always effective in the grouping arrangement. The same may be said of plants of Acer Negundo variegata, A. palmatum sanguineum and



A SPRAY OF PRUNUS SERRULATA, THE JAPANESE CHERRY, WHICH IS OBTAINABLE IN MANY FINE FORMS AND MAKES A MOST EFFECTIVE DECORATION INSIDE AND OUT.

Previous to taking the various shrubs in for forcing, the plants should be cleansed, pots washed and top-dressed, if required, arranging them on inverted pots or tiles, thus keeping them clear of the soil. See that plants do not come in contact with others already in the greenhouse. Spray over with tepid water several times daily during bright weather, also use tepid water at the roots whenever required; this is an important point to remember when forcing.

Growth will soon be active in the case of such shrubs as Spiræa Thunbergii, S. arguta multiflora and S. prunifolia fl. pl., the double form, Rhododendrons præcox

Magnolia stellata, white, one of the best for this purpose, dwarf and compact; M. conspicua, M. Soulangeana, etc.

Syringas (lilac).—Charles X, rosy purple; Marie Legray, white; including Mme. Lemoine, double white, are three good sorts.

Forsythias add a touch of gold in colour of flower, F. suspensa being of pendent style of growth, while viridissima assumes a more erect form.

Deutzias, such as gracilis, corymbiflora in various sizes are very useful and largely grown; and Staphylla colchica, with white fragrant flowers, is always appreciated.

other varieties of acer. These add considerably to the effect, and may be easily had in full foliage under the same treatment as for flowering shrubs.

Hydrangeas may easily be brought forward into flower, especially H. hortensis and Mme. Moullière, white, one of the best and probably the most floriferous of all.

Azalea mollis in variety.—These are well known and appreciated by all both as pot plants and for cutting purposes.

With such a variety of easily forced plants enumerated there need be no lack of flowers during the early months of the year. While the plants are in full flower, in the event

Digitized by Google

of bright sunny periods, it will be found advantageous to run the lath-roller blinds down. Of recent years these blinds are used in winter as protection during severe frost, and are retained in position. This being so, they are always available when required. Shading from bursts of sunshine certainly preserves the flowers.

Cultural Notes.

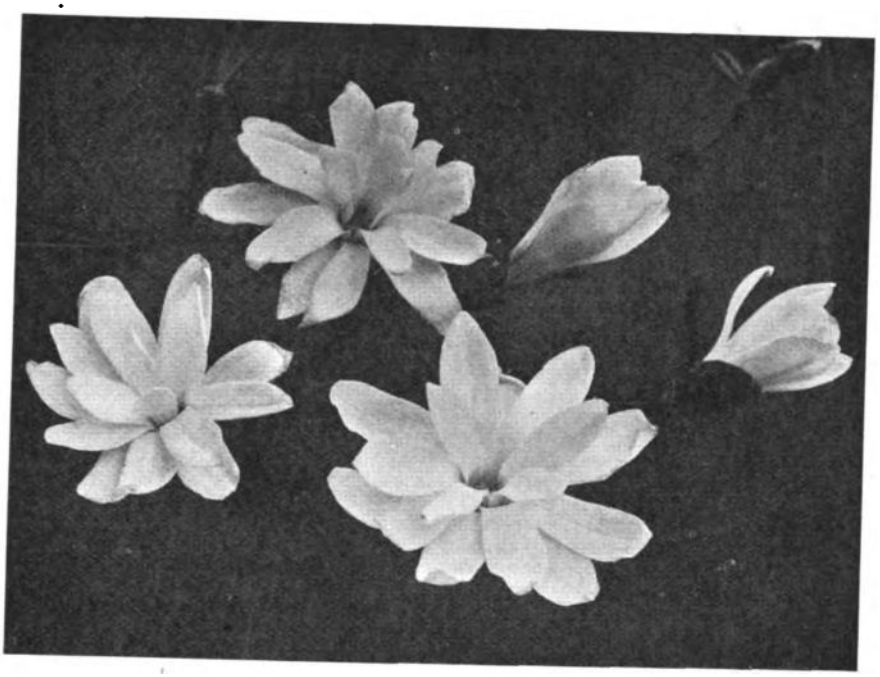
A few cultural notes on the subject may be of interest. After the plants have finished flowering they must be hardened off before being placed in the open, where they should be encouraged to make their growth *early* for another season's work. All dead flowers and seed pods being removed, prune back such subjects that require to be done, such as forsythias, spiræas, deutzias, etc. When growth is fairly active, pot on any that require larger pots and feed at intervals with liquid manure those requiring assistance. Plunge the pots in a bed of ashes in the frame ground during the summer months, giving due attention to syringing and watering, the supply of which should be reduced as the leaves change colour in the autumn months. When the plants in pots are standing outside in a bed of ashes, it should be seen that the ashes are tightly packed between the pots to prevent the roots of the plant and the pot itself from becoming unduly frozen. When the plants are taken from their outside positions they should be carefully introduced to a forcing temperature which is a mild one, varying from about 55° to 60° Fahr. Indeed, it is only in very exceptional cases, where rapid forcing is desired, that it will be found necessary to have a much higher temperature. A high temperature places too great a strain on the plants and leads to a rapid deterioration of the constitution and vigour of the plants, and should, therefore, be avoided.

The age of the shrub used for forcing must also be taken into consideration. Do not commence forcing a shrub into flower two or three years ahead of its time. That way disaster lies.

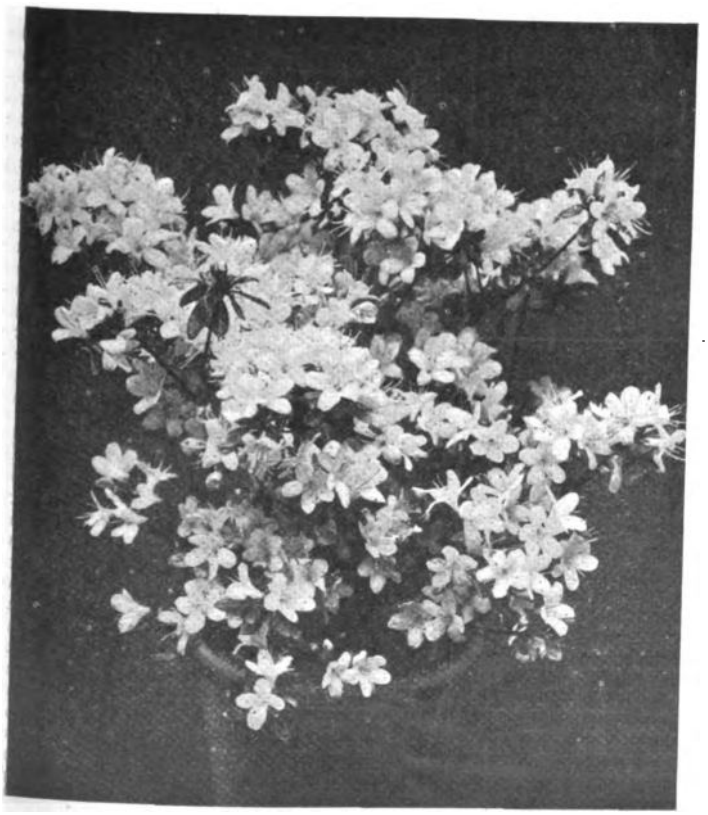
The ideal place for forcing shrubs is in a vinery or peach house where the atmosphere and temperature are both suitable. But as many gardeners do not possess a vinery it should be their aim to approximate to such conditions as closely as possible. If it is made certain that drainage is free and that the ball of soil is thoroughly moistened, then success is assured. Clear water must always be applied until the flowers have faded. The new shoots of the majority of these shrubs, especially azaleas and rhododendrons, appear as the buds develop and finish their growth almost by midsummer. Treated thus they will last many years. Should any become too large for the purpose required they may with advantage be planted in the shrubbery or beds where they will give a display for a number of years to come, smaller plants being grown on or procured to take their place.

The forcing of shrubs such as I have mentioned has much to commend it, especially so where a supply of flowers is required at probably the most difficult time of the year. Most of the shrubs may be obtained from nurserymen of repute who specialise in flowering shrubs that are now so popular in all gardens up and down the country.

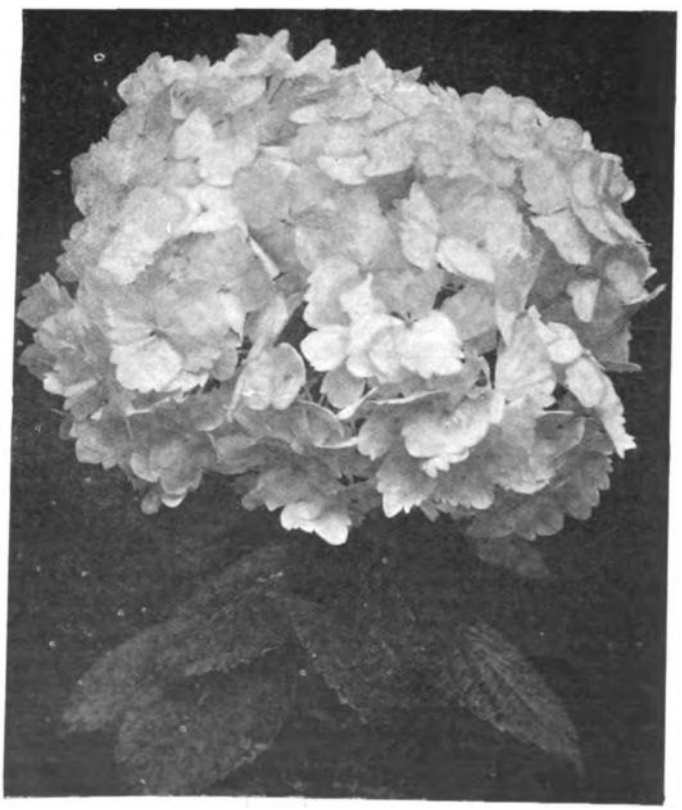
J. HAWKES.



MAGNOLIA STELLATA PROVIDES BEAUTIFUL BLOOMS BY FORCING.



NO SHRUB CARRIES MORE BLOSSOM THAN THE JAPANESE AZALEA.



THE LARGE WHITE HEAD OF HYDRANGEA MME. MOULLIERE

Digitized by Google

THE FRUIT AND KITCHEN GARDEN

Old Orchard Trees.

MANY of our old orchard trees yield—apples and pears mainly—when some of the younger and newer varieties fail. The fruits are mostly inferior, but still they are fruits and fill a gap sometimes. We want to go forward and not backward; we must replace old specimens with young ones, for, if we do not attend to this matter we go backwards—the old trees deteriorate. It is not always convenient, nor is it wise, to discard all old trees in an orchard at once without very good reason. I strongly advise cultivators to make their new orchards in other positions where this is possible. If, however, the old orchard must be retained, and practically all the old trees in it, a very close and careful examination of the latter should be made during the winter months. Observation in the summer should lead to action in the winter. Usually, our big old orchard trees only bear fruits near the tips of the branches, the main part of the interior of the tree being quite without fruits. Some very beneficial thinning-out of overcrowded branches may be done now; dead or dying branches, too, should be cut out and insect-infected trees dressed with tar-oil wash, which will, where it penetrates the bark, kill hiding pests and eggs. Having done something useful to the branches, deal with the roots forthwith. Grass growing right up to the stem of the tree is bad for the specimen and it should be cleared away quite 3ft. from the trunk all round. Simply free the soil from weeds and especially the tap-roots, if any, of coarse weeds. Then put on rotted, or half-rotted, manure and fibrous loam, mixed, to a depth of 3ins. Also pour in freely diluted liquid from the farmyard or from manure heaps. If soil and grass cannot be removed as here recommended, bore holes in the grass, 2ft. apart and covering the space where roots are likely to grow and pour liquid manure into them three times during the months of December, January and February. Old fruit trees are not fed much at any time.—G. G.

Currant and Gooseberry Cuttings.

THESE useful bush fruits are so easily raised from cuttings that everyone who possesses a garden should root a few each year to replace failures or old worn out bushes. Now is the time to make and insert these cuttings. Select strong, well ripened, current year's growth, avoiding the over-vigorous wood which is inclined to be sappy. The cuttings should be 10ins. or 12ins. in length and the base cut square with a sharp knife, just below a joint. Remove the unripened wood forming the tip of the shoot with a slanting cut.

In the case of red currants, white currants and gooseberries, all the buds except the top three should be carefully removed. This ensures that the resulting bushes will have a clean "leg" and that sucker growths will not spring from the base—an undesirable feature in the cases named. Black currants require a little different treatment, for here the fruit is produced on young wood and it is the object of the cultivator to encourage the growth of this type of wood from the base, therefore the buds in this case are not removed.

An open position sheltered from cold winds should be chosen for the cutting ground and this should be deeply dug and worked until a good tilth is obtained. No manure should be added, but if the ground has been manured well for the previous crop, so much the better. Open a clean trench 7ins. or 8ins. in depth and with the back wall cut slightly inclined. Against this wall the cuttings should rest at a distance of 4ins. apart and taking care that the bases of the cuttings are touching the bottom of the trench. If the soil is at all of a heavy nature it helps considerably if a layer of sand is sprinkled along the bottom of the trench before the cuttings are put in. A distance of 15ins. should be allowed between the rows. After insertion tread the ground firmly, but not too hard.

The treatment the cuttings require throughout the first year is not exacting. After severe frosts they should be examined and if they have been loosened by the action of the frost on the soil they will require treading firmly again. During the summer hoe frequently to encourage growth and keep down weeds, and in the following autumn, when the leaves have fallen, lift, prune them back and transplant on to a good piece of ground, allowing a distance of 1ft. between the plants and 18ins. between the rows. Do not plant too deeply, as if the roots are 4ins. or 5ins. below the surface it will be sufficient. The following autumn they will be ready for transplanting into their permanent quarters.

Many other plants may also be propagated in this way, including privets, forsythias, most roses, flowering currants, weigelas and many others.—T. H. EVERETT.

New Varieties of Potatoes.

GOOD new varieties of potatoes are always welcome and most gardeners are glad of a chance to add to their already well stocked collection. Really good varieties of merit which have been introduced within the last few years are very few indeed. Arran Consul, raised and introduced by Mr. Donald McKelvie Lamlash, is not yet so well known to growers as it ought to be. As a cropper it has far surpassed all the other newer varieties. The tuber may be described as a round-oval, although some are distinctly oval, still, quite a number will be found on the same plant that are almost round and often rather irregular in shape, many tubers growing far too large for exhibition purposes. Even allowing for the largeness of the tubers, I have never come across one with a hollow centre. The colour of the skin is white and the flesh slightly lemon. Growth and habit are excellent for garden purposes, being vigorous and upright, although slow in starting in spring, it grows into a bushy plant during summer, which tends to become spreading towards maturity. The leaflets are thick and leathery, somewhat resembling President in appearance, but much more crowded and produced closer on the leaf stalk. The chief feature of Arran Consul is its splendid keeping qualities. Growers will find it a most useful potato for storing, and it does not sprout readily in the pit. It is not affected in the least by blight, and being resistant to wart disease is one that can be recommended as a late variety for garden purposes.

Another of our recent Scottish introductions is South Esk (named "East Neuk" when put on the market). It is a most useful round late potato, and, like Arran Consul, is also a splendid variety for storing. The skin is white, but tends to become slightly purple round the heel end and eyes of the tuber on exposure, which might bar it as a white round on the exhibition table. The flesh is slightly lemon in colour, of excellent quality, cooking very dry and mealy. This variety crops well, all tubers being about the same size. The haulm is tall and upright, and when well grown each row stands up like a well trimmed privet hedge, which gives this variety its marked characteristic appearance. South Esk produces an abundance of small white flowers. It is immune from wart disease and fairly resistant to blight.

I have mentioned and described those two only, but there are more varieties of recent introduction which will in time take the place of the older kinds when they become better known.—GEO. STUART.

Leaf Soil: Its Use in the Garden.

ALL gardeners like to possess a good heap of leaf-soil. Leaf-mould is made or formed of the leaves of trees which fall naturally and are kept moist. There is no better leaf-soil than that formed naturally in our woods. The reason is because the moisture to which the leaves are subjected is never excessive; they may, at times, become dry, but eventually they decay and become available for use in the garden. If leaves are constantly saturated with water they retain their freshness for a long time. We find such leaves under water in ditches near woods. So, to cause a natural decay, the leaves should be gathered as they fall and placed in flat heaps—not high, conical-shaped ones—in some convenient place. In any great quantity they engender heat and sometimes burn, but if the heap is turned over every four or five weeks such excessive heat will be arrested and a natural rotting take place. Shake out the leaves loosely and sprinkle water on them if dry; do not tread down the heap, let it settle gradually. The turning should be continued throughout the summer and more water used. In the course of eighteen months the mass will be flaky and fit for use. Untouched heaps do not rot before the end of two or three years. If fresh leaves are gathered and treated in separate heaps annually, leaf-soil will be available always.

Sticks and foreign matter should be picked out. Lime and ammoniacal liquor will bring about decay in a shorter time, but the mould may not be as good for plants as that rotted in a natural way. For nearly all hard-wooded plants and trees, leaf-soil is useful and highly beneficial. For promoting the growth of seedlings it is not surpassed by any other ingredient or mixture. Cucumbers will thrive in it; primulas, cinerarias and nearly all kinds of bulbs root freely in it. The proportion for leaf-soil loving plants grown in pots should be one-third. For general use, 1 part to 4 parts of loam and other ingredients. For seedlings it should be reduced to a powder, almost; for primulas and similar kinds of plants, it should be passed through a ¼in. mesh sieve. For cucumbers and other plants in beds, use the leaf-soil in a flaky condition, but always free from bits of wood.—HANTS.

Soil Pests in Winter.

DURING the winter, most pests which infest the soil hibernate or remain dormant, to issue with unabated destructive energy again with the mild weather which announces springtime. They never travel far from their spring, summer and autumn haunts; this fact should always be recognised, for it is possible to take active and drastic measures very often when the land lies vacant. Some penetrate into the ground like the carrot fly, the cabbage root fly and others, to lie inactive a few inches under the surface. Others, again, hie to warmer quarters, obtaining the slightly higher temperature and uniform moistness from rubbish and decaying vegetable matter, all too plentiful in some gardens. Yet again, one may find

Digitized by Google

ite a number under piles of waste like a sticks, old stones, slates and so on. A v remain very close to the surface, particu- ly close to the roots of weeds or edging d other plants; or they may take to the vn and live temporarily in the turf. Still other few hide in dirty hedge bottoms d in clumps of foliage. By trenching a st-ridden spot, soil pests of various kinds e buried and stifled; if ordinary digging is rried out they are exposed for a time and ay fall a prey to fowls or birds. When the soil is loosened, too, the action of soil fumigants is more thorough, and so the use of any soil fumigant, like lime-naphthaline, cresol, household ammonia or formalin, is more than justified. Rubbish must never disfigure any tidy garden, nor will it accumulate where pests are feared. If it is soft decaying matter, then it must be dusted with soot, lime, soil fumigant or other insecticide; or it can be well wetted with some of those liquids I have already mentioned. Hedge bottoms must be cleaned out and the rubbish burnt; clumps of herbage may be dusted with soot or lime, and edging plants may be treated likewise. Just as summer routine demands constant warfare against pests of all kinds, so must the campaign be continued throughout the winter, even when pests do no damage; it is no use "hiding our head in the sand" as the ostrich was said to do at the approach of danger, for potential dangers from pests demand attention just as actual damage in summer must be seen to at once.—CLYDESDALE.

WHAT OUR READERS SAY

A READER'S GARDEN.

IR,—The enclosed photographs of my rden may be of interest to your readers.

The situation is wind-swept and Cupressus acrocarpa has proved itself invaluable as a uick-growing shelter. We have one shelter edge of the cypress in its third year after lanting which shows extraordinary growth.

AN ATTRACTIVE FLOWER BORDER IN A READER'S GARDEN.

THE DECORATIVE VALUE OF ANNUALS IS SEEN IN THIS BORDER.

It is rather too rapid in growth to be really satisfactory as a clipped hedge, but its vivid green makes a pleasing background for brilliant coloured flowers.

The border in the foreground shows the use of annuals in a large rose border.—M. G. HARFIELD (Mrs.), *Hythe, Hampshire.*

FERNS IN THE ROCK GARDEN.

SIR,—I was interested in Mr. Johnson's article on native ferns, for I find them undeservedly neglected. May I supplement his notes with a few of my own.

He confines himself to dwarf ferns, but many rock gardens would have room for our most beautiful species, the Lady fern, for Osmunda regalis in a damp place, and for the polystichums which brave the winter.

Asplenium viride is a pretty little chink-loving fern, like its commoner cousin, A. trichomanes, but with a green stalk. We used to find it and the holly fern in Perthshire; a plant of the latter has been here for about thirty years, but has never increased in size, and I had two from the Pyrenees about three years ago, one of which is already larger than the Scottish one. The best I know is an Irishman growing in Norfolk.

I find the parsley fern and ceterach rather difficult to establish here, the only plant of the latter growing in a brick wall in full sun, not a cool place, as prescribed by Mr. Johnson. I have seen 2oyds. of it in a wall in Co. Galway. I can also recommend Asplenium septemtrionale and A. lanceolatum. With me they like shady chinks, and, indeed, the beauty of these little ferns is that they love what the rock plants hate—damp and shade.

If you have a part of the garden devoted to ferns, it is well to plant primroses and snowdrops among them to flower before the ferns come up, and later on the Himalayan primulas, helodoxa, Bulleyana, etc., will give a welcome variety.—C. G. FIELD-MARSHAM, *Tunbridge Wells.*

AN ATTRACTIVE CLIMBER.

SIR,—Eccremocarpus scaber is always admired, but some would-be possessors of it remain without the plant because of a reputed difficulty in its growing. There is, however, no trouble to grow and keep our subject provided it is planted in light soil which is well drained. These conditions are not so essential during the best months of the year, but they are vital to the life of this climber during the winter months. It is continued dampness round the base of the stem and rootstock that kills. In the more porous and warm soils self-sown seedlings will occasionally appear, thus strengthening their hold in any given place. I have found it so here. Where the plants are not so free of habit, layering can be resorted to, also seed sowing under prepared conditions. Just now, the third week in November, several growths of the plants here are quite green and, in a measure, still active. Other growths are brown in leaf and stem with small bunches of seed pods hanging from them—hence the name "Eccremocarpus"—pendent fruit. Calampelis is another name this plant is known by.—C. T., *Ampthill.*

POTATO DUKE OF YORK.

SIR,—You will probably remember that much correspondence arose out of my mentioning Duke of York and Midlothian Early in an article on potatoes in a spring number of THE GARDEN, and opinion was divided as to whether these varieties were synonymous or not. I discussed the subject with Mr. J. R. Poad and with Mr. Cuthbertson and both declare that there is no difference between stocks of these now retailed under the different names. On the other hand, all my farmer friends who have cultivated the two varieties for a great many years, are emphatic that there is a difference between the *original* Duke of York and the variety that is now sold as Midlothian Early, but the difficulty is finding anyone who has any seed of the so-called original stock. I was hoping to be able to come across an old grower in this district who has propagated his stock for, say, fifteen or more years (one grower has done this with Ninetyfold, but not with Duke of York), but I have not been able to do so yet. If so, we may be able to see if there really is any difference. However, my farmer friends assure me that Duke of York as they knew it years ago was a deeper yellow in the flesh than Midlothian, closer in texture (*i.e.*, sadder), when cooked, earlier, but not such a good cropper. The habit was also said to be different, being dwarfer. I did not enter into the recent discussion because it was difficult to prove the case, one way or the other, and the arguments took up too much of your valuable space. I merely give you these facts to show that there is still a difference of opinion.—NORMAN LAMBERT.

SYNONYMS AMONG TULIP NAMES.

SIR,—In perusing several bulb catalogues at leisure one cannot but be struck with the great number of named varieties each represented as the best of its class or colour. Now,

Digitized by Google

if two flowers, otherwise identical, in every respect, bloom at definitely earlier or later dates, or if they have shorter or longer stems or other definite differences, there is excuse for various names — not otherwise. A short stemmed variety may be entitled to be described as "best" in a wind-swept garden, while in a more favoured position her longer stemmed sister may reign supreme. Occasionally one encounters a very subtle difference. Can anybody tell me the difference between the old true Yellow Florist tulip and Bouton d'Or, beyond the fact that they are the product of different parents and the latter increases out of all proportion to the former? Since acquiring the famous collection of tulips lately owned by the late Rev. Joseph Jacob, my list of varieties has jumped by several hundreds and as some of my stocks are growing into scores of thousands, I make no excuse for pleading the desirability of fixing standard names for standard varieties. Frequently one is momentarily "caught out" by an enquiry for a known variety under an unfamiliar name. Thus we find the well known May-flowering Tulip Bronze Queen is known as Clio, Biscuit; Sensation, Duc d'Orleans. That magnificent Tulip Prince of Orange is also to be found as Orange Beauty, General Ney and Gesneriana aurantica major. Then we have Boadicea, which is really larger, brighter and longer in the stem than Hammer Hales, which is in five cases out of six supplied when Boadicea is called for, and I see now in a Dutch catalogue that they are actually offered as the same thing. Panorama, Monument and Fairy are identical, though anything less fairy-like than its rich glowing chestnut would be hard to find. Cramoisie Brilliant, Carmine Brilliant and Sparkler are identical. Bartigon = Early Darwin (Barr only) = Lord Duncan (Hogg and Robertson). Mrs. W. D. Fish = Fashion = Mrs. Potter Palmer. Nauticus = Sir Edward Grey. Dream = Grand Maître = Rêve de Jeunesse. Joseph Israels = The Sultan = Suzon. Ravenswing = Faust. Wm. Copland = Sweet Lavender. Blushing Bride = Isabella = Shandon Balls. Picotee = Maiden's Blush = La Vierge. And so the list might be extended *ad infinitum*. Is this another instance of the tulip's peculiarity of "breaking" after it has left the raiser's hands? A rose by any other name would smell as sweet, but can a tulip add in this manner to its attractions?—HERBERT G. LONGFORD.

HARDY CYCLAMEN.

SIR,—Some very pretty and even striking effects may be obtained by planting freely of these lovely little plants, for sheer hardiness they are difficult to beat, as witness C. Coum, the flowers of this species appearing in quantity during February and March, and on occasion I have gathered many blooms on Christmas Day; in grass beneath an old tree or colonised in the cooler parts of the rock garden, C. Coum, with its deep red flowers and round deep green leaves, purple beneath, is one of the prettiest and most satisfying of spring flowers.

C. ibericum, another spring-flowering species, is characterised by bright red flowers, each having, at their base, a purple spot; the leaves are faintly undulated at the edge and distinctly zoned with white. Flowering in February and March, it is closely followed (March to May) by C. repandum, rosy red flowers with purple base and white zoned leaves, and before leaving the spring-flowering forms, mention must be made of that fine garden form of ibericum named Atkinsii, and of the albino forms of Coum and ibericum. These harbingers of spring are noteworthy for extreme hardiness, Coum especially being resistant to the severest weather and appearing to gleam ever brighter as the gloom of mid-winter descends upon it. Of the late summer and autumn-flowering types, C. neapolitanum has white or red flowers with, in either case, purple basal colouring; the flowers appear before the leaves, but the latter are usually developed before flowering has finished, whereas in the spring-flowering section, the leaves are contemporary with the flowers. The leaves of neapolitanum are large and furnished with irregular "teeth," but are not so lovely as those of C. africanum, sometimes known as hederæfolium, for, beautifully mottled and marbled with white, they render this plant beautiful of foliage as of flower, the latter in pink and red shades and there is also a white form.

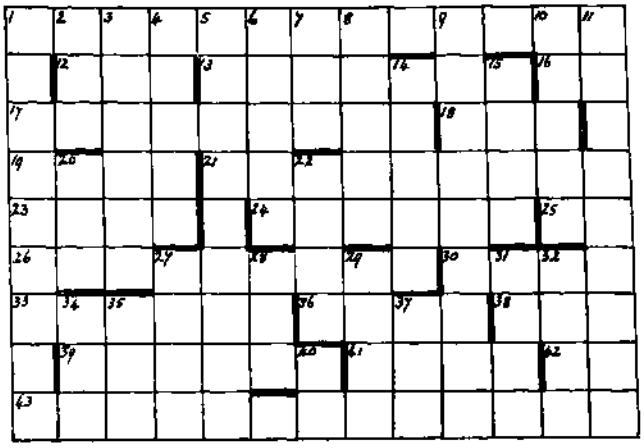
C. europæum has bright red and slightly fragrant flowers and contemporary leaves, these mottled with white and tinted purple beneath; these summer-flowering forms bloom from August to October and as with the spring species, are ideal for massing in half-shaded situations in border, thin woodland, grassland or rock garden. They resent disturbance and should be allowed to carpet the soil with self-sown seedlings, and in a comparatively short time will form masses of flower and foliage, a lovely feature of any garden, large or small.

An annual surface dressing of leaf-mould is greatly enjoyed and proves of great benefit but otherwise cyclamen are not fastidious, thriving in any cool and ordinarily good soil and perhaps never looking or doing better than when growing in thin woodland, the red flowers of Coum, for instance, being extra pretty when visualised between brown hazel stems; excellent effects are also obtainable by planting cyclamen as a groundwork to American plants, and so used, they thrive luxuriantly.

As a matter of interest, it may be stated that these plants attain to a great age and will form corms of huge size. I have seen corms of the dimensions of a good sized plate and as hard as a piece of oak, yet those ancients lose nothing of vitality but simply ask for immunity from disturbance. In conclusion, I may advise planting cyclamen when in a dormant condition.—RALPH E. ARNOLD, *Campden, Glos.*

A HORTICULTURAL CROSSWORD.

Many of our readers may be interested to try the accompanying horticultural crossword puzzle for their own amusement sent in by a correspondent. The result will be published in our next week's issue. No prizes will be given and no solutions must be sent to this office.



ACROSS.

1 B. corallina (evergreen flowering climber).
12 Plant which is an emblem of bitterness and grief; herb of grace.
13 Enchanter.
16 First two letters of shrub symbolising honour.
17 L—— californica, hardy annual (Compositæ).
18 Transport for plants.
19 Lily associated with idleness.
21 Good digestion (may your gardening give it you).
23 Indigo plant.
24 Mixed grain, especially rye and wheat.
25 Repeat from the beginning (abb.)
26 Particularly choice (Fr.).
30 South American species of holly.
33 Thorn apple.
36 Pupil of Linnæus who gave his name to a genus of evergreen flowering shrubs of which the American laurel is one.
38 One-celled fruit with a hardened pericarp.
39 Chastising (schoolboy word).
41 Hindu cultivator.
42 First half of another word for lawn.
43 Botanical name for the native elecampane (two words).

DOWN.

1 Campanula —— Miranda.
2 Series of years.
3 Style for arches and summer-houses.
4 Nut chewed by Malays.
5 Cotyledon used for edging.
6 Botanical name of a plant whose stalks we eat.
7 Scotsman's name.
8 What the soil does when it lacks 15 down.
9 American date plum.
10 Epic poem (Gr.).
11 A thicket of willows.
14 Acer.
15 Beneficial to gardens.
20 Number.
22 What the nurseryman must do carefully if his plants are to arrive undamaged.
27 Husk.
28 First syllable of buttercup order.
29 The skin of flax.
31 First four letters of the other name for snapdragon.
32 New Zealand shrub; twice 42 across.
34 Husk; beard of corn or grass.
35 Toad-fish.
37 Solution of potash and soda in water.
40 First half of —— Mrs. Bradshaw.

STERNBERGIA.

SIR,—Our experience here with sternbergia may be of some use to north country gardeners reading Mr. Cahen's note on page 698. Having admired the autumnal display of S. lutea both on the Continent and in the southerly English counties, I have repeatedly planted bulbs here, always with the same depressing result. Even when given a full south aspect at the foot of a wall they have never produced any flower, which leads me to conclude that they require more baking than they can derive from our Scottish sunshine. Conditions may be more favourable on the east coast, but I have never happened to see this attractive plant flowering in Scotland. It would be interesting to hear whether it ever does so.—HERBERT MAXWELL, *Monreith.*

HIRSUTE CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

SIR,—In the issue of THE GARDEN of November 13th, in Flower Garden Notes, mention is made of hirsute chrysanthemums. About thirty years ago I used to grow them with great pleasure, and would gladly do so again if I could procure them. If any of your readers could put me in touch with anyone from whom I could procure cuttings I would greatly appreciate it.—H. MACBETH-RAESIDE, *Newbury, Berks.*

Digitized by Google

DECEMBER IN THE GREENHOUSE

Winter-Flowering Begonias.

AS the flower buds open, a comparatively dry atmosphere, with a slight lowering of the temperature, about 55 degrees at night, will help the flowers to maintain their freshness for a longer period.

To keep in check the spread of thrip and rust—the pests most to be feared on begonias—and to forestall the necessity of doing it when the plants are in full flower, vaporise the house on two successive evenings. For this purpose use a nicotine preparation at a strength 100 per cent. more than would be used to kill green fly. And for a similar reason, go over the plants carefully and touch any mealy bug with a drop of methylated spirits from a pointed stick or small brush.

Also give the shoots a final readjustment to their stakes, of which there should be enough to support the plant in a natural way without their being offensive to the eye.

When the flowering period is over the plants "rest," normally from January to March. Although producing stems annually these begonias, with an exception, do not form a tuberous root as we understand the term, but have a root stock in the form of a cluster of fleshy buds. Under these circumstances they do not survive the "drying off" system practised on the true tuberous begonia. Yet they must be rested and this is brought about by reducing the water supply to the lowest minimum compatible with retaining the plumpness of these underground buds. A further concession to induce this "resting" and to economise room is to cut away the spent flowers with a fair part of the growth. Another notable point about this section of begonias is that they resent being rested in a cool house, but must have warmth with plenty of light.

The exception quoted when referring to the formation of tuberous roots is found in two to four year old plants, which might be called "clibran" winter-flowering begonias for distinction.

Plants of this age form bulbs which may be "rested" and restarted into growth after the manner of the ordinary tuberous begonia.

First year plants of this type require rather more care in resting, indeed, it is, I think, the most crucial period in their whole cultivation.

The situation must be neither cold nor hot, and water given in just sufficient quantities to retain the stem and leaves as long as possible.

If too much be given, decay of the root stock may set in, and too little causes the foliage to fall away too early and there is a difficulty in the plants resuming growth when required.—WM. MCCARRELL.

Soot Water for Pot Plants in Winter.

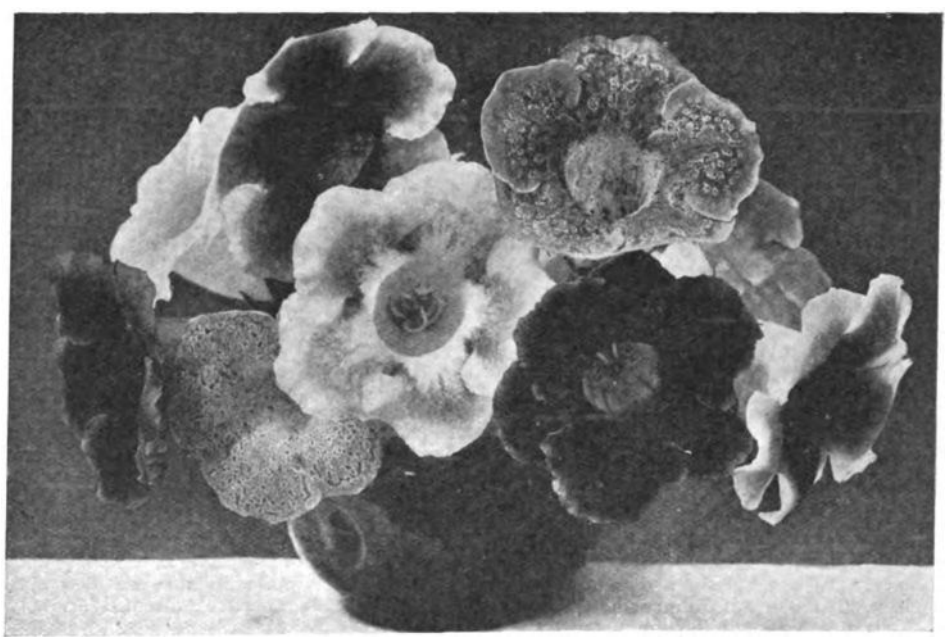
THE application of stimulants for plants in pots which are located in a greenhouse during the winter is not always appreciated, and it not infrequently happens that those valued for the beauty of foliage are not seen at their best at this time of the year. There are, as we know, several proprietary articles which are of great benefit in keeping plants in vigour and in imparting a brilliancy to the leaves, without which they lose much of their charm. Not only foliage plants but those which flower in winter are benefited by stimulants, and in this connection one has but to mention primulas, cinerarias, azaleas, and genistas like Cytisus fragrans. One of the commonest stimulants, within the reach of all, is soot which has stood some time in the open and been turned over a few times to rid it of "fire." This, if put in a coarse bag and placed in the water tank, will be found a safe and sure remedy for stimulating most plants, and after a few applications the change in foliage is most marked, as it assumes a dark green that is an indication of a vigorous forward movement having taken place.

It is important to note that soot should never be used when in a new state, and is best after it has stood some time at least in the open air. In applying it in a liquid form, it is always best to do so after the usual watering, and no attempt ought to be made to give plants this or, indeed, any stimulant when they are dry. We are sometimes apt to fall back on highly concentrated manures when considering a "pick-me-up" for our plants, and overlook this homely remedy, which, rightly given, seldom, if ever fails. —W. F.

Start Some Gloxinias Now.

GLOXINIAS are so attractive and so useful for decoration that every effort to prolong their "season" is justified; for that reason we advocate a start being made with some of the tubers this month, others to follow at intervals and a succession of bloom ensured later in the year. Old corms may now be shaken out of their pots, in which they have been resting in quite dry compost for a time; nice firm ones are best for our purpose at this time. Such corms are placed in a box of compost consisting of half soil and half well rotted leaves; they can be placed there, an inch apart, and just covered with the compost; after watering, the box is placed quite close to the pipes so that a good bottom heat may send them fairly quickly into growth. Care must be taken to see that the compost never gets dry; light sprayings overhead encourage growth, but these do not keep the compost wet and a fairly good watering must be given now and again. When top growth becomes well established, the corms are lifted carefully with as much compost about them as possible and as little disturbance as need be, and then put into 4in. pots. In due course they will require a shift, into 5in. pots probably, the compost still being much the same except that a little sand and some cow manure may be added; town growers who cannot get cow manure may use hops, but composts containing such semi-artificial mixtures are best made up a few weeks in advance. In repotting, take a small pot, the same size as that containing the plant, place this in the larger size and then pack soil tightly round it. Remove the pot, knock out the gloxinia and slip it, with ball of soil, intact into the hole; very little work is needed in this way and there is no danger to the brittle leaves; water carefully, but fully afterwards. Do not spray growing gloxinias overhead, but let the air be moist for them.—H. A.

[The illustration of gloxinias which appears on this page is by kind permission of Messrs. Sutton and Sons.—ED.]



AN ATTRACTIVE BOWL OF EXOTIC-LOOKING GLOXINIA BLOOMS.

The Damping Off of Plants, Leaves and Flowers.

IN late autumn and throughout the winter months amateurs suffer much loss through the damping off of leaves, stems or whole plants. As long as we have sunshine and drying winds there is not much difficulty experienced in keeping the atmosphere inside the glass-house buoyant; but immediately the damp, sunless days come, with fogs frequently, plants suffer unless they are very carefully attended to. Take, for instance, pots of lobelia or tufts of these plants in boxes. When fogs come the centres soon become a mass of mould and the whole plant is lost, if the specimens have been carelessly watered and the moisture has lodged in the centre of the massed leaves. All kinds of plants of a similar character suffer in the same way. If convenient, the plants should be kept on shelves so that air can reach them all round, and water applied only in the early part of the day when bright weather prevails—indeed, all choice plants should be watered early in the day and in fine weather, pouring the water on the soil and not on the leaves nor on the stems of soft-wooded plants such as winter-flowering begonias, primulas, cinerarias and calceolarias. Perhaps there is more loss among the zonal pelargoniums than any other class of plant, mainly for two reasons, their soft, woolly nature and sappiness. The pelargonium is a plant that will live a long time without water in the winter season but, unfortunately, cultivators do not realise this enough and apply water in winter almost as freely as in the summer. Another fruitful

Digitized by Google

cause of loss of plants is found in the use of saucers to contain water. Only in very exceptional cases should saucers ever be used, and even then drained water should be emptied away. In the winter, water in saucers is bound to cause the soil to become sour and eventually kill the roots. The water used should be of the same temperature as that of the house, as applications of very cold water tend to the damping of leaves and rotting of roots and stems. Surface moistening of the soil is also bad for the plants; this is frequently done, whereas a thorough soaking of the soil only when the latter is really getting dry will do a lot of good and not tend to loss of plants through damping. Recently rooted cuttings possess a few roots only; they should be grown in a small bulk of soil—in small pots or in shallow boxes, and more care should be bestowed on them than on established plants. Daily attention to the plants is essential. Decaying leaves and flower petals should be removed regularly, as one bad petal will soon cause a whole truss of flowers to decay; especially is this the case with zonal pelargoniums. Overcrowding is bad for the plants always; all watering necessary should be done in the morning and spilled water dried up. As much ventilation as possible should be given early in the day and very little after midday. Front ventilation on hot days will help to dry up the moist atmosphere, but the main ventilation should be at the top of the house. A gentle heat in the pipes and judicious ventilation will combine to preserve the plants from damp generally.

Plants for the Greenhouse this Winter.

NEVER before has it been more difficult to know what is best to do with greenhouses that, in early autumn, were stocked with a variety of plants which need a certain amount of heat to tide them over winter. The restrictions on supplies of house fuel, and its abnormal cost, has had the effect of many greenhouses having to be closed down, so far as applying heat is concerned, and the plants already in them are having "to take their chance." The problem which confronts quite a number of folk is how to fill the vacancies which will be caused, and what is the most economical course to pursue to furnish the greenhouse with plants, so that it may be gay by another summer. I think most of us have given precedence in our houses to plants of a permanent character—pelargoniums, heliotropes, vallotas as examples—and have not always remembered that it is quite possible to begin the "gardening year" in March under glass and have a good show by June by using annuals. It is quite true that, among amateurs, there are not a few who, while recognising the worth of annuals in the garden, fail to appreciate them as pot plants. Necessity will, I imagine, bring to the front many annuals that may be grown to perfection under glass without any artificial heat whatever and make a place quite attractive. A consideration of some of those suitable for bringing this about is here suggested. They can be raised from seed sown, say, at the end of March, in pans of light soil, given a shift into another pan, or small pot for preference, and finally potted off into 5in. or 6in. pots.

What May be Grown.

Clarkias, thunbergias (for trailing), mignonette, Rhodanthe maculata and R. m. alba (a dozen plants in a pot), cosmeas, balsams, Phlox Drummondii, salpiglossis, godetias (particularly the double forms), sweet peas, lavatera, sweet sultans, jacobæas, nasturtiums (dwarf) and Chrysanthemum tricolor.

These are but a few of the annuals which are of service for potting. The cost of such a display will be found trifling as compared with buying a fresh stock of the orthodox plants seen in so many houses, and the result cannot fail to please when they are grown as individual plants and not in masses.

HINTS WORTH REMEMBERING

Half a guinea will be paid each week for the most useful or interesting hint sent in by a reader. Five shillings will be paid for all others published. Owing to the number of hints which are sent in, we desire that, in future, each hint should be sent in on a post card, and should be limited to 150 words. Payment for these hints is made on the 7th of each month following publication. Responsibility for the accuracy of these hints must rest with the contributors.

THE HALF-GUINEA HINT.

How to Prevent Fumes and Smoke from Oil Stoves in Greenhouses.

Many people have found it necessary to use an oil stove to keep frost from the greenhouse. To prevent the stove smoking the wicks must be kept trimmed and the burners clean. If a block of camphor be dissolved in each quart of paraffin the light will be brighter and the fumes not so strong. Also the lamp will not smoke. Another tip is to soak the wick in vinegar and then dry it before using. —T. H. H.

Killing Tree Stumps.

I am often asked how I killed the stumps of two large elm trees which four years ago were cut down near the high road in my garden. The roots came sprouting up all over the place and were a great nuisance. After the tree was cut down and cleared away, I dug a good deal of the soil away close round the stump and peeled off all the bark, leaving it quite bare. As the sap runs up the bark of a tree, it was a most efficient way of killing it. Since that date no sprouting roots have been seen. If in digging the garden, tree roots are dug up, they are always dead and rotten. The remaining tree stump makes a good garden seat.—M. E. T.

A Use for an Old Garden Broom.

When the garden broom is wearing down, do not throw it away. Take it to pieces. The handle makes a good strong stake and the rest is most useful for propping up plants of rather straggling habit and for keeping birds from pecking out the buds from primroses, etc.—L. B.

How to Preserve Delphiniums, Scabiosa caucasia and Pyrethrums from Seeds.

These charming herbaceous plants are easily grown, but during the dormant season slugs will travel miles to devour the young growths just below the surface. I have found the following method quite a success. Secure a basket of air *slaked* lime, and place a good handful over the crown of each plant, a mere sprinkling is useless. There is no need to be afraid, the top of the plant will be covered with lime, in fact large roots may require two handfuls. In the spring, clean, fresh, healthy young growths, especially the delphiniums, will push up through the lime and flower freely. Remember, the lime must be air slaked, not fresh lime in lumps. Thousands of the above plants are destroyed annually by slugs. Here's a remedy, now go ahead.—T. B.

Successful Holly Growing for Its Berries.

Hollies grow best in chalky soil and when well established furnish heavy crops of berries every year. When planting holly bushes in deep, loamy soil, cut large square holes, 4ft. wide, 3ft. deep, clear half of the loam away, then add chalk, mixing chalk and loam together in equal proportions, then plant firmly. Be sure the holes are hard and solid at the bottom. Large holly bushes, with no berries year after year, require root-pruning; cut a ring round the bush 4ft. from the trunk and 3ft. 6ins. deep and cut all tap roots, then fill up with chalk or mortar rubble.—B. R.

A Good Way to Sow Annuals.

Some annuals cannot satisfactorily be transplanted and the following method of sowing will be found helpful. After the bed has been prepared, take some sand and lay a handful of it on the ground at stated intervals, according to the size of the annual. For instance, for a plant of high growth like Lavatera Loveliness, the patches of sand should be quite a yard apart. When the ground is fully marked out with white patches, dibble four or five seeds into each patch, one line after another. This method is infinitely more economical of seed than the usual way of sowing in drills or broadcasting, and has the additional advantage that, if the seed is slow in germinating, the ground can be hoed between the patches, which can easily be seen.—R. H.

A Serviceable Hoe.

I used to find when using a hoe in the flower border, that occasionally some young plant or more often a sprouting bulb was sadly mutilated or even cut off by the sharp blade. I have now dispensed with the ordinary Dutch hoe to a certain extent, and have made a very serviceable tool, which has all the advantages of the hoe and none of its disadvantages, by taking the handle off an ordinary gardening trowel and fixing the spike of the trowel into a long handle. The spoon shape of the blade enables me to get between all the closest growing plants and bulbs without much fear of an accident, using it in the same manner as the Dutch hoe.—B. S. H.

A Simple Method of Catching Cockroaches.

These insects sometimes do very considerable damage in glasshouses by eating off the tender growing points of various plants. A good method of trapping them is to procure some clean jam jars of the 1lb. size (the number required will depend upon the size of the house), and into the bottom of each pour about 1in. of sweet oil. Place these overnight in suitable positions in the house and lean two or three pieces of wood against them for the insects to crawl up. Examine the following morning and remove the dead bodies from the oil. The same oil may then be used the following night. After this has been continued for four or five successive nights it will be found that the number of cockroaches caught will begin to decrease. A period of a fortnight may then be allowed to elapse before the traps are set again. This is a surprisingly effective method, and if persisted in an infested house will soon quickly cleared of these undesirable creatures. Needless to say it proves equally as efficacious in dwelling houses or outbuildings where these pests abound.—T. H. E.

Digitized by Google

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

Wistarias—Their Pruning and Culture.

WISTARIAS are often disappointingly flowerless. This defect is frequently attributed to anything but the real cause. Trees which grow well in the North and Midlands and yet yield few blooms, or those planted with a wrong aspect, which equally (like the Biblical fig tree) produce nothing but leaves, can be made to bloom abundantly if they are properly pruned. All gardeners know that, but even in the counties south of the Thames, where wistarias grow rampantly and are usually most floriferous, it is by no means rare to come across trees which flower meagrely for want of pruning. Owners of such should, without delay, subject them to the following treatment. The main and side branches should be trained to cover all the available space, every one of them being allowed sufficient room in which to develop, with a view to its leaves and flowers covering its support between it and the next branch.

When this has been done it will be found that in old established trees there are many straggling and badly placed branches, and weakly shoots, for which there is no room—as there must be no crossing of the branches. These useless growths should all be spurred in the winter while the sap is dormant. Spurring consists of shortening each growth to within two buds of its base.

As in the case of apple and pear trees, flowering spurs will result from such pruning.

Although in an ideal situation the wistaria, when properly nourished, will produce flower spurs without any pruning being done (like plum and cherry trees), yet, after a lapse of years, fewer and fewer flowers are produced unless the young growths are cut back to two buds. This is necessary, not only to produce flowers, but also to admit light and air, and to prevent overcrowding of the branches, which always results in weak growth. Sometimes the oldest branches of a wistaria become worn out and are naked save at their apices. In that case a young strong growth should be trained to take the place of the old one, which should be cut right out. When the new branch reaches its space limit it should be shortened to a bud. Its laterals, like those of all the other branches, should be spurred during the winter.

A lack of phosphates in the soil is another cause for flowerless wistarias. An easy and most efficacious way of supplying this lack is to dig in one or two largish bones into the soil around the roots of the trees. These bones will give the trees all the phosphates they require for years, as bones disintegrate slowly and the plants can obtain food from them as their needs demand it. This continual provision of phosphatic nourishment will not only help wistaria to produce flowers, but will deepen their colour and increase their size. Bones, either entire or broken, are capital things to give to *any* flowering tree or shrub that is chary of blossoming.—VICTORIA SLADE.

Stems Needing Protection.

THE uncertainty of the weather in this country often makes plants unable to withstand spells of severe frost. Quite commonly part of the winter may be mild and wet so that many subjects are kept in a semi-active state. Their stems, being in a succulent condition, suffer much more from extreme cold than if the greater part of the sap had withdrawn to the roots. The delicate tea roses, evergreen magnolias, tree peonies and bays are instances which come to mind, but there are many others. In some cases not a great deal can be done to protect the plant as a whole, and if the conditions are very bitter much of the smaller growth will have to be sacrificed. There is no reason why the damage should be allowed to extend to the plant as a whole if a suitable method of stem protection is adopted. If one can keep the stem alive and healthy, most of these somewhat tender subjects will grow with great vigour when the spring comes and more than make up any loss which they may have sustained. Stem protection may not be needed in every winter, but it is just as well to be prepared to adopt this measure at the first sign of really sharp weather setting in.

Probably the best way of protecting the stem of a plant is to bind it closely with hay bands. If the hay band is well twisted it will to a large extent resist the penetration of moisture. If, as sometimes happens, there is a thaw, succeeded by a second frosty spell, it is well to examine the hay, as when this is sodden it should be replaced by dry material. Material that is thoroughly wet does more harm than good in frosty weather. Not only should the stems be heavily bandaged in the way described, but it is, as well, a good plan to litter the ground with a thickish layer of bracken, straw or hay. The roots of many plants grow perilously near the surface of the soil and if this should be frozen hard to the depth of several inches serious damage is sure to result.

Home-Gathered Seeds.

AS a general rule there is not very much advantage in the owner of a small garden—or, in fact, a large garden—in saving one's own seeds, thinking thereby to economise. We all, I imagine, desire the most prolific display of flowers for the longest period, and the best crops of vegetables, and we do not like to sacrifice either for the purpose of obtaining seeds by restraining their output at mid-season. There are exceptions, of course, but to make a practice of looking to the garden for supplying seeds which may be sown and produce satisfactory results, equal to those purchased through a reputable seedsman, is altogether a mistaken idea. When it is remembered that, mostly, "home saved" seeds are those harvested at the back-end of the season, when plants are spent and are at their lowest vitality, it is not to be wondered at that there comes a time when the amateur seedsman is not altogether satisfied at the labour expended. Runner beans may prove good for several years, but even with them it is not wise to rely too much on home produce. I have known men who have boasted that "they always save their kidney bean seed," but the truth is that one could scarcely discern the original variety in the plants produced from the seed gathered so long. It is not difficult to explain how degeneration is brought about, not only in gathering seed in autumn when plants have cropped well and have become weakened in consequence, but by bees and other pollen distributors which spoil the strains of seeds that, in the first instance, were pure. It is, as is known, sometimes desirable to obtain seed harvested and grown in different localities, and it is to the seedsman to whom we must look for supplying the best. Growing for seed is a business understood by those who embark in it, and select seeds from plants full of vitality, carefully eliminating "rogues" and choosing only those that are known to be pure. When sweet peas rose so rapidly in public favour years ago, one heard sometimes of people saving their own seeds, but I never met with anyone yet prepared to let the first and best sprays go to seed and to sacrifice blooms; yet that is precisely what the professional seedsman does. Our seeds, which we sow in autumn or spring, do not all ripen in England. Many things that beautify our gardens are grown and harvested under better conditions in regard to climate than always obtain here, and it is because of this that it pays the best to secure seed from those who lay themselves out to supply.

An instance came under my notice of a man who made a practice of saving seeds from sweet peas for several years. On the last occasion he did so, he failed to gather it before the end of September, when flowers had long ceased and when the plants were at their lowest ebb. The following year he was rewarded by puny plants, lacking stamina, among which were vetches, a demonstration of reversion to type and degeneration. It was a lesson I never forgot!—CLAREMONT.

Lime—Its Use in a Garden.

LIME is of great value in a garden. Some cultivators do not realise that, in addition to rapidly breaking down the texture of organised matters, it is a manure as well, some of its salts enter the structure of all vegetables. It purifies the soil, too. When a garden has been manured year after year and lime applied, the soil has, no doubt, become sour, to the detriment of plant life. In such cases the proper thing to do is to apply lime as fresh as possible from the kiln. Frequently, one reads of cases where the lime has been left on the surface of the soil all through the winter. Only in exceptional cases should lime be so exposed as it absorbs carbonic acid from the air, which converts it into chalk. With a few exceptions plants need lime; stone fruits cannot be grown satisfactorily without lime being present in the soil. I would say, at once, all readers who have a heavy loam or clayey soil to deal with, should use lime freely, especially in the autumn time, applying and lightly covering it with soil, always mix it with the top 9ins. of soil. Heavy or clayey soils contain rich plant foods and lime, judiciously applied to them, liberates those foods and, in simple words, feeds the plants with them. How it helps to crumble stiff loams and renders them easier and pleasanter to work. A good average dressing of lime would be six to ten ounces per square yard.

One hears cultivators say of lime, "it sweetens the soil." This is very true; it is also true that the presence of lime in the ground lessens the risk of loss of plants from fungoid growths. The latter cannot live and spread in a soil well impregnated with lime. Tender seedlings may not thrive in a soil in which there is fresh lime, but the majority will if there is some old mortar rubble added to the compost. Thus, in some form or other we must apply lime. One dressing every three years will be sufficient, generally. When soil is not cropped—from November to February—lime should be applied; its application should precede applications of organic manures and fertilisers, generally. I think it best to do without any dressing of organic manures when lime is used that particular season, in cases where it is known that the soil is heavily charged with humus. But where we have to deal with a poor, hungry soil, manure freely now—in the autumn—and add the lime in February. Do not use lime at the same time that artificial manures are being applied and never use lime and soot together.—G. G.

A GOOD RESOLUTION FOR THE NEW YEAR!

IF YOU LIKE "THE GARDEN" TELL YOUR FRIENDS ABOUT IT.

Digitized by Google

OUR SERVICE BUREAU

Though so many subjects are dealt with in each issue of THE GARDEN, *it must constantly happen that readers seek information which is not immediately available. In such circumstances they should make use of our Service Department. Through its medium each reader's own particular enquiry can be dealt with. No matter what the question is, there is always information available from a staff of expert contributors and consultants; and there is no charge for this. It is one of the additional means of service which* THE GARDEN *is glad to render to its readers.*

Also, there is the further convenience which the Service Department affords of supplying readers with data about anything that is advertised in the pages of the paper. Thus, on receipt of an enquiry, particulars will be sent of, say, half a dozen things about which the reader seeks information. The only stipulation is that a stamped addressed envelope and the coupon, that will always be found in each issue, shall be sent with the enquiry. We would point out, however, that we cannot undertake to supply readers with plans and designs of gardens, but will willingly assist in giving suggestions for planting.

All communications should be addressed to the Service Department, THE GARDEN, *20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.*

We have selected the following enquiries, with their answers, as being of more general interest, and therefore worthy of publication.

Treatment of Snowy Mespilus.

I am putting in a tree of Amelanchier canadensis (snowy mespilus). What is the best situation for this? My garden is open, sunny; soil sandy loam, where it has been well worked fairly light, some parts rather clayey and heavy.—A. E. B., Wootton Wawen, near Birmingham.

Amelanchier canadensis is not a difficult subject to cultivate. It will thrive in any soil that is not too dry and poor on the one hand, or water-logged on the other, and the situation which you suggest for it we should think would prove quite suitable. It is a most decorative subject both in late spring—about the end of April—when it is a mass of white blossom, which, unfortunately, does not last very long, and also in autumn, when it carries rich autumnal tints.

Loganberry Fruit Spoilt by Grubs.

For some years I have persevered with my loganberries with a view to improving the results, but am still unable to account for the presence each year of a worm in the fruit. The old canes have been cut away annually, and the new growths, which have been treated liberally with manure at the roots, have shown themselves as strong, healthy canes. They have flowered freely and the fruit has appeared, but as the berries mature they are practically all spoilt by the activities of a worm which works right up the middle of the fruit from the base, the berries becoming withered from the base upwards. In some cases the berries have ripened and seem quite healthy, but on picking, the worm is found inside. If you could enlighten me as to a successful form of treatment I should be grateful. I may say I know of gardens in this vicinity where beautiful fruit is gathered and no trace of the worm found, and I am wondering whether it is desirable to try new canes.—J. C. S., Oswestry.

The worm in the loganberries is the grub of the raspberry beetle pest. It is prevalent in many gardens and is not the easiest of pests to get rid of. The beetles live in rubbish and *débris* of one kind and another near the plants, and in spring lay their eggs in the loganberry flowers. From these eggs the grubs hatch and feed on the developing berries, with the results of which you are familiar. Remedial measures are, in the main, directed to the destruction of the breeding grounds of the beetles. Firstly, all old canes must be cut out annually and burned. If wooden poles support the wire trellis, these must be cleared of all loose bark under which the beetles can hide, and ought to be painted with Solignum or some such material. All rubbish of any kind must be kept away from the plants. Then, in late March, fork crude naphthalene into the ground about the canes at the rate of 3 oz. to 4 oz. to the square yard. Beetles may also be trapped when laying their eggs on the blossoms by shaking the canes over a newspaper or umbrella, so that the beetles are dislodged, and may be collected and destroyed. They are small, brown beetles, and by this shaking of the canes it is possible to catch dozens at one visit. If these measures are persevered with over two or three seasons and the ground about the canes is kept constantly hoed in springtime, we think you will find that trouble from these grubs will be very considerably reduced.

Winter Treatment of Pampas Grass and Red Hot Pokers.

Could you please inform me the procedure I should adopt with (1) pampas grass, (2) red hot poker before the winter? As you can see, I am very much an amateur. I have seen pampas grass bound (tied up) over for the winter and red hot pokers look as though possibly they should be.—R. B., Croydon.

It is not necessary to tie up the leaves of these plants during the winter months. Simply clear away all loose leaves—grasses—especially those that are dead in the centre of the pampas grass, and very lightly dig the surface soil and bury a little rotted manure round the base of the red hot poker. In spring cut off the brown ends, if any, of the leaves.

Sweet Peas in an Unheated Greenhouse.

I want to grow some early show sweet peas. I have a large unheated greenhouse, and propose to grow two rows about 3ft. apart up the centre. Should I sow the seeds in 60 pots and put in warm greenhouse at once, and plant out about 8ins. apart when about 6ins. high? Should I take out the tops after planting?—W. N., Christchurch.

As it is now rather late in the season, it would be well to place the seed pots in a warm greenhouse, but as soon as the seedlings are clear of the soil the pots should be gradually removed to an unheated frame where they can be kept close to the light and receive plenty of air on all possible occasions. The seedlings should be stopped when they have made three pairs of leaves. Firm planting and an abundance of fresh air whenever possible are essential to success with sweet peas under glass.

The Failure of Fig Crops.

I shall be glad to have advice about a fig tree now about sixteen years old. Twice every year the tree is covered with figs, which turn yellow and drop off before they are ripe. The tree is planted against the kitchen wall, and probably gets heat from the chimney which runs up behind, and also from some pipes to the greenhouse which are underground. It faces south, but is shaded from the sun after about 2 p.m. by the wall of the house. One year there were about half a dozen very large dark purple figs which ripened. The gardener has tried pruning both branches and roots at various times.—A. F. W., Torquay.

There are several reasons why your fig tree fails to mature a crop. In the first place, the tree can mature only one crop in a season, and that on the shoots made in the previous year. The current year's growths may also produce fruit, but too late to ripen out of doors in our climate. The whole object of the cultivator should be to secure short-jointed, well ripened growth during the summer that will carry a good crop next year. This is attained by correct pruning and cultivating. We note that you have tried pruning at various times. The tree must be pruned every year during summer and winter. In the summer the shoots should be thinned so that each has ample space, the coarse and crowded growths being shortened to five or six leaves, and the short, stocky shoots trained in to the wall. Full exposure to sun is necessary for all and overcrowding is fatal. At the winter pruning, soon after the leaves fall, the growth should be further thinned and branches cut away where they are too thick, leaving only enough to furnish the tree with bearing wood for the next year's crop. When the fruit is set, a mulch of rotted manure should be laid over the roots, and the trees supplied with water during dry spells. It is essential that there be ample lime in the soil, and a winter application of finely broken mortar rubble evenly spread and dug into the top soil will be all to the good. Against the kitchen wall the tree is, perhaps, not in the best of positions, but treated on the above lines it should fruit well each year.

Limestone Plants in Full Sun.

I have a rockery, situation south, in full sun; soil, loam, road grit, leaves and stable manure (well rotted). To accommodate both lime-loving and peat-loving plants I have dressed one-half with old mortar rubble and the other half with peat. A deep depression in the centre I can keep moist during the summer months. I cannot yet obtain a definite classification of lime and peat loving plants from any source. Will you kindly recommend a few plants of both types for the rockery? Quite a few names will serve. Will the kabschia saxifrages flourish in this sunny aspect, or what species of saxifrages would you advise?—G. C. G., Harpenden.

Acantholimon venustum, Achillea ageratifolia, Æthionema grandiflora, Alyssum montanum, Androsace sarmentosa, A. Chumbyi, Arenaria montana, Aster alpinus, Dianthus cæsius, Campanula garganica and C. hirsuta, Erodium chrysanthum, E. cheilanthifolium, Geranium argenteum, Gypsophila repens, Hypericum polyphyllum, Linaria alpina, Erinus alpinus, Onosma echioides, Phlox subulata, Primula auricula, Saxifraga Aizoon, S. Burseriana, S. Cotyledon, S. longifolia, S. cochlearis, S. lingulata and S. l. lantoscana, S. marginata, Thymus azoricus, Sempervivum arachnoideum and Veronica prostrata.

Peat-loving plants are very few in number compared to lime lovers—barely 5 per cent. They are mostly shade plants, although a few may be grown in a sunny position providing there is plenty of moisture for the roots. The following are peat-loving plants, but require a half-shady position: Bruckenthalia spiculifolia, Bryanthus empetriformis, Cathcartia villosa, Dianthus alpinus, Dodecatheon Meodia, Gentiana Pneumonanthe, Shortia galacifolia, Erica carnea, E. vagans (these will also grow in sandy loam), Schizocodon soldanelloides, Meconopsis Wallichii. Many of the kabschia saxifrages will flourish in a sunny position, like S. sancta, S. Haagei and S. apiculata.

Digitized by Google

PULHAM'S
VASES
SUNDIALS
BIRD BATHS
FOUNTAINS ETC.
GARDEN ORNAMENTS
71 NEWMAN ST LONDON W.

DOBBIE'S
Catalogue and Guide to Gardening
144 Pages—229 Illustrations.

Send to-day mentioning "The Garden" and you shall have a copy free per return post.

DOBBIE & CO., Ltd.
Seedsmen and Florists to H.M. the King
EDINBURGH

SUTTON'S SEEDS

Warning

We wish again to call attention to our Registered Pedigree-Quality Seal, and to warn purchasers throughout the United Kingdom against buying Seeds described as "Sutton's" which have never been supplied by us from Reading. Every packet of "Sutton's Seeds" will in future bear this seal, and none is genuine without it.

SUTTON'S VEGETABLE SEEDS.
SUTTON'S FLOWER SEEDS.
SUTTON'S LAWN GRASS SEEDS.

Complete descriptive price lists will be found in "Sutton's New Garden Seed Catalogue," free on application to—

SUTTON & SONS
The King's Seedsmen
READING

G. Cut out this Coupon to send for Sutton's Garden Seed Catalogue
Name .....
Address .....
.....

It Pays to Spray

YOUR trees will bear more and better fruit if freed from insect pests, moss, lichen, and other harmful growths.

Now is the time thoroughly to cleanse and re-invigorate the trees by spraying with

COOPER'S
Winter Spray Fluid

("Commended" by the Royal Horticultural Society of Gt. Britain.)

NON-POISONOUS.	DOES NOT BURN.
Half Pint..	1/6
1 Pint	2/3
Quart	3/3
Half Gal.	5/9
1 Gal.	9/6
2 ,, ...	18/-
5 ,, ...	38/6

1 Gal. makes 100 Mixture.

OF ALL AGENTS.

Cooper, McDougall & Robertson, Ld.
BERKHAMSTED. 35017

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING, SURREY
(Late Anthony Waterer)

The Executors of the late
HOSEA WATERER
have pleasure in offering

STANDARD TREES
in great variety, consisting of
LIMES, NORWAY MAPLES, ELMS, etc., etc.
EVERGREEN & DECIDUOUS SHRUBS, viz.:

Box—Green and Variegated, 3 to 8 ft.
Hollies—Common, 5 to 8 ft.; Variegated and Green, varieties, 2 to 6 ft.
Thuiopsis borealis, 10 to 12 ft. Cupressus Lawsoniana, 12 to 14 ft. Cedrus atlantica glauca, very fine, 14 to 16 ft. Osmanthus, Phillyreas, Spireas, Lilacs, Viburnums, etc.

GOLDEN YEWS
A Magnificent Stock in all shapes and sizes from 2 to 10 ft.

PRIVET, Common and Oval-leaved.
QUICK and HORNBEAM for Hedges.
AZALEAS, in great variety, 2 to 5 ft.
RHODODENDRONS, without doubt the finest stock in the trade of named varieties, 2 to 6 and 8 ft.
HARDY HEATHS in great variety and a good general nursery stock.

Catalogues ready.

Enquiries and Inspection Invited.

KNAP HILL NURSERY
WOKING STATION, SURREY

CLEAN CROPS ARE GOOD CROP

Now control American Blight

THE difficulty with American Blight is that the insect migrates to the roots of the tree in winter. Even thorough cleansing of the bark leaves the pest active underground—ready to emerge for a new attack next spring.

Therefore a double treatment is necessary.

To kill the blight o the bark, and beneat loose bark, spray thor oughly with CARBO To cleanse the root fork in STEROL around the tree. D it now! One applica tion of this doubl treatment has exter minated America Blight for more tha four years.

Use this new treatmen

STEROLE

7 lbs. 2/6 28 lbs. 6/6
¼ cwt. 9/- 1 cwt. 15/-

CARBO Tar-Oil Wash
2/6 per quart tin
6/- per gallon can
From your dealer or carriage paid from

BUGGE'S INSECTICIDES L
WESTCOMBE HILL LONDON S.E.5

TAS/Bu.21.

Digitized by Google

SOME LEGAL ASPECTS RELATING TO FENCES & TRESPASS

BY A BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

A COURT OF APPEAL CASE.

THE case of Buckle *v.* Holmes, which came before the Court of Appeal recently, contains legal distinctions of much importance to the general public, and particularly to the rural community.

THE LAW AFFECTING FENCES.

It is probably fairly well known to most agriculturists that, apart from certain statutes of special application, the owner of land is not bound, in the ordinary course of law, to put up and maintain fences around his land. If, therefore, an owner's cattle should stray on to the land of a neighbour, and are injured, that neighbour is not responsible for the injury, because he is not compelled to keep the cattle off. But, on the other hand, the owner who allows his cattle to wander off on to a neighbour's land will be liable for damage done by the cattle, since it is the duty of a person to see that his animals are kept within control.

A DUTY WHICH ARISES.

Consequently a kind of duty arises to fence so as to prevent cattle straying off the land but not to prevent them from straying on to the land. Yet, even so, the responsibility of an owner who fails to keep his cattle in is not a liability arising from his neglecting to fence, but from his neglect in allowing his cattle to stray. Therefore, provided he can keep his animals in by any other means, there is, strictly speaking, no duty cast upon him to put up fences, save in cases of special statutes previously mentioned, which do not affect the general rule of law. It is important to keep this condition of our law well in mind.

BOUNDARY FENCES.

For where there is a fence on the edge of adjoining land it would become entirely unnecessary for an owner to fence off his own land by putting up another fence. But if the fence of the neighbour whose land so adjoins falls into a state of disrepair, the owner of cattle will be liable for damage committed by his cattle which break through the fence and get on to his neighbour's land. Adjoining owners usually arrive at some mutual understanding as to fences upon such a boundary, and landlords, of course, often make certain stipulations with lessees and purchasers of land in relation to the question of fences and their maintenance. It may be added that a purchaser of land can always agree to erect and maintain a fence, but such a promise is only binding on him and cannot be made to bind subsequent purchasers from him. But a lessee can, of course, agree with his landlord as regards fences, and such an agreement usually binds both sub-lessees and assignees of the lease

FENCING OFF DANGEROUS THINGS.

An owner or occupier is always responsible, quite apart from statute law, for failure to fence off dangerous things on his land which are likely to prove a nuisance or danger to other people. So, therefore, if such an owner or occupier elects to make, say, an excavation near a public road, or near a private footpath over which the public are accustomed to pass, he will be liable for any injury or damage caused by his omission properly to fence such excavation. It may be mentioned, also, that by Act of Parliament provision is made, among other things, to fix the responsibility for neglecting to fence pits or shafts within 25yds. of a cart or carriage way upon the landowner who opens up such pits or shafts. Disused mines within 50yds. of any footpath must be likewise fenced.

LAW OF TRESPASS APPLIED.

The case of Buckle *v.* Holmes involved, of course, a different issue, and an examination of the law relating to trespass formed a substantial part of the judgment delivered in that case by the Court of Appeal. It is by no means easy for the average layman rightly to appreciate the true application of the law in connection with trespass without first arriving at some understanding of that side of our law now dealt with in regard to fences.

A REQUEST TO ALL OLD READERS

SOME of the older readers of THE GARDEN have pointed out that there are numbers of the fraternity of amateur gardeners throughout the British Isles, who have not read this paper. THE GARDEN is calculated to render them the best attention by giving seasonable advice on planting and sowing and by solving the problems and difficulties that at times beset all gardeners. Some of our contributors suggested a few weeks ago that an acceptable present to send a friend would be a copy of the paper for a year. It was a capital idea and one that we hope will bear fruit, but many of our older readers think that it went scarcely far enough, so they have suggested to us that a further appeal might be put forward. THIS IS THE APPEAL: That *every* reader should pass on the copy of the paper to someone whom they know does not take it in, but who would like to read it. Everybody has some friend whose hobby is gardening, yet seldom reads a paper about it! Readers of THE GARDEN will agree that such friends are the poorer for not making the acquaintance of our paper.

JOIN THE CIRCULATION CIRCLE AND PASS IT ON

If you become a regular reader of the paper, it will increase your interest in your garden because it is specially intended to help amateurs. Amateurs comprise the greatest number of gardeners. THE GARDEN is published every Thursday. It says what it has to say in plain language, free from ambiguity, so that the beginner cannot fail to understand. It is noted for the wealth of its good illustrations. As you will see, they speak for themselves.

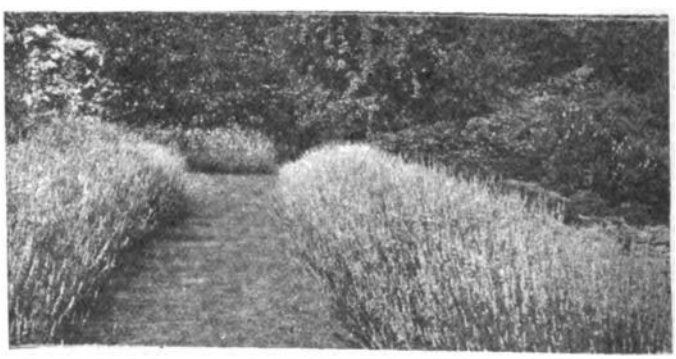
You may have failed last year with certain crops. It may not have been entirely "the fault of the season." Or some plants did not turn out quite to your satisfaction. Perhaps you have fruit trees that are not yielding what you think they should.

Remember THE GARDEN caters for all departments of horticulture. It is out to give the best advice, the best news, and the best service to a wider circle of readers. That is its policy. It will be pleased to be of service to YOU.

If you experience any difficulty connected with your garden—however small that garden may be—write to the Service Bureau giving the facts briefly, and they will suggest what should be done.

YOU CAN GIVE NO BETTER GIFT

to your friend, either at home, in the Colonies, or abroad, than a weekly copy of



THE GARDEN

It means 52 remembrances of friendship in the year

If you will fill in the form below, we do the rest.

CUT HERE.

To Messrs.....
Newsagents,
or The Manager, "THE GARDEN,"
20, TAVISTOCK STREET, LONDON, W.C.2.

Please send by Post, "The Garden," for which I enclose Cheque or P.O.O. for ..... being Subscription for ..... months from date to

Name .....

Address .....

.....19.... .....

Inland, Foreign and Colonial Subscriptions, 13/- per annum; 6 months, 6/6, including Postage.

Digitized by Google

SERVICE BUREAU.—*Continued.*

Unhealthy Freesias and a Remedy for White Fly.

I have to thank you for more than one letter of helpful advice. May I now ask you if you can tell me what is the matter with several pots of freesias which seem to be yellowing back from the tips of the leaves? They threw up strongly. A batch of young bulbs I am growing on in a box nearby are all right so far. Some of the affected plants are old ones I have grown on, others freshly purchased this year. They are in a greenhouse free from frost and have not been fumigated; other things growing near are all right. Secondly, can you tell me of any remedy for white fly that will not scorch plants? —C. M. A. P., Newbury.

Possibly the old freesia bulbs are defective, weak and do not root freely. If the bulbs are producing roots normally, the compost is not suitable, or there are wireworms at work on the roots. Both would cause yellow leaves. White fly continue to hatch from eggs for several days. One fumigation of the house might kill live flies, but in two days time more from eggs will appear. Fumigate every third or fourth day for a fortnight, and use Darlington's original auto-shreds.

Violets as Cut Flowers.

I shall be much obliged if you could tell me what to do to make cultivated violets (grown out of doors) live in water. I have tried soft and hard water, also putting them in a cool room, but it makes no difference. In a few hours nearly every one droops and dies. The wild violets will live in a floating bowl, but the long-stemmed varieties are hopeless.—A. G. C., Holbeach.

You should gather the violets early in the day and cut off the stems with a sharp knife, not scissors, which does not crush or bruise the sap vessels. Place a small tablespoonful of salt in a quart of water for keeping the violet stems in bowls or glasses.

The Culture of Lilium longiflorum.

I intend to go in for growing Lilium longiflorum giganteum. I should be much obliged if you can give me a little information on growing same. When should I plant them to have them in bloom in September and October? Could I grow them outdoors in the open soil and pot them up in the summer and put them under glass to bloom, or should I have to grow them in pots right through the season in glass houses?—W. Q., Guernsey.

You should be able to grow Lilium longiflorum giganteum quite well outdoors, but if you are growing for market purposes you would have to consider protecting the flowers from bad weather, as a spell of wet would certainly spoil them for market work. If you just want them for garden decoration, they should do perfectly with you if your soil is light and well drained. You could plant them out when you receive the bulbs or pot them up and stand them in cold frames, planting them out during the spring, when all danger of late frosts is past. You could not lift them from the open ground and pot them up for taking indoors, but you could pot them and plunge the pots outdoors all the summer, and then bring them indoors to flower. If you plant them outdoors they should—as far as we can judge your climatic conditions—naturally flower at the period you desire. If grown indoors they should be grown perfectly cool to flower at that time, but without actual experience of your conditions it is not easy to say how long they would take to flower, as our experience has been limited to the south and west of England.

OBITUARY.

Dr. N. Y. Lower.

ALL daffodil lovers will earn with sorrow of the death of Dr. N. Y. Lower, formerly of Presteign, which occurred after a lingering illness on November 20th at St. Blazey in Cornwall, where he had gone to live some months ago. Dr. Lower, who has been president of the Midland Daffodil Society for some seasons past, was a whole-hearted and enthusiastic devotee of the daffodil, and has been for many years a keen and very successful hybridist, as evidenced by the fact that he almost invariably carried off the chief honours in the most important seedling classes at the Birmingham and London shows of recent years.

He had built up one of the finest collections in the country, as, in addition to the best varieties of recent introduction and his own beautiful seedlings, he had acquired the stocks of many of the very best of the remarkable seedlings raised by the late Mrs. R. O. Backhouse of Hereford. It is hoped that many of his fine productions will yet find their way into our gardens. Such superb flowers of his raising as Royalist, Beauty of Radnor, Rewa, Clarion and many others have already achieved fame, and doubtless there are others of equal or greater excellence which have not yet been sent out.

He will be greatly missed at the daffodil shows, especially at Birmingham, where his magnificent exhibits were one of the main centres of attraction. His flowers were always splendidly grown and shown in superb condition. The work and enthusiasm which he contributed towards the development of the daffodil were a great stimulus and encouragement to all interested in the cult, not only on account of this, but because of his unassuming and most attractive personality his passing leaves a gap in the more intimate circle of daffodil people which cannot be filled, at all events on this side of time. G. L. W.

TRADE NOTES.

ALL keen gardeners should make a point of obtaining the R.H.S. Gardener's Diary for 1927, published by Charles Letts and Co. This diary has proved immensely popular in the past, and in its new and revised form should be found still more useful. Much valuable and helpful gardening information is given in its pages, while the diary is of a handy and convenient size for the pocket.

The wonderful success of Empire Packet Tobaccos produced by John Player and Sons has induced the Nottingham firm to offer to cigarette smokers a packet of Empire Blend Cigarettes. As a consequence of the preference on Empire-grown tobaccos these Player's Empire Navy Cut cigarettes will be retailed at 10 for 5d., and splendid value they are, too.

In our note on the new "Beco" rose bowl loud-speaker in our last week's issue, it was stated that the manufacturers were Messrs. W. Darlington and Sons, Ltd. This firm, however, only engage in sales. The sole patentees and manufacturers are "Beco," the British Electrical Sales Organisation, Strand, W.C2. We regret the mistake.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

Messrs. T. W. Cole and Son, Westwood Nurseries, Peterborough. A long list of new and choice chrysanthemums of all types as well as show and zonal pelargoniums and fuchsias.

Messrs. Frank Cant and Co., Braiswick Rose Gardens, Colchester. A well classified descriptive list of roses.

Messrs. H. Merryweather and Sons, Southwell, Notts. Roses, fruit trees, shrubs, climbing plants.

BULBS

We invite immediate application for our

BULB CATALOGUE

knowing that the very fine quality of our bulbs enables us to offer exceptionally good value for money.

Send for a copy of the BULB CATALOGUE at once.

Bakers
SEED AND FLOWER FARM
CODSALL
Near Wolverhampton

ALL TRANSPLANTED
GEUM Mrs. Bradshaw, Lady Stratheden 4/- doz. *Carr. paid*
Forget-me-nots and Giant Daisy (Bellis monstrosa) 9d. doz., 1/- doz. *Carr. paid.*
SARGEANT,
Beeches Nursery, CARSHALTON, SURREY

DOBBIE'S
SCOTCH-GROWN ROSES
These succeed where others fail;
Send at once for a Catalogue
Please name this Paper
DOBBIE & CO., LTD.
Nurserymen :: EDINBURGH

"BECO"
ROSE BOWL
HORNLESS
LOUD-SPEAKER
Of beautiful appearance. Gives perfect tone whether empty or filled with water and flowers.
Nickel Plate. £5 : 5 : 0 Oxydised Silver. £5 : 17 : 6 Antique Copper. £5 : 17 : 6
Full particulars on application to
W. DARLINGTON & SONS, Ltd. LONDON FIELDS STATION, E.8

Digitized by Google

"The fairest flowers of the season are our carnations."—SHAKESPEARE.

CARNATIONS

FOR EVERY GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE

By Montagu C. Allwood

With a Foreword by Lord Lambourne,
President of the R.H.S.

224 pages. Coloured frontispiece. 79 illustrations.

Just Published - 12s. 6d. net.

For a detailed prospectus of this new and standard book, write to the Publicity Manager, Book Department, "COUNTRY LIFE," 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2

"THE GARDEN" CROSSWORD—V

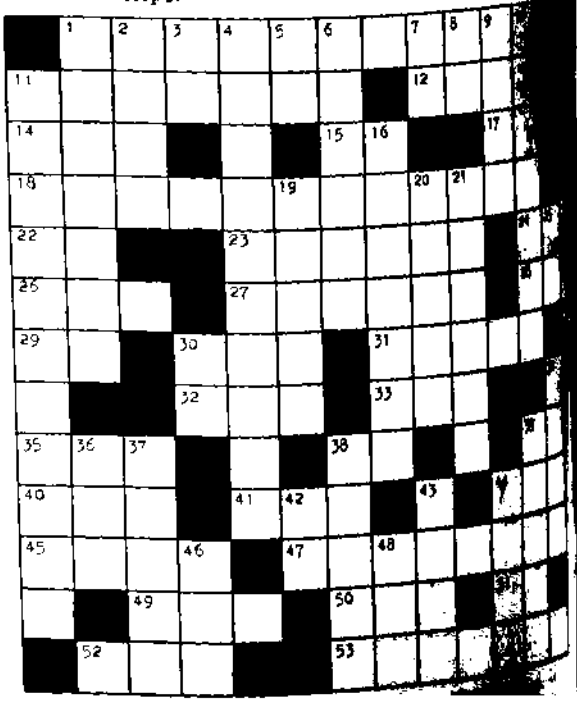
Two Prizes of ONE GUINEA will be given to the first two correct solutions opened on the morning of Thursday, December 23rd. If no correct solutions are sent in, these prizes will be awarded to the first two in order of merit that are opened. All envelopes must be marked "Crossword" on the outside and addressed to THE GARDEN, 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, London, W.C.2. No other communication must be enclosed in this envelope.

ACROSS.

1 Genus of plants to which snapdragons belong.
11 Extensive, treeless tract.
12 Leaf or division of the calyx of a flower.
14 A Japanese sash.
15 Time signal (abbr.).
17 A sphere.
18 A hot East Indian vegetable soup.
22 And (Fr.).
23 The sago-palm.
24 Remark made to a goose.
26 Substance which exudes from certain trees and plants.
27 Kind of land fit for ploughing or tilling.
28 Abraham's birthplace.
29 Rupees (abbr.).
30 Possessive pronoun.
31 Put up in bundles.
32 Fasten together.
33 Pounds, shillings and pence symbols.
35 A hard-shelled fruit.
38 Exist.
39 Fourth of an acre (abbr.).
40 A shorter form of "kava."
41 Nothing.
44 A plant's life-fluid.
45 Plant of the arum family, cultivated for its edible roots.
47 Small bouquets of fragrant flowers.
49 An inhabitant of the first garden.
50 Across (poet.).
51 Begone!
52 Land of prohibition, popcorn and peanuts.
53 Small variety of the common plum (plur.).

DOWN.

1 The strawberry-tree.
2 A hammer's target.
3 Titanium (symbol).
4 Method of producing increased fertility by artificial watering.
5 Royal Institute (abbr.).
6 Group of yellow-flowered shrubs with rush-like branches.
7 Exists.
8 North-east (abbr.).
9 On.
10 The marigold.
11 Fruit filled with many seeds, and having a leathery skin.
13 Symbol for "pound."
16 Corn-stalk stumps left in the ground after reaping.
19 Prickly shrub growing on waste places.
20 Book of maps.
21 Capable of being wielded.
25 A conjunction.
30 Neuter pronoun.
34 Bitter cones of plant much used in brewing.
36 An indehiscent fruit.
37 Weeds.
38 Variety of orange.
39 A ray.
42 Inside.
43 Source of life.
44 Farinaceous substance produced from the pith of certain E. Indian palms.
46 Eggs.
48 The ocean.



Name.....

Address.....

.....

Solution to "The Garden" Crossword No. 3.

ACROSS.

1 Chrysanthemum, 12 Aye, 13 Anemone, 14 Usce, 16 It, 17 Larva, 19 Lode, 20 Lt, 21 Res, 22 Inset, 23 Ley, 25 Yam, 26 Eel, 28 La, 29 Linsey, 33 Moss, 36 Oca, 37 Pea, 41 Wirlest, 43 Bell, 44 Elder, 46 Need, 48 Ry, 49 Gages, 52 Lentil, 54 Peat, 56 Aniseed, 57 Do, 58 Me.

DOWN.

1 Cauliflower, 2 Hyson, 3 Reeds, 4 SA, 5 Anil, 6 Nettle, 7 TM, 8 Holly, 9 Ena, 10 Merry, 11 Miasma, 15 Seeds, 18 Veal, 24 Elm, 26 Eyes, 27 Aspen, 30 Icily, 31 Nard, 32 Epergne, 34 Oob, 35 Silene, 38 At, 40 Ule, 42 Ie, 45 Eel, 47 Date, 50 Ate, 51 Gld, 52 Ll, 53 Es, 54 Pe, 55 Am.

Digitized by Google

HAVE YOU PROVIDED?

The United Horticultural Benefit and Provident Society

PROVIDES 27/- per week in illness for 1/1½; 18/- for 9d.; or 12/- for 6d., weekly contributions.
PROVIDES your dependents with £10, £15 or £20 at death, according to Scale.
PROVIDES you with a Savings Bank.
PROVIDES grants from Distress and Convalescent Funds.

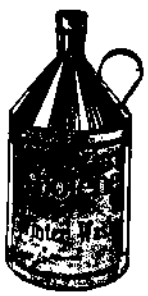
PROFIT BY THE EXPERIENCE OF A MEMBER WHO HAS £150 TO HIS CREDIT

State Insured members of this Society may also Contribute to the private Section, and by so doing will add to their Benefits in accordance with the Scale they adopt.

A. C. HILL, Secretary, 35, Alexandra Road, WEST KENSINGTON, W.14

British Made
ABOLENE
Tar Oil
Winter Wash

Clears Tree Trunks of Moss and Lichen and destroys Insects' Eggs and Fungus Spores



Abolene is thoroughly reliable and efficient. Easy and safe to use. Supplied in small sizes to suit owners of only two or three trees.

Pint	..	1/6
Quart	..	2/4
½ gallon	..	3/8
1 gallon	..	6/–

Write for Descriptive Folder

Abol Limited, 9 Beltring, Paddock Wood, Kent.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Indispensable in the Garden.

THOMSON'S MANURES

On the market for over 50 years, they still hold first place for QUALITY and RESULTS. They are safe, sure and lasting. The direct result of many years' practical experience in gardening, they stand unrivalled at the present day for all Garden Crops.

Prices:—VINE, PLANT AND VEGETABLE MANURE—a Perfect Food—1 cwt., 20/-; 56 lb., 12/-; 28 lb., 6/-; 14 lb., 3/-; 7 lb., 2/-; tins, 1/3 and 9d. SPECIAL TOP DRESSING MANURE—an excellent stimulant—56 lb., 17/-; 28 lb., 9/6; 14 lb., 5/6; 7 lb., 3/-; tins, 1/3. Carriage paid on 28 lbs. and up.

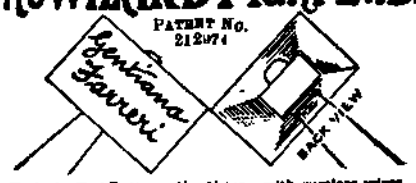
WRITE FOR OUR BOOKLET—POST FREE ON REQUEST.

SOLD BY NURSERYMEN AND SEEDSMEN EVERYWHERE.

Or from Sole Makers, WM. THOMSON & SONS, LTD., TWEED VINEYARDS, CLOVENFORDS, SCOTLAND

The WIZARD Plant LABEL

PATENT No. 212974



Made in Red Pottery, 1½ x 1½ ins., with rustless wires, 12 in., 2/3 doz.; 7 in., 1/9 doz. 1½ x 1 in., with wires 8 in., 1/6 doz. For tying on, 1/3 and 1/6 doz. Waterproof Ink, 9d. and 7½d. bot. Crow Quills, 3d. Postage extra

Highly commended by the R.H.S. at Wisley.

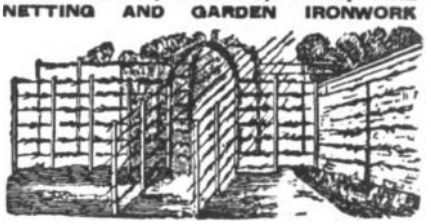
E. TORKINGTON - NEW HALL - MAIDENHEAD

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

MANURES.—The most complete little book on the subject is "The Manual of Manures," by H. VENDERMANS: 4/5; by post, 4/9. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2

A CATALOGUE of gardening books will be sent free on application to "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

HILL & SMITH, Ltd.,
BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS,
Makers of
IRON FENCING, HURDLES, GATES, WIRE NETTING AND GARDEN IRONWORK



Other Products—Hay and Grain Sheds, Dutch Barns, Galvanized Corrugated Sheets and Structural Steelwork.

Catalogue free on mentioning this paper.

London: 108, Abbey House, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

For CHRISTMAS PRESENTS
SEND . .
The Helichrysa
Reg. Trade Mark
Permanent Label
Patent No. 254077.
The Cheapest Effective Permanent Label.

From **2/3 per doz.** Carriage Paid.

Send the names, in block letters, of plants with P.O., we forward labels in a few days. Write for Circular to:

THE HELICHRYSA LABEL CO.,
8, Rusthall Park, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

FOSTER & PEARSON LIMITED

Established 1841

Please write for estimates for durable Greenhouses, Boilers, etc., to

BEESTON NOTTS

The Service Bureau Coupon.

THE GARDEN, *December 18th*, 1926.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

This Coupon must accompany each enquiry along with a stamped addressed envelope.

See page 738

THE SERVICE DEPT., "THE GARDEN," 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2

Digitized by Google

PLAYER'S "Medium" Navy Cut Tobacco (Rubbed Ready for Smoking) is identical in quality with PLAYER'S Plug Navy Cut, but it is put up in a form which saves the Smoker trouble in preparation.

PLAYER'S
"MEDIUM"
Navy Cut

PLAYER'S NAVY CUT
REGD No 134011
RUBBED READY FOR SMOKING
P1315

DIPLOMA AND MEDAL ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION

WAKELEY'S Celebrated (PATENTED) HOP MANURE
THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DO YOU REALISE IT?
A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only 7 - carriage paid to your door (if within 15 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.
A beautiful Free Booklet giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.
BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. GENUINE ONLY IN OUR MARKED BAGS, CONTAINING GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.
Cash Prices, including bags: Small (about 1 bushel), 3/- Large (about 4 bushels) 7/- 5 Large 33/9
10 Large, 65/- 20 Large, 120/-
Carriage Paid to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company. 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.
WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

THE WALTON GREENHOUSE
PRICE £15.12.0
BUY IT OUT OF INCOME
The "Walton" Sectional Greenhouse can be erected in 30 minutes with the aid of 16 bolts only, no nails, hammer or saw required, all parts guaranteed to fit. Size 12ft. by 8ft., price £15 12 0. Carr. paid to your station Send for catalogue giving full particulars.
Out of income terms if required
E. C. WALTON & CO., Muskham Works, Sutton-on-Trent, NEWARK. (Works adjoin Crew Park Station, L.N.E.R.)
Manchester Office: 41, Corporation Street.
This BOOK FREE

WEED-DEATH NON POISONOUS POWDER WEED KILLER
SAFETY FIRST FOR ANIMALS AND PEOPLE
Non-caustic; colourless; no smells; kills the roots; superior to arsenical compounds.
TINS, 1/- 2 - 3/6 6/6 12/- for 4 12½ 25 50 100 gals
SPECIAL. For Parks and Recreation Grounds—In bulk

ALSO
LETHORION FUMIGATOR
Improved Nicotine Cone
Certain destruction to all pests in glasshouses.
No. 1, for 1,000 cubic feet .. .. 10d.
No. 2, „ 1,500 „ „ 1/3
No. 3, „ 2,500 „ „ 1/9
Sold by all Seedsmen and Nurserymen.
CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, LONDON, S.E.1

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.
BY APPOINTMENT
The BEST and CHEAPEST
SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.
FANCY FERN PANS and BULB BOWLS from 4d. each.
No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.
State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.
RICHARD BANKEY & SON, LTD.
Royal Potteries, SULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by "ALPHOL"
Sample 14 lb., 2/6 carr. paid
Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to
Garden Supplies, Ltd., Granmer St. Liverpool

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

"Auto-Shreds" did it!

I just burnt them on the ground and they thoroughly fumigated my plants. The judge wanted the name of the stuff that kept my flowers so insect-free. I told him "Darlington's AUTO-SHREDS." At all seedsmen they cost
No. 1. (To fumigate 10,000 cubic feet.) For tender or ordinary plants. 6/-
No. 2. 10,000 c.f.) Ordinary plants 4/6
No. 3. (1,000 c.f.) Ordinary or tender plants .. 1/-
No. 4. (2,500 c.f. do. 1/9
W. DARLINGTON & SONS, LTD.
HACKNEY. LONDON E.8

"It warms my Greenhouse nicely at a cost of about 2d. per day, which I think very reasonable. I am a new beginner with a Greenhouse, and your
'HORSE SHOE' BOILER
took my fancy. I have not regretted my choice," writes Mr. F. G., Clifford, Boston Spa. 23/3/26
Cold weather comes soon. *Write for particulars now*

To CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD., Engineers, Southwark Street, S.E.1
Please send me Booklet E "Making the Most of Your Greenhouse," and price of complete Outfit to suit "(span-roof) (lean-to) greenhouse..... long.....wide inside, side of "(wood) brick).....thick.
Name.....
Address.....
*Strike out particulars not needed. Cut out and send by ½d. post.

Can be supplied from Immediate Stock
USED IN THE R.H.S. GARDENS
Wire: "Kinnel-Boroh-London." Phone: Hop 0362 (3 lines)
CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., Ltd.
65, SOUTHWARK STREET LONDON, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

JAN 5 1927

HORTICULTURAL ROOM LIBRARY

THE GARDEN

THE AMATEUR GARDENERS' PAPER

Vol. XC.—No. 2873 Saturday, December 25th. 1926 Price TWOPENCE

CHRISTMAS decoration often presents a difficulty to the housewife who is anxious to make as good a floral display as possible at a period of the year when flowers are very scarce. Holly is a great stand-by as well as having a special significance at this time of year. With its dark shining leaves and contrasting clusters of its rich red berries it makes an admirable subject for vase decoration, especially when used in association with late blooming flowers, such as chrysanthemums. Such combinations look as well, if not better, under artificial light than by daylight, and make very effective interior decoration.

Digitized by Google

"THE GARDEN" CATALOGUE GUIDE

Fruit Trees and Plants

PERRY'S
HARDY PLANT FARMS
ENFIELD, MIDDX.
New Alpines and Perennials
Complete Collection

LAXTON BROS.
NURSERIES
BEDFORD
Strawberries and Fruit Trees

W. WELLS, JUNR.
HARDY PLANT NURSERY
MERSTHAM, SURREY
Specialists in Hardy Plants and Alpines. Catalogue Free.

Seeds and Bulbs

BLACKMORE & LANGDON
TWERTON HILL NURSERY
BATH
Begonias Delphiniums Gloxinias Cyclamen, etc.

DAWKINS
408, KING'S ROAD
CHELSEA, S.W.
Gladioli and Lilium List Now Ready

R. H. BATH, LTD.
THE FLORAL FARMS
WISBECH
Home Grown Bulbs and Seeds

DICKSON'S
"Hawlmark"
BELFAST
New Sweet Pea Brochure Free.

WEBB & SONS, LTD.
THE KING'S SEEDSMEN
STOURBRIDGE
Vegetable, Flower and Lawn Seeds, Bulbs, Manures, Turf Preparations for 1927

Landscape Gardening

J. CHEAL & SONS, LTD.
NURSERIES
CRAWLEY
Landscape Gardeners, Trees and Shrubs, etc.

GEORGE G. WHITELEGG
THE NURSERIES
CHISLEHURST, KENT
Winner of the Graphic Cup and Gold Medals at Chelsea Show, 1925

MRS. LADENBURG
"DERRYQUIN"
SUNNINGDALE, BERKS.
Undertakes laying out New Gardens Construction of Rockeries and Alterations. Plans and Estimates Free.

Garden Sundries

J. BENTLEY, LTD.
BARROW-ON-HUMBER
LINCS.
Weed Destroyers Fertilizers Insecticides Nets and Sundries

TUBS FOR SHRUBS. WIRE BOUND PATENT. Over 100 prizes. R.H.S. Medal, 1910. No warping or shrinking. In Oak, Beech, Teak, etc. Highly decorative. — Price List from A. PRADAL, 28, Goodge Street, London, W.1.

Chase Continuous Cloches

should be used through winter to protect Sweet Peas, Parsley, Lettuce, Cuttings, Christmas Roses, etc.

Tent Shape, Size A, 12 for 18/-; 52 for 55/-
Barn Shape, No. 1, 6 for 18/-; 26 for 55/-

CHASE ALPINE CLIPS hold any glass over Alpine plants. 3/6 per doz.

Above prices include carriage to any railway station in England and Wales, or part carriage elsewhere.

SECTIONAL FRUIT RACKS build up to any size. Each section contains 5 trays of 4 sq. ft. One section, 25/-; two sections, 45/-, f.o.r.

Full particulars, Cloches, Clips, Racks: DEPT. 7,
CHASE CONTINUOUS CLOCHE, Chertsey, Surrey

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Chrysanthemum - aid!

The Leaf-Miner, by interfering with the plant's leaf action, may damage its blooming capacity. Spray now with XL ALL, the only remedy—and remember early marguerites, too. Of all nurserymen, seedsmen, florists and chemists.

XL ALL LEAF-MINER INSECTICIDE

G. H. RICHARDS LTD.
234, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1
R. 235. Monomark: BCM/XLALL.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Continued from page vii.

LABELS.—Patent metal, so simple to write by a nail; can't fade or break. Trial offer bargain: 100 wh 50 stakes, 50 tie wires, 1 pocket nail, 10/- free. Sample 1/6 The R.H.S. use them. Lists.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon

BUSHELS OF LABELS bought with names on are wasted! To write Webster's metal by nail on the s is ideal; each hangs or stands at will; some push in 9d. trial lot, 10/-, see above.—WEBSTER'S, Witheridge, Devon

MASKELL'S HOP MANURE.—Best substitute for stable manure, 56lbs., 4/-; cwt., 6/-. Three Cases, the all-round fertiliser, 56lb., 5/-; cwt., 8/6. Ground garden lime, 56lb., 4/-; cwt., 6/-. Screened Gas Lime, cwt. 5 Basic Slag, cwt., 6/6. Packed in bags and carriage paid. All fertilisers, etc., supplied. Booklets free.—MASKELL'S LIMITED, Directon Road, West Ham, E.15.

KNIPHOFIA ERECTA.—The most beautiful, brilliant and interesting of the red-hot pokers. Free, by post. 18/- per doz.—GALVIN'S NURSERIES, Wexford.

LIME FOR THE GARDEN.—Price delivered cash with order, 28lb., 3/6; 56lb., 5/-; 112lb. Special quotations for large quantities. Real Cotswold Paving, Walling Stone, etc.—THOMAS TIERNEY AND CO., LTD., Milk Street House, Cheapside, E.C.

MANURES.

The most complete little book on the subject is "The Manual of Manures," by H. VENDELMANS, 4/5; by post, 4/-. Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.

MERRYWEATHER'S ROSES

THE "SOUTHWELL" COLLECTION
Twelve Varieties, Carriage and Packing Free - - **12/6**
With "ACME" Labels - **15/-**

Caroline Testout (H.T.) satiny rose.
Col. O. FitzGerald (H.T.) crimson.
Emma Wright (H.T.) pure orange.
Frau Karl Druschki (H.P.) pure white.
General McArthur (H.T.) carmine.
Henrietta (H.T.) orange crimson.
Hugh Dickson (H.T.) brilliant crimson.
Independence Day (H.T.) orange apricot.
Madame E. Herriot (H.T.) coral red.
Ophelia (H.T.) salmon flesh.
The Queen Alexandra (H.T.) deep vermilion.
Ulrich Brunner (H.P.) cherry crimson.

Also FRUIT TREES, SHRUBS, ORNAMENTAL TREES, ALPINES & HARDY PLANTS
ALL HOME GROWN TREES.

Support British Industries. *Catalogue Free on Application.*

H. MERRYWEATHER & SONS, LIMITED
Garden Specialists, SOUTHWELL, NOTTS.

Digitized by Google

Chrysa

THE GARDEN.

S' 1927 GARDEN CATALOGUE
eady. Beautifully illustrated. All Garden Lovers tain a copy, post free. Flower Seeds from 3d. per Vegetable Seeds from 4d. per packet.

S' VEGETABLE & FLOWER SEEDS.
200 Gold Medals and Silver Cups in recent years.—SONS, LTD., The King's Seedsmen, Stourbridge.

' GARDEN WILL BE MUCH BETTER
ly from Waterers. Bulbs, Hardy Perennials and ants. Fruit Trees, Roses and Shrubs for every purpose garden, are available in stock of the very finest quality. ite for catalogues. One is issued for each department. WATERER, SONS AND CRISP, LTD., Twyford, Berks.

LAYAN AND CHINESE RHODODEN-
on their own roots. Shrubs, Herbaceous and lants, Aquatics, Lilies, for present planting. Write gues.—G. REUTHE, Keston, Kent.

CLEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE.
riginal and only substitute for Stable Manure. See n back page.

DUNCAN TUCKER & SONS, LTD.,
Road, South Tottenham, N.15.—Conservatories, ardens, Vineries, Peach Houses, Portable Buildings, etc.

' BATHS, GARDEN VASES, SUN-
NESTING BOXES. Catalogue (No. 4) free.— 17, Eccleston Street, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

NG.—Chestnut Pale Fencing and screening. Illustrated Catalogue on request.—THE UNDERWOOD CO., LIMITED, 48, Shottermill, Haslemere,

ER CARNATIONS.—200 varieties, arieties, from 6/6; 50 in 50 ditto, from 25/-; carriage sts free. -J. HAYWARD, Chace Gardens, Stakes Road, Cosham, Hants.

HORTICULTURAL, all sizes stocked; lass Plate for poultry houses. Ready Mixed Paints, amonds, etc.—BRITISH GLASS COMPANY, Dept. "G.N.," Buildings, Church Street, Liverpool.

VEITCHBERRY.—The finest Hybrid t raised. The fruit is twice the size of a Raspberry, licious flavour, and is splendid for dessert and culinary It is absolutely self-fertile and therefore sets freely. lants 7/6 each, 84/- per dozen.—LAXTON BROTHERS, ben, Bedford.

ERY STONE.—The most beautiful is ronstone; sample bags, 2/6. Excellent Crazy Paving, ral lime and Red Loam Sand. Enquiries invited.— ATKINS, Coleford, Glos.

AIN GARDEN WIRE ! !—Ideal for ds trees, tomatoes, arches, repairing fences, tying es of other uses. Strong, flexible and waterproof Special prices small lots, or 19/6 mile. Samples ENS, 413, Albert Street, Lytham.

OF FARRER'S BEST SHRUBS,
IA NANHOENSIS, a miniature only 3-4 feet high. f purple blossom. 1/6 each. 3 for 3/9. 6 for 7/-. and Packing extra.—CLARENCE ELLIOTT, LIMITED, Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

IS THE TIME TO LOOK TO YOUR
S. "THE HOME GARDEN BOOKS" deal with every the art. Send for pamphlet C, post free, from THORNERWORTH, LIMITED, 15, Bedford Street, London, W.C.2.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS.—Catalogue of ties, also Dahlias, etc., now ready.—J. W. COLE AND stwood Nurseries, Peterborough.

POTATOES.—50 varieties, Scotch and rown, certified stocks for immediate despatch for early Send for list.—CROSS AND CO., Elm Road House,

PRIMULA AND ALPINE SEEDS
(2,000) collection. Also seedlings and plants. Lists EV. J. F. ANDERSON Glen Hall, Leicester.

BARR'S SURPLUS Spring-Flowering Bulbs
—Daffodils, Tulips, Hyacinths, Chionodoxas, Early Scillas, Bulbous Irises, Wood Hyacinths, etc. Bulbs in splendid condition at *greatly reduced prices*. List on application.

BARR'S SURPLUS HARDY PLANTS for Flower Border and Rock Garden, including Asters, Irises, Delphiniums, Hemerocallis, Paeonies, Saxifragas, Helianthemums, etc., etc. List on application.—BARR & SONS, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

LLOYD GEORGE RASPBERRY, Finest kind grown, large crimson fruit. Bears from June to October continuously. Strong canes, 50 for 5/9; or 10/9 100. Carriage paid.—C. R. SHILLING, 6, Hartley Nursery, Winchfield, Hants.

ALUMINIUM METAL LABELS, BRIGHT, rustless, everlasting. Any names embossed in large capital letters, for labelling Trees, Roses, etc., unequalled; 10d. doz. 50 for 3/-, or 5/9 100, post free. Write names required plainly —C. R. SHILLING, 6 Hartley Nursery, Winchfield, Hants.

JOIN THE BRITISH GLADIOLUS SOCIETY.
Annual subscription, 5/-. Particulars from Hon. Sec., A. E. AMOS, 10, Bergholt Road, Colchester.

Yearly Subscription, Inland, 13s.; Foreign, 13s.
Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and for Canadian Magazine Post.
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N.Y., Post Office.
Editorial Offices: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2.
Offices for Advertisements: 6-11, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Notes of the Week	739
A Miniature Water Garden	740
The Flower Garden	741
The Small Rock Garden	742
The Busy Man's Page	743
Joy of Making a New Garden	744
The Fruit and Kitchen Garden	745
What Our Readers Say	746
Hints Worth Remembering	748
This Month in the Greenhouse	748
Our Service Bureau	750
"The Garden" Crossword No. 6	x

JOIN THE ELITE and go to Hewitts the horticultural specialists who have made such a sensation throughout the country with their

DELPHINIUMS AND GLADIOLI.—You will be well advised to write for our catalogues of Seeds, Delphiniums, Roses and Gladioli. We offer only one quality—the best! May we add your name to our large list of delighted customers? —HEWITT'S, Solihull, Warwickshire.

IRON AND WIRE FENCING FOR GARDENS.—Ornamental Iron and Wirework of every description. Catalogue G. 156. Iron Fencing and Tree Guards. Catalogue G. 65. Wood and Iron Gates. Catalogue G. 163. Kennel Railing. Catalogue G. 86. Poultry Fencing. Catalogue G. 70. Ask for separate lists.—BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Norwich.

ORDER TENNIS COURT FENCING NOW.
Complete enclosure, 120ft. by 60ft., for one Court, 9ft. high, with Iron Standards, Gate, Strand Wires, ready for erection, £34. Carriage paid to stations in England and Wales. Other sizes in proportion. Write for special Leaflet to Dept. FP/G., BOULTON AND PAUL, LIMITED, Riverside Works, Norwich.

AUSTRIAN PINE, DOUGLAS FIR, SCOTS PINE. Stout well shaped trees. Also Fruit Trees in great variety. Write for descriptive catalogue.—THE FOREST AND ORCHARD NURSERIES, LIMITED, Milbury Heath, Falfield, Glos.

HAVE YOU BOUGHT YOUR COPY OF "FARRER'S Last Journey"? by E. H. M. Cox. Demy 8vo. Fully illustrated. 18/- from all booksellers, or 18/9 post free from the publishers, DULAU AND CO., LIMITED, 34-36, Margaret Street, London, W.1

DOBBIE'S 1927 CATALOGUE AND GUIDE,
144 pages, 229 illustrations; free to all readers. Please mention "THE GARDEN," when writing.—DOBBIE & CO., LTD., Edinburgh.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY HOUSES.—No emptying of cesspools; a perfect fertiliser, no solids; no open filters; perfectly automatic; everything underground. State particulars.—WILLIAM BEATTIE, 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Ideal for training fruit trees, peas, beans, hops, arches, greenhouses, tomatoes, logans, tying, fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses from 19/6 per mile (full 1,760yds.). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 69, Albert Street, Lytham.

ROCK PLANTS AND SHRUBS.—Over 300 varieties in stock. Descriptive Catalogue free. Also Herbaceous Plants and Roses.—HODSONS, LIMITED, 58, Castle Gate, Nottingham.

RIVERS' FRUIT TREES, ROSES, VINES,
Figs, Oranges and Orchard House Trees are of first-class quality and a large and select stock is always on view. Inspection invited. Price list post free, on application.—THOS. RIVERS AND SON, LIMITED, The Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

PRIOR'S COLCHESTER ROSES, Fruit Trees, Gladioli, Dahlias, Carnations, Herbaceous. Catalogue containing cheap collections free.—D. PRIOR AND SON, LIMITED, Colchester.

WELLS' CATALOGUE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS, now ready. Post free on application. Please note change of address.—HAROLD WELLS, Peaslake, Gomshall, Surrey.

A GARDEN EVER IN BLOOM is easily and economically achieved by planting my Hardy Herbaceous Roots. Fully illustrated list post free. Satisfaction guaranteed or cash refunded in full on return of plants.—H. E. POLLARD, Nurseries, Evesham.

YORK STONE PAVING, for Garden Paths and lily ponds; rectangular or crazy for rustic work; steps and wall coping; rockery.—GEO. VINT AND BROS., Stone Merchants, Idle, Bradford.

FIBROUS YELLOW TURF LOAM.—Catalogue free.—A. B. JOHNSTONE, Cranleigh.

FOR EVERGREEN SCREENS OF QUICK growth with flowers from May to Xmas, the Alberic Barbier Climbing Rose, 9/- per dozen.—BEARERS, Norwood Hill, Horley.

LOAMS FROM OLD HAMPSHIRE
PASTURE or Woodland, rich and full of fibre, heavy or sandy. Quotations free on rail Chandler's Ford Station.—HILLIER AND SONS, Nurserymen, Winchester.

NEW AND RARE LILIUM SEEDS, 1927.
Novelties in Sweet Peas, Antirrhinums and Alpines. Catalogue post free.
E. V. ROGER, Seedsman, Pickering, Yorks.

BEAUTIFUL "PANTHER" LILIES (L. pardalinum).—A large quantity of surplus home-grown bulbs. They succeed anywhere. 6 for 5/-; 1 dozen, 8/6; 100, £3 3s. Cash with order. Carriage paid.—Mrs. LLOYD EDWARDS, Trevor Hall, near Wrexham.

FIVE VINES FOR SALE, 5 years old 2 Gros Colmar, 2 Black Hamburg, 1 Unknown. Best offer. —Apply, Mrs. BRIAN TINKER, Meal Hill, New Mill, near Huddersfield.

GREENHOUSE PAINTING AND GLAZING
—"Vitrolite," superior to White Lead Paint, 18/6 per gallon, cans extra. "Plastine," the imperishable Putty, 32/- per cwt., kegs extra; 7lb. tins, 4/-, post free; 14lb. tins, 5/6 each, carriage extra, tins free.—Full particulars from W. CARSON AND SONS, Grove Works, Battersea, S.W.11.

Digitized by Google

THE "STANLEY" CLEFT
CHESTNUT PALE FENCING
FOR THE GARDEN
AND GENERAL PURPOSES.
Strong, Durable, Easily Erected and Economical.

Prices and designs from the Manufacturers:
THE STANLEY UNDERWOOD Co. Ltd.
48, SHOTTERMILL,
HASLEMERE, SURREY.
And at PADDOCK WOOD STATION KENT.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

A Superb Present

ENGLISH GARDENS

By H. AVRAY TIPPING

Large folio. With over 550 *illustrations* - - **£3 3s.**

MR. AVRAY TIPPING is a past master in garden design, and is himself a practical gardener. As an authority on family-social history and in particular on horticultural history, he is without an equal. The volume contains a long historical introduction on English gardening, and then proceeds to illustrate fifty-two gardens of different types.

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LTD., 20, Tavistock Street, LONDON, W.C.2

"The fairest flowers of the season are our carnations."—SHAKESPEARE.

CARNATIONS

FOR EVERY GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE

By Montagu C. Allwood

With a Foreword by Lord Lambourne, President of the R.H.S.

224 *pages.* *Coloured frontispiece.* 100 *illustrations.*

Just Published - 12s. 6d. net.

For a detailed prospectus of this new and standard book, write to the Publicity Manager, Book Department, "COUNTRY LIFE," 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2

Digitized by Google

EALS OF CRAWLEY

lave over FIFTY YEARS' Experience of
ARDEN AND ESTATE PLANTING
and General Improvements.

HUNDRED AND TWENTY ACRES
ursery stocked with a First Class Collection of

Ornamental Trees - Shrubs
FRUIT TREES,
baceous and Alpine Plants,
S, DAHLIAS, and all Garden Requisites.

WOULD PAY YOU TO CONSULT THEM.
ues of each Department and an Illustrated Pamphlet on Garden Design.

CHEAL & SONS, LTD.,
The Nurseries, **CRAWLEY.**

BURBAGE ROSES

collection of 12 of the best varieties.
rst size Trees, Guaranteed British
rown and true to name, for **12/6**
arriage Paid. - Cash with order.

ty Uprichard	Maud Cumming
rice Goodacre	Independence Day
s. H. Morse	Souv. de Georges Pernet
ecourt	Mrs. Wemyss Quin
s. H. Stevens	Gen. McArthur
C. Clarke	Frau Karl Druschki

HE BURBAGE NURSERIES LTD.,
. Hinckley, Leicestershire.
Please mention this Paper.

Our New List of
CHRYSANTHEMUMS
for 1927 is NOW READY
containing all the finest and most desirable varieties. Free on application to:—
KEITH LUXFORD & CO.
Chrysanthemum Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

FRUIT TREES
ROSES

Alpine Plants **Hardy Perennials**

Ornamental Trees and Shrubs
can be successfully planted NOW.

The BARNHAM NURSERIES, Ltd.,
offer an immense stock of healthy, well-grown trees . . in great variety . .
Descriptive Catalogues on application.
The BARNHAM NURSERIES, Ltd.,
BARNHAM, Sussex.

KING'S ACRE NURSERIES HEREFORD EST. 1785.

ROSES
FRUIT TREES
and
Ornamental Shrubs

Illustrated Catalogues now free on application.

PREMIER AWARDS, 1926.
Royal Agricultural Society, Reading.
Shrewsbury. Southport.
(Please quote "The Garden" when applying.)

THE DOWNER LUPIN
is now known all the World over.
Apply for Lupin List; also Herbaceous and Alpine Catalogue.
DOWNER
2, Drayton Manor Nurseries, CHICHESTER

EMPIRE GROWN
Lilies and Miscellaneous Bulbs
Perennials & Alpines. Catalogues free
PERRY'S Hardy Plant Farm, ENFIELD

THE
JERSEY
FRUIT TREE ROSE TREE AND CARNATION

ARE PACKED FREE OF COST, AND
DELIVERED CARRIAGE PAID

Before ordering, **IT WILL PAY YOU** to write for our Illustrated Catalogue and Planter's Guide, which contains **Elaborate Instructions** on the most profitable methods of cultivation, besides an article dealing with **Insects and Fungoid Diseases**, and is **FREE TO ALL.** It also gives particulars of our cheap

COLLECTIONS OF NEW ROSES
Exceptional Value, Unsurpassed Quality
ALL GUARANTEED BRITISH GROWN.
Fifty varieties illustrated in colours, direct from photographs
CORDON FRUIT TREES OUR SPECIALITY
Vast quantities of strong, healthy, fibrously rooted Apples, on the broad-leaved Paradise. Pears, Plums, Peaches, Grape Vines and Strawberry Plants of superior quality.

The Jersey Nurseries, Ltd.,
(Late Le Cornu)
JERSEY

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Special Autumn Offer

12 FRUITING BUSHES selected from the varieties below for **40/-**, Carriage paid for Cash with Order, or
6 FRUITING BUSHES for **22/6**, Carriage paid for Cash with Order.

ALLINGTON PIPPIN . .
ARTHUR TURNER . .
BEAUTY OF BATH . .
BLENHEIM ORANGE . .
BRAMLEY SEEDLING . .
BISMARCK . . . .
COX'S ORANGE PIPPIN .
ECKLINVILLE SEEDLING
JAMES GRIEVE . . .
GASCOYNE'S SCARLET .
LANE'S PRINCE ALBERT
MAIDSTONE FAVOURITE
GLADSTONE . . . .
KING OF PIPPINS . .
RIVAL . . . . .

Write for our Descriptive Catalogue and particulars of other Collections, gratis, on receipt of Card.

The FOREST & ORCHARD NURSERIES, Ld.
MILBURY HEATH, FALFIELD, GLOS.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Fogwills
GREAT ONION GROWING
Competition

The following Prizes are offered for the **HEAVIEST AND BEST SHAPED TWO ONIONS** grown from **Fogwills Guildford Champion Onion Seed**, supplied during 1927. . The price of the Onion Seed is **2/-** per packet, post free.

FIRST PRIZE - £4 and Gold Medal
SECOND PRIZE - £2 and Silver Medal
THIRD PRIZE - £1 and Bronze Medal

For full particulars see our 1927 Catalogue of "Best-Result" Seeds post free on request.

FOGWILLS 130, FRIARY ST., *Estd. over 70 years.* **GUILDFORD**

Digitized by Google

Waterer's
Alpine & Herbaceous PLANTS

Our beautifully illustrated catalogue tells you how to prepare your border, how to plant, stake, and trench, and other useful information. Also full details of our magnificent collections of

IRISES, DELPHINIUMS,

LUPINS, CAMPANULAS,

MICHAELMAS DAISIES,

HARDY FERNS,

SHRUBS for the Rock Garden,

BOG and WATER PLANTS for Spring planting, and all other subjects worth growing.

Please write for a copy, we will gladly send one post free. We pay carriage on all orders of £1 to any station in England and Wales and on orders of £2 to any station in Scotland.

John Waterer Sons & Crisp Ltd

TWYFORD——BERKS

NOW READY!

"My Garden Book"
1927

Recognised by many as

Britain's Best Seed Catalogue

A descriptive and illustrated list of all the best Vegetable Seeds, Flower Seeds, and Highland-Grown Seed Potatoes. Full of useful information and a most valuable book of reference.

Post free on request.
Secure your copy now.

Alexander & Brown
(Dept. T)
The Scottish Seed House, Perth.

Michaelmas Daisies

For all the latest and most beautiful varieties, see the Raiser's List.

ERNEST BALLARD, Colwall, MALVERN

Notes from Maidstone.

COOKING APPLES.

All Apples may be cooked, but not all are edible. Some are pasty and flavourless, others brown and woody. We can thoroughly recommend Golden Noble for autumn use, this cooks a clear amber yellow, and Thomas Rivers, in use till December, of unique fragrance. Of these, beside the usual forms, we have some extra large pyramids, 6ft. high and well developed, at 15/- each.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd., The Royal Nurseries, Established 1796. Maidstone.

SEEDSMEN BY APPOINTMENT

The Principals and Staff at Raynes Park and Branches respectfully convey to Customers and Gardening Friends their Yuletide Greetings and Best Wishes for the New Year

GARDEN SHOPS:
134 Regent Street, W.1
53a Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4
115 Cheapside, E.C.2
129 High Holborn, W.C.1
237 & 238 High Holborn, W.C.1

Carter's TESTED SEEDS
Seedsmen to H.M. the King
RAYNES PARK, LONDON, S.W.20

Digitized by Google

VOL. XC.—No. 2873 DECEMBER 25, 1926. PRICE TWOPENCE.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

The Past Season.

ON the whole, the year 1926 has been kind to gardeners. The flowering seasons have been distinctly good, particularly in late summer and autumn, until the sudden deluges drenched the country in November. Fruit, on the other hand, has been patchy; small fruit has mostly been excellent and, on the whole, fairly free from disease, although pests like gooseberry mildew have been widespread in certain areas. Other fruits yielded abundant crops all over the country and the yield of plums was, if anything, above the average. Counteracting these heavy yields came reports from all over the country from north to south of the bad crops of apples and in some cases pears. Apples were especially bad, and it is a little difficult to account for their general failure this year, unless it can be put down to the protracted period of frost and cold winds which all gardens experienced during April and May at the time of blossoming and fruit-setting. Next year, we hope, may hold better in store in the shape of bumper crops of apples, our staple fruit, for all amateur gardeners.

Vegetable crops came up to the usual standard. There were no widespread epidemics of disease such as occur every few years. Such epidemics are becoming rarer and rarer with our increasing knowledge of the plants themselves and their wants and, secondly, of the diseases. Only in certain districts were potatoes attacked by the deadly blight disease, due to a short spell of rainy weather in the early summer. Gardeners who cultivate a small vegetable patch had certainly nothing to complain of about the season.

The season has in general been very kind to all flower gardeners. The weather, all the year round, has been consistently good and very kind to all flowering shrubs, herbaceous plants and rock plants. The flowering display in the majority of gardens up and down the country has been a brilliant one and has lasted over a long period from early spring right on until late November. The magnificent collections of plants staged at the various horticultural shows throughout the country testify to the high standard reached in flower production this year. Improvement has been registered in many garden plants and many novelties of note have made their appearance in the various races of our garden flowers. Among them the gladiolus stands out pre-eminent, and in the coming year it will, no doubt, add still fresh laurels to its name and attract many new admirers. Many new varieties of tall herbaceous subjects have seen birth. Phloxes, perennial asters and delphiniums have all added new names to the already long lists of modern varieties of their admirable races, but whether many of this year's novelties have come to stay and grace our gardens in future years is another story. No doubt many will die an untimely death, but others again will catch the favour of enthusiastic gardeners. No matter, the trend is in the right direction and all amateur gardeners owe a debt of gratitude to all those engaged in the cultivation, development and ultimate improvement of our garden plants.

This year has seen an increasing popularity of ornamental flowering and fruiting shrubs for use in the small garden, and once several of these newcomers to our gardens become more widespread they will become still more appreciated for decorative garden effect. The great majority are handsome plants, hardy in nature, fairly easy to grow and easy to look after, and thus eminently suited for the amateur.

THE GARDEN itself has recorded a change in the past year, and it is one which, we feel sure, has been much appreciated, judging from the many congratulatory letters we have received from readers. We hope that during the coming year readers will come forward with their difficulties and suggestions and assist us in every way possible to make THE GARDEN the amateur gardener's most valued asset.

We wish you, our readers, a very merry Christmas and a good gardening New Year.

HAVE YOU

- ¶ *Renewed your annual subscription to* THE GARDEN *?*
- ¶ *Cut down, after flowering, your late greenhouse chrysanthemums and placed the pots in a cold frame so that they produce cuttings ?*
- ¶ *Studied the new seed catalogues and made out your seed orders ?*
- ¶ *Examined your pots of bulbs and uncovered those which have made 2ins. of growth ? The pots should be taken into a greenhouse in a few days.*
- ¶ *Looked over your stored fruits and onions and removed any decaying specimens ?*
- ¶ *Dressed all sour soil with ground garden lime at the rate of 6 oz. per square yard ?*
- ¶ *Dug in soil fumigants into the ground under your fruit trees which are infected with pear midge, currant moth or gooseberry sawfly ?*

Horticultural Societies.

WE are sure that many of our readers are interested in their local horticultural societies and flower shows. The latter are useful not only as occasions on which a friendly rivalry is shown between growers of plants under somewhat similar conditions of soil, climate and so on, but also as proving what can be accomplished in the way of growing fine flowers, fruit and vegetables. To a careful observer much can be learned at a local flower show. The results of the best of the season's crops are seen; friendly advice can be asked for and given; probably some produce or flowers are shown which are not in common cultivation in the neighbourhood which helps to suggest new plants for one's garden. The same interest is attached to meetings of horticultural societies.

We realise that it is sometimes difficult for societies to give due publicity to their meetings and shows, and so it has been decided to include in each issue of THE GARDEN a diary of events for the week following that of publication. In order to make this diary as complete as possible WE ASK ALL SECRETARIES OF HORTICULTURAL SOCIETIES, LARGE AND SMALL, TO SEND US A LIST OF THEIR MEETINGS AND SHOWS FOR THE COMING SEASON. By this means we hope that in a short time all readers of this journal will get the habit of looking up the dates of horticultural events in their respective districts.

The Crossword Prizes.

THE two prizes of One Guinea each, offered to the readers who sent in the first correct solutions opened to THE GARDEN Crossword No. 4, which appeared in our issue of December 11th, have been awarded to

Mr. A. J. Harris,
Brambledown,
Cranford Avenue,
Exmouth, S. Devon.

and

Mr. S. R. Nevard,
66, South Street, Colchester.

To each of whom a cheque for that amount has been sent.

Digitized by Google

A MINIATURE WATER GARDEN

ONE of the most attractive features in connection with a rock garden is a miniature water garden. Quite the simplest way of forming the pool is to use a tank or a barrel which will give an inside depth of at least 18ins., or more if possible. An oil or liquor cask is excellent for the purpose, and the barrel should be carefully sawn in two. Each barrel will, naturally, give one a couple of pools if space can be found for these. In the case of an oil cask the inside should be charred with fire before it is used. The barrel is sunk level with the soil and around it the ground is excavated to a depth of 15ins. The bottom and sides should be puddled with clay until they are perfectly watertight. This space should preferably be filled in with a compost formed of equal parts of fibrous loam and peat. In place of the loam any good garden soil may be employed, and if this is mixed with a third part of decayed leaves and a similar amount of peat, quite a suitable medium is secured. In the surrounding portion of the little water garden the soil should be carried to the height of from 4ins. to 6ins. above the level of the water. This will enable some of the more delicate semi-aquatics to hold their own, for if these are placed on the higher levels they will not be in so much danger of being overshadowed by the more vigorous subjects. In addition the crowns of these plants will be comparatively dry in winter, and this is a distinct advantage in many cases.

Of course, the edge of a barrel gives a hard and unattractive outline, and this can be relieved by the formation of a rocky edging. Some of these rocks might overhang the water a little, and in between them pockets of soil will provide rooting places for ferns and other plants. Where several tubs are employed arrange the levels so that after leading water to that which is highest all the others will benefit by the stream trickling from one to the other.

Water Lilies for Tubs.

In tubs only the dwarfest water lilies can be grown, as the strong-growing varieties will fill the space right out and end up by hiding the water altogether. Thus the graceful effect of these beautiful flowers is largely lost. Suitable nymphæas for tubs are N. odorata minor (pumila), N. pygmæa alba and its variety Helvola. The first two named are white flowered and the last has beautiful sulphur yellow blooms. Some of the smaller forms of the coloured Laydeckeri nymphæas are also very suitable for the tub water garden, and the best of these are liliacea, fulgens and rosea. A few other good plants for the barrels include Aponogeton distachyon, Pontederia cordata, Sagittaria japonica plena, Menyanthes trifoliata, Orontium aquaticum, Typha minima and Scirpus zebrinus. In planting the aquatics in the tub some of the soil prepared for the outlying border should be placed in the bottom. Arrange this in a mound 6ins. or 8ins. high with its summit well to the centre of the tub. Do the planting while the tub is empty and then carefully fill in the water so as to create as little disturbance as possible. One water lily will be sufficient for each tub.

Outside the tub one can plant such subjects as Caltha palustris flore pleno, Mimulus cupreus, Primulas rosea, japonica, sikkimensis and pulverulenta, Trollius Orange Globe, Myosotis palustris, Helonias bullata, Cypripedium spectabile, Ranunculus aconitifolius flore plena, astilbes in variety, dodecatheon, media, trillium and Iris Kæmpferi.

A SMALL WATER GARDEN OF MORE FORMAL DESIGN.
Here full use has been made of water lilies and suitable moisture loving plants.

Larger Forms of Water Gardens.

One of the accompanying illustrations shows a small lily pond encircled by a narrow path made of broken flagstones the cracks of which are filled in with soil and surfaced with fine sand on purpose to encourage the growth of velvet-like moss. In the larger crevices of the path Silene acaulis, Arenaria balearica and Dianthus alpinus have been planted. The pond is sheltered on the north side with various trees and shrubs, and growing at the water's edge we find Menyanthes trifoliata (the bog bean), Butomus umbellatus (the flowering rush), Ranunculus Lingua, Caltha polypetala (the many-petalled kingcup) and various other plants which are not too rampant in habit. The water lilies are all small-growing varieties which flower well year after year.

A formal lily pool of rectangular design is seen in the second illustration. Here the lily pool is made in the centre of a small sunk lawn which is about a foot lower than the surrounding portion of the garden. The pool is edged with square slabs of paving stone, and on the surface of the water are floating two groups of nymphæas, one white, the other pink. In the corner of the pool is growing a mass of giant spearwort (Ranunculus Lingua grandiflora) mingled with the foliage of the flowering rush. On either side of the stone seat are bold clumps of Funkia Sieboldi, which is most striking with its large grey-green leaves and its soft lilac mauve blooms. Although the whole arrangement is on a small scale, yet the effect is charming, harmonising perfectly with the immediate surroundings.

AN ATTRACTIVE POOL WITH DWARF WATER LILIES IN VARIETY AND OTHER AQUATICS PLANTED ROUND THE MARGIN.

Digitized by Google

THE FLOWER GARDEN

Achilleas for the Border and Rock Garden.

THE yarrows constitute a large family, some of which quoted in catalogues are not worthy of cultivation, but those mentioned in these notes are suitable either for borders, the rock garden or for planting in retaining walls; in fact, they are the cream of the group or genus. Those suitable for the herbaceous border include A. E. Ptarmica The Pearl, a beautiful double white attaining a height of about 2ft. It is very effective, and most suitable for cutting purposes, and no border should be without a small group of this desirable subject. Another fine double white is known as Perry's White, and A. Millefolium Cerise Queen is a pleasing contrast to the white species. A somewhat strong grower is A. Eupatorium, which has yellow heads of flowers and grows about 3½ft. in height. This, however, is not recommended for the small border, but for larger gardens it will prove useful at the back of dwarfer plants.

The rock-loving representatives of the genus constitute an interesting group, many of which are also suitable for placing at the front of the herbaceous border, especially those with an irregular front line running parallel with a gravel walk. Here the wonderful leaf beauty of many achilleas is most effective both before and after flowering. The white and silvery patches produce delightful contrasts with other green subjects that may be near them, either on the rock garden or border. The dwarf achilleas are often spoilt by planting them in partial shade and a too rich rooting medium. Under these conditions the full beauty of the foliage is never revealed, while the flowers are not freely produced. Hence sunny positions should be chosen, and if the soil is poor, stony and devoid of manure, good results will be obtained.

Most of the flowers are white, but in spite of this the following dwarf kinds are all worthy of cultivation. One of the best, which is of hybrid origin, is A. Kellereri, which makes loose tufts of linear silvery leaves with branching stems of white flowers. Quite a gem for the rock garden or wall.

A. argentea is another fine species of the silvery section, very neat and compact in habit; while A. serbica comes under the same category. It flowers excellently in a rock wall or fissure, but in the border on level ground I have found it less beautiful. A good and attractive small plant is A. tomentosa, quite of carpeting habit, forming dense patches of woolly green foliage and heads of bright golden blossoms. The achilleas bloom during the spring and summer months, and may be planted at any time from now till the early spring. When rearranging the borders or adding new plants, the achilleas, particularly the Pearl section, should certainly be given thought and consideration.—T. W.

A Handsome Border Plant.

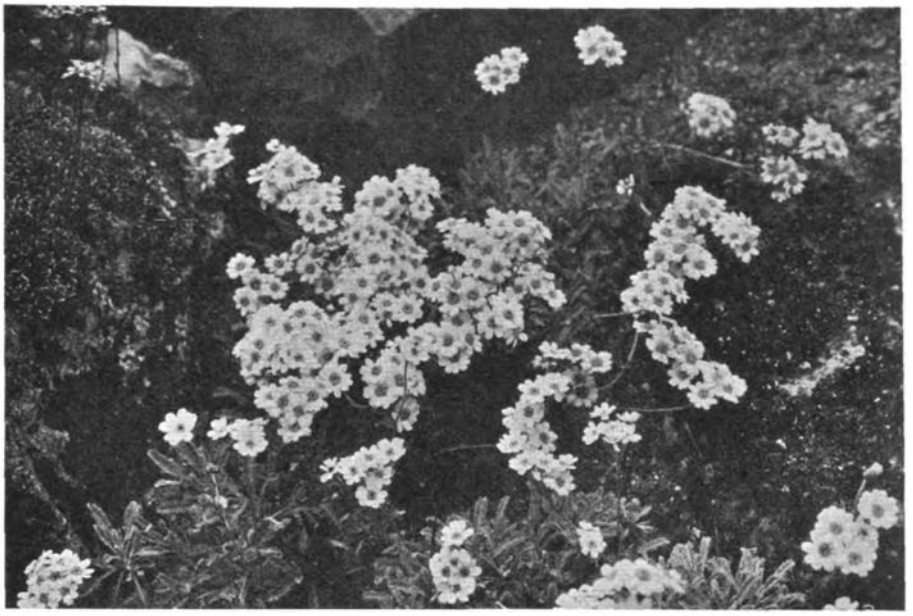
THE illustration gives a good idea of the striking effect that can be produced by Salvia nemorosa in the flower garden. Much better and more showy results are obtained in this way than by placing isolated examples here and there the whole length of the border.

S. nemorosa is a variety of virgata, and it is a handsome hardy herbaceous subject which should be planted liberally, as it is one of the most valuable border plants.

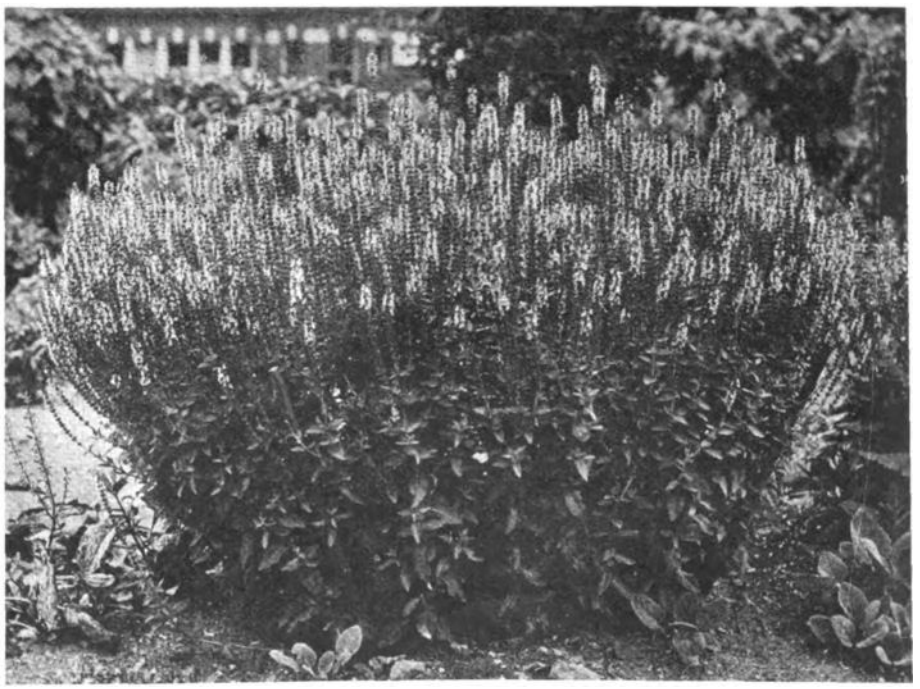
The height of the plant is about 2ft., and the strong erect spikes of purple flowers with showy crimson-purple bracts are freely produced in early summer. After the spikes are past their best they may be cut back to half their length, when young spikelets will continue the flowering period till the autumn. There is also a white form known as alba. —T. W. BRISCOE.

Hollies for Small Gardens.

THE common holly is not for small areas; it looks its best, in shaggy unpruned glory, in a wood or large shrubbery, and it never seems at home when cribbed and confined. Some of the refined variegated forms also seem to be most satisfactory, too, when allowed to grow at will to goodly size, especially when they are of a loose-growing type. Those which the man with a small garden must choose are of neat compact habit and, again, they must be bright so as to show up well under the disadvantage of restricted space. A charming variety for our purpose is Waterer's Gold Striped, which seldom exceeds 4ft. in height. The Golden Milkmaid is another very bright sort, curious and attractive, while not too rampant; Silver Milkmaid is very much similar; angustifolium, especially the variegated varieties, will also serve; Silver Queen, Golden Queen and Moonlight Queen, while free growing, can by a little pruning be readily kept in bounds. These last three, as well as Golden King, ovata aurea and angustifolia variegata, also look quite well



THE SILVERY LEAVED ACHILLEA ARGENTEA A NEAT SUBJECT FOR THE ROCKERY.



SALVIA NEMOROSA WITH ITS ERECT SPIKES OF PURPLE FLOWERS MAKES A FINE BORDER PLANT.

Digitized by Google

when hard clipped. The hedgehog holly, a dwarf form, very full of spines, is quite effective in appearance when carefully planted. Perneyi is of neat growth and habit, fine for a lawn. There are several weeping hollies not very often seen in cultivation, but undoubtedly pretty and most effective in appearance. The best with me are the golden-edged and silver-edged weeping hollies. Amateurs who let the shrubs grow at will need not worry at a free but judicious pruning about this period when decorative stuff for Christmas is in demand; only, my experience urges me to advise that the pruning be done by the owner and not by all and sundry. After Christmas mulch some leaf-mould, humus or rich loam round trees, and this will keep them healthy and fresh.—LANARKSHIRE.

The Winter-Flowering Jasmine.

AT the present time this charming plant is in full bloom, and no other shrub can produce such a glorious sight at this season. In habit it is somewhat rambling and is best planted against a wall, where its main growths can be made secure against wind. The position appears to be of little consequence, because I have seen it flowering freely on all sides, especially on a wall facing east. Other positions will occur to the owner of a garden, however small, where this showy semi-climber would brighten up the dull period of the year, while sprays cut when the flowers are still in the bud stage, open splendidly in a warm room. J. nudiflorum will attain a height of 12ft. to 16ft., and produce a large number of long pendulous shoots which are eventually covered with bloom. The bright yellow flowers are ¾in. to 1in. in diameter, and they are produced singly on short stalks when the plants are devoid of leaves. It is a native of China, from whence it was introduced in 1844.

Many amateurs fail to get the best results from this jasmine owing to pruning at the wrong time. Directly the flowering season is passed, the necessary pruning should be carried out, and not in the autumn as practised by many. The object of pruning is to encourage new growth, which should be vigorous shoots by the autumn. Cut out any old branches not required and other growths are pruned back to near their base. Annual pruning immediately after flowering will remedy this, and produce a healthy specimen capable of showing what a desirable plant the winter jasmine can be.—B.

Crocus Tournefortii.

THIS is a charming little autumn-flowering crocus to grow in small pots, and in a cold frame it is also making a pretty show at the moment (November 19th). The colour of the flower is a pale blue-mauve, the anthers white and stigmata orange; but its great merit and the quality that differentiates it from all the other autumn species, is that when the flowers open they remain wide open, regardless of lack of sun, so that a thickly planted little potful gives a charm to the very dullest of November days.—F. HERBERT CHAPMAN.

THE SMALL ROCK GARDEN

The Smaller Plants to be Grown.

WE now come to the gems of the rock garden, the tiny plants, mostly high alpines, dainty and floriferous, which are the joy of so many gardeners. In the following notes we shall confine ourselves to a selection of those which are of easy cultivation—given plenty of sunlight and drainage—and we shall reserve the most important group, the saxifrages, for a separate chapter. To take, first of all a number of characteristic things which ought not to give any trouble at all: Arabis Sturii is one of the best of its numerous group, small and white-flowered, forming a pleasant patch. Aster alpinus, the alpine Michaelmas daisy, is quite a gem, with big single flower-heads of purple and gold. The cyclamens are largely alpine in habitat, and a few of them will give little bits of bright colour when the rock garden is otherwise dull. Some of the smallest of the pinks are very dainty and quite easy, such as Dianthus arvernensis, microlepis, subacaulis. Erinus alpinus, with its tufts of pretty leaves and purple flowers, is highly useful, and is a great plant for an old wall, where it will sow itself freely. Geranium argenteum is most choice, with silver leaves and big pinkish blossoms. Globularia cordifolia, the smallest species of its group, makes a mat of dark green leaves dotted with blue flower-heads; it has a still smaller variety, nana. Gypsophila cerastoides is a tiny gypsophila, making a close hairy tuft bearing very attractive white flowers with pink veins. Hacquetia Epipactis is a quaint little umbellifer, appearing very early in spring, and gold in colour. Hutchinsia alpina is very good, with minute pinnate leaves and snow-white flowers. Hypericum reptans is a joy, forming a flat sheet of foliage with huge golden blooms lolling all over it. In Petrocallis pyrenaica we have a purple-flowered tiny draba, very minute. The large group of sedum may be represented by spathulifolium (preferably the var. purpureum, a most valuable rock plant); while for a very dry spot, or an old wall, S. dasyphyllum and the mealy-leaved S. brevifolium are valuable. Silene acaulis, our native cushion pink, forms a mound of fresh green with pink stars of blossom: but in the garden it is never covered with bloom as we see it on the mountains. Lastly, Tunica saxifraga produces annually a tangle of spidery stems clothed with rosy flowers—a light and graceful plant.

To take now a few good things of less robust constitution and needing a little care in planting and tending—though not actually difficult under reasonably favourable conditions—we cannot do without an androsace or two; and A. carnea and its varieties are, perhaps the most satisfactory. For a dry, warm corner and light soil one of the most delightful of all rock plants is Asperula suberosa (= Athoa), a tiny woolly thing with the daintiest clusters of pink flowers. The smallest of the erodiums, E. chamædryoides (= Reichardii), forms a little rosette of leaves among which rise the pinkish flowers. The beginner will not have gone far before he will long to possess a ramondia or haberlea, those beautiful purple-flowered gesneriaceous plants. They are not really difficult, if one can give them a damp corner: plant them there in a vertical chink of the stones in leaf-mould, and they ought to give no trouble. Another plant that many covet is the edelweiss, Leontopodium alpinum, which is quite easy in sun—but beware of slugs. And no one who has seen the soldanellas peeping out of the snow on the Alps can resist the temptation of trying to grow them. They are not hard to keep alive—in shade in a leaf-mouldy soil—but there is, alas! no golden rule for getting them to flower. Then there are two most delightful alpines, both bad perennials, but which with luck will sow themselves and flourish—at least for a time; these are the alpine toadflax, Linaria alpina, and the alpine poppy, Papaver alpinum—both in the very front rank of alpine gems. The many tiny primulas are mostly for the beginner only a source of burial services; perhaps P. marginata is the easiest, in half shade—a very delightful plant. And if you can keep slugs away, the wahlenbergias are beautiful things to have—there is a goodly choice of them; try dalmatica, pumilio or graminifolia.

R. LLOYD PRAEGER.

(To be continued.)

ASTER ALPINUS IS ONE OF THE GEMS FOR THE SMALL ROCK GARDEN.

Digitized by Google

THE BUSY MAN'S PAGE

When the Early Bulbs Have Flowered.

MANY people have an idea that bulbs which have been forced into flower at an early date are of no value afterwards. This is quite a mistake, for, with reasonable treatment, these bulbs can be relied upon to give some show of blossom next season. After the flowers are over, remove the flower spikes, but do not interfere with the leaves. If the bulbs are in soil they may be allowed to grow on until the foliage begins to turn yellow; then water should be withheld and the bulbs allowed to ripen in a sunny position. Where the bulbs are growing in fibre, replant them in pots or boxes of soil, or even in a sheltered border out of doors. These bulbs are not good enough for pot culture again or even for any outdoor position where reliability is essential. The best way is to plant them in some odd border, perhaps in the kitchen garden, where they will produce flowers that are useful for cutting. Hyacinths deteriorate most, but, even with these, the graceful little spikes of bloom are well worth having.

Lilac Suckers.

OWNERS of lilac bushes often find that the plants do not flower very well and, more often than not, the cause is to be found in the masses of suckers which have been sent up. To produce good heads of flowers it is necessary that lilacs should have vigorous well ripened shoots, and such a condition cannot be expected while so much of the food material is being wasted on suckers and weakly branches generally. All suckers from the rootstock must be pulled away if possible from the roots, and it also pays to remove a fair proportion of the weak inner shoots of the bush. This will result in additional vigour to the remaining branches and better ripening of the wood.

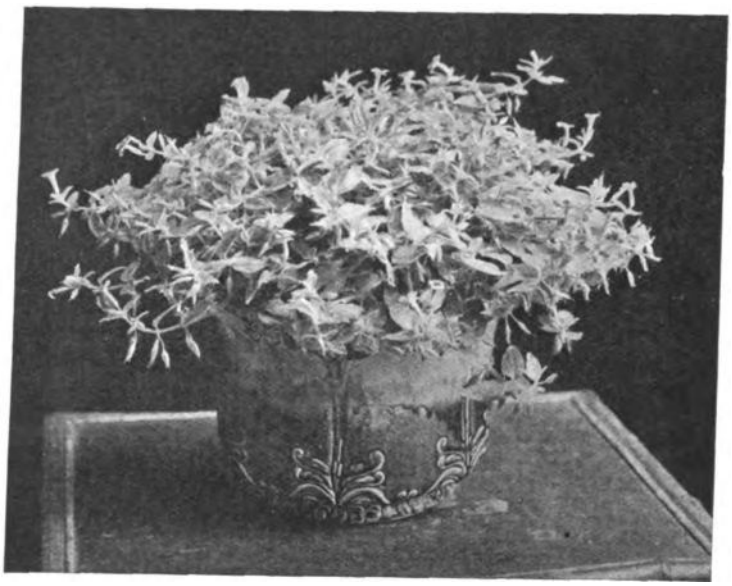
Protecting Water Pipes from Frost.

IN sharp weather the water pipes leading to taps in the garden are likely to freeze. To prevent this the pipes should be protected with some non-conductive material. The common plan of wrapping strips of sacking round the pipe is not very good, for this soon becomes saturated with water, so that when frost does come the pipe is really encased in ice; then the water inside will freeze more readily than if there was nothing round the pipe at all. A much better plan is to twist hay into tight bands and wind these round the pipe. If the hay is tightly twisted it will resist the rain to a remarkable extent, and, in a dry state, hay is a very poor conductor. If a pipe does freeze it is a good plan to thaw it out as soon as possible. Remove the hay bands and apply cloths wrung from hot water round the pipe, and the water soon flows again. During a spell of keen weather it is really wise to thaw out the pipe each morning (if this is needful), as when the ice is allowed to remain in the pipe for a couple of sharp nights the water will probably not flow again until the thaw comes.

Burst pipes are soon in evidence with the coming of milder weather. If, as often happens at such times, a plumber cannot be secured at once, a very good repair may be effected in this way: Cut strips about 2ins. wide from the old inner tube of a cycle or car tyre. Then wind these round the damaged area of the pipes. Stretch the rubber when winding, so that it grips the pipe well and complete the business by tying with strong twine. A repair of this nature will last for weeks, and it is quite possible to use the water supply without fear of leakage.

Mimulus for Pot or Basket Decoration.

MIMULUS makes a useful plant for hanging flower pots. The ease with which it may be raised from seed and its rapid growth make it specially suitable for the amateur.



MUSK MAKES AN EXCELLENT DECORATION IN EITHER POTS OR BASKETS WITH ITS BEAUTIFUL FOLIAGE AND RICHLY COLOURED FLOWERS.

From seed sown last January in the vinery, plants now measure a foot across. These were allowed to flower during the early summer in 48s. pots, and after flowering were cut down and repotted, when they soon became a mass of shoots. Some have just been put into large hanging pots and the drooping shoots completely clothe the pot. Many varieties will be found suitable for this purpose with their large-sized and well coloured flowers. The plants may afterwards be propagated by division.

Washing the Roots of Plants.

PLANTS which, for no very clear reason, seem to be unhealthy often benefit a great deal by having their roots washed. This applies to perennial species of all kinds and also to many of the smaller flowering shrubs like azaleas, tree peonies, etc. Quite often the cause of the poor development is due to the fact that the roots are infested with some insect or other pest. In such cases the plant should be lifted and its roots placed in a pail of water, rain or spring water being the best. The specimen may be quite safely left with its roots immersed for twenty-four hours or even longer. This will have the effect of drowning any pests that may have attached themselves to the roots. Finally, the plant should be set out again, and it is usually an advantage to put it in a new position. Even if this is not possible, great benefit will practically always arise from the washing of the roots.

Preparations for Early Spring Work.

THERE is much that can be done now under cover—in a greenhouse, a potting-shed or other outbuilding, that will help forward the actual work connected with the garden early in the new year. In town and suburban gardens pea and bean stakes are difficult to obtain, so all existing stakes should be examined now, the decaying ends that were in the soil during the summer cut off and broken ones used for fire lighting. The sound sticks should be tied into neat bundles and kept dry. Used with a few new ones next summer they will do good service again. New labels should be made and tied into bundles, graded as to size, the large ones for vegetables, the smaller and neater ones for flowers. Pots and pans should be washed and stored in a dry place; it is much easier to remove soil from them now than in spring when drying winds prevail. Mend seed boxes where they need it and make new ones. Heaps of exposed sand and soil should be covered from this date. Examine the garden tools, sharpen and clean them, not sparing the oily rag. Take stock of all tools and buy new ones at once if such are needed. Paint wheel barrows and hand carts, ladders and steps, keeping all these tools in a dry place.

Stopping Decay in Trees.

MANY an ornamental tree might be saved from rapid decay if timely attention was given in the early days of the trouble. To fill up the holes in the trees there is nothing so good as Portland cement. Before using the cement the decayed portion must be thoroughly cleaned out, all rotten parts being removed. It is essential that the cement should be able to get hold of sound wood, otherwise the decay will continue after the filling of the opening. Select a dry day for the business and let the cement be rather on the stiff side. Finish off the top carefully so that the surface will throw off rain, making sure that there are no positions where water could settle. When properly used the cement stops the moisture from going into the affected parts and arrests decay. Some trees split badly down the middle, and into the crack the moisture will penetrate, causing rotting. Here an iron band bolted together may be used as a clasp to prevent further injury, and the opening should be completely filled in with cement.

How to Rid a Pond of Green Scum.

THIS vegetation may be destroyed by adding copper sulphate to the water at the rate of one grain of the chemical to every gallon of water. The chemical may be tied up in a canvas bag, which is drawn through the water until its contents is dissolved. Another way is to mix the copper sulphate with water and then syringe the solution over the affected areas. Two or three applications may be needed during the year. When the chemical is used in this strength it will not harm gold fish or the legitimate plant occupants of the water garden. After treating the water with the copper sulphate it is as well to keep animals away for a few hours.

Digitized by Google

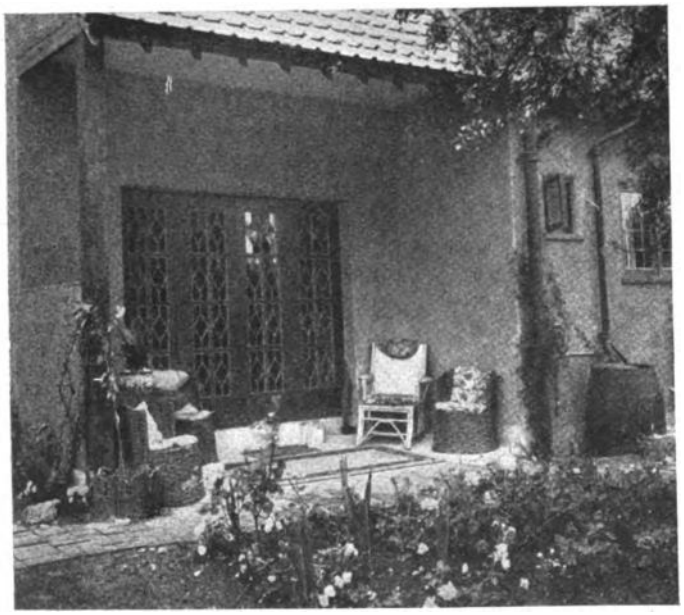
THE JOY OF MAKING A NEW GARDEN

IF one is fond of hard work, to what better use can time be put than in making a garden to one's own plan? Perhaps the following notes and accompanying illustrations may be of interest to others who are about to enter into an entirely fresh place, and I accordingly venture to chronicle the details forthwith.

In December last my brother and I purchased two adjoining houses in Ewell, Surrey, and the prospect that confronted us is clearly indicated in one of the accompanying illustrations. Rather than have two separate gardens, under the conditions of relationship, we decided to join forces and have one in common.

We were lucky to a large degree in living only a matter of three miles or so from the new place and in having a very well stocked garden of ten years standing from which to start the new garden. Some idea as to the quantity of plants, bricks for the paths, crazy paving, sundial, figures, garden tools, etc., that were transplanted may be gathered from the fact that three small motor lorries were required at different times.

PEAR TREE COTTAGE, EWELL, IN DECEMBER LAST.



THE PORCH LOOKING OVER THE GARDEN.

Being the last two houses to be completed, all the material from the previous building operations was dumped on our ground and remained there for some time. Digging operations had to be commenced round this material, so that a start could be made with the planting. The very first items were the three fruit trees, which entered the ground on Christmas Eve. The ground was fearfully weed-ridden, containing hot beds of nettles, thistles, dock, plantain, to mention but a few. Much of my spare time was taken in this early digging and on alternate Saturdays 8.30 a.m. would see me hard at it and, after having moved in, 5.30 a.m. would see me getting in an hour or so before leaving for Town at 8 o'clock.

With the idea in mind of having a design which would involve the least amount of upkeep afterwards and at the same time providing an air of spaciousness, it was decided to devote the main part to a lawn. This necessitated the whole of it being dug over deeply to get rid of the weeds and to render it level.

In order that I could be free to proceed with the digging of the beds, this work was entrusted to a gardener of the old school, who took a personal interest in the job and did it thoroughly, including the sowing of the seed. This and the cementing of the pond were the only items not carried out by family labour.

In the centre of the lawn is a cemented pond in which water lilies, irises, etc., flourish, together with some score of goldfish. A red water lily has already sent up some twenty fine blooms, despite its removal in bad weather.

The goldfish had to exist for a fortnight in the rain-water butt, until their new abode was ready for them. The earth dug from the pond formed the basis for the rock garden in another corner. In tubs around the margin of the pool can be seen the beautiful agapanthus, both white and blue.

Around the three sides of the back garden are broad herbaceous borders in which are all kinds of flowers in their due seasons.

In order to be able to attend to the beds in wet weather without detriment to the lawn, brick paths have been laid round the entire garden, while in front of the two houses crazy paving fulfils the same useful purpose.

The back garden at one end had the natural advantage of some old fruit trees, which are very effective, but otherwise the place was empty and is of our own designing.

Attention is drawn to the small statues, which form a striking note. We are fortunate in each house having a roomy roofed-in loggia, from each of which a good view of the garden may be enjoyed, even in wet weather.

In view of the fact that much inclement weather was experienced when planting was in progress, our losses in plants have been slight, and we feel rather gratified at the result obtained within the space of six months.

J. M. W.

THE GARDEN AS IT WAS LAST JUNE.

Digitized by Google

THE FRUIT AND KITCHEN GARDEN

Old Walls and Fruit Trees.

OLD walls in a garden are always interesting, but in the case of fruit trees they sometimes form very secure hiding places for insect pests. On the north side moss will grow in the joints, and if it is allowed to remain undisturbed it destroys the mortar, loosening the bricks and making it difficult for the workman to fix the nails securely where nailing is practised. Where walls are needing repairs it is best to loosen the branches and tie them into small bundles, but not tightly, and allow them to remain quite free from contact with the wall while the necessary repairs are being carried out. First scrape away all loose mortar and moss where it exists, then syringe the wall with a strong insecticide, standing directly in front of the wall while forcibly syringing the liquid into the holes as well as the face of the wall itself. Fill up all holes with cement made as follows: Mix two parts of fine sand with one part of quite fresh cement in a dry state, then add water and make the combined parts nicely workable with a small trowel. Old nails can be cleaned by burning them on an old spade or shovel on a fire.

The tying of the branches of the fruit trees away from the wall will retard the development of the buds, thus enabling the cultivator to guard them against late frosts when they expand into full bloom.

It will be a good opportunity to clean the branches of trees that are found to be infested with scale. When the branches are again nailed to the wall make the main ones secure, first allowing the young shoots to depend loosely and away from the wall as long as possible—until the buds begin to swell freely. In the meantime prepare fibrous loam and rotted manure, if the latter is available, in readiness for placing on the border as a top-dressing when the trees are dealt with. Do not trample all the time on the border soil, but make use of some boards or planks for the purpose, and even then lightly fork up the surface or ease the top crust up with the fork after the trees are duly attended to.—HANTS.

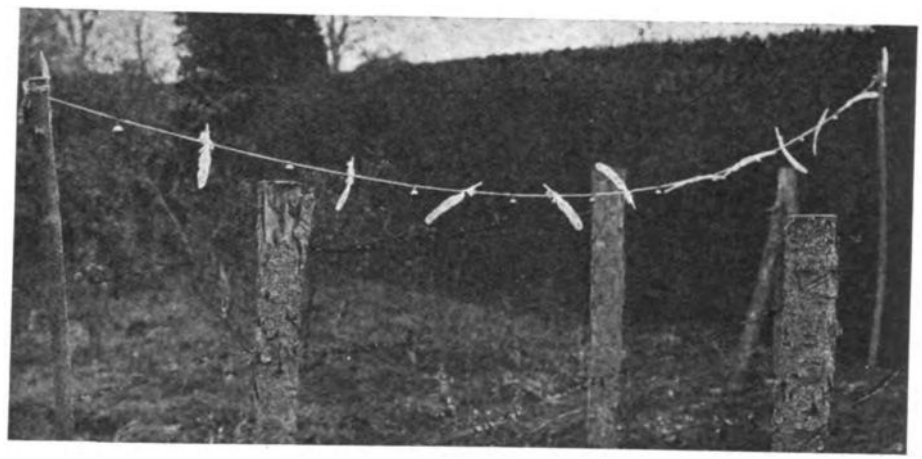
How to Keep Birds from the Fruit Buds.

IF birds prove very troublesome, it may be as well to leave the pruning of fruit bushes until spring unless some sort of protection can be given. The sparrow is the worst destroyer of fruit buds, but he has numerous rivals in destructiveness. There is not only the loss of fruit to be considered, but there is also the damage done to the fruit spurs and, generally, to fruit buds where they are present. The birds peck deep and keen. The tender fruiting wood is left bare and indented by their bills. Permanent injury is done by reason of the removal of the buds and consequent exposure of the inner wood to the severities of the winter.

One plan to protect the bushes is to spray them with some sort of preparation that makes the buds distasteful to the birds. But it is not always attended with success. I have tried fish and herring nets; but I think that threading the bushes with black cotton thread or yarn is more effective. It is true that netting affords a little protection from frost, but the meshing makes havoc among the projecting spurs. In the case of wall trees, wooden studs driven into the wall and the netting hung thereon is the usual method adopted to prevent this. But when winds are very high, the nets come into lashing contact with the fruit spurs and much damage is done. Much less damage results from the use of thread or yarn. Preferably a soft yarn, of light body and dark shade, should be used. Silk or wool from old stockings or a jumper will answer the purpose very well. Hard and close-spun threads are apt to do some damage in several ways, chiefly through cutting into the bark. Dark-coloured yarn is the more effective, because the birds do not observe it until they come in contact with it, and then they fly off in alarm.

The threading should be done before hard weather sets in. The bushes and trees should be pruned and trimmed first. Gooseberries, white and red currants are usually the worst attacked.

Having made up a ball of yarn, begin at the top of the bush or tree, and pass the thread from shoot to shoot, preferably in long, dangling strands. It is a mistake to pull the threads tight. Where the fruit buds are thickest apply a correspondingly greater quantity of threading. Standard bushes ought to have a liberal threading about the base, so as to prevent the birds from entering the heart of the bushes from below.—W.



A USEFUL BIRD SCARE CAN EASILY BE MADE OUT OF STRING TO WHICH ARE ATTACHED WHITE HEN FEATHERS AND SMALL BRASS BELLS.

Raising Early Broad Beans and Peas in Turves.

IN the open border, where the soil is not very clayey, hundreds of amateurs sow seeds of both broad beans and peas directly the weather renders the soil workable. The date generally selected is February 14th. Of course, the ground is cold then and seeds may decay in it; certainly they are slow in germinating. But by sowing at this early date early vegetables are obtained.

Those who possess a cold frame are independent of weather conditions. They should procure some turves, preferably those that were cut and stacked early in October. These turves should be placed grass side downwards close together on the floor of the frame. The grass of turves cut three months ago will have died, but the fibres will be sound and help to bind the soil together. Make holes with a small dibber about 1in. apart in the case of peas and 3ins. in that of broad beans, 1in. and 2ins. deep respectively. Drop one seed in each hole and fill the latter with finely sifted soil, then water through a fine-rosed watering-can. The width of the turves should be 6ins. for peas and 7ins. for beans. The frame lights may be kept closed until the seedlings appear, then admit air freely in fine weather. Only a small quantity of water will be needed while the plants are in the frame. Be sure you do not coddle the plants, as they should be planted out at the end of March or the first week in April. At this latter date they will be about 4ins. high and ready for small sticks, which will break the force of the wind somewhat. In the meantime you should prepare the ground for the plants, digging and manuring it, and if there is a nice warm border available, select such for the plants. The turves are transferred just as they are, plants, roots and all, to the open border. Early varieties, dwarf-growing, are the most suitable, and the outside planting out should be closer than is advisable in the case of open-air raised crops.—G. GARNER.

Best Crops to Grow in a Small Garden.

THE owners of small gardens are, with few exceptions, anxious to grow many kinds of plants in them. I am now referring mainly to vegetables and fruit. Even in the smallest garden—one that is entitled to the name of garden—a tiny border can be devoted to flowers. A few herbaceous clumps and a good selection of about six to nine distinct kinds of annuals will yield during eight months of the year a fairly good supply of flowers for vases as well as keep the spot bright with colour.

In the kitchen garden—the small one—every square yard must be cropped to the best advantage. The present is a very good time to make plans for next year's crops. If certain kinds of vegetables are favoured, they should be given first consideration, and the best positions in the garden should be devoted to them. But there are many persons to whom gardening is quite new, and it is for their benefit mainly that these hints are given.

Dwarf-growing peas should be preferred to tall ones, as the rows of the former can be arranged closer together and really heavy crops of pods gathered from them. Early potatoes—if potatoes are to be grown—should be favoured instead of late ones, as the roots of the former can be grown closer together and, as they are lifted at an early date, a second crop can be grown after them, turnips, late cropped peas—sowing earliest sorts for the purpose—celery, dwarf beans, radishes, lettuce and endive. Of course, a few short rows of early cabbages are useful also, some of cauliflowers, as they are so beneficial to health. Wintertime must also be provided for, and to this end we should grow such

Digitized by Google

vegetables as onions, carrots, beet, leeks, celery, parsnips and a few winter greens. Rhubarb, seakale and asparagus may be included where these are appreciated, and there is sufficient room for them. A few roots of rhubarb will not occupy much space and the returns from them are very good as a rule, so an effort should be made to find the necessary room.

Bush fruits and strawberries, the latter grown more closely together than is usual and treated as biennials—not fruited more than once or, at most, twice—are remunerative. Every year, early July, runners should be rooted on the strawberry-bed for this purpose. Raspberries are indispensable, and at least one hundred canes should be planted now at a distance apart of 9ins. in the rows. Several rows may be grown together for convenience of protection against birds, or one long row by itself. In other cases isolated short rows, according to the space available. Gooseberries are profitable, as the fruit can be used green or when ripe. Bush-shaped apples and pears are the most economical for the small garden, and cordon pears on walls or trained to stakes will yield many fine fruits, and a greater variety can be grown in a small space. Because the garden is small do not be tempted to overcrowd it either with vegetables or fruit trees. Allow each crop decided upon ample space in which to grow.—HANTS.

Collecting Hotbed Materials: Their Treatment.

HEAT, either from hot-water pipes or fermenting materials, placed in a heap is very essential for the welfare of some kinds of plants during the winter and spring months. Anything, therefore, that will engender heat should be taken great care of. I know that many inexperienced persons think that litter, for instance, will be all right if it is simply thrown into a rough heap and left there until it is required for forming hot-beds. It is a mistake to treat litter in this way, because it will heat violently, burn sometimes and then cool suddenly. Afterwards it is very difficult to obtain more heat from such material however carefully it may be treated. All litter, as it becomes available, should be placed in a cool, dry shed where air can pass through freely. It should not be heaped, but spread out loosely; the idea is to prevent heating violently. Some heat will be engendered in any case, but not, if treated in the way suggested, sufficiently to burn. When used in building the hot-bed the litter will afford a good steady heat. If a shed is not available, place the litter on some sticks to keep it clear of the ground and also cover with boards to prevent rain soaking and spoiling it. Old hay, hedge trimmings—those from the sides of ditches and from banks—should be dried, heaped and roughly thatched, also with a view to prevent rainwater entering it and turning it mouldy and useless. With regard to tree leaves, these may be heaped, as they will not heat violently and a little moisture will be beneficial. Water does not enter a heap of leaves readily. If in the early weeks of the new year, litter and leaves are used in almost equal proportions to form hot-beds, the heat engendered will be moderate, generally sufficient, and lasting.—G.

WHAT OUR READERS SAY

GARDEN PATHS.

SIR,—I should be very grateful if you or your contributor, "E. G." (whose notes on path making I found very interesting), could inform me as to the method employed in the making of his cement blocks—as illustrated on page 695 of THE GARDEN for December 4th. I am quite ignorant on the subject of cement casting and desire the most elementary information. Would the blocks be likely to crack if exposed to frost?—K. P. DUNCAN, *Mayfield, Sussex.*

THE TREE OF LIFE.

SIR,—It is quite possible that the plant your correspondents refer to is Bryophyllum calycinum. This member of the Crassula family is very common in some parts of Florida, where it is known as "Live for Ever," though flowering branches of it reach the markets under the name of "Florida Bells." Assuming the plant your correspondents speak of is this extraordinary bryophyllum, they are wrong as to the colour of its flowers, which are pendulous and of a reddish green tint spotted white. I believe it is a native of Mexico.

Looking up the works at hand, the only writer speaking of the "Tree of Life" is J. Murray in his "Dictionary of Plant Names," this term being applied to the Arborvitæ. Bryophyllum calycinum is almost indestructible save by frost. It is commonly said that leaves may be nailed to a picket fence and they will grow. Certainly the leaves, which are fleshy, need but be laid in a moist atmosphere to encourage sprouting of growths all around the edges. The plants grow some 4ft. tall, but are, perhaps, more interesting than ornamental, though the flowering branches certainly are attractive when used in decorations. It is of the simplest culture and can be grown anywhere, even outdoors in these parts, during the summer months. There are several other species of bryophyllum, but the one mentioned is most common.—T. A. W.

LABELS.

SIR,—I note the label question has not yet been solved, and I suppose never will be, for what we want is a label that costs practically nothing and that will last at least for some years. The nearest I can get towards the needful—and I have many hundreds in use—is the machine-sawn lath as used by plasterers for walls and ceilings cut into 12in. lengths. By cutting these 4ft. laths in half and again cutting in half crosswise, I get a half point at one end. The other end is planed on one side, and the pointed ends are then brushed over with creosote to half their length. The planed portion is then painted and written upon before the paint dries. On my soil, creosoting is necessary, for something in the ground literally eats up wood; oftentimes an untreated label, post, and even the bottoms of seed boxes, are rotted off inside a year. I certainly would like that Stephen's outdoor ink, as it would be better than using pencil on wet paint, but such an ink is not obtainable; one cannot even obtain a real garden pencil.—T. A. W., *U.S.A.*

WHITE DELPHINIUMS.

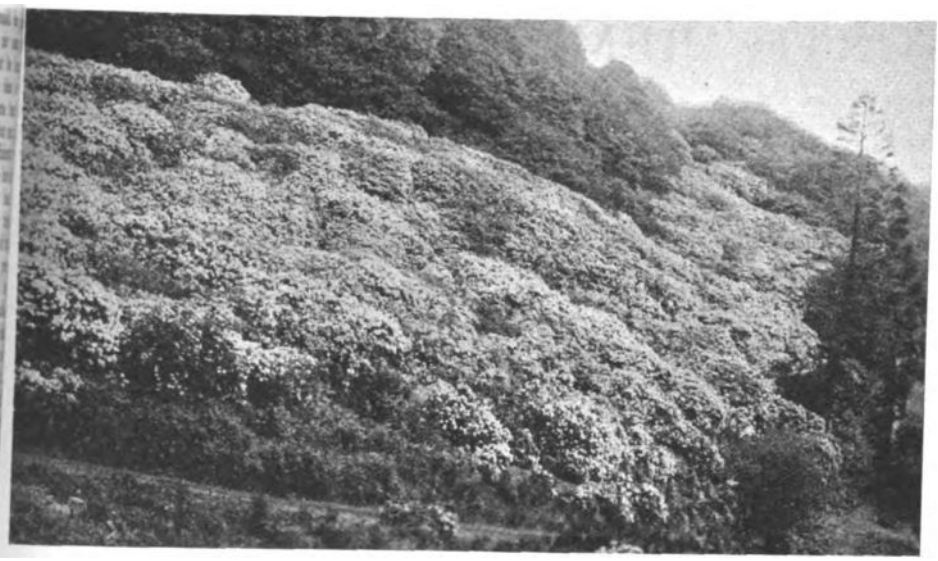
SIR,—It may interest you to know that we have over here several strains of these, the most notable being Toole's, which has been on the market for three or four years. William Toole, an old Britisher, who died last year at the age of eighty odd, was keen on delphiniums, and some years back he was fortunate in finding a white among his seedlings that was much superior to Moerheimi. By selection he succeeded in getting seed that comes all white, though not, of course, all the same type. For a time he offered plants only. His sons, who carry on the business at Baraboo, Wis., still sell plants at 50cts. to $1 each, but seed is also offered, and so far as I have seen, all the plants raised from this seed come white, not cream, but really pure white. Toole's white delphinium seed is offered as Summer Cloud, and embraces selections from the largest and finest whites, some of these bearing individual blooms as large as a dollar piece. Toole's double white, offered as Flora Toole, is available as plants only, no seed being set by this variety.—T. A. WESTON, *New Jersey.*

A FINE BUSH OF KALMIA LATIFOLIA WITH ITS PINK FLOWERS.

KALMIA LATIFOLIA.

SIR,—I have pleasure in enclosing a photograph of a large bush of Kalmia latifolia, covered with lovely clusters of pink, waxlike flowers, growing in the garden of Bryn Mawr, Tan-y-bwlch, which I hope may be of interest to many readers of THE GARDEN. In circumference the bush measures 32ft., and the height is 8ft. 2ins. It is rather overshadowed and sheltered on one side by trees, and above it on the bank is a very large azalea, but it thrives exceedingly on a

Digitized by Google



A BANK OF RHODODENDRONS FORMING A PERFECT SHEET OF BLOSSOMS.

good barrowful of leaf mould twice a year, and occasionally water in a dry season. Undoubtedly this is a plant which deserves to be planted more widely in our gardens.

The second illustration is that of a perfect sheet of rhododendrons which grow on the hillside above the house and kitchen garden and near the woods. It is only a small part of the splendid show of flowers in spring, originally of many good kinds and colours; many have gone back to the ponticum. Still it is a grand show of purple, red, pink, etc. Even the chars-à-bancs stop and the tourists exclaim at their beauty.—L. PERCIVAL (Mrs.), *Merioneth.*

GOOSEBERRY MILDEW.

SIR,—Of the many diseases which injure, cripple and may eventually destroy plants, I am sure that many will agree with me when I say that the ravages caused among gooseberry plantations by American or gooseberry mildew is responsible for more deaths and casualties to these plants than could fall to be accounted for by most other diseases of plant life. Gooseberry mildew can be checked, if not altogether cured, and this important fact I should like to impress upon those who read these notes. By results obtained from experiments of my own, and continued over a few years upon a hundred or two of bushes, I am quite convinced that if spraying be commenced in early spring and be regularly done every week or ten days throughout the summer, affected bushes will present a healthy appearance in a very short time. The work of spraying should be carried out in a thorough and systematic manner, and no parts of the bushes left undone. The results of this regular spraying will be apparent in renewed vigour of the shoots and a healthy green upon the leaves in place of the former sickly white which covered them. The ugly black and charred appearance which the points of the shoots presented will soon be replaced by healthy firm wood. Bushes in some gardens I have observed are allowed to go on in a diseased and unprofitable state year after year, and no really serious attempt ever made to clean or bring them back to health. When they reach the chronic stage, and give one the impression of having been whitewashed, the owner then usually decides to uproot them and have a fire. Burning, without doubt, is most effectual, and puts a final stop to its depredations and a check on its spreading. Keeping old diseased bushes is only nursing a hot-bed of infection, and a menace to any healthy bushes in the vicinity. The mildew can be carried by bees, birds and the wind to gardens and plantations where there may be healthy plants. In my opinion, the spraying of gooseberry bushes should be made compulsory. A combined and systematic effort, however, on the part of all growers, large or small, to put down this mildew scourge and eradicate it from the country would ultimately be attended with successful results. Owing to the ravages of the disease the at one time common and plentiful gooseberry is seriously threatened with extinction.

Regarding insecticides to spray bushes with, there are many on the market. Some are good, others may be dangerous, while others, again, do neither good nor ill. Lime sulphur is very good, but too drastic for some varieties—as White, for instance—if used at full strength, as it will strip off the foliage if so used. Ammonium polysulphide used in conjunction with XL All Mildew Wash I have found to be safest and most effectual if used as per instructions on tins and jars. Both these washes are sent out by Messrs. Richards. I have also noticed very good results from using "Kurmill" on mildew-affected bushes. It is marketed at 2s. 6d. by Mr. S. McGredy of rose fame, Portadown, Ireland.—WM. GRANT.

PROPAGATING DAPHNE GENKWA.

SIR,—Where it is desired to increase the stock of this rather difficult member of the Daphne family, and to have it upon its own roots in preference to grafted plants, many different methods are tried to accomplish this object. Daphne Genkwa does not, however, appear to be at all amenable to the various means suggested in "Gardening Periodicals," and even such as Nicholson's Dictionary, ripened cuttings inserted in autumn being the usual time-honoured formula in both instances. Increasing the stock by means of "layering" and pegging down a branch was also recommended by a writer in THE GARDEN some time ago. The result of this treatment would give "Irishman's cuttings," I presume (cuttings with roots) which could be potted at once. The latter is, no doubt, a sure method but a very slow one. Although Daphne Genkwa is not a deciduous shrub, I find autumn-inserted cuttings do not give satisfactory results; hard wood is slow to callus in autumn and winter, and many would decay before roots were emitted. Instead of inserting the cuttings in autumn, I find that spring-inserted cuttings are more successful, much more satisfactory, surer, and quicker to root.

To secure cuttings in early spring, about the end of December or beginning of January, I introduce a pot or two into a house where there is a temperature ranging from 45° to 55° Fahr.; by the early part of March sufficient cuttings are available to commence with. Cuttings should then be made from the points of shoots, but side growths ought to be made use of also—the latter pulled out with a gentle but sharp nip, which will bring a heel with it. Cuttings should be from 2ins. to 2½ins. long, and a very sharp knife should be used for trimming the leaves and smoothing the joint or heel. The skin of the shoots is very easily torn, which would preclude all chance of cuttings striking, hence the reason for using a sharp knife. The cuttings when ready should then be inserted in a small frame or box containing very finely sifted sharp sand. I usually give the sand a thorough soaking of water first, and let it drain out; another good soaking of water is given when the cuttings are in, through a fine-rosed can. In the case of a frame, the light is put on; if a box, a pane or two of glass. With the exception of wiping the moisture off the glass each morning, the frame is kept close for at least a fortnight. After this gradually admit a little air, until a chink of air can be given day and night. The frame or box should be in a position where a bottom heat of about 55° Fahr. could be maintained.

Under this treatment, in the course of eight to ten weeks, cuttings should be rooted, and should be transferred to thumb pots. The potting compost should consist of about equal parts of leaf-mould (oak for preference) and rough silver sand, a little peat if obtainable, and well mixed. When the plants are potted, they should be placed back in the frame again, given a good watering, and kept rather close for a day or two. When they can keep erect, full ventilation and plenty of air should then be given.—CRATHE.

ROSE AMERICAN PILLAR.

SIR,—The accompanying illustration of rose (American Pillar) may be of interest to many readers of THE GARDEN. The rose was planted in the gardens here (belonging to Mr. John Cuninghame), three years ago and trained to grow over an old, dead apple tree, which had been cut back. It has reached a fair height and is most decorative during the summer months.—THOMAS BARCLAY, *The Gardens, Creich House, Fairlie, Ayrshire.*

A DECORATIVE METHOD OF GROWING ROSE AMERICAN PILLAR.

Digitized by Google

HINTS WORTH REMEMBERING

Hal, a guinea will be paid each week for the most useful or interesting hint sent in by a reader. Five shillings will be paid for all others published. Owing to the number of hints which are sent in, we desire that, in future, each hint should be sent in on a post card, and should be limited to 150 words. Payment for these hints is made on the 7th of each month following publication. Responsibility for the accuracy of these hints must rest with the contributors.

THE HALF GUINEA HINT.

The Propagation of Anchusa italica.

In some soils this invaluable border plant must be treated as a biennial, for very frequently after the second season of flowering it has exhausted itself, and where the true good types of the Dropmore, Opal and other fine varieties are desired, resort must be had to cuttings, and this is the time of the year to perform this operation. Take up one or two strong specimens of this year's stock with all the roots intact—if any break off while lifting fork them out—now cut off all the small fleshy roots from the main rootstock. The old plant may be replanted at once or laid in the soil until required. The small, fleshy roots that were severed from the old plant should now be cut into 2in. lengths, keeping all of them one way up—square cut at top and slanting at the bottom—tie them in bundles of ten, and lay them in a heap of sand in the open until spring, when, on examination, it will be seen all the crowns will be showing young shoots. Let them grow until green and hard enough to stand transplanting, when they may be put straight into their flowering quarters, where they will make fine sturdy plants for the following season. This method has been practised for years with wonderful success.—F. L. B.

Earthworms in Lawns.

After reading the very useful hints that you have published in THE GARDEN, I feel it my duty to help this good work on, trusting these hints will prove successful. Earthworms in the lawns.—To prevent earthworms doing serious damage to a fine lawn, apply sharp, gritty sand in December and January. This will send them into the lower strata, where they will do no damage and yet assist drainage, aeration and tilling of the soil. To remove them altogether, water after a showery day with a strong solution of "Abol" with fresh lime water. Or, with the more efficacious but deadly poisonous corrosive sublimate (1 oz. in 30 gallons of water applied from a watering can), the worms, being then near the surface, will come out of the ground immediately. Sweep them off in an hour or so and keep the dead worms back from fowls, especially if the corrosive sublimate has been used.—S. E. L.

Propagating Shrubs Indoors.

For those with little space to spare in the garden for cuttings of evergreen and deciduous shrubs the following is an excellent method of increasing stock. In the autumn or early winter months take as many cuttings as are required of strong upright growths of the current year, pull off all the lower leaves and place the cuttings in glass jars filled with water (jam jars will do admirably) in a dim light indoors and leave there till spring, renewing the water from time to time to keep fresh. In February place in a window. By April the stalks should show a number of white roots from 2ins. to 3ins. long. Plant out in desired positions during April, when the rooted cuttings will soon make fresh foliage and within a year or so form well shaped shrubs. I have increased aucuba, laurel, myrtle, euonymus, deutzia, weigela, pyrus (japonica), snow berry, viburnum and many other shrubs by this method. M. H.

Eradicating American Blight.

One of the worst pests of the apple tree is American blight. I have read of many devices to clear the trees, but I have never come across the one I have often used in Tasmania with great success and which is procurable in the smallest village, *viz.*, petrol—it is sudden death. Get an ordinary paint can, put in a small amount of petrol, and with a clean paint brush lightly touch each colony. Mark the place where you start and work round the tree limb by limb, as petrol evaporates so quickly that you cannot see where you have been. It can also be used in autumn-time if care is taken not to touch the leaves or young shoots. (I should have no fear to try it on dormant vines for mealy bug. Will someone try it and let us know the result?)—R. C.

A Remedy for Slugs.

One of the best remedies for the slug pest is made by mixing one part of finely powdered alum with seven parts of slaked lime. This should be very thoroughly mixed together and passed through a very fine sieve. This may be scattered freely on mild evenings when the slugs are above ground. With the exception of the lime-haters, no plants are injured by being covered with the powder.—H. C. W.

Renovating Turf Edges.

To renovate edges of turf that have become frayed and broken, mark off with a spade or turf edger a strip of the turf about a foot wide containing the broken edge in one piece or several, as may be convenient. Detach it from the ground by slipping the spade under it. Move it forward until it projects a couple of inches or so beyond the line of the desired edge, press well into position and make your new edge. Gather the pieces cut off and place them in the space left vacant when moving forward the turf, then fill up this space with soil well pressed (or rolled) down to the required level. You have your new clean edge at once, and in a very short time the grass will have grown over the little patch.—M. A. S.

A Most Artistic and Cheap Method of Staking Flowers.

There is no doubt that in staking a tall-growing perennial, say, a delphinium plant, the most satisfactory way is to use a strong but slender stake for every flower-spike. To get the best stakes for this purpose without cost take in the autumn the strongest stalks of your hardy perennials, such as asters, rudbeckias, golden rods and heleniums, and strip the leaves off, using any thick rag in running the stalks quickly through the hand in order not to hurt it. Thereafter dry the stalks off and keep them in a dry place during the winter. They are ideal in their slender sturdiness, giving the flower spikes sufficient protection against storms and allowing them to sway with the wind instead of being snapped off, as too often occurs when less flexible stakes or canes are used. Lastly, they have the advantage that they are scarcely to be seen as are other staking materials, even with contrasting backgrounds. Thus the plants do not appear to be staked, but seem to grow quite naturally.—M. L. W.

THIS MONTH IN THE GREENHOUSE

Damping in the Late Chrysanthemums.

MANY of the late chrysanthemums stand well until Christmas, when they are naturally very much appreciated. The chief trouble to guard against is damping, which is due to the attacks of a minute fungus. Here many of the petals of the flower fall downwards and finally come away altogether, so that the bloom is a mere apology for what it ought to be. The fungus which causes the disease succeeds where there is a moist surface, so that excess of moisture and a muggy atmosphere favour its propagation. To prevent the trouble take care to give a free ventilation in mild, dry weather. During fog keep the damp air out as much as possible as nothing does so much harm to chrysanthemum blooms as a foggy atmosphere. Water should be given sparingly and always in the morning, so that the plants can dry a little before nightfall. If any heat is available a little gentle warmth will do much to preserve the well-being of the flowers, especially during spells of wet, sunless weather. Examine the individual flowers often and any petals that show signs of being affected should be at once pulled out.—L. B.

Retarding Flowering Plants.

MOST gardeners try to get as many flowers as possible for Christmas, but it may happen that specimens needed for some later festivity, like chrysanthemums and the early bulbs, will reach such an advanced state that they are likely to be over before being required. In such cases it is useful to know that it is quite a simple matter to retard the plants. The specimens should be removed to a cool and, preferably, rather a dark position, such as in the corner of a shed or on the floor of a cellar. Whatever place is selected, one must make sure that the plants are secure against frost. Practically any plants may be kept for a week or ten days in such positions without the least harm. Every day or so they should be examined to see that there is no sign of mildew, which, in the case of chrysanthemums, might do a great deal of damage in a very short while. Any withered foliage should instantly be removed, as it is here that the mildew trouble is most likely to start.—S. LEONARD BASTIN.

Washing Down Greenhouses.

CLEANLINESS of the structures in which plants are grown is absolutely essential if first-class results are desired. With this maxim in mind it is well to proceed with the cleansing of all houses as soon as this operation becomes practicable. House washing, although a simple task, should be done thoroughly and methodically if the best results are to be derived from it.

First clear the house of all pot plants and if creepers are trained up the roof,

Digitized by Google

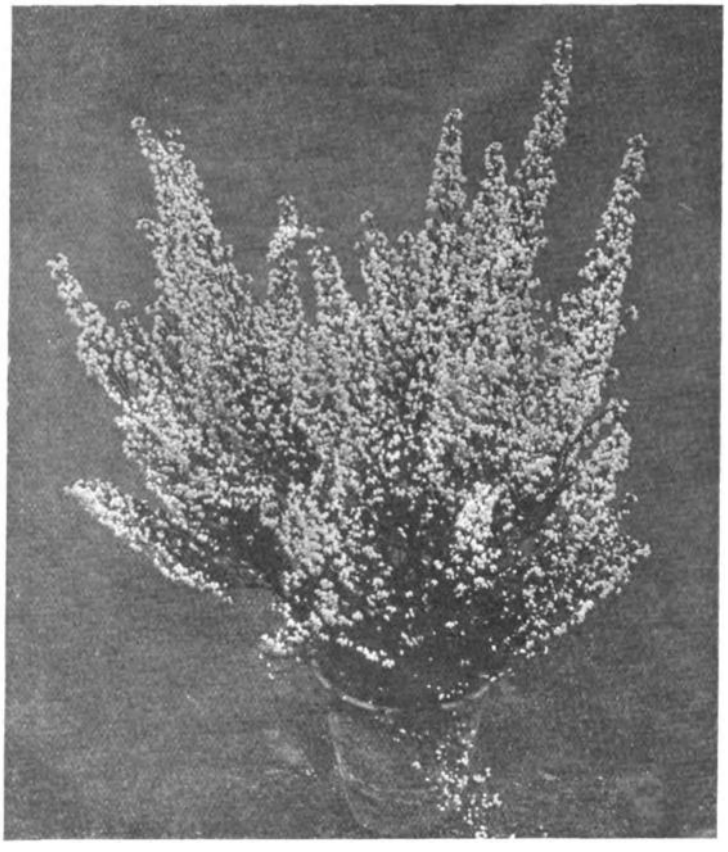
release the ties, cut out any dead or surplus growth and tie the branches loosely together, leaving the creeper suspended by ties of string at a distance of about 18ins. from the glass. Where the house can be entirely cleared of plants it is an excellent plan to burn some sulphur in it the night previous to washing down. If possible select a dull or rainy day for the work, as dirty water is not them so liable to dry on the glass and woodwork as it is on sunny or windy days.

On the morning of the selected day syringe the whole house down with soft soap dissolved in water, to which paraffin has been added at the rate of a small thumb pot to the bucketful. If left for about an hour this has a wonderful effect in softening and loosening the dirt.

Scrub the woodwork and glass with the same mixture of soft soap and paraffin, working in sections and proceeding from the top downwards. The overlaps of the glass may be cleaned out with the aid of a thin piece of zinc. As each section is completed, give it a good syringing down with clean water. When the whole house is finished admit plenty of air so that the superabundance of moisture may be dried up. To complete the work all brickwork should be lime-washed, taking care to get the wash well into all the crevices so that any lurking insects or eggs may be destroyed. The creepers may then be tied into place after they have been inspected to see that they are free from pests and finally the pot plants brought back, taking care that they too are quite clean.—T. H. EVERETT.

Dwarf Heaths in Pots.

DWARF heaths are again becoming common and, since they are delightful little things and popular, we give a few notes on how they may be kept and grown on. The varieties commonly found are species of erica, often E. hyemalis, E. gracilis, E. persoluta and E. caffra; the name matters little, if the blossom proves suitable for decoration. With a little care the plants can be kept fresh and healthy for quite a long time; they must, however, be kept out of a draught, away from coal and gas fires and carefully watered before the soil gets just dust dry—a difficult problem really and the one which leads to great mortality among them; dipping the pot in a basin of tepid water is the best plan, and always see that it drains for ten minutes at least before it is replaced in any saucer or ornamental bowl. When the flowers fade they may be pinched off; a little later repot the plants into pots a size larger, using a compost of loam (turfy), peat and leaf-soil. With a little bottom heat they will soon come away nicely and by another year prove equally fine and a trifle larger—they grow slowly. Feed when growth becomes speedy and give plenty of ventilation in summer.—CLYDESDALE.



MANY OF THE DWARF HEATHS MAKE EXCELLENT INDOOR DECORATION.
This is a white-flowered variety of Erica gracilis.

Stoking.

A SAVING of fire heat can be made by congregating the plants into as few structures as possible, even if they do suffer a little in consequence. But, needless to say, the greatest economies of all will be effected in the stokehole. Stoking is admittedly one of the most disagreeable, albeit one of the most important, operations in horticulture. Except at "banking up" time it is not a good policy to have a crammed fire, as this blocks the passage of air without which the proper combustion of the coal cannot take place. A small red or clear fire in which the fuel is fully combusted results in greater heat with economy in coal and time required in stoking.

Such a fire is more agreeable and easier to manage and is always under the control of the stoker, a point which is most important if following a night of frost comes a day of bright sunshine, when fire heat would be a needless waste and give rise to conditions in which pests of various kinds seem to flourish. In such circumstances all draught should be shut off and the front of the fire well packed with damp ashes.

It is obvious that efficient stoking requires an intelligent consideration of the weather conditions. Having stored up all available solar heat by timely closing down of the ventilators, the idea of having fire heat to supplant its exhaustion is a good line to follow in the maintainance of an even temperature.

Preparatory to restarting the fire, draw out the damper full length to carry off any sulphurous fumes. In stirring the fire see that the tool used passes along the bars to the back of the furnace. Then use it as a lever to stir up the fuel, removing all clinkers and dirt and cleaning out the ash box.

Feed the fire with a small quantity of dry fuel again replenishing it as the fire burns clearly, setting the damper to give the required draught. In banking up the fire for the night see that the various temperatures are as required, a little above will not be a great fault. Stir up the fire, shut the furnace door with full draught on to get a clear, bright fire, fill up the furnace with finely broken fuel to admit of a good quantity. Use the damper only as a means of controlling the draught, leaving 1in. to 2ins. open as practice and weather considerations dictate.

The use of ashes at the "banking up" time is open to contention as this means more clinkers in the morning. But if the lasting properties of the fire are at all doubtful a little may be thrown on to steady it.—WM. MCCARRELL.

Renovating Vine Borders.

WHERE vine borders are in an exhausted condition no time should be lost in making the border good, presuming the fruit has been harvested. Before removing any of the old border the new soil should be got in readiness. The soil for this purpose should consist of good fibrous loam that has been cut and stacked for six months in a fairly dry shed. It is then in a fit state for use, chopping it into pieces 3ins. or 4ins. square, so that the compost is on the lumpy side. To every cartload of loam add one barrow-load of broken mortar and the same amount of wood ashes and charcoal combined, 8lb. or 9lb. of ½in. bones, and half that quantity of horn or hoof manure, if procurable, or any other manure that is lasting and good, and two or three shovelfuls of fresh slaked lime. This compost may be turned over to get it well mixed. Repeat the above mixture until sufficient soil is got in readiness for the work to be done. The loam is much the best if it can be procured from old pasture land where cattle have been feeding for many years.

When clearing away the old exhausted soil from the border, I would advise clearing half of the border first, cutting it through with a spade down to the drainage, severing the roots with the spade as the work proceeds. After the soil is all cleared, remove the drainage and pipes to get a clear bottom to work upon. When removing the other half of the border, this may be done with a fork. Great care must be taken not to damage the small fibrous roots as the work proceeds. As the roots are exposed they should be secured and tied up with soft string out of the way of the fork while the unearthing is done, keeping them moist when exposed by syringing them occasionally. If there is about 9ins. or a foot of the old border left untouched close to the stem of the rods, it is a great help to the vines, as they are not so liable to flag. All drainage and pipes should be cleaned and put back into their proper position. If the drainage is insufficient, more may be added to make up a total depth of 9–12ins., on top of which put a thick layer of newly cut loam, placed grass downwards, and then proceed by wheeling in the newly prepared soil, spreading it evenly over the surface about 4ins. or 5ins. thick, and give each layer of soil a good ramming, making the border very firm. Vines dislike spongy soils in which to grow. As the work proceeds the roots may be laid out in position and given enough water to keep them moist. Take care not to damage the roots when ramming the soil. When the work is completed the vines may be syringed once or twice a day if the sun is very bright and the vinery kept rather close for a week or two until root action takes place.—A. GROWER

Digitized by Google

OUR SERVICE BUREAU

Though so many subjects are dealt with in each issue of THE GARDEN, *it must constantly happen that readers seek information which is not immediately available. In such circumstances they should make use of our Service Department. Through its medium each reader's own particular enquiry can be dealt with. No matter what the question is, there is always information available from a staff of expert contributors and consultants; and there is no charge for this. It is one of the additional means of service which* THE GARDEN *is glad to render to its readers.*

Also, there is the further convenience which the Service Department affords of supplying readers with data about anything that is advertised in the pages of the paper. Thus, on receipt of an enquiry, particulars will be sent of, say, half a dozen things about which the reader seeks information. The only stipulation is that a stamped addressed envelope and the coupon that will always be found in each issue, shall be sent with the enquiry. We would point out, however, that we cannot undertake to supply readers with plans and designs of gardens, but will willingly assist in giving suggestions for planting.

All communications should be addressed to the Service Department, THE GARDEN, *20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.*

We have selected the following enquiries, with their answers, as being of more general interest, and therefore worthy of publication.

The Propagation of Primula rufa.

Can you kindly tell me whether Primula rufa seed will germinate in a cold frame if I keep the frost out? I believe that P. rufa, like P. Forrestii, is not a hardy outdoor primula, but whether it needs artificial heat to germinate, I know not. I have sown it in a cold frame hoping that it may germinate in the spring with spring warmth.—V. C., Chander's Ford.

Seed of Primula rufa should germinate in a cold frame, such as you have. The seed should be sown in pots and plunged in the frame. Do not be disappointed, however, if germination does not take place early next year. In many cases seeds of these primulas take about two years to germinate. As you say, P. rufa is very similar to P. Forrestii. They like similar positions in the garden, namely, a vertical crevice in the rockery or rock wall. We do not think it is so much a question of hardiness with this plant as one of situation. P. Forrestii is quite hardy in several gardens in the south and west, and also towards the north, so that we think you will find there will be no difficulty in growing it, although it is a somewhat peculiar plant.

Apple Canker.

I enclose cuttings of apple tree Stirling Castle to ask what has gone wrong. The tree is about fifteen years old, on south facing wall in kitchen garden. Last year it had a good crop and a trace of canker showed. This year no crop and the canker seems to be spreading all over it. Can anything be done or must it be taken out and burnt? Also, is there danger of it spreading to the other trees?—M. C. B., Annan.

The disease on the shoots of the Stirling Castle apple that you sent for our inspection is the ordinary apple canker. This, of course, will spread fairly rapidly and perhaps infest neighbouring trees. The only remedy is to cut out every scrap of diseased wood and to burn it; though if the greater part of the tree is infected, then it would be simplest and advisable to grub it up entirely. Spraying is of little or no value as a means of checking this disease. It is a curious thing, but badly cankered apple trees invariably crop heavily for the season or two preceding their failure and gradual death from this disease, the cankered patches having much the same effect upon the fruiting branches as the branch ringing operation.

A Pear Tree with Damaged Bark.

I should be very grateful if you would advise me what to do for a young pear tree (about fifteen years old), which has been badly barked all round—about the depth of a foot—I think it must have been done by pigs. I did not discover it until lately, but the tree appeared to be ailing. The foliage looked as if it had been caught by the late severe frost we had and it did not bear this year. Would grafting wax on the edges of the wound be of any use? Or must the tree inevitably die? It is usually a most prolific tree. It is a Williams' Bon Chrétien.—M. H., Newport, Salop.

The Williams' Bon Chrétien pear tree that has been badly damaged by animals gnawing the bark, is certainly in a very precarious state, if the bark has been taken off all round, so that the stem is completely girdled. The smallest channel of bark left connecting top and bottom of the wound would be sufficient to save the tree, but failing this—if there is no connecting strip between top and bottom edges of the wound—the tree will die unless it is bridge-grafted early next spring—in early April. By this operation scions are grafted on to the stem so that they join at the top and bottom edges of the wounded bark, and so bridge the gap. It is an operation that calls for some skill and an experienced knifesman should be employed for the work, should you consider the tree worth the trouble and expense. No amount of wax, paint or tar coverings can remedy the damage, we fear.

Musty Apples.

I have been eating Warner's King apples up to now, and although they look perfectly sound, I find that when baked they are very earthy or musty to the taste, and last night an apple Charlot made of Newton Wonder apples was on my dining table, and I find them even worse than the Warner's King, so bad in fact as to be uneatable. I had a new fruit house built in accordance with the instructions you were good enough to send me recently, therefore I do not think it is anything to do with the way they are kept; I am wondering, therefore, if you would be kind enough to give me any information that would help me to avoid this trouble another year.—J. W. B., Old Catton.

We think that the tainted flavour of the apples must be due to their having been stored on scented or unseasoned wood, in straw or hay, or upon some material or other from which this musty or earthy flavour could be acquired. If these apples were stored close to potatoes or any vegetable, they would quickly absorb their characteristic scent, of course, and so become tainted. There is little likelihood of the fruit having been so tainted on the tree, and we think if you closely examine the store conditions you will find the fruit has been upon, or adjacent to strong smelling materials of some kind or other.

Spraying of Fruit Trees.

I have about one-fifth of an acre orchard under young bush apples and pears of varieties planted as two and three year old bushes in 1924. This summer Irish Peach had apple mildew, and leaf scorch was fairly prevalent. I have since applied potash (as sulphate of potash). I sprayed once during the summer with lime sulphur at 1 in 75. My plums and damsons suffered in varying degree from aphis (green variety). Black aphis was also found on some apples. As I have obviously both fungi and insect pests to deal with, I propose to spray twice during the dormant season, once with lime sulphur and once with Mortegg. My plan was to spray shortly with the lime sulphur (1 to 20), following with 7½ per cent. Mortegg, say, in January. Is this sound, or would you reverse things and use the Mortegg first? One other point, would you vary the strength of either or both these washes to suit different varieties? For instance, is lime sulphur, 1 in 20, too strong as a winter wash for Cox's Orange and perhaps James Grieve and Newton Wonder?—A. A. M., Bridport.

Regarding the winter spraying of your fruit trees, we would first point out that it is quite unnecessary to use both the winter washes you mention, and we think your best plan would be to spray the trees with Mortegg wash in late December or early January at the strength you mention. The lime-sulphur wash applied at this season will have little fungicidal value, and will certainly not help to control the apple mildew with which some of your trees are infected. The remedial measures to adopt for the mildew are as follows:

1. Cut off all infected shoots at once. These can be recognised by the "white" appearance of the wood or the brownish shrivelled shoot tips.

2. When the buds expand in spring go over the trees and cut off all infected parts, whether these be flower trusses or small leaf clusters.

3. If, after removing all these primary infections, your trees are liable to serious infection from neighbouring gardens, then spray with lime-sulphur shortly after the blossoms set. For this spraying use the lime-sulphur at 1 in 30 for all except the very tender sorts, like Cox's Orange, James Grieve and Newton Wonder, on which 1 in 60 should be the strength of wash applied.

To keep down the aphis attacks, the Mortegg will prove effective and will, at the same time, considerably reduce the numbers of all other pests. A 7½ per cent. Mortegg wash appears safe to use on all varieties, but the maker's directions should in every case be closely followed.

Treatment of Young Japanese Cherries.

I have some young Japanese cherries, which have been planted about three years. They have this year thrown out shoots 18ins. to 24ins. long or more, which have no sign of flower buds, only leaves. They have all along been inclined to run to leaf rather than flower, but I do not want to shorten back the shoots, as I want them to grow high, not remain in bush form. Would you advise root pruning, either all round or half round, or replanting? The soil is a rich, heavy clay, only lately taken in from a field.—M. H., Pinhoe.

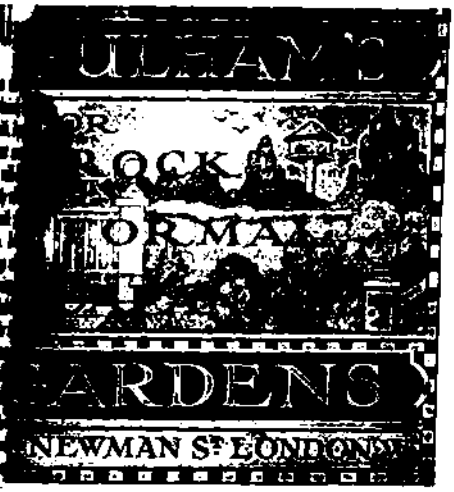
The luxuriant growth is very welcome and quite normal for newly planted trees in good ground. When once the plants begin to flower it is often a difficulty to obtain vigorous young growths. We advise you to do no pruning other than thinning crowded branches, or shortening any which are very long and likely to destroy the balance of the trees.

A Hedge of Sweet Briar.

I am about to make a sweet briar hedge (Penzance Briars). What would be about the proper distance apart to plant the briars?—J. H. S., Leicester.

We should suggest that you plant Penzance briars for the purpose of making a hedge about 2ft. 6ins. to 3ft. apart. This will, in time, form a dense-growing and neat hedge.

Digitized by Google



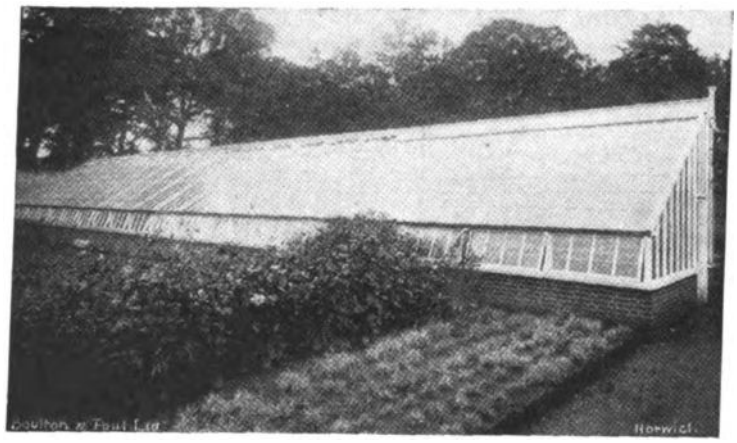
DOBBIE'S

Catalogue and Guide to Gardening

144 *Pages*—229 *Illustrations.*

Send to-day mentioning "The Garden" and you shall have a copy free per return post.

DOBBIE & CO., Ltd.
Seedsmen and Florists to H.M. the King
EDINBURGH



Boulton & Paul *for* Modern Glasshouses

B. & P. Conservatories and Greenhouses can be seen all over the British Isles, and after very many years' wear they still bear that mark of quality, design, and craftsmanship associated with all their products.

The service of an expert staff of Designers is always at the disposal of clients, and a representative will be sent by appointment to consult and prepare schemes for any kind of Horticultural work.

Ask for our free Catalogue No. 742.

Garden Frames from 35s.
Ask for Leaflet No. 744.

Boulton & Paul Ltd
Telegrams: BOULTON NORWICH **NORWICH** Telephone NORWICH 851 (5 lines)
LONDON OFFICE 135-137, QUEEN VICTORIA ST. E.C.
Telegrams: Boutique, Cent London Telephone 4642 Cent

Examples of B. & P. Garden Frames, Greenhouses, Motor Houses, Shelters, Poultry Houses and Kennels may be seen at our London Office and Showroom, 135-7, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4

FOR
FRUIT TREES

COOPER'S WINTER SPRAY FLUID

Exterminates Insect Pests. Kills Moss, Lichen and other Green Growths. Removes Rough Loose Bark. Re-invigorates the Trees.

("Commended" by the Royal Horticultural Society of Great Britain.)

Half Pint	1/6
1 *Pint*	2/3
Quart	3/3
Half Gal.	5/9
1 *Gal.*	9/6
2 ,, ...	18/-
5 ,, ...	38/6

1 Gal. makes 100 Gals. Spray Mixture.

OF ALL AGENTS.

COOPER, McDOUGALL & ROBERTSON, LTD.
BERKHAMSTED.

ACME IMPERISHABLE METAL LABELS

Made of Zinc. Non-Rusting. No Writing Required.

Have been sold without complaint for over 50 years. Bright raised letters on a black background. Named Labels supplied for all plants from 2/6 per dozen.

Catalogues and Labels may be obtained from all leading Nurserymen, or from

JOHN PINCHES
5, Crown Buildings, Crown St., Camberwell, S.E.5

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

PLANTING SEASON

GEO. JACKMAN & SON
WOKING NURSERIES, SURREY

ESTABLISHED OVER A CENTURY

INVITE INSPECTION OF THEIR LARGE AND VARIED STOCK OF ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBS, ROSES, CLIMBERS, FRUIT AND FOREST TREES, HERBACEOUS AND ALPINE - - PLANTS - -

200 ACRES OF STOCK TO SELECT FROM. CATALOGUES FREE ON APPLICATION.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

CLEAN CROPS *ARE* GOOD CROPS

New plant hygiene

THE slug is a great destroyer — and, hidden in the soil by day, he carries on his depredations largely immune from attack *till you discover* HELICIDE.

HELICIDE is the liquid soil cleanser which can be used without harm to growing plants. Not only does it destroy slugs. It is the prime agent in securing clean, healthy turf, free from worm casts.

Worms in the lawn!

HELICIDE is the ideal wormkiller. Far cheaper than powders, it is easier to apply, and more effective too. Write now for full particulars. 1 pint makes 40 Gallons of Liquid.

USE HELICIDE

Pint tins - 1/9
Quart tins - 3/-
Gallon cans - 7/6

From your dealer—or apply to the makers.

BUGGE'S INSECTICIDES LTD
WESTCOMBE HILL LONDON S.E.3

TAS/Bu.18

Digitized by Google

SERVICE BUREAU.—*Continued.*

Shrubs from a Seaside Garden.

I move into a new bungalow in March next. It is situated overlooking the sea on the south coast of Cornwall, facing due south. The front is bare and ugly and I wish to cover it from the ground to the top of the windows—about 12ft. with some "quick growing" flowering shrub or creeper. The walls are concrete with smooth surface.—G. H. G., Devon.

There are a number of subjects which would be suitable for your purpose, and we give the names of one or two, from which you might select one which you consider suitable. Berberidopsis corallina is a handsome Chilian evergreen shrub, which carries drooping clusters of scarlet or crimson flowers in summer. It is an excellent plant for training on a south wall in south Cornwall, and prefers fairly rich, sandy loam. Solanum jasminoides is a deciduous South American climber. Its bluey-white, star-shaped flowers are carried from August to October. This plant grows well against a south wall in deep, light soil. Tecoma radicans is a vigorous growing climber, with yellow and red flowers, well suited for covering south walls. Magnolia grandiflora is a very fine evergreen; one of the loniceras, several of which are suitable, or wistaria would also do.

Vine Pruning.

I should be very grateful if you would tell me how to treat a vine after fruiting. Should the stem be scrubbed and painted and if so, with what? I have a Muscat of Alexandria which has been badly attacked by blight. I think it is white fly. We have had this very badly and many plants have been damaged. No amount of fumigating appears to kill them. Can you tell me what to use to get rid of this pest? I should also be most grateful for the address of the violet growers, the Misses Allen, I have been unable to find it.—B. M. H., King's Langley.

When a vine has fruited, all young lateral shoots, and sub-laterals, formed on the fruit-bearing branch, should be cut off, and just the tips of the fruit-bearing branches, too. In due course, about the third week in December, have the vines pruned back to two "eyes"—buds. In the meantime, ventilate the house freely. Do not peel the rods, but simply rub off any loose bark with the hand. The rods, but not the "eyes," may be washed. Probably the white fly has been introduced through pot plants. Darlington's original Auto-shreds will destroy it and not harm any plants in the structure. We think the violet grower to whom you refer is: Miss K. Allen-Brown, Violet Nurseries, Henfield, Sussex, who specialises in violet culture.

Pruning of Plum Trees.

Could you advise me about the pruning of plum trees about ten years old, which are planted in a hen run and have not been pruned at all, but have made great growth, about 16ft. high, and thick all through? They do not bear any fruit.—M. N. H., Exbury.

No doubt the plum trees growing in the poultry run are making rather too much growth for them to settle down to fruiting just yet. In such a position they would be in somewhat rich land, conducive to rank growth. This being the case, we would suggest root pruning them this winter. Just take out a trench round each as far out as the branches extend, and cut back the coarse lateral and downward striking roots that are encountered. This will check growth and encourage fruitfulness. The pruning of the branches, best done as early as possible, should be light and, under the circumstances, we would suggest that you do no more than thin out the crowded young growths, cutting them back to two bottom buds and cutting away crowded and crossing branches so that each has plenty of room. It is always best to try to keep the centre of the tree fairly open and free from growth. The well placed young growths should be left intact, but the very long ones might be shortened by about one third. Drastic "thinning out" is the most important item.

Silver Birch.

Can you tell me if I can get young silver birch trees with silver bark to them? I have been told that I cannot, as the bark does not change its colour to silver until the plants are from ten to fifteen years old.—H. H., Cardiff.

No birches get the final colour of their bark until they are some height. Your informant, however, was wrong in his calculations, because the bark does not take its final tone until the plant is 10ft. or 15ft. high—not ten or fifteen years old—a very different matter! This means that if you get three year old plants they should begin to form the silver bark with you in about four years time.

A REQUEST TO ALL OLD READERS

SOME of the older readers of THE GARDEN have pointed out that there are numbers of the fraternity of amateur gardeners throughout the British Isles, who have not read this paper. THE GARDEN is calculated to render them the best attention by giving seasonable advice on planting and sowing and by solving the problems and difficulties that at times beset all gardeners. Some of our contributors suggested a few weeks ago that an acceptable present to send a friend would be a copy of the paper for a year. It was a capital idea and one that we hope will bear fruit, but many of our older readers think that it went scarcely far enough, so they have suggested to us that a further appeal might be put forward. THIS IS THE APPEAL: That *every* reader should pass on the copy of the paper to someone whom they know does not take it in, but who would like to read it. Everybody has some friend whose hobby is gardening, yet seldom reads a paper about it! Readers of THE GARDEN will agree that such friends are the poorer for not making the acquaintance of our paper.

JOIN THE CIRCULATION CIRCLE AND PASS IT ON

If you become a regular reader of the paper, it will increase your interest in your garden because it is specially intended to help amateurs. Amateurs comprise the greatest number of gardeners. THE GARDEN is published every Thursday. It says what it has to say in plain language, free from ambiguity, so that the beginner cannot fail to understand. It is noted for the wealth of its good illustrations. As you will see, they speak for themselves.

You may have failed last year with certain crops. It may not have been entirely "the fault of the season." Or some plants did not turn out quite to your satisfaction. Perhaps you have fruit trees that are not yielding what you think they should.

Remember THE GARDEN caters for all departments of horticulture. It is out to give the best advice, the best news, and the best service to a wider circle of readers. That is its policy. It will be pleased to be of service to YOU.

If you experience any difficulty connected with your garden—however small that garden may be—write to the Service Bureau giving the facts briefly, and they will suggest what should be done.

YOU CAN GIVE NO BETTER GIFT

to your friend, either at home, in the Colonies, or abroad, than a weekly copy of

THE GARDEN

It means 52 remembrances of friendship in the year

If you will fill in the form below, we do the rest.

..... CUT HERE .....

To Messrs.....
Newsagents,

or The Manager, "THE GARDEN,"
20, TAVISTOCK STREET, LONDON, W.C.2.

Please send by Post, "The Garden," for which I enclose Cheque or P.O.O. for ..... being Subscription for ..... months from date to

Name .....

Address .....

.....19.... .....

Inland, Foreign and Colonial Subscriptions, 13/- per annum; 6 months, 6/6, including Postage.

Digitized by Google

HORTICULTURAL CROSSWORD SOLUTION.

THE following is the solution of the Crossword Puzzle printed in our Correspondence columns last week:

ACROSS.

1 Berberidopsis, 12 Rue, 13 Charmer, 16 La, 17 Lasthenia, 18 Rail, 19 Lote, 21 Eupepsia, 23 Anil, 24 Maslin, 25 Dc, 26 Recherche, 30 Mate, 33 Datura, 36 Kalm, 38 Nut, 39 Waling, 41 Ryot, 42 Tu, 43 Inulahelenium.

DOWN.

1 Bellardii, 2 Era, 3 Rustic, 4 Betel, 5 Echeveria, 6 Rheum, 7 Ian, 8 Dries, 9 Persimmon, 10 Iliad, 11 Salicetum, 14 Maple, 15 Rain, 20 One, 22 Pack, 27 Hull, 28 Ran, 29 Harl, 31 Anti, 32 Tutu, 34 Awn, 35 Tau, 37 Lye, 40 Ge.

NEW CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

AT their last meeting for the year, on December, 13th, the Floral Committee of the National Chrysanthemum Society had five novelties before them and awarded their first-class certificate to the following:

CRIMSON CONQUEST.—A neat Japanese variety of considerable freedom, but the flowers display a tendency to show a centre. The colour is a reddish bronze. Shown by Mr. H. Woolman.

FUSILIER.—A large single of good form. The regular florets are of rich ruby crimson colour brightened by a narrow yellow zone. Shown by Mr. H. Shoesmith, jun.

LAVINIA.—Another good large single and of bronzy apricot colour lightly flushed with rose. Shown by Mr. H. Shoesmith, jun.

YELLOW FAVOURITE.—A useful sport from the well known variety. The colour is a clear sulphur yellow. Shown by Mr. A. G. Virten.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

Messrs. Carter and Co., Raynes Park, London, S.W.20.—The arrival of the seed season is heralded by catalogues from all the leading seedsmen of the country. The seed manual of this firm has been revised and enlarged, and its contents should prove of great interest to gardeners of all kinds. A wide selection is offered in vegetable as well as flower seed, among which are numerous novelties and long lists of first-class varieties. Such novelties as Carter's Rose Queen aubrietia, Carter's Azure Blue forget-me-not, a new compact-growing strain of eschscholtzias, as well as a number of beautiful hardy primulas are noted. Every keen gardener should possess this profusely illustrated catalogue.

Messrs. Dobbie and Co., Limited, The Royal Scottish Seed Establishment, Edinburgh.—Although sweet peas and Scotch seed potatoes have made the name of Dobbie long famous throughout the horticultural world, this firm sends out also flower and vegetable seed of equally high quality. Their excellent catalogue contains careful descriptions of the various up-to-date varieties as well as a wealth of useful information on culture.

Messrs. Dickson and Robinson, Cathedral Street, Manchester.—New culinary peas, new runner beans, a fine strain of onions, a remarkable strain of new hybrid lupins and a race of giant stocks are a few of the items of interest in this firm's seed catalogue.

Messrs. W. Power and Co., Waterford.—This firm's handy and useful tree and shrub catalogue has just come to hand. Trees and shrubs for every type of soil and aspect are included, as well as notes on planting, pruning and cultivation. Several pages are devoted to selected lists of roses for bedding and pergolas, while those who are contemplating tree or shrub planting on a large scale will be interested in the section dealing with forest trees and hedging plants.

Messrs. R. Wallace and Co., Limited, The Old Gardens, Tunbridge Wells. Hardy plants for alpine gardens, bog gardens and herbaceous borders.

Messrs. Elisha J. Hicks, Hurst, Berkshire. An illustrated rose catalogue, including a number of gold medal roses.

Messrs. Laxton Bros., Bedford. A descriptive catalogue of apples, pears and bush fruits. Several new fruits are listed and numerous excellent illustrations are included.

Messrs. Keith Luxford and Co., Chrysanthemum Nurseries, Sawbridgeworth, Herts. Perpetual carnations and chrysanthemums, including both early-flowering border varieties as well as large flowered Japanese, incurved Japanese and decorative chrysanthemums, for the greenhouse.

Messrs. Lowe and Gibson, Crawley Down, Sussex.—Border carnations and bearded irises. Several most attractive novelties for 1927 are noted.

Messrs. D. and W. Croll, Limited, Dalhousie Nurseries, Dundee.—A catalogue of Grampion-grown seed potatoes and gladioli for spring planting. Claymore and Clovullin, two fine new potato varieties, are listed.

Mr. Charles Wright, Takeley, Essex.—British-grown roses and fruit trees.

Backhouse Nurseries, Limited, York.—Trees, shrubs, roses, climbers, etc. Hardy trees and shrubs, which are suitable for town gardens, seaside gardens, as well as the rock gardens are given.

The Wild Garden Nurseries, Rockbeare, near Exeter, Devon.—An interesting list of native plants which are suitable for naturalising in the wild garden, woodland, by the waterside, in the crevices of old walls, etc. These native species are perfectly hardy, they flourish in any odd corner of the garden, and continue to bloom year after year without attention. Good selections of native ferns and orchids for the rock garden are included.

Messrs. Barnards, Limited, Norfolk Iron Works, Norwich.—Garden requisites, such as arches, chairs, tables, barrows, tennis-court enclosures, fruit enclosures, fencing, and wire netting.

Messrs. J. Cheal and Sons, Limited, Lowfield Nurseries, Crawley, Sussex.—A classified and descriptive list of roses as well as an extensive catalogue of trees, shrubs, American plants, climbers and hedge plants. Intending purchasers of trees and shrubs, particularly owners of new gardens, should make a point of studying these catalogues. In them will be found the best of the hedge plants and ornamental trees, both common and uncommon.

Messrs. W. Watson and Sons, Limited, Killiney Nurseries, Killiney, County Dublin.—This firm have sent us a rose catalogue which gives numerous very useful cultural hints on rose planting and pruning and the positions in which various classes of roses should be planted. Lists of hedge plants and fruit trees have also been received.

Messrs. Ramsays, Ballsbridge, Dublin.—Roses, fruit trees, conifers, deciduous and evergreen trees and shrubs, and climbers.

Messrs. W. H. Simpson and Son, Birmingham.—Bulbous plants, delphiniums, perennial asters, lupins, phloxes, and this firm's famous strain of antirrhinum seed are included in their catalogue.

TRADE NOTE.

ALL book lovers will be interested to see the catalogue of farming and gardening books sent out by Messrs. W. and G. Foyle, Limited, of Charing Cross Road, W.C.2. The list, although not comprehensive, is sufficiently large to be of considerable interest to all amateur gardeners. Many second-hand volumes of merit are listed, in addition to the majority of new and up-to-date books on the subject. We commend it to all amateur gardeners who are interested in the gardening section of their library.

BULBS

We invite immediate application for our

BULB CATALOGUE

knowing that the very fine quality of our bulbs enables us to offer exceptionally good value for money.

Send for a copy of the BULB CATALOGUE at once.

Bakers
SEED AND FLOWER FARM
CODSALL
Near Wolverhampton

FOR THE BEST
HOLLYHOCKS
2/6 per doz., Carriage paid
See next week's announcement introducing our special strain.
SARGEANT,
Beeches Nursery, CARSHALTON, SURREY

DOBBIE'S
SCOTCH-GROWN ROSES
These succeed where others fail;
Send at once for a Catalogue
Please name this Paper
DOBBIE & CO., LTD.
Nurserymen :: EDINBURGH

A
BIRDS' BATH
makes an ideal
XMAS GIFT
SUNDIALS, VASES, Etc.
In Imperishable Reconstructed Stone. Illus. Catalogue E.I. on request.

CRAZY & SQUARED PAVING.
DWARF WALLING.
ROCKERY STONE.
Direct from Quarries.
Write for Booklet E2.
THE RHYMNEY QUARRIES,
18, Ludgate Hill, E.C.4

Digitized by Google

Gardening Books by Miss Gertrude Jekyll

GARDEN ORNAMENT

A new edition of this standard and beautiful work is in preparation and will be ready early in 1927. - - - - - Large folio, £3 3s.

GARDENS *for* SMALL COUNTRY HOUSES

By GERTRUDE JEKYLL and SIR LAWRENCE WEAVER. Fifth Edition. 387 illustrations. **25s.** net. With chapters on Hillside, Water and Rock Gardens, Steps, Hedges, Paving, Pergolas, Sundials, Seats, etc.

COLOUR SCHEMES *for the* FLOWER GARDEN

Coloured Frontispiece and over 100 Illustrations and Plans. Sixth Edition. **15s.**

WALL & WATER GARDENS

With Chapters on Rock, Heath and Paved Water Gardens. Seventh Edition. **17s. 6d.**

ANNUALS & BIENNIALS

A standard work, with 34 illustrations (3 in colour) - - - **7s. 6d.**

For a full list of "Country Life" Gardening Books apply to the Manager, "Country Life," Ltd., 20, Tavistock Street, London, W.C.2

"THE GARDEN" CROSSWORD—VI

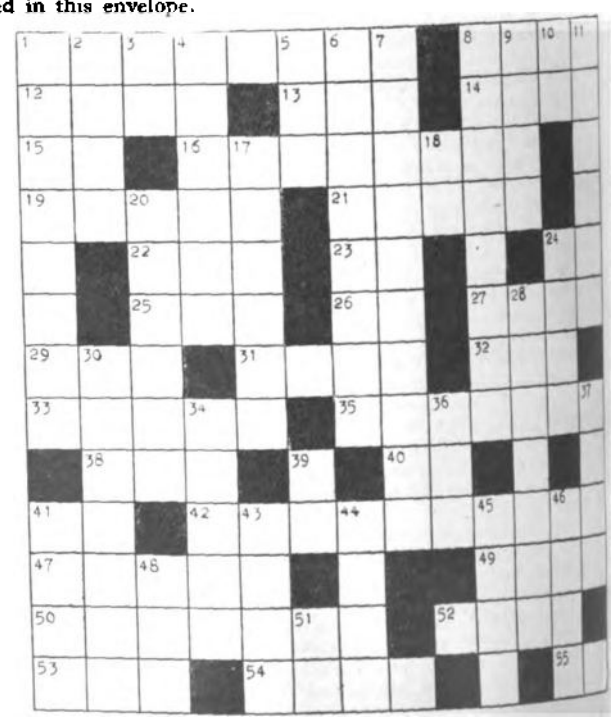
Two Prizes of ONE GUINEA will be given to the first two correct solutions opened on the morning of Thursday, December 30th. If no correct solutions are sent in, these prizes will be awarded to the first two in order of merit that are opened. All envelopes must be marked "Crossword" on the outside and addressed to THE GARDEN, 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, London, W.C.2. No other communication must be enclosed in this envelope.

ACROSS.

1 A beautiful and fragrant flower.
8 Gardener's feathered enemy.
12 A border.
13 A unit.
14 Plant parasites.
15 Egyptian sun-god.
16 Tree with racemes of beautiful yellow flowers.
19 Space surrounding a house.
21 A loop.
22 Perform.
23 Dental practitioner (abbr.).
24 Seventh musical note.
25 Plant which provides a popular beverage.
26 An exclamation.
27 Bad.
29 Fruit akin to the grape.
31 Noted perfume manufacturer.
32 A colour.
33 A counterpart to anything.
35 Blowing at stated seasons, as certain winds.
38 Denial's note.
40 Spanish article.
41 Disordered type.
42 Species of pink-rose.
47 Berry-bearing shrub.
49 Body of a ship.
50 Warning signals.
52 Girl's name meaning "A rose."
53 A sunbeam.
54 Large tract of untilled ground
55 Plural of "I."

DOWN.

1 Plant bearing a vivid red flower.
2 The first gardener.
3 Rose garden (abbr.).
4 The iris, or fleur-de-lis.
5 The head (colloq.).
6 To flood with water.
7 Plants nourished by air, as certain orchids and lichens.
8 Groups or masses of flowers of the same order.
9 Hoar-frost.
10 A beheaded roc.
11 Insect which feeds on plants.
17 To fasten on.
18 A negation.
20 The sweet potato.
24 Genus of downy herbs of the mallow family.
28 Full of veins.
30 Tropical orchid, the essence of which is used for flavouring.
34 Drink made from apples.
36 The largest deer.
37 Christmas.
39 Forenoon.
41 An orchard fruit.
43 The Cuckoo-Pint, or Wake Robin.
44 As well.
45 Four-sevenths of "Rhodora."
46 Sliced cabbage eaten as a salad.
48 Period of light.
51 Month (abbr.).



Name.....

Address.....

Solution to "The Garden" Crossword No. 4.

ACROSS.

1 Tomato, 7 Twa, 10 Me, 12 Ananas, 13 Way, 14 In, 15 Ninny, 16 Citron, 18 God, 19 Sage, 20 R.T.C., 22 Enroots, 25 Rue, 27 Arnica, 29 S.W., 30 Irk, 32 Parsnips, 34 Nee, 35 Buds, 36 Aril, 37 E.g., 38 Gale, 39 Aroni, 40 Maize, 42 Ax, 43 Nep, 44 Manna, 45 Ollo, 47 Angelica, 51 Muskrose, 52 Lock.

DOWN.

1 Tangerine, 2 Onion, 3 Mandrake, 4 Ann, 5 Tay, 6 OS, 7 Twig, 8 Water, 9 Ayr, 10 Mint, 11 En, 16 Cascade, 17 Ore, 19 Stipule, 21 Cowslip, 23 Or, 24 On, 26 Ulnar, 28 Ars, 29 Spine, 31 Regius, 33 Iron, 35 Bazaar, 38 Glu, 39 Axil, 41 Ants, 42 Alec, 44 Moon, 45 Ogs, 46 Oil, 48 No, 49 Or, 50 AE.

Digitized by Google

CLAY'S LONDON FERTILIZER TRADE MARK

CLAY'S FERTILIZER

The Gardeners best friend

GOOD SEEDS will never give of their best in poor soil. Help both seed and soil with **CLAY'S FERTILIZER** and then, together with nature, your garden will be a source of profit and enjoyment during the coming months.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER can be purchased anywhere at the following prices :—

Tins 10d. and 1/6
and in **Branded and Sealed Bags :**

7 lbs. - 3/6	14 lbs. - 6/-
28 lbs. - 10/-	56 lbs. - 18/-
112 lbs. - 32/-	

or if there should be any difficulty in getting it locally, we will send it direct to you from our Works, carriage paid in the United Kingdom for cash with order (except Tins).

Every Tin, Bag and Seal bears the Trade Mark

CLAY & SON, Manure Manufacturers, Bone Crushers, &c. **STRATFORD, LONDON, E.15**

Paying Points about "STOURBRIDGE" Greenhouse Boilers

No. 10.
A tenant's fixture —simple to dismantle and re-fix.

Write at once for special price. State size of house. Address Dept. 3.

J. & W. WOOD LTD Stourbridge

For mud & marshland mire & meadow wear Boots with Uppers of "Beva" Waterproof Leather.

Look for the "Beva" on the looping.

KINNELL'S COKE CRUSHER FROM STOCK

Reduces Fuel to the correct size for long burning

Carriage paid to Stations in England and Wales

Small Crusher for Wall	20/-
Ditto on Wrought Stand	40/-
Large Crusher for Wall	40/-
Ditto on Wrought Stand	60/-

Strong Coke Pan 10/- extra.

Large Crusher breaks 1 cwt. & small one 42 lb. in 20 minutes

CHAS. P. KINNELL & Co LTD
65, 65A Southwark St. London, S.E.1

"BECO" ROSE BOWL HORNLESS LOUD-SPEAKER

Of beautiful appearance. Gives perfect tone whether empty or filled with water and flowers.

Nickel Plate.	Oxydised Silver.	Antique Copper.
£5 : 5 : 0	£5 : 17 : 6	£5 : 17 : 6

Full particulars on application to

W. DARLINGTON & SONS, Ltd. LONDON FIELDS STATION, E.8

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

COTTAGES. Their Planning, Design & Materials.

By SIR L. WEAVER. 15s.

400 *pages.* *New edition just published.*

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LTD., 20, Tavistock Street, London, W.C.2.

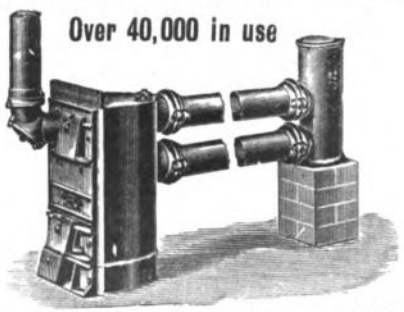
EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND, SOILFUME, NICOTINE, INSECTICIDES, FUMERS, SPRAYS AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES — THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY. IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT, CARRIAGE PAID.

Only Address: TOMLINSON & HAYWARD LTD LINCOLN.

THE LOUGHBOROUGH BOILER

Over 40,000 in use



The high reputation of this Boiler for efficiency and economy is still unrivalled

Easy to fix, easy to manage, and most economical in fuel, it is the ideal Boiler for the Amateur's Greenhouse

Price Lists and Estimates for complete :: apparatus on application ::

MESSENGER & CO., LTD. LOUGHBOROUGH LEICESTERSHIRE
LONDON OFFICE: 122, VICTORIA ST., S.W.1

British Made
ABOLENE
Tar Oil
Winter Wash

Clears Tree Trunks of Moss and Lichen and destroys Insects' Eggs and Fungus Spores

Abolene is thoroughly reliable and efficient. Easy and safe to use. Supplied in small sizes to suit owners of only two or three trees.

Pint ..	1/6
Quart ..	2/4
½ gallon ..	3/8
1 gallon ..	6/-

Write for Descriptive Folder

Abol Limited, 9 Beltring, Paddock Wood, Kent.

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

The Service Bureau Coupon.

THE GARDEN. *December 25th*, 1926

Name .....

Address .....

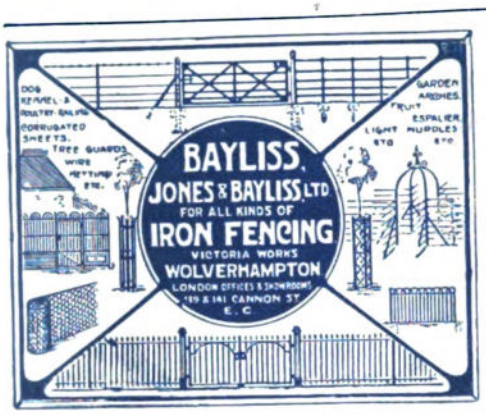
.....

This Coupon must accompany each enquiry long with a stamped addressed envelope.

See page 750

THE SERVICE DEPT., "THE GARDEN," 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2

Digitized by Google



DIPLOMA AND MEDAL ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION 1913

WAKELEY'S Celebrated (PATENTED) HOP MANURE

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY RELIABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR STABLE MANURE

DO YOU REALISE IT ?

A large bag of WAKELEY'S PATENTED HOP MANURE at a cost of only **7** - carriage paid to your door (if within 75 miles radius of London, or at a trifling extra if beyond), GOES AS FAR AS A CART-LOAD OF STABLE MANURE without any of the defects of the latter; gives better results, is easy and clean to use.

A beautiful Free Booklet giving full particulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postcard.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. GENUINE ONLY IN OUR MARKED BAGS, CONTAINING GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

Cash Prices, including bags: Small (about 1 bushel), 3/- Large (about 4 bushels), 7/- 5 Large, 33/9
10 Large, 65/- 20 Large, 120/-

Carriage Paid to any station within 25 miles of London, including delivery if within free delivery radius of Railway Company. 6d. per bag extra for every 50 miles or part beyond. Maximum extra charge Great Britain, 2/6 per bag.

WAKELEY BROS. & CO., LTD., 75a, BANKSIDE, LONDON, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

"All ready to put into your pipe—*that's handy!*"

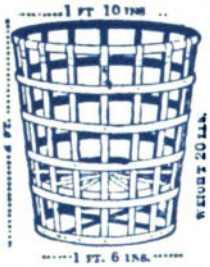
PLAYER'S "Medium" Navy Cut Tobacco (Rubbed Ready for Smoking) comes as a great convenience to those Smokers who prefer their tobacco "rubbed up" before filling the pouch.

PLAYER'S "MEDIUM" Navy Cut

PLAYER'S NAVY CUT. REGD No 154011. RUBBED READY FOR SMOKING

P 1316

VULCAN GARDEN REFUSE INCINERATOR



Garden and household refuse reduced to ashes quickly, cleanly, with minimum amount of smoke. Will take a barrow load of rubbish at a charge.

British Manufacture.

PRICE EACH 10/-

Carriage paid nearest Railway Station 2 for 18/-

Larger size 2 for 22/6 **12/6**

"The incinerator arrived on Wednesday, and after two soaking nights I had no difficulty in getting a good fire from exposed material. I burnt up in an hour what would have taken me all day with a bonfire."

THE LOSTOCK IRON BASKET WORKS, 8/11, Griffiths Lane, Lostock Gralam, nr. Northwich.

THE LEADING GLASSHOUSE FUMIGANT.

Autumn and Winter Wash

(Corry's) For Fruit Trees, NON POISONOUS NON-CAUSTIC, Destroys APPLE AND PEAR SCAB CANKER and American Blight.

1 Pt., 1/6; 1 qt., 2/6; ½ gal., 4/9; 1 gal., 8/6 From Seedsmen

CORRY & CO., Shad Thames, London, S.E.1

Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World.

BY APPOINTMENT

The BEST and CHEAPES

SPECIAL POTS for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

FANCY FERN PANS and BULB BOWLS from **4d.** each.

No Waiting. All Orders executed the same day as received.

State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.

RICHARD BANKEY & SON, LTD.
Royal Potteries, **BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM**

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

SOIL PESTS DESTROYED by "ALPHOL" Sample 14 lb., 3/6 carr. paid

Write for particulars of this and other reliable Garden Helps, Lawn Improvers, "Veribest" Seeds, etc., to

Garden Supplies, Ltd., Granmer St. Liverpool

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

"It warms my Greenhouse nicely at a cost of **about 2d. per day,** which I think very reasonable. I am a new beginner with a Greenhouse, and your

'HORSE SHOE' BOILER

took my fancy. I have not regretted my choice," writes Mr. F. G., Clifford, Boston Spa. 23/3/26

Cold weather comes soon. Write for particulars now

To CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., LTD.,
Engineers, Southwark Street, S.E.1.

Please send me Booklet E "Making the Most of Your Greenhouse," and price of complete Outfit to suit *(span-roof) (lean-to) greenhouse..... long..... .....wide inside, side of *(wood) brick(.....thick

Name.....

Address.....

*Strike out particulars not needed. Cut out and send by id. post.

Can be supplied from Immediate Stock

USED IN THE R.H.S. GARDENS

Wire: "Kinnel-Boroh-London." 'Phone: Hop 0362 (3 lines)

CHAS. P. KINNELL & CO., Ltd.

65, SOUTHWARK STREET LONDON, S.E.1

Please mention THE GARDEN *when writing.*

Published by "COUNTRY LIFE," LIMITED, at 20, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C.2, and by GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED, 8-11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Printed by the AVENUE PRESS, 56 & 57, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
3 9015 08011 8964

BOUND

DEC 19 1927

UNIV. OF MICH.
LIBRARY

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
3 9015 08011 8964

BOUND

DEC 19 1927

UNIV. OF MICH.
LIBRARY

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google